

RAJYA SABHA

Wednesday, the 13th March, 1963 the 22nd
Phalgun, 1884 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock, MR.
CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*333. [The questioner (Shri Surjit Singh Atwal) was absent. For answer, vide col. 2709 infra].

*336. [The questioner (Shri Babu-bhai M. Chinai) was absent. For answer, vide col. 2709 infra].

कमजोर पुलों की सूचियाँ

*३३७. श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी
चौरङ्गिया : क्या परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्री
यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) सड़क तथा घातदोषीय जल परि-
वहन योजना समिति तथा परिवहन विकास
परिषद् ने १९६१ में हुई अपनी बैठकों में
"विभिन्न राज्यों में पुलों के ऊपर मोटर
गाड़ियों में लाये जाने वाले रजिस्टर्ड भार में
बृद्धि" के सम्बन्ध में जो सिफारिश की थी;
उन में से एक के अनुसार केन्द्रीय सरकार ने
राज्य सरकारों से कमजोर पुलों की जो
सूचियाँ माँगी थी, वे किस-किस राज्य से प्राप्त
हो चुकी हैं ;

(ख) उपरोक्त भाग (क) में निर्दिष्ट
सूचियों में उल्लिखित पुलों की भारवहन
क्षमता को बढ़ाने के लिये क्या योजनाएँ
बनाई गई हैं; और

(ग) जिन राज्यों ने ऐसी सूचियाँ
बहीं भेजी हैं उनके बारे में क्या कार्यवाही
की गई है ?

1281 RS—1 .

f [LISTS OF WEAK BRIDGES

*337. SHRI V. M. CHORDIA: Will the
Minister of TRANSPORT AND COM-
MUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of those States from
i whom the lists of weak bridges asked
for by the Central Government have been
received in accordance with one of the
recommendations regarding "increase of
registered laden weight that could be
carried over bridges in the different States",
which were made by the Road and Inland
Water Transport Advisory Committee and
Transport Development Council in their
meetings held in 1961;

(b) what schemes have been prepared
for increasing the load bearing capacity of
the bridges mentioned in the lists referred
to in part (a) above; and

(c) what action has been taken re-
garding those States which have not
furnished such lists?]

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रालय में
नीचहून मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : (क)
से (ग) एक विवरण सभा पटल पर प्रस्तुत
है ।

विवरण

(क) से (ग) राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों
पर पड़ने वाले कमजोर पुलों को मालूम करने
तथा उन्हें मजबूत करने या फिर से बनाने
की दृष्टि से राज्य सरकारों से निवेदन किया
गया है कि वे अपने राज्यों में कम से कम
दो राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों में पड़ने वाले पुलों
का सर्वेक्षण करें और उसका परिणाम भारत
सरकार को भेज दें । बिहार, पश्चिमी
बंगाल, उड़ीसा, पंजाब, मद्रास, महाराष्ट्र
और हिमाचल प्रदेश से कुछ सूचना प्राप्त
हुई है । परन्तु सब राज्यों से सूचना
प्राप्त होने पर इस बारे में विस्तृत रिपोर्ट

+ [] English translation.

तैयार की जायगी। इन सर्वेक्षणों के परिणाम के विषय में राज्य सरकारों से बराबर तकाजा किया जा रहा है। राज्य सरकारों से यह भी निवेदन किया गया है कि वे प्रदेश राजमार्गों पर स्थित पुलों का भी इस प्रकार का सर्वेक्षण करें और कमजोर पुलों को मजबूत करके फिर से बनाने के लिये आवश्यक कार्यवाही करें।

नवीनतम सूचना से मालूम हुआ है कि मद्रास सरकार ने अपने राज्य में राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों पर २७,००० पौण्ड कुल भार की मोटर गाड़ियों को चलाने की अनुमति देने के अनुदेश जारी कर दिये हैं। महाराष्ट्र और गुजरात सरकारों ने भी अपने अपने राज्यों में अनेक सड़कों पर पहले से अधिक भारी मोटर गाड़ियों को चलाने की अनुमति दे दी है। अमृतसर-आगरा सड़क पर मिली जुली ट्रक-ट्रेलर गाड़ियों को चलाने की भी अनुमति दे दी गई है।

f [THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR:)
(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) to (c) With a view to ascertaining weak bridges on National Highways and to strengthening reconstructing them, the State Governments have been requested to survey at least two National Highway routes in their respective States and to communicate results to the Government of India. Some information has been received from Bihar, West Bengal, Orissa, Punjab, Madras, Maharashtra, and Himachal Pradesh, but a comprehensive report will be prepared on receipt of the required information from all the States who are being reminded continuously to furnish the results of these surveys. The State Governments have also been requested to conduct similar surveys and to take necessary action to strengthen/recons-

t[1 English translation.

tract the weak bridges on State Highways.

Latest information shows that the Madras Government have since issued instructions permitting the operation of vehicles of 27,000 lbs. gross weight on all the National Highways in the State. The Governments of Maharashtra and Gujarat have also permitted the operation of higher loads on several roads in their respective States. Further, the operation of truck-trailer combinations has also been permitted on the Amritsar-Agra road.]

श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरड़िया :

क्या श्रीमान् यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि काफी अर्से से यह काम चल रहा है कि ऐसे पुलों को ठीक किया जाय तो जिन जिन राज्यों से इसके बारे में जानकारी आ गई है उसके बारे में विचार करके क्यों नहीं उनका काम प्रारम्भ कर दिया गया ?

श्री राज बहादुर : जिन जिन राज्यों से सूचना आ गई है उनमें से कुछ के बारे में कार्यवाही शुरू कर दी गई है। जैसा कि बयान में लिखा है, मद्रास में २७ हजार पौंड की गाड़ियों को चलाने के लिये अब कुछ राष्ट्रीय मार्गों पर इजाजत दी गई है। गवर्नमेंट ऑफ महाराष्ट्र ने इसी तरह से कुछ सड़कों पर इजाजत दे दी है। गुजरात में भी इसी तरह से काम किया जा रहा है। यह काम कोई एक दिन का नहीं है। इसमें काफी वक्फा लगेगा। मैं समझता हूँ कि जैसे जैसे सर्वेक्षण होता जायेगा, वैसे वैसे यह काम होता जायेगा।

श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरड़िया :

मैं यह पूछना चाहता था कि जो पुल कमजोर हैं और जिन पुलों पर अभी तक भारी गाड़ियां नहीं चल सकतीं उनको मजबूत करने की योजना बनाई गई है न कि यह कि उन्होंने इजाजत दे दी है अथवा नहीं, तो उन पुलों को ठीक करने की योजना बनाने के लिये जिन जिन राज्यों ने सूचना श्रीमान् के पास

भेज दी, उन राज्यों की रिपोर्ट पर विचार करके वहाँ के पुलों को बनाने और मजबूत करने की कार्यवाही क्यों नहीं की गई ?

श्री राज बहादुर : पुल बनाना एक साधन है और भारी गाड़ियों के लिये इजाजत देना लक्ष्य है और जिन जिन जगह सर्वे किया गया है इसी लक्ष्य को ले करके किया गया है कि अगर कोई पुल कमजोर नजर आये तो उनको मजबूत किया जाय ताकि हम उस लक्ष्य तक पहुँच सकें ।

श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरङ्गिया : क्या श्रीमान् यह बतलायेंगे कि बिहार, पश्चिमी बंगाल, उड़ीसा, पंजाब, मद्रास, महाराष्ट्र और हिमाचल प्रदेश, जहाँ से कुछ सूचना प्राप्त हुई है वहाँ कितने पुलों के बारे में सर्वेक्षण करने पर जब यह पता चला कि ये पुल कमजोर हैं तो उसके पश्चात् उनको ठीक कर दिया गया और फिर उन पर से भारी गाड़ियों के चलाने की अनुमति दे दी ?

श्री राज बहादुर : मैं गिनती पुलों की तो नहीं कर सकूंगा लेकिन यह जरूर है कि जिन नेशनल हाईवेज पर यह सर्वेक्षण किया गया उन पर जितने पुल कमजोर नजर आये वे जब मजबूत कर दिये गये तब उन पर २७ हजार पौंड भार की गाड़ियों को चलाने की इजाजत दे दी गई जसा कि मद्रास, महाराष्ट्र और गुजरात के बारे में बताया गया है ।

श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरङ्गिया : क्या श्रीमान् यह बतलायेंगे कि मद्रास, महाराष्ट्र और गुजरात में एक भी पुल ऐसा बाकी नहीं रहा जिसमें कि जिस आशय की उनसे रिपोर्ट मांगी गई थी उस तरह की कोई कमजोरी नहीं रही ?

श्री राज बहादुर : मैं बार बार निवेदन कर चुका हूँ और एक बार फिर निवेदन कर देता हूँ कि जहाँ तक राष्ट्रीय मार्गों का सम्बन्ध है मद्रास में वह सब पुल मजबूत कर

दिये गये हैं तब २७ हजार पौंड भार की गाड़ियों को उन पर से चलाने की इजाजत दी गई है ।

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATKL: May I know, Sir, whether when certain bridges are required to be reinforced or strengthened, before this work is actually taken in hand, any warnings by way of signs etc. are put up to warn the people to restrict the weight and speed of their vehicles on such bridges?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: Sir, there is some permissible registered laden weight which is known to all the people who are plying trucks or motor vehicles thereon. Necessarily, therefore, no vehicle is supposed to go which is overweight.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know whether this question was considered in the Conference of Transport Controllers, as the subject formed one of the recommendations of the Masani Committee, and, if it was considered in the Transport Controllers' Conference, whether they accepted this in principle and, if so, why there is delay in implementing that decision?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: This has been considered from time to time. The objective has been accepted and agreed to on all hands. The only limiting factor is the availability of necessary finance to complete all the works together.

श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरङ्गिया : क्या श्रीमान् यह बतलायेंगे कि मध्य प्रदेश शासन को इसके बारे में कितनी बार लिखा गया और उनकी तरफ से क्या जानकारी आई ?

श्री राज बहादुर : कितनी बार लिखा गया, यह गिनती मेरे पास नहीं है । लेकिन यह जरूर है कि जिन राष्ट्रीय मार्गों के बारे में

खर्च किया गया है उन के बारे में उनको सुझाव दिया गया है कि उन पर जैसा उनका स्टाफ है या उन के पास फंड्स हैं, उसको देखते हुए काम शुरू कर दिया जाय।

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND: Is the hon. Minister, who was pleased to say that the people who plied their trucks were supposed to know the weight that could go over those bridges, aware that times out of number overweight trucks, etc. go there and they have to be caught? Therefore, Sir, what arrangements are being made to occasionally check the weight of those trucks?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: Sir, non-observance of the rule does not mean that the rule does not exist there. If any breach thereof, of course, is detected and, whenever it is detected and caught, the culprits are suitably punished.

CHANGEABILITY OF LOCO MAINTENANCE AND Loco RUNNING STAFF

388. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to stat:

(a) whether the loco maintenance staff and the loco running staff are interchangeable from time to time;

(b) whether any cases of difference of opinion between the maintenance staff and running staff of railway engines have been brought to the notice of the railway authorities; and

(c) if so, who is the final authority to certify proper running of railway engines?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) No.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know whether any cases have come to the notice of the Railway Ministry where experienced engine drivers have refused to take out the engines given to them, because according to them those engines are defective?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Sir, in judging the suitability of a locomotive, whether it is fit to go on the line or not, the deciding authority is the loco foreman, who is an expert on the subject. And generally, Sir, it is his opinion that should count.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know whether it is a fact that in one case the engine which the driver declared as defective was forced by the authorities to be taken out and it me; with an accident after going only twenty miles?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Sir, I am not aware of that particular incident but if the hon. Member gives me some details, I shall certainly look into the matter.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware that there are cases where experienced drivers, with experience of driving mail trains, have been suspended, because they refused to take the engines which were defective according to them?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Sir, no such instance has come to our notice.

SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI: May I remind the hon. Minister about one engine which my hon. friend, Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, mentioned last year, that *pagla* engine on the Eastern Railway? Several loco drivers were compelled to take that engine out but they refused to do that.

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Sir, we looked into that case but we did not find anything *pagla* about that engine.

SHM NIREN GHOSH: May I know how many over-aged engines the Railways are running and in how many cases the drivers have complained that they are being asked to run defective engines?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Although some sort of age-limit has been laid down for locomotives, the question whether a locomotive should remain in service or not depends on the actual condition of that particular locomotive. Some locomotives are looked after very well and they can be kept in service quite safely even after they pass their normal age-limit.

SHRI S. C. DEB: May I know whether it has come to the notice of the Enquiry Committee and whether any report has come within the knowledge of the Government that there were some engine troubles and because of that there was an accident?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Sir, we have nearly 10 thousand engines on the line. After all it is a machine and naturally there might be some sort of engine trouble sometimes and sometimes even there are accidents due to failure of certain component parts or some breaking of some axle or things like that, and accidents can happen.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: The hon. Minister did not answer my second question, Sir. In how many cases have the drivers protested that a particular engine is defective and therefore should not be made to run? Whether the authorities have accepted that or not, that is entirely a different thing. In how many cases have the engine drivers protested that some particular engines are defective and therefore they should not be made to run?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: As I submitted in the beginning, Sir, the loco foreman or the mechanical engineers are experts on the subject; they are responsible for looking after

the condition of locomotives. If they feel that a particular engine is fit to run, then only we allow it to be taken out. J

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: May I know if there is any case in which loco foremen have been penalised for an accident and not the driver?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Yes, Sir. There are some cases where loco foremen have been held responsible for slack supervision in their sheds leading to some accidents and action is taken against them too.

*339. [The questioner (Shri P. K. Kumaran) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 2709-10 infra.]

*340. [The questioner (Shri Krishna Chandra) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 2710-11 infra.]

*341. [The questioner (Shri Deokinandan Narayan) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 2711-12 infra.]

LAND ACQUISITION

*342. SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) how many acres of land were acquired for industrial purposes for the Central Government after the Land Acquisition Act was modified by Parliament last year; and

(b) what was the total amount of compensation paid for such acquisitions by the Central Government in 1962?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha as soon as available.

SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR: May I know what is the difficulty in collecting this information and when will it be laid on the Table of the House?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: After all the new Act came into force only on 12th September 1962, so that it will take some time when actual cases come from the various State Governments.

SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR: There seems to be no urgency and the Government of India modified this Act for no reason, because it is now six months and Government has not taken any steps regarding acquisition of land.

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: Acquisition of land, whether for the purpose of the Central Government or of the State Government, is being done by the officers of the State Government, the Collectors etc. at the district level, and we have addressed the various State Governments. The State Governments will take some time to get the information from the various Collectors. There is no avoidable delay on the part of the Central Government in this matter.

SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR: The hon. Minister has mentioned about the difficulties of the State Governments. May I know what is the difficulty for the Central Government? May I know whether they will require time for collecting that information also?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: As far as the Central Government is concerned, the actual acquisition is being done by the Collectors. So we have called for the information. When received, it will be placed on the Table of the House.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: May I know if the validity of this Act has been challenged in the Supreme Court, and whether the Government will await the verdict of the Supreme Court before taking any action under the Act?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: I am not aware of the amended Act having been challenged.

SCRUTINY OF REVENUE OF INDIAN AIRLINES CORPORATION

*343. SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any effort has been made by Government to scrutinise the revenues of the Indian Airlines Corporation to find out how much of it is paid by (i) Business men travelling on Company accounts; (ii) Government Officers travelling on Government expenses; and (iii) Foreign Tourists; and

(b) if not, whether a survey and study of all this will be made to ascertain the real position and working of the Company?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN) : (a) and (b) A survey is being made to collect information about the composition of passenger traffic moving on the Corporation's services.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: May I know how long this survey is likely to take? Will the hon. Minister assure us that he will be pleased to give the information asked for in this question or lay a statement on the Table of the House?

SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN: The survey has just started. I cannot say how long it will take and how reliable it will be, because it will be very difficult to ascertain this information from the public. As far as giving this information to the House is concerned, I hope the hon. Member will put in a question after six months.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: After six months?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes. That is clear enough.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Is that how the Government works in this emergency?

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no emergency in this.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Whatever time the Minister may take for collecting information on this subject, I would request him to give information immediately of the percentage of fares realised on governmental account to the total revenue, because the suspicion is that the bulk of the revenue of the Indian Airlines Corporation is derived from Government officers travelling on the Airlines. I only want the percentage of Government travel to the total passenger revenue of the Corporation.

SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN: I have said that the figures are not available, and to collect information from a large number of departments and Ministries, as the hon. Member's intention is to include even the State Governments, is not easy; it is not an easy job to collect information from all the departments concerned, and a simple system has been adopted to collect information. I hope some information will be available.

SHRI SYED AHMAD: I do not see why it should be difficult to find out whether the travellers were Government servants or otherwise.

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM: We have introduced a system, and some hon. Members might have noticed that on the trunk routes the I.A.C. gives a card to every passenger to fill certain information. It is entirely in the hands of the passengers as to how correct information they give. Therefore, the Deputy Minister has remarked that we are collecting the information. We cannot be sure how reliable it will be. It may take some time before we have some sort of information on this point, and when it is received, certainly we can make it available to the hon. Members of the House.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: With all respect to the hon. Deputy Minister and the hon. Minister, I do not think there is such difficulty to find out the infor-

mation. Firstly, there are only a few Government officials who are supposed to get permission to fly. Every officer and every Government servant &ve not entitled to fly. Secondly, these Government officers pay money in advance and purchase ticket On Government account we do not give them any money. I do not think there is any difficulty to find out it will not take much time. According to their T.A. and D.A. bills you can easily find it out. Also there are your vouchers because they do not pay money, they only sign vouchers on behalf of the Ministry.

MR. CHAIRMAN: These are encouraging remarks.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: These are remarks meant to explain. I would like to know how much time it will take to find out how much money we have spent on these officials.

SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN: The sources of information mentioned by the hon. Member themselves show how difficult it is to get information through those sources, to collect all that information from the advances given or the T.A. bills submitted and so on. My senior colleague has just state the method which has been adopted. Whatever! information is available from that particular method will be made available.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: I was asking whether it is not possible for Government to let us know the number of foreign tourists who come. Generally they come with a round trip ticket or they use their coupons for their trips in India, and it should be an easy thing to ascertain that these are foreign tourists and "these are Indian travellers, and then from the Indian travellers to classify them between those who are Government servants and those who are non-Government servants. It would not be at all difficult. And from Government servants it would be easy to separate these who are Ministers and those who are other Government servants.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You cannot And out from an Indian name whether he is a Government servant or not. For instance, Zakir Husain may be a Government servant or may not be one.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: It can be found from the method of payment for the ticket. There is the Accounts Officer of the Indian Airlines. It is an easy thing to do that.

SHRI K. SANTHANAM: Would it not be possible to instruct the Airlines Corporation itself to have a proper column in its registers which will be filled according to the categories of persons who are travelling, so that in future this information will be available?

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM: That may be introduced, but that will give only the nationality of the passengers. So far as the foreign travellers are concerned, even there though we may know the nationality, it is very difficult to say at first hand whether he is a foreign tourist or he is a foreign executive serving in some industry or serving in some form in this country. So some information will have to be collected on that point also. Simply by nationality you cannot say that he is a foreign tourist.

MILK SUPPLY IN DELHI

*344. SHRI PANNALAL SARAOGI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the milk supplied by Government in Delhi is not pure;

(to) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) how much of imported milk-powder is mixed every day?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
CSv A. M. THOMAS: (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Normally, buffalo/cow milk does not contain any milk powder; but a small quantity is added occasionally to tone up solids-not-fat content of milk to bring this to the higher specifications adopted by the Scheme. The total quantity of skim milk powder thus used during January, 1963 was 0-82 ton. The quantity of milk sold of all kinds, including toned milk, was about four million litres, weighing nearly 4,400 tonnes.

SHRI PANNALAL SARAOGI: Is it not a fact that the Delhi Milk Scheme* invited tenders for milk powder about six months back for the supply of milk powder?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: They would have called for tenders. What is wrong in it?

SHRI PANNALAL SARAOGI: If they had called for tenders, it might have been for the purpose of mixing pure milk with milk powder.

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: Sir, I have already stated that some milk powder is occasionally added to upgrade the quality of the milk to comply with the specifications that have been laid down by the Delhi Milk Supply Scheme. For instance, the fat content in buffalo's milk, as prescribed by the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, is 6 per cent, but we sell it at a fat content of 6-3 per cent. And for solids-not-fat, the percentage under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act is 9, but we sell it at 9.2 per cent. So, occasionally to upgrade the quality of milk, we will have to add some milk powder.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Some milk is pure, some milk is purer.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: May I know whether it is a fact that the milk supplied by the Milk Scheme is a mixture of all available milk—buffalo's milk, cow's milk and goat's milk—and it is mixed and sold to the public?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: Both buffalo's milk and cow's milk are available. Buffalo's milk is sold as buffalo's milk and cow's milk is sold as cow's

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SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA: May I know whether it is a fact that on account of the addition of milk powder, the milk sometimes gets burnt while boiling and gives a bad smell?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: No complaint has come to my notice about it. As the House knows, the composition of milk varies very considerably according to the species, breed and individuality of an animal, time of its lactation season, feed supply, etc. Originally, when the Scheme was started, we sold milk as it could be procured. Put subsequently during the monsoon time complaints were received that there was no adequate fat content or solids-not-fat content. So, we thought that it would be more appropriate to sell the milk on a standard basis having regard to fat content as well as solids-not-fat content and we have adopted it. As I said, with regard to buffalo's milk, the fat content percentage is 6.3 and the solids-not-fat content percentage is 9.2. For cow's milk, although the percentage of fat content as prescribed by the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act is 3.5, we sell it at 4.7 per cent. Although under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, the solids-not-fat content of cow's milk is only 8.5 per cent., we sell it at 8.7 per cent.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Overwhelming information.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA: My point is that sometimes while boiling, the milk gets burnt and gives the smell of burnt milk. That is the general complaint and it has been brought to the notice of the Milk Distribution Officer.

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: Generally, there is great satisfaction about the quality of the products in which the

Delhi Milk Supply Scheme deals. Occasionally there are such complaints and they are attended to also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The milk give* the smell of burnt milk. That is what he says.

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: I do not know to which instance the hon. Member refers. But if any such complaints are brought to my notice, I will get them examined.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: May I ask whether the large percentage of breakage of milk bottles still continues because a few months ago I was told that the loss suffered by the Delhi Milk Supply Scheme because of the breakage of milk bottles is as high as Rs. 1 lakh a year?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: This does not arise out of this question. It was answered some time back and I gave out figures to the effect that compared to any other milk supply scheme anywhere in the world the percentage of breakage was lower here in the Delhi Milk Supply Scheme.

SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: May I know whether the Government is encouraging the production of milk powder on a small-scale industry's basis also at different places?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: This does not arise out of this question. But the Delhi Milk Supply Scheme itself manufactures milk powder.

SHRI SONUSING DHANSING PATIL: Does the Delhi Milk Supply Scheme produce any milk? If not, why not?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: Perhaps, my friend has in mind the point whether the Delhi Milk Supply Scheme possesses any buffaloes and cows. It does not.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know whether it is a fact that what is sold as toned milk by the Delhi Milk Supply Scheme is only milk powder put in hot water and bottled?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: Generally, buffalo's milk and cow's milk are sold as buffalo's milk and cow's milk. Normally, we do not add any milk powder at all except on occasions when the fat content comes down or something like that. With regard to toned milk also, normally there is no occasion to have the milk powder mixed with hot water. But only at certain periods we have to use milk powder also.

In the winter season, even for the supply of toned milk, we use buffalo's milk and cow's milk, and extract only extra butter from that.

SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI: May I know whether the milk supplied by the Delhi Milk Supply Scheme is as pure or purer than the milk supplied by ordinary milk sellers in Delhi?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Pure is pure.

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: It is pure.

*345. [The questioner (Shri B. K. Gaikwad) was absent. For answer, vide col. 2712 infra.]

BANASANDRA-MANGALORE ROAD IN MYSORE STATE

*346. SHRI SHERKHAN: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India have agreed to finance the ore-carrying road, namely, Banasandra-Hassan-Mangalore road in Mysore State; and

(b) if so, what is the total estimated cost of this road, according to revised specification?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) and (b) A statement explaining the position is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b) Yes Sir, a grant of Rs. 44.76 lakhs was made in February 1959 for developing the Banasandra-Hassan-Mangalore road to single lane standard. The Mysore Government now want the Central aid to be increased to 50 per cent, of the cost of widening the road to two lane carriageway and strengthening the crust which are estimated to involve a total amount of Rs. 4.29 crores. This request is being examined in consultation with the Planning Commission.

श्री शेरखाँ : सेन्ट्रल एड के लिये मैसूर गवर्नमेंट से आपके पास जो तहरीक आई है वह कब आई है, क्या बता सकेंगे ?

श्री राज बहादुर : यह तजवीज वक्तन फव्वतन आती रहती है । लेकिन खास इस सरहद के बारे में पहली बार सन् १९६२ में एक तजवीज आई थी जिस पर गौर हुआ ।

श्री शेरखाँ : उस गौर करने का क्या नतीजा निकला ?

श्री राज बहादुर : अभी भी ज़ेरे गौर है लेकिन सवाल यह है कि इतना पैसा अभी दस्त्याब नहीं है ।

श्री शेरखाँ : कब तक इसके बारे में फाइनल डिसेज़न होने वाला है, क्या आप बता सकेंगे ?

श्री राज बहादुर : इस मामले में हम लोग प्लानिंग कमीशन से गाइडेंस लेते हैं और प्लानिंग कमीशन जब तय कर देगा उसके बाद कोई फैसला किया जायेगा ।

CONNECTING BHUBANESHWAR WITH CALCUTTA-MADRAS PLANE SERVICE

*347. SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to consider again the possibility of connecting Bhubaneshwar with Calcutta-Madras plane service or Delhi-Madras plane service; and

(b) if so, when would it be possible to do it?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN): (a) and (b) The present Calcutta/Bhubaneshwar/Calcutta service operated with a Dakota provides a connection with the Calcutta/Delhi Viscount service but not with the Calcutta/Madras service. For operational reasons it is not possible for the Indian Airlines Corporation to 1 advance the timings of the Calcutta/Bhubaneshwar/Calcutta service so as to provide a connection at Calcutta with the Calcutta/Madras Viscount service.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: Since the plane is going from Dum Dum to Bhubaneshwar only, would the Minister consider again the proposal for connecting Bhubaneshwar with the trunk route?

SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN: Calcutta is connected with Bhubaneshwar by three Dakota services a week. Here the question is of connecting Calcutta with Bhubaneshwar along the trunk route. That, of course, the hon. Member has suggested. We will consider it in due course.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: Is there any State Capital which is not connected by a direct plane service?

SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN: We have stated that Bhubaneshwar is connected, three times a week, by a Dakota service from Calcutta.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: So far as the passengers going from Hyderabad to Calcutta are concerned, they miss the Calcutta plane at Madras by an hour or so. Will the Minister look into the matter and rectify it?

SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN: They miss it not by an hour but by only twenty minutes. It will also be considered.

EXPORT OF SUGAR

*348. SHRI S. C. DEB: Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the steps being taken by Government to increase the export of sugar?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS): A much larger quantity of sugar has been sold for export during 1963 than the quantities exported during any of the preceding years so far.

SHRI S. C. DEB: May I know what extra quantity was exported last year?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: In 1962 we exported 3.73 lakh metric tons.

SHRI S. C. DEB: May I know what are the countries to which our export of sugar has been increased?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: We are exporting to the United States of America, Canada, Malaya, Singapore, Pakistan, Hong Kong, Aden and other countries.

SHRI S. C. DEB: May I know, Sir, whether the international market price of sugar is higher and, if so, there is great advantage of getting our export quota to be increased?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: Sir, the export that we have in view for the year 1963-64 is 4.33 lakh metric tonnes and we have already entered into an agreement for export of that quantity. Now, as for my friend's question whether the international prices are higher, the international prices are not higher than the local prices, but the international prices are certainly looking up, because on 7th October, 1962 the London price per

long ton was only £26.50 whereas, now that is on 28th February, 1968, the price is £53.

SHRI PANNALAL SARAOGI: Is the Deputy Minister aware that the production of sugar is going to be less than 22 lakh tons even and that the country has missed a very great opportunity of entering into fresh export commitments on very favourable terms because of this abnormally low production?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: Of course, there is bound to be a shortage of sugar production this year, but I am not sure what would be the quantity, because the season is still on and the majority of factories are still working. So, I am not in a position to say what would be the exact production, but whatever be the state of production, having regard to our carry-over stocks we will not find any difficulty to cater to local demand as well as to the export commitment that we have entered into. As for my friend's question whether we have not lost an opportunity, now we are holding our hands with regard to further exports because of the lower production this year.

SHRI PANNALAL SARAOGI: The Deputy Minister just now replied that most of the factories are still working. Is the Deputy Minister aware that most of the factories in U. P. and Bihar have already closed or are going to be closed within a week's time?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: Sir, many factories in U. P. are being closed. As far as U. P. and Bihar are concerned, there has been less of acreage under sugarcane. The existing sugarcane there was affected by droughts and diseases, and in certain places by other adverse seasonal factors, and such things happen.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, if the old practice of selling sugar in foreign countries at a cheaper price compared to the price charged to the Indian consumer is

being still continued? If so, what is it, what is the difference between the prices in the home market here and the prices where we sell our Indian sugar, the prices abroad?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: It has been stated, Sir, that our cost of production here, within the country, comes to about Rs. 800, and the international price which we get does not even come to about 50 per cent, of that. That is why we have asked for the sanction from the Parliament to subsidise exports of sugar. For example, in the last year we would be incurring a loss to the extent of about Rs. 144 crores, Sir, but at the same time we are getting the much-needed foreign exchange.

SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: In view of the fact that the freight rate from Indian port towns to places in America, i.e., situated at a distance of 10,000 miles, is only Rs. 1-4 annas a maund, while the freight rate from the upcountry sugar-producing factories to port towns, a distance of only 600 miles, is nearly Rs. 4/- a maund, and also in view of the fact that the freight concession sought by sugar factories has not been given, will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether this is not acting as an impediment to the upcountry mills in exporting sugar and what he proposes to do to improve the economic condition of the upcountry mills to be able to export sugar?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: I want notice.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether the Indian Sugar Mills Association, Government's export agency, appointed a certain American, Mr. Bidell, to plead in the American Congress for granting an export quota and whether he pleaded that the U.S.A. should grant an export quota to India in order to fight communism and whether later on, some time back, that certain Mr. Bidell has been severely criticised by the American Senators or not that he was engaged in a sort of—

I do not know—something objectionable from the American point of view? These are the three questions.

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: The question was put previously also and I have made the position very clear. The Government of India has not engaged any counsel there in the United States of America. The Indian Sugar Mills Association had engaged some person for pleading before their committees, and according to the law prevailing in the United States of America only a U.S. national can plead before their committees so that they had necessarily to engage a U.S. national.

SHRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR: In view of this extraordinary increase in the price of sugar obtaining at present, may I know, Sir, whether we are in the normal stage and whether we can count upon this increased price for the future years also?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: No, Sir, there has been considerable drop in production. World production has gone down and our production also has gone down. In fact, in our case there has been the diversion also, of sugarcane to *gur* and *khandsari*, and the availability of sugarcane for the sugar factories has been affected thereby. For example, in Cuba there has been a considerable shortfall in production.

SHRI SONUSING DHANSING PATIL: How do the Government protect the interests of the indigenous consumer while assessing the quota for export of sugar?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: As I have said, Sir, there would be a sufficient quantity for internal consumption and also for the exports to which we are committed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Dr. Seeta Armanand.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND: I wanted to know the price per kilo of sugar in the U. K.

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: In the U.K.? If my friend gives notice, I shall try to find out.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND: The hon. Minister said just now that the wholesale price did not come to even half the cost of production. So I thought that he might as well . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: He was referring to the international price.

AN HON. MEMBER: He referred to the last year's prices and said . . .

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND: He can give last year's price even.

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: Per ton I have given the figures. In the U.K. on the 28th February, 1963, it was £53

*349. [The questioner (Shri R. N. Kakato,) was absent. For answer, vide col. 2713 infra.]

दादुपुर के पास गाड़ी को उलटने के प्रयत्न के आरोप में पकड़े गये व्यक्तियों के विरुद्ध कार्यवाही

***३५०. श्री ए० बी० बाजपेयी : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :**

(क) क्या यह सच है कि हाल ही में मुल्तानपुर-लखनऊ रेल मार्ग पर दादुपुर के पास एक सैनिक गाड़ी को उलटने के प्रयत्न के आरोप में दो व्यक्तियों को पकड़ा गया ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उनके विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही की गई ?

**t [ACTION AGAINST PERSONS HELD
FOR ATTEMPTING TO SABOTAGE TRAIN NEAR
DADOOPUR**

*350. SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two persons were recently arrested on a charge of trying to derail a train carrying troops near Dadoopur on Sultanpur-Lucknow Section; and

(b) if so, what action was taken against them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY) : (a) Yes, Sir. Two persons were arrested for placing stones on railway track. The passenger train was not carrying troops.

(b) The case is under police investigation.

‡[रेल मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री एस० बी० रामस्वामी) : (क) जी, हाँ। रेलवे लाइन पर पत्थर रखने के कारण दो व्यक्ति गिरफ्तार किये गये। उस सवारी गाड़ी में सैनिक नहीं जा रहे थे।

(ख) पुलिस मामले की जांच कर रही है।]

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: May I know, Sir, whether those two persons belonged to U. P. and whether they have any political affiliations?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: Well, one belongs to Muradganj, Kotwali Jaunpur; the other belongs to Hus-sainabad, Kotwali Jaunpur, and I suppose Jaunpur is in U. P.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: May I know, Sir, whether their background has been investigated and who instigated them to place stones on the railway line?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: Sir, the police are investigating the case and we are awaiting their report.

ff] English translation. tf]
Hindi translation.

