

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA Madam, I used to read in London papers an announcement, "Juliana baby is coming, Juliana baby is coming" Even after a long time the baby never arrived

SHRI A G KULKARNI Where is the reply to my query? There is going to be discussion on the Fourth Plan But, it cannot cover these points like the dwindling exports the imports recently allowed by the Government and so on How can we speak on these? He can speak but we cannot speak

THE VICE CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI PURABI MUKHOPADHYAY) It is not for me to force the Minister to reply The House stands adjourned till 2.30 P M

The House then adjourned for lunch at five minutes past one of the clock

The House reassembled after lunch at thirty minutes past two of the clock, THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI PURABI MUKHOPADHYAY) in the Chair

RESOLUTION RE MOBILISATION OF RESOURCES FOR PROVIDING EMPLOYMENT TO THE MILLIONS OF UNEMPLOYED IN THE COUNTRY

SHRI M RUTHNASWAMY (Tamil Nadu) Madam, Vice Chairman I beg leave to move the following Resolution

"This House is of opinion that with a view to providing employment to the millions of unemployed and under-employed in the country the Government should mobilise all financial and human resources for

(i) the construction of village roads at the rate of one lakh or miles per year,

(ii) the digging of drinking water wells at the rate of one lakh village wells per year,

(iii) the promotion of rural housing at the rate of five lakhs per year, and

(iv) the organisation and modernisation of rural industries at the rate of one thousand centres per year,

so that the public works necessary for the rapid promotion of the economic prosperity of the country may be effected within a reasonable period of time"

Madam this Resolution although it looks so formidable in its working, is it tended to implement the suggestions and proposals made in the Presidential Address and in the *garibi hatao* election promises made by the Government last year and this year The suggestions in this Resolutions are made with a view to dotting the 'is' and crossing the 't' of these more or less vague proposals, to put flesh and blood upon the bare bones of these proposals, to make them concrete and real I am fortified in making this Resolution and making this speech by the recommendations of the Interim Report of the Bhagawati Committee on Unemployment What they say early in the Report is

"As is well known, much of the infrastructure in the rural areas still remains to be developed and hence there is a vast scope for the undertaking of construction work, labour intensive in nature, so that the infrastructural projects like the development of transport and communications, minor irrigation and electricity schemes, rural housing, etc., may be taken up Such a programme will provide scope for the employment of millions of unskilled and semi-skilled persons"

This Interim Report of the Bhagawati Committee estimates that the number of the unemployed in the country amounts to about 4½ millions But they take their numbers from the Employment Exchange reports As you know, the Employment Exchanges are not well organised and therefore their reports do not contain the whole picture of the problem of the unemployed

Then there are millions of under-employed—nearly 100 millions—in the rural areas The figures that I have suggested may appear staggering to some hon Members considering the progress made so far In regard to these construction works, one lakh miles of rural roads, one lakh of drinking water wells, five lakhs of rural houses to be constructed or reconstructed and rural industry centres to be established at one thousand places, if you divide these figures among the 15 States or so in the country, they do not appear formidable One lakh miles of roads would mean about five thousand or six thousand miles per State, some States may have to construct more, some less So, the figures are not so staggering as they appear to be Now, with regard to roads, although the Fourth Plan provides for Rs 453 crores in the State sector and Rs 430 crores in the Central sector, the bulk of it is spent on

highways, on truck roads, on prestigious all-India roads like the road from Calcutta to Cape Comorin or the road from Bombay to Cape Comorin. But money is not there for the construction of rural roads. In fact the Interim Report complains that even the small amount allotted for rural roads is diverted to some States to other projects, and they have severely condemned such a conversion—perversion rather. About digging of water well at the rate of 1,00,000 a year there are about 50,00,000 villages in our country and so far only 1,00,000 villages have been provided with drinking water well. Now good and safe drinking water is an absolute necessity for the bare health and strength of the rural workers. If this absolute necessity is not provided, how can you expect increased productivity from our rural workers?

With regard to housing, it has been estimated that nearly 70 million rural houses require to be constructed or reconstructed in order to make them fit for human habitation. For rural housing the total amount provided is Rs. 237 crores for the whole of India during the Fourth Plan period. Village housing is neglected. In fact the Bhagawati report and even the Interim Appraisal report of the Fourth Plan complains that village housing is absolutely neglected. I do not ask them to do much straightaway but if they start building houses for the teachers in the village schools you not only improve the housing condition of the village teachers but you will be attracting educated youngmen who are now going about unemployed to take to teaching in the primary schools of the villages. If one such school is built in each village, it would set again a chain of village house-building because the richer farmers might be tempted seeing the model of the village teacher's house with two living rooms, with bath-room, latrine and courtyard separate, they would be attracted to build houses of their own so that all the housing projects need not be organised by the Government alone. In this connection I suggest that this opportunity given to Government to improve the conditions of housing in the rural areas might be taken to take away the farmers and tenants in the villages and plant them on the land which they are cultivating. As a matter of fact our farmers and tenants are now living in their villages and everyday they have to walk a couple of miles to their farms losing so many million man-hours a year. Incidentally also such an attraction of the farmers and tenants to the land which they cultivate would relieve the congestion in the

villages and solve the problem of sanitation and drainage by which these villages are bedevilled. As a matter of fact rural housing is not taken care of by any housing programme. We have a National Board from which great things are expected but they are concerned with buildings in towns and cities. We have State Housing Boards also but they also concern with the removal of slums in the cities whereas there are permanent slums in our villages. In fact Mahatma Gandhi once complained that the whole of India is a slum. He had in his mind the distressing housing within which our people who live in the village have to put up. With regard to rural industries I suggest that 1,000 industrial centres be established but they should be established not in the villages because our villages are economically not viable. The craftsmen, the blacksmith, the cartwright and others who follow the traditional crafts and industries would not be able to find work in the villages. What I would suggest is that these new industrial centres, rural industrial centres, may be established at the Panchayat Samiti centres. There are about 5,000 of them and I suggest starting with 1,000 of them may be established year by year and in these industrial centres workshops might be built by the Government and rented out to blacksmiths, cartwrights and other craftsmen in order to cater to the needs of the villagers. Also these traditional industries should be modernised so that they could meet the needs of the modern mechanical age. The village blacksmith might be given such training and such equipment that he could become a mechanic and be able to repair the tractors once they get out of order and even minor repairs of passenger motor cars might be done. Thus the modernised blacksmith would serve the purpose of a modern mechanical age. There are a number of miscellaneous projects like the reclamation of land, an erosion work tree planting, flood control measures. All these would keep millions of rural people in rural areas occupied. These are absolutely necessary works in order to guard our land against erosion, against floods and to protect the land from all the calamities to which it is subjected nowadays. In connection with these proposals naturally we will come up against the question of relations between the States and the Central Government because according to our Constitution most of these works I have been suggesting are within the competence and jurisdiction of the State Governments. But the Central Government is the richer Government like most Federal Governments. It has sources of revenue

[Shri M. Ruthnaswamy]

which are flexible, which are expandable, whereas the States have rigid sources of revenue which cannot be expanded. So the Central Government must come to the help of its poor relations, namely, the States. There is the example of the USA—USA both at the centre and in the States is much richer, much more flourishing than our country, than any of our States, but there also the Federal Government has gone to the aid of the States. They have established Federal Works Agencies from 1939. They took the housing work of the Agriculture Department, they took away the Bureau of Public Roads from the Ministry of the Interior and constituted them into separate Federal Agencies. And these Federal Agencies are to go to the help of the State Governments in order to promote all these progressive projects. And the Federal Government in the United States has taken care to have its own agencies in the States in order to see that its proposals, its grants in aid and its subsidies are properly utilised and the money spent by the State Governments. In each country there is a Federal County Agent. He is selected by the State Government but he is under the orders of and paid by the Federal Government. So, the Federal Government has a control over the way in which its grants-in-aid, its subsidies, its financial help are organised and the works carried out. Similarly, there are the Federal inspectors who go round the States in order to see that the works that the Federal Government is subsidising, is financing, are properly carried out. And these Federal inspectors are noted for their diplomatic skills so as not to irritate the *amour propre* of the State Governments. And the Federal Government in the United States although I said it is a rich country and the states are much richer, more prosperous than our states, made, in the year 1963, a grant of \$ 3,213 million for rural roads, \$ 1,173 million for health and \$ 853 million for housing. So you have the example of the Federal Government in the USA to show how Federal aids and subsidies should be organised and should be implemented, and it is absolutely necessary in the case of the poor States in India that they should be subsidised and financially helped by the Federal Government. Madam Vice-Chairman, it is on this scale and in this manner that the Central Government should go to the aid of the States. It is time the Central Government concentrated all its attention and concentrated all its financial resources on the promotion of the welfare of the people in

the rural areas. It is a matter of simple arithmetic that if each of the hundred or two hundred million workers in the rural areas increased their income by one rupee per day, the national income would be increased by about Rs. 150 crores a year. And a new life would spring up in the rural areas. These rural areas no doubt they are very placid areas. There is not much activity of one kind or the other—they live placidly. But they must be awakened to activity, to economic activity, to industrial activity, so that the wealth of the country might be increased. A new life would be inaugurated in our rural areas if projects similar to those that I have suggested were taken up. If the much needed construction work—which I have mentioned—would go on in the villages, you have only to imagine the number of brick kilns that would spring up all over the rural areas. We need not go for sophisticated implements. The old implements that our people use in order to build their houses would do. The old raw material, mud, clay, stone, they are all to be found near at hand. They have only to be exploited, they have to be dug up. And our people are willing to work, the villagers are willing to work with or without money wages, because most of these are labour-intensive projects, and they require no great financial outlay. And the device adopted by the great French statesman, Turgot in the last days of the *ancien regime* might be tried when establishing rural works in order to fight the famine that was threatening the country. He decreed that the rural workers should be paid in kind, not in money so as to prevent inflation of prices. A new era would dawn in our country if these rural projects were taken up. That was the dream of Mahatma Gandhi, namely the reconstruction of our villages, the awakening of a new life of prosperity of good life in our villages. They contain the vast majority of the population of our country. That is the dream also of every patriot. If one wants the prosperity of the country to increase, one must look to the area where the largest number of people are concentrated and that is the rural area. No doubt we have made a lot of progress in our towns and cities. No doubt we have great prestigious mills by which our tourists are impressed and they carry with them the idea that India is progressing at a rapid rate. But let them go and see the villages, let them visit the villages. They will find the huge gap that exists between the towns and villages. If this huge gap is to be filled, it can be only by the federal and State Governments concentrating on these rural projects. I hope and trust that

this Resolution of mine will meet with a better fate than a similar motion which I moved about two years ago on the same subject. Everyone in the House who had spoken on that Resolution agreed with me and supported me, but when it came to voting it was a matter of prestige and the Government voted against the Resolution. I hope the judgment delivered by an Indian newspaper on the fate of that Resolution will not be repeated again. The judgment was 'Village uplift voted by Rajya Sabha'. I hope such a verdict will not fall again upon this House.

