

General of India thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. S-230/57.]

#### ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE DEVELOPMENT COUNCILS

**SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH:** Sir, I also beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (4) of section 7 of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, a copy each of the following Reports:—

- (i) Annual Report of the Development Council for Heavy Chemicals (Acids and Fertilisers) for the year ending 31st March, 1957. [Placed in Library. See No. S-213/57.]
- (ii) Annual Report of the Development Council for Heavy Chemicals (Alkalis) for the year ending 31st March, 1957. [Placed in Library. See No. S-214/57.]
- (iii) Annual Report of the Development Council for Internal Combustion Engines and Power Driven Pumps for the year ending 31st March, 1957. [Placed in Library. See No. S-215/57.]
- (iv) Annual Report of the Development Council for Heavy Electrical Industries for the year ending 31st March, 1957. [Placed in Library. See No. S-216/57.]
- (v) Annual Report of the Development Council for Light Electrical Industries for the year ending 31st March, 1957. [Placed in Library. See No. S-217/57.]
- (vi) Annual Report of the Development Council for Non-ferrous Metals for the year ending 31st March, 1957. [Placed in Library. See No. S-218/57.]
- (vii) Annual Report of the Development Council for Machine Tools Industry for the year

ending 31st March, 1957. [Placed in Library. See No. S-219/57.]

- (viii) Annual Report of the Development Council for Bicycles for the year ending 31st March, 1957. [Placed in Library. See No. S-220/57.]
- (ix) Annual Report of the Development Council for Pharmaceuticals and Drugs for the year ending 31st March, 1957. [Placed in Library. See No. S-221/57.]
- (x) Annual Report of the Development Council for Woollen Industry for the year ending 31st March, 1957. [Placed in Library. See No. S-222/57.]
- (xi) Annual Report of the Development Council for Art Silk Industry for the year ending 31st March, 1957. [Placed in Library. See No. S-223/57.]
- (xii) Annual Report of the Development Council for Sugar for the year ending 31st March, 1957. [Placed in Library. See No. S-224/57.]

#### THE APPROPRIATION (No. 4) BILL, 1957—continued

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** We now get back to the Appropriation Bill. Though I originally said that we would have only 10½ hours, we have extended the time. You are having nearly 16 or 17 hours. I am asking the Minister to answer tomorrow. So the whole of today you may take for this. But you have to sit through the lunch hour and exhaust all speakers whose names are given here. I have here 26 names before me. I hope that in view of the time-limit, Members would try to be as brief and as relevant as possible. Dr. Kunzru.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU (Uttar Pradesh): Mr. Chairman, the Finance Minister referred in March last to the difficulty of obtaining the foreign exchange required for the Second Five-Year Plan. He referred to it again in May last, but he said that whatever the difficulties might be, he believed that sufficient resources would be available for the hard core of the Plan. In other words, he thought that certain projects which were included in the phrase 'hard core of the Plan' could be carried through, while certain other schemes or projects might have to be left out. His last statement on this subject was made a few days ago in another place. The word that is favoured now by the Government with regard to the Plan is 'rephasing'. The Planning Commission and the Government are now engaged in rephasing the Plan. The Finance Minister, while referring to this, said that whatever the people spoke of the rephasing of the Plan or of the allocation or reallocation of priorities, it meant a little pruning was implicit in the re-examination of the Plan. Now, Sir, we should like to know what exactly this rephasing means. The Planning Commission may not have finished its examination of the question, but I think we can be usefully told on what principles the Government are proceeding and what is the extent to which a reduction is likely to be made in the cost of the Plan. I read a few days ago, Sir, in a Delhi Daily that it was being considered whether the fertiliser projects might be cut out of the Plan. Now the Finance Minister has told us that what constitutes the hard core of the Plan is the production of steel, mining, transport and power. Now, is the production of food essential to the carrying out of the Plan or not? Is it included in the hard core of the Plan, or has it been given a lower priority than steel and other things? It is very important for us to have this information because we can form our judgments with regard to the rephasing of the Plan in connection with the measures that are to be placed before this

House very soon only when we know what the ideas of Government on this subject are. They may not be quite definite. It may not be possible for the Finance Minister to state what the exact extent of the reduction in expenditure will be. But he can, nevertheless, give us a fair idea of what the rephasing of the Plan involves according to the present ideas of the Government. It is essential for us to know what are the things which the Government regards as unrelated to the hard core of the Plan.

At one time, Sir, we were told that all the schemes in the Plan stood or failed together. If greater industrialisation was needed, it was necessary that more food should be produced, that education should be spread so that people who can understand the latest technological processes might be available and so on. It is this that makes it necessary for us to ask how the ideas of the Government on this subject have changed, and what, broadly speaking, they propose to do now in a view of the shortage of foreign exchange and the danger of having recourse to deficit financing to a large extent. Sir, I referred a minute ago to the importance of increasing food production. Now, several measures have been taken by Parliament and by Government to make more food available to the people. The Essential Commodities Act was amended last year in order to give Government the power to requisition stocks believed to be hoarded by grain dealers. Then it was announced that India was being divided into a number of zones because it was believed that restrictions on the free movement of foodgrains would bring down their prices, and consequently lessen the temptation to hoard. Then, Sir, in addition to this, the Reserve Bank asked the scheduled banks to reduce the advances made by them for the purchase of foodgrains, because it was believed that the bank advances were being used in order to buy more and more foodgrains and hoard them. As a result of these measures the

Food Minister could say three or four weeks ago that the rise in food prices had already been checked.

Let us see first how far the production of food has increased and to what extent prices have fallen. I shall take first the production of food. The Planning Commission in its review of the work in the first year of the Second Plan said that according to the food production programme an addition in food production potential of about 2½ million tons was expected to be realised in 1956-57 and that increase in production is estimated to be of the order of 1.4 million tons, the total food production in 1956-57 being about 66.2 million tons as compared with 64.8 million tons in 1955-56. The statement made by the Planning Commission depended on the forecast made at the end of April by the Food and Agriculture Ministry. But a week later, the Food Ministry claimed that the production of food was not 66.2 million tons but a little over 68.5 million tons. That is, there was a difference of about 2.3 million tons in the two estimates made at an interval of a fortnight. I hope that the second estimate is correct, but the difference between the estimate made at the end of April and that made a fortnight later shows that there is something wrong with the machinery whose duty it is to estimate the production of food. These defects have been known for a long time, but I was under the impression that they had to a large extent been remedied, but I find that the present state of things is no better than it was. If you examine the statistics regarding food production from 1949-50 up to the present time, a suspicion—I make bold to say—is bound to arise in your mind that the estimates of food production are not wholly reliable. There were such rapid increases in 1952-53 and 1953-54 as to make me at any rate doubt the accuracy of the figures that we have so far depended on. I hope that some information would be given to us either by the Finance Minister or by the representative of the Food Minis-

try if he chooses to take part in this debate.

While on this subject I must say that in the old days it was an ordinary thing for Members of Government, for more than one Member of Government, to be present in this House during the Budget discussion, and for Members in charge of different portfolios replying to the statements made in regard to their portfolios. Now it seems that as Government has a large amount of popular backing, it thinks that it can dispense with this formality.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal): They have no moral compunction.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: I think, Sir, that the old practice may with great advantage to Government be revived.

SHRI J. S. BISHT (Uttar Pradesh): There are four Deputy Ministers present.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: It will be good if a few Ministers sit in this House during the Budget discussion. Ministers should not consider it below their dignity to listen to the criticisms of hon. Members even though they may totally disagree with those criticisms.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Moral compunction.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: I shall now refer to the question of prices. There have been fluctuations, but on the whole the upward tendency is continuing. I shall give a few figures to show that this tendency has been continuing for a fairly long time. I will begin with March 1956. The index of food articles then was 351.6.

SHRI P. S. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU (Madras): Why not begin from 1952 instead of 1956 and review the rise in prices since the new Government came to power?

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: As I have already said, there have been fluctuations in prices. At one time the prices went down to such an extent that

[Shri H. N. Kunzru.]

Government thought that it was necessary for it to take steps to raise the prices. That is all well-known to us.

SHRI B. B. SHARMA: (Uttar Pradesh): Because you are not an agriculturist, your interest is only paper interest.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: My hon. friend is completely mistaken. My interest in the food question is of many more years than the hon. Member thinks.

SHRI B. B. SHARMA: Because you are not an agriculturist.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: I believe I have taken far more interest than the hon. Member who has interrupted me.

SHRI J. S. BISHT: He is a farmer.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: I come back to what I was saying: The index of food articles in March 1956 was 351.6. In March 1957 it was 402.7, and on the 3rd August 1957 it was 445.9. This shows the need for caution on the part of the Food Minister in making statements about the future course of food prices. He said last year that the prices of foodgrains would come crashing down. He is still making some sanguine statements about the course that prices are likely to take. I suggest that in view of what has taken place so far, Government should not ignore facts and put out statements which, though they may serve temporarily the purpose of reassuring the people, will ultimately cause much greater disappointment to them. In this state I know that Government is arranging to get more food from outside. I have obtained a statement about the foodgrains purchased by Government abroad. Under P.L. 480 of August, 1956, the United States is to provide us with 200,000 tons of rice and 3.5 million tons of wheat. The total cost of this will amount to about Rs. 108 crores. But this is not to be paid for in dollars. It will have to be paid, but not in dollars. The pay-

ment for ocean transportation will however, have to be made in foreign currency, to the extent of Rs. 22.4 crores in dollars and to the tune of Rs. 20.2 crores in sterling. This is not all. Government have continued to make their normal purchases which are in addition to the quantity obtained or to be obtained from the United States of America. This normal quantity amounts to about 5.5 lakh tons. Of this 4 lakh tons will come from Australia and about 1.5 lakh tons from the United States of America. We may not have to pay the price of the foodgrains obtained from the U.S.A. because so far, the cost of the normal purchases of foodgrains in the U.S.A. has been met out of the T.C.M. Aid Fund. We shall, however, have to pay the price of the 4 lakh tons of wheat including freight which we shall obtain from Australia. The total payment to be made will be about Rs. 14 crores.

It is clear that in the present state of things, even if we tried to go forward with the Plan quickly, with the aid of the foodgrains obtained from outside, a heavy burden will be imposed on our finances and the payment to be made in foreign currency will not be negligible.

I shall now refer to education and I wish to do so very briefly, because there is only one aspect of education that I want to refer to today. But before I refer to that, I should like to ask for information on another point. I have heard, and I believe many other Members of Parliament have also heard that a national discipline scheme has been prepared by a former Deputy Minister who is no longer a Member of Parliament. I understand that this scheme has not been finalised. It is still under the consideration of Government. But I should like to have information in respect of two or three matters. Whatever the decision of the Finance Ministry may be, has the Education Ministry approved of the plan? Secondly, I should like to know what the plan is. I should like to know

what the scheme is. Will Government lay a copy of it on the Table? Lastly, I should like to know how much this scheme will cost. I have read various statements made in newspapers and some believe that it may cost anything between Rs. 30 lakhs and Rs. 40 lakhs. We are told that the need for economy has been impressed upon every Ministry and that expenditure is being cut down or postponed. It will, therefore, be strange, if such a large expenditure is allowed on a scheme the details of which are not known to the public. I have heard of the value of scouting, guiding and the N.C.C. from the point of view of discipline. But I have not so far heard of any scheme dependent on physical exercises or drill or anything like it, as having a high discipline value. Anyway, Sir, it is necessary that the Education Ministry should take us into its confidence and tell us what its ideas in regard to this scheme are.

The subject to which I really want to refer today is the state of secondary education. The Secondary Education Commission was appointed because Government felt, and rightly felt, that the condition of the secondary schools was far from satisfactory and that something must be done as quickly as possible, to lay sound foundations for education in this country by improving their standards. The Commission has made many recommendations with some of which, unfortunately, I do not agree. The recently started body called the All-India Council for Secondary Education has reviewed the schemes for instruction, that is to say, the syllabus, suggested by this Commission. I do not want to tire the House by giving details of this scheme. But one result of the suggestion of the All-India Council for Secondary Education will be to make general science and mathematics compulsory throughout the secondary schools. But it seems to me that both under the plan of the Commission and under that of the Council, it would be possible for boys and girls to finish their secondary

education without properly studying history or geography.

I know that they will form in a general way a part of social studies on which great stress has been laid both by the Commission and the Council but, is it right, Sir, that in our country, a system of education should be introduced which would permit boys who have completed their secondary education to be ignorant of the history or geography of their country? I should like to know, therefore, what the policy of the States Governments is in this regard. Has a uniform pattern been evolved or is every State following its own bent and prescribing a course different from that followed in other States for its secondary schools? Let me repeat, Sir, that it is of the utmost importance that the standard of education in secondary schools should be raised, that it should make the boys fit partly to receive vocational training and sit for competitive examinations and partly to proceed, if they so desire, to colleges and Universities. Wherever I go, the first enquiry that I make is about the condition of secondary schools but to my misfortune, I have so far been told everywhere that notwithstanding the scheme suggested by the Central Government and the expenditure incurred so far, the downward course of secondary education has not been arrested. I have been told by educationists in favour of Hindi in my own State that though the standard of English there has gone down, the standard of Hindi has not risen.

Lastly, Sir, I should like to enquire as to what is happening to the recommendations made by the Education Ministers' Conference last September that English should be a compulsory subject of study at the secondary stage and that the knowledge acquired by a pupil at the time of leaving the schools should be such as to enable him to follow the instruction that may be given in the University in English.

SHRI N. R. MALKANI (Nominated): But most Universities are thinking of having their own regional languages as the medium of instruction.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: I want, Sir, to have definite information from Government on this basis. The Education Ministers who assembled here last year represented their Governments. If they agreed to certain decisions, it was because, I suppose, they thought that their Governments would support those decisions. I am, therefore, justified in asking whether the decision of the Education Ministers' Conference in regard to English is being carried out by the States that were a party to it or not. My insistence on English does not mean that I am not in favour of the development of Hindi or of the regional languages. We all desire, Sir, that more attention should be paid to our languages and the treasures concealed in them owing to their unfortunate neglect during the British regime but we cannot, at the same time, forget that neither Hindi nor the regional languages can enable us to acquire modern knowledge. We have to know some language of an international character which will enable us to know the latest advances made not merely in science and technology but also in such things as economics, politics and sociology. From this point of view, from the point of view of the future welfare of the nation, of its ability to hold its own against the people of other countries, it is of the utmost importance that our boys should learn a modern European language and what modern European language can boys reasonably ask to be taught in this country than English, the knowledge of which exists in this country and arrangement for the teaching of it are yet to be found in every part of the country? I hope, Sir, that the Central Government will not neglect this question of fundamental importance and be able to tell us that it has taken steps to persuade the State Governments to follow a more broadminded and a more

enlightened policy with regard to the study of English and the standards of education in secondary schools.

Sir, I have spoken for a little over half an hour but if you extend your indulgence a little more I should like to refer to one more question and that is the question of the efforts made to create disorder and lower public morale in Delhi and Kashmir. Sir, when this subject was referred to in another place, both the Prime Minister and the Defence Minister assured the Members of the Lok Sabha that the Indian Army was fully prepared to meet any threat to the security of India. I am sure that their faith in our Armed Forces is perfectly justified. Anybody who knows anything about them will be ready to testify that in bravery and in their preparedness to meet any danger at a moment's notice, they cannot be surpassed by the Armed Forces of any country but, Sir, the object of the subversor, of subversion and sabotage in a country is to create dissensions amongst the people, to make them feel apprehensive about their future and thus lower their power of resistance to the enemy's efforts to commit aggression. In other words, Sir, indulgence in subversion and sabotage precedes the commencement of hostilities. Their object is to lower the morale of the people, of the Army, before actual fighting commences. It is not enough, therefore, to say that the Indian Armed Forces are prepared for any eventuality. What we have to be prepared for is to forestall the efforts of our enemies to create trouble in our country and to counteract the propaganda that they may carry on either in this country or abroad. It is not enough that we should treat what has happened in this country as an isolated instance. Sometime ago important secret papers were sold to foreign agents. I do not know whether that too was treated as an isolated event. I think, Sir, that it would almost always be safe to take these matters, such things,

seriously and to try to obtain adequate information about them, not after something has been done but before the agents of the enemy have been able to put through their plots in this country. That should be the real business of our intelligence organisations. It is not a police for the apprehension of criminals but an agency for collecting such information as will enable it to counteract the designs of foreign agents to create trouble. Now it is well known that there are three agencies that are working at the present time, to obtain information with regard to various matters. They are connected with the Ministries of Home, Defence, and External Affairs. Each of these Ministries has its own intelligence organisation. Now each may be collecting valuable information, but I do not know whether the information collected by one agency is available to the other agency. I raised this question, Sir, the question of having a proper technique for the investigation of matters bearing on the security of India and the co-ordination of departmental efforts, two or three years ago, but I do not know whether Government have done anything to improve the state of things that existed, say, three years ago. I think, Sir, that we should have a body like the National Security Council in the United States of America in order to co-ordinate the efforts of the three separate departmental agencies and, what is more, to plan intelligence projects. We should not wait to obtain information when we are in the thick of troubles, but we should plan intelligently in order to obtain such information as we think is likely to be most useful in the near future. The counteracting of anti-Indian propaganda not merely in this country but also abroad, I think, really is a part of the overall problem of Indian defence and it is vitally connected with the character of our central intelligence system. In view of the importance of this question I make no apology for referring

to it again. It is a matter with every country and every free country is, in these days, realising the power of propaganda, is on the alert and is putting forth its utmost efforts to obtain information beforehand regarding the plans hatched by the enemy, whether those plans be of a political or a military character. We all want peace, but let not our desire for peace make us disregard the hard realities of the present situation. We must do everything possible to ensure the safety of our country and one of the things to be done is to have a better type of intelligence organisation and to co-ordinate the efforts of the three separate agencies to which I have referred.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Thomas. I want to tell you that I have allowed Dr. Kunzru to go on because I allotted one hour for the Independents. Mr. Rajah took twenty minutes and Dr. Kunzru forty minutes. That does not mean others can follow that example. Now Dr. Thomas. You must be very brief.

DR. P. J. THOMAS (Kerala): Mr. Chairman, when the Second Five Year Plan was prepared, many of us economists had warned the Government that owing to the paucity of our resources and for other reasons also it may not be possible to work the Plan at that level. Unfortunately that suggestion was not accepted and now we have seen the consequences. Even apart from the lack of resources there are the various other difficulties in a country like ours without sufficient equipment to put through that Plan successfully. Anyway wisdom has now dawned upon our Government and we are now decided to prune the plan, to cut down some portions of it. But I do hope that the most important part of, the employment potential, will not be cut down. I mean that even if one of the steel plants is put off for a year or two the provisions made to tackle unemployment, to provide jobs for the unemployed should be stuck to.

[MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair]

[Dr. P. J. Thomas.]

It is well known, Sir, that unemployment and underemployment are the most serious economic evils of this country. We have been talking of tackling it all these years but with meagre results. Millions, nay billions, of workers in this country are underemployed and at least in some parts of the country several millions are fully unemployed also. This unemployment may not be the same as that of the highly industrialised countries, that is, factory unemployment. But parts of India, like Kerala, where I come from, there are numerous educated persons fully unemployed. They are active and ready to work, but no employment is available. How is this materially different from the problem in the highly industrialised countries?

Now my submission is that the Plan should make sufficient provision to mitigate this kind of unemployment. For a large part of the country, it may be true, the problem is chiefly one of underemployment. For example, the problem in parts of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh, is one of underemployment, not one of unemployment. But the problem is one of unemployment among the educated youths in the south, especially in Kerala, where many lakhs of youths who had spent a number of years in school are seeking employment. Well, they cannot wait. They want full time employment now, and they have been waiting for it for long. That is the state of unemployment in the part of the country I come from. The position is somewhat analogous to that in America in the thirties, when there was a great depression. Millions of young men were unemployed and they were brought together and put into work and training camps, and thus all of them soon got into employment again. In my State, Kerala, nearly one million people are unemployed. About half of them are young persons, out of school seeking full-time employment. They are

vigorous and active and are ready to work. Then there are also others who are underemployed.

What the Chinese Republic Government has done should be an example for us to emulate. What have they done? They have brought the younger persons together and organised them into brigades and put them into camps for work and training. They will all be soon fully employed. Camp life will make them disciplined and they will all soon become leaders in industry or trade. That is also what was done in America in the thirties, somewhat the same procedure was adopted there.

Now, indeed the Planning Commission has made some provision for work and training camps to face the unemployment problem among the educated persons. In my own State, one such centre has been opened and something has been done and probably there is one also near Delhi. My submission is that this tackling of the unemployment problem has not been adequately and vigorously pursued. We require many more things to be done than what we have been providing for. These young men must be put to employment after their training or after their orientation, which means there should be enough training for them and enough opportunities for them to get into production and when they produce goods, there must be markets also. Without a proper marketing organisation, it won't be possible for us to really tackle this problem. There should be a very active marketing organisation. We cannot succeed unless we make an ample provision for marketing the goods that they are producing.

This is also not sufficient; we must also provide for technicians being specially trained and then get them employed. Today there is a great lack of technical personnel here and it is one of the impediments to the carrying out of the Plan, but yet persons trained in some of the polytechnics are going about unemployed.



Why? Because there is not enough co-ordination between training and employment.

What is happening in other countries? Almost in every country, including capitalist countries, they always first find out how many persons are required in each particular category and then they are trained efficiently only in such numbers as are required with the result that everyone who is trained gets into employment in a particular factory or in a particular trade. They make an assessment of the capacity of each trainee and the day his training is over, his employment begins.

In Kerala many persons have received training in polytechnics, and a large number of them are going about unemployed. It is rather shameful. The whole point is we have not been tackling these matters properly. Merely opening polytechnics and giving them training will not do. We must have proper planning; we must have a proper programme. We must find out in advance how many persons we would require in each category and we should work according to that. Unless we make provision for the employment of persons who are trained, what is the good of that training?

Employment, to my mind, is the most important thing and I do hope that whatever may be the pruning of the Plan, most serious attention will be paid to this aspect, that is, providing employment to the people who are trained. Now, we are starting huge industries and we need technicians. It may be argued that when all the steel plants and power projects are completed, many will be employed. But how many? Only a few hundred technicians will be required. So many people today are starving; they do not have any work to do. Though I am living on a hill top, I find six or seven people coming to me daily asking for some help in regard to getting work. Their condition is intolerable. They must be given bread; you cannot ask them to

wait for five or six years. There is no doubt that there are great possibilities but we have to tackle the problem rightly.

Unfortunately, I have very little time. Now, I will take the question of food. Much has been said here about the question of foodgrains. It is not merely a question of producing more rice or more wheat; as my hon. friend Mr. Govinda Reddy said, we must encourage dry grains which are really more easy to grow and more nutritious also. Formerly people were eating much more of these millets and other dry grains than they do today. People should also get accustomed to take heavy vegetables. In our side we have plenty of such vegetables like bananas, jack fruits, tapioca etc. Now, what happens is, people go to towns and work in a factory or in a Government office, and then they feel that they must have a full rice meal. Formerly everyone produced the vegetables they ate but today they generally work for a wage or a salary and they are unable to produce these things on their own, and the result is things are getting very dear. In my opinion the idea of these people who are aspiring to have a so-called socially superior cereal like rice or wheat is not practical, because the growing of wheat and rice is much more expensive and difficult than dry grains. The land suited to these crops is limited; the expenses are also quite high. If we take to these heavy vegetables and dry grains, I think it will be cheaper. But we are not taking sufficient interest in them and therefore we are getting into difficulties today. Therefore my submission is that the Government must provide for a more varied diet which includes not only cereals but also fish, gram, vegetables and other things. The Government should also provide for canteens being opened near Government offices, near railway stations, near factories and so on where cheap meals for three or four annas can be had with sufficient food content but without too much of rice or wheat, but contain-

[Dr. P. J. Thomas.]

ing dry grains prepared in a tasty manner and heavy vegetables properly made into a curry. In fact the people should be made to get accustomed gradually to that sort of diet and this will improve their health also. In Western countries, e.g. in Germany I found that rye bread was eaten along with wheat bread. Therefore we should make our diet more varied and that will help us to solve our problem.

I heard my friend from Bengal speaking about lack of rice. Bengalis must have always parboiled rice. It is strange that people are speaking of lack of rice particularly in Bengal which produces so much of rice. If only they vary their diet, have more of heavy vegetables and reduce their intake of rice, they will be doing great service to themselves as also to the country; they will also be able to escape some diseases like diabetes. In my opinion a change in the diet habits is necessary not only for our economic purposes but also for improving our health. My idea is that in our diet at least one half must be non-cereals and even among the cereals, some of the dry cereals must be there.

Sir, I have very little time left, but I must raise one more point. There is a complaint that expenditure has been increasing considerably in the Central Departments. I who have known the Government of India for the last 30 years—fairly intimately for ten years—feel that that criticism is quite justified. We have been overgrowing. (*Time bell rings*) The staff have been increasing. If you look into the Budget statements you will find that there has been large expansion without much justification for it. And a leading Member of the Planning Commission has said that some Departments are building up empires. And more staff means greater importance. I understand that in this matter some of the Ministers are responsible because the Minister becomes

important according to his political position. Now, the Finance Ministry must keep watch over the expenditure of the various Departments. In England the Finance Secretary has got much greater power, but unfortunately here in India the Finance Secretary is not so powerful because a Minister with influence in the Cabinet can have his way.

