

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN But there will be many more who would like to ask questions

SHRI K SUNDARAM I only want to know, Madam, whether this relaxation has been done in the light of the recent visit that Shri Asoka Mehta made and to satisfy the Aid-India Consortium to get foreign aid, or has it been done in the usual course of development?

SHRI D SANJIVAYYA In the light of the latter

**THE APPROPRIATION (NO 2) BILL,
1966 contd**

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN Mr N Patra Please be brief There are two more speakers after you

SHRI N PATRA (Orissa) Madam, I rise to support the proposals in the Appropriation (No 2) Bill, 1966 While supporting this Bill I want to invite the attention of the House to the acute distress and the drought conditions now prevailing in my State of Orissa These drought conditions were known since last July when the rains failed, especially in the districts of Kalahandi, Bolangir, Sundargarh, Sambalpur, Koraput and the Dhenkanal area The worst affected area was the contiguous area comprising of Kalahandi and Bolangir Over the past several months though it has been made known through the press, the platforms and through the forum of this House that this was the condition and the attention of the Government had been drawn yet no steps were taken till there was clamour and there were reports and protests about a few deaths in the affected areas And then everybody and the State Government and also the Central Government became engrossed in the subject and now, of course, they have taken some steps to protect the affected people I have also visited recently those affected areas and from my own experience I can say that the worst affected areas are the Kalahandi and Bilangir districts There what I saw was this There was no dearth of water or foodstuffs The rice is available at the government shops at the rate of 85 paise a kilo and in the open market there is a margin of 25 paise more Good rice is also available in the market But the people have

lost completely their purchasing power and so they are unable to buy things available Practically the whole of Kalahandi is a very backward area It was ruled by zamindars and feudal chiefs It has been neglected for centuries and the people inhabiting that area predominantly belong to the backward classes including Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes You know in our country we have been neglecting and we have gone on neglecting the cause of the under-dog Therefore these backward areas also had not received proper attention all these years and they have not been developed as they should have been developed Even after all these 18 years of independence, nothing much was done to ameliorate the condition of these poor down-trodden neglected people

Till last year Kalahandi was a surplus area and rice to the extent of one lakh tonnes was procured from that area during 1964-65 but the people were so degraded and so poor in their purchasing power that they are not able to stand even one drought year Therefore, seeing that a serious situation is developing and people were beginning to die, the Food Minister has gone there and there is a proposal that the Prime Minister also will be visiting Orissa and the State Government which could not do much previously has now decided to spend about Rs 9 crores from its contingent fund Of course, this amount and more help will be required from the Central exchequer We have had a somewhat similar experience earlier In 1955 there was a great flood in the Mahanadi There was a breach of the canal Bund that is called Dholighat and at that time Rs 14 crores were spent on flood relief Though it was a huge amount the problem was not as huge as that with which we are confronted now At that time due to mismanagement and bad organisation proper help could not reach the victims of the flood There was a lot of mismanagement So even if funds will be forthcoming now, I have no confidence in the officers who have so far been suppressing facts They did not place all the proper facts before the Ministry and undoubtedly depending on such officers we cannot cope with the present situation Usually whenever some emergency is there some new camps and centres are opened and aid is given to the people In the present situation that sort of thing alone would not do

[Shri N. Patra]

Due to the recent rains the cultivating season has come a month earlier and therefore the first duty of the Government is to rush help to the kisans and give them taccavi loans at Rs. 100 per acre. For that you may require only Rs. 4 crores or so. Unless you provide immediately taccavi loans at the rate of Rs. 100 per acre you cannot energise the kisan who has lost all his wherewithal. Even kisans possessing five to ten acres of land are having nothing to eat at their homes now and they are also trying to get shelter in the relief camps.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Please be brief; there are other speakers.

SHRI N. PATRA: Now I want to refer to another thing; There are certain proposals which are pending before the Government of India about some help to be rendered to the backward classes in Orissa. The tribal Welfare Department of the Government of Orissa has sent some proposals to the Government of India and they are pending disposal for a number of years now. They wanted to establish a few more technical institutes, I.T.s exclusively for the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students. There is one such Institute at Takhatpur in the Mayurbhanj District to cater exclusively to the needs of the backward classes but it could not accommodate all the thousands of people who are becoming eligible for training there. They can take in only 266 students. In the general sector there are half a dozen Institutes with an admission strength of more than 2,960 whereas they could provide only some 230 seats against the sanctioned strength of 403 for the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students. Therefore the Orissa Government wanted that at least two more such special institutes should be set up for these people. Then there is another proposal.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr Patra, I am requesting you to be very brief.

