

[Shri Lokanath Misra]

from some other place. And since it did not pass on evenly, we had to keep on waiting for it, having something else on the agenda. And ultimately when we are in possession of it, we delete the previous business 'from the agenda and take up something else. That is a very wrong procedure. What was suggested by the Opposition was : Why doesn't the Government introduce sufficient number of Bills in this House also so that we can pass them here and send them elsewhere, instead of waiting for things to be passed somewhere else and then brought in this House? Why doesn't the Government introduce sufficient number of Bills here so that things are evenly distributed? Now, it does not look well either for the Government. . .

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA : Four Bills are waiting here.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : Why don't you take it up? Why don't you advise your Government in the matter? You have to advise your own party in the matter. Therefore, Madam, it does not look nice for the Government nor for this House to keep gazing at the sky without any business during the first half of the session and then hustle through anything that comes without even, sufficient deliberation on it. The Government must give serious thought to this.

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI : Madam, I have heard with great—I should say—satisfaction the last sentence of Mr. Bhupesh Gupta and I am perfectly one with him that we want to adjourn in peace without creating any difficulty. I am very happy and on our side we shall fully co-operate with them in seeing.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : So withdraw that Bill. Madam, the sincerity of his utterances is put to test. I make it clear that there is no cause for anger between us or breach of peace here except for that Bill. When it comes to the privy purses, they say "After the mid-term elections." When it comes to Company donations, they say "After the mid-term elections." But this Bill you must pass here and now?

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI : Let us be quiet and end in peace. Now so far as the Essential Services Maintenance Bill is concerned, the Business Advisory Committee has allotted two

days for this Bill and for all other items, 9+ hours or 10 hours. So we want two days' extension. Mr. Bhupesh Gupta wanted 12 hours. We can have 10 hours for this Bill and then for the rest we shall be able to find time . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : You do not know.

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI : You said 12 hours.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I said it according to the calculations of your Government.

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI : We can have 7 hours for the first reading . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I want its deletion.

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI : . . . two hours for the second reading and one hour for the third reading. Let us fix that. We do not mind going for 7 hours continuously for the first reading. If we stick to that, we shall be able to . . .

{Interruptions}

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : The very mention of the Bill, the very name of the Bill is provocation. It is an insult to us.

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI : Even then, we shall end in peace.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Now let us go to the non-official resolution No. 1 Mr. Chatterjee had finished his speech. Mr. Bhargava.

RESOLUTION RE DEVELOPMENT OF CALCUTTA—*contd.*

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA (Uttar Pradesh) : Madam Deputy Chairman, I am very happy that my friend Mr. Chitta Basu has brought forward this important Resolution before this House. As I was going through the history of Calcutta, I found a statement that a fundamental mistake was made in the location of the city of Calcutta. I quote :

"The suggestion has been made from time to time that the site of Calcutta was a fundamental mistake.

This is picturesquely embodied in Kipling's lines :

'Thus he midday halt of Char-nock—
more's the pity.'—Grew a City.'

in allusion to the legend that Job Charnock, resting under a tree by the river bank during his third visit, fixed the exact site of his future operations in Calcutta."

I do not agree with this statement made in the book calkd '*The Port of Calcutta*'. In my personal opinion, Calcutta has served a very useful purpose all these years since it was established. It has played a great role all through these centuries and I have no doubt that it is bound to play an important role in times to come.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal) : One great man called the City of Calcutta a City of Processions. That procession went up to Writers' Building.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA : I have no hesitation in telling this House that as far as I am concerned, Calcutta is my second home.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Make it your first home.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA : My first home is Asra.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Make it Calcutta.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA : My association with Calcutta dates back to a period 44 years back, when my eldest brother got a job there. It was after two years, at the age of 10, that I went to Calcutta, and, if I may say so, it was like falling in love at first sight . . .

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA (Orissa) : Even at that age ?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Then how do you still belong to the Congress ? It is strange ? What sort of love is it ? It is not faithful love. I should say.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA : Because it is Calcutta which has produced the greatest number of freedom fighters in this country.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : All have left.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Including Mr. Bhupesh Gupta.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA : I am coming to it a little later. Now, when I visited Calcutta as a boy of 10, I was fascinated by all what I saw, the zoo, the museum, the botanical gardens, the Victoria Memorial, University, the lakes, Mullick's Palace, the Bellur Math, Eden gardens, and the greatest of all, the sight of football matches. The football matches have always thrilled me . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : And the maidan.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA : The football matches have always thrilled me and whenever I got an opportunity I tried to witness a football match. And if I may tell the House, I am a great admirer of that great team of Calcutta, called Mohun Bagan. I am sorry I cannot oblige Mr. Chitta Basu by saying East Bengal. East Bengal is an equally eminent Team, but my fascination was somehow caught by Mohun Bagan . . . (Interruptions) Now I was going through another book called "Calcutta, India's City" by Asok Mitra, and he has very aptly described about the development of Calcutta, and I quote from that book :

"Calcutta has grown quite differently. The city's big industrialists and husinessmen came from elsewhere with no thought of a stake in the city to start with. Very many of them remained, and still remain, aloof from the affairs of the city, some out of a sense of diffidence, and of not belonging, others from an unwillingness To get more involved than is good fo, their work. The bulk of them have been content to get the most of what the city has had to offer but have hardly ever thought of placing themselves as a group at its service. Thus developed an unfortunate dichotomy. The city's councillors have been mostly drawn from the liberal professions, the academies, bureaucrats, owners of real estate, rentiers, who sprang from the middle classes, to whom their primary charge was themselves and their kin, and not the producer or entrepreneur. And like all professional men and bureaucrats all over the world they secretly felt out of sympathy with and disinclined to understand or help

[Shri M. P. Bhargava]

(he producer or entrepreneur. Thus business and industry made headway in Calcutta in spite of the Calcutta Corporation rather than through its active cooperation."

Now the biggest difficulty which Calcutta is facing today and which has to some extent slowed down the progress, is the question of local people *versus* those who have come from other places and settled there. The beauty and the progress of Calcutta lies in its cosmopolitan character, and the day we take away the cosmopolitan character of Calcutta, the city will not develop any further. That is one aspect which I want to impress upon this House that with the development of India is linked the development of Calcutta. If Calcutta progresses, India progresses. If India progresses, Calcutta has to progress. It cannot be without that, and for that it is absolutely necessary that the cosmopolitan character of Calcutta is maintained. I had occasion to read another article, an editorial which aptly describes what is happening to that great city of Calcutta. I quote from that editorial :

"Calcutta is a city in the process of slowly destroying itself. The 8 million people in the Metropolitan District are crowded into 490 square miles. And the population increases each year by 200,000. Over three quarters of these people live in insanitary, congested and dilapidated houses. The three year old Metropolitan Water and Sanitation Authority has the unenviable task of maintaining adequate supplies of filtered water, while the Hooghly continues to silt and raise the salt content in water well above the accepted drinking water tolerance."

And unless the Farakka barrage is completed, the problem of fresh water in Calcutta will not be solved. And therefore, it is of the utmost importance for the city of Calcutta that the progress of Farakka barrage is kept to schedule and utilisation begins as soon as it is completed.

Now, I come to the Calcutta Port. Calcutta Port is one of the essential things in the life of Calcutta, and unless the Calcutta Port gets its proper place in the comity of nations, it is very difficult for the eastern parts, Bihar, U.P. and Orissa, to be served by

a port, because Calcutta is the only port which can do that. And here I would like to read some portions from the book "The Port of Calcutta" again which has aptly described the importance of Calcutta :

"The centuries which the story of Calcutta Port. spans have been a period of great change. This port has been a spectator of many remarkable events and world-snaking movements ; the rise and fall of empires, the coming of the industrial revolution, startling scientific and technological advance, growth of world trade, replacement of old ideologies by new ones, and birth of new nations after long periods of struggle. Of more direct concern to ports in general has been the great and formidable change in the size and shape and motive power of ships.

During all these years the port of Calcutta also has never stopped growing. It has played a vital role in the economic development of India, acting as a funnel through which a substantial portion of the commerce of the country has flowed. The rise and growth of this port is, thus, inseparably woven into the country's economic fabric.

The role of ports in independent India is even more significant. For the last fifteen years, India has been taking powerful strides in the path of industrialization in all directions, for the proper harnessing of her natural resources towards the common goal of improving the living standards of her millions and bringing them same measure of prosperity. The port of Calcutta has already made important contributions to this endeavour and is likely to make still greater contributions in future."

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : From which book is that ?

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA : This is "The Port of Calcutta—A Short History" by N. Mukherjee. This is a very recent publication.

"In order that the port may be developed to its full potential, the problems of Calcutta Port must be seen in a national perspective."

And that is exactly what Mr. Chitta Basu has said in his resolution :

3 P.M.

"Inefficient port operations are particularly damaging to the growing economy of the emerging nations."

So the point I was stressing was that the Calcutta port has to be developed in the interest of the nation and it Calcutta has to develop and play its vital role in the years to come I have again to appeal to the people of Bengal, and specially the people of Calcutta : "Do not destroy the cosmopolitan character of Calcutta". Let every Indian think that whatever is there is of the nation and is his own property and if he destroys any property of the nation he is a criminal and he is not being fair to the nation and to himself. That is why I am appealing to the House that the agitations must stop in Calcutta if Calcutta is to develop. I will finish by giving just one example of Japan for the benefit of the people of India. The students were marching and while marching a lamp post fell down. They had no retention to make the lamp post fell down. It was by mistake or by the stampede created by the marching of the students. The whole caravan of the students stopped there, dug a hole deeper, put back the lamp post and then marched forward. That is the spirit which has to be developed in India is to progress and find its place in the comity of nations.

Thank you.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:

Every Member will get fifteen minutes according to the Rules. Shri Bala-krishna Gupta.