1 P.M. We cannot afford to maintain these departments at such high level of expenditure. In the Southern States, particularly in Madras and Kerala, expenditure is kept down at a low level and the departmental staff are also much more manageable. Our Central Government has to be more economical. How long is Delhi going to grow like this? Personally I feel that it should not grow so fast. I find that over Rs. 7 crores has been provided for capital expenditure in Delhi. I do not want to speak about it just now. But may I ask—is Delhi going to grow like London in England? We want our federal capital to be rather like Washington in America. I therefore think that something must be done to economise our expenditure in the Centre. Any measures taken in this direction are likely to be followed all over the country. I would also say that such measures will reduce the feeling that the South is neglected and that the revenue from the rising taxes is being wasted in Delhi. I would, therefore, urge the necessity for curtailing expenditure as this is necessary for peace and contentment, and for creating a sense of equality and justice. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I would like hon. Members to confine themselves to ten minutes each. Now, there are four Ministers intervening and we have to find time for them.

DR. R. B. GOUR (Andhra Pradesh): May I request you, Sir, to kindly let us know when the Ministers are speaking?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Bhagat at 3 o'clock; Dr. Shrimali at 4 or 4-30; and Shri Krishna Menon at about 4.30 p.m. Shri Akbar Ali Khan, ten minutes.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I hope this time will not be taken from my quota.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Compress your points. Put only the points before the House.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: I shall do it. I give my support to the Appropriation Bill and I think it a matter of legitimate satisfaction that this Bill has been supported by all sides, including our friends on the opposite. And it is a matter of equal satisfaction that there has been equally strong criticism from the side of the Congress benches as well as from the other side. That shows that we are going so far as the Government's policy of the internal development and the economic prosperity of the country is concerned—in the right direction. Of course, in implementation or in matters here and there, there are differences, there are certain lacunae and defects which ought to be improved. I am sure the Treasury benches will take full note of the criticisms and remove the defects that are really there, in order that we may achieve the object as early, as efficiently and as economically as possible.

I feel that the Education Department in particular has failed in its policy and particularly with reference to primary and technical education. But before I come to that, I would briefly refer to some of the points that have arisen during the course of the discussions of the last three days. Now, Sir, I refer to my friend, Mr. Vallabharao. He has said that the labour laws are not being implemented; awards are not being carried out; and some other things. I would request the Labour Ministry to look into the matter and to give their earliest consideration to

this objection. But at the same time, in view of the critical stage, the transitional stage through which we are passing, may I appeal to all persons connected with labour and particularly to the Opposition, that we should come to a truce with labour and the Government for five years? That is my suggestion. Let us sit down, let us think over the matter. So far as Britain and the United States and the Western countries are concerned, they have got an industrial tradition which has developed for at least a hundred or a hundred and fifty years. So far as the totalitarian States are concerned, there is the whip and the fear of the Government. So, no strike, nothing of the kind will take place. So far as our democratic countries are concerned, neither have we been able to develop such virtues and such habits which would keep the labour and the Government in a controlled manner, nor have we got that whip which is in the totalitarian States. So, my suggestion that there should be no strike in any way and there should be an amicable settlement, I submit, deserves consideration of the Government as well as of the parties that are connected with the labour movement. This is essential for the success of the Plan.

Now, Sir, I fully support the suggestion made by Mr. Shiva Rao regarding the Government servants as referred to regarding Whitley Councils in England, but I entirely dissociate myself from the suggestion that he has made that prohibition should be scrapped. I wish he had imagined what misery the poor families undergo where they are addicted to these habits. It is not only on the moral ground, but also for the betterment of our poorer people that prohibition is taken as one of the cardinal policies of our Government.

Now, Sir, it is a happy occasion when I and my friends on the other side, Mr. Vallabharao and Mr. Raj Bahadur agree and I feel one with

[Shri Akbar Ali Khan]

them when they say that this newly born Andhra State is not being treated properly, is not being helped to grow and every time the big industry from the Centre either goes to Madras or to Bombay or to Bengal.

SHRI P. S. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Not to Madras.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: People tell us a number of them. So, I would emphatically say that Andhra also deserves consideration in matters of financial help and building up of industries. And I would request that at least the fertilizer factory should be given to Andhra State which fulfills all the required conditions.

Now, Sir, as regards the question of foreign exchange, a very dangerous suggestion has been made by Mr. Rajah. And the suggestion is, let there be a stopping of the benefits that the foreign concerns draw from our country. I feel, notwithstanding the taxes and all that we are doing to finance the Plan, we are in need of foreign investments. If you want the foreign investments not to be shy, and other countries to invest their capital, we have to be very careful in our finance policy. And the suggestion that the profits of the foreign investment should be stopped, I think, is very wrong and it is not conducive to the best interests of the country.

Now, Sir, coming to the question of food, my learned friends have said much. (*Time bell rings*). Not even ten minutes?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: I am also looking at my watch. It is seven minutes, not even seven minutes. Now, regarding that I would not go into the details. I would simply say that I fully agree with what Mr. Reddy and Mr. Naidu have said, with this exception that I think there

was a necessity of the 'Ashoka Mehta Committee'. Sir, we are not here to pitch the cultivator against the consumer or the consumer against the cultivator. We want the cultivator to get a price which would give him the incentive to cultivate. There is no doubt about it. But, at the same time, we want the other poor sections of the citizens also to get grains at a reasonable price. That is the only consideration.

SHRI P. S. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: And the Committee will solve the problem.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: No. It will give suggestions which will be finally decided by you and by me viz., by Parliament.

The other point is regarding co-operatives. My learned friend suggested that co-operative farming has failed in certain Western countries. I ask what is the alternative to the poor peasant who cannot develop his agriculture on his own? I mean, let us not go absolutely blind-foldedly either in favour or against co-operative farming. But, certainly, it is a thing which deserves very careful experimenting in my country also. I commend this to the people of my country and to the Government.

Regarding the primary education given, I am sorry to say, Sir, that on the quantitative side and on the qualitative side, the Government has miserably failed. Sir, we all know that there was a directive that there should be compulsory free education by the end of 1960. I want to ask the Education Ministry: What have they done? Even by the end of 1960, the percentage of children of school-going age, of 5 to 14 years will be 52 or something near it.

I say, as I said in my last speech, let us educate our masters. It is very necessary. Otherwise, democracy will come down with a crash. Now, on the qualitative side, we see

the syllabus and the education that is given is different in different States. Not only that, in some States, I have come across with the same old thing, creating hatred between the different communities and that is still going on in prescribed syllabus. If the Central Education Ministry cannot take this important matter into its hands and fully control the quality of training, what kind of development do you expect from your younger generations? If they cannot do it effectively, I see there is no justification for the Education Ministry to continue as a part of the Government of India. What I say is this. I know it is a State subject. But if the Government of India and the Education Ministry cannot control this tendency and give the youngsters a proper education, a right sort of incentive on the practical, the humanistic and the patriotic sides, I think the whole system will come down and it will be a very sad day for this country.

Now, as regards education Commissions, I am not going to refer in details to the Radhakrishnan Commission on University Education or the Zakir Hussain Commission on Elementary Education or the Mudaliar Commission on Secondary Education. But what I say is, all the recommendations except appointments of certain councils, have not been implemented. It is a matter which, I submit, deserves very serious consideration by the Government as the proper development of the mind of our young generations is most imperative.

So far as the technical education is concerned, there was a move that 75 per cent. of cost will be given by Government and 25 per cent. will be provided by the private donations. Now, they have cut it down to 50 per cent. I know—and I am sure, Sir, you know and my learned friends know—that everywhere huge expenses are being incurred on the art side. But so far as technical education

is concerned, hundreds and thousands want to get admission, but there is no admission in any institution. In the humble polytechnic that I got started by our revered President of the Republic last month, there were 400 applications and we could not take more than 120. Our leaders say that Russia is spending so much on technical education and United States so much. You have seen, Sir, in China that hundreds of engineers and technicians are trained. Let us tackle this problem here boldly. Let there be, for education on the humanities side, one University in each State. Let all the machinery and all our resources be directed to create engineers, doctors and technicians. That is the greatest need of the time. Sir, I do hope that the Government will deal with this matter very seriously as this is the biggest bottleneck in carrying out the Industrial development.

SHRIMATI K. BHARATHI (Kerala): Mr. Deputy Chairman, after so much of discussion on this Appropriation Bill, it may be futile on my part to attempt to deal with it in detail. I only wanted to rouse the House by inviting your immediate attention to the grave crisis that we are facing in our State, Kerala.

Sir, the weakest link in the chain of the Indian Union has been the smallest State of Kerala and I am really sorry to say that we had been a source of incessant headache to the Centre. Now again, Kerala forges ahead in head lines in newspapers. Of course, there is no doubt that we are facing a very serious crisis in our State which may even threaten the unity and security of the Government of India. But, still, some of us—nearly most of us—seem to react in such a way that one may be prone to think that we are not even conscious of the danger. First of all, I wish to invite the attention of the House to the very serious food crisis, nearing almost to famine conditions, in our State. I do not know whether

[Shrimati K. Bharathi.]

it is a deliberate and studied attempt to discredit the Government of India, by saying that, because of the attitude of the Central Government, the present Government is not able to provide people with food. Sir, in fact, the truth is the other way round and my complaint is that the Government of India has been more indulgent to the Red Government than to the previous Governments.

Sir, the present Kerala Government seems to be not aware of its own responsibility to provide foodstuffs for the people. They only want to shed crocodile tears over their own helplessness at the present set-up, because Kerala happens to be a part of the Indian Union. Because they are tied to the Government of India, they are unable to solve their manifold problems including the present food situation.

Mr. Deputy Chairman, after the creation of the Southern Zone, we, of course, know that the present food position is rather secure. According to the present estimate, there is a surplus of 6 lakh tons of rice in Andhra Pradesh which is sufficient to meet the deficit of four lakh tons in the three States put together. Kerala has a deficit of 2.5 lakh tons, Madras one lakh tons and Mysore .5 lakh tons. Yet, there will be a surplus of 2 lakh tons left. Sir, in fact, the previous Governments were purchasing rice from Andhra and other States in open markets at higher prices and distributing them incurring huge debts. They could not see the people starving. Now, the whole blame is dumped upon the head of the Central Government and the Kerala Government is satisfied by carrying on the propaganda against the Centre to mislead the people. Sir, I do not hesitate to say that it is not only the shortage of rice that is responsible for the present crisis, but also the inefficiency in distributing rice at the proper time and at the proper place and storing it also. The utter criminal neglect on the

part of the Government of Kerala is responsible for the present situation.

Sir, yesterday, Mr. Govinda Reddy was referring to the attempt on the part of the Government to spend crores of rupees to manufacture tapioca macaroni (false rice) instead of whipping up production of millet. Sir, millet may be more acceptable to the people of Kerala than this false rice which is really weeded. Nobody in Kerala wants this macaroni. But it is a pity that the 'Chhota Ministers' in Kerala stage demonstrations, whereas the poor victims of poverty, with hungry stomachs and sunken eyes, agitate saying "We want macaroni; we want only false rice." They display the red flag and show their fists and shout that they want only false rice about which they know nothing. Only they have heard something about it. Their Ministers say that it is good and tasty, if swallowed with milk, sugar, honey and what not. Sir, how can the poor man of Kerala afford to buy milk and honey or even good ghee? The poor man of Kerala may be satisfied if he can get rice gruel and tapioca seasoned with fish and vegetables. But one should really admire the skill of the leaders who make these poor victims shout that they only want macaroni. Yes, they can make the poor people dance to any tune that they play.

Then, Sir, another point that I want to bring to the notice of this House is that the present atmosphere in the State is wrought with fear and suspense. The Red Government had given many bright hopes and many assurances to the people of Kerala which they are not in a position to carry out now. They have to humour many many interests in the State. They can't touch the nationalisation of bus routes, forests or plantations, nor can they increase the bonus or touch the problem of land reforms which is so knotty. So, Sir, just like the *jehad* in Pakistan which we very

often hear, the Communist Government is crying *jehad* against the 'Haves' in Kerala. The attention of the hungry stomachs is now diverted to the question of 'Haves' and 'Have-nots' so that they can be fed on hatred, and it is rather shameful that the Chief Minister of that States does not even hide his 'partisanship' with the 'Have-nots' in the game. Is he there to preside over the liquidation of the 'Haves'? Then, Sir, if you look at the so-called heaven of Red Kerala, you will find that it is indeed a heaven for criminals and anti-social elements . . .

SHRI K. L. NARASIMHAM (Madras): Absolute nonsense.

SHRIMATI K. BHARATHI: From the reports that trickle down from the southern-most end of the vast country, it is very disturbing to my mind that murders, street fights and a lot of hooliganism are rampant there.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order, order We are not sitting in judgment over the State Governments here The hon Member is not justified.

SHRIMATI K. BHARATHI: Sir, in the plantations you know that there is so much unrest that even plucking and other operations are being held up now, which directly affects our foreign exchange position

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please do not criticise the Kerala Government You can describe what the position is there.

SHRIMATI K. BHARATHI: Sir, there is so much unrest in the plantations that all kinds of operations are held up That is going to affect our foreign exchange position That is the only thing which I want to bring to the notice of this House. If you are not going to allow me...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You can speak only on the Appropriation Bill.

SHRI B. B. SHARMA. She is talking about the law and order situation there.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We are not concerned with it It is a State subject

SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA (Bihar): Sir, although the law and order is a State subject, she is perfectly justified to speak about plantations and our foreign exchange position

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN. She can say anything about foreign exchange and other things, but not about law and order there

SHRIMATI K. BHARATHI: Every day, Sir, the situation in the tea plantations there is worsening, and this lawlessness in the plantations is going to affect our foreign exchange in an adverse way. Plucking operations are being held up there because of the Communist Government's *goondaism*. We pin all our hopes in our cherished Second Five Year Plan In plantations plucking and other operations are being held up because of the Government sponsored *goondaism*, and it will give a serious blow to our foreign exchange position There were murders committed by Communists in Vandiperiyar and now they are trying to blame some others for these happenings there Of course, when a party wedded to violence is in power, we cannot expect anything else

Sir, the other day, my friend on the opposite side, who is a very prominent Member of the Ruling Party from our State, was making some serious allegations against 'Catholic oligarchy' being responsible for the present unrest there Sir, I failed to understand him what he meant by that, but I wish to tell him on the floor of this House that in spite of 2,000 years of the so-called Catholic oligarchy, we were able to survive; I mean the whole of India and the puny little State of Kerala were able to survive. We can even be proud of the so-called Catholic

[Shrimati K. Bharathi.]  
oligarchy for the service that they have rendered in the field of education. I do not hesitate to say that it was because of this so-called Catholic oligarchy that we were able to present to the nation, nay to the world even, some of the finest specimens of human intellect. But what about the Communist menace which, within a short span of 40 years, has overrun or rather enslaved almost half of humanity? This House would decide is the real threat to society.

(Time bell rings.)

Sir, but for our Constitution and the Central Government, the Red Government would have done something very original and spectacular in Kerala. Of course, they are fully aware of this handicap. Even then, by a series of 'jail delivery' and withdrawals of cases against Communists and other aggressive people, they are trying to enslave the people by fear complex.

Within the short rule of four months they have broken the record in corruption, nepotism, inefficiency and immorality, even by Ministers. There are serious allegations of reverting Government officials who refused to oblige them. In fact, some of them have filed suits against the Government, Sir, these are the people who professed that they would clean up the Government machinery of corruption, nepotism, etc.

Sir, here in the Centre the Government of India are trying to eke out the last pie from the poor people to make the Plan a success. You impose taxes and super-taxes. These drastic measures are intended to make the Plan a success. But look at the picture in Kerala. The 'Chhota Ministers' and comrades in the countryside as well as in the towns thrive on graft. Sir, the Communist Party has organised corruption in a systematic way. One should really admire their skill in organising such things with a view to fulfil the target of raising Rs. 5 crores for the Party Fund to fight the next general elections, not only in Kerala

but in the whole of India. Of course, it is only a gesture of goodwill towards one's own kith and kin. The Party collected funds from all over India and abroad to fight the last elections in Kerala. Now it is their duty to provide funds from Kerala where they are running the show very cleverly, and in a magnificent way. Some of my esteemed colleagues here, who congratulate and hug our comrades here out of sheer admiration for their admirable work in Kerala, should know that this fund is raised in Kerala in order to fight them out throughout the length and breadth of India. Sir, a hug from the Communists has often meant death to the hugged—that is the established theory of our friends. I am not bringing forth fake stories or vile allegations against anyone. On the 26th of this month everybody knows what had happened in Trivandrum, the capital of Kerala. The atmosphere was wrought with threats of counter red demonstrations which would have ended in a clash but for the patience of the non-communist demonstration.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your time is up.

SHRIMATI K. BHARATI: Let me have one more minute. Trivandrum witnessed the biggest, well-disciplined demonstration, ever organised by anybody in our State against the undemocratic tactics of the communist party. I am sorry to say that this tremendous, well-organised, display of resentment against the Government there was escorted by red hooligans and of course they guarded the rear also. The result was that the demonstration had to face several attacks with mud and cowdung and brickbats. But the Communist Chief Minister very flagrantly exposed his own attitude when he said that "trespasses and such crimes are only natured in times of big changes". I do not know what big changes are taking place. He cannot ignore the people's wrath and determination. He can say that this was only a demonstration of the 'haves' against the "have-nots", and he does



not hide his own partisanship with he 'have-nots'. All dailies excluding the communist papers, have repeatedly exposed the lawlessness in the State. Even Mathrubhumi....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That will do. Mr. Bhargava.

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD (Uttar Pradesh): Mr. Deputy Chairman, recently we had the opportunity of celebrating the 1857 Centenary and the Tenth Year of our Independence. This should have been an occasion for public rejoicing, public enthusiasm, but I am pained to say that public enthusiasm was lacking. This should lead us to a searching of our hearts as to why, in spite of what the India Government has been doing for the last ten years, it has not been able to enthuse the public. We should find out what the cause is. The cause is not far to seek: the soaring prices and the high cost of living. We know the plight of the poor and middle classes. It has become almost impossible for them to make their both ends meet. If that is the condition, how can we expect any public enthusiasm on such occasions? Yesterday, Mr. S. K. Basu described the conditions of the poor in some districts of West Bengal. In some other areas also, as Mrs. Bharati was saying just now, the food problem is very acute. In my own State of Uttar Pradesh in the eastern districts, the food position is far from satisfactory. What we should try to do at the moment is to concentrate and see that the cost of living is brought down.

Yesterday Mr. B. Shiva Rao was talking about the relationship between Government servants and the Government. There again, the main thing which is standing in the way is the cost of living. When a man is not able to make his both ends meet, how can you expect the best from him?

The second thing with which the common man is concerned is housing. During the last five years we have not been able to achieve much in this

direction, but I am happy to find that in the Second Five Year Plan provision has been made for subsidies to industrial housing to the extent of Rs. 45 crores, to low income group housing Rs. 40 crores, to rural housing Rs. 10 crores, to slum clearance Rs. 20 crores, to middle income group housing Rs. 3 crores and to plantation labour housing Rs. 2 crores. In addition, we find that a sum of Rs. 8 crores is going to be spent on housing schemes for workers in coalmines from the Laoour Welfare Fund. In addition to this, we also find that Rehabilitation, Defence, Railways, Iron and Steel, Communications and other Ministries are also allotting some funds for this purpose. The State Governments are also doing their bit, and if all this is done during the Second Five Year Plan, I am certain that the housing problem will ease to some extent. But I must say that, as far as rural housing is concerned, not much progress has yet been made. The greater part of the population of India live in rural areas and we must concentrate on this. What I would suggest is that the Minister for Works, Housing and Supply should convene a conference of the State Ministers for housing, discuss this problem threadbare and try to accelerate the work in this connection.

The third point that I would like to mention is about health. We have not paid much attention to rural health schemes so far. What I would request the Health Minister is to provide for more and more mobile vans to move round in the villages and render such help as may be possible to rural areas.

Now, about education, we have been hearing a lot but something seems to be wrong somewhere. We are producing more and more educated people who are unable to find any means of livelihood. So, what I would submit is that more and more attention should be paid to technical education. Efforts should be made to see that unemployment comes down and more and more people find means of livelihood.

Now, during the Question Hour I have been listening to the replies of

[Shri Mahabir Prasad.]  
the Education Ministry, and it surprised me to find that many foreign scholarships which are offered to us from time to time are not availed of. I do not know where the defect lies. These generous offers from other countries must be accepted and provision should be made for our boys to go abroad, if they are offered chances by somebody else.

Coming to the Community Development Projects, in the other House the Minister for Community Development admitted that there has not been much public co-operation in his schemes. I do not know why that should be the position. Government is spending crores and crores of money on Community Development, and if all that money is being properly utilised, I fail to understand why it should not bring forth public enthusiasm.

Communications are the life lines of any nation. We find that even all the capitals of the States have not been connected by national highways. Efforts should be made to see that all the State capitals at least are connected by national highways. I am glad to find that an Inter-State Transport Commission has been appointed to find out the ways and means of developing road transport.

Then, coming to inland water transport, we find that in olden days there was a lot of commercial enterprise as well as other kinds of transport by inland waterways. This is diminishing from year to year. We must make efforts to make full use of the natural resources which have been given to us. I am happy to find that the Ganga-Brahmaputra Water Board has been instituted, to make full use of the Ganga and Brahmaputra waters. The Gokhale Committee has also been appointed for finding out ways and means of developing water transport.

Coming next to Communications, I would like to make a few observations regarding telephones. I am not doing this with the intention of criticising the Ministry, but I want to bring to

the notice of the Ministry a few difficulties experienced by the public in this connection. First of all, take the case of an application for a new telephone connection. In several cases, I find that for years no action is taken on the application. You are not even told the reason why the Department is unable to give the telephone connection. Well, common courtesy demands that at least the people are told why a telephone connection cannot be given. I understand that in certain cases telephone requests have not been entertained even when people have wanted it under the Own Your Own Telephone Scheme, under which you pay Rs. 2,000 and have a telephone.

Next I have got some complaints about wrong trunk call bills and in this connection I have personal experience. What happens is this. The man does not telephone to a certain place; but when the telephone bill is received he finds that he had made a call to Trivandrum or to Ernakulam or to Madras. Then it becomes very difficult for anybody to convince the Department that the call is a bogus one and it has been wrongly put in the Bill. In one case I myself got a bill for a talk with the Chief Minister of Kerala in Trivandrum. I never had any telephone call with him. When the bill came to me, I refused to pay. Then they threatened me that my telephone connection would be disconnected if I did not pay the amount within such and such a period. I brought it to the notice of the higher authorities and then a search was made. Ultimately it was found that it was a call not from my number but from some other number and I did not pay the bill.

The other thing that happens is the receipt of duplicate trunk call bills. Suppose you made a call in July and made the payment in September. In December or March, you will again get a bill for the same telephone trunk call. This puts one in a very embarrassing position, because if one did not keep the receipt he has nothing to prove that he had already made the payment. A lot

of hardship is caused to people by this kind of duplicate trunk call bills.

(Time bell rings)

May I have two more minutes?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes.

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: Another thing which is very annoying in this type of nuisance calls which we receive. You are sitting at the dinner table and the telephone will ring. You go and find that somebody is calling to find out if there is any girl in the house to whom he could talk and that sort of thing. This is very very annoying and I would request the Communication Ministry to find out if they can do something to stop this kind of thing.

Next, I come to the subject of shipping. There is great necessity to develop shipping in the country. If you look at the statistics, you find that in 1948 the shipping tonnage of the world was 8 crores. In 1956 it had risen to 105 crores. But in India the increase has been only by 2 per cent. At the end of the First Plan we had only a shipping tonnage of 6 lakhs and at the end of the Second Plan we would only have a tonnage of 9 lakhs. But in 1947 we had made a decision that we would try to have 20 lakhs tonnage of shipping. Therefore, the progress is very very slow and in a fast-moving world that rate will not do. I would request the Government to allot more funds for shipping. We find that at the moment we handle only 5 per cent. of the overseas trade. If we can increase our shipping, I am sure we can bring more money from foreign exchange to our country and save a major portion of about Rs. 100 crores—which we give to other countries.

Sir, I am surprised that during the last ten years, no attention has been paid for the framing of a Marine Insurance Act. We are still working on the British Marine Act. I would request the Ministry to take up the matter as soon as possible and bring

forward a Bill for the marine insurance business befitting the freedom and status of our country.

Sir, in my last speech I had made a suggestion about setting up a Ministry of Complaints. I am happy to find that that has found some response and my hon. friend Shri Chandulal Parikh in his speech referred to the appointment of a complaints officer in every Ministry. That can also serve the purpose if it is properly handled and I would request the Government to see if they can accept this suggestion.

Thank you.

SHRI J. C. CHATTERJEE (Uttar Pradesh): Mr. Deputy Chairman, I would like to make only a few observations since the time at my disposal is very very limited, and much has already been said on this Bill.

My first point is about corruption. People have to pay heavy taxes and observe austerity. We find in the administration itself fat salaried officers enjoying life in various ways, at the expense of the public.

