

and these figures that are obtained through the village chowkidars are more imaginative than real and, therefore, all these figures, statistics, that are there are, I am sorry to say, unreal and not much reliance can be placed upon them.

As I said earlier, Madam, I do not consider the food problem as it exists today to be an insoluble one. With the efforts that the hon. Food Minister is putting in, the situation is bound to improve in a month's time, especially with the coming in of the new crop. Nevertheless, I do feel unhappy that the present food crisis has to be tided over with the help of food imports from outside. How long shall we depend upon these imports? Herculean efforts have to be made to increase food production. Unfortunately so far, no proper efforts have been made in that direction. The Planning Commission gave first priority to land reforms about which an hon. friend just now spoke, with a view to increasing food production but instead of increasing food production, it had an adverse effect. Imposition of land ceilings has retarded rather than helped increase production inasmuch as investment on land to help increase production has come down to the lowest level and rightly so. Why should anybody buy a tractor costing twenty thousand rupees or invest six to eight thousand rupees on tube wells for the cultivation of twenty or thirty acres? This land ceiling business was tried in America and a ceiling of one hundred and forty acres was put. This was afterwards found to be unjustified for the required investment on cultivation and, therefore, the ceiling had to be raised and it was raised from one hundred and forty acres to three hundred acres. Here too, we should have taken lesson from the American experiment. That we unfortunately have not done. If, however, it is considered impossible to go back upon this ceiling business, Government should at least try to offer sufficient incentives for co-operative farming

and make resources available to the cultivator at sufficient cheap rates. It is sad reflection that whereas we have invested crores and crores over . . .

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your time is over. Would you please wind up?

SHRI R. P. N. SINHA: I will wind up in a minute.

Now, it is a sad reflection that we have invested crores and crores in steel and other factories but we have not put up even a single factory for the production of small tractors. The tractors that are assembled here cost a lot and you cannot expect a farmer who owns 20 acres of land to go in for these costly big tractors. It is therefore necessary that the Government should put up at least one factory to produce small tractors like those Russian tractors which could be bought for few thousand rupees and in which the small farmers—after the ceiling has been imposed I do not suppose there will be any big farmers left—could comfortably invest. Therefore I hope the Government will consider this question.

Before I end I would strongly urge the Government to make tremendous efforts to ensure greater output of foodgrains in the years to come and not rest on their oars after having been able to solve the present food crisis. And in that effort of theirs I wish them God Speed. Thank you.

ALLOTMENT OF TIME FOR GOVERNMENT AND OTHER BUSINESS

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have to inform Members that the Business Advisory Committee at its meeting held today has recommended allocation of time for Government and other Business as follows:—

Government Business	Time allotted
1. Discussion on the present international situation and the policy of the Government of India in relation thereto	7.00 hrs.
2. The Wakf (Amendment) Bill, 1964, as passed by the Lok Sabha (Further consideration and passing)	1 hr.—5 mts. (in addition to the time already taken.)
3. The Slum Areas (Improvement and Clearance) Amendment Bill 1964.	1 hr. 30 mts
4. The State Bank of India (Amendment) Bill, 1964	1 hr. 30 mts.

Private Members' resolutions

1. Resolution regarding Agricultural Co-operatives by Shri Sri Rama Reddy (Further discussion)
1 hr. 30 mts.
(in addition to the time already taken.)
2. Resolution regarding export of groundnut oil etc. by Shri J. H. Joshi
1 hr. 30 mts.
3. Resolution regarding nationalisation of the import-export trade by Shri Niren Ghosh
3 hrs. 30 mts.

STATEMENT BY THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE RE. HIS VISITS TO THE U.S.A. AND THE U.S.S.R

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN): Madam Deputy Chairman, this statement is a brief report for the information of Parliament on my visits to the United States of America in May, 1964 and the U.S.S.R. during August/September, 1964.

The object of my visit to the United States of America was to secure material and financial assistance for the implementation of India's five-year Defence Plan covering the period April 1964 to March 1969 to which I had made a reference during the debate on the demands for grants of the Defence Ministry in March 1964. There was also a long standing invitation from Hon'ble Robert S. McNamara, the United States Defence Secretary, to visit the United States to discuss problems of mutual interest.

I also received, later, an invitation from Marshal Melinovsky, Defence Minister of U.S.S.R. I took this opportunity to discuss with the Soviet Government various matters connected with the implementation of our Defence Plan.

The task of re-equipping and modernising our Armed Forces is a stupendous one. In order to ensure systematic development of our defence potential in the light of the threat facing the country, earlier this year we prepared a five-year Defence Plan. Briefly the Plan envisages:

(a) the maintenance of a well equipped army with a strength of 825,000 men.

(b) maintenance of a 45-squadron Air Force including programmes of re-equipment and replacement of the older aircraft like Vampire, Toofani and Mystere by more modern aircraft and improvement of the air defence radar and communication facilities;