

**NOTIFICATIONS UNDER THE ESSENTIAL
COMMODITIES ACT 1955.**

SHRI D. SANJIVAYYA : Sir, I also lay on the Table a copy each of the following notifications, under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955:

- (i) Notification G. S. R. No. 5 dated the 24th December, 1965, issued by the Government of Pondicherry.
- (ii) Notification No. F.2(5)/65-F&CS, dated the 31st December, 1965, issued by the Delhi Administration.

I Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-5686/66 for (i) & (ii).]

**CERTIFIED ACCOUNTS (1964-65) OF THE
COIR BOARD, ERNAKULAM AND RELATED
PAPERS**

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI M. SHAFI QURESHI): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (4) of section 17 of the Coir Industry Act, 1953, Certified Accounts of the Coir Board, Ernakulam, for the year 1964-65, together with the Audit Report thereon. [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-5687/66.]

**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS (1964-65).
OF THE MANGANESE ORE (INDIA) LIMITED
AND RELATED PAPERS**

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND METALS (SYED AHMED MEHDI) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of the section 619-A of the Companies Act, 1956:

- (i) Third Annual Report and Accounts of the Manganese Ore (India) Limited, Nagpur, for the year 1964-65 together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts.
- (ii) Review by Government on the working of the Company.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-5690/66 for (i) & (ii).]

**NOTIFICATIONS UNDER THE COAL MINES
(CONSERVATION AND SAFETY) ACT, 1952.**

SYED AHMED MEHDI : Sir, I also lay on the Table a copy each of the following notifications of the Ministry of Steel and Mines (Department of Mines and Metals), under sub-section (4) of section 17

of the Coal Mines (Conservation and Safety) Act, 1952:—

- (i) Notification G.S.R. No. 4, dated the 20th December, 1965, publishing the Coal Mines (Conservation and Safety) (Second Amendment) Rules, 1965.
 - (U) Notification G.S.R. No. 57, dated the 3rd January, 1966, publishing the Coal Mines (Conservation and Safety) Amendment Rules, 1966.
- [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-5688/66 for (i) and (ii).]

**ORDER NO. 16 IN RESPECT OF THE DELI-
MITATION OF PARLIAMENTARY AND
ASSEMBLY CONSTITUENCIES IN WEST
BENGAL.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW (SHRI C. R. PATTABHAI RAMAN) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Delimitation Commission Notification S.O. No. 494, dated the 14th February, 1966, publishing Order No. 16 in respect of the delimitation of parliamentary and assembly constituencies in the State of West Bengal. [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-5625/66.]

**THE CENTRAL SILK BOARD (AMENDMENT)
RULES, 1966**

SHRI M. SHAFI QURESHI: Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (3) of section 13 of the Central Silk Board Act, 1948, a copy of the Ministry of Commerce Notification G.S.R. No. 139, dated the 19th January, 1966, publishing the Central Silk Board (Amendment) Rules, 1966. [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-5691/66.)

**MOTION RE FOOD SITUATION IN
THE COUNTRY—contd.**

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shrimati Ammanna Raja had not finished her speech yesterday. She may finish her speech now.

SHRIMATI C. AMMANNA RAJA (Andhra Pradesh) : Mr. Chairman, I was saying yesterday that Andhra Pradesh has been really very generous. It has been denying food to its own people and has been supplying rice to needy like Keraia, but the position is not being properly understood. On the other hand, it is being blamed.

[Shrimati C. Ammanna RAJA]

They are blaming the Government for not being able to send food. It is not correct. While we are thankful to all the other countries, which have been generous and have been rushing supplies to us, why should we not be generous and grateful to our own people, who are really sacrificing their own interests and facing trouble from their own people for denying proper food to their own people?

SHRI JOSEPH MATHEN (Kerala) : I have said nothing against Andhra.

SHRIMATI C. AMMANNA RAJA: It has been said so and even the Minister has not cared to protect the interests of Andhra Pradesh. In fact, Andhra people, particularly from coastal districts, do not know of any other foodgrain except rice. At least Kerala knows about tapioca and "Nenthra Pazham", plantains and other things. We have nothing else to supplement. We do not eat millets, but still we are supplementing our food. And these people from Kerala, who do not produce enough, say they will not eat anything except rice. I think it is not fair and more than anything else I was very upset when these people came to Jaipur with placards, with labels pinned on to their saris and shirts : "We want rice". This is not a dignified way of doing things. If they want to make their representation at the AICC meeting, why cannot they make their position clear? Instead of that, like people who cannot represent their matters properly, labour, etc., they came there with placards. This has created a very wrong impression in the minds of people abroad and we get all sorts of news from outside, from other countries. They are publishing pictures showing Indians dying of starvation, of skeletons lying on the roadside, etc., which is not at all correct.

We see from the papers that students have been collecting two annas each of rush supplies for India. I can understand imports or exports on a Government-to-Government basis. But here what is the need for students for doing so as if we are all famine-stricken, we are all dying. In fact the other day when I was in Bombay, I heard that the Newspaper Associations of Italy had chartered a plane and sent condensed milk tins.

AN HON. MEMBER : It has arrived.

SHRIMATI C. AMMANNA RAJA: It has arrived. I knew it when I was there but there was no information in the Government offices. They were not in a position to receive it. There were frantic telephone calls, wasting so many hundreds of rupees, between Bombay and Delhi, and when actually they should take it, they could not take it. It requires cold storage, it must be put in a frigidaire. Otherwise the whole thing will be wasted. This is how it is managed. I am very sorry about it. Finally they are thinking of sending it to the Aarey Milk Colony to exchange it with proper milk. Let them do what they like. If it is any such charity coming from abroad, I suggest that it should be supplied to school-going children as midday meals or to the poor people who are in need. I understand that such a charity which is coming from abroad is sold to the people, which is not right at all.

SHRI JOSEPH MATHEN : It is full of incorrect statements.

SHRIMATI C. AMMANNA RAJA : My information is such. Anyhow the Minister will have a proper answer when he replies to this.

MR. CHAIRMAN : How long will you take?

SHRIMATI C. AMMANNA RAJA : Another five minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You had taken some ten minutes yesterday.

SHRIMATI C. AMMANNA RAJA: Yesterday I took only seven minutes.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL (Uttar Pradesh) : We are under ladies' rule. Show her some indulgence, Sir.

SHRIMATI C. AMMANNA RAJA : Then, "About 4,000 students of 16 secondary schools marched through the streets in Amsterdam in support of the "Food for India" campaign. They converged at a central point and donated 50 cents each towards the campaign. So far 19.2 million guilders, about Rs. 260 lakhs, have been raised in Holland." Also other Embassies in India feel why the situation is being so misrepresented, so exaggerated. We want the Government to say that we do not want any charity from abroad. We all want

imports of foodgrains on a Government-to-Government basis sufficient to go round, and we must supply the foodgrains from fair price shops to the poor people. I feel, and I do not know whether this can be examined, that free movement can be started.

AN. HON. MEMBER: There must be price control.

[THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair]

SHRIMATI C. AMMANNA RAJA: Of course with price control there may be free movement. We have to tackle this problem on an emergency basis. We on our part must adjust our food habits according to the needs of the times, and also the Government must get sufficient imports from abroad. After all when it is necessary we have to use our foreign exchange to protect the people's interests so that it may not be felt that we are not minding the needs of the people. Also there are still lands which are not cultivated. I know that in every area there are lands uncultivated, and when poor people ask for permission to cultivate them, Government takes years and years to give the permission. But if they do cultivate the land, penalties are imposed on them. I want the Government to see that no such penalty is imposed on these poor people who cultivate lands which are lying waste, so that it really adds to our food supplies.

Even today we find in the statement by the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh that if all our irrigation projects are completed, or at least if the Nagarjunsagar project is completed and if sufficient funds are supplied by the Central Government, we cannot only wipe out the entire food deficit of India but we can also export. (*Interruption*). Sufficient funds should be supplied for this purpose so that there is no need for too much of import from abroad. We are facing a foreign exchange shortage and all that. Instead of depending upon foreign sources we can look into this matter.

I sometime back put a question about fisheries to our Food Minister. There is plenty of fish available in the coastal areas. Only sufficient facilities are not given to the fishermen for proper fishing, proper storage, proper selling, etc. We have to supplement our food with fish, egg and meat.

We are not taking proper care of our animal husbandry at all. We have to think of that aspect also. I suggest that on either side of the railway line there is a little land which can be cultivated, and let fodder be raised. Let it be given to contractors, so that if there is sufficient fodder to go round for the animals of our country, we can at least get milk if we do not get sufficient food.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have taken more than twenty minutes.

SHRIMATI C. AMMANNA RAJA: I am finishing. I hope the Government will give proper incentives to our cultivators so as to stop the exodus from villages to cities where life is more comfortable. We do not even give them proper water, proper schools, proper hospitals. We must take an overall view of all these things and see that the villagers are properly protected and farmers are encouraged to grow more and more.

Thank you,

SYED NAUSHER ALI (West Bengal) : Madam Deputy Chairman, I must thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak. Before I speak on the subject proper, I should like to make some remarks with regard to some statements made a few days back by the Food Minister in answer to supplementaries. He was replying to a question, I believe, by Mr. Sen Gupta about the food situation in Bengal, and he made a remark to the effect that the professional agitators had lost their employment in Calcutta. This was a remark which was mortifying and I tried to catch the eye of the Chair but I failed. I have never in my experience heard such a light-hearted remark from a responsible Minister, specially on the food question. I expected that the Minister should be a little bit more responsible.

Now, it appears to me that he painted a rosy picture of the situation in Calcutta. But I must assure him that he is thoroughly mistaken. I myself have personal experience of Calcutta and of the surrounding districts. I had direct, reliable information. I had my own difficulties in getting good food. In the beginning of January when I was there in Calcutta, I could not get many things, could not get them at all. It is not that the food is good or bad or indifferent. But I could not get it at all. In this con-

[Syed Nausber Ali J

dition, some people, some Congressmen, came to see me. The hon. Minister may not know that I had been a Congressman and the Congress people of West Bengal still have got some sense of cordiality, if I may use a very mild expression, for me. Some of these people came and complained to me that in Calcutta there is no agitation on food on account of the existence of the DIR. If anyone speaks anything about food, the next morning he will find himself in jail. That was the position in Calcutta proper. Certainly, Calcutta proper is better in respect of food than the mofussil.

Again, in January' when I was in Calcutta, I got reliable information from people whose veracity I can under no circumstances distrust, that in one district people had no rice, they had not the buying power of even wheat. They were living on what they call *mutter-kalai*, that means, beans. They were living on that. And they were also not getting kerosene oil. They had to live in darkness. Now, can you expect a landless labourer to purchase rice at Rs. 3 per kilo? Can you expect that? Rice was in some quantity available in the blackmarket. But the price was too high for these people. A section of the people who hold land could somehow manage on their own harvest. But people who had no land whatsoever, how can they manage? It was simply impossible. And if I remember aright, I saw in the Press Shri P. C. Sen, the Chief Minister of West Bengal, is reported to have said that Murshidabad is going the Kerala way. And what happened in Basirhat and other places in West Bengal is now pretty well known to all. Do you think that people take pleasure in being killed, in being lathi-charged, in being shot at? Do they take pleasure in this? They never take pleasure in joining an agitation unless compelled. They do not get food. If they do not get food, what else can they do? And I wonder why they did not loot I had occasion before independence, when the Britishers were here, to speak on this food question. Once we saw rice and paddy hoarded up, not only hoarded up but stored on Railway platforms and people dying by their side. I wondered why people did not loot them. Now, in this country the people are so docile that they would never think of any agitation unless they are compelled. Food is a thing which is so

essential that a time may come when the people may loot it. If that is so, what does the Government mean? Is the Government giving them food. It appears to me that the Government of West Bengal is trying to keep the city people satisfied at the cost of the rural people. There has been procurement and my information is that it is full of corruption and oppression. Now, an oppressed man cannot get some food if he cannot afford to pay the officers. In this way, food is brought from the rural areas into the cities and the needs of the city people are satisfied. Now, the whole thing is this. There is maldistribution everywhere. There is no question of equitable distribution.

I am sorry, Madam. My time is going to be up. If I may be allowed to continue. I can go on.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : You may please continue.

SYED NAUSHER AU : I do not know* what I have to say about this Government. Really, I am puzzled what to say and what not to say.

SJDU G. RAMACHANDRAN (Nooonated) : What you are saying, you are saying very clearly.

SYED NAUSHER ALI: Now the position is this.

Before I deal with the question proper, I will just say a few words. The first thing is that I never expected such a remark from the hon. Minister. The second thing is this. He said in answer to a certain question that he could only persuade the local Government on the question of food. Now, the question arises as to who is responsible, whether the Centre or the States. I have known instances where an adjournment motion had been tabled in Parliament and the Speaker had ruled that it was a State subject. And when the same subject is raised in the State, the State says it is a Central subject I have known instances of this "kind. But are we to have the same kind of statement with regard to food even? The position should be made absolutely clear. Who is responsible for food, the Centre or the State? If the State is to be responsible, the Centre can help the State, or if the Centre is responsible, the Centre can do it and ask the State to proceed in a particular way.

Apart from all this, the question of emergency was there. I tried to get a copy of the emergency order but I have not got it. I am not quite sure how far emergency affected the relationship between the States and the Centre.

AM HON. MEMBER : It does.

SYED NAUSHER ALI : It does. So the answer that was given by the hon. Minister appears to me to be improper, if not wrong. He said as if he is not les-possible.

im MINISTER OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI G. SUBRAMANIAM) : May I say that by the emergency the Constitution is not suspended

SYED NAUSHER ALI: I know that

PROF. M. B. LAL (Uttar Pradesh) : Without suspending the Constitution under the emergency orders the Centre can issue directives to the States.

SYED NAUSHER ALI: Yes, that is the point. However, these are the two things that I wanted to bring on as preliminaries.

I then let me begin with the food problem. Food has been a problem ever since we became independent, and along with it for its remedy various steps have been suggested. To solve the food problem various suggestions have been made, various statements have been made. Some of these statements are absolutely conflicting and contradictory. But one thing is common throughout. As regards contradictory things I will make a brief remark subsequently. But there are certain things which have been common, of which we have been hearing from the very beginning. What are they ? Birth control and grow-more-food. These are the two things of which we have been hearing since the time India became independent, and from the time food became a problem. I am not much enamoured of birth control. But assuming that it is necessary, what has the Government done all these 18 years? Neither they have grown more food nor have they controlled birth. Mind you, eighteen pretty long years during which a new generation could grow. We have been always crying that India should be strong. But can it be strong without food ?

In 1957, when I was a Congressman, I wrote to Pandit Nehru drawing his attention to the appalling poverty of the people when in the streets of Calcutta, before palatial buildings, beggars—I mean human beings—and dogs were struggling for food out of dustbins, I drew his attention to these things, and in that letter I suggested to him to do two things, give food to the people, food with adequate, proper calorific values, and give education to the people. You have to move and the people will do their duty. Pandit Nehru was perhaps alive to it. When he came back from China, he declared that food could be grown three or fourfold in India. That was the statement that I distinctly remember. And, if my memory does not fail me, similar statements were made by the present Food Minister in Madras or somewhere. If this can be done, why has it not been done ? We want an explanation from the Government. If food can be produced fourfold, why was it not produced ? What is the reason for it ? On one occasion—I think in Rajasthan—Pandit Nehru said that so far as the grow-more-food campaign was concerned, the District Magistrates had played the role of head clerks for the purpose. But why ? Nothing has been done yet. Pandit Nehru has gone. Shastriji has gone. Nothing has been done.

The topmost priority, in my opinion, should have been given as I insisted in that letter to Pandit Nehru—to food and education. Now these are the two subjects which have been starved and we complain about the scarcity of food, this and that.

As regards the contradictory statements, I had heard statements made to the effect that so long as birth control is not effective and population is not reduced, there can be no question of adequate food. That is one statement. Therefore, may I know from the hon'ble Food Minister if he can visualise any period by which India can be self-sufficient in food ? Has he got any idea about it ? We have got other contradictory statements. India has got no deficiency in food. If I remember right, the Director of the Food Corporation of India once said that we can make India self-sufficient in food in 2 years provided we get fertiliser. That was a dawn of knowledge at this late stage. Even if it is so, when the country is going to have

[Syed Nausher Ali]

this fertilisers, nobody knows. Therefore we do not know where we stand. It seems we will never get enough food to eat, and if we can never produce the food we require, how can we be strong? How can we be a strong nation? Presently we have become B nation of beggars, because we go from door to door for food. The other day, replying to the debate on the President's Address, the Prime Minister said that she would never do anything at the cost of the honour of this country. But has it been very honourable to go with a beggar's bowl all these eighteen years from door to door for food? I read in a statement issued by the U.S.A. Embassy, or the U.S.A. Government to the effect that half of the wheat that India requires is supplied by the U.S.A. When is this situation to be eliminated? With the hon. Minister enlighten us as to when and how the position will be improved? I can quite understand that I have taken much longer time. So I do not want to say anything more. I should only say this. Referring to the present scarcity they say that it has been a special scarcity. I am afraid our statesmen, our Ministers have got no idea of administration. They have got very little foresight and insight. If they had foresight and insight, they could have prevented many evils, solved many problems. Having no foresight, new problems crop up and get complicated, and then it becomes a serious situation. I think I should conclude now, because it is getting late. However, on some other occasion, I will say something more on this. Thank you. Madam.