*351. [Transferred to the 18th March, 1963.]

"352. [The questioner (Shri Ram-prasanna Ray) was absent. For answer, vide col. 2713 infra.]

*353. [The questioner (Shri Niranjan Singh) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 2713—15. infra.]

*354. [The questioner (Shri Sundar mani Patel) was absent. For answer vide col. 2715 infra.]

**EXPLANATION GIVEN BY DIRECTOR
GENERAL OF TOURISM**

*355. SHRI A. M. TARIQ: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the answers given in the Rajya Sabha to supplementary questions on Starred Question No. 853 on the 4th September, 1962 and Starred Question No. 378 on the 21st January, 1963 and state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Transport and Communications has also received a separate explanation given by the Director-General of Tourism on the foreword written by him to the book entitled 'Golden Guide to South East Asia';

(b) if so, what is the nature of the explanation and what is the difference between this explanation and the one given to the Ministry of Home Affairs; and

(c) what action Government propose to take on the explanation given to the Ministry of Home Affairs?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) The Director General of Tourism submitted no explanation to the Ministry of Home Affairs. The explanation was called for by the Department of Transport alone and was submitted to them.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: For the information of the hon. Minister may I quote the hon. Home Minister in this

House on 4th September, 1962, in reply to my question?

"SHRI LAL BAHADUR: It is true that the Director General of Tourism has written a foreword to that book and the reply that it is under consideration is because of the fact that we have asked him to explain why he wrote that foreword. He has given some explanation, but we are not fully satisfied with it. He has said that he wrote the foreword without seeing the book, the maps, etc. It is obviously a great mistake on his part. But we should get some time to look into the matter."

Now, the hon. Minister has said that there was no such explanation. I would like, through you, to get an explanation from the hon. Home Minister, and the Minister of State for Transport. Who is right is a question of privilege of this House. What the Home Minister says is that he has given some explanation and that he is not satisfied with it. On the other hand, the hon. Minister says that no explanation was submitted to the Home Ministry. So I would like to have an explanation from the Minister of Transport through you, Sir.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: We stand for the motto, '*satyameva jayate*.' May I know, Sir, where the truth lies?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Tariq has put a question; let it be answered.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: There is no contradiction whatsoever. The administrative Ministry is the Ministry of Transport. Constitutionally and legally it is only the Transport Ministry which can give an explanation if there is a *prima facie* ground for that. The Home Minister based his reply upon a note so far as that particular question, which has been referred to by the hon. Member, is concerned. In that note some sort of an explanation or some sort of a reference to the explanation or an exposition of the case on behalf of the

D. G. was given. It was not the explanation of the Director General, Tourism, but it was a part of the note on which the Home Minister gave this reply, and then he advised that we ask for an explanation from the Director General, Tourism. The question was put on 4th September, 1962. The formal explanation was demanded on 24th September, 1962. To clinch the issue, may I invite a reference to the hon. Member's own question of 12th November, 1962? After the preliminaries, he himself refers whether the Government have received any explanation from the Director General of Tourism who wrote the foreword to the book entitled "Golden Guide to South East Asia". He himself in a subsequent question has used the word "explanation" from the Director General of Tourism. I do not know what the hon. Member means by violation of "*Satyameva Jayate*". What I have stated is in keeping with "*Satyameva Jayate*" and nothing but "*Satyameva Jayate*".

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: My point is not this. My point is that it is the conduct of the official which is unfortunate. It is only the Home Ministry which can ask for an explanation of the Ministry of Transport. It is a question of the conduct of an officer who has written something in a book and it is only the Home Ministry who can ask for the explanation. And already the Ministry of Home Affairs asked for the explanation. The hon. Home Minister assured this House that he was not satisfied with the explanation given by the said Director General. He said that he would take some time to look into the matter. He says that he wrote the foreword without seeing the book or the maps. It is obviously a great mistake on his part. This is what the hon. Home Minister says in this House. And then they have called for the explanation. Later on, I do not know how ! the Ministry of Transport said that they would call for the explanation. I Previously, the explanation was called ! for by the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry was not satisfied

with his explanation and the Home Minister assured this House that he would look into the matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is what you said before. You are saying this for the second time.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: May I just say, Sir, that the administrative rules of business are there? The Home Ministry guides us with regard to those rules. We are the administrative Ministry. It is the administrative Ministry which alone can demand an explanation. Apart from that, the Home Minister himself has given a reply to the hon. Member in reply to his question dated 12th November, 1962, in which he has said that the formal explanation of the Director General of Tourism is under the examination of the Transport Ministry. I think the hon. Member should kindly bank upon his memory also a little more if not on a reference to this reply that was given by the Home Minister himself.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: If it is so, may I know, Sir, if the Ministry is satisfied by the explanation given by the Director General to the Ministry of Transport? If so, what is the difference between the two explanations, one which he gave to the Ministry of Home Affairs and another to the Ministry of Transport?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: I repudiate the suggestion that any two explanations were given. There was only one explanation given. Secondly, Sir, I will refer you to the reply which I gave to the hon. Member's question of the 21st January, 1963. Unfortunately, on that date the Member did not appear in the House and the question was not put. But the reply is clear. I am reading it out:

"The explanation of the officer has been considered. The foreword had been contributed by him in good faith on an assurance given to him on behalf of the publishers that the text of the 1962 edition would

be on the same lines as the text of the 1961 edition which did not contain anything objectionable. The objectionable features found in the 1962 edition were added by the publishers subsequently without his previous knowledge. The officer has been informed that though he did not err deliberately he has to be careful in this regard in future especially as there may be many more such demands on him."

The last sentence has been virtually taken from the minutes of the Home Minister who was finally consulted about this.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: From what has been said by the hon. Minister, may I know, Sir, whether his Ministry is satisfied, the assurance given by the Home Minister that he would seek further explanation in this matter having not been satisfied, whether that assurance has been fulfilled by what subsequently passed between the Government and the person concerned? If not what steps have the Government taken in order to get more elucidation and explanation in the light of what the Home Minister had stated in this House?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has explained.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: Just for the benefit of the hon. Member I may repeat that the reply of the Home Minister initially was based upon facts supplied to him or upon certain data supplied to him before any explanation was demanded. That was *prima facie* the initial thing. On that *prima facie* basis he asked us to call for an explanation which we did. And we are satisfied on the basis of that explanation that there was no deliberate error on the part of the officer concerned. Not only we, in fairness to the Home Minister, we informed him also, but he also recorded a note. The letter sent to the Director General of Tourism is based upon the minutes of the Home Minister himself who also has finally seen the explanation.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND:
May I know, Sir, . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question. There is display of too much interest on the part of hon. Members.

*356. [The questioner (Shri Baba Saheb Savnekar) was absent. For answer, vide col. 2716 infra.]

STEPS TO CHECK HIGH PRICES OF SUGAR

*357. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of high prices of sugar in the country; and

(b) if so, what concrete steps are being taken to check the soaring prices?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Sir. There has been some rise in prices of sugar but these are now coming down.

(b) Price of sugar is sought to be maintained at a reasonable level by judicious releases of sugar for sale by factories. A higher release of 2-25 lakh tonnes of sugar was announced on 8th February 1963 as against normal release of 2 lakh tonnes. The release was also given a week in advance of the usual time of release. I may also add that release of 2.25 lakh tonnes has been made yesterday.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: May I know, Sir, what is the source of information.

SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: It is my question, Sir. May I know, Sir, whether the proposed creation of the Sugar Marketing Board is not a prelude to the introduction of controls and, of course, with a^ its consequences? 1281 RS—2.

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: With regard to the question of controls, I am not going to oblige my friend by saying whether there would be control or whether there would not be control. It is not advisable to say whether there would or would not be controls.

SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: In of the acknowledged fact that the total production of sugar this year less than what it used to be in previous years and particularly when the demand is more than the supply, how does the Government propose to maintain the prices?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: Same question. In the body of the answer I have given how the Government intends to maintain the price level. With regard to the question of controls, I have already made my position clear. It is not advisable to say whether there would be control or there would not be control because that would lead to speculation.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: May I know, Sir, the source of information of the learned Minister when he said that the prices of sugar have come down. The experience of everybody else in the country is that sugar prices have during the last fortnight.

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: The figures with me indicate, for example, that in February, 1963 in Delhi the price was Rs. 42-68. It has come down now to Rs. 42-44. In Kanpur, which is a market of all-India importance, the price in February was Rs. 41-80. It has come down to Rs. 41-34. In Calcutta, the price was Rs. 41-62. It has come down to Rs. 41-43. In Bombay, the price was Rs. 43-63. It has come down to Rs. 43.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: May I know, Sir, whether it is not a fact that the price of sugar has gone up after the presentation of the Central Budget and in the rural areas sugar is being sold at Rs. 1"50 per seer?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: In anticipation of an increased levy of excise duty there was some hoarding of stocks and the prices had gone up. After the presentation of the Budget the prices of sugar have come down.

SHRI B. D. KHOBAR AG ADE: May I know whether it is a fact that higher prices of sugar are sometimes artificially maintained in some areas by not releasing sufficient quota of sugar, as has happened in Maharashtra?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: As far as Maharashtra is concerned, the Maharashtra Government was saying that the prices were going up and we made a special release of 10,000 tons of sugar in February for the Maharashtra area.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Being a worldly-wise man, may I know whether after getting

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: To whom does this apply?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know whether after getting this brief from the officials, the hon. Minister enquired from any Member of this House as to the prices at which they have been buying sugar for the last 2, 8, 4 or 5 days and whether such enquiry has been made as any intelligent person will make?

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: Also whether the Minister has bought any sugar?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: The retail price prevailing in Delhi is Rs. 1-10 per seer. It is not the official brief. These are figures which we get from the various markets in the country. As far as my information also goes, and reports in the Delhi newspapers are also to the effect that the price of sugar was showing some decline.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If it has fallen, it has fallen so little that people think that it is rising.

SHRI PANNALAL SARAOGI: The hon. Minister referred to liberal releases in reply to an earlier question. Then in reply to another question he referred to releases under exports of over 4 or 5 lakh tons. Should not the Minister take into consideration that if these liberal releases are going to continue in the country for the sake of internal consumption as also for export commitments, is he not going to burn his hands because there will be very little sugar left in this country?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: I do not know which section of the public the hon. Member is serving by saying that production is 22 lakhs or 21 lakhs and then by saying that by such large releases we are going to burn our fingers. I refuse to answer the question of my hon. friend.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: On a point of order. Can the hon. Minister refuse to reply to a question put by the hon. Member, particularly when the question has not been disallowed by you?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have not disallowed the question but I have conceded the point made by the Minister. Otherwise I would have asked him to reply. When he said he did not want to reply, I did not say that he should. I allowed the question and I also allowed the Minister to say what he said and conceded what he said.

SHRI PANNALAL SARAOGI: He did not reply to the question without understanding the implications.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think he was right. You had the prospect of sugar disappearing from the country altogether which is not a very edifying prospect and he did not want to say anything.

**ROAD CONSTRUCTION IN HIMACHAL
PRADESH**

•358. SHRI SHIVA NAND RAMAUL: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of roads in Himachal Pradesh whose construction is being held up due to certain portions of these roads passing through other States like Punjab or Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) what steps, if any, are being taken by Government to remove such obstacles in the way of speedy completion of these roads?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) and (b) A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) The completion of the following roads is stated to have been held up as parts of these roads pass through the adjoining States of Punjab and Uttar Pradesh:

Name of the road	States through which the road passes
(i) Simla-Nahan road	Himachal Pradesh and Punjab.
(2) Solan-Sabathu road	Punjab and Himachal Pradesh.
(3) Solan-Minus road	Punjab and Himachal Pradesh.
(4) Paonta-Rajban-rohm road	U.P. and Himachal Pradesh.

(b) Some difficulties in the acquisition of land for the portions of these roads within Punjab and Uttar Pradesh are stated to be mainly responsible for the hold-up in the work. Difficulties within Punjab have since

been overcome by mutual discussions and the acquisition of land is now in progress. As regards U. P., it has been decided by discussion that the U. P. Government will themselves execute the work within their State instead of the Himachal Pradesh P.W.D., as originally agreed.

**CASES FILED IN COURTS BY EMPLOYEES OF
NORTHERN RAILWAY**

•359. SHRI A. C. GILBERT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases in which the employees of the Northern Railway took recourse to the Court of Law against the action taken by the Railway Authorities during the last ten years;

(b) the number of such cases in which the courts gave a verdict in favour of the Railway employees;

(c) whether the Railway employees who won their cases in the courts were reinstated in the posts which they had claimed within a month of verdict of the courts; and

(d) what is the amount spent by Government to defend the cases lost during this period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): (a) to (d) Information is being collected from the Railway administration and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

SHRI A. C. GILBERT: I know that in two divisions the Railways have lost some cases. May I know whether the Government takes action against the officials concerned against whose decision the employees have gone to courts of law and won their cases and also whether the cost of the cases lost was recovered from such officials?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: I have not got the whole picture before me of the number of cases. The informa-

tion is being gathered and then if the question is repeated, we shall answer it.

SHRI A. C. GILBERT: Would the Government consider this in order to stop favouritism?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He says that he is collecting the information. As soon as he gets full information, he will give.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, why when officers are involved, there is so much of delay whereas when other employees are involved, not officers but class n . . .

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: Sir, . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I have not finished. Neither the train should leave before time nor the Minister should get up before I put the question. In the case of grades ni and IV employees, when they are involved, action is taken very promptly and while it is a question of officers, it seems there is a lot of delay in dealing with this matter despite the Service Conduct Rules. What is the explanation for it?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: I am glad you have stopped. I know that my hon. friend is a champion of the employees. There is no distinction or discrimination.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: We do not accept his championship.

SHRI A. D. MANI: What is the policy of the Government in regard to part (c) of this question? Is it the policy of the Government and the Railways to reinstate an employee the moment he wins a case in the law courts or is there any time allowed before reinstatement? What are your general instructions to the Railway Administration on this subject?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: There is a general code which governs certain cases. If he is acquitted

honourably there are certain consequences following. If not, the Administration has got discretion to deal with him departmentally.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: What is the exact meaning of 'acquitted honourably'? Under which provision of the Criminal Procedure Code or I.P.C., is it said that one must be acquitted honourably? As long as he is acquitted, the matter ends.

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: My hon. friend may kindly brush up his memory of the Criminal Procedure Code. Acquittal is acquittal.

SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI: In this question several pieces of information are required. May I know whether the answer of the Minister covers all information? Has he any information about part (c) of the question? Is that also being investigated?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: We have taken the question as a whole. We cannot split it part by part. After getting all the information, we shall deal with each item.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know whether it has been found by the Railway Ministry that officers are inclined to pass rash orders and such orders compel the employees to go to the courts and then they are acquitted by the courts and in that case, does the Railway Ministry scrutinise and see that those officers are taken to task who were responsible for passing such rash orders?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: This insinuation is refuted quite clearly and emphatically. There is no such thing as rash orders. There are certain orders passed in accordance with extant rules. Opinions may differ. If the aggrieved parties want redress, it is open to them to go to the court of law.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Whether an order is rash or not is a question of opinion and fact. This is what is asked. Is he aware that there are some other orders passed by the Railway bosses and strictures have been made by the High Courts and other courts? I do not know whether you call them rash orders. In such cases, what steps the Government normally take with regard to such officers who pass such orders which may or may not be, according to the hon. Minister, rash orders but bad orders?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: One court at one stage may pass one order. It is open to a party—it may be the Railways or the aggrieved party—to go up in appeal. Possibly the appellate court might revise and take a different view.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If all the courts agree that an officer has made a mistake, what do you do?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: I have not come across such a case.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Is he aware that the Calcutta High Court did have occasion to pass certain orders, strictures against the orders of the Railway authorities and the matter ended there and did not come to the Supreme Court? What action in such cases the Government took with regard to those officers? He should be aware of that.

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: If my friend gives me particulars, I shall find out and inform him.

**PUNISHMENT AWARDED TO
SCHEDULED CASTE EMPLOYEES OF R.M.S.
'D' DIVISION**

•360. SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some employees belonging to the Scheduled

Castes in the R.M.S. 'D' Division, New Delhi were awarded punishment in December, 1958 in contravention of Fundamental Rule 29 and Article 311 of the Constitution of India:

(b) whether it is a fact that the appellate authority has declared the proceedings of this enquiry null and void:

(c) whether any representation has been made by the concerned employees to set aside the order: and

(d) if so, what action has been taken to set aside this order and redress the grievances of these employees?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN TBK MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI B. BHAGAVATI): (a) and (b) Two R.M.S. Sorters, one of whom belonged to the Scheduled Caste, were involved in a case, were proceeded with and punished. One of the two officials who was not the Scheduled Caste official mentioned above, submitted an appeal. The appellate authority quashed the proceedings as being faulty and ordered a *de novo* trial.

(c) The other employee did not submit any appeal within the prescribed period and the petition submitted by him was also not correctly addressed, with the result that the appellate authority did not look into his case, as he had done in the other case.

(d) . The case of the official who did not submit his appeal in time or who did not submit a properly addressed representation, has not so far been considered from the point of view of removal of defects in the original disciplinary proceedings. The matter is now being looked into.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**TRANSIT FACILITIES AT SANTA CRUZ AIRPORT**

•335. SHRI SURJIT SINGH ATWAL: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that transit facilities at the Santa Cruz Airport in Bombay are very poor; and

(b) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to modify them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN): (a) and (b) Due to progressively increased capacity offered by modern aircraft the transit facilities at the Santa Cruz airport need augmentation. Director General of Civil Aviation is preparing plans in consultation with the architects of the Central P.W.D. for providing increased facilities to cope with the traffic.

PROBLEMS OF SUGAR INDUSTRY

♦336. SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHIN AI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Bihar have recently urged the Central Government to appoint a committee to go into the problems of sugar industry on an all-India basis; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the same?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

CONVERSION OF MIRAJ-LATUR RAIL LINK

♦339. SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken to convert the Miraj-Latur rail link into metre or broad gauge; and

(b) if so, the nature of decision arrived at?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): (a) No, Sir. The project is not included in the Railways' Programme of construction during the Third Plan Period.

(b) Does not arise.

DELAY IN DELIVERY OF TELEGRAMS

•340. SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state what effective measures have been taken to meet the general complaint about the delay in the delivery of telegrams?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI B. BHAGAVATI): The following steps have been taken to minimise delay in the delivery of telegrams in general: —

(a) More telegraph offices are being opened in the rural areas;

(b) Zonal delivery system has been introduced in urban area* which effect round the clock delivery over wider areas;

(c) Mechanised delivery through phonogram, printergram and telex are being extended;

(d) Special facility to receive* telegrams on telephone without any extra charge has been allowed;

(e) The work of delivery of Express Letters has been transferred from telegraph offices to the post offices;

(f) A new incentive scheme, with premium both on the number of telegrams correctly

delivered and the number of trips completed during period of duty of telegraph messengers has been introduced;

(g) Test checks have been introduced to check the actual delay in delivery of telegrams with a view to take remedial action;

(h) Supervision on the delivery points have been strengthened and the procedure streamlined.

PROCUREMENT OF MILK FOR DELHI MILK SCHEME

•341. SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of milk daily procured by the Delhi Milk Scheme from villages;

(b) from how many villages milk is collected;

(c) whether the villages have got Milk Co-operative Societies;

(d) how much milk is purchased from Co-operative Societies and how much from individuals; and

(e) whether the scheme is working on profit?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS): (a) Nearly 4,400 maunds.

(b) Milk is procured at the milk collection and chilling centres and their ancillary assembling centres set up by the Scheme and not directly from villages. The number of villages supplying milk is, therefore, not available.

(c) Some of the villages have set up Milk Producers' Co-operative Societies.

(d) Nearly 253 maunds of milk is procured from Milk Producers' Cooperatives and the remaining 4,160 maunds through individuals from the rural areas of Meerut and Bulandshahr districts of Uttar Pradesh and Gurgaon and Rohtak districts of Punjab and Bikaner districts of Rajasthan.

(e) So far the Scheme has not earned any profit.

LONG DUTY HOURS OF DRIVERS AND GUARDS

•345. SHRI B. K. GAIKWAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rules of hours of employment provide that the members of the running staff should not be compelled to work for more than 12 hours continuously;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that in practice several drivers and guards are made to work for more than 12 hours continuously;

(c) whether it is a fact that in cases where workers hesitate to work for more than 12 hours continuously, they are penalized; and

(d) if so, the number of such cases where employees were penalized during the last five years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, except under abnormal circumstances like accidents, unforeseen detentions to trains, etc. as provided in the Rules.

(c) No, except in cases where the staff concerned fail to give two hours' notice to the Controller for relief as required under the rules.

(d) There has been no case of penalising running staff who refused to work beyond 12 hours after giving 2 hours' notice for relief to the Controller.

REVITALISATION OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES

*349. SHRI R. N. KAKATI: Will the Minister of COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States which have not yet drawn up the programme for revitalization of Primary Agricultural Credit Cooperative Societies; and

(b) what steps the Central Government propose to take to speed up the revitalization programme, in those States?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI S. D. MISRA): (a) Nil.

(b) Does not arise.

LICENSED PORTERS AT MALDA TOWN RAILWAY STATION

*352. SHRI RAMPRASANNA RAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many licensed porters are there at Malda Town Railway Station of the North East Frontier Railway; and

(b) what steps are being taken to increase their number?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) Twenty-five.

(b) As the present strength is found to be adequate, there is no proposal to increase the number of licensed porters at Malda Town Station

UPGRADATION LIST OF STAFF IN THE JABALPUR DIVISION

*353. SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the upgradation list on percent basis has been made from

year to year in respect of all the categories of the staff in Jabalpur Division of the Central Railway; and

(b) the years during which this order has not been followed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b) *Position regarding annual review of cadre of posts which are distributed on percentage basis in the Jabalpur Division of the Central Railway and number of categories where annual review could not be made from year to year.*

Station Masters & Assistant Station Masters.—The upgrading orders laying down distribution of posts on percentage basis were issued in March, 1957 having retrospective effect from 1st April, 1956. After reviewing the cadre position, these orders were implemented in May, 1958. Thereafter, the review as on 1st April 1960 was undertaken and finalised in September, 1961. The percentage of upgrading for these categories was revised in November, 1961 and again in September 1962. The cadre position is being reviewed in the light of these revisions and will be implemented shortly.

Trains Clerks.—The upgrading orders of March, 1957 were implemented in September, 1958. The review of the posts as on 1st April, 1960 was finalised in September, 1961. The percentage of upgradation for this category was revised in November, 1961 and again in August, 1962. Action to implement the revised percentages is in hand.

Signallers.—The upgrading orders of March, 1957 were implemented in February, 1959. There was no change in the sanctioned strength of this category as on 1st April, 1960. The

percentage of upgradation for this category was revised in November, 1961 and again in August, 1962. The implementation of the revised percentages is in progress.

Train Examiners.—The upgrading orders of March, 1957 were implemented in 1960. The percentage for this category was revised in February, 1961 and the cadre position is under review.

Ticket Checking Staff and the Commercial Clerks.—The upgrading orders of March, 1957 were implemented in 1958. The review of the cadre position as on 1st April 1959 was completed in 1961. The percentages of upgradation in respect of these categories were revised in May, 1961 and in October, 1961 respectively. Action to implement the revised percentage distribution is in hand.

Pharmacists and Sanitary Inspectors.—The upgrading orders in respect of these categories were issued in November, 1957 and the percentage, in respect of Pharmacists was revised in November, 1960. The review of the cadre on the basis of these revised orders is in progress and is expected to be completed shortly.

RAILWAY POLICE STATION AT ROURKELA

*354 SHRI SUNDAR MANI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been made by the Inspector General of Police, Orissa for construction of a Railway Police Station in the premises of Rourkela Railway Station on the South Eastern Railway; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is likely to be taken up during 1963-64.

SANCTIONING OF LOAN THROUGH LAND MORTGAGE BANKS

-356. SHRI BABA SAHEB SAVNE-KAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state the administrative instructions and advice given by the Central Government for sanctioning of loan through Land Mortgage Banks in order to avoid delay in sanctions?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI S. D. MISRA): This matter was carefully considered by Committee on co-operative loans and cooperative credit, whose report is under examination both at the Centre and in the States.

TOURIST PROMOTION FACILITIES IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR

*361. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any special facilities have recently been provided to the State of Jammu and Kashmir for the further promotion of the Tourist Industry in the State; and

(b) if so, what are those facilities?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) and (b) No new facilities have recently been provided for promotion of tourist traffic to Jammu and Kashmir. However, the facilities which were introduced in the previous years are being continued during the next tourist season to Kashmir. These facilities are the introduction of concessional return rail-cum-road ticket by the railways from 104 stations in India to Srinagar, bringing out of publicity literature in the form of guide books, folders, inserts, posters and picture postcards on Kashmir for distribution among the tourists in India and abroad and making new hotel projects eligible for

loans from the State Finance Corporation in the same way as has been done in other States.

DEVELOPMENT OF HALDIA AS ALL-WEATHER PORT

•362. SHRI SURJIT SINGH ATWAL: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the technical feasibility of developing Haldia as an all-weather port has been finally decided upon; and

(b) if so, what concrete measures are being taken to develop it as a major port?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b) Haldia has already been considered to be the best available site for a satellite port in the Hooghly estuary. There is natural deepwater at this site. The only technical points still to be cleared are:—

(i) whether, in the foreseeable future, the depth now available along the bank at Haldia could be maintained and, if possible, improved; and

(ii) the stability and the extent of improvement that can be obtained in the approach channels to Haldia.

For this purpose, certain technical investigations and experiments have already been undertaken by the Calcutta Port Commissioners. Some more experiments are in progress at the Central Water and Power Research Station at Poona. These experiments are expected to be completed shortly.

2. Meanwhile, all preliminary measures are being vigorously pursued and the progress so far made is as follows: —

- (i) A Master Plan for the Project has already been prepared. Preparation of detailed designs, drawings and tender documents is going on intensively. The Consulting Engineers of the Calcutta Port Commissioners have been asked to have these, ready by April, 1963.
- (ii) Borings on the ground at Haldia to collect detailed information regarding the characteristics, capacities, etc. of the soil on which heavy structures with deep foundations are to be constructed, have been arranged.
- (iii) The power requirements of Project have been assessed by the Calcutta Port Commissioners and furnished to the State Electricity Board who have agreed to provide the necessary distribution lines.
- (iv) The land required for the Haldia Port Project (about 9,373 square miles) is being acquired by the West Bengal Government. Land under the first stage (871 sq. miles) will be acquired and handed over to the Port Commissioners by the end of March, 1963 and that under the second stage (4,983 sq. miles) by the end of August, 1963 according to the time schedule obtained by the Port Commissioners from the West Bengal Government. The remaining area will be acquired and taken over later when necessary.
- (v) The Railways have completed the survey work for the rail link to Haldia. Detailed plans for the purpose of land »c-

quisition are under preparation by the Railways. The West Bengal Government have promised to take urgent action as soon as the details of land requirements are communicated to them by the Railways.

- (vi) As regards water supply at Haldia, pilot tube wells were sunk in the area and the underground supplies were found adequate and satisfactory in quality.

TRANSPORT OF RICE TO KERALA VIA VIJAYAWADA

•363. SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any special steps are contemplated to transport rice to Kerala via Vijayawada;

(b) if so, what are the steps; and

(c) by what time the railways will be in a position to move all the rice traffic currently?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b) Steps have been taken to augment the loading to 70 wagons a day of rice and paddy from stations on Vijayawada Division to Kerala.

(c) Rail transport capacity is planned on the basis of uniform loading throughout the year. Some accumulations during the harvesting season are, therefore, inevitable. Efforts consistent with the resources available are made to meet the demands in rice currently.

LAYING OF CO-AXIAL TELEPHONE LINE*

•364. SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the progress so far made in laying of co-axial telephone line between Delhi, Kanpur and Calcutta on the one

hand and between Delhi-Amritsar and Delhi-Bombay on the other hand?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI B. BHAGAVATI): The laying of co-axial cables on the route Delhi-Agra-Kanpur-Calcutta has been completed and commissioning of equipment in the last section, namely, Varanasi-Kanpur is now in progress.

Work on the Agra-Bombay Section would be started shortly. For the Delhi-Jullundur route, cables and equipments are being obtained.

SOCIETIES AND STORES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE MINISTRY

208. SHRI V. M. CHORDIA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) how many Societies, Stores etc. are functioning at present in his Ministry;

(b) how much accommodation is allotted to each of these Societies;

(c) whether it is a fact that rent, electric and water charges are not being charged regularly from these Societies; if so, the amount due from each of these Societies; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that annual meetings of some of these Societies have not been held for a number of years and one Society is functioning through a contractor for a long time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH):

(a) Two Societies and two stores, namely—(1) Ministry of Food and Agriculture Cooperative Credit and Thrift Society; (2) Food Department Credit and Thrift Society; (3) Food Department Cafeteria Cooperative Store; and (4) Central Secretariat Cooperative Store Ltd.

(b) and (c) A statement is attached.

(d) The last Annual General Body Meetings of (1) Ministry of Food and Agriculture Cooperative Credit and Thrift Society and (2) Food Department Cooperative Credit and Thrift

Society were held in 1962; the meeting of the Food Department Cafeteria Cooperative Store was held in 1959 and that of Central Secretariat Cooperative Store Ltd., in January, 1963.

None of the Societies and Stores is being run by a contractor.

STATEMENT

Names of Societies and Stores functioning in the Ministry, of Food and Agriculture	Allotment of accommodation	Recovery of rent, electric and water charges
Ministry of Food and Agriculture Cooperative Credit and Thrift Society.	One room—measuring 160 sq. ft. approx.	No arrears till December, 1962, are due.
Food Department Cooperative Credit and Thrift Society.	No accommodation is held by the Society.	Does not arise.
Food Department Cafeteria Cooperative Store.	One garage in the basement of Krishi Bhavan—measuring 200 sq. ft. approx., one room in Krishi Bhavan measuring 160 sq. ft. and one room in Jamnagar House 200 sq. ft.	Rent, electricity and water charges are billed for. The charges due up to the end of December, 1962, are Rs. 4,000 approx.
The Central Secretariat Cooperative Store Ltd.	Prior to the end of Dec. 1962, the Store used to function in one of the garages in the basement of Krishi Bhavan size 15'x10'. There after, one more contiguous garage was allotted to them in order that the Ammonium Sulphate and other fertilizers could be made available at this store to the bonafide purchasers.	No arrears till December, 1962, are due.

COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES

amounts of deposits as on 30th June, 1962?

209. SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of each type of co-operative Societies, State-wise, as on 30th June, 1962;

(b) the total number of membership, State-wise; and

(c) the total working capital, state-wise, showing (i) loans from Central financing agencies; and (ii) the

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHR. S. D. MISRA): (a) to (c) Provisional figures as on 30th June, 1962 are immediately available only in respect of Primary Agricultural Credit Societies. A statement showing the relevant particulars is attached. [See Appendix XLII, Annexure No. 24].

Information relating to other types of co-operative societies is being obtained from the State Governments

and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as it is received.

ROYALTIES RECEIVED FROM BOOKSTALLS

210. SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of royalties received from different bookstall-holders during the last three years on sale of books and newspapers at all Railway Bookstalls; and

(b) the amount of other charges received from the bookstall-holders during the same period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN CHARGE, MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

707 BOEING PLANES

211. SHRI BANSI LALL: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines Corporation possess any 707 Boeing planes;

(b) if so, when the air routes between Delhi-Bombay, Delhi-Calcutta and Delhi-Madras will be served by these planes; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, when Government intend to introduce such planes for air services within the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN CHARGE, MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI AHMED MOHTUDDIN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise. But to meet the heavy traffic demand, the Indian Airlines Corporation are operating a

daily service between Delhi and Bombay with a Boeing aircraft chartered from Air-India.

(c) The Corporation's proposal for the purchase of 3 or 4 Caravelle VI-N Jet aircraft is under the consideration of the Government.

OFFICERS SENT ABROAD FOR TRAINING

212. SHRI KOTA PUNNAIAH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) how many officers from each Department of his Ministry were sent abroad for training under various schemes during 1960, 1961 and 1962;

(b) what was the period of training in each case and the total amount of expenditure incurred by Government on each trainee;

(c) how many trained officers are working at present on jobs connected with their training; and

(d) the number of such trained officers who are either not working in the Ministry at present or their present duties have no relation with their training abroad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE, MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE, (SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH):

(a)	Department of Agriculture	Department of Food
1960	25	3
1961	19	8
1962	26	3
TOTAL	70	14

The officers sent abroad for training comprise mainly of scientific and technical officers of the Department including the attached offices and the research and training Institutes.

	Depart- ment of Agriculture	Depart- ment of Food
(b) (i) <i>Period of training :</i>		
Up to 3 months .	9	1
3 to 6 months .	34	11
7 to 12 months .	22	2
Over 12 months .	5	..
TOTAL	70	14

<ii) *Expenditure incurred by Government on each trainee:*

No expenditure, other than normal -salary and T.A. (from place of duty to place of embarkation and back) has been incurred.

<c) 60 13

[The remaining 10 officers have not yet returned from training abroad.]

(d) Nil 1

DHARAMNAGAR-KALKALIGHAT RAILWAY LINE

213. SHRI T. M. DASGUPTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state when the proposed Dharamnagar-Kalkalighat Railway Line will be completed and what is the proposed data for opening that line to traffic?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): The line is expected to be opened to goods traffic on 30th September, 1963 and to passenger -traffic on 31st December, 1963 respectively.

STATISTICAL INSPECTORS ON RAILWAYS

214. SHRI A. C. GILBERT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the posts of Statistical Inspectors on the Railways are technical posts; and

(b) whether the avenue of promotion of Statistical Inspectors on the Northern Railway on non-technical side is limited to that Railway only?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b) Information is being collected from Railways and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

VENDING CONTRACTS ON RAILWAYS

215. SHRI A. C. GILBERT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway stations at which (i) refreshment rooms; (ii) vending; and (iii) fruit selling contracts have so far been given to the contractors; and

(b) the names of stations at which these contracts have been given to the cooperative societies?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): (a) 2,543.

