

to attend the Rajya Sabha Session starting on 29th April, 1968. I request I may be granted leave of absence from this forthcoming Session ..."

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

(*JVo Hon. Member dissented*)

Permission to remain absent is granted.

#### **DIRECTION RE. REFERENCES IN THE HOUSE TO THE SECRETARIAT AND ITS OFFICERS**

MR. CHAIRMAN: I was unhappy to see in yesterday's proceedings certain references made by one of the Members to the Secretariats of the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha. It is a well known convention that ordinarily *no* reference to the Secretariat of a House of Parliament or its officers is made on the floor of the House. If any Member has any grievance against any particular officer or anything done in the Secretariat, the proper course for that Member is to approach the Presiding Officer in his Chamber. Members should remember that Officers of the Secretariat perform a very difficult and sometimes delicate job, because they have to deal with Members belonging to all parties and groups and it is expected of them that they will discharge their duties without fear or favour. In any case, a Member, if he has any complaint, must invariably seek his remedy in the Presiding Officer's Chamber, as the Presiding Officer is responsible for all actions of the Secretariat. [THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair]

#### **THE APPROPRIATION (NO.2) BILL 1968—Continued**

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY (Mysore) : Madam Deputy Chairman, speaking on the Appropriation Bill for the year 1968-69 I feel called upon to talk about the food problem of the

country. Madam, there seems to be an all round jubilation because of the maximum production of nearly 95 million tonnes of foodgrains that we have achieved during the year. My point is that even if we have achieved that production of 95 million tonnes we still fall short of the total food requirements of the country. I base my estimates on the figures of 1964-65. That was another peak yield year when we produced 88.7 million tonnes of food and on the top of it we imported 7.8 million tonnes totalling thereby 96.5 million tonnes. That was the food consumed in 1964-65 because there was no grain left at the end of the year. For 1965-66 no grain was left in any granary of Government and all the pipe lines were said to have been empty by the year 1965-66 which means that we had consumed during 1964-65 96.5 million tonnes of food. Madam, subsequently there has been an increase in population of 2.5 per cent as everybody knows; that is to say, our food consumption must also have been increased by another two million tonnes.

So during 1965-66

we must have required 98.5 million tonnes for feeding the entire nation but we have done with much less because of the failure of the crops during 1965-66 which only goes to show that the country has gone through the agency of hunger to this extent of the shortfall in the total availability of foodgrains in the year 1965-66. Unfortunately the next year was also a year of failure, a year of drought and once again we had to suffer the agency of hunger. The nation suffered valiantly and well and to the weaker sections of the population on whom the burden of this hunger fell I pay my glorious compliments. Anyway we have come out of that stage. My point is that during 1966-67 we should have required another 2.5 million tonnes of food because of the increase in population which comes to 101 million tonnes in all. But we have had very much less than that including the grain which we imported, in 1967-68 another 2.5 million tonnes was required bringing

[Shri N. Sri Rama Reddy.]

the total requirement for the year to 103.5 million tonnes. But what is the position? In 1967-68 we have produced only 95 million tonnes. In spite of the fact that we have produced at the peak level of 95 million tonnes the nation has fallen short by 8.5 million tonnes. That is my point. I have seen in today's papers that the imports are going to be cut down by half. It would be a dangerous thing to do. It would be calling upon the nation to undergo another spell of agony if they do not keep up to the original target of 7.5 million tonnes through imports. From today's papers I find that we are going to reduce the imports to three million tonnes but I hope that such a dangerous step will not be taken by the Government but that they would still stick to the import target of 7.5 million tonnes. There is another dangerous trend in the country. Internal procurement has also been very slow and unsteady. It has not been satisfactory at all. They wanted to procure 3.5 million tonnes of food within the country but no State seems to have made any progress with regard to internal procurement. This is another aspect of the question which I would like to bring to the notice of this House. Of course the political set-up and other factors might have come into play but whatever it is, if in a year when we have reached the peak production of 95 million tonnes, we are unable to reach our target for internal procurement that shows where our weakness lie in our Administration.

Now having said so much about food I would like to say a few words with regard to recession. The economy is still in the grip of recession. We have not been able to do much in regard to relieving this position. It is there in spite of the fact that there has been a bumper harvest this year which is however still less than what is required by the nation. The fact that there is no sign of revival of the economy is causing me anxiety. Whether it is due to the budgetary policies

or the national economic policies, or the industrial policy or whatever it might be, I am not happy with the situation that is obtaining in the economic field today. Take for instance the textile mills. In Coimbatore and other places in the South 175 mills seems to be producing today only one-third of their capacity while two-thirds of their capacity is rusting. That is the situation in the South and maybe the same is the case elsewhere also. Not only in textiles but in several other industrial spheres the capacity has been idle and sufficient steps have not been taken to see that the economy picks up its momentum and move forward with greater speed.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA): What is your suggestion?

SHRI N. SRI. RAMA REDDY: My suggestion is that you should do all what is necessary to see that the economy pick up. You must have reduced taxation in order to give incentive for production. There is a lot of disappointment and people are not very anxious to carry on their work as speedily and as efficiently as they did before, because the Government's policies have been coming in the way. It is not only taxation; at every stage if the sword of the Government is hanging on the individual how will he act bravely and boldly? How will he be able to produce with confidence? The Government unfortunately has not created that confidence in the people. That is my view.

Now the Plan outlays have been increased with the aid of deficit financing. The Minister swore that he would not take recourse to deficit financing but during 1967-68 there has been deficit financing to the tune of Rs. 300 crores. So he has taken recourse to deficit financing. In the current financial year 1968-69 deficit financing to the extent of Rs. 200 crores has been provided for. Every State Budget shows a deficit and probably the deficit comes to—I may not be very correct—Rs. 160 crores, in addition. All these are not indicative of a

healthy sign of revival "of the economic growth of this country. This is what I wanted to point out.

There is one other aspect. The prices • certainly have fallen. Prices have fallen from what they were in the previous year. Of course, that is within everybody's knowledge. I need not repeat it here. Prices have been falling because of improvement in agricultural production. Have we paid sufficient attention to agricultural production? That is my point. True, people talk of a breakthrough in agriculture. Certainly we have good seeds. Our scientists have produced very good seeds, I pay my compliments to our scientists. There is fertiliser shortage. More than anything else, seed, fertiliser, implements, pesticides or any other programmes can have effect only if you have water. What have you done to see that sufficient water is made available? Are we going to depend upon the sky always. Supposing next year happens to be a "bad year, a year of drought. How are you going to insure against the risk of failure "of the monsoon? I have been telling repeatedly in this House and it has been my burden of song that you must take recourse to the development of underground water resources all over the country. On a large scale, on a war footing such a step must be taken. That is the only insurance against the failure of the monsoon. Nobody can predict that next year is going to be as good a year as 1967-68. Supposing it is not, are we going to throw the peasants to the winds or to the mercies of the monsoon?

I want to repeat it. The Deputy Finance Minister and the Leader of the House are there. My "feeling is that there is plenty of underground water in this country, especially in the Indo-Gangetic valley, right from Punjab to West Bengal, right from the West Pakistan border to the East Pakistan border. It is said that an ocean is lying buried in the entire Indo-Gangetic valley. Geologically speaking they say that we have the

biggest sweet water lake of the world under the Indo-Gangetic plain and if only you tap these resources, you can not only feed the Indo-Gangetic plain, but the entire nation. What steps have you taken towards that? You say that you have undertaken minor irrigation and other multipurpose projects. All these are useful only if there is rain. If there is a failure of rain these projects are of no use. Therefore, what is the safest way? The safest way is to depend upon underground water. There are cases in Coimbatore and in my home-town where a lakh of rupees have been spent on a well. What does that show? It shows that wells can save them. My suggestion is this. Of course, I have made this to my Party, I have spoken to the Prime Minister and I have spoken to the Finance Minister also. An underground water resources development corporation must be floated. It would cost about a thousand crore of rupees. Within another " three or four years we must dig one million wells. It should not be difficult. A thousand crore of rupees is nothing. You need not give all the money yourself. You give a part of the money as share-capital to this corporation. Let each State contribute. Let LIC come to its help, let the scheduled banks come to its help. Let the Reserve Bank help it. It is possible to raise a thousand crore of rupees for digging at least a million wells within another three or four years. This is the greatest need of the hour. This must be tackled on a war footing. Have a big army. After all, in the Indo-Gangetic plain, one tube-well could be made in one day. The second day you can energise it and take out water. This is what I have seen. I have gone round Bihar, I have gone round UP and I have gone round Punjab. Where irrigation is done, the crops are beautiful. Only a month back I went round Punjab to see what this Mexican wheat was like. I found that wherever irrigation was done, the crop was wonderful. The yield was double that of an unirrigated crop.

[Shri N. Rama Reddy.] These glaring facts are there. Still you hesitate to take proper steps. "Neere Pradhan". You should first provide water to provide against the failure of monsoon. That is the surest way of survival. Therefore, by recommending the formation of an underground water resources development corporation to the Government, I close my speech. Thank you.

SHRI BIRA KESARI DEO (Orissa) : Madam, this House is unanimous in its demand for water for the purpose of irrigation. A few months back, in January, our Minister of irrigation and Power, Dr. K. L. Rao, had written an article in the "Bhagi-rath" on the 'Battle for Food.' We are going wrong somewhere in our approach. From the reply to an Un-starred Question in Lok Sabha, you will see that we have spent a sum of Rs. 354.02 crores on the import of food. In this Report for 1967-68, the outlay on major irrigation is only Rs. 135 crores. Is it not a pity that, when our peasants are helping us so much in producing food, we the people here, cannot give them enough water?

A month back we heard that the Government is going to give Uttar Pradesh atomic energy for irrigation. We know that atomic energy for irrigation is a very costly process, when we know that by tapping our river waters we can irrigate more at a cheaper rate. It is found by a comparison of the cost of generation of electricity at a typical hydel, thermal and nuclear station for 70-75 that the interest during the period of construction for a hydel plant, designed for 30 per cent plan factor, is only 985, whereas for atomic energy it is 1904. So, why not we tap our hydel projects? At the same time, we are spending our little resources on atomic energy. Most probably UP is India, but it is not so, of course, if you will see. Of course if you see

my part of the country, that is. East tern India, we are lucky in river resources because many of the rivers flow to the east. That does not mean that we should be neglected and more costly projects like the atomic energy projects should be taken up only for the Gangetic States, namely, Uttar Pradesh and part of Bihar. My humble request to the Government through you is, let us first of all tap all our water resources, and then think of tire atomic energy for underground water projects. Even in respect of underground water you will find that the lucky States are getting luckier and the unlucky States are getting a very poor share of the Governments attention.

In the Fourth Annual Electric. Power Survey of India in 1966 conducted by the Government you will find that in the Third Plan whereas Madras State has got the maximum of pumps to the tune of 2.5 lakhs, my State of Orissa has got only 138. Still in the Fourth Five Year Plan Madras-will get annually 50,000 pump\* whereas Orissa will get only 1,600. I do not grudge Madras or the luckier States, they have got more resources, but my State has got plenty of water. Many rivers start from the hills of the Eastern Ghats of Orissa and they go to the sea. Why are we not thinking in terms of damming our great rivers and planning accordingly? Madam, we are lucky that water resource is in the hands of a very able man like Dr. K. L. Rao and I have got nothing more, to say because before an expert I am just a pigmy.

Now, Madam, I come to inter-State affairs. Madam, it is a pity we speak of our boundary disputes with China and Pakistan, but at the same time there are very petty inter-State-boundary disputes which we cannot settle. I give a concrete example of Andhra and Orissa. Madam, for the last so many centuries, Andhra and Orissa are border States. We are friends. We have got very good relations. But there is a very big cons-

piracy since the last few years to make a tension, and the Vice-President of India who comes from Berhampore, I think, knows it better. Since the last so many years any drama or any theatre we used to have on our bilingual track used to be attended by Andhras or Telugu drama used to be attended by Oriya population. Since the last few years a very big conspiracy is going on. For example, I tell you there are very few villages, I think eight villages, in Andhra-Orissa border, in Koraput/Visakhapatnam border. Those eight villages are claimed both by Andhra and Orissa. The population of those villages voted in the Orissa Assembly election and they also voted in the Andhra Assembly election. Neither the Government of Andhra does anything for them nor the Government of Orissa does anything for them. Both have referred the matter to the Home Ministry here and it is a pity that today only for the sake of those eight small villages the tension between Andhra and Orissa is getting worse and worse. I hope the Home Ministry will take some measures very soon.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN (Andhra Pradesh): Other difficult matters both the Chief Ministers have solved. Why not the Chief Minister of Orissa move in the matter? I am sure the Andhra Chief Minister will be very willing to sit down and settle that matter. Let it be moved at the official level.

SHRI BIRA KESARI DEO: It is a very good suggestion. I know already the Orissa Assembly has discussed it and the Orissa Chief Minister has moved the Andhra Chief Minister in the matter. I think something is going on. I think it can be expedited with a little help from the Centre.

Very recently the Minister of Finance of the Government of India had visited Orissa. They had actually committed themselves in the building of the Express Highway which is being built for the Paradeep port. Now

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we come to understand that that commitment is not going to be honoured. I think this is the first instance in the history of India, this is the first instance in the Finance Ministry, that a commitment and a very small commitment of Rs. 20 crores or Rs. 20 crores 19 lakhs, is not going to be honoured because of some reason for which the poor people of Orissa are going to suffer. It is actually at the instance of the Finance Ministry, under their encouragement, that the Express Highway to Paradeep port was taken up, and I hope the Ministry of Finance will help Orissa to the maximum.

Lastly, before I conclude, it is a very happy year this year because it is the Centenary Year of Mahatma Gandhi, and this is the year in which we feel that we are going to get Ram Rajya. Madam, today people are talking about gold in terms of paper. Today people are talking like the French President, Gen. de Gaulle of gold as a currency. So, Madam, it is very clear, as Shri Morarji Desai had told very rightly few years back, that the love of gold is going down. Not only that, a very strong thought is going round about world government. Well, it is a wishful thinking but, Madam, still if at all it happens at last, the Ram Rajya of Mahatma Gandhi will come and it will come not in the form of *Threthaya Yug* but I am sure it will come in the form of *Satya Yug*. When the whole world is thinking in that time, it is a matter of pity that great men have been disgraced in their own land. The teaching of Mahatma Gandhi are not being followed in this country. That is why we see so much of infighting, communal fighting, Hindu-Muslim fighting and Harijans' fighting. It is a pity. We have got the colleagues of Mahatma Gandhi here. We have got great men like Vinobhaji. I hope they will give us a spiritual lead so that India will again come back to its glory for which Mahatma Gandhi fought and Ram Rajya will come soon. But Madam, it is a pity that when the world is talking in terms of world peace

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and worn; government, we are still afraid of China and Pakistan. We are thinking in terms of arms and ammunition, atom bomb and hydrogen bomb. I hope good sense will prevail on us. It is proved that in Vietnam the armed might of the American forces could not destroy the heritage and the fundamental thoughts of the people of North Vietnam. Twenty years ago, the British Empire which was the greatest empire, which was greater than the empire of Chenghiz Khan, could not destroy the will of the Indian people. How can we think of the atomic bomb? How can we think of the hydrogen bomb? As per the papers they are going to have a Neutral Nations' Summit. I hope that India will take a lead in giving this world a Peace Force so that in future we cannot be called *Rakshas* and the others will be called *Devatas*. This nation of great people like Mahatma Gandhi, Buddha, Krishna and Ramchandra should give the world a call of peace, should give the world an anti-Hydrogen Bomb call.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. K. Ramiah will speak after lunch.

The House stands adjourned till 2.00 P.M.

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

The House reassembled after lunch at two of the clock, the VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN) in the Chair.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN): Dr. Ramiah.