SHRI N. PATRA: I am covering the points only.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I can give you just a minute more.

SHRI N. PATRA: They have sent another proposal for ameliorating the conditions of the *lanjia savaras*. These people do not know how to clothe themselves, they are so primitive. *Lanjia* means a piece of cloth hanging just as a tail about the loin

The Government of Orissa in the advisory Department has asked for a sum of Rs. 17 lakhs to ameliorate the conditions of these *lanjia savaras* of Gumma Tribal Development Block in Ganjam District. They have also sent a proposal to improve the condition of the fishermen living around and inside the Chilka lake area. They wanted to start a floating dispensary which will cost about a lakh of rupees. These fishermen are also very backward people in the State of Orissa. Nobody had been properly caring for them so far. They were being neglected because they are backward. I would therefore request the Home Ministry to examine these proposals which are pending before them for years and come to the aid of the Government of Orissa so that they can implement these and other schemes to mitigate the sufferings of the Backward Classes people.

With these words I support this Bill.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN; Mr. Ruthnaswami; I am afraid you have very little time; just five minutes.

SHRI M RUTHNASWAMY (Madras): The Appropriation Bill is a splendid opportunity for reviewing the work of the Ministers and the Ministries and therefore I shall not dissipate my time or breath dealing with matters of general governmental policies.

But before I proceed further, may I express my regret at the empty front benches? During a debate on the Appropriation Bill some 20 Ministries are under scrutiny and the whole burden of representing the Government and speaking for the Government is thrown upon the shoulders of the Minister of State for Finance. We are no doubt glad that the Prime Minister has found time to attend this debate on the Appropriation Bill at the fag end. Of course she is a host in herself but I think it is not fair to lay the burden of replying to this debate on one or two Ministers.

The general impression given by the Appropriation Bill is the immense cost of the Administration. The Secretariat cost above Rs. 24 crores and the other Ministries added together it comes to about Rs. 100, that is administration part of the expenditure. And what do we get out of this vast expenditure? Let me take two or three Ministries in turn.

The Defence Ministry on which we are spending Rs 823 crores has not come up to our expectations in regard to certain matters. Our intelligence service is as poor and as ineffective as it ever was. It was not able to anticipate the Chinese invasion, not the infiltration of Pakistanis into Kashmir. If they had done their duty and if they had sent their reports in time, then the Ministries concerned must be blamed for not taking immediate action. I think our intelligence service, especially the military intelligence service, should be improved. In the old British days, serving officers used to be rewarded for going out on their own solitary expeditions into possible enemy countries and finding out the lay of the land and the military resources of those countries. I do not know whether this system of rewarding officers who do intelligence work on their own is being continued.

Our naval defence is not adequate. We have been promised the purchase of one submarine, but one submarine for such a vast coastline is not enough. There ought to be one each for each coast and another for the defence of the Andamans and Nicobar Islands, which are the advance naval post of our country. Smaller craft also, like gunboats, torpedo boats, patrol boats, should be acquired. In reply to a question of mine I was told that we have only one mine sweeper, but no minelayer. That is symbolic of the preparedness of our Government in regard to the defence of the country or in regard to the administration of foreign affairs. It is always a passive attitude. Mine sweeping is passive, negative, whereas minelaying is positive, which would prevent enemy ships from approaching our coast. We are always on the defence. We are always waiting for the other man to make a move and then we do something about it.

Instead of that superfluous aircraft carrier, which was one of the supreme follies of the former Defence Minister, costing about Rs. 30 crores and costing about Rs 5 crores annually for its maintenance, we should have a number of submarines. What is the use of this aircraft carrier, because we are not going to invade any other country by sea and we have land bases in our own country from which our aircraft can operate?

It is only naval countries which have commitments all over the world, which require aircraft carriers, because they do not have land bases everywhere. So, I would advise the Government to sell the aircraft carrier as soon as possible to some country that is good enough to buy it, that wants to possess it. We should buy submarines instead.