The question is proposed

DR R. K. CHAKRABARTI (West Bengal)
Madam, the unemployment problem in India is very great and it is very acute in West Bengal. No short-term measure is going to cure this ill, but we must have some short-term measure in order to give some relief, at least for the time being. At the same time, we must, side by side, think of permanent measures which will cure this ill permanently and erase it from India. We hope so. Now, I would talk about the engineering and technically qualified unemployed persons and then I will come to the general unemployment situation. Now the Government have nationalised the banks which is a good thing. Giving loans to fresh engineering graduates to set up workshop is also a good thing, but I wonder how many Members know that to get such a loan what a difficult situation the boy has to face. There is so much of red-tapism. There is such a condition about security deposit or personal surety that it is very difficult for a young graduate coming out of the university to get such a loan from the bank and set up a small shop. That is one point. The second point, which I mentioned briefly yesterday, relates to raw materials. There must be an assurance given to the boy that the raw material for any item which he is manufacturing will be supplied to him at regular intervals and at reasonable prices. Otherwise, it is practically impossible for him to get things now a days. May be because of shortage of wagon, may be because of shortage of steel, may be because of shortage of some other thing. Thirdly, what will he do by setting up a workshop employing four or five persons and skilled helpers unless he gets a job order? Wherefrom is he going to get the job order? He must get some assurance whether it is from the private sector or from the public sector or from the

Government that a certain number of job orders would be given to him every year. I would just like to cite an example.
P. M. Suppose a large manufacturing concern is manufacturing sewing machines. You know that the sewing machines have many parts, large and small, intricate and precise, and some are not so intricate and precise. Some can be manufactured very easily in small workshops in towns where electricity is available. But the difficulty is that unless the large manufacturer gives some of these jobs to the small young engineering entrepreneurs, he is not assured of a job and he cannot set up a factory. Suppose he is assured that he will be getting an order for 30,000 handles for the sewing machines every year from that large concern, then he can concentrate his attention on manufacturing those 30,000 handles. He can improve the quality of the production and save raw materials, and thereby the large concern will be relieved from the pressure of manufacturing such items which do not need so much of skill, and it can concentrate its attention on producing a new item which can be used in the country. These are the three factors. Unless we make sure of these three factors, however much we propagate, whatever steps we may take in the House, I do not think that is going to work.

Whenever the Government is giving new licences to the industry in the public sector or the private sector or even if it is the question of the renewal of the licence, I would like to suggest to the appropriate Ministry that a clause must be inserted that a certain amount of job must be distributed among the small young entrepreneurs who would like to take up this job and until and unless that condition is fulfilled, the licences should not be issued to them. That is the point about the young entrepreneurs of whom we hear so much.

Now about the general unemployment situation I am again going to emphasise on West Bengal because I come from that State and I know how acute the problem is there. Madam, you know that certain States want residence requirements. Our State of West Bengal does not want any residence requirement. And whenever jobs are available, we find that there are certain jobs where you do not have to get people from outside. For example, a job where an unskilled person is required or a clerical job where a matriculate or a non-matriculate will be sufficient. How

[Dr. R. K. Chakrabarti]

much are we paying them? We are paying them Rs. 150 or Rs. 200. Suppose a person comes from one corner of the country to West Bengal and stays there, he has to maintain two families—one in West Bengal, and he may have to send some money to his mother or father and the minor brothers and sisters. Suppose we take the local people who are born and brought up there—I do not think there will be any such problem regarding living and maintaining a certain standard. I am not talking about recruitment to the Central Services where the jobs are transferable. That is open and there is a fair competition and everything. But when we come to State jobs, whether the private sector or the public sector jobs, why cannot we recruit local people for such jobs where you do not require any skilled persons or where matriculates or non-matriculates will be sufficient? We often hear about statistics in the House. "Well, we have opened up a hundred positions in West Bengal." But have you gone through the whole list? Then you must have seen that 80 jobs out of 100 must have gone to the people from outside the State and 20 jobs only have gone to the local people. I would like to see that the picture is reversed practically at least in those categories where we do not require any specially qualified technical skill or where it is only limited to matriculates and non-matriculates. If we recruit 80 per cent from the local population and 20 per cent from outside the State, only then can we solve a certain part of the problem in West Bengal. Otherwise, whatever we may say here or whatever we may do just on paper without implementing anything and just quoting statistics that we have created five thousand or ten thousand jobs in West Bengal during 1971-72, that is not going to help the situation there. And I think that if all of us want to come back here in future we should do something very quickly, something concrete, not just on paper.

Thank you, Madam.

श्री डी० के० पटेल (गुजरात) : महोदया, लोक राज्य के 24 साल के बाद हमारी लोक राज की जो समस्याएँ हैं उन से हम ऊपर नहीं उठ सके हैं बल्कि जो समस्याएँ हैं वे अधिक से अधिक उलझती जा रही हैं। बेरोजगारी की जो समस्या है उसको निपटाने के लिए माननीय रत्नस्वामी जी ने एक सकल्प दिया। उसका तो मैं स्वागत करता हूँ,

लेकिन सवाल यह है कि संकल्प जो हम यहां कर रहे हैं शायद उसको हम पास भी करें लेकिन उसका ठोस ढंग से कार्यान्वयन होता नहीं। आजादी के बाद हमारे गांवों की स्थिति वैसी की वैसी है। वही पुराने झोंपड़े हैं फूस के बने हुए, मिट्टी के बने हुए, उनमें आज भी कोई परिवर्तन हम नहीं देखते। शहरी की ओर नजर करें तो कुछ चमक आई है, लेकिन शहर के जो अन्तिम भाग हैं, एक्सट्रिमिटीज हैं वहां अंधेरा है, वहां भी झोपड़-पट्टी है। रोशनी और जगहों पर है, राष्ट्रपति भवन के ऊपर रात को बिजली का लाल दिया अच्छा लगता है, लेकिन देश के लाखों गांवों में आज भी मिट्टी का दिया झिलमिल प्रकाश देता हुआ, टिम टिमाता हुआ दिखाई पड़ेगा। यह हमारे देश की हालत है। रत्नस्वामी जी ने कहा कि ग्रामीण उद्योगों को संगठित करना चाहिए और उनको आधुनिक बनाना चाहिए। आधुनिक बनाने के लिए इलेक्ट्रीफिकेशन भी करना होगा। ये ऐसी बातें हैं जिनपर बड़ी गम्भीरता से काम होना चाहिए। अगर गांवों को सम्पन्न बनाएंगे, उद्योगों को आधुनिक बनाएंगे तो जो ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में बेकार है उनको काम मिलेगा। साथ ही साथ हमारे देश में जो आर्थिक विपन्नता है उससे भी हम ऊपर उठ सकेंगे।

आज भी ऐसे कई लाख गांव हैं जहां पानी नहीं मिलता। बहुत लम्बे अरसे से यह चर्चा चल रही है। गुजरात में भी इस इलेक्शन में बड़ी चर्चा हुई। गुजरात का जो सौराष्ट्र, काठियावाड़, कच्छ और भुज का इलाका है वहां पानी का हर साल सवाल रहता है। वहां आज से ही अखबारों में चिल्लाहट शुरू हो गई है। 24 साल के बाद वही स्थिति है। वहां के शासन में जो काम करने वाले थे अगर वे दिल से करते तो 24 साल में इस सवाल को हल कर सकते थे। राजस्थान और दूसरे प्रदेशों में भी यही हाल है। तो ऐसे गांवों में कुछ बनाने चाहिए। यहां एक जो स्केल दिया गया है प्रति वर्ष एक लाख की दर से गांवों में पेय जल के कुछ खोदने का यहां कोई ऐमा स्केल नहीं है जो दिखाई हो, वह बिल्कुल वास्तविक स्केल है और उसको अमनी रूप देना चाहिए।

हमारे गावों में कौन-कौन से परिवार नियोजन का पोस्टर चला गया है — लाल-तिकोन, लेकिन एक गाव को दूसरे गाव से जोड़ने के लिए बारिश के मौसम में कोई रास्ता नहीं है। आठ महीने तो कैसे भी गाव के लोग गुजारा कर लेते हैं, लेकिन बारिश के मौसम में अगर कोई बीमार है, कोई गम्भीर समस्या गाव में पैदा हो गई तो रुग्णालय में जाना मुश्किल हो जाता है और अगर ले जाने की कोशिश की जाती है तो रास्ते में बीमार मर जाता है। प्राइमरी हेल्थ सेंटर है लेकिन वह 15-20 गावों के बीच में एक है। वहाँ पहुँचने में 10-20 चौड़ी खाईयाँ आती हैं। तो बीमार को पहुँचाना बड़ा मुश्किल होता है। तो आज गाव गाव को जोड़ने की एक बड़ी समस्या है सड़कों की, और अगर रास्ते बनाये जाय तो उनके आस पास ऐसी व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए जहाँ पर मनुष्यों को आकस्मिक विपत्ति के समय सुविधा मिल सके, उनके किनारे ही रुग्णालय आदि होने चाहिए। जो स्केल है उसके हिसाब से ही अगर सड़कों का निर्माण किया जाय तो वह भी एक अच्छा कदम साबित हो सकता है। यह जो मकान बनाने का कार्यक्रम है, रूरल हाउसिंग का प्रश्न है यह राज्यों का विषय है ऐसा हमारे मंत्री श्री इन्द्र कुमार गुजराल साहब ने कहा। हम कुछ मदद कर सकते हैं लेकिन यह सवाल राज्यों को ही निपटाना होगा। क्या हमारी जवाबदेही इतनी ही है? क्या हम इतना कह कर ही इस प्रश्न से हटना चाहते हैं? सवाल यह है कि दोनों को मिल कर सोचना पड़ेगा। आवास निर्माण करने के लिए जो भूमि हमें प्राप्त करना है उसमें भी बड़ी झड़प पैदा हो रही है। कई गावों में इसके लिए लोग तैयार हैं लेकिन जमीन उनको मिलती नहीं और सरकार को वे लिखते-लिखते थक गये, लेकिन कोई फायदा होता नहीं। मकान बनाने का जो कार्यक्रम है उसके भी दो विभाग अगर हो सके तो हम को करना चाहिए। जो पहाड़ी और वनप्रदेश हैं, जहाँ के लोग पिछड़े हुए हैं, जहाँ पिछड़ी जातियाँ हैं उनके घर तो अलग बने और उनके लिए अलग व्यवस्था हो और उनके लिए कोई कारपोरेशन या ऐसी एजेंसी बनायी जाय और उसके अन्दर भी ऐसे आदमियों को रखा जाय जिन को इन जातियों