DR. K. RAMIAH (Nominated): Sir, it is going to be an exciting and thrilling experience to sit in Parliament for one who has spent practically all his life in the fields and in the laboratories. In supporting the

Appropriation Bill, I shall confine myself to one subject, agriculture, with which I can claim some amount of familiarity. Usually countries are differentiated "by the extent of development that they have achieved and we came across the terms, 'developed countries', 'developing countries' and 'undeveloped countries'. What is the criterion of defining a developed country as distinct from a developing country or an undeveloped country? Often, it is the establishment of several universities, research institutes, big industrial concerns and so on. Judging on this basis, India has to be described as a developing country. But unfortunately, we have failed so badly on our food front that we have no claim to be included in the group of developed countries. Development does not necessarily mean self-sufficiency in food production. For instance, the "highly developed countries like the United Kingdom, and some of the other smaller countries in the West and also Japan in the East, are not self-sufficient with regard to food production. But they are so highly developed in their industries that they can buy any amount of food by exchanging their industrial products. We may have developed our industries, we may be developing in certain new directions but unfortunately our failure on the food front has made us still linger, in spite of our size, in the undeveloped nation group.

Agriculture did receive attention both in the First and the Second Plans. Actually, at the end of the First Plan we did find that there was a definite improvement in our food production and this was kept up also during the Second Plan. It was from the end of the Second Plan and towards the Third Plan when there was change of emphasis from agriculture to industries, particularly to heavy industries, that we started losing ground and the position has been getting worse. Possibly, the PL-480 and the facility to import food have created a sense of complacency in us and has contributed to our failure on

the food front. Even as early as 1959-60, the Ford Foundation brought out a team of experts and in co-operation with some of our Indian experts they made a full analysis of the food position and food needs of the country, and they anticipated that if crisis had to be avoided, India should be able to produce at least 100 to 110 million tonnes of food by 1969-1970. We are now patting ourselves on the back that we have produced 95 million tonnes in 1967-68. My friend and colleague, Shri Sri Rama Reddy, pointed out that this was not enough. He is quite right. Our target should be very much above 100 million tonnes of course, by 1970 we expect our target to increase to 110 million tonnes when we may be in a much safer position.

The position has become particularly bad because of the two drought years in certain parts of the country and we have had to go about with a begging bowl, and a large part of our financial resources have been utilised for importing food in addition to other necessities.

I would just mention that in the last three or four years there has been a definite and revolutionary change in our food outlook. All of you might have heard of the high-yielding varieties and of intensive cultivation with them. Sir, even in 1960-61 we did begin with intensive cultivation in selected districts with selected crops and we did programme to increase production in those particular districts to the level of 40 to 50 per cent in the course of five years and the target was being attained. But the amount of increase we anticipated in those schemes is nothing in comparison to what we are actually achieving with the new technology of growing high-yielding varieties. The work began firstly with what is known as hybrid maize about four or five years ago. The phenomenon is that two to three tonnes of grain per acre were obtained of hybrid maize in several areas all over the country,

and this led to our reorienting of the programme of agricultural development and growing of crops. The work which began with maize was later extended to hybrid jowar, hybrid bajri, wheat and also rice in which new varieties had become available. The method of work we are adopting is something very radically different from what was usually being attended to in earlier years. We have now for all these crops a coordinated programme on an all-India basis so that the existing facilities and personnel available in the whole country are utilised and knit together into a common plan drawn up by the Centre and covering all the States. The experts concerned with the schemes meet periodically, discuss the programme and plan the work. At the end of the season they meet again discuss the results they have obtained and decide the programme for the next season so that a big advance has become possible within a very short period of 2 to 3 years. It may be said that wherever those high-yielding varieties are grown, we can take it that on an average a minimum additional ton of grain is possible from every acre. Although the scheme has been drawn up by the I.C.A.R. practically all the experts, men and the facilities available in the States are integrated with it and, therefore, it is practically an all-India programme. We are dealing under this programme not only with food crops, but also with industrial crops like groundnut, cotton etc. with very satisfactory results.

Now, what is the philosophy behind this new technology? We have excellent varieties which can respond to the intensive fertilisation of the land. Therefore, to get the maximum benefit out of these varieties one has got to apply the optimum quantity of fertiliser the crop needs, give it all the amount of water it needs, and protect the crop from the ravages of insects and diseases. With our aim to get nearly 3 to 4 tonne\* of grain from the same piece of land it does mean a fairly large amount of

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input, and a proper appreciation of the necessities of the plant. Because of the experience available all over the country during the last year or two, it is gratifying to find that the people do realise the advantages that have accrued to them by taking to this new technology. There is a complete revolution of the idea, and this is the stage when the Government can cash on it and extend the scheme to the maximum extent possible. Of course, this programme does mean making available to the farmer in time all the necessary quantity of fertilisers and also chemicals to protect the crop against pests and diseases.

During the first Plan and even earlier we were contemplating to produce or to establish public fertiliser plants in the country so that the country could become self-sufficient with regard to its fertiliser needs by about 1970-71. Actually the position is that we are still short of 50 per cent, of our requirements. All the time there has been discussion going on as to what type of fertiliser should be manufactured. If it is nitrogen, whether it should be on the basis of ammonia, naphtha, oil or coal and in the case of phosphorus it should be water soluble or citrate soluble and so on. The files go backward and forward between the different departments with the result that the fertiliser industry has not developed to the extent it was intended to be and, we are still also importing large quantities of fertilisers. In the earlier days there was a demand from the public that instead of importing food we import fertilisers so that you could utilise the fertilisers and increase our own food supply. Unfortunately, we are now in a position that we are importing both food and fertilisers.

Sir, nobody can deny that we have within the country a well-recognised and competent team of agricultural scientists comparable to any advanced

country. But if we have still not made sufficient progress in the food front, it is entirely due to the fact that the results of research have not reached the door of the farmer. Often we used to blame the Extension wing, lack of credit facilities to the farmer his illiteracy and so on. They are not the real reasons. We did not know the real technique of how to approach the farmer, how to view problems from his standpoint and how to meet them. Now, after a good deal of study we have now established in the country on the model of the Land Grant Universities of America, new agricultural Universities. We have got already eight of them and the Education Commission has recommended that there should be one such University in every State. But as one who has seen the Universities in U.S. and one who has also been in charge of one of these Universities here until very recently. I can say that, there is not much to compare the Universities which we have established here with the Land Grant Colleges and Universities of the U-S. But there is one common point which is the main objective of these Universities. Here we are trying to integrate teaching, research and also Extension education which were working as separate entities so that the people who are trained in these Universities- will be better adapted to meet the farmers, understand their problems better and deal with their needs correctly. Of course, these Universities have not been in existence long enough. But like any other institutions, some of these Universities are having their teaching troubles.

My friend from Andhra Pradesh two days ago was pleading that the Centre should give more funds to Andhra Pradesh so that it can produce more rice and make it available to other States of India. I can tell you that there are also other areas in India where an investment of that kind can bring even better dividends. I have in mind Orissa State which is



poor and backward and any investment there will bring larger agricultural dividends than in any other part of India with regard to rice production. Orissa also has got a University similar to those in Punjab-Mysore and Andhra Pradesh. As in the case of financial need for increasing agricultural production, Orissa University of Agriculture also needs financial help. The I.C.A.E. at the Centre provides financial help to these different universities. On the basis of what the States themselves are able to provide? Punjab is able to provide Rs. 40 lakhs from its own State Budget and the University can get about Rs. 60 to Rs. 80 lakhs as matching grant from the I.C.A.R. Orissa State provides only a meagre sum of Rs. 5 lakhs and the University cannot get more than 10 lakhs. It is difficult to develop and run a university when the basic needs the State cannot afford to provide. Therefore, in the universities which have been established only within the last six or seven years, there has been a considerable difference in their development. Therefore, from the national point of view, any help from the Centre whether it is for an educational institution or for a cropping programme should not be on a *pro rata* basis, but should be based more on the economic position of the area in which a particular institute is located and the sum total of the general benefit which will follow.

Now, coming to extension, the Universities are trying to do their best. But the general extension work is still in the hands of the Agricultural Department and more particularly the C. D. Department directly. You all know the history of the C. D. Department and the C.D. Movement. This is not the place to discuss how far the C. D. Movement has succeeded. Some States have even abolished the Department. In some States, they just keep them going without any development. The idea behind the C. D. Movement might have been good, but the lack of advance might be attributed to a limited qualified personnel

who have been made responsible for the work. It is hoped that at least with the coming into position of the new agricultural universities in the different places, this aspect, of the problem would be met.

I remember that in 1959-60, on the very important problem of food production different views were held even among the top people in the Central Government. One of the delegations which interviewed the Minister in-charge of the C. D. department at the Centre, and wanted his opinion on development of agriculture. He was of the view that agriculture was not important and need not receive the first consideration. If the man in the rural area is educated and his social status improved agriculture will take care of itself. I do not think many of us will agree with the opinion expressed by that Minister.

Now, Sir, I will just try to bring to the notice of the House a few more points regarding increasing food production. The morning, my colleague, Shri Sri Rama Reddy was speaking eloquently and pressed the importance of ground water resources. In regard to this new technology of high-yielding varieties, we are now confining ourselves to irrigated areas and areas of assured and adequate rainfall. But this has got to be extended. If we confine our attention only to the irrigated areas, there will be complaints that we are trying to help a man who is already well-to-do to become more well-to-do. It is the man who is dependent on the rain-fed crops who is still poor, and who needs greater attention. He pleaded for the development of the underground water. Even here, there has been disparity in development. Madras has made a tremendous advance in this. Nearly 40 per cent of the total pump-sets established in the whole country are to be found in Madras and the farmers are reaping rich dividends because of that. Development of power supply has helped Madras in this advance. Similar conditions also prevail

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in Orissa but the development has been poor. Improvement in water supply facilitates multiple cropping and more profitable cropping patterns.

Now, after great deal of discussion laid reports of committees the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has been re-organised and come into its own. It is the supreme body so far as agricultural research is concerned. It also controls agricultural education in the country. It has been given a certain amount of autonomy but it has to be made complete. There is a parallel organisation in the Centre in the Extension Department of the Agriculture Ministry and all the programmes which latter send out to the States are jointly discussed with the ICAR and given effect to. Now, often a question is asked. "Agriculture is a State subject. Why should the Centre interfere in? Why should not the States deal with it by themselves?" Now, I explained to you the problem of the all-India co-ordinated projects. These projects are partly research and partly development and if the States are left to themselves even the existing disparity would get further magnified. A Central guidance with often some financial help will be absolutely necessary for a long time to come. The Centre only supplements the work in the States and does not control it. With the developing situation in the country, a certain amount of Central help and Central organisation is very important and has to be maintained. Research in the interest of the nation should receive Centre's attention including sponsoring guidance and control and the Centre's Activity may be confined to guidance with regard to extension.

SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN (Kerala): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, a lot of criticism has naturally been made on the floor of this House with regard to the absence of a Fourth

Plan and the delay in the formulation and implementation of the Fourth Plan. We were told, Sir, in the course of the President's Address to the joint session of the two Houses this year that in 1968-69 the country can expect the first year of the Fourth Plan. We thought, Sir, that things were moving in the right direction. But we had our apprehensions and our doubts and those apprehensions and doubts are to a large extent not cleared but are strengthened, if I may say so, on account of the answers given by the Minister this morning in regard to a question on the Fourth Plan. We find from the answers that no thought has been given even to certain fundamental aspects of the Plan up till now and yet the Minister has been bold enough to state that a meeting of the National Development Council, including the Chief Ministers and others from the States, is proposed to be held in the middle of this month for considering the proposals in regard to the Fourth Plan. It was said later that before the fall of the year the National Development Council will consider the draft of the Fourth Plan. But what are those proposals and what is this draft going to be if even the outlay for the Fourth Plan could not be indicated today? What is the amount of outlay that is proposed for the Fourth Plan? We would expect the hon. Minister in his reply to be able to indicate to this House how exactly in terms of finance and financial content the Fourth Plan is going to be proposed. It is not as if the financial content is all right, the Plan is a success. We have always been achieving financial targets and we have always been lagging behind in the matter of actual implementation of the Plan schemes even. The schemes that we have up till now need a complete reorientation if the country is to advance at all during the period of the Fourth Plan. We have been building up our Plans on the basis of certain fads and fallacies

and that has created a number of failures in the matter of achieving

targets and in the matter of getting results. Take for example the scheme of the Community Development Blocks that we had during the previous Plans. Most of them are even now continuing. The Community Development Blocks constitute the greatest failure so far as the previous three Plans are concerned and our entire schemes during the three previous Plans were based more or less on the system of implementation of the Community Development Blocks where large amounts were spent and no results were obtained. The buildings that we constructed, the roads and bridges that were constructed under the Community Development Blocks, they are all in absolute disrepair and non-use because the way in which these funds were spent, the way in which these schemes were formulated, that was all done without any consideration of permanence in the future.

Then again, Sir, so far as the other aspects are concerned, particularly in the matter of resources, we are going about on the strength of certain facts. It has been stated that the States are unable to mobilise the resources necessary for the Plans but then many State Governments are still working on the basis of certain facts. Take for example the prohibition scheme. The prohibition scheme is a great fact and fallacy and we should remove prohibition from all the States in this country. I am not saying that this country should become a country of teetotallers or this country should become a country of drunkards, but the way in which prohibition has been implemented, the way in which prohibition could be implemented and the way in which prohibition has struck at the finances of most of the State Governments, it has not only impaired the finances of the State Governments, it has impaired and continues to impair the very health of this country.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA:  
(Orissa): It has become a country of bootleggers.

SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN:  
Certainly if this country is to improve in its financial and physical health, the Fourth Plan must seriously consider the removal of prohibition by the State Governments and then only we will have the necessary resources for these Plans.

Then, Sir, the previous Plans have created considerable imbalances in the various regions and among the States in this country, particularly with regard to the location of public sector industries, there has been concentration of these public sector industries in and around the cities of Bombay and Calcutta. I am not saying that concentration can be completely avoided but the result of concentration has been the encouragement of citizens' armies like the Shir Sena in Bombay and other regional consideration-based organisations, without taking any note of the fact that these industries, the facilities provided by these industries, belong to the nation as a whole and not to any particular State or to any particular city. In this psychological atmosphere it is certainly necessary that while formulating and implementing those proposals in the first year of the Fourth Plan, whenever that first year is to come, Government must particularly pay attention and see that by and large no region in the country, no State in the country is neglected in the matter of industrialisation. Rural areas in Madhya Pradesh, rural areas in eastern U.P., rural areas in Orissa and so far as my State of Kerala is concerned, the entire State, if I may say so, all these have been neglected during the previous three Plans. This sort of neglect cannot continue and if this neglect has to be avoided, the country has got to have a large number of medium industries. Looking at the way in which we are importing many finished goods and many parts for goods to be finished in this country, there is great scope for medium industries in this country and the only way is an intelligent formulation of the Plan schemes with regard to