We should also establish specialised defence services. We should specialise in guerilla warfare, because that is going to be the future kind of warfare, especially in undeveloped countries and backward countries. It is the cheapest kind of warfare and it is the most troublesome and the most inconvenient. When a question was asked of the Defence Minister on this matter, he said, "Yes, we are training our troops in mountain warfare." But guerilla warfare is something different from mountain warfare. It requires a special kind of tactics, a special kind of training, a special kind of troops and a special kind of equipment.

With regard to the External Affairs Ministry, how do we stand? I was agreeably surprised to find a Congress Member saying that we should determine our foreign policy not by sentiment, not by ideology, but by the national interests of the country. If we follow this, then, I think, we would be doing a great service to our country. It would help us to recognise countries like Israel and Taiwan. Israel is one of the smallest countries of the world which is making a heroic effort to survive and sustain herself. There was a time, under the leadership of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, when we applauded the work of small nations, the efforts of small nations to acquire independence. Now, when the smallest of small nations, Israel, has acquired independence, we fold our arms, because we do not want to hurt the susceptibilities of the big brother, the United Arab Republic.

I am glad that the Government is exercising some restraint over expressing its views on other people's conduct of their foreign policies. With regard to Vietnam I am glad that in recent days the members of the Government have kept silent, without sermonising or offering advice to the governments. In this matter, it is good to remember that enough for each country is the headache thereof. We have headaches of our own. We have to deal with the

[Shri M. Ruthnaswamy]

Mizos and the Nagas and other people. The Pataskar Report is a great disappointment. Even the small crumb offered by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru—they were offered the Scottish system of self-government—has been denied to them, to the hill tribes, by the Pataskar Report. We must remember that the hill tribes have no faith at all in the *bona fides* of the plainsman. That is a historic fact. That is a fact of politics, which we must take into consideration. They may be justified or they may be unjustified, but the fact is there that they do not trust the plainsman. They do not want to have any contact, no connection with the Assam Government. They say that they do not get a fair deal, a square deal from the Assam Government, because the Assam Government is the Government of plainsmen and they are dominated by their own self interests. So, this fact must be taken into consideration and we must frame our policy in regard to the Mizos and Nagas accordingly. No doubt we must take all military aid and help in order to suppress any rebellious act on the part of these Mizos and Nagas, but once the military action is over and peace is restored, we must sit down with them and come to some understanding about their future government. They must be given autonomy in regard to their future and they must be depending upon the Government of India in whom they have confidence, probably because it is far away from them. But whatever be the reason, they have confidence in the Government of India. They have no confidence in the Government of Assam.

With regard to the Education Ministry, what is the record in regard to literacy? That is the most urgent need of the country. You cannot advance one step in economic or social growth without rapid promotion of literacy. What is our record in literacy? The rate of growth is one per cent. per year. It will take 75 years to make this country literate on this miserable rate. What is the Ministry of Education doing for adult education? The Centre may leave other kinds of education to the State Governments, but with regard to adult education, it must take that responsibility upon itself.

With regard to tribal areas also we have found recently in connection with the Bastar incident how miserably these people have

been treated educationally by the Madhya Pradesh Government. Only Rs. 15 odd crores was set apart for a population of two crores, that is, about Rs. 7 a head for the promotion of education.

With regard to Health Ministry, much emphasis was placed on family planning by one of the spokesmen of the Congress. He thought that family planning would serve as a panacea for all the evils of the country. He made a shocking proposal that abortion be legalised. It was so shocking that I was shocked into a counter-proposal, why did he not propose, instead of legislating for woman, legislating for man? Why does he not propose castration of man as a rapid method of controlling population? After all the fountain, the origin of the evil of population is man. If you legislate for man against man, it is probable that the ideal of Dr. Chandrasekhar would be realised much more quickly than under the system of legal abortion.

With regard to the Social Security Ministry, what has it done in regard to coming to the help of pensioners? The state of our pensioners is one of the greatest blots on our system of administration. We have persons who are drawing a pension of Rs. 5 a month in these days of soaring prices. Nothing is being done. When questions are put, when arguments are placed before the Ministers, they say: "No doubt pensioners are a deserving case, but we have not the money for it." We have the money for all kinds of luxury projects like the Bokaro steel plant, the fertilizer project, and so on, but there is no money for the pensioners who have served the Government. In England almost every other year there is a new pension scheme for pensioners. But here in this country nothing is being done by the Government of India to come to the aid of these pensioners.