श्री बालकृष्ण गुप्त (बिहार) : उपसभा-पति महोदय, मैं श्री भागव की तरह बड़ी बड़ी किताबें ले कर के कलकत्ता का वर्णन नहीं करूंगा और न किसी अवसर से सम्पादकीय यहां उद्धृत ही करूंगा।

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI D. THEN-GARI) in the Chair]

श्री सुन्दर सिंह भंडारी : भागव माहव बोल कर चले गये।

श्री बालकृष्ण गुप्त : मैं वचन से कलकत्ता में रहा हूँ। कलकत्ता का स्वराज्य आने के बाद जो पतन शुरू हुआ है उसका नतीजा यह

निकला है कि आज माऊ के पोस्टर कलकत्ता शहर में हर गन्दी गली में और हर बड़े रास्ते में चिपके हुये हैं और हर जगह "माऊ जिन्दाबाद" के नारे लगते हैं। माऊ की तस्वीरों को ले कर के कलकत्ता का प्रेसी-डेंसी कालेज जो बड़े घर के लड़कों का कालेज समझा जाता था और जिसमें मैं खुद पढ़ा हूँ उसके लड़के जलूस निकालते हैं।

आज यह कलकत्ता की हालत है कि जिस को जोब चारनोक ने बसाया और जिस को क्लाइव और डलहौजी ने बढ़ाया और जो मिटी आफ पैलेसेज कहा जाता था वह आज गन्दी वस्तियों का समूह मात्र हो कर के बंगाली प्रांतीयता का नग्न नृत्य करने वाली जगह हो गया है। लेफ्ट कम्युनिज्म बंगाली प्रांतीयता का एक नया नमूना है जो जिस तरह से ईस्ट इंडिया कम्पनी ने कलकत्ता से सारे हिन्दुस्तान पर कब्जा किया था उसी तरह से कलकत्ता से पैदा हो कर सारे हिन्दुस्तान के भग्न हृदय पर कब्जा करना चाहता है। कलकत्ता बीभत्स हो गया है। कलकत्ता क्रिमिनल हो गया है। कलकत्ता की सड़के टूटी फूटी पड़ी हैं। कलकत्ता के कार-पोरेशन को लोग चोरपोरेशन कहते हैं क्योंकि वहां पर जो भी मेम्बर बैठे हैं वे हर सड़क के टेक में, हर महान के पार्किंग में और हर महान के नक्शे में घूम लेते हैं। वह कारपोरेशन कांग्रेस के कब्जे में है, लेकिन वामपन्थी पार्टियों का वहां एक मिलाजुल पड़पथ है। कम्युनिस्ट और कांग्रेसी दोनों मिल कर घूस खाते हैं। यह दृश्य देखना हो तो आप कलकत्ता चले जाइये। वहां एक तरफ युनाइटेड फ्रंट है और दूसरी तरफ अनुसूचितों की कांग्रेस पार्टी है। उसका नतीजा देखना हो तो कलकत्ते का निरीक्षण कीजिये। कलकत्ता हिन्दुस्तान की औद्योगिक राजधानी है, जूट उद्योग का बड़ा शहर है, आसाम और बंगाल के चाय बागान कलकत्ता से नियंत्रित होते हैं। कलकत्ता में सारे हिन्दुस्तान का पैसा खिंच कर के जाता है। उत्तर प्रदेश के चीनी मिलों को, बिहार के चीनी

[श्री बालकृष्ण गुप्त]

मिलों का, उड़ीसा के खनिज पदार्थों का और बिहार के कोयले का सारा पैसा खिंच कर के कलकत्ता जाता है। वहाँ एक तरफ पन्द्रह मंजिली, दस मंजिली और बीस मंजिली इमारतें खड़ी हैं और दूसरी तरफ गन्दों बस्तियों के अंवार लगे हुये हैं जहाँ टट्टियाँ नहीं हैं, पीने के पानी के नल नहीं हैं। गर्मियों के दिनों में कलकत्ते का पानी समुद्र में आये हुये ज्वारभाटा के साथ मिल कर ऐसा खारी हो जाता है जैसा कि राजस्थान के बीकानेर का भी नहीं है। कलकत्ता में हैजा लोगों को रोजाना होता रहता है। कलकत्ता के अस्पताल कमाईखाने हैं और युनिवर्सिटियाँ दंगा फसाद की जगहें हो गई हैं।

कलकत्ता को अगर हमने ऐसे ही विसरा दिया, ऐसे ही छोड़ दिया तो कलकत्ता अन्त में सारे भारत को खा जायेगा। कलकत्ता अंग्रेजों की राजधानी था और अब भी अंग्रेज वहाँ मौजूद हैं। अब भी कलकत्ता की जूट मिल असोसिएशन, टी असोसिएशन, कोल असोसिएशन, शुगर असोसिएशन बड़ी ताकतवर हैं और कांग्रेस के साथ उनका अटूट गठबन्धन बना हुआ है। इस चुनाव में वे जी जान से कोशिश कर रहे हैं कि कांग्रेस जीत जाय तो हमारा कल्याण हो, नहीं तो लेफ्टिस्ट कम्युनिस्टों के घेराव से तंग आ कर वे इतने चस्त हो गये हैं कि वे अपनी पूँजों और कारखाने दूसरे प्रांतों में ट्रांसफर करने की सोच रहे हैं।

श्री चित्त बासु (पश्चिमी बंगाल) : उसमें आपकी पार्टी भी सम्मिलित है।

श्री बालकृष्ण गुप्त : हमारी पार्टी सम्मिलित है लेकिन जो सच बात होगी वह हम कहेंगे। यह कलकत्ता ऐसी जगह बन गई है कि अगर वहाँ कांग्रेसी जीत भी गये तो उस कांग्रेसी कीड़े से कम्युनिस्ट कीड़ा पैदा होगा क्योंकि कलकत्ता की कांग्रेस भी इतनी बिगड़ चुकी है कि वह आज अपना सुधार नहीं कर सकती

है और न कलकत्ता शहर का सुधार कर सकती है। उसी का नतीजा यह निकल रहा है कि लेफ्ट कम्युनिस्ट कीड़े जगह जगह बढ़े भयंकर साँप और बिच्छू के रूप में कलकत्ता में प्रदर्शन कर रहे हैं। आप कलकत्ता को भुलायेंगे तो कलकत्ता सारे भारत को डम लेगा। वह काले नाग के रूप में, काली माता के काले नाग के रूप में नाच रहा है।

कलकत्ता की 80 लाख आबादी है। वह पर बस में बैठने को जगह नहीं मिलती है। दोपहर और सुबह को टैक्सियाँ नहीं मिलती हैं। यातायात की बुरी हालत है, सड़कें टूटी पड़ी हैं, पीने का पानी मिलता नहीं है, तीन तीन, चार चार लाख आदमी फुटपाथ पर मोते हैं। जब कभी यूरोप और अमरीका के लोग आते हैं और मैं उनको कलकत्ता शहर दिखलाने के लिये ले जाता हूँ तो वे कहते हैं कि यहाँ के लोग जिन्दा कैसे हैं, वे मर क्यों नहीं जाते।

एक और बड़े शर्म की बात है। एक दफा लेबनान के श्री कमाल जुमलात कलकत्ता आये थे। वे मेरे दोस्त हैं। वे वहाँ के मिनिस्टर भी थे। वे ज़रा पर्यटन में विश्वास करते हैं। वे रामकृष्ण के दक्षिणेश्वर और विवकानन्द के बलूर मन्दिर को भी देखने गये थे। लेकिन वे बोले कि मैं हारम यानी हाथ से रक्खा चलाने वाले आदमी आज के समय संसार में सिर्फ कलकत्ता में बचे हैं। ये रक्खा चलाने वाले तीस चालीस हजार जवान मेरे प्रांत बिहार के हैं और वे सौ पचास रुपये का भनी आर्डर अपनी जवानी को विदा कर के अगर सीवान और छपरा में भेजते हैं तो बंगाल के अखबारों में लम्बे लम्बे सम्पादकीय निकल जाते हैं कि बंगाल का शोषण हो रहा है, बंगाल का रुपया बाहर जा रहा है। लेकिन कितनी बड़ी विडम्बना है कि कलकत्ते में मजदूर भी गैर-बंगाली है और पूँजीपति भी गैर-बंगाली है; बंगाली सिर्फ बाबू है, बैरिस्टर है, डाक्टर है, इंजीनियर है ...

श्री लोकनाथ मिश्र : डिमांडेटर भी है।

भी बालकृष्ण गुप्त : डिमॉन्स्ट्रेटर भी है, प्राटेस्टेटर है, बसों और ट्रामों को जलाने वाला है और इधर-उधर हल्ला-गुल्ला मचाने वाला भी है, लेकिन न वह बड़ा पूंजीपति है, न वह मजदूर है। कलकत्ते में 4 लाख उड़िया हैं वहाँ कटक और सम्भलपुर सबको मिला दो उससे ज्यादा उड़िया हैं, पटना से ज्यादा बिहारी हैं और लखनऊ से ज्यादा उत्तर प्रदेश के लोग हैं और जयपुर से ज्यादा राजस्थानी हैं, काठमंडू से ज्यादा नेपाली हैं। कलकत्ता एक विचित्र जगह है। यह दुनिया में एक आदर्श नगर बन सकता था लेकिन हम हिन्दुस्तानियों और खासकर बंगाल के भाइयों ने कलकत्ते को हर तरह से भुलाया है। कारपोरेशन का 80 फीसदी खपया सिर्फ नौकरी में ही चला जाता है, 20 फीसदी से सड़क बगैरह बनवाए, यह हाल है। मिडिल क्लास बंगाली नौकरी के लिए इतना व्यस्त है, इतना बेकार है कि हर जगह उसको घुमेड़ना पड़ता है चाहे वह काम करे या न करे। कलकत्ता पोर्ट ट्रस्ट के चेयरमैन जब मेरे दोस्त रणजीत गुप्ता, आई०सी०एस० थे तो उन्होंने यह कहा कि मैंने 5 मद्रासियों को लगा दिया और उन्होंने घंटे भर में जो काम किया वह बंगाली लोग दस दिन में नहीं कर सकते थे। इसलिए कलकत्ता की क्लाइव स्ट्रीट में आज मद्रासी कलकं और स्टेनो बड़ी ताबाद में आ गए हैं क्योंकि वे 8 घंटे काम करते हैं जबकि बंगाली और मध्यमवर्गीय आदमी 8 घंटे में 4 घंटे चाय पीता है, दो घंटे पेशावर में रहता है और दो घंटे इधर-उधर की राजनीतिक गपशप करता है और शाम को लाल झंडा लेकर जलून में निकल जाता है। यह हाल कलकत्ता का है।

