

**THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:**  
The programme of election to the Central Advisory Committee for the National Cadet Corps will be published in Parliamentary Bulletin.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO  
SHRI B. K. GAIKWAD**

**THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:** I have to inform Members that the following letter dated the 19th April, 1969, has been received from Shri B. K. Gaikwad:—

“Due to attack of paralysis I could not attend the session of Rajya Sabha since 6th March, 1969. At present I am confined to bed in St. George's Hospital, Bombay and cannot move freely. I will not, therefore, be able to attend the session of the Rajya Sabha. I would just request that I may kindly be granted leave of absence till the session is over.”

Is it the pleasure of the House that permission be granted to Shri B. K. Gaikwad for remaining absent from all meetings of the House during the current session?

(No hon. Member dissented)

**THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:**  
Permission to remain absent is granted.

**REFERENCE TO REFUSAL OF  
PERMISSION TO ISRAELI RE-  
PRESENTATIVE TO ATTEND  
FUNERAL OF THE LATE PRESI-  
DENT OF INDIA.**

**श्री निरंजन वर्मा (मध्य प्रदेश):**  
आदरणीया, अपने देश की यह परिपाटी रही है कि न्यायप्रियता में हम सब से आगे रहे हैं और यह वर्ष गांधी शताब्दी का वर्ष जा रहा है, इसमें तो औपचारिक शिष्टता बरतने की और भी आवश्यकता है। ऐसे समय में अभी एक ऐसी घटना हुई है जिसके बारे में सदन का ध्यान आपके द्वारा आकर्षित करना अत्यंत आवश्यक है। आज से दो दिन पहले इज़राईल के वाणिज्य उपदूत जो बम्बई से चलकर

स्वर्गीय डा० जाकिर हुसैन को श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करने के लिये और शोक में शामिल होने के लिये यहां पर आए थे उनको यहां के डिपुटी चीफ प्रोटोकोल ने उसमें शामिल होने से इनकार कर दिया। यह जो व्यक्ति है इसका नाम शायद वारनर था जो यहां पर अपना दुःख प्रदर्शित करने के लिये आया था। लेकिन उसको यहां पर आने के लिये जब मना किया गया तो उसके लिये सरकार यह नहीं कह सकती कि उसको पहले से आज्ञा लेनी चाहिये थी, विशेषतः उस समय, आदरणीया, जब कि ‘अल अहराम’ के सम्पादक जो कि यहां पहले मिस्टर मकसूद नाम के रह चुके थे, वह अकस्मात् ही काबुल से उड़ कर आए, और उसे स्वर्गीय डा० जाकिर हुसैन की अर्थी में शामिल होने के लिये मौका दिया गया। तो ऐसी अवस्था में इज़राईल के राजदूत के अधिकारी को यहां पर आकर उसको मौका न देना, क्या यह भारतीय सरकार की आज्ञा के अनुसार है और अगर यह भारतीय सरकार की आज्ञा के अनुसार नहीं है तो क्या प्रोटोकोल ने अपनी स्वयं की इच्छा से उसे शामिल होने से इनकार किया? इसके विषय में मैं जानना चाहता हूं, भारत सरकार का क्या उत्तर है?

**THE APPROPRIATION (NO. 3)  
BILL, 1969—Contd.**

**DR. K. RAMIAH (Nominated):**  
Madam, I would like to deal with one or two aspects of the Bill, particularly with regard to agriculture. The Bill refers to three new aspects, namely, levy on fertilisers, irrigation pump sets and imposition of Agricultural Wealth Tax. As a result of discussions in the other House the Finance Minister has agreed to drop the Tax on pump sets and also promised to reconsider the Agricultural Wealth Tax by fixing a limit so that the medium and small farmers would not be subjected to this Tax. In the

case of the most important item, namely, the Tax on Fertilizers, he has declined to consider the matter. In the course of his reply and earlier in the Budget speech, he has said that a farmer gets about Rs. 134 as profit per acre by the use of fertilisers and the new levy is going to reduce that profit only to the extent of Rs. 4 and it may not be considered a burden and therefore the levy is justifiable. I do not know how these calculations were made and this figure of Rs. 134 was arrived at. It is well recognised that the use of fertilisers has been rather slow until a few years ago. With our local old varieties, the kind of response was low and therefore the profit was also marginal. It is only in the last few years, with the introduction of the high-yielding varieties, the response is high and the profits by the use of fertilisers are substantial. Let me illustrate by an example. In the case of paddy, the most important crop of this country, one kilo of nitrogen applied to the crop will give an additional yield of 8 to 10 kilos of grain. Comparing the price of fertiliser and the price of paddy the profit is marginal whereas in the case of the introduced high-yielding varieties, the response is of the order of 20 to 25 kilos for every kilo of nitrogen applied. Therefore it is profitable. In this connection I might mention that the fertiliser in India is at present the highest-priced compared to many countries of the world. I have some figures here to say that a kilo of nitrogen costs about Rs. 2.8 in India whereas it is Rs. 1.9 in Japan and about Rs. 2 in the USA, Italy and the UAR. We have also to remember in this connection that the prices the farmer gets for wheat and rice are comparatively much lower in India than in the countries where they pay less for their fertilisers. In the discussions in this House it has often been stated and the Minister for Agriculture has also acknowledged the point that the use of fertilisers and obtaining profits due to such use is not shared by many of the small farmers, the main difficulty being lack of credit. It is only the larger farmers who are actually using

the fertilisers and making a profit and in their case, perhaps the remarks of the Finance Minister will hold good whereas in the case of the small holdings where the farmers are yet not having credit facilities adequately and where the use of fertiliser has not become yet a practice, the levy is certainly likely to affect and be a deterrent in the offtake of the fertiliser. There is also another point. It is proposed that a ten per cent. uniform levy will be adopted in the case of fertilisers. All of us know that there are several forms of fertilisers with different compositions and different percentages of fertilising elements in them and with different efficiencies in their use in different soils and crop group conditions. It will be unjustifiable to prescribe a uniform ten per cent. tax on all the fertilisers uniformly. How this is going to be reconciled we are yet to know. In the discussions in the other House, as can be seen in the papers and elsewhere, it has been pointed out that the levy on fertilisers is likely to bring Rs. 20 crores of revenue and if any alternative source of revenue could be found, this could be kept in abeyance. I hardly realise the strength of this argument. When the whole Budget is based on a deficit of Rs. 250 crores, a few more crores, Rs. 20 crores more, in deficit is not likely to seriously affect the Budget of the country. It is only after a series of years of severe strain on agricultural production due to floods and droughts that in 1967-68 we have come to realise some recovery in the position and in 1968-69 the production will perhaps be the same or even slightly less. It is a point for consideration whether this is the right moment for levying a tax and thus prevent the free use of fertilisers. The Finance Minister has no doubt said that this is not likely to deter the consumption of fertilisers and affect production. I wish to differ from his views and I do believe that since the use of fertilisers has not become a common practice with the small farmers, any increase in price at this stage is bound to be a deterrent in its extensive use. The unsuitability

[Dr. K. Ramiah.]

of the time to levy a tax on fertilizers is evident from the fact that fertilizer use was subsidised until recently, and only in 1967 it was partially abolished. In 1968, the subsidy was completely abolished and in 1969 we are levying an additional tax.

Usually industrialised countries adopt different price rates for their productions, one, a higher rate for local consumption and a lower one for export purposes. This is mainly to gain foreign exchange and also to increase their exports. India is not yet an industrialised country and fertiliser is not likely to be a commodity for export for several years to come. It may be another ten or even fifteen years when all our programmes for establishing fertiliser factories in India have materialised and we have sufficient quantities of surplus to export to other countries. There is also another point; so far the use of fertilisers is almost confined to and is in vogue in the irrigated land, which forms only about thirty to forty per cent of the total cultivated area. With regard to rain-fed areas, although in some areas where the rainfall is assured a certain amount of fertilisers is being used, in other areas, much more work of both research and development is required before we can advocate and recommend a systematic use of the right kind and the right quantity of the different fertilisers available.

Now some of the Members, in the proceedings of yesterday, started a point about the recommendation of the Estimates Committee that the large Government established farms—for instance, Suratgarh in Rajasthan—should be closed. I think it would be a retrograde step to think of closing down the farm at this stage. In fact, the proposals have already gone far ahead to establish similar large farms in other States also and a certain number of them have already come into existence. To think of closing them down will certainly be a retrograde step. Whatever the

objectives may be in establishing these large farms, the best way of utilising them would be to bring about a close coordination between the authorities who run these large farms and the National Seeds Corporation so that the land could be effectively used to multiply large quantities of seeds, reliable seeds, for distribution to the farmers. I feel that this point has not yet been given sufficient consideration.

One thing which acts as a stimulant and as an encouragement to the farmers is the fixation of satisfactory prices for their produce. After a lot of discussions, and demands by the public, Government have fixed the minimum remunerative prices for several of the commodities. Perhaps they are working satisfactorily so far as food crops are concerned . . . In the case of industrial crops like cotton, jute, sugarcane, etc., the farmer is still at the mercy of the trader and the middle-man. Often he does not realise the full benefits of growing the improved varieties of seeds by adopting the improved agronomic practices and going in for additional investment on fertilisers. Now, with the improvement in agricultural production, which we all expect to happen in the next few years, the problem of procurement is also of great importance. Often there is a clash in the States between the Governments of the States and the Food Corporation in the matter of procurement. Whether it is done by the States or by the Food Corporation, whoever may be the authority, one thing is definitely necessary that the procured foodstuffs should be stored on a proper basis so that there is little or no damage to the stored produce either due to insects or rodents and so on. Even though hon. Members may not perhaps be familiar with it, we know that as much as eight per cent—it has been acknowledged by the authorities concerned—of the stored produce in a year is lost due to the damage wrought by insects and rodents. This is a loss which the country cannot afford and effective steps have to be taken to stop this.

Any improvement in agricultural production depends for its background on development of agricultural research. This is now the responsibility of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, which has been reorganised just two years ago. It is just coming into its own and it needs a lot of fostering and encouragement so that the research will be further intensified and the information relating to the application of the results of such research fed to the farmers through the Extension Departments. As an example of what type of research could prove very useful to the country I refer to a Symposium held recently. A few days back, under the auspices of the National Institute of Sciences, a Symposium was held in Delhi on problems of drought areas, on how to meet them. Drought areas, as we know, represent roughly thirty per cent of the cultivated area. The Symposium was inaugurated by the Union Minister for Food and Agriculture and a large number of scientists concerned with different disciplines met and discussed the problems from various aspects. Symposiums of this kind are to be encouraged, and they need fostering. And it was very encouraging that the Union Minister, while inaugurating this Symposium, laid stress on the importance of it and also promised that the recommendations made by this Symposium would receive his serious consideration.

Lastly, I want to refer to one important problem, namely, crop planning in agriculture. I am suggesting this as a means to greater national integration. After all, natural conditions vary from place to place, the soil conditions, the rainfall condition, and so on, and under such different conditions prevailing in different parts of the country only particular crops can be grown most profitably in particular places. But often there is a tendency for all States to feel that they should become self-sufficient in all their requirements. After all, India is one country and particular crops should be grown only in

localities where the maximum facilities exist, and the crops can be grown most profitably in those areas. If this is done on a common basis according to a uniform and agreed plan, there is likely to be a greater exchange and greater understanding between all the States which can lead to a greater integration of the country, rather than to disintegration the signs of which we see in the present days. Of course it needs very careful planning and proper execution of the plans, and also a correct estimate of the needs, both of food as well as of industrial crops.

The Finance Minister has already decided that the fertiliser question cannot be reopened. I do not know whether the speeches or discussions in this House are going to change his mind, but still, as one who has been interested in dealing with agriculture for so many years I felt that I should also join the group that had raised objections to the tax on fertilisers.

Thank you, Madam.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:  
The House stands adjourned till  
2 P.M.

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

—  
The House reassembled after lunch  
at two of the clock. THE VICE  
CHAIRMAN (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA)  
in the Chair.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA (Uttar Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, in this Appropriation Bill debate I want to confine my remarks to item 10 only and that is, the working of the CSIR. As the House is aware I had moved a motion in this House for the appointment of a Committee to go into the working of the CSIR. I had done that with the hope that the Committee would work expeditiously and would be able to submit its recommendations within the specified period given to them and the rot which is setting in the CSIR will be

[Shri M. P. Bhargava]

stopped or at least arrested, but I am sorry to tell the House that my hopes have been belied. The Committee is going on merrily and merrily. It meets after lapse of months and with the pace with which they are moving I have my own fears whether they will be able to finish the work even in five years. I would say it has become a five year plan. And even after the five year plan what the results would be, again I have my own doubts. As far as I have been able to see the working of the Committee, they do not want to tackle the basic problems for which I wanted the Committee to be appointed. They want to be bogged down in a number of irregular appointments as they are called and to drown themselves in finding out how these irregular appointments were made, who was responsible and the like. That was never the purpose of my motion for the appointment of a committee. That will serve no purpose. You might send away ten people and you might bring in another ten people but it will not serve the purpose. The very concept for which the late Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, wanted these national laboratories has to be gone into and we have to find out whether any efforts are being made to fulfil the concept which Panditji had while setting up a chain of national laboratories.

For refreshing the memory of this House I would like to bring to the notice of the House the statement of aims and objectives of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research as enunciated in the Resolution of the Central Legislative Assembly in 1942 constituting the CSIR as an autonomous body registered under the Registration of Societies Act 1860 (21 of 1860). The following were the functions assigned to the CSIR. I will give the functions and then analyse whether any efforts are being made to fulfil those functions. The functions were:

(1) Promotion guidance and co-ordination of scientific and indus-

trial research in India including the institution and the financing of specific researches.

(2) Establishment of, development and assistance to specific institutions or departments of existing institutions for scientific study of problems affecting particular industries and trades.

(3) Establishment and award of research stipendships and fellowships.

(4) Utilisation of the results of the researches conducted under the auspices of the Council towards the development of industries in the country.

(5) Establishment, maintenance and management of laboratories, work-shops, institutes and organisations to further scientific and industrial research and to utilise and exploit for purposes of experiment or otherwise any discovery or invention likely to be of use to Indian industries.

(6) Collection and dissemination of information in regard not only to research but also to industrial matters generally.

(7) Publication of scientific papers and a journal of industrial research and development; and

(8) Any other activity to promote generally the objects of the Resolution.

Then I come to the Scientific Policy Resolution adopted by Parliament in 1958. It is stated in paragraph 7 therein:

"The Government of India have accordingly decided that the aims of the scientific policy will be:

(1) To foster, promote and sustain by all appropriate means the cultivation of science and scientific research in all its aspects, pure, applied and educational.

(2) To ensure an adequate supply within the country of research scientists of the highest quality and

to recognise their work as an important component for the strength of the nation.

(3) To encourage and initiate with all possible speed programmes for the training of scientific and technical personnel on a scale adequate to fulfil the country's needs in science, education, agriculture, industry and defence.

(4) To ensure that the creative talent of men and women is encouraged and found full scope in scientific activity;

(5) To encourage individual initiative for the acquisition and dissemination of knowledge and for the discovery of new knowledge in an atmosphere of academic freedom; and

(6) In general to secure for the people of the country all the benefits that can accrue from the acquisition and application of scientific knowledge.

The Government of India have decided to pursue and accomplish these aims by offering good conditions of service to scientists and according them an honoured position by associating scientists with the formulation of policies and by taking such other measures as may be deemed necessary from time to time."

Now, before I proceed further I would like to say a word about the working conditions of the scientists. Have we fulfilled anywhere the conditions which we said we would provide in the Scientific Policy Resolution? The scientists of today, especially the talented scientists, the research people, find themselves in a frustrated mood because they have not the scope to show their talent or to carry on their researches without interference from the headquarters of the CSIR. It is a very peculiar position in the relations between the CSIR Headquarters and the Directors. Normally the Director-General is supposed to be above the Directors and the Secretary is supposed to be

a man junior to the Directors. Now, a peculiar anomaly has arisen. The Secretary enjoys the ex-officio rank of Joint Secretary to the Government of India. Recently there was a pay raise in the case of Joint Secretaries and they were given Rs. 500 extra. It means the Joint Secretary's basic pay became Rs. 2,750, while the Directors' pay remains at Rs. 2,000—2,250. Thus in pay the Secretary becomes senior to all the Directors. It is an anomalous position that an administrative head enjoys a position senior to all the Directors of National Laboratories and that has created various problems in the working of the entire CSIR today. I have been pleading always that the healthy convention which was set up of having a non-CSIR man as the Secretary of the CSIR should have been adhered to and a departure should not have been made. There would have been a purely administrative man to administer the working of the Laboratories under the guidance of the Director-General. Here we find there is the Director-General, who has to discharge his responsibilities and there is the super-boss called the Secretary of the CSIR, who also thinks that he is directing the entire working of science and technology in India. That has caused resentment all over in the working of the National Laboratories. I was given an assurance in this very House by the Vice-President of the CSIR, the Education Minister, that he would look into the question of the appointment of the Secretary and would consult the Directors about his continuance. As far as I know, he has not been confirmed in that job yet. I am sorry to say that the assurance given on the floor of this august House has not been implemented. As far as I know, four or five Directors, who enjoy the favours of the Secretary, CSIR, who are in the good books of the CSIR, have been consulted and the majority of the Directors who do not see eye to eye with the Secretary, who resent his bossing about, have not been consulted and the problem, which should have been taken serious note of, has not been tackled at all. The

[Shri M. P. Bhargava]

problem of CSIR today is the relationship between the Headquarters and the National Laboratories. If the Headquarters go on interfering in the day-to-day administration of the National Laboratories, no self-respecting scientist can be expected to discharge his functions and that is exactly where we have landed ourselves today.

