

SHRI JAIRAMDAS DAULATRAM: Yes, Sir. One or two words in support of it. The purpose of the Bill cannot be achieved—that is what I believe and others too—by continuing the debate today and expressing various opinions for and against and also by coming to an adverse decision. Time is needed to have the matter properly considered and for a favourable opportunity to arise for achieving the purpose of the Bill. I therefore appeal both to the Government and to the mover of the Bill to allow the debate to be adjourned until we have a more favourable opportunity of succeeding in achieving the object of the Bill. Therefore I move that the debate on this Bill be adjourned.

The question was proposed.

श्री आर० एम० हजरतबीस : श्रीमान्, श्री जैरामदास दौलतराम का इस देश के अन्दर और इस सदन में जो स्थान है इस सदन में अधिकार है और इस प्रश्न के साथ उनकी जो आत्मीयता है, वह सब सोचकर मैं उनके प्रस्ताव को सरकार की तरफ से स्वीकार करता हूँ।

MR CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the debate on the Bill be adjourned."

The motion was adopted.

THE TREASON BILL, 1963

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL (Punjab): May I, Sir, apologise to you and to the House for being a few minutes late? May I with your permission now move for leave to introduce my Bill?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You want to catch the bus you missed?

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: Yes, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to codify the law relating to treason.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

THE SHOPKEEPERS (FIXATION OF PRICE LABELS) BILL, 1962

SHRI A. M. TARIQ (Jammu and Kashmir): Sir, I move:—

"That the Bill to provide for the affixing of price labels on commodities by shopkeepers be taken into consideration."

جناب چہر مین صاحب - میں
آپ کی اجازت سے اس بل کو اس
ان کے سامنے رکھنا ہوں - جہاں
تک اس بل کی غرض و غایت ہے اس
کا فائدہ یا اس کو پیسہ کرنے کا
مقصد پیسہ نظر ہے وہ تو مختصر
ہے - وہ یہ ہے کہ اس ملک میں
جہاں بڑی بڑی دکانوں پر یا چھوٹی
چھوٹی دکانوں پر ضروریات زندگی یا
دوسری چیزوں کی فروخت ہوتی ہے
وہاں ان چیزوں پر ان کی قیمت
رکھی جائے - اس کی وجہ یہ ہے
تاکہ لوگوں کا وہ وقت جو خرچ لے کر
کرنے میں یا زیادہ کرنے میں یا تھوڑا
سا رعایت کرنے میں صرف ہو جاتا
ہے وہ بچ جائے - اس سے ایک اور
فائدہ جو میرے پیسہ نظر ہے وہ یہ ہے

کہ اس ملک کے رہنے والوں کا جو
نیشنل کریکٹر ہے وہ بڑھ جائے گا -
جذاب والا - جب ہم ہندوستان کے
باہر کے ملکوں کی طرف جاتے ہیں
تو جہاں بھی کسی دکان میں جائیں
وہاں اس دکان میں ہر چیز پر ایک
قیمت یا نرخ کا لیبل لگا ہوتا ہے اس
میں آپ کو وقت ضائع نہیں کرنا
پڑتا چاہے آپ دو آنے کم یا دو آنے
زیادہ دیں - آپ یورپ کی
کسی دکان میں جائیں اپنی قیمت
کی چیز اٹھا لائیں - بہت سی دکانیں
ایسی ہیں جہاں سیلز مین نہیں
ہوتا ہے لیکن چیزیں رکھی ہوتی
ہیں ان پر نرخ رکھا ہوتا ہے اور اس
سے ایک بڑا اثر اس ملک میں رہنے
والوں کے نیشنل کریکٹر پر اور باہر
والوں پر پڑتا ہے - ہمارے ملک میں
غلامی کی وجہ سے غربت کی وجہ سے
کچھ ایسی حالت رہی ہے کہ ہم
چیزوں کی زیادہ قیمت رکھ کر انہیں
بہت کم قیمت پر بیچتے ہیں - اس
کی وجہ یہ ہے - جیسے میں اپنے
کشمیر کی بات کروں ایک کشمیری
کی حیثیت سے - کہ ہمارے کشمیریوں
کے بارے میں یہ کہا جاتا ہے کہ
بھائی جب یہ شال بیچتے ہیں اور سو
روپیہ کی قیمت کا کہیں تو 10 روپیہ
پر بھی عام طور پر طے ہو سکتا ہے
اور یہ حقیقت ہے کسی حد تک
میں انکار نہیں کرتا ہوں -

(Interruption).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Sapru, if you want to say something, you may say it in such a way that people can listen to it. This sort of conversation between you and the speaker no one can hear.

شری اے - ایم - طارق : اس کی
وجہ یہ ہے کہ میں اس
دلیل کا بھی آپ کو جواب دینا
چاہتا ہوں اس کی وجہ یہ نہیں
ہے کہ کشمیر کے رہنے والے یا پنجاب
کے رہنے والے - یا چھوٹی چھوٹی
جگہوں کے رہنے والے لوگوں میں تو
کریکٹر نہیں ہے لیکن یہ ایک
ایسی چیز ہے جسے کشمیر کو لے
لیجئے سیالکوٹ کی جگہ ہے تو
سیالکوٹ کے کشمیر کے لوگ سمجھتے
ہیں کہ بھائی ایک دفعہ جو آیا
دوبارہ نہ آئے شاید - وہاں کے لوگ
اپنی چیز کو مشین سے تو بڈاتے
نہیں بلکہ سردیوں میں اپنا بیٹھ کر
فالتو سے میں کبھی شال بڈایا یا اور
کوئی چیز بڈائی - اس میں اگر ان کی
لاڈلت دیکھی جائے تو بہت کم ہے -
لیکن اگر دیکھا جائے اس فن کی
کوئی قیمت نہیں ہے اور محنت
بہت ہے لیکن اس محنت میں
اپنی غربت کی وجہ سے اپنے علم نہ
ہو کی وجہ سے اس کا اندازہ نہیں
کر سکتے - یعنی کشمیر کا ایک شال
اگر کوئی سمجھ دار آدمی ہو تو اس
کو دس ہزار میں بھی خرید سکتا ہے
اور جو شخص سمجھ دار نہ ہو تو اس

[شری اے - ایم - طارق]

نے لئے وہ سو روپیہ کی بھی چیز
 نہیں لیکن جس نے اسے بنایا ہے اس
 کے لئے اسکی قیمت ۱۰ ہزار بھی
 جائز ہے اور اگر اس کو ۲۰۰ سو میں
 بیچنا چاہے تو بھی جائز ہے اور دو
 سو روپیہ میں وہ اس لئے بیچنا
 چاہتا ہے کہ وہ اپنی غریب اور
 معجزوری کی وجہ سے ایسا کرتا ہے
 کہوں کہ اس کو معلوم ہے کہ آپ کے
 سیزن میں یہ شال نہیں بکے گا تو
 وہ ستر جائے گا - اگر اس کے بیچنے
 کا انتظام نہیں کیا گیا تو اگلے سال اس
 کا ڈیرائن بدل جائے گا - ان قسم
 چیزوں کے پیش نظر آج کل ہم لوگ
 بہت سی چیزیں دیکھ رہے ہیں اور
 اپنی آنے والی نسلوں کے لئے کچھ
 اچھی چیزیں بنانا چاہتے ہیں
 اور ان کے لئے سب سے اچھی چیز
 کنٹریبیوٹ کر سکیں - اور وہ چیز
 نیشنل کیریکٹر کو بنانا ہے
 اور لوگوں کو اس کے بارے میں
 سمجھانا ہے - آج آپ دلی کی
 سب سے بڑی دکان میں چلے جائیے
 سیکرین جو ایک معمولی چیز ہے اگر
 نئی دلی کے کمسٹ کی دکان سے
 خریدنے کا تو وہ پانچ روپیہ میں دیتا
 اگر چھوٹے کمسٹ کی دکان میں
 جائیے تو وہ ساڑھے تین روپیہ میں دیتا
 ذرا دریا گلیج چلے جائیے تو تین
 روپیہ میں مل جائے گی اور اگر
 چاندنی چوک جائیے تو وہ ہی چیز
 ڈھائی روپیہ میں مل جائے گی - اس
 کی وجہ یہ ہے کہ یہاں کے لوگ اس
 قسم کے خریداروں کو دیکھ کر اس کے دام
 مانگتے ہیں - باہر کا جو آدمی دیہات

کا آدمی جو دہلی میں نہ رہتا ہو اس
 کے خیال میں یہ آنا ہے کہ دلی
 میں جو لوگ رہتے ہیں ان کا کوئی
 کیریکٹر نہیں ہے -

एक माननीय सदस्य : काश्मीरी
 भी यहां होंगे ।

شری اے - ایم - طارق : ہو سکتا

ہے اس میں دو رائے نہیں ہو سکتیں -
 کشمیری بھی یہاں تشریف رکھتے ہیں
 اور بھاری بھی یہاں تشریف فرماتے
 ہیں - لیکن غیر ملکیوں کے لئے وہ
 سب ہندوستانی ہیں یعنی کہ باہر کے
 آدمیوں کے لئے نہ ہم کشمیری ہیں نہ
 ہم بھاری ہیں - نہ اقل بھاری
 ہیں نہ طارق ہیں بلکہ صرف
 ہندوستانی ہیں تو اس چیز کو دور
 کرنے کے لئے یہ بے حد ضروری ہے کہ
 اس طرح کا بل پاس کیا جائے پھر اس
 کے علاوہ میں یہ کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ
 لندن یورپ میں سوئٹزرلینڈ میں
 پیرس میں جرمنی میں آپ کہیں
 بھی جائیے آپ کو نا بالغ بچے شوپنگ
 کرتے دکھائی دیں گے - اسی وجہ سے وہاں
 خود مرد چیزیں خریدنے پر اپنا وقت
 ضائع نہیں کرتے - وہاں پر چیزیں
 ان کے بچے اور بیویاں خریدتے ہیں
 کیونکہ ہمارے یہاں بارڈرلنگ سسٹم
 ہے اور ہم لوگ دو تین گھنٹے ضائع
 کرتے ہیں اس وقت کو بچا سکتے
 ہیں - میں نے بہت سے بزرگوں سے
 سنا ہے کہ لندن میں لوگ اپنے کتوں

کو شوینگ کرنے کا کام سپرد کر دیتے ہیں - (ہنسی) یہ حقیقت ہے اور اس میں ہلستے کی کوئی بات نہیں ہے - وہاں پر کتے کے منہ میں توکری لٹکا دی جاتی ہے اور اس میں پوند شہانگ لٹکا دیئے جاتے ہیں اور جو چھڑ خریدنی ہو اس کا نام لکھ دیا جاتا ہے - دکان دار لسٹ کو دیکھ کر چھڑ دیدے گا اور کم نہیں دیگا - یورپ میں اخبار سڑکوں کے کنارے قابوں میں رکھے دئے ہیں اور اگر آپ اخبار خریدنا چاہتے ہیں تو اتنے پئس اور قیمت ڈال دیجئے اور اخبار آٹھا لیجئے لیکن ہندوستان میں بدقسمتی سے اس قسم کی چھڑ نہیں ہوتی ہے - آپ اس بات سے انکار بھی نہیں کر سکتے جب کسی اخبار کا آزادی نمبر کی قیمت ۲۵ نہا پھسہ ہو تو وہ ۵۰ نئے پیسے میں بلیک میں بک جاتا ہے - کوئی بھی اچھی کتاب ہو وہ فوراً معلوم ہو جاتی ہے - ان تمام چھڑوں سے ہمارے کیریئر پر بڑا اثر پڑتا ہے اور ان تمام چھڑوں کو دور کر دیئے کے لئے ایسا وقت بچانے کے لئے اور اس کے ساتھ ساتھ اگر ہم اپنے کیریئر کو بلند کرنا چاہتے ہیں تو یہ ضروری ہے کہ ہم یہاں کے دکانداروں کو سکھائیں کہ یہ کوئی مجبوری نہیں ہے بلکہ ایک نہایت ضروری چھڑ ہے - میں اس

کے بارے میں چند رائیں رکھنا چاہتا ہوں -

سب سے پہلے میں وزیر اعظم صاحب کی رائے رکھنا چاہتا ہوں - خود وزیر اعظم صاحب نے تمام اسٹیٹس کے چیف منسٹروں کو ۱۶ نومبر ۱۹۶۰ء کو ایک خط لکھا تھا جس میں انہوں نے یہ درخواست کی تھی کہ اگر چیزوں کے دام فکس کر دیئے جائیں اور ان پر لیبل لگا دیا جائے تو اس سے بڑا اثر پڑ سکتا ہے - چونکہ داسوں میں کمی بیشی ہو سکتی ہے لہذا تمام چیزوں پر اس قسم کے لیبل لگا دیئے جائیں - سب درجہ کی چیزیں جنس سے سب لوگوں کو چیز خریدنے میں آسانی ہو - اس میں ایک فائدہ وقت کا بھی تھا اور ان نے پوچھا نظر یہ اسکیم تھی - اس کے ساتھ ہی ساتھ میں سمجھتا ہوں کہ دلی کے چیف کمشنر نے بھی اس چیز کی بے حد ضرورت محسوس کی اور یہاں کے بڑے بڑے تاجروں کو بلا کر یہ کہا کہ آپ مہربانی فرما کر اپنی دوکانوں پر چیزوں کے داسوں کی فہرست لگائیے - اگر آپ اس چیز کو دور کرنا چاہتے ہیں اس پریشانی کو دور کرنا چاہتے ہیں کہ جہاں یہ کہا جا رہا ہے کہ دوکان دار چھڑوں کو بلیک مارکیٹ میں بیچتے ہیں زیادہ پیسے میں بیچتے ہیں - یعنی آٹا اور چاول کے دام بڑھا دیتے ہیں

[شری اے - ایم - طارق]

وہاں آپ کے لئے ضروری ہے جب آپ کی یونین ہے تو اس یونین کے ذریعہ سب چیزوں پر لیبل فکس کر کے انہیں دام چھاپیئے تاکہ یہ ثابت ہو جائے دوسرے آدمیوں کو یہ محسوس ہو جائے کہ اس چیز کی قیمت زیادہ نہیں ہے - کھارے بالوں اور چاندنی چوک کی قیمت میں بڑا فرق ہے - اگر کوئی باہر کا آدمی داسوں میں فرق دیکھتا ہے تو وہ گھبرا جاتا ہے اور ایک بھروسہ اٹھ جاتا ہے جو تجارت میں ہونا چاہئے - تو ان تمام چیزوں کو دور کرنے کے لئے میں اس بل کے لئے زور دیتا ہوں - یہی نہیں بلکہ میں یہ بھی کہتا ہوں کہ اس بل کی حمایت میں آکر کوئی شخص چیلنج نہ کرے تو میں اپنی یادداشت سے کہوں جہاں تک میرا خیال ہے شری شریان پرشاد جین اور شری بی - ایم - برلا نے تمام لوگوں اور فیڈریشن کی طرف سے یہی خود فیڈریشن آف انڈین چیئرمین آف کامرس نے اس چیز پر بے حد زور دیا کہ باہر والوں کو ان دفتروں کا سامنا کرنا پڑتا ہے - میرا خیال ہے کہ اس پر جو تقریر کی گئی تھی اس میں اس بات کا ذکر کیا گیا تھا کہ غیر ملک والوں کے سامنے ہمیں شرمندہ ہونا پڑتا ہے - میں خود جناب والا - اپنا ایک واقعہ بتاؤں میرے ایک دوست

جرمئی سے آئے - آئے ہی انہیں ایپورٹ پر اتنا پڑا اور انہیں ہاتھی دانت کا ایک قلمدان ملا - انہوں نے چاندی میں کہ مجھے شاید پھر موقع نہ ملے اسے پالم ہوائی اڑے کی ایک دوکان سے خرید لیا - انہوں نے اسے ۱۰۰ روپیے میں خریدا - جب ان سے میری ملاقات ہوئی تو انہوں نے اس کی بھی تعریف کی اور میں نے بھی اس کی بہت تعریف کی کہوں کہ اس میں فن تھا لیکن جب وہ جامع مسجد کی طرف سیر کے لئے گزرے تو ایک دوکان میں وہی چیز ۳۵ روپے کی ملی تو اس طرح کی چیز کا کیا اثر پڑ سکتا ہے - یہ آپ سب لوگ اچھی طرح سے جان سکتے ہیں - جن لوگوں نے نیشنل جغرافیہ میگزین کا مطالبہ کیا ہے انہیں معلوم ہوگا کہ ہر تین اور چھ کے بعد مختلف ملکوں کے سوشل حالات اور تجارتی سیاسی حالات کے بارے میں مضمون نکلتے ہیں - اس کے کوئی سیاسی نظریہ سے اتفاق کرے یہ نہ کرے لیکن جو چیز اس میں مہیا ہوتی ہے اس سے کوئی انکار نہیں کر سکتا اور اس سے کافی علم حاصل ہو سکتا ہے ، پچھلے تین چار سالوں میں کشمیر بنارس اور دلی بارے میں آرٹیکل نکلے اور ان تینوں شہروں کا ذکر نہایت اہتمام سے کیا جاتا ہے لیکن شاید یہ معلوم نہیں کہ معیار سچ

بولتا ہے یا تاجر سچ بولتا ہے یعنی قیمت کے بارے میں - اس طرح سے دوسرے ملکوں میں ہماری بدنامی ہوتی ہے اور اس چیز کو پیش نظر میں نے یہ بل پیش کیا ہے شاید غلامی کی وجہ سے یہ بات ابھی تک چلی آ رہی ہو لیکن ہمیں آزاد ہوئے پندرہ سولہ سال ہو گئے اور اب ہم کو اس کی طرف توجہ کرنی چاہئے - اس چیز کی وجہ سے ملاوت بھی ہوتی ہے - آج تو ایک متحارہ ہو گیا ہے کہ دلی میں زہر بھی خالص نہیں ملتا ہے - خالص زہر کا ملنا دلی میں مشکل ہو گیا ہے جس زہر سے پہلے دو منٹ میں تشریف جا سکتے تھے اب اس میں دس منٹ لگتے ہیں تو اس سے ثالث ہوتا ہے کہ ہمارے یہاں جو زہر ہے وہ بھی خالص نہیں - ان تمام چیزوں کی طرف ہمیں توجہ کرنی چاہئے کیونکہ اس سے سماج کا بہروسہ اٹھ جاتا ہے اور انسان افرانفری کا شکار ہو جاتا ہے تو میں اس ایوان کے معزز ممبران سے درخواست کروں گا کہ وہ اس بل کی اہمیت کو سمجھیں اور اس کو منظور کریں گے - میں اس ایوان کا زیادہ وقت لینا نہیں چاہتا ہوں کہوں کہ جو مسئلہ ہے وہ نہایت مختصر ہے لیکن مختصر ہونے کے ساتھ ساتھ کئی گنا اہم ہے - کہوں کہ یہ ہمارے سماج کے لئے اور ہمارے مستقبل کے

لئے ہماری روزمرہ کی زندگی کے لئے یہ بہت اہم ہے ان چند الفاظ کے ساتھ میں اپنے بل کو اس ایوان کے سامنے رکھتا ہوں اور امید کرتا ہوں کہ تمام دوست خاص طور پر ہمارے معزز دوست شری ایم - پی بھارگو اس بل کی حمایت فو مالٹیوں کے -

†[श्री ए० एम० तारिक : जनाब चैयरमैन साहब मैं आप की इजाजत से इस बिल को इस एवान के सामने रखता हूं । जहां तक इस बिल की गजों-गायत या उसका फायदा या उसको पेश करने का मकसद पेशनजर है वो तो मुखसिर है । वह यह है कि इस मुल्क में जहां बड़ी बड़ी दुकानों पर या छोटी छोटी दुकानों पर जरूरीयात जिन्दीगी या दूसरी चीजों की फ़रोख्त होती है वहां उन चीजों पर उन की कीमत रखी जाय । इस की वजह यह है ताकि लोगों का वह बक्त जो निरख के कम करने में या ज्यादा करने में या थोड़ा सा रियायत करने में सर्फ हो जाता है वह बच जाय । इस से एक और फायदा जो मेरे पेश नजर है वह यह है कि इस मुल्क के रहने वालों का जो नेशनल कैरेक्टर है वह बढ़ जायगा । जनाब वाला जब हम हिन्दुस्तान के बाहर के मुल्कों की तरफ जाते हैं तो जहां भी किसी दुकान में जाएं वहां इस दुकान में हर चीज पर एक कीमत या निरख का लेबल लगा होता है उस में आप को बक्त जाया नहीं करना पड़ता चाहे आप दो आने कम या दो आने ज्यादा दें । आप योरप की किसी दुकान में जाएं अपनी कीमत की चीज उठा लाएं बहुत सी दुकानें ऐसी हैं जहांकि सेल्समैन नहीं होता है लेकिन चीजें रखी होती हैं उन पर निरख रखा होता है और इस से एक बड़ा असर उस मुल्क में रहने वालों के नेशनल कैरेक्टर पर और बाहर वालों पर पड़ता है । हमारे

†[] Hindi transliteration.

[श्री ए० एम० तारिक]

मुल्क में गुलामी की वजह से गुरबत की वजह से कुछ ऐसी हालत रही है कि हम चीजों की ज्यादा कीमत रख कर उन्हें बहुत कम कीमत पर बेचते हैं। इस की वजह यह है। जैसे मैं अपने कश्मीर की बात करूँ एक काश्मीरी की हैसियत से। कि हमारे कश्मीरियों के बारे में यह कहा जाता है कि भाई जब ये शाल बेचे और १०० रुपये की कीमत का कहे तो दस रुपये पर भी आम तौर पर तै हो सकता है और यह हकीकत है किसी हद तक में इन्कार नहीं करता हूँ।

(Interruption)

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Mr Sapru, if you want to say something, you may say it in such a way that people can listen to it. This sort of conversation between you and the speaker no one can hear.