कलकत्ते की असली अवस्था पर किसी ने गौर नहीं किया। फोर्ड फाउन्डेशन ने एक इन्क्वायरी कमेटी बैठा रखी है, करोड़ों रुपया खर्च किया है, वह एक योजना बना रही है लेकिन कलकत्ते की उस योजना को कार्यान्वित यही बाबू लोग करेंगे और बाबू लोगों के हाथ में वह योजना किस तरह की

हो जायगी और उसका किस तरह का हाल हो जायगा, यह हमको पता नहीं है। माओ का झंडा कलकत्ते में लहरा रहा है और हम लोग कलकत्ते को भुलाए बैठ हैं। अंग्रेजों का राज भी कलकत्ते से शुरू हुआ और मुझे डर लगता है कि कहीं इस दुर्घर्ष चीन का राज भी कलकत्ते से शुरू न हो। कलकत्ता एक भयंकर नगरी के रूप में है। कलकत्ते में आज बम्बई से ज्यादा खपया है। कोई कहे कि कलकत्ता दारिद्र्य है तो मैं कहूंगा कि वह नहीं है। कलकत्ते में जितने सबब हैं उतने दिल्ली में भी नहीं हैं, कलकत्ते में जितनी मोटरे और टेलीफोन हैं उतने हिन्दुस्तान के किसी शहर में नहीं हैं, कलकत्ते की सड़कों पर जो भीड़ है वह शायद दुनिया के किसी नगर में नहीं है। कलकत्ते में एक एकड़ में जितने आदमी बसे हुए हैं वह भी एक विचित्र चीज है, लन्दन से दस गुने, बर्लिन से चार गुने और सब जगह से ज्यादा आदमी वहाँ मौजूद है। आदमी वहाँ सस्ता है और हर चीज महंगी है। आदमी की कोई कीमत नहीं है और बेचारा बिहारी, उत्तर प्रदेशीय मजदूर वहाँ अपना दम तोड़ता रहता है और फुटपाथ पर सोता है और किसी गंदी कोठरी में पाखाना, पेशाब करने के लिये जमादार को एक आना-दो आना देता है। कलकत्ते में मैंने उड़िया लोगों को 25 आदमियों को एक कमरे में—वह कमरा क्या है एक गीशाला है, खटाल है—रहते देखा है एक-एक आदमी पांच-पांच रुपए महीने किराए का देता है। कलकत्ते में असंख्य खाने की जगहें हैं, होटल हैं, सिनेमा हैं, बड़े बड़े भवन हैं, बड़े बड़े करोड़पति हैं, बिड़ला जी भी कलकत्ते के हैं, और लोग भी, सर बीरेन मुखर्जी जिनका नाम यहां आता है, कलकत्ते की केम्प स्ट्रीट पर अपने विशाल भवन में रह रहे हैं, लेकिन सब कलकत्ता ऐसा नहीं है। आज कलकत्ते को सम्भालने वाला कोई नहीं, कलकत्ते की तरफ देखने वाला कोई नहीं, कलकत्ता में ओ भयंकर रोग जनता में व्यप्त हो गया है उसका इलाज करने वाला

[श्री बालकृष्ण गुप्त]

भारत में कोई नहीं। मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि हमारे हिन्दुस्तान की वह हालत हो गई है जो ईस्ट इंडिया कम्पनी के आने से पहले मुगल साम्राज्य के पतन के वक्त हो गई थी। कलकत्ता गिर रहा है। कलकत्ते में एक पुल है। कलकत्ते जैसे बड़े नगर में 20 पुल होने चाहिए थे, 20 रास्ते होने चाहिए थे। हम दिल्ली की ट्रेन पकड़ने जाते हैं तो हावड़ा ब्रिज में फंस जाते हैं और ट्रेन चली जाती है और हम लोग वहीं के वहीं रह जाते हैं। कलकत्ते की तरफ कोई देखने वाला नहीं है।

बंगाली समाज में कुछ अच्छे लोग भी हैं, जिन्होंने कलकत्ते के बारे में बहुत कुछ सोचा समझा है। एक मेरे मित्र नीरेन चौधरी साहब कलकत्ते को देखकर घबड़ा उठते हैं, बारबार लिखते हैं कि यह क्या हो रहा है। कलकत्ता आज अपने को हिन्दुस्तान से कटा हुआ समझता है और उस कटाव की वजह से जनन और ईर्ष्या की राजनीति पैदा हुई है और इसी ने हिन्दुस्तानी माओवाद और नक्सलवाद को जन्म दिया है। इस नक्सलवाद का इलाज राष्ट्रपति के बड़े बड़े आर्डिनेन्सों और कानूनों से नहीं होगा, इसका सामाजिक इलाज, राजनीतिक इलाज और आर्थिक इलाज करना होगा। बंगाल में शिक्षित बेकार जितने हैं वे सब कलकत्ते की सड़कों पर घूमते हैं, उनके लिए न कहीं रोजी का ठिकाना है, न रोटी का ठिकाना है। उस तरफ आपको भारी ध्यान देना होगा, उनकी समस्या को हल करना होगा। मैं त्रिगुण सेन साहब से कहूंगा कि वे मोरारजी साहब से कहें और एक काम तो कम से कम करें कि जो शिक्षित कलकत्तावासी विलायत, अमरीका जाना चाहते हैं उनको पासपोर्ट तो दिला दें ताकि उनको काम मिल सके। आप यहां न उनको काम दे सकते हैं और न उनको बाहर जाने देते हैं और दूसरी तरफ ब्रेन ड्रेन की बड़ी बड़ी बातें करते हैं। बाहर जाकर तो वे ब्रेन सैक्चुररी में चले जाते हैं, यहां तो ब्रेन करप्ट हो जाता है, यहां तो

ब्रेन भयंकर विद्रोही बन कर नक्सलाइट हो जाता है। हिन्दुस्तान के लोग जो बाहर गए हैं उन्होंने हिन्दुस्तान का नाम रोशन किया है। वे हमेशा हिन्दुस्तानी बने रहते हैं। उन लोगों से मिला हूँ। कलकत्ते की समस्या का पूर्ण समाधान पासपोर्ट देने से नहीं होगा लेकिन वह एक रास्ता है। हजारों शिक्षित बंगाली विद्यार्थी जिनकी प्रतिभा हिन्दुस्तान के किसी विद्यार्थी से कम नहीं है, आज सड़कों पर घूम रहे हैं, वे काम के लिए लालायित हैं। हिन्दुस्तान की चतुर्थ पंचवर्षीय योजना फेल हो गई है और वह काम नहीं दे सकती।

एक माननीय सदस्य : प्लान होलीडे है।

श्री बालकृष्ण गुप्त : यह प्लान होलीडे कलकत्ते पर ही लागू हो गया है और लाखों की तदाद में लोग बेकार घूम रहे हैं। कलकत्ता शहर में जितनी भूख, जितना नंगापन, जितनी गृह-विहीनता है उतनी शायद ही दुनिया के किसी नगर में हो। मैं कहूंगा गवर्नमेंट से कि कलकत्ते के सम्बन्ध में एक स्पेशल कमीशन बिठाए, वहां के बेकारों को काम दे, कलकत्ते की सड़कों को बनवाए, कलकत्ते के लिए पानी का प्रबन्ध करे। कलकत्ता सबसे महंगा नगर है। कलकत्ता में खाद्य पदार्थों और दूसरी चीजों के दाम दूसरे प्रान्तों से मवाए, इयोडे, दुगने हमेशा बने रहते हैं।

श्री ओम् मेहता (जम्मू और कश्मीर) : मंहगाई का इन्फ्लेक्शन से कोई ताल्लुक नहीं है।

श्री बालकृष्ण गुप्त : मंहगाई आपने ही पैदा की है, गवर्नमेंट से ताल्लुक कैसे नहीं है? आपने 32 अरब कितने लाख के नोट छापे हैं और इसी मुद्रास्फीति से मंहगाई पैदा हुई है। यह सरकार ने जो इतनी मुद्रास्फीति की है उससे चीजों के दाम बढ़े हैं। चीजों के दाम ऊंचे हैं, बेकार बेचारा क्या करे, उसके पास पैसा नहीं है, क्या खाय, कहा जाय। यह सब भयंकर चीज हो गई है। कलकत्ता शहर की तरफ सारे राष्ट्र को और खास कर दिल्ली को ध्यान देना पड़ेगा। सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट

की जो इमारतें वहाँ पर हैं उनका टैक्स सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट कारपोरेशन को नहीं देती है, इस तरह की खबर कलकत्ते के अखबारों में मने बार-बार पढ़ी है। कलकत्ते को इस तरह से भूखा मार कर, इस तरह से उसको रुपया न देकर आप उसके रोग को और भी बढ़ाते जा रहे हैं और उससे सिवाय नक्सलवाद के कुछ नहीं निकलेगा।

SHRI M. M. DHARIA (Maharashtra) :

Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I agree with the description given of the Calcutta city and its frightful conditions but I do not agree with the approach adopted by the Members here not because on the technical ground that the cities are the problem of the State Government and this therefore I am objecting to it. This is not correct. My submission is in this country of ours what is going to be our approach towards the urban and rural areas? Is it not a fact that in cities like Calcutta there are nearly 20 lakh of people who are slum dwellers and residing in slum areas? Is it not a fact that in cities like Bombay there are nearly 15 lakhs of people who are residing in slum areas? Even in this city of Delhi I read the other day there are 6 lakh of people who live on the slums. If we look at the various cities in the country we find that wherever industrial development has taken place these problems of slums, houses, schools, electricity, water, have all grown in ample magnitude and in these circumstances the only way out is first to stop this influx of the people from the rural areas to the urban areas. Why do they go to the urban areas? They go for employment; they go for having a modern life, for having better facilities, for good education, for radios, for cinemas, for other cultural activities. So if this modern life could be taken to the rural areas this influx of the people could be immediately stopped. Can we create these conditions in the rural areas? Can we create enough employment potential in the rural areas? We create employment potential by taking more and more industries to the rural areas. From my experience I can say that in spite of the fact that the Government has decided not to allow the cities to throw further various industrial licences for bigger and bigger factories were given during the last ten years in

cities like Bombay and Calcutta. More than fifty per cent of the industries have been recently established during the last ten years and thereby we have added to the problems of the cities. I know that the problems of Calcutta are much more serious because of the problem of the refugees. Lakhs of people came to Calcutta and besides that the communist movement, particularly the left communist movement in Calcutta has made the problems of that city worse still. If at all anybody is to be blamed it is those who are not having their faith in democracy and who have led the people to take the law in their own hands. They are responsible for the present plight of Calcutta. Let us not forget that but anyway without going into this political aspect may I request the hon. Minister to please have a survey conducted of such cities where the population is above ten lakhs? Let this not be only the problem of Calcutta; it, a problem of the whole country. How far are we going to allow this growth of free cities? We should immediately have a survey of such cities where the population is more than 10 lakhs and the Government should also decide what should be the upper limit, to what extent the cities should be allowed to grow. It will all depend on the location, on other factors like supply of water, electricity and all that but I would like to appeal to this Government that in this country no city should be allowed to expand beyond a population of 20 lakhs. The Parliamentary constituencies should be enough for one city. And the Government should take a firm decision in consultation with the State Governments that all further development will be necessarily diverted to rural areas. Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, if we want to create those conditions in the rural areas I am aware that several facilities shall have to be provided. Rural electrification shall have to be taken on hand. Water, roads, transport, other communications, dispensaries, educational institutions all these things which are required for a modern life shall have to be taken to the rural areas. Thereby we can give a new lift to the rural areas and thereby we can solve the problems of the urban cities to grow like anything. Today the

[Shri M. M. Dharia]

the people who live in these cities is such that they are worse than slaves. When I look at the pavement dwellers in the city of Bombay, I find ten lakhs of people have no houses. They just sleep on the footpaths; they go here and there for their bath and many times they do not take bath for seven or eight days. This is the plight of those people. They are for employment because in the rural areas they can get no employment. So this problem is not only a political problem—in Calcutta it is a political problem—but it is also an economic problem, it is a social problem and if it has to be solved it has to be solved at the economic level, at the social level. From this point of view I make a demand today for a Survey Commission for the urban areas; I make a demand today that the Government should take a firm decision not to allow any city to grow beyond a population of 20 lakhs and I also demand that the Government should take up the other issues of these areas. Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I had occasion to visit the slum areas in the country including those in Delhi. I have visited all the cities in the country having a population of more than five lakhs of people and I feel that the plight of those people who live in the slum areas is the worst in the country. I entirely agree with the decisions taken by the conference of the Ministers of Housing, Urban Development and Town Planning in Madras from 8th to 10th November 1967. I feel that the decisions that they have taken are the correct decisions and the Central Government should immediately take up those decisions. The two decisions are increase in the subsidy from 50 to 62 A per cent. The scheme is that the Central Government should give a subsidy of 50 per cent, the State Governments should give 12* per cent and 37i per cent should be in the form of loans from the Central Government. If this loan is made available to the local authorities it will be possible for them to solve these problems but that also is not enough. The lands where these slums are at present existing shall have to be taken over. Many times it so happens that in the name of beautifying the city we go ahead with our own schemes and these people are sent 10 to 12 miles away from the city. Let us not forget that these people are having their employment in the city. You not only throw them out of the cities but you

also snatch away the bread from their mouth. How can we forget that? So my submission to the Government is whenever you want to have such operations you should see that these people are properly rehabilitated and in their case it is not only rehabilitation in the matter of housing but also rehabilitation so far as their employment is concerned. Unfortunately nobody seems to think about this aspect. I recently visited Nangbi and other areas in Delhi. These people have been moved more than ten miles away from the city. They cannot afford to come and go by bus because they hardly earn one to one and a half rupees. How are they supposed to come for their employment? And how can we forget that the majority of the people who live in these slum areas are people belonging to Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes or backward classes? And what kind of life they live? There is no water, no electricity, no means for education. There is dirt, squalor and disease and all possible kinds of immoral activities take place in those areas. Are we not responsible for it? Today I saw in Hastings Road some building being pulled down. When I got down from the taxi I visited that building. I have no doubt in my mind—I am not engineer but my commonsense is quite perfect I believe—that that building could exist for 20 to 25 years more. This Government can afford to pull down such buildings which could e for 20 to 25 years more but this Government is not prepared to have some accommodation for those who live in those slum areas in those conditions. What is the policy of this Government? It is in this context—and fortunately the hon. Minister is here when you were enough to accommodate me—T had requested him personally that I would like to express my views in his presence. May I request the hon. Minister to treat this problem as a national problem? The problem of Calcutta is cer-tainly a national problem. Separate consideration shall have to be given. I may add Bombay too because I know Bombay very well. There are fifteen to twenty lakhs of people who are iust in hutments. I know their plight. The city of Bombay and city of Calcutta are places of pride in this country. They should be given national importance. I am not coming to the way of Mr. Chitta Basu. I would appeal to the Minister to see that the problem of the urban areas is a national problem and from that point of view a new set-up

is required. The set-up is the formation of an agro-industrial society, forming an agro-industrial structure in the rural areas. In this context, may I request the hon. Minister not just to discard this problem, but assure this House by saying today: "Yes, we will take up this matter and see that the imbalance in the growth of the country is prevented and that the Government will look into the matter immediately."?

Thank you very much.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH, FAMILY PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SATYA NARAYAN SINHA) : Mr. Vice-Chairman, I would like to make the position of the Government vis-a-vis this Resolution regarding the development of Calcutta clear. It has been suggested in the Resolution that the development of Calcutta should be taken up immediately as a national problem. The development of Calcutta has already been taken up and for this purpose the State Government have been taking necessary steps. The Central Government have also been providing funds for various development programmes of Calcutta. Calcutta is a metropolitan city like some other metropolitan cities in the country. The development of such cities is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments concerned, and to some extent, that of the Central Government also I agree with my hon. friend, who has just spoken before me.

Calcutta is no doubt the biggest city in the country and the Central Government are not only aware of the problems facing Calcutta, but they have also been providing substantial financial and other assistance to the State Government for the purpose of its development. A special pool provision of Rs. 20 crores (on 50:50 basis of sharing between the Central Government and the Government of West Bengal) was made during the Third Five Year Plan for the development of the Calcutta metropolitan district. The Calcutta Metropolitan Planning Organisation was set up by the West Bengal Government in June, 1961. It was charged with the task of preparing a comprehensive development plan for the Calcutta metropolitan area, containing programmes and policies for the development of the area, with a view to securing the health, safety, convenience and welfare of the inhabitants of the area. The entire organisational 6—61 R. S./68

expenses of this organisation are met by cent per cent grant assistance from the Centre. The organisation has published the Basic Development Plan for the Calcutta metropolitan district in January, 1967. The Plan contains recommendations for the development and improvement of the district over a period of twenty years (1966-86) and an immediate action programme for five years (1966-71).

The Calcutta Metropolitan Organisation has also prepared the Master Plan for water supply and sewerage and drainage in Calcutta metropolitan district, the traffic and transportation plan for the Calcutta metropolitan district, the Howrah Development Plan and other related programmes and project proposals. These proposals for the Fourth Five Year Plan have been formulated by the State Government on the basis of these plans. The Calcutta Metropolitan Planning Organisation had proposed an amount of Rs. 3,756 lakhs for their water supply and sewerage and drainage schemes during the Fourth Plan period; and the entire amount was agreed to and recommended by the Working Group of the Ministry of Health, Family Planning and Urban Development. For slum improvement and urban development, the Calcutta Metropolitan Planning Organisation had proposed an allocation of Rs. 638.85 lakhs for the Fourth Plan period. Against this, the Working Group have recommended an allocation of Rs. 800 lakhs for the slum clearance scheme in the Calcutta metropolitan area.

The State Government have reported that, from the beginning of the Third Plan to the end of the current financial year, a total outlay of Rs. 55.24 crores (including the provision from the special pool of Rs. 20 crores) would have been made on various programmes such as urban renewal schemes, acquisition and development of land, housing schemes, construction of bridges and transport. During a recent meeting between the Prime Minister and the Governor of West Bengal, it was also decided that the Government of India would provide an additional sum of Rs. 2.3 crores during the current year for specific schemes of development in the Calcutta Metropolitan area. This has not been given either to Bombay or Madras or even to Delhi. This shows that we are not at all indifferent to what is happening in Calcutta. We are to some extent partial to Calcutta.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : Partial ?

SHRI SATYA NARAIN SINHA: I said we have been partial to Calcutta. This amount we have given to metropolitan Calcutta and not to other cities. As my hon. friend, Mr. Dharia, says, the problems of Bombay are as acute, as bad or as good as in Calcutta.

SHRI SUNDAR SINGH BHANDARI (Rajasthan): Why this special consideration ? What for ?

SHRI SATYA NARAIN SINHA: Because it is the biggest metropolitan city.

SHRI SUNDAR SINGH BHANDARI : Only that?

SHRI SATYA NARAYAN SINHA : There are many others. On account of refugees also, their problem has been made more acute. We all appreciate it.

It will thus be seen that the Government of India are fully alive to the importance of the city of Calcutta and for the development thereof adequate attention is being paid and will be paid by the State Government as well as the Centre. I would like to say that there is no lack of sympathy or lack of will to help Calcutta and metropolitan city like Bombay and other cities. The lack of funds stands in our way. We have to cut our coat according to the cloth.

Some points have been raised by my hon. friend, Mr. Dharia, I think they are absolutely irrelevant to this Resolution, but they are quite thought-provoking points. If we want to solve this problem in the larger context, then the Government must examine his suggestions.