I do not want to take more of your time, Madam. The record of the Home Ministry is as bad as the record of any other Ministry. Police firing is one of the most popular methods of maintaining law and order in this country. The Congress Government has succeeded in making the police trigger-happy. At the slightest provocation they resort to firing without any regard for all those safeguards that should command firing. Goondas and goondalism are prevailing in the country. There was an

article in the "Statesman" which said that there are as many as 25,000 goondas in this country and they are being used for political purposes by political parties at election time. Why is there not a register, strictly kept register, of these goondas kept by the police? Why should not the Preventive Detention Act be put into force against them instead of against the politicians? Why not they be kept temporarily in preventive detention?

There is the dacoity in the Chambal area which has not yet been put down

I will not take up more time of the House. I will end only by saying that if we vote all this money that is provided for in the Appropriation Bill, we expect some good results of it. We have not got those results in the past. We have not got those results so far. We hope in the future that it will make this money go a long way, much longer than it has got in these past years, so that the Appropriation Bill may be looked upon as a kind of road to prosperity and not as a path to the misery and the poverty of the country, which is one of the greatest blots upon the administration of this country.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT): Madam Deputy Chairman, I have listened with very great interest to the speeches made by the hon. Members during the course of the debate on this Appropriation Bill. As was expected, the debate covered a very extensive ground, almost everything under the purview of the Government was discussed. To mention a few of the important subjects that were covered by the hon. Members, they ranged over subjects like the food situation in the country including the scarcity situation, the population problem, the fertilizer policy, the proposed Indo-American Education Foundation, the ethics of foreign aid, the labour policy in certain sectors of industry, the emergency, the administrative reforms, and last but not the least the gold control. They have referred to these in their speeches. The House will agree that during the session ranging over to months we have discussed all these problems threadbare, and therefore they will pardon me if I do not go into the details of the points that they have raised because the points had been covered by my colleagues and by the Finance Minister on

various occasions in this House as well as in the other House. But I would like to deal with some of the new angles to the points that have been brought in order to do justice to the trouble and the labour that the hon. Members have taken in making them.

I was particularly heartened by the speeches of two hon. Members, Shri Gurupada Swamy and Dr. Chandrasekhar, and also our venerable senior Member, Shri P. N. Saprú, who showed a good deal of appreciation of our stand in regard to foreign aid, the fertilizer policy and also certain aspects of our economic policy.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA (Uttar Pradesh): Dr. Chandrasekhar spoke against fertility

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I am saying about the foreign aid. He has spoken in favour of foreign aid. I will come to that major question that he raised about population. So far as the question of foreign aid is concerned and also the fertilizer policy, often times in recent weeks charges have been made that we have gone on or we want to continue the policy of seeking foreign aid in the Fourth Plan as well. It is not a new thing. Getting foreign aid for our Plans is an accepted policy of this Government. We have done it in the First Plan, we did it in the Second Plan, we have done it in the Third Plan and we are continuing the same policy during the course of the Fourth Plan. There is nothing new that has been done and therefore no new policy has been evolved as if we have not done something in the past and we are doing it now. The only objection—I can anticipate the objection as I have carefully listened—is that we are doing it with strings which we should not do, and even harsher expression have been used that we are selling out the country. I would like to join issue on this point of view because, firstly, I do not believe that a country like India, such a big country, can be sold out by anybody, and therefore to talk of this is pure light-heartedness, and the least we indulge in this the better. Even for party polemics we may do it, but I think it is not a happy thing in our public life to make a remark like this against any group or Government or any political bodies. I dare say nobody can sell this country to anyone. This country is much too big for anyone to sell it. The point is that at the moment we

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have a problem, the country is facing a situation at a particular moment of time. For the Fourth Plan we have calculated our internal resources. We have a programme to follow. We have not only to make up for the lapses in the Third Plan but we have to achieve a rate of growth in the Fourth Plan so that the basic objectives are attained. I think it is recognised by everybody here and outside that although we may be doing all we can do to raise our internal resources, there is a constraint like the foreign exchange constraint, the external resources which we need, and we are trying to do our best for that. We are trying to maximise our export. We are trying to develop all that we can do to earn more foreign exchange. We are trying to be self-reliant. We are trying to cut our import requirements to the bone and we are trying all the substitutes for those we are importing today, what is called import substitution. All that we are trying to do so that we build up an independent economy in this country and be self-reliant. But it is recognised that it is a process that takes time. It is a process that will take a certain period of time, and therefore in the next five years at least, during the course of the Fourth Plan if we want to march forward, if we want to go ahead and achieve our objectives relating to the rate of growth, relating to the industrial targets and the targets in the agricultural programmes, we have to have a dose of foreign aid. That is necessary. Those who argue against it I can only say either do not have a proper appreciation of the problems of this country, the economic problems that are facing it, or they do not wish well of our economy and of our economic growth.