श्री ए० एम० तारिक इसकी वजह यह है कि मैं इस दलील का भी आप को जवाब देना चाहता हूँ, इसकी वजह यह नहीं है कि काश्मीर के रहने वाले या पंजाब के रहने वाले या छोटी छोटी जगहों के रहने वाले लोगों में कौमी कैरेक्टर नहीं है लेकिन यह एक ऐसी चीज है जैसे कि काश्मीर को ही ले लीजिए स्याहों की जगह है ट्रिस्ट सेंटर है काश्मीर के लोग समझते हैं कि भाई एक दफा जो आया दोबारा न आय शायद। वहाँ के लोग अपनी चीज को मशीन से तो बनाते नहीं बल्कि सदियों में अपना बैठकर फालतू समय में कभी शाल बनाया या और कोई चीज बनाई। उस में अगर उन की लागत देखी जाय तो बहुत ही कम है। लेकिन अगर देखा जाये इस फन की कोई कीमत नहीं है और महन्त बहुत है। लेकिन इस मेहनत में अपनी गुर्वत की वजह से अपने इल्म न होने की वजह से इस का अन्दाजा नहीं कर सकते। यानि कि काश्मीर का एक शाल अगर कोई समझदार आदमी हो तो उस को दस हजार में भी खरीद सकता है और जो शस्स समझदार न हो तो उस के लिए वह सौ रुपये की भी चीज नहीं लेकिन जिसने

इस बनाया है उसके लिए इसकी कीमत दस हजार भी जायज है और अगर उस को दो सौ में भी बेचना चाहे तो भी जायज है और दो सौ रुपये में वह इसलिए बेचना चाहता है कि वह अपनी गुर्वत और मजबूरी की वजह से ऐसा करता है क्योंकि उसको मालूम है कि अब के सीजन में यह शाल नहीं बिकेगा तो वह सड़ जायेगा। अगर उस के बेचने का इतजाम नहीं किया गया तो अगले साल उसका डिजाइन बदल जायेगा। इन तमाम चीजों के पेशनजर आजकल मलंग बहुत सी चीज सीख रहे हैं और अपनी आने वाली नसलों के लिए कुछ अच्छी चीजें बनाना चाहते हैं और उनके लिए सबसे अच्छी चीज कन्ट्रीब्यूट कर सके। और व चीज नैशनल कैरेक्टर को बनाता है और लोगों को उसके बारे में समझाना है। आज अगर आप दिल्ली की सबसे बड़ी दुकान में चले जाइए सैक्रिन जो एक मामूली चीज है अगर नई दिल्ली के कैमिस्ट की दुकान से खरीदियेगा तो वह पांच रुपये में देगा। अगर एक छोटे कैमिस्ट की दुकान में चले जाइएगा तो व साडे तीन रुपये में देगा। जरा दरियागज में चले जाइए तो तीन रुपये में मिल जाएगी और अगर चादनी चीक जाइए तो वहीं चीज ढाई रुपये में मिल जाएगी। जिसकी वजह यह है कि यहाँ के लोग इस किस्म के खरीददारों को देखकर उसके दाम मांगते हैं। बाहर का जो आदमी देहात का आदमी जो दिल्ली में र ता हो उसके ख्याल में यह आता है कि दिल्ली में जो लोग रहते हैं उनका कोई कैरेक्टर नहीं है।

एक माननीय सदस्य : काश्मीरी भी यहा होंगे।

श्री ए० एम० तारिक : हो सकता है और इसमें दो राय नहीं हो सकती। काश्मीरी भी यहा तशरीफ रखते हैं और बिारी भी यहा तशरीफ फरमाते हैं। लेकिन गैरमुलकियों के लिए वह सब हिन्दुस्तानी है यानि कि बाहर के आदमीयों के लिए न हम काश्मीरी

हैं और नां हम बिहारी हैं। नां अटल बिहारी हैं ना तारिक हैं बल्कि सिर्फ हिन्दुस्तानी हैं तो इस चीज को दूर करने के लिए यह बेहद जरूरी है कि इस तरह का बिल पास किया जाए फिर इसके लावा मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि लन्दन योरोप, स्विटजरलैंड में पैरिस में जर्मनी में आप कहीं भी जाइए आपको नाबालेग बच्चे शोपिंग करते दिखाई देंगे। इसी वजह से वहां खुद मर्द चीजें खरीदने पर अपना वक्त जाया नहीं करते। वहां पर चीज उनके बच्चे व बीवियां खरीदते हैं। क्योंकि हमारे यहां बारगैनिंग सिस्टम है और हम लोग दो तीन घंटे जाया करते हैं। इस वक्त को बचा सकते हैं। मैंने बहुत से बुजुर्गों से सुना है कि लन्दन में लोग अपने कुत्तों को शोपिंग करने का काम सुपुर्द कर देते हैं। (हंसी) यह हकीकत है और इसमें हंसने की कोई बात नहीं है। वहां पर कुत्ते के मुंह में टोकरी लटका दी जाती है और उसमें पीड शिलिंग लटका देते हैं और जो चीज खरीदनी हो उसका नाम लिख दिया जाता है। दुकानदार लिस्ट को देखकर चीज दे देगा और कम नहीं देगा। योरोप में अखबार सड़कों के किनारे डिब्बों में रखे रते हैं और अगर आप अखबार खरीदना चाहते हैं तो उतने पैसे और कीमत डाल दीजिये और अखबार उठा लीजिये। लेकिन हिन्दुस्तान में बदकिस्मति से इस किस्म की चीजें नहीं होती है। आप जिस बात से इन्कार भी नहीं कर सकते जबकि किसी अखबार के आजादी नम्बर की कीमत २५ नए पैसे हो तो वह पचास नए पैसे में ब्लैक में बिक जाता है। कोई भी अच्छी किताब हो वह फौरन मालूम हो जाती है। इन तमाम चीजों से हमारे कैरेक्टर पर बड़ा असर पड़ता है और इन तमाम चीजों को दूर कर देने के लिए अपना वक्त बचाने के लिए और इसके साथ साथ अगर हम अपने कैरेक्टर को बुलन्द करना चाहते हैं तो यह जरूरी है कि हम यहां के दुकानदारों को सिखाएं कि यह कोई मजबूरी नहीं है बल्कि यह एक निहायत जरूरी चीज है। मैं इसके बारे में चन्द राये रखना चाहता हूं।

सबसे पहले मैं वजीरे आजम साहब की राय रखना चाहता हूं। कि खुद वजीरे आजम साहब ने तमाम स्टेट्स के चीफ मिनिस्टर्स को १६ नवम्बर, १९६० ई० को एक खत लिखा था जिसमें उन्होंने यह दरखास्त की थी कि अगर चीजों के दाम फिक्स कर दिये जाएं और उन पर लेबल लगा दिया जाए तो उन पर इससे बड़ा असर पड़ सकता है। चूंकि दामों में कमी बेशी हो सकती है लिहाजा तमाम चीजों पर इस किस्म के लेबल लगा दिये जाएं। निरख दर्ज करदी जाए जिससे कि सभी लोगों को चीज खरीदने में आसानी हो। इसमें एक फायदा वक्त का भी था और उनके पेश-नजर यह स्कीम थी। इसके साथ ही साथ मैं यह समझता हूं कि दिल्ली के चीफ कमिश्नर ने भी इस चीज की बेहद जरूरत महसूस की और यहां के बड़े २ ताजों को बुलाकर यह कहा कि आप महरबानी फरमा कर अपनी दुकानों पर चीजों की फैंहरिस्त लगाइए। अगर आप इस चीज को दूर करना चाहते हैं, इस परेशानी को दूर करना चाहते हैं कि जहां यह कहा जा रहा है कि दुकानदार चीजों को ब्लैक मार्केट में बचते हैं ज्यादा पैसे में बचते हैं। यानि कि आटा और चावल के दाम बढ़ा देते हैं वहां आपके लिए यह जरूरी है। जब आपकी यूनियन है तो इस यूनियन के जरिये सभी चीजों पर लेबल फिक्स करके इनमें दाम छापिये ताकि यह साबित हो जाय दूसरे आदमियों को यह महसूस हो जाए कि इस चीज की कीमत ज्यादा नहीं है। खारीबावली और चांदनी चौक की कीमत में बड़ा फर्क है। अगर कोई बाजार का आदमी दामों में फर्क देखता है तो वह घबरा जाता है और एक भरोसा उठ जाता है जो कि तिजारत में होना चाहिए। तो इन तमाम चीजों को दूर करने के लिए मैं इस बिल के लिए जोर देता हूं। यही नहीं बल्कि मैं यह भी कहता हूं कि इस बिल की म्मायत में अगर कोई शख्स चैलेज न करें तो मैं अपनी याददाश्त से

[श्री ए० एम० तारिक]

यह कह दूँ कि जहाँ तक मेरा ख्याल है कि श्री श्यांत प्रसाद जैन और श्री बी० एम० बिरला ने तमाम लोगों और फंडेशन की तरफ से यानि खुद फंडेशन आफ इंडियन चैम्बरस आफ कामरस ने इस चीज पर बेहद जोर दिया कि बाहर वालों को इन दिक्कतों का सामना करना पड़ता है। मेरा ख्याल है कि इस पर जो तकरीर की गयी थी उस में इस बात का जिकर किया गया था कि गैरमुल्क वालों के सामने हमें शरमिन्दा होना पड़ता है। मैं खुद जनाबे वाला अपना एक वाक्या बता दूँ। मेरे एक दोस्त जर्मनी से आये। आते ही उन्हें एयर पोर्ट उतरना पड़ा और उन्हें हाथी दांत का एक कलमदान मिला। उन्होंने जल्दी में कि शायद मुझे फिर मौका न मिले उसे एक पालम हवाई अड्डे की एक दुकान से खरीद लिया उन्होंने उसे एक सौ पचास रुपये में खरीदा। जब उनसे मेरी मुलाकात हुई तो उन्होंने इसकी बड़ी तारीफ की और मैंने भी उसकी बड़ी तारीफ की क्योंकि उस में फन था लेकिन जब वह जामा मस्जिद की तरफ नैर के लिए गुजरे तो एक दुकान में वही चीज पैंतीस रुपये की मिली। तो इस तरह की चीज का क्या असर पड़ सकता है। आप सभी लोग अच्छी तरह से जान सकते हैं। जिन लोगों ने नैशनल जोगराफिया मैगजीन का मुतालिया किया है, उन्हें मालूम होगा कि हर तीन और छः के बाद मुखतलिफ मुल्कों के सोशल हालात तिजारती हालात और सियासी हालात के बारे में मजमून निकलते हैं। इस के कोई सियासी नजरिये से इतफाक करे या न करे लेकिन जो चीज इस में मुद्रिया होती है उस से कोई इन्कार नहीं कर सकता है। और उस से काफी इल्म हांसिल हो सकता है। पिछले तीन चार सालों में काश्मीर, बनारस, और दिल्ली के बारे में आर्टिकल निकले और इन तीनों शहरों का जिकर नियात ग्रह तमाम से किया जाता है लेकिन शायद यह मालूम नहीं कि मजाबर सब बोलता है या ताजर सब

बोलता है यानि कीमत के बारे में। इस तरह से दूसरे मुल्कों में हमारी बदनामी होती है और इस चीज के पेशेनजर मैंने यह बिल पेश किया है शायद गुलामी की वजह से यह बात अभी तक चली आ रही हो लेकिन हमें आज्ञाद हुए पन्दरह-सोलह साल हो गये और अब हम को इसकी तरफ तबजो देनी चाहिए इस चीज की वजह से मिलावट भी होती है। आज तो एक मुहावरा हो गया है कि दिल्ली में जहर भी खालिस नहीं मिलता है। खालिस जहर का मिलना दिल्ली में मुश्किल हो गया है। जिस जहर से पहले दो मिनट में तशरीफ ले जा सकते थे अब उस में दस मिनट लगते हैं। तो इस से यह साबित होता है कि हमारे यहां जो जहर है वह भी खालिस नहीं है। इन तमाम चीजों की तरफ हमें तबजो करनी चाहिए क्योंकि इस से समाज का भरोसा उठ जाता है और इन्सान अफरा-तफरी का शिकार हो जाता है तो मैं इस एवान के मुअजिज मेम्बरान से दरख्वास्त करूंगा कि वे इस बिल की ए मियत को समझें और इस को मंजूर करें। मैं इस एवान का ज्यादा वक्त लेना नहीं चाहता हूँ क्योंकि यह जो मसला है वह नियात मुखतिसर है लेकिन मुखतिसर होने के साथ साथ कई गुना अम है। क्योंकि यह हमारे समाज के लिए और हमारे मुस्तकबिल के लिए और हमारी रोजमर्रा की जिन्दगी के लिए बहुत ग्रहम है। इन चन्द अल्फाज के साथ मैं अपने बिल को इस एवान के सामने रखता हूँ और उम्मीद करता हूँ कि तमाम दोस्त खास तौर पर हमारे मुअजिज दोस्त श्री एम० पी० भार्गवा इस बिल की हिमायत फरमायेंगे।]

The question was proposed.

SHRI K. SANTHANAM (Madras): Sir, may I raise a point of order? I think this is not a Bill for Parliament, but for the State Legislature because trade and commerce within a State is a State subject. And this is essentially trade within a State. Of course, there is some provision for general price control in the Concurrent List,

but this is not a general price control, but regulation of every shopkeeper. Therefore, while this Parliament can pass legislation regarding prices as a whole for the country, we cannot regulate how a shopkeeper will sell any particular goods.

My second point of order is that it is absolutely impossible to fix a label on every plantain, or apple or on every item of vegetable as required by this Bill. So, it is practically incapable of implementation and therefore, I say that this Bill is out of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The second point of order?

SHRI K. SANTHANAM: Yes, it is, therefore . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is a point of convenience.

SHRI K. SANTHANAM: A Bill should not propose any legislation which is incapable of implementation. That is one of the conditions of any Bill. Now, this is incapable of implementation and therefore this is not a proper Bill to be considered by Parliament.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN (Andhra Pradesh): There are two opinions regarding that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Would any of the Members like to make observations on these points of order?

SHRI ARJUN ARORA (Uttar Pradesh): On the second point of order, I wish to say that it is not a question of any point of order. The hon. Member who is a very senior Member of this House and whom I respect very much, has gone into the merits of the Bill when he says that it is not convenient or that it is not practicable to enforce it. That is not a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: But you don't want to say anything about the first point of order?

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: I think the hon. Shri Santhanam himself has agreed that it is in the Concurrent List also.

SHRI K. SANTHANAM: Only the general price control.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: This is not about price control. It is a matter of fixing a label of price. Fixing a label of price we have not included; that is not exactly in the State List anyway.

SHRI K. SANTHANAM: Yes, trade and commerce.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: That is a different thing. I submit, Sir, that this is a matter which we can take into consideration and if the Constitution . . .

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Uttar Pradesh): I want to make one observation. The Bill seems to provide for a speedy remedy against the prevalent serious evils. It is not only a question of fixing price labels but it is a fight against a social evil which is prevailing in our country, and I think it is as much the business of the Government of India as of any State Government. So, I think the Mover of the Bill is quite in order in moving this Bill in this House.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: Another point I want to make is this. Shri Santhanam is a very senior Member . . .

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R. M. HAJARNAVIS): I do not think this is outside the legislative competence of Parliament because under the general distribution of powers, unless a matter falls squarely within the State List, the jurisdiction of Parliament is not barred. And as the hon. Shri Santhanam himself has said, what is given to the State is trade and

[Shri R. M. Hajarnavis]

commerce only within the State. Now there may be an Act, a general law, which may affect trade all over India, a uniform law applying to all the States. If such is the nature of the legislative measure, then I do not think that Parliament is devoid of legislative authority to legislate it.

SHRI P. N. SAPRU (Uttar Pradesh): May I draw the attention of the Deputy Law Minister and of Shri Santhanam . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am afraid you are not audible.

SHRI P. N. SAPRU: I would draw the attention of the Deputy Law Minister and of Shri Santhanam that in the Seventh Schedule there is the Concurrent List. Now, even if you look upon this Bill as a price control Bill which it is not, you will find that the Central Government or the Union Government has a right to pass a Bill controlling prices because of Entry No. 34 of the Concurrent List in the Seventh Schedule. Even if it is not a Bill for price control, the Bill is in order because it is covered by Entry No. 34. Apart from that, as far as I can see, there is no provision allotting the subject of stopping the practice of bargaining in prices among the shopkeepers in any of the Entries. That being so, it can be taken as a reserve power and, therefore, I would say that looking at it from either point of view, the Bill is in order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Sapru, I have missed most of your remarks. I would like to have your opinion whether it is in order or not.

SHRI P. N. SAPRU: It is in order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have carefully considered the points of order raised by Shri Santhanam, and I feel that the motion and the discussion of the motion are in order. The question of whether it is in the competence of this House or not to pass a law on

this is a matter for the courts to decide if the matter goes to them.

Shri Deokinandan Narayan.

श्री देवीकोनन्दन नारायण (महाराष्ट्र):
आदरणीय सभापति जी, जिस मकसद से मेरे मित्र प्रस्तावक ने यह बिल पेश किया है उस मकसद का, उनकी उस मंशा का मैं भलीभांति स्वागत करता हूँ। परन्तु मैं प्रस्तावक से यह प्रार्थना करूँगा कि जितनी गहराई से उनको इस प्रश्न पर सोचना चाहिये या उतना उन्होंने सोचा नहीं। उन्होंने यह नहीं सोचा कि हिन्दुस्तान में साढ़े पाँच लाख गांव हैं और हर एक गांव में एक तो दूकान होती ही है। इसी तरह छोटे बड़े शहर हैं, कस्बे हैं और फिर यह देश है जिसमें निरक्षर और अनपढ़ों की संख्या कुछ कम नहीं है। ऐसी हालत में जो कुछ अमेरिका, इंग्लैण्ड और दूसरे पाश्चात्य देशों में दिखाई देता है वह यहां लाने की कोशिश करना कहां तक आज की स्थिति में अनुकूल होगा इसमें मुझे शंका है।

[THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.]

मैं समझ सकता यदि मेरे मित्र प्रस्तावक यह कहते कि यह बिल कलकत्ता के लिये है, दिल्ली के लिये है, मद्रास के लिये है या बड़े बड़े शहरों के लिये है, या यह कहते कि यह उन दूकानदारों के लिये है कि जिन की रोज की बिक्री सौ रुपए से ज्यादा है, पांच सौ से ज्यादा है या हजार से ज्यादा है। ऐसी कोई मर्यादा उन्होंने इसमें नहीं सोची। उन्होंने शापकीपर या वेंडर की कोई व्याख्या नहीं की। मेरी गली में केला आम बेचने वाला भी वेंडर है। मेरी गली से गुजरने वाला चिवड़ा बेचने वाला भी वेंडर है और दूसरी बोझल सी छोटी चीजें बेचने वाला भी वेंडर है। आप बतलाइये कि ये किस चीज पर लेबल लगायेंगे और कौनसी प्रिंटेड लिस्ट अपने पास रखेंगे। इस तरह से जिस भाषा में यह बिल लिखा गया है और

जिस तरह से उन्होंने पेश किया है, उसी रूप में आप इसको स्वीकार करेंगे तो इससे इतनी अड़चने और दिक्कते पैदा होंगी कि उनका सामना करना बहुत कठिन हो जायेगा।

आप जानते होंगे कि हर एक स्टेट में सेल्स टैक्स है। सेल्स टैक्स में भी एक मर्यादा रखी गई है। जहां तक मुझे पता है मेरी महाराष्ट्र स्टेट में जिस दूकानदार की सालाना बिक्री २५ हजार रुपये या ३० हजार रुपये से ज्यादा होती है उसी के उपर सेल्स टैक्स लगाया जाता है और उससे कहा जाता है कि आप बिल्स रखिये और आप बिल्स नहीं रखेंगे तो आपको सजा होगी और आपके बिल्स से यह तय किया जायेगा कि आप की बिक्री २० हजार, २५ हजार या ३० हजार हुई या नहीं। सेल्स टैक्स के लिए बिक्री पर जहां ऊंची मर्यादा है वहां इस देश में आपका इस तरह से हर एक बिक्री की चीज पर लेबिल लगाने की आशा करना, अपेक्षा करना, असम्भव है। दो बातें हैं, एक नहीं है दो हैं, लेबिल है और उसके साथ प्रिन्टेड लिस्ट भी है। सेक्शन २ में यह है :

12 Noon

"It shall be unlawful for any person, shopkeeper or vendor to sell, agree to sell or offer to sell any goods, in course of any business, to which no price label is attached bearing the seal of the Central Government."

The price label is a necessity. Further it says:—

"Any such person, shopkeeper or vendor shall maintain a latest printed list of all commodities."

दोनों बातें हैं, लेबिल भी लगाना होगा और प्रिन्टेड लिस्ट भी रखनी होगी। जितने फल हैं, फूल हैं, तरकारियां हैं, भिन्डी है, बैंगन

है सब के ऊपर लेबिल लगाना होगा—यह कितना अशक्य प्रायः हैं हिन्दुस्तान में इसको आप समझियेगा। इसके बाद प्रिन्टेड लिस्ट भी रखनी होगी।

श्री रंगनाथ दिवाकर (नाम-निर्देशित)
उतना कागज भी नहीं मिलेगा।

श्री देवकीनन्दन नारायण : हां, यह जरूर है कि प्रिंटिंग प्रैसों का काम बढ़ जायेगा।

SHRI K. SANTHANAM: Authenticated by the Central Government.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: I am coming to that point.

तो मेरी प्रस्तावक महोदय से प्रार्थना है कि वह इसमें कोई सीमा रखें। मैं यह नहीं कहता कि यह बेकार बात है। बार्गेनिंग कोई अच्छी चीज नहीं है, हर एक चीज एक कीमत पर बाजार में मिलनी चाहिये। लेकिन इसको कौन कैसे कर सकेगा, कौन दूकानदार किस तरह से कर सकेगा, इन तमाम बातों को सोचियेगा और कुछ सीमा रखियेगा कि जिन दूकानदारों की बिक्री ५० हजार है, एक लाख है या दो लाख रुपया है उनके लिये कम्पलसरी होगा कि वह लेबिल लगावें तब तो कुछ कामयाबी हो सकती है। आज महाराष्ट्र स्टेट में यह आदेश जारी किया गया है कि हर एक दूकानदार को विशेषतः अनाज के दूकानदार को चीजों की कीमत अपने दूकान के बाहर एक बोर्ड पर लगानी चाहिये। यह मैं समझ सकता हूं। यह हो सकता है कि एक बाहर बोर्ड लगा दिया जाय और उसमें खास चीजों के दाम लिखे जायें। लेकिन किनारे की दूकान पर, पंसारी की दूकान पर जहां सैकड़ों चीजें हैं और जहां अच्छी ने अच्छी दूकान में भी बहुत सी चीजें १० तोले या २० तोले होंगी या सेर दो सेर या पांच सेर होंगी वहां आप बतलाइये कि वह किस तरह से लेबिल लगायेगा और किस तरह से प्रिन्टेड लिस्ट रखेगा। यह असम्भव बात है। इसलिये मेरी प्रस्तावक महोदय से प्रार्थना है कि वह इसमें कोई मर्यादा निश्चित करें जिससे

[Shri Deokinandan Narayan]

कि यह कामयाब हो सके, व्यवहार्य हो सके और प्रैक्टिकल हो सके।

شری - اے - ایم - طارق : جہاں

تکے آنریبل ممبر کی اس بات کا تعلق ہے کہ دیہانوں میں ایسا نہیں ہو سکتا ہے یا نہیں ہونا چاہئے تو میں اس بارے میں یہ عرض کرنا چاہتا ہوں کہ آپ نے دیہات کے چھوٹے چھوٹے ریلوے اسٹیشنوں پر دیکھا ہوگا کہ وہاں سلتے بچے جاتے ہیں کیلے بچے جاتے ہیں یا دوسری چیزیں بیچی جاتی ہیں اور ان کے لئے فیکسڈ لیبل ہوتے ہیں۔ سب لوگ وہاں کے پڑے ہوئے نہیں ہیں جو خریدنے والے ہیں وہ پڑے ہوئے نہیں ہیں لیکن اس سے اثر یہ ہوتا ہے کہ جو قیمت وہ بتاتے ہیں اس کے لئے لوگ سمجھتے ہیں کہ اس کے پیچھے کچھ اتھارتی ہے اور وہ درست ہے۔ وہاں انسان بارکیٹنگ نہیں کرتا۔ چھوٹے اسٹیشنوں پر اگر وہ سلتے کی قیمت تین آنے بتاتے ہیں تو لوگ ان کو تین آنے ہی دیتے ہیں۔ باہر اگر کوئی ۳ آنے بتاتا ہے تو چھ پیسے کہتے ہیں لیکن ریلوے اسٹیشن پر ایسا نہیں کہتے۔

†[श्री ए० एम० तारिक : जहां तक आनरेबिल मेम्बर की इस बात का ताल्लुक है कि देहातों में ऐसा नहीं हो सकता है या

नहीं होना चाहिये तो मैं इस बारे में यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि आपने देहात के छोटे छोटे रेलवे स्टेशनों पर देखा होगा कि वहां सन्तरे बेचे जाते हैं, केले बेचे जाते हैं या दूसरी चीजें बेची जाती हैं और उनके लिए फिक्सड लेबल होते हैं। जब लोग वहां के पढ़े हुए नहीं हैं जो खरीदने वाले हैं वह पढ़े हुए नहीं हैं लेकिन इस से असर यह होता है कि जो कीमत वह बताते हैं उसके लिए लोग समझते हैं कि इसके पीछे अथोरिटी है और वह दुरुस्त है। वहां इन्सान बारगेनिंग नहीं करता। छोटे स्टेशनों पर अगर वह सन्तरे की कीमत तीन आने बताते हैं तो लोग उनको तीन आने ही देते हैं। बाहर अगर कोई तीन आने बताता है तो छह पैसे कहते हैं लेकिन रेलवे स्टेशन पर ऐसा नहीं कहते।]

श्री बेंबकीनन्दन नारायण : मुझे दुःख है, अफसोस है कि मेरे भाई को यह भी पता नहीं है कि देश में कितने स्टेशनों पर वेंडर्स हैं और कितनों पर खान पान की चीजें बेचते हैं। छोट स्टेशनों पर कहीं भी वेंडर्स नहीं हैं और कहीं ये चीजें बिकती नहीं हैं। आप चलिये दिल्ली से मथुरा तक और देखिये कि कितने स्टेशनों पर वेंडर्स हैं। कोसी और फरीदाबाद इन दो स्टेशनों को छोड़ कर कहीं कोई वेंडर है? जहाँ खान पान की चीजें बिकती हैं और जहाँ इनके लिये कांट्रैक्ट दिया हुआ है, जहाँ कैंटीन हैं ऐसे स्टेशन कितने हैं महाशय और गांव हैं साढ़े पांच लाख। मैं तो कहता हूँ कि कस्बों में भी यह नहीं हो सकता, जलगांव ऐसे शहर में नहीं हो सकता। हमारे यहां जलगांव में पांचसौ होटल हैं जहां चाय बिकती है, काफी बिकती है, भुजिया बिकती है। आप कभी बस से भी सफर करते होंगे। आप मेरे जिले में चलिये, मेरे प्रान्त में चलिये तो जो बस के रास्ते हैं उन पर हर एक गांव में सड़क के सहारे एक छोटी सी श्रौपड़ी मिलेगी जहां कप-सासर होंगे।

और भुजिया और चिवड़ा कुछ न कुछ मिलता होगा। वहां फिर आप कहां लेबिल लगाइयेगा और कहां से प्रिंटेड लिस्ट लाइयेगा। यह असम्भव बात है, यह बारबार मुझे कहना है। तो मैं फिर आपसे गुजारिश करूंगा कि जिन दूकानदारों की बिक्री ५० हजार, लाख या दो लाख है उनके लिये ही आप इसको कम्पलसरी कीजिये कि वे लेबिल लगायें और प्रिंटेड लिस्ट रखें और यह भी कुछ दूकानों के लिये असम्भव होगा। अब, हफ्ते के बाजार लगते हैं जिसको कि यू० पी० में शायद हाट कहते हैं, हाट में आसपास के किसान लुहार-कुम्हार छोटी छोटी चीजें बेचने आते हैं, उनको हफ्ते में एक दिन ही बेचने का मौका मिलता है, हर दिन बेचने का मौका नहीं मिलता, तो आप बतलाइये कि वे कौनसी प्राइस लिस्ट रखें और कौनसा लेबिल लगायें। यहां तक कि मैंने अपने प्रान्त में देखा है कि किसानों की बहनें अपनी छोटी छोटी टोकरियों में दाल, चावल या गेहूं ले कर हाट में बेचने आती हैं और उन्हें वहां हाट में बेचती हैं और पांच सात रुपये की बिक्री करके शाम को घर को जाती हैं। तो ये बहनें जो कि देहात की हाटों में आती हैं वह कौनसी प्रिंटेड लिस्ट रखेंगी और लेबिल लगायेंगी।

मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि मकसद अच्छा है, मतलब अच्छा है, उद्देश्य अच्छा है। आप कहते हैं कि ग्राहक फंसाये जाते हैं, ग्राहक को बारगेनिंग करनी पड़ती है, ग्राहक को एक कीमत पर माल नहीं मिलता है वह सब ठीक है लेकिन वह अक्सर बड़ी दूकानों में होता है, जो फल तरकारी बेचने वाले हैं, जो हाट में बैठते हैं और जो छोटे दूकानदार हैं उनसे यह सब नहीं हो सकेगा। यदि आप इसको करना चाहते हैं तो उन लोगों के लिये करिये जो कि बड़े दूकानदार हैं।

अब, आपने इसमें एक और बड़ी बात कह दी है। इसमें है :

"Label bearing the seal of the Central Government".