May I make one request, with your permission. In the light of the statement which I have made, I request the hon. Mover to withdraw his Resolution.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA (Rajasthan) : Mr. Vice-Chairman, we have been hearing a graphic description of conditions in the city of Calcutta. Calcutta is a vast sprawling city. Its problems are of a varied and vital nature. Its problems are certainly so vast that a special attitude has to be taken to the city of Calcutta and its problems. The

situation of the city, as was just mentioned by our friend, Shri Bhargava, has something to do with some of its problems. I think the British were in too much of a hurry and they just settled down on this swampy marsh in haste to exploit the rich hinterland. The whole thing has remained as it is and a lot of these troubles can be due to the situation as it exists there. If we go round the streets of Calcutta, it is a very sad sight. Sometimes we see the old and stately mansions made in foreign style, the British mansions, rotting like vegetables. The whole thing sometimes gives such an appearance, I should say in architectural phraseology, Neo-Grecian structures rotting with all green and fluffy mould. It gives one such a sad feeling. Some of these things that stood for the city are crumbling around us and something very drastic has to be done to resurrect the whole thing. The city has a population of more than seven million in twenty years' time it will grow to 12 million. One can imagine the magnitude of the problem as it would face us if nothing is done to stem the rot right now. Calcutta has been and is a great city. It is in a way the most cosmopolitan city in the whole country. It has an intellectual climate which is very vigorous and vibrant. It has been in the vanguard of all movements for all progressive thoughts and ideas. There was a saying that what Bengal and Calcutta think today India will think tomorrow. So, it has a tradition which has to be preserved.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA: Excuse me. If the present tradition of Calcutta is to be preserved, then democracy in the country will go to dogs.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: I wish Mr. Dharia had been a little patient. I am saying that there is a lot in the tradition of Calcutta which needs preservation. It is a city with vital intellectual life. It has a vigorous theatre movement. All the poets and painters are found there. If all that is lost, something very vital to the concept of a modern nation would be lost.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA : My reference is to the Naxalite activities and call that.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: I will come to that. This city in a way, as I said, has a split personality. As a matter of fact it has always had split

personality. In the 18th century it used to be said : there is a Black City of Calcutta and there is a White City of Calcutta. In a way it is true even now because on the one side they have utter poverty and squalor, and on the other side they have the most posh hotels, clubs, horse-racing, polo, and all the accoutrements of a modern society, and plenty of night clubs also. There is no prohibition there. This is a thing which" has to be seen, and these two types of life that exist there are something you have to reconcile with and some final solution has to be found so that this problem could be solved. I will now recount some of the problems. Drinking water is a problem. Transport is a problem. Housing is a problem. The whole thing has been going on in such a way that something needs to be done. That is why I agree with the mover of this motion that it is a national problem so much so that it is sometimes said, "Can India survive Calcutta?" Calcutta is such a vast problem that probably the whole country would be affected in a very serious way if something is not done about the city. So, I agree with my hon. friend, 'Shri Chitta Basu, when he says that it is a national problem and should be tackled in a special way.

I also agree with my hon. friend when he says that Calcutta is an embodiment of national integration. There are about 25 per cent of people speaking Hindi. There are people from all States and, as I said, there are more Rajasthanis in Calcutta than in the capital of Rajasthan, Jaipur. All this shows that it is really of a cosmopolitan and national character which has to be preserved. Therefore, this is really a special problem. But now we have to save this city. ' But who can save this? The first" thing that has to be said in this context is that only the people of Calcutta can save that. By that what I mean is that the city and its inhabitants must gird themselves up to the problems facing them. They must not wait for the Centre to come and intervene. For example, it is a city with the highest land values and lowest property tax in India. This means that the people of Calcutta and its representatives have never been serious enough to solve their problems. They have to increase the taxes. Particularly in such a big city where the property values are skyrocketing there is no reason why the tax could not be increased.

Here is the answer to what Mr. Dha-ria has said, that productivity has to increase if the city has to lift itself from all the mire into which it has fallen. That can only be done by a proper atmosphere of industrial production and of industrial peace. Out of 10 million man-days lost last year in the whole of India as a result of labour disputes, 6 million man-days were lost in Calcutta alone. If they have more share of poverty than of prosperity, it is because they have contributed more than their share of industrial disputes. Therefore, all these things have to start right from the people of Calcutta themselves and the State Government of West Bengal and the Central Government would, i think, surely come to their aid and would also help them in a serious way.

In this connection I would like to refer in the wider context to the lem of urban planning in India as a whole. Our planners, I am sorry to say, have neglected the problem of urban areas. In the Third Plan a mere Rs. 3 crores was provided for the whole country so far as urban development and planning was concerned. So, my first request to the Government is that the Government of India ni evolve a suitable policy for regional and urban development so that not oi Calcutta but all other cities which are in about the same position are also ma to benefit and the situation improves. I would like to stress on this because this is a basic thing and if we cannot plan for wider regional and urban development, mere tinkering with the problem in Calcutta or Boml just would not do. Economic development accelerates urbanisation and this raises a variety of problems, namely, problems of land use, location of industries, laying out of transport, communication and power facilities, provision of housing, water supply, sanitation and other social services, etc. becomes necessary that all these activities should be harmonised—industrial and agricultural, commercial and residential, nnd cultural and social. The harmonising of all these activities would result in a coherent plan of regional and urban development which is the only way of solving this problem in a real way. So, my appeal to the Government is that they should take the problem of urbanisation in the country as a whole in a serious way. I would give some figures. It is expected that urbanization would grow in India in the coming

[Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha] years. It is estimated that about 23 per cent of the population most probably might live in cities by 1981 as against 18 per cent in 1961. What will this mean in terms of population? We shall be adding 80 million to the urban population in the next two decades. Is the Government prepared for such an increase in urban population? What are its plans to meet this challenge? What are its schemes? I would draw the Government's special attention that they would need vast power in the legislative field to effect all these improvements, and they must be prepared for this and come before the House for any changes that they want in their legal powers so that the whole thing could be done in a proper way.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY
(Andhra Pradesh): They are disturbing. I am not able to listen to the hon. Member.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: When a lady Member complains, it has to be taken seriously. I was mentioning about the legislation and land policy of the Government as they should evolve if they are to meet the challenges of urbanisation in our country. The basic requirement for the implementation of regional development programme is comprehensive legislation for town and country planning. Two types of power they would need for this. One is to reserve certain areas for public purposes; secondly, the power to acquire land. This is very important. I would make a suggestion straightway and would very strongly urge upon the Government that they should freeze and take over all land that is lying in the urban area. All transactions on these lands that are vacant should not be effected without Government permission, and if the Government need any powers, I think this House would go to the extent of even amending the Constitution, because this is a very important thing. During the last few years the land prices have skyrocketed particularly in the periphery of cities. There has been tremendous speculation in land values. But the greatest of black money in my opinion is made by speculative transactions in urban lands. No taxes are paid. Stamp duties are evaded. Every evasion, every black practice, so far as money is concerned, arises from the land transactions. The Government has I

to have a very clear-cut policy to prevent such transactions and to plug the loopholes. They have to come out with a comprehensive legislation armed with powers so that they could not only stop these malpractices but make for suitable development in the future. As I said, we might even have to amend the Constitution to arm the Government with those powers. If that needs to be done, then this House will certainly do so.

So, I will end by saying what I started with that Calcutta is a national problem and like all national problems only by a concerted effort of all concerned can this be solved, and the first and the foremost people concerned are of course those living in the City of Calcutta, the Government of West Bengal and the Government of India. It is only through the concerted efforts of these three that this great problem could be solved. I am sure that not only the sympathy but also the active support of everybody will be available for solving the problems of Calcutta so that whatever good is possible is done to it. There is plenty of good in the life of Calcutta even now which we have to preserve. It has certain traditions of progressive thought and action which we have to welcome. And if the problems of this City are allowed to go on as they have been all these years, I think there would be much more of the manifestations which we have seen.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Rajasthanis.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: He mentioned about the Rajasthanis. I will again say that it is a problem of national integration. Many of the Rajasthanis who are living have a sort of feeling that there is discrimination against them. I can assure the hon. Member that all Rajasthanis are not millionaires. As I said earlier, there are more Rajasthanis in Calcutta than in Jaipur and most of them all low-paid, middle-class people, intellectuals and so on, and the type of atmosphere that is sought to be created makes it impossible for them to co-operate. And we assure that whatever progressive aspirations the people of West Bengal and Calcutta have, most of the Rajasthanis there want to share them along

with them and given the proper treatment, they will go along with them in their fight . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Excepting the Birlas.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: That is exactly the trouble with our friends there. All Rajasthanis are not Birlas. (*Interruptions*) There are certain tycoons who are found in any community. I would like to take this occasion to plead with my friends: If they want to treat this as a national problem, they should open their arms and hearts to them . . .

SHRJ BHUPESH GUPTA: I like them.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: . . . and treat them as brothers and cooperate with them in every possible way.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: My fight is only with the Birlas. Whether the Birlas are Bengalees or Rajasthanis makes little difference to me. I want the Birlas to be out of the picture whether they belong to Bengali or Rajas-thani linguistic group or some other linguistic group.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Why don't you mention some Bengalee capitalists?

SHRI R. P. KHAITAN (Bihar): What about Mr. Jankinath Roy?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: As far as you are concerned, Mr. Khaitan, you belong to the sub-lieutenant category of the Birlas.

Now, first of all, I am very glad; indeed, I am grateful to my friend, Mr. Chitta Basu, for having sponsored this Resolution because this subject also needs discussion in Parliament. Calcutta undoubtedly is a city which is situated in West Bengal and happens to be the capital of that State. But truly it is a national city, truly it is an Indian national city. And Mr. Chitta Basu has rightly pointed out that it most intimately and closely belongs to the nation as a whole. This, Mr. Vice-Chairman, is not a mere figure of speech. If you look at the economy of the country as a whole, if you look at the cultural heritage of the country as a whole, the modern culture, if you

see the other activities above all, political activities, both before and after independence, you would find that Calcutta has always played a significant role in making India what is it today, in presenting our cultural inheritance and in combining the past with the future, in blending the achievements and creations of the past with the prospects of future and the creations of today, Calcutta "has played an important part. That is why, we would like to call Calcutta a truly national Indian city. And if you look at the physical lay-out of Calcutta, the physical aspect of Calcutta, you will find that this city represents the confluence of many linguistic groups, many cultures, many traditions, many languages and many ways of living within the broad framework of our Indian life. Therefore, there we see a true picture of national integration, a vivid picture of national integration, in Calcutta. Therefore I say that it is, again, a national Indian city.