For this purpose, there have been suggestions even for the starting of a separate Ministry but I do not think that they will do anything in this line. What is necessary is to make some laws so that corruption cases may be disposed of summarily and in an exemplary way. Recently, in the State I represent, I mean the Uttar Pradesh, there was discussion about corruption of high officials, rather the top officials, in both the Houses of the Legislature there and some important Members belonging to almost all parties there brought forward serious charges against high officials. There were even specific instances brought before the House. As a result of that, the Chief Minister was very kind enough to promise that he would personally go into the matter and see what could be done. That is one point. The other point is about inefficiency. I speak of these things because the House generally supports the Bill and there is nothing to be said against it but everything depends on the execution.

[Shri J. C. Chatterjee.]

As regards inefficiency, the Life Insurance Corporation of India is a glaring example. It was a very nice thing that the Government did in taking over this new line of socialisation, of nationalisation, of the insurance business but let us see what has been the result after one years' work. We see that the business has gone down so much that it is rather a serious matter for the Government itself. During the discussion on this Bill, I made certain suggestions in order to safeguard the situation and said that there should be provision for some Members of Parliament and some representatives of the different elements in this field to be included in the Committee. Practically, the method followed by them has been quite different because, the officials have been given the entire charge. Let us see who these officials are? The insurance companies formerly were owned by big business houses and they were utilising the huge amount of money for their own purposes and, therefore, the managers of these insurance companies were working rather as the agents of their bosses. That way they were getting very many privileges and those very privileged officials have been given charge of these insurance companies and they have been entrusted with this organisation. Therefore, we find that there is a conspicuous reduction in business.

As regards appointments and promotions in the insurance organisation, throughout the country there are voices raised against arbitrary appointments and promotions. We hear that a Superior Service Committee has been appointed by the Government for this purpose but the public does not know what the result of the work of that Committee is or what steps are being taken in that regard. There is less work and huge expenditure. When this Bill was being discussed, I pointed out how, though India is one of the poorest countries, still the insurance expenses in India were very very high, rather the highest in the world. My suggestion then was to reduce the expenditure so that people may have

the opportunity to go in for insurance rather voluntarily. Now the condition is quite the contrary and even the Insurance Act itself says that the expenditure should be 15 per cent. Whereas it is much more than that. There is another thing which is very dangerous for the future of insurance. In order to show business, attempts are being made to write off old policies and to issue fresh ones. That is very very harmful and everybody can see that. This way, on the one hand there is corruption and, on the other, there is inefficiency. In order to run our own administration on the correct lines, these two evils must be remedied and all steps should be taken without loss of any time.

The other point that I would like to mention is about rehabilitation of the East Bengal Refugees. Huge amounts are being spent for this and the money is being wasted because interested persons enjoy exploiting the miseries of these helpless refugees. This year, more than Rs. 22½ crores would be spent for these refugees but for actual rehabilitation, the amount spent would be less than 30 per cent. Though formerly it was the Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation, the name has now been changed and it is now only the Ministry of Rehabilitation but even then, number of people are being kept in camps and other places on doles and about ten lakhs of people are now spending their days in this way. Even though Government money is being spent, they are not being rehabilitated. There is one plan about Dandakaranya. Of course, it is not time yet to say anything about it because only very little information has been given out to us and nothing definite can be said on that but one thing that I would like to point out is this. If this Dandakaranya scheme is prepared for the rehabilitation of East Pakistan refugees, then one thing must be kept in view right from the start and that is this: This area will comprise of places in three States, Orissa, Andhra and Madhya Pradesh. For the present, the Government of India will take charge but what will happen later on?

That has to be thought out because those people are to be kept in a contiguous place and they must be kept in that condition for all times to 2 P.M. come. Otherwise there may be occasion when the Government of India would give up the charge and the area will be divided among three States. That should not occur. That is what I want to say.

SHRI BISWANATH DAS (Orissa):  
Sir, I thank you very much for having given me the opportunity on this question.

Sir, discussions of a budget and appropriations for the governance of India call for sympathy for the man who has to devise the ways and means. Sir, ways and means for the infant Republic are really difficult. The needs of an infant grow from day to day and so are our needs. Recalling to mind on this occasion Raja Dharma in Shanti Parva of Maha Bharata, the famous saying of Bhishma on this issue succinctly brings to our mind the difficulties of a finance minister. He describes in the episode of the gardener and the garden the beautiful story which ought to be a lesson for all finance ministers. Sir, my only regret is that a question of such dimensions should have been allotted 16 hours only for discussion in this House. It is a regret of regrets and I do not know what to say on this occasion, as a man standing from his place and have to speak for a few minutes thinking of India in terms of India and her development. I therefore confine myself to a very important aspect of this question, namely, the Directive Principles of State Policy. All the ways and means, a budget and a Plan, are necessary only to give effect to the great programme that has been embodied in our Constitution, and those are the Directive Principles of State Policy. Article 37 of the Constitution lays down that those Principles, though not legally binding on the Government, though not legally enforceable nonetheless they will guide the executive of the State, and they are the guiding stars, the load stars of any Government in matters of all legislation.

Therefore it behoves all of us, Members of this hon. House, to ask the Government to explain what steps, what practical and definite steps have been taken to give effect to those important Principles.

Sir, special commitments have been made in this regard in certain Articles. Let me illustrate. Article 40 says that steps be taken to organise village panchayats. I should have expected a note from the concerned Ministry or from the Finance Minister as to what steps have been taken in this regard and how far successful implementation has been carried out.

Similar is the case in the drawing of a uniform civil code. How far have we been able to proceed in this regard, of a uniform civil code for the people of India?

Sir, when the Hindu Code Bill was on the anvil, we were calling for a uniform civil code. A definite commitment has been made and it is for the Law Ministry to explain as to what steps have been taken so far.

Similarly have we stated that free and compulsory education, till the age of fourteen years, shall be brought into effect within a period of ten years. Now seven years have elapsed. You have got only three years more. We have given, without discussion, all the money that you have demanded. Now it is for us to enquire, friends and brothers and comrades, how far have you proceeded, what steps have you taken and what further steps are you going to take in this regard.

Sir, looking to the conditions and state of things, I find nowhere our goal. So I should have expected my hon. friend the Finance Minister, whose worries I realise and appreciate, should have given us either himself, or the Education Ministry should have explained to us the definite steps taken so far and the further steps they propose to take.

Then comes separation of the judiciary from the executive. Here again

[Shri Biswanath Das.]

we have taken on a definite commitment. Similar commitments are there in the Directive Principles of State Policy. I would appeal to my hon. friend and I will appeal to the Government to place before the Parliament a statement of facts in this regard so that it will be a guidance for Members and that will be a subject-matter on which discussions could be effective. Therefore when I make the initial observations on the Budget I feel diffident because the necessary materials are not placed.

Having said so far about the definite commitments that the Indian Constitution has placed on the Government, the Parliament and the country, let me go to the question of ways and means. A Government has to tax the people has to find the means to give effect to the commitments that we have taken upon ourselves. That being so it is not for me to object to taxation, any measure of taxation. I am here to support, to give him a blank cheque. My hon. friend from U.P. just now referred to the serious charge of corruption and inefficiency even among the higher officials. So we have to fight against this corruption and inefficiency that has crept into the services. It was there before, but after the swara, it has taken a very acute form. You are bringing a wealth tax. Tax, I don't mind. But what a handy weapon you are placing in the hands of the officers, who are characterised as inefficient and corrupt! They have to pry into private affairs, extremely delicate private affairs of individuals. They have to look into the ornaments of ladies, *purdanasin* ladies, who have not seen public life, who have not had anything to do with the public. They have to pry into so many things. Sir, I should have expected the hon. Finance Minister to enact certain other laws before he undertook this. For instance, the Indian law allows Benami transactions. Benami transactions are today an accepted principle of law in law courts. Now, what is the meaning of Wealth Tax when

you have got these benami transactions? Therefore, I should have expected the hon. Finance Minister first to come forward with a legislation to wipe out this law of benami transactions. This judge-made law, whatever it is, is a recognised system of law in this country. There are many things like that and he should have taken certain steps, he should have thought deeply, before he launched on such an important issue. Sir, in this House I have to state that I fully agree with the astute statesman—I mean Shri Rajagopalachari—when he put up a very strong opposition to this item of taxation. There are other ways and means open and those could have been thought of.

Sir, my time is short and I have to speak on other points also. Now, the hon. Finance Minister has stated that the Government and the Planning Commission was thinking deeply in terms of rephasing the Second Five Year Plan. For myself, I have my strong differences with the Planning Commission. I feel very sincerely and very deeply that they are not doing proper justice to planning. But whatever that may be, if there is a rephasing of the Plan, I think it should come up before Parliament. Emphasis that had been laid on certain aspects may have to be changed; priorities that had been decided upon may have to be changed. Certain items of expenditure in certain cases may be cut down; in certain items it may be increased. Therefore it is fair that such an important issue should come before Parliament. I would appeal to the hon. Finance Minister not to miss the opportunity, not to miss the chance of again coming before Parliament and placing his rephasing programme and allowing the House to discuss that question. I think that will be in fairness and fitness of things.

In connection with this planning, I think it is fair that I should record my strong protest against the question of matching grants. What is the meaning of matching grants. You have got an India developed very

differently according to the convenience of a foreign bureaucracy, of an imperialist State. (*Time bell rings.*) Take the case of Madras, Bombay and Bengal and then take the case of Assam, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh. Are these latter three States to find matching grants with a view to earning something? It would be absurd to talk of planning and reconstruction of India with matching grants. I cannot conceive it; I cannot think of it. To me, matching grants and planning of India will go together. You must either give up planning and have matching grants or you have planning and give up matching grants. What is the meaning of matching grants? You have got a system of allocation of revenue from important sources such as income-tax and the rest, on an absolutely artificial basis. Take the case of a paper mill in Orissa. Because the company is registered in Calcutta, though the raw materials come from Orissa, they are processed in Orissa and they are manufactured in Orissa, all the benefit goes to Bengal. Take the case of Tatas; the raw materials come from Bihar and Orissa. But because the company is registered in Bombay, Bombay gets all the benefit. With such a system of sources of taxation and with matching grants, where is planning? There is no planning; it is a misnomer to call it planning. Therefore matching grants must go and I would appeal to the hon. Finance Minister to wipe out this system of matching grants. (*Time bell rings.*) Sir, if I have no time, I will sit down, I will not inconvenience you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Fifteen minutes are over.

SHRI BISWANATH DAS: I will sit down.

SHRI VIJAY SINGH (Rajasthan): I thank you for allowing me this time when the House is so much pressed for time. On this Appropriation Bill to which I lend my support, we have been debating since the last two days and this is the third day of our debate.

Several important points have been made out by Members sitting on this side of the House as well as on that side of the House. It is therefore, I think, not necessary for me to repeat many points that I otherwise would have done. Now, I would simply like to point out to the Government that when Members of Parliament discuss in this House some of the measures that affect the public interest, they must be taken due note of; not only they must be taken due note of but they must be acted upon. What I find is, some very beautiful suggestions are made and we get the reply from the Government that due consideration is being paid to them, but they are not acted upon. This is therefore the first thing that I would like to point out to the Government, that I would place for the consideration of this House.

Now, Sir, in the short time at my disposal, I would like to deal with a problem that is now uppermost in the mind of everyone, namely, the problem of our economic progress. We have been hearing in this House about rephrasing the Plan and a very learned statesman and an elderly statesman of our country, Mr. Biswanath Das, has just spoken about this rephrasing of the Plan. We have been hearing about it in this House as well as outside. Therefore on this subject I would like to address myself first and would like to place some considerations before this House about what we can do and what attitude we should adopt. When we talk of planning it is not by ourselves that we talk. We are living in a competitive world. Whether you progress or not, the world is progressing and I think unless we are able to have economic progress in the country, the political independence of which we talk so much, will be curtailed to that extent. This is the hard fact of the situation that we must bear in mind. Now, just see what is the actual condition.

India is placed in Asia—an Eastern country. Another important country

[Shri Vijay Singh]

in the East is China and China is now well set on the road to progress and India is also doing the same thing. China has got a totalitarian form of Government and we have got a democratic form of Government. There is a competition between these two countries or rather I would like to say that there is a competition between these two ideologies and, Sir, time will show what India can do and what China can do but there is no doubt in my mind on one point that if we are not in a position to deliver the goods, if we are not able to make as fast an economic progress in our country as China will be able to do, take it from me that we shall have to bid good bye to democracy. Democracy must deliver the goods or we must be ready to be voted out of power by the people, because the people will not tolerate sub-human conditions in which they are living today. Therefore, Sir, when we are thinking of rephrasing the Plan—we must bear in mind the consequences that are to follow, namely, that we will not be able to have democracy in this country. This is the first consideration that I would like to place before the House. When I say that we should think seriously about the Plan, do not think that I am thinking that we should talk about the Plan in the language of a sacred book. I certainly mean that when we talk about the Plan we must see about the priorities and how they can be adjusted. For that matter I am one with the observations that have been made elsewhere and I crave the indulgence of the House to read a few extracts from the editorial of the Hindustan Times of 27th August. It says: For one thing more attention may be paid to production programmes in agriculture which are not tied up to foreign exchange availabilities. Especially in the public sector this enforced shift from heavy industries to food and farming may be a real and open blessing, not merely blessing in disguise. And further it says: By such intelligent reshuffling of priorities it may be possible to maintain the quantum of

aggregate economic development at a fairly high level despite the holding up of expansion in particular sectors by foreign exchange scarcity. The Planning Commission may still save the greater part of the Plan if it sets about its current job of reassessment along the lines suggested here. Therefore, in my opinion, this reappraisal of our resources and readjustment is, of course, possible. But so far as the question is concerned that we must curtail the Plan or we must extend it for a longer number of years it is, in my opinion, absolutely ruled out. Now, with this consideration before us, I think, we should discuss about the various aspects of the Plan. But the time at my disposal is not sufficient and I would like to deal with only one or two aspects of the Plan, and I shall show how we can do so. But in this connection I would like firstly to refer to that statement of the Planning Commission wherein they say that there is a hard core of the Plan. Among the hard core of the Plan, production of steel, etc., is included. In this connection, I would like to say that we also include the problems of food, because food is also the core of the Plan; in an agricultural country like India the problem of food must get prior consideration. It passes our comprehension to note that a country in which eighty per cent. of the people are in the agricultural field, we still import food from outside. This sort of economy would never lead to great progress. Therefore, the problems of food must be included in the hard core of the Plan. In that respect I am one with Dr. Kunzru. But there is one other observation that Dr. Kunzru made before us today when he was speaking about education. He said that we can do away with the programme which is called the "national discipline scheme." I can never understand.....

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: That was not the question.

SHRI VIJAY SINGH: That was not the question, but he made a reference



to it. Now, Sir, I fail to understand that an astute man like Dr. Kunzru, who is also intimately associated with the problem, with the boy scouts movement and the girl guides movement, should think like that. I think that whatever technical progress we may have, whatever educational progress we may have, the first thing that we need in the country is discipline. Discipline is the first thing that we lack today. We find students movement everywhere. Now, I come from Rajasthan. Recently there was a movement of the students. It was a very ugly movement and when I think of that movement, my head is hung in shame. Therefore, the first thing for us is to think of inculcating the right sort of discipline in the younger generation.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: But they should be susceptible in that case.

SHRI VIJAY SINGH: Well, the hon. Member should not provoke me to say some thing which I think will not be pleasant to him. (Time bell rings.) Two minutes more, I think.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes.

SHRI VIJAY SINGH: In this connection I would like to point out that this is not a new scheme before us. We have been hearing about the schemes since long and the scheme has proved a great success. I think that we should all emulate this scheme, rather than be stubborn on it.

Then, there are two other aspects about which I would like to say something. There is the problem of housing. Mr. Mahabir Prasad Bhargava just mentioned about the problem of housing, but I do not agree with him in this respect. I think the problem of housing can wait. In fact, it is one of my complaints that we are erecting too many luxurious buildings in Delhi and elsewhere and the hard money that we can save by stopping such programmes can be utilised elsewhere. About the schemes of the Ministry of

Works, Housing and Supply we can wait and the amount that we can save from them can be utilised elsewhere.

Then, about transportation I would like to say one or two words. Transportation consists of three parts—railways, roads and shipping. About railways we heard last time, a few days ago the hon. Railway Minister speaking here, that so far as the Second Five Year Plan is concerned, the railways mean to adhere to that and to that extent I think we must all be grateful to the Railway Ministry. So far as shipping is concerned, it is a long-term programme. We cannot expect any immediate results in that because we are in infancy. So far as this aspect about roads is concerned, I have got one suggestion to offer and that is that in this programme of constructing roads we should not depend so much on the money aspect but upon the voluntary contribution of the people as well. I am just offering one suggestion that the Government provides adequate machinery and tools and necessary engineering skill also, and then the people in the districts would co-operate with 'shramdan', etc. and construct roads, because we have got tremendous manpower in the country. To depend only upon the incentive of money for the construction of some valuable roads that we want is, I think, not very correct. And if we just prepare our Plan on this scheme, enthuse public opinion in this respect, we can do a lot.

Now, Sir, my time is limited, but the last thing that I would like to say—about which I have spoken in this House before and about which various Members have spoken in the other House also—is that we must pay proper attention to the industrial backwardness of certain States. It has been said the strength of the chain is the weakest link. There are several weak links in our India, in the industrially backward States. Rajasthan is one of them. We must pay proper attention to the industrialisation of these States also. Otherwise, it will

[Shri Vijay Singh.]

all be a lopsided development. In our country some States like Bombay will be richer industrially and some other States will remain poor. Regarding Rajasthan we have been pressing for a fertilizer factory. It was not given to us. Then, Sir, there is the question that the fertilizer factory will be located elsewhere. On behalf of Rajasthan, which is rather a very backward and poor country, I plead with the Government of India that due consideration should be given to the progress of Rajasthan and allot us some funds for our industrialisation.

There are many other things, but I think my time is over. I thank you.

SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA: Mr. Deputy Chairman, I wish to remind you of the debate that we had on the last day of the last session, when the hon. Food Minister gave all kinds of assurances and promises to this House and said that the measures that we were adopting on that day, with the help of that measure he would bring down the prices toppling down.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY) in the Chair.]

But I find that he has not been able to back up his promises and assurances by good deeds. The Reserve Bank of India Bulletin will show to you that the food prices have been going up day by day. On June 29, they stood at—I am talking of the food articles, index number of wholesale prices—109·3; on July 27, 111·7. On July 28, 1956 it was 102·6. You will find that the prices have been going up from week to week, and now the prices are up by 9·1 points since July last year. These figures are also a bit misleading because the official index now has its base year 1952-53; whereas if you compare these figures of today with the base year of 1939 you will find that the prices have gone up by 18·4 per cent. Now, this is telling very hard upon the people. I feel that the inflationary trend is in full swing. But this is all-India figure.

But there are pockets where conditions are much worse than what the general picture shows. It has been referred to in this House by several hon. Members from various sections that the position in the Eastern U.P. is very bad. Food prices are not only very high, but people have no purchasing power even to purchase the food that is offered to them through fair-price shops. Of course, I maintain that those fair-price shops are not enough. But even when they are there, people are not in a position to purchase food from them because this area has been suffering from a continuous failure of crop which is the main industry there, for a number of years and nothing has been done to ameliorate the conditions of people there.

We all know that Shri Genda Singh, a leader of our Party, has undertaken a fast to bring to the notice of the Government of Uttar Pradesh and also the Central Government this state of affairs there, to the fast deteriorating conditions prevailing there. Now, I do not want to go into the debate that is going on between him and the Chief Minister about the necessity of appointing a Commission, but the fact remains that whatever steps have so far been taken there, have proved abortive and we must have other remedies to restore the confidence of the people and to bring relief to them. The least that the Government of India could do is to refer to the Ashok Mehta Committee this question whether, in regard to pockets where there is a recurring distress on account of failure of crop not only in the eastern districts of U.P. but in other parts of India as well, they could suggest any special remedies. We are aware of this fact that there are pockets in this country which suffer more or less year after year from crop failure. My State is one of them. A part of the State suffers from drought and the other parts suffer from flood. This story has been going on for a number of years, for three or four years now. There are food shortages in West Bengal and in South India

as well. So, cannot the Government of India refer to this Committee which is investigating this question, whether any special provision should be made for those areas which are suffering from year to year from such acute food shortage and failure of crop?

The other point that I would like to draw your attention is the serious situation created by our imports, in the matter of foreign exchange. If you refer to the Planning Commission's Report, you will find that the planners had given a position of import and export that should be achieved in the various years of the Plan period. They have given the position year by year. Now, what I find is, in the very first year of the Plan, the imports have gone up to Rs. 1,076.5 crores, whereas the provision in the Plan was only for Rs. 783 crores. Now, the hump of the import during the three years of the Plan was in the third year, that is, Rs. 796 crores. Now, in the first year of the Plan even, we have exceeded the hump. The planners never anticipated in any year of the Plan period such a huge import. On the other hand, what we find is that exports have gone down even as compared to last year. Of course, the Finance Minister could say that the export is up as compared to what has been envisaged in the Plan during the first year. But the fact remains that exports during the year 1956-57 have gone down as compared to those in the year 1955-56.

We all know, Sir, that even if we want a slight increment here or there in the allocations, in the Budget reallocations, the Ministers come forward and say that they would refer the matter to the Planning Commission before they could make any commitments. Quite rightly. Sir, I would like to know whether the Planning Commission was consulted for such a huge deviation from the Plan programme. The imports have been 300 per cent. up, more than what was envisaged. I could imagine 10 or 20 or 25 per cent. deviation in the matter of implementation. But this out-

rageous deviation of 300 per cent. I could not imagine.

Sir, the planners had anticipated that we shall have an adverse balance of trade to the tune of Rs. 109.5 crores, whereas we are now having an adverse balance of trade of Rs. 210 crores. I am quoting this from the Reserve Bank of India Bulletin, July 1957, and they have also shown how this has happened. They write:

"The operational as distinguished from the analytical cause of the change from surplus to deficit...."

They have compared it with the year 1955-56.

"....could be traced to the larger volume of import licences which were issued during 1956 and the effect of which is likely to extend beyond April 1957."

The story is not over. We shall continue to suffer in the coming years as well on account of the mistakes committed in the past. Sir, my esteemed friend, Shri T. T. Krishnamachari, as Minister for Commerce, sowed the wind, now, as Minister for Finance, he must reap the whirlwind.

(Interruptions.)

What I say is this. Unless we set right this imbalance that is taking place in our foreign trade, we cannot put through the Plan that we have set before us. I have also examined in detail the import figures of that year and I find "other" categories of goods, no mention of name is made—they must all be consumer goods, unimportant goods. Therefore, there is no separate categorisation. Under the heading 'Others', they say the import is Rs. 266 crores. That is to say, a rise of about Rs. 126 crores over the previous year. If you see the Second Plan average for this item, that is, 'Others', it is only Rs. 140 crores. So, I do not know how import licences were issued for such non-essential items to the tune of Rs. 266 crores, much above the previous year and

[Shri Rajendra Pratap Sinha.]

much above what was provided for in the Plan. Here also, we do not know whether consultation with the Planning Commission took place or not. The Finance Minister should be able to explain this to us. For even very small items they say that they must consult the Planning Commission and then only they can commit the Government for expenditure. But how these deviations have taken place? You can also see, Sir, that cutlery, hardware and electric goods are up by Rs. 24 crores—up in the sense that it is more than what was envisaged under the Plan. You will find that non-essential items have been imported more than they were planned for or permitted by the planners. I find that the Government of India has taken a very great risk with regard to the foreign component of our Plan which is failing because they are not getting adequate foreign aid and foreign assistance which they had envisaged in the Plan. They had kept it at Rs. 800 crores. But this year you will find that the provision is far less than the average. When we are not going to get the required amount of foreign exchange by way of foreign assistance or loan as provided in the Plan, the only alternative for us is to earn foreign exchange. That we can only do by boosting up our exports. When we are not having foreign assistance and loans, then every effort should be made to boost up our exports more than what they have been planned for, if we want to carry through our Plan, because the foreign exchange component of our Plan is a very big item.

Now I find, Sir, that even a ruined country like West Germany has come up after the war, and it is now a creditor nation. Here I find in this Report that the adverse balance of trade with the O.E.C. country is very much more—Rs. 200 crores more as compared to other sterling areas. The adverse balance with sterling area is Rs. 125 crores and with the dollar areas Rs. 177 crores only. The exports of Germany have been going up, and

we should try to find out how they have achieved this remarkable progress. Similarly, we must also do our best to export commodities. For that, we have got to improve our production, and even if it comes to the question of subsidising our exports, we should do it in order to earn foreign currency which we need very badly. Sir, for want of time I cannot go into all these details, but I have only referred to it as one of the points.