(b) Ghaziabad, Khurja, Chupra, Hajipur, Kashipur, Badarpur, Katihar, Erode, Madurai, Manamadurai, Din-digul, Tiruchirappalli, Villupuram, Thanjavur, Mayavaram, Chidambaram, Tiruvarur, Rajahmundry, Tenali, Nidadavole, Arkonam. Madras Central, Madras Egmore. Jalarpet, Cuddalore, Coimbatore North, Paravur, Anand, Kalol, Palghar, Dahanu Road, Marwar Junction, Phulera, Marine Lines, Bandra Santa Cruz. Khar, Matunga Road, Andheri, Malad.

A. WARDS FOR BEST MANAGED COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES

216. SHRI R. N. KAKATI: Will the Minister of COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to give suitable awards to the best managed consumer cooperative society in the country with a view to improve and promote the ideology of cooperation among the consumers; and

(b) if so, what are the salient features of this proposal?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI S. D. MISRA): (a) No, Sir. This Ministry, however, held prize competitions among the consumers stores at the training centres, namely, Gramsewak Training Centres, Co-operative Training Centres, Social Education Organisers' Training Centres, Orientation and Study Centres and Khadi Mahavidyalayas, in order to encourage the organisation and exemplary functioning of such societies in these training centres.

(b) Does not arise.

217. *[Transferred to the 14th March, 1963.]*

SHORTAGE OF POSTAL STATIONERY IN KANGRA DISTRICT IN PUNJAB

218. SHRI SHIVA NAND RAMAUL: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that post cards and other postal stationery have not been available to public from the Sub-Post Office at Dhameta in the District of Kangra in Punjab for the last two months;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what steps Government propose to take to supply these articles in sufficient quantity; and

(c) the number of other Sub-Post Offices in that district where public are facing similar shortage of these articles?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI B. BHAGAVATI):

(a) There is no such complaint, Sir.

(b) Does not arise. (c)

None.

POTATO CULTIVATION AT DHARMANAGAR SUB-DIVISION OF TRIPURA

219. SHRI T. M. DASGUPTA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that potato cultivation at Dharmanagar Sub-Division of Tripura had been badly affected in the current year; and

(b) if so, what step has been taken by the Agricultural Department of Tripura Administration and how far it has become effective and what is the estimated loss of potato production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH): (a) and (b) The required information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha as soon as available.

COMPLAINTS AGAINST SERVICE OF TELEPHONE OPERATORS OF GAUHATI TOWN

220. SHRI R. N. KAKATI: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there have been numerous complaints from the public against the unsatisfactory service of telephone operators at Gauhati Town; and

(b) if so, what steps Government are taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI B. BHAGAVATI):

(a) A few complaints have been received from the public against the unsatisfactory service of telephone operators of Gauhati.

(b) The technical reasons for unsatisfactory service are being removed. Arrangements are also being made for imparting refresher training to the operative staff.

TRANSFER OF GAZETTED OFFICERS FROM NORTHERN RAILWAY HEADQUARTERS

221. SHRI A. C. GILBERT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Gazetted Officers working in the Headquarters of the Northern Railway in one capacity or the other for (i) more than five years; and (ii) more than ten years; and

(b) the number of such Officers transferred within one year of their posting in the Headquarters of the Northern Railway?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) For more than five years—25 For more than ten years—8.

(6)	1960-61	26
	1961-62	43
	1962-63	21

NOTE.—In respect of part (b), the information for the earlier years is not readily available and will be placed on the Table of the House.

CONSTRUCTION OF POST AND TELEGRAPH OFFICE AT MUL

222. SHRI V. T. NAGPURE: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in spite of the statement made by the Minister recently at Nagpur that the construction work of post and telegraph office at Mui in District Chanda, Maharashtra State will be undertaken, by the State Public Works Department, *no steps* have yet been taken in this regard;

(b) when this work will be begun; and

(c) whether the construction work of the over-bridge at Chanda (Maharashtra State) near the post office will also be undertaken?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI B. BHAGAVATI) :

(a) No, Sir. The construction of the Post Office building at Mul has already been entrusted to the State P. W. D., Maharashtra. Necessary steps* have been taken by the State P.W.D. to complete all the formalities.

(b) As soon as all the formalities are completed,

(c) There is no such proposal with the Central Government.

DIESEL OIL CONSUMED BY RAILWAYS

223. SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of diesel oil consumed by the Railways annually during the last three years;

(b) the quantity of diesel oil imported so far for the purpose during the same period; and

(c) what is the total value of the same?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) The quantities of diesel oil consumed by the Railways during the last three years, were as under:

Year	Quantity in metric tons
1959-60	57073
1960-61	59913
1961-62	57324

(b) Information regarding quantities of diesel oil imported by the Supplying Oil Companies for the use of Railways separately is not available.

(c) Does not arise.

GAG PLANTS WORKING ON COW HUNG

224. SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any efforts are being made to popularise gas plants working on cow dung in villages;

(b) whether efforts are made to manufacture them in large numbers to make them available at cheap price to villagers; and

(c) what is the average cost price of a gas plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAM SUBHAG SOTOH): (a) Yes.

(b) Not at present.

(c) Rs. 500 approximately.

PENDING TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS IN GWALIOR

225. SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) how many applications for telephone connections were pending in Gwalior by the end of the year 1962;

(b) how many applications were disposed of and given connections in 1962;

(c) whether any connections were given out of turn; and

(d) if so, for what reasons?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI B. BHAGAVATI): (a) 500 applications for telephone connections at Gwalior were pending on 31st December, 1962.

(b) 104 connections were provided during the year 1962.

(c) 38 telephone connections were given on out-of-turn basis, out of which 29 connections were provided to

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Government departments, Municipal Corporation and to an autonomous corporation and the remaining to the public.

(d) According to the present policy of the Government, connections are provided on priority to Government, public sector corporations, local authorities, public utility schemes etc. Connections are also provided on priority to distinguished persons, doctors, small scale industries and press etc.

GOODS TRAINS WITHOUT BRAKE IN CABIN

226. SHRI B. K. GALKWAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many goods trains are made to run without necessary brake-vans or brake equipment in the brake-van; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the staff who hesitate to run the trains without braking equipment are being penalised by the concerned Railway authorities?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) Goods trains are not run without brake vans. Normally brake vans have their full complement of equipments. However, due to shortage of vacuum gauges mainly due to thefts, temporary relaxation was granted to run brake vans without this equipment. In such cases the Train Examiners were to ensure, to the satisfaction of the Guards, that the brake vans have sufficient quantity of vacuum by using a master gauge.

(b) The question does not arise.

EARLY ANNOUNCEMENT ON SUGARCANE PRICE

227. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken on the suggestion made by the

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Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh that an early announcement be made offering higher price for sugarcane in the next mashing season; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMITTEE ON COAL MOVEMENT

/SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: ^"- \ SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA:

Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the main recommendations of the Nagendra Singh Committee on coal movement;

(b) whether Government have taken decisions on the various recommendations; and

(c) if so, how they are proposed to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) The Committee's main recommendation is that twelve specially designed vessels of about 10,800 DWT each with a draft of not more than twenty-two feet, and a service speed of 12.5 knots should be acquired within as short a period as possible to replace old coastal ships which will be due for scrapping within the next two or three years.

(b) and (c) Efforts are now being made to have such ships constructed at Garden Reach Workshops, Calcutta, Hindustan Shipyard Ltd., Visakhapatnam, as also in Belgium and Yugoslavia.

MEDICAL AID AND PASS FACILITIES FOR FATHER OF A RAILWAY EMPLOYEE

229. SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the father of a railway employee cannot obtain benefits of medical aid and pass facilities available to the employee even when the former is physically disabled and unemployed and dependent on his son; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to help railway employees in this behalf?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) The father of a railway employee is not entitled to get medical facilities in railway hospitals and health units/dispensaries. However, only on transfer from one Railway to another, the extant rules provide for the inclusion of the father if residing with and wholly dependent upon the employee, on the pass. Father is not included in the privilege/post-retirement complimentary passes.

(b) No such proposal is under consideration.

WARM CLOTHES FOR DINING CAR STAFF

230. SHRI SURJIT SINGH ATWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Dining Car staff on the Vestibuled Airconditioned Express train on the Southern Railway are provided with warm clothings; and

(b) if so, whether similar facilities are provided to the employees on other railways?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) Yes.

fb) Tha practice is ijot uniform at present but with the implementation of orders issued recently, on the recommendations of the Uniforms Committee, it will become uniform on all Railways.

**ACCOMMODATION FOR DINING CAR STAFF
DURING TRANSIT PERIOD**

231. SHRI SURJIT SINGH ATWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Dining Car staff of Vestibuled Air-conditioned Express train on the Southern Railway are given accommodation at the New Delhi Railway Station during transit period; and

(b) if so, whether the same facilities are given to other railways' staff also and if not, why not?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) "Ves.

(b) The stay of other Railways' staff in Deihi is comparatively short and therefore the facility has been given to staff of the Southern Rail-"way in the first instance.

**SITF FOR THE SECOND AND THIRD
PLAT-**

FORMS AT JABALPUR STATION

232. SHRI NIRANJAN SLNGH: Will ihe Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) whether the final selection of site for the second and third platforms at Jabalpur Railway Station has been made; snd

(b) if so, when the construction work is likely to be taken up?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b) Plans for provision of a second platform and a bay platform are under finalisation. Provision of these plat-

forms forms part of the remodelling of the Jabalpur Yard, which will be carried out in different phases as th same is connected with the doubling of the Jabalpur-Adhartal line. The work of remodelling is likely to be undertaken in 1964. Construction of platforms will be taken up in the last phase and as such it is too early to indicate the exact date when the work of providing the platforms will be taken up.

**FORMATION OF SPECIAL CABINET SUB-
COMMITTEES FOR AGRICULTURAL
PRODUCTION**

233. SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Development Council has suggested the formation of a special Cabinet Sub-Committee for agricultural production in each State consisting of the Ministers of Agriculture, Irrigation, Co-operation, Revenue and Animal Husbandry, the Chief Minister being its Chairman; and

(b) if so, how many States have agreed to this suggestion and formed such sub-committees?

THE MINISTER OS STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH): (a) The question of ensuring proper coordination between the various Departments in the States dealing with Agricultural Development Programmes was discussed at the National Development Council meetings held on the 4th and 3th November, 1962. With a view to ensuring an effective coordination of policy and^k action without delay among all th? Departments and agencies concerned with the agricultural programmes in the States and to arm the coordinating body with adequate power and authority to ensure implementation of its decisions at all levels, the Union Minister for Food and Agriculture addressed all the Chief Ministers of

the States suggesting to them that the following two Committees should be constituted in every State, if they are not already in existence;

- (1) An Agricultural Production Sub-Committee of State Cabinet may be set up to determine policies and to coordinate and approve specific programmes. The Committee may consist of Ministers in charge of all the concerned Departments with Chief Minister as the Chairman.
 - (2) A similar Committee may be organised at official level, preferably under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary or some other senior Secretary like the Development Commissioner, to expedite the issue of sanctions and orders regarding implementation of individual schemes and to review the progress at regular intervals. This Committee may include the Secretaries and Heads of all the concerned Departments, including the Department of Finance.
- (b) Thirteen States have agreed to this suggestion and formed such subcommittees. Reply is awaited from others.

KILLING OF A FAMILY BY BOMBAY-HOWRAH JANATA EXPRESS

234. SHRI S. C. DEB: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as reported in the Statesman of the 19th February, 1963 a family of five persons was run over and killed by the Bombay-Howrah Janata Express train on the 17th February, 1963 between Bankhedi and Bajang on the Jabal-pur-Itarsi Section of the Central Railway; and

(b) if so, under what circumstances the accident occurred?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): (a) and (b) Yes. The accident took place at Bankhedi station. It is reported that five members of a family including 3 children were walking by the side of the railway track at about 13-30 hours near the site of the accident. On hearing the whistle of the approaching train, two children aged 10 and 3 years respectively got perplexed and started running on the track. The parents along with the third child, aged 11 years, rushed to rescue the other two children from the track. Meanwhile, the train reached the site of the accident and all the five persons were run over and killed.

The Superintendent, Government Railway Police, Gadwar had the case investigated and reported that the case was accidental and no one can be held responsible.

READY MARKET FOR COTTON

235. SHRI S. C. DEB: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state whether adequate arrangement has been made by Government so that all the cotton grown in the country would be finding ready market in the country at reasonable prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : The following steps have been taken to assist the cotton growers in marketing their produce: —

- (i) Mills have been allowed to purchase their entire annual requirements of cotton,
- (ii) Mills have been asked to step up their off take of cotton and also to hold larger stocks.
- (iii) All restrictions on the movement of cotton imposed earlier in the season have been removed.

<iv) Restrictions on the holding of stocks of cotton by mills have also been removed.

(v) Mills have been required to purchase Cambodia (A) and Cambodia (B) varieties of cotton to the extent of 5% of their total quota during the current season.

(vi) A further export quota of desi cotton has been released.

(vii) The ceiling price of moglai jarilla with 25/32" basic staple was increased from Rs. 820 to Rs. 945 per candy. Higher prices for other varieties of cotton were fixed on this basis taking their staple lengths into consideration.

"WHEAT SUPPLIED TO KALING FLOUR MILL (PRIVATE) LTD.

236. SHRI SUNDAR MANI PATEL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of wheat supplied to the Kaling Flour Mill (Private) Ltd., Rourkela in Orissa during the period from 1st October, 1961 to 31st December 1962 by the Regional Director of Food, Eastern Region, Calcutta;

(b) the retail prices as fixed by the Regional Director, Food, Calcutta, for Suji, Maida, whole meal atta and resultant atta to be sold at Rourkela; and

(c) the actual rates at which these commodities, particularly resultant atta, are being sold to the public and other retailers by the Kaling Flour Mill at Rourkela?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS): (a) 15,342 metric tons.

(b) No such prices are fixed. It is only the ex-mill price that is fixed.

(c) These ex-mill prices applicable to the Kaling Flour Mills are as follows:—

Suji	. Rs. 58-94 per quintal
Maida	. Rs. 53-58 per quintal
Wholemeal atta	. Rs. 41 • 53 per quintal
Resultant atta	. Rs. 39*52 per quintal

COST OF PRODUCTION STUDIES OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES

237. SHRI BABA SAHEB SAVNI-KAR: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state whether Government are contemplating cost of production studies of important agricultural commodities with special reference to prevailing market prices at the time of respective harvests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINCH): The Indian Council of Agricultural Research in collaboration with the Commodity Committees concerned are already conducting the following cost of cultivation surveys:

Crop	Area covered
1. Cotton and crops grown in rotation with it namely, oil-seeds (groundnut/sarson) and cereals (jowar/wheat).	Important cotton and oilseed producing districts of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Punjab and Mysore.
2. Jute and paddy.	Important jute producing districts of West Bengal, Bihar and Assam.

A proposal for conducting a survey to study the cost of cultivation of rice is under consideration.

The above studies aim at collecting representative data on labour and

materials involved in the cultivation of these crops as well as their money-equivalents on a per acre and per maund basis.

Besides these surveys, the 'Studies in the Economics of Farm Management' conducted by the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, since 1954-55 in certain selected districts of nine States, viz., Punjab, Madras, U.P., Maharashtra, West Bengal, Andhra, Bihar, Orissa and Mysore have also provided information on the cost of production of major crops grown in the concerned regions, both on per acre and per maund basis. These studies are now in operation in three more States, viz., Madhya Pradesh, Kerala and Rajasthan.

Data on prices of agricultural commodities are also being collected by Government.

CONVERSION OF AURANGABAD AIRSTRIP INTO ALL-WEATHER AERODROME

288. SHRI BABA SAHEB SAVNE-KAR: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state by when it is proposed to convert Aurangabad Airstrip into an all-weather aerodrome?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN): Aurangabad Aerodrome already has a cement concrete runway which can be used all the year round.

LAND UNDER BHANG, GANJA, OPIUM AND TOBACCO

239. SHRI BABA SAHEB SAVNE-KAR: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) how many acres of land are under cultivation of Bhang, Ganja, opium and tobacco in India in the year 1962-63;

(b) whether Government propose to bring any restrictions on the cultivation of these crops; and

(c) what income Government derive from the cultivation of these crops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAM SUBHAC SINGH): (a) The control over production and levy of duty etc. on Bhang and Ganja come within the purview of the State Governments. Information in respect of area under cultivation of these two crops during 1962-63 has not been received from the State Governments so far. The information in respect of opium and tobacco is as follows: —

Name of the Commodity	Area under cultivation (in hectares)
Opium	26,078
Tobacco	2,46,000 (up to Dec. 1962)

(b) No restrictions are proposed to be imposed on the cultivation of tobacco. As regards opium, the licensing policy for production is largely guided by international obligations to restrict it to medical and scientific needs.

(c) The income from excise duty on opium is earned by the State Governments and the Central Government only derive some profits on its export to foreign countries.

The revenue derived during 1962-63 up to January 1963 is Rs. 30.57 crores on unmanufactured tobacco and Rs. 19.84 crores on manufactured tobacco.

240. [Transferred to the 18th March, 1963.]

**FWIMAHOTC or Aix IJIBIA
ACHOCULTUJUISSRVICK**

241. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA:
"Will the Minister of FOOD AND
AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to form
an All India Agriculture Service;

(b) if so, what will be the personnel to be
taken in the Service; and

(c) when the Service is likely to be
formed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
(SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH): (a) to (c) A
scheme for the introduction of an All India
Agricultural Service is being drawn up and
when it is ready, it will be referred to the State
Governments for their views.

**CONSTRUCTION WORK ON SINGHARAM
BRIDGE ON G.T. ROAD**

242. SHRI SURJIT SINGH ATWAL:
Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND
COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress so far made in the
•onstruction work on Singharam bridge on
G.T. Road between Raniganj and Ondal (in
West Bengal) which is being constructed by
the G^pvernment of India; and

(b) since when it is under construction
and how long it will take for completion?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING IN THE
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND
COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) :
(a) About 85 per cent of the work has been
completed.

(fo) The work was started in January 1960
and is expected to be completed by June 1963.

**IMAUGURAL FLIGHT OP JAL AIRLINE*
BETWEEN DELHI AND JAPAN**

243. SHRI A. M. TARIQ: Will the Minister
of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be
pleased to refer to the answer given in the
Rajya Sabha to Starred Question No. 394 on
tha 21st January, 1963 ind state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one
Deputy Minister of Finance was invit
ed on the inaugural flight of Jai Air
lines between Delhi and Japan; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above
be in the affirmative, whether the
Deputy Minister attended the In
augural flight on behalf of Govern
ment; and if so, what expenditure was
incurred by Government in this res
pect?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THI
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND
COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI AHMED
MOHIUDDIN) : (a) Yes, Sir. This information
was not available when Starred Question No.
394 was answered on 21-1-1963.

(b) No, Sir; consequently no ex
penditure was incurred by Govern
ment.

**PROVISION OF INEXPENSIVE ACCOMMODA-
TION TO TOURISTS**

244. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: Will the
Minister of TRANSPORT AN»
COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under
Government's consideration to provide
inexpensive accommodation to the tourists in
the country;

(fo) if so, what is the proposal; and

(c) the number of bungalows for
this purpose likely to be constructed
in each city?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING IN THE
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND
COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR):
(a) and (b) The Tourist Department of the
Government of

India has been considering the question of providing inexpensive accommodation for tourists in the principal cities and tourist centres of the country—Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta, Madras, Agra and Jaipur where western style hotels tend to be expensive for a large number of middle income group tourists (clerks, teachers, nurses and students etc.) who visit the country. To give effect to this proposal, the Tourist Department has approached organisations which have experience in running hostels. Letters have also been addressed to the State Governments to enquire whether they would be interested in putting up hostel-type accommodation with western style amenities inexpensively. Some replies have been received and the matter is under consideration.

(c) The constructions, as explained above, will take the form of hostels (not bungalows) in Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta, Madras, Agra and Jaipur.

**METHOD OF CHECKING FRACTURES
IN WHEELS AND AXLES IN LOCO SHED AT
BHUSAVAL**

245. SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the method of checking fractures in the wheels and axles in the Loco Shed at Bhusaaval on the Central Railway;

(b) whether this method is the most effective method for detecting flaws in the metal; and

what alternative method contemplated?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) Chalking and bumping.

(b) It is satisfactory for detecting external flaws and cracks but cannot detect internal flaws.

(c) Ultrasonic flaw detection by which internal flaws can also be detected.

SUPERSONIC FLAW DETECTOR

246. SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supersonic Flaw Detector in the Railway Workshop at Ajmer, Western Railway, went out of order in September, 1959;

(b) if so, whether it has since been repaired; and if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether a new Detector has been ordered since?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) to (c) Supersonic Flaw Detectors were provided in the Ajmer Loco Workshop and Carriage Workshop separately in March 1955. The Detector in the Carriage Shop where largest number of axles require testing was intensively used till September, 1959 when it went out of order. While action was taken to repair this, the Detector in use in the Loco Workshop was made available for use in Carriage Workshop. This machine also went out of order in August 1960. In the meanwhile, Detectors of a new model and design became available and one such equipment has been in use in Carriage Shop, Ajmer since June 1962. Five more such units are expected in the near future.

The Detectors provided in 1955 are of an earlier model and design and were not robust in construction. The manufacturers have since stopped making this model. As such, it is difficult to obtain spares to repair these equipments. Nevertheless attempts are being made to procure these spares and repair the equipments.

POST-RETIREMENT PASSES FOR RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

247. SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the employees of the Indian Railways are entitled for post-retirement passes valid for whole of the country;

(b) if so, whether the retired employees of ex-B.L. Railway Company have been given passes valid only for the B.L. Railway Sector of the Central Railway; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons for this different treatment?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) Only those who put in the minimum qualifying service prescribed are eligible to post-retirement complimentary passes.

<b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The staff of the ex-B.L. Railway enjoyed pass privilege over that Railway only and the same was permitted in respect of the retired staff who were not taken over by Government.

^CONSTRUCTION OF 'CIRCUIT HOUSE' AT RAMESHWARAM

110. SHRI BANSI LAL: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to construct a 'Circuit House' at Rameshwaram; and

(b) if so, when do Government propose to construct it?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) The Ministry of Transport and Communications have no proposal to put up a Circuit House at Rameshwaram.

†Transferred from the 4th March, 1963.

However, the Third Five Year Plan for Development of Tourism includes a provision of Rs. 1 50 lakhs for construction of a Low Income Group Rest House at Rameshwaram. The scheme is included in the plans of the Madras Government and is to be executed by the State Government with 50% subsidy from the Central Government

(b) The State Government proposed to take up this scheme during 1963-64 but due to the present emergency it has been postponed.

^RAISING OF ALLOCATIONS FOR IRRIGATION AND SOIL CONSERVATION

247-A. SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Development Council has decided to raise the allocations of funds for minor irrigation and soil conservation in different States by 50 percent; and

(b) what is the allocation of funds made to each State for this purpose?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS): (a) The National Development Council decided to step up the All-India Third Plan targets for minor irrigation and soil conservation by 50%. This decision of the National Development Council was conveyed to the State Governments and they were requested to reorientate their development plans in accordance with the policy approved by the National Development Council, review their minor irrigation and soil conservation programmes with a view to accelerating them so as to achieve higher targets of 50% above the Third Plan targets at the All India level and make

^Transferred from the list of questions for oral answer for the 12th March, 1963 where it appeared as Starred Question No. 827.

necessary provision for the accelerated programmes in the Annual Plan for 1965-64 and subsequent years.

(b) Allocation made to each State for minor irrigation and soil conservation programmes during 1963-64 and additional outlay recommended for these as well as other Agricultural Production Schemes are given in the attached statement. [See Appendix XLII, Annexure No. 25.]

With a view however to enable the State Governments to accelerate their Minor Irrigation and Soil Conservation Programmes from the current financial year itself, a sum of Rs. 9'26 crores and Rs. 0-74 crores has been allotted for the Minor Irrigation and Soil Conservation Schemes, respectively. Statewise break up of these amounts is also indicated in the attached statement.

NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS ON ROAD BETWEEN SAFDARJANG AERODROME AND HOSPITAL

247-B. SHRI V. M. CHORDIA: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) how many accidents took place during the year 1961 and upto October, 1962 on the road between Safdarjang aerodrome and Safdarjang Hospital;

(b) why the bridge on this road was not been expanded so far; and

(c) whether Government propose to construct a separate bridge for pedestrians?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ SAHADUR): (a) to (c) The information required is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha as soon as it is available.

12 NOON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

THE DELHI MOTOR VEHICLES (12TH AMENDMENT) RULES, 1962

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ SAHADUR): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under subsection (3) of section 133 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939, a copy of Notification No. F. 12/33/62-PR(T), dated the 15th November, 1962, publishing the Delhi Motor Vehicles (12th Amendment) Rules, 1962, issued by the Delhi Administration. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-932/63.]

THE RICE (EASTERN ZONE) MOVEMENT CONTROL (AMENDMENT) ORDER, 1963

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under subsection (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, a copy of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture* (Department of Food) Notification G.S.R. No. 397, dated the 2nd March, 1963, publishing the Rice (Eastern Zone) Movement Control (Amendment) Order, 1963. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-930/63.]

ALLOTMENT OF TIME FOR CON- SIDERATION OF MOTION RE THE SITUATION ARISING OUT OF GOLD CONTROL

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have to inform Members that under rule 153 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I have allotted two and a half hours for the consideration of the motion regarding the situation arising out of the recent Gold Control.

**REFERENCETONOTICEOFMOTION
FOR PAPERS**

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal):
Sir, what has happened to the Motion for
Papers, notice of which I gave?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You will know it in due
course.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: But the session
is coming to an end.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not the time to
give you the information. It will come to you
from the office.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ (Jammu and Kashmir):
Sir, I would like to draw your attention to the
report from the Lok Sabha that yesterday they
reprimanded three hon. Members of a political
party who had shown some sort of bad
behaviour towards our President, and one
Member of that party is in this House also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Tariq, if you want
to raise any point, I suggest, you discuss the
matter with me beforehand in my Chamber.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: I only want to know
whether you are taking the....

MR. CHAIRMAN: How do I know what
point you will raise? If you make a speech, it
will be too late when I come to know it. I
don't know what point you want to raise and if
you make a speech I will not be able to stop
you. I cannot stop you till you finish and then
the thing is useless. Therefore, you can see me
in my Chamber.

**THE AGRICULTURAL
REFINANCE CORPORATION BILL,
1963—continued**

MR. CHAIRMAN: We shall now proceed
with the further consideration of the
Agricultural Refinance Corporation Bill,
1963. Shri Abdul Ghani was speaking and he
may continue his speech now.

شری عبدالغنی (پنجاب): چہر مہین

صاحب - میں کل عرض کر رہا
تھا -

شری سभापति : आप शुरू करें इस
से पहले मैं आपको याद दिला दूँ कि आप
पैंतीस मिनट बोल चुके हैं पिछली दफा ।

شری عبدالغنی : میں یہ عرض کر

رہا تھا کہ اس وقت تک کسان کی

بھلائی کے لئے جو بڑے بڑے قدم اٹھائے

گئے اس میں بڑی ہی ترقیاں ہوئیں -

میں-ان-پارو نے اس کو بڑے غلط ڈھنگ

سے استعمال کیا تو میں یہ عرض کر رہا

تھا کہ سرکار جب اس بل کو لا رہی ہے

تو مبارک باد کی مستحق ہے بشرطیکہ

اسی طرح سے نہ ہو جیسے پہلے گورنمنٹ

فارم بنائے گئے تو سرکار کے آدمیوں کی

یا ایلی نکمی زمینوں کو خرید لیا گیا

جو بالکل بے کار ہوا، کروڑوں روپیہ ضائع

کیا اور لاکھوں روپیہ کا سالانہ نقصان اب

بھی ہو رہا ہے - اسی طرح کوآپریٹو کے

نام پر جو روپیہ دیا گیا اس میں بھی

ہوشیار سرکاری آدمیوں نے وہ روپیہ

استعمال کیا تو میں عرض کر رہا تھا کہ

آپ جو کارپوریشن بنانے جا رہے ہیں

جس میں ۲۵ کروڑ روپیہ تک آپ نے

دکھا ہے اور پچاس لاکھ تک بھی آپ

کسی انسٹی ٹیوشن کو دیلگے جو

کسانوں کے ہت میں کام کرے گا تو

میری دلی خواہش یہ ہے کہ آپ

ایسا سوچیں کہ جو چھوٹے چھوٹے کسان

ہیں جو ساٹھ فی صدی سے زائد ہیں اور

[شادی عبدالغنی]

جن کی زمیں پانچ ایکڑ تک ہے ان کو کسی طرح سے فائدہ پہنچے۔ جب سے دام راج آیا ہے چیرمین صاحب - سڑکیں بڑی بدلیں بہت مبارک ہوا بدلی چاہئیں لیکن کسان جو دودھ چھاپہ اور مکھن کی برکت سے فائدہ اٹھاتا تھا وہ محروم ہو گیا - ہم نے قیری کھول دی ہے دلی میں جہاں لاکھوں میں دردہ آتا ہے - تھیک ہے دہلی والوں کی بھی خدمت کرنی چاہئے آج بتجائے اس نے کہ کسان اپنے یہاں اچھی گاڑیں رکھتے اچھی بھلے سہیں رکھتے تو میں سمجھتا کہ انہوں نے ایک بہتر سے بہتر نسل کو لاکر اچھے سے اچھا دودھ دیا لیکن ایسا نہیں ہوا - جناب چیرمین صاحب - میں یہ اس لئے کہہ رہا ہوں کیونکہ یہاں پر رکھا گیا ہے کہ یہ روپیہ قیری کے لئے بھی دیا جائے گا یہ روپیہ پولٹری کے لئے بھی دیا جائے گا اور جیسا کہ کل تھامس صاحب نے کہا ہے کہ مکھن کی بجائے فھس کم نہیں - ہاں فھس فیری بھی سرکار کر دے تو کوئی خرچ کی بات نہیں - اس کے معنی یہ نہیں ہیں کہ اگر قیری کھلے تو کسان کو اس کا فائدہ نہیں پہنچے - کسان قیریوں کھولے گا نہیں کیونکہ اب تک جو قیریاں کھلی ہیں ان میں اگر میں یہ کہوں کہ کسان پچیس پرنسٹ بھی نہیں ہوں تو میں کوئی مبالغہ نہیں کرتا آپ کی اتنی

ملستریاں ہیں - پہلے ہی کافی سے زیادہ متکے ہیں کوئی ہریجن ویل فیر کے نام پر ہے کوئی اور کسی آرگنائزیشن کے نام پر ہے امداد پہلے ہی چل رہی ہے - لیکن اس میں طریقہ یہ تھا کہ سو روپیہ اگر آپ کو ایک کسان کو دینا ہے تو وہ پہلے تحصیل میں آئے عرضی دے کر جائے اور پھر جب اس کی عرضی منظور ہو تو روپیہ لے لے لے تو پھر کرایہ اٹھائے - تو آپ نے جو یہ روپیہ رکھا یہ پارٹی پولیٹیکس سے یا ذات برادری کی پولیٹیکس سے الگ تھلگ ہے -

[THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair]

میں یہ نہیں کہتا کہ یہ سماج وادی بورڈ مرگا لیکن جو آفیسر مقرر ہوں گے وہ ان باتوں سے ہٹ کر کہیں کہ چالاک آدمی یا سرکار کا توازا ہوا آدمی سرکار کا چھٹا آدمی اس کارپوریشن کو پورا اپنے لئے روٹھائیں نہ کرے گا اور سرکار ایک نئے تھلگ سے یہ روپیہ بھی اپنے آدمیوں کو دے کر اپنی گدی کو مضبوط کرنے کے لئے استعمال نہیں کرے گی - اب دیکھنا یہ ہے کہ قپتی چیرمین صاحب - کہ آیا یہ روپیہ چھوٹے کسانوں کی بھلائی کے لئے خرچ ہو سکے گا یا نہیں کیونکہ اب تک جو بھی روپیہ دیا گیا - ٹریکٹر کے لئے تو جو بڑے بڑے لہلہ لڑتے تھے انہوں نے لئے اسی طرح سے جو پسہنگ سہت کے لئے روپیہ لیا وہ بھی بڑے بڑے کسانوں نے لیا جو روپیہ کو آپریٹو کے

نام پر لیا وہ بھی بڑے بڑے کسانوں نے لیا اور زمینی سرکار نے خریدیں چاہے ہریچلوں کے لئے خریدتی ہوں چاہے سٹیمٹ فارم قائم کرنے کے لئے خریدی وہ بھی میں یہاں تک کہوں گا کہ جو مارکیٹ ویلہو ہے اس سے بھی زیادہ قیمت پر خریدی گئیں۔ اس پر میں نہیں کہتا کہ رام راج ہے اس میں ایسی باتیں ہو جائیں مجھے کوئی چلتا نہیں ہے میں نے ایک بات کہی تھی کہ جو بھی آپ اس کے تحصیل کر لے جا رہے ہیں اس میں جو فیکٹس ایڈ فیکٹس آپ بھلائی کریں وہ صحیح طور سے کریں۔ میں عرض کروں کہ ابھی ابھی جنوری میں پلاننگ کمیشن کی طرف سے ہیں اسٹیمٹس ملے تھے اس میں یہ کہتے ہیں کہ پنجاب میں ۵۶ لاکھ ۲۳ ہزار ٹن فوڈ گرین—پنجاب والے خود کہتے ہیں اپنے ایسٹریکٹ اسٹیمٹس میں جو انہوں نے حال ہی میں چھاپا ہے کہ وہ ۵۵ لاکھ کا ہوا اور وہ ہی پھر ایک اور تین مہینے کی کوارٹرلی رپورٹ چھاپتے ہیں اور اس میں کہتے ہیں ۵۵ لاکھ ۲۴ ہزار ہوا۔ انہوں نے ایک اور اسٹیمٹس سیکلڈ فائبر ایئر پلان کی کامیابی پر چھاپا ہے اس میں ذکر کیا ہے ۵۴ لاکھ ۵۳ ہزار ٹن۔