If one sees the present situation in the CSIR and its accomplishments as of date in the context of what I cited are the aims and objects of the Scientific Policy Resolution and the Resolution which was adopted by the Government of India when the CSIR laboratories were created, it would become immediately clear that the CSIR has largely failed in achieving its objectives and the Government has, by not implementing adequately the Scientific Policy Resolution, failed to create an environment which would be conducive to the optimum functioning of an organisation like the CSIR, the premier research organisation in the country. It is not my intention to belittle the contribution made by the CSIR. Having personally visited seventeen of the thirty-two National Laboratories and having been interested in the affairs of this organisation since its inception, I am fully aware of the fact that the National Laboratories under the CSIR have made some significant contributions both of a fundamental and applied nature. However, the quantum of this contribution averaged over the entire period of the existence of the CSIR and particularly during the last few years has been pitifully small and not commensurate with the funds spent of date, even if one acknowledges that the funds have not been large enough and that returns from investments on science start coming only after a certain level of investment is reached. The aspect of the present situation which concerns me most is that the CSIR has actually slid back in the last few years. I have no doubt that this has been primarily due to the environment existing in the CSIR and the management policies being followed

which are far from being conducive to creative work. I feel confident that if the CSIR Committee will go into these questions and the comments which I will shortly give in some detail, it will reach the same conclusion.

I was happy to know from the Prime Minister this morning that they want to form academic councils in all the National Laboratories where all the scientists working in that laboratory would be members. It is a step in the right direction, but what is happening in the reverse direction? The Governing Body of the CSIR is going to meet on the 14th of this month. Normally whenever advisory committees are to be formed for advising any particular National Laboratory, the Director of that National Laboratory is consulted about the personnel of that particular advisory committee, but here efforts are being made to pack these committees with people who will be antagonistic to the Director and the workers of a particular laboratory. There is a deliberate attempt going on to see that certain progressive laboratories, which have done good work in the past, are run down. The House probably knows what happened to Dr. M. M. Suri. In spite of my knocking at every door, the President of the CSIR, the Vice-President of the CSIR and the Director-General, I could not succeed in retaining that man. And who is that man? He is a world-renowned scientist in mechanical engineering. The country is the loser, not he. Conditions were created whereby it was found impossible for that self-respecting man to work any further and he gave enough notice to the Prime Minister that he would be quitting on such and such date. Yet the Secretary of the CSIR, who is all-powerful, who is backed by the bureaucrats of this country, had his way. Dr. M. M. Suri was sent away and now we are searching for another Director for that National Laboratory.

Now, I will cite some Laboratories without Directors. I will take five minutes.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN (Andhra Pradesh): Is there any Director without Laboratory also?

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Only yesterday I had one Unstarred Question, and the question was:

"(a) the number of laboratories of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research which have been without Directors during the year 1968-69; and

(b) the reasons for these appointments not being made by Government".

The answer is interesting:

"(a) Five.

(b) (i) Out of the above five, one was filled in September, 1968 (Indian Institute of Experimental Medicine, Calcutta).

(ii) Offers of appointment to two others have been made and these will be filled soon. (National Metallurgical Laboratory, Jamshedpur and Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute, Durgapur)".

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA (Orissa): On a point of clarification. Don't you feel that all these irregularities are being tolerated only because the ornamental head of these institutions is the Prime Minister?

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: Education Minister is the Vice-President.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: I am in possession of the floor. I do not share the view expressed by my hon. friend, Shri Lokanath Misra. It is not the Prime Minister who has to give the day-to-day instructions as to what should be done. The Prime Minister is the head. . . .

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: Nobody suggests it because the Prime Minister is the head.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: What is the role of the Prime Minister in the whole affair? She is the President of the CSIR, Governing Body, which meets once or at the most twice in a year. A long agenda is given to the meeting, and everybody knows how busy our people are, the Governing Body members, the Prime Minister, the Education Minister who happens to be the Vice-President, and what happens? The long agenda is gone through. The notes are prepared, and the Director General goes on giving his account of the things happening. Unless these people know beforehand what is happening, they go on okaying what the Director General says. The Director General in fact is guided by again the super-boss, the Secretary. The Secretary prepares everything in his own way as the answers to the questions are. I will give two other examples:

"(iii) The post of Director for Central Electro-Chemical Research Institute, Karaikudi was advertised twice but no suitable candidate was found. The post is being readvertised."

This is where we have come to. No scientist worth the name wants to come to any of our National Laboratories. I am not prepared to accept that there are no qualified people in this country. This country is fortunate in having qualified people in all branches of science, and many of them are shining in countries abroad. They are winning laurels for this country and for themselves. They have won the Nobel Prize after going to other countries. If they had remained here, they would have been drawing their regular scale of pay and nothing else. Some people say that it is a brain drain from India, but I am not inclined to agree with those people. When our country cannot utilise the scientific and technical knowledge available with us, should the world be deprived of the benefit of those people? Shall we hold back our brilliant people on the



[Shri M. P. Bhargava]

nationalistic or patriotic point of view that "you do not go out of India; you rot here; we cannot do anything for you and still we will not allow you to go"? I will not agree with that approach. That is a narrow approach. If our people can shine outside, they must go, but our effort should be to see that we do not allow these people to go and create conditions for their working... (interruption). Then—

"(iv) It was felt in September, 1965 that the Central Indian Medicinal Plants Organisation (CIM PO), Lucknow may be conjointly held by the Director of Regional Research Laboratory (RRL), Jammu as most of the work of the CIMPO was in Kashmir area and was allied to RRL's work. This arrangement is continuing."

What is the implication of this? A man sitting in Jammu or Srinagar controls the National Laboratory which is bigger than the Regional Research Laboratory. I am told by my friend, Shri Om Mehta, who has come from that State, that this Regional Laboratory was flourishing, was doing excellent work, was producing brilliant medicines before it was taken over by the CSIR, and after it has been taken over by the CSIR all that good work has gone. The Director runs between Lucknow and Srinagar. He is able to give his attention neither to Srinagar nor to Lucknow and he makes a mess of the whole thing, and a flourishing laboratory which should have been in Lucknow is denied that privilege and prestige.

Another question which was answered yesterday was this. I had asked:

"(a) whether it is a fact that a 72 year old scientist has been deputed on a Commonwealth Exchange Fellowship by the Ministry of Education to Australia to visit mines and establishments of non-ferrous metallurgy; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for deputing an old retired scientist in preference to the younger scientists of the same subject in the field?"

The answer is:

"(a) No. Sir. The Commonwealth Foundation in London has deputed Dr. M. S. Krishnan, a distinguished Indian geologist, on a lecture tour of Australia and New Zealand at the latter's cost".

Now the exchange programme is for younger scientists who will visit the other country, learn there and then come back and apply whatever they have learnt outside to our country. Here what do we find? A 72 year old gentleman is being sent on an exchange programme. I have every respect for Dr. Krishnan, I have the highest regard for him, he has done excellent work in his field; but if he had been invited, I can understand that, it is very good, it is an honour to our country; but the CSIR was asked to nominate a person for the exchange programme, and here goes the recommendation from the CSIR that our ablest man is Dr. Krishnan, 72 year old, who is yet fit to learn more and will benefit the country when he comes back for long years to come. That is the approach of the CSIR. (*Time bell rings*). Just one minute.

Another thing is these Advisory Councils about which I was talking, their Directors are not being consulted. I scanned through the list and I find that at least 70 per cent of these are chaired by persons who are over 70 years of age. I would respectfully ask the hon. Minister: Is this how we are to administer science to day? Are we to deal with the advancing modern technology and science with the old fossils who have had their day but who cannot deliver the goods?

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA:  
With 19th century knowledge.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: They should make room for younger people, and these Advisory Councils should be really effective bodies which will see that the National Laboratories work for the function for which they were established. Thank you.

DR. B. N. ANTANI (Gujarat): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, while authorising payment and appropriation of a colossal sum of sixteen thousand and seventy-two crores, eighty eight lakhs and ninety thousand rupees towards defraying the several charges in respect of the specified services, I feel that one has, as in duty bound to the tax-paying people, to ask whether the tax-payer gets the proportionate return for the expenditure. This will be the main burden of my theme to speak on the Appropriation Bill. Will the hon. Finance Minister and the Government as a whole honestly be able to answer this question satisfactorily? Before asking for vote for this payment, will they satisfy the people by proving that the economic policy of the Government is quite healthy?

Mr. Vice-Chairman, I am prepared to concede that for the implementation of the programme of development, Government have to spend and the country must pay for it. But I ask: could it go on indefinitely irrespective of the capacity of the country and without being sure of satisfactory returns? In formulating economic policies on the principles of socialism of their conception, by even overtaking the people and discouraging thrift in every direction and closing their eyes on wasteful expenditure, have they been able to bring prosperity to the country? Do they expect to establish sound security on borrowed money indefinitely? Have we been able to help the poor by trying to destroy the rich? Have we strengthened the weak by trying to weaken the strong? Have we been successful in achieving proper distribution of wealth by introducing Statism and taking away individual initiative and independence?

The hon. Finance Minister, true more to his party unfortunately than to his patriotism, has once again framed the Budget which he too, I hope, will admit, will not revitalise the economy of the country on healthy lines, and the demand for appropriation of this huge amount, therefore, calls for a serious analysis of the various aspects of the economy of the country.

Sir, I would cite one instance of what may be called the policy of being penny-wise and pound foolish. Look at the amount provided for Education. How poor it is! Look at the nation-building activities in a welfare State after 20 years of independence *vis-a-vis* the wasteful expenditure on various Ministries, to which, if time permits, I will come later.

One other instance is the move to abolish the privy purses of the erstwhile Princes, which amount only to Rs. 4,80,66,000, which move is so unethical and going back on the solemn and sacred pledges made by the Government and the late Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel to them, when compared to the loss of crores of rupees incurred by the various corporations in the public sector. We have only to turn to the Reports of the Public Accounts Committee, the Committee on Public Undertakings and the Estimates Committee. Reports after Reports have been coming of wasteful expenditure, of favouritism and nepotism. I will only read out from the 41st Report of the Public Accounts Committee to show what sort of favouritism and wastage of money go on, and yet they ask for this colossal amount to be voted by us to be spent on these undertakings.

"The Committee are not able to appreciate why Government did not adopt a uniform procedure for the acquisition of the properties from the different parties involved. In the case of four parties, notices were issued under the Defence of India Act in April, 1965, while in the case of the fifth party who is a

[Shri B. N. Antani]

Minister in the Rajasthan Government, negotiations for acquisition were started."

And then the Report goes on to observe that crores of rupees have been spent so unnecessarily and unjustifiably. And here the Government justify the abolition of the privy purses and the implementation of that wretched, miserable Kutch Award on ethical grounds. How do they compare their ethics? It is very difficult for me to understand that. About the Princes, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel said in the Constituent Assembly on 12th October, 1949 when the matter was being debated there about the privy purses—

"Moving voluntarily with the times, the Princes, big and small, co-operated in exploding the myth that India's independence would founder on the rock of Princely intransigence. The edifice of democratic India rises on the true foundation of the co-ordinated effort of the Princes and the people."

I would therefore invite your attention to the inefficiency corruption and favouritism in the various departments, which ends in wasteful expenditure. My only query to the hon. Finance Minister is: Has he turned his attention to making all possible economy in expenditure? If he has not done that, he has no right to come before this House and ask for appropriation of this big amount.

Mr. Vice-Chairman, look at our foreign missions. Only this morning I had a row here with regard to our High Commission operating in the liberated East African Provinces. Not once during the last three years has our High Commissioner there visited one Province under his jurisdiction and contacted our people there. Look at the wasteful expenditure at our High Commission in Great Britain. Is there no room for improvement? The sense of protocol and the sense of platitudes of protocol there, I do not understand. But only in order

for them to enjoy that sort of platitude and that sense of false prestige is the tax-payer going to foot this colossal bill? Look at the way the country's developmental works are going. Forty crores have been sunk in building the Port of Kandla in Kutch and yet there is up to now no guarantee to have a scientific development of that major port, with the result that it is on the point almost of being closed. Look at the much-advertised Free Trade Zone in Kutch. What pattern is it? The Ministry itself still does not know. And yet all advertising is done by taking Minister after Minister there for inaugurations—व्यक्ति विशेष प्रमुख etc.—and they waste money on advertising. You are having your own way. Are we going to foot the bill for this sort of thing? Look at the way the priorities are abandoned. They are not fixed. Look at the continued injustice being done to Gujarat, the province of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. Because we are patriotic, because we are smooth, injustice after injustice is being piled upon Gujarat. Look at the Mithapur Project. Look at the Narmada Project. Why are we being denied what is due to us? And yet you expect us to vote such a colossal bill. This is the only question that I would like to ask.

I again invite your attention that there are statutory bodies to audit and check the expenditure as provided in the Constitution, as my friend, Mr. Kaul, said yesterday. Reports after Reports are being produced. Has the Government taken any action on those Reports? Are they to be shelved without any consideration? I therefore appeal to the hon. Minister that there should be a steady and vigilant check on the expenditure, on the money that we vote. This Government is collapsing and making the country absolutely bankrupt. Where is any sense of priorities? Are you trying to achieve self-sufficiency in food? Your policy is PL 480. You would go on bringing money from other countries, go on bringing food-grains from outside. How long will this go on? Then, my friend, the

Food Minister says that he has brought out some green revolution. Sir, I have travelled in the last two weeks in the barren jungles and the Rann of Kutch where I have hardly seen any green tree. No green trees have been planted by the Food Minister to satisfy our demand. Why deceive us? Let us not be in the dark.

We are by no means against planning. By all means plan. But plan in a way which is commensurate with the capacity of the country, with the continuing process of prosperity and development. I, therefore, say that unless and until we have as priority the question of self-sufficiency in food all these huge projects like Bokaro, the Food Corporation, the State Trading Corporation, are a dumping ground of corruption giving no return whatsoever. Let us pay some attention to Kandla and put it in the free trade zone. Let us provide some advisory bodies which can help the Port Commissioner or whoever he is to see to the possible ways of development of trade on that major port.

Look at the jealous way in which Kandla is being worked. The Bombay port is congested, yet they are going to have some more berths on it. Why not divert some trade to Kandla? Why not bring some more steamers? Why not have some commercial superintendence? I, therefore, request the hon'ble Finance Minister to be more a patriotic than a partyman, and I am sure that a bold and discerning Minister that he is, he would listen to the appeal that I am making. Thank you.

**SHRI M. SRINIVASA REDDY** (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I would just like to speak something about the newly proposed taxes and the financial condition and some of the problems of my State.

The reasonableness of taxation depends on the taxpayer's income and his capacity to pay. That being the case any proposed tax is to be carefully examined whether it is justifiable or not. I have used here the

words "capacity to pay". Though there is no capacity to pay, yet a particular income group people have to pay the so-called income-tax. For example, though the need of a person drawing Rs. 300 is still more, still he has to pay income tax. So there must be reasonableness in taxation. We should see on what amount we have to tax, and after deducting his necessities what remains with him is his income. In that way we should calculate the taxes.

Today, Sir, speaking of the taxes the agriculturist is the most hard-pressed class. It is unfortunate that the country's planning is urban-oriented. That being the case the rural people's affairs have not been looked into nor is their welfare taken into consideration though 85 per cent. of India's population is residing in villages. Sir, it is only when a foreigner pointed out that agriculture is neglected in this country that the planners have opened their eyes. But having opened their eyes, have they done anything? What are the steps they have taken and what steps out of the steps taken have been fruitful to meet the needs of the agriculturist? Have we given him the facilities of cheap fertiliser and credit facilities, good seed, marketing facilities, rural roads for transporting his produce, crop insurance, education and health facilities? No. The Plan is urban-oriented. Therefore, the rural people's welfare is never taken into consideration by the Planning Commission. I, therefore, request that the Plan should once again be revised to meet the needs of the 85 per cent. of our population and a better plan be thought of to be redrawn.

Coming to taxation, already the agriculturist is heavily taxed. Under what heads is he already being taxed? Land revenue is a permanent thing. There are different cesses in the States. There is the educational cess, health cess. In this name or that name he is being taxed. Further, the commodity tax is there on commercial crops and other things. There are all kinds of direct and indirect

[Shri M. Srinivasa Reddy] taxes. Apart from all these taxes, you are imposing a 10 per cent. registration tax. Whenever an unfortunate man wants to sell away half an acre of his land or one acre to a stingy person who has accumulated money by foregoing his one food, he has to pay 10 per cent. as tax. Then the stingy man who wants to buy this land has to pay a 10 per cent. tax. This is just a question of removing one man's name and adding another man's name. Why should this transaction cost the parties so much tax? So it is taxes and further taxes which have now come.

You have put tax on fertilisers. The agriculturist is already not in a position to purchase these fertilisers and still you want to have this additional tax. Then there is wealth tax. Instead of calling it wealth tax it would be better to call it a further additional land tax.

I was born in a poverty-stricken village and I hail from it, and I know what land is to a farmer. As and when a farmer has a few chips he would like to purchase some land because he does not know how to put it in the bank. Naturally, I would like to purchase a little land. The foundation stone should be some thing for good. But this wealth tax, which you think is the foundation stone, is going to push the villager to the mercies of patwaries and talukdars. If this is the way the Government thinks of the rural people, I tell you the day is not far off when the hands which have helped you to be here may also rethink whether we can again sit here.

Coming to my own State problems, we are in a State which is self-sufficient in food. But all our finances have been diverted towards construction of agricultural projects, not for us, but to meet the all-India necessity. When these projects are all-India projects, why can the Centre not finance them? Otherwise the money that you take from us, give it

back to us and we will finance those projects. If the necessary finances were supplied in time for the Nagarjunasagar project, we would have finished it even three or four years ago. And we would have saved 25 per cent. of the expenditure incurred over it. But unfortunately the wanted assistance has never been given to us and the cost of the project has been increasing.

Again, for its feeder canal there is no money. Just the other day I heard that 75,000 tonnes of food is going to be imported. If the same money is given to us, I tell you next year we will be in a position to give you 25,000 tonnes of foodgrains from the Andhra State.