और दूसरा इसमें है यह है : "authenticated by the Central Government" तो फिर इस काम को करने के लिये आज सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट में जितने कर्मचारी हैं उनसे भी अधिक कर्मचारियों की जरूरत होगी। लाखों चीजें हैं और जगह जगह पर अलग अलग दूकानों पर हैं तो उसके लिए करोड़ों लेबिल्स की जरूरत पड़ेगी और फिर उसको सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट को सर्टीफाई करना होगा। कौन सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट में सर्टीफाई करेगा। इनकमटैक्स आफिसर्स तो बहुत कम हैं, वे अपना काम भी नहीं कर पाते हैं, सेल्स-टैक्स इन्स्पेक्टर अपना काम नहीं कर पाते हैं और चार चार, छः छः वर्ष तक, अपील का फैसला नहीं होता। तो फिर बतलाइये लेबिल्स पर सील लगाने के लिये कितने आदमियों की जरूरत होगी।

श्री रंगनाथ बिबाकर : अनइम्प्लायमेंट प्रॉब्लम सोल्व हो जायेगा।

श्री देबकीनन्दन नारायण : अनइम्प्लायमेंट प्रॉब्लम शायद साल्व हो जाय। फिर दूसरी बात यह है कि "authenticated by the Central Government." तो इसके लिये भी गवर्नमेंट के कर्मचारी होने चाहियें और यह भी असम्भव बात है। तो गवर्नमेंट को इस काम को करने के लिये जो मशीनरी कायम करनी होगी उसके लिये कितना रुपया खर्च होगा इसको जरा सोचें। कहीं अलग इस तरह की बेकार की चीज, बेकार की बात लाद दी गई तो हर एक को यही कहने की नीबत आयेगी Save me from my friends. इसलिये मैं अपने भाई से गुजारिश करूंगा कि वह फिर से सोचें और मोच कर इसको ऐसा जामा पहनायें जो कि योग्य हो, ब्यावहारिक हो,

[श्री देवकीनन्दन नारायण]

प्रैक्टिकल हो। ऐसा कोई जामा बच्चे को न पहिना दें जो कि एक १० वर्ष के बूढ़े के लायक हो। मैं यह नहीं कहता कि इसका मकसद कोई कम कीमती है, इसका मकसद बहुत अच्छा है, मकसद को मैं पसन्द करता हूँ।

अपना मकसद अच्छा होते हुए भी अगर टांगों में ताकत न हो तो कैसे कोई दौड़ सकता है? तो मैं प्रार्थना करूंगा कि या तो वे इस बिल को वापस ले लें और फिर से इसे दुस्त करके भेजें, या इसमें कुछ ऐसे अमेन्डमेंट्स पेश करें कि जिससे यह सबको पसन्द हो जाय और किसी को तकलीफ में न डाले। आज तो इस बिल से देश में सिवाय तकलीफ के और कोई चीज पैदा होने वाली नहीं है, लाखों लोगों को तकलीफ होगी और गवर्नमेंट को तकलीफ होगी और लाखों रुपये बेकार खर्च होंगे। मुझे पूरा यकीन है कि सरकार इसको कभी पसन्द करेगी नहीं।

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: Madam, I rise to support the Bill which I feel is a very timely measure, a measure which the Government itself should have brought forward. During the last few months prices have been rising and everybody in the country including the Planning Commission has been worried over the sharp price rise. I have received communications from Kanpur that the working class cost of living index has risen by 21 points in July alone and it has touched a new high of 509. The same is true of all other industrial centres including Delhi. The prices are rising. The Government brings forward no measures but schemes of price stabilisation. We find the Planning Minister and the Food Minister disagreeing over the measures which have to be taken, steps which will check the price rise but they are unable to agree. So the Government does not move. The result is that the prices go on rising and this spiral of rising prices has become a real danger to our economy. There

was, a few days back, a strike in Bombay. A General Strike followed on the 20th. What was it due to? It was due to the price rise. It was due to the fact that the cost of living of Bombay's workers has risen considerably during the last one year and they wanted to be compensated. The rise in the cost of living is followed by some amount of dearness allowance to the workers but the dearness allowance never fully neutralises the rise in the cost of living. In my own city of Kanpur the textile workers get a dearness allowance which neutralises the rise in the cost of living only up to 53 per cent. The result is that 47 per cent. of the burden of rise in the cost of living is thrown upon the low-paid workers. That is an example of the textile workers of Kanpur who are organised, who can strike, who do strike and get wage increases. The condition in smaller centres, the case of the unorganised people is worse. The consumer, nowhere in the world, is organised. He is much less organised in this country. So the burden of price rise falls heavily on the consumer and it is bound to lead to a demand for some steps on behalf of the Government. The Government of India employees, particularly the Railway employees, have already begun to demand a revision of their dearness allowance. In 1960 there was an attempted general strike of the Government of India employees over the question of dearness allowance. Though the strike was ill-advised and the strike did not achieve anything, the case of the employees was just and certain concessions were later on given by the Government. That only partially met the situation in 1960. During the last 3 years continuous rises in the prices have again led to a situation in which the Government of India employees are demanding a further revision of their dearness allowance and I am told that the All-India Railwaymen's Federation recently passed a resolution demanding higher dearness allowance. That resolution is the beginning and if none of the two things is done, that is, unless the prices are controlled or

unless the dearness allowance is granted, the railways and other Government of India employees are bound to take further steps to secure a greater dearness allowance. So everything which contributes to the stabilisation of the price level should be welcomed by the Government whose responsibility it is to check inflation, whose responsibility it is to stabilise our economy.

This measure is a small one. The whole Bill is less than one page. When it came to me, I wondered whether I was given an incomplete copy. It is a small measure but a very useful one. Of course brevity is the soul of humour and should also be the soul of legislation. Its objects are very welcome and I support the Bill.

The Mover hon. Mr. Tariq, has correctly pointed out that it is a question of national character. Why should our people demand Rs. 100 for a thing and sell it for Rs. 10? Who will trust our word in the world? If one who comes to this country as a tourist—an increasingly large number of foreign tourists are coming to India—finds that in our market place our word, the word of our shop-keepers has no meaning, they may learn to conclude that after all the shop-keepers are India's shop-keepers and are Indians and one Indian is as good as another or as bad as another and that this does reflect on the national character. The differences in the prices in our country are awful. There may be some reason for differences in the prices of agricultural produce and the prices may vary in the case of agricultural produce. There is, Madam, no justification whatsoever for any differences in prices in the case of manufactured goods. The hon. Minister of International Trade was in Moscow recently, and I am sure a shrewd observer like him did not fail to notice that in the Soviet Union the prices of manufactured goods are the same throughout the country.

SHRI SHEEL BHADRA YAJEE (Bihar): Is there any mixed economy there?

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: Please make only relevant interruptions. From Alma Ata to Leningrad and from Minsk to the Mongolian border the distances are great but the prices of manufactured goods are the same. They are also labelled. In our case also that can be done. In the case of petroleum products it is done. Whether you buy petroleum products produced by the private sector—I am giving an example of the mixed economy to my hon. friend, Mr. Yajee—petroleum products of the profit-making, exploiting Western Oil companies or you buy those produced in the refineries run by the growing national public sector, the prices are the same.

SHRI SHEEL BHADRA YAJEE: There are differences here and there.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: The differences that are there are because of octroi duties which municipalities are unfortunately allowed to levy. Some such thing should be done in the case of all manufactured goods, particularly in the case of articles of daily consumption, of essentials of life like clothing, and this Bill can be a stepping stone in that very useful direction. It can be the beginning of securing that very laudable objective.

With these words I support the Bill.

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR (Kerala): Madam Deputy Chairman, I was a little bit amazed to find that this Bill was opposed by two prominent Members on the other side, one on technical ground and the other on the ground of certain defects which he pointed out in the drafting of the Bill. But, Madam, I feel this is one of the most timely and useful Bills introduced in this House. Hearing the speech of my friend, Shri Arora, I felt that he was reading too much into the Bill. As I understand it, this

[Shri M. N. Govindan Nair.]
is a Bill not to fix the prices of the commodities but to fix the 'label' on the articles that are sold.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE (Uttar Pradesh): Without fixing the prices?

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR: Of course this Bill will indirectly include that also. Even this fixation of label is not a new thing. As far as cloth is concerned you will find the retail price is such and such. Already in certain fields they have tried to introduce this even though it is not benefiting the public. To that I will come later. But on many commodities the customer does not know the price, and especially if members who live in Delhi have felt the need for fixation of label, I am not very much surprised. One month ago I bought a Watermans pen for Rs. 21, and my friend, Mr. Kumaran, bought the same for Rs. 18. I need not elaborate on that. You know for the same stuff in Connaught Place you have to give a higher price, but if you go to Chandni Chowk, the price would be less. If a tourist or somebody with a white skin goes to a shop, definitely the price he has to pay will be much higher than what you and I give. That is certain. So there should be some arrangement by which the price is fixed. Now what happens is, if the shopkeeper is in need of money, you are doomed. According to his need he will raise the price. Of course if he is in a pleasant mood, sometimes you may get it cheap also. Of course my hon. friend here was telling me that one Presto cooker he got for Rs. 75. Another friend of his got it for Rs. 95.

SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY (Mysore): I paid Rs. 96.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Why not call it prestige cooker?

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR: So three people buy it for three different prices from near-by shops. So

there should be some way by which this is checked, and I think this Bill introduced by my hon. friend, Mr. Tariq, will serve the purpose. If there are defects in the drafting of the Bill, of course I do not expect him to be a good draftsman, and whatever changes are necessary can be made, and our discussion is meant for that. You and I have to point out what are the defects and then you have to change it without killing the spirit of the Bill.

Then much has been said about what we are to do with plantain, apple and all that. I was very much surprised. All of us travel in trains. Not that on every apple you should fix the label. When you go to a railway station and when you ask for the price, what the vendor does is that he gives a list showing the price of plantain per seer, the price of apple per seer, and so on. So we know what the price is and we buy the thing. So some practical arrangement can be found. The same agricultural produce may fetch one price at one place and a different price at another place. So for all these variations there are methods by which the price can be adjusted. On that ground this Bill should not be rejected or opposed. Then, Madam, Shri Yajee put—according to him—a very pertinent question, whether there is mixed economy in the Soviet Union. Well, he need have no fear about that, because putting a label does not mean that the spirit of competition in trade will in any way be affected. For example, if a millowner puts a particular price on a particular variety of cloth another millowner can put a different price for his produce. So competition in trade will continue as such. This is how it is happening today. On calico cloth you find one price and on another kind of cloth another price. So none of these things is going to be affected by this Bill. Therefore, my hon. friend should not oppose this Bill under the apprehension that it may affect the mixed economy of the country.

Then, Madam, there is another reason why I have to place much emphasis on this matter. As I told you earlier, it is true that when you go to buy a piece of cotton cloth, though you may find the retail price written on the cloth, you cannot get it at that price. Not only that, the merchant is even prepared to give you a voucher or bill for the higher price that he charges you. A friend of mine was very insistent that he would buy only at the retail price marked and so he went to the shop and asked for the cloth to be sold to him at the retail price marked. The merchant said, "No, it cannot be given." Then my friend asked him, "Well, are you prepared to give me a bill for the price you charge?" He replied, "Yes, here it is, you can take it." Why does that happen? Therefore, I say all this price fixation is only something which has an advisory value. If the trader is a nice man, he would perhaps oblige the Government by selling the material for the marked price. Therefore, unless there is some penalty imposed by which stern action can be taken against those who violate these directions, this measure will only be a pious wish. Hence this clause 3 in the Bill where it says:

"Any person, shopkeeper or vendor who contravenes any of the provisions contained in section 2 shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or with fine not exceeding one thousand rupees or with both."

is a very useful provision and this provision should not be watered down.

AN HON. MEMBER: Will it be passed?

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR: Since this Bill has been moved by an eminent Member of the Congress Party and when I see that all of us are supporting it, I hope and I believe that this Bill, which is being discussed in the presence of one of the eminent Ministers who knows the trade, will be unanimously accepted

SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY: Let us see.

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR: I wholeheartedly support this Bill. That does not mean that some of the defects in it that are pointed out by hon. Members here should be ignored.

SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY: If necessary, it can go to a Select Committee.

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR: That indeed is a very fine suggestion that has been just now put forward by my hon. friend here, because if there are defects in the drafting of it or some other defects—I need not repeat them—about marking prices for agricultural products etc. all of them will be attended to if this Bill is processed through a Select Committee. Draftsmen will also be present there and then all these defects can be got rid of. I think this is a very timely Bill and I believe it should be unanimously supported by the House, including, of course, the hon. Minister. I would have preferred this Bill being moved by the Government, but they have failed in that. At least now they can own the Bill, since it is not moved by any Member from the Opposition, but by a Member of the Congress Party. Therefore, I feel that the Government should not find any difficulty in accepting this Bill. Thank you, Madam.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I hope the Minister has followed the arguments of Mr. Govindan Nair. Mr. Akbar Ali Khan.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: Madam Deputy Chairman, I think when the previous speaker said that there were two Members who opposed this Bill, he was not quite correct. I know the hon. Member Shri Santhanam, because he felt doubts about the jurisdiction, raised his point. But afterwards when it was pointed out that under item 34 of the Concurrent List, this subject of price control could be considered and the Chair gave a rui-

[Shri Akbar Ali Khan.]
ing, then there was no question of any more opposition. As for my hon. friend Deokinandan Narayan's speech, probably Mr. Govindan Nair did not very much follow that speech. Actually Shri Deokinandan Narayan agreed with the general proposal and it was only with reference to some details that he expressed some difficulties.

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR:
What was the overall effect?

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: On the whole, we do not have any opposition. Madam, we who have had the opportunity of going outside this country and seeing other countries—I am speaking not only of the Soviet Union and the Socialist States, but also other countries—must have come across innumerable instances where we felt the integrity and the honesty of the persons who are in business in those countries. Whenever we purchase a thing and give the price of it, we do not take it with us. We just give the seller our address and according to the sample, the very same thing that we had selected we get delivered at your residence. I have also been to Kashmir, and I hope my hon. friend, Shri Tariq, will forgive me when I say that there I have been a victim, for I bought a thing at a particular price and my friend bought the very same stuff for a much lower price.

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR:
That happened in the land of Tariq?

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: Madam, I don't think there is anybody who does not feel that there is necessity for having some sort of fixation of prices of the commodities that are in the market. Difference of opinion arises only as to whether it should be done throughout the country, or whether we should start with the big towns and cities only. The question may also arise as to whether all the commodities should be brought under this control, if not, what commodities should be brought under this control

and what not. Difference of opinion may also arise as to whether it is a practicable proposition to have this authentication or certification on all the commodities done by the Government. Well, these are matters which do deserve consideration and I welcome this suggestion that this matter, being good in its intrinsic idea, should be entrusted to a Select Committee. I am sure nobody will bear out what I say more than the hon. Minister who has recently had a very long tour and who has visited the Western countries as well as the socialist countries. If you will permit me, Madam, I would like to congratulate him for the great service he has done to the country. Here is a man who is neither rightists nor leftists, neither of the private sector nor of the public sector, but he has done really great service to our country.

There is another thing which has been very validly pointed out by my friend, Mr. Arora. It will indirectly control the prices. Madam, the greatest thing said today against the Government, and to certain extent with justification, is that prices are rising and that is telling very much against our people of the low income group. This will provide ways and means of finding out an opportunity to control indirectly, if not directly, prices. These are laudable objects which I am sure not only in this country but in the world will be applauded as an indirect method of influencing the character of our businessmen. As I mentioned, I have got the greatest regard for the businessmen; at least, I can say this of the United Kingdom but it is the same in other places also. Things have changed but not these habits. You can see this in the instances given by my friend, opposite. These are small things but they have a bearing on the credit and trustworthiness of the people. This should not be dismissed lightly because this aims at controlling prices. This measure aims at something which tells heavily upon the character of the individuals and the national character. This measure will build up our character and will

give a good name not only to the people here who are doing business but the outsiders also, when they come, will go with a good impression. Of course, I do not agree with every word of it. I do feel there are things which will have to be worked out in detail. I would very much like this measure to go before a Select Committee, and I hope that the hon. Mover will accept this suggestion. I also appeal to the Government not to treat this lightly as it comes from a private Member. I am sure, however, now that we have got one of our best Ministers here, this will receive due consideration and further hope that efforts will be made to fix prices and establish the credit of the business community and that of the nation.

I thank you.

श्री चन्द्र शेखर : महोदया, मुझे प्रसन्नता है कि माननीय तारिक साहब . . .

Madam. I beg your pardon. I am obliged to speak in English because of the insistence of my friends on my right. I am inclined to support the Bill moved by the hon. Mr. Tarig. When this was moved many Members raised various doubts. The question of Indian traditions was raised and one hon. Member was good enough to say that it was not possible to implement this Bill because of the old habits of our Indian villagers. I fail to understand this logic. Only yesterday, when he was addressing the other House, the Prime Minister talked of changing habits of India. He was talking of old ruts and he was pleading with the country and with the Members of the Opposition to come out of their ruts. I feel surprised when I find the Treasury Benches and the Members who adorn these Benches not coming out of the rut. Whenever any society wants to make progress, it is always imperative for that society to tread new path. In a dynamic country, we cannot say that because people are conservative, they stick to certain traditions, no new

measure is capable of implementation. Difficulties are there. There is no royal road to progress. The path is zig-zag and you will have to tread that path. Whenever any measure comes in asking for a change, asking for progress in the country some people come out with the plea that it cannot be implemented because of old habits and old traditions. I would beg of the Members not to extend this logic in this House. By putting forward such an argument, we are not doing service to the cause for which we stand nor to the cause of the down-trodden people of this country. There are difficulties but these difficulties will have to be faced. The Bill contains certain lacunae; there are certain mistakes in drafting and we will have to forward this Bill to the Select Committee. My hon. friend. Shri Yajee, raised the question of mixed economy. I do not know whether mixed economy is synonymous with mixed morals. I hope that Mr. Yajee will agree, and the hon. Members will agree, that even in a mixed economy we can progress only when we are able to carry our trade on a moral basis, ethical basis. To say that because we have a mixed economy, no moral or no ethical measure can be implemented is not correct and I do not know whether the hon. Minister understands the consequences of this.

SHRI SHEEL BHADRA YAJEE: What I said was that in a mixed economy, there was free enterprise having bargaining and competition. How can this be compared with Soviet Russia?

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Madam, I am not able to understand the logic of Mr. Yajee. I think Mr. Govindan Nair just now indicated very clearly that competition will not be a bar to fixing labels of prices on certain commodities. That question, therefore, does not come in. If we want to progress, if we want that the ethical value of Indian society should rise, we will have to take certain measures which are going to improve con-

[Shri Chandra Shekhar.]

ditions and habits of the people. Taking into consideration this view of our social life, this Bill becomes all the more important. It is not a matter of much importance when a particular hon. Member had to pay two rupees or three rupees, but if we in this House plead that this thing would continue in Indian society, I do not know what picture we are going to present before the foreigners. Shri Akbar Ali was telling just now that the Minister had done good service to the nation by touring in different countries of the world and thereby earned good results for the country. I have not had the good fortune of going out of the country but I fail to understand what the Minister will say to the people, the foreigners, who are cheated here in the markets of Delhi or in the markets of Srinagar. What would be the answer to a question whether this was an example of our morals, whether this was the trade ethics of our country. I really sympathise with the Minister and the dignitaries who go outside. What I am not able to understand is why Government have not brought forward this measure earlier. The hon. Shri Tariq has done great service to this country and to this House by bringing forward this measure and I hope Government and the Members of the house will extend their full and wholehearted support to this measure.

One more point. Madam! It was said here that this will create difficulties in the villages. The Bill does not say that this must be implemented on a single day. Government may implement it in a phased manner. They may introduce it in the big cities, in the municipal corporation areas, in the municipalities and the scope of the Bill, thus, may be widened in a phased manner. So, difficulties can be overcome. There must be a genuine desire to check the social evil. Just in the beginning, when points of order were raised, I told the House that I was in support of the Bill only because it was intended to fight out a social evil.

And if you want to fight a social evil you will have to surmount so many difficulties and these difficulties should be overcome. I shall just remind my friends on the other side about the case of industrialisation. You resort to industrialisation and so many difficulties come in the way. My friend, Shri Faridul Haq Ansari, this morning raised a point that thousands of peasants have been uprooted from their villages and what do the Government say? The Government say that these are the unavoidable hardships of industrialisation; these are the essential consequences of a dynamic society; these are the teething troubles of a progressive society. In the same way certain difficulties will be there for people who are traders, who are businessmen but because of that we cannot allow a social evil to grow in the country without any check. So I think taking into consideration only this aspect of the Bill, it should find unanimous approval, unanimous support of the whole House.