श्री देवकी नन्दन नारायण (महाराष्ट्र) :

आदरणीय मन्त्री जी, 17 वर्ष से यही चर्चा चली आ रही है, हर साल इस सदन में अन्न समस्या की चर्चा होती है, डिबेट होती है और मैं देख रहा हूँ कि वही वही बातें मुनाई जाती हैं, वही मिफारिशें की जाती हैं और कोई नई बात सामने नहीं आती। कमेटियाँ बनाई जाती हैं। अशोक कमिटी बनी, दांतवाला कमिटी बनी, और भी बनती रहेंगी। एक मिनिस्टर आये, दूसरे आये, तीसरे आये, परन्तु यह अन्न की समस्या आज तक मुलज नहीं सकी। परावलम्बन दिन प्रतिदिन बढ़ता जा रहा है। बाहर सेगत 17 वर्षों में करीब 60 मिलियन टन अनाज

आया जिनके लिये करीब 2,300 करोड़ रुपये हमें बाहर भोजना पड़ा और आज की हालात तो यह है कि दुनिया में यह भ्रम हो गया है कि हम भूखे हैं और हमारे प्रति सबको दिया दिखाना चाहिये। रोज बाहर से कुछ पामेन्स आ रहे हैं। इतनी शर्मनाक आज की परिस्थिति है।

बार-बार जोन्स की चर्चा चलनी है। इसमें दो राये हैं। कुछ भाई कहते हैं कि जोन्स हट जायें तो सब जगह अनाज ही अनाज हो जायेगा। दूसरे यह कहते हैं कि जोन्स रहने ही से आज खाने को मिलता है, नहीं तो भूख मरेंगे। मैं तो जोन्स के पक्ष में हूँ और न बिपक्ष में। मैं तो हर एक मवाल की इस निगाह से देखना चाहता हूँ कि कौनसी बात जनता के हित में है। जनता के हित में यदि जोन्स है तो जोन्स रहे। जनता के हित में यदि जोन्स नहीं है तो जोन्स समाप्त कर दिये जायें। जान यह है कि जोन्स के खिलाफ जो बोलते हैं उनके भी दिल में डर है और जोन्स के पक्ष में जो बोलते हैं उनके भी दिल में डर है और डर इसलिये है कि जो पार्लिमेंट हम अक्षित्यार करने हैं उसको हम प्रामाणिकता से आगे नहीं चलाते, उसपर अमल नहीं होता। बात इम्प्लीमेंटेशन की है। यदि जोन्स रहे और इम्प्लीमेंटेशन प्रामाणिकता से हो तो कोई डर की बात नहीं है। यदि जोन्स निकाल दिये जायें और प्रामाणिकता से उसका अमल हो तो भी कोई डर पैदा नहीं। परन्तु सबसे बड़ी बात यह है कि जो कुछ हम निश्चय करने हैं जो कुछ हमारा सरकार निश्चय करती है, उसका प्रामाणिकता के साथ कभी भी इम्प्लीमेंटेशन नहीं होता। आज जोन्स की वजह से एक बात तो हो गई कि इस देश में एकान्तकता जाती रही राज्य-राज्यों में बेदिली पैदा हुई, सम्मानन बढ़ा। इसका लाभ करें, तो यह जरूर हुआ। परन्तु और लाभ क्या हुआ। यह कहना बड़ा मूर्खाना है।

आज सरप्लस और डेफिसिट की बात कही जाती है? जो अधिक अनाज पैदा करने हैं वे

सरप्लस स्टेट्स हैं। जो अधिक कौश-क्राफ्ट पैदा करते हैं वे डेफिसिट स्टेट्स हैं। कौश-क्राफ्ट वाले फिर यह कहने के लिये तैयार होते हैं कि भाई, भारत एक है, जोरम निकाल देने चाहिये, सबका एक नागरिकता की दृष्टि से देखना चाहिये, परन्तु वे यह नहीं सोचते कि डेफिसिट स्टेट्स में कौश-क्राफ्ट अधिक होने का अर्थ है: उन्हें जो अधिक पैसा मिलता है, क्या उस पैस का बटवारा वे सरप्लस स्टेट्स वालों से करने के लिये तैयार हैं? यदि वे तैयार नहीं हैं तो सरप्लस स्टेट्स से यह आशा करना कि वे अपना अनाज हमें देते रहें और फिर कम कीमत पर देने रहें, यह व्यायपूर्ण नहीं है, व्यायसंगत नहीं है। मैं आपसे कहना चाहता हूँ कि इसका परिणाम यह हो रहा है कि सरप्लस स्टेट्स वाले भी अब कौश-क्राफ्ट पैदा करने की सोच रहे हैं। पंजाब में भी अब यही आवाज उठ रही है। मध्य प्रदेश में भी यह सोचा जा रहा है कि कौश-क्राफ्ट पैदा किये जायें। दूसरे भी कुछ प्रलोभन अब पैदा हो गये हैं कि अनाज पैदा करने से इतना भूमीवर्त कंट्रोल और रेस्ट्रिक्शन माल लेनी पड़ती है और इसलिये हमसे यह अच्छा है कि हम कौश-क्राफ्ट पैदा करें, रेस्ट्रिक्शन से भी बचें, कंट्रोल से भी बचें और अधिक पैसा भी मिले। इसलिये दोनों तरह से, पैसा अधिक प्राप्त करने के लिये भी और आपके कंट्रोल और रेस्ट्रिक्शन से बचने के लिये भी अब सरप्लस स्टेट्स वाले भी यह सोचने लगे हैं कि हम भी कौश-क्राफ्ट पैदा करें। इसलिये मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि आपको यह नैति अनिवार्य करनी होगी कि हर एक राज्य जहाँ तक अनाज का मसाला है, उसमें स्वाधीन-स्वावलम्बी बने। यही आपसे सहायता माग्यो की सलाह थी और यही आपसे विनम्रता की कहने हैं। कम यहाँ जो यह बात कहो गई कि यह हो नहीं सकता, मैं इस बात को मानने के लिये तैयार नहीं। हिन्दुस्तान एक कृषि प्रधान देश है और अनाज के मामले में हर एक प्रदेश अपना अकर्म पूरा कर सकता है। इसके लिये हर एक राज्य को और मैं तो यहाँ तक कहूँ कि हर एक जिला को स्वाध-

नवी और स्वाधीन बनाने का हमें निश्चय करना चाहिये और वे ऐसा बन सकते हैं। परन्तु इसके मार्ग में कुछ बाधाएँ हैं। सबसे बड़ी बाधा यह है कि आज हमारी जमीन का जिम तरह से बटवारा है उस बटवारे को देखते हमको कुछ कंट्रोल कुछ जगह पर लगाने होंगे। आज सबड़ा 75 लेड होल्डर्स के पास 5 एकड़ से कम जमीन है। 42 परसेंट लेड होल्डर्स ऐसे हैं जिनके पास एक एकड़ से कम जमीन है और एक एकड़ से पांच एकड़ वाले 30 टका हैं। यानी 75 टका लेड होल्डर्स ऐसे हैं जो अपनी जमीन में जितना अनाज पैदा करते हैं वह उनके अपने घर के लिये भी पर्याप्त नहीं है। रह जाते हैं 25 टका किसान और 25 टका किसानों के पास दो-तिहाई जमीन है। और ये दो-तिहाई जमीन वाले 25 टका किसान श्रीमन्, ऐसे किसान हैं, जिनके पास काफी पैसा है और जो अबसर कौश-क्राफ्ट की ओर ही झुलते हैं। जब तक दो-तिहाई जमीन जिन किसानों के पास है उनको किसी खास मात्रा में अपनी जमीन में अनाज बोने के लिये बाधित नहीं करेंगे, तब तक वे कौश-क्राफ्ट में अधिक पैसा पाने के लिये अनाज की ओर नहीं हलेंगे। इसलिये मैं यह कहूँगा कि क्राफ्ट प्लानिंग की आवश्यकता है। क्राफ्ट प्लानिंग आपको करनी होगी और हर एक से यह कहना होगा कि इतनी जमीन में आपको अनाज पैदा करना होगा।

दूसरी बात यह है कि कौश-क्राफ्ट में जब ज्यादा पैसा मिलता है तो स्वाभाविक है किसान उधर जाता है। आपको अनाज की कीमतों में और कौश-क्राफ्ट की कीमतों में कुछ पैरिटी लाने की सोचना होगी। लार्स को कम करके जो उनको रह जाता है वह दोनों का करीब-करीब मज-दौक का रहेगा तो मेरे ख्याल में यह कौश-क्राफ्ट और अनाज की समस्या बहुत कुछ कम हो जायेगी।

अब प्रोविशमेंट की बात। मैं अपने प्रांत की बात कहता हूँ। मेरे राज्य में मॉनोपोली परचेज किया गया। जैसा मैंने कहा, किसी

[श्री देवकीनन्दन नारायण]

पद्धति से मेरा विरोध नहीं है अगर वह जनता के हित में है। परन्तु मैंने देखा क्या? मोनो-पोली परचेज की जायगी, तो मोनोपोली परचेज करने के बाद हर एक को अनाज देने की जिम्मेदारी भी लेनी होगी। आप हर एक को अनाज देने की जिम्मेदारी जब तक नहीं लेते हैं और मोनोपोली परचेज किसानों से कर लेते हैं तो उससे कितनी असुविधा और अड़चन पैदा होती है, यह आप मेरे यहाँ आकर देख सकते हैं।

श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालाल जी चौरङ्गिया (मध्य प्रदेश) : मैं भी आपके साथ हूँ, हमारे यहाँ भी यही है।

श्री देवकीनन्दन नारायण : फेयर प्राइस शाप में दो-तीन किलो से ज्यादा दे नहीं सकते, बाजार में मिल नहीं सकता, मोनोपोली परचेज है, खुलेआम कोई बेच नहीं सकता। तीन किलो के बाद जरूरत रह जाती है; किसी का भी 8-10 किलो से कम में काम चलता नहीं; वह 5-6 किलो ब्लैक में लेता है और वह उसे बहुत महंगा लेना पड़ता है। फेयर प्राइस शाप में जिस कीमत पर मिलता है उससे तिगुनी कीमत देनी पड़ती है। मोनोपोली परचेज के साथ-साथ यदि आप यह जिम्मेदारी नहीं लेंगे कि हर एक को पर्याप्त अनाज देंगे, तब तक मोनोपोली परचेज बेकार है। उससे आम गरीब जनता का नुकसान है। गरीब जनता की हासत यह है कि आप देते नहीं। मराठी में कहावत है—“आई जेबू घालीना, बाप भीक मांगू देईना।” मां खाने को देती नहीं, बाप भीख मांगने नहीं देता। आज गरीबों की हालत यही है। आप फेयर प्राइस शाप में देते नहीं और बाहर अनाज मिलने की कोई सुविधा नहीं।

आप यह कहते हैं कि शहर के लोगों की परचेजिंग पावर बढ़ी होती है। आप चलिए शहरों में, परचेजिंग पावर जिनकी बढ़ी हुई है उनकी तादाद कितनी है और जिनकी परचेजिंग पावर बढ़ी नहीं है बल्कि घटी है, उनकी

संख्या कितनी है। आप पांच लाख के ऊपर वाले शहरों में राशनिंग करना चाहते हैं। पांच लाख के नीचे जो बस्ती है, जो छोटे-मोटे शहर हैं उनमें क्या हालत है। आजकल जब से ब्लैक मार्केटिंग शुरू हुई है—और किसानों में भी वह बीमारी बहुत कुछ फैल गई है—तब से गांवों में बड़े किसान मजदूरों को गरीबों को भी मोल देने को तैयार नहीं हो रहे क्यों कि शहरवालों को बेचकर या अच्छे, खुशहाल लोगों को देकर यदि उनको ज्यादा पैसा मिलता है तो कोई जरूरत नहीं है कि वह अपने गांव के गरीबों की ही कम भाव में, कम दामों में दें। यह बीमारी आजकल बहुत बढ़ गई है। आज तक तो ब्लैक मार्केटिंग व्यापारी करता था, अब किसान करने लगा है। आपने और कुछ तो नहीं किया, ब्लैक मार्केटिंग की बीमारी फैल दी, नेशनलाइज कर दी।

कहा गया कि 5 या 6 परसेंट डेफिसिट है अनाज का। मेरी तो समझ में नहीं आता कि ये अंक कहाँ से आते हैं, स्टैटिस्टिक्स किस तरह से तैयार होते हैं। यदि 5, 6, 7 या 10 तक भी आपका डेफिसिट हो तो भी इतना तो हमारे यहाँ चूहे, बन्दर और कुत्ते खा जाते हैं। कोई घर ऐसा नहीं है जिसमें 5-50 चूहे न हों। ऐसा यू० पी० में कोई गांव और शहर नहीं है जहाँ संकड़ों बन्दर न हों और जिनको पालते नहीं हैं, ऐसे कुत्तों की संख्या भी करोड़ से ज्यादा होगी। ये जो तमाम अनाज खा जाते हैं, इसका हिसाब किया जाये तो यह दस टका से ज्यादा हो जायेगा। परन्तु हमारी सरकार बड़ी बातों की ओर देखती है, छोटी बातों पर सोचती नहीं। कभी यह नहीं सोचा कि हिन्दुस्तान के इन चूहों को किस तरह से बरबाद किया जा सकता है, कुत्तों से किस तरह से अनाज बचाया जा सकता है, बन्दरों से किस तरह से बचाया जा सकता है, परन्तु इसके लिये तो नीचे उतरना होगा, ऊपर बैठकर तो काम चलेगा नहीं परन्तु उस ओर गवर्नमेंट ध्यान देती नहीं।

जैसा मैंने शुरू में कहा, वही बातें चल रही हैं जो 17 बरस से हम कहते आए हैं। हमारे श्री अशोक मेहता साहब ने 1957 में रिपोर्ट

की। उनके टर्म्स ऑफ रिफरेंस में यही था जिसकी आज हम चर्चा कर रहे हैं—

"To review the present food situation and to examine the causes of the rising trends in the food prices."

रिपोर्ट आई, रिपोर्ट में भी उन्होंने कहा:

"The food position will continue to be difficult."

आगे वह कहते हैं:

"For an effective solution of the food problem an all-out effort to step up production must be made. The Situation demands a national effort transcending regional and party considerations. In our economic development the crucial position is occupied by the food policy."

यह जो बातें 9 बरस पहले कही गईं वही आज कही जा रही हैं, हम भी कर रहे हैं और हमारी सरकार भी कह रही है। समझ में नहीं आता कि एक के बाद एक कमेटी बनती है, एक के बाद एक नई पालिसी, नई योजना बनती है, परन्तु यह उलझन अभी तक तय नहीं हो पाई। हिन्दुस्तान कृषि-प्रधान देश है, जो अपने गांवों में रहता है। छः लाख हमारे गांव हैं, जहां अनाज पैदा हो सकता है परन्तु गांवों के साथ हमारा सम्बन्ध क्या रहा है। न गांवों को शहरों से सहानुभूति है, न शहरों को गांवों के लिये कोई सहानुभूति है। आज ऐसी तंग हालत है कि इसमें यह कहा नहीं जा सकता कि अनाज की समस्या जल्दी तय होने वाली है मुलझने वाली है। मुझे याद आता है 1947 की बात है, शायद सितम्बर की। महात्मा गांधी ने पंडित जवाहर लाल जी को एक पत्र लिखा था कि भाई तुम हमारे बारिस हो और अब राज्य के प्रधान मंत्री बन गए हो, तो हम और आप बैठ कर यह देखें कि किस तरह से इस देश का भला किया जा सकता है, तरबकी की जा सकती है, विकास किया जा सकता है और उसमें खास यह बात लिखी कि यदि आप इस देश में कलासलेस नान-एक्सप्लायटिंग पीसफुल सोसायटी कायम करना चाहते हैं तो आपको 'विलेज'

यूनिट लेना होगा। जवाहर लाल जी ने जवाब दिया—

"I do not understand what the village unit has to do with a peaceful non-exploiting society."

वहीं से इस अन्न समस्या की ही नहीं, अन्य बहुत-सी समस्याओं की बीमारी इस देश में पैदा हुई। यदि इस अनाज के सम्बन्ध में हम विलेज यूनिट को मानकर आगे अपनी इमारत बनाते तो मुझे पूरा विश्वास है कि आज यह जो अन्न की कमी है, वह आपको दीख न पड़ती।

एक बात और कह कर मैं अपना भाषण समाप्त करूंगा—वह है फर्टिलाइजर के बारे में।

परावलम्बन की भी कुछ हद होती है। हमने अब यह हवा पैदा कर दी है इस देश में कि फर्टिलाइजर, केमिकल फर्टिलाइजर जो है, जो बड़े-बड़े कारखानों से आता है, बाजार में मोल मिल सकता है उससे ही काम चलेगा और कुछ करने की जरूरत नहीं। इसलिए अधिकतर किसान बाजार को दौड़ते हैं। केमिकल फर्टिलाइजर मोल लेना चाहते हैं। उसमें व्यापारी, कोआपरेटिव सोसाइटीज एडल्ट्रेशन भी करती हैं और पैसा कमाती हैं, परन्तु किसान को यह नहीं सिखलाया जाता कि वह अपने घर पर किस तरह से फर्टिलाइजर यानी खाद पैदा कर सकता है, किस तरह से कम्पोस्ट कर सकता है। इतना कचड़ा, घास-फूस उसके खेत में पैदा होता है कि उससे जितना चाहे उतना कम्पोस्ट बना सकते हैं। कम्पोस्ट की एक दफा थो मोर फूड के सिल-सिले में एक मुहिम चली थी लेकिन वह जल्दी ही समाप्त हो गई और अब कोई नहीं याद करता कम्पोस्ट। किसानों को यह सिखलाइए कि जो उनके पास रिसोर्सेज हैं उनका ज्यादा से ज्यादा उपयोग करें। दूसरी बात गोबर की कल कही गई। लाखों मन गोबर जलाया जाता है, उसको भी बचा सकते हैं यदि किसानों को आप मदद कर सकें। आपको पता नहीं होगा यह मनुष्य का जो मल है, इसको महाराष्ट्र

[श्री देवकीनन्दन नारायण]

में 'सोन खद' कहते हैं, गोल्ड मैन्योर कहते हैं। उसी सोन खद की मात्रा हिन्दुस्तान में कितनी होती है। 45 करोड़ जनता का मूत्र और मल जो है इसका सदुपयोग किया जा सके, उसका उपयोग किसानों को सिखलाया जाए, ग्राम पंचायतों और शहरों की मार्फत उसको खाद के काम में लाया जा सके तो आपका सैंकड़ों करोड़ रुपया बच सकता है और बैस्ट मैन्योर आपको मिल सकता है परन्तु वह सिखलाने के लिए कोई तैयार नहीं, कोई वह बोलने को भी तैयार नहीं, कोई बतलाने के लिये तैयार नहीं क्योंकि इतनी मेहनत करे कौन।

नीचे से किसान को ऊपर उठाइए, उसको ट्रेन्ड कीजिए, एजुकेट कीजिए। इससे होता क्या है कि फर्टिलाइजर बनाने के लिए बड़े-बड़े कारखाने खोल दें कि कारखाने वालों का भला हो और बेचारे किसान के घर से पैसा न जाए और किसान परावलम्बी बने? आज किसान परावलम्बी बन रहा है, उसको हम परावलम्बी बना रहे हैं। हिन्दुस्तान में यह केमिकल फर्टिलाइजर आवश्यक तो है परन्तु मैंने यह भी सुना है कि जब तक नैचुरल फर्टिलाइजर, ग्रीन मैन्योर केमिकल फर्टिलाइजर के साथ मिलाई नहीं जाएगी और अकेले केमिकल फर्टिलाइजर ही बरती जाएगी तो उससे खेती को नुकसान होगा। इसलिये हित के हिसाब से, लाभ के हिसाब से भी दोनों का मिलाना आवश्यक है, परन्तु यह करे कौन!