के प्रति कोई समवेदना हो नहीं तो हर एक को चेयरमैन बनने का बड़ा शौक होता है। कारपोरेशन का चेयरमैन बनने का शौक आम तौर पर सभी को रहता है, लेकिन जिस एजेंसी या कारपोरेशन के चेयरमैन वह बनते हैं उसके प्रति भी उनको प्रेम होना चाहिए और नहीं तो काम नहीं हो पाता। राष्ट्रपति के शासन काल में गुजरात में एक ट्राइबल डेवलपमेंट कारपोरेशन बनाने की योजना अवतरित हुई थी वैसे ही रूरल हाउसिंग में भी विभाग कर के पिछड़ी हुई जातियों के लिए विशेष रूप से गृह निर्माण का कार्यक्रम चालू किया जाना चाहिए तभी उनकी सदियों की तकलीफ दूर हो सकती है।

अंत में जो यह सकल्प आया है, मैं उसका हृदय से स्वागत करता हूँ।

DR K MATHEW KURIAN (Kerala) :
Mr Vice-Chairman, the Resolution . . .

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI
PRABHUKHOPADHYAY) Dr. Kurian,
men have dominated this Chair for so many
years.

DR K MATHEW KURIAN : Madam
Vice-Chairman while discussing this Resolution, I would like to point out that ironically enough, a representative of Right-wing Reaction has agreed with the policies of the Government of India. If you examine the ruling party's policy on unemployment, it will be clear that it is a policy of *ad hoc*-ism. *Ad hoc*-ism in the employment policy has been the characteristic feature of the economic policies of the Government. And you find a representative of Right Reaction moving a Resolution in this House suggesting, as a panacea for the growing unemployment, that what we require is construction of village roads, digging of drinking water wells, promotion of rural housing and so on. If you look into the Interim Report of the Bhagwati Committee, you will see that exactly the same sentiments and words are used. All that is suggested as a panacea for unemployment is some rural works schemes and so on. I am not against rural works schemes. As a matter of fact, I would like . . .

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE
(West Bengal) : For your information Dr.

[Shri Pranab Kumar Mukherjee]

Kurian, one of your stalwarts was in the Bhagawati Committee and he is Mr. Jyotirmoy Basu

DR K. MATHFW KURIAN Mr Mukherjee should know he wrote a note of dissent. I hope he will read the report and the note of dissent and get educated

My main point is this, this question of unemployment we have discussed on several occasions in the House. But we have missed the fundamental point. The *ad hoc*ism of the Government of India, having certain schemes for rural construction and road construction, will not solve the problem. And the fundamental point I would like to make clear is this: if you go back to the days of the Second Five Year Plan when we had worked out a long-term economic strategy for both production and employment, we will find that we had accepted the theory that unless the heavy sector grows very fast and ploughs back the savings of that sector into that sector itself, balancing it with a light strategy for consumption goods so that adequate employment is generated, unless this balance between the heavy sector strategy and the light sector strategy is maintained, the combined objective of high rate of growth and employment generation cannot be achieved. This is the lesson which the exercises on the eve of the Second Five Year Plan taught us. But today we have completely forgotten it and are drifting and drifting in this policy of having some *ad hoc* schemes here and there which, on the face of it, look like labour intensive. For example, let us take the scheme suggested by the Honourable Member who moved this Resolution, Mr. Ruthnaswamy, and also the schemes now being considered by the Planning Commission and the Government of India. Most of the so-called labour intensive schemes are in fact material incentive schemes. They require a large amount of scarce material for construction and other purposes which ultimately would mean a withdrawal of resources from other sectors, where they are required. We have already serious bottlenecks in the case of various scarce materials and the talk of labour intensive schemes as narrated here would in fact be a withdrawal of scarce material rather than providing employment. My main point, therefore, is this, if the Government is seriously concerned about solving the twin problems of high rate of growth and substantial increase

in employment, we should have a balance between the heavy strategy and the light strategy in such a manner that the rate of growth of the economy can be pulled up by a continuous advance growth in the heavy sector using modern machinery and ploughing back the savings of that sector into that sector itself and simultaneously relying on labour intensive and low machinery techniques in the consumption goods industries. Contrary to this strategy which was accepted on the eve of the Second Five Year Plan, the Planning Commission is today allowing all kinds of *ad hoc* plan prepared by the various departments. While the Labour and Employment Ministry is supposed to be concerned with the problem of unemployment, the Ministry of Industry, the Ministry of Agriculture and so on are trying to sabotage the schemes prepared by them and the Planning Commission on paper. We have a very interesting example of tractors used in agriculture. All of us know from experience that it is precisely the rich peasants and landlords who are in a position to use tractors and modern techniques. Madam Vice-Chairman, I would not like to be misunderstood. I am not against modern technology. I welcome the application of modern technology. But the crucial question is: Who uses the modern machinery? In whose hands are we putting the modern technology? If we maintain a semi-feudal system in which 25 per cent of the households control more than 75 per cent of the total area cultivated, and if we maintain landlordism and semi-feudalism in various forms of sharecropping and so on in such circumstances, the application of heavy technology goes against the interests of the large masses, poor peasants, and so on. I am not against modern technology, but I am against the manner in which that technology is being incorporated into the agricultural sector.

We have sectors like the Life Insurance Corporation and P & T where there are a large number of cases of computers being introduced where jobs can be given to middle class employees. Again, lest I should be misquoted, I am not against computers in sectors where they are required. But today computers are being used to displace labour which otherwise could have had some gainful employment. All this catastrophe in this field has arisen because the Planning Commission and the Government of India have no policy. I hope that the Minister

of State for Planning would listen to what I have to say. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he has any policy and whether the Planning Commission has dovetailed the long-term strategy with the short-term strategy. All that we are discussing today is about short-term strategy to find out how to increase a few more jobs for a few thousands of people in a particular sector. I am not against consideration of such *ad hoc* short-term measures. But while we consider this, we should also consider long-term strategy and the need for dovetailing long-term measures with short-term measures. That is not being done and that is my criticism. Unless, therefore, we go back at least to the rudimentary elements of a long-term strategy of having machine-producing industries—steel for producing machinery and machines for producing machines—and plough back the savings of that sector into that sector itself for high rate of growth and simultaneously balance that strategy with the strategy of consumption good industry with labour-intensive schemes, we are not going to solve the problem.

In the heavy industrial sector today there is a high degree of unutilised capacity and as a result not only savings are not generated but there are continuous losses incurred by the heavy sector. The rate of growth of the entire economy is being thwarted because of lack of savings and lack of rate of growth in the heavy sector. On the other hand, heavy machinery is being diverted for production of consumption goods which are of a luxurious nature. We are producing luxurious consumption goods using scarce machinery. This is the leakage and wastage that is happening in the heavy machinery sector. This is inevitable in a capitalist economy. If the hon. Minister wants to protect the capitalist—feudal system he is welcome to do so. But let him not go and fool the people and say that we are on the threshold of solving the unemployment problem. The Planning Minister Shri Subramaniam is on record that in two years' time the government is going to employ all scientists with post-graduate degrees. Ministers after Ministers go round the country and try to hoodwink the people saying that a crash programme has been initiated. If you examine this crash programme, you will find, Madam Vice-Chairman, that this crash programme has really crashed. This is what one could infer from what the hon. Minister said in the Rajya Sabha the other day. Against the target of 4.2 lakhs man-years of employment, we have hardly over one lakh man-years

of employment actually generated. This is the situation regarding crash programme. My main criticism is that this type of crash programme is simply *ad hoc*ism at its best because it is not dovetailed with the long-term strategy on the lines in which I have elaborated.

We hear the pet theory that high rate of growth is not consistent with high employment generation. This is a pet theory which we have borrowed from capitalist countries. It is true that in capitalist countries there is no correlation between high rate of growth and high employment generation. To give you a few facts we have the examples of Britain and France. According to 'Economist', London, unemployment in Britain rose by 4.5 per cent during a period where production of consumer goods was in full swing. In France the number of unemployed rose over the past 12 months by 39 per cent though the rate of growth in France was the highest among the European countries during the same period. We have, thus, undisputable facts that in the capitalist countries—it applies to United States of America also where the unemployment increased by about 3 to 3.5 per cent while production was on the increase—this is more or less the position.

A new theory is being put forward that the term 'full employment' should be defined in terms of 5 per cent unemployment instead of $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. A country is defined as having "full employment" even if 5% of the population has no employment. This is the type of ideas which the Planning Commission and the so-called experts sitting there are getting today.

Sir, with these types of theories, and the notion that high rate of growth is not consistent with high rate of employment, how can we have a long-term strategy? I have tried to show earlier the need for the proper balancing of the heavy strategy in development with the light strategy. But I know that this balancing is not possible so long as we develop the economy on the lines on which the ruling party has been moving in the past. Therefore, unless we retrace the steps and radically change the economic policies of the Government policies which they followed during the past several years, we have no means of solving this unemployment problem even in the short term. Short-term solutions are all right provided they are dovetailed with the long-term strategy and it is precisely

[Shri Pranab Kumar Mukherjee]

in this sphere that the Planning Commission and the Government of India are showing absolute poverty of ideas, poverty of will and absolute incapacity for implementing even what they conceive. Thank you, Madam.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI PURABI MUKHOPADHYAY) Yes, Dr V B Singh

DR V B SINGH (Uttar Pradesh) Madam Vice Chairman, as I stand up to speak on this Resolution, I find that the physical environment represented by the carpentry of the House is inconducive to good work. There is no desk here on which one can write, and I hope that in years to come such facilities will be provided.