One hon. Member said that the Minister who is concerned with the Bill is neither a rightist nor a leftist. I do not know whether he is a leftist or a rightist but taking into consideration his past career I might say that he is a progressive man with a wide vision and I do hope that the hon. Minister will extend his full support to this Bill and if there are any technical difficulties this House may agree to send this Bill to the Select Committee. With these remarks I wholeheartedly support the Bill moved by Mr. Tariq.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA (Uttar Pradesh): Madam Deputy Chairman, the mover while moving his Bill made a reference to me and therefore I thought it fit to say a few words about this Bill. I am one of those who do not always agree with what Mr. Tariq says or what Mr. Tariq does. In this particular case I must congratulate him for bringing this Bill before the House. The question

of rising prices is one of the most serious questions before the country and I personally feel that if this Bill is implemented it will go a long way in checking the rising prices. If we see the statement of objects and reasons, we will find that that is the underlying idea with which Mr. Tariq has moved this Bill. The Bill is intended to establish the practice of affixing price labels on all commodities and goods exposed for sale by any person, shopkeeper or vendor so as to stop the practice of bargaining in prices to which shopkeepers resort to the detriment of the customers. The Bill seeks to provide for a speedy remedy against this prevalent social evil. And if we see the provisions of the Bill we will find that they are very simple. Clause 1 is the usual clause. Clause 2 says:

"(1) It shall be unlawful for any person, shopkeeper or vendor to sell, agree to sell or offer to sell any goods, in course of any business, to which no price label is attached bearing the seal of the Central Government.

(2) Any such person, shopkeeper or vendor shall maintain a latest printed price list of all commodities duly authenticated by the Central Government from time to time.

(3) The price indicated on the price label attached to the goods shall be the same as specified in the printed price list mentioned in subsection (2) of this section."

I would have been very happy if Mr. Tariq had moved a motion for sending this Bill for eliciting public opinion. After getting the public opinion his hands would have been strengthened and he could have forced the Government to accept the Bill. He has not done that. Mr. Akbar Ali Khan suggested that the Bill may be referred to a Select Committee. I do not agree with that view because no purpose will be served by sending this Bill to a Select Committee. Many Members have expressed their opinion here and we know what they feel

And about the substance of the Bill I can safely say that there will hardly be any person who will not agree with the substance of the Bill.

Now, in this connection I would like to point out another thing of which I do not know if Mr. Tariq is aware or not. There is the Essential Commodities Act which empowers the Government to fix prices of any commodity and that partially covers the intention with which Mr. Tariq has moved the Bill.

THE MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): The Government has already got powers.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA. That is what I was saying. Therefore the best way of dealing with this Bill to my mind appears to be that we should adjourn the discussion of this Bill to a later date so that the Government will be able to study the thing further and find out whether it is at all necessary to accept Mr. Tariq's Bill or whether the powers which the Government have under the Essential Commodities Act cover the Bill in full and it is not necessary to accept this Bill. I would therefore suggest to Mr. Tariq that he may agree to the adjournment of the debate today and when it comes up next time we may consider what we shall do with this Bill. Thank you.

SHRI P. N. SAPRU. Madam Deputy Chairman, I am in wholehearted sympathy with the Bill that has been brought forward by Mr. Tariq. It will be a matter of very great regret if a Bill of this character is rejected by the House. The Bill should have been looked upon as a non-controversial measure. All that Mr. Tariq is asking for is that shopkeepers should be required to display the prices which they will charge for any commodity. Now, I know that in implementing this Bill there will be many difficulties. It is not an easy Bill to implement but there are so many things which are not easy to implement but

[Shri P. N. Sapru.]
which we yet are experimenting with. Why should therefore a firm stand be taken against a measure which howsoever slightly is likely to lead to a stabilisation of prices? If a Bill of this character is passed—I do not say that I agree with the phraseology of the Bill—then we shall be able to effect an improvement in the trading methods. The buyer will know what price he has to pay for the commodity that he is buying and the seller will know what is the maximum price which he can extract and if he goes beyond that he shall be dealt with according to the law of the land.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You can continue after lunch. The House stands adjourned till 2.30 P.M.

The House adjourned for lunch at one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at half past two of the clock, THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA) in the Chair.

SHRI P. N. SAPRU: Mr. Vice-Chairman, I was saying that the object underlying this Bill was one with which I sympathise. In fact, I do not know of anyone who would not like to emphasise the objects underlying this Bill. The Minister, I suppose, is just as keen on price control as anyone of us. The difficulties in the way of implementing these schemes of price control or difficulties in fixing prices or labelling of goods enforced by the Central Government have been pointed out by Shri Deokinandan Narayan. It is obvious that those difficulties are of a real character. We have the Essential Commodities Act and under this Act some of the articles have been declared to be subject to this price labelling business. I think one way of dealing with this situation is that the Minister, Mr. Shah, may look into the Essential Commodities Act and see what other things he could do under

the powers given to him by that Act. It may be that the list is not an exhaustive list. It may be that there are goods or commodities which need to be brought under its purview. That assurance, I think, we are entitled to ask from the Minister and I am sure that good-hearted as he is, genuine as he is in his desire to see that the consumer is not exploited, he will give us. If steps in this direction are taken, then the objectives of this Bill will be achieved. I should be sorry if the Bill was defeated because that will not be reflecting the feeling of this House. Under these circumstances, it would be advisable for Mr. Tariq to consider whether he will not be serving the best interests of the consumers whose point of view he has put forward if he were to accept the suggestion should it come from the Minister that consideration will be given to the question whether some more articles should be included in the Essential Commodities Act or not. Shri Deokinandan Narayan pointed out the difficulties that would have to be encountered if this Bill were to be implemented. Now, all of us are aware of those difficulties and I do not doubt that he was right in emphasising those difficulties but he too agrees with the objective behind this Bill. When I say that I wholeheartedly support the Bill, I have in mind not the letter of the law but the objectives underlying the Bill. When Mr. Tariq moved this Bill, he knew it was not a perfect Bill. He wanted the matter or the question which he has raised to be considered in a thoughtful manner by this House. A message should go forth from this House to the country that this House and the Ministry are thinking of the difficult position in which the consumer finds himself. I will just give you a story of how I was dealt with by a Kashmiri shawl dealer here in Delhi. He came to me with some shawls. Some of them were very expensive but some were not and I liked one of them and I wanted to purchase it. He said that the price was Rs 60 and then I started with Rs 15 and eventually I was able

to make him agree to Rs. 23. (*Interruption*). It was not a bad bargain for Rs. 23 but this is something serious. They quote prices which have no relation to the prices which they will charge from their own countrymen. Now, that is not good business ethics and when I was in the States in 1954, I was dining with a couple and the lady, who had been to India, showed me a beautiful Banarasi sari and she said that she had paid Rs. 1500 for it. She asked me, "What do you think of it?" I said, "You can get such a sari for Rs. 500 but Rs. 500 is the price that the seller would charge from an Indian who knows things and Rs. 1500 is the price charged from the foreigners". It is not a correct way of doing business. It does not enhance our reputation, for our veracity and our integrity in our dealings with the foreigners and, therefore, it would be a good experiment if the list of essential commodities is scrutinised and some further commodities are included. I think there should be some control of this character over the price of wheat, rice, vegetables and meat. I know that it will be difficult to do these things and you will have to employ larger staff for this purpose. I am not worried about the corruption business. I think it is overdone in this country. Corruption exists in some form or the other in other countries but perhaps it exists in greater form in our country. At any rate, we would like to believe it exists in a greater degree in our country than in other countries. What I am worried about is in efficiency in administration. What is necessary is that our administrative standards should be good and we should, therefore, have a careful and well-thought-out legislation which would be implemented by a good administrative machinery.

If we proceed along these lines I think the problem of corruption too will be solved. What is wanted is vigilance on the part of the common man. If he goes to a shop and if he is told about the price of an article

that he is about to purchase, he must be assured that it is a labelled article. If the price is Rs. 5/-, either you purchase it or you do not purchase it. I cannot charge less or I cannot charge more. If that sort of thing is developed in this country, if that attitude of mind is developed among our consumers and among our sellers, the problem would be easier to solve. I would like to appeal to my friend, Mr. Tariq, to withdraw this Bill in case assurances of a satisfactory character are coming forward from the Minister. There is nothing sacrosanct about the form of the Bill. What is sacrosanct is the substance of it. If we get an assurance, so far as the substance is concerned, we would be only too glad to give the Minister a chance of carrying out much needed reforms in the direction of price control. If this assurance is not forthcoming, then I think we should be justified in voting for this Bill and referring it to a Select Committee or for circulation of the Bill for eliciting public opinion. I am sure that public opinion will be strongly behind it. It is now for Mr. Tariq and for the Minister to consider whether the suggestion which I have put forward is acceptable to them or not.

Thank you very much.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: On that condition, it is acceptable to me.

श्री शील भद्र याजी : माननीय वाइस चेयरमैन महोदय, मैं कामरेड तारिक का जो विधेयक है उसका समर्थन करता हूँ। इसके ऊपर बोलने के लिये जितने सदस्य खड़े हुये हैं सभी लोगों ने इसका समर्थन किया है। कुछ लोगों ने इसकी मंशा का समर्थन किया है। इसमें साफ साफ कहा गया है कि दूकानों में जो चीजें बिकती हैं उन पर लेबल लगाया जाय और लेबल लगाने के बाद सौदा करने में जो दिक्कत होती है, जो गड़बड़ होती है उस सब को बन्द किया जाय। इस दमियान

[श्री श्रील भद्र याजी]

हमारे कतिपय सदस्यों ने यह भी कहा कि इस तरह का बिल पास हो जाने के बाद मारा जो एक राष्ट्रीय चरित्र है उसका भी ठीक तरह से निर्माण होगा। अभी इस बिल पर बस के दौरान में कश्मीरी शाल का भी जिक्र आया। प्रस्तावक महोदय स्वयं कश्मीरी हैं। इसलिये वे भुक्तभोगी हैं, तजुर्बेकार हैं, अनुभवी हैं और वे जानते हैं कि कश्मीरी शाल खरीदने में लोगों को कितनी दिक्कत होती है। वैसे कश्मीरी शाल सब जगह बिकता है और सब बाजारों में दिक्कत होती है। लेकिन जैसा कि प्रस्तावक महोदय ने बताया, कश्मीर में विदेशों से बहुत से लोग आते हैं और उनकी चीजों के खरीदने में जो दिक्कत होती है उससे हमारी बदनामी बाहर भी होती है। इस लिये बिल बहुत मौजू है और ठीक वक्त पर हमारे सामने आया है जब कि देश में अष्टाचार को रोकने की वा बहुत गरम हो गई है। जहां भी आप जायें हर जगह आपको इसका बाजार गरम मिलेगा। हम लोगों ने भी इस बाजार को गरम किया है। कहीं कहीं जो चीज है नहीं, उसके लिये भी लोगों ने बाजार गरम कर दिया है। इसलिये ऐसे मौके पर जो दूकानदार लोग आकों से मनमाने ढंग से कीमतें वसूल करते हैं, उसको रोकने की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिये।

अभी हमारे देवकीनंदन जी ने बताया कि फुटपाथ और गली में सामान बेचने वाले दूकानदारों के लिये क्या होगा क्योंकि इसमें जिन दूकानों में चीजें बिकती हैं उन सभी पर रोक लगाने की व्यवस्था होगी। इसी प्रकार की उन्होंने और भी बड़ी बड़ी डिफिकल्टीज बताई। मैं समझता हूं कि इसेंशियल कमोडिटीज ऐक्ट के अनुसार आज भी सरकार को चीजों की कीमत फिक्स करने का अधिकार है। आज भी इस तरह की व्यवस्था है कि सरकार दूकानदारों को इसके लिये मजबूर कर सकती है। लेकिन आज दिक्कत य

है कि बहुत सी चीजों की कीमत सरकार ने ठीक नहीं की है। इसेंशियल कमोडिटीज ऐक्ट के अन्तर्गत यह व्यवस्था है कि दूकानों में प्राइस लिस्ट होनी चाहिये, लेकिन प्राइस लिस्ट होने पर भी बहुत से दूकानदार अधिक कीमत ले लेते हैं। यह ठीक है कि लेबन लगाने की जो व्यवस्था है वह बहुत बिकट व्यवस्था है। लेकिन हमारे राष्ट्रीय चरित्र की जो बदनामी होती है, विदेशों से जो लोग हमारे यहां आते हैं और जो साड़ी से लेकर शाल तक खरीदते हैं वे हमारे प्रति क्या खयाल रखते हैं, उसकी भी बात आई। विदेशियों की बात जाने दीजिये, हमारे देश में जो लोग हैं उनको सामान खरीदने में जो दिक्कत होती है, उसका पता सरकार को है। देवकीनंदन जी को भी वह दिक्कत है, हम लोगों को भी दिक्कत है, तारिक साहब को भी दिक्कत है और सरकार को भी इस विधेयक को मानने में दिक्कत है, इसी-लिये इन सभी दिक्कतों का कोई सेल्युशन निकालना चाहिये।

हमारे कामरेड गोविन्दन् नायर जी ने इस पर बस करते हुए कहा कि कांग्रेस पार्टी में इसका अपोजीशन हो गया। मैं तो समझता हूं कि एक स्वर से सब लोग इस विधेयक का समर्थन कर रहे हैं। मगर उनके मन में एक बात यह आ गई है कि हम लोग जो सोचते हैं, वह नहीं करते हैं। मैं समझता हूं कि बहुत सी चीजें जो वे नहीं बोलते हैं, जो बोलने की उनकी इम्मत नहीं होती है, वह हम लोग बोलते हैं और अपनी सरकार से कहते हैं। मारी पार्टी का जहां तक सवाल है, सभी लोग जो ठीक समझते हैं कहते हैं। मिस्टर इकोनामी की भी बात उठाई गई और इसलिये उठाई गई कि सब बातों में हम सोवियट रशिया से मुकाबिला नहीं कर सकते हैं। क्योंकि अभी तो हम पूरे समाजवाद के रास्ते पर नहीं जा रहे हैं। इसीलिये शायद अजुन अरोड़ा जी को मैंने इंट्रट किया था और यह कहा था कि फ्री इंटरप्राइज में कम्पिटिशन होता है, कोई क्ता

है कि हम इतने दाम में चीज देंगे, कोई कगता है कि हम इतने में देगे और इस तरह सौदेबाजी होती है। सोवियट रशिया में जहां पूरी समाजवादी व्यवस्था कायम हो गई, उसकी नकल हम अभी नहीं कर सकते हैं।

एक माननीय सदस्य : वही कम्पेटिशन का सवाल नहीं है।

श्री शील भद्र याजी : कम्पेटिशन का सवाल है। अभी यों भी बहुत सी बातें होती हैं। जहां प्राइवेट इंटरप्राइज है, कैपिटलिज्म है वहां तो और भी कम्पेटिशन होता है, और सौदेबाजी में बहुत ही असुविधा होती है। इसी दिक्कत के खयाल से मारे भागव जी ने बहुत अच्छा एक सुझाव रखा था। यही बिल जिस रूप में आया है, हमारे साथी भागव जी भी कहते हैं कि इसकी मंशा बहुत सही है और सब लोग इसको स्वीकार करते हैं, लेकिन यह परिपूर्ण नहीं है। इसमें बड़ी खामियां हैं। जब तक लेबल लगाने की बात है जब तक सभी चीजों की कीमत सरकार फिक्स नहीं करती है तब तक लेबल कैसे लगेगा। इन सब चीजों पर विचार करने के लिये भागव साब की जो राय थी कि इन्हें को पब्लिक ओपिनियन के लिये भेजा जाय वह भी नहीं मानी जा सकती है; क्योंकि जिस रूप में बिल रखा गया है, उसमें इसके लिये न अब कोई अमेंडमेंट आ सकता है और न कोई सुधार आ सकता है। इसलिये यह पब्लिक ओपिनियन के लिये भी नहीं जा सकता है। तो सरकार इसको अधूरे रूप में ही कबूल कर ले या वह करे जो सारे उस का मकसद है और जिसको सभी कोनों से समर्थन प्राप्त हो रहा है। तो इसके लिये यह हो सकता है जैसा कि हमारे माननीय संप्रु जी ने सरकार को राय दी कि इन सब बातों को लेकर के सोचें, विचारें और इसके लिये कुछ लोग बैठें और इनका जो मकसद है, जो मंशा है उसको पूरा करें लेकिन अगर सरकार इसमें देरी करती है तो फिर तारिक साहब का जो असली मकसद है, वह पूरा नहीं होता है।

क्योंकि इस बात को जाने दीजिये कि विदेशी क्या करते हैं लेकिन मैं यह जरूर देखना है कि हमारा चरित्र निर्माण कैसे होता है। जिस समाजवाद के रास्ते में हम जा रहे हैं उसके लिये हम जल्दी से जल्दी कोई कदम नहीं उठाते हैं तो बड़ी गड़बड़ देश में होने वाली है। असन्तोष तो ज्यादा नहीं है लेकिन असन्तोष के साथ ही साथ जो यह राष्ट्र का चरित्र नहीं बन रहा है इससे मारी बड़ी बदनामी होती है। इसलिये मैं मंत्री महोदय से यही दर-ख्वास्त करूंगा कि संप्रु साहब ने जो राय दी है कि इस चीज को बैठ कर तय किया जाय उसको वह मानें। मारे जो इंटरनेशनल ट्रेड के अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय वाणिज्य) मंत्री मनुभाई शाह हैं वह राइटिस्ट भी नहीं हैं, लेफ्टिस्ट भी नहीं हैं वह सेंट्रलिस्ट हैं, ऐसा जनाब अकबर अली ने कहा लेकिन मारे लिये कोई सेंट्रलिस्ट नहीं है। सोशलिज्म का मतलब नेता जी ने लेफ्टिज्म कहा था। विरोधी दल के लोग तो सूडो-लेफ्टिस्ट हैं। म कांग्रेस के तो सब लेफ्टिस्ट हैं, जो लेफ्टिज्म की बात विरोधी दल के लोग करते हैं परन्तु वे लेफ्टिस्ट नहीं हैं।

श्री प्रकाश नारायण संप्रु : लेफ्टिस्ट बहुत सारे बैराइटीज के होते हैं और लेबर से लेकर कम्युनिस्ट तक इंगलिश लैंगुएज में लेफ्टिस्ट्स कहलाते हैं। इसलिये मैं लोग जो लेफ्टिस्ट्स हैं वह नान-कम्युनिस्ट लेफ्टिस्ट्स हैं या एकदम ना कम्युनिस्ट लेफ्टिस्ट कह दिये। बाज नान-कम्युनिस्ट लेफ्टिस्ट और बाज राइटिस्ट हैं।

श्री शील भद्र याजी : इस मामले में मैं माननीय संप्रु साहब को सोशलिज्म का आचार्य या पंडित कभी नहीं मान सकता। मैं माननीय नेता ज. सुभाषचन्द्र बोस को मानता हूं और उन्होंने बताया था कि सोशलिज्म का मतलब है लेफ्टिज्म। तो जब कांग्रेस ने सोशलिज्म को मान लिया तो मैं सभी लेफ्टिस्ट हूँ। जो मिक्सेड एकानामी वाले हैं, राम भला, य. भी भला, वह भी भला, जैसे

[श्री शीलभद्र याजी]

कि अकबर अली खा साहब हैं वर जब कते हैं तो कते हैं कि सब का मला, ऐसे भा; बहुत से सदस्य हैं कि जो मिक्सेड एकानामी वाली बात कते हैं और उनमें भी सोशलिस्ट विचारधारा के लोग हैं। श्री मनुभाई शा प्रगतिशील हैं। तो मारे मन्त्री महोदय जो हैं उन्होंने दुनिया देखी है, सिर्फ इन्दुस्तान ही नहीं देखा है, और वह जानते हैं कि विदेशों में क्या होता है और इन सब बातों का रास्ता निकालने के लिये वही वेस्ट जज हैं। हम बड़े भारी बन जायं लेकिन म एक्सपर्ट नहीं, पडित नहीं, म तो सीधे सादे वर्कर्स हैं लेकिन जो राउस का रख है, जो देश का रंग है और जो लोगों की को राय है उसके मुताबिक चलना नेतृत्व का काम है। ऐसा नहीं कि भारी बहुत से आदमियों की नेजारीटो है इसलिये नहीं मानें, यों दूर साब का उधर से हुकम हो जायगा कि य बात मान लो या मनुभाई सा ब कहेंगे कि इसको मानना होगा तो हम मानेंगे, वैसा म करते हैं, लेकिन व ठीक नहीं होगा। इसलिये सप्रू सा ब ने जो राय दी है उसको मानना चाहिये और कोशिश करनी चाहिये कि इसको किस तर से अच्छा बनाया जाय और जो मकसद तारिक सा ब का है वह भी पूरा हो जाय। आज स्थिति य है कि एक दूकान मे एक भाव है और बगल के दूकान में दूसरा भाव है। यों एग्जल कमोडिटीज ऐक्ट हैं लेकिन उसके मुताबिक क चीजें मिलती हैं। तो फिर इसके लिये भी सोचा जाय विचारा जाय कि कैसे लेबिल लगे। ठीक है, बहुत खर्च की बात है, करोड़ों रुपया लेबिल लगाने के काम मे खर्च होंगे लेकिन य रुपया दूकानदारो से लिया जा सकता है, जिस तर से सेन्स टैक्स लगते है उसी तर से इसके लिये भी कुछ व्यवस्था हो जाय। नो इसमे देर न करने की आवश्यकता नहीं है।

अब, बिल जिस रूप में, जिस शेष में, आया है व मेरी समझ मे अधूरा है और व पब्लिक ओपीनियन के लिये भी नहीं जा

जा सकता है क्योंकि इसमें कोई अमेंडमेंट की व्यवस्था नहीं हुई है। इसलिये सप्रू सा ब ने जो राय दी है उसको मान लिया जाय। भागव साब भी राय दे रहे हैं कि इसको पब्लिक ओपीनियन के लिये भेजने की गजाइश नहीं है जब तक कि बाजाबता तोर पर कोई अमेंडमेंट नहीं आये। तो सप्रू सा ब एक जुडीशियल ब्रेन के आदमी है और बहुत प्रगतिशील भी हैं और य मारे मन्त्री जो भी प्रगतिशील हैं, इसलिये इनकी बात माननीय चाहिये। इनकी बात सब मानते हैं, उम तरफ बैठने वाले भी मानते हैं और म भी कभी कभी मानते हैं। तो इन्होंने एक बड़े जुडीशियल ब्रेन की हैसियत से राय दी है। म समजते हैं कि मारे मन्त्री महोदय भी इसको स्वीकार करेंगे और प्रस्तावक महोदय भी स्वीकार करेंगे और इस तर से मारा जो मकसद है कि लेबिल भी लगे और प्रइस की फिक्स हो वह पूरा होगा और जो बारगेनिंग करने में दिक्कत होती है वह दूर होगी : इन शब्दों के साथ मैं फिर इस विधेयक का स्वागत करता हूँ।

SHRI VIJAY SINGH (Rajasthan): Mr. Vice-Chairman, I appreciate the motive with which the Mover has brought forward this measure before the House. But I must make it very clear at the very outset that I cannot congratulate him for the form in which he has brought forward this measure before the House. At the very outset I would also like to make quite clear my own position in this respect, and that is that I have not been able to study the subject with as much care and diligence as I should have. But I take comfort in the fact that the Mover himself has not given as much labour to it as he ought to have done.

When in the morning I came here and was listening to the speeches that were delivered here, I was just wondering where we were going. It is not a question of right or left, it is not

a question of any political ideology or anything of that sort. In fact, I deplore this tendency: Why should we look at everything from the political angle either from the left or the right? I think our approach should be pragmatic.

Shri Sapru has been my teacher. He has been an eminent lawyer. We are all proud to have him here as a Member of this House. He has just said that the idea underlying this Bill is a very laudable one, and the message should go out from this House. I commend this suggestion. But do we think as to what the position of this House is and what the message is that should go? If the message should go, that message should be one well befitting the dignity of this House. It is in this context that I would like to make a few observations on the Bill that has been brought forward before us.

Sir, with your permission, I will just remind this House that before eight years or so, this Parliament passed the Essential Commodities Act. If I may crave the indulgence of this House, I would just read out section 8 of this Act:—

“(1) If the Central Government is of opinion that it is necessary or expedient so to do for maintaining or increasing supplies of any essential commodity or for securing their equitable distribution and availability at fair prices, it may, by order, provide for regulating or prohibiting the production, supply and distribution thereof and trade and commerce therein.”