مجھ لئے میں حیران ہوتا ہوں کہ سرکار کے ذریعہ جو آنکڑے چھاپے جاتے ہیں ان میں اس قدر بے دردی سے

غلط بھائی کی جاتی ہے کہ کچھ کہا نہیں جا سکتا۔ میں نہیں کہتا کہ غلط بھائی ہو گئی ہے لیکن لاکھو تین کا فرق نہیں ہو سکتا۔ کسی نہ دیا ہو ایسی بات بھی نہیں ہے۔ لیکن مہرا کہتا ہے کہ اس طرح کا دھندل کب تک چلتا رہیگا۔ اگر آپ مجھے اجازت دیں گے تو میں یہ سب فیکٹس آپ کے سامنے رکھ سکتا ہوں۔ ہر سال کے مختلف فیکٹس ہیں۔ لاکھوں ٹن کا فرق ہے اور اس طرح سے اسٹیمٹس کے ذریعہ غلط بھائی کی جاتی ہے۔ ان آنکڑوں کو ایک بار پوچھنے کے بعد کوئی یہ خیال نہیں کرتا کہ ان میں کتنی غلط بھائی ہے۔ شاید کسی کا دھیان نہ جاتا ہو۔ میں نے کل بھی کہا تھا کہ اگر سرکار چاہے تو یہ سارے آنکڑے دے سکتا ہوں۔ آپ اپنے اسٹیمٹس کے ذریعہ پانچ لاکھ سے کم زمین رکھنے والے کسانوں کو تسلی دے رہے ہیں۔ میں آپ کا مشکور ہوں لیکن میں آپ سے عرض کرنا چاہتا ہوں کہ آپ اپنے اسٹیمٹس کے مطابق یہ کام نہ کیجئے۔ اس کارپوریشن کے ذریعہ آپ جو روپیہ کسانوں کی بھلائی کے لئے دے رہے ہیں اس کا استعمال انہیں کی بھلائی کے لئے اچھی طرح سے کیا جانا چاہئے ان لوگوں کو فائدہ تبھی ہوگا جب یہ مانا جائے کہ جو کچھ روپیہ کسانوں کی بہتری کے لئے دیا جائیگا وہ انہیں

[ہری مہدالغنی]

پر خرچ کیا جائیگا۔ رام راج سے پہلے شیطان راج میں لوگوں کو ادھیک سے ادھیک دودھ ملتا تھا، چھاپہ ملتی تھی، مکھن ملتا تھا اور کسان مہاجلوں سے قرضہ لے کر اپنا گذارہ چلاتے تھے۔ اس طرح سے ان کی حالت اس زمانے میں بہتر تھی لیکن رام راج میں یہ سب چیز غائب ہو گئیں۔ آج کسانوں کے نام پر پولٹری فارم کھولے جاتے ہیں تو اندے میں کھاتا ہوں۔ مرغیاں پالی جاتی ہیں تو ہم انہیں اڑاتے ہیں چورتیا صاحب کی قسمت میں یہ نہیں ہے کیونکہ وجیہ یہ ہیں۔ اسی طرح سے کسانوں کے نام پر جو روپیہ خرچ کیا جاتا ہے اس کا فائدہ انہیں نہیں ملتا ہے۔ میرے کہنے کا مطلب یہ ہے کہ جو روپیہ اس آرگنائزیشن کے ذریعہ خرچ کیا جائیگا اس سے صاف ظاہر ہوتا ہے کہ آپ کو سنگل کورنڈمٹ کے اوپر تسلی نہیں ہے، اپنی اسٹیٹ کورنڈمٹ اور دوسرے محکموں پر تسلی نہیں ہے۔ آج سرکاری محکموں کے ذریعہ لاکھوں روپیہ کسانوں کی بھلائی کے نام پر خرچ کیا جا رہا ہے لیکن انہیں اس کا فائدہ نہیں پہنچتا ہے۔

آپ نے جو یہ اسکیم بتائی ہے میں اس کی مخالفت نہیں کرتا کیونکہ یہ ایک نیا قدم ہے جو آپ اٹھانے جا رہے ہیں۔ مہری نظر میں چاہے بس کی

کوئی قیمت نہیں ہے لیکن جو یہ بہداری ہے وہ کچھ ہزاروں روپیہ سے دور ہونے والی نہیں ہے بلکہ اس کے لئے اربوں روپیہ کی ضرورت ہے۔ اگر آپ اس میں اتنا ہی روپیہ خرچ کرتے ہیں تو میرا کہنا ہے کہ اگر آپ مریض کو صرف اناسٹین اور آسپرین ہی دینا چاہتے ہیں تو اس سے اس کو کچھ فائدہ تو پہنچے گا ہی۔ اس کو پورا فائدہ تبھی پہنچے گا جب آپ اپنی سرکاری پالیٹیکس اپنی چھوٹی سرکار کی پالیٹیکس میں کسی طرح کافیورٹیزم اور نیوٹریزم نہ آنے دیں یہ اچھا کام جو آپ کر رہے ہیں۔ کسانوں کے نام پر کر رہے ہیں۔ اس سے کسانوں کو نائدہ نہیں پہنچے گا تو وہ سب بیکار ہو جائیگا۔ اگر آپ نے اس گارپوریشن کا انتظام ٹھیک طرح سے نہیں کیا تو اس کے ذریعہ جو روپیہ کسانوں کو دیا جائیگا اسکا مس یوز ہوگا اور کسانوں کے حوصلے پست ہو جائیں گے۔ کسان سمجھے گا کہ میرے نام پر سرکار قدم اٹھاتی ہے لیکن مجھے فائدہ نہیں پہنچتا ہے کیونکہ میں ان پورہ ہوں کمزور ہوں میرے ذرائع معدود ہیں۔ میرا کوئی آرگنائزیشن نہیں ہے، اس لئے جو قدم بھی سرکار اٹھاتی ہے اس کا فائدہ دوسرے یار لوگ اٹھالے جاتے ہیں۔ جناب ذبئی چیر مین صاحب۔ میں آپ کا، چیر مین صاحب کا اور وائس چیر مین صاحب کا مملوں ہوں کہ آپ نے

مجھے اس بل پر بولنے کے لئے کافی
سے دیا - میں آپ سے عرض کرنا
چاہتا ہوں کہ آپ پہلی باتوں کو
بھول جائیں ورنہ دنیا پکار پکار کر
کہہ گی :

جا ان لباسیوں کے نہ ظاہر لباس پر
غافل قبائے ہوش و قبائے خوں سے ہیں
اگر آپ اس طرح اپنی عقل کو استعمال
کریں گے کہ غریب کسانوں کی ترقی
ہو، پانچ ایکڑ سے کم زمین والوں کو
فائدہ پہنچے، تو آپکی یہ اسکیم کامیاب
ہو سکتی ہے - اگر آپ چاہتے ہیں کہ
کہ چر ٹیوب ویل آپ اس کے لئے بلانیں
جو پمپنگ سہت لگانا چاہیں اچھا
بھیج دینا چاہیں ان سب کا فائدہ
انہوں ملے تو جو روپیہ ان کاموں میں
خرچ کھا جائے وہ ان کو ملنا ہے یا
نہیں اس کو آپ کو دیکھنا ہوگا -
جو روپیہ تھری یا پورٹری کے لئے دیا
جائے اس سے اس کو فائدہ پہنچے اور
وہ بھی دودھہ اندازہ کھا سکے - یہ نہ
ہو کہ وہ دودھہ پیدا کرے اور اس کو
شہر میں بھیج دے جائے اور یہاں پر
میں اور آنریبل ممبران یہیں اور
کہیں کہ بڑا اچھا دودھہ ہے - جب
تک آپ کسانوں کی بھلائی کی اور
اچھی طرح سے دھیان نہیں دینگے اور
جتنی روپیہ ان کے اوپر خرچ کرنا چاہتے
ہیں وہ ان کے اوپر خرچ نہیں کریں گے
تب تک آپ کی یہ اسکیم کامیاب
ہونے والی نہیں ہے - تھیلک یو -

†[**श्री अश्वकुल गनी (पंजाब) :** बैरमैन
साहब, मैं कल अर्ज कर रहा था ...

श्री सभापति : आप शुरू करें इस से पहले
में आपको याद दिला दूं कि आप पेंटीस मिनट
बोल चुके हैं पिछली दफा।

श्री अश्वकुल गनी : मैं यह अर्ज कर रहा था
कि उस वक्त तक किसान की भलाई के लिये
जो बड़े-बड़े कदम उठाये गये उस में बड़ी ही
श्रुटियां हुईं। मैं इन-पावर ने इस को बड़े
गलत ढंग से इस्तेमाल किया। तो मैं यह अर्ज कर
रहा था कि सरकार जब इस बिल को ला रही
है तो मुबारकबाद की मुस्तहिक है
बशर्त कि इसी तरह से न हो जैसे पहले गवर्न-
मेंट—फार्म बनाये गये तो सरकार के आदमियों
की या अपनी निकम्मी जमीनों को
खरीद लिया गया जो बिल्कुल बेकार हुआ;
करोड़ों रुपया जाया किया और लाखों रुपयों
का सालाना नुकसान अब भी हो रहा है।
इसी तरह कोऑपरेटिव के नाम पर जो रुपया
दिया गया उस में भी होशियार सरकारी
आदमियों ने वह रुपया इस्तेमाल किया। तो
मैं अर्ज कर रहा था कि आप जो कारपो-
रेशन बनाने जा रहे हैं जिस में २५ करोड़
रुपये तक आपने रखा है और ५० लाख
तक भी आप किसी इन्स्टीट्यूशन को
देंगे जो किसानों के हित में काम करेगा, तो
मेरी दिली इच्छा है कि आप ऐसा
सोचें कि जो छोटे-छोटे किसान हैं, जो ९०
फी सदी से जायद हैं और जिनकी जमीन ५
एकड़ तक है उनको किस तरह से फायदा
पहुंचे। जब से राम राज्य आया है, बैरमैन
साहब, सड़कें बड़ी बनीं। बहुत मुबारक हुआ।
बननी चाहियें। लेकिन किसान जो दूध,
छाछ और मक्खन की बरकत से फायदा
उठाता था वह महकूम हो गया। हमने
डेरी खोल दी है दिल्ली में जहां लाखों मन
दूध आता है। ठीक है दिल्ली वालों की
भी खिदमत करनी चाहिये। आज बजाय

†[] Hindi transliteration.

[श्री अब्दुल गनी]

इसके कि किसान अपने यहां अच्छी गायें रखते, अच्छी भैंसे रखें तो मैं समझता कि उन्होंने एक बेहतर से बेहतर नस्ल को ला कर अच्छे से अच्छा दूध दिया। लेकिन ऐसा नहीं हुआ। जनाब चेयरमैन साहब, मैं यह इसलिये कह रहा हूँ कि क्योंकि यहां पर रखा गया है कि यह रुपया डेरी के लिये भी दिया जायेगा, यह रुपया पोलट्री के लिये भी दिया जायेगा और बता कि कल थॉमस साहब ने कहा है कि मक्खन की बजाय फिश खायें, हां, फिश श्री भी सरकार कर दे तो कोई हर्ज की बात नहीं। इसके माने यह नहीं है कि अगर डेरी खुले तो किसान को इसका फायदा नहीं पहुंचे। किसान डेरी खोलेगा नहीं। क्योंकि अब तक जो डेरियां खुली हैं उनमें अगर मैं यह कहूं कि किसान २५ परसेन्ट भी नहीं हैं तो कोई मुबालिगा नहीं करता। आपकी इतनी मिनिस्ट्रियां हैं। पहले ही काफी से ज्यादा महकमे हैं। कोई हरिजन वेलफेयर के नाम पर है, कोई और किसी औरगेनाइजेशन के नाम पर है, इमदाद पहले ही चल रही है। लेकिन इसमें तरीका यह था कि सौ रुपया अगर आपको एक किसान को देना है तो वह पहले तहसील में आये, अर्शो दे कर जाये, और फिर जब उसकी अर्शो मंजूर हो तो रुपया लेने आये वो फिर किराया उठाये। तो आपने जो यह रुपया रखा यह पार्टी पोलिटिक्स से या बातबिरादरी की पोलिटिक्स से अलग चल रहा है।

[THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair]

मैं यह नहीं कहता कि ये समाजवादी बोर्ड होगा लेकिन जो आफिसर मुकर्रर होंगे वह इन बातों से उठ कर कहें कि चालाक आदमियों या सरकार का नवाजा हुआ आदमी, सरकार का चहेता आदमी, इस कारपोरेशन को पूरा अपने लिये यूटीलाइज न करेगा और सरकार एक नये ढंग से यह रुपया भी अपने आदमियों को दे कर अपनी गद्दी को

मजबूत करने के लिये इस्तेमाल नहीं करेगी। अब देखना यह है डिप्टी चेयरमैन साहब, कि आया यह रुपया छोटे किसानों की भलाई के लिये खर्च हो सकेगा या नहीं क्योंकि अब तक जो भी रुपया दिया गया—ट्रैक्टर लिये तो जो बड़े बड़े लैंडलाइंड थे उन्होंने लिये, इसी तरह से जो पंपिंग सेट के लिये रुपया लिया वह भी बड़े बड़े किसानों ने लिया जो रुपया कोआपरेटिव के नाम पर लिया वह भी बड़े बड़े किसानों ने लिया। और जमीनें सरकार ने खरीदीं चाहे हरिजनों के लिये हों, चाहे स्टेट फार्म कायम करने के लिये खरीदीं। वह भी मैं यहां तक कहूंगा कि जो मार्केट वैल्यू है उससे भी ज्यादा कीमत पर खरीदी गई इस पर मैं नहीं कहता कि राम राज्य है। इसमें ऐसी बातें हो जायें, मुझे कोई चिन्ता नहीं है। मैंने एक बात कही थी कि जो भी आप इसके तहत करने जा रहे हैं उसमें जो फैक्ट्स एण्ड फीगर आप सप्लाय करें वह सही तौर से करें। मैं अजं करूं कि अभी अभी जनवरी में प्लानिंग कमिशन की तरफ से हमें स्टेटिक्स मिले थे। उसमें यह कहते हैं कि पंजाब में ५६ लाख २३ हजार टन फूडगेन। पंजाब वाले खुद कहते हैं हमने एक्सट्रेक्ट्स स्टेटिस्टिक्स में जो उन्होंने हाल ही में छापा है कि वह ५५ लाख का हुआ। और वह ही फिर एक और तीन महीने की क्वाटरली रिपोर्ट छापते हैं और उसमें कहते हैं ५५ लाख ४४ हजार हुआ। उन्होंने एक और स्टेटिस्टिक्स सैकेन्ड फाइव ईयर प्लान की कामयाबी पर छापा है उसमें जिक्र किया है ५४ लाख ५३ हजार टन।

इसलिए मैं हैरान होता हूँ कि सरकार के जरिये जो आंकड़े छापे जाते हैं उसमें इस कदर बेदरदी से गलत बयानी की जाती है कि कुछ कहा नहीं जा सकता। मैं नहीं कहता कि गलत बयानी हो गई है। लेकिन लाखों टन का फर्क नहीं हो सकता। किसी ने दिया हो ऐसी बात भी नहीं है। लेकिन मेरा कहना यह है कि इस तरह का धंधा कब तक चलता

रहेगा। अगर आप मुझे इजाजत देंगे तो मैं ये सब फीगर्स आपके सामने रख सकता हूँ। हर साल के मुस्तलिफ फीगर्स हैं। लाखों टन का फर्क है। और इस तरह से स्टेटिक्स के जरिये गलत बयानी की जाती है। इन आंकड़ों को एक बार पढ़ने के बाद कोई यह ब्याल नहीं करता कि इनमें कितनी गलत बयानी है। शायद किसी का ध्यान न जाता हो मैंने कल भी कहा था कि अगर सरकार चाहे तो यह सारे आंकड़े दे सकता हूँ। तो आप ने स्टेटिस्टिक्स के जरिये पांच एकड़ से कम ज़मीन रखने वाले किसानों को तसल्ली दे रहे हैं। मैं आपका मशकूर हूँ लेकिन मैं आपसे अज़ करना चाहता हूँ कि आप अपने स्टेटिस्टिक्स के मुताबिक यह काम न कीजिये। इस कारपोरेशन के जरिये आप जो रुपया किसानों की भलाई के लिये दे रहे हैं उसका इस्तमाल उन्हीं की भलाई के लिये अच्छी तरह से किया जाना चाहिये। इन लोगों को फायदा सभी होगा जब यह माना जाये कि जो कुछ रुपया किसानों की बेहतरी के लिये दिया जायेगा वह उन्हीं पर खर्च किया जायेगा। राम राज्य से पहले शैतान राज्य में लोगों को अधिक से अधिक दूध मिलता था, छाछ मिलती थी, मक्खन मिलता था और किसान महा-अन्न से कर्जा ले कर अपना गुजारा चलाते थे। इसी तरह से उनकी हालत इस जमाने में बेहतर थी लेकिन राम राज्य में ये सब चीजें गायब हो गयीं। आज किसानों के नाम पर पोल्ट्री फार्म खोले जाते हैं तो अंडे मैं खाता हूँ। मृगियां पाली जाती हैं तो हम उन्हें उड़ाते हैं। चौरङ्गिया साहब की किस्मत में यह नहीं है। वह वैजटे-रियन हैं। इसी तरह से किसानों के नाम पर जो रुपया खर्च किया जाता है उसका फायदा उन्हें नहीं मिलता है। मेरे कहने का मतलब यह है कि जो रुपया इस आर्गेनाइजेशन के जरिये खर्च किया जायेगा उससे माफ़ जाहिर होता है कि आपको सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट के ऊपर तसल्ली नहीं है, अपनी स्टेट गवर्नमेंट और हमारे महकमों पर तसल्ली नहीं है। सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट के ऊपर तसल्ली

नहीं है। आज सरकारी महकमों के जरिये लाखों रुपया किसानों की भलाई के नाम पर खर्च किया जा रहा है लेकिन उन्हें उसका फायदा नहीं पहुंचता है।

आपने जो यह स्कीम बनाई है मैं उसकी मुखालफत नहीं करता हूँ क्योंकि यह एक नया कदम है जो आप उठाने जा रहे हैं। मेरी नज़र में चाहे इसकी कोई कीमत नहीं है लेकिन जो यह बीमारी है वह कुछ करोड़ रुपयों से दूर होने वाली नहीं है बल्कि उसके लिये अरबों रुपयों की ज़रूरत है। अगर आप इसमें इतना ही रुपया खर्च करते हैं तो मेरा कहना है कि अगर आप मरीज को सिर्फ एनास्थी और एम्ब्रो ही देना चाहते हैं तो इससे उसको कुछ फायदा तो पहुंचेगा ही। उसको पूरा फायदा तभी पहुंचेगा जब आप अपनी सरकारी पोलिटिक्स, अपनी छोटी सरकार की पोलिटिक्स में, किसी तरह का फेवोरिज्म और नेपोटिज्म न आने दें। यह अच्छा काम जो आप कर रहे हैं, किसानों के नाम पर कर रहे हैं। इससे किसानों को फायदा नहीं पहुंचेगा तो वह सब बेकार हो जायेगा। अगर आपने इस कारपोरेशन का इन्तज़ाम ठीक तरह से नहीं किया तो उसके जरिये जो रुपया किसानों को दिया जायेगा उसका मिसयूज़ होगा और किसानों के हौसले पस्त हो जायेगे। किसान समझेगा कि मेरे नाम पर सरकार कदम उठाती है लेकिन मुझे फायदा नहीं पहुंचता है क्योंकि मैं अनपढ़ हूँ, कमज़ोर हूँ मेरे जराये महदूद हैं। मेरा कोई आर्गनाइजेशन नहीं है इसलिये जो कदम भी सरकार उठाती है उसका फायदा दूसरे यार-लोग उठा ले जाते हैं। जनाव डिप्टी चेयरमैन साहब, मैं आपका, चेयरमैन साहब का और वाइस-चेयरमैन साहब का समनून हूँ कि आपने मुझे इस बिल पर बोलने के लिये काफी समय दिया। मैं आपसे अज़ करना चाहता हूँ कि आप पहली बातों को भूल जायें वरना दुनिया पुकार पुकार कर कड़गी :—

[श्री अब्दुल गनी]

जा इन लिबासियों के न जाहिर लिबास पर
गाजी कबाए-होश व कबाए खिरद से हैं ॥

अगर आप इस तरह अपनी अक्ल को इस्तेमाल
करेंगे कि गरीब किसानों की तरक्की हो,
पांच एकड़ से कम जमीन वालों को फायदा
पहुंचे, तो आपकी यह स्कीम कामयाब हो
सकती है। अगर आप चाहते हैं कि जो
द्यूब बेल आप उनके लिये बनायें, जो पम्पिंग
सेट लगाना चाहें, अच्छा बीज देना चाहें,
उन सबका फायदा उन्हें मिले तो जो रुपया
इन कामों में खर्च किया जाये वह उनको
मिलता है या नहीं इसको आपको देखना
होगा। जो रुपया डेरी या पोल्ट्री के लिये
दिया जाये उससे फायदा पहुंचे और वह
भी दूध-अण्डा खा सके। यह न हो कि वह
दूध पैदा करे और उसको शहर में भेज दिया
जाये और यहां पर मैं और अनिरेबल
मेम्बरान पियें और कहें कि बड़ा अच्छा दूध
है। जब तक आप किसानों की भलाई की
ओर अच्छी तरह से ध्यान नहीं देंगे और
जितना रुपया उनके ऊपर खर्च करना चाहते
हैं वह उनके ऊपर खर्च नहीं करेंगे। तब तक
आपकी यह स्कीम कामयाब होने वाली
नहीं है। थैंक यू।]

SHRI S. CHANNA REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Madam Deputy Chairman, I rise to support this Bill wholeheartedly; not only I but the entire agricultural community of this land will welcome this measure. In my opinion, Madam, this is a belated step. Such facilities, through a corporation, have already been provided in the industrial sector and provision of long-term loans through such a corporation is a long-felt desire and need of the agriculturists also. After so many years, Government have taken this welcome step and I congratulate them on this point. Madam, as everybody admits, agriculture is the basic industry of our country.

Unfortunately in the Second Five Year Plan, the emphasis was shifted from agriculture to industry but soon it was realised that unless a strong agricultural potential was created in the country, industrial development would not very much be possible. In the Third Plan, Madam, enough importance has been given to agriculture and all means and ways are being explored to step up production. In spite of strenuous efforts on behalf of the Government and others, we are unable to achieve the desired results in agricultural production. At the end of the Second Five Year Plan, we were nearer to the target but in the first two years of the Third Plan, development and production in the agricultural field are far from being satisfactory. Why is this so? In spite of the fact that quality seeds are being provided to the cultivators and year by year the supply of fertilisers is being increased, we are unable to achieve the desired results in stepping up production. This is mainly because our agriculturists are very poor and poverty always comes in the way. We always say and inculcate that modern methods of farming must be adopted by the agriculturists but this cannot be done with the scanty finances which they have got at their disposal. This may be possible only when they are equipped adequately with long-term, short-term and medium-term loans. As it is, the agriculturists are not getting adequate finances from all the available resources. The co-operative banks are able only to meet at the most ten per cent, of the demand. The Rural Credit Survey Committee which went into this question in 1954 estimated that the need of agriculturists, so far as credit was concerned, was of the order of a thousand to eleven hundred crores of rupees. At that time only three per cent, of the demand was met by the different co-operative societies. After submission of the Report of this Committee, due importance was given to providing credit facilities to the agriculturists

and now, throughout the length and breadth of the country, nearly two lakhs of rural credit societies have been organised and are functioning, though they are not functioning as one would like them to. In addition to these rural credit societies, there are the apex banks, the co-operative banks and so on which are providing short and medium term credit to the agriculturists. But to develop land so as to increase the production potential of it and to utilise the available irrigational facilities which have been created during the First and Second Plans, the agriculturists need long-term loans. At present such loans are provided only by the Central and Primary Land Mortgage Banks but here too they are only able to meet a meagre portion of the demand. Therefore, Madam, at this juncture when the stepping up of agricultural production is very essential, it is very good that Government have taken this welcome step and have come forward to bring into existence this independent statutory corporation to provide longterm credit facilities to the agriculturists.

Madam, it will be interesting if I mention the views of an expert who went into the causes of the failure of agricultural production in Coimbatore District. As early as 1887 Sir Frederick Nicholson observed, "Empty purses led to rude cultivation and a full purse in the Coimbatore Vel-lala's hands could conquer season and soil." This holds good even now. Madam, agriculture in our country is still a gambling in rain and we are much dependent on the mercies and vagaries of nature. This is because the agriculturist has not got sufficient knowledge to conquer these forces of nature. Nor has he got sufficient finances to conquer, as has been observed by Sir Frederick Nicholson, the season and soil. Therefore, as I have said earlier, this is a very laudable step which intends to provide long-term loans to agriculturists. Though meagre, it is a step in the right direction.

Madam, I would now like to deal with the question of credit-worthiness of individual farmers. As things stand today, the creditworthiness is assessed on the basis of the land value but the land value or the price of the land is not determined on the basis of the market rate which prevails but it is determined on the basis of land revenue. Under this state of affairs small cultivators are unable to avail themselves of the opportunities provided for giving them credit because a landowner possessing land of five to ten acres will be able to get only Rs. 50 or Rs. 100, not more than that and it is so meagre an amount that it cannot help him in any way to improve the existing agricultural conditions. What I desire is that there must be a radical change in the method of fixing land prices so that the small cultivators can be benefitted. I will be clear if I illustrate by an example. I am speaking from my own experience of my parts of the country. If a small cultivator possessing land of, say, five acres applies for a loan, to dig a well, he will not be granted say, five acres applies for a loan, his land is dry and at the most the cost of that land in my part of the country will not be more than Rs. 1000. He will get 50 per cent, of that which means he will get only Rs. 500 and with Rs. 500 no well can be dug.

SHRI N. M. LINGAM (Madras): Rs. 500 per acre?

SHRI S. CHANNA REDDY: No; for all the five acres because the cost of his land will be Rs. 1000 at the rate of Rs. 200 per acre. Only fifty per cent, of the total price of the land will be advanced to him as loan and this amount of Rs. 500 is too inadequate for digging a well. But if the assessment is made the well is dug, after irrigational facilities have been provided, then the value of these five acres will mount up to something like Rs. 2500. But this aspect is not taken

[Shri S. Channa Reddy.]

into account by the officers who are supposed to fix up the value of the land. This I have mentioned only to illustrate my point. There are so many other factors also. So, unless there is a radical change in the method of determining the value of the land—other than the present system of basing it on the land revenue—the small cultivators will not be benefitted. They are not able to avail of the opportunities provided by the rural credit societies which give short-term and medium term loans and it will be much less with regard to this Corporation which intends to provide facilities for advancing long-term loans alone. In fact, no small cultivator would be in a position to avail of these opportunities.

Madam, next I would like to mention a few words about the land reforms. At the very outset I want to make it clear that I am all for these land reforms. My objection, rather my concern, is that these land reforms have not been expedited. Even after 15 years of our independence, in some of the States the optimum or the maximum holdings have not been fixed. In some of the States the Land Reform Bills have not been passed yet with the result that a sword of suspicion and apprehension is hanging over the heads of the middle class and upper middle class farmers, who can invest and achieve results in stepping up food production. But they do not venture to invest because they are very much doubtful of the size of their holdings in the future. Therefore it is high time that the Government should see that the fixation of the maximum holding is done as early as possible. The middle class and upper middle class farmers must be told clearly that this much of land is going to remain with them and then they should be asked to put in every effort to increase the production. Only in that case the middle class farmers will come forward to take ;

advantage of these facilities because it is natural that nobody would like to invest when he is not sure of his future. Therefore I would again emphasise that land reforms should be expedited as early as possible, which have been already delayed beyond expectations. When that is done, I hope, Madam, that this institution which is being brought into existence through this legislation will play an important role in the field of agriculture.

SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR (Madhya Pradesh): Madam Deputy Chairman, I rise to welcome this Bill, the Agriculture Refinance Corporation Bill, 1963, as passed by Lok Sabha on 28th February, 1963. It is indeed a welcome measure and it has not come too soon. There was a long-felt necessity for a Bill of this nature and I feel that this is one of the steps in the right direction.

Madam, we are passing through a crisis and our whole attention and energies are concentrated on our borders. We have to gird up our loins to defend our country which has been aggressed by China. We have to build up our defences and we have before us very heavy taxation proposals made by the Government. The nation is prepared to bear this heavy burden provided it is well and properly utilised.

Along with defence we have to implement our Plans also. We cannot afford to neglect our Plans which are basic for economic development and necessary for achieving our goal of socialism. In order to strengthen the defence of the country also our Plans must be implemented in full.

In our Plans we have to lay great emphasis on our industries. We have to develop these and have a proper industrial base. We have to develop our agriculture also but our agriculture unfortunately is far behind our expectations. We have to ;

more food because it is well said that an army marches on its stomach.

As far as industries are concerned, the position regarding credit is slightly better, compared to agriculture. There are various agencies of credit in industrial spheres. There is the Industrial Finance Corporation; there is the Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation; then there is the National Industrial Development Corporation and finally there is the Refinance Corporation for industries. In the agricultural sector however there was no provision for a refinance corporation. Hence this Bill is welcome and I support it.

Before I go on to the various provisions of the Bill, let me say something about the appalling condition in our agricultural sector regarding finance. We are short of food and we have to import as yet a lot of food and we have to spend a lot of foreign exchange for that purpose. Our population is also increasing rapidly and our agricultural production is not keeping pace with it. Rural indebtedness is the index of Indian rural economy. The Indian farmer and borrowing are inseparable. The Indian money-lender and high rate of interest are also inseparable. Rural indebtedness is mounting and it is estimated that it is to the tune of Rs. 1,800 crores. I have got my doubts whether this piece of legislation will even reduce it to any satisfactory extent. Rural indebtedness is attributed to uneconomic holdings and high rates of simple and compound interest charged by the money-lenders and also the little price the agriculturist ultimately gets for his production. Different agencies supply finance to agriculturists. There are agricultural money-lenders, professional money-lenders, co-operatives. Government, landlords, banks, etc., but the highest percentage among them is that of professional money-lenders. The Government and banks provide credit to the extent of just 3 per cent.

of the total credit. Again, the laws of interest made by the Government are hardly respected and followed in villages. Most exorbitant rates of interest are charged by these money-lenders. Government agencies are unable to check it. Hence there was necessity for a measure like this which could provide long-term and medium credit to the agriculturist on reasonable terms.

Looking to the heavy indebtedness in the agricultural sector, co-operative credit societies have been able to touch only the fringe of the problem by way of providing short-term credit. There was no provision for long-term credit which is being provided by this legislation. But here again, looking to the stupendous problem before this country, it is doubtful how far this measure will meet all the demands. It is indeed a big question to be answered. Land mortgage banks also have not been able to do much in this respect. It is interesting to mention the observation of the Agriculture Production Team, which toured the country recently, regarding agriculture finance. It shows a serious situation in this respect. It says:

"Over 85% of the credit which the cultivators use is provided by money-lenders and other individuals. Most of their small marketable surplus is sold to traders at depressed prices at market time. Many cultivators are not getting full value of their produce and paying exorbitant rate of interest for inadequate credit and do not have reliable source of production supplied. Thus they are unable to adopt many practices for increased production. Only by a cooperative effort, with Government assistance can the stronghold of money-lenders and traders be broken."

This shows the urgency for adopting a measure like the present Bill. Hence I have welcomed this Bill.

With regard to its implementation, there are serious doubts* raised by so

[Shri R. S. Khandekar.] many hon. Members who have spoken before and I join with them. Often it is said that those, who really need credit, do not get it. If they get it, they have to spend a lot before getting it and only a fraction of it reaches their hands which is insufficient for their needs. Secondly, with so much indebtedness in the country the Bill is unable to fulfil all the requirements of the agriculturists. Hence, the scope of the Bill should be enlarged.

Again, it is feared that by setting up this Corporation there will be duplication of work. Already there are various agencies like co-operative and land mortgage banks, community development blocks, etc., which are doing this work. Of course these institutions give credit to the agriculturists individually, but the credit is quite meagre as compared to their necessity. This Corporation, on the other hand, will advance credit for long-term and medium credit to institutions like co-operative banks and land mortgage banks, but there is a danger of misusing these agencies. It is often seen that those who have got pull or influence manage to get credit and the really needy person is left out. Also, credit is distributed to interested persons at such time when certain political advantages are reaped by such distribution. This should be specifically avoided. There is also a bureaucratic way and red-tapism while distributing the credit. Those, who cultivate land but do not own land, do not get money. Hence, production is affected. Care should be taken to see that credit is given to a deserving person, whether he owns land himself or not.

In spite of various agencies being at work in the country, our agriculture would not make much headway. By setting up this Corporation, how far it will boost up our agricultural production is a great question. Let us hope it will help in answering that

question and in solving the problem. If by the setting up of this Corporation the private money-lender in villages is totally eliminated or controlled and agricultural production is increased, the object of adopting this Bill will be greatly fulfilled.

Now, coming to the provisions of the Bill, I find that the object of the Bill is to provide for the establishment of a Corporation for granting medium and long-term credit by way of refinance or otherwise for the development of agriculture and for other matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. The object is very laudable. There is no doubt about it. Efforts will be made to achieve this object, but as I have pointed out earlier there are many pitfalls in the way which must be avoided and serious efforts to achieve these laudable objects must be made.