तो मेरी आपसे प्रार्थना है, मंत्री महोदय से प्रार्थना है कि आप इन छोटी-छोटी बातों की ओर देखिए, हर एक किसान को स्वावलम्बी, स्वाश्रयी बनाइए। सिर्फ अनाज में ही नहीं, बल्कि खाद के बारे में भी वह स्वावलम्बी बन सकता है। उसकी अकल और होशियारी का सदुपयोग करिएगा तो यह प्रश्न सुलझ सकता है। यहाँ दिल्ली में बैठ कर नमाम बातें तय की जाएंगी तो आप यह अनाज की समस्या, यह जटिल सवाल सुलझा सकेंगे, ऐसा मैं नहीं मानता। इसलिए मेरी

आखिरी प्रार्थना है कि आपको ऊँचे से नीचे उतरना होगा और नीचे से ऊपर चढ़ने की कोशिश करनी होगी, परकोलेशन की थ्योरी को छोड़ना होगा और किसान को ज्यादा से ज्यादा अपनाना होगा और उसके साथ न्यायसंगत बर्ताव करना होगा। इसी तरह से आपको गरीबों और मजदूरों का सोचना होगा। आप यह कर सकते हैं कि गरीब लोगों को, मजदूरों को अनाज मोल लेने में सब-सिडाइज और भागवानों के लिये अधिक दाम रखिए। भागवान तो आज भी अधिक दाम दे रहा है परन्तु कानून की व्यवस्था के साथ आप उससे अधिक दाम ले सकेंगे, वह नाराज नहीं होगा और गरीब और मजदूर को आप सबसिडाइज करेंगे, अनाज देने में तो उसका और भी उपकार होगा और वह भी आपको धन्यवाद देगा। जय हिन्द।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The House stands adjourned till 2.30 P.M.

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

The House reassembled after lunch at halfpast two of the clock, the VICB-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA) in the Chair.

PROF. M. B. LAL : Sir, it is rightly Said that the problem of distribution and supply is closely interlinked with the problem of production. Unless India is able to produce food in sufficient quantity the problem of food scarcity cannot be solved. Unless we produce sufficient even to build up a stock for years when we are not able to produce sufficient food, we will continue to be faced with food crises'. The problem of production is a complex one. Shri Asoka Mehta, Minister of Planning, the other day, 'pointed out that the agricultural problem was closely interlinked with the problem* of transport, banking, industry and education. He also maintained that the problem of agriculture was a structural problem. He could as well have said that it is also an organisational problem. It will also have to be admitted by all that the problem of food is essentially a human problem. It is concerned with the subsistence of hundreds of millions of people. With hungry stomachs and begging bowls the people can hardly contribute much to economic growth

or to raising the national stature of the country. It is essential a national problem which demands the highest priority and the greatest consideration. With regret it will have to be admitted that this problem of agriculture failed to receive consistently proper attention of the Government. While certain priority was assigned to the question of agricultural development in the First Five Year Plan, in the Second Five Year Plan it ceased to be regarded as one of the chief aims of the Plan and the money allotted for crop development in the Second Plan was less than what was allotted in the First Five Year Plan, though the Second Five Year Plan was a much bigger Plan than the First Plan. It was hoped by our great leader and Prime Minister, the late Pandit Nehru, that exhortations to the peasants would be sufficient to enable them to increase production by 40 per cent, even though Mr. A. P. Jain, the then Food Minister of India, protested against such speculations and maintained that unless more money was invested in agricultural development the contemplated 40 per cent increase would not be possible. Pandit Nehru also hoped that it would be possible to decrease the foodgrain prices by 28 per cent. I beg to submit that in the Second Five Year Plan agriculture was thought fit to be treated as a base for capital formation. In the Third Five Year Plan, no doubt, greater attention was paid to agriculture. The problem of agricultural development was considered as one of the most important problems of our economic development. Agricultural development was regarded as one of the chief objectives of our planned development and it was maintained that to energise national economy agricultural development was very necessary. But, Mr. Vice-Chairman, I beg to submit that during the Third Five Year Plan agricultural development did not receive the attention that it was required to receive by the Planning Commission in its final report on the Third Five Year Plan, with the result that we are in a much more difficult situation today than we were even at the end of the Second Five Year Plan. It is generally recognised that though our present difficulties are largely due to, and caused by, inclement weather, weather alone cannot be held responsible for the present sad plight of India. No less a person than Mr. Asoka Mehta as the Deputy Chairman of the

Planning Commission in one of his speeches confessed that the gravity of the situation was largely due to our mistake in agricultural policy and in industrial policy.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA (Uttar Pradesh): When did he say that, when he was the PSP leader or now?

PROF. M. B. LAL : When he was* Deputy-Chairman of the Planning Commission, when he was a member of the Congress Party.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Uttar Pradesh): Anything more you want?

PROF. M. B. LAL: Mr. Vice-Chairman, the structural problem continues to remain hanging in the air. Land reforms legislation continues to suffer from numerous defects and has not been implemented in many a State. Some two years ago about forty-four land laws were validated by Parliament through a constitutional amendment it was hoped that thereafter these laws would speedily be implemented by the State Governments but we have yet to receive the information that those land laws had been implemented by the State Governments concerned. Nothing very substantial, to the best of my knowledge, has been done in this direction. In October 1964 the Planning Commission observed that in a number of States, land reforms laws do not conform with the programmes of land reform approved for the Second Plan and reaffirmed in the Third Plan. The Planning Commission also bemoaned that laws were not fully implemented in many states. It wished that there should be full implementation by the end of the Third Plan. It also required effective action to be taken to remove the serious defects in legislation. In the Memorandum on the Fourth Five Year Plan it was pointed out by the Planning Commission that the principal points calling for action concern :

- (1) replacement of temporary provisions for prevention of eviction of tenants by comprehensive legislation for security of tenure;
- (2) restricting the right of resumption for personal cultivation;
- (3) removal of legal and administrative deficiencies relating to registration of voluntary surrenders of tenancies;

[Prof. M. B. Lal]

- (4) conferment of rights of ownership on tenants of non-resumable lands; and
- (?) commutation of rents in kind into cash rents.

To the best of my knowledge, nothing has been done by any State Legislature to modify their land laws in accordance with the recommendations of the Planning Commission embodied in the Memorandum on the Fourth Five Year Plan based on the Second Five Year Plan and the Third Five Year Plan. As a matter of fact, it seems to me that the Government has not been able to make up its mind with regard to the unit of the land structure. Sometimes responsible Congress leaders, including Ministers, talk of land to the tiller of the soil. They maintain that to promote production it is necessary that land should belong to the tiller of the soil and then alone cultivators will be able to work on the land with due enthusiasm and results will be better. Sometimes they talk of big farms and say that if the land is distributed among peasants, the peasants would be able to eat up the agricultural products and there would be no surplus for the residents of big cities. So, in order that there may be some food for the residents of cities, there should be big farms producing surplus food. I once told a Congress Commission that perhaps we intended to starve millions in the villages so that some in big cities might be able to procure their food.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : Who said that?

PROF. M. B. LAL: I said that.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: Who told you that?

SINU JOSEPH MATHEN: Wherefrom did you get the information?

PROF. M. B. LAL: My dear friend, it will take much time, but I can quote you chapter and verse.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : No, no. It is his imagination.

PROF. M. B. LAL: Now, we talk of co-operative farming. Our present Prime Minister was so enthusiastic about cooperative farming that, at one stage, while she was not the Prime Minister, she advised all Congressmen, who did not believe in

co-operative farming, to leave the Congress. Today when she is the Prime Minister, she did not think it proper even to talk of cooperative farming in her speech nor did she think it proper to advise the President to include the suggestion with regard to cooperative farming in his Address. Today we hear something about joint stock companies, that agriculture has to be organised ; on the basis of joint stock companies. So, ; we have not only given to Birlas big lands for big farming, but also wish to introduce the scientific system of production and / thereby industrialise agriculture through joint stock companies. There is no reference to farming through joint-stock companies in the President's Address. So, I cannot say that it is the accepted policy of the Government, but this is being talked of.

In the Third Plan attention was invited to many organisational defects' and various suggestions were made to avoid overlapping and conflict of authority and ensure better Co-ordination among the various agencies concerned with agricultural production. There is overlapping and conflict at the district level, at the State level, at the Central level and the conflict is going on also between the Centre and the States. It seems to me that certain attempts are being made to produce better co-ordination at the Central level and Mr. Subramaniam, the Food Minister, after many years' efforts, has been successful in establishing his own authority over community development to bring about co-ordination between the Community Development and the Department of Food and Agriculture. But at the State level even today there is no coordination between the Community Development Department and the Department of Agriculture. There is no better coordination today than there was in the beginning of the Third Five Year Plan so far as the district organisation is concerned. It would not be possible for the Food Minister to confess but it is a fact known to us all that the Centre and the States are not able to co-ordinate their activities properly despite so many Chief Ministers Conferences.

Much was made of the National Extension Services. It was hoped that during the Third Five Year Plan, the National Extension Services would cover the entire country and though them much work with regard

to agricultural development could be done. But in November, 1965, the Department of Agriculture in a brochure concerning re-orientation of programmes of agricultural products points out :

"During the last three Development Plans, India has been able to build up a national extension organisation as a major potential agency for a nation-wide programme of agricultural production. However, during the Third Five Year Plan it has been possible to harness this agency to the purpose of agricultural production only in those few districts which were brought under I.A.D.P. and J.A.A. programmes."

So while we established the national extension service in all districts, in all areas only in some districts we have been able to make proper use of that agency so far agricultural developing is concerned.

Mr. Vice-Chairman, Shri Asoka Mehta in his speech which he delivered to us only a few days ago observed that increased production demanded a great number of changes in the agricultural system and that these changes* required consequential efforts in industry, in transport, in banking, and in educational and health activities. He strongly held that unless we carried out these consequential changes, the desired result could not be had. We have a scheme, I should say a new scheme, for agricultural production. But we have yet to see a scheme wherein efforts are being made to correlate our schemes in industry, in transport, in banking, and in educational activities and health activities with the problem of agricultural development. Lest I may be accused of being ignorant of certain achievements of our Government, I must refer to an effort that was made with regard to the provision of credit facilities. On the report of a Committee of the Reserve Bank, the Imperial Bank was converted into the State Bank of India with a view to providing credit facilities to the rural sector, to the agriculturists. No doubt certain steps are being taken by the State Bank of India to increase credit facilities to agriculturists. But with what Result ? It was pointed out by one Member of Parliament two or three days ago that according to an evaluation report only 15 per cent of the credit supplied by the State Bank of India was extended to 63 per cent, of peasants, and Shri Ganga Sharan Sinha pointed out that according

to the Mahalanobis Committee Report 24 per cent of the credit of the State Bank was extended to concerns in which the Directors were interested.

SHRI ABDUL GHANI (Punjab) : It is the same with the Punjab National Bank.

PROF. M. B. LAL : Mr. Ghani points out that the same is with the Punjab National Bank. If I am not mistaken, the Punjab National Bank is a private one, the State Bank is a State concern. If you see the figures, you will find that in this matter the State Bank has beaten hollow the Punjab National Bank. The percentage of credit supplied to concerns connected with the Directors is more in the case of the State Bank of India than in the case of the Punjab National Bank.

Sir, in November, 1965, the Department of Agriculture observed;

"A thorough evaluation of the factors which have contributed to the slow pace of agricultural development reveals considerable weakness in the supply of agricultural credit."

It is a sorry state of affairs so far as irrigation and water management also are concerned. A Committee appointed by the Ford Foundation with the consent of the Government of India reported that if we were able to have a better water management, our food problem would be considerably solved. But what does the Government report itself say? It says:

"For nearly a century, the canal system in India has been used for protecting long duration crops from the vagaries of the monsoon. The use of irrigation as a main input for additional crops was generally ignored. The regulation of water supply and distribution on volumetric basis and in close conformity with the needs of the particular crops and soils has also not received attention."

Our great masters, I mean the British, managed the irrigation system in a particular fashion. When we became free, we continued to follow their policy and did not think it proper to reorient our irrigation policy to suit the requirements of our efforts towards planned development. I am glad that today the Agriculture Department has begun to demand a changeover

[Prof. M. B. Lal] from the conception of irrigation for drought-protection to one irrigation for intensive production. The Agriculture Department again reports;

"Without over-simplifying the problems' of agricultural production in India it would be no exaggeration to state that, more than any other factors, it is the lack of inputs and the gulf between scientific techniques and farm practices that have been responsible for the retarded progress during the three Plans."

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA) : I do not want to interrupt you. You have nearly taken thirty minutes.

PROF. M. B. LAL: No, I have not. THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA) : Two minutes more.

PROF. M. B. LAL: Ten minutes. I will now deal with the question of supply. I beg to submit again, Mr. Vice-Chairman, that procurement and distribution are also in a chaotic condition. In August, 1965, the Food Department of the Government of India complained that the market arrivals of major foodgrains had in recent years been showing a fall from year to year. It is said:— 3 P.M.

"The progressive decline in the flow of arrivals from rural areas is attributable, *inter alia*, to larger retention by the agriculturists for consumption and for payments in kind and, in the case of big producers, to the withholding of stocks in expectation of higher prices. It is usual for the producers to keep back some stock with them till they are assured that the next crop will be reasonably good. As the monsoon has been erratic during the current year, this tendency has been accentuated."

Again, it is pointed out by a Senior Vice-President of a District Farmers' Forum in Punjab that "a quantity of about 21 lakh tonnes of marketable wheat is lying in Punjab with the producers and traders and that due to bad and long storage, this stock has been rotting and getting damaged". Some time ago, our Food Minister promised that he would try his utmost to check profiteering by the middlemen. He confessed that more than 50 per cent of the prices were pocketed by the middlemen and there should be restrictions on that profiteering. Nothing substantial in this

direction has been done. As a matter of fact, the State has begun to compete with the private agencies in profiteering. That is something for Diwan Chaman Lall . . .

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL (Punjab): Why gun for me?

PROF. M. B. LAL: Because, amongst all, you claim to be a socialist.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: What has that got to do with socialism?

PROF. M. B. LAL: You know it.

It is said that the maize which is procured in Punjab at Rs. 39 per quintal is sold at Rs. 80 in Nagpur. It was pointed out by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee the other day that the gram supplied by Punjab at Rs. 65 to Madras was sold in Madras through the Government agency, at Rs. 128.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: Why don't you address yourself to the Food Minister?

PROF. M. B. LAL: I am addressing him and you also.

In Madhya Pradesh, gram was bought at the rate of Rs. 95 per quintal sold to Bombay at the rate of Rs. 130 per quintal.

All that I wish to say is that the State trading that is being carried on by the Government of India and by the State Governments is not socialist in character. It is not in the interest of a welfare economy. It is a process of State capitalism competing with private capitalism in profiteering. I hope that Diwan Chaman Lall will take due note of it and in the meetings of the Congress Party he will invite the attention of the party.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: Surely, my hon. friend is inviting the attention of the Food Minister and the whole House to this particular matter. We are listening to him with very great attention. But what you are saying and your facts may be wrong.

PROF. M. B. LAL: Please enquire into it.

Now, what about the zonal system? When the zonal system was started in India, we hoped that some surplus States would be interlinked with some deficit States and that some sort of self-sufficiency would be produced in the zones concerned. Now, the zonal system is converted into State zones. And what is the result? In Uttar

Pradesh, there is a surplus of *gur*. But it cannot go to Punjab. In Punjab, there is a surplus of wheat; it cannot go to Uttar Pradesh. And having accepted the idea of zonal system. State governments have introduced inter-district, inter-divisional and inter-regional bans in certain States, and this has created havoc in the country. And I do feel that whatever we may talk about corruption it would not be possible for us to improve the morale of the people unless we are able to abolish such a system. Some time ago, we started a Food Corporation and we hoped that something grand would be done by it. Now, its activities are limited, only to two or three States in South India. An attempt is made to supply food grains to the people through the State agencies. Some rationing arrangements are made for some big cities. Why for big cities and why not for the agricultural labour? Is it because the poor agricultural labourers have not been able to organise themselves; can die quietly without creating any problem for the Government? The city people are able to create certain problems and therefore their needs are, to an extent, attended to. But if the food-problem is a human problem, and not a problem to keep professional agitators unemployed, then the needs of all must be taken into consideration.

I have taken much of the time. In two minutes, I will finish my speech.

Mr. Vice-Chairman, the party to which I belong, therefore, strongly suggests the following measures:—

1. Land reforms including ceiling on holdings should be suitably modified and implemented; all evictions should be stopped;

2. The peasant should be assured of a remunerative prices fixed in the beginning of the agricultural season;

3. All facilities in respect of seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, irrigation, power, storage and credit, be extended to the peasants as far as possible through agricultural cooperative societies; irrigation water should be made available free to the *kisans* in the newly-irrigated area for three years and no fresh increase in water charges

to be made in the old areas; no surcharge upon land revenue should be levied at this juncture;

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4. Agricultural inputs should be deployed on a selective basis so that those areas which have a high potential of increasing output get due priority in respect of irrigation, fertilizers, improved implements, pesticides and so on;

5. The vast Chambal Valley area, the water-logged lands in the Punjab, Sunderbans areas in West Bengal and such other areas in different States should be reclaimed for cultivation; cultivable areas under the control of the Defence Ministry, the Railway Ministry, the State and Central PWD and Forest Department should be put out for cultivation from year to year;

6. Monopoly purchase and procurement and distribution of food should be undertaken by the Government and rationing introduced; the vast masses comprising the lower middle class, industrial labour, the landless peasant, the depressed and the Adivasi communities should not be left to the tender mercies of the open market; food grains procurement levy should not be imposed on farmers of 3 acres of irrigation and 6 acres of dry land or less;

7. A village-to-village campaign to clean and deepen the wells and tanks and minor irrigation projects should be undertaken;

8. The prevailing zonal system be abolished and the whole country treated as one unit;

9. A land army to undertake afforestation, reclamation of waste land, desilting of tanks, sinking wells on a large scale, etc., should be raised with the necessary equipment and know-how; and

10. Out of the foodgrains from the USA, at least five million tons should be set apart as buffer stock.

SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY (Madras): ! What are you reading from?