Coming to the Resolution, as has been pointed out, the Indian planning has an integrated approach to employment. This approach was outlined in the Second Five Year Plan and it continues to be so, namely, the balancing of a higher rate of growth with a higher rate of employment. A higher rate of growth throughout the world, whether it is a capitalist economy or market economy, or a planned economy or a socialist economy, has relied on heavy industries. Whether it was the English Industrial Revolution or it is the American industrialisation, or the Japanese industrialisation in the capitalist world, or the Soviet industrialisation, all these countries have depended on the varying higher rates of growth of the heavy industries compared to the consumer goods industries, and this is what we have been trying to do since the Second Five-Year Plan. This is because, once we have the means of production to produce machinery we can industrialise. Without industries we cannot extend rural works. We cannot even modernise agriculture since modernisation of agriculture depends on chemicals, on machinery and on electrification. So the entire inputs of agriculture are produced by industry and therefore, industry has rightly been given priority over the other sectors.

So far as the immediate creation of employment is concerned, the Indian planning has throughout outlined policies in this respect, namely, that the land reforms should be accelerated so that more and more people get surplus land and they work on the land instead of migrating to the cities in search of employment, whether for working in factories or for plying rickshaws. It has already been

emphasised—and it is a part of the strategy of the Indian planning—that actually rural industries should be promoted, if possible, through electrification and co-operatives. It has been the policy of the Indian planning that full utilisation of installed capacity in the private sector should be made so that more people are absorbed, more income is generated, and it has also been the policy that rural works be accelerated.

Now, Madam, my friend, who has moved the Resolution, has picked up the last point only, namely, rural works. Relying on his counterpart in England, he probably thinks that in case people are employed to dig holes and fill them up, people will get employment. Such employment is useless. We have seen the Nawabs of Lucknow building 'Iman Bara' in order to produce employment. What is the result? Has it produced any national income? It has not.

Now, even on the side of rural employment, may I say that there are inadequacies in the resolution. For example, one could add that there should be more of not only drinking water through wells but also by handpumps. One could say that there should be arrangements for the peasants to use new technology. One could add that there should be promotion of more intensive family planning. One could add that we should also accelerate the pace of electrification so that rural industries and modernised agriculture may be organised. All these programmes of modern rural works have been neglected.

So I beg to submit that this Resolution is deceptive, in the sense that it does not outline a comprehensive programme of full employment, and to the extent it outlines rural works it is inadequate.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI S S MARISWAMY)
IN THE CHAIR]

Further, the mover of the Resolution has fixed targets of construction of village roads at the rate of one lakh of miles per year, digging of drinking water wells at the rate of one lakh village wells per year, promotion of rural housing at the rate of five lakhs per year, and so on. Why not two lakhs? Why not 10 lakhs? Why not less than that? Why not one lakh? This is an irrational quantitative target. Targets are always scientific, they are not notional. They must be such targets as can be realised...

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN : These are as irrational as the targets of the Government.

DR. V. B. SINGH : That is a matter of interpretation. But I should say that these are irrational, because the basis has not been provided on which they have been fixed. Therefore, I beg to submit that such a resolution will serve no useful purpose either for those who are unemployed or for those who will seek employment in future.

Lastly, Sir, one of the things that has been said is that after 25 years of independence, the Indian villages have not changed. I remember when I was a student of High School more than 32 years back, the previous year's examiner's report said that the students had written on Village Life, and that they wrote that there were no roads, there were no lights, there were no wells, there were no schools, and so on and so forth. Even at that time it was pointed out that all that could be said was that these institutions existed but they were very much inadequate. Now after 25 years of independence I could only invite some friends to see the road sides in certain parts of India—I am not saying every part of India—for example, Western U. P., Central U. P., Punjab and Harvana. You can count the stars in the sky and the shining bulbs and tubelights on the roadside. So the pace of electrification has increased; roads have increased; people are using more and more manures; fertilizers are being increased in production. Even there is a shortage of these commodities and they are sold in black market. People are using bicycles; they are not going on foot. They are using irrigation. Children are going to the school. These are all indications of the changing face of Indian village. But naturally much has to be done. Nobody is satisfied with that. And it is again and again being emphasized that there should be more saving, more investment and more expansion of such activities in the countryside. Therefore, what is needed is a comprehensive plan for these changes in the economy which ensures rapid growth and greater employment rather than emphasizing that we have to dig holes and fill them up so that people could get employment.

With these words, Sir, I stand on the one hand partly to support the principles and the intentions behind this Resolution, and on the other to oppose the targets which are irrational, unscientific and deceptive.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY) : Mr. Sanat Kumar Raha,

SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA (West Bengal) : Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, the subject of unemployment we are again discussing today. Considering that we are in the capitalist set-up, I personally think that these imbalances between employment and unemployment cannot be removed by the mixed economy by the ruling party. However, keeping in mind that we have to do something, I think we have to think of removing unemployment. The problem of unemployment is also the problem of re-employment. Why I say so? I say so because, I think, even the very *status quo* of the employed cannot be retained by this Government. In order, therefore, that I am able to say that unemployment is being removed, I would request Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, through you the Government that they should immediately take some strong and serious drastic steps of crash programmes, which would end the moratorium against future employment. Anyhow, the present *status quo* of the employed must be maintained. Purchasing capacity of people cannot go down. But if the prices can be controlled, we can have the expectations of future, which will give us a happy society. We will be in a position to develop our economy and thus remove the unemployment in future.

For the immediate purpose, I propose that in the name of rationalisation, in the name of computation, this sort of retrenchment should not be allowed. Retrenchment should not be allowed as long as the massive problem of unemployment exists in our country. It is affecting the very national character, the very national standard of life. For example, I can state that in the field of jute, in the field of coal, in the field of other mines, in the big industrial concerns we are facing strikes, lock-outs and closures. Therefore, the so-called crash programmes, the so-called 16-point programmes are nothing. They are not going to ameliorate the condition of the distressed population of West Bengal as well as of India. I refer to the name of West Bengal because I am coming from that State. Seriously speaking, it is affecting not only West Bengal but it is affecting the entire national standard of our Indian life. In West Bengal, the so-called intellectual people, the so-called intelligent students and cadres are day by day getting unemployed and frustrated. Ultimately, they have to take up to such an action which may

[Shri Sanat Kumar Raha]

be termed as 'Naxalite'. These are the reactions of frustration, these are the reactions of unemployment, these are the reactions of our so-called mixed economy.

Accordingly, I would like to give some constructive suggestions. We must undertake some integrated crash programme. The 16-point programme is there. The crash programme is an all-India subject. You have allotted Rs. 50 crores for this purpose. You have already released some money, but implementation in figure is quite hopeless. Why is this? Why this performance? The common man does not believe in all these things. The common man says that this Government can do nothing, This Government cannot go to the rural people and give them confidence that these are our programmes, this is our crash programme and this is the 16-point programme and this is what we are going to do for you. People do not know all this. It is within the hierarchy of bureaucracy, in the secretariat, in the Writers Building or in some leader's mind. People do not know what are the programmes of the Government for removal of unemployment.

Firstly I suggest that we must declare a moratorium against further unemployment. We must have an integrated programme. Along with the integrated crash programme we should do something seriously so that the people can feel physically and mentally that something is being done for them. What should it consist of? Along with the crash programmes which you have already taken up, you should take up the land reform programme in detail. That itself should be taken as a crash programme. Since independence we have been thinking of the *kisans*. Mahatma Gandhi went to imprisonment along with the *kuars* who were attracted to the movement. They thought this would be a *kisan raj* but what are they thinking now? Are they thinking that this is their Government or that it is a Government of the working classes? Are the young teachers and the students thinking that this is their Government which will give them relief or employment? No. On the other hand, the Tatas, Birlas and the bourgeois ask: 'We shall increase the productivity, give me licence or permit for this or that'. This sort of situation should be stopped; otherwise we cannot go further and progress towards social advancement and political and economic development. An integrated programme—a crash programme for land reform—should be

there. Another programme should be to create jobs. My proposals are these. I do not discard all these programmes proposed by the Mover of the resolution. On the other hand I can practically say that along with these programmes, which we have already been told by the Mover, I want to take up some more programmes. In my district I know that every year there is flood. We propose that thousands of tanks can be dug and thousands of ponds can be constructed and water can be let out. These should be seriously thought of so that we can check the flood and save our crops. On the other hand, all these ponds and tanks will create wealth for our society. These programmes can be incorporated in the programmes suggested by the Mover. We must create jobs but emphasis should be on land reforms in detail as a crash programme; otherwise crores of people cannot benefit and cannot have the purchasing power. If we go to the rural areas, if we want three crops and if we give power and irrigation and other facilities like fertilizers you can get three crops only then we can feed those people who are working for the three crops. Of course the rural people will not be unemployed if we have three crops. Along with that rural electrification should be taken up immediately as a crash programme. Fundamentally I think the 16-point programme etc. is going on in an isolated way or mechanical way. They should be integrated and a comprehensive scheme should be drawn up as a Master Plan by a special committee and it should work like a crash programme. The backward areas should be developed. In my district of Murshidabad of West Bengal Farrakka Bridge has been undertaken by the Central Government. We are crying for the last 7 or 8 years that we want some growth centre in the backward area. It should be developed. We have been told about that but in actual practice what is the symptom of growth and how can it be achieved? I urge on the Ministry through this House that they should not only give us information about these, the Government should also go to the remotest village so that the people can get encouragement and get enthused that the Government is really doing something. Another point I would raise. A sum of Rs. 50 crores has been allotted for the crash programme by the Central Government but the performance is very very meagre. The Government should seriously go into the matter as to why it is so; they should enquire into it and issue directives that would help this crash

programme to be executed seriously without further delay.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY) : How many more minutes you want Mr. Raha ?

SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA : I am closing.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY) : There are seven Members on the list including the Minister. If you confine to 10 minutes each it will be helpful.

SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA : In conclusion I would suggest that this House should make some recommendation so that the fundamental thinking behind this crash programme should be rural employment and a moratorium should be declared immediately on further unemployment. With these words I conclude.

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE : Listening to the introductory speech of Prof. Ruthnaswamy it struck my mind that perhaps the Mover wants to bring to limelight through his Resolution only one aspect of the problem. It has been very correctly pointed out by another speaker that bringing a Resolution covering one aspect only would not touch the fringe of the problem. Therefore my contention is this. In view of the enormity of the problem we should also touch upon some other aspects. It has been admitted by the Minister himself on many occasions on the floor of this House that the Government is alive to the problem and that even they are not in a position to say what is the actual number of unemployed persons in the country. On many occasions, during Question Hour and on other occasions Government itself has stated . . .