[Shri K. Chandrasekharan]

medium industries. But I do not know whether the Fourth Plan is going to come at all. As I have already stated in the beginning, the apprehension is all the greater today. So far as the Fourth Plan is concerned, we must be able to see—I believe, Sir, all sections of the House would agree, I am sure—that if we want successful implementation of the Plan unlike the previous three Plans, we have got to eradicate altogether any sort of foreign assistance to this Plan. I do not want a big outlay; I do not want big and ambitious proposals to be implemented during the five years of the Fourth Plan. Many in this country would be satisfied if a few proposals within the limited finance available in this country are to be implemented by this country on the basis of internal resources, internal availability of technical personnel, internal availability of finances, without seeking anything by way of foreign assistance. It may be that so far as some of the bigger projects are concerned for some time to come we may have to think in terms of foreign assistance. It may be that with regard to some of the projects which are already thought of or on the road to implementation, we may have to think in terms of foreign assistance and foreign collaboration but by and large when we go into the Fourth Plan and the formulation of at least 80 to 90 per cent, of the plan, the contents of which so far as industrialisation is concerned, should be the expansion and enlargement of the medium industries, we should be able to see that there is no foreign help in regard to those sectors. In that way the country can really be independent. A large slice of the amount to be appropriated from out of this Appropriation Bill— is for the defence of this country. The defence of this country requires large finances and has got to be provided with those finances but how is it that this country has come to the present pass? The 'foreign policy that this country has followed since the days of the British Government

tutes a great failure and so far as the present is concerned, it is impossible to state with any amount of certitude as to whether there is a foreign policy for this country at all. The way in which we have pursued our foreign policy has created, for this country, enemies all around, enemies particularly immediately all around and friends nowhere in this world. We saw that in 1965 September-October, when this country was attacked by none other than its own "sister", which was a part of this country prior to 1947, that country got a lot of help from many other world States. That country got a lot of sympathy in spite of the fact that that country was the aggressor but so far as this nation, with all its Panch-sheel pronouncements, with all its approach of neutrality, could not get one real friend in its hour of crisis, in its moment of need. To-day what is it that we find? For ages past, Ceylon was considered a part of this country. The Ceylonese are the Indians' comrades. The Indians colonised there and helped Ceylon in its development. Only recently when India got independence, Ceylon got independence and both became members of the British Commonwealth of Nations and certain difficulties arose in respect particularly of citizenship matters that we began to feel that these two countries were different. Now in respect of an island lying in between India and Ceylon a bone of contention has been raised. I am only saying that even Ceylon is not on friendly terms with this country. Pakistan is undoubtedly not. China is undoubtedly not. About Burma, I do not know what the position is. So far as the countries of South East Asia are concerned, I say that it is an ample tribute to the foreign policy we have pursued and we are pursuing that there is not a single nation in the whole area which can be called a real friend of this country, a friend in need for this country. So far as the big nations which go in for a third global war and which prepare themselves for

cock pits for waging a third global war, they are neither here nor there. • We try to make friends with everybody, and everybody is suspicious of us. So, that is the position so far as the country is concerned. We are therefore compelled to expend a lot 'Of money so far as defence is concerned and in a way it may be necessary. In a way it hurts us, in a way it creates other difficulties for us. So far as the internal situation particularly is concerned, I may not be misunderstood when I say, in some of the Congress administered States the position is rather bad. We had been hearing in the months gone by a lot of criticism of the States administered -by the U.F. non-Congress Governments. The country, during the course of the last year, has been unfortunately going through a lot of communal riots. The country has witnessed a lot of communal frenzy and it is a pity and we must all bow our heads in shame, whoever be in the public life of this country, that of all people, the Muslims and the Hindus in this country should fight each other and should be suspicious of each other. I accuse some of the State Governments of not doing the necessary thing, in acting to prevent those communal troubles. I have particularly in mind the recent communal trouble that unfortunately happened in Mangalore. For years before the States reorganisation, I belonged to that district of South Canara as it ' was then called. I had never known Mangalore as an area of communal frenzy. The Hindus and Muslims lived there as brothers. Not only that but Mangalore is a great cosmopolitan city with a large number of Christians and members of various other communities and members draw from the various other States in the country. When this trouble broke out, I am told that the authorities did not act or had not the necessary force to act and it was at this time when they could act—I am going to be misunderstood again when I criticise—the Chief Minister of Mysore who is the President of the Congress, thought fit to

run the Haryana elections when a part of his State was under communal frenzy. It is a pity that the Chief Minister of that State who is the Head of the Congress organisation, has not found time till to-day to visit that trouble-spot—the city of Mangalore.

SHRI B. T. KEMPARAJ (Mysore): I rise on a point of order. I do **not** know how the Member is bringing in something which is not at all connected with the issue before the House.

SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN: Communal harmony is a thing which has always been discussed in this House. Communal harmony is the prime thing that should be discussed and decided in this House.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): He wanted to say that he could discuss Mr. Nijalingappa as the Chief Minister but not as the Congress President.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN): You need not refer to the Congress President.

SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN: I never did it. That is why I had so many times said that I need not be misunderstood. Far from that is my approach. There is absolutely **no** question of any personal criticism so far as I am concerned. I make it quite clear.

Connected with this aspect may I be permitted to say a few words in the matter of a question that came up in the List of Questions yesterday? It has been asked as to why a particular political party in my State—the Kerala Muslim League—has demanded a Muslim district in Kerala. That **was** the last question, as you know, Sir, that was in the List of Questions yesterday. It would appear that there is something communal about it. I may say, Sir, that so far as Kerala is concerned, up till now there has **not** been any communal disharmony. Even the little trouble that arose in Trivandrum some months back **bet-**

[Shri K. Chandrasekharan] ween a set of Muslim fishermen and a set of Christian fishermen was not on *the* basis of religion, was not on the basis of community, but was only more in the nature of a labour dispute. Now, Sir, nobody in my State has demanded a Muslim district. It is true, Sir, that a political party in my State—the Kerala Muslim League—to which I personally have got regard and respect, and many in my State have also got, and the Congress too had jrot it some years back, has demanded the bifurcation of a particular district in my State. Today, when the Kerala Muslim League proposes that, it is given a communal colour. Previously, Sir, during the course of the last ten years, more than three districts were bifurcated in my State, at the instance of Congressmen, at the instance of others, but nobody raised this communal bogey. Today, when the Kerala Muslim League is raising it, a communal bogey is raised. So far as that particular district is concerned, from the point of view of administrative necessity and public convenience, and looking at its size and population in comparison with those of various other districts of the State, I have no doubt that the United Front Government of Kerala would very seriously consider the bifurcation of Calicut district, not on communal grounds but on considerations of administrative convenience and public convenience—And to say, Sir, that the Kerala Muslim League has made a communal demand for a Muslim district, as suggested in the Question by no less a Member than Mr. Mathur yesterday, is something which is shameful, I which is absolutely incorrect so far as facts are concerned.

*(Time bell rings.)*

I am finishing just one or two points more.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI |  
AKBAR ALI KHAN): How much !  
time has the P.S.P?

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I SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN: I understand that the hon. Member Mr. Banka Behary Das of the P.S.P. has got hall an hour and I thank him, and you also, Sir, for having given me some time from the P.S.P. quota to which Mr. Banka Behary Das has

J agreed because, otherwise, I have n» time of my own. I shall require only five minutes more to speak now.

THE MINISTER OP STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. C. PANT): Does the hon. Member belong to th<sub>e</sub> P.S.P.? He is not a member of the P.S.P.

SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN: That is why I thanked him for giving me some ijme from his half an hour, and through him his party also, and the Vice-Chairman for allowing me to speak on their behalf. I am utilising their time.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA (Uttar Pradesh): Substitution of 'P' by 'S\

SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS (Orissa): He is utilising our time, nothing else.

SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN: I am utilising their time. I have not been briefed and I cannot be briefed. also.

SHRI K. C. PANT: I hope it is beginning for better things to come.

SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS: Now let us not waste time on this.

SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN: A word now with regard to what is commonly called the Mahajan Report. As you know, Sir, the alleged boundary dispute between Kerala and Mysore along with the dispute between Maharashtra and Mysore was referred to the Mahajan Commission at a time when there wa<sub>s</sub> <sup>n</sup>0 Ministry in Kerala, without consultation with the political parties including the Congress in Kerala and without consultation with the then Government of Kerala. The Mahajan Report has suggested that part of Kasaragode taluk b© transferred to Mysore State. The entire

Kerala State oppose, that suggestion. That suggestion has been made, Sir, not on the basis of linguistic considerations, for Mr. Mahajan admits that the majority of the population in Kasaragode taluk is Malayalam speaking. But a dispute was made out as existing between the Marathi spoken in certain areas and its affinity to the Kannada language, and on that basis it has been suggested, not on the basis of any linguistic considerations, not on the basis of administrative considerations, but more on the basis of psychological factors, which this Commission should not have adjudicated upon at all and should not have suggested that this area should be transferred to Mysore State. The Mahajan Commission report is opposed tooth and nail by the people and the State Government of Maharashtra. They have also got the same complaints against that report. I am sure, Sir, that in the course of the coming year the Mahajan Commission report will find its rightful place in the waste paper baskets of the Home Ministry. I am meaning no disrespect to the great Mr. Mahajan who was a great Chief Justice of this country, but the report that he has made in this regard is thoroughly unuseful.

Sir, before I conclude may I say a word on food movement in this country. We have been saying, particularly we from Kerala, that there has been a lot of discrimination in the matter of sending rice to Kerala, and this discrimination is all the more apparent today. Accounts of 1965 and 1966 would show that the largest movement of surplus rice, as buffer stock to be kept in the go-down of the Food Corporation of India in Kerala, has been during the months of March, April and May, because the lean months in that State are June, July and August. But until now, Sir, I understand that about six lakh tonnes of rice are stored in the godowns of the Food Corporation of India in the State of Andhra Pradesh in spite of the fact that rationing

has been lifted in the State of Andhra Pradesh, in spite of the fact that there are no requirements of Andhra Pradesh Government on the buffer stock now held by the Food Corporation of India in that State. Now, during the months of March and April there has not been the movement of a single grain of rice, as buffer stock to be kept in the State of Kerala although such a movement took place in 1965 and 1966. It could not be done in 1967 because there was no buffer stock available with the F.C.I. in Andhra Pradesh at that time. I say, Sir, that it is a clear case of political discrimination against the United Front Government of Kerala when Andhra Pradesh does not want it.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY:

The hon. Member should know that Andhra Pradesh also had drought-stricken areas and to keep something in hand for the lean months was necessary.

SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN: I understand, Sir, that the officials of the Food Corporation of India, the Chairman of the F.C.I., pleaded with the hon. Food Minister to give clearance to move foodgrains to Kerala, and we all know that on account of the differences between them the Chairman of the Food Corporation of India has himself resigned. There has been a lot of confusion with regard to the decontrol of sugar, with regard to the pricing policy of maize and with regard to the movement of rice from Andhra Pradesh. The hon. lady Member may be aware of the fact, and if she is not aware of it I would tell her that up till now the Andhra Pradesh Government has not objected to the movement of rice procured from that State by the Food Corporation of India and kept by the F.C.I. in that state. And the obstruction to the movement has come only from the Government of India and on account of political considerations, on account of political discrimination. This sort of political discrimination against the State of Kerala, against

. the Government which is functioning . there—the United Front Governmem— . must cease.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY: It has nothing to do with the Andhra; it is for the Centre.

- SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN: There is absolute discrimination against the Government of Orissa, against the Government of Madras and against the Government of Kerala. Only some months back the hon. Deputy Prime Minister said that there were three non-Congress Governments which were effective, which could not be touched and which would exist. It is because there is no disunity in the three non-Congress Governments of Madras, Orissa and Kerala. An attempt is being made by the Congress Party, an attempt is being made by the Central Government to ruin the effectiveness of the Governments of Madras, Orissa and Kerala by acts of administrative and political discrimination which must stop.

SHRI KOTA PUNNAIAH (Andhra Pradesh): It is very unfair.

MISS M. L. MARY NAIDU (Andhra Pradesh): Why don't you press for Nagarjunasagar to be completed so that you may get more rice? When that comes up nobody pleads but when it is a question of procurement of rice then only you come to Andhra Pradesh. Nagarjunasagar is a very big project. Why don't you ask that funds should be made available to complete that?

SHRI KESAVAN (THAZHAVA) (Kerala): Rs. 100 crore may be given to Andhra Pradesh to complete Nagarjunasagar; we have no objection. We will contribute our quota also.

(Interruptions.)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN): Order, order. No more. Mr. Bhargava.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Mr. Vice Chairman, I had no intention of taking I

part in this debate but I thought it my duty to put straight some record and try to remove some injustice done to a scientist of world fame. I am referring to the incidents which happened in this august House on the 27th and 28th March, 1968. My friend, Mr. P. N. Kathju, whom I always regarded as a knowledgeable person so far as scientific subjects are concerned, made a blunder in one case and that is what I want to bring to the notice of this august House. And the blunder committed by him was when he said:

"I would like to refer to the case of the Director of an Engineering Institute, a discipline of which the hon. Minister is a distinguished member. This officer is a B. A. in an Arts subject and is a Graduate of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers. I leave it to the hon. Minister to decide for himself if he considers these as sufficient qualifications for the Director of a National Laboratory.. ."

I am sorry that the Secretariat of the CSIR failed to place all the facts in a straight manner before the Education Minister for replies to the questions raised in this august House. No doubt this gentleman is a Graduate of Arts but with what subjects and under what conditions? The Panjab University had a course of B.A. in which the subjects offered could be physics, mathematics and English. And this is exactly what this gentleman, Mr. M. M. Suri, Director of the Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute, Durgapur, did long time back. After that he was selected as Special Class Apprentice by the Railways at Jamalpur. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether in the history of this country any candidate without any scientific knowledge has ever been selected for being a special Class Apprentice in the Railways. That is a scientific selection and a scientific background has to be there before a candidate can be selected for that training. And that again is a very rigorous training of five years and it deals with all sides of engineering. This gentleman did that



course in a brilliant manner; he always topped the list. Then he joined the Railway service and put in 21 years of distinguished service in the Railways and during his service he found out or he succeeded in his research in what is called the Sun Transmission. Suri Transmission is an invention in mechanical engineering which has been recognised all over the world and over 100 patents have been given in various countries based on this one invention, namely, the Suri Transmission. And what is the reward that this gentleman has been getting? He was made Padma Shri by the Government of India and he was awarded Sir Bhatnagar Prize for his brilliant invention. Sir, Bhatnagar Prize, if I may tell the House, is an award which is made by the CSIR for brilliant work in any field of science during the year. This gentleman got the Bhatnagar Prize. It is not only in India that he got these honours. In England he got what is called the Sir Walter Pakki Award. Again I may tell the House that Sir Walter Pakki Award is an Award of no mean importance. It is given to scientists of the highest calibre for their inventions which are considered by a panel of scientist judges as being of the highest importance. This is the recognition from outside. In addition, year after year this gentleman is being given money for research by various countries of the world including the United States of America, the United Kingdom and USSR.

Now let us examine another aspect of the question and that is whether this gentleman applied for the post of Director of this Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute or whether he was forced to accept that post. He was happy in the Railways and the Railways were not prepared to release him but at the intervention of the then President, of the CSIR and our first beloved Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, he was

asked whether he would be willing to take up the Directorship of this Engineering Institute in 1958. He hesitated, because it was not his line. It was not the specialisation for which he had spent his life. He hesitated. . . intimately the then Director-General, the Education Secretary and the President of the CSIR compelled him to accept that post and he did so in a hesitant manner on a temporary basis. After eighteen months of service, he put the institution, which was considered to be one of the difficult National Laboratories, on a sound footing. Then, work started in that institute. Thereafter, the question arose whether his deputation from the Railways should continue or he should go back to the Railways or continue as the Director of the CMRI. This gentleman chose to go back to the Railways. But, again, the Prime Minister compelled him to stay on and said that he must retire from the Railways. So, he retired from the Railways and became the Director, on a permanent basis, of the Central Mechanical Research Institute. We thought that in this country where science and technology had to be recognised and had to find its full place, he would have been patted for what he had done in the field of science and technology, in the field of invention and for placing the country on the scientific map of the world, but I am extremely sorry to find what treatment has been meted out to him. Not only impediments have been placed in his work from time to time, especially after the change-over of the Secretary, but he has been harassed in other ways also.