Now, I come to Chapter II of the Bill. It deals with the establishment and incorporation of the Agricultural Refinance Corporation. The capital will be about Rs. 25 crores and Rs. 5 crores will be initially issued. This amount, as I have said, is too small. As I have already quoted, rural indebtedness in this country is of a serious magnitude. Although the limit is Rs. 25 crores and further borrowing can be made and Government will also advance loans, the hon. Minister in his introductory-remarks tried to meet this objection by saying that by setting up this Corporation the Government will be able to take the credit up to Rs. 500 crores. But even Rs. 500 crores in the context of things and in view of the vastness of the country and the growing indebtedness, to my mind, is a very small sum. Looking to the magnitude of the problem, the capital ought to be still higher. There is no provision for individual shareholders in this Bill. Only co-operative banks are associated as shareholders. But many of the co-operative banks are not in a good condition and their membership may

weaken this Corporation. Care, there- fore, has to be taken to see that any-unwanted element does not enter the Corporation and make it a battleground for party or individual ends.

Now, coming to Chapter III, I find that it deals with the management of the Corporation. A lot of criticism has been made with regard to bureaucracy in this organisation which is being manned mostly by Government servants or their nominees. Now, criticism has also been made that these persons, who are going to manage this Corporation have little experience of agriculture proper. Therefore, there is nobody who can guard the interests of the agriculturists as such. I also join in that criticism. Again, this management is going to be a very top heavy one, because there will be so many offices located at various places, there will be all the staff, highly paid officers will be employed, and therefore administrative expenses are likely to be very great. Much of the money of this Corporation will be spent only on administrative matters. Then there will be all those disadvantages which are now there with the present administration. For example, nepotism, red-tapism, corruption and all those things will also be there, and this Corporation will not be free from these defects. Therefore, care should be taken to see that no such things happen in this administration at least.

Now coming to clause 18, it says:

"A director of the Board or a member of a committee who has any direct or indirect pecuniar:/ interest in any matter coming up for consideration at a meeting of the Board or a committee thereof, shall, as soon as possible after relevant circumstances have come to his knowledge, disclose the nature of his interest at such meeting and the disclosure shall be recorded in 1 the minutes of the Board or the Committee, as the case may be, and the director or member shall

not take any part in any deliberation or decision of the Board or the committee with respect to that matter."

This clause says that any director of the Board or member of a committee, who has an interest in any affair of the Corporation or in any particular topic, will not take part in it and he will immediately disclose the nature of his interest. Clause 39(1) says:

"No act or proceeding of the Board or of any committee of the Corporation shall be questioned on the ground merely of the existence of any vacancy hi, or defect in the constitution of the Board or committee or on the ground of any director or member of any committee having taken part in any proceeding in contravention of section 18."

I do not understand this. Then what is the use of keeping clause 18 when all the proceedings of that meeting are not going to be vitiated because he takes part in that meeting? Suppose he takes part and certain resolutions are adopted, they are not going to be invalidated because of clause 39. So there is no use in keeping clause 18. Either there should be clause 18 or clause 39 should be modified to the extent. Otherwise it has no meaning. When you are not going to invalidate a resolution of Committee in which a particular member takes part, which is forbidden under clause 18, then clause 39 needs amendment to that extent.

Then I come to certain clauses which give immunity to persons working under this Act, Nowadays we always find in our legislations that all the officers, who act in a *hanna fide* manner, are exempt from any action. This is almost a routine matter in our legislations. But the real difficulty arises that as soon as this legislation has come into being our officers and others would not take at much interest, and because they have got this immunity therefore they would not work properly. Even if certain losses are incurred or certain

[Shri R. S. Khandekar.] wrong actions are taken, the Government is not able to take action against them. So, I would request that this protection which is given to the officers should not be there, and if any loss is incurred or if anything wrong happens to the Corporation, those persons who are at the helm of affairs should be individually charged, and they should not be allowed to shirk their responsibility in this way. We are now going to adopt this measure with this clause. Nowadays we find a lot of nepotism and irresponsibility on the part of the officers, and therefore this protection, I submit, should not be there.

Lastly, as I said, it is a very good thing that this Corporation is being set up, but care has to be taken to see that the loans are advanced on low terms of interest. It is often found that the credit advanced by these Corporations or Societies is rather on a very high rate of interest. As I have said already, so much manipulation has to be done and so much time is wasted in getting this credit; whereas the private money-lender is popular in the villages because, although he charges a very high rate of interest, the agriculturist gets the credit quickly. In corporations or in co-operative banks it is often found that for months and months together he does not get any credit. Much has been said regarding delay which causes hardship in getting the credit. That should be avoided.

Then, there is one point which I want to emphasize. In clause 2, agriculture has been defined as animal husbandry, dairy farming, pisciculture and poultry farming. I do not know why tea plantations or jute or coffee plantations or gardening have been left out from the definition of the word "agriculture". I submit that if agriculture means coffee planting, I have nothing to say; but if it is not, at least coffee planting should be included in the object and the coffee planters also should be given the

advantage of the provisions of the Bill.

In the end, Madam, I say that the whole emphasis should be on the liquidation of rural indebtedness and on growing more food and meeting the needs of the country. If this Corporation is able to solve these problems or to mitigate rural indebtedness to a certain extent, really the purpose of adopting this measure will be greatly fulfilled.

SHRI N. VENKATESWARA RAO (Andhra Pradesh): Madam Deputy Chairman, as a representative of Andhra Pradesh, a State whose economy is largely based on agriculture, I rise to support this Bill. Some other States, more fortunate, may have made rapid strides in the realm of industry, but I believe that no State could afford to neglect its agriculture. As is well known, Madam, 80 per cent, of our population is still dependent either directly or indirectly on agriculture for its livelihood, and 55 per cent, of our national income is still derived from agriculture, so every effort should be made to develop our agriculture. As the ex-Vice-Chairman of the Planning Commission, Mr. V. T. Krishnamachari, was emphasizing the other day while participating in the debate on the General Budget, it is very necessary that we should devote all possible attention to agriculture in the coming ten years so that our agricultural production could be doubled. I remember a famous exhortation of Mr. Hugh Dalton when he was the Chancellor of the Exchequer in the Attlee Government

He said that British agriculture was the greatest saver of the dollar likewise Indian agriculture could, in the present context, be the greatest saver of our rupee as well as the biggest earner of foreign exchange, provided we go the right way about it.

Of course, for some time now, some credit facilities to the agriculturists are there. They are, however, inadequate. My hon. friend, Shri Avhrashijingam Ohettiar, was saying

yesterday that at present 10 per cent, of rural credit was being provided by the co-operative societies. But I have my own doubts whether this figure is not an over-estimate. According to "Some Aspects of Economic Development" by Shri S. K. Bose, the proportion of borrowings by the rural people from Government agencies is even now just 3.3 per cent.; it is 31 per cent, from cooperative societies, while the figure for these borrowings from professional moneylenders is still 44.8 per cent, and from agricultural moneylenders 249 per cent. These figures show, Madam, that our agriculturists are as yet obliged to depend largely for credit facilities on the traditional moneylenders. This position should be improved, if not reversed, as speedily as possible, and I am sure this Agricultural Refinance Corporation would be very helpful in achieving this improvement. According to the Third Five Year Plan, the short-term and medium-term loans that are expected to be advanced should rise by the end of that Plan from Rs. 200 crores to Rs. 530 crores. Though we are now in the third year of the Plan, I do not think that we have yet made enough progress in reaching this target. Maybe this Refinance Corporation, when formed, would enable us to reach the target at a fairly rapid rate. Because of the present emergency, our apex co-operative societies as well as our land mortgage banks are, I understand finding it a little difficult to carry on even their normal activities. I wish my hon. friend, Mr. Vengala Reddy, who happens to be the President of the Andhra Pradesh Co-operative Central Land Mortgage Bank Limited, had been present here to participate in the discussion because, with his experience, he could have thrown greater light on the difficulties which our land mortgage banks as well as the apex co-operative societies are now facing even in carrying on their normal activities. In a communication to me my friend, Mr. Vengala Reddy, has this to say:

"Just at present, on account, of the emergency, the finance available even for the ordinary work of land mortgage banks has become very slender, and unless the Corporation comes to being immediately, the useful work that these banks have been doing will receive a severe setback."

So, I feel, Madam, that this Bill,, which has come up before us today is a timely step, and that the proposed Refinance Corporation would go a long way in meeting the difficulties which some of the rural credit organisations already in the field are now facing.

Then, Madam, some of my friends from the opposition benches as well as my hon. friend, Mr. Avinashi-lingam Chettiar, were criticising the provisions made in this Bill for the management of the Corporation. The one point which all of them have made is that a majority of the members of the Board of Directors would be Government officials. I, for one, fail to see any reason why an objection should be raised on this score. Obviously, my friends are forgetting the fact that this is not an agricultural finance corporation but an Agricultural Refinance Corporation. The primary purpose of this Corporation is not to advance loans to the agriculturists directly, or to deal with them directly. The main function of this Corporation is to sanction loans to land mortgage banks and to the apex co-operative societies. So, most of the time they do not have anything to do with the agriculturists directly. The interests of the agriculturists would be safeguarded by fee directors of the land mortgage banks and the directors of the apex co-operative societies, who get loans from this Corporation. I therefore, think that there is not much point in saying that agricultural interests should be directly represented on this Corporation, because this institution, by its very nature, does not deal directly with the agriculturists but with those organisations that are already engaged in advancing loans to

[Shri N. Venkateswara Rao.] agriculturists; its function is to finance the banking and co-operative organisations that are dealing with this problem.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Will you take more time?

SHRI N. VENKATESWARA RAO: Just a moment, Madam, I will finish in a minute.

Then, Madam, as was pointed out by the speaker that preceded me, I think it may be worthwhile to be more specific in the definition of "agriculture" because I also feel that sufficient credit facilities should be provided for tea and coffee plantations. Of course, I know that most of the tea and coffee plantations in the country today.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Rao, you can continue some other time. The House stands adjourned till 2-30 P.M.

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

The House reassembled after lunch at half past two of the clock, THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

MOTION RE. SITUATION ARISING OUT OF GOLD CONTROL

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Chordia, you will have to take 20 minutes and the other two speakers after you will take 15 minutes each, and the rest of the Members will take 10 minutes each, so that I can accommodate all those who want to speak.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: (West Bengal); No, Madam. I had a discussion. We, three of us, gave notice of the motion. Now you decide the time in this manner. We gave the motion. In the other House it has been discussed and they have taken

a whole day. And you are cutting out our time. We cannot speak in 15 minutes over this matter.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, you were present in the House when the Chairman announced that the time allotted would be two and a half hours.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I know but you can extend it. If it is 15 minutes, I do not participate in the discussion.

SHRI V. M. CHORDIA (Madhya Pradesh): Madam, I move:

"That the situation arising out of the recent Gold Control be taken into consideration."

उपसभापति महोदया, जो प्रस्ताव मैंने चर्चा के लिये रखा है वह स्वर्ण नियंत्रण आदेश के बारे में है और डिफेंस ऑफ इण्डिया ऐक्ट, जो कि अस्थायी है, उसी के अन्तर्गत स्वर्ण नियंत्रण नियम बनाये गये हैं और उन नियमों के द्वारा सोने के रखने, उपयोग, क्रय, विक्रय, गिरवी रखने, निर्माण करके गलाने आदि आदि सब प्रकार के व्यवहारों पर प्रतिबन्ध लगाया गया है।

जहाँ तक सोने का सवाल है, वैसे तो पुरानी कहानी कही जाती है कि राजा परीक्षित ने सब से पहले स्वर्ण का मुकुट सिर पर रखा था और उसके साथ साथ ही उनको एक पागलपन सवार हुआ था और एक सन्यासी जो तपस्या कर रहा था उनको गले में उन्होंने एक मरा हुआ सर्प डाल दिया था। ऐसा भी कहा जाता है कि सोने में कलियुग का निवास है और उसी के आधार पर वह बराबर चलता रहा। एक कवि ने भी उसके बारे में यह लिखा है :

कनक कनक ते सौ गुनी मादकता अधिकाय,
या खाये बीरात है, या पाये बीरात ॥

तो एक कनक को खाने से, एक घटुरे के खाने से आदमी पागल हो जाता है, अगर

सोने को प्राप्त करने से ही पागलपन शुरू हो जाता है।

श्री महावीर प्रसाद भार्गव : (उत्तर प्रदेश) : कनक तो गेहूँ को भी कहते हैं।

श्री बिमलकुमार मन्नालालजी खौरड़िया: जी जनाब, मगर यहाँ सोने से मतलब है। तो इस तरह से यह पागलपन होता है, पर इसके बावजूद भी उसका महत्व कम नहीं हुआ और लोगों का आकर्षण उसके प्रति दिन प्रति दिन बढ़ता गया और बढ़ता जा रहा है। उसमें किसी तरह की कमी नहीं आई। इसका मुख्य कारण यह है कि सोना एक ऐसी धातु है जो थोड़े से वजन में अधिक मूल्य प्राप्त कर सकती है। इस वजह से और भविष्य की सुरक्षा की दृष्टि से भी लोगों ने सोने को इकट्ठा करना आवश्यक समझा।

पहले जब लड़ाई होती थी तो राजा लोग बदल जाते थे फिर भी लोग सोना ही एक मात्र ऐसा साधन समझते थे कि चाहे जितने राजा बदल जायें, उनकी करेंसी बदल जाती, उनके सिक्के बदल जाते, किन्तु सोने के आधार पर वे अपना आर्थिक ढांचा नहीं बदलने देते और उससे किसी तरह का कट उनको नहीं होने पाता। वैसे देखा जाय तो यह सोना का मूल्य केवल सन्यासियों के लिये नहीं है और जो ज्ञानशून्य हैं उनके लिये नहीं है। किन्तु जो संसार के जाल में पड़े हुये हैं, माया के चक्कर में से हुये हैं, उन सब के लिये इसका बहुत मूल्य है और उसी मूल्य के आधार पर लोग इसको इकट्ठा करते रहते थे। बीच में चमड़े का सिक्का भी चला। इन सब के बावजूद भी ऐसी परिस्थिति हमारी हुई कि विदेशी आक्रमणों के परिणामस्वरूप या आपस के लड़ाई भागड़ों के परिणामस्वरूप चाहे हमारे राज्य बदलते गये, फिर भी लोगों की आर्थिक अवस्था नहीं बिगड़ी

और उनके दैनिक कार्यक्रम के लिये धन की जो आवश्यकता पड़ती है उसमें कमी नहीं आई। इसी दृष्टि से उन्होंने सोने को अपने पास रखना शुरू किया और उसको वे अपने पास एकत्र करते गये।

बैसे देखा जाय तो जैसे जैसे सिविल-जेशन बढ़ता गया और अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय व्यापार शुरू हुआ तो उसमें भी सोने का ही एक मात्र ऐसा मुख्य आधार रखा गया जिसके आधार पर व्यापार किया जा सकता है। इस प्रकार सोने का महत्व बढ़ता गया। सोचा यह जाता था कि स्वतन्त्रता के बाद इस प्रकार का मोह कम करके लोग अपना धन ऐसी बैंक्स में सुरक्षित करेंगे जहाँ धन बचा करके रखा जा सके और भविष्य में समय पड़ने पर उपयोग में लाया जा सके। किन्तु जब सन् १९४६ में बड़े बड़े नोटों का चलना बन्द किया गया और उसी समय के आसपास सन् १९४५-४६ में कुछ बैंक्स फेल हुई और जैसी कि अभी हाल में पलाई बैंक की घटना घटी और कुछ और बैंकों के बारे में चर्चा चली, तो लोगों के मन में एक ऐसा अविश्वास इन बैंकों के बारे में उत्पन्न हो गया कि इन बैंकों में अपना धन रखने में हिचकते हैं। साथ ही साथ जो हमारे यहाँ पर बहुत बड़ा बजट बनता है और बहुत सा विदेशी कर्ज हमारे सिर पर है और लोग सरकार के बहुत से अपव्यय के काम देखते हैं तो लोगों के मन में यह भय होता है कि यह कहीं दीवाला न निकाल दे और ये जो सरकार ने नोट्स सर्कुलेट कर रखे हैं इनको बन्द न कर दे और हमारी स्थिति खराब न हो जाये। इस वजह से भी लोगों का सोने के प्रति आकर्षण बढ़ता जा रहा है।

इस सोने के महत्व व उसके प्रति आकर्षण के कारण ही कुछ रुढ़ियाँ ऐसी चल गईं जिनको लोग धार्मिक स्वरूप देने लग गये जैसे मंगलसूत्र का पहनना दक्षिण भारत में विरुमागल्यम की सोने की थाली

[श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चोरडिया]
 सेना और कन्या दान करते समय बिलकुल सोने से लाभ करके कन्या का दान करना, आदि, आदि, । इन रुढ़ियों ने जो धार्मिक स्वरूप धारण किया वह मुख्यतः इसी कारण से है कि सोना किसी तरह से उनके पास रहे जिससे उनका भविष्य सुरक्षित रहे । इसी आधार पर उन रुढ़ियों को धार्मिक महत्व दिया गया, लेकिन इन सब का लक्ष्य एक मात्र यह है कि जब कभी आपत्ति आये तो उसका सामना करने के लिये सोने का उपयोग किया जा सके और कभी भूख मरने की नौबत नहीं आये, उससे रक्षा की जा सके । इसी दृष्टि से यह सोना एकत्र किया जाता है ।

अब हमारे देश पर चीनी आक्रमण हुआ और यह एक बड़ी भारी आपत्ति हमारे सिर पर आई, तो इसका मुकाबिला सब को करना चाहिये, इसमें दो मत नहीं । इसी आशय से हमारी सरकार भी चाहती है कि हमको विदेशी मुद्रा की तकलीफ है, और हमको इस आपत्ति का सामना करना है और इस चुनौती का जवाब देना है इस लिये हमको सोना चाहिये, परन्तु यह जो सोने का मोह है वह इसमें बाधक होता है और इसी आशय से हमारी सरकार ने स्वर्ण नियंत्रण के यह नियम जारी किये ।

मुख्य उद्देश्य हमारी सरकार का यही है कि जो सोने का अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय भाव है उसी भाव पर हमारे यहां सोने का मूल्य आ जाय, सोने का तस्कर व्यापार रुके, सोने पर से लोगों का अनुराग कम हो और बचा हुआ सोना है वह बाहर निकले ।

जहां तक सोने के भाव का सवाल है, मुझे बड़े दुःख के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि इसकी जिम्मेदारी व्यापारियों की नहीं है, खरीदारों की नहीं है, मुख्यतः इसकी जिम्मेदारी हमारी सरकार के उस आर्थिक ढांचे की है जिसकी वजह से हमारे रुपये की क्रय शक्ति इतनी कम है

कि सोना खरीदने के लिये अधिक मूल्य देना पड़ता है ।

वैसे देखा जाय तो हमारे यहां पर सन १९३६ में सोने का भाव १८ रुपये २१ नये पैसे प्रति १० ग्राम था । उसके बाद द्वितीय विश्व युद्ध आरम्भ हुआ । द्वितीय विश्व युद्ध के समय में हमारे देश में विदेशी सत्ता ने पेपर करेंसी का सर्वव्युत्प्रेषण ज्यादा किया । उसके परिणामस्वरूप भी लोगों का आकर्षण सोने के प्रति बढ़ा । दूसरी बात यह हुई कि हमारी करेंसी की खरीदने की ताकत कम हुई और उसकी वजह से अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय बाजार के भाव पर हम ठहर नहीं सके और मुद्रास्फीति के कारण लोगों को सोने के अधिक दाम देने पड़े । अब हम सोने को अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय भाव पर लाना चाहते हैं, किन्तु जब तक हमारे यहां के आर्थिक ढांचे को उस स्तर पर न लाया जाय और हमारे रुपये के खरीदने की शक्ति को उस सीमा पर न कर दिया जाय जो कि अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय है तब तक हमारा यह सोचना बेकार है कि हम इन अप्राकृतिक साधनों से सोने का भाव कम कर देंगे । वास्तव में आप इन नियमों के द्वारा अधिक चोरी का और तस्कर व्यापारियों का निर्माण कर रहे हैं । आज गांव गांव में इन नियमों का उल्लंघन करने वालों की संख्या बढ़ती जा रही है, जिनको कोई भी सजा दी जा सकती है । तो ऐसी स्थिति का आज हम निर्माण कर रहे हैं ।

आज हमारे रुपये की स्थिति यह है कि वैसे तो एक पौंड को खरीदने की जो कीमत ठहरी हुई है वह यह है कि एक पौंड के लिये १३ रुपये ६ आने देने पड़ते हैं, मगर उसको यदि ग्रैंडरक्लाथ डीलिंग के द्वारा खरीदना हो तो एक पौंड के २५ रुपये देने पड़ते हैं । आज हमारे रुपये की यह स्थिति है । ऐसी दशा में यदि सरकार सोने का भाव अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर लाना चाहती है तो उसके लिये अत्यन्त

आवश्यक है कि इन नियमों के बजाय हम अपने आर्थिक ढाँचे को ऐसा करें कि हमारे गोल्ड की कीमत बढ़ जाये जिससे सोने के भाव में फ़र्क आ सके।

दूसरे सोने के तस्कर व्यापार का जहाँ तक सवाल है, तस्कर व्यापार की स्थिति ऐसी है कि जब तक भारत के बुकड़े नहीं हुये थे तब तक कुछ सीमाओं पर प्रतिबन्ध भी हो सकता था क्योंकि तब उतने तस्कर व्यापार के मार्ग नहीं खुले थे, किन्तु जब से पार्टीशन हो गया है तब से तस्कर व्यापार के इतने मार्ग खुल गये हैं कि जैसा मैंने पहले भी निवेदन किया है कि कई ऐसे क्षेत्र हैं जहाँ अकान हिन्दुस्तान में है तो खिड़की पाकिस्तान में खुलती है और अकान पाकिस्तान में है तो खिड़की हिन्दुस्तान में खुलती है और कुआँ पाकिस्तान में है तो रस्सी हिन्दुस्तान में आती है। ऐसी स्थिति में चाहे हमारे मोरारजी भाई हों, चाहे कोई भी वित्त मंत्री हों, यह बिलकुल असंभव है कि वे तस्कर व्यापार को रोक सके। और तस्कर का व्यापार केवल एक तरफा नहीं होता, दोनों तरफ से होता है। जहाँ पर भाव कम होगा वहाँ से होगा। मानवीय कम-जोरी है कि मनुष्य स्वार्थ से पीड़ित है और उसके चलते यह होगा कि अगर उधर भाव कम होगा तो उधर से सोना जायेगा और अगर उधर भाव कम होगा तो उधर से सोना आयगा, किसी की ताकत नहीं है कि इसको रोक सके। ऐसी परिस्थिति में कितना भी सख्त नियंत्रण लगा दें इसका रोकना असंभव है। और यह काम करने वाले कुछ गिनती के लोग हैं। उन गिनती के लोगों के लिये आपकी सारे देश को कष्ट देना पड़ रहा है यह मैं मानता हूँ कि अगर छूट हो तो उनकी संख्या भी बढ़ सकती है, यह मैं नहीं कहता कि नियंत्रण नहीं होना

चाहिये, नियंत्रण तो अति आवश्यक है परन्तु जहाँ चालीस-पचास लोगों के पीछे सारे देश को सजा देने की स्थिति आये तो वहाँ मैं निवेदन करूँगा कि जिस तरह से डिफेंस आफ इंडिया एक्ट के अन्तर्गत हमने देशद्रोह की आशंका के कारण कुछ कम्युनिस्ट भाईयों को गिरफ्तार किया है उसी तरह से हम माननीय मंत्री जी से यह अपेक्षा करते थे कि ऐसे जो लोग थे जिनके बारे में यह आशंका थी कि वे आदतन तस्कर के व्यापारी हैं या जो थोड़ा बहुत स्मगलिंग करते थे उन्हें जेल में बिठा देते—तो यह समस्या बहुत कुछ हल हो सकती थी।

जहाँ तक सोने के प्रति अनुराग का प्रश्न है उसके लिये हमारी सरकार ने कुछ प्रयत्न किये। सबसे पहले देशभक्ति के आधार पर हमारे वित्त मंत्री ने लोगों की भावनाओं को जाग्रत किया कि देश पर आपत आई है और आप लोग पैसा दीजिये, सोना दीजिये, देश बड़ी विपत्ति में है और जब उससे भी कुछ विशेष काम नहीं चला तो २१-८-६२ को व्यापारियों से भाव कम करने का अनुरोध किया। जब उससे काम नहीं चला तो ५-११-१९६२ को स्वर्ण बांड्स की योजना को लागू किया और उसमें व्याज अट्रैक्टिव दिया और जब उसका परिणाम लाभदायक नहीं हुआ तो फिर स्वर्ण के वायदा व्यापार पर नियंत्रण किया लेकिन उसका परिणाम भी कुछ ज्यादा लाभदायक नहीं हुआ। हाँ, उसका तुरन्त असर यह हुआ कि जो सोना १४४ रु० प्रति १० ग्राम के भाव से बिकता था वह ८६ रु० प्रति १० ग्राम के भाव पर आ गया लेकिन फिर उसका रिएक्शन हुआ और फिर भाव बाजार में बढ़ गये। इसके बाद फिर २-१२-१९६२ को वित्त मंत्री ने भाव गिराने के लिये कहा कि वह कठोर से कठोर कदम उठायेगा और अब सावधान हो जाइये। उसका

[श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरा :]

रिएक्शन हुआ और कुछ भाव गिर गया लेकिन फिर भाव बढ़ गया। तो जितनी जितनी घोषणाएँ होती रहीं उसी के हिसाब से उतने उतने भाव कम होते गये या बढ़ते गये। पहले भाव कम होता गया लेकिन फिर बढ़ता गया, फिर कम हुआ, और फिर बढ़ा। और इसी तरह से भाव कम होता गया और बढ़ता गया। अन्त में आपने ६-१-१९६३ को गोल्ड कंट्रोल आर्डर निकाला।

वैसे तो मंत्री जी कहते हैं कि हमने बहुत सोच समझ कर गोल्ड कंट्रोल आर्डर निकाला है, अच्छी तरह से पूरा विचार करने के बाद यह गोल्ड कंट्रोल आर्डर निकाला है परन्तु देखने में ऐसा आया कि अगर हमारे मंत्री जी ने इस को ठीक तरह से सोच समझ कर निकाला होता तो जो परिणाम आज स्वर्णकारों को भोगना पड़ रहा है वह भोगना नहीं पड़ता। जब कि यह आर्डर निकाला था तब उसी के साथ साथ हमारी सरकार इस बारे में भी विचार कर लेती कि इसका रिएक्शन किन किन पर पड़ने वाला है, इसका असर किन किन पर पड़ने वाला है, तो ज्यादा अच्छा होता लेकिन वह हमारी सरकार ने किया नहीं। ऐसी स्थिति में यह अत्यंत आवश्यक है कि हमारी सरकार इस पर विचार करके कि किन किन पर इसका असर हुआ है उनको राहत देने की कृपा करे। वह ऐसा करे तो ज्यादा अच्छा होगा।

जहां तक सोने की स्थिति का सवाल है मेरा निवेदन है कि यू० एस० ए० में १०० डालर की कीमत से अधिक का सोना रखने की इजाजत नहीं है। फ्रांस में स्थिति यह है कि स्वदेश में चाहे जितना सोना रख सकते हैं लेकिन विदेशों में कुछ भी सोना जमा नहीं कर सकते। पश्चिम: जर्मनी, स्विटजरलैंड और

बेल्जियम में किसी प्रकार का प्रतिबन्ध नहीं है। और हमारे देश में सोने की स्थिति क्या है जो कि हमारे मंत्री जी को यह आकर्षण हो रहा है कि ज्यादा से ज्यादा सोना लोगों के पास निकले। वह इसके लिये लोगों को बड़ा आकर्षित कर रहे हैं। हमारी जो स्थिति है वह इस प्रकार से है : औसतन भारत के प्रति व्यक्ति के हिसाब से सोना ०.२७ औंस है। तो हमारे यहां सोना इस हिसाब से है जबकि औसतन संसार प्रति व्यक्ति के हिसाब से सोना ०.६३ औंस है और यू० एस० ए० में प्रति व्यक्ति के हिसाब से सोना ४.५० औंस है। हां, साथ ही साथ यह बात भी है कि वहां का सोना सरकार के पास अधिक है और जनता के पास कम है, सरकार के पास वहां का सोना ६० प्रतिशत है और जनता के पास ४० प्रतिशत है और हमारे यहां जो सोना है उसका ६५-६६ प्रतिशत जनता के पास है और सरकार के पास केवल ४ या ५ प्रतिशत है। तो संसार के अन्य देशों के मुकाबले इतना कम सोना जनता के पास होते हुए सोने के प्रति जो अनुराग जनता के मन में विद्यमान है उसको कम किया जाना विचारणीय है। मगर जब यह अनुराग कम करना ही है तो हमारी सरकार को इसके साथ ही साथ कोई दूसरा आल्टरनेटिव भी सोचना चाहिये था कि जनता जो धन एकत्र कर रही हो, बचा रही हो उसको कहां किस तरह लगावे। उन्होंने कुछ योजनाएँ इंग्लैंड की ओर की अपने भाषण में बतई है परन्तु मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि स्माल सेविंग्स की जो स्कीम्स हैं उसमें ग्रामीण क्षेत्र के लोगों को कितनी कठिनाइयाँ भुगतनी पड़ती हैं—गांव के लोगों को दूर से आने जाने में जो तकलीफ उठानी पड़ती है और धन निकालने में जो कठिनाई उनको होती है उसकी वजह से लोगों का आकर्षण उनके

प्रति हो नहीं पाता है। तो इन कठिनाइयों को सबसे पहले दूर करने की आवश्यकता है। दूसरी बात यह है कि जिस रोज़ उनको पैसे की जरूरत होती है उस रोज़ वह मिलता नहीं है। ग्राम का एक आदमी सोने को किसी आदमी के पास प्रतिभू के रूप में रख कर पैसा प्राप्त कर सकता था लेकिन आपके यहां वह सहूलियत नहीं है, रविवार को छुट्टी हो गई तो पोस्ट ऑफिस से पैसा मिलता नहीं है या ३ बजे से पहले वह रुपया न लेले तो वह मिलने वाला नहीं है वगैरह वगैरह। तो इनको ऐसी कितनी ही कठिनाई पड़ती हैं। ऐसी स्थिति में मैं निवेदन करूंगा कि अगर सरकार इस पर तुली हुई है कि सोने के बारे में लोगों पर नियंत्रण करना है कि वे सोना नहीं रख सकते हैं तो हमारी सरकार ऐसे निगोशिएबिल इंस्ट्रुमेंट्स निकाले जिनको कि कहीं पर भी गिरवी रख करके रुपया लिया जा सके और आसानी से किसी से भी उस पर रुपया मिल सके। उनके अभाव में यह अत्यंत कठिन है कि जो सोना या जेवर एक बैंक के रूप में लोगों के पास रखा रहता था उनका उपयोग वे नहीं कर पायेंगे, इससे उसको बड़ी कठिनाई का सामना करना पड़ेगा।

जहां तक स्वर्ण नियंत्रण नियमों का सवाल है, जितने आपके इन्स्पेक्टर बगैरह हैं उनके बारे में काफी चर्चा हुई कि वे लोग नियमों को पूरा तरह से समझ नहीं पाये और जब वे व्यापारियों के पास गये तो उनको भी बराबर समझा नहीं पाये। वे खुद कहते थे कि हमें भी पूरा तरह से समझ में नहीं आता। तो यह अत्यंत आवश्यक था कि हमारी सरकार जरा कुछ उनको ठीक ढंग से शिक्षित करती और साथ ही साथ यह भी अत्यंत आवश्यक था कि हमारे यहां जो स्वर्णकार हैं उनको इन नियमों को अच्छी तरह से समझाती।

अंग्रेजों में समझ सके इतनी बुद्धि बहुत से लोगों में नहीं है इसलिये हमारा सरकार को चाहिये था कि प्रान्तीय भाषाओं में भी और हिन्दी भाषा में भी इन नियमों को अनुवाद करा के अविलम्ब सर्क्युलेट करती—तो उससे लोगों को सुविधा होती और यह अच्छा होता मगर हमारा सरकार ने वैसा किया नहीं। साथ ही जो रिटर्न्स बगैरह के फार्म्स हैं वे सबके सब अंग्रेजी में ही हैं। स्थिति यह है कि उनको भरने के लिये एक दलाल को बीच में कायम करें और उनको उसके लिये फीस दें तब कहीं फार्म्स बगैरह भर सकें और दे सकें। तो इस तरह को कठिनाइयों का सामना लोगों को करना पड़ता है और इस ओर भी हमारा सरकार को कुछ सुधार अपना करना चाहिये।

नियमों की व्यावहारिकता का जहां तक सवाल है मेरा निवेदन है कि यह विचार नहीं किया गया कि जो हमारे यहां फाइन आर्ट डेवलप हो रहा है या जो मीना का काम कुंदन का काम होता है जिसमें कि २२ कैरेट से कम के सोने का उपयोग नहीं हो सकता—वह होता रहे। वैसे तो हमारे मंत्री जी ने भाषणों में बताया है कि हम उनको बेयरहाउस में बिठा कर काम करायेंगे मगर यह तरीका कोई ठीक ज़रूरी हो ऐसी बात नहीं है। आप उनको सीमित मात्रा में सोना दीजिये और सोना देने के बाद उनसे हिसाब लीजिये कि तुमने कितना काम किया है लेकिन कोई ऐसी व्यवस्था हम नहीं कर रहे हैं। वे इन चीजों को एक्सपोर्ट करते हैं और उसमें उनको काफी लेबर-चार्ज मिलते हैं, उनको काफी आमदनी मिलती है, लेकिन इसका कुछ खयाल नहीं किया गया। इसी तरह से गोटा बनाने में सोने के तारों की जरूरत पड़ती है। तो कई तरह के ऐसे व्यवसाय हैं और