SHRI KALYAN ROY (West Bengal) : Whenever the question of unemployment is taken up the Minister leaves the House. Why this aversion, Sir ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA) : Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, this House may be aware that there is a full Planning Commission meeting just now at 4.00 p. m. Therefore I would like the House to allow me to go. Even though I would not be present here I assure the House that I will go through the proceedings and next time I shall remain here.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY) : There is somebody else to take notes ?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA : The Minister concerned is of course here.

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE : Only the other day it was pointed out by the Minister during Question Hour that the total number of unemployed persons on the live register has risen from 2.7 million in 1967 to 5.1 million at the end of December, 1971. And the Minister himself admits that the figure is incorrect. The number of unemployed persons is definitely much more. In view of that I have doubts even if the Government accepts the Resolution moved by Mr. Ruthnaswamy *in toto* and undertakes all the programmes suggested by him in the Resolution whether it would touch even the fringe of the problem.

SHRI KALYAN ROY : Let them start with the fringe.

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE : We have already started it and you know very well.

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN : West Bengal is the fringe.

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE : We have already started. Secondly, when I was listening to Dr. Kurian, he was strongly advocating that this Programme, even the Plan itself, is nothing but *ad hoc*-ism. Mr. Vice-Chairman, I do not like to go into the details of the economic terminology but it certainly struck my mind that between what he was saying here, and what has been said by the great Jana Sangh leader in their Swadeshi Plan, there was similarity. I tried to find out whether there is any affinity between what the Marxist Communist Party leader was saying here on the floor of this House, and what is preached by the Jana Sangh in its famous Swadeshi Plan. They are harping on the same point and saying : It is nothing but *ad hoc*-ism. Ten per cent growth is possible. Nuclear weapons should be manufactured. The entire Plan should be recast, and this Plan is nothing but *ad hoc*-ism. The very word '*ad hoc*-ism' struck my mind as it came not from a Jana Sangh Member but from a Marxist Communist Party leader. Anyway, Sir, I find a similarity between the Jana Sangh and the Marxist Communist Party. Perhaps, extreme Left and extreme Right come very near.

DR. K. MATHFW KURIAN : If it is *ad hoc*-ism, it has to be called *ad hoc*-ism. Let us call a spade a spade.

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE : I am simply mentioning ; I am drawing no inference between what you said and what has been said by the Jana Sangh in their Swadeshi Plan. I am simply mentioning it, and it seems to me that they are very close.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA (Orissa) : If at this point of time a hundred people are asked whether it is night or day, what would they say ? All the hundred people would say it is day. No one will say it is night.

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE : Mr. Misra does not always follow this simple logic in his politics. Anyway, Sir, what I want to say is that in the entire planning system there is lack of coordination. And this lack of coordination is ruining the cause of progress and the desired objects are not fulfilled.

Mr. Vice-Chairman, when the Crash Programme was announced last year and Rs. 50 crores were allocated for it, it roused great expectations in the minds of the jobless people in the rural sector. If we make an assessment of it, what we find ? We find we are far behind the desired results. We are far behind the targeted goal. And why it has happened ? Now it has come to limelight and even the Bhagawati Committee has pointed out that, indiscriminately, without looking into the population, without looking into the agricultural state of affairs in the district, the Planning Commission has allocated Rs. 12.5 lakhs for each district. And most of the Governments, except very few Governments like Tamil Nadu or Andhra Pradesh, most of the Governments are not in a position to utilise the money allocated to them for the Rural Crash Programme. And why it has happened ? Take the example of West Bengal. They sent 159 proposals to the Government of India for their approval. Till 31st December 1971 they did not get it, as a result of which we see that out of Rs. 29.1 lakhs sanctioned to the State of West Bengal, only Rs. 14.5 lakhs were spent. This is not a solitary case. This is the order of the day and there is lack of coordination. Mr. Vice Chairman, Sir, you know it was pointed out on the floor of this House when the trouble cropped up in Bangla Desh, and when there was the possibility of augmenting our jute production. It was suggested by even eminent trade union leaders that

the jute mill-owners and the Government should take this opportunity to augment our jute production. A detailed scheme was submitted by the noted trade union leader, Mr. Indrajit Gupta of Lok Sabha. And what happened ? Government could not utilise that opportunity. As a result, while not augmenting our jute production, we even fell far behind the normal target which was fixed by the Planning Commission for the year 1971.

It was pointed out that power shortage was the main reason why production could not take place. What is the position of power ? You know there is a proposal for constructing a thermal power station in West Bengal. I was looking into the notes given by the Ministry of Irrigation and Power to the Members of the West Bengal Consultative Committee. You will be astonished to learn that the proposal had to go through eight committees and it took three long years to finalise the site. On the one hand, there is dearth of power and dearth of electricity due to which we cannot augment production. On the other hand, you are taking not only months but years to find a suitable site for the thermal project. It was pointed out very rightly by my friend, who spoke before me, that there is electricity in the villages nowadays. He mentioned Haryana and certain other States, but what is the position in the State of West Bengal ? I would like to draw your attention to the fact that in the State of West Bengal out of 38,450 villages, only 3020 villages have been electrified up to the period of 31st December, 1971. I understand it is much less in Orissa, much less in Assam and much less in other backward areas. Definitely nobody would deny that there is no development and there is no growth in these areas, but at the same time it is a glaring fact to prove regional imbalance. Certain States and certain areas of the country have been benefited by the public sector investments and by the financial institutions. They have been benefited by the industrial licensing policy. They have been benefited by the various Ministries of the Government of India. At the same time, certain areas are neglected and this negligence is still persisting. Therefore, I do not know how we can tackle the problem if regional imbalance goes on, if concentration of wealth goes on, if concentration of land goes on. When it was pointed out by the Member, who just spoke before me, Mr. Sanat Kumar Raha, you will be astonished to know that even the recommendations of the Home Ministry have not been implemented. The Home Ministry

appointed a committee to go into the problem of land reforms in various States. That committee was appointed by the Home Ministry to find out what are the causes of agrarian tension and what were the facts behind it? They submitted a report in 1970. In the last Session when I put a question to the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, they replied that they have not yet completed their study and examination of the report submitted by the Home Ministry. If there is lack of co-ordination I fail to understand how development can take place, how progress can take place, how the problem of unemployment can be tackled. Actually the magnitude of it is still not known to the Government. They do not know how many unemployed persons are there, how many jobless people are there and what is the number of jobs which are to be created. It is not even known to the Government. I fail to understand how they can tackle the problem without proper co-ordination between the various Ministries and various agencies.

Now coming to my State of West Bengal, I would like to draw your attention to some of our problems. It has been stated in the statement submitted by the hon. Minister himself that the problem of unemployment is most acute in the State of West Bengal. Perhaps West Bengal is the State which occupies the first position so far as the unemployed are concerned. Once it was industrially a premier State which produced almost fifty per cent of the engineering products of the country. It had almost a monopoly in jute. There was a very flourishing trade in tea.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI (Maharashtra)
Mr. Jyoti Basu threw it back.

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE
I am coming to that. Mr. Jyoti Basu came in 1967. Long before 1967 things were not in a good position. To improve the situation the Government of India has established the Industrial Reconstruction Corporation. What is its performance? Take the performance of the Industrial Reconstruction Corporation till today. The total number of applications for assistance to closed and sick industrial units is 252 and the assistance sought is to the extent of Rs. 1854.09 lakhs. And the IRC is in a position to dispose of only 35 applications out of 252. We are talking of expediting and accelerating development and since its establishment, they are in a position to process only 35

applications. If this becomes the rate of progress and functioning of the different agencies like the Industrial Reconstruction Corporation, of the public financial institutions like the nationalised banks and the Industrial Licensing Committee, if they function in this way, I fail to understand how we can industrialise, how we can achieve a rapid growth in production.

Sir, I would like to draw your attention to another point. It has been stated on many occasions that for the rapid industrialisation of the country, decentralisation of financial institutions is essential and necessary. I have no grudge against the State of my friend, Mr. Kulkarni, where almost all the head offices of the financial institutions are established. Take the case of the Industrial Finance Corporation, the Industrial Development Bank of India, the Life Insurance Corporation.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : I think it is in Delhi.

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE :
I am sorry. Except the Industrial Finance Corporation, all other financial institutions have their head offices in Bombay. Suppose an industrialist wants to take a loan to the extent of Rs. 6000, he will have to rush to Bombay from Gauhati. Even the regional offices which are established in certain regions, they are not fully equipped to grant sufficient amounts of loans to those businessmen and to those new entrepreneurs. If we want to develop in real terms, if we do not want to confine all our efforts only to slogans and speeches, the Government of India must do something and must take certain concrete steps. Therefore, I think that for the rapid industrialisation of the country, to accelerate the progress and development of the country, decentralisation of the financial institutions is extremely necessary.

Another thing is necessary, and that is about the licensing policy. The Government of India talks of attaining commanding heights in the economy but when the Industrial Licensing Committee sits to issue licences or letters of intent, it always gives licences—the majority—to big people, the monopolists. Sometimes their design is frustrated by MPs or other influential circles. But the natural tendency is to give licences to the big monopoly houses. The Industrial Licensing Committee should be revitalised. Decentralisation of the financial institutions should take place. Raw

[Shri Pranab Kumar Mukherjee]

materials should be supplied to the different concerns. By merely passing this Resolution, by merely raising the slogan of attaining commanding heights of economy, we will not be able to achieve success. With these words I conclude.

SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN (Keral)

Mr Vice Chairman, Sir, the Resolution is more or less in the form of a ritual which is performed, and its ritualistic nature was emphasised by the hon. Mover himself when he stated that two years ago he had moved a Resolution of this nature which the House had discussed then.

Sir, I am not in any way minimising the importance of the subject dealt with in this Resolution for this Resolution highlights all the essential requirements so far as this country is concerned. The Resolution projects not only the necessity for employment potential and the eradication of under-employment in this country but also indirectly refers to some of the primary needs so far as citizens in the rural areas are concerned, they are yet to come up in spite of well nigh 25 years of freedom. Therefore this resolution has got to be treated by this House with the seriousness it deserves and not in a mere casual way.

Sir, one of the first things that I have got to state is that in the matter of solving the primary problems of the citizens of this country and also at the same time providing possibilities for employment and removal of under-employment successively. Sir, the Planning Commission has continuously failed. If we had correctly planned, planned with foresight, planned keeping in view the image of success which we ultimately have got to attain, probably some of the problems that this country is facing today, this country would not have faced. Even the mid-term appraisal of the Fourth Plan, a fairly large document that the Planning Commission has recently issued, should indicate, Sir, that the rest of the Fourth Plan period will not prove anything of a success or near-success. It is something fantastic, Sir, that the Planning Commission has not got any iota of materials to satisfy themselves as to how far the plan has been physically achieved.