Now, there was a time when everybody was very proud of the City of Calcutta before independence. The main reason was that Calcutta City was in the forefront of the freedom struggle. In that city, some of the finest chapters of India's revolutionary upsurge against the British rule or mass actions against the British were enacted. We were very proud of it. It is in the City of Calcutta that many brave acts of heroism in the freedom struggle were enacted to the admiration of the whole country. I am not going into that. Out of that City came many men of eminence, men of national and international repute. It has been mentioned by my friend, Mr. Chitta Basu. After independence too Calcutta has played a very important part. But then Calcutta has not been viewed exactly in the same way as it used to be viewed before independence. Why? It is because the moment the Congress Party started deviating from the declared principles and pledges of independence and freedom, Calcutta began to register its protest and revolt against its deviation from the high ideals of our freedom struggle, and it is not accidental that Calcutta is the city, the biggest city in India, where at the first General Elections the Congress suffered very severe defeat. It was not accidental because the people of Calcutta thought that the Congress was going away from its ideals, leaving them, departing from them, and that it should be pulled

[Shri Bhupesh Gupta]

down and that was why the revolt took place in the form of elections in terms of our Constitution. In the recent period, after independence, Calcutta has been known for its unique and brave mass struggle, historic mass action, in which millions had taken part, students, middle-class people, workmen and so on. And some of the great demonstrations had taken place in the post-independence era in Calcutta. There was a time when the late Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, said that Calcutta was a city of processions. At that time many processions came out and used to come out almost every day, in demanding justice from the Congress rule or ventilating the grievances of the people. And happily, the procession that started in those days, well, went on till they captured the Writers Building in the 1967 elections. The city of processions became the city of the processionists who had begun to take over the destiny of the State . . .

SHRI B. T. KEMPARAJ (Mysore): Sir, I rise on a point of order. Our friend is trying to bring in the political interest into the Resolution, which is not relevant. Therefore, so much of the portion that is pertaining to elections must be ordered to be expunged because he cannot take this opportunity to speak about elections and party.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Evidently, my friend should be helped by the Secretariat to read the Resolution carefully. The Resolution says:—

"This House is of opinion that in view of the national, political, cultural and economic importance of the city of Calcutta . . ."

I am presently describing the political importance of Calcutta. You should read the Resolution carefully 4 P.M. before you interrupt. It is an advice from aa. old colleague. Now what happens? Calcutta is a city of poverty. On the one hand, there are a few big people at the top—if you take them into account—giving it the name of a city of wealth and on the other, there is abysmal poverty. If you go to the Chowringhee or Alipore or certain other chosen areas of Calcutta you will find modern habitations with all the civic amenities offered to them, with huge palatial buildings. I may inform you, Sir, that some time back Mr.

Shanti Prasad Jain constructed his private residential house in Alipore at a cost of Rs. 60 lakhs. Italian marbles were brought in and other gadgets for the building were brought in from foreign countries with the permission of the Central Government. Foreign exchange was sanctioned. This is one side of it.

The other side of Calcutta is slums. Over a million people live in appalling conditions in slum areas where there is no water and no sanitation. They are cesspools of disease and poverty, mocking at the modern social order. There live the men who create the wealth of Calcutta, or, for that matter, the wealth of Bengal. They are the producers of the wealth that we talk about. At the same time they are condemned to live a life of modern slaves in a way because all the modern amenities are simply denied to them.

Sir, some of the facts my friend, Shri Chitta Basu, gave. I can give very many other facts. Water taps, for example, do not exist in most of the areas, and in the morning you will find thousands of people queueing up and quarrelling at times amongst themselves in order to put their pitchers, before the tap.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY :
Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, a speaker like Mr. Bhupesh Gupta should not be heard by an empty House. There is no quorum to listen to him.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I agree. The quorum bell should be rung.

(Quorum bell rings)

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY :
He is making a very good speech. I want that there should be quorum.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I think some hon. Members are only interested in collecting income-tax, customs and other things in Calcutta. Your special attraction will bring them in also.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY: I do not know.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Yes, we are not meant to be attractive.

I am grateful to our esteemed friend, Shrimati Yashoda Reddy, for once

having made some people realise that if you draw dividends from Calcutta you should as well listen to Members when they speak about Calcutta.

Now, as I said, the slum areas are centres of disease. It is not possible for the people of West Bengal to set Calcutta right without proper Central assistance, Madam. I am sorry. As far as Mr. Chavan is concerned, I have never heard him addressing Shrimati Alva as nothing but "Sir". Therefore, if he can call her as "Sir", I can retaliate by calling you "Madam".

Here, Sir, under the class approach under the British the city of Calcutta was administered from the point of view of the British and their hangers-on of the British. Now also whatever little administration is there is carried on from the point of view of the very few rich, whereas the poorer sections of the people of Calcutta, whether they live in *bustees* or in congested tenements and other houses, they are completely neglected. This is the position.

I do not want to bring here many things which are already known. Therefore, I would like the Centre to offer proper assistance, financial assistance to Calcutta. It is a shame that people come from the United States of America to offer Calcutta assistance. You will be surprised when the Communists became stronger in Calcutta, they came more and more to give assistance in order to, according to them, contain communism in Calcutta. It is bunkum. The Central Government should give more and more assistance for the improvement of Calcutta; otherwise it is just not possible to do so. With local resources only little things may be done. We have got the CM.P.O. But where is the money? A sum of about a hundred crores of rupees would be required. Why should the Americans come and pretend as if they are interested in developing the city of Calcutta and not the New Delhi rulers?

Secondly, I would suggest that a circular railway should be constructed as soon as possible. Traffic and transport in Calcutta has reached the crisis point. It is just not possible without certain radical, structural changes in public transport and conveyance to alter the picture as it exists today. It is not a question of running a few more tram cars or introducing a few more buses. The Calcutta streets will not

take that load. Anyhow, we cannot put out so many buses. Therefore, in order to cover the entire area—Calcutta is expanding almost every day—it is necessary to introduce new types of transport and circular railways. We have been talking about it all these years, but nothing has come about. Now all that we got from the statement of the Ministers is, instead of circular railways, circular statements. If you make a diagram of all the statements made on the floor of the House about circular railways, you will get only a big circle that we have so far got, and that is a zero.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA: Mr. Bhu-pesh Gupta's speech also could be compared to a big circle.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Is this the result of my support to you against Mr. Morarji Desai? Therefore, circular railways should be there.

Then the housing problem is a major problem in the city of Calcutta. It is no use looking at the city and the buildings and so on. You must look at the human content of the city, the human life in the city, the cultural life of the people who inhabit that city. And there you will find only frustration, suffering, sorrow, disease, lack of educational and treatment facilities, lack of hospital facilities. All these things have surrounded the city of Calcutta from all sides. It looks as if we are a diseased city of a million misfortunes engulfing the city from all sides. And that is all because of the Congress rule. The discredited Congress regime is responsible for sucking Calcutta dry and making it bleed white, at the same time neglecting improvement and construction. The men who sat in the Writers' building and continued there for twenty years, enjoying monopoly of power, knew how to placate and abuse the big monopoly capital, the Tatas and Birlas and other interlopers, exploiters who had come from outside—the monopolist category—while neglecting the millions of other inhabitants, Bengalis and non-Bengalis who are subjected to all kinds of denials and oppression.

Therefore, that is another aspect. Housing, as I said, is a major problem. To-day you find mansions are coming up. Three-roomed flats are being let out for Rs. 1,200, when men are sleeping on the pavement, when mothers

[Shri Bhupesh Gupta]

are keeping their children under the bare sky in cold winter. When the rains come heavily down on the city and drench it, there is no accommodation or shelter for the poor people. They have to bear the brunt. Such is the situation. I say, a change has to be made there. Calcutta City is an example of degradation as far as the ruling class is concerned.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA (Gujarat) :
Address the Chair please. Are you
addressing Mr. Dharja or the Vice-
Chairman?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : You may
ask me to address the Chair, but all the time
you yourself are looking at the hon. Member.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Uttar
Pradesh) : Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, Mr.
Bhupesh Gupta should not get discouraged by
such interruptions. He can go on looking at
anywhere he likes.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I never get
discouraged in a good cause.

Therefore, Mr. Vice-Chairman, as I said, a
change has to be made. Now why is the city
like that? Land monopolists are there and we
are not taking adequate steps to break the
stranglehold of these land monopolists in Cal-
cutta. You will be surprised to know, Mr.
Vice-Chairman, that one Kattah of land in
certain localities costs Rs. 2 to Rs. 3 lakhs and
my friends like Mr. Khaitan and others are
building huge mansions to earn fat rent. Three-
roomed flats are let out at Rs. 1,200 in
Calcutta in the posh locality. I do not know
when Calcutta will be called Birlaganj ; I do
not know, because the Birlas are putting up
houses here and there in the Lake area, in
every place. Birla Planetorium, Birla Institute,
Birla show, Birla cinema house, Birla this,
Birla that., all kinds of things are coming up.
That is the position. Therefore, I say, Mr.
Vice-Chairman, that the monopoly control in
the building property should be broken. I think
the time has come to ponder as to whether we
should not put a restraint on this kind of con-
struction. Cement, iron and other resources are
wasted. And the L.I.C. is advancing. Middle-
class accommodation is a problem in Calcutta.
You do not know how they are suffering. They
cannot come and say these things always.
Therefore, once "again I say

that the Government and the local authorities,
the Corporation, should take steps in order to
bring about construction. But meanwhile they
should requisition. Law has to be made. Why
must Shanti Prasad Jain and Birla live in
palatial buildings with 60, 70 or 80 rooms
when thousand others are living on the street ?
Why can't we take over some of those things ?
We know how difficult it is even in the name
of Gandhi to take, over the Birla House here.
We know it very well. In Calcutta also it is the
same thing. Nothing is being done. Well, I
think it is possible to better organise accom-
modation and housing in Calcutta. But we
must be ready to strike at the big landlords in
Calcutta and the estate holders. They are
Bengalis and non-Bengalis, alike. As far as the
bustees are concerned, Pandit Jawaharlal
Nehru said that Baustees are a horror. He was
ashamed of it, and wanted that something
should be done to replace them by better
things. Where are we living now ? People who
were living in better houses, out of poverty,
are being driven to live in slums and bustees.
People who are living in fairly good
conditions are, due to rise in prices and other
factors, made to leave their places, when the
sharks make profits out of these buildings, and
live in bustees or smaller quarters. Therefore,
this is another aspect of the problem which
should be borne in mind

Finally, the problem of Calcutta is to be
viewed as a national problem. I am not saying
that from any partisan angle or from a
sectarian angle. Well, the economic lifeline of
India runs through Calcutta. If you look at the
customs, I think almost half, if not more,
comes through Calcutta. If you look at
income-tax, there also Calcutta comes.
Income-tax evasion is also there in Calcutta
due to the big monopolists and others; I must
admit that. If you take cultural life, there also
Calcutta comes. Therefore, everything, from
the capitalist society, filth and vice, is
accumulated in Calcutta. But the revolt against
the capitalist society is also to be seen in the
Calcutta streets and in the areas where the
working people live. Therefore, reorganisation
of Calcutta demands that the narrow class
approach to the city must be given up. The
civic administration must be guided in the
interest of the working people, whereas the
Central Government should render all possible
assistance to promote schemes and

projects that would literally improve Calcutta city, improve the city physically, materially, and culturally. That is how it should be viewed.