Now, Sir, with regard to the contribution by the States, it has been mentioned in the Plan how the State must contribute towards this overall figure of Rs. 4,800 crores, now increased by another Rs. 500 crores towards the developmental expenditure. Now we have not as yet been able to get a consolidated statement as to how the States are faring this year. But from the present reports the impression that I gather is that the only State which has given a balanced budget—not only a balanced budget, but a surplus budget—is the State of Kerala run by the Communist Party. We must give the devil his due. That is the only State which has given a surplus Budget, and no other Congress Government has given a surplus Budget, and naturally therefore they will come with a begging bowl to the Centre to meet their deficits. Now this is a very serious matter. If you refer again to the Plan, Sir, you will find that they have anticipated that the non-developmental expenditure will be kept at the same level which was there in the year 1955-56. The defence expenditure also, they have said, will be kept at the same level as in the year 1955-56. We find that the civil expenditure and the defence expenditure have both gone up by practically cent. per cent. We do not know how much out of that expenditure is for non-developmental purposes. We know that it is for non-developmental purposes, but that is not covered under the Plan. There is no statement from which we can find that this expenditure is for development or non-development civil works. It is very difficult for us to find that

out. And we do not know whether the Central Government is also keeping according to the Plan or not.

Now, Sir, I would like to say a word or two about the transport requirements of our country. We all know, Sir, that the Railways cannot cope with our transport requirements, even when the Railways have received a disproportionately large patronage for so long, as compared to the other forms of transport. I would like to make it perfectly clear, Sir, that I want the Railways to develop and the Railways should increase their operations very much in order to meet the demands on them. I do not want to whittle down anything that is given to the Railways. But at the same time I would like that all that is necessary in order to help and develop the other means of transport should be done. Now, Sir, we find that road transport has not received the attention that it ought to have received during the previous years. And it is very important that we must develop our road transport, if we want that the entire requirements of the transport of our developmental economy should be met. Now, Sir, by the end of the Second Five Year Plan Rs. 700 crores will be the total expenditure on roads and national highways. Now I understand, Sir, that 56 major bridges will still be left unconstructed by the end of the Second Five Year Plan, and for this purpose they require only Rs. 40 crores. Now, Sir, full utility cannot be available of the Rs. 700 crores, or the total mileage of 13,800—national highways—cannot be fully utilised, unless these bridges are constructed. Now, Sir, Rs. 40 crores is a paltry sum as compared to the whole developmental expenditure, and in order that the road transport may play its full role, I think, Sir, that Rs. 40 crores should be made available to construct these bridges by the end of the Second Five Year Plan.

Then, Sir, my other contention is that we had, before the elections, enacted the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, but we have not yet form-

ed the Inter-Transport Commission which is to be charged with the development of road transport. It is imperative that this body should be immediately formed and entrusted with the task of implementing the various schemes with regard to road transport.

Now, Sir, the other point that I would like to discuss is this. We have given an assurance to the goods transport units that they will not be nationalised till the end of the Second Five Year Plan. Now two years have practically gone and only three years are now left. But the Inter-Transport Commission has not yet been formed. It is imperative therefore that this assurance should be extended till the end of the Third Five-Year Plan, if they really want the constitution of viable units.

Now there is one more thing with regard to inter-State Sales Tax, for which legislation was passed by this House some time ago. Now, Sir, an assurance was given by the leaders of the Government on various occasions that the Sales Tax on various important items will be merged with the excise duties on commodities like sugar, cotton and tobacco. Now I would like to draw your attention to the serious difficulties to which the trade and the people are being put on account of the vagaries of the different Sales Tax laws in different States. I will give you only one example. The Sales Tax charged on sugar exported from U.P. to Punjab, to a registered dealer is at 1 per cent. But if it goes to an unregistered dealer, it is charged at the rate of 6-1/4 per cent. But in Delhi State there is no Sales Tax on sugar. Therefore what is happening is this. All this sugar from U.P. is coming to Delhi at 1 per cent., and from here it is going to everybody, whether registered or unregistered, in Punjab at 1 per cent., thereby causing harm to the exchequer of the U.P. State, and in some cases in Punjab also, and at the same time, ruining the trade. Apart from that, it causes unnecessary traffic bottlenecks. Sugar comes to Delhi first and then it

[Shri Rajendra Pratap Sinha.]  
is moved by rail or road to Punjab. So, if the sales tax is not rationalised, it is having adverse effects not only upon the trade but also upon the transport services of our country. We know how our transport services are strained, and we should not do anything which will further strain the transport services. Thank you.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I was not here, but I was told that the hon. Shrimati Bharati had something to say about the Kerala Government. I am very pained because I wish that she had not lent her tongue to the kind of falsehood and calumny that was uttered by her. After all, it is not for a good lady to lend her tongue to such things and to acquire attributes which by no means can be considered ornaments on their part.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA (Bihar): On a point of order. I am told that at the end of Mrs. Bharati's speech the Deputy Chairman remarked that her observations with regard to the Kerala Government were not very relevant. So, in the light of that observation, is my hon. friend justified in replying to an irrelevant criticism or irrelevant remark?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Not only falsehood emanates from there but also irrelevance. I am very glad that the Supreme Court lawyer takes up such things. It gives me an opportunity to say something which otherwise I would not have said.

Now, I would like to make a few observations in the time allotted to me, but before I deal with the most important subjects, viz., economic questions and finance, I would like to touch on two other subjects of some importance to the country. At the very beginning I would like to say that we are extremely sorry that the Government of India did not take any interest at all in ensuring that political amnesty to all the political prisoners in the country was granted on the

great occasion of the 1857 Centenary. I know that the matter belongs to the State, but it is within the powers of the Central Government to advise the President to order such amnesty and prevail upon the State Governments so that amnesty was granted. Still today there are 20 political prisoners in Madras State, about 50 in the West Bengal Jails; in various other jails also there are political prisoners who have been there for six or seven years now. I wish that the Government viewed the matter from a larger political angle and not in the light of police reports, nor in the spirit of a vendetta, and on an occasion like this, the 1857 Centenary, which does not come every other day, or every other year, a gesture on their part would have brought lustre to them, when we are commemorating the Great Rebellion of 100 years ago. I wish that the Prime Minister of the country, before whom the matter has been placed by our Party, would give a sympathetic, human and political consideration to this so that before long all the political prisoners in the country will be out. In this connection, I am also sorry to state that one of the Members of the other House, Mr. Kansari Halder, is now in jail and a prosecution has been started against him on charges which emanated in 1948 and 1949. I do not wish to go into the merits or the demerits of the case. But was it not possible for the Government of India to show that much largeness of heart to see that the prosecution was dropped? After all, remember that he has come to Parliament from a constituency where he obtained 2,48,000 votes and was returned from the very place to which the charges in point of place relate. The people there do not think that he is a criminal to be hauled up before a court.

SHRI D. A. MIRZA (Madras): Is this all relevant to the discussion? This is an Appropriation Bill and the matter he is raising is *sub judice*.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I am not dealing with that. I do not know if

the hon. Member is a lawyer, but I wish he had been there for some time. I am not dealing with a matter which is *sub judice*. I made it very clear that I was not going into the merits or demerits of the case. But it is always within the powers of the Government under the Criminal Procedure Code to drop a case. It is always within the powers of the Ministry concerned to drop such a case. I speak from that angle. I wish that the case was dropped and the chapter was closed. After all, remember that 2,50,000 people who voted for Mr. Kan-sari Halder did not take him to be a criminal to be placed before a court of law, charge-sheeted and tried, which is being done after 7 or 8 years of the incidents with which he has been charged. I request the Government of India to consider the matter.

Then, I pass on to another subject. Here I would deal with the Home Ministry. Our Home Ministry is very, very allergic to our criticism. Sometimes it shows unusual enthusiasm when it comes to dealing with mass movements. In this country, the Catholic Church, which has been enjoying all kinds of advantages and privileges, had been carrying on not only all kinds of wrong religious propaganda but also indulging in downright politics, and I think that when this kind of activity is indulged in by a Church in our country, it becomes the duty of the Government and of the Home Ministry in particular to take due note of it. I would like in this connection to read out to the House a report of the speech of Father Farrot delivered at 6 P.M. on 11th August, 1957 at Parish Priests' Secret Church at St. Joseph Busty at Singamani, North Point, P.O., Darjeeling.

**SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN:** Is not this matter within the purview of the State Government?

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:** I think it will take a little time for the hon. Member who comes from Hyderabad to understand that this does not belong to the State Governments only. I

know that Hyderabad and the Nizam had been backward but now he should try to be a little more forward and understand these things.

In that speech he said—I would just read out—

"In Kerala a Communist Government has been set up, and the Communist Ministry of Kerala has been oppressing the Christians there. Pandit Nehru is also a Communist. Nehru has been supporting the Communist Ministry in Kerala."

Then it goes on:

"We, Christians, all over India should be united to launch a crusade not only against the Communists but also against the Nehru Government which is deliberately pro-communist."

I hope the hon. Defence Minister will be noting this

"From now onwards, we Christians in India should bear in mind the heritage of the Holy Crusade and as in the past, take up the cudgels against the Communists and their supporters."

I hope my friend from Hyderabad will find some relevancy now.

"You should know that our co-religionists in America, Britain, France, Norway, Denmark, Sweden and Germany shall stand by you in India to fight the Communists and their supporters, the Nehru Government."

This is a document which makes very interesting reading.

**THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY):** Will the hon. Member lay it on the Table?

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:** Yes, Sir. I can lay it on the Table.

Sir, we have been accused here; but I am not interested in that aspect of the matter. Here is the Catholic Church, living under the sufferance of our country, having been given all the

[Shri Bhupesh Gupta.]  
advantages and benefits, carrying on internal political activities, inciting the people in this manner and this is something which has to be taken note of and not to be ignored just because it relates to Communists. After all, we know the Catholic Church, the reactionary Catholic Church which almost always begins with the Communist and ends up with democracy as we had seen in Mussolini's Italy.

Mr. Vice-Chairman, there is yet another interesting piece here which I would like to refer to in this connection and draw your attention to. Here the "Daily Express" I think the hon. Mr. Krishna Menon knows that paper very well, the "Toriest" of all Tory papers—this paper has a despatch sent by a correspondent after interviewing Archbishop Benedict Mar Gregorios. It was published in the paper of the 22nd August. Archbishop Benedict Mar Gregorios was it is reported, interviewed, in India and the despatch says:

"Catholics threatened by the Communists with a take-over of the 1,200 Church schools aim to overthrow the four-month old Red Government elected peacefully through the ballot box. The black-bearded Archbishop, Benedict Mar Gregorios, Indian leader of the two-million Catholics in Kerala told me it was hoped to force an intervention from Mr. Nehru's Central Government to restore law and order. That would mean a rule from New Delhi until the new elections."

Here is a statement by a man who had met an Archbishop of the Catholic Church and on the basis of an interview he sends this despatch which is published in the British paper—The Daily Express. It clearly shows that the whole game of the Catholic Church is not intended to seek some remedy against a Bill which understandably they do not like; but the game is intended to overturn a peacefully elected government and to create a situation which will, according to

their calculations, force the intervention of the Nehru Government and to the overthrow and dismissal of the Kerala Ministry. Fine things. Here it is. Create a situation in Kerala so that central intervention could be obtained in order to turn out of power a government that has been elected democratically and under the Constitution. There in Darjeeling the speech is intended to be not only against the Communists, but also against the Nehru government, calling it a Holy Crusade against the Communists and Mr. Nehru alike. I leave it to the Home Minister to go into this thing and to discern what is happening and tell us to the satisfaction of the House what steps they propose to take when such political activities, such subversive activities against the country, activities bordering on treason are indulged in by the organised Catholic Church, organised against the law of the land, against the country's interest and against the people of this country.

Next, let me go to economic matters which though less exciting . . .

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY): Only one minute more

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: . . . are not the less interesting. I hope you won't mind giving me two more minutes. In another place, the Finance Minister said something. We have heard these days amazing things. Pandit Nehru told us about the flights of fancy and imagination of Mr. Feroze Khan Noon. We discovered that Soviet planes were landing in Kashmir and we also discovered that India had become a Soviet base or a military base. But yesterday in the other House there rose our Finance Minister—Shri T. T. Krishnamachari—who also had a flight of fancy and discovered that the Communists were a threat to the Second Five Year Plan, that the danger came from them. Wonderful. I think Shri T. T. Krishnamachari is a great peer for Mr. Feroze Khan Noon. Let them go together, I do not mind. Let them go together. But what I mind is this that when the Finance Minister of our



country makes such an irresponsible statement on the floor of the House it has to be taken note of. I know he has said it with a sense of timing. He is going to the United States of America and a few words against the Communists of that kind will perhaps win him plaudits from Wall Street and Washington when he starts hobnobbing with those friends there. That is why this statement has been made.

*(Time bell rings.)*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY): You have taken more than what was allotted to you.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Let me finish, Sir. With regard to the Plan, I need only repeat that the Communist Party stands for the fulfilment of the Plan. We have said that and we have given our suggestions also. I will only restate them here, for most of them we gave when Shri T. T. Krishnamachari was the Minister in charge of Commerce and Industry. I need not go into them again. You can meet the situation in this way. The gold reserves of the princes could be secured and this could be utilised for meeting the foreign exchange requirements. I am told the Nizam has made about 39 trusts. My hon. friend over there from Hyderabad will bear me out—trusts worth about Rs. 150 crores. He has got plenty of gold. Why can't we get it?

*(Time bell rings.)*

Sending abroad of money should be stopped. Foreign trade should be taken over and should be controlled by the Government. There is a lot of waste which could be avoided. Bilateral agreements on a barter basis should be entered into. Shipping should be developed for that would save us about Rs. 100 crores of foreign exchange in the overseas trade. The food situation should be tackled.

I wish the Prime Minister had come when I read out the portion of that extract where he and we had been bracketed together by Father. whatever he be, I forget the name of the reverend Father, in Darjeeling.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT): Sir, I confess that it is a bit of a handicap to follow in the wake of the hon. Member who has spoken last. He speaks in the free style of an orator which is a thing of the past and he vibrates a high frequency sound in the atmosphere, inside and outside the House and in that I am not trained. I think I will leave him at that. About his logic, I can only say that he tried to compare the Pakistan Foreign Minister with the Finance Minister of India and with what logic? It only proves that my hon. friend can put two and two together and get not four but five. I am sure the hon. Finance Minister when he replies tomorrow to the debate will take ample care of him.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I was referring to the two flights of fancy and imagination, one in Pakistan and the other here.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Sir, the House has been discussing this Appropriation Bill for the last three days and hon. Members have covered a very wide range of subjects, in fact, the entire administration of the country. It is my duty for the present to speak on a few points and try to answer, as best as I can, some of the points raised.

I am sorry hon. Member Shri Kishen Chand is not present, but I would like to deal with some of the points that he had raised. When speaking about the Posts and Telegraphs Department, he said that the Posts and Telegraphs Department should be entrusted with the task of the National Savings drive.

The National Savings drive, as you know, Sir, has a very important place in the present scheme of things, particularly in view of the present conditions of our national economy when we have to raise resources in a non-inflationary manner. We have done everything to streamline the organisation and we have tried to get the co-operation of the State Governments by providing greater incentives and link-

[Shri B. R. Bhagat.]  
 ing the whole drive with the local schemes and accrual of resources to the States. It has been decided that whatever revenues accrue as a result of the intensification of the National Savings drive, two-thirds of the net amount would go to the States. We have also decided that we will meet fifty per cent. of the additional expenditure to be incurred by the various State Governments. I am trying to point out, Sir, that this drive is at a point where it is gathering momentum and we expect much more from it. I do not think that at this stage we should burden the already over-burdened Posts and Telegraphs Department with the administration of this big national scheme. It would not be advisable. Another point he made was that the P. and T. Department was running at a loss and that it would minimise the loss of this Department of this National Savings scheme is entrusted to this Department by which it will get the commission. I would like to point out, Sir, that at present a very substantial part of the National Savings Certificates are being sold through the post offices. Postal Savings Certificates form the bulk of the small savings and the commission for them goes to the P. and T. Department. During the last three years an average of two crores has gone to the P. and T. Department. The P. and T. Department is already getting some revenue from this and, in order to popularise this scheme and in order to make it reach the rural areas, it is necessary to intensify the scheme under the present-up, that is, the Central Government, the National Advisory Committee, the State Governments, etc., rather than to burden the Posts and Telegraphs Department with this additional task.

Another point that he made was regarding a separate budget for the P. and T. Department just as the Railways. Sir, the whole question of having a separate budget is a misnomer or a mis-description of what the hon. Member wants to achieve. Per-

haps he wants to have a clearer picture or he wants to have commercial accounting methods followed in the case of the P. and T. Department. It had some substance some years ago but as hon. Members know, during the last few years, as a result of the demand in Parliament, the Budget memorandum as well as the annual financial statements have been elaborated and made clearer still to the laymen by the addition of the explanatory memoranda and by showing the commercial accounts separately. If you read article 112 of the Constitution, you will find that it provides for a Consolidated Fund into which all the revenues will be credited and from which all expenditure will be met. If you see the Budget papers, you will find the Railway revenues and expenditure finding a place in the annual financial statement. There is nothing like separate budgeting although the mode of presentation may be different. Furthermore these commercial departments are either incorporated under a special act of Parliament or are incorporated under the Indian Companies Act. Parliament itself has delegated powers so that it has not to present the detailed accounting to the Parliament. It has only concerned itself with the investments or the loans if the Government makes any and so, accounts and financial statements are presented in a general form. Even, therefore, on that score, the point that the hon. Member has raised does not find much of a basis.

He said something about the size and weight of the postcards. He said that if they could be reduced, much of the handling charges may be reduced. This involves a lot of problems because our postcards have been having the particular size for the last so many years and if we have to change the size, we will have to change the machinery which produces them. We produce about 100 cases per day, that is, about 34,56,000 postcards every day and we will have to change the machinery entirely. This machinery will have to be imported which would mean foreign exchange

which is so very difficult to obtain at the present moment! Similarly, the paper board that comes will have to be changed in specification and the manufacturers will, in turn, have to change their machinery. It is a very involved process and, I think, it would not be, at the present moment, a practical proposition to change the size of the postcards however advantageous it might mean. The hon. Member suggested our making the cards lighter so that the weight may be less. This also is not practicable because, as you know, the post card is of a particular thickness and through experience we have found that out to be of great value. The post card is a bit roughly handled in sorting. It passes from place to place, and, in order to stand the stress and strain of a rough handling, the postcard must be of a particular thickness. So, it would not be advisable to reduce its thickness.

Then he raised the larger question of the Department being either self-sufficient or making a profit. He said that only the Telephones branch of the Posts and Telegraphs Department was making a profit while the others were not. That is true but it is a utility service and if you see, all over the world, the revenue consideration is subordinated to the considerations of service and if you see, all over the Telephones Department is comparatively richer, we can raise revenue by raising the rates but as regards the postal side or the telegraph side where the clientele is the general public, it is difficult to raise more revenue by merely raising the charges and, in a poor country like ours, there is an obvious limitation above which we cannot go. All the same, the commercial aspects of the Department has been constantly under review and for the last few years, we have been changing the rates, sometimes even raising it to the constant displeasure of the hon. Members of Parliament, in order to cover as much portion of the expenditure of the Department as we can. As I said earlier, nowhere in the world do we find all the branches of the Posts and

Telegraphs Department either making profits or being self-sufficient. The revenue consideration has got to be subordinated to the considerations of the service. Sir, I would leave the hon. Member with that.

I would come to the point raised by the hon. Mr. Shiva Rao. It is a pity that due to his illness he cannot make more contributions to the Debates in this House. He is knowledgeable and his speeches are very well made. In this particular matter, I confess that I agree with what he said about the need for improvement in staff relations. He referred to the Whitley Councils and the Service Arbitration Boards in the United Kingdom and he quoted extensively from the last Pay Commission's Report ten years ago, that they all said about the need of developing very harmonious relations between the Government as the employer and the Government servants as the employees, and he also urged that Government should not wait for the recommendations or any report or any remark by the Pay Commission that has been appointed, and should go ahead with evolving some machinery for harmonising the staff relations so far as the public sector or the Government sector was concerned. I would like to inform the hon. Member and other hon. Members also that Government is fully alive to the situation, and recently it has reviewed the working of the Staff Committees functioning in the various Ministries and took certain important decisions with a view to improving the conditions of work of their employees. Accordingly, the Staff Committees functioning in the Ministries and attached offices will now be renamed 'Staff Councils'. There will be separate Staff Councils for Class IV employees. Reference emanating from the Staff Councils would be handled expeditiously by the house-keeping Ministries and the proceedings would be submitted to the Minister concerned inviting his attention to points of disagreement between the staff repre-

[Shri B. R. Bhagat.]  
 representatives and senior officials in the Councils. An important step forward in the matter of improving staff relations is the decision to appoint Welfare Officers, one for each big Ministry and one for a group of smaller Ministries. These officers will be headed by a Chief Welfare Officer who will be attached to the Ministry of Home Affairs. This Ministry will issue a set of model instructions for the guidance of the Ministries with regard to the functioning of Staff Councils. These instructions will be drafted in consultation with the Ministry of Labour.

Sir, I think this will convince the hon. Member that Government is not only alive to having very happy relations with their employees but they are also taking active measures to achieve that.

Then, Sir, I come to the last point, the complex and varied questions of economy. This question has cropped up in all budget discussions for the last so many years. But I confess, Sir, that still some penumbra of misconceptions hangs round this question. It has perhaps come from some political motive, in order to minimise the position, the perquisites of the bureaucracy. It has either taken the shape of a complete condemnation of the proliferation of bureaucracy or, as it is called in the U.K., the operation of the Parkinson's law, that each appointment creates further appointments, and so far as that is concerned, well, that can be taken care of politically, if it is considered that the bureaucracy enjoys too much political power or has undue prestige in the country. But the other point is that the demand for economy is to give expression to impressions formed by the general public when they come in contact with the Ministries, and naturally when they find things going wrong where they should not have, it gives rise to a feeling of resentment. So this concerns the machinery of Government, and that machinery is capable of improvement.

A demand has been made in the House that a committee should be appointed to look after the economy, to investigate into the question. My point is that the improvement in the machinery of Government is not a question which can be looked by a committee. It is a continuing question. Government has to have too large an organisation and because of the developing nature of our economy the machinery of Government and the range of Governmental activities not only become more varied and wide but also cover every aspect of our life. So one single committee, whether of hon. Members of Parliament or anybody else cannot deal with it adequately.

Another angle from which this question has been approached is to draw attention to the extravagance in the various elements of costs that constitute the structure of the Government, and arrangements for implementation of its policies. This extravagance may be looked at from various aspects, the question of staff, the question of the cost of maintaining organisations, such as, contingencies, T.A. and other allowances, construction and hiring of residential and office accommodation, purchase and utilisation of machinery, production and construction schedules, specifications for production and construction, methods of work and standards of output, which are in a way connected with staff, and lastly control and supervision of work.

Now, if we take the question of staff, for example . . .

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY): You please wind up. Your time is over.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I want five minutes more. This is the last point and an important point. Now, Sir, the staff required depends upon the methods of work employed. The quality and quantity of work and the methods of work operate on the number of personnel available. So,

Sir, if you see this question in all these aspects you will realise that the problem is not that of pruning down although all extra expenditure on extra staff employed has to be cut down. If you will see this year's budget, Sir, the Civil Expenditure, you won't find that there has been such a proliferation of bureaucracy, as it is called. The total civil expenditure is of the order of Rs. 377 crores of which only 45 crores is the expenditure on the administrative services and the remaining amount accounts for other expenditure, namely, obligatory expenditure like the share of excise duties payable to the States, the Debt services, and other statutory grants to the States. This accounts for Rs. 96 crores. The next category of expenditure is the tax collection charges and it accounts for Rs. 17 crores. Then the largest expenditure is on nation building, development and social services and it comes to Rs. 179 crores. Administrative services including General Administration, Audit, Police, External Affairs and Tribal areas account for Rs. 45 crores. Whenever we talk of economy we mean only this category accounting for Rs. 45 crores. If you see the two years' budgets the current year's expenditure was 163 crores under the head 'Civil Administration' and last year it was 134 crores, an increase of Rs. 29 crores. Of the increase of Rs. 29 crores Rs. 25 crores are on account of the nation building departments and only Rs. 4 crores for the administration. You say of the proliferation of bureaucracy. But in the background of the developing economy, viewed in that light, it is not a problem like that. But what is the problem, Sir? The problem is not one of pruning down or cutting down the staff where they are necessary. The real problem is one of achieving real economy or efficiency. The problem is the change in the method of work. The problem is one of improving the quality of the work of the staff. All these problems cannot be tackled by a committee. Hon. Members may remember that a few years ago a committee under the

chairmanship of Mr. Kasturbhai Lalbhai was appointed. It took about 16 months and it made a recommendation that about Rs. 4.6 crores of economics could be effected. But the whole context changed during the lapse of time the Committee spent in deliberating. Ultimately there was an *ad hoc* cut but the departments would not even agree to that. Similarly if you appoint a committee, it takes time because the problem is complex and in the meanwhile the whole context of things changes. The dynamics of the situation is such that you need a constant reviewing committee and that is what the Government has done today. Recently, as hon. Members know, the Government has appointed an Economy Board consisting of the Principal Finance Secretary, the Home Secretary and the Director of Organisation and Methods Division. We also have economy committees in all the Ministries. It is an internal machinery under the Secretary which is constantly reviewing the workload, the efficiency, the methods of work, etc., and they all submit reports to the Economy Board. The Economy Board meets weekly. And they have decided, for example, that no new posts should be created, all vacant posts should remain unfilled and that contingency expenditure could not be incurred without the prior permission of the Secretary. So there is a machinery, an apparatus, for bringing about economy. This is on the administrative side. On the planning side the National Development Council has an evaluating programme to see how much efficiency and how much economy has been attained in the developmental expenditure on the various programmes. It has appointed a Committee on Plan projects with the Home Minister as Chairman and with various Chief Ministers and others as members. This Committee has appointed several committees to go into the specific schemes. For example, they have appointed a committee on building, a committee on community development work, a committee on irrigation projects.