Sir, whenever there has been an assessment of the previous Plans and of the present Plan also, the Planning Commission has always

drawn on the basis of what may be termed as achievement of the financial targets. We have seen, Sir, money being misutilised and mis-spent by the various State Governments towards the end of each financial year in the months of February and March so that well documented results of each year's annual Plan could be sent up to the Central Government and to the Planning Commission. We have had no estimation at all of our physical achievements and assessment of the physical targets in relation to the financial expenditures actually made in regard to the planned schemes and the position continues to be so in spite of the mid-term appraisal that the present Planning Commission had made.

Sir, the problem of unemployment, the problem of rising prices of consumer goods, the problem of under-production are all, in a way, interwoven. And with all the three Plans and a portion of the Fourth Plan that we have already implemented, we have come to this dismal stage in the year which has just gone by, i.e. 1971-72, that the rate of growth of economy in this country has come down to the staggering figure of 7 per cent. Six five years back we had come to the figure of 7 per cent, which itself was rather low. And to-day there is no growth in the economy at all, there is really stagnation in the economy. This stagnation in the economy, this present state of affairs in industrial production and employment potential in the country, are all on account of the fact—the hon. Mover of the Resolution may not agree on this point—that we have been pursuing what has been termed as a mixed economy. This mixed economy has created problems for the country rather than solved the problems of the country.

Certainly, Sir, one has got to be on the economic right or on the economic left, and if one closes to be at the centre, he would be only at the right. And the mixed economy has turned itself to the building up of a capitalistic economy with all the disadvantages of a capitalistic economy and with none of the advantages of a capitalistic economy. We have been passing legislation after legislation to curb monopolies. But practically little or nothing has been achieved so far as curbing of monopolies is concerned. The large industrial houses in this country are controlling the economy and dictating to the nation, in spite of what large sections of the nation profess in regard to their views on the economy.

Sir, we have failed in the past to evolve and implement a need-based education. Our education policy in the various States is different. The Central Education Ministry has continuously failed to evolve a pattern and a policy so far as education in the country as a whole is concerned. There are engineering colleges in the States, medical colleges in the States, whose degrees are being refused to be recognised, where students have spent four years and five years in their professional college education and the entire thing is now becoming useless.

We have got in this country more than two lakhs of unemployed technically qualified persons who have come out of our ITIs. We have got about a lakh of persons who have come out with technical diplomas from polytechnics and it is really strange that when these ITI and polytechnic qualified youngsters are available, the managements of our public sector undertakings, instead of drawing from them, are taking raw SSLCs without any technical qualification and are giving them technical qualifications by a period of training themselves. How can unemployment in the technical field at this low level be solved if this is the approach that the managements of our public sector undertakings take? There are no rules, no policy is laid down, and there is nobody to look into the matter except the arbitrarily administering administrators who are in charge of most of our public sector undertakings. Even in the matter of some of the country's essential requirements, which requirements are basic and which requirements constitute the raw material for further industries, small-scale industries, in the country, which alone can give further employment facilities, we find, the reports show, that production of such basic raw materials is heavily on the decrease. There were newspaper reports yesterday of an economic survey having been made in Mysore for the period 1971-72 and that economic survey indicated that the production of iron ore in Mysore during the last year was less by 23 per cent, the production of steel in Mysore was less by 7 per cent. The country is very much deficient in iron and steel and many of our industries spread in the States which use steel fabrication and steel fabrication industries can still expand in this country, can employ a large number of persons. There is a very good labour intensive industry. Yet most of these industries in many of the States are lying closed for long periods on account of the fact that the necessary steel required by them is not

available. And what is the policy being pursued by the Government of India so far as export of iron and steel is concerned? When the country requires so much of iron, so much of steel, we are still exporting iron and steel. In fact, the Administration Report of the Ministry of Steel for the year 1970-71 gave the figures of export of steel for the previous three years and said that in 1970-71 there has been a fall in the export of steel and iron, and the Ministry would endeavour that this fall is compensated for in 1971-72. Questions were put in this honourable House and the honourable Minister in charge of Steel stated that only taking into account the country's requirements, the country would go in for further exports of iron and steel. The Steel Ministry's Administration Report of 1970-71 indicated that we are going in for export of steel and iron because it is necessary to stabilise the foreign exchange position so far as the nation is concerned.

Sir, contradictory points arise for consideration in different Ministries and ultimately the view of one Ministry prevails over the other and the interests of the nation as a whole are not being taken into account.

Another factor that I would like this House to take notice of is the question of brain drain, particularly, of very highly technically qualified people from this country. The reports show that during the last two years, the extent of brain draining from this country has increased and two reasons that are obvious for this are, firstly, the incapacity of the nation to employ these technically qualified people, and worse, secondly, the incapacity of our organisations like the ICAR and CSIR to pay anything like respectable emoluments to these junior scientists. As a result, the services of our young scientists are no longer available to us.

The resolution really points the attention of this House to the need for solving unemployment in the rural areas because most of the suggestions contained in this resolution are in terms of solving rural unemployment. More than unemployment in the rural areas, there is very great under-employment and there is very great under payment. So far as cities are concerned, we have got organised labour. But so far as rural areas are concerned, labour is not so organised and therefore labour is not able to make their demands and press them successfully. Sir, a mazdoor in Mazagon Dock

[Shri K. Chandrasekharan]

in Bombay is assessed to income-tax under the Central Income Tax Act ; but a mazdoor in the rural areas is not able to make a living. Whether he is a mazdoor or not, a person who happens to live in Eastern Uttar Pradesh or North Bihar—which are the most poverty-stricken areas so far as this country is concerned—is not able to make even an ordinary living. Both are called labourers. It is likely that in the coming years, there may even be a fight between cities and rural areas in this country because the cities are being developed and being cared for ; but the rural areas are not being cared for at all. A new caste system is being perpetrated in the rural areas of this country, and our planning and our administration are all being focused on the cities while the rural areas are being completely neglected.

DR. M. R. VYAS (Maharashtra): Mr. Vice-Chairman, no one can disagree that the problem of unemployment is one of the biggest problems that the country faces today. However, the form of resolution sponsored by Shri M. Ruthnaswamy neither solves it nor even touches the fringe of the problem. Even most of the points raised by the Opposition and other speakers refer to the individual sides of this vast problem. The problem is so vast and so great that unless, as the Planning Minister said the other day, a new approach is made to the problem, we can say that in future the problem will be aggravated much more than what it is today. The problem is there, as some people think, because of lack of new growth of industries. Such statistics as 2% or 3% growth can be manufactured according to will and such statistics, as we know, are very incomplete and very incohesive. What has been happening, as one of the hon. Members stated, is that we had a concentration in the sphere of heavy industries and, as the hon. Members know, a heavy industry does not mean necessarily bigger number of employed people. In fact, it has aggravated the question of unemployment in another direction. There has been a steady stream of people from the rural areas to the centres of industries. Those migrating from the rural centres do not always have even the requisite knowledge and consequently they land in bigger problems and create an urban problem.

The unemployment problem, as we are generally talking of, is the problem of unemployment of the educated or the semi-educated and, in my opinion, Sir, this is where we

have to do a lot of rethinking. The education that we have been having, the system of education that we have, is directed towards finding a clerical job. We want to have a job i.e. "Naukri" and this, in a country like India, is a very dangerous tendency. The system that we still follow in education is that you pass an examination and then you look for a job and this is where a lot of trouble arises. Figures have been cited and are known to the Members. They say that there are a two hundred thousand or a hundred thousand engineers or doctors who are unemployed and so on but on the other hand if you look at the countryside and even within the cities you will find that many jobs are there, but there are not enough people who can do those jobs. You can experience this daily. If you want an electrician or if you want a plumber or if you want to have a carpenter, you find it difficult to get them and it is worse still in the countryside where the lack of semi-trained, semi-skilled people is much bigger, the reason being that everyone would like to have a job preferably a white-collar job, in an urban area with limited timings. Unless we change or unless our policy of education brings about a change in this kind of thinking, I am afraid, this migration from the rural areas to urban areas will create urban problems like slums and other things and in the rural areas it will create a kind of deficit in the development. So, Sir, my humble suggestion is that one of the first problems that the Planning Commission should tackle, in co-ordination with the other concerned Ministries, is the creation of a kind of training where a person would be inclined to take up a job as and where he is in the first place. Now, Sir, this may sound difficult, but is not so difficult. Now, if you look at our villages, you will find that there is no initiative at the local level to co-ordinate efforts to create employment in those centres. I would submit, Sir, that our planning should be based on the conception that our village and panchayat levels should have a planning, a kind of co-operative system, by which they can create their own roads and other things, with a certain amount of financial help from other sources, maybe the banks, maybe the government. Very often it is easy to say that we should construct a hundred thousand miles of roads or ten thousand wells, but our financial resources are limited. Here again I find a kind of unhealthy trend from the rural side into the urban side. We have no income-tax and other taxes on the rural income. But

what happens is that these incomes often migrate to avenues which are outside the rural centres. I would suggest that this sort of co-ordination is created at the Panchayat level and other incentives are provided to the rural capital. Some of the rural areas, mind you, Sir, are not so poor in finance as we might think. In fact, a lot of their money goes into gold and other things which are not productive and which do not help the growth of the nation. Instead of that, if incentives were provided for the rural economy and the finance is available at the rural level to develop the villages around, it will be far better. If we allow this capital to migrate, all the time to heavy industries and as bigger industries cannot help solve unemployment, we will have a very big problem of having urban concentration, slums and other things. We should develop employment at the rural level. Unless we pay our attention to develop employment on the spot of the human beings, I am afraid the problem will become more and more lopsided. Bigger industries are essential. They are the base of economy. But they create a base and not employment potential. Sometimes, on the contrary, the bigger industry creates lesser employment than what may be otherwise,

If I may give a very rough example, I would say : Take electricity. Now if you have lamps made of kerosene or some such thing and put 20,000 pieces, you will require at least 2,000 people to put lamps. But if you have electricity, you don't require a single person to put the lamps. So if this sort of conception of industrialization is there, we cannot create employment by having one electricity power generator. At the same time, electricity will have to be generated. Look at things. Economy cannot survive or grow if we look upon the question of unemployment as a kind of dole either in cash or in kind. Simply constructing roads at some point because we wish to give employment to some five thousand or ten thousand people, may be a temporary solution of humanitarian nature. But it is not an economic solution.