Well, the section is a long one but section 3(1) which I have just read out before you is fairly comprehensive. It deals with the subject in a very wide way. Yet, we should look at the history of this Act that is before us. A perusal of this Act will show that this has been amended by this Parliament twice, once in 1957

and another time just in 1960. And when I look into that, I find that this Act has been amended in Punjab by the Punjab Act of 1959 as well because what we are going to do is ultimately going to be implemented by the State Governments. They, therefore, have got their own say. A measure of this importance, which is going to touch the lives of millions of people in this country, has necessarily to be very well thought of and it has to be passed after taking into consideration all aspects of the problem. I will just take one aspect only. In clause 3 we have provided:

“Any person, shopkeeper or vendor who contravenes any of the provisions contained in section 2 shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or with fine not exceeding one thousand rupees or with both.”

3 P.M.

We have provided a very heavy penalty. Now, if we just look at the Essential Commodities Act, we will find that where they have provided for punishment, the whole section contains one or two pages; it is an elaborate one. They have further provided as to who can take cognizance of the offence, who can try this offence, who can do challan, what is the remedy and all these things. So when we are going to provide for summary punishment we must remember that these things will not work in a country which is essentially being ruled under a constitution. There is a vital difference. When we are being ruled under a constitution, we have to go according to the Act. We have to go according to the Constitution. It is quite correct that we can pass anything in this House, but we cannot pass anything in this House which is not in consonance with the spirit and letter of the Constitution.

[Shri Vijay Singh.]

That is something which we must consider.

Now, Sir, as I made it very clear in the beginning, I appreciate the spirit in which this Bill has been brought forward. I must make things clear in this connection. Great stress has been laid about national character. I do not think we are improving national character by talking too much about national character. National character is not determined by one shopkeeper or by one price label or some such thing. In fact, the whole concept of national character can never improve by Acts. We all know that national character can only be improved by example. We have heard our Prime Minister saying several times that when India was half dead there came a great man like Mahatma Gandhi who raised our moral standard by example. He was able to infuse new spirit in India through personal example. So it is the personal example by those who are sitting in the Government or by national leaders that can improve our national character, not by passing an Act here and there, which will touch some commodities or many commodities. In fact, Sir, I do admit that if we can just emulate the example of Western countries, where newspapers are not sold by vendors but they just remain lying on the street corner, anybody can pick them up and pay the price thereof, that would be something worthwhile. We all want to achieve that. We have read in our history that at the time of the kingdom of Pataliputra when Megasthenes came here he found that the people never used to lock their houses. That is the state of society for which we all aspire. But the goal is very far off. To reach that goal we will have to take several steps. We are living in a society which is a very complicated one. It is essentially a modern society. We all know that the Indian society up till now was being regulated by the Manu Shastras or Muslim laws. They were not very bulky

things. They were very small Acts as compared with the big Constitution that we have got. But the society was being regulated by certain things. Now the great development that has taken place in human affairs is the introduction of science. And its impact on society has changed the entire face of the world in the last 150 years. We cannot go back to the early ideals. For that elaborate regulations are essential. And when we think of elaborate regulations, we have to bear in mind what has been done before, what we are going to do now and what will be the effect of all this afterwards.

As I just put before you, Sir, we have only got the Essential Commodities Act that is before us. Any action can be taken under this Act. I do admit that the Government is not as much vigilant about it as it ought to be. Therefore, what this House needs and what we all need to do is to bring forward a comprehensive resolution of this type, urge upon the Government to speed up the matter, point out the various ways that are known to us, find out and put before them the lacunae that we see. Our House is the Council of States or the Rajya Sabha. We represent the States. Are we putting here in this House what we see in the States? After all, the Ministers here must know what is happening in the States, what we see in the States. As against that we do things in a personal way. In fact, we are not going to the root of the problem and see what are our responsibilities. We cannot improve the state of things merely by passing an Act.

Sir, so many Acts are passed by Parliament. And I for my part can say that I do not even know how many Acts we have passed in the last one year. Therefore, passing of many Acts is not the remedy. The remedy lies somewhere else and for that we must strive.

I will try to point out one or two things, Sir, There is no Financial

Memorandum attached to it at all. Do you think that while passing this Bill of three clauses we shall achieve the purpose that is to be achieved? Price labels have to be fixed. They will have to be printed. We will have to appoint officers. There will be Collectors, Commissioners and a separate department to be opened. Will it not cost considerably? So a Bill, when it comes before the House must contain all these things. Therefore, while I appreciate the spirit in which the Bill has been brought—I made it very clear in the very beginning—I cannot congratulate the mover of this Resolution for the form in which he has brought it forward.

Sir, if I may say so, I come from the old State of Jodhpur. There was no law in the sense we understand it today. His Highness's word was law. And I exactly remember, when I was a Magistrate there, that we had nothing like a Constitution Act. What the Jodhpur Government passed was law. Whatever was passed by His Highness's Government was law. To pass an Act of this type is nothing short of that state of affairs.

SHRI P. A. SOLOMON (Kerala): So that is your tradition.

SHRI VIJAY SINGH: Well, Sir, my tradition is there but I want you to get away from that tradition. I do not want that other people should fall into that tradition. I am warning you of my own experience. If you want to learn by my experience, learn. If you do not want to learn, leave it.

I, therefore, once again congratulate the sponsor of the Bill for the opportunity that he offered us of making our viewpoint clear in this House and I hope that he will not misunderstand my remarks but will appreciate the spirit in which I have made them.

DR. M. M. S. SIDDHU (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I rise to comment on this half-hearted measure to eradicate the

evil of bargaining by shopkeepers or, shall I call, trade to the detriment of the consumer. At the outset I may say that I have been disappointed after reading this small Bill because the mover thinks that it is only at the periphery that the evil lies. He does not think that the evil starts at the other end, I mean, the manufacturer or the capitalist. That is the end. Unless and until you plug that source of evil, if there is any evil there, you cannot derive any good out of it.

I may remind the hon. Members that labelling has been common with certain commodities with which this House will be familiar. One of them was petrol. But everybody knows that many of these pumps used to give a discount of one anna or two annas per gallon which the companies did not allow and still they gave this rebate. While one gave this rebate the other did not. Now that is a bargain. The person who did not give cheated you to that extent while the other person gave you that profit. I will give you another example. Medicines, patent drugs, are being priced with a profit which runs from five hundred to a few thousand per cent.

A Tetracyclin capsule which can be produced for five or six annas can sell for Rs. 2-10-0 and even today sells at Rs. 1-10-0 or in other words, at four times. It is customary for the trade even under the old Drug Price Control Order to allow 20 per cent. as discount. If you were to fix up the price of a product according to the 20 per cent. you may be sure that all may charge 20 per cent. Then in order to save 5 per cent. from being cheated, this order will cheat 95 per cent. of the people of their money when they could get at a cheaper rate. There are others, for instance, the radios. Everybody knows that one gets discount. That discount may be less. There are other instances of machinery, gramophones and you can multiply. Then he may argue that these are not to the detriment of a consu-

[Shri Vijay Singh.]
mer. I say that they are to the detriment of the consumer because the price that has been fixed is over and above the legitimate profit that the trade should have had. Because one is able to part with 10 per cent. of it, does it mean that the other person will be legitimate, because the price level has been fixed, to charge another 10 per cent? So this remedy, I am afraid the remedy which has been prescribed, falls short and awfully falls short of the disease or the malady from which the society suffers.

Then there is no mention of how the price list is to be formed? It is to be authenticated. A company can say that they want to sell a product 'X' for Rs. 10. It may be notified in the Gazette or they may bear the seal of some officer that may be appointed to authenticate it that that list is true. But can the Government machinery go into the price structure of the commodity and fix the price according to the price structure of that? Even today, in spite of our planning, we do not know the cost accounting of many commodities in vital industries and therefore neither these price levels nor this authentication of the price list is going to solve that problem. I am sorry, I am rather disappointed, when I heard a senior Member like Mr. Sapru saying that he goes to a petty shopkeeper for bargaining. I thought that if you want to do away with the evil of bargaining, go to a place . . .

SHRI P. N. SAPRU: On a point of personal explanation. The shopkeeper came to my place—No. 10 Feroz Shah Road—I did not go to him, though I will not deny that I had been to shops where I had bargained.

DR. M. M. S. SIDDHU: What I was saying was that instead of going to a place where no bargaining is done, he did otherwise. Everybody knows that in each and every town and in every mohalla, there are a few shops which do not bargain. You can send your children to them, you can send your

servant and they do not bargain at all and you get the things. Why not patronize them? Why talk so much about Kashmir. The problem is this that the Kashmir Emporium's price for the same stuff is higher than the price at which you get it in the bazar and in spite of bargaining and even after being cheated I tell you, still the prices are lower, in the bazar. Once you fix up that machinery by which the Kashmir Emporium prices are to prevail—I take it as an example but I do not want to say anything against Kashmir or its Government or take handicrafts or take any other emporium of that type—if the prices of that are to be fixed for other artisans who sell their products, I can assure you that the prices in the market will rise, not by five or six per cent. but by twenty or twenty-five per cent. That is why unless and until you have machinery for standardisation, quality control and cost accounting, no reasonable prices can be fixed at the source to-day. If you cannot fix up the prices at the source, you cannot say that the consumer is saved from being exploited. You are tinkering with the problem. The solution will be socialisation and opening of such channels by which the stores goods will be available to the consumer at a cheaper, reasonable rate. My friend Shri Arora talked about Russia. Let him go round and see our fair price shops. Are the prices different from one place to another? If the State does it or if socialist measures are taken, the prices are likely to remain constant from one State to another and absolutely constant within one State. Therefore, to quote foreign countries in order to tell us about lack of morals in us is degrading, I will say. It is something which does not speak well of us. When we cannot see things in our country, we begin thinking of other countries outside our frontiers and talking in vague terms.

It was said that bargaining lowers the moral character. May I ask, what are these 'trade negotiations'? That is a big name, done in a big way by

States or big firms or big companies—those bargainings are called trade negotiations. Is bargaining so bad? Bargaining means giving something and taking something at your own terms. It does not mean that in bargaining you should take the thing at some one else's terms alone. Therefore when the State enters the trade negotiations, they do bargaining. Of course when a peddler does it, he does it in a very crude way. When States do it they do it with what is called a diplomatic pressure or without it as the need arises. Then the question of so-called rise in the price index or rise in the spiral of prices has been talked of by Mr. Arora and he said, by labelling these prices, things would improve. We have had a very sorry experience lately during this emergency—I can talk from experience—when the commodities' prices were fixed in consultation with the Merchants' Associations or trade, they fixed at higher prices than the prices at which they were available and that list was displayed. The result was that first of all they were making a little profit, then they made greater profits. That was all that was done by fixation of the prices and the displaying of prices. I may say that at Lucknow the Merchants' Association passed on that list and the same list was approved. If that is authentication, I will do away with it. I will think that the evil of bargaining is far better than to be cheated by the Merchants' Association by passing off that thing at a higher and still higher price each time they prepare a list. Therefore such a measure which neither covers the lowering or containing the rising prices nor saves the consumer from being exploited is no good because mere labelling a thing does not mean anything. We have known the Prices Control Order and the Essential Commodities Act and all the corruption going on behind all that, and the number of persons who have not been prosecuted is larger than the number of persons who indulge in it. There-

fore any measure which you cannot enforce or any machinery by which you cannot do so is useless. Even today the Government has not taken to metric measures, but in this very House we are given the same old measures in order to make us understand the problem, not metric tonnes but ordinary tons, because we are familiar with that and we want to understand the problem. Any Act like that which means labelling of the prices also means more staff, means overhead expenditure, and it will mean rise in prices as well.

As far as articles for presentation are concerned for tourists and others, the Government has taken care to tell the tourists that they should buy from shops which are on their list, and nobody has said that there is any bargaining in those shops. The other thing is this. For pieces of art you cannot fix any price as Mr. Tariq rightly said. If an artisan passes on a piece of shawl, which is worth Rs. 500, for Rs. 100 or Rs. 150, then you have cheated him or exploited him of his labour because he has taken, may be half a year to produce that shawl. He does not get enough wages for it. He parts with it because he has no means to keep going. He has no means to get it to the bank against which he will be able to raise money. Therefore, off season he will sell it, just as in any Mela if large quantities of commodities remain unsold, those people will have to think whether to bring back those commodities by rail to their homes, how much that will cost them, and all that, and if they know that the transport charges are such that bringing back will mean a great loss to them, then they will want to sell away those products at any price. Maybe suh a person went to Mr. Sapru.

Therefore, in all earnestness I will appeal to my friend, Mr. Tariq, to think of the problem once again. The problem is one of great magnitude, and it is good that he has

[Dr. M. M. S. Sidhu]
brought it to our notice. Whatever failing there may be in the Essential Commodities Act, one should see into it that Government can control and should control all those articles which are of daily necessity. As far as luxury articles are concerned, it is not yet time to create discontent in the country by controlling each and everything and allow the opposition some play.

SHRI MAHESH SARAN (Bihar):
Mr. Vice-Chairman, I like to congratulate our friend, Mr. Tariq for bringing this Bill. The basic principle underlying the Bill is laudable. People really do not want to be cheated that they should find shops where prices are different for the same commodity, which is going on very much in the country. After saying this I have only to remind him that the Bill itself is not one which I am able to support. The principle, as I said, will be appreciated by everybody, and this has done one good thing, and that is the Minister will realise what the opinion of the House is regarding this difficulty of different prices in different shops, and he would take some measure to see that the basic idea behind this Bill is carried out by some measure which he thinks proper.

So far as this Bill is concerned, I am afraid it is such a cumbersome and such a difficult process involved in it that it is not at all possible of enactment, nor opinion will be necessary regarding this Bill from the public, because the whole Bill is so framed that it looks as if Mr. Tariq did not think it over very carefully. In India we have big shops, and we have small shops in villages. There are vendors who come from long distances, and to expect that they will display prices on all these goods is an impossibility. It is not possible, and the method by which he wants this to be done is still more cumbersome and an impossible one. What he says in clause 2 (a) is:

"It shall be unlawful for any person, shopkeeper or vendor to sell, agree to sell or offer to sell any goods, in course of any business, to which no price label is attached bearing the seal of the Central Government."

He wants that there should be a label and it should bear the seal of the Central Government. Let him calmly consider whether in this vast country this is possible, and then even the printing of all these things becomes an impossibility. Now village vendors who do not understand either Hindi or English and who want to sell things ask their neighbours who are a little learned to find out the prices of things so that they might demand those prices. It is a thing which looks ridiculous. Then the printing of these price lists is also so expensive that it will not be proper to do it. Then again in clause 2(2) he says:

"Any such person, shopkeeper or vendor shall maintain a latest printed price list of all commodities duly authenticated by the Central Government from time to time."

He again wants a printed price list. From where will he get it printed and how will he get the authentication from the Central Government? The whole thing seems to be so difficult and impossible that in spite of the fact that the basic principle underlying it is very laudable, the Bill is not acceptable to me, and there should be some other method to achieve the object.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA (Uttar Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairman, I wholeheartedly support, appreciate and agree with the very laudable object with which the hon. the mover has put before this House the Bill that is under discussion now. Almost all the hon. Members, including our Communist friends, who have spoken on this measure and who have pressed this motion to be accepted by the Government, have with one or two exceptions, expressed their view that

the provisions of this Bill have to be altered considerably in order to make the law a practicable law, a law which can be implemented. Sir, unless the law is properly implemented no relief would be available to the person whom we want to serve by means of this law.

It has been mentioned that prices have got to be fixed. An hon. Member who preceded me some time back, I mean Shri Siddhu, has expressed in this House his view that the prices of many commodities differ and that some people charge very high prices and they get huge profits. He gave the example of drugs. I will also give that very example and I will not elaborate on other things. Now these drugs, patent drugs, well known drugs are available in New Delhi shops, in Connaught Place shops which are reputed shops, which are shops which have got fixed prices, but they are available at a much higher prices than at Chandni Chowk. I am told that there are firms in Connaught Place and those same firms have got their branches at Chandni Chowk and at these branches they charge lower prices for those very patent drugs. Once I had a discussion with a shopkeeper and he told me that in New Delhi the shopkeepers have got an association and in that association they have decided that they would charge list price, that is price marked by the company, or the manufacturers. But the people in Chandni Chowk give wide discounts, and that, they said, was the cause of this difference in the prices. We may insist that all the shopkeepers should sell at the price of the manufacturers, but the price of the manufacturers is very high. The Government should adopt an elaborate machinery to see that the prices fixed by the manufacturers are reasonable, the manufacturers should have cost accounts and their cost accounts should be properly scrutinised to see that the prices are reasonable. But such an elaborate machinery, I think, the Government cannot have. Unless

that machinery is available we cannot fix the reasonable prices at which things should be sold.

It has been stated in this House that we are very low in morals. Some merchants charge one price and others charge another price. The hon. Member there quoted the case of a pressure cooker. The pressure cooker that cost some Rs. 3 or Rs. 5 more must have been purchased at Connaught Place and the pressure cooker that the hon. Member purchased at a lower price must have been bought at Chandni Chowk and there the shopkeeper must have allowed him a discount. So these things will always vary. Even now, as the hon. Member Dr. Siddhu said just now, we have got a number of shops, very reliable shops, very reputable shops, which have got fixed prices. These shops are well known and they are available to everybody. It is not as if India has not got fixed price shops. Some hon. Members spoke of other countries and said that newspapers are lying there on the footpath and people just pick them up and put the cost of it in the box near by. Let me submit that there also, the morals of those people have not been raised by law. I do not know of any country and I do not think anybody can point out to me any country where the morals of the nation have been raised by law. Law cannot raise the morals of a nation. Rather, we have seen how the control laws were implemented during the last war and how they are being implemented even now. What do we find? Black-marketing is going on. Black-markets are developed. So this control from above, through the means of law, goes to demoralise us. They rather tend to lower our morals. I will give another example. Take an ordinary thing like speaking the truth. Speaking an untruth on oath is an offence in the eye of the law and in India people were habituated to speak the truth. In ordinary society when there is a case, when there is a dispute, every one will speak the truth. But the

[Shri Krishna Chandra.]

same man, when he goes to a court of law and has to make a statement on oath, where he can be punished for not speaking the truth, under the law, he will speak the untruth. So law is not something that raises our morals.

Then there is another thing. If we fix these prices and if we have printed price lists for all these things, all that will cost and an elaborate machinery will have to be built up. Some hon. Members have already pointed out that all that cost will be added to the price of the articles sold. Shri Tariq, the mover of this Bill, wanted to see that the rise in prices should be checked by this Bill. But I say that when the prices are fixed by means of an elaborate machinery in the manner that this Bill wants them to be fixed, actually the prices will rise, in order to get the cost of all that machinery, the big elaborate machinery that will have to be established for this purpose. I will give the example of Russia. In Russia the prices are controlled and the consumer shops have got fixed controlled prices. But what do you find there? The prices of consumer goods in Russia are far higher than those in this country. A pair of shoes may be available here for Rs. 20 or Rs. 25, but in Russia it will cost the people Rs. 60 or Rs. 70 or Rs. 80. The prices of consumer goods are far higher in Russia than they are in this country. That is quite natural. If you want to build up an elaborate machinery then all that cost will have to be added to the price. This fixation of price is a very good thing. It should be done and there are means and means to do the thing but I think it should be left to the Government. I would like the hon. Mr. Tariq to have brought forward a resolution to bring pressure upon the Government and to invite the attention of the Government to this rising prices and to adopt suitable measures to fix prices and to label them. Then the Government would have had full opportunity to think, to take counsel with others and to find

out suitable measures to label the prices and to fix prices. And the Government have taken some measures. They have opened fair price shops; they have opened consumer co-operative stores, etc., where the prices are fixed on a reasonable basis. So that is the method. If we want that in our country the prices should be fixed, the prices should be reasonable, that no customer should be cheated, then the best way would be either to open consumer co-operative stores or fair price shops, to increase their number so that in every city and town these shops are available to the customers. When these shops come into existence the other shops will also be compelled to charge reasonable prices and fix the prices because the market always goes by competition. Competition will be developed if we had some shops which sell commodities on fixed and market prices. So I would join with other hon. Members in appealing to the mover of this Bill, the hon. Mr. Tariq, to withdraw the Bill on the Government giving an assurance that the Government will take suitable measures and the Government must take suitable measures so that we can have reasonable prices all over the country and the prices may be known to the customers who want to buy things. I will at the same time appeal to the hon. Minister that he should be prepared and he should be willing to give an assurance to this House and to the hon. mover that on the withdrawal of this Bill he will be pleased to take suitable measures so that this laudable object which Mr. Tariq has in view may be achieved to a very great extent, if not to the fullest extent.

Lastly, there has been a proposal for this being referred to a Select Committee. Now, I do not think that will serve much purpose because in the Select Committee we cannot entirely alter the provisions of the Bill. The Bill, as many other hon. Members have mentioned, is so brief and so lacking in very essential

features that it will have to be elaborated so much that it will have to be made a new Bill and that is not the object of the Select Committee. So the appointment of a Select Committee will not serve the purpose and I again make my appeal to the mover and to the Government.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR (Mysore): Mr. Vice-Chairman, I was originally not thinking of speaking on this but when I went through the record of the debate and from what my friends also told me I felt that this Bill—though its intention when limited to its proper extent might be good—as it is to my mind made, if I may say so with very great respect, no sense.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: You have not read the Bill so far; you are reading it now. How can it make sense to you?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I had anticipated that my friend would disturb me a little later but truth is very effective though I did not think that it could be so effective in the first sentence that I uttered.

Now what does the Bill say? It says that it shall be unlawful for any person, shopkeeper or vendor to sell, agree to sell or offer to sell any goods in the course of any business and so on; wholesale or retail it does not matter. Now, supposing somebody agrees to sell something. If my friend goes to Subzi Mandi and sometimes spends a little time usefully there—because it might be more useful to spend some time there than perhaps drafting Bills like this—he will find there is wholesale trade in vegetables. I will take this up first and then go on to other essential articles. Now, vegetables come from the fields and there is no labelling anywhere there either on the goods or persons. The whole lot is put to auction sale and where is the label to come in there when you sell things in whole lots like that? Take, say, tons of tomatoes or a wagon load of

bananas. It is a normal thing that when they sell wholesale they sell it in bulk. I do not know where the label has to be attached there.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: I will tell you later on. I will educate you on that subject later on.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: So that is the first limitation that comes in and there has to be an exception that this shall not apply to wholesale trade.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: I am a wholesaler and I can . . .

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: If you are a wholesaler in legislation I am quite sure that . . .

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: I would request you, Mr. Vice-Chairman, to advise the hon. Member who has been a Minister and who is a senior Member to address the Chair and not the mover.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I have been looking at him but I have always been addressing the Chair.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA): That applies to both.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I address you only.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA): Now.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Mr. Vice-Chairman you may have perhaps misunderstood that I was addressing him. I was only looking at him.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: Sir, I would not have made this protest in the case of other Members but he has been a Minister and is a senior Member. You should actually tell him about the manners in the House.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: So that is the first exception.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: You kindly stop this dialogue, Sir; otherwise it becomes difficult.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Now it has become a dialogue with my friend's coming in.