[Shri B. R. Bhagat.]

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.)

Thus there is a constant search, a constant probe into the administration of the Government with a view to bringing about economy and efficiency in the Government. The problem should be tackled, in my humble opinion, in this manner. It cannot be tackled by a committee as we appointed ten years ago. The problem, as I said, is one of creating national discipline; national consciousness, public opinion. Administratively, it is mainly a question of constant internal check and review, a constant probe into the methods of work. It is only that way we can achieve a good and efficient apparatus to run the Government. And I think that all this talk that we should be watchful against the proliferation of the bureaucracy and, the so-called operation of Parkinson's Law, is not going to solve the problem. I think what the Government is doing today with all these committees is the proper step to be taken. The workload is being constantly examined; questions of efficiency and economy are taken up and pursued by means of different committees like the Economy Board, the Committee on Plan Projects the Committee on Buildings and etc. So we are tackling the problem in an integrated manner, and I think it can be tackled only in that manner and not by a Committee, in an insulated way, which the hon. Members want to be appointed. One committee cannot deal with this vast and complex problem. Sir, that is all I have got to say.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (DR. MONO MOHAN DAS): Mr. Vice-Chairman, . . .

AN HON. MEMBER: Mr. Deputy Chairman is there.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, go on.

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: I am sorry, Sir.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: It is only a piece of instruction.

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: Thank you for the instruction.

Mr. Deputy Chairman, during the present debate on the Appropriation Bill, some criticism has been made by some hon. Members of this House about the policy of the Government of India regarding technical education. Our hon. friend from Bombay, Shri Chandulal Parikh, has devoted, very kindly of course, the major portion of his speech to this highly important question. He has tried to paint a very gloomy picture about technical education in this country. Another hon. Member of this House, Mr. Akbar Ali Khan from Andhra, has made a categorical statement that the technical education scheme of the Government of India has failed. It is now very painful to hear from an hon. Member who is intimately connected with technical institutions a categorical statement that the technical education programme of the Government of India has utterly failed. Sir, we do not claim that we have worked wonders, that we have done something unprecedented, something wonderful, something extraordinary, but we can claim that the achievement in this direction, in the matter of expansion and development of technical education in this country, that has been attained during the last few years after independence, has been of no mean order. Sir, in spite of the fact that these members have made some uncharitable—rather unkind—criticisms about the present policy of the Government of India . . .

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: I referred to primary education also.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He is concerned with technical education.

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: That part of the speech of the hon. Member will be taken care of by my senior colleague, Dr. Shrimali, when he gets an opportunity to speak.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: That is all that he wants.

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: Sir, I am highly grateful to hon. Members for their criticisms, not because I subscribe to them but because their criticisms made on the floor of this House have given us an opportunity to place before this House the policy and achievements of the Government of India in the field of technical education. Sir, the time at my disposal is not much and in the short space of ten minutes it will not be possible for me to give an elaborate description of the different steps that have been taken by the Government in this regard and the results that have been attained. It is said that a tree is known by its fruit and so I will try to place before this august House the results of the efforts, sincere efforts, of the Government of India since the year 1947.

Sir, in the year 1947 the number of institutions giving post-graduate training in engineering and technology was only 5; now this number has increased to 15 in 1956. From five it has gone up to fifteen. The number of engineering colleges teaching Degree courses in the year 1947 was only 28, but in 1956 it has gone up to 80 and perhaps, this year it has increased by another two or three. This is an increase of 186 per cent. Then the number of institutions, polytechnics and others, teaching Diploma courses was only 50 in the year 1947; but today their number is 123 which is an increase of 146 per cent. In the year 1947 the number of admissions, the intake, in the post-graduate institutions was only 150 and in 1956 this number has gone up to 400. Then the number of seats available in the engineering institutions for Degree courses was only 2,900 in 1947 and in 1956 this number has gone up to 6,300. From 2,900 the total admissions into the engineering colleges have gone up to 6,300—an increase of 117 per cent.

SHRI J. S. BISHT: Is it civil engineering or all engineering?

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: All engineering Degree courses, not post-graduate courses. The number of admissions for Diploma courses in 1947 was only 3,700, but in 1956 it is 8,800. From 3,700 it has gone up to 8,800, an increase of 138 per cent.

Now, I come to output, that is, the number of students who are coming out successful from these institutions. So far as Degree colleges are concerned, the output in the year 1947 was 1,300 per year. This number has gone up to 4,000 which is about three times. That is from 1,300 in 1947 it has gone up to 4,000 in the year 1956. Then, Sir, regarding diploma course, the output has gone up from 1,450 in the year 1947 to 4,200 in the year 1956. The House will agree with me that this is an achievement of no mean order. I have placed before this House the development, the expansion that has taken place from the year 1947 to the year 1956.

Our hon. friend, Mr. Parikh, said something about the total shortage that was found out by the Engineering Personnel Committee at the end of the Second Five Year Plan. So far as the Second Five Year Plan is concerned, originally when the Plan was formed there was an expansion programme of 5 new engineering colleges to be established in the country and about 23 or 24 polytechnics. Now, this scheme has made very good progress during the last one and a half years. Then, Sir, the Planning Commission thought it proper to set up a committee which will assess the instructional facilities that are available in this country and the total demand of engineering personnel that will be created at the end of the Second Five Year Plan. This Engineering Personnel Committee, in their report, said that there will be an overall shortfall of 1,800 engineers at the end of the Second Plan period and 8,000 diploma-holders at the end of the Second Plan period. That will be the

[Dr. Mono Mohan Das.]  
total shortfall. Now, Sir, in order to meet this shortfall that will occur at the end of the Second Five Year Plan, the Government set up a committee. This Engineering Personnel Committee recommended that, to meet this shortfall, 18 new engineering colleges will have to be established and about 46 polytechnics have to be established. This was not accepted by the Government and another committee was set up. This committee have recommended that this shortfall can be met by the expansion of existing institutions, 19 existing engineering colleges and 40 polytechnics. When this expansion programme, which has been accepted by the Government of India, the Planning Commission and the All India Council for Technical Education, as recommended by this 'Ghosh-Chanderkant Committee', is implemented, this shortfall will be totally met. If there is anything inadequate, something abnormal happens, then we have got every confidence that this programme, this recommendation of the 'Ghosh-Chanderkant Committee' will be implemented during the Second Five Year Plan period and the total . . .

SHRI C. P. PARIKH (Bombay): What is the name of the second committee?

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: 'Ghosh-Chanderkant Committee', because there are two members, one is Dr. J. C. Ghosh and the other is Mr. Chanderkant, Deputy Educational Adviser (Technical) to the Government of India. Now, if we can implement the recommendations of the 'Ghosh-Chanderkant Committee' report, which has been accepted by the Government of India—it has got two parts, one part has been accepted by the Government of India—then the total admissions at the end of the Second Five Year Plan so far as the engineering Degree courses are concerned will be 10,000 per year.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: Even that is inadequate.

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: No, Sir. That is not inadequate.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: According to him it is all right.

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: The admission capacity at the end of 1956 was 5,150. Now, the calculated shortfall is 1,800. So, 5,150 plus 1,800 is less than 10,000. So, if we can implement this programme, we will meet this shortfall and we will have some extra hands also. So far as the diploma-holders are concerned, the number at the end of the Five Year Plan, if these schemes are implemented, will be about 20,000.

SHRI C. P. PARIKH (Bombay): What about the quality?

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH (Madhya Pradesh): And what about experience?

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: I am coming to every point. So far as quality is concerned, I shall need more time to deal with these subjects.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There are still five minutes more.

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: It is impossible to go into such details within five minutes. I have to place before the hon. Members much more important matters.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: It is only about practical experience in the case of technical men.

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: I am coming to that. My hon. friend need not be so anxious. He may have a little patience. So far as experience and quality are concerned, the expansion that has taken place has not been in the horizontal direction alone, quantitative expansion alone, but qualitative also. The All India Council for Technical Education has got zonal committees and a committee of experts which visits every institution and see their standard. Lakhs of



rupees have been spent for construction of buildings, for equipping laboratories and libraries and other things. So, It cannot be said...

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: How many lakhs?

SHRI P. D. HIMATSINGKA (West Bengal): Several lakhs.

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: During the years 1947 to 1956 about Rs. 13 crores have been spent by the Central Government alone; in addition to this, there are State Governments who have spent their own money.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Give us the total.

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: Sir, about this increase in the technical field, there are certain difficulties. Hon. Members are fully aware of those difficulties. One of those difficulties is the scarcity of adequately qualified teachers in this country. This phenomenon of the dearth of adequately qualified teachers in the technical field is not something special to this country alone. This occurs all over the world. Hon. Members who have got some connection with and experience of technical education in this country know very well that the pay scales of our teachers in this country are rather unattractive, in comparison with the pay scales that are given in private industries, and even in other departments of the Government of India. So, there is a constant migration of qualified teachers from teaching institutions to private industries and to other departments of the Government. The overall position is that really there is a scarcity of qualified teachers—as has been mentioned by my hon. friend, Mr. Parikh—in this country as in other countries and Government propose to meet the situation by two methods, one is by increasing the pay scales. The All India Council has suggested reorganisation of staff structure and improved pay scales. An expert committee has been

appointed in conjunction with the University Grants Commission to lay down, on an all India basis, model scales of pay for the staff of engineering colleges, polytechnics and other technical institutions. That is number one. We want to meet the situation of scarcity of teachers by two methods. One I have just now described. Method number two is this. In order to ensure an adequate flow of technical personnel into teaching positions, a scheme of teacher training has been formulated. It is proposed to create over one hundred teaching fellowships of the value Rs. 350-25-400, and tenable for three years in selected engineering institutions. Brilliant graduates will be selected for the fellowship and posted to the institutions to learn the techniques and methods of teaching and equipping themselves for teaching positions. During this period, they will be apprenticed to professors and other senior teachers of the institutions. Five institutions in this country have been selected in different parts of the country. One is in the east—the Sibpore Engineering College; another in the west—the Poona Engineering College; another in the north—the Roorkee University; another in the south—the Engineering College of Madras. The fifth one is the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur. These five institutions have been selected where this training scheme will be in force.

Now, Sir, the T.C.M. or the Point Four Programme is co-operating with us, and we are highly thankful to them for their co-operation in this respect.

Now, a plan has been prepared in collaboration with the T.C.M.—the Point Four Programme—of the United States of America from 1958 to 1960. Assistance by this collaboration will be utilised for this plan. Five engineering colleges have been selected. By this collaboration, we will receive the services of eleven American experts for three years and Indian apprentices will go to the U.S.A. for

[Dr. Mono Mohan Das.]  
training. 80,000 Dollars of equipments will come to this country. For this training scheme, the total cost which will be spent by the T.C.M. is about 5 lakh dollars. Sir, if we complete this arrangement and if we can implement this scheme, then we will have about 300 teachers in three years.

Now, something has been said about scholarships. There are three types of scholarships.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: Have these five training institutions referred to been started?

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: They are the topmost institutions in the country. The Roorke University has already celebrated its one hundredth anniversary. Then the sibpore Engineering.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: I am saying this for training personnel.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, they have been started. Mr. Das, please go on.

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: "In order to promote scientific research at universities and other educational institutions and to train a large number of research workers, a scheme of Research Scholarships and National Research Fellowships was put into operation. That in the last ten years has contributed much to the creation of large-scale opportunities for deserving candidates. Six hundred and eighty Research Scholarships each of the value of Rs. 200 per month have been instituted and allotted to different university departments and other institutions for research in science, engineering and technology. It is proposed to increase the number of scholarships to 800 during the current Plan period." This is No. 1. No. 2 is: "The National Research Fellowships . . .

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: He is reading from a published Report already distributed to us. We can do a little

home work also by reading the same at our residence.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Those copies have been supplied.

SHRI JASPAT ROY KAPOOR (Uttar Pradesh): Only Select portions are being read.

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: "The National Research Fellowships which carry a value of Rs. 400 a month is at present in force. In addition to this Rs. 400 per month, Rs. 1,000 is given per year to the scholarship-holder for equipment, etc. There are 50 fellowships at present. We want to increase the number to 80. Arrangements have been made and scholarships are given to boys who pass through their engineering colleges and schools.

Then, in regard to practical training facilities, "over 1,000 training places have been secured which are made use of by the students from all technical institutions in the country every year. During the training, the selected candidates are paid a stipend of Rs. 150 in the case of Graduates and Rs. 100 in the case of Diploma Holders."

My hon. friend, Mr. Parikh, said that hostels must be built by the Government for students.

SHRI C. P. PARIKH: Adequate number, I said.

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: Adequate number. I want to submit most respectfully to the hon. Member as to what has been done in this direction. So far, loans totalling Rs. 3.36 crores have been approved for over 100 institutions and Rs. 2.00 crores have already been sanctioned. When this scheme is implemented, additional hostel accommodation for about 15,000 students will be provided.

Sir, I have tried to describe briefly the present position and the policy and the results that have been achieved in this direction by the efforts of the Government of India.

My last submission in this regard to hon. Members who have made some

criticisms is that I request them to bear in mind that the devil is not so black as it has been painted.

DR. R. P. DUBE (Madhya Pradesh): Mr. Deputy Chairman, May I sit down and speak?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes.

DR. R. P. DUBE: Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity as well as allowing me the privilege to speak sitting on my seat. I would not have asked for this concession had it not been for the recent attack of 'flu which has affected my heart'. I had no intention of speaking when the debate on the Appropriation Bill was started on the 27th, but after hearing the debates for the last two days, I decided to speak on two subjects and give a few suggestions as well as put the views of certain populations in which nobody seems to be interested in Parliament. Last evening, I had requested the Health Minister to reply to the debate after I had also expressed my views about the Health Ministry, but he told me that he must reply then and asked me to let him have my points, which I wanted him to consider. It was a very sudden demand and I could not collect all my thoughts at such a short notice. But, still, I gave a few points to him to which he very kindly replied and promised to look into. He referred to them as the points of my undelivered speech. He also made it very clear in his usual way that I need not talk on health now. As a gentleman's agreement, I will not speak on health today as he has also promised to give me some time during this session for an interview when I can discuss with him many other points on which I want the Ministry and him to give special thought and consideration.

I will now come to the second topic of mine which has not been touched by anybody in this House and most probably nobody referred to it in the other House as well. I have not gone through all the speeches of

the other House and if anybody has spoken, I must say, it must have been only a passing reference. The gravity of the situation and the plight of the poor and harrassed people of these areas has not been brought home to the Ministry concerned, the Government and Parliament.

AN HON. MEMBER: Which?

DR. R. P. DUBE: Wait and you will hear it.

I am talking about the areas which are known as cantonments and which only exist in this country of ours and nowhere else in the world. These are the legacies of the British rule and although the British have left this land ten years ago, these areas still exist. I have no quarrel as to their existence if the Government thinks they are necessary for the welfare of the army personnel. But, surely, why should the civil population living in it have a sub-human existence and be treated differently and denied the facilities enjoyed by the other civil population of the adjoining community and town?

To go very briefly into the history of these areas which are 56 in our country, they were established for the benefit of the troops and mostly followers. People were invited to come and settle down there so that the troops and followers can buy their necessities and they may not have to go to the city to buy them. The main idea was that the British did not want the troops especially Europeans to mix with town people for various reasons.

Now, these so-called bazaar areas have developed and are no longer inhabited by a few shopkeepers and followers only, but educated people, rich merchants and plenty of middle-class people and the civil employees attached to the army are staying there.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: Doctors and M.P.s?

DR. R. P. DUBE: Doctors are inevitable. They are a necessary evil.

They have had no benefit of these plans which the Government have formulated and implemented 4 P.M. and which still are to be implemented. It was almost at the fag-end of the first Plan after repeated requests and clamourings that a few crumbs were thrown at them. It was in the year 1955 that some money was allotted for the improvement of these areas, but if I am not mistaken, uptill now hardly 70 lakhs of rupees have been given, and we are also told now that perhaps henceforth since there is scarcity of funds, no more money will be given by the Government for the improvement of these areas. The lot of cantonment residents is very pitiable because the State Governments say that since these areas are under the Centre, they should be looked after by the Centre, and the Centre is of the opinion that these areas should be looked after and provided from the allotment made for Defence. But the Defence is crying that the money allotted to it is not sufficient for its own requirements, and as such, how can it look after the civil population living in these areas? Sir, you can easily appreciate the plight of the civil people in these areas who are like orphans and nobody owns and acknowledges them. We are still governed by the Ordinances passed by the Governor-General-in-Council although we have become independent and the Governor-General and the Council have ceased to exist. The major source of revenue from these areas which could have done some good to the population is being taped by the Centre to maintain a white elephant and a useless department of military lands with Military Estate Officers and Deputy Directors to maintain it. This is a department which was newly started in 1935 when the Bazaar areas now called civil area committees were formed, where the executive officer has to work as the Secretary of these committees under

the Vice-President who is always a civilian. The then military officers who were working as executive officers resented this and thought it below their dignity to serve under a civilian. So the Military Estate Office Department was created and all the senior officers were absorbed. All these officers had no work to do barring putting impediments in the smooth running of the cantonments. Before 1935 all this work was done by the Executive Officer, Cantonments only and even today the Board looks after the demands and facilities of the people occupying these areas, bungalows and agricultural areas, i.e. B3 and B4 lands, because camping grounds do not exist. All the money collected from these areas comes to the Centre, while the Board provides all the municipal needs and even passing the building applications, etc. I cannot understand why the Government is spending this callous amount of money for maintaining this department which is absolutely redundant, useless and superfluous. Now there are no useless and old European military officers who need provision and maintenance.

(Time bell rings.)

Well, Sir, if there is no time, I will have to stop here.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. Shrimali.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (DR. K. L. SHRIMALI): Mr. Deputy Chairman, I should briefly like to reply to some of the points that were raised by Dr. Kunzru during the course of this debate. Dr. Kunzru, in the first instance, said that the Members of the House have not been taken into confidence with regard to the National Discipline Scheme. I was a little surprised at that statement because the National Discipline Scheme has been in force since 1954 under the Ministry of Rehabilitation. Several demonstrations have taken place, and by this time I expect that the Mem-

bers are fairly familiar with what is called the National Discipline Scheme. The Ministry of Education has recently appointed General Bhonsle as the Adviser in order that the scope of this scheme might be expanded. There are certain matters which are still to be finalised, and I shall be very glad to place the whole scheme on the Table of the House. I do not want to hide anything, as far as this scheme is concerned, from Parliament. In the beginning, Sir, the scheme was confined only to those institutions which were catering to the needs of refugee students. Now we propose to extend the scheme in three States, Punjab, Bombay and West Bengal, and the maximum number of schools under this scheme in the Second Plan would be of the order of 300 and the expenditure under the scheme for 1957-58 is Rs. 20 lakhs. Out of this amount about Rs. 13 lakhs are proposed to be transferred from the Ministry of Rehabilitation and Rs. 7 lakhs would be provided for by the Ministry of Education. For the next three years the estimated expenditure is Rs. 30 lakhs per year, and we are now exploring the ways and means of finding out this money. We may have to approach the Planning Commission to give us additional funds.

Now, Sir, it is not true to say that this scheme only looks after the physical training of students. It is also proposed to give instruction to students on India's cultural heritage, traditions and acts of heroism which have taken place in the history of India.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: Has such instruction been given in the past?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: Yes, Sir. To the best of my knowledge, the scheme does include physical training as well as what is called spiritual training. I do not like this word, but that word has been used. But the main purpose is that along with physical training the students must have a proper understanding of Indian history. Now, Sir, I do agree with Dr. Kunzru that

there should be full co-ordination between the different movements which are working for the youth in the country. There is, for example, the Scout Movement, the N.C.C. and the A.C.C., as also this National Discipline Scheme. Sir, there is plenty of scope for developing youth movements in this country . . .

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: Will the hon. Minister allow me to put a question to him? What was the expenditure on this National Discipline Scheme before the general election?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: I am afraid, I do not have that figure now. But I would be very glad to give that figure to hon. Dr. Kunzru separately.

Sir, as I said, the main object of the Ministry of Education is to make a multilateral approach to the education of the youth. We would like to develop the scout movement and develop the N.C.C. programme and also the National Discipline Scheme. We shall also try to bring about co-ordination between these different programmes so that there may be no duplication of work. After all, Sir, it would not be in the interest of the child, if all these organisations develop a kind of rivalry to bring the children into their folds. I therefore fully agree with him that there is great need to develop co-ordination between all these different youth organisations, whether they are non-official or official.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: The other organisations are working on totally different lines. There is no possibility of any conflict between them and this new scheme of yours.

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: There is no conflict, I agree. After all, the schools are the same, and if in a certain educational institution the N.C.C. is being tried and then this National Discipline Scheme also, after all the time at the disposal of the students is very limited for all these activities, and naturally some kind of co-ordination will have to be brought about as far as I can visualise.

[Dr. K. L. Shrimali.]

With regard to secondary education, Dr. Kunzru said that history and geography are not given sufficient importance in the curriculum of secondary education. I am in full agreement with him. These two subjects are of very great importance for developing an understanding in the child about his own country, his people, his past and his environment. Now, in modern education, the subjects are not taught in water-tight compartments. The curriculum is being presented in an integrated manner, and a new subject has been introduced called social study, which has been made compulsory at the secondary stage. The idea in introducing this is to present an integrated curriculum to the students so that they might get a coherent picture of the society as a whole. In our times we should not only view society in parts; we should view society as a whole, and a proper study of social subjects which will include elements of history, geography and civics, would give that coherent outlook of the society to the child which is badly needed in our present society. There is therefore no neglect of these subjects. In fact, through the integration of these subjects into one whole, the students will get a better picture of the society.

Then, he wanted to know what has been done with regard to the recommendations which were made by the Education Ministers' Conference. At present, as far as my information goes, English is taught as a compulsory subject in all States except Uttar Pradesh. It was one of the important recommendations of the Education Ministers' Conference that by the time a student leaves the secondary school, he should have adequate knowledge of English so that he might be able to take advantage of higher education if he chooses to go in for it. Now, the Ministry of Education later on in the meeting of the Central Advisory Board worked out a formula according to which each child must

learn three languages. The Central Advisory Board in its meeting in January commended for adoption by all the State Governments the formula for teaching—

- (a) (i) mother tongue (ii) or regional language; (iii) or a composite course of mother tongue and a regional language (iv) or a composite course of mother tongue and classical language (v) or a composite course of regional language and classical language.
- (b) English or modern European language.
- (c) Hindi (for non-Hindi speaking areas) or another modern Indian language (for Hindi-speaking areas).

This was the policy which was laid down as far as languages are concerned, and as I said, English is compulsory in almost all the States except Uttar Pradesh, and I do hope that Dr. Kunzru would be able to exercise his personal influence in that State so that that recommendation may be accepted there also.

With regard to this formula, we have been continuously pursuing this matter with the State Governments and the following State Governments have expressed their willingness to accept that formula—

West Bengal  
Assam  
Jammu and Kashmir  
Kerala  
Bihar  
Delhi  
Tripura Administration  
L.M. & A. Administration

The Government of Madras have not yet taken a decision, and the replies from the remaining States are still awaited. The Government of India stick to this formula so far as the language policy is concerned. We

must teach English because it is an international language. The children in Hindi-speaking areas should learn another Indian language, because they have to live as neighbours with their fellow-brothers. Then, they must also learn Hindi which is the national language—I mean the people in non-Hindi-speaking areas. Of course, the mother tongue is there because that is the medium of instruction at the secondary stage. This is with regard to the points which were raised by Dr. Kunzru.

DR. R. B. GOUR: May I interrupt the hon. Minister for a minute? What will happen to those students whose mother tongue is Urdu in South India? Will they have to learn four languages according to this formula?

SHRI KISHEN CHAND (Andhra Pradesh): Five languages.

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: The students whose mother tongue is Urdu will have to learn Hindi, because that is the national language. But they are not different. The script is different but according to me Hindi and Urdu are the same.

DR. R. B. GOUR: The Hindi of the Government of India is quite different from Urdu.

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: Some criticism was made with regard to the Social Welfare Board by my friend over there, who made some sweeping criticisms of the Board. The main purpose, which underlines the setting up of this Social Welfare Board is to create an autonomous Board which might be kept out of the rigid framework of the Government machinery and at the same time might be able to bring people in close collaboration in working out the schemes under our Plan. It is quite possible that there may have been failings in working out these schemes here and there, but I must say that the Board has on the whole tried to create enthusiasm among large numbers of people all over the country. There

are various State Boards which are functioning, and on the State Boards there are people who are connected with the work that is going on in villages, where service is most needed. I do not think that with the rigid framework of the Government machinery, we could have achieved what has been achieved by the Social Welfare Board. My friend quoted some letters which were written by the State Board. I have not been able to verify them, because there was not much time. But I do not think there was anything wrong in asking the conveners not to close the accounts. That is the regular procedure which is followed. I would also like to inform the hon. Member that the accounts of the Social Welfare Board are being audited by the A.G.C.R. The accounts for 1954-55 and 1955-56 have already been audited by that office.