For goodness's sake, stop the Americans from coming there. Ask the Americans to go to Harlem in New York in order to improve the conditions of the people living there, rather than let them come to Calcutta with money and cash to improve the city, thereby to secure a foothold for all kinds of moral, political and economic penetration. I think India should look after Calcutta as its own city, as the dearest possession of our Indian people. As far as we are concerned, by and larger we have seen that Calcutta is an embodiment of national integration. So many languages are spoken. So many linguistic groups live there. And they live in amity and friendship, thanks to the left and democratic movement of Calcutta and West Bengal. There must be some cementing force. Which is that cementing force? Certainly not Mr. Atulya Ghosh or Mr. Ashu Ghosh. They are quarrelling among themselves. The cementing force is the left movement. The cementing force is the idea of socialism which is attracting more and more people in Calcutta. The cementing force is the loyalty to the best traditions in the freedom fight. The cementing force is the cultural heritage that we have inherited in the city from Bankim Chandra Chatterjee, Raja Rammohan Roy, Sarat Chandra, Rabindranath Tagore and others. The cementing force comes from the cultural contributions of Uday Shanker and others, men of art and literature. That is how the city has been maintained.

Yet in this very city we find to-day that these men of culture and literature are suffering. They are suffering when the monopolist classes are parading their wealth, going to the race courses to squander thousands of rupees on races and so on. Our writers and artists are starving in the streets uncared for, without being looked after by the powers that be. So to improve Calcutta means to change the outlook towards the people. Once you change the outlook towards the people, know whom you serve, know whom you should place in the centre of things in Calcutta, you will have no difficulty in solving other problems.

Finally, I again repeat the demand for greater Central assistance from the Central Government for improving the city of Calcutta. I, therefore, suggest not a Commission, but some such thing should be done. A concrete scheme should be prepared as to how Parliament can intervene and how the Central Government can help and I hope that our city will be given its due by the rest of the country and by all people all over the country because, as I said, it is an embodiment of our national life, just as it serves the larger national life by its economic, political, cultural and other activities.

Thank you.

SHRI D. L. SEN GUPTA (West Bengal) : Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, so far as the resolution is concerned, I support it with all the emphasis at my command. I would not like to support this resolution" because Calcutta is the capital of West Bengal, but I would support this because this is a burning national problem. Calcutta has become a burning national problem. Why? Why is this so? Before partition there were 50 lakh population. Now it is about 80 lakhs. If there is a census conducted now, it will be greater. But there has been no increase in the number of maternity houses, maternity hospitals. There is not sufficient increase in the number of schools and colleges or any other thing. All taken together has created a sense of frustration in the minds of the people living in Calcutta. And you all know what the frustrated people do. The frustrated people become an easy prey of agitation, because they know agitation is the only sword before them for their succour. If anybody wants normal life in the city of Calcutta, he must ponder over it how to bring normalcy in the city of Calcutta. As you know, it is a city of processions in the language of Panditji. But you do not care to see why it is a city of processions. Why is it like that? There the people are living in slums. About 80 per cent of the people are living in slums having no drinking water arrangements. Calcutta may be the biggest city in India, but it is the most unclean city in India, because the Corporation has not enough funds to clean this city. The Corporation does not have enough funds to supply drinking water to the common man. So if these people are asking for drinking water making a procession, can anybody blame

[Shri D. L. Sen Gupta]

the procession itself or the processionists? They must blame the administration as the administration must rise to the occasion.

Now, when there is rain, heavy rain, in Calcutta you will find islands. The people cannot move from one place to another in trams or buses or in taxis. This Calcutta was the second city of the then British Empire. Invariably it is the first city of India. But all the money from different parts of India is being brought to Delhi to make Delhi what it is. I do not grumble that. But you must take a political note of the consequences that automatically flow from what Calcutta is. If you want to develop Calcutta, do it. But you must do it conscientiously. Calcutta is still not lost. Calcutta can be brought back to its old traditions; that old patriotic Calcutta, that old culture of Calcutta; those old people of Calcutta were the best among the constructive geniuses in India. But why is it not there now? In every house there is a problem. The whole atmosphere is bad. There are reactionary forces. I do not name any party. I have no fancy to call that party or this party. I have no such allergy about it. The question is the reactionary forces take advantage of it. They would like to rouse the Bengali passion—"You are a Bengali. That is why you are suffering." What will be the answer? We want peace, peace for all the people of the different parts of India. And we want to take the city out of the reaction forces, and the only remedy for that is the development of Calcutta, the development of the Calcutta Port, the development of Calcutta's transport, the development of industries in Calcutta, so that the unemployed can get employment, the development of the educational institutions where everybody can get admission without standing in the queue and without suffering, where everybody can easily get a seat in the colleges. These are the problems for people of Calcutta.

Then, you will find there is no stadium. In every important game you will find people's heads are broken because they do not get entry. And when they do not get entry, they remain outside and they are bound to create noise and disturbance. So, has anybody applied his mind that in Calcutta which is an important city in the

field of sports also, of which India should be proud, there should be a stadium? Nobody thinks about it.

My point is this. If you think of the position of Calcutta, if you want to understand the position of Calcutta, you can do so... {Interruption} I am only referring to an article which was published in the *Hindusthan Standard* of Calcutta of December 19, 1968, a very illuminating article by Ranjit Roy on the editorial page—Centre's Systematic Neglect of Calcutta—Eastern India. You will find an important disclosure here about the region of eastern India—(Calcutta) West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and Assam taken as the eastern India. He says :

"As such, this region should have registered the fastest industrial progress. But the Government of India's policy ensured that iron and steel and coal—the raw materials which should have given this region an edge over others—were available at practically the same price everywhere."

As a result of that Gujarat in western India has developed after independence at the cost of eastern India, I mean Bihar, Orissa, West Bengal and Assam. Now the time is ripe when the Government did something . .

{Interruptions}

AN HON. MEMBER : What about gheraos?

SHRI D. L. SEN GUPTA : I know when you are laughing you mean gheraos. On this question also this article has dealt with. He says:—this is a Congress paper :

"Gherao as a trade union weapon deserves to be condemned unreservedly. At the same time it has to be realised that all the ills of industries during the United Front regime in West Bengal did not spring from gheraos. There were deep economic reasons which persist and explain why, under the Presidential Raj, the situation continues to be pretty bad. West Bengal's industries have been geared mostly to Government and Railway contracts and orders from bigger industries. Orders from all these sources are running at a low ebb because planning itself has come to a standstill. To make matters worse, there is a flight of capital

from West Bengal to other States or at any rate, a marked disinclination of industrialists, most of whom come from other States, to reinvest their profits in ventures in the State."

It is because they can purchase the raw materials produced in West Bengal at the same price we give to West Bengal. This is not the case in regard to raw materials only. So, this a partisan view of the whole problem and that is responsible for the troubles of West Bengal.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY :
I must say that I am in sympathy with Mr. Chitta Basu's Resolution for the simple reason...

SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE (West Bengal) : Not with Mr. Basu?

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY :
I do have for Mr. Basu as a person but not as a politician. There is quite a lot of improvement that has to be done to all our cities and towns but I certainly hold the opinion that Calcutta is almost immediate attention. About Calcutta, Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, in his very eloquent and colourful speech, has given a glowing tribute. Of course, I do agree with him and in many aspects he was right. Calcutta has been the centre where culture, literature, national movement, national integration, political activity—everything—started. We are proud of the people of Calcutta and of Bengal also. We owe a lot to them. He said that it has been the making of India. To-day, for whatever reasons, Calcutta is a place which is unmaking India.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : It is unmaking only the Congress unless you mean Congress by India.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY :
I do not mean that. I am just meaning what I say. I never interrupted Mr. Gupta and I hope he will not interrupt me. Certainly Calcutta—and Bengal—has been the making of India in a way but to-day Bengal is also the unmaking of India. It had been a place of national integration but to-day it has become a place of democratic disintegration. Whatever may be the reason, Calcutta needs special sympathy because of the great metropolitan difficulties they have.

SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE : It is following democratic disintegration.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY : You may differ but I hold to my opinion.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : National integration marches under the banner of the United Front...

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY :
I beg to differ.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI D. THENGARI) : You should not interrupt ladies.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY :
Unfortunately for Mr. Gupta he has no ladies to interrupt him in his house. So he seeks to interrupt on the floor of the House.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA : It is his abnormal behaviour.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY :
He is quite normal except on occasions. I have seen Mr. Gupta for thirteen years and it is a good period to judge a person.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI D. THENGARI) : Kindly be brief.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : The only thing I would ask the lady is, can experienced men only interrupt ? She says that I have no ladies at home.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY :
My comment came because somebody said : 'Do not interrupt ladies.' I said : 'Give him this much of leniency as he has no ladies in his house.' I meant nothing more.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : For your information, Communists do not have families. They do not believe in family life.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY :
I do not know but as far as Mr. Gupta is concerned, I know he is wedded to Communism. I leave it to them to draw their own conclusions.