So the wholesale trade will have to be exempted. That is the first exception. What is the other thing. The difficulty with some people is that I am not sure they have gone round the vegetable market and seen how these bulk sales take place. I cannot see how they can be labelled. Now coming to the ordinary trade, when one goes to the market, the buyer also should be assumed to have some discretion. Supposing I have to purchase a seer of brinjals, I must know broadly how much it will cost. It is no use asking every small vendor to put up labels on everything that he sells. So another exemption is in the case of small items, insignificant items,

Now perhaps my friend might agree with me on this point that the main object of such a legislation should be to prevent fraud, to prevent black-marketing, so that the customer when he goes to the market knows that what is being sold to him is being sold at the proper price. If that were the principle of the Bill, I entirely agree with my friend who has brought forward this Bill. In a condition of shortages I entirely agree that the anti-social elements should be prevented from taking advantage of shortages of articles. For instance if at the end of a particular import licensing period a particular item runs in short supply, say, for 15 days in March, the retailer puts up the price and it used to happen even in the case of small articles like razor blades and on account of the shortage the traders go even to the extent putting the goods underground. It is principally with a view to controlling commodities of that nature which are considered essential for human consumption, about which there is the danger of the shortage resulting in

blackmarketing that is is considered necessary to have some control. And there also mere labelling is not of great advantage, of great benefit. My elder friend here, whose experience in this field has been greater than mine, was telling me just a small story. Some time back when they insisted, when the Textile Commissioner insisted that every little textile article should be labelled, the good Ahmedabad millowners patriotically obeyed the order. They labelled up the goods. Everything was labelled up 50 per cent, 40 per cent, 30 per cent more than what it ought to be. So, mere labelling is not the solution. In the case of a patient it does not matter if the doctor is considered stupid, but then if he saves the life of the patient, he is a real doctor. It is no use a doctor or a surgeon saying: My diagnosis was entirely correct, but unfortunately the patient has died. It is no use merely labelling and the object of labelling will not be served. What to my mind is important, and I am quite sure the Minister of International Trade is fully aware of the problem, is this. In a country like India where conscience does not play much part with some of our countrymen unfortunately, it is necessary for Government to come down heavily upon unconscionable people, people who have no conscience, people who try to take advantage of the necessity felt by the people, certain types of unsocial persons. They require to be dealt with. Merely insisting on labels bearing the seal of the Central Government would not suffice. This penalises only what you call not labelling. This does not compel the man to sell the goods at the labelled price. Both ought to be there. Anyone who contravenes the provision, anyone who does not sell according to the labelled price should be penalised. Now that precise thing is omitted.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: He probably presumes some common sense in the buyer.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I do not know whether my friend has been briefed by him. I am not prepared to accept his impromptu brief. Unfortunately for me my relevant friend is absent. In any case, I am not prepared to take something on trust by some one who has not even consulted him, unless my friend tells me . . .

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: He has supported the Bill.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: By error he has supported it. I am quite sure that he does not want to continue the error by being logical till the end. Therefore, I wish that he might bring forward another Bill. In the case of certain commodities there are powers under the Essential Commodities Act. That list is not wide enough because in the conditions of today probably what was considered essential some eight years ago or ten years ago or five years ago may have to be changed. If it is a general power, I am quite sure that Government will use that power. But what is important is—and I am sure the House will agree with me—to save the customer from fraud, arising out of shortages either temporarily or permanently. To my mind, this Bill does not at all serve the purpose. I was really wondering what purpose it serves. Of course, wherever you go in the Western countries, everything is labelled. You find vegetables labelled. You find fruits labelled. You find everything labelled. That is quite all right. For instance, in the Khadi shop everything is labelled and one feels some satisfaction about it. There is a point in it—that one does not feel that he is being defrauded. It is not so much a question of money. If I go to the bazar and buy a small article costing Rs 4/- and if I come back and find that I have been defrauded to the extent of one rupee, it is not so much a question of one rupee. One rupee is not much. But the sense of being defrauded that feeling should not be there. A time will surely come in our country also when everything will be labelled properly. I take it

that my friend's basic intention is correct. Only the intention is not at all expressed in this Bill. If I understand his basic intention correctly, he wants to be fair.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA): Please do not point your finger at him.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: He wants to be fair to the customer. He wants that the customer should not be defrauded. He wants that nobody should be able to blackmarket. He wants that nobody should be able to indulge with impunity in unsocial practices. That appears to be his intention. I am making a generous allowance. Now, obviously that is his intention. Otherwise, there is no ground for this Bill. But this is tinkering with the problem. If you want to eradicate malaria you have to take drastic remedies. Merely by killing one mosquito you cannot achieve it. As I was telling him—he was away—in Ahmedabad the textile merchants put up labels, put up prices by more than fifty per cent. Unless it is his intention to help black-marketing—I do not think so, I do not think that he wants to help such people in the least—labelling will not serve the purpose. His intention appears to be good, but the product of his intention does not appear to be sound. Thank you.

SHRI P. K. KUMARAN (Andhra Pradesh): Mr Vice-Chairman, Mr. TARIQ has introduced a very simple Bill. The two aims, as I understand from his Bill, are: one, to make articles of consumption available to the people at a uniform rate and two, while fixing prices the Government also will get a hand in it. They should approve the price and while doing so they also get an opportunity to see that a reasonable profit is charged. Apart from these two things many other arguments have been advanced. The hon. Dr. Siddhu has argued that none of these things are useful. The entire capitalist system should be

[Shri P. K. Kumaran]

wiped out before consumer goods can be made available at a uniform rates to the people. I do not think so.

DR. M. M. S. SIDDHU: Price indication does not mean cost accounting. If price indication means cost accounting and lowering of profit, I would welcome it. But it does not.

SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: This is not a question of lowering of profit. Bata shoes are available throughout the country, at Madras, Calcut, Vijayawada, Delhi, Bombay, etc. at uniform rates. I do not know whether they make 5 per cent or 25 per cent profit, but at a uniform rate, at fixed prices, at stamped rates, the shoes are available throughout the country. Why not the other things also? My hon. friend mentioned that patent medicines, whose rates are also generally fixed, are not available at the same rate throughout the country. It is this malpractice which should be checked. In the morning Mr. Govindan Nair mentioned an instance in which I was also involved. I purchased this pen for Rs 18, while he purchased it for Rs 23, from the same Janpath shop. These things are happening. Let the capitalists, as long as they remain, make whatever profit they can, but let it be reasonable. The Government's influence, while fixing the rates, should be there. Only that much is intended here. I do not think that Mr. Tariq's intention is to wipe out profit or remove profit once and for all. That is one intention. The other intention is to make things available at reasonable rates. Matchboxes are labelled. There are 5 nP matchboxes and 6 nP matchboxes. It is printed on them. Although they are labelled, they are not available at 5 nP or 6 nP. So, for implementation of this, some provision, some authority is required. On that account I think the Bill requires one or two clauses more. Apart from that, in regard to this simple Bill to say that

the Bill is intended to restrict the entire society or impose control and on that plea prevent this Bill from being passed, I think, is not just. I hope the Minister will consider this aspect and the House also will consider this aspect and see that the Bill is passed. To remove the defects, I support the demand made by my friend, Mr. Govindan Nair, that it should be referred to a Select Committee. They can add the clauses necessary. I appeal to the House that the Bill may be passed.

4 P.M.

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Sir, I must thank the Mover of this Bill for the opportunity that he gave to the House and to myself on behalf of the Government, to discuss this very important measure. As several hon. Members have more or less unanimously projected, the object of this Bill is that in a vast country of our size, it is essential that as many articles essential to life and otherwise are brought under a system of price discipline, which ultimately reflects into a label being fixed to a commodity on the basis of a reasonable profit and return to the producer and the seller. One can easily see that there cannot be any objection to it. As a matter of fact, on behalf of the Government and myself, I whole-heartedly welcome this objective. The principle underlying the Bill and the mechanism thereof, as pointed out by the last speaker and by various other speakers, are the two very important ingredients of a piece of legislation like this.

Now, the legislation, as has been drafted and proposed here, is totally inadequate either from the point of view of principle or from the point of view of mechanism, which it has before it as its objectives. It is one of the most Herculean tasks that can be faced by any civil or other types of Government administering any such vast country. I would therefore say what measures this Government has taken since independence up till now

in this respect, and they may be enumerated by me in a brief way before the House.

We have enacted in 1955 the Essential Commodities Act which had replaced an earlier Ordinance which came from the war years whereby the Government was empowered by that statute of Parliament and before that by the Ordinance—to declare certain commodities as essential, as given in the Schedule of the Act and in clause (2). It has been further amended three times by the Central Government, in 1956, in 1957 and again in 1957, and again amended by the Punjab Act No. 34 of 1959 by incorporating the provisions thereof. It is one of the most comprehensive measures to bring under the orbit of legal power, the power to declare certain commodities as essential and to regulate the sale thereof at every stage. My friend, Shri Karmarkar, mentioned a very important point that there are many stages of a transaction. It is not only the penultimate or the ultimate part of it but several chains in a series of processes, from production to the consumer, as they call it in economics, from the weaver to the wearer. There are many stages through which a product passes. This power given by this august House and the Parliament of this country is already there. Again, since the Chinese aggression, the Defence of India Act has been promulgated under which much wider powers, even to include commodities not already in the Essential Commodities Act, have also been taken. And, as the House is aware, in the last twelve or nine months, several State Governments and the Centrally-administered areas with executive authority have not only declared many essential goods of life as subject to price control but also brought about the price display mechanism, that is the list of goods and prices, and also labelling, wherever practicable. You cannot label a banana in a country like this. To label a brinjal will be absurd. It will lead to the highest point of absurdity.

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Therefore, I would only draw the attention of the hon. Mover of this Bill and of the friends who supported this Bill, that a substantive legislation has to be very comprehensive before it can be legislated on the anvil of Parliament.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN in the Chair.)]

And that is the most serious defect from which this Bill suffers. We have in the armoury of Parliament a legislation, again reinforced by the Defence of India Act, with a very laudable objective, which is before this national Government of ours and before every section of the House. That is why there is no need to have any public opinion on this. I do not think that anywhere in this country or anywhere in the world will people dispute the need of a reasonable price being charged to a consumer by a retailer or a wholesaler or a producer. That is an objective which is very much in the air which is accepted, and with a bargaining capacity, one does desire to have the reliability or dependability of a shop when one goes to purchase some merchandise.

Then comes the mechanism. A serious defect in this very over-simplified, small, brief piece of legislation is that everything must have a Central seal. In a country so federal and so vast as ours, to have a piece of legislation with a Central seal like this will mean havoc. Millions of civil servants will have to be appointed by the Central Government. God knows how many crores—maybe Rs. 100 crores, I do not know—of money will have to be spent in appointing this staff to have all the things needed to control the price in such a vast country. More money will have to be paid out both by way of administration and in various other ways.

Therefore, such a legislation has got to be very much viewed with circum-

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pection and so, both from the point of view of principle and of mechanism, I would say that the Bill requires very serious modification. Practically, the original draft is untenable either as a ground-work or framework or as a basis. You cannot declare all commodities—as mentioned there—to be immediately brought under the purview of this law. There should be a selective, phased approach. Firstly, we take those articles which are absolutely essential and basic to life, those which affect most the poor man's daily family budget, and then over a period, gradually and gradually we go along, and the social discipline becomes a national discipline which everybody understand and which everybody is able to enforce. Then is the time to go in for that. As a matter of fact, even in most of the price-conscious countries—people talk of Western Europe, the United States and the Soviet Union, even there—discretion is the better part of valour, and they always use their discretion in favour of a few selected commodities and not of everything. You cannot label a car or a sophisticated radio; you cannot label so many things which are not possible to evaluate in terms of price. So, an omnibus Bill or a piece of legislation like this does not serve that purpose even in principle or in the mechanism of implementation, unless we decentralise the authority to enforce it. That is, the seal can be of a panchayat, the seal can be of a corporation, the seal can be of a municipality, the seal can be of a State Government or it can be of a district collector or a commissioner. The seal of a Central authority is neither practicable nor desirable nor enforceable in a country like ours with any amount of machinery that you may have or any number of civil service personnel that you may appoint.

I will say what we have done in the last few years. Not only in important towns and cities of this country but in other places also, the vari-

ous State Governments have declared several commodities as essential to life and have stipulated certain prices which the shopkeepers are expected to display, and in some cases there has been even the fixing of labels. That step we have taken. Apart from notifying certain items essential to life, we have vested authority under the Defence of India Act in the various local authorities, their having to declare the display of the price list as important, in many cases even the fixing of labels on certain commodities.

The second thing which is necessary is a parallel discipline in prices and that is, to open fair price shops and co-operative stores. As the Minister for Food and Agriculture announced the other day in the Lok Sabha, more than 5,000 fair price shops have already been opened for food and food articles. Another four to five thousand co-operative stores where every article of importance for the consumption of the common man of this country will be available are to be brought under the co-operative system, so that the buyer or the customer who goes there not only pays the price fixed on the label but is sure that the label is genuine and correct. As Shri Karmarkar pointed out, mere label does not really guarantee a price. I know. In price-stamping of textiles, we are most careful. We have regulated the number of varieties in a year. For two months nobody can have more than one variety for two hundred looms, and we have so many stipulations. We have Committees with most competent officers of the Textile Commissioner, with considerable experience of cotton textiles, as Chairmen of these Committees. Prices are being fixed in a most vigorous way, not on a voluntary basis as people might think it to be, but on the formula of ruling prices of 1961 on a particular day when the prices were known to Government. Where the mechanism is so complete as that, I find Shri Arora and many more friends connected

with the textiles saying that people so manoeuvre to get the prices stamped and fixed that it leaves a huge margin. So always price stamping does not mean the minimum price, it may be a rigged price, which might cheat the consumer more. A tag can be a poison and a blessing. Therefore, the tagging or the fixing of a label has to be carefully done. A label should depict a basically correct price with a minimum margin of reasonable profit so that the consumer is not cheated in the bargain. Merely a label does not automatically mean an honest price to the consumer. Therefore, this part also has been looked into. And in order to enforce that, co-operative stores, which themselves are the most honest symbol of a trading community, and fair price shops run by the Government or their agents under the strictest control, are another two forms of mechanism which we have and we shall usher in.

In the Western countries, in America and even in the Soviet Union, consumer councils play a great role because the watchdog is the consumer. Here brinjal may sell something per kilogram. But probably in the village where it is grown it may sell at half the price. What happens in other societies which have, probably, controlled units everywhere? They are so because they have got no economics of that nature as we have. There is no profit. Whether the State loses or gains is of immaterial value. They get certain things by paying high prices at one end and by subsidising something else. That mechanism is not possible in this country. Similar consumer councils and consumer associations we shall initiate here. We have a Central Council of Consumers. Similarly, we are having state councils, district councils and local associations where consumers collect together to carry on discussions. They discuss what are the defects in the price system, what price has been fixed high, whether the policeman or

the Inspector has been harassing them and so on. I know of many instances. I have a number of cases before me where some gentleman comes and says, "Your list is wrong. Give me Rs. 200 or I will challan you." And the poor man on the threat of it pays him Rs. 200. This is an observation which we come across every day.

Vigilance is the eternal price of democracy. Once we have democracy, the masters of this democracy are the sovereign people of this country. The sovereign people of this country have to be vigilant, ever vigilant, to protect the interest of the community as against the profiteers or the blackmarketeers or the man who wants to do this.

So, Sir, all along this line we are working in that direction. And as the hon. Mr. Sapru said, I would request the mover to withdraw this Bill. And I can assure him that apart from these measures, various other measures which the Planning Commission has contemplated are before us. We are considering them. I will have many occasions, I would like to take an early occasion to consult the various hon. Members of this House who are interested in this matter, and gradually evolve it. Maybe, if this Act is not comprehensive enough—to my mind it is a very comprehensive Act. It has all the powers vested in the Government which are contemplated as a background to this Bill though it does not contain it. Similarly the Defence of India Act has got all the provisions—and if we find that there is deficiency, we can come up before this august House and ask for amendments or for further powers or even for a substantive, separate Bill. Here there is nothing of that sort. We must know what we want to do, how far it is practicable, to what extent it will benefit and what is the practical implementation machinery that we have got here or in the States. We have to assess also to what extent we can succeed in im-

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plementing. We cannot make a laughing stock of a big Parliament. Let not an august body like this pass something through sentiment with laudable objectives and then find that their mountain of labour has not produced adequate results. So, Sir I can assure the honourable House that we are constantly at this. We in the Government fully respect the objectives and the feelings of the House behind this measure and we have so many instruments in our armoury. Over and above that we will consult the Members of this House and the other House who are interested in this vital subject and examine what our present programmes are, what we have done in the past, what should be done in the future so that over a period we achieve at least all these basic things, where it is possible to fix a label or declare a price or display the prices or in cases of wholesale, to fix up the margins. We have done it in textiles. We have fixed the margins at every step. So it is quite possible that a commodity-wise picture can be studied and if we find that the present powers are defective or deficient or the State powers, where we have to delegate them as a Concurrent subject, are deficient, certainly we can come back to the House.

I can also assure hon. Members—one of the hon. Members mentioned that because a Private Member has brought forward this Bill, therefore, we would not accept it—that this is never the thing. I for one believe that it is the privilege of this House that more Acts and pieces of legislation should come from the hon. Members of this House rather than from the Government because we are a part of the whole. We do not consider ourselves something different than the Members themselves.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN): That is a very correct attitude.

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: The more the initiative comes from the hon. Members the greater is the strength that the Government gets from this House and the hon. Members. With these words, I would request the honourable mover, while I appreciate and thank him for this Bill, to withdraw it.

شری اے - ایم - طارق : مسٹر

وائس چہئرمین - میں ان تمام ممبران

کا بے حد مشکور ہوں جنہوں نے اس

بحث میں حصہ لیا ہے - میں

ان دوستوں کا بھی مشکور ہوں

جنہوں نے صرف اس غرض اور مقصد

کے پیش نظر کہ بل کا لانے والا

کون ہے بل کی مخالفت کے انتظامات

پیدا کئے - اس چہئری سے میرے جذبہ

پر یا میری انتہائیں پر یا اس

اسپرٹ پر جو اس بل کو لانے کے

پیچھے تھی کوئی اثر نہیں ہوا اور

وہ اسپرٹ جو میرے اندر ہے وہ اور

یا وہ تیز ہوئی ہے - میر ان دوستوں

بھی مشکور ہوں جنہوں نے اس

ایوان میں اپنے خیالات کا اظہار کیا

اور اس بل کو اس قابل تصور کیا

اس کو اس قابل سمجھا کہ اسے خوش

آمدید کہیں - جہاں تک بل کے

مفاد اور مضمون کا تعلق ہے اس سے

میرا ہوگز وہ مقصد نہیں ہے جیسا

کہ کچھ ممبران اور وزیر صاحب

نے بحث فرمائی ہے - میرے بل کا

ہرگز مقصد یہ نہیں ہے کہ بل

کے ذریعہ سرکار قیمتیں مقرر کرے - اس

بل کا مقصد صرف ایک ہے اور جیسا کہ انٹریبل ممبر نے کہا کہ نشانی کھریڈکٹر کے بارے میں ہے اور وہ یہ ہے کہ دوکانوں پر قیمتوں لگی ہوں وہ کم ہوں یا زیادہ ہوں اس سے مقصد نہیں لیکن قیمتوں کے لیبل لگے ہوں - یہ مقصد ہے -

وائس چہرمین صاحب - کچھ پرائیویٹ سیکٹر اور پبلک سیکٹر کی بات آئی ہے تو میں آپ کو اس کا اشارہ کرنا چاہتا ہوں جیسا کہ ہندوستان مشین ٹولز کی کچھ کھڑیاں ہیں اور ان کھڑیوں کی قیمت مقرر ہے - میں اس بحث میں جانا نہیں چاہتا ہوں کہ کھڑی کی جو اتھانویے روپے قیمت ہے وہ کم ہے یا زیادہ ہے - اس بل کا تو مقصد یہ ہے کہ ہندوستان مشین ٹولز نے جو قیمت مقرر کی ہے اس کا لیبل ان کھڑیوں پر لگا ہوا ہو اور چاہے وہ دلی میں ہیں سری نگر میں ہیں پٹنہ میں ہیں انہیں لکھنؤ میں ہیں حیدرآباد میں انہیں کہیں ہیں سب جگہ ۹۸ روپے کو ملے اور یہ لیبل کھڑی کے ساتھ ہونا چاہیئے - اسی طرح پرائیویٹ سیکٹر ہے جیسے کہ قاتا کا صابن لیجئے سیورن اوکلوک کا بلنڈ لیجئے قیمت سب پر لگی رہے کہ یہ پلندہ آنے کا پبکت ہے - پلندہ آنے زیادہ ہے یا کم ہے یہ اس بل

کا مقصد نہیں ہے - مقصد ہمارا یہ ہے کہ سیورن اوکلوک بائیکٹ کا پبکت جو بکے اس پر قیمت کا لیبل لگا ہو اور مجھے درکاردار سے یہ کہنے کی ضرورت نہیں پڑے کہ ساڑھے چودہ آنے میں دے دو اور وہ کہتے کہ چلو پونے پلندہ آنے دیجئے - تو اس بل کا مقصد وہ نہیں ہے جو کہ کچھ حضرات نے یہ دیکھ کر کہ بل کو لائے والا کون ہے بحث کا مقصد ہڈیا - میرے بل کا صحیح مقصد یہ ہے . . .

श्रीचन्द्र शेखर : कांग्रेसी सदस्यों ने भी समर्थन नहीं किया ।

شری اے - ایم - طارق : وہ آپ کی مہربانی سے آپ نے کرم سے -

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: How can the Central Government fix the prices and if a man puts any price, how can the Government put its seal there?

شری اے - ایم - طارق : میں

اس کی طرف بھی آؤں گا - میں اس پوائنڈ پر بھی آؤں گا مثلاً کے طور پر میں بازار جانا ہوں اور کہیں سے ایک قبل روٹی یا کوئی چیز خرید لانا ہوں - میں مان لیجئے ۶ آنے میں قبل روٹی لیٹا ہوں اور میرے پاس وقت نہیں ہے کہ میں دوکان دار سے بحث کروں کہ پانچ آنے یا ساڑھے پانچ آنے لے لو اور میں ۶ آنے دے کر قبل روٹی لے آؤں ہوں - مجھے تجربہ ہے

[شری اے - ایم - طارق]

لہکن باوجود اس تجربہ کے میں نے آٹھ آنے میں قبل روٹی خریدی اور مہرا آچہ جو کہ نو سال سے زیادہ نہیں ہے وہ اس کو چھ آنے میں لے آیا اور یہ ہو سکتا ہے کہ پانچ آنے میں ہی لیا ہو اور ایک آنہ جذب میں رکھا ہو۔ مجھکو تو یہ یقین ہوا کہ اس نے ۲ آنے بچائے لہکن ہو سکتا ہے اس نے توں آنے بچائے ہوں تو جو نہ ملل کھریکتر کا مطلب ہے وہ اس کے پیچھے ہے۔

یعنی اس بچہ کو دو تکانیں ہیں کہ جس دکاندار سے اس نے خریدا ہے وہ اس سے بزرگ ہے اور اس سے تجربہ کار ہے اس پر سے بھروسہ آٹھ دانا ہے اور پھر اپنے گھر میں اپنے ماں باپ کو دھوکا دینے کا موقع ملتا ہے۔ تو اس کو آپ اس نظر سے لیں جس نظر کے پھس نظر میں لیتا ہوں۔ اس بات کا تذکرہ کیا گیا جیسے کہ مولیٰ ہے۔ سلتان صاحب جو کہ میرے بزرگ ہیں انہوں نے کہا کہ مولیٰ پر تھانر پر آلو پر کھسے لیبل لکائیئے گا۔ آپ مجھ سے زیادہ کھوسے ہیں اور وزیر صاحب بھی پے شمار کھوسے ہیں۔ آپ لندن میں جائیئے کسی مارکٹ میں جائیئے وہاں تھانر پر بھی لیبل لگا ہوا ملے گا کہ یہ قیمت ہے۔ حضور کرمارکر صاحب جو خوش قسمتی سے ملک کے وزیر رہ چکے ہیں اور

بدقسمتی سے اب نہیں ہیں یہ مہری بدقسمتی ہے ان کی نہیں ہے وہ پہلے ریس کورس روز میں رہتے تھے اور میں نے مارگ میں دھتا تھا۔ میں نے خود دیکھا ہے ان کو دو دو گھنٹے صرف کرتے ہوئے ایک سہر ہینگن کے لئے کہی اس کے پاس کہی اس کے پاس جاتے ہوئے۔ خود میں نے دیکھا ہے وہیں مہرا ادا تھا ریس کورس کے سامنے۔

I have seen him once doing talking from 5 to 6-30.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: Was he then the Commerce Minister?