DR. R. B. GAUR: Excuse me. The auditing is all right; but what about the not closing of the books for the purpose of adjustments at the headquarters office? That is most important. What is it that you are going to adjust at the headquarters office?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: It is difficult to say off-hand, because I have not been able to get in touch with them on this matter.

DR. R. B. GOUR: I hope you will get in touch.

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: As far as I can see, there is nothing irregular in the accounts which are being maintained; but I will certainly check that up.

Recently a decision has been taken which would bring about greater co-ordination between the Community Projects Administration and the Social Welfare Board. It has been said that there has been a lot of duplication. As far as possible, the Central Social Welfare Board tries to avoid all duplication. It has taken over

[Dr. K. L. Shrimali.]

work relating to the work of women and children in the Community Development Blocks and both the officers of the Community Development Blocks, the Grama Sevaks and the Grama Sevikas of the Social Welfare Board, will work together in close collaboration. Of course, the Board has itself established nearly 400 welfare extension projects outside the community development block areas. Then there are various other activities which the Board has undertaken and which are not being carried on by the community development blocks. For example, the Board has set up homes for persons released from correctional and non-correctional institutions and for women rescued from moral danger or depravity.

In the end, I would like to say that as regards the results of education and of the social welfare activities are concerned, we shall have to have some patience. The efforts that are made today will yield results in due course of time. I have no doubt about that. Education gives results in generations.

Complaints have been made by hon. Members about the problems of discipline. Now, discipline cannot be maintained either by a national discipline scheme or by the N.C.C. or by the scout movement. There are various forces which work on the mind of the child. The home, religion, community, the social life and economic factors, all these make an impact on the personality of the child, and it will be a mistake to think that one single scheme or one single reform can solve the problem of discipline. Discipline is the result of several factors, social, economic and cultural. What we are aiming at is to improve the whole environment of the child so that the standard of morality and the standard of discipline may be raised. I am not very enthusiastic about external discipline. I would like our children to develop self-

discipline and all the measures that we undertake, I am sure, will make an impact on society in course of time.

We have taken several steps to re-organise secondary education to which Dr. Kunzru had referred. As far as secondary education is concerned, there were two main problems with which Government were faced after independence. One was that our secondary education in the past did not provide adequate preparation for those who wanted to proceed to the university. There was the regular complaint from the universities that the products of the secondary schools did not have adequate preparation. The other problem with which we were faced and with which we are still being faced is that a large number of students who do not benefit by university education proceed to the university for university education. Government have tackled both these problems. But as I said, the results are not tangible. The results cannot be tangible within a year or two. It will take several years before the results can be produced. We have only to see whether the frame-work within which we are working is on the right lines. For bringing about this reorganisation we had to persuade the State Governments to accept the reforms that were envisaged in the Secondary Education Commission and the University Education Commission's reports. I am glad to say that most of the State Governments, except that of Uttar Pradesh, have accepted the new pattern of secondary education. Before they could accept this new pattern in principle, a lot of discussion and persuasion had to take place, because hon. Members would realise that as far as the Ministry of Education is concerned, it cannot directly implement these reforms. They can only work through the State Governments. Many of the universities and secondary school boards have either already initiated the new pattern or have accepted it in principle.



**SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND** (Uttar Pradesh): What is the view-point of the U.P. Government on this subject?

**DR. K. L. SHRIMALI:** As far as I am aware, the U.P. feels that they had set up what they call multi-lateral schools even before the Secondary Education Commission was appointed and that they are far in advance. But we feel that the type of institutions which are being run there are not exactly on the lines which were laid down by the Secondary Education Commission.

**SHRI B. B. SHARMA:** Is the U.P. Government's scheme defective in that respect?

**DR. K. L. SHRIMALI:** I would not like to pass judgment on the State Government. I am only stating the factual position.

During the First Plan our target was to convert 500 schools into multi-purpose schools where facilities would be available for instruction in diversified subjects. 470 schools were assisted in their conversion to multi-purpose schools. Several new courses in science, technical subjects, commerce, agriculture, fine arts, home science, have been introduced in the institutions all over India. The Government of India gave assistance up to Rs. 4.24 crores, recurring and non-recurring, to the State Governments.

The most important problem in the reorganisation of education is that of the teacher and the Ministry of Education, through its All India Council of Secondary Education has made special efforts to improve the teachers training institutions. We have a scheme to set up extension services to the teacher training colleges. The function of these extension services is to coordinate the work of the high schools and the higher secondary schools in the area in which the training college is situated. Conferences are organised, circulars are sent, from time to time meetings and seminars are organised. We have

such extension services in 37 institutions all over the country. It is proposed to increase their number to 54 in the near future. I am hoping that every training college in the country will have an extension service department so that the training college does not merely train the teachers, but also follows up the work of the teachers who are trained in those institutions and keep in continuous contact with secondary schools, where the teachers may come for the solution of their problems and the lecturers may go to the classes and assist the teachers in their day-to-day work. These are the reforms we are having and it will take some time before they can yield results.

Sir, I would not like to take more time of the House. As I said, we have to work within a certain framework. The Constitution has laid down certain limitations so far as the Central Government is concerned.

**SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN:** I asked two positive questions. One was: What about the directive of the Constitution that everybody in India of school-going age, should receive education compulsorily and freely, so far as primary education is concerned? The other question is: What about the quality of the education? Is it national and patriotic? I want the answer, whether you have taken care to see that the syllabus for primary education is under control?

**DR. K. L. SHRIMALI:** I was not here when the hon. Member asked that question but I would like to tell him that in spite of the directive in the Constitution, we shall not be able to reach that target. We are trying to bring in children in the age group 6—11 by the end of the Second Five Year Plan but the Constitution lays down the group as 6—14. I am afraid this will take twenty-five years or thirty years before the target can be realised.

**SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN:** Is it want of funds or want of interest on the part of the State Governments?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: There is no want of interest; it is mainly a question of finance. The country just does not have the resources which would enable us to introduce free and compulsory education by the end of the Second Five Year Plan and I am doubtful whether by the third or the fourth or even the fifth Plan that target will be realised. I would like to ask hon. Members to approach this problem realistically. I myself am extremely unhappy over the situation. Democracy is unreal and it cannot function effectively unless we can introduce free and compulsory education. At the same time, we have to look at the resources and the priorities as far as our planning is concerned. For example, if we have to choose between giving food to our people and giving education, nobody will deny that food must be given so that people may remain alive to receive education. When the Government has to make such a difficult choice, it is very difficult to implement this programme and I hope, hon. Members would realise the difficulties we have to face in this direction. There is no lack of interest; we are very keen to implement that programme and I should be very happy to see the day when we can introduce free and compulsory education in this country.

SHRI B. B. SHARMA: Just one question, Sir. This is only for information. Is it not a fact that the U.P. Government is going to introduce free primary compulsory education in the near future?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: Yes, Sir, they have some proposals to introduce free compulsory education.

This is all that I have to say. We have to work within a certain framework and the limitations which have been placed by the Constitution and, when the work of this Ministry is judged, it should be judged keeping these limitations in front.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: What about the syllabus for primary education?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: Hon. Members are aware that the Government of India have accepted basic education as the pattern for national education and as we gradually convert the ordinary schools, the traditional schools, into basic schools, they will become better type of institutions where there will be creative activity. We are making an attempt gradually to convert all schools into basic institutions. We are giving special grants for the conversion of traditional schools into basic schools; we are giving special grants for the setting up of basic training colleges but as I said earlier, the results will not be visible within a year or two. The reform of education is a continuous process.

Thank you, Sir.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON): Mr. Deputy Chairman, I would like to refer to some of the observations made in the course of the debate which relate to the Defence Ministry items. There have been comments, quite proper, if I may say so, expressing concern in regard to the conditions and salaries of the officers and men of the Armed Forces. No one would contend that these conditions have either reached an extremely satisfactory stage or ideal but Defence, like everything else, has to be fitted into the general pattern of the country. The first question is what we can afford and what are the relative priorities. As one of the speakers said, the Defence budget of this year is already fifty crores of rupees higher than last year and it is likely to go further up if there are other difficulties. So, while Government keeps in view the possibility of improving these conditions in some cases more quickly than in others, the conditions at present cannot be said to be any worse than they were before and it is not on account of any lack of concern or consideration that we have to postpone further

improvements but it is due to the state of the resources of the country. The Armed Forces have undergone no physical expansion, that is to say, the strength has not been increased, but there is a considerable amount of money expended year after year because of better equipment, more modern equipment and also because of rise in prices of material, military or otherwise, in the world.

A specific question about the officers has been raised and it is suggested that we can make all the Lieutenant-Colonels full Colonels before they retire and that Colonels should command battalions. We are not refusing to have this practice just because it is not done elsewhere—but normally a battalion commander is a Lieut.-Colonel everywhere. If we were to convert all these Lieut.-Colonels into full Colonels, a large number of officers will get Colonel's rank and their pensions, even if they serve for twenty years, would be hundred rupees a month more than the others and at the present moment the country cannot afford it. Another point raised was that they are retired so early that it is a hardship. It is true that they can retire at 40 but most of them do continue. In the Services perhaps the age of retirement, as against standards in private industries is early but we have to think of those who are waiting to be taken into those ranks vacated by those who retire and since the places higher up are smaller in number than those in the lower ranks, retirements have to take place before the officers in the lower ranks can expect promotions. It is not necessary for me to labour this point much further except to inform the House that these promotions and other appointments inside the Armed Forces are made with extreme care according to established procedures and is not done in a haphazard way. There have been few complaints about these matters and Government is satisfied that these promotions are made with due consideration to all the circumstances mentioned here.

The next point on which numerous enquiries are made is in regard to the procurement of equipment, meaning thereby—not obtaining it from elsewhere. All of us regard that as an objective, that is to say, self-sufficiency in regard to equipment and in regard to various other allied matters but there again, defence equipment cannot be separated from the industrial conditions of the country. Our demand for a particular item is often so small that we cannot set up a factory for its production,—even if we had the technical ability and the money for capital expenditure—and make it economical. It would produce ever so much more by its capacity than we can consume under modern conditions of industrial technique. It should not, however, be thought that on account of these difficulties no attempt is made towards further and further Indianisation and more indigenous production. At the present moment, a committee under the Chairmanship of the Deputy Defence Minister has been going intensively into this question of how far, in our various ordnance factories, in factories under civil production and in other factories connected with the Defence industry and by the use of the Defence personnel itself, it would be possible to make whole or parts of equipment in this country: being military equipment apart from giving a general idea, neither the category nor the numbers of them may be published but this is a matter that is receiving the continuous attention of the Defence Ministry in all its branches and we hope that in the twelve months ahead we will be able to make considerable progress. I hope the House will accept this statement and the efforts we are making as a planned effort in the direction of self-sufficiency.

There has been some criticism in regard to the cantonments and I would like to refer to this because more than once this point has been raised. In this matter, Mr. Deputy

[Shri V. K. Krishna Menon.]

Chairman, there is some misunderstanding about the position of these cantonments. Some members appear to look upon them as a relic of British rule. In any army like ours, these cantonments are essential. They are really military estates. Originally they were so started because the army had to be kept isolated from the people, perhaps under conditions, 'hygienic' and 'sanitary', which would keep them fit for the purposes that they were intended for. These cantonments, however, are really the homes of the troops and from early times, on account of the public and social services in these places like electricity, water supply and what not, other people came in there and so, these cantonments became partly residential and partly military. Some parts of cantonments are exclusively military and in certain cantonments, certain parts are exclusively civil. The Defence Ministry, over the years, have handed over these latter areas to municipalities. Where, for example, a road is really a trunk road and that passes through a cantonment, the Defence Ministry would hand over this to the civil authority. They said they should be made self-governing. In the last few years attempts have been made in this direction and these Cantonment Boards today are half for the Armed Forces and half for the residents. If the Defence Ministry were to relinquish all these cantonments that we have at present then obviously we will have to find some other cantonments. Obviously there must be places where these people are barracked and have room for other military facilities, and also they should be placed in areas where the troops may be necessary for various purposes. So there cannot be any relaxation of the whole cantonment system. The experiment I have mentioned is tried in six cantonments and it is working satisfactorily. There was a complaint about one recently, which is being investigated by the General Officer Commanding

Co-operation between the civilian population and the military representatives may not be everything that could be desired, and the proper approach to this matter, if I may submit, Mr. Deputy Chairman, is to find a working method whereby in regard to the legitimate requirements of the people they should be consulted and so on. That is taken into account and at the same time the needs of defence are not and cannot be overlooked. The maintenance of these cantonments is essential and I hope Parliament when discussing these matters will remember that the primary consideration with regard to these is the requirement of defence. The other people who originally came in there are still there in ex-military areas. If unfortunately any such circumstance should arise and these places have to be taken over before other civilian places are taken over, the cantonments would probably come most under full military control. These cantonments are extremely well managed and there have been no complaints in the short time I have been in the Defence Ministry and the experiments tried in six cantonments have been successful, and it is proposed to extend it as much as possible. It should not be forgotten . . .

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: Is anything similar to that existing in any other country?

SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON: Few countries are similar to ours and even if they were not similar there may be other establishments like this. But it so happens with a small army like ours which is maintaining conditions of organisation very different from the surrounding country in the matter of discipline, clothes, ways of life and everything, it becomes necessary to have these things.

DR. R. P. DUBE: Is there no need to change them. What about the Cantonments Act of 1924? Are you going to change it or not? We are still going with that old Act.

**SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON:** We are making such improvements as are necessary by administrative ways. The whole cantonment system has not been under discussion. At present there is no intention of abandoning them, and they could not be abandoned without imperilment to the efficiency of the army in the conditions that we are living in. Where we have not been living in conditions of total security any attempt that we make which would impair the efficiency of our Armed Forces and may affect questions of national security has to be taken with great care. But I would like to say on behalf of the Government that any problem that arises in regard to other populations that live there and the extension of the machinery of mixed cantonment board administration, that is all receiving continuous attention. I would like to say that it would be a mistake to say that it is a relic of the British rule. If they were not there we will have to make them now. In fact, at least in one State it has been found necessary to institute similar arrangements for its police, and those establishments are not occupied by anybody else. That was done because it was found necessary.

Sir, defence equipment has to be purchased to a certain extent abroad, and the purchases are not confined to any particular country. If we have to manufacture everything here we have to have a standard of industrial development very much higher than we have at present. As I said just a while ago the output of a particular factory for defence items only would not enable us to keep going, whether it be tanks or anything else. Ordnance factories were exclusively for military equipment where weapons mostly in the shape of small arms are manufactured. Even they have taken on civilian work in order to keep going. Therefore we all look to the time when the whole of our industry and standard of life improve. In the last ten years considerable advance has been made in this direction. For

example, there is the Hindustan Aircraft Factory. It is not a defence establishment as such, but it is a concern largely under the Ministry of Defence. It has made considerable advance today. They are building air-frames for our jet aircraft there. They are not yet making jet plane engines in this country. They are making prototypes of new planes. They have made a trainer aircraft on production scale. Servicing and practically all the repairs and conditioning of civilian and military aircraft take place in the Hindustan Aircraft Factory.

The question was raised whether we do not send these complex modern jet engines abroad every time they become out of order. It is not so. We send them abroad only when the trouble is very serious, but normally they are done in our base repair centres and there has been no difficulty in dealing with that. We do not make jet engines in this country yet, but we hope, in two or three years' time the present plans of manufacturing these engines would have reached fruition.

Concern was expressed in regard to our non-use of atomic weapons. For one thing, we could not afford that, apart from all other considerations. Secondly it is part of the policy of our country to use atomic energy only for peaceful purpose, for the purposes of industrial, agricultural and economic development. If unfortunately the world should be involved in an atomic war I do not think that we could make much difference any way. The technique was in the hands of those few and big atomic powers. It would not be true to say that our neighbours are armed with atomic weapons because at the present moment atomic weapons are in the exclusive possession of the Americans, the Russians and the British. The reference is really in relation to the military aid given by the United States to Pakistan. Under American law atomic weapons can only be given to anybody either for

[Shri V. K. Krishna Menon.] sale or as a gift under express Resolutions of the American Congress. They cannot just be sold like anything else. It is possible that the propellers of the weapons and the training that is required, that could be given, but the essential content of the weapon, the atomic warheads, cannot be in service in that way because, as I said, it is not supplied. If an atomic war starts somewhere it is not likely that it would remain limited to that area in which case we would not be able to make much difference, even if we so wished, in all the conditions we would be living in; in any event, we are not able to produce the tactical weapons even if we wished. In fact we could not produce any nuclear or thermo-nuclear weapons, in any quantity or of any intensity. But even if we could, it would not be of very great importance in a world war of that kind assuming for the sake of argument that there was a world war and atomic weapons were used.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: Is it intended to give training in the use of warheads to the Indian Army?

SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON: No, Sir. At the present moment it is not our plan to use atomic weapons and there is very little purpose in giving them the cannon and changing the whole course of their exercises unless we were intending to use atomic weapons. I cannot say what will happen to-morrow, but at the present moment there are no plans with regard to the use of atomic weapons. There is the other side of Government policy in regard to its international approval. We have thrown the whole of our weight and used our energies in the demand for the outlawing of atomic weapons, total prohibition of atomic weapons of any kind.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: The Defence Minister said that it was possible to give such training to the army as would enable it to use warheads

when they were supplied to it and I wanted to know whether it was contemplated to give that kind of training?

SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON: I think the observations attributed to me are quite right. I said it is possible, even without atomic weapons, to train the army with the containers or the projecting apparatus, cannon or something of that kind. You can drill with them. But since as at present advised, the Government have no plan for using atomic weapons for the purposes of warfare there will be little use in getting trained for it. As I said, at the same time if there was use of atomic weapons by any Power in any part of the world, it is most unlikely that it will remain restricted to those areas. In that context, the possession of any weapon by us would not go very far. What is more, even this non-atomic atomic parts, so to say, are not made by any countries except the two I have mentioned; even the U.K., as far as I know, has not gone into their manufacture. So at the present moment the equipping of our Army with atomic weapons is not part of our thinking or of our programme. It is not necessary for me to say this but in view of the discussions that will take place in the next two to three months on this question elsewhere it is as well that it should go out from this House that so far as the Government is concerned, it has not only no atomic weapons but that there is no intention of having them and it is not going to use atomic energy for the purpose of killing people. Such a view supported by this House will be taking a further step in the way of making world peace and stability possible. It may be that conditions may change; we may have other thoughts; future generations may have other thoughts but at the present moment there are no arrangements or thoughts for use of atomic weapons. We are not thinking in that way and it is only fair that the House should be fully informed of that position.

Pandit Kunzru made some observations, I believe, with regard to the morale of the army and we appreciate the sentiments expressed. In spite of the comparatively very hard conditions in which at least some of our troops work—I have seen them recently in position in Kashmir and they live in very hard conditions—not only there is no lack of morale but there is in some people almost a surprising appreciation of what they are fighting for. Any observation made in this House appreciating the morale and the attitude of the troops is certainly an aid in the general organisation of defence and will be greatly appreciated by the men themselves.

Reference was made, quite rightly, to the co-ordination of Intelligence. It is quite true there are various Intelligence departments of our Government, as indeed of any Government. It is equally true that co-ordination is desirable in case anything has to be efficacious, but I am sure that it will be realised that the nature of the organisation of Intelligence information is not something that I can discuss freely. I can only say that if Intelligence is to be of any use at all, it must try to make everything as efficacious as possible and co-ordination is part of the thing that makes it efficacious. Such co-ordination exists but I am not, at the present moment, able to go into details of Intelligence co-ordination. Reference has been made to the United States and why we do not follow that. The answer is partly this—if we have the same or similar organs as the Government of the United States, this is worthwhile considering. For example we have no "National Security Council". The organisation to which reference was made is, I think, tied with the National Security Council and considerable amount of money is available for these purposes in, shall we say, specific ways. Here the Intelligence information comes under Defence; it also comes under various other departments. On the Defence side we may well have more than

one Intelligence information channel or organisation; the substance of co-ordination we have. I do not make these remarks off-hand. After I heard the speech on this question I would like to assure the House that to the extent that is possible, there is no question here of being at cross purposes or of any wastage of information that comes in our way. Co-ordination takes place at the necessary levels and it will be agreed that any further development of or debate on this idea here or in any other kind of public organisation will not help us to use the sources of information that we may have. I hope the House will accept this statement that everything that is possible in the way of ensuring that the information that is coming to the Government from one side is not just lost there or just confined to that side but is made use of in the service of the nation. That is being looked after. I am not giving an answer or just say that I refuse to give information. All that I am saying is that the nature of the Intelligence information would not permit a Minister to stand up in the House and outline the structure of it. But the substance of the matter is this. If the information were to come from one side and the other side does not know it, the nation thereby has lost that part of the knowledge. Of that I am deeply conscious and I think, if anything, it is being improved from day-to-day.

I think those are all the points that have been raised in the course of the debate which required any answer from me as your Defence Minister.

SHRI J. S. BISHT: May I put one question for clarification? With regard to the officer cadre the hon. Minister said that it would cost something about Rs. 100 on pensions per month. I also raised another point as an alternative that those officers who have attained the rank of Major may be given the option of mustering out of the army with the pension of Lieut.-Colonel, which was done in the British days. In case the

[Shri J. S. Bisht.]

Government is not prepared to consider any of these proposals, has the Ministry of Defence any solution for this big block in promotion in the officer cadre, especially in the rank of Major?

**SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON:** The fact that they are promoted to the rank of Lieut.-Colonels when they retire would not absolve the Government of any responsibility of giving them higher pensions. I thought that was what I explained. When they retire they get certain pension. If they retire as Lieut.-Colonels they get a higher pension. Therefore if all these Majors were to retire and as a retiring present we were to make them Lieut.-Colonels, the incidence of expenditure will go up.

Now, there is also another point that in the conditions of our Army where there have been rapid promotions in the last ten years on account of the total Indianisation of it, certain transitory situations arise and until we have more space at the top—for example, we have two Lieut.-Generals, that is all, and a handful of Major Generals—unless there were more berths at the top, it will be very difficult to move in the direction that is suggested but this matter is constantly under review; not only this matter but everything that concerns the welfare and the career prospects of officers and men of the Armed Forces. There is no harm in telling this House, because it is published or will be published very soon, that we have a considerable number of what we call temporary Commissioned Officers which we have inherited from the war period. They might have served five years, ten years or twelve years. They all hold temporary Commissions. It is not the same as permanent Commissions. They have not been through the army schools and probably military educational standards may be lower. Most of them were recruited during the war. These temporary Commissioned Officers, some of them are Lieut.-Colonels and

high-ranking officers, have been performing the same duty as others and there has been considerable discontent in their ranks—not discontent but desires in their ranks—for better treatment. A short time ago it was decided to give them all permanent Commissions if they were otherwise qualified. Of course they will have to go through the proper examinations which everybody has to do. Steps are being taken in that way but the proposal that is made here to retire every Major as a Lieut.-Colonel in the present state of our finances, in the present state of our cadres in the army, is not immediately practicable. And I can say that any suggestion that is made in this House in the course of the debate, even if we thought at the time that it is not practical—and who are we to say 'no' to all or any question or supposition—we will certainly have it examined. Thank you, Sir.

**MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:** Mr. Pustake. The House will sit till six o'clock and we will give ten minutes each for six more speakers.