Similarly about the fertiliser, it has been said that we have sold ourselves. That is not true. The concession that we have given, on fertiliser is not anything that we have not given in the past; in very selective fields we did give some concessions in order to develop that particular industry. Fertiliser is of very crucial importance, rather it is of critical importance. It is a catalyst to our agricultural production. That is recognised. Therefore if we wanted to have this catalyst so that we could achieve agricultural break through we thought, in the national interests, of giving sufficient inducements for the foreign capital to come here. In the foreign technical know-how

there has been a revolutionary change in the fertiliser technology and if you want to take advantage of that we have to do that; we have done it and we have taken ample safeguards. Whether it is the price or whether it is distribution or it is control, the national interest does not suffer. In net effect, the farmer will get the fertiliser at a lower price than he is getting it now. The distribution will be more effective and the service will be more effective. I saw, Madam, the other day a booklet about the distribution of it. It is a technique, what type of fertiliser is required for what types of crop for intensive agriculture, what sort of soil should be there, etc. It is a technique and selling that fertiliser itself is a technical service. Therefore it has to be done not by any ordinary organisation, it has to be done by a technically efficient organisation. And for that, if we have given concessions to develop that technique whether it is for distribution or in respect of prices, I think it has not been done against the national interests; it will be in the national interest in the end because we will be achieving a lower price, the higher technology will very sharply bring down the cost of production, and secondly the distribution technique which we lack today will be evolved in due course. Therefore from whatever point of view you look at it our policy in this respect has been guided by national interest. So, to criticise it or to say that we are selling out our country or that we are making concessions or that there is an erosion of Industrial policy is not correct and according, to me, is unfair.

Various Members have said that because of the failure in our achieving the targets in the Third Plan, we are facing a very serious situation and that Government is not doing enough to meet it. It is true that we are at the moment facing rather a critical situation in many fields and we are trying to do our best whether it is in the shape of food or in regard to the high prices. I do not want to go into a deeper analysis of these things as to how the prices have been rising. These analyses have been given in the past. The Food Minister has given all the details about it and also the factors leading to it. But the point is that we are trying, we have evolved a strategy of development which meets this new situation. For example, according to me, there are two factors. One is the failure on the agriculture front, successive failures leading to a larger and larger

deficit in the requirement of food and other agricultural products and then the non-realisation of the benefits from the large investments that have gone into the crucial sectors and also the difficulties of the private sector for lack of components and raw materials and spare parts leading to a fall in industrial production. So, industrial production is less and there was agricultural stagnation. We have to correct this, we have to reverse this trend. And the policy that we have adopted in the first year of the Fourth Plan is a major contribution in evolving a new technique, a new strategy of development which will not only reverse the trend but will lay the foundation for a more rapid growth in the coming years.

It has been said that we are neglecting agriculture. We are not neglecting agriculture. Actually we have provided more for agriculture in terms of financial allocations; for its developmental needs we have provided more. The Food Minister has explained in this House about it, that we are trying to achieve a breakthrough in agriculture by providing all the necessary inputs including incentives to the farmers in terms of price and various other things.

In respect of population control; Dr Chandra Shekar made a very valuable contribution, expert as he is. It is not as if we are depending upon one method of family planning whether it is sterilisation or any other method. To correct the hon. Member, I was hearing his speech. I did not feel that he said that he was in favour of abortion as such, but he said .