Now, I will come to another aspect before speaking further on this matter and that is the question of consultancy fee of Rs. 1 lakh which became a matter of great concern in this august House and which resulted in the appointment of an enquiry committee for the CSIR on a motion moved by

(Shri M. P. Bhargava.) .me. Now, what is this consultancy fee? When he was serving in the Railways, he had invented his Suri Transmission. He was invited by other countries for further research and to give the benefit of his experience to other countries and to explain what exactly were the implications of the Suri transmission. Further there he could find out how Suri Transmission could be improved and learn about the various uses which could be made. When he came back to India. There was only one firm, Kirloskars, who were dealing in this branch of science. They were on the look-out for foreign consultants and, if possible, Indian consultants. Before Mr. Suri they were paying high fees to US consultants running into several lakhs of rupees per year. Here was a qualified scientist of India who could deliver the goods in their business line and who, the concern thought, could be useful for their work. So, an agreement was signed for five years for Mr. Suri to be the consultant of that firm. That was before he came to the National Laboratory at Durgapur. When the offer of Directorship was made to him, he made it absolutely clear that he was drawing Rs. 1 lakh as a consultant to Kirloskars. That was made clear by him. The DG, CSIR and the President of CSIR told him that he could continue in that position and the rules of the CSIR would only be applicable. That is what was told to him. He was not at all to give up that consultancy. If the Education Minister will now try to see the file, and try to get facts, as they are, I am sure he will come across all those things and that is exactly what my grouse is against the CSIR. There is suppression of facts, non-linking of papers, and then an effort is being made to run down our brilliant scientists. That is the very object for which I have been asking for the appointment of a parliamentary committee for the last two years. Our scientists are finding themselves choked as far as working conditions are concerned. The Directors of National Laboratories are no more

than administrative heads of National Laboratories. Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru took so much pains to establish these National Laboratories. From them he wanted a lot of work done. From them he wanted Indian technical know-how to be developed. Through them he wanted scientists and technologists to play their part in the development of this country. From them he expected that all the dreams, which he had for the betterment of the country, would be fulfilled. Alas, I am sorry to say, all his hopes have been belied and our scientific laboratories have become a den of groupism, running down each other, allowing no scientific person to work. They treat a person of the eminence of Mr. Suri in this shabby manner and now what is happening is that Mr. Suri is not allowed to function. The CBI is conducting an enquiry on the Kirloskar deal. They are harassing him every day saying: "You give us this fact; you give us that fact. You tell us this thing." This is what is happening. Not only that. The other day when he went to the United States on some lecture tour, his wife was being harassed by the police to give facts about something or the other. Is this the way we are going to treat our scientists? Is this the way we expect science and technology to play its part in the development of the country? I would beseech the Education Minister to go through the files of this case and before the House adjourn on the 10th May, make a statement in this House whether what I have said in the House is correct or what has been supplied to him by the Secretariat is correct. This is a test case. I want the Education Minister to go into it and if he finds that what I have stated is correct, the Secretary of the CSIR must be suspended forthwith and action should be taken. I want to mention another thing before I sit down. There was a case of suicide of Dr. Joseph in the Agricultural Research Institute several years back, and it is very close to my lot at that time to produce facts about that suicide which was forced by the callous treatment

given to him by the officers of the Institute. I am now saying that a murder is being committed by the C.S.I.R. Secretary about an upper division clerk. There was fire in one of the rooms of the C.S.I.R. This gentleman was suspended. On what ground? Since the disciplinary action proceedings are to be instituted against a particular person he is suspended forthwith without any charge, without any allegation. That man came to me immediately after getting the suspension order. He was a bright young man full of hopes, full of aspirations, and yesterday again that same gentleman came to me at 10.30 when I returned from Agra and what I saw of the gentleman—I wept and wept within myself that this is what is happening to the scientific workers, this is the treatment that is being given. That man has become a mental wreck. The police investigated about that fire and they have come to the conclusion that there is nothing against that man except he is being harassed because of the group politics in the central headquarters of what is called the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research. This is another case I would like the Minister to investigate with speed. Otherwise I am sure within the next few days Mr. V. K Das would have gone to the other world. I have got innumerable cases but I have cited two cases so that immediate action can be taken.

Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN): Mr. Alva.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA (Maharashtra): Sir, he sneaks, will you please ask the hon. Education Minister to enlighten us on this question? On the 20th March the hon. Education Minister announced in the House that a Committee will be appointed to investigate into matters of the C.S.I.R. We have not so far heard from the Government whether such a Committee has been constituted, whether it has started functioning. Where so many cases have been cited by Mr.

Bhargava on the floor of the House, should we not know from the Education Minister why the Committee is not appointed? Or it appointed when was it appointed and what is the personnel of the Committee? It was an announcement made by the hon. Education Minister on the floor of the House and we have not heard so far what happened to the Committee. Will he please let us know what has happened to it?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN): Does the Education Minister desire to say something?

SHRI BRAHMANANDA PANDA (Orissa): We want a statement, as early as possible.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN): Would you like to say something, Dr. Sen?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (DR. TRIGUNA SEN): Not now.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN): You consider over it.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Mr. Vice-Chairman if I may be allowed to say a word, the Committee is on the process of being appointed.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA: Let the hon. Minister say.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Please hear me. I hope the Committee would be announced in a day or two.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA: Let the hon. Minister say. Mr. Bhargava is not deputed to do the job. Let the hon. Education Minister say.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN): You wanted information and you got it.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA: Let the hon. Minister say.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN): He as a responsible Minister probably wants time to say something.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA: Let him say so.

SHRIMATI LALITHA (RAJAGOPALAN) (Madi-as): The information furnished by Mr. Bhargava should come from the Government.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN): He will say after Mr. Alva finishes. Meanwhile he will consider. Mr. Alva.

SHRI JOACHIM ALVA (Nominated): Mr. Vice-Chairman, when I rise to speak this afternoon on the Appropriation Bill stressing the point on defence, my mind goes back to March, 1950 when the then Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Mr. Satya Narayan Sinha, rushed to me whilst Mr. K. M. Munshi was speaking on the Defence estimate on behalf of the Congress Party and he asked me that I should support the demand. I was a new Member of the House then and I did not know what to say, and it is for the first time I have been looking up my speech of 1950 and I still feel that one or two points I then raised on that matter are still valid today. I gratefully recall that Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel who was then sitting on the Treasury Benches heard me and immediately left after my speech. Why I mention this is that from that day on I have been taking part in the discussions on Defence estimates debate, that is, for the last seventeen years I have taken part. In 1965 I was Congress spokesman for the Defence estimates debate and only last year I happened to be out of the bag, and I am happy that I am still taking up this point—that I have taken the chance to speak on the Defence estimates now for the eighteenth time.

Sir, there are three points I would like to place before the House and they are these: We must have \*??-

reliance in science, a point on which my friend, the previous speaker spoke so eloquently, food and defence. Food, defence and science are the three cardinal points we should like to put to the fore and carry round our country but not around other countries with a begging bowl along the rest of the world. These are the three points which we should hammer out. When we become self-reliant in science, in scientific achievement, when we have become self-reliant in food and we become self-reliant in defence, we shall have perhaps achieved more than half of the content of our independence.

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Sir, we have to go back to the recent times when we fought great battles in the Punjab. I was in the first delegation of Indian M. Ps. that went out to NEFA where I saw large bones of jawans. They were the bones of Punjabis. I take my hat off to them. The bones are sprawled a stretch of ten miles in the NEFA area. So many have perished. Their names are not known to us. Their names are also forgotten by their dearest friends. But when anyone wants to go to NEFA and see bones spread around a stretch of 10 mile area, he will see the large bones of our great soldiers who resisted the Chinese. They shall always be remembered by us. And then Mr. Mahavir Tyagi took a quantity of bones and brought them down to Parliament House in their memory. I was also, Sir, in the first delegation of Indian M.Ps. to Khen\* Karan. We must pay our tribute to all those great peasants who came out fighting. The peasants had flooded the dams and made it impossible for the Pakistani soldiers to come across. Not only did they do this, but they fed and gave food and gave drinks to the soldiers and to all of us who went that way. The Indian peasantry have shown their stuff as soldiers and heroes, just as the peasantry of China and Russia have done in their wars.

In the early fifties I remember reading an article by Mr. Rawle Knox

whom I had the pleasure of meeting here later on last year. He was the well known correspondent of the "London Observer". He wrote three things about the Chinese army which I still vividly remember, in the early fifties. "The Chinese army is well fed, well dressed, well looked after, and popular in the countryside." These are the phrases that I try to remember, which Rawle Knox pinpointed about the Chinese army. I do not know whether he sat in Hongkong and wrote those things; I did not ask him. But I want the House to note the best points about our enemies and opponents since the Chinese have now been brought right at our door- , steps.

Then, sir, about the Russians. It has been said of the Russians that it is not so much the Communist spirit that made them fight the Nazis. I had been in Stalingrad and on an early morning I breathed the air of Stalingrad, how the Russians beat back the Nazi hordes. If they had not beaten back the Nazi hordes, perhaps you and I, Sir, would not be sitting here. Stalingrad won one of the greatest battles of history. There again it was the peasant that asserted himself, the patriotism of the average Russian; he may not have been so much enamoured of Communism, but that was the spirit of the peasantry. Whether it is in the Punjab plains or in Stalingrad or in China, the peasants of each one of these three large countries with the largest population in the world have gone on fighting their enemies. Whether we like those people on this side or not is another point. Sir, once we were dependent on His Majesty's Government of the United Kingdom for our protection. Now, the British Army is liquidated in a way. We, however, admire the British, they have been the pioneers in the Air Force and they have been great fighters. The British invented radar to beat back the Nazis. We regret that the British Army has fallen on evil days in the sense that the British Empire has been liquidat-

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ed. The Americans had given a wonderful account of themselves in the Second World War under General Eisenhower. Now we have seen how a little tiny man like General GIAP who had never forgiven the French for having tortured his wife beat back the French in the battle for Dien Bien Phu. Now, he so shook the world that the dollar has come down and tumbling and President Johnson had to sue for peace. Less than 20 million people fighting in North Vietnam are a source of perpetual and eternal inspiration to all of us, to the people of Asia and Africa. We must never forget that the Vietnamese have suffered bombing ten times more effective, massive and destructive than the bombing that was made in the last war. I am proud when I was reminded by the Vietnamese people; that I was the first Indian MP in the Indian Parliament to condemn the napalm bombing by the French in Indo-China. Today on account of American aid, we have forgotten our duty to Vietnamese children and their women. That is why I say that we should be self-reliant in food, self-reliant in science and self-reliant in defence. Otherwise, we shall always be in the wayside begging with a bowl for food and asking the scientists to come over. Take Israel. Though we have not very friendly relationship with Israel in the sense that we have no diplomatic relations with them and have not have much to do with Israel, Israel by the force of its armament and by skilful handling recently defeated the UAR which had better equipment, than Israel or perhaps even ourselves in regard to Air Force and other matters. Their armament was excellent. We have still skilful hands amongst us. An IRAQUI officer who the other day was amongst our officers for training paid a tribute to the Indians. He said, you Indians are a friendly people. I have been trained in the USSR, have been trained in the USA and I have been trained in the United Kingdom. But you Indians are very friendly. But there is something more remarkable about you. Your thought process is superior to any of the

[Shri Joachim Alva.] people I have been before. Sir, this thought process is a wonderful thing in which we have been trained to use against foreign invasions. But that process we are not implementing as much as we should do. We have the third or fourth largest army in the world. What are we doing about that army? We have no tanks to fight the Paton tanks. Our tanks are outmoded. In our tanks we are very poor. Thank God the Vijayanta tanks are coming out from the Avadi Factory and we produce about a hundred a year. When we talk about peace, we shall always perpetually talk of peace. We shall not cut off our thread of contact with China. When Pandit Nehru initiated the foreign policy, my friends were saying that whatever policy has been laid down has now been flung into dust. They forget that it is good to preserve the golden means of contact with the worst enemy. We shall have contact with China; we may not trade with her, we may treat her as an outcaste. Just as a diplomat said, "Just smile at them and walk away." But unless we preserve this dominant spirit which Mahatma Gandhi taught us, our country can neither go forward nor can we be valiant soldiers. We shall have to defend our territory unto our last soldier.

One point I raised in the year 1950. I think we then had 200 Ministers all over the country. But I would like to know how many of the Ministers have sent one of their sons to the battlefield. One of our sons we must give either to science or to defence or to some battle-field or other. The Air Force makes the highest sacrifice, and I would like to say what I said before that by 1957 Pakistan would have the largest Air Force of Asia, qualitatively and quantitatively, excepting China. Much water has flowed down as a result of the British partition. And Mahatma Gandhi was right when he said that he was opposed to partition . . . .  
Latter. British influence

was washed out in Pakistan and the Americans came in. The Americans were also liquidated. And now finally as a result of the policy of partition, the Chinese are at our door-step—all because, Britain encouraged partition which made brother fight brother. We recall with pride how much friendship there was between Hindus and Muslims and Sikhs in the Punjab. All that has been washed down through banks of rivers of blood. How can we forget it. We have seen in our lifetime the great, terrific tragedy of partition of our land. We cannot forget that it was partition that finally brought us to this war. Our armies are flung across each other's throats. A number of vipers are entwined around us and we are not able to out them all out. Today our Army and Air Force and Navy have to be in the finest fighting mettle. Otherwise, we have no salvation. We have not attained economic swaraj. We won political freedom. But the economic contents are washed away at the hands of greedy, aggressive monopolists.

My friend there, Shri Bhargava spoke of scientists. Does he know that India has got less than 120 dollars of average income, while the rich man has 1,200 dollars of average income abroad? How is it that two men helped China to make the nuclear bomb and the missile? One of them walked away from China because China would not keep him well. Two Chinese scientists from America went out to China—one to make the missile and the other to make the nuclear bomb. One of them who went out to China was shabbily treated by Mao and he went back to the USA. The USA people also treated him suspiciously. Thereafter he went back to China and ultimately made the nuclear bomb. Well, the Chinese are content with just a little coat and pants and food enough to sustain themselves. I know what they have done. The Chinese scientists do not claim extra privileges of a lakh like our scientists.

in public life, who are content with less than Rs. 1,000 per month and carry on. We have to find out how Mahatma Gandhi and Pandit Nehru felt on these points. They felt, if the common man has not got any advantage, we could not load our pockets. I do agree with my friend that it is wrong for the police to enter the scientist's house or harass. Dr. Suri or the Kirloskars. I have every sympathy for Dr. Suri. But the trouble is that clean industrialists or good scientists should not be harassed. I have been a Member on behalf of Parliament for several years in the Institute of Science at Bangalore. This question of other emoluments for scientists came up. When people take extra privileges in the form of fees from Indian or foreign firms some of us strongly objected to it. Why? Take away by all means three or four thousand rupees of salary if you want, but do not go on taking one or two lakhs extra. Our scientists owe a moral obligation to be in this land of their birth. They have no business to go out of this land because they get an extra salary. Now the fate is in the air. The US Government has asked Indians permanently settled there to take up arms, to put on the uniform and go and fight our own neighbours in Asia. And this is the effect of their having deserted their own motherland. However good or bad our motherland may be, our sons and daughters must live and die in our own country in the final round. They must not leave the country for a mess of pottage saying—that they do not get much here. We are in a developing stage. We have many things, things are not wanting. If you had seen the Germans after the Second World War, some of them had riot had patched up coats and pants for sometime. They suffered the hard way. Some of our scientists come from outside and say that they have had a wonderful time there. But there is no country like Hindustan in any part of the world, with such great people, with such great resources, with such natural resources, fruits and food of variety. Maybe, the I

leadership of every type may not be correct, it may be the leadership at the top; or that all the people may not be correct. But it is in our hands to put things right. Well, if you and I are wrong, how will our armies fight for us? Should they not be in their uniforms showing you the way? I was the only MP who went to attend the First World Aviation medical conference here in Delhi. I was amazed to find that the three or four Indians were as good as, or better than, any! one that came from America, Europe or the USSR. And that hot afternoon I felt that these men in uniform would one day seize power, that they would drive you out of Parliament, saying that as you would not discharge your duty on behalf of the people of India, we shall take power. But that situation has not come. I want to warn this House that situation might come when some of our Army officers or the Defence Forces may become the pawns of outside powers. That situation may come only when some of our own Army officers, people in the Defence Forces, cast off their uniform and intrigue against the best interests of the motherland. We have to guard such a situation although our defence personnel off their uniform are as good or bad as the rest of the people in our country.

Sir, in 1956, several times I declared on the floor of Parliament and outside that by July 1957, the Pakistan Air Force would be the largest in Asia, both qualitatively and quantitatively, excepting China. Now at least, the Indian Air Force in volume, firepower and personnel must exceed that of any one of the seven countries around our orbit, if not more than the dimension of all the seven if India were to finally keep her lines of air security undimmed. The Indian Air Force should primarily aim that its Air arm should be better than any one of the air arms of any country from the Red Sea or the Persian Gulf up to the Bay of Bengal. Egypt, Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Burma and Ceylon are included in that circle.

[Shri Joachim Alva.] Unless we plan within this orbit, we have no guarantee of survival. Unless we make our Air Force stronger than all these countries put together we shall not retain our independence; we shall not retain the fruits of our independence.