PROF. M. B. LAL: This is a Resolution passed by the PSP. from which I am reading.

Thank you.

SHRI M. C. SHAH (Gujarat): Mr. Vice-Chairman, for a human being pure air and good drinking water are the prime necessities, and as the third item comes food. It is, therefore, very necessary that when we are discussing the food situation in the country, I should confine *my remarks* to food problems only. We know that in our country about 65 per cent, of our population are engaged in agriculture, feeding the

[Shri M. C. Shah]

remaining 35 per cent. In the U.S.A. 15 per cent, are engaged in agriculture and they feed the rest of the population. It is true this has not come about within a decade or so. It has taken nearly a century to reach that fortunate situation. In Japan it is said that 25 per cent, are engaged in agriculture and they feed the rest of the population, while in our country 65 per cent, are engaged in agriculture, and this profession is inherited from father to son since centuries." As- a matter of fact, our farmers must become experts *by* now, as to how to take out greater and greater production from an acre of land. But there are several factors which come in their way.

First is the nature. We have to depend upon the vagaries of nature. And our experience says that within a cycle of five years one is- a good year with a bumper crop, one year gives a normal crop and the other three years are lean years. We have to face this situation. Therefore, it is necessary that instead of relying on nature that is on rainfall, we have to evolve certain other methods by which we can have an assured water supply to our fields, and it can only be done by major, minor and medium irrigation schemes.

We have spent lakhs of rupees on these schemes, but it is our experience that even at the end of the Third Plan what was expected of this major and medium irrigation scheme has not come about. There are various reasons for it. We have also seen that the minor irrigation schemes have worked the best. It is, therefore, necessary that in the Fourth Plan we might concentrate and give as much money as necessary for providing minor irrigation schemes.

I come from the district of Ahmedabad in Gujarat which has for centuries a network of earthen bunds in its Bhal area. These bunds are fed by the flood water of river Sabarmati. Whenever there is flood in the river, the water comes, fills a reservoir. After filling it, it goes to the second, then to the third and so on. There are about 100 reservoirs of earthen construction made by the farmers themselves but with a great engineering skill. Of course, the soil has a natural slope. The flood water can fill

one reservoir, then it fills the second and the third and so on. It is worth seeing. These are all minor irrigation schemes.

Sir, when Dr. Jivraj Mehta was the P.W.D. Minister in the composite State of Bombay, we happened to go there. One farmer took us there. He showed us how this network of earthen bunds worked and how it helped them to have paddy and a second crop also. He took us to a place and showed where it required repairs. It was neglected for years. We asked the farmer the approximate cost of repairs. He said about Rs. 6,000 or Rs. 7,000. And if it could be given at that time, he said, "You will see what produce I can have within six months". It was, I think, the month of July or August. The State Minister also was with us. He immediately asked him to go ahead. He asked him to send his application and assured him that he would sanction him the necessary funds. That was done, and with an expenditure of about Rs. 6,000 he got paddy worth Rs. 60,000. Because this was neglected, every year paddy worth at out Rs. 50,000 was lost. After this a great impetus was given to minor irrigation works, and I am happy to say, in Gujarat a good amount has been spent over repairs and construction of minor irrigation works. Even then it is necessary that more funds are given because this gives us immediate results. As I said, within a period of six months, by spending Rs. 6,000 a farmer gets paddy worth Rs. 60,000.

The other handicap is that major and medium irrigation works have not yielded expected results. After 1947, our planners tried their best to make the country self-sufficient in food. Unfortunately it is true that we have not succeeded but the reason is that the planners gave greater emphasis on industrialisation than on agriculture. Industrialisation is necessary for the uplift of our economy. There can be no doubt about it. But agriculture is the base of the economy. If agriculture improves, industrialisation will improve by itself. And, therefore, it is very fortunate that in the Fourth Plan it has been decided that the highest importance should be given to agriculture. It is a very wise step because agriculture not only gives us raw materials for industries; it is the base of the economy, money and employment. Therefore,

the decision to give the utmost importance to the development of agriculture is a very wise one.

With the limited time at my disposal, I should like to deal with immediate problems facing us for higher production. Water alone will not serve our purpose. Certain other factors are necessary. The other thing is fertiliser. Chemical fertilisers are, of course, useful. But, as my friend, Shri Deokinandan Narayan, remarked compost and green manure have to be utilised in a greater measure because they are available in the villages themselves. Our farmer, if encouraged, will have from his own farm and cattle the necessary compost which will help him in higher production.

Another thing is good seeds. It is very fortunate that we are now going in for hybrid seeds. I was told that we had hybrid seeds for wheat, for bajra, for maize, for ragi. Experiments are made in various parts of the country where these hybrid seeds are utilised. The fields where these hybrid seeds are utilised are worth seeing. They have become places of pilgrim. Hundreds of farmers go there. They see for themselves how agricultural production has increased as a result of hybrid seeds.

[THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair] We have got pilot projects where all efforts are concentrated to show that with this method the production in agriculture can increase. I am also aware of the fact that our farmers, though conservative, when they are convinced that with the utilisation of particular materials the production can increase, they never hesitate in utilising them. The thing is they are hard-pressed for money. It is very difficult for them to make both ends meet. Therefore, they are naturally conservative in taking to new methods unless they are convinced of its utility. But farmers do desire to have more crop, to have more money, and whenever they are convinced of this, they utilise it.

Madam, one of my friends in Bombay, who has been to the various Western countries, told me that in a village—as we have here got village workers under the Community Development scheme—there is a village worker who knows every farmer. He knows the necessity and requirements of each and every farmer. In the early morning, if some agricultural operations are to be carried in the advice of this vil

worker is necessary, the village worker will phone the farmer to find out whether he was ready and was going to his farm so that he could accompany him at the particular time. He will also say, "I will bring the necessary materials which you require". That is the help that is the co-operation between the village worker sent from the Agriculture Department, and the farmer. Unfortunately for us that is not the case. I went some days back to a 'Pusa' farm. There various varieties have been developed. I saw some, and I was told that there were two thousand varieties of *bajra*—one would not believe it, but it is so. But when I enquired whether the officers of State Agriculture Department, whether the Directors of Agriculture, when they happened to come to Delhi, visited these farms, we said, "Not a single Director of Agriculture has come to this farm to see how we are developing in our own farms seed varieties." Now that is our misfortune. Many good schemes have been laid down—we cannot blame the Centre—but they do not permeate to the lowest level, to the level of the farmer, and unless they are implemented in the real spirit, I am afraid all our efforts will not give the desired results. It is therefore necessary that the farmer should be respected. He must be assured that he is doing a very noble profession. The profession of a medical man, or of an engineer, and the profession of a farmer are equally important for the interests of the country. But what we find here is that the farmer is given the lowest place. In public life he is shown no respect, because he is backward, living in a village, and therefore we should raise the status of the farmer. In all our public meetings, in all our gatherings, whenever there is a meeting at the *taluka* level progressive farmers should be given a place of honour. And then it is very natural that the farmer class, as such, will come up and will do the best for the interests of the nation, and for themselves.

Then there is the question of the modern tools. I remember that our late Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, remarked that we were using a plough which was one thousand years old. No improvement has been made there. But how can the country prosper unless the farmer has every day some new method, some new implements to produce more? You go to

[Shri M. C. Shah J any village and yon see the same plough, the upper part of il being wooden and the lower iron. Now unless this is remedied they cannot expect better results. But it has also to be seen that our farmer has a great love for his piece of land—he will not part with it—and therefore, in spite of the best efforts co-operative farming has not taken much stride. So we have to bear all this in mind. We cannot by a stroke of the pen say that all farmers shall form cooperatives. That will not work. It has not worked even in communist countries and, therefore, in the action that we take we bear in mind the socio-economic condition of the farmers, their attitudes and their aptitudes, and if we have in this way full co-operation from the farmers concerned, I am sure we will go a great way in achieving our desired goal.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Your time is up.

SHRI M. C. SHAH : Madam, I am just winding up.

Now the poverty of our farmers is a great handicap. As a matter of fact, the level of development of the country is such whatever our schemes, the main question that crops up is that there are no finances. Efforts were made through co-operative societies to give credit to the farmers but they have not been able to give sufficient amounts and at the proper time to the farmers. The question of implementation of land reforms also hangs fire. In several States land reforms have not been carried out, and, therefore, the desired results of having fixity of tenure, cash rents and no intermediaries have not come about. Therefore we do not see that much improvement in agricultural production as we expected.

Regarding the Food Zones, the Food Minister has already agreed that in the national interest the whole country should be taken as one unit. But then we must give him the necessary discretion to see when Single State Zones could be abolished. He knows what our people like, what are the views of the people at large, and therefore we must trust him that he will do the needful at the proper time, at the opportune time.

As my time is over I will not speak on the gap between the demand and the supply of foodgrains, and how it affects our economy.

But the last question is about the proper price for the agricultural production. The price should be so fixed that the farmer has the necessary incentives to take to modern methods, and to put the necessary inputs for better production.

Thank you, Madam.

श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौराङ्गिया :

उपसभापति महोदया, जो प्रस्ताव माननीय वाजपेयी जी ने विचार के लिये रखा है उसके बारे में मैंने यह संशोधन प्रस्तुत किये हैं:—

1. "प्रस्ताव के अन्त में निम्नलिखित जोड़ा जाये, अर्थात्:—

'और उस पर विचार करने के बाद, इस सभा की यह सम्मति है कि खाद्यान्न के वितरण तथा सप्लाई के लिये समूचे भारत को एक ही एकक समझा जाना चाहिये और सभी खाद्य-क्षेत्र समाप्त कर दिये जाने चाहिए।'

2. "प्रस्ताव के अन्त में निम्नलिखित जोड़ा जाये, अर्थात्:—

'और उस पर विचार करने के बाद, इस सभा की यह सम्मति है कि उन क्षेत्रों में, जहाँ राज्य सरकारों ने शुल्क तथा एकाधिकार कर के नाम पर किसानों से मनमाने रूप से अनाज बसूल किया है, उचित मूल्यों पर अनाज उपलब्ध कराने के लिये व्यवस्था की जानी चाहिए।'

3. "प्रस्ताव के अन्त में निम्नलिखित जोड़ा जाये, अर्थात्:—

'और उस पर विचार करने के बाद, इस सभा की यह सम्मति है कि खाद्यान्न के मामले में भारत को स्वावलम्बी बनाने के विचार से सिचाई योजनाओं के महत्व को समझा जाना चाहिये और उन्हें सर्वोच्च प्राथमिकता दी जानी चाहिये।'

4. "प्रस्ताव के अन्त में निम्नलिखित जोड़ा जाये, अर्थात्:—

'और उस पर विचार करने के बाद, इस सभा की यह सम्मति है कि सरकार

को उर्वरकों पर भारी मुनाफा लेने की नीती छोड़ देनी चाहिये और इसके स्थान पर राज सहायता देकर कम दामों पर किसानों को उर्वरक दिलाने चाहियें।”

5. “प्रस्ताव के अन्त में निम्नलिखित जोड़ा जाये, अर्थात्:—

‘और उस पर विचार करने के बाद, इस सभा की यह सम्मति है कि कृषि अनुसंधान संस्थाओं में फैले भ्रष्टाचार, पक्षपात तथा विशेष रूप से शिथिलता को दूर किया जाना चाहिये और उन्हें अधिक कार्यकुशल एवं उपयोगी बनाया जाना चाहिये।’”

6. “प्रस्ताव के अन्त में निम्नलिखित जोड़ा जाये, अर्थात्:—

‘और उस पर विचार करने के बाद, इस सभा की यह सम्मति है कि सरकार द्वारा प्रस्तावित आधार मूल्य सीमान्त भूमि पर होने वाले उत्पादन से सम्बन्धित आय और व्यय को ध्यान में रखकर निर्धारित किया जाना चाहिये और मूल्य इस प्रकार से निर्धारित किये जाने चाहियें कि कृषक अन्य व्यापारिक फसलों का उत्पादन करने के लिये आकर्षित न हों।’”

7. “प्रस्ताव के अन्त में निम्नलिखित जोड़ा जाये, अर्थात्:—

‘और उस पर विचार करने के बाद, इस सभा की यह सम्मति है कि छोटे-छोटे खेतों में कृषि के प्रयोजनों के लिये आवश्यक मशीनों के आविष्कार और निर्माण के लिये कदम उठाये जाने चाहियें।’”

8. “प्रस्ताव के अन्त में निम्नलिखित जोड़ा जाये, अर्थात्:—

‘और उस पर विचार करने के बाद, इस सभा की यह सम्मति है कि पम्पिंग सेटों के काम में लाई जाने वाली बिजली

के लिये किसानों से जो न्यूनतम प्रभार की वसूली की जाती है, वह बन्द की जानी चाहिये और केवल वास्तविक खर्च की वसूली की व्यवस्था की जानी चाहिये।’”

9. “प्रस्ताव के अन्त में निम्नलिखित जोड़ा जाये, अर्थात्:—

‘और उस पर विचार करने के बाद, इस सभा की यह सम्मति है कि सिंचाई के प्रयोजनों के लिये आवश्यक पम्पिंग सेटों के निर्माण को प्रोत्साहन दिया जाना चाहिये।’”

10. “प्रस्ताव के अन्त में निम्नलिखित जोड़ा जाये, अर्थात्:—

‘और उस पर विचार करने के बाद, इस सभा की यह सम्मति है कि बिजली के पम्पिंग सेटों को चलाने के लिए कृषकों को बिजली के कनेक्शन देने का प्रबन्ध किया जाना चाहिये।’”

11. “प्रस्ताव के अन्त में निम्नलिखित जोड़ा जाये, अर्थात्:—

‘और उस पर विचार करने के बाद, इस सभा की यह सम्मति है कि कृषक को मानसिक चिन्ताओं तथा ऋण से छुटकारा दिलाने के लिये ठोस कदम उठाए जाने चाहियें।’”

12. “प्रस्ताव के अन्त में निम्नलिखित जोड़ा जाये, अर्थात्:—

‘और उस पर विचार करने के बाद, इस सभा की यह सम्मति है कि राज्यों में कृषि मंत्रालय सीधे मुख्य मंत्रियों या वरिष्ठ मंत्रियों के प्रभार में होने चाहिये।’”

हमने तीन पंचवर्षीय योजनाएं बनाई लेकिन अफसोस है कि हमारे जीवन के लिये सबसे आवश्यक, अत्यावश्यक सामग्री, खाद्य जो है उसका भी संकट अभी तक दूर नहीं कर पाये। गांधीजी, जिन का नाम लेकर हमारे नेता थकते नहीं, वे अपने प्रवचन में हमेशा सेल्फ रिलायन्स

[श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरडिया] की बात कहते रहे। कोटेशन मेरे पास है और अगर माननीय मंत्री जी विश्वास नहीं करते हैं तो उसको पढ़कर सुना सकता हूँ। तो उन्होंने कहा था कि सेल्फ रिलायन्स और सेल्फ हेल्प नहीं की तो हमारी बैकपसी हो जायेगी। उसी दिशा में हमारी सरकार हमको ले जा रही है, बैकप्ट बनाने की ओर। अभी तक जितना आयात किया गया उसको देखने से ऐसा लगता है कि प्रति वर्ष उसकी मात्रा बढ़ती जा रही है, पर वह बढ़ने के बाद भी, अरबों रुपया प्रति वर्ष खाद्य पर खर्च करने के बाद भी, हमारी सरकार की नींद नहीं टूटती। जब तक जनता चिल्ला-चिल्ला कर उनके बहरे कानों के परदे खोलने का प्रयत्न नहीं करती तब तक उनकी समझ में नहीं आता।

महोदया, 1960-61 में हम 16 आउन्स अनाज प्रति व्यक्ति देते थे। ऐसी हमने योजना बनाई थी और कहा था कि 1965-66 में तीसरी योजना पूरी हो जाने पर 17.5 आउन्स प्रति व्यक्ति, अर्थात् 496.12 ग्राम, हम दे देंगे। उपाध्यक्ष महोदया, केरल में जो हम दे रहे हैं 120 ग्राम चावल और 140 ग्राम गेहूं वह 280 ग्राम के करीब दे रहे हैं, आधे के करीब ही दे रहे हैं। तो यह जो हमारी योजना है, यह कहाँ जा रही है। वैसे तो समाजवाद का नाम हमारी सरकार लेती है मगर जो समीक्षा हमारी सरकार ने निकाली है यह समीक्षा खुद कहती है कि हम कलकत्ता के शहर वालों को 120 ग्राम चावल देते हैं और जो आस-पास के रहने वाले, ग्रामीण क्षेत्र के लोग हैं उनको केवल 70 ग्राम चावल देते हैं, अहमदाबाद के लोगों को 20 ग्राम देते हैं, उत्तर प्रदेश के लोगों को 35 ग्राम देते हैं। तो यह समाजवाद के हिसाब से, बराबरी का हिसाब किस ढंग का है यह समझ में आने सरीखी बात नहीं है।

उपसभापति महोदया, योजना हमारी बनती है। योजना की सफलता के गीत भी हमारे मंत्रीगण बहुत गाते हैं और उनके साथ जितने कांग्रेस के सदस्य हैं वे भी बराबर गाते हैं