SHRI M. RUTHNASWAMY: He said, abortion was the most effective method of population control.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: My understanding of what he said was that in a country like ours we have not to follow one method we have to follow sterilisation, we have to follow this new method of IUCD and we have to follow the method of the contraceptives. He also spoke shockingly of it as the bitter pill and also how Japan had recourse to methods of abortion to make a success of population growth. We have no objection also to abortion wherever it is necessary not to have unwanted children. He put it very effectively where a mother or a father does

not want a child, there is no harm in not having the child through abortion. He meant that it should be as a bitter pill, though he did not mean that it should be encouraged as such. The Government's position is that although we are giving particular emphasis to certain programmes like the IUCD the other methods are also in operation, like sterilisation, contraceptives and others. He has said that we have reached some stage because of propaganda, where there is no resistance how to family planning as such in the country. And even in the rural areas, if we have the organisation, if we can reach out and give the facilities, people are willing to listen. That is the position. Publicity has brought this nearer to the people. We have to intensify this, we have to continue more and more. And we have provided a larger sum this year. For example, we have provided this year Rs. 15 crores. Although we have made cuts in other things, we have almost doubled the amount. Last year we spent Rs. 8 crores. Now we have provided Rs. 15 crores. On the physical side also, with regard to the number of operations to be performed, the number of IUCD centres, sterilisation centres, mobile centres, etc. we have made considerable expansion and enunciated various other programmes, and it is heartening to note that as a result of certain experiments in a particular area, the result is very encouraging. That is the hope for us. If we are able to build up this programme as we must in the course of the next two or three years, the results will be better rewarding. For example, it was tried in Gandhigram in one Block in Madurai District and in the course of three years the birth-rate declined from 44.14 to 37.7 per cent, that is, about 14 per cent fall in three years, from 1961 to 1964. This is a scheme of intensive . . .

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: The office prepares the statistics as you like.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Well, then, I think, if it is .

AN HON. MEMBER: May we know by what percentage.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I only pray that the hon. Member is wrong. If that is so, then there is no hope. This has been done by family planning workers, not by officers.

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Then there is another rural place near Calcutta. There also it showed that in four years, from 1957-61, there was a fall in registered birth rates from 42 to 36 per cent, nearly 25 per cent. These are the areas where you control.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: You may mislead us but

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I would request the hon. Member, he can go to the areas and check up. If I am wrong, I will be happy to be corrected. In this matter, certainly we are near the truth, if we depart from it by fabricating, well, there is no hope. If he thinks that we are wrong, the best thing for the hon. Member to do would be to find out for himself.

Then, in Maharashtra, Orissa and Punjab also, in this period of 1962 to 1964 there has been a fall. For example, in Maharashtra, in certain areas the fall has been 9.4 per cent. In Orissa it is 13.41. In Punjab in three years it is 10 per cent. So my only point is that if this organisation is built up, if this programme is built up, we will follow the optimum level. In the Fourth Plan we have provided for a very heavy amount. We have to follow it up and built it up to reach the optimum level. If the programme is at this level, in the course of ten years we will be able to bring down the birth rate to the required level, and after ten years this arrest will be sustained.

I now come to the maiden speech made by the hon'ble Shri M. N. Kaul, distinguished as his knowledge of parliamentary and administrative matters is. It is second to none in this country. I am glad he made a very valuable contribution in his very first speech. I am sure the points about the administrative reforms that he made, leading to the streamlining of the machinery and an increase in efficiency will receive the attention of the Administrative Reforms Commission. I am sure he will appear before them if he has not already appeared. He will be able to give the benefit of his expert knowledge in this field to the Commission.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: They can call him as a witness.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I think they will call him because they are only too anxious to benefit by the experience of experts like him. He is undoubtedly one of the best experts we have in these matters.

He underlined that our procedures are out of date and that our methods lead to inefficiency and delays, and unless there is a radical change in our system of working we will not go far. I am glad the Prime Minister, the other day, emphasised and said that the most important need is implementation at various levels. At various levels we have administrative bottlenecks. The bottlenecks of leadership and various other bottlenecks have got to be removed. They are road blocks to our administrative efficiency. They have got to be removed. If we do not remove them, our Plans will remain paper plans. They will remain paper plans if they are not implemented and it will be a sad day for this country. But I think the Government is keenly concerned about it. I hope the Administrative Reforms Commission will make suitable recommendations which will be implemented.

Then, Shri Kaul remarked about the increase in the number of Secretaries and the resultant expenditure on them and their staff. He said the increase was 565 per cent. That may be. But in terms of percentages, the percentages are sometimes misleading.