**श्री त्रि० दा० पुतके (मध्य प्रदेश) :**

उपमहापति जी, बहुत कुछ बहस हो चुकी है और अभी जैसा कि श्रीमान् ने फरमाया है कि १० मिनट से ज्यादा किसी को बोलने के लिये नहीं मिलेगा, तो मैं इसके अन्दर ही अपना भाषण समाप्त कर दूंगा।

सबसे पहले मुझे यह बात कहनी है कि एक माननीय सदस्य ने कहा है कि प्रोहिबिशन यानी शराबबन्दी की जो पालिसी शासन की है, उसको रद्द कर देना चाहिये। मैं उसके खिलाफ अपनी आवाज उठाना चाहता हूँ। यह बात अगर आमदनी की दृष्टि से कही गई हो तो मैं कुछ भी महत्व देने को तैयार नहीं हूँ। हमारी संस्कृति का इस चीज से बहुत बड़ा सम्बन्ध है। जिस तरह से हम एजुकेशन और आरोग्य के लिये लाखों रुपया खर्च करते हैं, उससे ग्रामदनी हमको नहीं होती है, पैसे रुपये का हम ध्यान



नहीं रखते हैं, लेकिन लोगों की भलाई की तरफ ही हमारा ध्यान रहता है। वैसे ही प्रोहिबिशन का जो हमारा उद्देश्य है, उसके बारे में शासन की जो नीति है वह इसी दृष्टि से है कि लोगों को बुरी आदत से बचाया जाय। इसलिये जो लोग कहते हैं कि ऐसी नीति को छोड़ देना चाहिये उसका मैं विरोध करता हूँ। सरकार को अपनी प्रोहिबिशन की नीति को नहीं छोड़ना चाहिये।

5 P.M.

दूसरी बात जो शासन में रेड टैपिज्म है उसके बारे में कहना है। अभी यहां मिनिस्टर साहबान ने अपनी अपनी बातें कहा हैं लेकिन रेड टैपिज्म की बाबत क्या कदम उठाया जा रहा है इसके बारे में कुछ नहीं कहा गया है। यह आज सब मानते हैं कि सरकारी कामों में बहुत देर लगती है। मुझे खुद एक दफा एक मामले में यहां के शिक्षा विभाग से वास्ता पड़ा था और मुझे यह अनुभव हुआ कि एक मामले में दो, तीन महीने लग गये। जितने ऐतराज उस मामले के बारे में करते चाहिये थे उनको एक साथ न करके एक एक ऐतराज को, एक एक दफा किया और उनका बार बार जवाब देते देते मुझे ३, ४ महीने लग गये। अगर उनकी जो ३, ४ बातें कहनी थी उन सबको एक दफा में ही कह देते, तो मैं ८, १० या १५ रोज में उनका जवाब दे देता। तो यह जो रेड टैपिज्म, लाल फीताशाही, सरकार में है उसकी तरफ ध्यान देना बहुत जरूरी है और उसको दूर करना चाहिये। उसकी वजह से लोगों में निस्त्साह पैदा होता है। इसकी वजह से लोगों का जो वक्त पर काम होना चाहिये वह नहीं होता है और इसलिये लोगों को जो फायदा या जो आराम या जो न्याय मिलना चाहिये वह नहीं मिल रहा है और इससे लोगों में एक तरह की बददिली पैदा हो रही है।

तीसरी बात मुझे यह कहनी है कि आज शासन के खर्च में फिजूलखर्ची बहुत है।

मैंने दो महीने पहले इसी सदन में इसके बारे में अपनी बात के समर्थन में एक, दो मिसालें दी थीं। मैं उन मिसालों को दुबारा दुहराना नहीं चाहता हूँ लेकिन ऐसी और भी मिसालें मैं दे सकता हूँ और इस सदन के सामने ऐसी मिसालें आई भी हैं। आज कर लगाने का सवाल हमारे सामने है और कर की वजह से लोग अपना विरोध जाहिर कर रहे हैं, तो ऐसे वक्त में हमको फिजूलखर्ची रोकने की तरफ ज्यादा ध्यान देना चाहिये। मेरा तो यह विश्वास है कि अगर यह फिजूलखर्ची रोकी गई तो करोड़ों रुपये की हमारी बचत हो जायेगी और दूसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना को पूरा करने में जो हमको पैसे की कमी मालूम हो रही है वह कमी बहुत कुछ नहीं रहेगी।

चौथी बात मुझे शिक्षा विभाग के सम्बन्ध में कहनी है। अभी शिक्षा विभाग से क्या क्या काम हो रहे हैं और उनमें कितनी प्रगति हो रही है इसका ब्योरा बतलाया गया है। मेरे पास, जो हिन्दुस्तान को आजादी मिले हुये दस वर्ष हो गये हैं इसमें शिक्षा विभाग ने क्या क्या किया, इसकी एक रिपोर्ट है। इन १० वर्षों में शिक्षा विभाग ने क्या क्या काम किये हैं उसका इसमें ब्योरा है। इसमें सफा ५८ पर शारीरिक शिक्षा के बारे में तफसील बतलाई गई है। शारीरिक शिक्षा के बारे में तीन साल से मैं इस सदन में अपनी आवाज उठाता आया हूँ। मुझे एक दफा तो यह जवाब मिला था कि मैं बहुत ज्यादा सख्त कह गया लेकिन शारीरिक शिक्षा की आज भी वही स्थिति है जो कि तीन साल पहले थी। शारीरिक शिक्षा के सम्बन्ध में शिक्षा विभाग की नीति आज भी वही है, आज भी वही स्थिति है। शारीरिक शिक्षा केवल मदरसों के लड़कों से ही सम्बन्ध नहीं रखती। हमारे देश के नवयुवक, चाहे वे शिक्षा पा रहे हो या न पा रहे हों उन सबके ही हित की वह बात है। इस रिपोर्ट को देखने से मालूम होगा कि उसके लिये ५० लाख रुपया बजट में २५०

[श्री त्रि० दा० पुस्तक]

गया है और उसमें कुछ गैर-सरकारी संस्थाओं की मदद के लिये भी रकम रखी गई है, वह २ लाख और कुछ हजार है लेकिन मैंने अभी इसके बारे में शिक्षा विभाग से तलाश की थी तो मुझे मालूम हुआ कि उसके बारे में तो अभी नियम ही नहीं बने हैं। एक साल हो गया है, फिजिकल एजुकेशन बोर्ड की रिपोर्ट भी पेश हो चुकी है, फिजिकल एजुकेशन कौंसिल ने अपनी नीति भी जाहिर कर दी है और यह रिपोर्ट भी हमारे सामने है, उसमें बजट भी मुर्कर हो चुका है लेकिन अगर बजट के मुताबिक रुपया मागने को जाओ तो यह कह दिया जाता है कि अभी इसके लिये नियम नहीं बने हैं। ग्वालियर में शारीरिक शिक्षा के लिये एक कालेज खोला गया है, जिसमें ३० आदमियों को शिक्षा मिलगी तो उससे इतने बड़े देश के लिये क्या पूरा होगा। जब वह कालेज खोला गया तो उस वक्त हमारे माननीय नेता पंडित जवाहरलाल जी ने यह सदेश भेजा कि शारीरिक शिक्षा को बहुत बड़ी प्राथमिकता देनी चाहिये। जरूर देनी चाहिये। यह सभी मानते हैं कि उससे हमारे नवयुवकों में सुदृढ़ता आयेगी, उनमें मेहनत करने की शक्ति बढ़ेगी। आज हम यह कह रहे हैं कि आराम हाराम है। आज हम यह कह रहे हैं कि हमको खूब मेहनत करनी चाहिये, हमें उत्पादन बढ़ाना चाहिये लेकिन यदि हमारे शिक्षित लोगो में और दूसरे लोगो में भी शक्ति न हो तो ये दोनों बातें हो नहीं सकती हैं। अगर देश के डिफेंस का सवाल हमारे सामने हो तो भी यही सवाल हमारे सामने आता है कि आज लोग कितने शक्तिहीन हो रहे हैं। तो शारीरिक शिक्षा की तरफ हमें जितना ध्यान देना चाहिये उतना नहीं दे रहे हैं। उसकी तरफ हमें जल्दी से जल्दी कदम उठाना चाहिये। हम इस बारे में बहुत ही धीमे, चीटी की चाल से चल रहे हैं। ५० लाख का बजट है और उस में १० लाख रुपया कार्टिन जेसी के लिये रखा गया है। कार्टिन जेसी के लिये तो १० लाख

रुपया रखा गया है। लेकिन संस्थाओं की मदद के लिये केवल दो लाख रुपया। कार्टिन जेसी का रुपया किस काम में खर्च होगा उसकी कोई तफसील इस बजट में नहीं है। आज हमारे नेता कहते हैं कि इसको प्राथमिकता देना आवश्यक है और देना भी चाहिये। तो इस बात की तरफ हमको जल्दी ही ज्यादा तवज्जह देनी चाहिये। इस चीज में अभी कोई कोऑर्डिनेशन भी नहीं है। हैल्थ मिनिस्ट्री में एक राजकुमारी स्पोर्ट्स कोचिंग फंड है, उसमें से एक एक, दो दो हजार रुपया एक एक आदमी के ऊपर खर्च किया जाता है। टेनिस कोच करने के लिये, हाकी कोच करने के लिये, क्रिकेट कोच करने के लिये एक एक आदमी रखा गया है। एक आदमी रेसलिंग के लिये भी रखा गया है। एक आदमी से सारे देश के लिये क्या कोचिंग हो सकेगी और उससे देश को क्या फायदा होगा। अगर गैर-सरकारी संस्थाओं को—जा कि पचास पचास साल से इस देश में इस काम को कर रही है—बढ़ावा दिया जाय, उनको मदद दी जाय, उनके द्वारा यह काम लिया जाय तो इससे कहीं ज्यादा काम होने वाला है। हा, पेपर स्कीम में अलबत्ता वह नहीं होने वाली है। पेपर स्कीम के न रहते हुये भी दरअसल में हमको यह काम करना है। हमको इस बात पर ध्यान देना है कि हमारे देश की शारीरिक स्थिति ज्यादा सुदृढ़ हो और हम जो चाहते हैं, हमारा जो उद्देश्य है वह जल्दी से जल्दी सफल हो।

श्री अमोलक चन्द इस कोचिंग के लिये दूसरे देशों से भी ७ आदमी बुलाये गये थे ?

श्री त्रि० दा० पुस्तक . यह तो और भी बुरा है। क्या हिन्दुस्तान में जो लोग हैं वे इस काम को नहीं कर सकते हैं क्या हिन्दुस्तान में ये लोग नहीं मिल सकते हैं जो कि बाहर से कोचिंग के लिये बुलाये गये। तो यह भी एक बहुत बड़ा फिजूल-खर्ची का नमूना है। मेरे लायक मित्र ने तो

मेरी बात का समर्थन ही किया है। मैंने जो मिसाल देनी चाही थी कि फिजूलखर्ची कैसे हो रही है उसकी एक अच्छी मिसाल माननीय मित्र ने दे दी है। इतनी बातें सदन के सामने रखने के बाद मैं यह आशा करता हूँ कि हमारा शिक्षा विभाग इस ओर अवश्य ही जल्दी कदम बढ़ायेगा।

Dr. ANUP SINGH (Punjab): Mr. Deputy Chairman, I am grateful to you for this opportunity of saying a few words. The Deputy Finance Minister in his speech commended some of the efforts that were being made constantly to tone up the administration. I am sure, Sir, that our administration will compare favourably with the administration of many other countries and particularly, those that have acquired or won freedom recently. But I do not think that we can escape the general conclusion—whether we belong to the Congress Party or any other party—that there is a great deal of dissatisfaction, discontent, frustration and a certain amount of bitterness among the people. And I think, Sir, if you analyse, you will find that for the average person, there are at least two things about which he is primarily concerned. He cannot, and possibly does not, appreciate the gigantic schemes that we have launched. He is disturbed about the quality of administration. He does not get justice quickly. He has to run from place to place and he has to go to the members of the various committees and Members of Parliament asking for intervention. And some people, I believe, Sir, in their extreme cynicism even go to the extent of saying that things are much worse today than they were under the British. I hope that is not true. But we must face the situation that people are dissatisfied. Only the day before yesterday, I was talking to one of the chemists here in Delhi. I will not mention the name—it is a fairly well-established firm—and the proprietor of that firm was telling me—“You are a Member of Parliament

and I want to tell you that I cannot accomplish anything in Delhi unless I bribe the official concerned.” And he gave me instances where he spent months and months through the regular channels without getting anywhere. He said—“Finally I gave some money to so and so and things were set right overnight.” Now, these are some of the things that we must face and must face earnestly.

Secondly, Sir, about the law and order situation, we cannot afford to be complacent. Our people are peaceful by nature. But what is going on in the country today is very disturbing. And I would like, with your permission, to say one or two words about my own State of Punjab where in the name of *Satyagraha*, some of the most atrocious things are being done. I am very unhappy that the Government had to resort to lathi-charge in one or two instances. Nobody can be happy about it or condone it. But I have been to Chandigarh at least half a dozen times during the last 1½ months only to see the conduct and the behaviour of the so-called *satyagrahis*. There, the police is on the defensive. These *satyagrahis*—I hate to call them so, because if they are *satyagrahis*, the word has certainly lost its original meaning—beat and push the police and if, in the scuffle any one of them is slightly hurt, there is a hue and cry from them that the *satyagrahis* are beaten and pushed. But, Sir, having observed the situation personally not only in Amritsar, but also in a few other places, I would like to pay a compliment to the present Ministry in Punjab. They have equipped themselves commendably in spite of provocations.

I do not propose to discuss the merits of the regional formula that has been passed by Parliament except to say that all the fair-minded people in Punjab are fully convinced that, under the circumstances, that was the only solution to reconcile the almost irreconcilable extreme points of view, namely, Punjabi Suba or Maha Punjab.

[Dr. Anup Singh.]

I have great respect for some of the eminent Hindi scholars who originally sponsored the movement, I think, in perfectly good faith. But I have no doubt that at present, the movement has slipped out of their hands and in the name of 'Save Hindi', it is being exploited by all kinds of communal elements, disgruntled politicians and fascist elements. There is no other purpose—and I say it with a great sense of responsibility—except to overthrow the Congress Government. And I am afraid, Sir, unless responsible citizens not only in the Punjab, but elsewhere take due note of some of these fascist elements who are out to exploit any situation, whether it is in the name of reorganisation of a State or 'Save Hindi', etc., we are going to have a very bad time.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: What about the Kashmir explosions and explosions in the City of Delhi?

DR. ANUP SINGH: All over it is the same thing. I may say here, Sir, that Hindi has a more honoured place in the regional formula in Punjab than it will have or it has in any other non-Hindi-speaking State in the Union. What is being objected to is: 'In the Hindi area, do not force us to learn Punjabi.' But once you accept the premise that Punjab has been recognised to be a bilingual State, you have no other alternative except to teach Punjabi and Hindi both and for administrative purposes, unless the officials knew both the languages, it will not be possible to run the State. What I want to stress is that this movement is not being conducted on the merits of the issue; it is merely a camouflage for political purposes.

SHRI P. D. HIMATSINGKA: Is there any difference?

DR. ANUP SINGH: Slight difference. The scheme is, in the Hindi region, the child will learn Hindi, Hindi will be the medium of instruction. But from the fourth class, he

will have to learn Punjabi and vice versa in the Punjabi region. A perfectly sensible and laudable solution. And our Prime Minister in trying to persuade the 'Save Hindi' agitators has given in those letters—I am sure you must have seen them—a very exhaustive analyses in which he has pleaded with those people to give up this agitation and he has also said that it is possible to make minor adjustments, through negotiations. But they have not heeded to his wise words also.

Now, I want to draw the attention of the Members of this House and particularly, the Ministry of Education, to the affairs in the Aligarh University. I would like to speak with a great deal of caution because it is an institution which very largely concerns a certain community. So, any remark might be misconstrued as a criticism of that particular institution. But, Sir, the reports that have been reaching me through various sources are rather disturbing. I have no time to go into the details, but I do make this submission to the Ministry of Education that the same Commission that has been appointed to probe into the affairs of the Banaras University should be authorised—or some other Committee—to go into the affairs of the Aligarh University—the standard of teaching, matter of promotion, matter of admission of students and general administration. I will give just one instance which has rather brought a certain situation to a head. At a recent meeting—I think the meeting of July 21—the Committee on Admission has decided unanimously that students from the Punjab, even though they are first division students, will not be admitted to the University of Aligarh. They have been admitted so far. And the same thing applies to the students of Travancore-Cochin—first division students. Strangely enough, the same students who were denied admission at Aligarh, were subsequently admitted to the Calcutta University and I am sure—I do not mean any disrespect if I say that—that the standard

at Calcutta cannot be lower than that of Aligarh. I have all the figures here, but I will just make a reference to one or two. In the year 1955-56, out of the total number of 170 students who were admitted in the classes of Physics, Botany, Zoology, Chemistry, Geology, Geography, and Mathematics 26 were first-division, 88 second-division and 63 third-division students. In the year 1956-57, out of a total of 1,015 students admitted to first-year Arts, first-year Science, third-year Arts, third-year Science, first-year Commerce and third-year Commerce, 54 students were first division, 435 second division and 526 third division. In Sciences again, Sir, out of a total of 1,465 students in various classes, only 74 were first-division, 586 second-division and 805 third-division. What is happening there according to my information is this that the first-division students from other parts of India, and particularly from Punjab, are being excluded so that the third-division and second-division Mohammedan students from Aligarh could be accommodated. Now, Sir, personally speaking, I am in favour of all students, even third-division or fourth-division students getting admission somewhere. But there is no reason why on any consideration whatsoever the first division students from other parts of India should be denied admission when the seats are available and when the University is under the Centre. And there are a number of other cases that have been brought to my notice which are even of a far more serious nature. I would therefore request the Ministry of Education to look into the affairs of the Aligarh University before they deteriorate any further. Thank you.

SHRI P. D. HIMATSINGKA: Mr. Deputy Chairman, I wish to join my voice with the voice of my hon. friend, Mr. Basu, in connection with his suggestion that the Centre should try to supply the quantity of foodgrains that they have agreed to supply to West Bengal. West Bengal is making an earnest effort to keep the

supplies in the fair price shops so that the low-income group people may get foodgrains at reasonable rates. The condition of the standing crops is not also very hopeful. There has been drought in many important areas, and God forbid, if the rains do not come within a few days, the conditions in West Bengal are rather going to be very serious. Therefore, Sir, it is up to the Centre to see that supplies are rushed to West Bengal. It is not as if they want anything more, but the quantity that has been agreed to by the Centre should be supplied to them in time.

Another thing that I want to refer to is the Calcutta Port. And this is a very important question, as it is affecting a very large area, and also the question of costs is there. A large number of ships have to wait for a long period to be able to get berths from where they can be in a position to unload the goods that they bring. The difficulty of berths has increased particularly because deliveries are very slow on account of, sometimes, go-slow movements, and sometimes on account of certain other difficulties. As a result of this, the shipping companies have been seriously thinking of increasing their freight charges. And ultimately what will happen is that the price of the commodities that are imported will be increased. As a matter of fact, Sir, the Port of Calcutta is not in a position to handle the entire quantity of goods that is coming there. The cranes and other things have become outdated; they have not had any planned expansion or replacement, and as a result of that, they are not in a position to handle heavy packages and heavy machineries. As you know, Sir, one of the steel plants is going to be installed in West Bengal, and that has got to come to the Calcutta Port, and therefore the Port Administration should have up-to-date equipment so that they can handle these packages easily and quickly, and the deliveries may not be delayed and ships may not be held up, unnecessarily adding to the costs.

[Shri P. D. Himatsingka.]

Then, Sir, another matter which is of great importance, and which should receive the attention of the Home Ministry, I suppose, is about merchant marine. If you go to Calcutta, you will find that all the ships and all the boats concerned with delivery of goods are manned by Pakistani sailors. Almost all the sailors who work there are Pakistanis from East Bengal, and I will not be surprised if there is any occasion or emergency when they might immobilise the whole of the Calcutta Port. Therefore it is absolutely necessary to see that Indian nationals are trained to take up this work and gradually replace the foreigners who have almost been monopolising this work.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: They should not be treated as foreigners.

SHRI P. D. HIMATSINGKA: They are absolute foreigners. They are Pakistani nationals.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: They come from East Bengal.

SHRI P. D. HIMATSINGKA: True; but they do not regard this country as their own. They have got no homes here; they live in boats. And as a matter of fact, a good deal of smuggling is also going on on account of this position.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE (Bombay): You mean to say that they are not Indian nationals?

SHRI P. D. HIMATSINGKA: Not only they are not Indian nationals, but they haven't got any feeling for this country.

Then, Sir, another question that needs immediate attention from the Home Ministry is this question of large-scale stealing of telegraph and telephone wires. Whenever enquiries are made, we always find that the trunk lines for Bombay, Calcutta, Lucknow and all these places are out of order. Why? Because the telegraph wires have been cut. Sir, tele-

graph wires of long lengths—miles together—are removed, and it is strange that it has not been possible for the Government to stop this kind of waste of national property.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: They believe only in telephone tapping.

SHRI P. D. HIMATSINGKA: I do not think that they indulge in tapping telephones. But after all, Sir, telegraph wires of miles lengths cannot be removed stealthily. There are habitations; there are people living near about those places. Probably the Ministry has not taken any steps to entrust those people with the work of seeing to it that telegraph and telephone wires are not stolen. If those people cannot do it, certain steps should be taken to have special guards so that this national property may not be wasted. Not only they stand in the way of law and order, at the same time they are causing some loss of income also, for if the lines are out of order, the income that is expected from the telephone service will also not be available. Therefore, Sir, it is absolutely necessary that this question should be looked into and necessary steps should be taken. As regards the law and order question, a number of hon. Members have drawn the attention of the Ministry to the necessity of taking certain immediate steps so that the situation may not become worse.

Then, Sir, as regards production of food, certain Members have drawn the attention of this House to the fact that even though a lot of money is being provided by the Centre, the results that were expected are not forthcoming. And one of the reasons, to my mind, is that the money that is being taken is not being applied for the purpose for which it is being taken, and there is no proper supervision by the States. They do not care to see whether the money that has been given in the shape of loans or grants by the Centre is being applied for the purposes for which that money is actually given.

Then, Sir, there is one more point. Generally, some general statements are made against the officers that all the officers are dishonest or inefficient. Sir, a very large number of officers are good and efficient and they try to do their duty properly. And if we, in season and out of season, condemn the whole lot, the result is that they lose all strength of mind and they do not want to take any decisions. You will find that generally they try not to come to any decision. The whole matter is put to the highest officer. The result is that the highest officer has got to look even to small matters, because the officers are always afraid that if by chance they take a wrong decision, perhaps a suggestion will be made that the officer has done it dishonestly or for some other consideration.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: But there is no division of power. It is all centralisation.

SHRI P. D. HIMATSINGKA: As a matter of fact, previously almost every officer had power, though with some limits, no doubt, but all officers who had the power of final decision—Assistant Directors, Directors and others—used to dispose of files finally and did pass final orders. Now, though the powers are there, everybody wants to pass on the responsibility to a higher officer, and as a result work is not progressing. I can cite various instances. Certain very large quantities of jute goods had been purchased by the Government of India in 1946 to 1949. The question arose of the sales tax to the West Bengal Government and at that time there was a certain change in the nomenclature from Supply Department to D.G.S.D. The Supply Department was exempted from the payment of sales tax. Because of the change in nomenclature, the Bengal Government claimed sales tax and as a result, the Government of India being the purchaser, the suppliers have been claiming sales tax from them, and the matter has been hanging fire since 1949 till today. In 1957 some of them have been

informed that a decision would be taken very soon. For eight years they have not come to a decision in this small matter and you can just imagine the reason. As I said, no one is prepared to take the responsibility of giving decisions.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: That is a decision which has to be taken at a higher level.

SHRI P. D. HIMATSINGKA: It is just a matter of coming to a decision and nobody has cared to take the responsibility of doing it. Still the matter is not being decided.

These are some of the points I wanted to speak about. I thank you for having given me this opportunity.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS): Sir, there are about half a dozen hon. Members of this House who referred in their speeches to the food situation in the country. The food situation *vis-a-vis* the general economic policy of the Government of India would certainly be dealt with by the Finance Minister when he replies to the debate. I only want to touch on one or two points with main emphasis on one or two facts which have been mentioned by the hon. Member, Dr. Kunzru. In his speech he mentioned how unreliable the statistics of the Government of India are and because the policies of the Government of India have been based on them, they are defective. It is true that the estimates made early this year and the estimates made in July 1957 have been different, but that has not been due to any radical defect of the system as such but due to certain other factors. The figures relating to the production of foodgrains in any agricultural year really become available to the Government of India by July of that year and it is only by that time that the State Governments are able to consolidate and supply to the Central Government the information based on village reports. This year, in view of the rise in prices and

[Shri A. M. Thomas.]  
in view of the reports appearing in several journals and newspapers to the effect that production in 1956-57 would be lower than the production in 1955-56, the Central Government thought it fit to give the true picture to the public at large. So, all the State Governments were asked to prepare some sort of rough estimates of production and on the basis of information supplied by them an advance estimate of production was prepared. This estimate came to 66·2 million tons which was 1·4 million tons higher than the partially revised figure of 64·8 million tons in respect of the year 1955-56. On the decision of the Minister for Food and Agriculture, this estimate was circulated among the Cabinet Ministers and also given to the Planning Commission. The figures relating to the final estimates for 1956-57 which became available later turned out to be very much higher than the figures in the advance estimates. The figure for 1956-57 now stands at 68·6 million tons against 65 million tons for 1955-56, thus showing an increase of 3·6 million tons. This figure of 68·6 million tons became available not one or two weeks after the estimate of 66·2 million tons was supplied, as has been pointed out by Dr. Kunzru, but only about three months after that estimate was prepared. This was stated in Parliament in July 1957. The fact that the figure of 66·2 million tons did not represent the final but only the advance estimate was made clear at that time. This is just to clear the misapprehension in the minds of the hon. Member which is perhaps being shared generally by other hon. Members of this House.

SHRI J. S. BISHT: Have you got the figures for 1954-55?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: I have not got it at the present moment, but it was less than the 1956-57 figure. This year's is a record production.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have got them in the published documents.

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: In the Bulletin of Food Statistics.

SHRI J. S. BISHT: In May 1955 the prices went down. If food production is higher now, how have the prices risen?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: If prices have gone up this year in spite of the fact that we had a record production, it is the cumulative effect of several factors. Hon. Members know that the developmental expenditure and the purchasing power that we inject into the economy of the country, have gone up by leaps and bounds. There has been an increase in money circulation and there has been an improvement in the purchasing power of the population. So, there has been a consequent increase in the demand for foodgrains. Coupled with that, there has been hoarding of stocks by the cultivators and traders in the hope of obtaining better prices later in the year, so that the high level of prices prevailing now has been the result of several factors. I may also inform hon. Members that as compared with the prices during this part of last year, I do not think that the prices this year are very high.

SHRI J. S. BISHT: With 1955?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: I was talking of 1956.