मगर इस के बावजूद भी हमारी ये जो योजनाएँ बनती हैं खाद्य के बारे में वे सफल नहीं हो पायीं और हमेशा हमारी सरकार दूसरों पर आरोप लगाती रही। पहले तो कहा कि ये कृषक पुराने ढंग से खेती करते हैं इसलिये ज्यादा पैदा नहीं कर पाते। फिर दूसरे साल यह संकट आया तो कह दिया व्यापारी गड़बड़ करता है। तीसरे साल कृषक भी खराब हो गया और व्यापारी भी खराब हो गया। अब चौथे साल सरकार कहती है कि प्रकृति का दोष हो गया, हमने तो ईमानदारी से, सिसिवरिटी से काम किया, मगर पैदावार बढ़ी नहीं। तो यह प्रकृति पर दोष मड़ कर अपने दोषों को नहीं देखना है। समस्या का तबतक हल नहीं निकलेगा, जब तक हमारी सरकार स्वयं आत्मनिरीक्षण न करे कि हमारी योजनाओं का परिणाम क्या निकला? इस वर्ष अन्न के उत्पादन में कुछ सीमा तक प्रकृति का बहाना लिया जा सकता है मगर जो उर्वरक उत्पादन का आपने लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया था 1966 में 8 लाख टन पैदा कर लेंगे वह 3 लाख टन ही पैदा करने वाले हैं। इसमें तो किसान भी नहीं आया, व्यापारी भी नहीं आया और हमारी प्रकृति भी नहीं आई। हमारी सरकार की विचित्र मनोवृत्ति है जिसके परिणामस्वरूप यह उत्पादन नहीं हो सका। जैसा ही मिचाई का हाल है, लगभग सब कामों का ऐसा ही हाल है और ऐसा लगता है कि कृषि संबंधी जितने लक्ष्य हैं वे पूरे होते नहीं। खर्च के लक्ष्य पूरे हो जाते हैं मगर उसके अंतर्गत जो निर्माण होता है, उत्पादन होता है उसका लक्ष्य पूरा होना चाहिये। अगर सारी योजनाओं के परिणामों को देखकर जांच की जाय और देखा जाय कि किन कामों के लिये योजनाएँ बनाईं तो ऐसा लगता है कि जो योजनाएँ बनाई गईं वह अपव्यय करने के लिये, महंगाई बढ़ाने के लिये, बेरोजगारी बढ़ाने के लिये, गरीबी बढ़ाने के लिये, भ्रष्टाचार बढ़ाने के लिये, भूखमरी बढ़ाने के लिये और दिवालियापन लाने के लिये बनीं। इस दिशा में हम जरूर प्रगति कर रहे हैं मगर इसके विपरीत

हम या आप निर्माण की ओर, कंस्ट्रक्टिव साइड में, कुछ विशेष कर रहे हैं ऐसा लगता नहीं। इसलिये मेरा नम्र निवेदन है कि हमारी सरकार को अभी भी चाहिये कि इस देश को ऐसे खड्ड में ढकेलने की बजाय जो हमारे उत्पादन के तीन मुख्य अंग हैं : भूमि, किसान और पूँजी, इन तीन अंगों का अलग-अलग रूप से और सामूहिक रूप से अध्ययन करें और उसके बारे में योजनाएं बनाएं।

अनइकनामिक होल्डिंग्स की भी चर्चा की जाती है, मंत्री जी भी करते हैं। भूमि की उच्चतम सीमा हमने निर्धारित कर दी। सीलिंग का कानून बना कर हर प्रान्त में उच्चतम सीमा तो निर्धारित कर ली मगर न्यूनतम सीमा के बारे में कभी विचार नहीं किया और फिर हम मैकेनाइज्ड फार्मिंग की बात करेंगे तो कैसे चलेगा ? तो इस दृष्टि से मैं प्रार्थना करता हूं कि जैसे हमने उच्चतम सीमा निर्धारित की है वैसे ही न्यूनतम सीमा निर्धारित करें जिससे छोटे-छोटे खेत इकानामिक होल्डिंग के रूप में रह सकें और कृषक उत्पादन बढ़ा सकें।

उपसमापति महोदया, हमारे कई मित्रों ने सुझाव दिया है कि किस तरह का क्लैविटव फार्म रूस और चीन में है, उसी ढंग के फार्म हमारे यहां भी प्रारम्भ किये जाने चाहियें। अगर उस ढंग के फार्म यहां पर भी करने का इरादा है तो मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि रूस जिसका इतना बड़ा क्षेत्र है उसने 1964 में 10 मिलियन टन खाद्यान्न आयात किया और इसी तरह से चीन को भी आयात करना पड़ा। 10 कम्युनिस्ट देशों में से 8 देशों को विदेशों से अनाज का आयात करना पड़ा। ये देश साइन्टिफिक दृष्टि से पिछड़े हों, ऐसा नहीं है, वैज्ञानिक दृष्टि से भी काफी आगे बढ़े हुए हैं, मगर जो उनकी लैन्ड टेन्चर पालिसी है वह ऐसी है कि वहां के लोगों में आकर्षण पैदा करने की भावना नहीं रखती है, जिसके परिणामस्वरूप वहां पर ज्यादा उत्पादन नहीं हो पाता है। यही कारण है

कि इन देशों को विदेशों से अन्न मंगाना पड़ता है।

दूसरी तरफ हम जापान का उदाहरण देखते हैं। यह एक छोटा-सा देश है, छोटे-छोटे वहां खेत हैं, लेकिन 12 वर्षों में जापान अन्न के मामले में स्वावलम्बी हो गया है और भारतवर्ष के लोगों को चावल देने के लिए तैयार है। 1962 में जापान में एक एकड़ में 4,500 पींड चावल पैदा होता था जबकि भारतवर्ष में 1963-64 में एक एकड़ में 917 पींड पैदा हुआ। वहां पर इतना उत्पादन एक एकड़ में क्यों होता है, इस बात पर हम विचार नहीं करते हैं। हम तो किसान बेचारों को कर्ज ग्रस्त करते रहते हैं और उनको उत्पादन बढ़ाने में सहायता नहीं देते हैं। हमारे देश का किसान कर्ज ग्रस्त, रूढ़ियों में बंधा हुआ है, वह प्रशासन का शिकार, गरीब और फटे हल है। इन सब कारणों से उसकी मनोवैज्ञानिक स्थिति ऐसी हो गई है कि वह प्रकृति के भरोसे रहता है, भगवान के भरोसे रहता है और इस तरह से उसके दिमाग में प्रकृति या भगवान का ही भरोसा भरा पड़ा हुआ है। जब तक हम उसको अच्छे साधन, अच्छी कीमतें देकर कर्ज मुक्त नहीं करते तबतक उसका काम चलने वाला नहीं है। जब तक हम किसान को कर्ज से मुक्त नहीं करेंगे तबतक हम उससे उत्साह की अपेक्षा नहीं कर सकते हैं और यह सम्भव भी नहीं है।

लेकिन हमारी नई-नई योजना उसको कर्ज ग्रस्त करती रहती है, उसको कर्ज से मुक्त करना नहीं चाहती है। आजादी के पश्चात् रिजर्व बैंक की जो रिपोर्ट निकली थी उसमें बतलाया गया था कि खाली 11 करोड़ का कर्जा किसानों को है। इसके बाद 30 जून 1962 को रिजर्व बैंक की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार ग्रामीण क्षेत्र के किसानों को 27.89 करोड़ का कर्जा था। इसका अर्थ यह हुआ कि इतने वर्षों में उनका कर्जा बढ़ता ही गया और वह दुगुना-ढाई गुना हो गया और फिर हम यह अपेक्षा करें कि हमारे कार्तकारों की उन्नति

[श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरडिया]
होगी। किसान के पास जो आमदनी होती है उसको सरकार व अन्य लोग व्याज के रूप में ले लेते हैं और फिर हम उससे यह अपेक्षा करें कि वह अपनी आमदनी से अपना खर्च चलाए, उसमें से कुछ बचायें तो यह असम्भव है। इसके साथ ही साथ उसको और भी कई तरह का खर्च और रिश्वत देनी पड़ती है जिसकी वजह से वह अपनी आमदनी का रुपया खेती में नहीं लगा सकता है।

अगर आप अग्रिकलचरल वेजेज को देखिये, उनके दैनिक वेतन को देखिये, तो आपको मिलेगा कि इस बारे में जो सरकार की रिपोर्ट "अग्रिकलचर इन्डिया" नाम से निकली है, उसमें सतना के बारे में बतलाया गया है कि जुलाई 1965 में एक आदमी को 1.25 रु० प्रतिदिन मिलता है, महिला को 1 रु० प्रतिदिन मिलता है और लड़के को 75 पैसा प्रतिदिन मिलता है। इस तरह से हम कैसे अपेक्षा कर सकते हैं कि वह इतनी कम आमदनी में अपना पेट पाल लेगा, खेती में रुपया लगा लेगा और खेती कर सकेगा। हमारी सरकार इस तरह की अपेक्षा कर सकती है क्योंकि वह उनकी स्थिति को अच्छी तरह से नहीं समझ सकती है और न समझने की कोशिश ही करती है। ऐसी स्थिति में हमारी सरकार उनकी दशा की ओर ध्यान भी नहीं देती है क्योंकि वे लोग संगठित नहीं हैं। जिस तरह से मिल के मजदूर संगठित हैं उस तरह से ये लोग संगठित नहीं हैं। अगर मिल के मजदूरों को बोनस का एक पैसा भी कम दिया जाता है तो वह हड़ताल कर देते हैं और हमारी सरकार की नाक में तबल डाल देते हैं। मगर हमारा जो काश्तकार है, वह एक गरीब मजदूर है और संगठित नहीं है, इसीलिए हमारी सरकार भी उसकी तकलीफों के बारे में ठीक तरह विचार नहीं करती है। उनकी कमजोरी का हमारी सरकार नाजायज फायदा उठाती है और उनका शोषण करती ही चली जा रही है।

हमारे मंत्री जी जहर भाषण देते हैं कि हम सपोर्ट प्राइस देना चाहते हैं, मगर

सपोर्ट प्राइस क्या है, इस तरह का प्रश्न-वाचक चिह्न अभी तक उनके सामने बंटा हुआ है। जब हम उनसे राज्य सभा में प्रश्न पूछते हैं कि उनकी कीमत किस हिसाब से तय की जायेगी, तो कहा जाता है कि यह नहीं हो सकता। जब हम कहते हैं कि जो निकुण्ट खेती की जमीन है उसका खर्च निकाल कर और उत्पादन क्या होता है, दोनों को मिलाकर इस बात का फैसला कर दिया जाय ताकि किसान को रोटी, वह भी कोस अनाज ही कम से कम खाने को मिल सके। इस पर भी हमारे मंत्री जी कहते हैं कि हम इस तरह का मूल्यांकन नहीं कर सकते हैं। मैं आप से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि चीनी की कीमत अगर तय करनी होगी फिएट कार की कीमत तय करनी होगी, स्कूटर की कीमत तय करनी होगी तो जल्दी से जल्दी कौस्त एकाउन्टेसी का हिसाब हो जाता है और उनके निर्माण करनेवालों की तिजोरियां भर जाती हैं। जब काश्तकारों का प्रश्न सरकार के सामने आता है कि उनके उत्पादन की क्या कीमत दी जाय तो हमारी सरकार कहती है कि हमारे देश में ऐसी कोई एजेन्सी नहीं है जिसके द्वारा यह तय किया जा सके कि उसका क्या उत्पादन खर्च होता है और क्या उसको दिया जाना चाहिये। इस पर भी वे यह अवश्य कहते हैं कि हम किसान को सपोर्ट प्राइस देना चाहते हैं। इस तरह की जो वे बात करते हैं वे बिल्कुल भ्रम है, इस तरह से वे स्वयं को भी धोखा देते हैं और जनता को भी धोखे के भुलावे में डालते हैं। यदि सरकार सचाई और ईमानदारी से उनको सपोर्ट प्राइस देना चाहती है—मैं तो कहता हूँ कि सपोर्ट प्राइस न दीजिये जो उसकी आवश्यक प्राइस है, वह तो उसको अवश्य दी जानी चाहिये। इस संबंध में आपके जितने फार्म्स हैं उनका कान्ट आफ प्रोडक्शन कलकुलेट कर लीजिये और उनसे क्या कीमत आती है, उसके आधार पर कीमत निर्धारित कर लीजिये, तो मुझे कोई आपत्ति नहीं होगी। सरकार जो फार्म्स चला रही है, उसमें वहां पर बड़े-बड़े डिग्री हॉल्डर बैठे हुए

हैं और करोड़ों रुपया उन्हें देने के बाद भी ये फार्म दीवाले पर चल रहे हैं। तो ऐसी स्थिति में हम गरीब काश्तकार से यह अपेक्षा करें कि वह अपना बजट सरप्लस कर लेगा, बड़ा कठिन है।

महोदया, आप गरीब काश्तकार की बैलेंस-शीट देख लीजिए। एक तरफ तो लाइबिलिटीज साइड है, अगर उसको देखा जाये तो वहां पर कैपिटल नाम की कोई चीज नहीं मिलेगी और वहां पर आपको क्रेडिटर्स ही मिलेंगे। हमारी सरकार प्रतिवर्ष क्रेडिटर्स को नई-नई एजेंसी बनाती रहती है। उसने किसानों के लिए कोऑपरेटिव सोसाइटीज, लैंड मांटगेज बैंक, मनीलैन्डर, गवर्नमेंट और छोटे-छोटे दुकानदार रख दिए हैं। इस तरह से सरकार ने किसानों के लिए यह लाइबिलिटीज रखी है। उसकी जो एसैट्स साइड है वह उसकी छोटी खेती, फटे कपड़े, बरसात में टपकने वाली झोपड़ी, कमजोर बैल और निरन्तर बढ़नेवाले बच्चों की फाँज है जो देखने को एसैट्स दिखती है मगर है लायबिलिटी। ये तो हमारे गरीब किसान के लसैट्स हैं। अब मध्य प्रदेश शासन की नीति की चर्चा करना चाहता हूँ। मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने जो एकाधिकार की नीति चलाई है, उससे हमारे काश्तकार खाद्यान्न ज्यादा उत्पादन करने की ओर आकर्षित नहीं हो सकते हैं। मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने जबर्दस्ती उन पर यह थोप दिया है कि वे जितनी गाम्भीरी पैदा करते हैं वह सरकार एवं सोसाइटी को दी जाय। इस तरह से बाजार में उपभोक्ताओं को खाद्यान्न नहीं मिलता है और उपभोक्ताओं को परेशानी का सामना करना पड़ता है। सोसाइटी किसानों से 40 रुपया प्रति क्विंटल ज्वार खरीदती है और जिस गांव में खरीदती है उसी गांव में उसे 56 रु० प्रति क्विंटल बेचेगी अभी तो

बेचने के लिए कोई दुकान नहीं है, और बाजार में खाद्यान्न मिल नहीं पाता। सरकार ने जिस तरह की ज्यादाती किसानों के ऊपर कर रखी है उससे वे अन्न का उत्पादन करने को प्रेरित नहीं हो सकते हैं। इसके ऊपर भी हमारी सरकार ने डी० आई० आर० के अलग-अलग लोगों को नोटिस दिये हैं और उनके ऊपर मोनोपली का कोटा निर्धारित किया है। चाहे, अवर्षण से, अतिवर्षण से या किसी कारण से भी हो, खेती न हुई हो, तो यह सरकार की जिम्मेदारी नहीं है, फिर भी सरकार उनसे सामग्री लेती है। इस तरह की हीन मनोवृत्ति और कुचालों से किसान किस तरह से अन्न उत्पादन कर सकता है? उन लोगों को डी० आई० आर० का नोटिस दिया जाता है एक को नहीं कई काश्तकारों को, एक ग्राम के नहीं कई ग्रामों के काश्तकारों को नोटिस दिया जाता है मध्य प्रदेश ने सरकार के कर्मचारियों द्वारा इस बात के लिए कि कहीं से अन्न लाकर हमारे यहां दें। इसलिए मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से कहना चाहता हूँ कि अगर वह इस समस्या को हल कर सकेंगे तो ज्यादा अच्छा होगा।

मैं भी एक काश्तकार हूँ और मेरे ऊपर भी मोनोपली प्रोक्योरमेंट की नीति लागू है, लेकिन मैं उतना अनाज उत्पादन इसलिए नहीं कर सका हूँ। इधर-उधर से लाकर मुझे सरकार व समिति का पेट भरना पड़ा क्योंकि मार्केटिंग सोसायटीज जो हैं वे कांग्रेसियों के हाथों में हैं। हमारी सरकार चाहती है कि जिस तरह से खुदा की खुदाई एक तरफ होती है उसी तरह से हमारी ये मार्केटिंग सोसायटियाँ कांग्रेसियों के हाथों में हैं और विशेष प्रोटेक्शन प्राप्त कर रही हैं। यही कारण है कि हमारी सरकार इस बारे में कुछ कहना नहीं चाहती है। (Time bell rings)

[श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालाल जो चौरीड़िया]

उपसमाप्ति, महोदया, अन्त में, मैं यह सुझाव देता हूँ कि जोन्स हटाये जावें, उत्पादन के कार्य को उच्चतम प्राथमिकता दी जाय, वितरण व्यवस्था में व्यापारियों पर नियंत्रण रखते हुए उनका उपयोग भी लिखा जावे, विबड पर प्रतिबंध लगाया गया है, जो गरीब लोगों की खाद्य सामग्री है, उस पर से प्रतिबंध हटा लिया जाय। प्रशासन व्यवस्था में परिवर्तन किया जाय, उत्पादन में खेत की निम्नतम सीमा भी निर्धारित की जाय। घनी खेती को प्रोत्साहित किया जाय। बंटी बज गई है, इसलिए जो बिचाई का सुझाव मैंने पहले दिया है उसको प्राथमिकता दी जाय और उसे पूर्णरूपेण कार्यान्वित किया जाय।