Sir, about four years ago when I was in Moscow I counted the number of aircraft there. The number of civil aircraft was 250, the highest number than I saw in any other airport in the world including America. During the course of the last few years the Soviet Union has reached the height of their aeronautical production. If I were to give an opinion about the Soviet Air Force, you will perhaps say that I am pro-communist. I am not a Communist. This opinion is printed in the *Interavia* published from Geneva. It comes from Switzerland published in English, French, Italian and German. What has it got to say about the Soviet aircraft? [I will quote the exact words so that there is no difficulty to understand the point raised in this article. I am sorry that we have not arrived at a point in our history when we should buy our aircraft, military and civil, from the Soviet Union. Today I am fortified by this article. You will pardon me, Sir, and you will bear with me when I quote from *Interavia* magazine to put it on record. It says:

"Air France, Alitalia, BOAC and Lufthansa have reported that 1965 was their best year financially, and on this count are due for congratulations. But the home countries of these four government-owned airlines have aircraft industries which face a bleak future as far as civil aircraft production is concerned..."

Air transport constructors accept that except the Americans Russians are at the top of the world in aeronautical production. The article goes on to say:-

". . . the air transport constructors, except the American and Russian, have little to enthuse over One-.-.

the West European aviation industry has been allowed to collapse, deterioration in other fields of technology-will follow rapidly . . .".

It says further:-

"When the US becomes the sole builder of commercial transport aircraft in the Western world (and perhaps by this time there will be only one American constructor), the European airlines may have to buy from Russia to remain competitive."

It says that the European companies will have to buy from Russia to remain in competition. After this, should we not ponder? Should not our officials who take trips abroad and who are great masters in aviation or our Ministers or anyone before and hereafter not think of a situation of self-sufficiency, thinking of the times of trouble? Did not the Soviet Union give us planes and missiles to beat down the Pakistani aggression and did they not stand by us all these years on the Kashmir question at the U.N.? I want to ask whether we can still debate as to wherefrom to buy our aircraft. When we need we shall buy from the best market. We shall buy from the best market where the things are the cheapest and then only shall we be economical in our aviation.

Then, Sir, I come to the Navy. The power of the Indian Navy must exceed that of any country within the orbit of the Red Sea, Persian Gulf, Arabian Sea or the Bay of Bengal. Unless the Indian Navy became the mistress of the Seas, both in the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal, we could neither survive nor could we be assured of the security of our land and shores. India has a land frontier of 3,500 miles and a coast line of 3,000 miles.

Out of fifty cities of the world with over a million population, forty cities are ports and fifty per cent, of the entire world population lives within fifty miles of the sea shore;



and seventy per cent, of the world is covered with water. In view of this, we have a special responsibility in regard to the waters surrounding our vast coast line. Unless we are masters of our surrounding seas, we cannot retain our independence. We have now acquired three submarines from the Soviet Union. What did England and America do when we asked them to supply us submarines? These countries which talk so much about democracy and our people. But three submarines are not enough. We require a fleet of at least thirty of them.

Sir, I was the first M.P. to attend the FARN Borough Air Show of U.K. and later also the Paris Air Show. Later I mentioned this fact to the late Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru whether India could not hold a similar international air rally here. It did not matter if we manufactured two planes and all the planes of the world came into a rally here. I discussed this matter with the then Air Marshal regarding water and electricity for the show. Our boys and girls could have viewed the aeroplanes of the world. They would have got enthusiastic about them. I must pay a tribute to the Gujarati girls who have scaled the mountains and put men to shame. In the nine mountain expeditions which have been listed in the estimates, there is one was led by a Bengali girl who scaled 19,000 ft. with other girls. The Bengali girl leader was our guest for a few days in Delhi. Another one was led by Gujarati girls who perhaps have not the same physical stamina as those from the North. They scaled the mountains. It is time that our boys and girls are put to mountaineering in order to build up our defence capacity so that when the time comes we shall put them on the mountain tops to see that no enemy enters our territory.

Again I must say one more thing. When I was in Hamburg in 1957 I saw the yards from where the Ger-

man submarines used to go out to destroy Allied Shipping in World War II. We must be masters of the Seas in the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea; otherwise we cannot keep our security and freedom going. Let there be no party distinction on this matter. Let there be no party voice of dissent on this question. Unless we guard our frontiers against foreign aggression we cannot keep ourselves going. To reiterate, India must have complete mastery of the seas throughout the Arabian Sea starting from the point where the Rann of Kutch meets the mouths of the Indus and the whole area of the Bay of Bengal covering up the Andamans and Nicobar Islands.

In the second World War, Japan was compelled to capitulate by the destruction of her fleet without invasion of her country. In a time of conflict, from the naval point of view, India could be compelled to capitulate by the enemy cutting her supplies without destroying her Navy, or compelled to surrender by the destruction of her fleet without an actual invasion.

A powerful fleet is not sufficient in itself to control the sea. Other essential factors are:

- (i) a large Merchant Fleet;
- (ii) long transports;
- (iii) well-sited bases; and
- (iv) a Government which lays emphasis on the sea.

I would like to raise another point which I have been doing sometimes in the 17 annual Defence Debate discussions in which I have participated. Thirty-nine thousand officers and men served in 820 German submarines during the greatest war in history. Except for the fortunate seven thousand all of them perished. And where are our submarines and where are our men? We need more and more submarines badly. Thank God, when I visited

[Shri Joachim Alva.]

The Hamburg ship building yard— I forgot the name—HOWARD WERLVS The German shipbuilders there mentioned to me that they built submarines during the war in four weeks in fifteen different places and assembled them in 3 to 4 days. Now these are the lessons of history. These are the lessons of production. You and I can do it. You and I can rise to the occasion. You and I can do all these things if only we all worked hard and ceaselessly. When we shall be self-reliant in food, science, technology and defence, then we shall have done a big job indeed.

One more word I have got to say before I sit down. Whether it was a war against Pakistan or China, India showed that it was a brave nation indeed. Only last week I was at the Poona Railway Station and I suddenly saw a marble slab. I thought "What is this?" The name of Tara-pore did not get into my head. Then a description of Tarapore was embossed in marble. The citizens of Maharashtra had put up slab at the Poona Railway Station for Tarapore who perished in the war as a great soldier and whose wife was awarded a medal or a purse by the President. Then there was Hamid. There was Keeler, that wizard of a bomber in the gallant Angle-Indian buy. These I three persons from three different communities, from the minority communities, had done wonderfully well. So also we had the people from Punjab, Hindus and Sikhs, who have always taken the first blow on themselves and who have kept the freedom of the country going. So many have won Mahavir Chakras. And when this has been the state of our country, it is a shame that brother is killing brother. I would only say "Kill and be damned."

SHRI M. M. DHARIA: Sir, the Education Minister was to make some statement.

DR. TRIGUNA SEN: What statement was I expected to make?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN): Mr. Dharia enquired whether you are in a position to say anything on a certain demand about the appointment of a Committee that was made some time-back in this House.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: (Gujarat): It was an assurance from the Prime Minister.

DR. TRIGUNA SEN: Yes, Sir, the personnel of the Committee will be declared in the House in a day or two.

SHRI G. A. APPAN (Madras): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I am really pained to see the grave economic crisis that has arisen in this country since 1950. It is also distressing for me to note that the prices of commodities are soaring high unheeded and unchecked and there is greater inflation and recession. Labour trouble is also there. Everybody is clamouring for more and more but he is willing to work only less and less. As such the productive capacity of our country in every field of activity has gone down. As such, the per capita income has not risen as much as it ought to have in all these years. We had been aiming at a slow rate of growth, a slow rate of production and a slow rate of increase of our national resources. It is very distressing to note, Mr. Vice-Chairman, that the foreign debt of our nation as on January 1 this year has risen to Rs. 3,353 crores because of this recession, devaluation and things like that. At the time we got our independence, we were a creditor country. We had so many crores of foreign exchange as our credit. But we have become a debtor country now. There is a proverb in Tamil which says that a person who has got debt can never have a peace of mind. No conscientious man can have peace of mind even if he has

40t one rupee as debt. But in this country with a debt of Rs. 3,353 crores, we are trying to pass our five in our own way. We have to be more economical in our expenditure. There is no use thinking that ; we go on planning. Now, the Planning Commission has also got a target of 3.5 per cent or 4 per cent growth in the Five-Year Plans to achieve. But it is a slow rate of progress. If we want to clear this debt of Rs. 3,353 crores, we will have to work hard. So, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir I submit that our rate of production, our rate of growth and everything else, should at least be 15 per cent to start with and then we can come to three per cent or four per cent. For this end, we will have to increase our productivity, reduce our wastage and reduce our cost of production. Many people say Sir, that we have to increase the export target of our country. Now, if at all we want to live honourably, we have to be a creditor country as we had been before independence. We cannot go on remaining a debtor country. We have to increase our exports. But to increase our exports, we should also try to take in something, for trade is a two-way process. Unless we take in something from other countries, others will not be able to take anything from us. So unless imports and exports increase, we cannot give full employment for all our people. So the main criterion here is that we have to aim more at full employment than anything else. There is no use giving free education, free training and so on. People will have to be self-sufficient. They will have to help themselves. That is why it is said, self help is the best help. So we have to give something and take something and we should always try to be a creditor country than as a debtor country.

The price level of various commodities have also risen very high. As far as I know, from 1939 to 1945, the price of brinjal was only 1-1.5 paise. Gingelly oil was costing only six annas. But now the pur-

chasing power of our rupee has gone down to 10 to 15 per cent. Supposing a capitalist, a manager, gives one rupee to his subordinate and asks him to go and purchase a certain commodity, and if he loses even one anna or 5 paise, what will the Manager think? What will the capitalist think? He will say that the subordinate is no good. But this Government is responsible for the deterioration of our purchasing power to 10 to 15 per cent. We have to see that disparities are removed, that the price rises are checked and that our requirements are reduced to the barest minimum.

I should also like to express my opinion about the treatment meted out to Scheduled Castes. There are many provisions in the Constitution for protecting the interests of the Scheduled Castes in a number of respects. But I am really pained to say that it is all merely on paper and not in spirit. Recently our House and the Lok Sabha have been discussing the difficulties experienced by these poor Scheduled Caste people. Now, after all one Minister-concerned said that the Scheduled Castes deserved to be treated in a particular manner. For this simple thing, there has been so much of agitation. Every body says that it is a grave thing. I also accept it. But there are graver things, worse things, that we would not like to tolerate. In a socialist country like this, in a democratic country like this, where Gandhi-ji lived, where Nehruji lived, where great leaders like them lived, the treatment meted out to these unfortunate brethren, after those leaders passed away, is deplorable and very horrible. After all for these people there is 16 to 25 per cent, of reservation in the services. Many Committees and Commissions have been appointed to find out the position of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the services. Before our hon. and great leader, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, passed away, there was a seminar of the Scheduled Caste leaders to assess

[Shri G. A. Appan.] the position of the Scheduled Castes in services and in other walks of life. It was a seminar headed by Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao. It was somewhere in the earlier part of 1965 if I remember aright. When I saw that report, there was nothing very useful; they took everything in a casual way. The Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the year 1966-67 is in my hands. I am really very much pained to find that most of the States do not care to implement the constitutional provisions and safeguards promised to us. So also is the position of the Scheduled Castes in the services. I may be permitted to draw the attention of the House to pages 15 and 17 of this Report. There is not even one per cent, increase in their representation from 1959 to 1966. It is really very deplorable. If that is the attitude of the Central Government and the Congress Governments in various other States, it is because effective steps have not been taken or there has not been any effective supervision and control for improving their representation. That shows they have no honest intentions to do these things. So also is the position of the Scheduled Castes in the various Government of India undertakings. In this respect I may kindly be permitted to draw the attention of the House to pages 91 to 100 of the same Report. Here it "might be very interesting to note that out of 100 jobs at least 20 should go to the Harijans. In the matter of top jobs many heads of institutions, departmental chiefs, factory chiefs and corporation chiefs have failed to honour these safeguards and they have ignored the same in utter disregard of the constitutional provisions. In this respect many difficulties have come to my notice. During the last 10 or 15 years when I have been in public life what have I found? When they want jobs for their own men, they write to the Government and to the Department. They ask for a certain number of places to be reserved. Even when suit-

able, qualified and experienced candidates from these communities are available, they simply say "No suitable candidate is available; we have tried once or twice." And they again dereserve these posts for their own men. Such things have happened in a number of cases which have come to my notice and no action has been taken against such persons. Although there are many Scheduled Caste candidates who are highly trained, highly experienced and better fitted than many of their fellow-brethren, they are ignored in a number of cases for promotions. I have myself brought many of these things to the notice of the Central Government and the various State Governments and I have pointed out the Atrocities committed by the people at the helm of affairs. No doubt I have been able to succeed in certain cases.

Here I may be permitted to say that there are a number of promising officers who are being penalised and dismissed. For example I can cite the case of Mr. Shankara Rao, an eminent I.A.S. officer in the Madras Government. By the unkindness of one of the Congress Ministers here who was highly caste-ridden he has been penalised and he has been dismissed. You know the findings. It is said "He might have done it expecting a future consideration". There is no sufficient proof that he has been responsible for all these things. But simply it is said that he might have done it. I do not think anybody could believe this. On the other hand, another officer who actually has been found guilty has been exonerated. Such things have also been there. A number of promotion cases have been overlooked. There are a number of cases from the Railway Department and from the P. & T. Department which have come to my notice. There are also cases where the courts have passed orders reinstating them. But in spite of the courts' orders some at the Congress Governments want to go in appeal. I do not feel it is

honest and honourable on the part of such Government officials. Such injustices are also there. My submission to the House is that whenever any Committees are appointed, they should consist of members who are really interested in the welfare of the Scheduled Caste people and not people who are simply 'yesmen' and who would like to back the party and members in power or the vested interests.

Secondly, coming to the point with regard to interstate relationship, the Madras Government have adopted the policy of one rupee a measure rice to the poor people. Our Government has been asking for sufficient subsidy and grants from the Central Government but so far no sufficient assurance and help has come from the Central Government about that. After all the Central Government is spending so much on the North for rehabilitation, foodgrains, and for things like that. So there is discriminatory treatment and step-motherly treatment being given to us. We have been clamouring for the establishment of a steel plant at Salem. But always there is some lame excuse being given that they have no funds available and all that. After all if there is anything required, we can ourselves manage it. That is what Mr. Venkataraman, the previous Industries Minister, of Madras said. When you are able to lock up so much of your capital hundred crores and more on the Bokaro steel plant, on the ever-losing Durgapur steel plant and other steel plants, why not divide that money and give it for the Salem steel plant for the industrial development of our State also? In this respect I request that this Government should be kind and fair to us and give us at least that percentage of the development funds for our State to improve our industries. We should like to start a number of industries. For this the licensing policy should be left to the States.

Regarding postal rates, it is very surprising to note that the poor man has

been hit very heavily by the increase in the postal rates. I have been sending post cards for 1\$ paise—mukkal thuttu—and the cover for only half an anna, that is the present three paise but to-day it is 20 paise. The post card is for 10 paise. That is why I said that the purchasing power of our rupee has fallen so low. There is another proof that the increase in the prices of these postal rates will only depreciate our postal income. That can be seen on page 2 of the Postal Department's annual report. It can very well be seen that as and when the Government begin to increase the postal rates, the revenue also decreases. You inflate the postal rate and the postmen clamour for more wages. The Government had been neglecting the interest of the consumer. Of course there are tripartite arrangements but the interest of the fourth factor of production—the consumer—is neglected completely. In all such conferences the fourth factor of production, the consumer, should also be associated so that he may also ventilate his grievance in the interest of national economy.