Then, Sir, even twenty years after freedom we are not even giving the rural people drinking water. There is a saying in some of our villages. Though there are good bridegrooms in some of the village, people refuse to give their girls as brides to those villages because they will have to carry water on their heads from seven miles. I have yet to see a girl or a woman with hair on her head; they are all bald-headed. So if any marriage proposal comes from such villages, the father of the girl says "No, I wish to see my daughter with her hair." He says "I do not want to give her to anybody in that village." You should provide us with water at least for drinking purposes, if not for agricultural purposes. That is also not provided. When we asked for rigs, you will say it is a question of foreign exchange, but where is the question of foreign exchange for a useful purpose like this? Why not spend the required amounts for good things? Take the case of some of the life-saving medicines. You have not got them. Why do you have all these parliamentary delegations? For whose benefit, for whose pleasure? Why not spend that money in getting life-saving medicines? You will say, there are indigenous medicines. But have you got sufficient life-saving medicines in the

country? The other day I had a letter from my co-brother that his daughter was suffering from a leucoderma-like disease. There is a medicine for this in France and I wanted to know how I could get this medicine. But I was told "No, it cannot be done; no foreign exchange." You say, we have got equally good medicines here. But they actually make the condition worse. So I request the Government that in some of these things, they should be a bit more considerate and they must give certain amounts for these things.

Now, as I said, I come from a poverty-stricken area, Rayalaseema. There if you dig below 100 feet up to 200 feet definitely we will be getting a perennial source of water. For that we want rigs. You want food from us, but you do not give what we need. You have got the right to tax us, but we have no right to ask you for assistance. If this is the policy of the Government, then I tell you, the days have come when each State has to think and plan in its own way and this will ultimately lead to the disintegration of the nation. So when the Central Government looks at the problems of the States, it should be a bit merciful and see that there is no disparity as between one State and another.

Then there is one more thing that I would like to bring to the notice of this august House, and that is about prohibition. Now I have got great respect for our Deputy Prime Minister. But the present system of prohibition is self-deception, Sir. If the policy is going to be implemented at all cost uniformly, then I will be happy. But to-day if the rich people take it, it is for their health, and if the educated and the sophisticated people take it, it is *tamasha*, it is for their pleasure. Who has got faith in this, excepting a few elders who really have faith in it? It may be a good policy, but in the implementation, we have definitely failed, failed, failed. Sir, there is no proper supply of good alcohol. Injurious alcohol is supplied. People have resorted to all

kinds of alcohols. Even fertilisers can be used for getting alcohol and so many a thing has become poison. In my own State, every day at least two people are dying because of this illicit alcohol. If you have got faith in it, implement it with all the rigour of law; if not, leave it off. This prohibition policy in my State has ruined the State's economic background. I tell you, this has brought about differences within my State, among our own brothers, among people speaking the same language, Telugu. After all when you speak of the surplus of Telengana, what is their surplus? They are also suffering and we are also suffering. They are able to save on this liquor. If on the other side also prohibition is scrapped, I tell you, some of our problems will be solved and we can be better off.

Next I come to electricity. To meet the all-India needs, we have developed all the resources for agriculture there. But what about the industry, which will solve the unemployment problem? In this, we are in a pathetic condition. I would not say that our youngsters are Communists, but for want of employment and because of idleness, they are becoming Communists, not by idealism, but because they have no work, they have to criticise the Government and they have to say something against the Government; when there is no work, it is like devil's mind. And so these youngsters are going on the bad path. We need industrialisation. Industrialisation is the only solution to the problems of our State. That being the case, you have completely neglected industrialisation. Once industrialisation comes, then unemployment will be solved. So I would request the Government to be a bit more sympathetic towards my State and establish some industries there or give loans. Now whatever you have given for our projects is not grant, it is only a loan. Now, unless one Central power project is started in the State, after the Fourth Plan, we will be nowhere in the country's map. Our State will be hit very badly, and

[Shri M. Srinivasa Reddy:] our neighbouring States will have *per capita* power incomes three or four times more than ours. So I would request the Government that as we are of service to the nation, one or two power projects should be established in our State.

Then, coming to the last but not the least point, I should say that if 25 per cent of the amount spent on propaganda and publicity on family planning had been spent on agriculture, the condition of the country would have been different. It must be part of family planning and as we want to restrict the population, we want production on the agriculture side also. That will solve our national problem. Thank you.

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES (PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO): Sir, I am grateful to the Leader of the House for giving me an opportunity to raise the voice of education during this discussion that is taking place on the Appropriation Bill. Not many points have been made regarding the Ministry of Education and I shall try and deal with such of those as have been made. As a matter of fact, if my friend, Mr. Bhargava had not spoken there would have been very little left for me to speak as far as reply to criticisms of the Ministry is concerned. Before I go on, Sir, to the marathon attack that Mr. Bhargava has made on the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research and by implication possibly on the Vice-President of the Council . . .

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Not at all.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO: . . . I would like to deal with some of the other criticisms which have been made about the question of growing deterioration in the quality of education, about the system of education also adding to the problem of unemployment, and the point that was made that adult literacy has not been attended to with the attention that it deserves. These are the general points that were made yesterday.

On the first subject, regarding the question of deterioration in education, quite honestly I am not prepared to accept a blanket charge that there is a deterioration in the quality of education. What I would concede is that there has been a very vast increase in enrolment at all stages of education. And the extent to which we have been able to balance the increase in enrolment with the requisite increase in equipment, buildings, accommodation, laboratories and the needed experienced teaching personnel, has not been adequate. But that, I am afraid, is one of the inevitable penalties of rapid growth.

PANDIT S. S. N. TANKHA (Uttar Pradesh): Is it "not adequate" or "very poor"?

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO: I am using my words very carefully. I should like to point out that it will be very unfair on the part of this House on the basis of any personal impression that individual Members may have gathered, to condemn the whole system of education and to say that all the 60 or 65 million young boys and girls who are studying in our schools are getting inferior education and that our 20 or 22 lakhs of boys and girls who are studying in our colleges are getting deteriorated education. I think this kind of a thing only lowers their morale. I can understand if we can do something as, for example, this House is able to persuade the Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister and other authorities concerned to place at the disposal of the Education Ministry, not only in the Centre, but also in the States, something like 3 to 4 hundred crores of rupees more, then we will be able to do something in the matter. But when we know that such a thing is not possible, for us, then to keep on saying as many of us have been saying, I know with very good intentions, but still when we keep on saying that education is deteriorating, that education is going down and so on, may I very humbly

suggest that we are adding to the demoralisation of our student community, making them feel that what they are getting in their schools and colleges is not worth while and therefore, adding to their sense of frustration and possibly adding also to unnecessary dissatisfaction in this country. I, therefore, suggest that we should not have a blanket criticism of the fall that has taken place in the standard of our education. We are aware that the standards have not been what you would like them to be. We are not satisfied with the standards that exist except in a few exceptional places. And we are very anxious to see that the standards are raised. But this is a matter which will take time, and partly, as I said, it is an incident of the very rapid growth we have been having in our educational enrolment in the last 20 years of independence.

Then, Sir, there is the question as to how far education contributes to unemployment. I must say straightway, speaking if I may, Sir, for a moment, as an economist, that education by itself does not contribute to unemployment. Employment is created by economic development, by investment, by the pattern of investment, by the nature of investment, by the demand for the commodities in which the investment is undertaken, the purchasing power available in the hands of the people, etc. etc. Education by itself does not lead to unemployment. What happens is those who are educated also share in the lack of employment opportunities which are primarily the result of the lack of accelerated economic growth in this country. The educated unemployed are much more vocal and also more frustrated than those who are uneducated because the educated people have made an investment of a lot of their time and money in bettering their equipment and skills and naturally they feel so upset when they are not able to get jobs. There is no doubt about it. That is a very serious problem—educated unemployment—and the Government is seized of that problem. But I do not say

that we have got a rough and ready solution for that problem. But I do hope in due course that we will be able to do something about this problem and try to reduce, if not eliminate altogether, this burden of educated unemployment. But one point I will concede, Sir, . . .

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: Dr. Rao, your predecessor started a scheme for technical graduates and the diploma-holders regarding training in combination with industries.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO: As a matter of fact, that has been a scheme which has been in existence for a very long time and it has been put into effect through placing of, I think, something like 11,000 engineers and diploma-holders in apprentice positions last year and the same scheme is also being conducted this year. But again I have another problem. After the apprentices are placed in some work for a year and they are released from the apprenticeship, there is no guarantee that employment awaits them after they finish their period of apprenticeship. Some of them expect that they will get employment in the same place. That is not possible. You see, we cannot get away from the fact that employment ultimately is most basically linked up with economic development.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: Dr. Rao, it was stated that in view of the small-scale industries combining with these technical persons, further opportunities of independent enterprise would also be opened up. How far . . .

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO: No, no. It is not a new solution. I can quote you the solutions which the various committees and the commissions have reported during the last 20 years on the subject. But the point is not finding of a solution. There is no question about that. That depends upon many things, including the en-



[Prof. V. K. R. V. Rao.]  
enterprise of the engineers themselves, including the availability of viable small scale enterprise, the availability of credit facilities for hire-purchase and so on. As far as the availability of credit facilities is concerned, action is being taken. Action is being taken through the banks, and also in some States special attempts are being made through the Directorates of Industries, the State Industrial Finance Corporations, etc. I think Gujarat recently has taken special steps to give loans for people to gain self-employment. And my basic conviction is that if we want to deal with this problem of unemployment in the country, We cannot do so unless we are able to bring about a significant acceleration in the rate of our economic development. That depends upon the savings, the investment, and so many other factors. And I do not think it will be proper for me to dwell at length at least in this forum. But one point I was going to concede that to some extent our educational system does not contribute to what one may call self-employability. Our educational system to some extent, I am afraid, does create in the educated person a dislike for doing things on his own. It creates in him a desire to get a job, a hired job, where somebody else takes the responsibility and this person will get the monthly salary cheque. And therefore, something has got to be done to alter the bias of our educational system from the bias of seeking paid jobs to a bias of finding occupation for oneself. This, Sir, is again a very difficult problem as my honourable friends know. Again, we are aware of the problem. We are trying to have a number of pilot projects to try to find out by what practical methods we can increase self-employability bias in our system of education. My own personal feeling is that we will not solve this problem unless we go down to the primary education. I do not think we can solve it otherwise. The whole thing starts with the primary education. Unless we go down to the primary education up to the 9th class and bring there the sense of what I

would call self-employability bias, I think we will find this problem always haunting us. This literary character of elementary education has been attacked by the Education Commission. They have suggested that in addition to the literary character we must have work experience, job orientation, vocationalisation and so on. It is, Sir, rather very good again as a formula and a principle. But the moment we try to apply that on a large scale, we come across many practical difficulties. We are going to have, we already have, and we shall have, more pilot projects and experiments in this country. But one thing, I would not like as an Education Minister to have national experiments in education. I think too many people are involved. I do not want to start experimenting on the lives of 60 million students in our schools. Before any new scheme is applied to them, it must be tried. We must know what the difficulties are and once we are convinced that it will work, only then it should be applied to them. Pending that I would much rather take the existing system as it is and try to see how, by better management and by better inputs and better ideas as well as some resources, we can improve the situation. But I would certainly say that the problem of unemployment is worrying us in the educational world and we are very anxious to see to the extent we can as educationists what we can do to deal with this particular problem.

Then there was another question which, I am sure, must have been raised by Prof. Ruthnaswamy—the question of adult literacy. I completely agree and as a matter of fact, this has been my conviction for many years that this country will not have full utilisation of its human factor as long as such a large proportion of its population is illiterate. I think some kind of a crash programme is required for this purpose. The Planning Commission in its final draft has recognised the importance of this problem and has put a paragraph about the need for doing something

on the subject of adult education and they are also hoping that through national social service programmes we may be able to create literacy brigades and thereby involve the student community also in this problem of dealing with illiteracy. There are a number of other schemes which are also on the anvil. But quite honestly, Sir, I am not satisfied with the efforts that my Government is making to deal with the problem of adult literacy in this country. I think we have got to go in for much larger efforts and these efforts cannot come merely by Government finances. Much larger efforts are required by means of public participation and the participation of all literate persons in this country. What is needed, I think, is a campaign approach. As soon as I get myself free from some of the other problems with which I have been confronted in the last two months, I hope to spend some of my own time on the subject of literacy and see if it is possible to do something to make it more effective on a campaign basis with the cooperation and participation, I am sure, of all my colleagues in this House and the other House as well as the educationists in different parts of the country. One last point and then I will go on to the CSIR. A Member referred to the question of Sanchi and said that conveniences are not provided there in Sanchi. This is because, on the top of the hill there is no water. Water has to be taken now in pots. It is very inconvenient. There is no restaurant there. Only drinking water is made available and that also has to be carried up there. We are now taking steps in conjunction with the Ministry of Tourism to see whether pipe-line cannot be fixed so that water is available and once it is available there, the question of canteen facilities, gardens and lawns will become possible. Incidentally I may say that I am feeling convinced in my mind that while the Department of Archaeology is rightly under the Ministry of Education, the Department of Archaeology by itself is not able to provide all the face-lifting, face-modification and face-beautification which

are required in order to make these archaeological monuments also centres of tourist interest and therefore we are, in consultation with the Ministry of Tourism and both of us hope to get together and have a joint plan by which the archaeological monuments on the one hand will get more money spent on them, on the other they will also get such a face-lift that they will become important foreign exchange earners and objects of tourist interest.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: About the Hindi poet Rahim, many schemes were there but nothing has been implemented.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO: This non-implementation is something which I am afraid is the general burden of many a song that I have heard in this House. Only I will say that I have also heard the same song outside the House also.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: Do you agree?

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO: No. I am not prepared to agree to any blanket criticism either of my country or of any community or any Department of the Government. If you mention individual examples, 'yes' but I am not prepared to concede that the Government as a whole or the country as a whole or the educated classes as a whole or anybody as a whole is subject to non-implementation or is subject to laziness or is subject to double-talk. I am not prepared to accept it. I do not think it is right to condemn or to indict a whole nation as Edmund Burke many years ago said and I certainly am not prepared to indict my nation in that general way. This does not mean that I am complacent. I agree that it is very important to look after the implementation but to say that nothing is implemented, I am sure it creates a feeling in the country that nothing will be implemented. If you call a person a dog, sooner or later the person might start barking and even biting. It is better to call him

[Prof. V. K. R. V. Rao]  
a man and sooner or later, in due course, he might develop manly qualities. This is my respectful advice to my esteemed friend Mr. Akbar Ali Khan.

Now for the devastating tirade that my Mr. Bhargava made on the CSIR. I must confess because I have great respect for Mr. Bhargava, having come into intimate contact with him in the previous portfolio that I held in the Government and I developed a good deal of respect not only for his knowledge of the problem but also for his restraint in stating the problem . . .

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI K. K. SHAH): But to-day?

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO: My friend Mr. Shah wants to know about to-day. It is not necessary for me to say what I think because one does not say things which ought not to be said but I should like to point out 2 or 3 things. When Shri Bhargava had said that 70 per cent. of the Members of the Executive Council are more than 70 years of age . . .

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: No. You have not understood me correctly. The Executive Councils are chaired by people who are more than 70 in age. Not the Executive Council as a whole but it is the Chairman that I referred to.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO: I had taken down notes as they came. As Shri Bhargava proceeded, his natural restraint and his tendency to try as far as possible within the limitation of the debate, to try to stick to the realities made him swerve from 70 per cent. of the Executive Council to 70 per cent. of the Chairmen. Even there I am sorry to say that he is not right. It is just not correct to say that 70 per cent. of the Chairmen of the Executive Councils are over 70 years. Much less than 70 per cent.

of the Chairmen of the Executive Councils are over 70 years. I only say that because I do not want to say anything more but I am very much aware of the great and really committed and dedicated public interest that Shri Bhargava has got. Therefore, I do not want to cause any misunderstanding but I would most respectfully suggest to him that when he makes a statement of that kind, it does not add to the effectiveness of the Executive Councils which are supposed to be looking after the national laboratories.

Then he talked of Dr. Krishnan and he talked of old men of 72. At some stage he also used the expression old 'fossil' or something of the kind. It is very dangerous. May I remind him that it is dangerous to describe people of 72 as old fossils. He does not know where he will land himself if he is asked and if he is challenged to name all persons of 72. Therefore to talk of a 72 man as an old fossil is going a little beyond his brief.

SHRIMATI LALITHA (RAJA-GOPALAN (Tamil Nadu): There is no age-limit for scientists.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO: I am glad that Mrs. Rajagopalan has come to my rescue but to say 'old fossil' I do not like.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: So long as they are fit to work.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO: That is the point exactly. Take for example this. I tell you something which is within my knowledge. Take a person like Prof. D. N. Wadia, the most eminent geologist in this country and he is so active. As a matter of fact I have seen him much more active than people of 50. He will not miss a Committee meeting and he takes full interest . . .

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: Take Raman.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO: Yes and about Dr. Krishnan, a very eminent person, to suggest that after all his eminence he wanted to go abroad in order to learn, in order to get training is not fair. Where on earth Shri Bhargava got this interpretation of the Commonwealth Scheme I do not know. It is a senior scheme. I can tell him and at one time I was invited to go to New Zealand under this scheme. Unfortunately I could not accept that invitation but nowhere was it hinted to me that I should go to learn about New Zealand and come back and impart that knowledge to my country. They are senior fellowships. They are intended to invite eminent men from this country to go abroad and make their knowledge and advice available to the people in those countries. It is not a training programme. It is not an exchange programme in the way in which Mr. Bhargava was describing it. I must also say in all fairness, both to the CSIR and to Dr. Krishnan, that two names were suggested by the DG, not one name, one of which was that of a much younger person and it was the Commonwealth Bureau in London which selected Dr. Krishnan and immediately the Government of Australia and New Zealand expressed their great satisfaction at the choice and they welcomed his going there. I would therefore suggest, whatever we may have against individual Ministers, because I am now, having been for more than two years a Minister, getting a certain thick skin and I also know along with my friends, if there are no Central Hall and the Lobby I would probably commit suicide because I know that Parliament includes not only the House but also the Lobby and the Central Hall and I know jolly well that when a Member says something rather derogatory about a Minister, it is only a way of expressing his disenchantment or dissatisfaction with the Minister but unfortunately the scientists, professors and the eminent people who are working have no chance to come to the Central Hall, they have no chance and they are barred and they cannot come to the Lobby

—they may come to the Visitors' Gallery and hear the Members and they can read about what is said in the debate in the papers and they are apt to take rather literally, which I am sure is very unfair to my hon. colleagues, the kind of criticisms made and therefore I would beg of my friend Mr. Bhargava—when he next comes to the subject, he can certainly attack the Vice-President of the Council or the President. The President is now quite accustomed to the attacks. But he may kindly treat with a little more gentleness the scientists and others who are engaged in research work.