श्रीमती ताराबाई साठे (महाराष्ट्र) : उपसमाप्ति महोदया, हमारे भारत और इसकी भूमि को कहते हैं सुखलम्, सुफलम्। हाँ, जल है, गंगा, जमुना, ब्रह्मपुत्र में जल काफी मिलता है, न केवल वर्षा में, बल्कि जब गर्मी होती है तब भी जल मिलता है और सब देश भर में ऐसी नदियाँ हैं ही जिन का जल काफी होता है। फिर भी ऐसा कभी-कभी होता है कि अकाल हो जाता है और जल तो बिल्कुल मिलता नहीं जैसा कि आजकल कई प्रांतों में हो गया है और हमारे महाराष्ट्र में खान कर हो गया है। यह तो जल और जो कुछ सुविधा विनग ने दी है उसका उपयोग हम जब ठीक से करें तब सब हो जाता है। हम लोग कहते हैं कि यह कृषि प्रधान राष्ट्र है, लेकिन आजकल ही नहीं, स्वतंत्रता से पहले भी हमें अनाज बाहर से लाना पड़ता था और हम लाते थे। आज अनाज की मांग हम पूरी नहीं कर सके।

हमारे फूड मिनिस्टर, सुब्रह्मण्यम साहब ने जब इस डिपार्टमेंट का चार्ज लिया तब से कितनी समस्याएँ उनके सामने हैं और उसका चैलेंज उन्होंने ले लिया है और वे धीरे से और ठीक ढंग से काम कर रहे हैं। उनकी टीका होती है, सब ओर से कितना क्रिटिसिज्म

होता है और वे काफी शांत रहते हैं। जो-जो सूचना और सुझाव यहां दिये गये हमें याद है कि कई सदस्यों ने कई सूचनाएं दीं उनको ध्यान में रख कर उन्होंने अपने डिपार्टमेंट में कुछ बदल भी कर दिया है। यह बदल ऐसा है कि अनाज और खाद्य के डिपार्टमेंट के साथ-साथ ही कंस्यूमिटी डेवलपमेंट एक्ट कर दिया है। यह कोऑर्डिनेशन हो गया है।

माइक्रोफिक रिसर्च को भी काफी महत्व दिया गया है खाद्य के साथ ही। आज एक सदस्या ने बताया था कि पूना इंस्टिट्यूट है और यह सब इंस्टिट्यूट में जो कुछ साइंटिफिक रिसर्च होता है उसके लिये भी आजकल यह खबर लेता है अनाज और खाद्य का डिपार्टमेंट। वे इम्प्लीमेंटेशन के लिये भी सुविधा कर रहे हैं। चाहे किसी भी पार्टी में हों, चाहे इस देश के किसी भी कोने में रहते हों, तब भी उनके साथ सक्रिय होकर और स्वेच्छा से रहना हम सब लोगों का कर्तव्य है।

मैं दूसरा एक प्वाइन्ट और बताना चाहती हूँ। हमारी एक मेम्बर, श्रीमती अम्मन्ना राजा, जो हमारे पड़ोस में बैठी हैं, उन्होंने अपनी स्पीच में, अपने भाषण में यह कहा कि हमारे देश में अकाल नहीं है। उन्हें शायद मालूम नहीं होगा कि कई प्रांतों में अकाल हो गया है और खास कर हमारे महाराष्ट्र में 35 हजार गांवों में से 14 हजार गांवों में अकाल हो गया है। मैं आप को बताना चाहती हूँ कि वहां आज भी मैकड़ों गांव ऐसे हैं जहां पीने का पानी नहीं मिल सकता है। मुझे नहीं मालूम है कि वहां क्या होगा जब गर्मी हो जायगी। महाराष्ट्र सरकार और सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट भी कोशिश कर रही है कि सब को सब मिले और किसी को भी कठिनाई न हो आजकल बहुत से फेमिल रिलीफ वर्क महाराष्ट्र में चल रहे हैं और हजारों लोग वहां आ कर काम करते हैं। न केवल रास्ते या मकान बनाना, टेरैसिंग करना, खाद डालना, छोटे-छोटे डैम्स बनाना जिससे खाद्य के लिए खाम कर उपयोग हो सके, ऐसे काम

वहाँ कर रहे हैं। बिजली और पानी काश्तकारों के लिये जहाँ-जहाँ मिल सके और जहाँ-जहाँ उसकी सुविधा हो, वहाँ-वहाँ उसको दे रहे हैं। पंचायतों का बहुत ज्यादा क्रिटिसिज्म हो रहा है कि पंचायतों में खास कर बहुत काम हो नहीं रहा है। लेकिन महाराष्ट्र, मैं आप देखिये सब पंचायतों में आज काम हो रहा है। सहकारी संस्था, कोऑपरेटिव क्रेडिट सोसायटी, ये सब जगह-जगह काम कर रही हैं। और जो बांटने का काम है वह भी कई जगह पर कंज्यूमर कोऑपरेटिव सोसायटी कर रही है। फिर भी कठिनाई है, महंगाई काफी हो गई है, चीजें मिलती नहीं हैं। फिर भी हम आन्दोलन नहीं करते हैं, शांति से रहते हैं, केरल के माफिक एजिटेशन हम नहीं करना चाहते हैं, महाराष्ट्र ऐसा नहीं करना चाहता है।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : करना पड़ेगा।

श्रीमती ताराबाई साठे : मैं एक प्रार्थना करूँगी कि महाराष्ट्र में सिर्फ 5 या 6 परसेंट इरीगेशन है, इसलिये मिनिस्टर साहब को वहाँ के इरीगेशन के बारे में जरा सोचना चाहिए और महाराष्ट्र को ज्यादा से ज्यादा इरीगेशन का फायदा देना चाहिए।

मैं एक बात और बताना चाहती हूँ। श्रीमती अम्मन्ना राजा ने बताया कि आंध्र के पास सरप्लस है। यह सुविधा बहुत अच्छी है। देश में कई जगह यह सुविधा होनी ही चाहिए नहीं तो देश का बड़ा बुरा हाल होगा। यह जो सरप्लस अनाज कई प्रांतों से मिलता है इसके लिये उन्होंने बताया कि यह जेनरासिटी है। यह जेनरासिटी कैसे ही सकती है मैं सब लोगों को बताना चाहती हूँ कि यह दान नहीं है, यह धर्म है, यह कर्त्तव्य है। हम सब भाई-भाई और एक देश के लोग और हमें एक दूसरे को देना ही चाहिए इतना ही नहीं, आज चौरङ्गिया साहब ने बताया कि कई जगह ज्यादा राशन है और कई जगह कम राशन है। एक प्रांत में जब

नहीं होता तो दूसरे को त्याग जरूर करना पड़ेगा, यही हमारा धर्म है, यही हमारी नीति है, यही हमारी संस्कृति है। अगर मुझे टाइम मिल जायेगा तो मैं संस्कृति के बारे में भी बताना चाहूँगी, पर मुझे मालूम नहीं है कि टाइम मिलेगा या नहीं मिलेगा। उन्होंने बताया कि कई परदेशों से कई बच्चे कुछ न कुछ मिला कर हिन्दुस्तान भेज रहे हैं। यह शर्म की बात नहीं है। उन्होंने कहा कि यह चैरिटी है। वह चैरिटी नहीं है, यह दान नहीं है, यह शर्म की बात नहीं है, यह मानवता की बात है। हमें भी अपने बच्चों को यह सिखाना चाहिये कि जब कहीं भी ऐसा हो, न केवल देश में, परदेश में भी, तब हमें यही करना चाहिए। यह हमें अपने बच्चों को बचपन से सिखाना चाहिये। मैं फिर से ऐसा बताना चाहती हूँ कि यह भीख नहीं है।

और हमारी अनाज की पैदावार कहीं-कहीं बढ़ रही है, फिर भी मुझे लगता है कि यह इंटेंसिव ऐग्रीकल्चर नहीं है। एक्सटेंसिव ऐग्रीकल्चर यह है। इंटेंसिव जितना होना चाहिए, उतना अभी तक हो नहीं पाता है। इसके बारे में गवर्नमेंट को ज्यादा से ज्यादा कोशिश करनी है। कोशिश हो रही है, पर अभी पूरी कोशिश नहीं होती। यह बताने के लिये मैं यह बताना चाहती हूँ कि पूसा इंस्टिट्यूट और दूसरे भी ऐसे इंस्टिट्यूट बता रहे हैं कि जब खास कर इरीगेशन होता है तो समझिये कि कोई 10 परसेंट ज्यादा पैदा हो जायेगा। सिर्फ फर्टिलाइजर्स होंगे तो थोड़ा ज्यादा पैदा हो जायेगा। सिंड्स रेस्पॉन्सिव टू फर्टिलाइजर्स होंगे तो समझिये 15 परसेंट ज्यादा पैदा हो जायेगा। फिर इनको अलग-अलग देने से ठीक नहीं है। ये तीनों ठीक अवसर पर इक्वेटे मिलेंगे तो Multiplicity impact is to raise land productivity by even 300%। यह बहुत इम्पॉर्टेंट और महत्व की बात है। श्री चौरङ्गिया साहब यहाँ नहीं हैं, मैं उनको यह बताना चाहती हूँ कि ईजिप्ट और इटली

[श्रीमती ताराबाई साठे]

में चार गुना अधिक चावल फार्म में निकलता है। हमारे यहाँ एक एकड़ में शायद 500 या 600 किलोग्राम तक चावल निकलता है और वहाँ इससे चार गुना अधिक निकलता है क्योंकि वे साइंटिफिक वेगिस से कृषि करते हैं और यह यहाँ भी हो सकता है। इसी सिमे इंटेंसिव ऐग्रीकल्चर के बारे में ज्यादा से ज्यादा हमें करना चाहिये। पैकेज प्रोग्राम वाजकल हम कर रहे हैं, पर उससे भी उतना नहीं निकलता है जितना अधिक निकलने का मौका हमें है। सीड्स के बारे में यह बताना चाहती हूँ कि Concentrated attention in Certain areas होना चाहिये। और सीड्स का स्टैंडर्डाइजेशन होना चाहिये। काम पालीनेशन से काफ़ी ईल्ड लॉवर होती है। एक एक्सपर्ट को में कोट करना चाहती हूँ :

"Mixing of seeds gives rise to cross pollination and ends in lowering the crop yield or in getting weak, susceptible-to-pests crops."

स्टैंडर्डाइज्ड बीज होने से हमारा काम खत्म नहीं होगा। इसमें थोड़ा खराब तरह का बीज मिला देने से बड़ी कटिनाई होती है। यह मिलना नहीं चाहिए। जो लोग सीड्स ले जाते हैं वे उसे बोते हैं या नहीं, इसे भी देखना चाहिए। स्टैंडर्डाइज्ड सोड का पैकेट होना चाहिए, उस पर मुहर लगाना चाहिए, सोल लगानी चाहिए, और यह देखना चाहिए कि वही बोए जाते हैं।

कुछ डेवलपिंग कंट्रीज में यह कानून भी बना है कि वही सोड बोए। मैं प्रार्थना करूंगी कि आप भी ऐसा कानून बनाएं। अभी तक हम सीड्स के बारे में नए प्रयोग कर रहे हैं। लोग मिलावट करें और उसका रिजल्ट देखने के बाद कानून बनाएं, इससे अच्छा है कि पहले ही ऐसा करें तो बहुत अच्छा होगा। सब का प्राम्प्ट इम्प्लीमेंटेशन होना चाहिए। मल्टीप्लाईड इम्पैक्ट के लिए साइंटिफिक आधार होना चाहिए। आजकल थोड़ी-थोड़ी कोशिश हो रही है। इससे ज्यादा होनी चाहिए।

वेस्टेज के बारे में किसी ने कहा कि रैट्स का एरेडीकेट करना चाहिए। हम गृहिणी लोगों को घर में यह करना चाहिए, और सरकारी गोदामों वगैरह में भी, सभी जगह, यह किया जाना चाहिए ताकि वेस्टेज न हो। मैंने कहीं सुना था कि चाइना ने खेतों में जो रैट्स थे उनको हटा दिया, मार दिया। हम लोग भी ऐसा करें और हर जगह रैट्स की वजह से खेतों में जो खराबी होती है, वह नहीं होनी चाहिए।

मैं और एक बात बताना चाहती हूँ चक्की के बारे में। श्री सुब्रह्मण्यम् ने बताया था कि चक्की के बारे में कुछ कोशिश करेंगे और देखेंगे। मैं फिर बताती हूँ कि वह जो सरकारी आटा देते हैं उसमें मिलावट हो सकती है। फ्लोर मिल पर ले जाते हैं और फिर भेजते हैं। आप गेहूँ दीजिए और ऐसा कानून बनाइए कि एक पाव भी होंतो पीसने के लिए चक्की पर जायें। सिर्फ यहाँ मैं देखती हूँ कि आटा मिलता है और मिलावट हो सकती है और गवर्नमेंट को भी काफी काम करना पड़ता है। मेरी प्रार्थना है कि इसके बारे में कुछ देखना चाहिए।

अब मैं जैनेरासिटी के बारे में बताना चाहती हूँ। यह संस्कृति है, हमारा धर्म है। मैं यही बताना रही हूँ कि पड़ोसी के लिए, सब मानवता के लिए कुछ न कुछ करना चाहिए। विनोबाजी ने बताया है कि प्रकृति, विकृति और संस्कृति क्या है। उन्होंने बताया है हमारी प्रकृति है जब भूख लगे तो खाना मिलना ही चाहिए और खाना खाना ही चाहिए। यह है हमारी प्रकृति। विकृति का आशय यह है कि जिसकी हमेशा खाना मिलता है और जिसके पेट में अगह नहीं हम उसे खाना खाने का बुला लेते हैं, उसे खाना देते हैं। इससे रसना खराब होती है। यह हुई विकृति। संस्कृति क्या होती है? संस्कृति हमारी यह होती है कि मैं भूखा हूँ और खाना खाने वाला हूँ, थाली सब तैयार है तभी कोई भूखा आ गया तो मैंने हंसते हुए अपनी

बाली उठा कर उसके सामने रख दी। यह हमारी संस्कृति है। देश में भी एक प्रान्त दूसरे प्रान्त को दे। यही जेनेरासिटी है। हमारा धर्म यही कहता है। न केवल हमारा धर्म, सभी धर्मों का यही फंडामेंटल प्रिंसिपल है। इसलिए जो कुछ दुनिया में लोग देते हैं, मानवता से देते हैं। जब भी कभी हो, हम भी दे सकते हैं, हमें देना चाहिए और यही हमें सीखना चाहिए। यह हमारी संस्कृति है। आन्ध्र हो, चाहे कोई प्रान्त हो, हमें स्वयं कमी करके भी देना चाहिए। यही हमारी संस्कृति है कि त्याग करें और दूसरों को दें। आपने मुझे कहने का मौका दिया, इसके लिए मैं आपको बहुत धन्यवाद देती हूँ।

Miss MARRY NAIDU (Andhra Pradesh) : Madam Deputy Chairman, regard-tag the food situation in our land just now we seem to have perfection of aims but confusion of means. The present diffici no doubt owe their origin to the drought we had but nevertheless we mus't own that the creation of food zones and the methods of procurement, ins'lead d sening difficulties, brought an addition d misery. Without the zonal system procurement is not possible and without proem -ment distribution to deficient areas i possible. So the policy and the plan of the Food Minister cannot be found fault with. Hence we see in this the truth of the sa the operation is successful but the patient died. Once a very clever surgeon operated on a TB patient and removed half the lung. The operation was a wonderful success. The doctor was very tired; he left the patient in charge of the nurses and went to rest for an hour. In the meanwhile his boss who was not a surgeon at all ordered the patient to be moved and put in the verandah. Perhaps it was for want of space but then the inclement weather in the verandah would have certainly made the patient catch cold and die. But, thank God, the doctor cam> in time and saved the patient. Similarly now what is' happening is this. This attempt to exploit the food situation and to rouse the people's tempers will certainly lead to greater troubles and if this continues, then God alone must help the Food Minister and the country. I heard speech after speech ing that the farmers did not form them-

selves into rebellious groups and g J on strikes like others. If they took to that at the ins'ligation of any of us or any of the Opposition members, then God alone will have to sase the countiy and the Food Minister. But, on the other hand, Madarn, the Government also at the same time must realise that our country is not sufficiently trained or educated in adjusting itself to controls. The very mention of control creates scarcity and that in turn lends to

So my very humble suggestion that ihe Government must be quick, as quick as rushing forces to the battle front, in procuring paddy. Do not let the (iroke'r suffer. The procurement price miii preserve the incentive to grow foodgrain. Low prices leading io underground granaries and blackmarketing hurt the consumer much more than belter prices paid to the producers from tlie start. Instead of paying to the foreigners, pay to our own farmers by fixing floor prices. Then fill your granaries and throw open the zones for free markets. All this must lie done as in emergency in a matter of few days and thus lire prices must be controlled. Of course the only right policy would be incentive to .. free market to the farmer in any country but in our country free market alone cannot be a sufficient incentive because of our uncertain monsoons. The Government must at all cotfts fix floor prices so that • bum per crop may not cause the prices to collapse. How can we expect any farmer to take to scientific farming which costs a great deal by way of chemicals, fertilisers, etc. unless he is assured of, a floor price :plus a free market which may bring him higher income than the floor price. Is it right or just for our elite of the country to sft in towns and cities to enjoy all the luxuries while the poor villager—T am not talking of the landlords but the real poor farmer—can only look to these luxuries in cinemas and not in real life especially when he has to undergo so much of troubles in order to produce food ?

One hon. Member suggested and rightly] that if cash crops give better income, let it be shared with the poor farmer by paying him more for his rice. It is not correct to say that they produce cash crops and the people must have rice at a low price. They must have rice. Of course all of us must im!, but the poor farmer who depends only

It is Miss Mary Naidu] on growing his rice must also have his share and so the price of his rice must also a little bit. Monopoly procurement. I am afraid, will never work in our country. It will just drown the country in corruption. Millions of Indian farmers cannot be subjected to compulsory procurement. As it is, some of my friends blame the Chief Minister for taking advantage of the situation¹. I do not agree with them. Take my State, for example. Andhra is on everyone's lip as a surplus¹ State. Yes, there are a few taluks that certainly are surplus, but there are many other taluks in Andhra which are not surplus. Unfortunately for Andhra the Calcutta Mail starts from Madras and goes through the only area which is a rice-growing area and which looks very beautiful, green carpets throughout the seasons. But those who travel to Bombay from Madras will also see that Andhra has got the most dry area where nothing grows and which depends on rain; a few crops grow there at times.

4 P.M.

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR : Do you know the actual outflow of rice from Andhra during normal years ?