Some Members mentioned the figures of our imports and said that the imports of foodgrains are going up. It is true that imports are going up. In 1954 we imported 808,000 tons; in 1955 700,000 tons; in 1956 1,420,000 tons; in 1957 up to 21-8-1957 2,276,000 tons, so that it is going up, but I would respectfully ask: What would have been the level of prices if we had not made imports of this magnitude? I would just give some figures which the hon. Members may kindly consider. We have, as has been stated by Mr. Parikh the other day . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: How much would million tons cost including freight?



SHRI A. M. THOMAS: I will tell you. We have got about 30,000 fair price shops distributed throughout the country. You will find that in this current year alone, as the figures from January to July show, we have distributed 1,154,000 tons of wheat through fair price shops. That is up to the 31st of July. We have also distributed 430,000 tons of rice. I would ask the House to pause for a moment and say, if we had not made such large-scale distributions through these fair price shops, what would have been the position in the country. I would only ask hon. Members to consider that. So we cannot afford to lessen the imports and if at all we do it, we would be doing it at our risk.

Some comments were made with regard to our imports from the United States of America and the conditions under which these imports are being made. I may state for the information of the House that in August, 1956, an Agreement was signed with the U.S.A. under P.L. 480 giving aids for wheat worth 200 million dollars and rice worth 26·4 million dollars, in addition to funds for carriage of half these quantities in U.S. flag vessels. The shipments under this P.L. 480 Agreement commenced last September. It is expected that with these moneys we will be able to get about 3·1 million tons of wheat and about 1·93 lakh tons of rice. By the middle of last month about 12·8 lakh tons of wheat and about 1·89 lakh tons of rice had reached India. I may also mention another aid programme. We have also received another aid under P.L. 665 for 14 million dollars for purchase of wheat. It is expected that this amount will fetch us about 1·5 lakh tons of wheat. This wheat is expected to be shipped by the end of September 1957 from the U.S.A. and will reach India before the end of the year. Besides, we have an Agreement with Burma for the import of 2 million tons of rice spread out as follows: In 1956 3 lakh tons, 1957 5 lakh tons, 1958 5 lakh tons, 1959 3·5 lakh tons and 1960 3·5 lakh tons. Therefore, I do not think there is any possibility

of reduction of the imports of this magnitude. Of course, the Finance Minister will certainly be referring to this aspect of the matter in his reply.

Some hon. Members found fault with the Food Ministry for not checking this rise in prices. But the various measures taken by the Food Ministry are well known. To distribution through fair price shops I have already referred. Then there was the formation of the wheat zone. There was also the formation of the Southern Zone for rice, also credit squeeze. These measures taken by the Government of India have certainly had their effect on the price level. There is no denying that fact. I have not got the time, otherwise I would have referred in detail to the latest bulletin. On the whole, I may say the prices are either steady or on the downward trend. There is a rise recorded in places like Calcutta and some places in Bihar. But you have also to take into consideration that that rise is for rice and not mainly for wheat. In the areas where the people can safely switch on to wheat-eating, we do not supply so much of rice through these fair price shops. So the price of rice is a little high. But the price of wheat is at a very reasonable level and so the ordinary man will not seriously be affected because of the rise in the price of rice. I do not mean to say that in places like West Bengal or Bihar there are not rice-eating people. They are there. But then, as for example in West Bengal, we distribute rice and an equal quantity of wheat through the fair price shops. In Bihar we are not distributing rice, but we are meeting all their wheat requirements. There has been some difficulty with regard to movements, but these have also been got over and for the last ten days we have been able to rush to Bihar, where conditions were a little difficult—rice to the extent of about 15,000 to 20,000 tons. So we are doing everything in our power to ease the situation.

SHRI J. S. BISHT: What action was taken against the hoarders?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: With regard to that, I may submit that the formation of the rice zone, as hon. Members may be aware, did not yield any spectacular result for some time. But all the same we find that it has yielded result, for it will be seen that in the southern zone in the consuming centres of Madras and Kerala or Mysore, the prices are low. I believe hon. Members must have read the Press report in which Shri Ashoka Mehta, Chairman of the Foodgrains Enquiry Committee is stated to have said after visiting Mysore that among all the States he has visited, the price of foodgrains is the lowest in Mysore. Of course, he said that before he visited Madras or Kerala.

SHRI N. C. SEKHAR (Kerala): What about the price level in Andhra Pradesh?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: I am coming to that. In Kerala and Madras—in the consuming centres,—the prices are still lower than in Mysore and you will find that the heaviest deficit State of Kerala now has the lowest level of prices as far as rice is concerned, barring Orissa. So that indicates that the measures that we have taken in the Food Ministry have really yielded results.

SHRI N. C. SEKHAR: Just now I put a question to find out what has happened with regard to Andhra Pradesh?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: With regard to Andhra also, with all the opposition coming from the side of the millers and the large-scale hoarders and the stockists, as the case may be, we have been able to improve the situation and you will find that in the Andhra Pradesh also the prices are gradually coming down.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: What about Hyderabad?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: At what price are you buying from the millers?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: From the latest report of the 28th August, you will find, Sir, that in Andhra Pradesh the prices are either steady or coming down. In Hyderabad, if my hon. friend is interested, for coarse variety the price is 19/-. In Kakinada, for Akkulu variety the price is 20-4. For the good variety it is 22/-. And then at Tadepalligudem for coarse variety the price is Rs. 19/-.

SHRI KISHEN CHAND: Are these prices per maund?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: Yes, they are per maund. And at Vijayawada it is Rs. 20/- for Kusma. So we find that the prices are gradually coming down in Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: What about the procurement?

SHRI N. C. SEKHAR: May I interrupt to . . .

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There is no time.

SHRI N. C. SEKHAR: In Andhra a bag of 160 seers costs Rs. 60 whereas at the same time the same rice sells at Rs. 45 a bag in Kerala.

SHRI KISHEN CHAND: And so they have saved Kerala.

SHRI N. C. SEKHAR: The Minister is right when he says that the price is lower in Kerala than in Andhra.

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: The enactment of the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, although it was intended for the procurement of foodgrains, in case the prices went above the average of the past three months, has had effect, for when that enactment was placed on the Statute Book it had a very healthy influence on the prices and they generally came down and they reached, more or less, the level of three months' average in several places. So we had no occasion to take action under that Act.

But in Andhra Pradesh we found a different phenomenon and, therefore, that was the only State wherein we were forced to apply the provisions of the amended Act, except, of course, in the matter of procurement of gram in the State of Rajasthan.

SHRI P. S. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: May I know the amount procured?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: We have served notices on some of the stockists who have submitted returns.

SHRI KISHEN CHAND: The hon. Minister is frequently referring to Andhra Pradesh but he is forgetting that in Hyderabad one year back rice was obtained at 2½ seers a rupee whereas now it is 1½ per rupee.

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: The figures that I have quoted just now are given out by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture based on the figures supplied by the State.

My hon. friend wanted to know the amount that we have been able to procure. In Andhra we have been able to procure 4595 tons in the districts of Krishna, East Godavari and West Godavari.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: At what price?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: Three months average. It ranged from Rs. 18/6, Rs. 18/11, Rs. 19 and Rs. 19/2. We have got this from some of the stockists and the millers to whom notices had been issued to declare their stocks. From them we may be able to make a further procurement of about 60,000 tons.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: What is the machinery through which you get this rice? Is it the Government of India machinery or the local State machinery?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: Government of India machinery. Of course, the State is rendering all possible assistance. We have recently appointed

an officer of the rank of a Joint Director there for the procurement and we are going ahead. Having regard to the general trend, I do not think there will be any necessity to continue this compulsory procurement.

With regard to our future policy, all that I can say is that we are very seriously thinking as to what it should be. In fact, the Prime Minister and other responsible persons of the Government of India have stated and we are determined to have buffer stocks and to stock them at strategic points so that we may be in a position to rush supplies to the scarcity areas.

SHRI GOPIKRISHNA VIJAIVAR-GIYA (Madhya Pradesh): What about the production programme?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: With regard to this, Sir, very many constructive suggestions have been made by two or three Members. Shri Govinda Reddy and Shri Rajagopal Naidu and others have said that we must increase our production. I do not think anybody would dispute the desirability of that but that is only a long-term remedy. We are thinking now about the whole programme of import of fertilisers and I believe the Finance Minister would perhaps deal with that as to what quantity should be imported and so on. So, that is under the consideration of the Government of India. When we consider all these matters, we must certainly have a sense of priority. If we are not in a position to keep the prices of foodgrains at a reasonable level, our Plan itself may not succeed. We are all anxious about this but, all the same, Members may consider the difficulties of the situation and take a charitable view of the measures that have been adopted by the Government.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I want to ask only one clarification.

We read in the papers that a delegation of the Andhra millers came to Delhi to ask for certain higher prices.

[Shri Bhupesh Gupta.]

I want to know whether, when Government fixed the prices at which it was to take over the stocks, it took into account the fact that these millers had bought paddy at much lower prices at the harvesting time? They had been given a big margin through this Government procurement.

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: There are two versions. Now, the millers say that they should be given the actual price paid by them plus a reasonable margin. That is what they say. Some attempt was made to have a negotiated price. I myself went to Hyderabad and met the millers along with the Food Minister of Andhra Pradesh to arrive at a settlement but it was very difficult to arrive at a negotiated price. In fact, we do not know what exactly the millers paid and what exactly is the margin that they got.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: The prevailing market rates.

SHRI A. M. THOMAS. According to the Essential Commodities Act, as amended, we are bound to pay the three months' average in case we compulsorily procure.

SHRI K. L. NARASIMHAM: Have you decided to open cheap grain shops, fair price shops in Andhra Pradesh?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: There are some fair price shops. But to ask for fair price shops in Andhra Pradesh is a little too much.

**श्रीमती सावित्री निगम (उत्तर प्रदेश) :**  
उपसभापति महोदय, इधर कुछ दिनों से उद्योगपतियों और सरकारी सूत्र से एक नया मनोरंजक स्लोगन सुनाई पड़ता है। यह स्लोगन है

"Industrialise or perish, produce or perish"

इन स्लोगन की उत्पत्ति कैसे हुई और कहा से हुई यह बताना अत्यन्त न्यायसंगत प्रतीत होता है। श्रीमन्, वे उच्च कोटि के उद्योगपति जिनकी आमदनी इतनी काफी हो चुकी है कि हाइयेस्ट इनकम टैक्स स्लैब को पहुँच चुकी है, लेकिन जिनका मन अभी भी सम्पत्ति से भरा नहीं है, वे ही इन स्लोगनों के सूत्रधार हैं। ये लोग, गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से जितनी क्रेडिट की फैसिलिटीज उनको मिली हुई है, उनका पूरी तरह से फायदा उठा कर इतना धनी बन जाना चाहते हैं कि जिससे वे पश्चिमी और अमेरिका आदि देशों के कुबेरपतियों से अपना मुकाबला कर सकें। उनको इस बात की चिन्ता नहीं है कि उनके इस अर्थ संचय से इस देश के करोड़ों व्यक्तियों को भखा मरने का प्रश्न पैदा हो जायेगा। वे समझते हैं कि हमारे पास पाप विमोचन के लिये धन है ही, कही ऋषिकेश में या इधर उधर धर्मशाला बना देंगे या कही गो हत्या बन्द करने के लिये धन दे देंगे। इस तरह की बातें करने से ये धनी लोग सोचते हैं कि हम अपने पाप से मुक्त हो जायेंगे। पर, श्रीमन्, मैं इन लोगों को बिल्कुल दोष नहीं देनी हूँ क्योंकि मैं जानती हूँ कि इनका हृदय परिवर्तन तभी संभव होगा, जब वे लोग जिन पर इनको कंट्रोल में रखने की जिम्मेदारी है, मार्ग दर्शन करने की जिम्मेदारी है, इनकी मनोवृत्ति को बदलने की जिम्मेदारी है, वे अपने को सही रख सकें।

अभी स्वयं पंडित जी ने एक मीटिंग में सोशलिस्टिक पैटर्न आफ मोमाइटी पर बोलते हुये कहा था कि

"Socialism depends on the productive apparatus controlled by the community"

अब आप ही बताइये कि कम्युनिटी को कंट्रोल कौन करेगा? यह हमारे पापुलर सरकार की जिम्मेदारी है कि वह कम्युनिटी की ओर में प्रोडक्टिव

एपेरेटस को कंट्रोल करे। लेकिन श्रीमन्, हमारे मिनिस्टर स्वयं ही पूजीपतियों के नारों में बह जाते हैं, उनके हाथ के खिलौने बन जाते हैं, इससे अधिक दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण स्थिति देश के लिये और क्या हो सकती है ?

श्री जे० एस० बिष्ट कौन मिनिस्टर बहा ?

**श्रीमन्नी सावित्री निम** . में उसका नमूना देती हूँ, जरा आप धैर्य रखिये। देश की टैक्सटाइल पालिसी को ही लीजिये। थोड़े दिनों पहले की बात है, यही दो तीन वर्ष का इतिहास मैं आपको बतलाना चाहती हूँ। सन् १९५५ में अम्बर चर्खों का सबसे पहले कपड़े के उत्पादन क्षेत्र में प्रवेश हुआ और देश के उन तमाम शुभचिन्तकों ने, जिनका विश्वास है कि देश की भूखी मरती हुई जनता को बचाने के लिये काटेज इंडस्ट्री का प्रसार करना है और ग्रामीण भाइयों को इप्लायमेंट दिलाने के साथ साथ लोगों की परचैजिंग पावर बढ़ानी है, उन्होंने उसका स्वागत किया और सरकार में समर्थन दिलाने के लिये अपील की। लेकिन, श्रीमन्, उधर सरकार ने पूजीपतियों की बात मान ली, और बड़े जोरदार शब्दों में जो अपील काटेज इंडस्ट्रीज सेक्टर के लोगों ने की थी—कि नये स्पिडिल्स के लिये लाइसेंस बन्द कर दिये जाय, वह नहीं मानी। काटेज इंडस्ट्रीज सेक्टर के लोगों ने स्पिडिल को बन्द करवाना चाहा और कहा कि कपड़े के बड़े हुये उत्पादन को चर्खों के द्वारा और हैंडलूम द्वारा ही होना चाहिये। ऐसी हालत में टैक्सटाइल इंडस्ट्रीज के जो मैनेजर्स हैं उनके लिये यह स्वाभाविक ही था कि वे डिसपरेटली कोशिश करते कि अम्बर चर्खों जैसे रा. वन उद्योग को काटेज क्षेत्र में न घुसने दें। उन्होंने बड़ी बड़ी स्कीमें बनाई और इस प्रकार के चार तरीके अपनाये। पहला काम यह किया कि कपड़े के दाम बढ़ा दिये, दूसरे, गोदामों से कपड़ा हटा कर उन्होंने यह दिखाने की कोशिश की कि कपड़े की स्केयरसिटी है। तीसरी चीज उन्होंने

यह की कि बनावटी कमी क्लिएट करने के लिये हर साधन को अपनाया। चौथी बात उन्होंने यह की कि देश में कपड़े की बड़ी हुई रिक्वायरमेंट को देखते हुये उन्होंने स्केयरसिटी इतनी पैदा कर दी कि जिससे यह मालूम हो कि देश में कपड़े की स्थिति बहुत खतरनाक है। क्योंकि देश की तरक्की के लिये यह 6 P M

जरूरी है कि थोड़ा सा एक्सपोर्ट भी बढ़े। उन्होंने एक्सपोर्ट के बारे में भी बड़े अच्छे अच्छे फीगर्स दिये। इस बात पर भी बड़ी लम्बी चौड़ी बहस हुई कि पर कैपिटा रिक्वायरमेंट कपड़े का क्या है। उन्होंने उसको बढ़ा कर १६ गज से १८ गज कर दिया। हम लोगों ने, कई ससद् सदस्यों ने, इसका विरोध किया और पूछा कि आखिर इस इफार्मेशन का सोर्स क्या है, किन सोर्सेज से पता लगाया है कि कपड़े की रिक्वायरमेंट इतनी हो जायेगी कि वह १६ गज के बजाय १८ गज पर कैपिटा हो जायेगा। लेकिन श्रीमन्, पूजीपतियों ने, जिनके पास प्रचार के खूब साधन थे, उन्होंने हमारे मिनिस्टर्स के दिमागों को भी जकड़ लिया और उन्होंने भी उनको पूरी तरह से सपोर्ट करना शुरू कर दिया। नतीजा यह हुआ कि जो गवर्नमेंट के स्पेक्समैन थे, यहां तक कि उद्योग मंत्री ने उच्च स्वर से यह कहना शुरू कर दिया कि देश में कपड़े की कमी का खतरा उत्पन्न होने वाला है और जो एक्सपेक्टेड रिक्वायरमेंट्स हैं उनको पूरा करने के लिये मिल्स को नये स्पिनडिल्स लगाने के लिये लाइसेंस देना ही पड़ेगा। ससद् के सभी माननीय सदस्य इस बात से परिचित हैं। उन दिनों की, सन् १९५५ की डिबेट निकाल कर देख लीजिये कि इस प्रकार का बहस मुबाहसा हुआ या नहीं। बावजूद हम सब लोगों के विरोध के, नये स्पिनडिल्स के लाइसेंस दिये गये। काटेज इंडस्ट्रीज के जो अनुभवी लोग थे, श्री बैकुंठ लाल मेहता ने और खादी बोर्ड के जितने लोग थे उन्होंने और ससद् के सदस्यों ने इस चीज का विरोध किया लेकिन इतने विरोध के बावजूद भी नये

[श्रीमती सावित्री निगम]

स्पिनडिल्स के आर्डर दिये गये। हम लोगों को यह देख कर बड़ा खेद हुआ कि उस समय जो सरकारी स्पोक्समैन थे वे हम लोगों के सामने अम्बर चखें के सूत को कम्पेयर करते हुये दिखाई देते थे। पच्चीस नम्बर के कमरे में जब एक मीटिंग हुई तो वहां पर जो सबसे बड़े सरकार के अधिकारी हो सकते हैं उन्होंने ऐसा किया...

श्री अकबर अली खान : उनका नाम क्या है ?

श्रीमती सावित्री निगम : श्री टी० टी० कृष्णमाचारी। उन्होंने दोनों सूतों को कम्पेयर करके दिखलाया कि देखिये यह सूत इतना कमजोर है कि कभी ठहर ही नहीं सकता है, यह सूत कभी चल ही नहीं सकता है। उसका नतीजा यह हुआ कि हमारी संयमित और दृढ़ भाषा सुनी नहीं गई और हम लोगों को एक तरह से पराजित सा होना पड़ा। अम्बर चखें की तरफ अधिकारियों की ओर से बहुत ही इन्डिफरेंस दिखाई गई और नये नये स्पिनडिल्स के आर्डर्स बराबर दिये जाते रहे।

(समय की घंटी बजनी है)

इस प्रकार जो हंडलूम के बारे में पांच वर्ष पूर्व सरकार की पालिसी थी, हंडलूम के बारे में सरकार ने जो यह निश्चय किया था कि इसको संरक्षण देंगे, जो इसको संरक्षण दे कर के फाइव याऊजैड मिनिशन यार्ड कपड़े को उसके लिये सुरक्षित किया गया था कि इतना हंडलूम के द्वारा ही प्रोडक्शन किया जाय और अमुक अमुक चीजें हंडलूम के द्वारा ही बनाई जायें, उसका भी पूंजीपतियों ने और टेक्सटाइल इंडस्ट्री के मैनेजर्स ने पूरा पूरा विरोध किया और वे अभी तक इस बारे में अपने को रिकंसाइल नहीं कर पाये हैं।

तो एक ओर तो यह हुआ कि हंडलूम के लिये क्षेत्र मुकर्रर किया गया और दूसरी ओर यह हुआ कि हमारे पूंजीपतियों ने, बिजनेस मैनेजर्स ने सरकार को परसुएड कर कर के आटोमैटिक लूम के लिये भी परमिशन ले ली। तो एक ओर तो यह होता है कि हंडलूम के प्रोटेक्शन के लिये सरकार एक नीति निर्धारित करती है दूसरी ओर उसके साथ ही साथ उसका आईवाश करके आटोमैटिक लूम के लिये परमिशन दे दी जाती है। अभी तक हालांकि उसका प्रोडक्शन शुरू नहीं हुआ है लेकिन जिस दिन आटोमैटिक लूम का कपड़ा बाजार में आ जाता है उस दिन आप समझिये कि हंडलूम के ऊपर मुसीबत का एक बड़ा पहाड़ टूट पड़ेगा, हंडलूम के जुलाहों के ऊपर मुसीबत का पहाड़ आ पड़ेगा क्योंकि आटोमैटिक लूम के मुकाबिले में वे ठहर नहीं सकते हैं। आटोमैटिक लूम में उत्पादन व्यय बहुत कम होगा और उसका नतीजा यह होगा कि उस कम्पीटीशन में भारत में हजारों हंडलूम बेकार हो जायेंगे और हंडलूम के ऊपर जो काम करने वाले जुलाहे हैं उनके ऊपर मुसीबत आ जायेगी और कपड़ा फिर एकत्रित होने लगेगा। तो मैं यह दिखा रही थी कि किस प्रकार मे टेक्सटाइल के सम्बन्ध में एक गलत नीति निर्धारित की गई और उसके कारण जो प्राइवेट सेक्टर के लोग हैं और जो कांटेज इंडस्ट्रीज सेक्टर के लोग हैं उनमें किस प्रकार से एक कंफ्लिक्ट पैदा हो गया...

(Time bell rings.)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Five minutes are over.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Five minutes are over? I should be given ten minutes, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Not ten minutes from now. One minute more.

श्रीमती सावित्री निगम : तो, श्रीमान्, आपने देखा कि यह हुआ। यह बात हम

लोगों ने अपने नेताओं से कही और पंडित जी के पास भी पत्र लिख कर भेजा लेकिन उसका भी कोई नतीजा नहीं हुआ। अब जब कि फैक्ट्स सामने आ गये हैं तो मैं चाहती हूँ कि हमारे जो मिनिस्टर महोदय हैं और इसके अधिकारी हैं वे अपनी नीति को बिल्कुल बदल दें। एक बार अपनी गल्ती को मान कर दुबारा ऐसा कदम उठाये जिससे कि इस तरह का कंफ्लिक्ट दोनों सेक्टर्स में कभी पैदा न होने पाये।

अब मैं थोड़ा सा आपके सामने यह बतलाना चाहती हूँ कि आज टैक्सटाइल इंडस्ट्री के सामने जो एक बहुत बड़ा क्राइसिस पैदा हो गया है उसका क्या कारण है। उसका कारण यह है कि सरकार ने पूँजी-पतियों के नारों में आ करके टैक्सटाइल पालिसी का एक सही ढंग से, निष्पक्ष ढंग से निर्धारण नहीं किया, और इस कारण से आज इतना बड़ा क्राइसिस आ गया है। मैं आपको इस रिपोर्ट से थोड़ा सा पढ़ कर सुनाना चाहती हूँ। यह एक मिलग्रोनर्स एसोसियेशन के सेक्रेटरी का वक्तव्य है। तीन लाइन का ही है। वह यह है :

"The textile industry in the State was now faced with a serious crisis due to the accumulation of cloth worth Rs. 5 crores, that the mills were running into losses due to the abnormal rise in the prices of cotton...."

अब उद्योगपतियों ने टैक्सटाइल इंडस्ट्री के अन्दर जो क्राइसिस है उसका जो कारण बताया है उसको भी, श्रीमन् आप सुन लें। उन्होंने यह कारण बताया है :

"The uncertainties of the Government policy on taxation, to difficulties arising out of the imposition of Central Sales Tax and to increase in labour amenities and dearness allowance."

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: They can take care of themselves. Why do you worry?

(Time bell rings.)

श्रीमती सावित्री निगम : तो वास्तविकता यह है और उसका नतीजा यह है कि टैक्सटाइल इंडस्ट्री में आज क्राइसिस है . . . .

(Time bell rings.)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: They will all walk out and you will have no quorum.

श्रीमती सावित्री निगम : यह पूरा तो कर लेने दीजिये। एक सेकेंड में सेंटेंस पूरा किये देती हूँ।

उसका नतीजा यह है कि आज क्राइसिस है और यह जो क्राइसिस है यह भी बनावटी है। असली बात यह है कि टैक्सटाइल इंडस्ट्री के लोग अपने प्रॉफिट को बिल्कुल ही कम नहीं करना चाहते हैं और न वे यह ही रियलाइज करते हैं कि देश में जो काटेज इंडस्ट्रीज का सेक्टर है उसकी भी कोई आवश्यकता है। इसलिये मैं यह चाहती हूँ कि दो बातें सरकार अपनाये। एक तो यह कि दोनों के क्षेत्रों को अलग अलग मुकर्रर कर दे। काटेज इंडस्ट्रीज के लोगों के पास पबलिसिटी या प्रोपोगैंडा करने का कोई सौर्स नहीं है लेकिन टैक्सटाइल इंडस्ट्री के लोगों के पास और बड़ी बड़ी इंडस्ट्री के लोगों के पास पबलिसिटी और प्रोपोगैंडा के पूरे सोर्सेज हैं लेकिन आप उन पबलिमिटी और प्रोपोगैंडा की बातों में बहके नहीं और इन दोनों के क्षेत्रों का सही सही निर्धारण कर दें। दूसरी बात यह है . . .

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, that will do. You will have another chance. There is a Message from Lok Sabha.