شری اے - ایم - طارق : اگر ان کو

یقین ہے کہ ہینگن کی قیمت آٹھ آنے سہر ہے تو وہ ہارنگنگ نہیں کریں گے وہ اپنا وقت ضائع نہیں کریں گے۔ اس لئے کہ اس میں بھروسہ نہیں ہے۔ میں اس بھروسہ کو قائم کرنا چاہتا ہوں۔ میں کھسے میں دام میں نہیں جانا چاہتا ہوں۔ آپ آلو کی قیمت ۱۰۰ روپے من مقرر کیجئے۔ تو میں کہتا ہوں ۱۰۰ روپے کا لیبل لکائیئے۔ جس وقت میں نے یہ بات کہی اس میں چھوٹی چھوٹی چھوڑیں نہیں آتی ہیں۔ چھالی کو آپ لے لیجئے میرے دوست بہارگوا صاحب ہیں۔ میرے خیال میں وہ اتنے بڑے آدمی نہیں ہیں۔ میں نے انہیں شاپنگ کرتے ہوئے دیکھا ہے۔ کسی دوکان

ڈاکٹر سدھو صاحب کا مجھے کافی
احترام ہے۔ احترام اس لئے کہ وہ
پڑھے لکھے ہیں میرے دوست ہیں
میں تو بدنام کمہونست ہوں۔ میں
بالکل کمہونست نہیں ہوں نہ کوئی
میرا تعلق ہے ایک زمانہ میں ان
کا کمہونست پارٹی سے تعلق رہا؟
ہے۔

डा० एम० एम० एस० सिद्धू : मैं समझता हूँ उन की मालूमात बि कूल गलत है और बेबुनियाद है और जिस तरह से और चीजें कहा करते हैं उसी तरीके से यह चीज भी कहते हैं ।

شری اے - اہم - طارق : یہ ہے
میں مانتا ہوں -

डा० एम० एम० एस० सिद्धू : मानने का सवाल नहीं है। आप कुछ कहने से पहले तसदीक कर लेते तो ज्यादा अच्छा होता।

شری اے۔ ایم۔ طارق : یہ بھی صحیح مانتا ہوں۔ انہوں نے کہا دلی میں کچھ دکانیں ہوں جہاں لیبل لگا رہتا ہے۔ میں یہ چاہتا ہوں جس دکان میں مہری پہلیج ہے وہاں

لیہل ملنا چاہئے - جس سے میں
لیہل والی دوکان پر جا سکوں -
میں تو کثات پلٹس جا سکتا ہوں -
ایہاٹر اسٹور میں جا سکتا ہوں
گھنڈا مل کے یہاں جا سکتا ہوں
لیکن میں چاہتا ہوں کہ جو لچیت
نکر میں رہتا ہے جو ہلکالی مارکٹ
میں رہتا ہے جو کثات پلٹس میں
آ کہ شوپنگ نہیں کر سکتا اس
کو بھی ایسے محلہ میں یہ لیہل
کی سہولیات موجود ہوں - میں
موٹر کار میں جا سکتا ہوں لیکن کوئی
چھوٹا آدمی ایسا نہیں کر سکتا -
مہرے ہل کا یہ مقصد نہیں تھا کہ
جس کے پیسہ نظر لوگ اسے نہ
اٹھائیں - اس میں نہ کوئی کمیونزم
ہے نہ سوشلزم ہے نہ رائٹ ہے نہ
لیفٹ ہے - اس میں سیدھی سی
بالکل معصومانہ درخواست تھی تمام
بزرگوں سے جس سے تمام لوگوں کو
مساوی طور پر فائدہ ہو - جیسا کہ
کرشن چندر جی نے کہا - اکھر علی خاں
صاحب نے فرمایا سپرو صاحب نے
فرمایا اور دوستوں نے بھی فرمایا کہ
اس سے سیدھا فائدہ یہ ہے کہ ایک
تو وقت بچ جائے گا اور یقیناً
نیشنل کیریکٹر کوئی انٹر نیشنل چھوڑ
نہیں ہے - نیشنل کیریکٹر ایسے سماج
کو بنانے میں کام آتا ہے - بھروسہ
رہتا کرتا ہے - اب لوگوں نے یہ پوچھا
صاحب بہت سے دیہاتی ہوں جو

[شری اے۔ ایم۔ طارق]

نہیں پڑھ سکتے ہیں میں مانتا ہوں۔ لیکن وہی دیکھا ریل میں سفر کرتا ہے ریل کا ٹکٹ نہیں پڑھ سکتا ہے لیکن اسے معلوم ہے ٹکٹ میں جو دام لکھا ہوا ہے وہ درست ہے۔ جتنے ہزاروں لوگ تھیں وہ جاتے ہیں وہ سبھی پڑھ لکھ نہیں ہیں لیکن ایک بھروسہ ان کے اندر کام کرتا ہے کہ ریلوے کارکن جو کہتا ہے تین روپے پچاس نئے پیسے جو دام ہے وہی لیتا ہے۔

श्री मन्मोहरी शाह : रेलवे टिकट पर जो लिखा है यह तो बदलता जायेगा। आप ने जो कहा,

that means that the railway ticket can be changed according to the Station master's will. What is the sanctity? The sanctity is because it is sanctioned by law and worked out by competent authority.

श्री अ. ए. ایم. - طارق : میرا کہنا

ہے مثال کے طور پر آپ کو اگر یہ کہنا ہے کہ صاحب ریل کے ٹکٹ کی قیمت ۳ روپے پچاس نئے پیسے ہے اور آج حکومت فیصلہ کرتی ہے کہ آپ ۳ روپے ۴۷ نئے پیسے ہوں گے تو سارے ہندوستان کے تمام دیہاتوں میں دو دن میں آپ یہ بات نہیں پھیل سکتے کہ سارے تین روپے سے تین روپے ۴۷ نئے پیسے کر دیا ہے۔ وہ یہ نہیں پوچھتے کہ ایسا کیوں کیا۔ وہ ایک بھروسہ کے تحت فوراً دے دیتے ہیں۔ ایک کنفیڈنس کی بات

ہے۔ ماچس کی دبیہ میں چھہ نیٹے پیسے لکھے ہیں ماچیس خریدنے والے سب لوگ ملک میں ماچس کے دام پڑھ سکتے ہیں۔ میں چاہتا ہوں ہمارے ملک میں تجارت میں جو چیزیں خرید و فروخت ہوتی ہیں اس میں ہماری روزمرہ کی زندگی میں بھروسہ پیدا ہو جائے۔ جہاں تک لیفٹ اور رائٹ کی قسمیں ہیں میں نے خود تین قسمیں بنائی ہیں اور تینوں بالکل وجیتھیں بنائی ہیں۔۔۔

श्री विजय सिंह : तो इस के लिये क्या आप को सलाह है कि प्राइस लेबल लगा दें ?

श्री अ. ए. ایم. - طارق : نہیں وہ تو

اس بل کا مقصد نہیں ہے۔ اس بل کا مقصد یہ ہے کہ جہاں دوکاندار کی چیزیں رکھی ہیں وہاں اس میں لکھ لکھا ہو۔

DR. M. M. S. SIDDHU: You mean cheating by written word rather than orally?

क्या आप का यह मतलब है कि लिख कर धोका दिया जाय यह अच्छा है बजाय इस के कि ज़बान से बताया जाय ?

श्री चन्द्र शेखर : यह इस का मतलब नहीं है। अगर चीजों के दाम कोई दुकानदार रखेगा तो दुकान नहीं चलेगी, यह दूसरा पहलू है।

श्री اے۔ ایم۔ طارق : آپ نے یہ

کیسے تصور کر لیا۔ مسٹر وائس چیئرمین۔ اگر میری دوکان ہے اور

سڈھو صاحب کی دوکان ہے سڈھو صاحب دوکانی بیچتے ہیں ۲ میں بھی بیچتا ہوں ۲ وہ بھی امرت دھارا بیچتے ہیں میں بھی امرت دھارا بیچتا ہوں - وہ اپنے امرت دھارے کی قیمت ۳ روپیہ رکھیں ۲ میں دو روپیہ رکھوں تو ان کی دوکان کھسے چلے گی ۲ میں کہتا ہوں اگر امرت دھارے کی قیمت ۲ روپیہ ہے تو سڈھو صاحب کی دوکان پر بھی لکھا ہو مٹری دکان پر بھی لکھا ہو - اگر ان کی تین روپیہ ہے تو تین روپیہ لکھ کر رکھیں - میں دو لکھ کر رکھوں - یعنی مٹرا مقصد نہیں ہے کہ صاحب قیمت مقرر کرو - قیمت مقرر کرنا اس بل کا مرکز مقصد نہیں بلکہ صرف یہ مقصد ہے کہ بھروسہ ہو کہ جو اس میں قیمت لکھی ہے اس سے کم میں وہ نہیں دی جائے گی - قیمت کیا ہو اس کا بل سے تعلق نہیں ہے -

श्री गोपीकृष्ण विजयदर्शी (मध्य प्रदेश) : उस पर सेटल गवर्नमेंट की सील लगाई जावेगी तो . . .

उप सभाध्यक्ष (श्री अब्दुल अली खान) : आप अब सर्टिफिकेट के बारे में कहिए ।

श्री अ - ایم - طارق : سینٹرل

گورنمنٹ کی سیل کے متعلق ہیر گورنمنٹ کی انتہرتی ہو جاتی - اس میں اسٹامپ کا کوئی سوال نہیں آتا - آپ کا اگر تھوڑا سا مجھ سے اختلاف ہے تو اس کو نکال دیکھئے اور

اس سیل کے بارے میں اگر وہ سیل سینٹرل گورنمنٹ کا کام نہیں ہے و میں آپ کی توجہ پرائم منسٹر صاحب کے ایک چو اب کی طرف دلانا چاہتا ہوں جو انہوں نے لوک سبھا میں دیا ہے ۱۶ نومبر ۱۹۶۰ء میں -

"The Prime Minister, Mr. Nehru has asked the State Governments through a circular that price lists of commodities should be exhibited in all shops."

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: This is based on the law, not on the sweet will of the shopkeeper.

شری اے - ایم - طارق : اس میں

سوال نہ سوئٹ ول کا ہے نہ ال ول کا - میں یہ کہتا ہوں کہ اس ملک کے خود وزیر اعظم کی رائے ہے کہ لپل ہونا چاہئے یعنی سوال یہ ہے کہ آپ اسٹیٹ گورنمنٹ کے ذریعہ کرائیے - اب دلی میں چھف کمشنر سے بھی ہم نے فوراً کرا لیا -

उप सभाध्यक्ष (श्री अब्दुल अली खान) : बहरहाल, वह कीमत का तथ्यायुक्त गवर्नमेंट के सर्टिफिकेशन या सील की सूरत में हो जायगा । कीमत का तथ्यायुक्त जरूर हो जायगा, यह गवर्नमेंट की जिम्मेदारी हो जायगी । उस में आप की मन्शा नहीं है लेकिन उसका नतीजा यह निकलता है ।

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: If I may draw the attention of the hon. Member, once you bring the label system in the manner envisaged—we never contemplated and I do not think anybody in the House who supported this Bill ever contemplated the meaning which the Mover now gives—but if that were the meaning, then the ridicule will be

[Shri Manubhai Shah.]

so terrible that every man will say: "Here is something which is being sold at one price. What is the Government doing? Why are the two labels showing different prices?" It is automatically understood when the price label is there, that it is based on a reasonable content of the product and the price is satisfactory to the consumer and gives a reasonable return to the consumer. This is automatic.

شری اے - ایم : طارق : میں آپ

یہ درخواست کرتا ہوں کہ جس مسئلہ پر آپ نے زیادہ زور دیا ہے وہ مسئلہ لیبل لگانے سے خود ہی حل ہو جاتا ہے - یعنی جس بات کو آپ اپنے لئے درست تصور کرتے ہیں وہی چھڑ ہے - میرا مطلب یہ ہے کہ مثال کے طور پر اگر چھلی کی قیمت کل ایک روپیہ دو آنے مقرر کر دی جاتی ہے - تو اس کے ساتھ ہی اگر سرکار یہ بھی کہے کہ جس دوکان پر یہ چھلی بکے تو اس کے ساتھ ہی نرخ بھی ہو - بہت سی دوکانوں پر آپ نے دیکھا ہو گا اور آپ نے بھی کلیمپوسس شاپ شروع کی ہیں - آپ نے دیکھا ہو گا کہ بہت سی چھڑوں کا نرخ لگ چکا ہے میرا مطلب یہ ہے کہ جو خریدار ہے اس کا وقت ضائع نہ ہو اور دوکان دار کو بھی تکلیف نہ ہو یعنی یہ قیمت کا نرخ سرکار مقرر کر دے تو بہت اچھی چھڑ ہوگی - اس کی طرف پرائم منسٹر صاحب نے بھی اشارہ کیا ہے کہ ہم کو قیمتوں ٹھیک مقرر کرنی چاہئے - پرائم منسٹر کی رائے کے

مطابق پنجاب گورنمنٹ نے بھی یہ کام شروع کیا تھا اور دہلی نے چیف کمشنر نے آلودگی شروع کر لیا ہے اور اس کے پیچھے نظر یہ ہوا ہے کہ تیندیس آف انڈیا رولز نے تحت دہلی شہر میں پرائس لسٹ شروع کیا ہے -

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: This is exactly under the Essential Commodities Ordinance, proper calculation of the prices and fixing them by the Government authorities with all margins, and so on. Therefore, the hon. Member may not mix up his other pet theory of some label fixing for whatever purpose he thinks it can serve. And what action has been taken in a deliberate way by the Central Government authorised under the Defence of India Act, that is the scientific method of price control in order to ensure the common consumer that he pays the fair price of the product and he is not cheated. That is the whole explanation we gave; whereas, Mr. Vice-Chairman, I want the House to understand that his point is that he thinks that by putting some label on a product he produces some character or some reliability. At least I have not been able to understand that. What support I gave on behalf of the Government was for a scientific approach to this matter.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: The Bill does not preclude what the hon. Minister says in scientific or what he says the Government of India does. It only supplements what the Government is doing under the Essential Commodities Act and the Defence of India Rules. It only supplements. It does not put a stop to the good work that the Government is doing.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN): Mr. Tariq, I would like you to consider the speech of the Minister and the assurances that he has given you.

شری اے - ایم - طارق : اس کے بارے میں میں نے شروع میں ہی کہا - بزرگوں کا کہنا ہے اور پلجانبی میں ایک معاورہ ہے یہاں پر پلجانبی کوئی نہیں سمجھتا وہ اللہ نہرے کہ کوشن نہرے، ایک دیہانی نے کسی سے پوچھا کہ وہ اللہ نہرے کہ گھونٹن نہرے، اس کا مطلب یہ ہے کہ خدا تمہارے نزدیک ہے یا گھونٹن - تو دیہانی نے کہا وہ مکہ، کہوں گے اللہ تعالیٰ تو نہ معلوم دب آئیں گے مگر مکا پہلے لگے گا - میں وزیر صاحب کے حکم کو ٹال نہیں سکتا - اگر ٹال بھی گیا تو وہی ہے مخالفت خرید نہیں سکتا - لہذا یہ مجھے ماننا ہی ہے لیکن میں تین چار باتوں کی طرف اشارہ کرنا چاہتا ہوں جس کے پیش نظر مخالفت کی گئی - میرا پہلا مقصد اس بل کو لانے کا یہ ہے کہ جتنا کام وزیر صاحب یا ان کی وزارت نے کیا ہے اس کو آگے بڑھانا ہے اور میرا پرائس لیبل ان کے کام کو آسان کرنا ہے اور آگے بڑھانا ہے - جن چیزوں کی قیمت مقرر کی ہے ان پر لیبل لگا دو اور جن چیزوں کی قیمت مقرر ہو چکی ہے ان پر بھی لیبل لگا دو - یہ کہنا کہ اس کے لئے بہت بڑا استاف ہوگا یہ ہوگا وہ ہوگا یہ تو ہر چیز میں ہوتا ہے مگر مردہ کہنا یہ ہے کہ اس کے لئے استاف اور چیکنگ کی ضرورت نہیں ہے - میرا

کہنا تو یہ ہے کہ جو لیبل نہیں لگاتے ہیں آپ اس کو سزا دیجئے - میں یہ نہیں کہتا کہ جو قیمت پر نہیں بیچتا اس کو سزا دیجئے - میرے کہنے کا مطلب یہ ہے کہ لیبل لگانے کا کام شروع کرو - اگر آپ نے قیمت ہے کر دی تو یہ بہت اچھی بات ہے -

اب اس بحث کے پیش نظر میں ایک بار پھر ان تمام دوستوں کا شکریہ ادا کرتا ہوں جنہوں نے اس بل کی حمایت کی اور جنہوں نے کسی قدر مخالفت کی ان کا اور زیادہ شکریہ ادا کرتا ہوں - میں وزیر صاحب کا بھی شکریہ ادا کرنا چاہتا ہوں جنہوں نے مجھے اس بارے میں اشورنس دیا میں ایکس وزیر صاحب کا بھی شکریہ ادا کرنا چاہتا ہوں جنہوں نے بل کو اس ایوان میں یک لخت پڑھا اور اس کی مخالفت کرنے کے لئے کھڑے ہو گئے - میں اس ایوان کے ان مسبران کا بہت زیادہ شکریہ ادا کرتا ہوں جنہوں نے اس بحث کو سنا - میں آپ کا بھی شکریہ ادا کرنا چاہتا ہوں اور راجہ سبھا کے سیکریٹریٹ کا بھی شکریہ ادا کرنا چاہتا ہوں کہ انہوں نے مجھے اس قابل بلایا کہ میں اس بل کو لا سکا - ان الفاظ کے ساتھ میں وزیر صاحب کے وعدہ پر اور ان کی اسد پر تمام بزرگوں کی اسد پر اس بل کو واپس لینا چاہتا ہوں -

†[श्री ए० एम० तारिक : मिस्टर वाइस चेयरमैन । मैं उन तमाम मैम्बरान का बेहद मशकूर हूँ जिन्होंने कि इस बहस में हिस्सा लिया है । मैं उन दोस्तों का भी मशकूर हूँ जिन्होंने सिर्फ इस गर्ज और मकसद के पेशेनजर कि बिल का लाने वाला कौन है बिल की मुखालफत के इताजामात पैदा किये । इस चीज से मेरे जजबे पर या मेरी इन्टेंशन पर या उस स्प्रिट पर जो इस बिल को लाने के पीछे थी कोई असर नहीं हुआ और वो स्प्रिट जो मेरे अन्दर है वो और ज्यादा तेज हुई है । मैं उन दोस्तों का भी मशकूर हूँ जिन्होंने कि इस एज्वान में अपने ब्यालात का इज्जत किया और इस बिल को इस काबिल तसौवुर किया इस को इस काबिल समझा कि इसे खुश आमदीद कहें । जहां तक बिल के नफाज और मजमून का ताल्लुक है उससे मेरा हरगिज वह मकसद नहीं है जैसा कि कुछ मैम्बरान और वजीर साहब ने बहस फरमायी है । मेरे बिल का हरगिज मकसद यह नहीं है कि बिल के जरिये सरकार कीमतें मुकर्रर करें । इस बिल का मकसद सिर्फ एक है और जैसा कि ओनरेबल मैम्बर ने कहा कि नैशनल कंटेक्टर के बारे में है और वह है कि दुकानों पर कीमतें लगी हों वो कम हैं या ज्यादा हैं । उससे मकसद नहीं लेकिन कीमतों के लेबल लगे हों । यह मकसद है ।

वाइस चेयरमैन सा ब । कुछ प्राइवेट सैक्टरस और पब्लिक सैक्टर की बात आई है तो मैं आप को इस का इशारा करना चाहता हूँ जैसा कि हिन्दुस्तान मशीन टूल्स की कुछ घड़ियां हैं और उन घड़ियों की कीमत मुकर्रर है । मैं इस व स में जाना नहीं चाहता हूँ कि बड़ी की जो ६८ रुपये कीमत है वह कम है या ज्यादा है । इस बिल का तो मकसद यह है कि हिन्दुस्तान मशीन टूल्स ने जो कीमत मुकर्रर की है उसका लेबल उन घड़ियों पर लगा हुआ हो और चाहें वो दिल्ली में लें चाहें वे श्रीनगर में लें, पठानकोट में

लें, लखनऊ में लें, हैदराबाद में लें, कहीं लें, सभी जगह ६८ रुपये की ही मिले और यह लेबल घड़ी के साथ होना चाहिए । इस तरह प्राइवेट सैक्टर हैं जैसे कि टाटा का साबुन लीजिये, सेवन ओ बलोक का ब्लैड लीजिये कीमत सभी पर लगी रहे कि यह पन्द्रह आने का पैकेट है । पन्द्रह आने ज्यादा है या कम है यह इस बिल का मकसद नहीं है । मकसद हमारा यह है कि सेवन ओ बलोक ब्लेड का पैकेट जो बिके उस पर कीमत का लेबल लगा हो और उसे दुकानदार से यह कहने की जरूरत न पड़े कि साढ़े चौदह आने में दें दो और वह कहें कि चलो पीने पन्द्रह आने दे दीजिये । वह इस बिल का मकसद वह नहीं है जो कि कुछ हजरात ने यह देख कर कि बिल को लाने वाला कौन है बस का मकसद बनाया । मेरे बिल का सही मकसद यह है . . .

श्री चन्द्रशेखर : कांफ्रसी सदस्यों ने भी समर्थन नहीं किया ।

श्री ए० एम० तारिक : वह आपकी मेहरबानी से । आप के कर्म से ।

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: How can the Central Government fix the price? Please do not be vehement. If a man puts any price, how can the Government put its seal there?

श्री ए० एम० तारिक : मैं इस तरफ भी आऊंगा । मैं इस प्पॉइंट पर भी आऊंगा । मिसाल के तौर पर मैं बाजार जाता हूँ और कहीं से एक डबल रोटी या कोई चीज खरीद लाता हूँ । मैं मान लीजिये कि छः आने में डबल रोटी लेता हूँ और मेरे पास बक्त नहीं है कि मैं दुकानदार से ब स कहूँ कि पांच आने या साढ़े पांच आने ले लो । और मैं ६ आने देकर डबल रोटी ले आता हूँ । मुझे तजरबा है लेकिन बावजूद इस तजरब के कि मैंने ८ आने में डबल रोटी खरीदी और मेरा बच्चा जो कि ६ साल से ज्यादा नहीं है उसको ६ आने में ले आया

फिर यह हो सकता है कि पांच आने में भी लाया हो और एक आना जेब में रखा हो। मुझको तो यह यकीन हुआ कि उसने दो आने बचाये लेकिन हाँ सकता है कि उसने तीन आने बचाये हों तो जो नेशनल कैरेक्टर का मतलब है वह इसके पीछे है। यानी इस बच्चे को दो तकलीफें हैं कि जिस दुकानदार से उसने खरीदा है वह उससे बुजुर्ग है और उससे तजरबेकार है उस पर से भरोसा उठ जाता है और फिर अपने घर में अपने मां-बाप को धोका देने का मौका मिलता है। तो इसको आप इस नजर से लें कि जिस नजर के पेशेनजर मैं लेता हूँ। इस बात का तजकरा किया गया जैसा कि मूली है। सन्यानम साहब जो कि मेरे बुजुर्ग हैं उन्होंने कहा कि मूली पर, टमाटर पर, आलू पर कैसे लेबल लगाइयेगा। आप मुझ से ज्यादा घूमे हैं और वजीर साहब भी बेशुमार घूमे हैं। आप लन्दन में जाइये किसी मार्किट में जाइये, वहाँ टमाटर वही लेबल लगा हुआ मिलेगा कि ये कीमत है। और कर्मकर साहब जो कि खुशकिस्मती से इस मुल्क के वजीर रह चुके हैं और बद-किस्मती से अब नहीं हैं और यह मेरी बद-किस्मती है उनकी नहीं है वह पहले रेस कोर्स रोड़ में रहते थे और मैं विनय मार्ग में रहता था। मैंने खुद देखा है कि उनको दो दो घंटे सर्फ करते हुए एक सेर बेंगन के लिए, कभी इसके पास कभी उसके पास जाते हुए। खुद मैंने देखा है वही मेरा अड्डा था रेस कोर्स के सामने।

I have seen him once talking from 5 to 6-30.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: Was he then the Commerce Minister?