Miss MARY NAIDU : Yes. Though I am not able to give the correct figure. I know that the normal outflow of rice in Andhra is enough to feed the Andhras at the rate of 15 ounces per head. That much I know.

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR : What was the normal outflow, *i.e.*, rice taken out of Andhra every year, during the past three or four years ?

Miss MARY NAIDU : I could not tell you exactly, but this will explain it. I can tell you that fortunately for the rice-eating States, Andhra taluks which grow rice, do not insist on eating only rice; they eat wheat and also other foodgrains and that is the reason why Andhra is able to send out its rice to other States. If the whole of Andhra State insists on eating rice, then we will have nothing left, but fortunately we do not. We do take wheat and we do take many other kinds of grains also. So, the surplus is always being sent out.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE):

, My Kerala friends are not imitating the Andhras.

Miss MARY NAIDU : They are not cluing it. There, again, I suppose they will blame the Government. I think some of the Government people should go there and train them how to make wheat preparations. It is not easy for everybody to take to wheat.

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR (Kerala): It is a good suggestion. The Food Minister, instead of wasting his time here, should go and start some work like I that. That will be a good thing.

Miss MARY NAIDU : What I wanted to say is this. Our Chief Minister, with the best of intentions, tried to procure rice, but in the very mention of ration and control makes the poor farmers' store rice for themselves. This being a very bad year due to drought, the majority of them have tried to keep something for themselves. So, he found it very difficult to procure rice. He had another method of procuring rice and that was at the factory level. He wanted to procure rice at the factory level, thinking that all paddy would go to the factories. I have been touring round this area a little bit during this off-Session and I found that in most places the factories were not working at all. People were pounding rice as* in olden days. That was because they were afraid that the rice would be taken away from them. So, he is struggling very hard to procure rice and send it, but he is being blamed. That is not just at all.

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR : How many lakhs of tonnes you would like to be procured ?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Let her finish.

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR : False information should not be given.

Miss MARY NAIDU : It is not false information at all. It is* just what I have seen.

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR : Any number of lakhs of tonnes can be procured from Andhra if you want.

Miss MARY NAIDU : Today there going to be a revolution. It is going to take place in Andhra, I

Andhra people have not got any rice to eat for themselves. Just the other day a railway clerk's family came from Godavari district—that is the most flourishing district, rice-growing area—to Delhi. He tells us that it is far better to be in Delhi than to be in his district because they cannot get any rice at all there. This is what I have been told. If the hon. Member just goes round in Andhra, not to taluks like Nellore and Vijayawada, but to places where there are hardships, where there are poor people, he himself can notice that. He would tell them and urge them tomorrow to go on strike because there is no food. In spite of it the Chief Minister has collected some rice to be sent out.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : Do not allow it to go out of Andhra.

(Interruptions) •

Miss MARY NAIDU : It is a very difficult situation, because we do have a very bad drought and there is hardly anything. Of course, I do not say that if some the controls are removed, there may not be any rice coming out, but that rice may belong to last year or the year before—belonging to very rich people, but not the poor farmer.

Then, again, I must say that in the procurement, the farmer must be helped to get a good price. If he sells paddy soon after the harvest, the weight is greater and he stands to gain something, but if later on he sells the paddy, the weight goes down and he stands to lose. So, what the agents, who have to procure paddy, are doing is they are waiting. In between the farmers will be the losers. So, by waiting they will make the farmer lose when the actual procurement takes place. This kind of little irritations to the farmer should be avoided. The Government must come out to pay a little more, fix a fair price and pay it immediately. That is what I said. You rush as in an emergency and procure as soon as the paddy comes out of the field. Then, you will have any amount but not without the inducement of fixed price. But if you simply go and harass the farmer to give paddy, you will never succeed in getting paddy. So, I entreat the Government, like a loving mother to induce the farmer and coax him to part with his production. We have to do it.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: Loving mother of the Government ?

Miss MARY NAIDU: Government, like a loving mother, I said.

Again, if I may say so, Indians always had a great reverence for their mothers and that is the reason why they so lovingly chose a mother to rule them. Now, they have chosen a mother to rule them. They must, like loving sons, be at all times ready to help her to see that the Government is a perfect success.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal): Is it loving son or naughty daughter ?

Miss MARY NAIDU: Naughty daughters also must be taken care of, by loving brothers.

(Time bell rings.)

Now, I come to the point, My friend, Mrs. Ammannna Raja, referred to Nagarjunasagar. Time and again we had begged of you to give more funds to the Nagarjunasagar project, but then our Madras friends and Kerala friends did not join us. If all of us had joined together, we could have done it. Now, the Food Minister is not to be blamed. It was TTK who could not see eye to eye in giving us any money to complete that project. If that project had been completed, today we would have had enough rice to give to all the rice-eating areas of India. So, even now it is not too late to see that all the minor projects like ! Pochampad and others, which Andhra has, are completed. If they are completed there will be enough and more rice for the rice-eating States of India.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your time is already over.

Miss MARY NAIDU: My friend, Mr. Dahyabhai Patel, said that during British times our country was the granary of the world. • Nothing is far from the truth. Britain was called the granary of Europe and perhaps India was called the treasury of Britain, but not 'granary' at any rate. We have had to re-dig our tanks and wells and start our projects after they left. Now, we are in the midst of our project and when they are completed we will surely become a granary. He also said that we were begging for food. No, we are not begging for food. We are buying food and getting

[Miss Mary Naidu]

deeper and deeper into debts and we will have to pay back all those debts at some future ditto. If some generous friends and generous brothers and sisters from abroad are sending us some help, it is not called begging. I would like to know what Mr. Dahyabhai Paiel's Party, the rich people are doing in India. If every rich student in the classroom feeds one poor child in India, then there will be no need for anybody from abroad to send us money or any other kind of help. Mr. Chordia, not today but the other day, touching on food said: "Unless the Government changes, there can be no solution to the food problem." I say that it is not the Government that should change, but it is the man's mind that should be changed; it is his idea that should be changed; it is his heart that should be changed. If all rich people changed their hearts, India would need no help from outside. We will certainly be self-sufficient, self-respecting and everything. But as it is, not to say that we are not self-respecting, are really not taking any help from anybody. Help from others is not called beggary.

Since my time is over, I must thank you for the time you have given me, and I hope that my brethren on the opposite benches will help to tide over the situation, and with God's help there will be no trouble whatsoever.

SHRIMATI DHVAKI GOPIDAS (Kerala): Madam Deputy Chairman, on the floor of this House I have heard so much about Kerala, and, as it is, the food problem of Kerala is the highlight of the day. I heard one of my hon. friends, Shrimati Ammannappa Raja, referring to Kerala and criticising that we were unnecessarily agitating. I would like to submit that, in October last when there were children falling unconscious in the schools, due to starvation, we never agitated. We wanted the Government to work out a programme, and we were hopeful that something would be done in the matter. In October 1964 informal rationing in Kerala was begun and we were given 6 ounces of rice and 6 ounces of wheat. Afterwards in September last it was reduced to 4 ounces of rice, and I would like to show to everybody here that this is the 4 ounces of rice given to an adult for a day. Whether this is sufficient for an adult

to live on is the problem I would like to put before the House.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: Place it on the Table.

SHRIMATI DEVAKI GOPIDAS: I do remember that when Gujarat faced two days of food shortage, there was looting, shooting and killing. But in Kerala nothing of the sort has happened. On the 28th January last there was a "Kerala Bundh". That was organised by all parties. I would like to point out that it was a very successful demonstration of the sentiments of the people. Nothing untoward happened. It was only afterwards something had happened. When the students came out and some unholy elements got into the procession, something had happened. It was only afterwards. I would like to emphasize again that the "Kerala Bundh" was a very successful demonstration of the resentment of the people of Kerala against the manner they were receiving.

Food is the most essential factor with regard to a human being. Every third human being feels the pangs of hunger. It is nature's creation, and if we want to live, if we want our brain to work, if we want our children to be healthy and all that, they must have enough food. The Kerala people are accustomed to eating rice and rice only. There is so much of misrepresentation here which I would like to clarify. From time immemorial the Kerala State is a highly deficit area in rice. Now we are producing 11 lakh tonnes of paddy and that is sufficient only for six months of the year. This is the condition from time immemorial. Kerala produces cash crops like pepper, tea, cardamom, rubber, cashew nuts, and so on. Even before the time of Vasco da Gama our ships were very famous in other countries and we were selling these to the foreign countries, to the Far Eastern and European countries, and we were getting foreign exchange. With that foreign exchange we were getting boiled rice, very good rice, from Burma and some other places. In fact up to this time the Kerala people have never experienced any starvation, any famine. It is only after independence that we were experiencing famine. That is why the people of Kerala mildly wanted to show their resentment. Instead of considering it on a sympathetic basis, with-

out giving proper attention to the plight of our brothers starving in another place, I find that it is being criticised. I belong to the Congress Party, and I am sure the proper forum for us to demonstrate our resentment is within the fold of the Congress Party. We demonstrated that we resented this treatment at the Congress Party session at Jaipur. I find that that is being criticised.

I feel that this is not the forum to criticise what we do within our Party fold. That is the real forum for us to ventilate our grievance, and that we have done wisely and effectively. I am sure it is not proper for any of my colleagues to criticise us.

There were so many misrepresentations, because some of my friends, especially of this House, were talking to me yesterday and I found that they had a misapprehension, a mistaken notion of the food problems of Kerala. As I have already stated, we produce 11 lakh tonnes of paddy and that is only sufficient for six months of the year. From those 11 lakh tonnes, the small farmer, that is the farmer having up to

2 acres of land, is allowed to retain his produce as ration and he is not given any ration card. The marketable surplus, according to the Government, is only 2½ lakh tonnes. From that, the Government is procuring 60,000 tonnes. The other day, Mr. N. E. S. Raghavachari, Adviser, explaining the food situation in the State, said in the Consultative Committee on Kerala Legislation :

"While every effort was made to intensify procurement, it must be remembered at the same time that the marketable surplus was only 2½ lakh tons out of a total production of 11 lakh tons. However, some price incentives had recently been given. To relieve the hardship of producers, those with less than 2 acres of land had been exempted from procurement. Kerala Government had procured 20% of the marketable surplus; in a deficit State to procure more is difficult." That is the statement of the representative of the Central Government that is ruling Kerala. I find that there is an attempt to find fault that procurement is not going on there properly. I would like to say that we do not mind if the whole thing is procured, but we want our ration. We want to live, we want our generation to be healthy. That is our only demand. If there is any scarcity, if there is any difficulty, we are L22RS/66-6

there to share it with everybody. There is no grudging over it. The only thing is, as Mrs. Naidu has stated, the Kerala people are not accustomed to taking wheat preparations. As I have said, we were getting enough rice from time immemorial. Only after independence we were put to these difficulties. Before doing away with the zones' and creation of the State zones, especially before Mr. Subramaniam took charge as Food Minister, the lower income group in Kerala was given two measures of rice or *edangazhis* of rice at subsidised price from fair price shops on the basis of ration card given by the Taluk Office at the governmental level. That was given at a subsidised price and the loss incurred was shared by the Centre and the State. That was the condition. But as soon as Shri Subramaniam took charge he wanted to give more because of his regard for the poorer sections; he wanted to increase it to three *edangazhis* and so whatever stock was available was finished, and from that time this difficulty has been there. We are faced with this difficulty because we are not getting enough stock. Now this is the position. From last October, we are getting only four ounces and that is the actual position now.

It is stated here that we are having so many foodstuffs to eat, and tapioca and banana are mentioned. I would like to say that tapioca is not at all a staple food, we cannot take it substantial food. It is completely starch, it should be taken along with fish. But our fish is being exported and we are earning foreign exchange. And in Kerala we are getting fish at the value at which we are getting fish in Delhi and I have experienced it. At Delhi's price we are getting fish in Kerala. By exporting the cash crops, we are getting dollars and this dollar exchange goes to the common pool. We earn, by the export of our cash crops, to the tune of 22 per cent of the total dollar earnings. In my State, even a common man in the street knows it. That is the problem that is being faced. No inducement or no provocation at the party level or by anybody else is required. It is a phenomenon that we are experiencing—the common man in the street knows everything. Everything is on his finger tips and he knows it.

As I have stated, it is only after the imposition of the zonal restrictions that we were

[Shrimati Devaki Gopidas]

faced with this difficulty. So we would request the hon. Minister not to put us at the mercy of the Madras and Andhra Governments. In the hand-out which has been given by the Department of Food, it is stated :

"It must, however, be borne in mind that unless supplies from Madras and Andhra Pradesh are substantially larger than even last year's levels or imports of rice are stepped up regarding which there are difficulties, it may not be possible to find sufficient rice to meet the full requirements of Kerala."

That is the problem. We do not want to go with a begging bowl to each and every State but we want to be fed by the Centre because the Centre is ruling us. And even if the Food Minister finds fault with the State Government, I would like to point out that it is the Centre that is ruling Kerala for the last 18 months and if the State is not procuring enough or if there is any point regarding that, I would like to stress and stress upon the fact that it is the fault of the Centre. Shri Subramaniam may find fault with the State Government. It may be that he finds fault with the Home Minister, Shri Gulzarilal Nanda, because he is our guardian now . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : What is guardian ?

SHRIMATI DEVAKI GOPIDAS: It is directly under the President's rule and for all the executive actions there, it is the Central Government that is responsible, and for any legislation there, this Parliament is responsible. So, we are directly under the Centre's rule, and it is the duty of the Centre to see that we are fed. That is our main request. We do not want to quarrel with anybody; we are not quarrelling with anybody. We have been a law-abiding people from time immemorial. Really, there is no quarrel, there is nothing of the sort. The only thing is that we are *conscious of our* rights. As I have already stated, even the common man there is conscious of his rights and if he wants to, he will protest mildly, in a legal manner and show his protest. That is the only thing. By not voting for the Government or by doing something like that, he will do that. That is the position.

And then, regarding the availability of foodgrains including cereals also, there is so much of disparity. I would like to bring to your notice that in the hand-out given by Shri Subramaniam there is a chart about the *per capita* per day net availability of cereals. From that you will find that it is 11.4 for Kerala and that is the lowest in the chart.

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR : What is the figure for Orissa ?

SHRIMATI DEVAKI GOPIDAS : For Orissa, it is 19.2.

Now, our only request is, let the whole thing be taken together, and throughout we may have statutory rationing. We are ready to share it with the other States. But the ration should be equal because we are in a union. Now, because of this zonal system, corruption is prevalent. It is the outcome of that and also there is enmity between the people of the States because in the borders of Kerala States and Madras, they are getting enough. One of my friends at Madras was telling me the other day that for the last one month he had not drawn his ration because he got enough good rice outside, at a little bit higher price. And therefore he had not drawn the ration. And about whatever ration we are getting, I need not say. It is full of mud, full of stones. One day I read that some stone manufacturing machinery had been imported to prepare stones to be added to the rice, that it was coming to Bombay, and that had been taken over by the Customs authorities. I read about it one day in the newspapers.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: In Andhra.

SHRIMATI DEVAKI GOPTDAS: That was going to Andhra. That has become a business, to prepare stones to be added to the rice.

Anyway, we want good quality rice without any stinking smell. We are getting now rice with a stinking smell and full of mud and that too, only four or five ounces we are getting. It is full of worms also.

We have to take this food problem as a national problem and it has to be tackled on a national basis. That is my request.

Thank you.

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR : Even the Food Minister is not to be seen.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I am here.

AN HON. MEMBER: He has gone to Kerala. ! j

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I think it is better that he goes a little away.

Madam Deputy Chairman, the country has been demanding a national food policy and we are glad that that demand was voiced by a large number of Congressmen at the annual session of the ruling party held at Jaipur. Shri Subramanian!, according to Press reports was facing heavy weather there but it does appear that he was also a tough sailor. That is why we find that even after what had happened at Jaipur, nothing has been done with a view to changing the situation and modifying, in a better direction, the food policy of the country. Only we have come to know of one thing that when he had some difficult times in the Lok Sabha, the Congress President, Shri Kamaraj, immediately met the Pressmen and made a public statement stating that Shri Subramanian alone was not responsible, it was the responsibility of the entire Government. I agree with Shri Kamaraj on that point. But Shri Subramanian, being the Food Minister, must assume the major share of the responsibility in this matter. That is how parliamentary democracy functions. First and foremost, he is answerable, as the Union Food Minister, to Parliament and to the country about the failures and bankruptcies of his food policy. I shall deal with that aspect of the matter. But I do stress that what we need today is a national food policy which certainly cannot be unilaterally decided by the Congress Party and then hoisted upon the nation despite opposition not only from these who sit in Parliamentary Opposition but also from within his own party.

Since I come from West Bengal, Madam Deputy Chairman, I should like to touch on the food situation in my State. But I should like to deal with the larger aspects also. In West Bengal, the food situation is extremely critical and it did not develop all of a sudden. The situation was developing day after day, week after week, month after month, and the West Bengal Government was sitting on the fence for a

long time, without taking any effective measures to meet a situation of this kind or to prevent a situation from developing in the direction in which, it was developing.

The Central Government equally was not very much interested in this matter because it is their policy not to come into the picture. They give help only when the situation goes out of control or for their own sake or when the people force the issue before the Centre as the people of Kerala have done with such magnificent unity and mass action.

Now, in West Bengal, as you know, State trading or monopoly procurement was adopted as a matter of policy. But after having adopted it, the West Bengal Government because of its connections with the traders and big landlords, what we call *jotdars*, allowed this policy to be sabotaged. On the contrary, in the name of monopoly procurement the West Bengal Government introduced the system of levy which became an instrument of oppression of the poor peasant, whereas the *jotdars* held their stocks and indulged in profiteering and hoarding. The homes of the peasants were raided by the Government and its police in order to grab whatever little food they had. So that is how the procurement policy was sabotaged. Instead of eliciting people's co-operation for such a policy, it was so implemented that people turned against it because it was a procurement policy implemented in the interest of the patrons of the ruling party, *jotdars* and profiteers and implemented against the interest of the toiling peasantry of West Bengal. Naturally such a policy could not receive the support either from the peasantry or from other sections of the public. Such a policy could not succeed in the nature of things when hoarders and profiteers are allowed to corner stocks and left free to do as they like. In such a situation you cannot make the procurement policy a success.