SHRI CHANDRAMOULI JAGARLAMUDI (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairman, it is 20 years since we had attained independence. At that time our leaders had shouted from the housetops that the hated Britishers, the plundering Britishers had been driven away from our shores, that hereafter not a pie of our wealth would go out of our country, that a heaven on earth would be created in this country, that the disparity between the rich and the poor would be done away with, that everything will be available in plenty—food for eating, cloth to wear and a roof over everybody's head—But what has been done? Have we attained any of these promises? Has the heaven on earth been created? Have the promised goods been delivered? No. We are in a much poorer condition than we were during the British period. What is this due to? In my opinion it is mainly due to the faulty planning of our planners. In-

[Shri Chandramauli Jagarlamudi.] staid of following the planning of the flourishing countries who have come out of the ravages of war like Japan and West Germany, we have adopted the planning of Soviet Russia. Soviet Russia's planning might have been good for that country but as far as we are concerned, that planning is no good at all. It has brought us to the verge of ruin. We have become a begging nation. Instead of laying stress on agriculture we have laid stress on heavy industries. Where are we? As far as heavy industry is concerned, it is in the doldrums. As far as food production is concerned, we are becoming deficient year by year. At the time of independence we were short by 4 million tonnes of foodgrains. Now we are short by 7 million tonnes. Our planners and economists had been telling us that our food production has gone up year by year. When asked about the increased foodgrains imports, they say: 'The weather has been unkind and unfortunately the birth rate has gone up and so we have more mouths to feed'. The birth rate has not gone up. Recently a French economist came—I read in the papers the report—who said that the birth rate has remained as before. It has not increased at all. Asked about the increased foodgrain production, there is no answer. In my opinion if you remove the control on the movement of food everybody will have enough to eat. Just now the Kerala friend has been saying that there was plenty of foodgrains in Andhra but the F.C.I. were not able to get it when they asked the Andhra people because they said they had control. If there was free trade, if we did not have control, the surplus production of Andhra would have gone to the deficit States and they could have had as much paddy or foodgrains as they liked. On account of controls they are not able to get it.

[THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the chair* J

We are not able to send our foodgrains to the deficit States. That is on

account of faulty instructions of the Government of India. According to me there is plenty of food in the country. Have we ever heard of starvation deaths in the surplus States? When you have money to buy, you can have plenty of grains. Only the other day I found in Delhi after the ration has been removed, you get first-class rice at cheaper rates. The same thing would have happened there. Kerala need not have to pay so much for food from the other States. The prices would automatically have come down. You might remember that when Rajaji was in power at Madras, when there was control all over the country, he was bold enough to do away with food control and though at first the prices soared up, gradually they came down and everybody was able to get any amount of food. The same thing could have been done here.

There is a rule, an absurd rule in my opinion, regarding election expenses. Everybody knows that nobody can keep to the amount of expense prescribed both for the Lok Sabha and for the State Assembly. Rs. 6,000 is the limit for the Assembly and Rs. 25,000 for the Parliament. Can anybody, I challenge, say that—I ask every MP. and every Member of the Assembly—he has correctly given the statement regarding the election expenses? As far as Andhra is concerned, even in the poor district of Srikakulam, nobody can expect to become a Member unless he spends at least Rs. 25,000. It is a district where the purchase of votes is not the fashion. Even there one has to spend Rs. 25,000. You can imagine how much an M.P. has to spend to become a member from the Circar district. The election expense for the Assembly would run to Rs. 2 lakhs. I would not like to mention the name. There is a place in Andhra where there were 75,000 votes and there were two powerful candidates contesting from that constituency. According to them both together purchased 125,000 votes. One

candidate spent twelve lakhs of rupees and the other candidate spent eight lakhs of rupees.

SHRI A. D. MANI (Madhya Pradesh): How can you say all this? Why did you not file an election petition?

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: *Mr.* Mani should know that the hon. Member is delivering his 'maiden speech' and there should be no disturbance.

SHRI A. D. MANI: I am sorry.

SHRI CHANDRAMOULI JAGARLAMUDI: What would be the result of the election petition? So it would be better to do away with these election expense returns.

Another thing, Madam, is the contemplated abolition of privy purses. At the time of drafting our Constitution, due to the great ingenuity of the late Sardar Vallabhai Patel, he managed with the princes to come and join us with certain reservations, on the promise that they would be given their privy purses. We had entered into a solemn agreement with them. If it were not for their co-operation we would have had a number of countries within our country. It would have been another Balkanisation. But we were saved out of that trouble due to their co-operation. Because in the recent General Elections some of the provinces turned against the ruling party and defeated some of the stalwarts of the Congress, the Congress Party now thinks of abolishing their privy purses. Is it right? I do not think so. You have to keep your promise. If you do not do it, it is really a bad method that the Congress Party is going to adopt.

I shall refer to another thing, and it is the fertilizers. Now-a-days we are reaping a better harvest of food-grains due to the increased use of fertilizers. But our fertilizer prices are three to four times as much as the world prices. Instead of supplying

these fertilizers cheaply, we are making heavy sums for these fertilizers. Now, apart from not subsidising these fertilizers, the fertilizer pool, I hear, made a profit of about 45% to 50 crores of rupees. Instead of that, had they subsidised these fertilizers and given these fertilizers to the poor ryots at cheaper rates, we could have certainly increased the production of foodgrains further and could have had less imports of foodgrains. And our country would have progressed very much.

Thank you.

SHRI KESAVAN (THAZHAVA): Madam Deputy Chairman, the Finance Minister has placed this Appropriation Bill before this House for our approval. I am from Kerala and the people of Kerala are being meted out a stepmotherly treatment by the Centre in all respects. Taking that fact into consideration how can I give my approval to this Bill? Whenever we raise our legitimate claims the Centre may make several promises. But those promises are always found to come belated and never fulfilled. Three Plans are over and during these three Plans several promises were made. In some cases we were asked to acquire land for launching some projects. For example there was the Noriamangalam project for Phyto chemicals. Land was acquired. It was cleared. Roads were constructed. Several lakhs of rupees were spent over it. Finally we heard that the project was not going to be established there. There are several other examples also, but I do not want to say much on what the Government did with them. Now the Central Government have taken up food as a weapon to topple the United Front Government of Kerala. In 1957, when the Communist Party came to power, our present Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, was then the Congress President. A liberation movement launched by Shrimati Indira Gandhi as President of the Indian National Congress, and several dastardly acts

[Shri Kesavan (Thazhava)] were committed, and finally that Government was dismissed, most undemocratically and unconstitutionally. Now it is not possible to resort to such a liberation movement. So the Government at the Centre has taken up food as a weapon in their hands to topple the Kerala United Front Government. Everybody knows that Kerala State is the most deficit area so far as food-grains are concerned. There is no dispute with regard to that. That fact is admitted by our Food Minister even in this House. And everybody knows that Kerala is the most densely populated area in this country. In Kerala, if the occupied area alone is taken into consideration, the density of population per square mile is 2,000. And it is also a fact that not an inch of cultivable land is left uncultivated in Kerala. We have no more land to cultivate. Intensive cultivation also is going on. But we want rice being deficit area in food. And there is no dispute with regard to that. When President's rule was there, the Central Government wanted to lift the Southern Food Zone and they then promised to give at the rate of 75,000 tonnes of rice per month to the State of Kerala for giving a ration at the rate of 160 grammes of rice per head per day. And the Centre was giving 70 to 75 thousand tonnes of rice every month from that period onwards. Our Chairman, Mr. V. V. Giri, was the then Governor of Kerala and he is witness to that, and it was during his time that the Government at the Centre promised to give 75,000 tonnes of rice per month to Kerala. And as soon as the United Front Government came to power in March, 1967, only then the Government at the Centre found that they were not in a position to import rice from outside, on the alleged ground that there was no rice in foreign countries, and, as alleged by them, they also found it difficult to purchase rice in the other States in India because there was no rice there. All this was only after the United Front Government came to power. And just before that also in January,

1967, the rice ration was reduced from 160 grammes to 120 grammes. Then, all the political parties there, including the Congress Party, raised protests, and several processions were also taken out against the Central Government in protest against reducing the rice ration from 160 grammes to 120 grammes. Then it was immediately raised to 160 grammes. Then they found it very easy to get rice. But after the United Front Government came to power, somehow the leaders of Congress both in Kerala and at the Centre conspired together and the Central Government took this food as a weapon, and they thought that they could raise the people against the United Front Government by not supplying rice in time to Kerala. They will promise, for example for the month of April, 70,000 tonnes of rice to Kerala. Then the papers in Kerala will publish all this news and then our womenfolk will put the pot on the oven with more water for a greater hoped quantity of rice to boil in the water in the expectation that 70,000 tonnes of rice would be coming immediately. But practically no rice would be coming during the greater part of April, and at the end of April some 25 or 30 thousand tonnes of rice may come, and when it comes the Congress Party will raise its voice and say that the 70,000 tonnes of rice, which were allotted to Kerala, were sent there but our State Food Minister, Mrs. Gouri Thomas, had sold all this rice in the black market. They will make such false propaganda there. In fact what is supplied is 25,000 or 30,000 tonnes. It is not enough to give at the rate of 3 oz. per head per day. That is the position there. But this rice itself is not taken delivery of by the Government of Kerala. The F.C.I. of the Central Government keeps this rice in their godown and it is given directly to the ration shopholders on the production of the permit and these ration shopholders distribute it among the people at the rate of 3 oz. per head per day but the Congress people even now are agitating and taking out



processions stating that the Food Minister there is swallowing all this rice that has been allotted from here. Of course the strength of the United Front Government is the working class. They form the majority there. They may starve for a week or a month or a few months but for ever they will not wait because in the end they may die by starvation or they may turn against the United Front Government. Now some people were saying that in the present civic elections several municipal councils have been captured by the Congress Party. It is a fact because the starving people there found that they are now getting only 3 oz. whereas at the time when the Congress was in power they were getting 6 oz. of rice per head per day. Of course 6 oz. of rice is not sufficient even for a child of twelve for a meal. Of course it is supplemented by wheat, tapioca and such other things. Six ounces of rice is not at all sufficient. So far as I am concerned for one meal I want 12 oz. of rice. But the people are satisfied with 6 oz. because wheat and other things are substituted for the rest. Now the Congress want to topple the United Front Government by resorting to the irregular and under supply of rice. That is the reason why rice is not being supplied. If they wanted to supply - it is easy to get rice from outside, it is also easy to purchase rice from Andhra and other States in India. If the F.C.I. is given ample money to purchase paddy from Andhra itself, certainly the paddy so purchased will be more than sufficient to supply for Kerala but they are not doing it. Now the subsidy also is taken away and the price of rice supplied also has been raised by the Central Government. So somehow or other they want to topple the United Front Government. It is not going to happen. I am giving a warning to the Central Government. Of course the constituent-parties of the United Front are trying to educate the people for Kerala with regard to this matter and when they find out that the

Central Government is intentionally abstaining from giving rice to Kerala certainly they will rise against the Central Government. There is no doubt about it. I may tell you another thing. The Food Minister has stated that instead of rice he is giving wheat to the people of Kerala but I may submit that rice is our staple food but even then we are using this wheat also every day. Of course milk, ghee and other things are not available and the ordinary people are not in a position to purchase them also. Anyhow we are starving and the Food Minister is playing the role of Yama by not supplying Ug rice. You know who Yama is.

SHRI NIRANJAN VARMA (Madhya Pradesh): Yam.

SHRI KESAVAN (THAZHAVA): In Malayalam it is Yama; in Hindi it is Yam. He is the person who takes away the life of all and the Food Minister here to help the Congress wants to take away the lives of the starving people of Kerala but among them I may tell you the Congress people are also included. If it is his desire, let him do it.

Now, we have no land to cultivate. When we come from Kerala to New Delhi we find lakhs and lakhs of acres of fertile cultivable land covered with bushes and grass. They are lying uncultivated and if these lands are given to us, certainly we will cultivate them and we will live there and earn our own livelihood. There are lakhs and lakhs of acres of fallow land throughout India in other States but not in Kerala. Recently by an Award 317 sq. miles of land have been given from Kutch to Pakistan. Let some thousands of sq. miles of land be given to us, to the people of Kerala, from Kutch. We are Indian citizens we have no land to cultivate and no means to earn our livelihood. It is also stated by the Prime Minister that China is in possession of 14,000 sq. miles of our territory. From Ladakh or Nefal or Nagaland or some

[Shri Kesavan (Thazhava).] other place, let some 5,000 sq. miles be given to us. If they have any doubts about the Communist Party, let them not give the land to us; "there are lakhs of Congress people in Kerala who are prepared to go even to Nefra or Nagaland or to Kutch.

SHRI A. J. MANI: Or out of India also.

SHRI KESAVAN (THAZHAVA): In Nagaland the population is only 3 lakhs. Put some ten lakhs of Malayalees in Nagaland. People who have migrated from Nagaland and places surrounding it are living in Kerala. There are 30 lakhs of them. Put them there. Similarly in Madhya Pradesh also to my knowledge there are some 35 lakh acres of land lying uncultivated. Why can't a few lakhs of acres of land be given to us? We are also Indians; we have not come from Pakistan or China. Anyhow, I may submit that this policy of the Central Government of not supplying us with adequate rice is not going to better the position of the Congress in Kerala. I may tell you that the United Front Government will continue for the whole period and after the next election they will come again and again in power.

Then these people in the North want to impose Hindi on us. I may tell you, long before, some 45 years back, I studied Hindi for a few months. There was at that time the independence movement. But we never thought that Hindi was to be adopted as the official language of India by the Constitution. Even from 1956 we introduced the teaching of Hindi in all the schools. Most probably if the figures are seen the percentage of students studying Hindi in Kerala would be higher than the percentage of students in U.P. That is the fact. Whatever that be, I may tell you that in place of rice Hindi is not sufficient. Hindi cannot be eaten and the stomach cannot be filled by Hindi. That is the main thing that should be kept in mind.

I have to submit another thing with regard to this Appropriation Bill. Much is being said about Harijans, that most unfortunate section of the people. But I may tell you that the Scheduled Caste people and the Scheduled Tribes are the real owners of the land in this country; others are all intruders who have come from Central Asia. (*Interruptions*) I am not yielding. These people, the so-called Caste Hindus came from Central Asia as Aryans, captured these places and drove away the real owners of the land into the jungles. That is the fact but I am not going into it in extenso. And they are not one crore or two crores; there are several crores of them. According to the Census of 1961 the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribe population comes to about 10 crores. Others can join along with them. I am a member of the backward class among the Hindus. I belong to a depressed and oppressed class. I am an untouchable and an unapproachable. In the category of Hindus there are crores of Backward Classes. There are other aggrieved communities in this country. Muslims are there. There is no safety for Harijans. They are being killed and looted day after day and progress is being made in this direction. Muslims were attacked. Their houses are looted and they are killed. This is going on. So, the aggrieved communities must join together and they form the majority in this country. They can move forward bravely provided they organise and politically contest in the elections. There must be somebody, to organise and bring them together.

AN HON. MEMBER: Why Muslims?

SHRI KESAVAN (THAZHAVA) : Because they are my brethren. They are citizens of India. They are not persons who have come from Arabia or Mecca. They are the converted Hindus. The people of India were converted to Christianity and Islam. They are my own brethren. I am a

man first and last. Caste Hindu means a Hindu having caste. Non-caste Hindu means a man having no caste. Not having a caste means he is a perfect man. So, do not say like that. They are my brethren.

SHRI NIRANJAN VARMA: Only Hindus have come from Central Asia?

SHRI KESAVAN (THAZHAVA): You people of North India may have enmity with them. It is none of my concern. There are Muslims in South India, in Kerala also. They form the second major community in the State. There is no struggle there. They were mostly Hindus at one time. They are not from Mecca, Arabia or Iran. They were really Hindus. From my community lakhs and lakhs of people had been converted to Christianity and Islam. Do you know that I had no right to walk on the public road? I had no right to approach a caste Hindu. I had no right to go to a public school. I had no right to enter a temple and to worship. I had no right to enter public service. So, a number of people of my caste converted themselves into Christians and Muslims. My own brother, if he gets converted to Christianity, gets all the freedoms immediately. If he is converted he can enter the house of a Brahmin without any hesitation and there is no hesitation on the part of the Brahmin to accept him as a man. That is the fact. The Muslims and Christians are in a majority in some places. Their population has grown very much. It is due to the fault of the caste Hindus who have imposed all these disabilities on these Harijans, non-caste Hindus. I may tell you that a caste Hindu male or female can take a dog in his or her lap and kiss and embrace it, and there is no objection, but his own brother, a citizen of India, if he is a Harijan, has to walk away from them. He has no right to walk along the street where caste Hindus live. He has no right to draw water from the common well. "He has no right to go and take his

bath in the Ganges if caste Hindus are there.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: That is ancient history.