श्री ए० एम० तारिख : अगर उनको यकीन है कि बेंगन की कीमत आठ आने सेर है तो वह बारगनिंग नहीं करेंगे। वह अपना वक्त जाया नहीं करेंगे। इसलिए कि इसमें भरोसा नहीं है। मैं इस भरोसे को कायम करना चाहता हूँ। मैं कोमत में, दाम में नहीं जाना चाहता हूँ। आप आलू की कीमत १०० रुपये मुकर्रर कीजिये। तो

मैं करता हूँ १०० रुपये का लेबल लगाइये। जिस वक्त मैंने यह बात कही उसमें छोटी छोटी चीजें नहीं आती हैं। चीनी को आप ले लीजिये। मेरे दोस्त भार्गव साहब हैं। मेरे ख्याल में वह इतने बड़े आदमी नहीं हैं। मैंने उन्हें शापिंग करते देखा है। किसी दुकान में एक रुपया एक आना है किसी दुकान में एक रुपया चार आना। मुझे गर्ज नहीं है कि एक जगह एक रुपया चार आने कीमत हो। मैं कहता हूँ कि जहाँ एक रुपया चार आने हैं वहाँ उतने ही का लेबल हो इससे एक बहुत बड़ा वक्त बच जायेगा।

डा० सिद्धू साहब का मुझे काफी एतराम है। एहतराम इसलिए कि वह पढ़ें लिखें हैं मेरे दोस्त हैं। मैं तो बदनाम कम्प्यूनिस्ट हूँ। मैं बिल्कुल कम्प्यूनिस्ट नहीं हूँ ना मेरा कोई ताल्लुक है। एक जमाने में उनका कम्प्यूनिस्ट पार्टी से ताल्लुक रहा है।

डा० एम० एम० एस० सिद्धू : मैं समझता हूँ कि उनकी मालूमात बिल्कुल गलत हैं और बेबुनियाद है और जिस तरह से और चीजें कहा करते हैं उसी तरीके से यह चीज भी कहते हैं।

श्री ए० एम० तारिख : यह भी मैं मानता हूँ।

डा० एम० एम० एस० सिद्धू : मानने का सवाल नहीं है। आप कुछ कहने से पहले तसदीक कर लेते तो ज्यादा अच्छा होता।

श्री ए० एम० तारिख : यह भी मैं मानता हूँ। उन्होंने कहा कि दिल्ली में कुछ दुकानें हैं जहाँ लेबल लगा रहता है। मैं यह चाहता हूँ कि जिस दुकान में मेरी पहुंच है वहाँ लेबल मिलना चाहिये। जिस से मैं लेबल वालों दुकान पर जा सकूँ। मैं तो कनाट प्लेस जा सकता हूँ, एम्पायर स्टोर में जा सकता हूँ, गेंडा मल के यहां जा सकता हूँ। लेकिन मैं

[श्री ए० एम० तारिक]

चाहता हूँ कि जो लाजपतनगर में रहता है, जो बंगाली मार्केट में रहता है जो कनाट प्लेस में आ कर शॉपिंग नहीं कर सकता उस को भी अपने मोहल्ले में यह लेबल की सहुलियात मौजूद हों। मैं मोटर कार में जा सकता हूँ लेकिन कोई छोटा आदमी ऐसा नहीं कर सकता। मेरे बिल का यह मकसद नहीं था कि जिस के पेशेनजर इसे ना अपनाये। इस में ना कोई कम्प्युनिज्म है ना सोशलिज्म है ना राइट है ना लेफ्ट है। इस में सीधी सी बिल्कुल मासूमाना दरखास्त थी तमाम बुजुर्गों से, जिससे तमाम लोगों को मसावी तौर फायदा हो। जैसा कि कृष्ण चन्द्र जी ने कहा, अकबर अली खां साहब ने फर्माया, सप्रू साहब ने फरमाया और दोस्तों ने भी फरमाया कि इस से सीधा फायदा यह है कि एक तो वक्त बच जायेगा और यकीनन नेशनल करैक्टर कोई इन्नेशनल चीज नहीं है। नेशनल करैक्टर अपने समाज को बनाने के काम में आता है, भरोसा पैदा करता है। अब लोगों ने यह पूछा कि साहब बहुत से देहाती है जो नहीं पढ़ सकते हैं, मैं मानता हूँ। लेकिन वह देहाती रेल में सफर करता है रेल का टिकट नहीं पढ़ सकता है। लेकिन उसे मालूम है कि टिकट में जो दाम लिखा हुआ है वह दुरुस्त है। जितने हजारों लोग ट्रेन में जाते हैं वह सभी पढ़े लिखे नहीं हैं लेकिन एक भरोसा उनके अन्दर काम करता है कि रेलवे कारकुन जो कहता है तीन रुपये पचास नये पैसे जो दाम है वह लेता है।

श्री मनुभाई शाह : रेलवे टिकट पर जो लिखा है वह तो बदलता जायेगा। आपने जो कहा, that means that the railway ticket can be charged according to the Station master's will. What is the sanctity? The sanctity is because it is sanctioned by law and worked out by competent authority.

श्री ए० एम० तारिक : मेरा कहना है मिसाल के तौर आप को अगर यह कहना है कि साहब रेलवे की टिकट की कीमत तीन रुपये पचास नये पैसे है और आज हुकूमत फैमला करती है कि अब तीन रुपये सैंतालीस नये पैसे होंगे तो सारे हिन्दुस्तान के तमाम देहातियों में दो दिन में आप यह बात नहीं फैला सकते कि साढ़े तीन रुपये से तीन रुपये सैंतालीस नये पैसे कर दिया है। वह यह नहीं पूछते कि ऐसा क्यों किया। वह एक भरोसे के तहत फौरन दे देते हैं। एक कौनफिडियन्स की बात है। माचिस की डिब्बिया में छः नये पैसे लिखे हैं, माचिस खरीदने वाले सब लोग मुल्क में माचिस के दाम पढ़ सकते हैं। मैं चाहता हूँ हमारे मुल्क में तिजारत में जो चीजें खरीदो-फरोक्त होती हैं उस में हमारी रोजमर्रा की जिन्दगी में भरोसा पैदा हो जाये। जहां तक लेफ्ट और राइट की किस्में हैं मैंने खुद तीन किस्में बनाई हैं।

श्री विजय सिंह : तो इसके लिये क्या आप की सलाह है कि प्राइस लेबल लगा दें ?

श्री ए० एम० तारिक : नहीं वो तो इस बिल का मकसद नहीं है। इस बिल का मकसद यह है कि जहां दुकानदार की चीजें रखी हैं वहां उस में लेबल लगा हो।

DR. M. M. S. SIDDHU: You mean cheating by written word rather than orally?

क्या आपका यह मतलब है कि लिख कर धोखा दिया जाय यह अच्छा है बजाय इस के कि जबान से बताया जाय ?

श्री चन्द्र शेखर : यह इसका मतलब नहीं है। अगर चीजों के दाम कोई दुकानदार रखेगा तो दुकान नहीं चलेगी, यह दूसरा पहलू है।

श्री ए० एम० तारिक : आप ने यह कैसे तसव्वोर कर लिया। मिस्टर वाइस चेयरमैन, अगर मेरी दुकान है और सिद्धू साहब की दुकान

है। सिद्ध दवाई बेचते हैं मैं भी बेचता हूँ वह भी अमृतधारा बेचते हैं मैं भी अमृतधारा बेचता हूँ। वह अपने अमृतधारा की कीमत तीन रुपये रखें, मैं दो रुपये रखूँ तो उन की दुकान कैसे चलेगी। मैं कहता हूँ कि अगर अमृतधारा की कीमत दो रुपये है तो सिद्ध की दुकान पर भी लिखा हो मेरी दुकान पर भी लिखा हो। अगर उन की तीन रुपये है तो वह तीन रुपये लिख कर रखें। मैं दो लिख कर रखूँ। यानी मेरा मकसद नहीं है कि साहब कीमत मुकर्रर करो। कीमत मुकर्रर करना इस बिल का हरगिज मकसद नहीं। बल्कि सिर्फ मकसद यह है कि भरोसा हो कि जो उस में कीमत लिखी है उस से कम में वह नहीं दी जायेगी। कीमत क्या हो इस का बिल से ताल्लुक नहीं है।

श्री गोपीकृष्ण विजयवर्गीय (मध्य प्रदेश): यह तो सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट का काम नहीं है...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री अकबर अली खान): आप अब सर्टिफिकेट के बारे में कहिये।

श्री ए० एम० तारिक : सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट का सील के मायने हैं गवर्नमेंट का; अथारिटी हो जाती है। इसमें स्टाम्प का कोई सवाल नहीं आता। आप का अगर थोड़ा सा मुश्किल से इस्तेमाल है तो उस को निकाल दीजिये। और इसी के बारे में अगर वह सील सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट का काम नहीं है तो मैं आप की तवज्जोह प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब के एक जवाब की तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूँ जो उन्होंने लोक सभा में दिया १६ नवम्बर, १९६० ई० में।

"The Prime Minister, Mr. Nehru, has asked the State Governments through a circular that price lists of commodities should be exhibited in all shops."

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: This is based on the law, not on the sweet will of the shopkeepers.

श्री ए० एम० तारिक : इसमें सवाल ना स्वीट बिल का है ना ईल-बिल का है। मैं यह कहता हूँ कि इस मुल्क की खुद वजीरे आजम की राय है कि लेबल होना चाहिये

यानी सवाल यह है कि आप स्टेट गवर्नमेंट के जरिये कराये अब दिल्ली में चीफ कमीशनर से भी हमने फौरन करा लिया।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री अकबर अली खान): बहरहाल, यह कीमत का तन्त्रायुन गवर्नमेंट के सर्टिफिकेशन या सील की सूरत में हो जायेगा। कीमत का तन्त्रायुन जरूर हो जायेगा। यः गवर्नमेंट की जिम्मेदारी हो जायेगी। उसमें आपकी मन्शा नहीं है लेकिन उसका नतीजा यह निकलता है।

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: If I may draw the attention of the hon. Member, once you bring the label system in the manner envisaged—we never contemplated and I do not think anybody in the House who supported this Bill ever contemplated the meaning which the Mover now gives—but if that were the meaning then the ridicule will be so terrible that every man will say: "Here is something which is being sold at one price. What is the Government doing? Why are the two labels showing different prices?" It is automatically understood when the price label is there, that it is based on a reasonable content of the product and the price is satisfactory to the consumer and gives a reasonable return to the consumer. This is automatic.

श्री ए० एम० तारिक : मैं आपसे यह दरखास्त करता हूँ कि जिस मसले पर आपने ज्यादा जोर दिया है वह मसला लेबल लगाने से खुद ही हल हो जाता है यानी जिस बात को आप अपने लिये दुरुस्त तसवीर करते हैं वह चीज है। मेरा मतलब यह है कि मिसाल के तौर पर अगर चीनी की कीमत कुल एक रुपये दो आने मुकर्रर कर देती है तो उसके साथ ही अगर सरकार यह भी कहे कि जिस दुकान पर यह चीनी बिके तो उसके साथ ही निरख भी हो। बहुत सी दुकान पर आपने देखा होगा और आपने भी कज्योमर शोप शुरू की है। आपने देखा होगा कि बहुत सी चीजों का निरख लग चुका है। मेरा मतलब यह है कि जो खरीददार है उसका वक्त जाया न हो और दुकानदार को भी तकलीफ

[श्री ए० एम० तारिक]

न हो, यानी यह कीमत का निरख सरकार मुकर्रर कर दे। तो बहुत अच्छी चीज होगी। इसकी तरह प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब ने भी इशारा किया है कि हमको कीमते ठीक मुकर्रर करनी चाहिये। प्राइम मिनिस्टर की राय की मुताबिक पंजाब गवर्नमेंट ने भी यह काम शुरू किया था और दिल्ली के चीफ कमिश्नर ने आलरेड शुरू कर लिया है और इसके पेश-नजर यह हुआ है कि डिफेंस आफ इंडिया रूलस के तहत दिल्ली शहर में प्राइस लिस्ट शुरू किया है।

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: That is exactly under the Essential Commodities Ordinance, proper calculation of the prices and fixing them by the Government authorities with all margins, and so on. Therefore, the hon. Member may not mix up his other pet theory of some label fixing for whatever purpose he thinks it can serve. And what action has been taken in a deliberate way by the Central Government authorised under the Defence of India Act, that is the scientific method of price control in order to ensure the poor consumer that he pays the fair price of the product and he is not cheated. That is the whole explanation we gave; whereas, Mr. Vice-Chairman, I want you to understand that his point is that he thinks that by putting some label on a product he produces some character or some reliability. At least I have not been able to understand that what support I gave on behalf of the Government was for a scientific approach to this matter.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: The Bill does not preclude what the hon. Minister says is scientific or what he says the Government of India does. It only supplements what the Government is doing under the Essential Commodities Act and the Defence of India Rules. It only supplements. It does not put a stop to the good work that the Government is doing.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN): Mr. Tariq, I would like you to consider the speech of the Minister and the assurances that he has given you.

श्री ए० एम० तारिक : इसके बारे में मैंने शुरू में ही कहा। बुजुर्गों का कहना है और पंजाबी में एक मुहावरा है। यहां पर पंजाबी कोई नहीं समझता "अल्ला नेडे कि गुसुन्न नेडे"। एक देहाती ने किसी से पूछा कि अल्लाह नेडे कि गुसुन्न नेडे। इसका मतलब यह है कि खुदा तुम्हारे नजदीक है या घूसा। तो देहाती ने कहा "मुक्का" क्योंकि अल्लाह ताला तो न मालूम कब आयेंगे, मगर मुक्का पहले लगेगा। मैं वजीर सा ब के हुक्म को टाल नहीं सकता। अगर टाल भी गया तो छिप से मुखालफत खरीद नहीं सकता। लिहाजा यह मुझे मानना ही है। लेकिन मैं तीन चार बातों की तरफ इशारा करना चाहता हूं जिसके पेशेनजर मुखालफत की गई। मेरा पहला मकसद इस बिल को लाने का यह है कि जितना काम वजीर साहब या उनकी वज्जरत ने किया है उसको आगे बढ़ाना। और मेरा प्राइस लेबल उनके काम को आसान करता है, और आगे बढ़ाता है। जिन चीजों की कीमत मुकर्रर की है उन पर लेबल लगा दो और जिन चीजों की मुकर्रर हो चुकी है उन पर भी लेबल लगा दो। यह कहना कि इस के लिये बहुत बड़ा स्टाफ होगा, यह होगा, वह होगा यह तो हर चीज में होता है। मगर मेरा कहना यह है कि इसके लिये स्टाफ और चैकिंग की जरूरत नहीं है। मेरा कहना तो यह है कि जो लेबल नहीं लगाते हैं आप उनको सजा दीजिये। मैं यह नहीं कहता कि जो कीमत पर नहीं बेचता उसको सजा दीजिये। मेरे कहने का मतलब यह है कि लेबल लगाने का काम शुरू करो। अगर आपने कीमत तय कर दी तो यह बहुत अच्छी बात है।

अब इस ब स के पेशेनजर मैं एक बार फिर उन तमाम दोस्तों का शुक्रिया अदा करता हूं जिन्होंने इस बिल की तैयारी की

और जिन्होंने किसी कदर मुखालफत की उनका और ज्यादा शुक्रिया अदा करता हूँ। मैं वजीर साहब का भी शुक्रिया अदा करना चाहता हूँ जिन्होंने मुझे इस बारे में एशोरेंस दिया। मैं एक्स वजीर साहब का भी शुक्रिया अदा करना चाहता हूँ जिन्होंने बिल को इस एवान में यकलखत पढ़ा और इसकी मुखालफत करने के लिये खड़े हो गये। मैं इस एवान के उन मैम्बरान का बहुत ज्यादा शुक्रिया अदा करना चाहता हूँ, जिन्होंने इस बिल को सुना। मैं आपका भी शुक्रिया अदा करना चाहता हूँ और राज्य सभा के सेक्रेट्रिएट का भी शुक्रिया अदा करना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने मुझे इस काबिल बनाया कि मैं इस बिल को ला सका। इन अल्फाज के साथ मैं वजीर साहब के वायदे को और उनकी उम्मीद पर और तमाम बुजुर्गों की उम्मीद पर इस बिल को वापिस लेना चाहता हूँ।]

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN): Is it the pleasure of the House that the hon. Member, Mr. Tariq, should withdraw the Bill?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN): In view of the assurance given by the Minister . . .

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR (Kerala): Sir, before you decide . . .

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN): Is it a point of order?

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR: It is a point of clarification.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN): No clarification at this stage. I am sorry. In view of the assurance . . .

SHRI N. M. LINGAM (Madras): He wants to know what is the precise nature of the assurance.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN): He must have heard the speech of the Minister.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Unless we know the assurance, Sir, in precise terms, we are not going to say that the Bill be withdrawn. Mr. Tariq may be under the discipline of the Congress Party but we are not going to give the permission unless the Minister gives the assurance in clear terms.

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR: My point is that this Bill was introduced by Mr. Tariq. It came to the Rajya Sabha Secretariat. It was seen by very responsible people. Nobody felt that the provisions of this Bill were covered by the Essential Commodities Act.

SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY: They could have raised objection then.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN): Some Members did mention it, that it was covered.

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR: Before the Bill came up before this House it was in the hands of the Government. My point is that even though the provisions of this Bill are covered by the Essential Commodities Act, the way in which that Act has been worked has created in impression in the country, among Members of Parliament and even among Government circles that we are in need of such an Act. If this is the way in which the provisions of this Essential Commodities Act are going to be implemented then I think that we may have to say that at least this Bill, whatever its defects, may be sent to the Select Committee.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN): You are making another speech. You are not asking for clarification.

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR: I will come to the clarification. I want an assurance from the Minister that thereafter he will utilise the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act in such a way that its effect is properly felt not only by the Members of Parliament but by the whole country. If that assurance is there, then we will consider whether we will lend our support to the withdrawal of the Bill or not.

SHRI N. M. LINGAM: I would like a small clarification. The hon. Minister was pleased to say that any scheme of price-tagging must be based on a scientific formula for arriving at the prices. The problem, apart from entailing such scientific evaluation, means employment of a colossal staff by Government, and this august House cannot in a huff or out of sympathy for the poor consumer pass a law which will be a big burden for the Government to implement. We appreciate the statement of the hon. Minister, but then in the same breath the hon. Minister claimed that Government was engaged under the Defence of India Rules and under the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act in fixing prices arrived at after a correct appraisal of the cost of production, margin of profit, and so on. We would like to know what prevents the Government since it is very much seized of the matter—we are told that a Committee of Secretaries was dealing with this matter and that now a Committee of the Cabinet is dealing with the matter in view of its importance in the present emergency—what prevents the Government from applying the same method in fixing prices for important articles affecting the daily necessities of the common man. At best it may mean amendment here and there of the Bill sponsored by my hon. friend, Mr. Tariq. It is not his contention, as far as I know after following the debate, that the prices should be left to be arbitrarily fixed by anybody. It should be done scientifically in as comprehensive a way as possible to cover as many articles as possible, but since Government is also

engaged on an identical task, what prevents the hon. Minister from giving the assurance that a Bill of this nature, which will give statutory sanction to Government in place of the temporary Defence of India Rules, will be more helpful in meeting the needs of the situation? The clarification I want is only on that point.

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Are there other clarifications required? Mr. Vice-Chairman, I thought I had made a very comprehensive speech. The problem is very simple that this is a very mighty task. If the hon. Member reads the three clauses—it is not a very long Bill—he will find the absurdity of the proposition and the enormity of the task. Every commodity in every part of the country has to be labelled. For what purpose he now explains. We in common parlance understood that we should ensure the consumer that there is no profiteering involved but that he is safeguarded against any type of racketeering in prices. That cannot be performed in that way. The Essential Commodities Ordinance also has envisaged that articles essential to life, the few commodities that go to meet the needs of the common man, are ensured to him over a period of time according to a phased programme. That is the task we are engaged in. We cannot engage ourselves in the task of fixing the prices of everything, from a jet plane to wheat. We have fixed the price of wheat. We have fixed the price of rice and we have fixed the price of sugar. One after another, these basic commodities have been taken up and hon. Members are aware of the steps that we have taken and what we are aiming. It is impossible for me to give the assurance that for all commodities in the country the prices will be controlled, that the prices will be laid down for their distribution. But to the extent it is practicable the Government is doing it and that is the basic policy of the Government also. As a matter of fact, the price question is fundamental to planning

and a whole chapter has been devoted to this question of prices in the Third Five Year Plan. I need not elaborate on this any more.

As for what was contained in the clarification now given by the mover, I can assure the House that we have gone far ahead and the Government has achieved much more. I do not think character can be raised by labels, by labelling everything that goes into our everyday life. If every one has the authority to use the Central Government seal I may take the seal and put a price and two or three days later put another price. That may only satisfy a sophisticated feeling that the thing has been labelled. I am an humble student of economics and I have never known of price labels in this sense. Price labels in the normal economic sense of the term means an important measure by which the prices of certain commodities which are used by the common people should be controlled, and that is the object which we are having.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA. Sir, the hon. mover has said that he wants to withdraw the Bill which has own quite widespread support in this House and that he does it on certain assurances which, the hon. the mover says, have been given by the hon. Minister. Sir, I also heard the speech of the hon. Minister just now and what ever assurances he gave on this Bill in this debate were not clear to me. I understood the hon. Minister as restating the policy which the Government has been following all these years. He just now made mention of the Plan and we are now in the second or third year of the present Plan. So he has only stated what the Government has been doing. But that has been a failure as far as checking the price spiral is concerned. So it is not clear to me what are the assurances that were given by the hon. Minister, as I find that I am not alone in failing to understand the assurances which have led the hon. mover, who has made a

very eloquent speech, to seek to withdraw his Bill.

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI N. KANUNGO) Let him vote against it.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA. Shri Chandra Shekhar who spoke just now also wanted to know what assurances have been given. So it will be very useful to all concerned, to millions who will be reading the newspapers tomorrow morning to find out what the Rajya Sabha has done to check the rise in prices, if the hon. Minister would please categorically state what are the assurances which he has given.

SHRI VIJAY SINGH. May I suggest, since the mover seeks to withdraw his Bill, it is presumed that he has understood the assurances and so Mr. Arora can talk to him and understand from him.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR. The hon. mover has clearly stated that it was not "Bhagwan" but "Mukha" which was forcing him to withdraw the Bill. So that is the reason. It is due to certain pressure on him that he is trying to withdraw it.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ. No, no pressure. I am afraid of some individuals in this House who do not understand.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN). We have had sufficient clarification, explanation and assurances. So, I would like to know if the House gives the mover permission to.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA. Sir, before the matter is put to vote, I want to say that Shri Vijay Singh does not seem to properly appreciate the procedure in this House when he asks me to have a private conversation with another Member.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN). I can quite see. I think

[The Vice-Chairman.]
you can mutually appreciate each other.

The question is:

"That leave be granted to Shri Tariq to withdraw the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

THE COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1962

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN): Shri A. B. Vajpayee in whose name the Companies (Amendment) Bill, 1962 stands is not here. So that Bill cannot be taken up now. It will be held over.

THE REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1962

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951, be circulated for eliciting opinion thereon by the 31st January, 1964."

Sir, if I read out the Statement of Objects and Reasons attached to the Bill, the purpose for which I want the House to consider this Bill will be clear to the House. It says:

"Experience during the last three general elections has shown that in several cases the election expenses filed by candidates do not reflect the true state of expenses incurred by them on their elections. The law as it exists at present in this behalf seems to be not capable of effectual compliance. The proposed amending Bill, therefore, seeks to delete the provisions in the Representation of People Act, 1951, regarding the filing of election expenses."

Now I will hurriedly go through the provisions of this Bill. Clause 1 of the Bill is the usual short title, saying—

"This Act may be called the Representation of the People (Amendment) Act, 1962."

Clause 2 is the operative portion in which it is stated:

"In the Representation of the People Act, 1951 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), sections 76, 77 and 78 shall be omitted."

To understand what these sections say, I will have to read out these three sections from the Representation of the People Act, 1951. These are sections 76, 77 and 78 under Chapter VIII headed "Election Expenses".

"76. Application of Chapter.—This Chapter shall apply only to elections to the House of the People and to the Legislative Assembly of a State."

"77. Account of election expenses and maximum thereof.—(1) Every candidate at an election shall, either by himself or by his election agent, keep a separate and correct account of all expenditure in connection with the election incurred or authorized by him or by his election agent between the date of publication of the notification calling the election and the date of declaration of the result thereof, both dates inclusive.

(2) The account shall contain such particulars, as may be prescribed.

(3) The total of the said expenditure shall not exceed such amount as may be prescribed."

Section 78 reads as follows:

"78. Lodging of account with the returning officer.—Every contesting candidate at an election shall, within thirty days from the date of election of the returned candidate