Then, Sir, regarding the very large question that he raised and said that the Director-General's office is interfering with the laboratories, and respectable people do not want to stay and so on, here again I would suggest that the criticism is not only sweeping, if I may say so; the criticism is also not really correct. I am quite prepared to produce the statistics of the people who have left the CSIR, the people who have left the University of Delhi, the people who have left the University of Allahabad, the people who have left the University of Madras, the people who have left the Service of the Government of India, the people who have left the Indian Civil Service and the people who have left the public sector undertakings, and I do not think we will find that the CSIR is worse than any other employing body where some people or other will move for one reason or another. And, therefore, for us to think that no self-respecting people will come to work in the CSIR, I think, Sir, it is a very harsh statement. In the last two months I have had the advantage of meeting a number of Directors of Laboratories—even before as Vice-Chancellor of the University of Delhi. I have had the opportunity to meet a number of scientists, but in the last two months I have been holding meetings, not in large groups but in groups of five or six Directors of Laboratories, and I have met by now a very large number of people. I have also served on

[Prof. V. K. R. V. Rao]  
two Selection Committees, and Shri Bhargava may be interested to know about the two new Directors whom we are appointing, to whom offers have been sent, are both young men, not men of sixty years of age as I am, but really young men, I must also tell him that even the other people who appeared created a very good impression on my mind. As a matter of fact, having come into contact with them in this field I am developing—I have it already—I am developing great faith and confidence in the quality of the scientists, both junior and senior, in this CSIR, and I am very anxious to see that the House helps me in creating a kind of atmosphere which will enable us to get the best we can out of this organisation.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: Yes, it requires very careful consideration and the application of your mind to it.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO: Well, that is precisely what I am doing, Sir, I know, Shri Akbar Ali Khan is also on the Sarkar Committee. One thing that is worrying me—I told Shri Akbar Ali Khan, and I think I also mentioned it to Shri Bhargava the other day—I am not sure if I did or not—one thing that does bother me is of course this that the Director-General is also the administrative head of all these Laboratories. Now, when we say the Secretary does everything, the Secretary is not a new creation; the post of the Secretary has been existing from 1953; I believe this gentleman has been occupying this post as the fourth incumbent of that post. Now I find, Sir, as the Minister in-charge, that practically most of the files that come to me either deal with some disciplinary cases or some suspension cases or some defalcations, or with something which should not have been done, or they deal with merit promotions or they deal with appointments to Selection Committees, and I am getting rather fed up with them. I thought, as the Minister for Science, my time and my advice

would be taken regarding the problems confronting the Laboratories...

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: Policy.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO: . . . in seeing what are the research projects, what are the difficulties that are being faced in the implementation of those projects, and so on.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: That is the main grouse against the CSIR or the Director-General.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO: No. Exactly there I think Shri Bhargava, if I may say so with all respect, has not known the whole truth. The whole truth is this. This is not the fault of the Director-General. This is not the fault of the Secretary. This is the fault of the system that has combined in the same person both the administration of the far-flung 35 Laboratories including appointments, defalcations, complaints—also anonymous complaints—and scientific work. Almost every day I get one or two anonymous complaints.

Now, my friend talked about the slow pace of the Bhargava Committee.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI (Maharashtra): Sarkar Committee.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO: I am sorry; Sarkar Committee.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: I thought you had again appointed him to that Committee and so you had referred to it as the Bhargava Committee.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO: I can assure my hon. friend, Shri Kulkarni, that if I had appointed Shri Bhargava to that Committee, I mean the Sarkar Committee, we will not only get the work of the Committee done expeditiously because of his presence there, also—I can assure you—he will be infinitely more objective than in the speech he makes in this House; I have no doubt in my mind about it.

But, Sir, this Sarkar Committee, why is it taking time? My friend, Shri Akbar Ali Khan, is a member of that Committee. Now, Sir, I was going into the papers the other day. I find that their terms of reference are so broad, that they are also supposed to go into individual complaints and that there are seven hundred complaints which have been received by them. Exactly, there then was the fault. I should not say fault—I stand corrected—but it was the excessive enthusiasm displayed by the critical faculty of those who were responsible for inducing my hon. friend and my predecessor in this office to establish this Committee.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: That is the difficulty with the teachers. When you are confronted with teachers, they always complain here and there.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO: Therefore, in fact I have been trying to talk to the people who sponsored that Resolution. I want to meet the Chairman and Members of that Committee to see if we can separate these two things, because what is important—as Shri Bhargava said quite correctly—is that we want the wisdom of this Committee, which includes hon. Members of Parliament, to look into the working of the CSIR in terms of the policy underlying it and in terms of its present structure and to suggest ways and means by which it can be a more efficient organisation.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: It can be done.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO: If you do that, you will reduce the Committee's work to the barest essentials, and I can get the Committee's Report as early as possible. Well, I propose it but I do not want to do anything which will bring me into trouble with the House. The one thing above everything else I have realised is that I cannot afford to incur the displeasure of this House. So I do not want to do it myself. But in the

House give me some kind of informal permission to go into the whole terms of reference under which this Committee has been appointed; I would like to take up the matter in order to see that the Sarkar Committee's work is expedited, that it deals only with the fundamental things. For the other matters, for the seven hundred complaints and so on, we can have some other body, some other organisation, which can look into these complaints and other non-essential matters.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: I am sorry to interrupt Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao. If he will just look into the motion moved in this House and the broad terms of reference indicated therein, he will know what was the intention therein. (*Interruptions*)

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO: A Member of that Committee says that they are also seized of all these complaints, but if I can interpret Shri Bhargava's intervention to mean that I have the authority to discuss with the Chairman and Members of that Committee their terms of reference and, if they agree, to remove from their purview looking into all these individual complaints then, Sir, I can assure him that the whole work of that Committee will be expedited much more . . .

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: At least I can assure Dr. Rao on behalf of this House that he can discuss with them and bring forward any proposals in this connection, and we shall try and see that they are approved.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO: Sir, I am grateful to Shri Bhargava for what he has said just now and I shall take up this question with the Committee, and when the House meets for its next session I will try and bring in a Motion for modifications of the terms of reference of the Committee, so that it will mainly concern itself with the basic problems with which we are concerned. Incidentally, as far as the basic problems are concerned, I have also got some ideas

[Prof. V. K. R. V. Rao] on the subject, and I have been wondering whether we should not have some kind of a separation of some work, to be dealt with elsewhere. With thirty-five Laboratories involving so many appointments to be made, so many merit promotions so many complaints, and so on, in my own mind I have been thinking and saying to myself whether we cannot have something like that in the UPSC, have a small group which can look after appointments, which can look after complaints, and so on, so that the Director-General will be free to look after scientific problems, and the Minister, to whom the DG puts up the files, will also get a little more kick out of the ordinary routine jobs than what is the case at the present moment.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: That is very necessary.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO: Then, Sir, regarding the CIMPO, which was the other thing that he made reference to, I think I must point out to Shri Bhargava that to the best of my knowledge there is no big laboratory in Lucknow attached to the CIMPO. I think it must not have been one of the 17 Laboratories which Shri Bhargava visited during his discovery of the Laboratories of the CSIR. My information is that it is mainly an office establishment with no scientific activity in Lucknow, and that the CIMPO's main activities are in Jammu and Srinagar, where there are factories and farms, and that there is also a small regional office in Bangalore and a small farm in Haldwani and that twice the post was advertised, when a suitable person was not found, in September, 1965—I want to emphasise that it was 1965, not 1967—in September, 1965, the then Director-General, not the current Director-General, he suggested that Dr. Ganapati, who was then Director of the Jammu Laboratory and who is a great expert in drugs and medicinal plants, which is the main work that the Lucknow institute also is doing, should take charge of it. And I want to tell Shri Bhargava that, far

from the production going down—I do not know why my friend, Shri Om Mehta, said that everything has gone bad after the Government took over the Laboratory—probably he was misinformed it has gone up. On the contrary, Sir, my information is that, before Government took over the Jammu Laboratory, the production in these drugs laboratories was about nine lakhs. Today it is twenty-one lakhs. I think twenty-one certainly is a progress as compared to the former nine. I am leaving it at that after saying this much; I do not want to go into more details on this because my time is up. But I should like to say and I would like to plead with the House that I have been trying—since I took over this portfolio—to see the activities and affairs going on in this, and I am going into the affairs of the CSIR as thoroughly as I can consistent with my other obligations and duties. I have been holding individual meetings with the Directors of Laboratories and I propose to go round and hold meetings with a number of young scientists in these Laboratories. We are very anxious to see that there is greater liaison between the Laboratories and the Universities. I put this proposition to the Directors. They all welcomed it. I put the proposition to the Vice-Chancellors' Conference. They also welcomed it. And we want this co-operation not only at the upper hierarchical level; we want it also at the working bench, at the scientists' level, so that there can be real impact and interchange and cross-fertilization between the Laboratories and the University Departments. But it takes time; it cannot be done in a day. Then the second thing which I am sure will please this House is this. I am myself very disturbed at the same kind of questions that Shri Bhargava is asking but in a somewhat milder way: what have the laboratories done? Where is there production? What is their contribution to the economic development? What are the inventions which have been made; what are the new processes that have been put into force? What is the import

substitution that has taken place? What is the increase in production that has taken place? What is the reduction in costs that has been brought about? And I must say that I found when I started discussing these things in detail that the position was not as bad as I thought it might be. I have therefore asked the laboratories to furnish all the necessary material with which I hope, before the end of the current calendar year, to place before the House a document showing what basically the laboratories have done for the last twenty years in terms of economic contribution, in terms of inventions, in terms of import substitution, in terms of the changes that have taken place, in terms of reduction in costs and so on. That will show what has been done so far and what is under gestation, under production. That will be quite a big document and I propose . . .

**SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN:** We have also called for this information.

**PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO:** Yes, I know.

**SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:** The point is this. Whatever inventions are made it is not merely a question of commercial and industrial application being possible but of actually being taken over by industrial houses. That is what we want to know.

**PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO:** I will get all that information, and I will bring out a brochure. And every year we shall see to it that an annual progress report on the same lines is presented before the House.

**SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA:** That will be very welcome.

**PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO:** We are all agreed on that so that the House will know from year to year what these laboratories are doing.

But one thing I must tell the House. Two or three Directors told me that they do not get any guidance as to what are the problems which

are of great relevance from the point of view of economic development. Some of them complained to me that the enterprises, even the public sector enterprises, do not care to consult them, do not care to ask them for their expertise, and do not care to use the things they produce. So I propose to go into this whole question of how to improve the utilisation of the economic capacity of the scientific laboratories and the use of their scientific talents and I do hope in due course I will be able to give to this House, at least by the time the next Appropriation Bill comes before the House next year, more concrete information as to what has been done in the CSIR.

I think I have nothing more to say at present. I must however say one word about our young scientists. I was very much bothered when I heard that there was a feeling of frustration among our scientists and so on. I must also tell you that in the last few days I must have examined at least 80 to 90 representations. I examined them; I read them. I do not want to pass any judgment on the representations I have received but I should like to warn the hon. House that every grievance does not necessarily mean that it is a legitimate grievance; every charge which is made against a superior does not necessarily mean that the superior is all in the wrong and that the subordinate is all in the right. I think a certain atmosphere has been created by which somehow complaints, anonymous complaints, have been increasing in number. But in any case there is no doubt that there is a sense of frustration. This must not be there; this has got to be stopped. I am now going into the structure of the national laboratories. I want them to function like big University departments. I want them to create an atmosphere not of hierarchy but of academic community and the Directors to whom I had mentioned this idea welcomed it. But the details have to be carefully worked out so that other adverse consequences do not ensue from it and I do hope in



[Prof. V. K. R. V. Rao]  
 due course of time with the help of all the people concerned we will be able to create an academic atmosphere in the laboratories. I may not be able to give the scientists more money but I will certainly try to do my best to see that they get more dignity, more self-respect and more job satisfaction than they have perhaps been having so far.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: And greater co-ordination.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO: On this question of co-ordination I should like to tell my hon. friend I have been trying to give some attention to this aspect. Some laboratories have got allied problems or group of problems and I have been trying to see that they exchange their papers, they exchange their personnel, so that there would be much more co-ordination than there is now. There is no doubt that these laboratories are not institutes of technology; they are not autonomous in that sense; they are not university departments because they are not academic communities. They are institutions which have got their own independent existence and yet they are subject to control, administrative control from the Centre. The whole thing is a very big mixed problem. I am also waiting for what the Sarkar Committee is going to say on the whole subject of how to improve the organisation of the CSIR. Meanwhile I am also going into the subject myself. As ex-Vice-Chancellor, as an ex-educational administrator as an economist I am also trying to go into this whole question and I will find out what we can do to streamline the CSIR and make it most useful to the country.

Before I conclude I must state I am not prepared to say that the scientific policy has failed; I am not prepared to say that the CSIR has failed; I am not prepared to admit for one moment that there is daily interference by the Director-General in the affairs of the national laboratories. I quite see there may be problems arising because of the structure of the

CSIR and some of those problems can give rise to feelings of frustration and despair but I must say we have got an excellent body of men in the CSIR. The Directors are competent men by and large; quite a number of them are young people, young scientists; they are very competent, and I do hope, Sir, it should be possible with the co-operation and goodwill of this House and with the co-operation and goodwill of the scientists concerned we will make the CSIR a real instrument for the acceleration of our economic development by use of science and technology.

Thank you.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: We all wish you well.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (West Bengal): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, the Appropriation Bill reflects the economic and fiscal policy pursued by the Government or to be pursued by the Government in the current year and as such this Appropriation Bill which we are discussing now also reflects the economic and fiscal policies of the Government of India. Now the fiscal policy pursued by the Government in the past has resulted in certain economic phenomena which I would say are not compatible with the national objectives of our country. In the context of the various economic phenomena that we have had I would like to dwell only on one particular aspect of it and that is the growing disparity in incomes in our country even after the lapse of such a long time.

Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, the economic disparity which should have been narrowed continues to increase with every passing day. The national policy has been to narrow it down by a successful implementation of the Plans. Here I want to draw the attention of the House to the policy laid down in this respect which has found a place in the Third Five Year Plan. It says:

"Development along socialist lines will secure rapid economic

growth and expansion of employment, reduction of disparities in income and wealth, prevention of concentration of economic power, etc., etc., etc.

**SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:** These 'etc., etc., etc.' are also written there?

**SHRI CHITTA BASU:** You should have that amount of intelligence to understand. Sir, I do not know why he always rises and unnecessarily disturbs me. He must have some intelligence and then interrupt.

As far as this question of disparity is concerned I would like to refer to a large volume of documents which I have with me but for want of time I would only refer to a few facts which will irresistibly lead one to the conclusion that the hiatus is on the increase. In January 1963 the Planning Commission made a rough calculation that 35 per cent of the national income went into the pockets of 10 per cent of the people and that also accounted for 25 per cent of the national consumption. On August 20, 1963, the then Home Minister, Shri Gulzarilal Nanda, stated in Parliament that the average per capita expenditure for a thirty-day month for 60 per cent of our people was only Rs. 18.79 and Mr. Vice-Chairman, according to calculation made by the National Nutrition Committee at least Rs. 35 will be required for mere minimum subsistence, and that is also on the price level of 1965. That being the case I think you would agree with me that 60 per cent of our population live below the subsistence level and this fact has been further corroborated recently by a statement made by the Prime Minister of the country. She says that about 82 per cent of India's rural population spends less than a rupee a day, according to statistics compiled by the NSS for 1963-64. Again, this has been further corroborated by another research study which has been published in the "Indian Express" on the 2nd March last. It says that in 1952, 86 per cent of the rural population spent less than a

rupee a day. In the urban area the figure was 73 per cent. So, things have not improved much. In fact, they have become worse if you take into account the fact that prices have shot up by 60 per cent in these sixteen years. Now, what I would like to conclude is that the hiatus continues to increase. In this connection I would also like to refer to certain facts given by the Committee on the Distribution of Income and Levels of Living headed by Prof. Mahalanobis. In this case particular figures have been given with regard to the concentration in the urban areas. According to the conclusion made by the Reserve Bank of India, it says, the main conclusion is that the income distribution in the urban sector is more unequal than in the rural sector and even in the rural sector it is more unequal in the non-farm sector than in the farm sector. The degree of inequality in the overall income distribution does not seem to have changed significantly, though the degree of inequality in the urban sector appears to have increased and that in the rural sector appears to have declined. It is a very important point to take note of. I think you will agree with me that there has been some sort of ceiling on land in different parts of the country by means of land reform measures. You may or may not agree with the quantum of land now it is permissible to be retained by an intermediary or a cultivator. After all there has been some sort of ceiling on rural property, but there has been no ceiling on the urban property in this country.

**SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN:** We are considering it.

**SHRI CHITTA BASU:** It is very good that you are considering it. A study had been made some time ago by the Reserve Bank of India. It has been said that they have found that concentration has been more in the urban areas, inequalities more in the urban areas, and the Government has not given any consideration to it up till now.