SHRI KESAVAN (THAZHAVA): It is not ancient history. I request my friend, Mr. Akbar Ali Khan, to go through the Report of the Scheduled Caste Commissioner supplied to us.

SHRI A. D. MANI: What about Kerala

SHRI KESAVAN (THAZHAVA): In Kerala we have buried all these things long ago by sheer force. I tell you that I am a member of the Harijan caste. We agitated. We stood the test. We know the caste Hindus. We paid them in their own coin. I am an untouchable. If a Caste Hindu approaches to beat me, I will also beat him. Then he will turn back and run away without taking his bath, he will enter his house. So, it was a real medicine to eradicate untouchability. We fought for it and we got all our rights some 31 years ago. We got temple entry long before independence. We got communal representation both in the Assembly and in the Public Service on a population basis. We forced them to give us this. There was a continuous fight for three years. That is why I say that the Harijans must unite together, must organise along with other aggrieved communities. We joined hands with Muslims and Christians who were the aggrieved communities there. The three communities, non-caste Hindus, Muslims and Christians joined together and fought and we got our rights and thereafter we became men. *(Interruptions)*. It was impossible to send even one man to the Legislative Assembly of Travancore before this agitation by election. After that we are in a majority there and several persons have come in even as Chief ministers and ministers.

SHRI NIRANJAN VARMA: You are going Buddhists.

SHRI KESAVAN (THAZHAVA): What Buddhism? There is no necessity to go to Buddhism, if I can live as a man. I may tell you that if I am strong, nobody will dare to torture and find fault with me. They will consider me to be a man and treat me as a man. I may submit that non-caste Hindus and Muslims have no safety here. For the last twenty years we were working for the unity of India and unity of the nation. If the Central Government has failed to achieve this end, why should this Appropriation Bill be passed?

Then, I will tell another thing. You have allotted in this Budget more than a thousand crore of rupees for Defence. Of course, I am of opinion that we must have very strong defence. There is no doubt about it. If possible, we must make not only atom bomb, but also hydrogen bombs, missiles and everything else. If we are strong, no nation will dare to come up against us. If we are weak, everybody will come in here and do whatever they want with us. Our aim must be to work for the progress and prosperity of the country, along with Pakistan and China, our two neighbouring countries. We want peace not only with our neighbouring countries, but with all the other nations. If we cannot achieve some sort of settlement with Pakistan and China, we are not going to make progress. I must say that in this House we hear often of China and the cry of China, but I may say that it is not impossible to have a settlement. If we want some settlement with China and Pakistan, certainly the great people of India, who are living today, may be deputed to negotiate with these two countries and settle the matter once and for all. The Government must be prepared to accept the settlement which they may arrive at. (*Interruption*). Then, this money could be used for the progress of our country, for our Five-Year Plans. That fact also should be considered. Now, Pakistan

is in possession of Azad Kashmir, some 37,000 square miles, I am told. So also China is in possession of some 14,000 square miles of our territory. Pakistan and China are in possession of these areas. How are we going to get this back? Is it by waging a war against them, fighting them that we recapture these places, or is it to be done by negotiations? That is the question which has to be considered. I submit that you get back all the occupied territory of our country by Pakistan and China.

SHRI J. P. YADAV (Bihar): You will be elected leader of that.

SHRI KESAVAN (THAZHAVA): I should say send somebody. The name of Rajaji is there. One of the greatest sons of our soil, our ex-President, Dr. Radhakrishnan, is still there. Mr. Jayaprakash Narayan is there. You depute these people to Pakistan and China. I know that they will effect a compromise. There is no doubt about it because they are people who love the country. They want prosperity, progress and peace in this country. They are great men. They know how to settle the matters. But the Government at the Centre is ruling not for the prosperity and peace of the country but for the Birlas and Tatas who are opposed to socialism. China is a socialist country, so the capitalists of this country never want any contact or amicable position with China. That is the reason. I ask, are we going to recapture Azad Kashmir, are we going to recapture the Ladakh portion by fighting against them? If so I have no objection. It seems it is not the desire of the Central Government. It is stated by the Prime Minister in this House that China is in possession of 14,000 square miles of our land, and for the last seven years they are putting up their own barriers there. Are you going to take it back or bring about some settlement of one kind or another? Until some settlement is achieved, it is not possible to achieve peace and progress for

our country. That is all I have to say.

SHRI K. C. PANT: Madam Deputy Chairman, we have had three days of debate on the Appropriation Bill, and since this is an occasion for discussing the affairs of all the Departments and Ministries of the Government, of India, since it involves allocations out of the Consolidated Fund of India, it is but natural that the debate has been wide-ranging and has covered a lot of ground. I have listened to the speeches with great attention and have tried my best to benefit from them. Many of the points made relate to Ministries other than my own and I am sure that these Ministries will take into account the suggestions that have been made by hon. Members during the course of the debate and will give them the consideration that they deserve.

Madam, some of the speeches have dealt with specific points; some others have been rather general and have dealt with subjects like the functioning of the economy or the objectives of economic policy. Before I go on to deal with some of these points may I at this stage, with your permission, extend a word of welcome to the new Members who have joined this august House and to say how happy we are on this side of the House and I am sure those on the other side also that many of them have taken part in this debate. Many of the speeches were maiden speeches but they were very far from being maidenly, and I can say that some of them were quite uninhibited in their vigour. But that is all to the good, Madam. They have made their maiden speeches; next time they will not be immune from interruptions. Some of the new Members of course are new to the House but are very old to Parliament like my hon. friend, Mr. Alva, and I am glad to see since we have been neighbours on the same Bench in the other House for many years that he has lost none of his 314RS—6.

vigour and energy.

Madam, my hon. friend, Shri Maui referred to the Emergency Commissioned Officers and said that the Government had not done enough for them. I have tried to collect facts and I should like to place them before the House. The Emergency Commissioned Officers were first recruited in 1962 under circumstances which are well known to the House, and later on in 1965 the system of Short Service Commissions with a five-year duration was introduced. Originally the idea was that about one-third of the Emergency Commissioned Officers would be ultimately selected for Permanent Commissions after screening by a Selection Board. So far 1,973 officers have qualified for Permanent Commissions. But I would like to inform the House that the Government is not sticking to the limit of one-third in this matter, and as a matter of fact the proportion of the persons already selected is around 40 to 45 per cent. So there is no desire to keep out those who would be considered fit for absorption as Commissioned Officers by the Selection Board even though the one-third limit may be exceeded. As to the others, those who do not qualify, I would submit that it is neither in their interest nor in the interest of the Department that they should be retained because they would eventually not be absorbed and in the meantime they would lose a chance to rehabilitate themselves in some other profession. Therefore, while efforts should be made to rehabilitate them, I think nothing is to be gained by retaining them unless they qualify. A Cell has been created in the office of the Director-General of Resettlement and reservations have been made in various services for the released E.C.Os; 797 have already been rehabilitated and the Bureau of Public Enterprises has also written to various public undertakings to reserve certain posts for them. There was a suggestion that the universities should also be asked to give certain concessions to these people. That is for the universities to

[Shri K. C. Pant.]  
decide. We cannot possibly give any direction to them.

SHRI A. D. MANI: But you can recommend age exemption.

SHRI K. C. PANT: The Education Ministry can write to the States concerned. Actually the Punjab Government has given certain concessions in respect of fees, etc. and the Education ; Ministry has written to the other States. But we respect the autonomy of the universities and we do not write to them direct. That is the position so far as the E.C.Os. are concerned.

SHRI A. D. MANI: May I ask a question? The point is about the age limit. These men have passed the age limit for employment in the Government service. When they are demobilised, we expect the Government to take into account their work for the country on the front. Why should there be any age limit between 30 and 40 when you have taken I.A.S. men after 40 in special recruitment? Why cannot this be done for the Emergency Commissioned Officers? Hon. Members will bear me out that these demobilised E.C.Os. are haunting the houses of Members of Parliament asking for our support and sympathy. Why cannot you really relax the age limit in their case?

SHRI JOACHIM ALVA: Government 'also deserves to be congratulated for having selected 50 demobilised officers for jobs in India's Foreign Service and Indian Administrative Service.

SHRI K. C. PANT: As I have already indicated, it does not require any special prompting for the Government to take a sympathetic view of the matter. The Government will certainly take 'a sympathetic view and has taken a sympathetic view. I have already indicated the various steps | that have been taken; I have indicated to what extent the problem is be- I ing solved, how many people have al- l ready been absorbed. It comes to

something like 2,700 people. And certainly, we shall consider whatever other suggestions are made in this respect.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN; Especially regarding age.

SHRI A. D. MANI: That is a very important point.

SHRI K. C. PANT: My hon. friend, Shri Ruthnaswamy referred to the need to have performance budgets. Actually, Madam, this year We have started with performance budgets in respect of certain departments! and we have recently placed these on the Table of the House. I had hoped that he would have made some suggestions with regard to what we have already done and that other hon. Members would have also made suggestions, so that we could profit from those suggestions and try to improve these performance budgets. This is a new thing and this year we have introduced the first document and we would have been very much happy to have received their critical comments.

Then, Shri Ruthnaswamy referred to the very high defence expenditure. Several hon. Members also referred to this matter of defence expenditure. Now, defence expenditure is, in its very nature, very difficult to justify at each and every moment of time. The country makes an overall assessment of the dangers it faces , and then proceeds to strengthen its defence establishments so as to enable them to face up to these dangers. Within this broad framework, there can be no weakening of the defence structure if there is a certain' evaluation of the dangers facing the country. Like insurance, defence expenditure shows its true value when the need arises. And all I can s<sup>a</sup>y is t<sup>hat</sup> if we look back at our experience in 1962 and then again in 1965, the moral of defence preparedness is obvious.. In 1962, we were not M

fully prepared as we ought to have been and the country suffered a reverse on the military field, which shook its confidence for a long time. In 1965, we had to face Pakistan on the battle-field. But the steps that we had taken after the 1962 experience enabled our jawans who did not lack courage or valour, to make use of whatever improved equipment, etc. they had been given, to give an excellent account of themselves. I do not think this House would like the Government to risk the security of this country, and in any case, the defence expenditure is less than 3.2 per cent, of the gross national product and if this is compared with the defence expenditure in many other countries, it cannot be regarded as high. My hon. friend says that it should be stepped up. It should be stepped up if it is felt necessary, Madam. That is all I can say.

Then, Shri Ruthnaswamy expressed a lot of diffidence in our capacity to meet Pakistan and China. I do not share that diffidence and I do not think the people of this country share that diffidence. Should China and Pakistan ever make the mistake, either singly or jointly, to cross swords with this country, I am sure that they will rule the day when they do this and (he preparations that have been made will prove their worth, should such a day ever arise. And it is not something that has not been proved. In the case of Pakistan, I have already told you what happened in 1965. In the case of Nathu La, later on against China, this also proved ...

श्री जे० पी० यादव : मैं मंत्री महोदय से एक बात जानना चाहता हूँ कि अभी आपने चीन और पाकिस्तान के सम्मिलित हमले का कुछ रेफरेंस किया और यहाँ पर बहुत सी बातें सुरक्षा के संबंध में कही गईं। मैं आपसे यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि अगर सम्मिलित हमला हुआ तो भारत सरकार ने इसका मुकाबला करने के लिए अब तक क्या तैयारी की है? साथ ही साथ

मैं यह भी जानकारी दे देना चाहता हूँ कि पाकिस्तानी और चीनी लोगों की तैयारी चल रही है। बिहार में जो डकतियाँ हो रही हैं उनमें जितने कारतूस मिले हैं वे पाकिस्तानी और चीनी मार्क के हैं। वहाँ पर राइफिलें भी विदेशी मिली हैं। इसके साथ ही साथ रांची और सिंहभूमि जिले में वहाँ के बनवासियों को पाक परस्त, वामपक्षी साम्यवादी एवं इसाई मिशनरी बरगलाते रहते हैं और नागालैंड के लिए नवयुवकों को तैयार करते हैं।

उपसभापति : भाषण करने की जरूरत नहीं है, जो सवाल पूछना है पूछिये।  
You cannot make a long speech.

श्री जे० पी० यादव : मैं इसी संदर्भ में पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जो तैयारी चल रही है देश में और बाहर भी, उसका मुकाबला करने के लिए आपने देश में कौन सी व्यवस्था की है? लिफ्ट कह देना आसान नहीं है।

SHRI K. C. PANT: Madam, I think the hon. Member is new to the House. Otherwise, he would not have asked for such details. It is not customary for the Government to indicate exactly what preparations it is making to meet particular situations.

Shri Ruthnaswamy was expressing certain doubts about India's ability to meet these things. I do not understand by what logic he was asking to cut down defence expenditure. If he doubted our ability to meet these hostile countries, then the obvious thing would have been to have suggested increasing the defence expenditure. Instead of that, he suggested decreasing it. Then he went on to ask about military intelligence. I was surprised that an experienced Member like him should have asked me details about military intelligence, which no Government can ever be in a position to reveal. Then he went on to talk of the foreign policy of this country as an extension of the

[Shri K. C. Pant.]

defence policy or as a connected subject which it certainly is. Now, he said that non-alignment is out of date. I would beg to submit that non-alignment is very much in fashion these days. Far from being out of date, it has come in vogue. It is true that when India became non-aligned, it was in a pioneering position and it took a position which at that time surprised many because that was the era after the World War, that was the era of the cold war and that was the era of bipolarisation in world politics, in which two super powers emerged on the scene after the Second World War. Since then the whole pattern of international relationship has undergone very sweeping and fundamental changes. Today, the old military blocs are breaking up. There are second thoughts both in the USA and in the Soviet Union about the utility of many of the arrangements that they had made for the preservation of their respective security at the height of the cold war. There is greater understanding between the Soviet Union and the USA on various matters. And flowing from this, there is a shift in the relationship of many countries, in their international relationship. It is a surprising fact but it is indicative of the sweeping nature of the change that has taken place that a country can today be friendly with China and the United States at the same time and perhaps also be friendly with the Soviet Union at the same time. This would have been impossible when India first chose the path of non-alignment. Today, as I said, most countries tend to be non-aligned, tend to stay away from the power blocs. Therefore, I would not agree with my hon. friend that non-alignment is out of date. The context may have changed but non-alignment has almost become a way of life with a very large number of countries obviously because it gives them the independence to judge the world issues which alignment does not. It gives them the independence

of action which alignment does not. It gives them a status and position in their own respective areas which alignment does not. So it stands to reason that this particular policy is being adopted by more and more countries, and it is to the lasting credit of our late Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, that he had the vision to foresee that the world would be saved from a conflict only if the area of non-alignment was increased and the big powers were prevented from coming into collision at the height of a cold war, and he had the vision to anticipate that technology would bring about, a change in world relations in which these super powers would ultimately come to a much larger measure of understanding which seemed to be impossible after the last World War days. In this way that is the position today in many matters though in many areas in this House it may not have evoked the kind of response that it should.

Then, Madam Deputy Chairman, having heard Prof. Ruthnaswamy with great attention and respect, as I always do, I tried to find out what exactly was the alternative that he was suggesting, which way would he like the country to go. That he did not spell out. He did not say that the country should enter a military pact. He did not say that the country should accept some other country's umbrella. He did not say that we should become aligned. He referred to the fact that today there were many circles in the world in spite of the two poles. He mentioned China as one of the centres of the circle. Does he suggest that we should enter the circle of China? So there was no concrete alternative which he suggested.

Madam, I would submit that while it may be easy to score a debating point, in a matter like this which goes to the heart of our foreign policy and defence policy, it is not very helpful if criticism is offered without offering concrete alternative courses of action.



My hon. friend, Shri Alva, referred to the desirability of acquiring Soviet planes. While we are going to make MIGs in this country, I think that was the point which he overlooked. We certainly would not hesitate to acquire arms from whichever source suits us in accordance with our own needs.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Do you not think that by the time your MIGs are ready they would be **out** of date?

SHRI K. C. PANT: To some extent that risk is always there in aircraft manufacture. But the logic of that should not be taken to the point that we do not manufacture any aircraft.