So my submission, Sir, is that planning in future should co-ordinate the fact that rural resources and education should be such that they can lead to local employment. The trend towards degree courses and the trend towards matriculation and all such things should be avoided. Now we find that a lot of problems

of unemployment arise simply because when a boy in a village becomes a matriculate he thinks that he is entitled to a particular type of job. Maybe it is only a peon's job. He thinks that it is much better than being an electrician or a plumber in some places. I think this sort of false notion against the dignity of labour has to be removed if we wish to enlarge the potential in employment.

Sir, about the brain drain, it is very much on the same lines. We find very often that people migrate from this country. It is not necessary that the best brains go out of the country. It is not always that the best brains migrate. It is not so. The lucrative payments that are made abroad are not necessarily the reason for this. It is not necessary that a man who is getting a little lesser here will migrate abroad. But, at the same time, brain drain is a fact which we have to look into. But it should not be enlarged out of proportion. After all, every country, even the U. S., has faced this problem. Europe faced it for two decades and now it is the other way round when Europe is attracting more brain. This is a question of international migration. After all, every country profits by this migration. It is not that it is always a loss to us. If our Narlikar has gone abroad and produced a thesis, it is not necessarily a loss to us. We can also benefit by it.

Our problem is much bigger. Our education should be such that the man is inclined to do physical job, and not always lock upon the job and *naukri* as a kind of sitting job. He should be made to think that he has to create employment. He has to create something. If you can look in this direction, I am sure we will have a new direction towards solving this very vast problem of unemployment. Thank you.

SHRI KALI MUKHERJEE (West Bengal) : Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, this question of unemployment in a developing country is a chronic disease. All the developing countries in the world have been fighting this problem in their own way. Now, the social order that we are suffering from in our country is a Feudo-capitalist order of society. But a new phase is coming and we will be passing through this phase and trying to develop a new pattern of society, that would be in keeping in view the parliamentary system with an objective of democratic socialism. But, Sir,

[Shri Kali Mukherjee]

we have rejected certainly the regimented social order. We are the second biggest populous country in the world. Some big countries have taken recourse to different social orders so as to get rid of unemployment but the values of democracy, unfortunately, have not been upheld there. But we are trying our best to find a way out of this. It must be neither a capitalist order of society as we find in the United States—unbridled monopolistic system—nor a regimented social order like in China. It is a new path which is being worked out in our country, in an Indian way. The problem is to be solved through it.

Now, keeping that in view we have to look into the unemployment problem of the country. How to release the economy from the clutches of the monopolists, the big business and the big landlords who are controlling the rural-urban economy of the country? The ways are being found out, certainly through legislative methods, but the clutches of bureaucracy is a factor which has to be taken into consideration while enacting the legislation and implementing it. Care should be taken so that the political parties which are adhering to socialist principles can develop the media of communications with the people, organisation and movement for the purpose of achieving that democratic socialism. Only a Government or an administration can never do it. Nowhere in history has ever done it. Therefore, that is the method to be adopted outside and also inside Parliament.

I am talking of a few families who are still controlling the entire economy of the country a few monopolist-businessmen. We could not touch them as yet, however much legislations might have been made or whatever number of commissions might have been set up, it is going on and it continues. In the matter of tax evasions we find that they go for Article 226 in the High Courts and the Supreme Court and you cannot touch them. That is also a problem certainly but a way is to be found out.

Now I come to the position of basic industries which are being controlled, even now, by the monopolists. Some friends have referred to steel; some other friends have referred to some other basic industries. We are not in a position to control the steel industry entirely till now. It is true that we are not efficient enough to run the show. A developing country like ours has drawbacks, faults, omissions and

commissions or errors but certainly the country has developed to bring in new people, new generation, new technicians and we have come into a new era. More public sector units are needed for the country. The entire export-import trade should be and must be nationalised. It should not be left to the monopolists. So long as you leave it to the monopolists, you are entirely left to the bureaucracy whom they can delicately handle to sabotage the entire nation's economy. I bring that question along with land reforms which has been mentioned by many friends. I do not like to inflict any further speech on that as it has already been repeated by some friends. With this change in economy you will be releasing a new economy which we have never seen. A new quality of things will come in and along with that the educational system is to be changed to cope with the new economy. The educational system which we had been passing through all these years since independence, is old British type of education and that is to be changed. I do not want to elaborate on those points. There should be thus a need-based education in the way. The public school and other things that have been going on in the posh areas by the aristocrats and talk in the same breath of socialism does not fit in this country. We must have a real educational system to cope with the new era that we will be facing tomorrow. Along with that line the Reforms Commission and other Commissions that have gone through these, have offered some palliatives but it has not touched the bureaucratic clutches of the country which is very much needed now so that the country is released from their hands.

Coming to the last—I do not want to inflict a long speech—the electrification of the villages is one of the main items if we are to talk about. Elimination of unemployment and socialism. Industrialisation in the villages, small and medium scale—and reforms of the land are necessary. That means land is to be brought in a manner that you can really speaking, get from it in full return whatever is available. We have seen that it is the last item left till now in the country that is the means of production must be taken away from the hands of the monopolists and they have to be brought under Government or public control. With this we should have production of consumer goods on a massive scale in the country. Take sugar. How the sugar monopolists are behaving you are aware of. We cannot control the sugar monopolists. There are items also

which should be brought under control if not completely under public sector. Where we have money invested from Government or from the nationalised banks, those industries should be brought under public control. With these angles of vision if we look to the problem of unemployment and for the eradication of unemployment, we can have progressive eradication of unemployment in this country. With the economic development of the country and the new era achieved through new economy that we are visualising, possibly it will give us a new way of life and thus the main problem of the country, namely unemployment, may be solved, can be solved and in a progressive way it will be solved.

श्री नानेश्वर प्रसाद शाही (उत्तर प्रदेश)
माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, यह सकल्प बहुत ही साधु विचार का सकल्प है और इसके पीछे भावना यही है कि सरकार बेरोजगारी को खत्म करने के लिए जो इरादा रखती है, उसको ठीक ढंग से कैसे अमल में लाया जाए। सरकार के इरादे को सही मानी में अमली जामा पहनाने के लिए यह एक बहुत ही सुन्दर और साधु सकल्प है। मुझे दुख हुआ है कि सरकारी बजट के कुछ लोग इस साधु सकल्प से भी सहमत नहीं हुए और दलगत भावनाओं से प्रेरित होकर इसका भी विरोध करने की बात सोच बैठे।

महोदय, आप देखेंगे, इसमें मुख्य चीज यह है प्रति वर्ष एक लाख मील की दर से गांवों में सड़कें बनाना, एक लाख की दर से गांवों में पेय जल के कुए खोदना, पांच लाख की दर से मकान बनाना और एक हजार केन्द्रों की दर से ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों के उद्योगों को संगठित करना—इस कार्यों के लिए मानवीय साधन जुटाने की बात कही गई है। मैं निवेदन करूंगा, पिछले 20-25 वर्षों में हमारे पड़ोसी राष्ट्र चीन ने जो प्रगति की है उसके पीछे भी बहुत कुछ अपने देश के मानवीय साधनों को जुटा करके प्रगति के पथ पर चलने की बात थी, वहां भी मानवीय साधन हमारे ही देश की तरह से काफी हैं। अपने देश में अगर और साधनों की कमी है तो मानवीय साधन की कमी नहीं है और अगर हम मानवीय साधन को जुटा कर के देश को प्रगति के पथ पर ले चलने का प्रयास करें और उसके माध्यम से अपने देश में व्याप्त

बेरोजगारी की समस्या को हल करने का प्रयास करें तो बहुत कुछ इसमें सफल हो सकते हैं।

मैं माननीय मंत्री जी का ध्यान एक बात की ओर उदाहरण देकर आकर्षित करूंगा कि क्या माहौल है अपने देश में इस बेरोजगारी की समस्या को हल करने के लिए। आप जो प्रयास करते हैं वह प्रयास इसलिए सफल नहीं हो पाते कि आप जिस मशीनरी को बनाए हुए हैं, और जिस मशीनरी को उस प्रयास को सफल करने में लगाते हैं वह ऐसी मशीनरी है कि हमारे जिले में आपकी सरकार ने 8 लाख रुपए इस योजना के लिए दिए, उस 9 लाख रुपए में से कुछ 70,000 रु० खर्च हुए और 8 लाख 30 हजार रुपया 30 मार्च को सरेन्डर कर दिया गया यह कह कर कि खर्च नहीं हो सका। अब आप विचार करें इसके ऊपर कि जो कुछ थोड़ा भी आप प्रयास करते हैं बेरोजगार की समस्या को हल करने के लिए, और इस योजना के अंतर्गत जो थोड़ा धन आप उपलब्ध भी कराते हैं, उसका कैसे उपयोग होता है, आपकी मशीनरी किस प्रकार की है। मैंने जब सम्बद्ध अधिकारी से पूछा तो उन्होंने कहा साहब, फव्वारी महीने में तो हमको आर्डर मिला इस रुपये को खर्च करने के लिए और हमने जब फर्दर क्लेरिफिकेशन मीक किया लखनऊ चिट्ठी भेजकर, तार भेजकर, तो वहां से क्लेरिफिकेशन हमको मार्च के बीच में मिला, कैसे खर्चा कर सकते हैं, मजबूर हैं हम इसको सरेन्डर कर देने के लिए।

तो मैंने आपको यह उदाहरण देकर आपका इस ओर ध्यान आकर्षित किया कि आप जो थोड़ा बहुत प्रयास करने भी हैं तो बीच में वह प्रयास इसलिए असफल हो जाता है कि जो मशीनरी आप बनाए हुए हैं इस काम को अमली जामा पहनाने के लिए वह मशीनरी इतनी सड़ी हुई है, इतनी गलत, इतनी भ्रष्ट है, इतनी निकम्मी और आयोग्य है कि हर्गिज आपके नियोजन को कभी भी अमल में नहीं आने देती है।

इन शब्दों के साथ, श्रीमन्, मैं सदन से निवेदन करूंगा कि इस साधु-सकल्प को सर्वसम्माति से अवश्य स्वीकार करें और पास करें।