SHRI M. N. KAUL (Nominated): I said that in 1962 there were 47 Secretaries while in 1965 there were 64 Secretaries *ex-officio* and all kinds. This was the figure.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: That is true. As you know, this is a period of developing economy. In an economy like ours, some of the Secretaries may be redundant, I do not know.

SHRI M. N. KAUL: I am sorry to interrupt the hon'ble Minister. My point was this. For instance, the present Auditor-General before he became the Auditor-General he was in charge of Economic Affairs. He was in charge of Revenue and the Central Board of Revenue. As an experienced officer he held these various posts. Now that very work which he did is now being done by four officers or five officers. The work over this period of five years has been split up between 4 or 5 officers. I wanted it to be investigated as to what is the reason. I feel that there is dilution of responsibilities.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: There has been a very marked change in the responsibilities in the Finance Ministry since the present

Auditor-General was in the Finance Ministry. But I can inform the hon'ble Member that we have already reduced it from 4 to 3. We had the Company Law Administration and the Co-ordination Department. Because of these two new departments the workload increased. Now the Company Law has gone and we have only 3 Secretaries. It may be that if the full work load is given, a few Secretaries may be reduced. And it is not proper for a senior officer not to have full load. But I say that this growth of work load is the result of the enormous growth in the nature of work, the responsibilities and so on;

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: The Ministry of Finance must look into the number of Secretaries.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: We have reduced it from 4 to 3 so far as the Finance Ministry is concerned.

SHRI MULKA GOVINDA RIDDY: Where is the reduction? You have added this number to the Law Ministry.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: That is what I said. The Company Law had come, the Department of Co-ordination had come. These were the two new Departments. And we had one more Secretary. That was the point I was making. There may be some odd Secretaries who may not have the full load of work. But the point is that because of the enormous increase in work, the number of Secretaries has gone up.

The one point which he emphasised I would also like to emphasise. He said that the Ministers and Secretaries should concern themselves with policy and not go into details. Because they are burdened with details, they are more and multiplying. It is a very useful suggestion. But there is one difficulty which I myself feel. We are asked for requirements by hon'ble Members or the Parliament or the Committees of Parliament, and oftentimes we have to go into the details about it. They not only ask about the policy but they want details. And they are not one or two, they are multiplying. Therefore, we cannot divorce ourselves in the practical situation today from the details that are asked of us either from the public or from the Parliament. Therefore, we have to go into the details in a specific manner. However, the sugges-

tion that the details should be left out to be carried out and implemented by the junior, lower officers is a good suggestion. But in the present working it does not seem to be practicable at the moment.

شری عبدالغنی : کرتے وہی

ہیں نام سیکریٹری کا ہونا ہے ۔

†[**अब्दुल गनी** : करते वही हैं नाम से मेक्रेट्री का होता है ।]

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Then he said about the increase in pay and salaries. The question has been dealt with earlier. This is a question more of details. As the time is running out, I would not like to go into this matter.

Then hurriedly I will come to some of the other points. A number of hon'ble Members said that our debt burden has increased. It is said that it is Rs. 53 *per capita* and we could not indulge in the luxury of this expenditure, I can tell you roughly what is the position today. Our total internal and external debt is Rs. 10,800 crores of which the external debt is Rs. 2,600 crores, and others funded, unfunded, small savings and the rest. The total is Rs. 10,800 crores till date. On the other side our assets are also increasing, because these debts are being invested. Even in the private sector the profit is ploughed back for investment and expansion.

Similarly, whether it is loan of general revenues or otherwise, it goes for investment and correspondingly the assets are also going up. If you see the total assets that we have today, they are Rs. 11,900 crores including the Railways and others. Therefore the capital assets of the country exceed our debt burden by over Rs. 1,000 crores, and there is, therefore, no reason to feel alarmed at the size of the debt which we have contracted. Therefore, to say that we have gone bankrupt, that we are overburdened with debt and we are not in a position to bear it is not true. If we take the balance sheet, the picture is different. Then I would like to refer to one or two other points.

شری عبدالغنی : اسٹیس کی قیمت

کیسے لگائی گئی ہے ۔

[] Hindi translation.

†[श्री अब्दुल ग़नी : ऐसेट्स की कीमत कैसे लगाते हैं ?]

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: These are matters of detail. We have the break-up which can be supplied to the hon. Member.