Then, my hon. friend, Shri Chandrasekharan, I am sorry to say, cast some doubts, without perhaps meaning anything, on the friendliness of our relations with neighbouring countries like Burma and Ceylon. I can assure him that the relations of this country with Burma and Ceylon are excellent and they have demonstrated the warmth of this relationship in various ways in the months gone by.

I have just returned from Iran from an international conference, Madam. The House would be glad to know that in Iran also I found a fund of goodwill for this country and a great deal of warmth for its leaders.

My hon. friend, Mr. A. P. Chatterjee, who is very far from Prof. Ruthnaswamy in most matters, agreed with him that defence expenditure should be reduced. His intentions and his motives would probably be different from those of Prof. Ruthnaswamy. But it is surprising that they should have come to the same conclusion in this matter. But one thing he said to which I take very serious objection. He said that we are keeping alive the tensions on our borders. It is an amazing statement. If one recalls the history of Indo-Chinese relations, Madam, India went out of its way

from the very beginning to befriend China. India was the spokesman of China in international forums . . .

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: **That** was the trouble.

SHRI K. C. PANT: . . . at a time when China could not find another spokesman to support it India was befriending China at a time when it had no friends.

SHRI MAHAVIR (Delhi): With what dividends?

SHRI K. C. PANT: I would like my friends who are asking for dividends to know whether it was not a matter of vision again to have tried to build our relations with China on a permanent basis. I would like to ask them whether in this part of the world it would not be a source of strength to this country if this relationship of friendship had been established on a firm basis. I would like to ask my friend if it is their approach to life to doubt every possible friendship before it is taken. Do they not make an attempt to make friends? After they are disappointed, after they are let down, they have second thoughts. It would be a very sorry state of affairs if we approach our relationship or friendship with doubt from the very beginning. I am glad that this attempt was made, and I think history will say that India made a right attempt to have a proper geo-political balance in this part of the world and to strengthen this country to the best of its ability.

SHRI MAHAVIR: May I ask on a point of information? Does the Government still believe that our attempt at winning China has been successful in any manner? Secondly, do we still believe that friendship and aggression on our territory by China can continue hand in hand? If that is so, then the solemn pledge that we took some time back in this august House that we would vacate all aggression from our territory—and today we have ended the emergency—what has happened to it?

SHRI K. C. PANT; Madam, I am afraid, my hon. friend is missing the point completely. I was saying that Shri Chatterjee was blaming us for creating tensions on the border, blaming us for keeping these tensions alive and I was trying to point out when my friend jumped in quite unnecessarily that India had always befriended China and that in spite of this China had attacked India and occupied a part of our territory. And after that we had agreed to the Colombo Proposals. Against this background how does it lie in the mouth of my hon'ble friend, Shri Chatterjee, to say that we are keeping tension alive? It is a travesty of facts and I should like the House to make its own conjectures as to where his heart lies in the matter.

Then, Madam, he advised us to make up with our neighbours. I should like to ask him how we are to make up with our neighbours. It takes two to make up. Whatever the intentions of one side, one side alone cannot make up unless the other side responds.

So far as Pakistan is concerned we have been constantly trying to enlarge the areas of agreement. That has been the policy of this Government for many years. And even now the policy is to enlarge these areas of agreement. That is the policy, that is the approach. Short of negotiations on Kashmir—Kashmir is not negotiable—we are prepared to be even generous on minor disputes, on other disputes. But we are certainly desirous of establishing friendly relations with Pakistan. We do not want unfriendly relations with Pakistan. But would the House suggest that even in the matter of Kashmir we should compromise on our basic principles to buy peace and friendship with Pakistan? I do not think that that can be the intention. Short of that, is it suggested that India is creating tensions or keeping tensions alive? I think these words have been very lightly used and I am sorry that these words have been used in

the manner in which they have been used.

Then, Madam, let us take China. It is very naive to think that China is not negotiating with us merely because we are not saying "Let us negotiate." That is a very naive view of the whole situation. My friend, Mr. Kesavan, said that China is a socialist country and this country has Tatas and Birlas and, therefore, there is this conflict between these two countries. But where are the Tatas and Birlas in the Soviet Union? Why is China at cross purposes with the Soviet Union? Therefore, these facile explanations are very misleading and it is very naive to take the view that the moment this country says "Let us sit down and negotiate and have peace", China is going to come and embrace us and weep on our shoulders and say "Let bygones be bygones and let us sit down and arrive at a settlement." If this is the naive picture that my hon. friend has then that is a picture that is very far from the truth. Madam, there is a basic, fundamental clash between our attitude to life and China's. We are a democratic country, and they are an expansionist power who believe in authoritarian rule. They have a leader who believes that political power flows out of the barrel of a gun. He believes that peaceful co-existence is not possible between the different systems. We believe that it is possible. The Soviet Union believes that it is possible. These are the fundamental differences in the world view of China and India. And China hopes one day to exert its influence, political influence, not only over this Continent but much farther, perhaps over the whole world. And India as a big and growing country—I would not call it a power; but I would not be ashamed to call it a power because certainly potentially it is a power—is bound to look upon China as an obstacle in the path of its dreams. Hence this is the basic conflict. It is not a bit of territory there, it is not the speeches that

my friends make here. These are far more fundamental things and I hope that in considering these issues, we will not approach it so lightly as to say "Let us make an offer and everything will be all right." They are very nice people. All they are waiting for is a gesture on our part."

SHRI JOACHIM ALVA: One point which Mr. Chatterjee has deliberately ignored and which the hon. Minister may have forgotten, is it was just a question of six little posts. Pandit Nehru was ready to negotiate with them if they vacated only six posts which meant nothing to the aggressor. But China deliberately ignored it. There is something deep behind all this and we have to stand by our awrj policy.

SHRI K. C. PANT: I quite agree. We have to understand that China is undergoing a phase of extreme chauvinism at this period of her history. And we can only hope that this phase will come to an end soon. We have nothing against the people of China. We wish them well. But so long as this chauvinism brings their Government into conflict with us, we have no choice but to recognise the realities and react accordingly.

Madam, Mr. Chatterjee wittingly or unwittingly made certain remarks about the police which were very sweeping and unfortunate. He said, the police stand idle when the goon-das attack people on religious grounds. He also made a few other statements which were very sweeping. He said, the police take sides, they incite and they encourage these religious riots. Now these sweeping statements are neither helpful nor are they true. It is not a fact that our policemen do this. There may be instances where this happens. We have to be alert and alive to see that in no instance does a policeman behave in a manner which provokes, or does not help to stop any religious strife or any tension. But to make a sweeping remark that all policemen incite this kind of strife

is very unfortunate. If the police is branded in this manner, whom are we to turn to if tomorrow there is a strife in any part of the country? So this is most unfortunate. Apart from this, he referred to inaction on the part of the police. I would only remind him that so far as Bengal is concerned, perhaps it is the training that has been given by the United Front Government during its days of power in Bengal that has sapped the energies of the police and that it is enabling them to make a habit of standing by while law is broken. I think next time they come to power, if that happens and when it happens, they shall have learnt this lesson and will not encourage the police to take to ways which counter to the basic duties of the police in any part of the country.

My hon. friend, Mr. Chatterjee, has also said that this country is bankrupt. And he referred in this particular respect to the fact that we have taken a lot of loans from abroad. Now, many hon. Members had referred to this matter of loans. They seem to feel that there is something bad in taking loans. Now when you take loans within your country, if there is internal debt Government goes to the people and takes a loan. Then what is wrong in that? Where is it not done? In which country the Government does not go to the people and take loans, it asks them to contribute to these loans and receives the money for developmental purposes? That is a perfectly legitimate thing. There is nothing wrong in that. And even if you talk of loans taken from abroad, then, too, if it is used for developmental purposes and not for consumption purposes, it is a means of making available more resources to the developmental process in order to speed up the rate of growth than would otherwise be possible. And for countries which lagged behind in the race of history for reasons beyond their control, which have been subjected to colonial rule and all its exploitation, there is nothing shameful to-day in taking

[Shri K. C. Pant.] to the world and asking for a certain measure of historical justification in the form of flow of resources to this party of the world so that we may catch up with the others who are ahead of us and we may get over our problems which are enormous and fundamental and for which we should be assisted in my view, at this phase in our history. I have absolutely no doubt and no feeling of shame in this matter. I would like to inform Mr. Chatterjee that India's public debt is less than half of its national income. The proportion is more than two-thirds in the case of Canada and Belgium, more than 100 per cent in the case of U.K. and in the case of U.S.A. also, it is higher than that of India; it is sixty per cent. So there is nothing wrong in a country borrowing internally to finance its developmental project. I do not think even my friend, Mr. Chatterjee, with all his phobia against the Western countries, would call any of these countries bankrupt.

My hon. friend Mr. Achutha Menon, said that we were not developing the public sector. I do not know how he got the idea that the public sector was being scuttled. I would like to place a few facts before the House. Madam in the First Plan, the total investment was Rs. 3,360 crores, in the Second Plan Rs. 6,750 crores; and in the Third, Rs. 10,400 crores. Now, I will give the total investments by the Central Government in industry and commercial undertakings in the public sector. At the commencement of the First Five-Year Plan, it was Rs. 29 crores, & at the commencement of the Second Five-Year Plan, it was Rs. 81 crores; at the commencement of the Third Five-Year Plan, it was Rs. 953 crores; at the commencement of the Fourth Five-Year Plan, Rs. 2,415 crores. As on 31st March 1967 it is Rs. 2,441 crores and as on 31st December 1967 it is Rs. 3,976 crores. These facts speak for themselves and the House can see the print that has been given to the public sector and

how rapidly the public sector has grown.

Then coming to planning, he said that the Plan had been scuttled and the only argument he could adduce in support of this was that the outlay for the Plan in the last two years has been low. The outlay has been low because the resources position has been very difficult because of the drought situation. That is the only reason. Now the Fourth Five Year Plan is on the anvil and we have had in any case annual plans. Planning as a matter of fact is the basic plank of our policy and we believe in planning because we believe that an underdeveloped country cannot make an optimum use of its resources unless it takes recourse to planning. So India has made a pioneering effort in combining planning with democracy. Therefore there can be no question of our scuttling the Plan.

I would not like to burden the House with what has been done in the last 15 to 20 years in the field of industry and agriculture, how it has grown. But broadly speaking, if you leave the last two years apart, then the rate of increase in the national income has been roughly of the order of 4 per cent, per annum. Now the last two years have obviously been very difficult. The House is aware of the drought situation that hit many parts of the country. The House is also aware of the giant operation that had to be conducted by the Government and by non-governmental agencies together to help overcome this situation of drought. And this was done with great success. In the last few months there have been noticeable signs of revival of industrial production. The exports have gone up by 5 per cent in the first 11 months of 1967-68 as compared to the last year. A greater effort of course is required but what has happened in the last few months is that the situation that existed in the last two years of extreme drought has improved and we are now rebounding.

When agriculture, irrigation and power were the three subjects to which many hon. Members referred. I do not want to go into details but broadly speaking the agricultural policy has begun to yield certain results and we hope that what has happened this year in the form of a good crop or two good crops is not a flash in the pan and that we shall be able to have a certain minimum of assured agricultural production in the years to come. To that end, one plank of the policy is the use of high-yielding varieties of seeds and use of fertilisers pesticides and other modern aids to agriculture but our basic approach is to have a package programme to put all the inputs into the same area so that lack of any one of the inputs may not act as a barrier, and this approach has yielded results. Then we have multiple cropping wherever it is possible so that more can be produced in the same area. This broad approach covers a very large area and it is of course to be buttressed by extension of irrigation. Now an impression was created that somehow the Government is not paying enough attention to irrigation and merely because there has been a good crop this year, the Government is now resting on its oars. That is not correct. I would only like to point out that even though we have had a bad drought in the last two years, the efforts to extend irrigation have been there since the beginning of the First Plan. At the beginning of the First Plan the area under irrigation was 56 million acres, 34 million under minor and 22 million under major and medium irrigation. At the end of the Third Plan this has risen to 80 million acres, 45 million under minor and 35 million under major and medium irrigation. So this gives you some broad idea of the growth of irrigation. I can assure my hon. friends that the priority which irrigation and power deserve will continue to be given, because we cannot afford to be weak on the agricultural front or the food front. This is extremely vital from

every point of view and we cannot afford to ignore it.

Similarly in the matter of credit I will not go into all the details but agricultural credit by co-operatives has increased from Rs. 24 crores in 1950-51 to Rs. 347 crores in 1964-65. That itself is no mean achievement, though I dare say that in relation to the need of capital for agriculture this is certainly not enough. Now attempts are being made to set up other institutions where the co-operative sector is weak in certain States. The Government is setting up another institution and apart from that the commercial banks have also set up an institution of their own—the Agriculture Finance Corporation—with a share capital of Rs. 10 crores which is also going to advance more funds for agriculture. This is a field which we shall have to catch with great interest.

The only other thing that I would like to comment on is the point made by Mr. Kurre. He referred to the Reserve Bank and said that it should give credit to agriculturists at cheaper rates, particularly through the co-operative sector. As a matter of fact the Reserve Bank does give credit at 14 to 2 per cent, lower than for other purposes. So already this is taken into account and I hope with the recent reduction in the bank rate credit will be given at a still cheaper rate.

In the matter of prices, Sir, certainly we appreciate the function of prices. In the matter of creating a proper phenology for the farmer to produce we believe that the prices should not fall below a certain minimum. Shri Rajnarain referred to prices. I would only like to say for the information of the House—others are also naturally concerned about prices—that while the prices had been rising alarmingly for the last three years and they reached a certain peak in the month of October, since October they have been steadily falling and since October till today the wholesale prices have fallen by about

[Shri K. C. Pant.] 10 per cent, and this is a matter of »rrn<sub>0</sub> satisfaction but of course wa will have to watch the price situatioa -very carefully during the lean months k> ecme.

Now my hon. friend, Shri Kulkar-ii, referred to small-scale industries. This is the last point which I will take up because I have already taken .enough time. Since he made a pointed reference t<sub>0</sub> one or two espects, I think I should put th<sub>e</sub> facts before him. He said that small-scale industries are being neglected and not much orders are being placed on Jhem by DGS and D. This is not a fact. On an average 85 per cent, of the tender enquiries of DGS and D get quotations from small-saale industries and the small-scale industries secure orders for about 74 per cent, of the tender enquiries. At present The annual order of DGS and D on small-scale industries generally stands at an average of Rs. 200 million. The Railway purchases up till now, from the inception, come to Rs. 100 millions, since 1957-58.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI (Maharashtra): What is the percentage?

SHRI K. C. PANT: I have given you the percentage. Let me end by associating myself with the anxiety expressed by the various Members from various parties about our Hari-jan and Tribal brothers. We certainly have to be vigilant with regard to the genuine needs of these sections of our population and we have to be true to the spirit of our Constitution which requires us to make special efforts not merely to give them their due according to their ratio of population, etc. but something more so that they can be brought up to the level of the rest of the population as quickly as possible and the centuries of suppression which they have undergone can be a nightmare of the past. Thi<sub>s</sub> is on<sub>e</sub> matter on which I hope all sections of the House are united and we will be false to the

lesson which Gandhiji taught us H any one of us deviates from this fu»-damental approach in thi<sub>s</sub> matter.

Madam, I have done and I have tried briefly to cover the various points that have been raised. I realise that I have not covered "all oJ them but I hop<sub>e</sub> the Hous<sub>e</sub> will be indulgent with m<sub>e</sub> in thi<sub>s</sub> matter and I hope the concerned Ministries will take into account whatever comment\* have been offered.

AN HON. MEMBER: H<sub>e</sub> ha» referred to the reservation of dhoti\* and saris for the handloom sector.

SHRI G. A. APPAN: He has not touched any of my points.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:; i d» not think the Minister can touch nB the points. By and large he has re\* plied. The question is:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for th<sub>e</sub> services of the financial year 1968-69, as passed by the Lok Sabha. be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN; We shall now take up the claus<sub>e</sub> by clause consideration of the Bill.

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

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula &nd the Title were added to the BHU*

SHRI K. C. PANT: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be returned."

I *The question was put and th« motion*

*adopted.*