श्री यशपाल कपूर (उत्तर प्रदेश). उप-सभाध्यक्ष महोदय, जिस प्रस्ताव पर बहस हो रही है, मैं उस प्रस्ताव को लाने के लिए मैं श्री रत्नस्वामी जी को बधाई देता हूँ कि जहाँ तक गावों में सड़क बनने की बात है, जहाँ तक गावों में लोगों को पीने का पानी देने की बात है, जहाँ तक छोटे उद्योग लगाने की बात है, उसमें किसी की दो राय नहीं हो सकती है। शाही जी को भ्रम हुआ कि कोई इधर से इन चीजों का विरोध करने वाला है।

हमारा क्षेत्र भी ऐसा है कि यदि गाव की सड़कों को छोड़ दिया जाय, एक शहर से दूसरे शहर तक जाने के लिए पुलों और सड़कों की कमी से जहाँ सीधे 35 मील में कोई रायबरेली से फतेहपुर पहुँच सकता है वहाँ वाया कानपुर होकर जाने से 100 मील का सफर करना पड़ता है। इस तरह एक और मित्र ने कहा कि जब बरसात के दिन आने हैं तो मरीजों को अस्पताल तक पहुँचाना मुश्किल हो जाता है। तो यह बहुत आवश्यक बात है कि पीने के पानी का जहाँ तक सम्बन्ध है यह स्वास्थ्य से भी सम्बन्ध रखता है और दैनिक जीवन से भी सम्बन्ध रखता है। ऐसी भी जगहें हैं जहाँ लोग ने गाव में कुएँ खोदें तो उनमें प्लोराइड या कुछ ऐसे मिनरल्स होने के कारण उस पानी को पीने से हाथ पाव टेढ़े हो जाते हैं और शक्ल बिगड़ जाती है। लेकिन असल सवाल उठता है—ठीक है अगर आपका प्रस्ताव मान लिया जाय कि एक लाख कुएँ बनाये जाय, साल भर में लाख मील सड़क बनाई जाय, यहाँ से तो प्रस्ताव पास हो जायेगा और जैसा शाही जी ने जो बात कही इन कार्यक्रमों को कार्यान्वित करने की, चाहे मैं उनके शब्दों का समर्थन नहीं करता, लेकिन उसके पीछे जो भाव है, जो भी कार्यक्रम केन्द्रीय सरकार की ओर से बनाकर भेजे जाते हैं उन को लागू करने के लिए साधन तो केन्द्र के होते हैं, योजना केन्द्र की होती है और जब इन की घोषणा की जाती है तो गाव में जहाँ जहाँ लोगो को लाभ पहुँचना होता है वहाँ एक प्रसन्नता की लहर दौड़ जाती है लेकिन बाद में जिस ढिलाई से ये काम किये जाते हैं उससे लोगो को दुःख भी होता है।

अभी हमारे परिवहन मंत्री जी यहाँ पर बैठे हुए हैं, नेशनल हाईवेज या राष्ट्रीय मार्ग जो है वे इनके विभाग के मातहत आते हैं। यहाँ से एक राष्ट्रीय मार्ग दिल्ली से लखनऊ तक वाया मुरादाबाद होकर जाता है। अगर इस मार्ग द्वारा कार में चला जाय तो मेरे जैसे जवान आदमी तो बरदास्त कर लेंगे, लेकिन हमारे सदन के जो नेता यहाँ पर बैठे हैं, अगर एक बार इस उम्र में कोई बुजुर्ग आदमी चला जाय...

सभानेता (श्री उमाशंकर दीक्षित) वे भी बरदास्त कर लेंगे।

श्री यशपाल कपूर : तो मैं सिर्फ इस बात पर जोर देने के लिए खड़ा हूँ कि जिस प्रकार पहिले छोटे किसानों के लिए, मार्जिनल फार्मर्स के लिए जो योजना बनी थी जब तक केन्द्र ने पूरा ध्यान देकर उन को तेजी से चलाने के लिए हर प्रदेश की राजधानी में जाकर नहीं कहा तब तक वे चली नहीं। इसलिए इस बात का समर्थन करते हुए कि जरूर हमारे गावों में लोगों को पीने का पानी मिलना चाहिये, लेकिन गाव में कितने लोगों को पहिले प्राथमिकता मिलनी चाहिये, इसका भी ध्यान रखा जाना चाहिये। गाव के समाज में ऐसे "निम्न" शब्द का प्रयोग नहीं करना चाहता हूँ, लेकिन कहा जाता है कि हरिजनो की बस्तियाँ हैं, घोसी हैं और कुछ ऐसे लोग हैं जिन्हें पानी पीने की सुविधा पहिले मिलनी चाहिये। यह एक ऐसी श्रेणी है जिसके पास साधन नहीं है कि वे किसी तरह से अपनी पीने के पानी का बन्दोबस्त कर सकें। साथ ही साथ जो भी निर्णय आप करें, जो भी केन्द्रीय सरकार की योजना बने, यह देखने के लिए या तो सरकार इन कार्यों को खुद करे या फिर मीडियम किसी प्रकार की कोई एजेंसी हो जो इन कामों को तेजी के साथ चला सके। इस चीज का जरूर इलाज जिया जाना चाहिये और जो भी कार्यक्रम बने, चाहे वे छोटे हों या बड़े हों, उन्हें सरकार तेजी से चलाये ताकि लोगों को रोजगार मिले और सब प्रकार की सुविधा मिल सके। धन्यवाद।

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA) :
Mr Vice-Chairman, Sir, I was glad to listen

to the speeches of the hon. Members of the House. They have tried to dwell at length on some of the proposals which have been put forward in the Resolution by Mr. Ruthnaswamy. It is a laudable one. Nobody can deny the fact that the things which he has brought out in the Resolution are very much needed at least in the countryside. There is a lack of roads. Then, housing is of a very low order. Nearly eighty per cent of the people live in kutcha houses. Hardly two per cent of the people in the villages live in pucca houses. So far as water supply is concerned, there is need to augment its supply in the rural areas. Protected or hygienic water supply is almost non-existent. There is need to pay great attention to these things in the rural areas at least. So far as industrialisation is concerned, we have to give best attention in order to improve the living conditions of the masses. So, all the four things which he has highlighted are the need of the hour. But we have to

5 P. M. see whether all these four things which he has advocated or suggested in his Resolution are practicable. We would very much like that the sooner it is done the better it would be for the good of the country. But looking to the limited resources that we have got, we do not think that we can do anything by waving the magic wand and do away with this unemployment or underemployment and bring about a very rosy picture in the countryside.

श्री गनेशी लाल चौधरी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : तो, मन्त्री जी, गरीबी नहीं हटेगी यह मान लीजिए ।

श्री ब्रह्मानन्द पंडा (उड़ीसा) : हटेगी, हटेगी ।

श्री बाल गोविन्द वर्मा : गरीबी तो हटेगी, लेकिन इस पर थोड़ा सा विचार करने की जरूरत है ।

श्री नागेश्वर प्रसाद शाही : गरीब हटता है, गरीबी नहीं हटती ।

SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA : So, Sir, if we take one by one all these four points which have been raised by the hon. Mr. Ruthnaswamy, we will come to the conclusion that huge resources are needed. If we take the housing problem itself, he has suggested that five lakh houses should be built in the countryside. Sir, as you know, this is a problem which has been enganging the attention of the Government, and

the Government has now contemplated, rather made a provision in the Budget itself this year of the order of Rs. 5 crores to give, in the beginning at least, house sites for the landless labourers or those who are very poor persons in the rural areas. A beginning has been made . . .

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI OM MEHTA) : Let us continue the discussion next Friday, Sir.

SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN : Let Prof. Ruthnaswamy also say a few words in two minutes.

SHRI OM MEHTA : It is already five of the clock.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY) : He is finishing.

SHRI GANESHI LAL CHAUDHARY : I think this can be taken up next time.

SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN : Let us hear Prof. Ruthnaswamy.

SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA : So, Sir, if we actually . . .

SHRI OM MEHTA : He has to speak for one hour.

SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA : No, no. I will finish. I should have been given sufficient time. But I think, from the way in which we are proceeding, I will be getting very little time, and simply I can tell points only and I will finish the speech. There is no other alternative . . .

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY) : Are you accepting the Resolution or not ? That is the question.

SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA : No, no. The question of accepting it does not arise. If we take all the schemes, at least Rs. 1,500 crores are needed in a year.

SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN : Your Ministry has calculated it at Rs. 1600 crores.

SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA : We have estimated that at least Rs. 1,500 crores will be needed every year to complete the projects we

[Shri Balgovind Verma]

have envisaged. So, Sir, it is not possible to accept the Resolution. I think he will appreciate the stand the Government has taken so far. In the Fourth Five Year Plan, we have made provision to give as much facility to the rural people as possible to construct roads.

SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN : Would the hon. Minister say—since the total amount needed is Rs. 1,500 crores—what is the provision that he is making every year for these purposes?

SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA : There is provision. We have made provision for housing, we have made provision for road construction.

SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN : How much? What is the total amount per year that you are providing?

SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA : Not per year—in the Fourth Five Year Plan as a whole.

SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN : Yes, in the Fourth Five Year Plan as a whole.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY) : The time is up. It is past five now. If you finish in a few seconds, you can do so.

SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA : So far as rural roads are concerned, the Fourth Plan makes a provision of Rs. 453 crores for the roads in the State Plans and of Rs. 418 crores in the Central Plan making a total of Rs. 871 crores for the road development plan. This is what we are doing.

SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN : That is not for rural roads. We are asking for rural roads.

SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA : 25 per cent of this amount is meant for the rural roads.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY) : The time is up and the debate is closed. The Secretary has got two messages.

MESSAGES FROM THE LOK SABHA

I THE ADMINISTRATORS-GENERAL (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1972

II THE PUBLIC WORKS (EXTENSION OF LIMITATION) (DELHI AMENDMENT) BILL, 1972

SECRETARY : Sir, I have to report to the House the following messages received from the Lok Sabha, signed by the Secretary of the Lok Sabha.

(I)

“In accordance with the provisions of Rule 120 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to inform you that Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 7th April, 1972, agreed without any amendment to the Administrators-General (Amendment) Bill, 1972, which was passed by Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 30th March, 1972.”

(II)

“In accordance with the provisions of Rule 120 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to inform you that Lok Sabha, at its sitting held on the 7th April, 1972, agreed without any amendment to the Public Works (Extension of Limitation) (Delhi Amendment) Bill, 1972, which was passed by Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 30th March, 1972.”

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY) : The House stands adjourned till Monday, the 11th April, 1972.

The House adjourned at six minutes past five of the clock till eleven of the clock on Monday, the 10th April, 1972.