Then what happened ? Supplies in the modified rationed area did not go; they were without supplies. In the rural areas food was not being supplied and they became famine, near-famine areas or scarcity areas. Such was the situation. In many places rice was selling at Rs. 2 per

[Shri Bhupesh Gupta]

kilo. It was a very high price, beyond the reach of the people who are most down-trodden. In the rural areas such was the picture, and this whole scheme almost failed. That was the situation in every place but 24-Parganas came into the lime-light because of the development in this month.

Not only that, even in the city of Calcutta, or rather Greater Calcutta, as you call it, if you take the rationed area many thousands of people have not yet been issued ration cards although statutory rationing obtains in Greater Calcutta. Everybody knows that legitimate claimants for ration cards, who should be entitled to them, after the Government have assumed responsibility to supply rations, are denied ration cards partly because of the inefficient handling, partly because of the bungling and partly because of other reasons. But the fact remains that a large number of people in the Greater Calcutta areas, the city of Calcutta, are denied ration cards. They have not been issued ration cards.

Then again you find that the Government made a public announcement that those engaged in heavy manual work in the industrial area in Greater Calcutta would be given 200 grammes extra ration. That has not yet been implemented. This is another point that I wish to invite your attention to. Now the result has been agitation. What are the people to do. And what happened in the agitation? Instead of rice or kerosene which the people wanted bullets were given to them. I have a copy before me published in our paper, 'New Age', a young boy, Nurul Islam of Sarupnagar, a boy who always stood first in his class, just ten years old, son of a hungry, poor agricultural labourer, but a brilliant boy was shot for no other reason. He was out in the street along with other asking for food. The tragic tale is told in our paper, New Age, by Comrade Renu Chakravarty who went there and studied the situation herself. She has written a leading article in our paper which we have published. He asked for rice but got a bullet. This is what the headmaster of the school said. To it a reference has been made by our friend, Mr. Vajpayee. Two other people have been killed. Now this is what is

happening there. Rarely such a thing has happened when a boy asked for food but got a bullet sent through the heart. Such was the thing. There were no disturbances, no provocation, nothing of the kind. It was a cold blooded murder. Murder is murder no matter how and who commits it. It was a murder. Yet the West Bengal Government, upto now, has not agreed to appoint a public judicial enquiry in this matter. Do you think, such a Government, Madam Deputy Chairman, is entitled to any attention by decent men in the country? Do you think such a Government can have any kind of sympathy and support from the people and can seek the co-operation of the public in the matter of food?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Madam, he is not speaking in the Bengal Legislative Assembly. He is speaking on the floor of Parliament.

SHM BHUPESH GUPTA: I do not know, Mr. Subramaniam. You should go to the Bengal Assembly. Why should I go there? It is your policy, anti-national, anti-people, anti-democratic, ruinous food policy of starving people on the one hand . . .

SHRI P. N. SAPRU (Uttar Pradesh): On a point of order. Law and order is a State subject and, therefore the hon. Minister of Food has nothing to do with law and order. If Mr. Bhupesh Gupta has any grievance, he should ask a member of his party in the Bengal Assembly to take it up.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Most of our Members are suspended there. Do not talk about those things late in the day. Law and order we know. When we were in government in Kerala we discussed the law and order business. All that we know. But the issue at the moment is not at all that issue. The issue is that your food policy today has led to a situation of this kind where you meet it by your repression, by your D.I.R., by lathi charges, by shooting, by attacks on the hungry. And what else could be a greater condemnation of the food policy of the Government of India than this state of affairs? That is what I ask.

Well, Madam Deputy Chairman, I can tell you such is the situation. And even today the demand is not being met. West

Bengal needs several lakhs of tonnes of foodgrains, West Bengal from where you draw a sizeable chunk in your customs and revenue. It is one of the biggest industrial centres in the country where strategic industries are situated where urban population is very high. Is it not the special responsibility of the Central Government that West Bengal is properly looked after ? That is why the people of West Bengal agitate. It is the responsibility of the Central Government. In the past they had supplied 3 or 4 lakh tonnes of foodgrains. This year the commitment is only 1 lakh tonnes of rice. I tell you that would not simply do to meet the situation. Moreover, West Bengal demanded that this 1 lakh tonnes, committed for 1966, should be sent now, the whole of it. The people are demanding it. Why can you not send it ? And whatever you have given is by no means adequate. It cannot touch the fringe of the problem. Am I to understand that the Central Government is not to keep its entire commitments in this matter and give only a pittance ? It is perhaps to save his conscience that he has given something to the State of West Bengal. That is what I want to know from the Government. Why that 1 lakh tonnes which you have committed is not being rushed now to West Bengal at this critical hour when it is needed very much ?

That is the problem for the Central Government to answer. Madam, I do not wish to say very much but, as far as West Bengal is concerned, well, the people are fighting there and they shall continue to fight. I hope my people in West Bengal will not surrender to the anti-people, anti-democratic food policy. I hope, with unity and courage they shall fight in the same way as the brave men and women of Kerala fought. Kerala has shown us the way and until and unless the Government changes this policy and shows a little more sympathy and concern for the people of West Bengal, I hope, with patriotism, with a democratic good sense, with militancy, all the people of West Bengal will rise to a point where they can shake this Government and bring it to its senses, in order to meet the legitimate demands of my people, in that situation. This is all I want, Madam Deputy Chair-

man; this is all I can say here about the food policy.

Now in the matter of production it has been a complete failure. For production we are now told that American fertilizers will come, chemicals will come, pesticides will come and then, well, 32.5 million acres would be brought under intensive cultivation, on a selective basis, and that by 1970-71 we will have 125 million tonnes of foodgrains. This is what is theoretically laid down. Many things had been theoretically laid down like that. Under the Third Plan we should have had by now a 100 million tonnes of foodgrains, the target fixed under the Third Plan, and today, now in this current year, we are below even the level at the start of the Third Plan, that is to say, our food production is lower, by 4 to 5 million tonnes, than in the last year of the Second Plan. This is the position today. Am I to understand that in the course of the next five years we are going to raise the production without basic structural changes, from 76 million tonnes or 78 million tonnes if you like, to 125 million tonnes? When under the Third Five Year Plan we could not basically raise it at all ? Am I to understand it that way ? You will say : "We are getting so many things." Now we are told here that in the first year of the Fourth Plan 4,89,000 acres of land would be brought under intensive cultivation.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Four million.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I do not think they are going to do it. And, secondly, . . .

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Sorry to interrupt you; four million.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Four million; yes, 4.89 million acres out of 32.5 million. Now, then, even if you do it, 11 the remaining about 28 millions be done in the next four years ? Are you going to do that ? Then again, first of all I doubt whether you will be able to do so—I am dealing with just one aspect of the matter. Secondly, this is not dependent upon our internal resources; it depends on the import of fertilizers under the Fourth Plan. We are told there will be required at least Rs. 500 crores in foreign

[Shri Bhupesh Gupta]

exchange, etc. Now it depends on how the Americans behave, how others behave outside—we are depending on outside—and, thirdly, it depends on various other factors. Therefore, even in the matter of production of food we are making our country so dependent and uncertain that we do not know what would happen. Given current trends, we cannot expect that we will be able to raise of food production by these methods by about 45 million tonnes in the course of the next four or five years. It is not going to happen. There are many a slip between the cup and the lip even if you have the present scheme. Madam Deputy Chairman, Mr. Subramaniam is behaving like—I said before; I repeat it now—an international charity boy. That is why, when he went to the United States of America, he pleaded, paraded himself before the American authorities as if he had gone for charity with a begging bowl in his hands.

AN HON. MEMBER : No.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA. You may think 'No', but many of your people do not think s'o.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN (Andhra Pradesh) : You should not forget that we pay for it.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I know. Why do you say it here ? You should have interrupted at the Jaipur Session of the Congress. Why are you interrupting me now ? Now everybody has said it, and what is astonishing was that Mr. Subramaniam created an impression that we were deficit by, or we will require about, 10 to 15 million tonnes, when President Johnson said, "Oh, you have come for 10 million tonnes. Take a little more, 15 million tonnes." If self-respect was at issue we should not have put it like that. And Johnson and Company, and the Ame-ricen press, and the world press carried on propaganda as if America was feeding us and we were only fed on it. It is not so; it was only partial. The Prime Minister who spoke yesterday . . .

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY (Mysore): Russia purchased 10 million tonnes.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Forget about Russia now. Here the position is different. This is the trouble with hon.

members here. Then He had an Ambassadors' meeting here.

SHRI P. N. SAPRU : Is the Soviet Union in a position to give us 10 or 15 million tonnes ?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : If the Soviet Union does not give you, you can apply to the Soviet Union. I can also plead for you. But that is not the point. The point here is that you must not go with a beggar's bowl. This is the point. I am coming to that. Why bring in the Soviet Union at this stage? You may get the food from outside in case it is absolutely essential, but your policy is based on dependence, and Mr. Kamaraj Nadar was the man who criticised it more than I did, and perhaps he thought that he was letting down an old friend. Therefore, for a time, he remained a little silent. But what he said was good.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: In the difficult situation he is doing his best.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Do not interrupt me so much. I know I am provoking some of you but I hope I am also provoking some thoughts in you. Now the position is this. Here he went there. Ambassadors' meetings were held here. What for ? If you wanted to talk to them by groups, you could have called them. An exhibition was held and there Mr. Subramaniam appeared to address them: Well, I am not concerned with what Mr. Subramaniam feels. Mr. Subramaniam may feel that he is a saint and was converting hearts there speaking for the sake of humanity. But the whole world took it as an ugly, miserable exhibition of dependence and beggary before the eyes of the whole world. That is how it has been taken. You read the foreign press and you see; you will find that kind of reaction, Madam Deputy Chairman. Here again I may point out how they are behaving, the U.S.A. Here it is. This is from Lucknow. It is a P.T.I. message; on a teleprinter it came. But no paper seems to have published it. I am now reading from this teleprinter message :

"Wheat Coupons with the Inscription 'Donated by the Citizens of U.S.A.' are being issued in payment of wages to the workers engaged under the Man-

power Utilisation Scheme in Gonda, Basti, Pratapgarh, Mirzapur, Varanasi and Allahabad."

This is what is happening. Now this is how on our own soil this kind of propaganda is going on. Therefore I say your scheme is entirely wrong. We should not have an input scheme basically. We should have a scheme under which we mobilise our land and labour resources. Man-power resources we have got, vast man-power, idle labour in the rural area. We have got 40 to 47 million acres of cultivable waste land. We have got land concentrated in the hands of the landlords. Is it not possible to carry out the land reforms and make this land available to the tiller of the soil, to the poor peasants, the agricultural labourers especially, and then create a labour-intensive instead of an input-intensive scheme depending on your own internal resources in men and materials ? I can understand, after having done that thing, that if we are short of foodgrains we also go in for importing foodgrains on a commercial basis. But I think, if the Government had done this, had adopted such a policy, then the deficit would not be what it is.

As far as the deficit is concerned, it is highly exaggerated. Mr. Subramaniam initially exaggerated it. Then he thought he had overdone it, and when the Americans took the cue from him and started propagating that India was very much dependent, Mr. Subramaniam himself came out with a public statement criticising the Americans that they were indulging in scare-mongering, and all that kind of thing. You, Mr. Subramaniam, with all humility, it is you who gave that impression, created that impression, and you should have known that the Americans would use it for their political and other purposes, and when the Americans do such a thing and when you protest, it only makes some chuckle, or some laugh, in their circles. That is all.

That is what is happening, Madam Deputy Chairman. Therefore, I say all these things are wrong. It is a question of production. And also structural reform in agriculture has become a vital necessity. But in the scheme of Mr. Subramaniam the whole thing is given a back seat. Land reform has been given

the go by. Even if at times he has said a few good words for that, they mean nothing in his particular scheme of things.

It is a question of distribution, we know. But then there are people who keep the stuff hoarded. This year, that is to say the year that we have left behind, we were told there would be procurement and that the Government aimed at a procurement of 7 million tonnes of foodgrains. But what is it that we find today ? The Government has, according to their own statement, procured, through their Corporation and through the Centre and the States, all together only 3.1 million tonnes. How can you control the situation with such a small procurement where the need of the nation is to have monopoly procurement and the complete taking over of the wholesale trade ? But here we are not even procuring 20 per cent of the marketable surplus. It is much less. Am I to understand, Madam Deputy Chairman, that by leaving this 80 per cent of the marketable surplus of foodgrains in the hands of the hoarders and profiteers who are well entrenched and supported by the banks and financiers we are going to control the food situation ? The zonal system is a secondary thing in this context. Once you have this procurement the zonal system should not be there and it need not be there. Therefore, I say these things here.

The Food Corporation has made serious allegations and they have not been answered at all. On the contrary we find that the Government is going in the old way. There is no indication at all that at least 30 per cent of the marketable surplus would be procured. Why is it so ? I wish to tell Mr. Subramaniam it is because he feels it will create political difficulties. He feels that if he has a policy of procurement then he will have to come down upon the hoarders and profiteers and speculators who are the patrons of the ruling party and in a pre-election year, perhaps he thinks it is a wrong thing to do and that it should not be done. Now I should like to know whether the election interests of the Congress Party should have priority and precedence or the national interest. I should like to put this question straight here. Let it be answered. Why can't the Government carry on monopoly procurement? It has got all the

[Shri Bhupesh Gupta]

weapons in its hands. Even in the States this procurement has not succeeded. In three of the States, Maharashtra, West Bengal and Assam, they have not succeeded because the Reserve Bank could not make the money available to them. The West Bengal Government found difficulty in carrying out the purchase policy because no money was available. In the first place it was not available in adequate amount and secondly it was not available at the right time. That again is there. Meanwhile the hoarders carry on cornering the foodgrains. That is another point.

Madam Deputy Chairman, I wish to say it again. This exaggeration of our deficit—not that we are not deficit—is meant to cover up the anti-national and anti-democratic food policy and to create a scare in the country so that the nation is humbled into submission to the American policy of PL. 480, in spite of the hunger and agony of the people. Is this the way the nation should be treated? Is this the way a self-respecting nation should be treated by the Food Minister or for that matter by the government of the country? On the other hand, if there is some shortage, tell the nation, yes, we are short of foodgrains. Let us sit together and take counsel with each other and formulate a policy which will enable us to mobilise the man-power, the labour resources and all our resources in order that we may produce on the one hand and on the other bring in the popular cooperation to see that the trade is taken from the hands of these profiteers and racketeers who are controlling the trade, and see that every grain produced by the nation is used for feeding the nation. This is how you should behave. I tell you, the term "Self-reliance" has become a joke with the ruling party. It was a slogan of the party, also of Congressmen. We supported and welcomed it and thought that perhaps this Government would change its ways under the pressure of facts and under the pressure of their party men, that even this wooden-headed Government, lacking in imagination and sympathy, would be in a position—at long last to rise to the occasion and take steps in order to implement a food policy of self-

ciency and self-reliance. But this is what we find. We have the Budget proposals to which of course, we shall come later. But in Mr. Subramaniam's policy selfreliance has been the biggest casualty. It is ignored. So I say the policy of selfreliance should be implemented.

There was to be proper rationing. But where is rationing now? In some towns rationing has been introduced not in the other towns. You had promised on the floor of this House that every town with a population of a lakh will have statutory rationing. Today they have it only in Hyderabad, Secunderabad, Vishakapatnam, Madras, Coimbatore, Calcutta, Kanpur and Delhi. The rest of the cities, the urban areas which account for 8½ crores of the population are left without any statutory rationing. Therefore, I say the problem is largely one of distribution through rationing and fair price shops. But this is also not done. I suggest. Madam Deputy Chairman that a national policy should be evolved. The three pillars of that policy would be these. First of all there should be mobilisation of internal resources in land and man-power in order to raise the output in our own country. Every economist has said that it is possible, provided the Government is serious about land reform and means to implement it and to carry it out. That is the first thing. The second thing is that a policy of proper distribution should be settled by monopoly procurement by the State through rationing system in the urban areas and also rationing system for the non-agricultural population in the rural areas. And alongside with that there should be remunerative prices for the peasants and also anti-hoarding and anti-profiteering drives and other measures in order to prevent speculation and profiteering. Banks should be nationalised and taken away from harm's way, altogether. That is the second thing. Thirdly, prices and other things are also here. Distribution I have already referred to. Production I have dealt with. The other things are the incidental things like popular cooperation and so on. That we can obtain only on the basis of a sound, national democratic popular food policy. This is all I have to say.

Madam Deputy Chairman, I regret very much that . . .

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: You can say a fourth factor: the mobilising of rain, if you can.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: You can go to your astrologers. I do not believe in astrologers. Yes, every food policy must take into account the vagaries of nature, certainly. When you drew up your Third Five Year Plan did you not take into account the vagaries of nature and provide for the evil day, for the bad day, for the rainy day, so to speak? We assume that you did it. We must certainly do that so that we are always on the right side of the problem. Therefore, I say there is no use cursing nature. We cannot, even if we all unite and try, bring rain; but certainly we can evolve a national policy and the nation can be mobilised and we can produce the foodgrains that we need. We can make the land yield the golden crop that we need in order to feed the nation. If we mobilise our resources and formulate a sound policy of distribution we can prevent a single grain from falling into the hands of the profiteers and the hoarders and thus make all the food available for feeding the nation. If we mobilise all the forces we can do it. After all we cannot ignore nature and we have to safeguard against the vagaries of nature. Therefore, I say to Mr. Subramaniam in all sincerity, you shall be remembered as the Food Minister, unless you make a change in your policy, who rode on the hunger and suffering of the people, as the

Food Minister who was too callous to notice the hungry and dying millions of his country, . . .

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : You wind up, Mr. Gupta.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : ... as the Food Minister who created famine and scarcity areas where there should not be any such at all, and plunged the country into near famine by artificially creating a man-made famine, as the Food Minister who instead of using the resources of the nation in men and material, went to Washington with a begging bowl in order to get food, to the everlasting shame of the nation . . .

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : That will do. Mr. Gupta.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA ; ... and, reduced the country to this position. Thank you, Madam.

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

The House then adjourned at five of the clock till eleven of the clock on Friday, the 4th March. 1966.