[श्री विमलकुमार मुन्नालालजी चौरड़िया]
बहुत सी टेक्निकल बातें हैं। वैसे तो मंत्री जी ने सब लोगों को कंसल्ट किया होगा फिर भी क्लस को देखने से ऐसा लगता है कि वे प्रैक्टिकल नहीं हैं और कई लोगों को इससे कठिनाई होने वाली है।

रिफाइनरीज का जहां तक सवाल है तो घर घर में रिफाइनरीज थीं लेकिन अब हम इनको लाइसेंस करना चाहते हैं और इन पर कई तरह का प्रति-बन्ध लगाना चाहते हैं। तो इन सारे प्रतिबन्धों की वजह से और जो १४ कैरेट की बीबारी है उसकी वजह से स्वर्णकारों को कठिनाई है; क्योंकि उनको इसके बारे में ज्ञान नहीं है। वैसे तो मंत्री जी कहते हैं कि इसमें बड़ी आसानी है, चांदी भिला जीजिये और इतना कैरेट कर लीजिये अगर कितने आदमी हैं जिनको कि इसका ज्ञान है कि चांदी कितनी तौल में मिलायें और इसका क्या फारमूला है। तो इसके लिये मंत्री जी को व्यापक प्रचार करना चाहिये और स्वर्णकारों को इसके लिये ज्ञान देना चाहिये कि वे १४ कैरेट का सोना किस तरह से बना सकते हैं। गांवों के स्वर्णकारों से हम मिले तो उन्होंने कहा कि हम यह नहीं बना सकते हैं और हम अपना काम धंधा बन्द कर के चूपचाप बैठे हुए हैं बेकार हैं, खाने पीने के लाले पड़े हैं। तो हमारा यह नैतिक कर्तव्य है कि जब किसी का व्यापार छीनते हैं—जबकि राष्ट्रीय आवश्यकता का लेबल लगा कर उसे छीनना चाहते हैं—तो यह अत्यंत आवश्यक है कि उनके बारे में कुछ बचाव करे।

अधिक समय नहीं है इसलिये अब मैं स्वर्णकारों के बारे में कुछ बातें और निवेदन कर देना चाहता हूं। वैसे तो हमारे मंत्री जी ने कहा है कि कोई खास बात

नहीं है, हमने सब सोच विचार कर किया है; फिर भी गांव गांव से और विभिन्न स्थानों से स्वर्णकारों के प्रतिनिधिमंडलों ने अपने आवेदन-पत्र भेजे हैं, अपने मांगपत्र भेजे हैं, वह मंत्री जी के पास भी आये होंगे—जब हमारे पास वह सैकड़ों की संख्या में आ सकते हैं तो मंत्री जी के पास हजारों की संख्या में आये होंगे—और उन्होंने अच्छी तरह से उनके लिये विचार किया होगा।

मेरा निवेदन यह है कि उनका सबसे पहले कर्तव्य यह था कि गोल्ड कंट्रोल आर्डर को निकालने के साथ-साथ स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स को यह भी लिख देते कि वह एक वीकर सेक्शन हैं और हमारे संविधान में वीकर सेक्शन की जो मंजूरी दी गई है और जो वीकर सेक्शन को लाभ दिये जाने चाहियें उसी में इनको भी लिया जाये और वही लाभ दिये जायें। अगर हमारी सरकार ने वह किया नहीं और इससे ऐसा लगता है—जैसा कि आप कहते हैं बहुत विचार करके किया—वैसा विचार करके आपने किया नहीं।

तो हमारी सरकार का यह कर्तव्य हो जाता है कि जो लोग बेरोजगार हो गए हैं, जिनकी क्षमता नहीं है और जिनके पास कमाने-खाने का और कोई धंधा नहीं है, उनके लिये कोई व्यवस्था करनी चाहिये और उनको जब तक आप दूसरा धंधा नहीं देते हैं तब तक के लिये उनको बेरोजगारी का भत्ता दिया जाना अत्यंत आवश्यक है।

हमारे वित्त मंत्री जी के विभाग द्वारा १४ कैरेट सोना बनाने का फारमूला जल्दी ही पापुलर किया जाना चाहिये,

कि इस हम तरह से यह बनाया जा सकता है।

स्वर्णकार को रिफाइनरी बनाने के लिये इजाजत दी जानी चाहिये और साथ ही १४ कैरेट सोना और उसके जेवर बनाने की ट्रेनिंग दी जानी चाहिये।

नीकरियों में जो आयु का प्रतिबंध होता है उससे रिलेक्सेशन उनको जहाँ जहाँ दिया जा सकता है वह देकर आयु का प्रतिबंध हटा लेना चाहिये।

सरकार द्वारा मंजूरशुदा जो १४ कैरेट का गोल्ड है उसको जहाँ पर वे बनवाना चाहते हैं उसकी व्यवस्था करें और सरकारी एजेंसियों द्वारा दिलवाने की व्यवस्था करें। उनको गहने बनाने की छूट देनी चाहिये। १४ कैरेट का सोना तैयार करना भी मुश्किल और रिफाइनरी की व्यवस्था भी नहीं, इसके कारण उनका सारा कारोबार और काम धंधा बिल्कुल गड़बड़ में पड़ गया है।

वैसे स्वर्णकारों का व्यवसाय फाइन आर्ट्स में आता है। ऐसी स्थिति में जितने भी बारीकी के काम हैं जैसे टेलीफोन के यंत्र बनाना है, या हिन्दुस्तान मशीन टूल्स में घड़ियों के पुर्जे आदि बनाने का काम है, ऐसे कामों में उनका उपयोग ले प्रलग प्रलग केंद्रों में उन कामों को शुरू कर और इस प्रकार उन लोगों को लाभ देना चाहिये।

और जो लोग उन कामों को करने में अनमर्थ हैं उनको जमीन देने में प्राथमिकता दी जानी चाहिये।

यानी गाड़ियां लाइन पर चलाने के परमिट देने चाहियें या किसी भी तरह का

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दूसरा ट्रेड सिखलाना चाहिये और हमारे इन्डस्ट्रीज डिपार्टमेंट के मातहत जिन उद्योगों में उनको लाइसेन्स दिये जा सकते हैं उनको देने में भी प्राथमिकता उनको ही दी जानी चाहिये; तकावी दी जानी चाहिये, लोन दिये जाने चाहिये।

ये सारी जिम्मेदारी सरकार की इसलिये है; क्योंकि आप अपनी गलती की वजह से, देश को लाभ पहुंचाने का मेवस लगाकर, उनको नुकसान पहुंचा रहे हैं। उनके प्रति अपना भी कर्तव्य है। हम वैसे सोशल वेलफेयर की बात करते हैं अगर कार्य रूप उसको परिणत नहीं करते हैं और कहते हैं एजीटेशन नाम-मात्र का है। तो क्या सरकार इसकी राह देखना चाहती है कि पहले एजीटेशन हो बाद में कार्यवाही करे? यह उचित और न्यायसंगत प्रतीत नहीं होता। इसलिये मेरा निवेदन है कि स्वर्णकारों के बारे में क्षीघ्र ही निर्णय लेकर उनको अधिक से अधिक राहत पहुंचाने का कष्ट करेंगे।

The question was proposed.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH (West Bengal): I move:

1. "That at the end of the Motion the following be added, namely:—

'and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that the Gold Control Order has failed to achieve the declared aims of the gold policy, namely, to stop gold smuggling and bring down the price of gold'."

I also move:

2. "That at the end of the Motion the following be added, namely:—

'and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that the Gold Control Order has not helped the country to mobilise

[Shri Niren Ghosh.] the huge gold hoards lying as dead capital with big business, prince, and other rich people for the purpose of productive investment'."

I also move:

3. "That at the end of the Motion the following be added, namely:—

'and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that the Gold Control Order has resulted in the loss of livelihood for lakh? of goldsmiths and other artisans'."

I also move:

4. "That at the end of the Motion the following be added, namely:—

'and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that in order to make the Gold Control Scheme successful, Government should declare—

(a) a ceiling on gold hoardings in any form;

(b) that all holdings above the declared ceiling would be compulsorily acquired under the Gold Bond Scheme or some other suitable scheme;

(c) that all holdings above the ceiling would be a penal offence;

(d) that ornaments below the ceiling would be permitted up to 22 carat gold;

(e) that goldsmiths and other artisans would not be required to take licences if they are not dealers in gold; and

(f) that only those who manufacture gold ornaments etc. for sale and others who deal in gold would be liable to take licences'."

The questions were proposed.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Madam, in a way it is a good occasion for us that we are discussing a matter of such importance as the Gold Control Order. I would only like to remind the hon. Finance Minister, if he would kindly like to be reminded, that once, in a Consultative Committee, some years ago from our Party we suggested that the gold reserves and hoards in the country should be compulsorily mobilised for the purposes of national development and for the Plan. The Finance Minister, it must be said to his credit, did not reject the idea but then he passed on to some political plane and said that it was difficult for him because such things could be easily done in a totalitarian country and would not be feasible in a democratic set-up. I do not say that the hon. Finance Minister has become a totalitarian but it is a good thing that he has accepted the suggestion that we have been making all these years. Even in our election manifesto for the third general elections, we placed these demands of mobilising the gold hoards and reserves for national development and attached great importance to it. Naturally, when any step is taken to tap the gold reserves and hoards for the needs of the country's economic development, the Finance Minister, or for that matter the Government, can certainly deserve the support from all right-thinking men. Therefore, when I give my general support, I again emphasise as to why I am supporting it. At the same time, this support is tempered with complaints, grievances and criticisms on my part too. I shall deal with the different aspects of the matter.

When we are discussing it, we have in mind the controversy which has been raging in the country over the past few weeks or 2 or 3 months. There are many parties to this controversy. For example, there are the gold hoarders, bullion hoarders, former princes, millionaires and others and they have one line of argument

and reasoning. We do not share those arguments or reasonings at all. I wish to make it absolutely clear because their line is one of sticking to the gold hoards and denying the country and the nation what should come to the nation.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA) in the Chair]

Then there are the jewellery artisans, goldsmiths and so on. They have been hit by the Gold Control Order and many of their grievances are legitimate and have to be looked into and considered sympathetically and as far as possible, the Government should try to meet their legitimate demands.

Then, of course, there is the public at large. The public comes in as a private user of gold, specially ornament gold and so on. Their case is also to be considered in a dispassionate way and in an objective manner, not completely divorcing ourselves from the realities of our social existence nor getting ourselves completely tied up with what had obtained in the past.

Now let us go into this question step by step but I must say right in the beginning that as far as the people are concerned, they are in favour of stringent measures against smuggling of gold and for saving the resources for the country. They are in favour of mobilising the gold hoards, in whatever form they are with the rich people, for the cause of the nation and for national development but their complaint is that the measures do not in some respects go far enough, whereas in other respects, they hit those sections of the people who really need relief. These measures do not help us to disgorge the gold hoards that are lying with the richer sections of the community, the millionaires, former princes, big landlords, and so on. Therefore all these aspects are to be considered. In discussing this problem, therefore, we have to first take into account the question of smuggling and the resultant loss to

our national economy; secondly, the possibilities of mobilising gold for national development, restricting its wasteful use by the citizens and others; thirdly, the problem of the craft based on the work of gold and of the goldsmiths and artisans because there are 5 lakhs or more artisans and goldsmiths in the country and of you take into account their families, it will be more than 30 lakhs of people who are dependent on this particular line of industry and craft. The Gold Control Order, I must make it clear, is no social revolution or reform because it seems the Finance Minister digressed and made out in another place that it was a social reform; nor is the Gold Control Board a body of social reformers. All these talks about social reform are out of place here and sheer demagoguery. Therefore we need not go into this aspect of the matter and the Finance Minister, of all persons, knows it very well and he would have never said it was a social reform unless he was interrupted or rubbed in the wrong way, perhaps by Mr. Prakash Vir Shastri in another place.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN (Andhra Pradesh): But we say it is a social reform.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: We will come to that. Therefore let us not get into that. We are not discussing the Hindu Marriage Bill or any such thing. This gold we need for the country's development. How to get it is the problem. How to deal with smuggling is the problem. These are the practical problems at issue. One may be very conservative without wearing any ornaments and one may also be very progressive with wearing some ornaments. Therefore let us not get into these things. Ladies can lighten us on this subject more than others, perhaps. Let us examine the different aspects of the gold policy and the Gold Control Order from these major considerations.

Take the case of smuggling of gold first because that is the crux of the

[Shri Bhupesh Gupta.] problem, which is a serious problem. There is no doubt about it. I am in entire agreement with the Finance Minister when he puts his finger on the problem and calls the attention

of the country to tackle this 3 P.M. problem. Smuggled gold

amounts to Rs. 40 to Rs. 60 crores annually and this amounts to a huge loss of foreign exchange every year. If you take the average for the last ten years, I venture to say that the total loss must have come to about Rs. 400 crores, enough to give us two steel plants or half a dozen heavy machine building industries for our economic development and the industrialisation of the country. Therefore, it is not a small matter and I would wish him god-speed, if it is a question of stopping this smuggling and saving all this money. But my complaint is that the Government has failed in this matter. Why have they failed? An explanation has to be found for this and analytically the problem has to be considered. The Government has failed because it refuses to act against the smuggler. They act against the petty smugglers. Why has this great Government failed to act against smugglers of such a precious material as gold? The answer is simple. They have failed because these smugglers belong to high finance, they belong to a class of very influential people. That is why, because of class considerations and class ties, this Government has failed to act against the moneyed multimillionaire smugglers who have been playing fast and loose with our national economy. Am I right in saying it? Who are smuggling the gold? Not the petty man in Connaught Place walking on the street, nor those who are carrying on an illicit trade in Bombay defying the prohibition law.

Smuggling of gold can be indulged in only by the very well-to-do people, men with big resources. It must be realised that gold is bought from overseas clandestinely by diverting the commissions made on our exports.

How is this done? By under-invoicing our exports to overseas, to foreign countries. No small trader can do so, but big exporters from our country can, by misusing the foreign exchange accumulations of our nationals and of non-national residents in India or some such persons. These are again rich people who make compensatory payments in India for the acquisition of foreign exchange. These also are done again by rich people. Some people provide the foreign exchange in the other country, in England or Hong Kong as against certain payments made here to their agents, by Indian nationals or the gentlemen of the smuggling world. This is how it is done. Where do I get all this material from? Not from any Communist propaganda source or the smugglers' den. I get it from the note prepared by the Finance Ministry itself. This note was circulated to the Consulative Committee in which this has been very clearly stated. I will read not just the relevant portion only. It says:

"Hong Kong soon developed other methods of smuggling gold into our country and taking the ^{sale} proceeds out of the country either by outright smuggling of Indian rupee out of the country or by under-invoicing exports and by unauthorised detention of foreign exchange earnings abroad etc."

This is how smuggling goes on. You can well imagine who are responsible for this smuggling today. Therefore, I wish to draw the attention of the country to this aspect of the matter, because I would like to fix the target of attack as far as gold smuggling is concerned. It is no use going after the common man and his ornaments. Let us go after the bullion hoarders, the smugglers.

[THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair]

Therefore, Madam, we have to take action. We know from our experience very well, that it requires

a S. P. Jain to have Rs. 18 lakhs in a West German Bank. I am not naming anybody. And out of that Rs. 18 lakhs some can go for smuggling gold or for helping the process. It requires a Bajoria group of industries to indulge in under-invoicing and indeed investigation is now in progress against this group of industries. Then there is the British concern—Jardine & Henderson—about which we asked questions in this House and replies have been given by the Finance Minister. This company has been fined an aggregate sum of Rs. 26 lakhs. They were fined 24 times and the total fine amounted to Rs. 26 lakhs. And on five occasions gold worth Rs. 32 lakhs was found from ships belonging to Jardine & Henderson in Calcutta, a British concern. This is how this goes on. This is wellknown and in 1960, the hon. Finance Minister had answered questions put to him by me.

Recently, an American crossed into West Bengal from East Pakistan and his car was found to be a gold mine. Wherever you looked in it, you saw gold. Cavity after cavity disgorged huge quantities of gold. This gentleman had been sighted in the streets of Calcutta earlier and that car also had been sighted. It was an extraordinary type of car. Thanks to the efforts of the Customs Authorities, he was caught. But what about the connections? Everybody knew that another car was also seen in the neighbourhood and it could not be traced for a while. This was also reported in the papers and it was said that a famous industrialist of Calcutta was seen in that car. The connection should be found. It is not difficult to catch hold of big people. This was all reported in the papers. The hon. Minister knows about it. This American car produced gold worth Rs. 20 lakhs, I was told. It was all reported. But we do not know the Indian counterparts of this gentleman and if they had been caught. Therefore, the organised

smugglers have to be attacked and we must get into their den, get at those who commit this crime and put them where they should go. This is how it should be done. The Defence of Indian Rules are there in their hands. While this Government can arrest a thousand Communists in no time, can they not arrest ten big smugglers in four months' time? Have they become so helpless? If so, let the Home Ministry give the powers to . . .

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI): May I tell the hon. Member that Communists, who have gone underground, have not been arrested for years?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Thank you very much. The Communists are here. But your smugglers can not only go underground but I am afraid they get shelter in Ministers' houses. That is the trouble. When I go underground, I have to find shelter in the worker's house. But when the Minister needs shelter, he gets it in the smuggler's house. So they find in each other's house good shelter and accommodation.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: This is a base slander. That is all I have to say.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: That you have said before. You don't mind, Mr. Morarji Desai, it is just figuratively speaking. I don't mean you. The Finance Minister sometimes lives in Shri Shanti Prasad Jain's house in Calcutta, I don't know which one.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: The Finance Minister has never stayed in his house.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: But many Finance Ministers we have had. Why do you take it upon yourself?

Therefore, I say, this is how it ought to be done. I don't like to provoke him, because I want to support him also, for Mr. Morarji Desai has done a good thing by having this Gold Con-

[Shri Bhupesh Gupta.] trol Order, generally speaking, though some of the things are not good. Therefore, we must not attribute smuggling to the demand for gold ornaments by private users, by the common man. That would be wrong, not that this is not a factor, but we must not exaggerate it.

SHRI K. SANTHANAM (Madras): But what happens to the smuggled gold? It is sold to the poor people.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: If only Shri Santhanam would be a little patient, I would certainly provide him with the answer to that question. It is an intelligent question. I had anticipated it. I may say here that a good part of this smuggled gold is also used for transforming black money into legal wealth, a portion for other purposes also, such as for the manufacture of ornaments. We know how it is used as a backing for forward deals in futures and so on. Therefore, it is not right to say that the entire quantum of smuggled gold goes in the manufacture of ornaments. It will not be right; it will be an exaggeration. That is what I say. In this connection, I would invite your attention to the monthly letter of the First National City Bank of New York dated January, 1963, in which the question of private use of gold was gone into. I quote;

"In the world around us, with few exceptions, gold is held and traded privately, serving its age-old function as the citizen's favourite hedge against paper-money inflation. More gold moved in 1962 into private uses and holdings than in any other postwar year. The tentative figure works out at 1 1 billion dollars or some 250 million dollars more than in 1961. Thus somewhat over three quarters of total new supplies went into private uses and holdings."

But there, tms Kind of smuggling is not going on. Therefore, these two things should be separated. If there is smuggling it does not mean that it

goes into the manufacture of ornaments. It does not necessarily mean that smuggling is followed by this and this has been shown in other countries as well. Therefore, you must not touch one part of it only; there are other questions also and they have to be taken into account.

Therefore, Madam Deputy Chairman, strike against smuggling as much as you can but this is not the only way. Other ways have to be found out. Foreign assets should be accounted for. Foreign trade is a source. Big accounts that are built up in the course of foreign trade by big business houses have to be broken up; otherwise, you cannot stop it. Therefore, that also is an important factor. Now, you cannot stop smuggling merely by putting restriction on the gold purity, that is to say, restricting gold to 14 carat purity. You cannot do so. This may be one of the ways that you have thought of but you cannot do so because then you see there will be greater demand for 14 carat ornaments which will also consume large quantities of gold because the quantum of 14 carat gold consumed will be greater than the quantum of 22 carat gold consumed in the country today and this also has to be borne in mind.

The Gold Bond Scheme, Madam Deputy Chairman, has failed. Before the Gold Control Order was passed, with all your temptations of 6½ per cent, interest, exemption from Capital Gains Tax, Wealth Tax, etc.; a sum of only Rs. 69 lakhs was invested in the Gold Bond scheme. After the Order came, the compulsion was there, the threat was there; investment went up since January 10 and now it is of the order of eight crores of rupees. TMs would, to some extent, justify the minister's approach but all I would say in this connection is, carry forward the compulsion. Ask all these people to declare the gold hoards, non-ornament gold hoards on pain of confiscation of all illegal gold and five years' imprisonment and you will see that our multi-millionaire class . . .

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: May I request the hon. Member to show me where it is? I will certainly send him to seven years' imprisonment and confiscate the gold.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: That is right. Mr. Morarji Desai is an intelligent man but at times he asks such an absurd question. If I could show you, I will go and catch them and bring them to you. I say call upon the persons to declare the gold so that they should know that later on, if you find it, you may face them with this and give them five years' imprisonment and confiscate the entire stock—five years beside Mr. Dalmia, not in hospital but in the Delhi Jail. Then, Madam, the Indian princes should be called upon to declare their gold. I say that it is very very important. Here again, I say, do away with this carat business but put a ceiling on ornament holding. Remove the restriction on carat, raise it to 22 carat but put a ceiling. Say also that in future a person can hold gold ornaments only to the tune of Rs. 5,000, shall we say? Put the restriction in that manner and this will also help the artisan.

As far as the artisans are concerned, their cases have got to be looked into and they should be given a chance. For generations they had been trained in it and they should not be thrown out of employment. In Calicut an artisan killed himself and his children. In Bengal it has happened and I read in the papers yesterday that in Bengal Shri Profulla Sen had been good enough to order a dole of four rupees to be given to these people who are unemployed. I say, this is adding insult to injury. I say, try to maintain the craft as far as possible without prejudice to the national income but put restrictions on the gold ornaments to the extent of Rs. 5,000.

Finally, I would like to say that as far as the people are concerned, this is needed for a rainy day. I do not think our people want anything else. Fashionable people and women of

the upper class may like to go about using rouge and cosmetics but as far as our womenfolk are concerned . . . (*Interruption*). No reflection on any section of the Members. I say, some fashionable ladies perhaps, but as far as our womenfolk are concerned, the women of our country, they live in dignity, they are shy in nature and live an unostentatious life and they do not like to flaunt ornaments. If they have certain ornaments, it is more as a saving, not merely as ornaments, which comes handy for the family in the rainy day. These ornaments are pledged and they get some money for the family and these ornaments are used to meet the demands of the family. That is how it should be viewed. When there is inflation in the country and money depreciates in value, when the banking facilities, credit facilities, are not there, when the earning is spread over and comes in very small amounts, sometimes they are saved in the form of ornaments. These, therefore, are savings of the nation also. There are people who are down and out and who are not in a position to save in other ways but would like to keep something to fall back upon in difficult times. This aspect has to be borne in mind. I think it is a defamation of our people. How many people are exhibiting ornaments? You go to a peasant's house and you will find a small bangle or some little thing and it is not to be flaunted about. It is not for show. It is part of the family's wealth. Go to a worker's house in some place and you will find some small thing. Why take it away in this manner? If you want to conserve the nation's gold, you must know where the gold is and I would like the Finance Minister, since he has taken the right step, generally speaking, not to falter in his future course of action but to extend this measure to cover millionaires, ex-princes and bullion hoarders. Compel them, by force of law, to disgorge their stock and speed up his intelligence service in this manner that should they not disclose their stock, Government itself would be in a

[Shri Bhupesh Gupta.] position to discover and trace the gold. That is how it should be done. This light should be continued orientated with the outlook of the people, keeping in mind the broad needs of the nation, not letting down either the small artisan, goldsmiths and other common men but always aiming at or against those richer sections of the people who are sitting on the country's, accumulated gold, who indulge in hoarding and profiteering, who indulge in future trade in gold which the hon. Minister has stopped and for which I congratulate him. That should be the approach in this respect. I find that, with all respect to the Finance Minister, his policy is somewhat wanting in some vital respect and I would beg of him, request him, to rectify this thing and take measures effectively against those who are in a position to disgorge the gold for the needs of the nation.

Thank you.

SHRI K. SANTHANAM: Madam Deputy Chairman, gold has been one of the weak points of our economy for the last twenty years. So long as gold could be imported freely, there was no gold problem as such and the only difficulty in that case was that the saving of the people went into gold in an unproductive manner. Therefore, in order to stop it, gold import had to be restricted and finally almost completely stopped. The result was that there was a vast demand for gold in the country; there was not enough supply and so the price of gold began to rise and rise, and from Rs. 15, which was the price of a sovereign in 1914, it came to Rs. 80 or Rs. 90 recently. It came up to Rs. 100 also. (Interruptions) I was speaking of the sovereign. And as a result of this vast difference between the international and national price there was a large amount of smuggling because the smuggler was reaping great profits out of smuggling. Therefore, somehow or other, it had to be tackled and this smuggling had to be put down. And I congra-

tulate the Finance Minister for the courage with which he has tried to tackle this question.

But that is one part of the problem. The second part also is equally important and it is that of doing justice to the vast numbers of people who have bought gold in the open market. They did not buy from the smuggler. It was kept an open market at which sovereign was sold at Rs. 80, Rs. 90 and even Rs. 100 during the 10 to 20 years. The middle classes all over the country have bought gold at this price which was allowed by the Government. It was allowed by our Government for the last fifteen years and therefore they are in possession of this gold legally. Now, if anybody proposes that the shares of the Tatas or the Birlas should be acquired at the face value of the shares, then a cry would go forth that it is all confiscation. But what exactly is the difference between that and the present position when a person of the middle class who has bought gold at Rs. 80 per sovereign is now asked to hand it over at Rs. 30 or Rs. 35? Therefore, I think, the only just course would have been to pay him the same price at which it was bought, and acquire the gold. If instead of Rs. 80 or Rs. 90 or even Rs. 75 per sovereign could have been offered and a time-limit set saying that within six months people should deliver their gold to the Government at the rate of Rs. 75 a sovereign and then after six months the price will go down to Rs. 30 or Rs. 35, then of course the entire gold, probably Rs. 600 to Rs. 700 crores worth of gold would have flown into the coffers of the Government of India. But unfortunately, the Finance Minister could not take this step on account of our commitments to the International Monetary Fund. One of their conditions is that no Government should buy or sell gold except at the international price. This was undoubtedly a great difficulty in the way of an honourable and just solution of the gold problem. Therefore, while we

should encourage him in tackling this] problem, there is the real issue of what should be done in the case of those who have bought gold ill the open market. I do not agree that t^c bulk of the gold in this country is in the form of bullion. There may be a small part which is in bullion but at least 90 per cent, of the gold in Ind'a is in the fovm of ornaments. I have no doubt about that.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: How?

Swu K. SANTHANAM; Every year gold worth Rs. 30 or Rs. 40 crores may have been smuggled into the country but they have all been converted into ornaments. There may be small pockets where . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I just point out that some time back, i think about three years back, the Finance Minister circulated a document in which it was estimated that the gold hoarding in the country was of the order of Rs. 2,000 crores and they pointed out that a sizeable amount of that was held in bullion. And recently their note shows that the total is Rs. 4100 crores and again it ha_s been stated that a sizeable amount of that is in bullion and bars.

SHRI K. SANTHANAM: I have already stated that there was an open market here and the bullion merchants, who held this gold, sold it out to the people for making ornaments. There was no other purp.st; in hoarding this gold. Therefore the bulk of the gold was and is today in the form of ornaments. And what should the people do with their ornaments? Of course, they can hand it over to the Government of Tndia at half the price but is it right and just to ask them to do so? They will not voluntarily hand over their ornaments at half the price at which they have bought.

SHRI S. CHANNA REDDY (Andhra Pradesh); There is no question of handing them over now.

SHRI K. SANTHANAM: Now we have got—I do not know whether it is Rs. 1000 crores or Rs. 2000 crores and so I shall not speculate—this vast amount of gold in the form of ornaments and I think some of these people, who have got ornaments, would some time have to convert their ornaments into money for meeting their family needs. So either there should be a free market ior ornaments or somebody must take their ornaments and give them a fair price. That is the great deadlock into which we have fallen. Now, the Finance Minister—I do not know whose brainwave it was—has come to the conclusion that hereafter all transactions in gold should be i_n the form of 14 carats. I have no quarrel with that either; if a free right can be given to every citizen to hand over his ornaments of 22 carat or 24 carat gold to a public authority and get an equivalent amount of 14 carat gold, I think it would be a fair solution. It is the duty of the Government to create an open and legitimate market of 14 carat gold but it cannot be a free market; it will have to be a controlled market. Therefore, my proposal i_s that it should b_e the right of every citizen of India to hand over the ornaments which he wants to sell to a public authority, either to the State Bank of India or the Reserve Bank of India or some other authority, and get equivalent gold of 14 carat which can b_e soli to bullion dealers or to other people or which can be converted into ornaments. Unless some guch solution is found, an incredible amount of injustice and oppression would result and many of the people, who have put all their savings in ornaments, will be ruined. I do not think this is intended or that it is necessary. So I wholeheartedly support one half of the rold policy of the Finance Minister. I do also believe that in due course our people will get rid of the Ture of gold but a tradition of two to three thousand years cannot be broken in two. three or five years and we

[Shri K. Santhanam.] should not attempt to bring about that reform at the cost of enormous suffering. We have to safeguard everything. I do not care for the bullion dealers; I do not care for the rich people Who are much cleverer than Mr. Bhupesh Gupta. They have spread out their gold among the poorer classes, among the middle classes; in the form two tolas or five tolas the entire gold has been spread all over the country.

SHRI P. N. SAPRU (Uttar Pradesh): How would you differentiate between the price of gold and the price of shares? The price of shares also fluctuates.

SHRI K. SANTHANAM: Yes; but nobody proposes that the existing shares should be bought over at half the price. But that is the proposal today with regard to gold that the gold should be surrendered at half the price at which one bought it. Of course, there is no compulsion yet. Unless you give a chance for them to exchange it or to sell it, it is as good as confiscation. Therefore I say that an honourable and just procedure should be evolved. An institution should be set up so that every middle class or poor class family which has got gold can hand it over and get 14 carat gold of fairly equivalent value. It is not good simply to leave it half-way and create a vast amount of confusion and suffering. Therefore while I support the principle of gold control I also do propose that it should not be left half-way but it must be taken to the logical conclusion and we should see that the vast majority of the people in the country who have been allowed legitimately, legally and with open eyes by our own Government to invest their money in gold, should not be made to suffer. This is the earnest plea that I want to make to the Finance Minister and I hope it will not fall on deaf ears. I

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL (Gujarat): Madam Deputy Chairman, I find very often the Congress Party is being driven into policies by the friends who sit on this side of the House. What they have been driving at they seem to succeed.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Not yet.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: I quite agree that the Finance Minister is faced with a very grave problem and he has taken a bold step, a courageous step, in the present circumstances. I am yet not able to decide in my mind whether it was the emergency that made him do it or, according to the different statements made from his Ministry or his deputies in this House that they have been planning this for some time, whether they have utilised the emergency to push this measure through. I do not know it. If Government is intent on preventing smuggling in every way, I am sure they will have the support of everyone in the country. The people, who evade law for profit, are a very small number and I am sure the Government would have no difficulty in finding them out, if they are really intent on going after them. It is not at all difficult. After all, the smuggled gold has to come out and as the previous speaker has pointed out, smuggled gold has percolated from the smugglers to the ordinary wage-earner, the worker, in small quantities. In this country, gold has acquired a certain sentimental value besides its intrinsic value. Banking is a habit that has not come to this country. It is going to take some time before we come to that standard of literacy and understanding. It is going to take some time before that comes about. The common sense understanding is that gold is a thing that does not deteriorate. It will fetch ready money in times of need. Besides, it is a little ornament to show off at certain functions. That is the reason why the poor man, the worker, the peasant, buys gold. I mentioned one argument about it yesterday in the course of the

debate on the other Bill that we were , discussing to help agriculturists. The j agriculturist buys gold because when he is in (difficulties he gets money ' readily for it. If out of a pair of bullocks one bullock dies, where does he raise money from? It is going to be a long time before the methods by which you mean to give him facilities —the red-tape and dealing with officials^—become effective. But gold is a thing that comes to him readily and handy. Now, are you going to deprive him of it?

It is said that the Government has no intention of confiscating gold. Once confidence is destroyed, whatever be your professions and assertions, it can never be restored. The policies of the Government progressively in the last few years have been such that there is sufficient justification for lack of confidence of the people. I would suggest that if the hon. Finance Minister would have taken the people into confidence and had told them: "Look here, this is our need. We will give you back your gold after ten, fifteen or twenty years", people would not have demanded the 6 per cent, interest that he is offering. People would have given it on a nominal interest most willingly in the hour of need. But the measure itself, half at least, is expropriatory. As the hon. friend who spoke before me pointed out, the man is getting half the value, particularly the poor man. I would not have bothered if it were the few rich people who were losing some of the value of their gold. But it is the poor man who is affected. Every house, every family, practically may be having a little piec^ of gold—half a tola, one tola, two tolas or five tolas. They are being deprived of the value of their gold. That is the most objectionable feature of this scheme.

Taking away people's gold, taking away from some people, had been tried by maniacs and fanatics in other countries, with all types of measures, with the utmost of violence. Hitler did it. I hope we are not copying those methods. I hope the Finance

Minster will not lose his temper as he lost the other day. I do not mind if he loses his temper on me. I am quite able to stand it. But I was rather pained at his remarks or criticism of an hon. Member who sits behind him. A person, who has been with Gandhiji for such a long time, was called by the name or compared to the author of "Mother India". It pained me very much. It has pained many other people. I hope he will not do something even if we criticise him harshly. I was wondering whether my friend, who spoke just before me, would not come in for a similar criticism for putting forward the feelings of the people as he understands them, in his own light, in the proper way before the Finance Minister. Apart from that aspect of it, it is not parliamentary practice for any member of a party to refer to another member or his party discipline. The Labour leader, Mr. Gaitskell, was criticised on the floor of Parliament several times, for his policies. He never said: "You are a member of the party. Your position is to leave the party. Look out." It amounts to a threat. No Member of the House can be threatened and I hope you, Madam, had the Chairman will protect Members from such threats.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: May I say that I reserve my right to repeat it any time I think it is proper? I did nothing wrong.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE (Uttar Pradesh): No, no.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: I repeat my protest and I think I have the whole House with me, including Members opposite.