[Shri Chitta Basu]

Again, I have got many other facts. It is not sufficient to say simply that the time has come, but it is also necessary to impose some ceiling on urban property. In that connection, there may be various methods which could be taken recourse to. Of course, my hon. colleague, Mr. Akbar Ali Khan, says that they are considering it. If they are at all considering it, I want to know from the Government what are the actual steps they are going to take in imposing a ceiling on urban property. As you know, an effort is afoot in West Bengal, by means of legislation, to impose a ceiling on urban property. Various legal questions have been raised, e.g., ceiling to be imposed on the basis of what, whether it is on the basis of valuation of land or on the valuation of property. Even if it is to be on the basis of valuation of land or valuation of property, what is to be the yardstick? What particular legislative measures are to be taken for the enforcement of such a ceiling? Therefore, I want to know from the hon. Minister, when he replies, whether they are thinking in terms of imposing any ceiling on urban property. It should be made clear as to the particular mode by which such a ceiling can be imposed. There should be a national policy in the matter. I do not know whether the present Constitution will stand in the way of having such a ceiling. If so, the Government will have to come out and say that the Constitution, if need be, shall be amended.

In this connection, I would like to submit another point. If we are really to narrow down the economic disparities, it is not only the ceiling on urban property which is required, but there should also be a curb on expenditure. I remember that a certain proposal was there as to whether there can be a ceiling even on expenditure. As far as I know, a measure may be taken in this way that nobody in this country, no citizen of this country shall have the right to spend more than Rs. 1,500 a month. There should be a limit on expendi-

ture. If something of that nature is permissible and enforced by law, by suitable legislative measures, then and then alone the hiatus and the disparities in income can be narrowed down.

SHRI K. SUNDARAM (Tamil Nadu): If you do not allow us to spend, how can it be distributed? It can be distributed only by spending.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Now, I want to know whether the Government will take such measures. If the Government is really serious about it, if they wish to bring about a radical transformation of our society, if the Government are really serious about setting our economy on the road to socialism, I think, there is no alternative other than this. As a matter of fact, the economic policies and the fiscal policies pursued by the Government, so far, run counter to this objective and that is my charge.

Another friend of ours was arguing from that Bench that tax should be levied on the basis of the capacity to pay. I ask him one question: Have you ever considered the question of the needs of a citizen of our country? You have not been able to give a need-based, minimum wage and you think that it is impossible to give effect to a policy which has been agreed to by the Government, the working class organisation and other appropriate agencies. You are not in a position and you cannot think of guaranteeing a need-based, minimum wage, but you are raising the question of the needs of those who live or who swim in an ocean of luxury. You cannot think of their right to enforce that particular principle of ensuring and guaranteeing a need-based, minimum wage, but you are weeping for those who are swimming in an ocean of luxury. This is the paradox. This is what you want to make us believe. It is high time that the Government took appropriate measures without further delay, so that there may not be any social revolution, so that you may not be afraid of that day. I think, unless you take to that method for

bringing about a radical social transformation, no amount of your nodding your head will do. We will be swept away and a new era will be ushered in.

**SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN** (Kerala): Mr. Vice-Chairman, since 1967 we have been experiencing a lot of difficulties in the implementation and working of the provisions of the Constitution, and particularly now, Sir, the nation's eyes have been drawn to certain provisions of the Constitution which refer to the office of President. It is rather very strange and extraordinary, Sir, that this Constitution does not contain provisions relating to succession to the office of President. The Constitution just contains a provision for the Vice-President to act when the President is no longer there by death, removal or resignation. Again, Sir, when within a period of six months from the date of the Vice-President assuming charge of the office of President election to the office of President is held, the newly elected President holds office for a term of five years. In the meanwhile the general elections come and even after the general elections the President, who was elected under different circumstances during a period of time long before the general elections, could continue in office. I am not suggesting that there is likely to be rubs between the President who continues and the Ministry that may take office subsequently, but the Ministry that takes office subsequently, whether it be of the same party may be under a different Prime Minister or of a different party or groups of parties, has nothing to do with the continuance in office of that President who was elected previously. That may lead to administrative difficulties.

The President under the Indian Constitution has got the power of appointing the Prime Minister and the Ministers. If the Congress interpretation of the pleasure doctrine so far as Governors of States are concerned is to be extended to the President also,—the wording of the Constitution so far as articles 75 and 164 relating to the President and relating

to the Governor is similar—if the Governor has got the power of dismissal of his Ministers as has been done in West Bengal—and it is being contended by the opposition that it was a wrong exercise of power without reference to the Legislative Assembly of that particular State and without a non-confidence motion being moved against Ministry concerned in the particular State Assembly—if that power is available with the President also in terms of the provisions analogous to those referring to the Governor, the President has got also the power of dismissing the Prime Minister and the Ministers. Therefore, if such large powers are concentrated in moments of crisis, particularly so far as appointment is concerned in moments after the general elections, I should think that it is only proper that a review is made in regard to the provisions contained in articles 62 and 63 of the Constitution so far as the holding of the office of President is concerned. It is not as if these are the only difficulties. Since 1967 particularly after the change in the political complexion of administration in most of the States, which is likely to be repeated in a larger measure I should think in 1972, the Constitution today is experiencing a lot of stresses and strains which the framers of the Constitution never thought of. It is more and more apparent that this Constitution has been framed in the background by and large of the provisions of the Government of India Act of 1935, in the background of the personality of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the then Prime Minister, in the background of the enormous strength that the Congress Party possessed at the Centre and in the States. When all these things are being removed, we are more and more drawing away from Great Britain. What we thought had been intelligently included in the provisions of the Government of India Act of 1935, we think today that they are not so good as all that. The personality of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru is no longer there. The massive strength that the Congress possessed at the Centre and in the

[Shri K. Chandrasekharan]  
State Assemblies is waning, and in this background most of the provisions of the Constitution which had been framed under wholly different circumstances, as I would put it, are becoming innocuous, impracticable and unworkable, and therefore it is that the party in power at the Centre are able to exploit the situation, if I may say so, and interpret the provisions of the Constitution to suit particular situations, to suit particular individuals, to meet certain demands or circumstances of the hour. I would put it, Sir, that if the Constitution is to be maintained, if by and large the scheme of federalism that is embodied in our Constitution is to continue to be acceptable to the nation as a whole, and if this system of the Centre and the States has to be continued and the integration that we have achieved so far has to be maintained and strengthened and more solidified, the Constitution would require large-scale amendments. It has often been 4 P.M. stated that the Constitution is on its evening. That statement has been made only because the Constitution is unable to bear the stresses and strains of the moment, and probably in the future also. And if the Constitution is to bear these difficulties and meet them, I have absolutely no doubt to commend to the Houses of Parliament that the provisions of the Constitution would require large scale amendments.

Sir, it was thought at that time that the provisions contained in Part XXI of the Constitution in relation to the Centre and the States and the provisions contained in Part XXII of the Constitution relating to the financial structure of the Central and the State Governments, and the provision under article 280 of the Constitution for financial allocations being made by Finance Commissions being appointed, would meet the needs of the Constitution. But we have found that the relations between the Centre and the States have become embittered and that there is an element of no confidence and no

trust so far as both the States and the Centre are concerned. And in this regard it is not necessary to make any distinction between the Congress-administered States and the non-Congress-administered States, the position is fairly similar. The States as a whole present a particular position irrespective of the political colour in particular States. Therefore, we must review the administrative relations as between the States and the Centre; we must be able to review in a greater measure the financial allocations as between the Centre and the States. And it may be that we should have, by an amendment of article 280, a permanent Finance Commission, and not a Finance Commission which would be there for some months and make its recommendations for a period of years ahead. That will not resolve the difficulties that may come in the next year.

Then, Sir, with regard to the appointment of Governors, it has often been said on the floor of this House that the Governors are being appointed after consulting the State Governments concerned. That, again, has not been implemented in reality. There are very many State Governments today which have not got that amount of absolute confidence or trust in the Governors of those particular States. I do not want to name the Governors or name the particular States. The defect probably is not in the Governor or in the State Government concerned or in the appointment that is made initially; the defect probably is in the system. This system of appointing a Governor by nomination, I should think, has not worked satisfactorily, and we must resort to some method by which a Governor could be elected to this high office. If the head of the nation, if the vice-head of the nation, if all the Chief Ministers in the several States are elected and they come to their offices on the basis of their election, I do not know why the framers of the Constitution thought that the head of the State should be a nominated man, a person nominated by the Central Government. It would be all right in the background of the

situation—I stated—when the Constitution was framed, when the personality of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was there; the strength of the Congress Party was there; the unique fact was there that the Congress was in power everywhere. All those situations have changed, and under the present circumstances, it is necessary to investigate whether we should have a system by which there would be elected Governors.

Then, Sir, one thing which is agitating the mind of every public man in this country is the fact that most of the retired Chief Justices of the High Courts and of the Supreme Court are beggars behind politicians for public offices. It is really something which is absolutely understandable as to why the retired Chief Justices of our High Courts and of the Supreme Court should go about begging for public offices. There are innumerable instances, and when some office or the other is lying vacant or is about to get vacant, retired Chief Justices of the Supreme Court or of the High Courts are thought of. I submit that in the interests of the integrity of the judiciary, in the interests of the integrity of our High Courts and the Supreme Court, we should, as early as possible, have a constitutional provision by which not one Judge of our Supreme Court or one Judge of our High Courts could be appointed to any public offices. I do not mind giving any sort of compensation to our High Court Judges and to our Supreme Court Judges in any manner which is reasonable and just and fair and could be accepted. But it should not be that a Judge or a Chief Justice of our High Courts or of our Supreme Court on retirement could be appointed to any office whatsoever. Sir, the matter has got to be dealt with. I respectfully submit, at the highest level possible so far as the amendment to the Constitution is concerned in this respect.

It was only yesterday that the hon. Home Minister told this House that the question of Centre-State relations

is being investigated and that the Government are awaiting a report from the Administrative Reforms Commission. It may be that the Administrative Reforms Commission would be able to submit its report on the matter within two or three months. But whatever that be, under article 263 of the Constitution, an Inter-State Council can be appointed. But the Inter-State Council that is thought of under article 263 of the Constitution is not a permanent body, but a body to deal with a particular situation or a particular difficulty. I would submit that even the Inter-State Council under article 263 should be a permanent body and therefore, there should be an amendment to that effect.

Sir, I would suggest that the whole question of the wholesale revision of the articles of the Constitution in the light of the changed circumstances, in the light of the difficulties that we are experiencing particularly at the present time with regard to the offices of the President and the Vice-President and the lack of any provision whatsoever for enunciating a line of succession to the office of the President be reviewed by the Inter-State Council to be specifically appointed on the advice of the Central Government by the President under article 263 of the Constitution and that high body can make recommendations in this regard and on the basis of those recommendations, I would humbly suggest to the Government to bring in the necessary amendment to the Constitution so that the strains and the stresses of the Constitution may not ultimately destroy the Constitution itself, so that we may meet the challenge of the time that the Constitution is on its evening and we may tell the future of this nation that the Constitution is in the full bright day.

श्री जगत नारायण (हरियाणा):

बाइस बेयरमेन महोदया, मैं आपकी वसातत से बड़े अदब के साथ फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर साहब से एक सवाल पूछना चाहता हूँ। 1947

[श्री जगत नारायण]

में देश का बंटवारा हुआ और भारत-वर्ष बना और पाकिस्तान बना, 1947 में गन्धम का भाव 10 रुपए मन था। उस वक्त न कोई फाइव इयर प्लान था, न डेम बने थे, न इतना रुपया खर्च किया था। 1954 में पंजाब में सच्चे बजारत थी। पंजाब हमेशा हिन्दुस्तान की ग्रेनरी रहा है। उस बजारत के सामने एक समस्या यह पेश आई कि गन्धम का भाव 9 रुपए मन हो गया। बजारत ने यह महसूस किया कि लोग कहीं गन्धम बीजना ही बन्द न कर दें, तो सरकार ने यह फैसला किया कि 10 रुपए मन पर सरकार खरीद करे ताकि लोग गन्धम बीजना बन्द न कर दें। 1954 की बात मैं कर रहा हूँ। उसके बाद फस्ट फाइव इयर प्लान आया, सेकिन्ड फाइव इयर प्लान आया, थर्ड फाइव इयर प्लान आया, अरबों रुपया आपने डम्प किया, डेम बनाए, नहरें खोलीं, प्रोजेक्ट्स बनाए। उसके साथ साथ आपने हिन्दुस्तान को कर्ज में इतना बांध दिया कि आज हिन्दुस्तान की 57-58 करोड़ आबादी है और उसके ऊपर 57 अरब 80 करोड़ रुपये कर्ज है। यह भी मैं नहीं मानता कि काम नहीं हुआ, डेवलपमेंट भी हुआ लेकिन मैं आपसे यह सवाल पूछना चाहता हूँ कि आज कहा जाता है कि ग्रीन रिवोल्यूशन आ गया है लेकिन ग्रीन रिवोल्यूशन आने के बावजूद हिन्दुस्तान में गन्धम का भाव 35 रुपए मन क्यों है जबकि पाकिस्तान में, जिसकी बाउन्डरी हमसे लगती है और खेत से खेत मिले हैं, वहां पर 17 रुपए मन है? 17 रुपए मन पश्चिमी पाकिस्तान से मशरिकी पाकिस्तान को भेजा जा रहा है। वहां पर भी टयब्वेल लगे हैं, वहां भी खाद मुहैया की जा रही है, वहां भी वही एमनिटीज दी जा रही हैं जो यहाँ दे रहे हैं फिर क्या वजह है . . .

श्री अकबर अली खान : किसानों को कुछ नहीं मिलता होगा।

श्री जगत नारायण : मैंने अपने अखबार में एक आर्टिकल लिखा जब लैंड-लार्ड्स ने कहा कि जिस रेट से प्रोक्योर कर रहे हैं उस रेट से हमें वारा नहीं खाता, आप हमारी मदद कीजिए। मैंने उनसे एक सवाल पूछा कि यह कैसे है कि पाकिस्तान में 17 रुपए मन गन्धम विक रही है और वहां के लोग सेटिस्फाइड हैं। उन किसानों ने यह बताया कि हमारे ऊपर टैक्सेज बहुत लगा दिए हैं। खाद पर, पानी पर, बिजली पर इतना टैक्स है कि हमें उस भाव गन्धम नहीं पड़ती है जिस भाव पर वहां पाकिस्तान में गन्धम फरोख्त हो रही है। मैं आपसे पूछना चाहता हूँ कि 1947 से लेकर 1954 तक 10 रुपए और 9 रुपए मन गन्धम क्यों मिलती रही है और आज 35 रुपए मन क्यों मिल रही है? आप उसकी वजह बताएं। उसकी वजह यह है, जैसा कि मेरे बुजुर्ग भाई अन्तानी जी ने बताया, कि आप वेस्ट कर रहे हैं, जो आप प्रोजेक्ट कर रहे हैं वे अनप्रोडक्टिव हैं, जो आप बिल्डिंग बना रहे हैं वे अनप्रोडक्टिव हैं, स्टाफ बढ़ा रहे हैं वह अनप्रोडक्टिव है। कल श्री कोल साहब कह रहे थे कि उनको जाती तजुर्बा है कि सरप्लस स्टाफ हर मिनिस्ट्री में है। मैं उनकी तकरीर बड़े गौर से सुन रहा था। मैं यह सोच रहा था कि अपनी तकरीर के दौरान वे यह भी कहेंगे कि जहां हर मिनिस्ट्री में सरप्लस स्टाफ है, वहां मिनिस्टर्स में भी सरप्लस है। इसके मुतालिक उन्होंने नहीं कहा। मैं समझता हूँ कि जब अंग्रेज के जमाने में और जब अंग्रेज यहां से चला तब 9 वजीरों से सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट चल सकती थी तब आज 60 वजीर बनाने का क्या मतलब है? पंजाब में, जिसमें हरियाणा

भी शामिल था, 7 वजीर थे। 7 वजीर सचचर वजारत में दौरे करते रहे, काम करते रहे। अब छोटे से सूबे में—एक जमाना आया जब प्रताप सिंह कैरों ने 40 वजीर बनाए—अब अकाली जनसंघ वजारत 15-20 तक ले जायगी। पंजाब कितना छोटा है ?

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव (बिहार) : एकोमोडेशन करनी पड़ती है।

श्री जगत नारायण : आप याद रखिए कि जितना अनाज का भाव मंहगा होगा उतना ही तमाम चीजों का भाव भी बढ़ेगा और आप यहां की गरीबी दूर नहीं कर सकेंगे जिसके लिए श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी ने जयपुर में कहा—

“to wage a war against poverty and economic backwardness’ which were the biggest enemies of the country.”

3 तारीख को अपनी तकरीर में जयपुर में श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी ने यह कहा। इस पावर्टी के लिए कौन जिम्मेदारी है ? इसके लिए हमारी कांग्रेस जिम्मेदार है। इसलिए जिम्मेदार है क्योंकि पिछले 20 साल में आपने इस मुल्क को कर्जाई कर दिया। 57 अरब रुपया सिर्फ विदेशों का देना है अपने देश का कितना देना है, यह पता नहीं। इसके बावजूद हालत यह है कि आज पाकिस्तान से भी हमारी हालत बदतर है। वहां इतना जलजला आया, सब चीजें हुई, लेकिन वहां 17 रुपए मन गन्धम बिक रही है जबकि यहां 35 रुपए गन्धम है। जब तक आप अनाज के निर्र्ख कम नहीं करेंगे तब तक जिन्दगी की दूसरी जरूरियात की चीजों के निर्र्खों को कम नहीं कर सकते।

आज अगर आप नक्शा देखें, मैं इकानोमिस्ट नहीं हूँ लेकिन एक इकानोमिस्ट

ने एक नक्शा खींचा है हमारे देश का। मैं जरा उसे आपके सामने पढ़ना चाहता हूँ।

श्री अकबर अली खान : क्या नाम है उसका ?

श्री जगत नारायण : प्रोफेसर बी० आर० शिनोय।

श्री अकबर अली खान : फिर आप क्यों वक्त खराब कर रहे हैं।

श्री जगत नारायण : अगर फैक्ट्स गलत हों तो आप कह दीजिए।

“Consumption statistics confirm the growing social injustice. The living standards of the Indian masses are so low that consumption of the necessities of life provides a dependable index of their economic condition. The consumption of cotton cloth fell from 14.8 metres in 1961-62 to 13.8 metres in 1966-67; of foodgrains from 170.3 kgs. to 146.6 kgs.; of edible oils from 4.2 kgs. to 3.4 kgs.; and of sugar from 5.7 kgs. to 5.1 kgs. In 1965-66, taking 1954-55 as the base year (when the new policy measures gathered momentum), the registration of motor cars rose 2.2 times; the consumption of art fabrics 2.8 times; of refrigerators 3.7 times; and of air-conditioners 2.1 times. These latter commodities enter into the consumption of the upper-income groups and are beyond the reach of the masses.”