श्री عبدالغنی : تاکہ پہلے جلی کہ کسے لگائی گئی ہے -

†[श्री अब्दुल ग़नी : ताकि पता चले कि कैसे लगाई गई है ।]

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Something was said about Orissa as it was a topical matter. He said that taccavi loans are not being distributed; the poor people have not got the purchasing power. At the moment we have sent a team to Orissa to assess the situation there. We have already given...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: How long will you take, Mr. Bhagat? We have got a function at 5-15.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Yes, Madam I will just finish.

We have already provided Rs. 2 crores to Orissa but the taccavi loan distribution arrangement is with the State Governments. We have sent a team and it is looking into the matter and all the assistance that is needed will be provided by the Centre subject to the resources that we have.

With these words, Madam, I move.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1966-67, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration"

The motion was adopted.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take the clause by clause consideration and of the Bill

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

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

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT Madam, I move:

"That the Bill be returned."

The question was proposed.

شری عبدالغنی : مبدم ڈپٹی چیرمین، اس آخری موقعہ پر کوئی لمبی چوڑی بات کہنا مناسب نہیں ہے لیکن میں یہ جاننا چاہتا ہوں کہ کیا سرکار نکنگ میں جو زیادہ برٹیاں ہو رہی ہیں، بے ایمانیاں ہو رہی ہیں، اس کے سلسلہ میں کوئی کمیشن بٹھائے گی یا نہیں بٹھائے گی؟ اور فوڈ سٹوریج کو سنہالنے کے لئے جس سے سارے دیس میں فوڈ کی ایک سی قسم ہو، راج کماری سے لے کر سری نگر تک، اور آسام سے لے کر گجرات تک، اس کے بارے میں کیا سرکار یقین دلائی ہے کہ وہ کچھ کرے گی یا نہیں کرے گی؟

†[श्री अब्दुल ग़नी . मेडम डिप्टी चैयरमन, इस आखिरी मौके पर कोई लम्बी चौड़ी बात कहना मुनासिब नहीं है लेकिन मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार बैंकिंग में जो ज्यादा दृष्टियाँ हो रही हैं, बेइमानियाँ हो रही हैं, उसके सिलसिले में कोई कमिशन बिठाएगी या नहीं बिठाएगी ? और फूड सिच्यूएशन को संभालने के लिए जिससे सारे देश में फूड की एक सी कीमत हो, रास कुमारी से लेकर श्रीनगर तक और आसाम से लेकर गुजरात तक, उसके बारे में क्या सरकार यकीन दिलाती है कि वह कुछ करेगी या नहीं करेगी ?]

श्री बी० आर० भगत : कमिशन बैठाने का कोई सवाल नहीं है। बैंकों पर तो रिजर्व बैंक का पूरा कंट्रोल है और अगर कोई बात होती है तो वह उसकी तहकीकात करती है दो एक बैंकों की खराबी जो माननीय सदस्य ने हाउस में बताई है उसकी देखभाल पूरी तौर से हो रही है। इसलिये किसी कमिशन की जरूरत नहीं है।

जहां तक फूड की कीमतों के लिये कमिशन बनाने की बात है, ऐसे कमिशन से काम चलेगा नहीं । जितना बाहर से मंगाया हुआ और सरकारी गोदामों का अनाज है वह तो हम सब जगह एक दाम पर बेचते ही हैं । किसानों के पास से अनाज खरीदना और बेचना और जब तक हम सारे फूड ट्रेड को सोशलाइज न कर लें, नेशनलाइज न कर लें, तब तक सब जगह अनाज के एक दाम करना मुश्किल होगा । इसलिये कमिशन से यह काम नहीं होगा । कोई दिन अगर ऐसा आयेगा कि फूड कारपोरेशन ऐसी हालत में हो जाए कि 70, 80 पर सेट अनाज की बिक्री उसी के द्वारा हो तब ऐसा

हो सकता है कि सब जगह अनाज एक दाम में बेचा जा सके । लेकिन अभी ऐसी स्थिति में हम नहीं हैं । इसलिये कमिशन से यह मामला तय नहीं होगा ।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The question is:

“That the Bill be returned.”

The motion was adopted.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned till 11 A.M. tomorrow.

The House then adjourned at five minutes past five of the clock till eleven of the clock on Tuesday, the 10th May, 1966.