(Interruptions.)

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: May I say I am sorry, I was not present here on I that day? Otherwise, I would have j resented the remark made by the Finance Minister. He was not addressing the Congress Parliamentary

[Shri A. B. Vajpayee.] Party. He was in the House and he cannot be allowed to threaten Members. Maybe, they may belong to his Party, but they are here in their own right. They have certain privileges.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: May I say, Madam Deputy Chairman, that if I said any thing on that occasion it was not merely referring to the Congress Party. I have my right as a Member of Parliament, as a Minister, to say what I think is proper. There was no anger in it. I said in truth what was asked for in truth and I am going to repeat it any time the occasion arises.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Madam Deputy Chairman, it poses a question of privilege.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr Dahyabhai Patel, please continue your speech.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I want to say certainly the hon. Minister has the right to say it, but then he has to function under certain limitations of normal parliamentary practice and so on. Here he could certainly criticise his Party Member also, but what he said is not that. He said that she should dissociate with the Congress Party, go out and all that. The Rajasthan Member was threatened. Now, here it is not the A.I.C.C. or Jantar-mantar Road. He can criticise the hon. Member . . .

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You cannot make another speech now.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: It is not at all proper. Such threats spoil the debate.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please let Mr. Dahyabhai Patel continue.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Madam, I am sorry for the intrusion, but I think and I feel that many other

Members of this House feel that this is a matter of serious importance, of the privilege of a Member of the House . . .

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: You can take it up.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: and no Member of the House can be threatened by anybody in this House.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: I have not threatened anybody.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Are we discussing Gold Control? (Interruptions) .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: You asked her to leave the Congress Party. Is there a greater threat than that?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Patel, please carry on. Please speak on Gold Control.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: I did not ask her to quit.

SHRI N. VENKATESWARA RAO (Andhra Pradesh): May I be permitted to say just one word? The Finance Minister said that she should go out of the Party and not out of Parliament.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: I said whether in truth, if truth compelled her, it would be right for her to associate with people whom she condemned in this manner. That is all that I said.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: The philosophical part apart, it was a clear threat if you say such things here. It can be said outside.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: I will repeat it.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Since no objection was raised on that day, I do not think it is quite right to raise

that now. You please continue, Mr. Patel.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: I think it is right for a Member to protest against this encroachment on a Member's right.

SHRI SURESH J. DESAI (Gujarat): Budget is a matter on which a Government even falls. Certainly the Finance Minister was in every way justified to pull up a Member of his own Party. There is nothing wrong in that.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I would not like Mr. Suresh Desai to be pulled up by him for making this remark.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Now, Madam, the Gold Control Rules should have been framed in a little more practical manner. One point I mentioned was about the difficulty of knowing how ornaments are held by different people. But what about the people who make them? Has Government tried to make an estimate of how many people are in the trade? Making ornaments is not only the business of rich men in cities, rich shopkeepers, but it is a cottage industry in this country. You go to every village and you will find a small goldsmith sitting near his *sigri* and heating it and making it into shape. In every village in this country you have a couple of them, and more where the place is bigger. What is going to happen to them with this 14 carat gold? Where is the 14 carat gold coming from? How are they going to be taught to make this?

Madam, a large number of jewellers, big and small, from all over the country had been in Delhi last week explaining their difficulties. I hope the Finance Minister has considered their difficulties with a little more sympathy and that he is taking steps to give them some relief or announce Kune relief to them. What happens to the ornaments that have already been made? Does the Finance Minister

expect them to break them and make them again? There are ornaments made with imitation stones because precious stones have now become very expensive. Diamonds are not within the reach of the ordinary man. So imitation stones are used, and ornaments are made from gold of a higher purity with those stones. What happens to them? Are they to be destroyed? Is any compensation going to be paid to them?

Madam, while it is necessary to prevent the drain of our foreign exchange, it is not necessary to become so heartless as not to think of so many families all over the country who have been ruined, who have been ruined not in trade but who have no other occupation, who know no other occupation, who have been doing this only all their lifetime, who have passed their prime of life. What occupation will they learn after this? It is quite all right that you give education to a young man who is rising. You can tell him just to switch over to some other business, but what happens to the large number of them who have passed the prime of their life? What happens to them?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: The West Bengal Government have given them Rs. 4 per month.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Well, that is the unfortunate situation in this country. That is how the Government functions, and therefore aptly the Government was called 14 carat Government.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: It is 2 carat gold. Why 14? That would be something substantial.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Madam, I wish to affirm once again that it is not possible to change the habits of people by making laws. If the Finance Minister will not mind my quoting Gandhiji, I would say: "Controls give rise to fraud, suppression of truth, black market and anti-

[Shri Dahyabhai V. Patel.] ficial scarcities." This is one more type of control. That is going to introduce all these evils. I am not worried whether somebody makes a little more profit or not on this. But all this undermines the honesty of the ordinary man. The ordinary honest man who wants to make a living is tempted to do wrong and break the law because he cannot afford to abide by this law. What happens to bigger people? Does Government not know who are the real smugglers and where the smuggling comes from? Does it only come through motor cars? Does it come only through ships? We have a large frontier on both sides. If the Government keeps its eyes open, I am sure the Government will be able to find who are the people behind them, who have been supporting them, who have been protecting them, and that is why anti-smuggling measures are not able to take sufficiently harsh and deterrent action. May I suggest that the hon. Finance Minister may turn some of his ferocity on the smuggler instead of on the poor honest man who is trying to make his living, the poor honest man who is trying to provide for a rainy day, or an honest Gandhian like Rajkumari Amrit Kaur who had the courage to speak up in this House?

SHRI ROHIT M. DAVE (Gujarat): Madam, the gold problem that we are facing today is really the problem of diverting a part of the gold which is privately held today into the Government coffers. We are facing today a rather strange situation in which while the country has got a sizeable holding of gold looking into the per capita income and wealth of the country, as far as the Government is concerned, it has got very little gold. Any objective worth pursuing regarding the gold policy has to be objective of diverting a part of the gold into the Government exchequer. Judging from this point of view, so far the policy of the Government has abjectly failed. The Gold Bond Scheme which was expected to divert this gold from private into public ownership could not

achieve this object, whatever be the reason, and gold hardly worth about Rs. 8 crores or a little more has so far been diverted through this scheme from private into public hands.

It has been suggested that after mature consideration the Government has come to the conclusion that it will not be possible to deal with the gold that had already arrived in the country before the gold policy was launched, and therefore the Government has decided to concentrate attention on the future arrival of gold and to see that it is very limited in extent and that thereby valuable foreign exchange could be saved. If this be the correct interpretation of the policy of the Government, I am afraid it is a defeatist policy and will not serve the purpose which we have in view, namely, of strengthening our foreign balances which are required for more urgent problems like defence and development. All other wider issues like bringing about a big social revolution by changing the habit of the people by taking the entire gold of the nation into the hands of the state are to my mind quite wide of the mark. Our objective should be a limited objective, and we should find ways and means for achieving that objective. May I submit, Madam, that the objective should be to at least divert Rs. 300 crores worth of gold from private hands into the public exchequer, because that might ultimately give us a foreign exchange backing of nearly Rs. 500 crores, and that might help us in tackling the number of problems that we are facing as far as the international trade and international payments are concerned? If this is the objective with which the Rules have been framed, I do not think it is so very difficult to achieve that objective provided certain policy decisions are taken, and one of these policy decisions will have to be to take, compulsorily if necessary, a certain amount of gold from those who have bullion in excess of a certain quantity which might be prescribed. I may say that we have got the

Wealth Tax Act before us and under that Act a certain amount of wealth is being declared year after year by those who are liable to pay the tax and if a limit is prescribed regarding the wealth that might be held in the form of gold by people who are paying Wealth-tax and if the rest of the gold is diverted to a scheme like the Gold Bond Scheme, to my mind, it would be possible to divert a part of the gold from private ownership to public ownership and there would be no expropriation involved.

Much has been said about the price *bi* gold which the Government is prepared to pay, namely, Rs. 62. But it is completely forgotten that under the Gold Bond Scheme, 6 J per cent, interest is being paid on the money which has been invested in the Gold Bond Scheme and after 15 years, it does amount to Rs. 125 per ten grams, which is a legitimate price which should be paid for gold.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: In rupees or in gold?

SHRI ROHIT M. DAVE: In rupees, of course. Why should it be paid in gold?

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: There it is.

SHRI ROHIT M. DAVE: If gold is held above a particular limit, certainly such gold could be taken away by the Government after paying due and equitable compensation and, to my mind, the Gold Bond Scheme does provide equitable compensation and therefore there should be certain compulsions regarding this diversion of gold above a particular limit for being invested in the Gold Bond Scheme. If this could be done, we need not require a large number of investigations, a large number of agencies and a large amount of private information regarding the source of gold. We can always look to those legitimate returns which will already

have been submitted to the Government and we may decide on the basis of those returns, keeping in mind that we want not more than Rs. 300 crores worth of gold at the present moment for the public exchequer, and see that it is diverted accordingly. If that is not sufficient, a further limit should also be imposed on every individual and family who is not paying wealth-tax, in which case a ceiling might be imposed and any gold which is above that ceiling with those people, could again be compulsorily taken under the Gold Bond Scheme by the public exchequer and thereby ultimately the total of Rs. 300 crores could be easily achieved.

We have been told that the present policy will succeed in discouraging smuggling and will bring down the price of gold. The price of gold has come down to a certain extent but it is very doubtful how long the price will remain at the level where it is today. Even the present level of price is much higher than the international price and that gap will have to be bridged somehow or other. I do not know if the present deterrents that are involved in the Defence of India Rules would last indefinitely and if the price of gold will not shoot up again when these deterrents are no longer available. It is my impression that the price has come down today because of the fact that certain administrative measures have been taken by the Government and there is a fear in the public mind that the Defence of India Rules are so stringent that if the Government takes any action under those Rules, it will not be worthwhile buying gold at black-market prices. But at the same time, it is worth remembering that gold is not changing hands even when the price has shot up to Rs. 115 or Rs. 120 per ten grams; gold is not changing hands even today when the price has fallen to Rs. 98 per ten grams, which is the last quoted price. After that, the price is not being quoted. The fact remains that people are still sticking to

[Shri Rohit M. Dave] gold in the hope that ultimately the price will rise, and as long as that expectation is there, as long as that expectation is fed on certain legitimate considerations on the part of those who are sticking to gold, it will not be easy for the Government to peg the price even at Rs. 95 or Rs. 100, and even if they succeed in pegging it at that level, it will not be worth while because the international price is Rs. 62. Therefore, the question of price also has to be gone into.

Similarly, there is the question of smuggling. Here again, to my mind, complacent conclusions are being drawn by the Government in thinking that because of this gold policy, smuggling has stopped. It has been argued that the price of the free rupee is appreciating, which is one of the indications that smuggling has at least decreased, if not completely stopped.

Here again, it is possible that it is not the gold policy but the travel restrictions which have been imposed under the Defence of India Rules which are responsible for this decrease in the smuggling activities. It is worth remembering why the smuggling takes place initially. The Government of India seems to have come to the conclusion that this smuggling can be explained only in terms of the disparities of prices, the international price and the market price in India. May I submit, Madam, in all humility that it is not such a simple matter as that? As Shri Bhupesh Gupta has pointed out, because of certain malpractices in trade a large amount of foreign exchange gets collected in foreign centres, and this foreign exchange has to be brought into this country in one form or another, and gold and diamond are the two commodities which facilitate bringing this accumulated foreign exchange into this country very easily, and therefore we find that there is so much of smuggling activity both in diamonds and in gold. As long as this foreign exchange goes on accumu-

lating in foreign centres, the question of bringing that accumulated money into this country will remain, and to that extent smuggling will continue in one form or another. It may be discouraged for some time but it will be very difficult to eradicate it completely as long as the other bigger problem has not been solved. Therefore, Madam, I would respectfully suggest that the gold policy, which has been announced by the Government and implemented by the Government, goes only up to a particular point but does not meet the requirements of the situation.

I would make only one point regarding the goldsmiths who are likely to be thrown out of employment, and I have done. Certain schemes have been announced to give help to the goldsmiths when they have to change from one craft to another, and it has been suggested that certain Government posts will be reserved for them, that they will be given certain amount of land—which is waste land—which they can develop and put to cultivation, that their children will be given preference in scholarships, etc. To my mind, such an approach to this problem is a wasteful approach. One does not expect a goldsmith to take a barren land and apply his skill and energy in order to cultivate crops on such a barren land. He has not got that skill; he is not trained for that, and he would make a mess of the thing if such a scheme is put into practice. A goldsmith, by the very nature of the job he is doing, is a precision artist. He has acquired the skill of precision, and the Country requires a large number of crafts and skilled workers who have got this talent of working with precision. It would be better if these goldsmiths are trained for some such work wherein their accumulated experience, talent and skill can be made full use of, and it will be possible for them to contribute their best to the new trade or new craft they may be called upon to be

engaged in, and therefore no such wild scheme of all sorts of help to the goldsmiths, which are generally applied to the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes or the economically weaker sections of the people, or to the soldiers who have suffered in war or to those who have suffered in political activities, etc., should also be applied to these goldsmiths. Such an *ad hoc* arrangement would be 'ful. It would be much desirable if more thought is devoted to this problem of giving alternative employment to the goldsmiths so that it may be possible for them to make full use of the skill that they have got, it may be possible for them to earn a decent and honourable livelihood in the new circumstances in which they are put.

Madam, I thank you.

SHRI SURESH J. DESAI: Madam Deputy Chairman, the hon. Finance Minister deserves all congratulations for the boldness and courage which he has shown in promulgating the Gold Control Order. It is an onerous task, an unpleasant duty and a thankless task, but the shoulders of the hon. Finance Minister are broad enough. He is courageous enough to face all unpopularity, to court unpopularity for doing what he thinks is right, what he thinks is vitally essential in the interest of the country. At this time all sorts of bogeys are being raised. It is said that there is social disturbance in the Country; it is said that there is an unprecedented public agitation in the country. These are all bogeys. It is all wishful thinking. But all sorts of bogeys are sotight to be raised. It is also said that the Gold Control Order has failed, that it has not brought out s'o much gold that was expected. New, smuggling is going on in the country for decades together. The unproductive habit of investing money in gold is going on for thousands of years in the country, and the Gold Control Order has been promulgated just two months back, and you expect its results to be brought out immediately. This is all wishful thinking. There are interested parties who just want

1281 RS—6.

to malign the Congress Party and just to cook up some agitation or other with a view 'o mal'gning the ruling party; it is nothing less than that. The difficulty with our people, Madam, is that ther_e are so many people who are much interested to see that the Gold Control Order does not succeed. All spacious arguments are advanced. On the one side, it is said that th_e Government wants to take away all gold from the people of the country; that the Government wants to take away all the hard earned gold of the agriculturists. On the other hand, it is said that Government is not touching the hoarded gold stocks and there are all Sorts of arguments advanced. We saw an exhibition of some of these arguments just now. Instead of valid arguments, instead of trying to be helpful in the task, a very thankless task which the hon. Finance Minister has taken on, instead of trying to be helpful, abuses are hurled, adjectives are hurled; they think that abuses and adje are g"od substl'lutes for arguments. There was an exhibition of it and we saw it just now, and these are all very contradictory arguments. These con-ictory arguments arise* I submit, Madam, because of a deliberate misunderstanding of tho Gold Control Order. The Finance Minister, time and again, has made it clear; in his speech also he has made it clear; in his statements also he has made it sufficiently clear; he has made it clear that there are twofold objectives of the Gold Control Order. He wants to stop smuggling of gold; he wants to reduce the demand for gold and to bring down the price of gold so that the unproductive habit of investing in gold is checked, is curtailed. These are all the objectives immediately, and these are objectives which are vitally beneficial to the country, and the Gold Control Order itself is very clear.

Now, let me deal with the second of the two objectives just now, about reducing the demand for gold and about bringing down the price of gold so that the unproductive habit Of investing in gold is curtailed. Let me

[Shri Suresh J. Desai.] deal with that first. The Gold Control Order provides that only 14-carat gold ornaments can be made. Now these 14-carat gold ornaments, Madam, are the kind of Ornaments prevailing all over the world. In most countries of the world costume jewellery is in vogue, which does not contain even one carat of gold. Ropes of pearls and necklaces of pearls, which you see in the necks of ladies, are all made of cultured pearls, and in other countries there is not this lure for gold, for 24-carat gold. And even the 24-carat was not pure gold. There was some adulteration in that also. After all there is some adulteration in that also and the Government wants that there should be some more adulteration for the benefit of the country; nothing else. Now, when this costume jewellery is in vogue in most of the countries, why should it not be in vogue in this country also? But I do appreciate that there are certain difficulties. For instance, in Jaipur all sorts of artistic enamelled jewellery are manufactured. In Tamil Nad, in Tiruchirapalli they make jewellery out of synthetic stones also. And with the 14-carat gold, the difficulties of making such jewellery are there, and certainly these difficulties are being looked into very carefully by the Gold Control Board—the Finance Ministry is also looking into all these difficulties, about refineries for 14-carat gold, etc. All these difficulties will be met. They cannot, of course, be met immediately. After all, no previous notice of the Gold Control Order could have been given to anybody. Then the very purpose would have been defeated. The Gold Control Order had to be promulgated immediately and these difficulties arise, and certainly these difficulties will be met.

Now, Sir, it is said at times that our womenfolk will not take to 14-carat gold. It is said like that. On the other hand it is said that they will take 14-carat gold ornaments in unlimited quantity so that the demand for gold will not be reduced. Now, these are contradictory arguments. I

Either the womenfolk take to 14-carat gold, or they do not take to 14-carat gold, and if they take to 14-carat gold, then the social habit is changed, and the Gold Control Order is successful. And if they do not take to 14-carat gold, then certainly the demand for gold will be reduced. Then also the Gold Control Order is successful. After all these are contradictory arguments which are advanced from a facile angle irrespective of logic, with a view just to bringing down or to maligning the Government in whatever it is doing, in its doing something which is very essential for the country, something which is very vital for the economy of the country. Instead of understanding it, instead of trying to be helpful, people go on maligning it and trying to cook up all sorts of agitations just to make political capital out of it.

Then, I will come to the other point about smuggling. About smuggling everybody says that smuggling should be stopped, and everybody paid lip sympathy to that also, that smuggling should be stopped. Now we have got 14,000 miles of our coastline and our land frontier. After all, no Government can have a police force for 14,000 miles of coastline and frontiers. That would require a million men, and even if patrolling is resorted to . . .

SHRI M. RUTHNASWAMY
(Madras): Fourteen thousand miles of coastline.

SHRI SURESH J. DESAI: You should have heard it properly. I said 14,000 miles is the coastline and land frontier. If you want exact figures, I will give you exact figures for these—9,435 miles of land frontier and 3,525 miles of coastline. Even if the Government wants to have patrolling done all over, it will require 5,000 jeeps going round all the twenty-four hours of the day.

Nobody can stop it that way. And if the Government comes forward, if the Customs Department comes forward with a budget for this purpose before this House, this House will refuse the budget to the Government

After all, the Government had to stop smuggling in some way or the other. They have been trying to stop smuggling for a number of years. In 1959 when the Government found that our currency, which was a legal tender in the Persian Gulf countries, was changed into dollars and pounds and was being used with a view to purchasing gold, after a lot of negotiations they changed that currency and issued a special currency so that the smuggling of gold might be stopped. For a few months smuggling did stop. But after that they found a new racket developing. You see, Madam, there are thousands of Indians all over the world who have got some foreign exchange. I also agree with my friend, Mr. Dave, that there is secret accumulation of foreign exchange. The Finance Minister is trying to probe into that secret accumulation of foreign exchange. But certainly the Finance Ministry have to do something more. They should not be merely satisfied with making a probe into all this secret accumulation of foreign exchange. So, there are some people who go on accumulating foreign exchange, purchasing gold from that and paying to the relatives of these people here in India in Rupees. And the profit that they make on the smuggled gold here is utilised with a view to paying something more to these relatives who are here. The Government, surely, cannot round up these thousands of Indians all over the world. Certainly, the Government is trying to probe into all this secret accumulation. But that is not enough. The Government had to do something because the country is drained every year of Rs. 50-60 crores. And especially at this time of national emergency it was necessary that something should have been done. So, the hon. Finance Minister took up the onerous and thankless task and he was bold enough to do that. Why should anybody object to that I cannot understand.

The second question that was touched was about the unemployment problem of the goldsmiths. About the

unemployment of goldsmiths, all the figures are given in a memorandum which has been circulated to Members of Parliament. It is said that their number is 5 million, and each one of them has got five dependents. That comes to 25 crores. That means that every tenth or twelfth person here is a goldsmith or a dependent of a goldsmith. So, all sorts of exaggerated figures are given. Even if you take the moderate figure of 4 to 5 lakhs, certainly we have all our sympathies with them. Nobody wants any person to be deprived of his livelihood. Nobody wants that any person should suffer. We have all our sympathy for them.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Your sympathy does not feed their belly.

SHRI SURESH J. DESAI: At the same time, Madam, it is said that smuggling is going on and the Gold Control Order is not a success. It is also said that non-ornament gold is being transformed into ornament gold. That means that the goldsmiths are busy, they are not idle; that they are engaged in this nefarious clandestine business. Well, if you say that smuggling has stopped, then the Gold Control Order is a success. The Finance Ministry has certainly instructed the State Governments to do everything possible for the goldsmiths. We have all our sympathies for the goldsmiths. I will just mention a few things which the Government of Gujarat is doing. Because I come from Gujarat, I know what the Government of Gujarat is doing and I hope the other State Ministries will also be doing the same thing. The Government of Gujarat have provided free education for their children. No school fee will be paid by them. Free textbooks will be given to them. Priority will be given to them in the distribution of cultivable land. Free loans will be given to them for buying sewing machines and ambar charkhas. Age limit for them for entering Government services will be raised.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Is it a very long list? You must wind up.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: It depends upon the Gujarat Government.

SHRI SURESH J. DESAI: The Small-scale Industries' Association, the Association of Engineers, the Federation of Gujarat Mills and Industry have come forward to help the goldsmiths and their children to be trained. Everything possible is being done by the Finance Ministry to help the goldsmiths. We have all our sympathies for them.

Here, Madam, I will ask one question of my hon. friends. Whenever there is a social transformation, whenever there is an economic transformation taking place in a country, after all, in the transitional stage certain sections of the society are bound to suffer. You pay lip sympathy in favour of all social transformation. But when it comes to the question of certain sections in the society suffering, you immediately raise a hue and cry.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know how much gold has come from the Maharaja of Baroda? He also belongs to Gujarat.

SHRI SURESH J. DESAI: That is none of my business.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: It should be the Gujarat Government's business.

SHRI SURESH J. DESAI: I will ask Mr. Bhupesh Gupta one thing. In Russia, after the Second World War, they transplanted a large number of people from the Ukraine in other parts of the country. The estimated figure was 10 million people. Where is the large middle class of China today? Where are the zamindars of India? Where is the landed aristocracy of India? When a big social transformation takes place, such a thing does happen. Step by step we are advancing towards socialism. In that

process, certainly, certain sections of the population are bound to suffer for the time being. But steps will have to be taken to see that they are gradually rehabilitated.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I think that is enough, Mr. Desai. Mr. Mani.

SHRI SURESH J. DESAI: Only one sentence and I have completed . . .

SHRI A. D. MANI (Madhya Pradesh) : I have been called. Madam Deputy Chairman, at the outset in intervening in this debate on this motion, I should like to say that I am in general sympathy with the objectives of the Gold Control Order. But my grievance against the Government is that the manner in which this Gold Control Order has been clamped on the country, it has caused a good deal of untold hardship.

Madam, I quite agree with the Finance Minister that there is, in this country, a fatal fascination for gold. But unfortunately this fatal fascination is also snared by the International Monetary Fund whose meetings the Finance Minister attends quite often. I would like the Finance Minister, when he goes to the next meeting of the International Monetary Fund, to appeal to the Directors to give up their love for pure gold and to have only 14 carat gold. Unless the International Monetary Fund is converted to the 14 carat gold idea, it is not fair to expect that the people of India, because an order has been passed by the Government, would immediately accept 14 carat gold as a sign of distinction.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: Nowhere in the world they use pure gold for jewellery.

SHRI A. D. MANI: I am very glad that my hon. friend Mr. Akbar Ali Khan, has raised this question. He has been to the West. He has stayed for long periods of time in London.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: He comes from Hyderabad.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Hyderabad is not London. Madam, you have been to the West and so also many Members of this House. I can tell hon. Members of the House that the love for gold in the West is as intense as it is here. The only thing is that they have, not got enough money to purchase it. Let any one Member of the House offer a 22 carat gold bracelet to an English lady or a Western lady and let a simpler offer of 14 carat gold be made to her. I am certain that the person offering a 22 carat gold necklace will be viewed with a little more affection than the person who offers a 14 carat gold necklace. Let us not ignore the fact that 22 carat gold is valued all over the world.

Madam, my objection to this Gold Control Order is . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Is Mr. Mani speaking from personal experience?

SHRI A. D. MANI: Why should you ask me when other hon. Members are here? My objection to this Gold Control Order is that it should have been preceded by public education. It should have been made an election issue. The verdict of the people should have been sought in a general election on this issue. I have seen the Congress Party manifesto which was issued at the time of the general election. There is no reference whatever to the desire of the Government to control gold. If this had been put before the people, and if the Congress Party had made it an election issue and secured victory at the polls, they would have had more justification for coming forward with the Gold Control Order. No other Party . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: We did.

SHRI A. D. MANI: You raised it? But I am glad you were defeated.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Twelve million votes we got. Therefore . . .

SHRI A. D. MANI: The Finance Minister was formerly the Chief Minister of Bombay and I watched with admiration at the time he was Chief Minister, the way in which he brought about prohibition. Prohibition was brought about in four stages. He started with one dry day a week, two dry days, three dry days and it was explained by him at that time that this slow process was designed in order to enable those who would be affected by prohibition, to find alternative employment. What the Finance Minister did as Chief Minister of Bombay to liquor, he unfortunately has not done to gold. It is necessary for the House and for the Finance Minister to understand why the people have attached value to gold. I am sorry to say this. It is the devaluation of the rupee, in terms of cost of living, in terms of purchasing power in other words, the taxation policy which his Government and he have followed and which has led to a rise in the cost of living, that is responsible for the love that the people have for gold. There is no escaping away from the fact that people attach a little more importance to gold because that seems to be the only safe reserve and, as I said, the International Monetary Fund too is not prepared to accept any other standard except the possession of gold. Whereas these orders have been brought into force, I can say that we have started for the first time this process of education but then the Finance Minister should take into account the fact that he has imposed without Parliamentary sanction a form of wealth-tax on those people who hold gold and who purchased it at prices higher than the international price. The wealth-tax is levied only on certain categories of wealth. Below those categories people are exempted from the Wealth-tax. But in this wealth-tax, which is implicit in the Gold Control Order, the taxation falls on those poor people who have been hoarding gold as a sort of reserve for a rainy day and who find.....
(Interruptions) Yes, because your prices are going up, your monetary

[Shri A. D. Mani.] policies are chaotic and therefore they have to depend on something for a rainy day. Whether it is good or bad

SHRI ARJUN ARORA (Uttar Pradesh) : Those people cannot make two ends meet because of the rising prices

SHRI A. D. MANI: People who have held gold as a reserve, as a sort of inheritance ...

(Interruptions.)

The Finance Minister has taken away 100 per cent, of their holdings in the form of concealed wealth-tax on gold hoardings. I want him to take this aspect into consideration.

My concrete suggestion to him would be that this process of education must continue for a longer time. I quite realise that the country requires gold and that the gold smuggling should be stopped, but I would request him to amend the Gold Control Order in order to permit gold ornaments to be placed at the Reserve Bank for an indefinite period of time at the international price. The present load of taxation, which he has presented just now in his Budget for the country, is so heavy that at some stage people will be forced to pledge their ornaments to pay the taxes. Let at least this opportunity be given to the people of this country that they pledge the ornaments for sale at the Reserve Bank at the international price. I am prepared to accept that the Wealth-tax is reducing the difference between the international price and the present ruling price of gold. It has become very hard for people, because of the chaotic confusion with which this Order has been promulgated, to know what the Gold Control Order is today in this country. My first suggestion is that, as far as ornaments are concerned, there should be an indefinite period for their being offered for sale at the Reserve Bank at international prices.

My second suggestion would be that we need not make the 14 carat issue a prestige issue for the Government, I consulted many jewellers who came to Delhi recently and whom we met privately and we discussed with them their grievances and I put it to them whether they would accept 18 carat gold as a substitute for the present position and their answer was that with 18 carat gold, they would not be very much out of business and that gold ornaments of very fine quality can be made out of 18 carat gold. I hope the Finance Minister would not regard the issue of 14 carat an issue of treason for the country, because he did say that any person who buys gold at the present stage, when this country is facing an emergency, is committing an act of treason. I hope the difference of 4 carats between 18 carats and 14 carats would not be considered by him as an issue of treason under the D.I.R.

The third suggestion I would make is, since the public sector is expanding in many directions, why cannot the Government consider the question of setting up a public sector gold ornaments factory? I am not putting it in a light-hearted or facetious sense of the term or to pull the leg of anybody but really seriously . . .

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Only polished brass will be left.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Whatever it(Interruptions). Since he has been urging at various places that ornaments of good quality can be made of 14 carat gold I am saying, why not set an example by having a small factory in every State capital where gold ornaments of 14 carat purity or 18 carat purity can be made?

The other question of the employment of the goldsmiths, who have been thrown out of employment, should be taken into account. I may tell the Finance Minister that if the D.I.R. had not been in force, his Gold Control Order would have been already stuck down by the Supreme

Court as unconstitutional and illegal. The people of this country have certain Fundamental Rights guaranteed by the Constitution. The Finance Minister, by his policy, has deprived them of employment. He deprived them of the right to employment which is inherent in the Directive Principles of State Policy which form a part of the Constitution. Now I would appeal to him that he should consider the question . . .

SHRI RHUPESH GUPTA: He knows that the Directive Principles are not enforceable . . .

SHRI A. D. MANI: Some principles are enforceable. Prohibition is enforced but not this. Every person born in this country is entitled to expect employment and a welfare State must provide employment to those who do not have the opportunity for it. At the present time a large number of people, who have been dependent for generations on this trade, are out in the streets and I would like to ask the Finance Minister whether the C.B.R. or the Gold Control authorities have worked out the implications of the present Gold Control Order. I am told that Rs. 50 crores worth of gold is being smuggled but I am also told that Rs. 10 crores are paid as income-tax by the goldsmiths. What is the plus and minus in this balance-sheets? We lose money in one direction and we gain money . . .

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: You seem to be very funny today.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Because the Gold Control Order is funny. It makes it funnier for any person to discuss it. I would like to make one more suggestion about the question of manufacture of gold ornaments.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Do you think the reply will be funnier?

SHRI A. D. MANI: Maybe the funniest part may be the reply. I would like to make one suggestion about the making of gold ornaments.

I saw recently a sample of a vanity case made by a Jaipur goldsmith. It is a work of great beauty. It was done in enamel. It has been given a colour, and the man said that it could never be made in 14 carat gold and it is made for export purposes and the value was Rs. 14,500. Very few can purchase it, not with the present rate of taxation, unless one of those blackmarketeers, whom my friend, Mr. Gupta, mentioned, as riding in a motor-car, the famous industrialist, who was caught and gold bars were taken out, unless that man offers to purchase, unless there are people of that kind. They are not going to be interested in this. Please do not kill—this is my request to the Government—the curio industry in India, because this has been the work of generations of Indian craftsmen and it is going to get you foreign exchange. At least for that purpose the Government should release gold for making curios under their strict supervision.

I would like to make one more point about the use of gold and that is for making of *thalis* or *ihirumangal-yams* in gold and *mangal sutras* and wedding rings. In spite of all the admonitions of the Finance Minister and the Government to give up the love of gold, nobody likes to think in terms of stainless wedding. But whenever we speak about weddings, we talk of golden jubilees and silver jubilees. Why do people make use of such expressions? Why not they speak of "plastic" jubilee? Why not use the term "stainless steel" jubilee? It is because gold is associated with our tradition, with our way of thinking. I would like to make one request. The number of persons, who get married and who can afford to go in for gold for this purpose, is very limited. Not everybody can afford to go in for a gold "*thali*."

AN HON. MEMBER: Why marry?

SHRI A. D. MANI: Let them get married. All people are entitled to their happiness. And people do go in for a gold ring or a gold *thali*, because

[Shri A. D. Mani.] this is part of our religion and our tradition. Now, I would request the Finance Minister to issue permits just as permits are being issued for the use of scooters and motor-cars. (*Interruptions*) These suggestions are made after careful thought.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN; Question.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: At least we get an idea of your thoughts.

SHRI A. D. MANI: I mean in the case of genuine demands, in matters concerning religion, our weddings and so on, there should be some kind of concession.