फिगर्स गलत हों तो बेशक वजीर साहब कहें। मैंने एक इकानोमिस्ट की फिगर्स पढ़ी हैं कि हालत क्या है देश की। जिन गरीबों को आप उठाना चाहते हैं, जिन गरीबों का भला करना चाहते हैं टैक्स या दूसरी चीजें लगा कर वे बिलकुल नीचे चले जा रहे हैं। एक सवाल के जवाब में लोकसभा में बताया गया कि 89 करोड़ रुपए के



[श्री जगत नारायण]

टैक्स ऐरियर में हैं जबकि एक इकानो-मिस्ट का कहना है कि 300 करोड़ रुपए के इनकम टैक्स के ऐरियर्स हैं जिनकी तरफ गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से कोई तबज्जह नहीं दी जा रही है। अगर वही ऐरियर्स गवर्नमेंट इकट्ठा कर ले तो उसको टैक्स लगाने की जरूरत महसूस नहीं होगी। आप एक नया वजीर बनाएं, एक डिपुटी मिनिस्टर बनाएं तो उसके लिए आपको सारा अमला रखना पड़ता है, कितना खर्च करना पड़ता है। क्यों नहीं आप इसमें बचत करते हैं, क्यों नहीं आप एक्स्ट्रा स्टाफ में बचत करते हैं, क्यों नहीं आप अनप्रोडक्टिव प्रोजेक्ट्स को खत्म करने की कोशिश करते हैं। जब तक आप यह नहीं करेंगे तब तक यह जो पावर्टी के खिलाफ जिहाद करना चाहते हैं, उसे खत्म करना चाहते हैं, उसे कभी खत्म नहीं कर सकेंगे। जब तक आप अनाज की कीमतें नीचे नहीं लाएंगे तब तक गरीब आदमी को फायदा नहीं पहुंचा सकेंगे और पावर्टी को दूर नहीं कर सकेंगे। आज लाखों इंसान ऐसे हैं जो रात को एक वक्त खाना खाकर सो जाते हैं। उनकी तरफ आप ध्यान देना चाहते हैं तो ध्यान दीजिए। यह तभी होगा जब आप अनाज के भाव को नीचे लाने की कोशिश करें।

इसके अलावा, वाइस चेयरमैन महोदय, मैं एक चीज और अर्ज करना चाहता हूं। डिफेंस पर खर्च हो रहा है काफी, बजट का आधे से ज्यादा खर्च हो रहा है। मुझे इसकी कोई गज नहीं है। मैं समझता हूं कि हिन्दुस्तान के डिफेंस पर जितना रुपया खर्च हो सकता है खर्च करने की कोशिश कीजिए और हिन्दुस्तान की आजादी को बरकरार रखिए। लेकिन मैं बड़े अदब से यह पूछना चाहता हूं वजीर महोदय से यह पंडित जवाहरलाल नेहरू ने लोकसभा

में रिजोल्यूशन पेश किया था 14 नवम्बर 1962 को। जब चाइनीज हमला हुआ उसके बाद लोकसभा में उन्होंने प्रस्ताव पेश किया था। मेरे पास ज्यादा वक्त नहीं है, मैं प्रस्ताव का आखिरी हिस्सा पढ़ना चाहता हूं।

“With hope and faith, this House affirms the firm resolve of the Indian people to drive out the aggressor from the sacred soil of India, however long and hard the struggle may be.”

यह तकरीर उन्होंने 14 नवम्बर, 1962 को की थी। आज 1969 है। तैयारी क्या हो रही है? तैयारी यह हो रही है कि याजी साहब अभी उस दिन भी अपनी तकरीर में कह रहे थे कि देश में नक्सलाइट्स बढ़ रहे हैं। यह तैयारी हो रही है। हालत क्या हो रही है? कल हमारे होम मिनिस्टर साहब ने यहां तकरीर की और कहा कि हमारे पास कानून में कोई दफा नहीं कि जिस की बिना पर हम उन लोगों के खिलाफ ऐक्शन ले सकें जो आर्म्ड रेवोल्यूशन करना चाहते हैं। हमारे झंडे की जो बेइज्जती करते हैं, तोहीन करते हैं उनके खिलाफ कार्यवाही करने के लिए हमारे पास कोई कानून नहीं है। हम कानून बनायेंगे। यह पिछले सेशन में उन्होंने कहा था। पिछला सेशन गुजर गया, यह सेशन गुजर गया, मगर आज तक कुछ नहीं हुआ। वाइस-चेयरमैन महोदय, आप तो वकील हैं, मैं वकील नहीं हूं, लेकिन अंग्रेजों के जमाने में किसी की हिम्मत थी कि यूनियन जैक की तोहीन कर सके। कोई अगर तोहीन करे तो उसके खिलाफ मुकदमा भी चल सकता था। वे उसको जेल में भी डाल सकते थे। यही इंडियन पीनल कोड उस समय था और आज भी वही है और आर्म्ड रेवोल्यूशन के खिलाफ

उस वक्त भी ऐक्शन लिया जाता था। हमें जेल में भेजा जाता था। लाला लाजपतराय को इसी के लिये कैद किया गया और कई लोगों को कैद किया गया। सब कुछ किया जाता था सिर्फ इस लिये कि उन को शक था। आप के सामने देश के टुकड़े होने वाले हैं, लेकिन याजी साहब कह रहे हैं कि हम तैयारी कर रहे हैं। उस दिन तो वे कह रहे थे कि वे नक्सलाइट्स के खिलाफ ऐक्शन लेने के लिये तैयार नहीं हैं। आप देखें कि आज नेफा में क्या हो रहा है, आज बंगाल में क्या हो रहा है। आप ने अखबारों में पढ़ा होगा कि आज पंजाब में भी नक्सलाइट्स बड़े सरगर्म हो गये हैं और आज उन का प्लान क्या है? उन का प्लान यह है कि अभी तक उन्होंने बंगाल में एक हुकूमत बना ली है। इसी तरह केरल में उन्होंने हुकूमत बना ली है और आज वे तैलंगाना को अलग करना चाहते हैं ताकि हिन्दुस्तान का सारा रास्ता उन के लिये साफ हो जाय आप को बताने के लिये कि किस तरह से वह चलना चाहते हैं। वही चीन की हिस्ट्री यहां दोहरायी जाने वाली है। जैसे चीन में उन्होंने चांग-काई-शेक को फारमूसा में निकाल बाहर फेंका था, वही हिस्ट्री वे हिन्दुस्तान में लाना चाहते हैं। इस लिये आप जो ला ऐंड आर्डर पर इतना रुपया खर्च कर रहे हैं, आप जो फौजों पर इतना खर्च कर रहे हैं, उस के साथ मैं समझता हूं कि आप के सामने एक खता दरपेश है। आप ने वायदा किया था कि आप अपने देश को वापस लेंगे, लेकिन हालत यह है कि कहीं आप के हाथों से बंगाल ही न निकल जाय। मैंने एक दफा कहा था कि मगरबी बंगाल और आसाम मिल कर एक नया सुबा बंगासाम बनाने की कोशिश हो रही है। उस के लिये हालात पैदा किये जा रहे हैं। मैं ने दो साल पहले

यह कहा था लेकिन उस वक्त उस का मजाक उड़ाया गया था। ईरान के बादशाह ने जब वे यहां पर आये थे कहा था कि हिन्दुस्तान के लोगों को समझ लेना चाहिये कि अगर उत्तरी आसाम चीन के कब्जे में चला गया तो मगरबी बंगाल हिन्दुस्तान में नहीं रहेगा। आप ने एलान किया था कि आप अपने देश का इलाका वापस लेंगे। तो अगर आप अपने देश का इलाका वापस नहीं ले सकते तो कम से कम जितना इलाका आप के पास है उस को तो दूसरों के पास न जाने दीजिए और यह न कहिये कि ऐसे लोगों के लिये आप के पास कानून नहीं है। माओ की तस्वीरें हमारे यहां आयें, वह बाजारों में बिकें और उन की तस्वीरों के नीचे हमारे यहां बड़े बड़े जलसे हों, यह क्या है? मैं हैरान हूं कि आप चीन को अपने दुश्मन की तरह देखते हैं। वह आप को अपने दुश्मन की तरह देखता है, लेकिन उस माओ के मानने वालों के खिलाफ, माओइज्म के खिलाफ आप कोई ऐक्शन नहीं ले सकते। यह एक अजीब बात है। इस देश के पीनल कोड में उन के खिलाफ कोई दफा नहीं है यह सुन कर हैरानी होती है। जब अंग्रेज हुकमरां होते थे तो इसी पीनल कोड से उस वक्त तमाम चीजें बैन कर दी गयी थी। आप जरा देखिये कि आज आप के देश के लिये काफी खतरा है। यह मैंने इस लिये कहा कि आप डिफेंस पर खर्च तो जरूर कीजिये, मगर उस पर खर्च करते हुए आप यह बात भी सोचिये कि कहीं आप का यह देश बिखर न जाय। आप के हाथों से यह कहीं निकल न जाय। इस बात की तरफ आप को तबज्जेह देनी चाहिये।

इस के अलावा मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूं कि उस वक्त यह तो फाइनैस

[श्री जगत नारायण]

मिनिस्टर नहीं थे, हमारे दूसरे साथी फाइ-  
नैंस मिनिस्टर थे और एक इंडस्ट्री मिनि-  
स्टर वहां पर गये थे, पंजाब में जनरल  
इंतखाब के वक्त। उस वक्त वहां आर्ट  
सिल्क इंडस्ट्री के लोग उन के पास  
इकठुठे हुए और वे लोग यहां पर मिनिस्टर  
साहब को तथा डिंडी मिनिस्टर साहब  
को मिले। इस के बाद वे अमृतसर  
गये जनरल इंतखाब के वक्त, उस के  
पहले उन्होंने उन को यहां भी बुलाया  
और उन को कहा कि आप की जो  
इंडस्ट्री तबाह और बर्बाद हो रही है उस  
को मैं बचाने की पूरी कोशिश करूंगा  
और मोनापोलिस्ट के हाथों से आप को  
नजात दिलाने की कोशिश करूंगा।  
उस इंडस्ट्री के लोग यहां आये और  
यहां आ कर उन्होंने एक मेमोरेण्डम पेश  
किया। काफी बावेल किया, वे कांग्रेस  
के मिनिस्टरों को लिखते रहे और यह  
जो खत उन्होंने भेजा है वह मिनिस्टर  
साहब के पास भी आया होगा। यह  
अपील टु दि नेशन है, जिस में वे लिखते  
हैं :

#### *Appeal to the Nation*

Save art silk weaving industry from  
monopolist spinners.

Highlights of exploitation by  
mighty spinners

Prices increased by 81 per cent.

Pool and Cartels.

Seventy per cent of total produc-  
tion of Viscose controlled by one  
powerful and influential group of in-  
dustries.

Premium for dull varn increased by  
675 per cent.

Creating artificial scarcities by  
stopping deliveries and hoarding  
stocks.

Other underhand tactics.

#### *Resulting in*

Closure of more than 50 per cent  
factories.

Remaining on verge of closure.

Rendering thousands unemployed.

Ruining the economy of border  
and historical city of Amritsar.

यह अमृतसर शहर में जो हैडलूम  
वाले हैं उन्होंने दिया था। कम से कम  
जो यह मेमोरेण्डम दिया गया है उसे  
देखा जाय। उस में टेक्सटाइल मैनु-  
फैक्चर्स एसोसियेशन, अमृतसर; पंजाब  
इंडस्ट्री ऐंड कामर्स एसोसियेशन, अमृतसर;  
पंजाब टेक्सटाइल मैनुफैक्चर्स एसोसियेशन,  
अमृतसर; पंजाब वियर निटिंग इंडस्ट्रीज  
एसोसियेशन, अमृतसर और काटेज इंडस्ट्रीज  
एसोसियेशन, अमृतसर का नाम है।  
इन तमाम एसोसियेशन्स ने यह अपनी  
अर्जदास्त भेजी है, मगर हालत यह है  
वाइस चेयरमैन महोदय कि यह इंडस्ट्री  
जो कि पंजाब के दूसरे शहरों में तथा  
अमृतसर में खास तौर से है और जो  
कि हिन्दुस्तान के बाहर के देशों को भी  
माल सप्लाई करती है, करती रही है,  
वह बिलकुल खत्म हो रही है और इस  
इंडस्ट्री को किसी खास किस्म की सहा-  
यित देने की तरफ गवर्नमेंट की तबज्जेह  
नहीं जा रही है। तो मैं बड़े अदब  
के साथ अपने मिनिस्टर साहब से कहूंगा  
कि वह इन एसोसियेशन की मांगों की  
तरफ पूरा ध्यान दें और जो उन को  
यकीन दिलाया गया था कि हम मोना-  
पोलिस्ट्स के हाथों से तुम को बचायेंगे,  
उसे पूरा करने की सरकार कोशिश करे  
और उन की इमदाद करने की कोशिश  
करे।

आखिर में, वाइस चेयरमैन महोदय,  
मैं एक बात कह कर अपनी बात खत्म  
करूंगा। मैं बड़े अदब से अर्ज करना  
चाहता हूं कि पिछले दो दिन हुए, पिछले

तीन चार दिन में यहां पर एक बहुत बड़ी कंट्रोवर्सी रही कि एक अफसर ने इंस्टीट्यूट की डिप्टी मिनिस्टर की। मैं बड़े अदब से आप की वसातत से मिनिस्टर साहब को और प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब को कहना चाहता हूं कि जहां एक अफसर का सवाल था उस के लिये यहां पर बड़े बड़े जितने पहलवान थे वह सब मैदान में आ गये थे इस लिए कि उस अफसर को सजा मिलनी चाहिये, मगर जब एक डिप्टी मिनिस्टर की गलती हमारे श्री मिश्रा साहब ने यहां पर पेश की कि किस तरह से मिनिस्टर ने उस गलती को ठीक किया, उसे देखते हुए मैं समझता हूं कि अगर उस तरह के डिप्टी मिनिस्टर आप के हों तो भी, मैं समझता हूं कि उस से आप का क्रेडिट ऊंचा नहीं होता। तो इस लिये आप को सोचना चाहिये कि क्या इसी तरह चलेगा। मेरी उन से कोई दोस्ती नहीं, कोई मुखालिफत भी नहीं, मैं उन को जानता भी नहीं, मेरी उन की दुश्मनी नहीं, लेकिन मैं एक उसूल की बात करता हूं कि जहां आप एक अफसर को सैक करने के लिये तैयार हैं वहां अगर आप को पता लगे कि आप के डिप्टी मिनिस्टर ने भी इस तरह की शैबी बात की है तो फिर यहां उस के खिलाफ आवाज क्यों नहीं उठती? बड़े बड़े आदमी जो मोरारजी देसाई या दूसरों के खिलाफ आवाज उठाया करते थे वह चुप क्यों हैं यह बात मुझे समझ में नहीं आती है? मैं समझता हूं कि उन को उन के खिलाफ भी आवाज उठानी चाहिये और गवर्नमेंट को भी अपनी पोजीशन को बाज्रै करना चाहिये।

इन अल्फाज के साथ मैं आप का बहुत बहुत शुक्रिया अदा करता हूं।

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI P. C. SETHI): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Members who have participated in the debate. About 32 Members have participated in this debate and they have given various valuable suggestions and offered certain criticisms. I would like to deal with them to the best of my capacity, but still I am doubtful, Sir, whether I would be able to cover all the points that have been raised by the hon. Members. But certainly I would try to cover the salient features of the debate.

I would start with what Mr. Patra had raised in his speech. He had said that the percentage of developmental expenditure in our country is much less. He had almost come to the conclusion that the percentage of developmental expenditure is something like 19 to 20 per cent. Sir, I would like to correct the hon. Member's impression because out of a total disbursement of Rs. 16,073 crores, Rs. 9,400 crores represents the turnover of the *ad hoc* treasury bills. And therefore, it is only of accounting significance, but no impact on the budget expenditure. Sir, besides this, there are certain other notional accounting adjustments which are included in the Appropriate Bill. We are actually concerned here with the budgetary position. It is the amount of Rs. 4,847 crores. Now, Sir, an analysis of this goes to show that out of this amount of Rs. 4,847 crores, expenditure on developmental schemes is to the tune of Rs. 2,500 crores which represents 51 per cent on development expenditure, and not 19 per cent as the honourable Member has concluded. Besides this, we have also to take into account—besides this expenditure of 2,500 crores of rupees—the defence outlay of Rs. 1,100 crores. And then there is an outlay for the repayment of loans. The loans which we have taken were also utilised for various developmental purposes and therefore, it would not be correct to assess that the payment of interest on loans or payment of loans is infructuous and that it is

[Shri P. C. Sethi]  
very burdensome and cumbersome. Taking all these things into account the position that emerges is that developmental expenditure is to the tune of something like 51 per cent and not 19 per cent.