SHRI D. L. SEN GUPTA : Mr. Bhupesh Gupta had never any ill-reputation. He has been a Caesar in his life.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY :
On that there is no doubt at all that he has too good a reputation.

[Shrimati Yashoda Reddy]

My friend from the SSP commented that the scorpions of Communism and serpents and unpatriotic people are sprouting in Calcutta. Even if that be so—though I am not entirely in agreement with him—if we, the Congress Party, and the Central Government take a little more care to improve the situation and relieve the people of many of their hardships, whether of accommodation or travel or roads—and Calcutta has more of these difficulties than other cities and these political parties are trying to exploit them—things will improve.

About the circular railway, I wanted to speak the other day on the Appropriation Bill. I entirely support that because whenever I go to Calcutta I do feel that travelling in that city is well-nigh impossible and it is rather a proper demand and the Central Government should agree.

SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE: You agree in the end although you disagreed in the beginning.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY : Mr. Chatterjee likes to misinterpret me. I would say that for our own good if not for the good of Bengal, for our own cultural and national integration and even for our democratic set-up, Calcutta has to get top priority and I lend my support to Mr. Basu's Resolution and I am one with him in asking the Central Government to help him.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Mr. Vice-Chairman, at the outset let me express my indebtedness to the Members of this House who have taken part in this debate and I am further glad to note that the Members who have taken part in the debate have by and large supported my Resolution. In the course of supporting the Resolution certain Members have raised some extraneous points which are not related to the Resolution itself. Had I a longer time to answer point to point, I would have dealt with in greater detail but certain points I cannot really miss because that finally affects the very Resolution itself. I would refer to Mr. Lokanath Misra. I regret that he has equated the disease with the symptom because there are certain maladies which afflict the people of Calcutta. I have narrated them as far as possible but there are also certain symptoms in the form of labour unrest, in the form

of so many things as has been mentioned by my friend Mr. Misra. For his information I would quote a particular paragraph from a paper which is not at all a paper edited by Mr. Gupta or a person like me. It is a paper which is a source of inspiration for Mr. Misra. I read from the 'New York Times'.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY: Do you read it ?

SHRI CHITTA BASU : Certainly I do. In a report published in the 'New York Times', an article appeared on 13 th October last entitled: "Calcutta, City of Many Disasters". My point is, the particular point he raised is the symptom. In this paper it is said :

"As the only major city in eastern India, Calcutta would remain in any case a catch-all for the countryside's surplus labour. With the glut of the unskilled, Calcutta's industrialists long ago became accustomed to paying the lowest industrial wages in India and reaping the highest profits. But in times of scarcity the price of rice in the city is the highest in the country."

Here is the answer and this answer does not come from my lips. The answer falls from the 'New York Times', a journal which has no connection with the leftist ideology at all. Let me leave it there.

I also express my regret that Shri Bhandari expressed his concern about the lot of Calcutta people and he said that the Bengali citizens of Calcutta are not taking sufficient care about the non-Bengalis living in Calcutta. Something has been said in that particular way by Shri B. K. Gupta also. You have heard me when I moved my Resolution. I stated and I hold it very dear to my heart that Calcutta is not a West Bengal city. Calcutta does not belong to Bengal alone. It belongs to the nation as a whole. And the progressive and democratic forces of Calcutta and West Bengal have been struggling hard to maintain peace and amity among all the linguistic groups and the religious minority groups and I hope and trust that that tradition will be upheld and that they will hold aloft the banner of amity and peace among all the linguistic groups and minorities.

Sir, another point; I want to refer to the particular point raised by the hon. Minister during his intervention. In the course of his intervention the hon. Minister was pleased to state that there is sufficient concern expressed by the Government of India in the matter of the development of Calcutta city, and he has given certain figures in terms of financial allocation for the development of the city of Calcutta. Due to want of time I am not discussing in great detail all those figures. But what I fail to understand is this. The main purport of the Resolution had been to make it a national problem and that the development of the city of Calcutta should not be a part of the State's Plan—as it is today. Mr. Vice-Chairman, you might have observed that during the intervention of the hon. Minister he has suggested that Calcutta's development programme shall be a part of the development programme of the State. But my contention is this that West Bengal and that State's finances cannot afford to bring about a radical change in the development of the city of Calcutta proper, and West Bengal in general. Only for your information, Sir, I want to give only one figure, one fact that the Fourth Five-Year Plan of the State was formulated at Rs. 664 crores with Rs. 80 crores for the Calcutta plan. Now the Government of India and the Planning Commission have started scuttling that State Plan of Rs. 664 crores, and I am astonished to learn that West Bengal Government will be forced to scuttle the Plan and bring it down to the tune of Rs. 433 crores with only Rs. 33 crores for the Calcutta plan while the C.M.P.O.—which has been mentioned by the hon. Minister—had a Master Plan which will cost Rs. 80 crores. Now, Mr. Vice-Chairman, again I will appeal to this honourable august House that if they are really concerned about the future of Calcutta and along with it the future of the nation as a whole, this honourable august House should persuade the Government of India to see that the Calcutta problem is dealt with at a special level, not as part of the State Plan itself but as a special development programme sponsored by the Government of India in the interests not only of West Bengal but also in the interests of the nation as a whole, and if the Government fails to do, the symptoms will become a permanent disease, and I think none of us will be happy to see when the symptoms which we

see today become a permanent disease tomorrow.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: May I seek a clarification from the hon. Member?

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Let me finish; they you ask.

Mr Vice-Chairman, Sir, I am one in expressing my sentiments with my friend, Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, when he says that the people of Calcutta with their political, moral and cultural heritage cannot afford to invite the Americans to infiltrate into our cultural life, infiltrate into our economic life, infiltrate into our political life. Therefore, the Government of India, instead of relying upon the American imperialists, should take care of Calcutta of their own accord in order that the symptoms which we see today do not become a permanent disease.

Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I conclude by saying that we refuse to make Calcutta Saigon. We refuse to make Calcutta the happy haunting ground for the American imperialists. We will hold aloft the banner of our patriotism. We will hold aloft the tradition and the glory which we have inherited from our forefathers and we shall be true to their pledge and we shall be true to national integrity. We shall protect our traditions and glories of the past. With these words I again thank my hon. friends who have supported my Motion.

In conclusion, since the hon. Minister has expressed the concern of the Government and since Government will be seized of the problems of Calcutta, although I am not fully satisfied, I am withdrawing my Resolution in the hope that the Government of India will be very much serious and will prove their *bona fides* and see that the demand of Calcutta to allocate sufficient finance to develop it under a separate and special plan does not go unheeded. And this is also in the interests of the nation as a whole.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA : Just one word by way of personal explanation. Mr. Balkrishna Gupta was pleased to remark that my knowledge about Calcutta is all from books. I want to put on record that I have lived in Calcutta for five years.

SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, Mr. Chitta Basu has said that he wants to withdraw the Resolution. I do not know why, because we have already supported the Resolution. And if he withdraws the Resolution, we press it. Why should he after it has been moved and talked about for two days ?

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: You assured me then, Mr. Chitta Basu, that I can seek the clarification later on from you. I would now ask him, Sir.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : You are a loving friend. Why not ?

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: Now the point I wanted to ask was this. When Mr. McNamara, President of the World Bank, came to offer help, not to influence any of the citizens.

SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE: He went there to talk to the Birlas.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: You know Mr. Chitta Basu if he would like you to reply on his behalf. Now I would like to know how did the Left parties help the interests of Calcutta in hooting him out. He wanted to see things for himself.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: My friend. I am surprised he would not like Mr. Biju Patnaik to go to Calcutta but he would like Mr. McNamara to go to Calcutta. It is surprising.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI D. THENGARI): What about your Resolution, Mr. Chitta Basu ? Are you pressing it ?

SHRI CHITTA BASU: No, Sir, I beg leave to withdraw my Resolution.

**The Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.*

RESOLUTION RE STUDYING THE CAUSES OF WIDE-PREVALENT DISCONTENT AMONG THE STUDENTS AND THE TEACHERS IN THE COUNTRY

श्री सुन्दर सिंह भंडारी (राजस्थान) :
उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, आप की आज्ञा से मैं
निम्नलिखित संकल्प उपस्थित कर रहा हूँ :

*i-Or text or resolution, *vide* col. 3086 of
Debate dated 6th December, 1968.

“यह सभा छात्रों तथा अध्यापकों में व्याप्त व्यापक असन्तोष पर जिसके परिणामस्वरूप देश के विभिन्न भागों में छात्रों के आन्दोलन तथा प्राथमिक और माध्यमिक अध्यापकों की हड़तालें हो रही हैं, गम्भीर चिन्ता प्रकट करती है और सिफारिश करती है कि :-

(1) समान कार्य के लिये समान वेतन देने के सिद्धान्त के आधार पर सरकारी तथा गैर सरकारी विद्यालयों में काम करने वाले अध्यापकों के वेतन, महंगाई भत्ते तथा अन्य सुविधाओं में एकरूपता लाने के लिए तुरन्त कार्यवाही की जाये,

(2) प्राथमिक तथा माध्यमिक शिक्षकों के वेतन दरों के सम्बन्ध में कोटवारी की सिफारिशों को अविलम्ब कार्यान्वित किया जाये,

(3) देश में प्राथमिक शिक्षा की वर्तमान योजनाय स्थिति पर विचार करने तथा उसमें सुधार के उपायों का मुझाव देने के लिये एक अखिल भारतीय आयोग नियुक्त किया जाये,

(4) विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग से कहा जाये कि वह देश के विभिन्न विश्वविद्यालयों में छात्रों के असन्तोष के कारणों का अध्ययन कर उनके निराकरण के उपाय मुझाते हुए अपना प्रतिवेदन प्रस्तुत करे।”

t[SHRI SUNDAR SINGH BHANDARI (Rajasthan): Mr. Vice-Chairman, I beg leave to move the following Resolution :

"This House express its deep concern over the widespread discontent among the students and the teachers which has resulted in agitations by students and strikes by the primary and secondary school teachers in different parts of the Country, and recommends that:

(1) on the basis of the principle of equal pay for equal work, im-

t[] English translation.