I would say a word about the Gold Control Board, which is relevant to the subject under discussion. The qualifications of Mr. Kotak, the Chairman of the Gold Control Board, have been the subject of many interpellations in this House and when the Finance Minister said that the allegations against him were false, I accepted it. because I have no doubt that Shri Morarji Desai will never engage a person whose qualifications are of a doubtful character. But I would ask him and Mr. Kotak to bear one point of view in mind that there is something like the principle that justice should not only be done, but it should seem to be done.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Caesar's wife should be above suspicion.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Why speak of other people's wives as part of it? I wanted to bring in this question of justice being done and done in a proper way. In the case of Mr. Kotak I put the question to the Finance Minister, asking him whether Mr. Kotak resigned his post as Minister in the Saurashtra Government for negotiating a private deal in Japan and the Finance Minister denied the allegation. I myself was not sure of it. I wanted information and I am sorry I

put that question to him; because in fairness and decency of parliamentary life, if a mistake is made, that mistake must be flatly admitted. I made further enquiries and I understand that the deal was struck after he left the Saurashtra Government, when he went to Japan in another capacity and he had a right to conclude the deal. But the volume of evidence that is available shows that Mr. Kotak was part of this concern, whether the dominating part or the passive part, it is for the Finance Ministry to decide. But he was part of this concern. I would not request the Finance Minister to ask Mr. Kotak to resign. He would not do it because he did not make a wrong choice. But Mr. Kotak himself, in view of so much criticism of his connections and his antecedents, should make it easy for the Gold Control Order to be exercised properly by offering to resign himself. If the Finance Minister examines parliamentary practice, he will find that whenever a person has been the subject of acrid controversy, he has agreed to resign and said that in the public interest and in the interest of public policy he was resigning. He resigns with a clean record. We make no allegations against him. The fact that a number of people doubt his qualifications for being an impartial chairman of the Gold Control Board itself should make him offer his resignation to Government and help the Finance Minister to choose somebody who would be free from controversy.

Madam, I would conclude by saying .. .

AN HON. MEMBER; One word?

SHRI A. D. MANI: Many words have been said. I have to say a few more words before I conclude. I say that the Government has embarked on a very bold policy. This policy I want to succeed. I am not one of those who run down the Government's policy because it happens to come from the party in power. But this, policy should be worked out slowly-

and there should be a little accommodation in regard to the enforcement of this policy. Till the other day we loved gold. We called little girls after the name of gold—Swarna—and all that. And now we are saying gold should be a term of opprobrium.

AN HON. MEMBER: Fourteen carat gold.

SHRI A. D. MANI: You want fourteen carat gold? Whatever it is, I say this ought to be done slowly and I would request the Finance Minister that whatever accommodation is possible, in regard to the adjustments of es and So on, he sh uld give in a liberal and generous way. As I have said, people have been taken without warning. If in a general m, this had been an issue, then the Government could have come with the moral authority to oush through any legislation of this kind. But this has not been done and since no warning had been given, it is only fair and prudent that the Government should go slow with regard to Denalties as far as the Gold Control Order is concerned.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Arjun Arora. You have only ten minutes.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: I will take only nine.

Madam Deputy Chairman, I rise to support the Gold Control Order. The Gold Control Order has behind it a very good idea, but my only sorrow is that that a very good idea is being very badly executed. Smuggling of gold had become rampant before. Long before the Chinese aggression, the smugglers had invaded our country and something should have been done hy the Finance Minister on these lines long ago. But it was at a very late stage that he began to move and the first move of the Finance Minister was to issue the Gold Bonds. That, as has been pointed out in this House and elsewhere, has miserably failed. People, who had gold, were not pre-

pared to buy the gold bonds. Then the Gold Control Order came. The idea behind the Gold Control Order is, as I admitted, a sound one. Nobody has the right to sacrifice the interest of the country and to rob the country of foreign exchange merely because of some superstitious belief or because he or she finds gold attractive. But I am afraid the Finance Ministry is bringing in this measure in a half-hearted manner. Declarations of non-jewellery gold have been made, but there is no provision for confiscation, no provision for taking over, no provision for buying over the gold which some people have hoarded and not declared. As a matter of fact even declared gold, where it is in excess of a reasonable quantity, should in one way or the other be taken over by the Government.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: The Order provides that if any gold is not declared and it is found, then it will be confiscated. It is provided. Why does the hon. Member say it is not provided?

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: Even declared gold, when it is in the possession of an individual, if it is more than a reasonable quantity, the Government should be able to take over, buy over at a reasonable price.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: The Maharaja of Darbhanga had 11 maunds of gold and other maharajas would be having many more maunds of gold.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: As a matter of fact, I am afraid the Finance Ministry is not clear on its own policy. Does it want merely to stop the smuggling of gold or does it want the gold in order to have a gold reserve and in order to buy materials for the national defence? If the idea is merely to stop smuggling, perhaps to some extent, the present policy may succeed. But if the Government thinks that this is necessary for national defence then these declarations and the absence of any provision for actio*

[Shri Arjun Arora.] against the big holders will not help the Government and this policy.

The achievement of the Gold Control Order so far has been that the rich holders of gold have not been affected, they are not afraid. They know that they will be able to escape but the poor and the middle class people, who have some gold, have lost all confidence and the people who have some little pieces of jewellery are in panic because of the fact that the Government does not move; that the Gold Control Order has no provision against big holders is very well known. It is, of course, not correct to expect Government to give up a policy merely because some goldsmiths will be unemployed. In a social reform, in any drastic change, some suffering is bound to exist. It would have been much better if, as soon as the Gold Control Order which, as the Finance Minister said the other day, was issued after long deliberation, the Finance Ministry or the Government had come out with a scheme simultaneously to rehabilitate those people who are likely to be or who have been rendered unemployed because of this Gold Control Order and there would have been greater appreciation. Today, what is happening is that the Finance Minister says that it is the business of the State Governments, and the State Governments, except the Government of Gujarat which had been praised by my hon. friend, Shri Desai, seem to feel that these goldsmiths are the babies of the Finance Ministry who should look after them. There is no co-ordination, no all-India scheme for their rehabilitation. So, I feel, though the number of goldsmiths is being exaggerated, there is a great deal of suffering in a section of our people and something should be done about it.

I am in agreement with my hon. friend, Mr. Mani, about the Chairman of the Gold Control Board. I do feel that in a matter like this, where public confidence is of utmost importance,

no controversial figure, at least a person who has figured in a foreign exchange case, should be at the head of the authority and I join Mr. Mani in hoping that Mr. Kotak himself who, according to the Finance Minister, is a very good man, will see the light and will see the strength behind the dictum that those in authority should be, like Caesar's wife, above, suspicion and that he will resign. If he does not, the Finance Minister will change his mind in this case and put a more respected person at the head of the Gold Control Board.

There are other complications arising out of the Gold Control Order. A number of shopkeepers, jewellers have ready-made jewellery and under the Gold Control Order they are not permitted to do anything with them. They cannot expose them for sale though they are allowed to export them and earn foreign exchange. I feel that it will be difficult for them to export the jewellery unless they are allowed to expose them for sale. After all, the foreign tourists and others who come, will not be attracted by the jewellery unless it is displayed for sale and if the Gold Control Board permits the export of jewellery, it should also permit the sale of jewellery in this country against foreign exchange because the foreign tourists, who come to this country, are many a time attracted by the precision work and the work of art.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: Madam Deputy Chairman, I was hearing with great attention the views put forward by hon. Members on the Gold Control Order and its working and I was wondering whether my hon. friends have really paid attention to what is sought to be achieved by the Gold Control Order and the policy behind it which has been framed by Government. If, instead of the enthusiasm of some to run down the Government on any occasion, whether right or wrong, which had been occupying their attention, they had really been guided by considerations of public good, I am quite

sure several things, which have been said, would not have been said. My hon. friend, Shri Mani, who generally tries to be objective and expects that he should be considered objective, seems to have lost completely the sense of proportion in making his suggestions. He even went to the length of saying that the International Monetary Fund has love of gold. Now, if this is the extent to which he goes, I do not think it is even necessary for me to analyse his arguments because they are so absurd. I do not understand how a man of his responsibility and gravity could talk so lightly of the International Monetary Fund when he knows that they have not kept gold for the love of it. H* knows the rules of the International Monetary Fund and these are necessary for exchanges between different governments. Therefore, he need not try to be so funny or humorous in this matter. When I said that this was funny, he thought I was abusive and so he tried to say that the Gold Control Order was funny. If it is so funny, he need not have wasted his breath over it. I do not see why he should have been so much exercised over it in that case. All this being exercised over it and going at the Finance Minister or the Finance Ministry and Government was not worth it. Therefore, may I request him to behave as objectively as he behaves in private conversations? Let him not assume a different shape in public from what he does in private. These are two different stages which I am not used to taking and, therefore, I got a bit worried about it and hence I am not giving him this friendly advice. He may take it or he may not.

SHRI A. D. MANI: I would not like to interrupt but if the Finance Minister would yield . . .

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: I will yield; I am not like you.

SHRI A. D. MANI: I would like to say that my reference to the International Monetary Fund was just to

I highlight this point that the love of gold is not an Indian shortcoming. I ' know it is used for currency reserve.

(Interruption).

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: I do I not see the highlighting to be done I in this manner. At any rate, if this is a great Parliamentary tradition that he is establishing, well, he has only for a few years been in Parliament and, therefore, probably he is not aware of all that. That is all that I can say. I have much longer experience of Parliamentary life and therefore I am saying that if we want to raise our Parliamentary life to certain heights, then we ought to be able to consider these things more deeply rather than so lightly as he seemed to do in this particular matter. That is all the purpose of my saying what I have said. My hon. friend, i Shri Dahyabhai Patel, thought that I ! was in anger. There was no question I of anger. There was more sorrow I and pain in what I said. Where was • the question of anger and why should I be angry with him or anybody or with my hon. friend whom I have always treated as an elder sister but I duty compels one to say things and simply because I am not a Member of this House I do not lose my right to give my opinion when others give their opinion about what We are worth. We are certainly bound to say what it means and that is all that I said. Therefore what is the use of bringing in things like that? If it was really a question of privilege it should be raised as a question of privilege and I will be content to defend myself. I have done nothing which I have got to withdraw. I am going to repeat the same performance again if an occasion demands it because I do not think I have done anything which is either unparliamentary or which is not in keeping with the highest parliamentary traditions.

Coming to the Gold Control Order I and its criticism, I should therefore j like first of all to put before my hon. friends in this House the intentions

[Shri Morarji R. Desai.] of Government or the objectives with which we are pursuing this point. I was asked whether it was my intention to collect a lot of gold in order that we may strengthen our economy and in order that we may be able to make our foreign purchases. I should certainly be happy if I am able to gather or collect the gold, which is in this country, in a proper way. If people are willing to part with it and give it to me, I should certainly like to have it but if they do not, I would not do anything wrong to take it from them or to force it out of them because that is not the only way for strengthening the economy. After all, even if I get Rs. 300 crores or Rs. 400 crores worth of gold, that is not going to satisfy my requirements. It certainly gives me a deposit which I can keep and which enhances also the credit but my requirement, in the Third Five Year Plan, of foreign exchange is Rs. 2600 crores. Therefore even if I get this, that is not going to solve my problems, but that is not my intention. Of course, it is certainly the intention of Government to see that gold is not kept by any private parties in future and that all the gold, that is in this country, should remain with Government as reserve. That certainly is the objective but that objective does not mean that Government is going to confiscate any gold or if somebody has gold, to force him on pain of jail or anything to part with his gold to Government for a price. That is not the intention of Government. My hon. friend, Shri Dahyabhai Patel, said that people do not believe this. I know that he in his heart of hearts knows very well that this Government is not going to do anything of the kind. Nothing has been done like that so far for anything. I do not know how he says this and makes this statement. Of course, he wants to see that the credit of the Government disappears. Well, as an opposition Member he is entitled to wish for that but if wishes were horses everybody would have ridden them but unfortunately every wish

can't be made a horse. This Government is grateful to him and to all other Members of the House who criticised it very strongly because, after all, from every criticism we do strengthen ourselves by keeping what is good in it and rejecting what is wrong in it. After all, that depends upon our capacity to do so. We do not claim all the capacity for good and therefore we certainly want to benefit by all the suggestions that may be given to us but every suggestion that comes is not always good. I do not think my hon. friends have the monopoly of all the good things nor have they the monopoly of all intelligence. After all, some intelligence may be granted here if not as much as they possess, at any rate some proper measure of it. Therefore, what is the use of talking in this manner, I do not know. The main purpose, the main objective with which this is being done is to stop smuggling and also to prevent wastage of investment that is taking place here as a result of traditions which may have been very good in the hoary past but which are absolutely out of keeping with the present times and with the present economic ideas of anybody who has any commonsense.

Then the problem comes whether it is possible to attack it by means of a law, whether we have made sufficient education or not or whether we should make sufficient educative propaganda or not. These are questions which are to be fully considered, not in an abusive manner or in a derisive manner or in a funny manner. After all, I have been saying for the last four or five years that I am thinking about what is to be done about gold and I am being pursued by hon. Members in both Houses. I was asked every time why I am not taking any step about gold and gold smuggling and I went on considering it. It is a difficult subject and therefore I did not want to plunge myself in a hurry into anything but there was sufficient warning given to all people. It was said here that suddenly this was done and therefore some people*

have suffered. I have great respect for the study and the sincerity and integrity with which my hon. friend, Mr. Santhanam, deals with every subject. In this matter also he was very much worried about the loss caused to several people because of the deflation that takes place in the value of gold. What happens when there is deflation in the share market? Many people lose their money, I am not responsible for it. I do not go and compensate them for it. Nobody can compensate them. There are ups and downs in values in many things, in cotton, in grain, in several other things and if people keep them and lose money, what am I to do? And in this matter all people know that gold is not produced in this country and if every year Rs. 40 crores or Rs. 50 crores worth of gold comes in through smuggling, everybody knows it. Everybody knows that it comes in an illegitimate manner and if people go on purchasing it, after all, they take a risk and for that risk they alone can pay, not the Government. That has got to be understood by everybody. And what happens »if smuggling is stopped? Supposing, not by this method, but by any other method I stop smuggling, nobody will object to smuggling being stopped. Everybody says that it is his desire to stop smuggling. I do not think there will be any courageous man who would say that he wants smuggling here in any form. If that is so and g is stopped what In to the goldsmiths then? Am I responsible for it? I am only doing this; I am not doing anything else. If I put an alternative of 14 carat gold it is only in order to see that their business does not stop. Otherwise I am not going to supply 14 carat gold. Where have I got the gold? I have no gold and I am not going to supply it to anybody. But if people sell their gold and if it is converted into 14 carat gold, they can go on making more ornaments from that gold that is there.

Then it comes to this that this Government is 14 carat gold. Well, I

wish my hon. friend is 100 per cent. , gold. If my friend is 100 per cent I gold I am proud of it and he may be ashamed of me if I am 14 carat gold; it does not matter. But what is this 100 per cent, gold in this country? The 24 carat gold itself is not pure. That is also adulterated and if there is adulteration whether it is small or more, I do not know what difference it makes. Here again, we are losing the sense of proportion. Adulteration can be considered only when a thing is sold as being cent per cent of what it is, when it is not cent per cent. Twentyfour carat gold is sold as twentyfour carat gold. Fourteen carat is sold as 14 5 P.M. carat gold. Therefore, there is no question of adulteration in it. There is no question of inferiority or superiority in it. If 24 carat gold can be purchased for a certain amount ! of money, then far more quantity of 14 carat gold can be purchased for that amount. Therefore, it should be considered from the point of view, of different quantities and not by 14 carat or 24 carat. These carats have not come in only now. These are from old times. I find even in Kautilya's *Artha Shastra* that they had considered sixteen different varieties of gold. And Kautilya also had, as long ago as 2,000 years ago, prescribed rules whereby gold could be regulated, whereby gold ornaments' manufacture could be regulated. He has gone to the length of saying that when the Government face any emergency, they can take away gold and ornaments from the people. I do not think that this is a thing which should either be believed by the Congress or by those who believe in policies in which you believe. But what is the use of saying that this is something new, which is happening now? These things have happened before and if one reads it, even here it is said that are to b ! in gold, they should be in half gold and half copper mixture. It is less than 14 carat. It is not even 14 carat gold. Here some people began to tell me j that gems cannot be studded in any-i thing except 22 carat gold or 24 carat

[SxiTi Morarji R. Desai.] ' gold. This is said by Kautilya. It is not said by me. Therefore, there are many things like this from which, if they are studied if anybody wants to understand, it will be "found that by exposing ignorance one does not do any good to any cause.

Now, let us examine what has been done and see how we have failed or not failed. What is the meaning of it; "We have failed; smuggling has not stopped."? It is only a complacent attitude as my hon. friend, Shri Rohit Dave, said. Then, it was argued also in a very strange manner—not by him, I do not remember whether he said it or somebody else said it but it was said—that smuggling does not take place in this country because of the high price of gold, but takes place here because of the deflation of the rupee. I think my hon. friend, Shri Mani, said that. I do not see the deflation of the rupee which perhaps he wishes that it should be. I do not know what he gains by it. There is no deflation of the rupee in that sense.

SHRI A. D. MANI: I would like to know, in terms of cost of living, why do people attach importance to gold.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: I do not want any explanation from him.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I think, Mr. Mani, you better listen.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: I do not know. I will yield every time they want me to yield, provided they are prepared to sit here till 7 o'clock. I have no Objection. I am prepared to go on yielding every time they want to ask, because I do not want to stop any hon. Member from exercising his right. Therefore, when you talk like that, what is the meaning of it. Then, what happened before? What happened in 1945? Smuggling is going on since 1945-1946, since gold has been stopped from being imported. But what was happening before that? Be-

fore the War, for ten years gold went out from India. There was no question of its being smuggled because the price here was low and the price outside was high. And, therefore, gold was smuggled out. Today, why is it being smuggled in? It is because prosperity is rising. People want, therefore, to buy gold. Because no gold is obtainable here, gold comes in by smuggling. Smuggling goes on in various ways. Then, I am asked. Why is Government not able to stop smuggling? Well, it is a very strange question which can be asked only from Members opposite. I do not think it can be asked by them if they were here in Government. They know what happens in the matter of smuggling. Smuggling is not only of gold but also of other things, I grant. But smuggling of gold is to an extent which is disastrous to us. Smuggling of other things may be worth only about Rs. 2 or Rs. 3 crores. It cannot be more than that because those things cannot be smuggled to a larger extent. Smuggling of gold can go on increasing. It has gone on up to Rs 40 or Rs. 50 crores and it goes on more as prosperity increases. Now, what happens as a result of it? Not only does our valuable foreign exchange get lost and we get a liability, but Rs. 40, Rs. 50, Rs. 60 crores of savings of the people are sunk in an absolutely uneconomic investment. The country loses its capacity of investment for productive purposes. Can this country, which is so poor, afford to lose that much amount per year for investment either for industrial purposes or for agricultural purposes? I would plead with hon. Members to consider this point far more seriously if they have the good of the country at heart and not merely a dislike of the ruling Party or of the Government which they want perhaps to remove. They are entitled to wish that. I have no objection to that. It is perfectly right in a democracy. But after all even in removing the Government they would want to do good to the people. It is not for the pleasure of removing Government that they want to remove

the Government. Then, let the good of the people be the criterion and not merely a dislike of the Government. That is what I am trying to plead with them. After all, do they wish a rising amount of money invested in gold in this country every year? What will happen? That can happen when this country is rolling in wealth.

I was asked. Why are we having golden jubilees, golden this and that? Well, that shows what havoc tradition can play. Why is it forgotten that gold is also considered a curse? We have said it in the past and it was also considered as a saying: —

“सर्वे गुणाः कां वनम् आश्रयन्ते”

Do people believe that? Is it right? What kinds of virtues are in gold? What is the use of saying this? Therefore, it is no use being carried away merely by notions of traditions. Then, I am asked: Can traditions be broken by a law like that?

श्री गोपीकृष्ण विजयवर्गीय (मध्य प्रदेश):
कहावत हैं कि सोने में कलियुग निवास करता है।

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: Strangely enough it was argued and Mahatma Gandhi was quoted that all controls bring in evil. The controls to which Mahatma Gandhi referred were controls over foodgrains. It was nothing else. Mahatma Gandhi himself had said that if he got the Government, the first act of his would be to have prohibition immediately by law. He believed in controls. He believed in controls by Government, but a democratic government he did believe in. Not that he did not believe in it. Why should Mahatma Gandhi be quoted wrongly? Therefore, it is no use bolstering up a case by a wrong quotation. Have no reforms been made by laws? Throughout the ages it has been done. If Kautilya is read, it will be found that he has suggested all sorts of controls in the hoary past. Today in our own times how many reforms

have we not made if we go on counting from 1946 until now? Have we not changed the Hindu Code? Have we not given the right of inheritance to girls and to women? Was it not by law? Have we not changed the age of marriage? There were child marriages here in this country. In my own young age that was so. I myself have suffered from child marriage, that is, I had child marriage, not that it has made me unhappy. But it was there. In those days and even earlier, people were married at the age of two and three. This was what was happening in this country. Would it have been changed if there had been no law? It is the law which transforms the whole thing. Earlier than that there was the custom of Sati. What happened to it? How was it abolished? It was abolished only by law. Otherwise, it would not have been abolished. In the same way there are many other things which we have done by law. We are going on changing the laws about land. We have changed zamindari. We have removed kings. We have removed so many things by law. And yet it is said that we cannot remove anything by law. Of course, it is not argued by my hon. friends, the communists. They always want to take away everything, not only by law, but even by force if they can help it. They cannot help it and, therefore, they do not do it. If they can help it, they would also like to seize these Benches by force. But they cannot have that strength. They cannot have that atmosphere. They cannot do it. But I set them apart in this matter. But if those, who believe in democracy, think that changes in society are not to be made, what is the good of Government—to be static to carry on old but wrong traditions? We have been changing the society every day. What is the use of saying that the society cannot be changed? As I said, if in economic matters we are going to be bogged down by wrong notions of traditions and I am going to be asked to give up prestige, I think it is nowhere within sense. I have no sense of prestige at any time

[Shri Morarji R. Desai.]

I do not believe that prestige can be maintained by sticking to a wrong thing. If I am convinced that this Gold Control Order is wrong and is harmful to the country, I would give it up in no time. But I am not convinced about it. Not only that, the more I hear my hon. friends the more I am convinced that this Gold Control Order is essential, and if any criticism is true, it is this that it is not yet strong enough. I agree with that. But when all this is said and done, even when this Order is passed in this manner and it is not made quite strong, if there is this kind of on wh'ch is sought to be whipped up by my hon. friends opposite who do not consider any means safe enough to attack us, what is one to do? One has got to go slow. That is what I tell my hon. friend, Mr. Mani. That is what we do gradually and I am going to do it, and this is how this is going to be managed.

It was asked here why we did not put a ceiling on the possession of gold. Is it realised that I will have to ask for registration from everybody before I can do that? And it is a difficult matter. I do not know what gold my hon. friend, Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, possesses. He is not married, therefore he may not have anything. But he may keep something in store some day. He may marry.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Fourteen carat.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: It may not be 14, it may be even 12.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Then you must be more assured.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: I do not know. Who knows, you may change your mind and want to do something. I do not know. He may be keeping for his future bride. How am I to know? How am I to know for anybody? He asks why I did not confiscate it from anybody.

f SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Not from I anybody but from the richer classes, princes, and so on.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: He has a jealousy of the richer classes which I have seen is unprecedented. It is not merely jealousy, it is hatred, and that is what is consuming him. The way he speaks like the Niagara Falls and goes about when he refers to the richer people—one ought to see his face, one ought to see his tone, one ought to see his gestures—indicates what hatred and jealousy overwhelm him. I do not think that that is the way he should treat people. I do not approve the methods of my hon. friend. But I have no dislike of him. I know he is also doing some good. It is up to me to see that he is not capable of doing mischief. That is all I have got to say.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I also saw the good in the Gold Control Order.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: I know, but he always gives a left-handed compliment.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Right-handed also.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: Because he is interested in seeing that I am not strengthened as I am interested in seeing that he is not strengthened. That is true, but I go about in a straight way. He goes about the smuggler's way. That is why he challenges me about it. He believes in underground methods. I believe in constitutional methods.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Smugglers are on your side.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: That is why I am saying that. But in a competition truth wins and lies disappear. That is what happens, and that is the strong point on which this Government rests. Therefore I am not worried about it. We may be making mistakes.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Mr. A lobar Ali Khan is applauding you. Ask him to get the Nizam's gold.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: The Nizam has given his gold . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: How much?

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: He has sold Rs. 7 crores worth of gold and invested it in Government bonds ten years ago.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: A long time ago.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: He has not purchased more gold after that because there was no gold to purchase. He may have still some gold with him, I do not know. But he must have reported it and I do not want to take it away from him. If he keeps it in safe keeping, what do I lose?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: You gave him two months' time.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: Yes, yes. Not to give it to me but for the return.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: To make the declaration.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: Well, I will see who have declared and who have not.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: He has transformed it from non-ornament gold to ornament gold.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: My hon. friend says many things on the floor¹ of the House which he cannot say outside, because if he said them out-side, he would be sued for defamation. He knows it very well, and therefore he pursues people here by naming one man, naming another man, naming a third man and so on. He can go on, but that is not the way. Character assassination is a very common pastime for people who have jealousy and 1281 RSD—7

hatred in their heart. This is not a good thing at all. I do not think that any man, however bad may be in certain actions, is not as good a man as I am or as he is. It is no use looking down upon men. One can look down upon their actions but it is no use condemning any man. Then what will I do with my hon. friend, Mr. Bhupesh Gupta?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: You are condemning his actions.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: I have as much respect for him as I have for myself. I have no doubt about it in my mind, but I am certainly miles away from what he thinks and what he does. That is why constantly my attempt is to see that—he may 'peak, he may do, he may pursue what he likes—he is not able to do harm to my country. That is all I am trying to see. If he is incorrigible, I am incorrigible in correcting him.

Then it was said that the goldsmiths have not been looked after. As I said before, the goldsmiths' work has gone on only on smuggled gold. Otherwise they could not have had any work in this country of that kind. But let us consider calmly whether all the goldsmiths have gone out of employment. That is also not true. There cannot be more than 500,000 goldsmiths in this country.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: That is a very large number.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: Yes, yes. Even if it is 5, I would consider that unemployment is unemployment. If it is 5 or even if it is one, I would not consider it very right. But we are going on with our measures. The share market stops. All those people who are working in the share market are out of employment. What am I going to do about it? The forward market in gold has been stopped. The bullion market is stopped. Both silver and gold markets have been stopped. Those who were working there are out of employment. Nobody has said anything about it.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: They may take other jobs.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: In the same way the goldsmiths can. We are believing in hereditary employment. At any rate my hon. friend does not believe in heredity. He believes in historical determination but he does not believe in heredity.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Dialectical materialism.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: If he believed in hereditary profession, I do not know whether he would be in Parliament. He would be doing something else, because his forefathers were not in Parliament at any time. But we are changing our profession. Therefore the goldsmiths also can change their profession.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Our uncles were not in Parliament before.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: I do not believe in hereditary profession. Therefore, what is the use of telling me? These are, therefore, matters which ought to be considered in their proper context and not out of prejudices against Government or prejudices against persons who occupy Government Benches. We have been taking steps through the State Governments to whom I have addressed myself, to whom the Gold Board has also addressed itself.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: The West Bengal Government has given doles.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: The West Bengal Government should not have given any doles whatsoever.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Rupees four per month.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: It should not have given any doles. We

are not in a position where we can give doles in this country. We have not reached that stage. We want to be a welfare State but we are not yet a full welfare State. What is a welfare State? A welfare State will be one where everybody will be happy, and not happy with doles. Everybody will be earning himself by putting in work, and he will be getting full money for it. That is a welfare State. We are struggling for it, we are working for it. My hon. friend, Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, did not become what he is today only in one or two years. He has taken more than 45 years to be what he is. Therefore, what does he expect this country to be within 15 years? Does he expect that everything should be there in this country within the course of these 15 years? That is not possible. We are trying to do that. We are trying to provide more and more employment to people, and it is also because of this that we have got to stop the smuggling of gold and this wrong investment in gold, and that can happen only when the lure for gold disappears. It is a good thing that people are losing money even on that, so that they will be prohibited from taking gold in the future. You may say that I am a bit cruel. But a surgeon has got to be cruel. The surgeon has got to apply a remedy.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Will the patient survive?

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: And he sheds blood also.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA; Will the patient survive?

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: He has got to do that, and that is what a government has got to do. Therefore, when one takes steps like that, they ought to be viewed in that light. A surgeon should be helped, but not by shouting and holding his hands. other-Wise, if you do that, the fault will lie

with you and not with the surgeon. That is what I am saying. By all means, attack the Government's policies wherever they are to be attacked but in regard to policies which do public good, what is the use of putting up people and saying that there is a great agitation? Any agitation can be whipped up about anything at any time in this country. It is because it is a free country. Anybody can do it. But that does not mean that every agitation means that there is substance behind it. Of course, the goldsmiths have been touched, and I do not talk lightly about it. They have suffered. We are therefore trying to see that they are helped, and the State Governments have been told that whatever profession they want to take up, they can be helped, that they can be given loans and that the loans can be given on easy interest and they can repay them in easy instalments also; they can be given priority in engagements wherever it is possible to do so; their children should be helped with education and if they want to have any training, then training also should be given to them. All these kinds of things are being done. And if any suggestions for this purpose are forthcoming from my hon. friends, I would certainly be very willing to accept those suggestions if they are feasible— not like the ones which they say on the floor of the House many a time— but if they are feasible, I am prepared to accept them and I shall be grateful for whatever help they can give in this matter.

But all goldsmiths are not out of employment. All goldsmiths are not dealing in gold. In backward areas there is no gold whatsoever. There are goldsmiths there. They deal only in silver; they deal only in copper or things like that. Many ornaments are made of these. Bead ornaments are made of these. When they do that, how they are out of employment, I do not understand. One day one Member told me in Lucknow that in the hilly areas, the goldsmiths were out of employment, and he himself said

that in the hilly areas only silver ornaments were being made and there was little gold. How they have gone out of employment, I want to know. And even goldsmiths who deal in gold also deal in other things. Therefore, how they have disappeared completely, I do not know. And if 14 carat gold is available to them in course of time, it is possible that we may be able to make arrangements, from any gold which comes out of the ornaments of the people that they sell, to see that they get 14 carat gold. I do not think the profession of goldsmiths is completely going to disappear. It is possible that their number may become less. I found a very curious state of things happening in Calcutta. I found that the number of jewellers shot up very quickly during the last few years and, curiously enough, when I took stock of that, I found that they were located only near Chinese shops and Chinese restaurants. I do not know what the connection is, but there is some connection; I have no doubt about it. Otherwise, why should they come out like that quickly, like mushrooms? I do not know. Now, am I going to have sympathy for all those people? I cannot have sympathy for all this kind of things.

These are the things which my hon. friends ought to bear in mind, instead of trying merely to find an excuse in anything and everything to run down the Government. Government cannot be run down like this. I am trying to help them in strengthening themselves. I know that when they do wrongs like this, then attacking the Government in this manner helps the Government; it strengthens the Government. But I do not want to be strengthened in a wrong way because that is also likely to make us indifferent even to something which may be correct. When one is always told many things most of which are wrong, then one becomes indifferent to whatever is said. We are also human: we are not angels. We are as good or as bad human beings as hon. friends

L. S. Morarji R. Desai.] are. Therefore we are also likely to be affected by this kind of criticism, and that is why I am pleading, for God's sake, do not unnecessarily try to go at us when there is nothing to be gone at. After all, is it not our common purpose in this House that we must work only for the good of the country? And if it is agreed that the present attraction to gold which we have inherited from the past is ruining us in two ways, by wrong investment and by smuggling as well, is it not the function and duty of all of us to see that the Gold Control Order succeeds? If this is the function, I hope, Madam Deputy Chairman, that my hon. friends will co-operate with the Government and will not unnecessarily say that this Government is callous about it. Where is the question of being callous about it? About what is one callous? I was told by my hon. friend, Shri Mani, that *mangalsutras* ought to be allowed. Where is it prescribed, and in which *skashtra*, that *mangalsutras* should be made of 24 carat gold? I have still to find any authority for it anywhere. *Mangalsutras* can be made of beads. That was what it was made of before. In my childhood I had seen that. And no *mangalsutra* is used in Punjab or in U.P. or in Bihar. Therefore, these are customs. Why do you want to raise these customs to such a height where they will destroy us? Are we not out to demote all customs? Is not my hon. friend changing his dress? He is not putting on the dress which his forefathers used to put on; he is not dining in the manner in which his forefathers were dining. We are all changing these customs. That is the sign of progress. And if he does not want to have, progress, then that is a different matter. We are determined to see that there is progress in this country and therefore we are not going to yield to wrong demands of any kind.

Thank you.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

1. "That at the end of the Motion the following be added, namely: —

'and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that the Gold Control Order has failed to achieve the declared aims of the gold policy, namely, to stop gold smuggling and bring down the price of gold.' "

The motion was negatived.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

2. "That at the end of the Motion the following be added, namely: —

'and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that the Gold Control Order has not helped the country to mobilise the huge gold hoards lying as dead capital with big business, princes and other rich people for the purpose of productive investment.' "

The motion was negatived.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

3. "That at the end of the Motion the following be added, namely: —

'and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that the Gold Control Order has resulted in the loss of livelihood for lakhs of goldsmiths and other artisans.' "

The motion was negatived.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

4. "That at the end of the Motion the following be added, namely: —

'and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that in order to make the Goja Control Scheme successful, Government should declare: —

(a) a ceiling on gold hoardings in any form;

(b) that all holdings above the declared ceiling would be compulsorily acquired under the Gold Bond Scheme or some other suitable scheme;

(c) that all holdings above the ceiling would be a penal offence;

(d) that ornaments below the ceiling would be permitted up to 22 carat gold;

(e) that goldsmiths and other artisans would not be required to take licences if they are not dealers in gold; and

(f) that only those who manufacture gold ornaments etc. for sale and others who deal in gold would be liable to take licences."

The motion was negatived.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned till 11.00 A.M. tomorrow.

The House then adjourned at twenty-seven minutes past five of the clock till eleven of the clock on Thursday, the 14th March, 1963.