Having dealt with this point I would now come to the point which some honourable Members, particularly Mr. Balkrishna Gupta—unfortunately he is not present here—made. They presented a very gloomy and dismal picture of the country as if we have not progressed anywhere and that we are going from bad to worse. Sir, I would admit that there have been lapses and lapses are possible. But the entire picture of the country as painted by Mr. Balkrishna Gupta is not correct. We have progressed in many fields—in the production of so many items—and I would not go into the details. But take, for example, the production of fertilisers. It was 9,000 tons of nitrogen and 9,000 tons of phosphate in the year 1950-51. Now the production has gone up to 367,000 tons of nitrogen and 195,000 tons of phosphate. Similarly, electric generation which was 5.1 billion kilowatts in 1950-51 has now gone up to 39 billion kilowatts. Irrigation which was 3.9 has now gone up to 7.2 in the case of major irrigation, and the total irrigation that is now available is to the tune of 19 per cent of the agricultural land. Therefore, Sir, the picture that was drawn by Mr. Balkrishna Gupta is not a correct picture and not a correct assessment of the situation. We have advanced on many fronts. Production all around has gone up and our indigenous capacity has also gone up. While coming to the public sector and private sector I would go further into this question, but at the moment I would like to come now to the important question of levy of wealth-tax and the question of levy of tax on fertilisers. Sir, some honourable Members mentioned about tax on pumping sets. As the House is aware, the tax on pumping sets has been withdrawn. The picture as it is now, whatsoever levy

is to be there, wealth-tax has to be taken into consideration. An amount of Rs. 1 lakh in urban areas is tax free. As far as wealth-tax is concerned, a further amount of Rs. 1½ lakhs is provided. Therefore, to the tune of Rs. 2½ lakhs there is no wealth-tax and there will be wealth-tax over and above Rs. 2½ lakhs. That means if one has wealth of Rs. 5 lakhs, both urban and agricultural, then, whatever he will pay will be over and above the wealth of Rs. 2½ lakhs. Therefore, what he will pay will be Rs. 1,250 on a total capital of Rs. 5 lakhs. A person who is having a total capital of Rs. 10 lakhs would be paying Rs. 5,500 only in a year. Therefore, when we come to this thing we will realise that a very microscopic percentage of our population would come under the purview of this thing.

श्री निरंजन वर्मा (मध्य प्रदेश) :  
यह "ओनली" आपका बड़ा खतरानक है।

श्री पी० सी० सेठी : "ओनली"  
खतरानक नहीं है। इस "ओनली" का  
भी मैं आपको बताऊंगा।

श्री महावीर प्रसाद भार्गवा : समझ  
का फेर है।

SHRI P. C. SETHI: The NSSC conducted a survey of the expenditure groups. Unfortunately, a correct assessment of the income groups is not available. But what is available is the expenditure assessment of the NSSC. They have suggested that the income-group of 301-500 is 6.2 per cent and of 151-300 is 25.5 per cent. This is the total which they have suggested.

Then, as far as agricultural population is concerned, I would like to say that in the agricultural sector the break-up of the various surveys is like this. The number of those persons who are having more than 20 hectares, that is round about 45 acres, is only 5 million which represents 1 per cent of the agricultural population. Therefore, if at all these people come

under the purview of this wealth-tax, the total effect of this wealth-tax would be ultimately on 1 per cent population which own about 20 hectares.

**श्री निरंजन वर्मा :** माननीय मंत्री जी अगर खेती करते हों तो क्या वह कृपा कर के एक स्पष्टीकरण करेंगे ?

**श्री पी० सी० सेठी :** मैं जो कह रहा हूँ वह स्पष्टीकरण ही कर रहा हूँ।

**श्री निरंजन वर्मा :** इसके सम्बन्ध में मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि जो आपने परसेंटेज बताया तो क्या बाजार में लोगों को खाने के लिये एक एक या दो दो बीघे वाले अनाज लाते हैं या जो बड़े किसान हैं वह लाते हैं ?

**श्री पी० सी० सेठी :** जो एक एक या दो दो बीघे वाले किसान हैं उन पर तो वेल्थ टैक्स नहीं लगेगा।

**श्री निरंजन वर्मा :** इसीलिये तो आप बड़ों से ले रहे हैं।

**श्री पी० सी० सेठी :** मुझे कहने दीजिए। वेल्थ टैक्स का जस्टीफिकेशन कर रहा हूँ। आप एक एक या दो दो बीघे वालों की बात कर रहे हैं, इसमें तो 10 बीघा या 20 बीघा वाले भी नहीं आयेंगे।

Sir, as far as people owning 5 to 10 hectares, that is over 20 acres, are concerned, their total percentage is 3.5. It is likely that in certain areas, as for example, in the Punjab the price of the land is much higher as compared to other places. It is likely that in certain areas where the price of the land is comparatively higher, certain lower-holding people will also come into the purview of this tax. But looking at the overall economic position of the country what they will

be paying is only Rs. 1,250 if they have a total wealth of Rs. 5 lakhs. Therefore, looking into all this we have to realise that after all we have to collect this tax from all sections of the society. The position of the country is that it is not possible only to proceed on the basis of income-tax and corporate tax which we are collecting at the moment. Some sort of an indirect taxation is necessary. I can again quote figures as far as indirect taxation is concerned. As compared to other countries it is much lower. Indirect taxation in our country is 10.3 per cent while in Ireland it is 16.4 per cent, in Denmark it is 14.7 per cent, in Ceylon 16.3 per cent and in Austria it is 17 per cent. So, as far as the incidence of indirect taxation is concerned, in our country it is comparatively low. Now the overall position of the tax-payer in the urban area is . . .

*(Interruption by Shri Joachim Alva)*

Mr. Alva, you had your full say. Now let me have my say. Your subject was very limited. It was defence only.

Now, Sir, as far as the tax on urban income is concerned, I would like to just quote here some figures. As far as urban taxes are concerned, it is likely that on this item possibly the net of tax is such that the smaller persons pass through it and the bigger persons break through it sometimes. But it is only the middle ones who are caught. Therefore, I would not claim that people are not escaping taxation. All the while, the incidence of taxation in urban areas is great. If a person has got an unearned income of Rs. 3 lakhs, then the total amount of tax, inclusive of both income-tax and wealth-tax—the incidence of taxation—is 90.3 per cent. If a person has got an income of Rs. 5 lakhs, the incidence of taxation is 99.2 per cent. If a person has got property of more than Rs. 10 lakhs then the incidence of income-tax and wealth-tax both combined is 105.8 per cent. Therefore, Sir, as far as the tax burden is concerned, the

[Shri P. C. Sethi]  
incidence of income-tax and the wealth-tax in our country is possibly reaching a saturation point. It is true that besides the U.K., our total highest rate of income-tax is 81 per cent while in the U.K. it goes up to 87 per cent. But from whatever figures I have quoted, inclusive of wealth-tax, the incidence of taxation in the urban area is certainly very high. Therefore, we will have to take the resources from all sections of the society if you want to make improvement. It is a well-known fact that in the Fourth Plan we are going to invest much bigger amounts for the development of the agricultural areas, for irrigation, for rural electrification and all the necessary things. For example, in the Third Plan what we had spent for agriculture was Rs. 1089 crores. Now during the Fourth Plan we are going to spend Rs. 2218 crores. So this amount has to be collected and this will have to come from all sections of the society and the benefits will accrue to all. Therefore as far as pumping set tax is concerned, that has been withdrawn. I have explained the position about the Tax on wealth. Now I come to the question of fertilisers. You will see that by the use of fertilisers one gets an extra income of Rs. 134. That is the calculation that has been made.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Wherefrom has it been obtained?

SHRI P. C. SETHI: That is obtained from the experts.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: There is the dry land and there is the wet land. What type of land was used for this calculation?

SHRI P. C. SETHI: It is based on land which is irrigated where it can give production.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Do you know that more land in India is unirrigated, about 88 per cent?

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: The Minister should be allowed to proceed.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Why are you confusing yourself? I am asking for clarifications. The Government is all along saying, like the recital of Gita, that Rs. 134 is the income available after using fertiliser. I ask him wherefrom this was obtained because the Food Ministry has got a Perspective Division which works out the figures. He said that it is of irrigated land. He has stated rightly and the irrigation available is only 19 per cent. That means 100 minus 19 comes to 81 per cent, which is under the irrigation of God, that is, on the rain available. I do not know if he is an agriculturist. Has he ever used on dry lands even one pound of fertiliser?

THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE (SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI): Let the Minister give his reply and when he finishes, any clarifications that may be required may be asked for later.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: This clarification is of the utmost importance because you are all making tall claims about Rs. 134. Wherefrom this figure is got? Have you ever grown one acre of land?

SHRI P. C. SETHI: Using the very argument of Mr. Kulkarni and Mr. Arora it is true that a major portion of our land is unirrigated. So if we have to proceed further, if we have to irrigate them, funds have to be provided. Certainly these funds have to come from all sections of the society and therefore if Mr. Kulkarni desires that more irrigation should be provided in the rural areas, more tube-wells should come, more electricity should come, then we will have to avail of the resources from all places and that is why this Tax on Fertilizer is there.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: I am only concerned with Rs. 134. From where it has been collected. Where was the study made? This comes right from the Finance Minister and so I want to know.

**SHRI P. C. SETHI:** If the Member can educate us better as far as this Rs. 134 is concerned, I am prepared to discuss with him when he likes.

I come to the question raised by Mr. Kulkarni about rates of interest and the rates at which loan is given to the small scale sector. I have got telegraphic information from Bombay, which goes to show that there is not much of difference between the rates for the small-scale industries and the big industries. For example the Bank of Baroda rate for small industries is  $7\frac{3}{4}$  per cent. while it is 8 and  $8\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. for the Swadeshi Mills and other mills to whom they are advancing loans. Similarly the State Bank rates are not more than  $8\frac{1}{4}$  per cent. Similarly there are very many other banks which have been given in this intimation and the rates quoted are not anywhere beyond 9 per cent.

**SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:** On a point of clarification. I will pass on the bunch of papers which I collected from the Bank of Baroda for verification. What the small-scale industries have paid is not between 9 and  $9\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. but it goes to 15 per cent.

**SHRI P. C. SETHI:** That is not correct. As far as the rate of interest is concerned, whatever has been advanced to particular parties in the small-scale sector or big industry, they have to pay interest. Mr. Kulkarni is having this interest calculated on the basis of compound interest and therefore he comes to the very easy conclusion that the rate comes to 15 per cent. I would certainly like to be educated as to how it can go up to 15 per cent. I would discuss with him about the rates but I would inform that I have authentic information from the State Bank to-day by telegram that in regard to the interest the difference is not much between the rates. Certainly there are some banks which have less than Rs. 50 crores capital and for them there is no limit but even there the difference is not much and the rate is not beyond 10 per cent. at any rate. As

far as the Scheduled Banks and the big banks are concerned, there is not much of difference between the rates to the small and big industries. Their advances to the small-scale sector are mounting and they are growing from time to time. As far as the 20 major commercial banks are concerned for agricultural purposes they have advanced Rs. 190 crores and for the small-scale Rs. 106 crores and in the coming year even these are going to be much higher. So what Mr. Kulkarni had derived that the rate was to the tune of 15 per cent. is not correct.

Mr. Arora and a few others raised the point about the policy of control and decontrol. This has been clarified many times and even as early as 1963 we had taken a decision that we would decontrol wherever we feel there is need to do so and since then many things have been decontrolled. For example except the critical items in steel, all steel items are decontrolled. Coal is decontrolled and many others are decontrolled.

**SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN:** Cement?

**SHRI P. C. SETHI:** I have no information about it. We have placed before ourselves an ideal that there should be a certain price-line, there should be equitable distribution but as far as the dogma of control or decontrol is concerned, we are not wedded to a particular dogma. We have also taken into account the entire apparatus. For example it is said that everything is being distributed through the State agencies in the socialist countries but there the apparatus is absolutely different. We have taken up the position that whatever is necessary for the society we will do. If we think controls are necessary, then we shall go in for controls. If we think that decontrol is necessary, then to that extent decontrol has been practised. Therefore it is not correct to say that the Government has deviated from the 1948 Resolution and are following a different path. As far as the 1948 and



[Shri P. C. Sethi]

1956 Resolutions are concerned, Mr. Arora said that as far shipping is concerned it is included in the State List and now it is being considered that ship-building should be given to a private company. Any proposal might have come certainly but it would be examined by the Government in the Transport Ministry and then by the Government and certainly when we take a decision I am quite sure the 1948 and 1956 Resolutions will be taken into consideration. Sir, this Resolution also explicitly provides that, wherever the State would consider it necessary—and it would be considered necessary in the interests of the State—they would certainly allow to that extent any industries to be run either jointly by the State sector and the private sector, or allow them solely in the private sector. Therefore, the 1948 and the 1956 Resolutions do give scope to the State to act accordingly. All the same, while considering the particular Resolution in its application to the point raised by hon. Members, I do not have the details; neither the Transport Ministry has still considered it; it is only in the form of a suggestion from somewhere. Therefore, it is not correct to allege at this stage that we are deviating from the 1948 and 1956 Resolutions. On the contrary, we have made strides, and whatever was good then in the State sector according to the 1948 Resolution has since been suitably changed in the 1956 Resolution, and now the arm of the State sector is much wider and we hope to increase it. The House is well aware of the fact that on the minerals side, for example, we do not allow the private sector to come in. And wherever mining is concerned, it is only the State sector which is coming into the picture. Similarly, on the steel side, except for the expansions of TISCO and IISCO which was allowed in the private sector, no new steel mill is being allowed to be set up in the private sector. So, Sir, whatever has been decided in the 1948 and 1956 Resolutions, according to that the arm of the State sector is certainly expand-

ing. Previously we had only five or six items, but now we have more than twelve items in the State sector, and some jointly in the State sector and the State Government sector. Therefore, it is not correct to come to this conclusion that the 1956 Resolution or the 1948 Resolution is being abandoned and that we are changing our policy.

Sir, a few hon. Members including Mr. Narayanappa, Mr. Kurre and Mr. Syed Hussain have made observations about the quantum of aid which is being given to their respective States. Mr. Syed Hussain is not here, Sir, but I would like to submit for the information of the House that Mr. Syed Hussain's conclusion that whatever expenditure we have incurred in Jammu and Kashmir is only Military expenditure and not expenditure for the development of Jammu and Kashmir, that conclusion is not correct, Sir, because in the first two Plans nearly 75 per cent of the Plan outlay and in the Third Plan 100 per cent of the Plan outlay was spent from the Central sector and it was assistance from the Central Government. Therefore, it is not correct to assume that whatever we spent in Kashmir was spent only for military purposes and nothing was spent for the development of the State of Jammu and Kashmir. Then, Sir, as far as Mysore and Madhya Pradesh are concerned, it is true that they might be having some of their own problems, but as far as Central assistance to Mysore in the First Plan is concerned, it was 50 per cent and in the Third Plan, Sir, it was 62 per cent. Similarly, Sir, as far as Madhya Pradesh is concerned, to which Mr. Kurre referred, it was 64.59 per cent in the First Plan, 66.2 per cent in the Second Plan and 76.1 per cent in the Third Plan. Therefore, whatever was given in the form of Central assistance was not any less amount compared to the other States, and must submit that whatever is being given to the States and will be given to the States would depend upon what programmes and plans they put up, what resources they mobilise.

**श्री निरंजन वर्मा :** क्या आप मध्य प्रदेश को गारन्टी देने के लिए तैयार हैं क्योंकि वहाँ की सरकार ने गुलाबी चने की निकासी पर जो करोड़ों रुपया इकट्ठा किया था वह सब सरकार को सौंप दिया जो खजाने में जाता है और अपने पास नहीं रखा। उनके ऊपर आपकी सरकार, केन्द्रीय सरकार इन्कम टैक्स लगाने वाली है या दूसरे प्रकार के टैक्स के लिये सोच रही है। क्या आप उस रुपये पर टैक्स नहीं लेंगे ताकि वहाँ की गरीब जनता को वह रुपया मिल जाय ?

**श्री पी० सी० सेठी :** माननीय सदस्य ने जो प्रश्न उठाया है कि मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने जो रुपया वसूल किया है, उसके संबंध में यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि मध्य प्रदेश ने जो रुपया वसूल किया है वह टैक्स के रूप में वसूल नहीं किया बल्कि चंदे के रूप में वसूल किया। चंदा तो आमतौर पर इन्कम टैक्स से फ्री नहीं होता है। लेकिन फिर भी जब यह प्रश्न आयेगा तो उसको देख लिया जायेगा कि उसमें कोई रियायत दी जा सकती है या नहीं।

**श्री अर्जुन अरोड़ा (उत्तर प्रदेश) :** चंदा किस को मिला ?

**श्री पी० सी० सेठी :** चंदा सरकार को मिला लेकिन उसमें खर्च का एकाउन्ट सेपरेट था। मंत्री जी का जो डेवलपमेंट फंड था और रीलिफ फंड था, उसमें खर्च किया।

Then, Sir, Shrimati Paranjpye had raised certain points about family planning. Now, Sir, as far as family planning is concerned, she was specially agitated on account of the fact that we are spending much more on the staff and administrative expenses than what the actual results were

obtained as a result of such large spending and that the results *vis-a-vis* the expenditure that is being incurred are not very encouraging. Now, Sir, as far as the expenditure on family planning is concerned, the amounts are being given to the States and the States are operating upon them. But, Sir, from whatever figures I have got before me of the number of sterilizations that were taken in 1956 and thereafter up to 1965, and the number in 1968-69, I may say that the position has considerably improved. For example, from 1956 up to March, 1965, the total number of sterilizations was 9,83,064. In 1968-69 the total number of sterilizations from the very beginning has come up to 15,67,000. As far as other measures are concerned, they are also quite progressive, and the amount which is being spent on family planning, in view of these figures, is certainly being spent properly. But I would not claim that there is no case for economy on the administrative side, and certainly it is for the Health Ministry to examine to what extent economies can be effected as far as the administrative expenditure is concerned, and I would certainly pass on the suggestions made by the hon. Member to the Health Ministry.

Now, Sir, I would come to certain points which have been raised by Mr. Ruthnaswamy and Mr. Alva with regard to Defence. Now, Sir, as far as Defence is concerned, Mr. Ruthnaswamy has specially raised the point that in view of the mounting capacity of our neighbour, that is, China, for making and keeping atomic weapons in their possession and using them for their aggressive purposes—this point was also raised by the hon. Member, Mr. Varma during the debate—why we should not go in for manufacturing nuclear weapons and atom bombs in our country. Now, Sir, as far as this position is concerned, it has been explained many times by the Prime Minister and by the Defence Minister that, as far as India is concerned, what we are concerned with at the moment is development

[Shri P. C. Sethi]  
of our military strength from the point of view of conventional arms, and it is from this point of view that, during the debates on Demands for Grants, it was clearly explained how we are modernising the Navy and what expansion we are making in the Air Force, how we are trying to modernise our Air Force. Not only modernising, but we are also building up the defence equipment in our own country, and if not self-sufficiency, we are definitely moving in the direction of self-reliance, and, Sir, the 1965 war with Pakistan is proof that, in cases of emergency, if foreign aid in armaments ceases, then we have to certainly depend upon the arms and ammunition manufactured in our own country. And from that experience it has become all the more necessary and incumbent on us that we should become self-reliant in the building up of arms and ammunition. And all possible steps are being taken in that direction. And, Sir, as far as a country like India is concerned, compared to the developed countries we are a poorer country. And yet, compelled by circumstances, our defence expenditure has already gone up very much and now it is to the tune of Rs. 1100 crores. If we at all go in for the atom bomb, it would not do for our defence just to have one atom bomb; we will have to pile up many atom bombs, and therefore that would involve tremendous expenditure. From all these points of view what is being done is that India is being equipped with all the necessary conventional and modern arms which are necessary for the defence of the country, and at the moment it is not the policy of the Government of India to go in for the atom bomb, but at the same time, Sir, I must mention that, as far as the development of atomic energy is concerned, —I do not have to go into the details —the purposes for which atomic energy will be used are very clearly given in the Report of the Department of Atomic Energy. The Atomic Energy Department is making rapid strides.

5 P.M.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR (Delhi): Don't you think there is nuclear threat to the country? The Government has decided not to go nuclear; that is quite understandable but what is the answer to the points raised by Members that there is danger of nuclear blackmail from China? What are you going to do about it?

SHRI P. C. SETHI: I will not be able to go into the details of the defence strategy here.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: But the Prime Minister has answered it. She said that in that case it would not be confined to China and India only but it would be a global war. (*Interruptions.*)

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: That means you expect that somebody will come and help us. That is the argument.

SHRI P. C. SETHI: Now, Sir, Mr. Alva had raised a few points. One was about the tractors that are lying unrepai red for over five years. He also said that certain air fields were in a neglected condition and he asked what the Research and Development Organisation in the Defence Ministry was doing. As far as the Research and Development Organisation is concerned, detailed information about what they are doing has been given in the Report of the Defence Ministry. This has also been covered in the discussions by the hon. Defence Minister who has given the details of the various things done by this Organisation. To mention a few, for example, the new mountain gun and its ammunition, semi-automatic rifle and its launching tube for grenade firing, anti-tank grenade, anti-tank mine, air burst anti-personnel mine, device to clear mine fields for safe passage of troops, rocket for use by aircraft in attack role, various types of escape aid and power jettisoning cartridges for the Air Force, signal cartridges and drill mines for the Navy, various types of propellants and explosives and so on and so forth. There are about 30 items which have been devised in this Organisation.

As far as chemical warfare and anti-dotes to chemical warfare are concerned, I do not have the detailed information but this Organisation not only invents these things that have been enumerated in the Defence Ministry Report but they are also making the country self-reliant in the sense that they are carrying on research whether they could produce within the country many of the items which are being imported now. Therefore their work is of a complicated nature and . . .

**SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN:** Is there a list about import substitutions?

**SHRI P. C. SETHI:** The list is not there.

**SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN:** They should give that also.

**SHRI P. C. SETHI:** But I must say that they have made some progress in this matter of import substitution also.

As far as the tractors lying unrepai red and the airfields are concerned I would like to say that certain audit reports and other records have mentioned this point. But we must take into account that the Defence Ministry has made a saving of Rs. 50 crores last year and this year they are trying to save Rs. 20 crores. It is true that in certain cases possibly there might be some room for criticism and to that extent the criticisms and suggestions will be looked into and wherever possible economies would be attempted.

**SHRI JOACHIM ALVA (Nominated):** What you save by the right hand you throw away by the left hand.

**SHRI P. C. SETHI:** As far as the tractors are concerned, it is a fact that both maintenance and overhaul of the Komatsu tractors has been adversely affected for non-supply of spares by the DGOF/BEML who are

in turn largely dependent on M/s. Komatsu of Japan. However, 87 tractors have been included in the current overhaul programme and four tractors have already been stripped for overhaul and steps have been taken to expedite the supply of spares, and it is proposed to overhaul the tractors and put them in service as soon as the spares are received. So it was for want of spares that these tractors could not be repaired. But they have taken steps to improve the situation and these tractors would be taken up for repairs this year.

Now, Sir, I need not go into the field of education because that has been very well covered by my learned colleague, Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao. He has answered most of the criticisms and points raised by hon. Members. I would only like to say that as far as education is concerned the progress is clearly perceptible. The percentage of children going to schools in the age group 6 to 11 has increased from 43 in 1950-51 to 75 in 1967-68. In the case of age group 11 to 14 this percentage increase has been from 13 per cent in 1950-51 to 32 per cent in 1967-68 and in the case of age group 14 to 17 from 8 per cent in 1955-56 to 18 per cent in 1967-68. It is likely that while we are quantitatively advancing, in certain schools in certain places the quality might have gone down. I am sure the suggestions and criticisms offered by hon. Members would receive the attention of the Minister of Education and whatever steps he considers necessary would be taken.

Mr. T. V. Anandan had mentioned about the Central Government employees and their difficulties as a result of the merger of the dearness allowance. As far as this merger is concerned, this was demanded by the employees and we agreed to that. But keeping in view their difficulties the Government has recently taken a decision in this regard. I may inform the House that now it has been decided that in B-2 class cities the pay limit will be raised from Rs. 500 to Rs. 620. In C class cities also the pay limit

[Shri P. C. Sethi] has been raised from Rs. 500 to Rs. 620. For the purpose of children's education allowance the pay limit has been raised from Rs. 349 to Rs. 459. The effect of all this would be that compensatory (city) allowance in B-2 class cities would be available to all these categories. House rent allowance in C class cities would be available. Children's education allowance would be available. There will be reimbursement of tuition fees. Hill compensatory allowance would be available. Winter allowance would be available. Allowance in the nature of remote localities and bad climate allowance would be available. Festival and bicycle allowances would be available. Therefore the Government has gone to the farthest extent possible.

SHRI T. V. ANANDAN (Tamil Nadu): May I know the date from which these orders will come into effect?

SHRI P. C. SETHI: This decision has only recently been taken. As soon as it is communicated it will come into effect. Taking into consideration the difficulties of the employees the Government has certainly extended a very co-operative hand and I am quite sure this would be appreciated by the hon. House and by the Government employees also.

Many hon. Members have raised points about the growth of administrative expenditure during the past few years. Mr. Kaul had particularly mentioned it. He had said that information about surplus should be kept secret. We have a staff inspection unit and this unit has been working quite vigorously. In 1964-65 the staff inspection unit found out that 1192 posts were surplus and the number of posts which were asked by the various departments but which were denied was 726. In 1968-69 they have declared 3985 posts as surplus and the number of posts which were denied to the various department is 3163. Therefore cumulatively the total is 7148 and in terms of money it comes to about Rs. 3 crores

4 lakhs and eightysix thousand. So, all possible steps for reducing administrative expenditure have been taken.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: Has this been implemented?

SHRI P. C. SETHI: This would be implemented. Whatever has been denied has not been enrolled. Whatever have been declared surplus would not be retrenched, but they would be provided for wherever there are vacancies.

SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN: I may be pardoned but to my mind, there has not been a single case of retrenchment and, therefore, the entire staff continue.

SHRI P. C. SETHI: To the best of my knowledge this is the position.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: If it is so, that is good.

SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN: I am not saying whether it is good or not, but the facts stated are misleading.

Shri P. C. SETHI: I am not misleading. I am trying to give whatever information is available with me at the moment. If there is anything wrong, I would certainly come and correct myself.

SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN: It has not been implemented anywhere. (*Interruptions.*)

SHRI P. C. SETHI: As far as the increase in administrative expenditure is concerned, it has been mainly under the Central Reserve Police, expansion of the Border Security Force and the raising of the Central Industrial Security Force. The grant of increased dearness allowance, due to the rise in the cost of living in recent years, has also been responsible. The recent decision to treat a portion of D.A. as pay for pension and all that is also there. Whatever expenditure has increased on the revenue side has

been on account of these things. Even here you will have to see that the administrative expenditure rose from Rs. 1145.57 crores in 1967-68 to Rs. 1377.97 crores in 1969-70, an increase of more than Rs. 200 crores. But the administrative expenditure, including Police and tax collection, has risen from Rs. 177.45 crores to Rs. 213.63 crores only, an increase of Rs. 36.18 crores. This is in spite of the heavy increase under Police. Therefore, in the total revenue expenditure, there has been an increase of only Rs. 36.18 crores on administration and this is in spite of the fact that there is a heavy increase on Police.

Now, Sir, during the Question Hour and also during the course of the debate, many hon. Members have criticised the public sector *vis-a-vis* the private sector. I was surprised when the hon. Member, Shri Bal-krishna Gupta, went to the extent of saying that the public sector is no good. I was under the impression that he is a representative of the S.S.P. . . .

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: A Mar-wari-socialist.

KUMARI SHANTA VASISHT (Delhi): He is a Gupta also.

SHRI P. C. SETHI: I was amazed and I was surprised to find that he was more inclined to sit on that side of the House, rather than there.

DR. B. N. ANTANI: Thank you for the compliment.

SHRI P. C. SETHI: As far as the public sector is concerned, it is true that some of the projects are losing. It has been brought before the House that the total loss in the public sector is to the tune of Rs. 35 crores. In spite of the fact that a few of the public sector projects are earning Rs. 49 crores, it is offset by the total loss. We have to take into account the fact that the cumulative provision by all the public sector projects for depreciation is to the tune of Rs. 171 crores. This is besides paying an in-

terest of Rs. 91 crores. It is after providing Rs. 171 crores for depreciation and after providing Rs. 91 crores for interest that the cumulative loss of the public sector projects is Rs. 35 crores. I do not at all support the point that they must go on losing. Certainly there is room for improvement, but even in this loss of Rs. 35 crores, the share of Hindustan Steel alone is Rs. 30 crores. Therefore, if we exclude this sick child, all the other public sector projects cannot be put in the same category. There is certainly a case for improvement in the working of the Hindustan Steel and that is why Government is considering many steps. At the same time we have to take into account what the public sector projects have given us in various forms. I would not take the time of the House by going into details. In the form of steel, engineering goods, chemicals, minerals, petroleum, oil and shipbuilding and repairs alone the total production and sale in the public sector is to the tune of Rs. 1085 crores. Had these public sector projects not come into being, goods worth Rs. 1085 crores would have been imported from other countries. We would have imported steel, engineering goods, chemicals, minerals, petroleum, oil and whatever shipbuilding and other building capacity has been created in the country, we would have imported. It would have been a great drain on our foreign exchange. Therefore, it is not correct to say that the public sector has not done any good. Had these public sector projects not come into being, the private sector would not have been in a position and would not have had the capacity to establish these institutions. (*Interruptions.*) For the expansion of TISCO and IISCO, Government has been advancing loans and guarantees.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: So, the public sector industries are being utilised in the interests of the private sector industries.

SHRI P. C. SETHI: I am not saying that. I am only recognising that you are Mr. Chitta Basu.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: You have got recognition. What more do you want?

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: What steps are being taken regarding the loss that we are having in iron and steel, any practical steps?

SHRI P. C. SETHI: I would not go into the details, but the reason for incurring a loss of Rs. 35 crores is this. I would like to mention that the total investment on the townships of all the public sector projects is Rs. 300 crores and on the townships alone we are losing about Rs. 17 crores. If you take out Rs. 17 crores, out of the total loss, only about half of it remains. That is why it is being considered that the townships should be separately accounted for. Then, the capital reconstruction programme has come up before the House during the course of the debate and the answer is also there. The full production capacity has to be achieved in some of the public sector projects and if the full rated capacity is achieved in the Heavy Electricals, Heavy Engineering, Hindustan Steels, etc. I am quite certain the picture will certainly change.

Shri Sheel Bhadra Yajee had raised the point about the INA personnel. As far as they are concerned, there were three categories, *viz.*, the Whites, Greys and Blacks. Out of them the Whites were paid, because they were prisoners-of-war and they were recognised as such. There was no difficulty. With regard to the Greys and Blacks, there was no proof available as to whether they had joined the INA. From time to time they have been given certain relief. I would not take up the time of the House, but as far as the British Government were concerned, they had completely dispensed with the services of these people and they were not to be given any pension or anything of that kind. Then, immediately after independence this was changed. Their pay and allowance had been forfeited from the date of their capture by the enemy up to the date of recovery

which generally was from 1-3-42 to 31-7-45. On the attainment of independence, the national Government took certain decisions in respect of ex-INA personnel. The order of dismissal passed on Blacks was changed to discharge or retirement. Then, they were given certain pension and gratuity benefits. Then, they were given a lump-sum grant ranging from Rs. 400 to Rs. 800. In October 1963 orders were issued for the payment of the following amounts to various officers, *viz.*, Officers Rs. 1,500, JCOs Rs. 500, NCOs Rs. 220 and so on. The matter was further considered in 1967 and Government orders were issued saying that these people should be given whatever pension or other things accrued to them. The total amount is Rs. 63 lakhs. The Government decided that in the case of Officers 75 per cent would be paid in the form of bonds and 25 per cent in cash. In the case of other Ranks fifty per cent would be in cash and fifty per cent in bonds. That is the decision.

SHRI SHEEL BHADRA YAJEE (Bihar): What is the use of paper bonds? Arrears should be paid in cash.

SHRI P. C. SETHI: They are not paper bonds. They would be cash.

SHRI SHEEL BHADRA YAJEE: In instalments . . .

SHRI P. C. SETHI: After the expiry of the period they will get the full amount. What I wanted to state is that as far as the I.N.A. personnel are concerned, after the advent of independence so many decisions have been taken which go to show that considerable improvement in their position has been done.

Mr. Patra had particularly referred to the question of the Paradip Port. As far as the Paradip Port is concerned, there is the question of silting. Therefore, all possible steps are being taken to remove this position. We had hired a certain machinery from Japan, but that machinery broke

down after working for five days. Another dredger has got to be got and the draft maintained. Steps are being taken so that Paradip could take the full load for which it has been built. All possible steps are being taken.

DR. (MRS.) MANGLADEVI TALWAR (Rajasthan): I had referred to the Rajasthan Canal . . .

SHRI P. C. SETHI: I certainly sympathise with the hon. Member. I wanted to have the details regarding the Rajasthan Canal before I came. In spite of reminders I have not yet got the details regarding Rajasthan Canal. Therefore, I can only say that your anxiety, whatever be the position, I would certainly pass on to the Irrigation Ministry and request them to give a sympathetic look to it, not only from out of sympathy but from the point of view of the requirements of Rajasthan and for the irrigation and other developmental activities that will come into being on account of its being expedited. I could only say that much at the moment. I do not have as yet any details from the concerned Ministry.

SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA (Mysore): The Minister has not made any reference to the plantations about which I spoke yesterday. In spite of the fact that they are one of the principal foreign exchange earners and the principal burden of wealth tax and fertilizer levy falls on them, as I said yesterday, they are not given proper attention from the Central Government. He has not made any reference to that.

SHRI P. C. SETHI: The hon. Member had particularly mentioned one point that the wealth tax incidence would be very heavy especially on the tea estates or coffee estates, where according to statutory obligations the owner has to construct houses for labour. The best thing would be that if the owners are not recovering the rent of these houses, they could certainly pass it on . . .

SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA: They are rent free.

SHRI P. C. SETHI: Therefore, if the incidence of wealth tax has to be avoided, it is better that the labour is made the owner, but certainly . . .

SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA: It is very easy for the Minister to say that the labour be made the owner. If that is applied to every sector of industry, I am prepared to accept that.

SHRI P. C. SETHI: I cannot go into details, but I would say that we would certainly examine whether they have got any case.

SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA: I would just request if he could tell us to what extent he would give due consideration to that.

SHRI P. C. SETHI: We would get it examined.

Lastly, the hon. Members have raised very many points about the position of unemployment. First of all as far as unemployment is concerned, we do not have the exact and correct figures. The 1961 census gave us one set of figures. The National Sample Survey has given us another set of figures. For example, the 1961 census has said that there is unemployment of 1.4 million in the rural areas and 0.83 million in the urban areas. The National Sample Survey has estimated that unemployment was 5.8 million in the rural areas and 0.7 million in the urban areas. The Planning Commission, as far as the Fourth Plan is concerned, came to the conclusion that these figures were not very reliable. Therefore they have appointed a Committee to go into this problem. At the same time they have stated—the hon. Members must have got this book, it is page 342—that as far as the employment potential is concerned certainly it has gone up from 12.09 million at the end of 1960-61 to 15.46 million in 1965-66, or it has gone up by 28 per cent. So the number of employed



[Shri P. C. Sethi.]

persons has gone up, but in view of our increasing population the number of unemployed has also gone up. Therefore, the Planning Commission has suggested that this Committee be appointed, and on the basis of this Committee's report they have certainly suggested certain measures also so that more employment could be provided, and I am quite sure that this report which has been produced would receive the due consideration of the State Governments and the Central Government and whatever is possible in this direction would be taken up.

I have nothing much to add. I am very thankful to you and the hon. Members of the House for giving me a patient hearing. I have tried to explain the salient features in the debate.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): The question is:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1969-70, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): We shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

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

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

SHRI P. C. SETHI: Sir, I move:

"That the Bill be returned."

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

### MESSAGE FROM THE LOK SABHA

#### THE ESTATE DUTY (DISTRIBUTION) AMENDMENT BILL, 1969

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

"In accordance with the provisions of Rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose herewith the Estate Duty (Distribution) Amendment Bill, 1969, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 7th May, 1969."

Sir, I lay the Bill on the Table.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): The House stands adjourned till 11 A.M. tomorrow.

The House then adjourned at twenty-nine minutes past five of the clock till eleven of the clock on Friday, the 9th May, 1969.