

This House further recommends to the Lok Sabha that the said Joint Committee be instructed to report by the 23rd May, 1956."

The motion was adopted.

ALLOTMENT OF TIME FOR DISCUSSION ON THE TRAVANCORE-COCHIN BUDGET, 1956-57 AND FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE TRAVANCORE-COCHIN APPROPRIATION BILL, 1956.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have to inform Members that under rule 158 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, the Chairman has allotted 2½ hours for the discussion on the Budget of the Travancore-Cochin State for 1956-57, and under sub-rule (2) of rule 162 of the said Rules, he has allotted 30 minutes for the consideration and return by the Rajya Sabha of the Travancore-Cochin Appropriation Bill, 1956, including the consideration and passing of amendments, if any, to the Bill.

THE TRAVANCORE-COCHIN BUDGET, 1956-57

THE MINISTER FOR REVENUE AND CIVIL EXPENDITURE (SHRI M. C. SHAH): Sir, as usual, while introducing the Budgets in respect of the States, it is not proper for me to make any speech. I believe the speech of the Finance Minister of the Travancore-Cochin State has been circulated to the Members of the House. I think, it will be better for me not to make any speech, because the speech is already there of the Finance Minister of that State. And I think, it will only be proper for me to just take note of what the hon. Members have to say in regard to this matter. I will reply to the hon. Members with respect to the financial matters, and with regard to the other points that may be raised by the hon. Members, my colleague, Mr. Datar, the Minister in

the Ministry of Home Affairs will give a reply. I think that would be proper, and I, therefore, need not take the time of the House and curtail the time that may be available to the hon. Members.

SHRI GOVINDAN NAIR (Travancore-Cochin): Mr. Deputy Chairman, I welcome this opportunity that we are having to discuss the Travancore-Cochin Budget in this House, because the very acute problems in our State were deserving the all-India attention, and it was our general complaint that we were not getting the attention that we deserved from the Central Government. So, if by the discussion of this Budget an all-India attention can be focussed on the burning problems of our State, I shall feel rather gratified.

Now, Sir, everybody admits that in Travancore-Cochin the problem of educated-unemployment is very acute. I have gone through the Budget, and I feel, that when the question of budgeting was taken up, this problem was completely ignored. The Prime Minister yesterday in this House made a speech, while introducing the Second Five Year Plan and he pointed out the various discussions that had taken place regarding that Plan. But when those discussions were actually going on about the Plan, our State was rather ignored. That is my feeling, because even with regard to this burning problem of educated unemployed no provision has yet been made. And now in other States, the expansion of education would give some temporary relief to the educated-unemployed. But you know Sir, that in our State, education has expanded to such an extent that no further expansion is possible.

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA (Uttar Pradesh): Literacy is the highest in your State?

SHRI GOVINDAN NAIR: Yes. Our educational institutions number 5,872 of which 46 institutions are first-grade colleges. So, this problem of educated-unemployment is very acute. And

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every year thousands of graduates are produced by these colleges, which means that the problem is getting more and more aggravated. I would, therefore, suggest that some bold measures should be taken by the Central Government with regard to this matter.

Sir, in this connection my suggestion is that the Central Government should see that a good number of the forty-six colleges, that are there now in our State, are converted into technical and professional colleges. Most of these colleges are owned by private bodies and I am sure that if the initiative is taken by the Central Government, many of the private agencies would be prepared to convert these colleges into either medical colleges, or engineering colleges, or agricultural colleges.

SHRI J. S. BISHT (Uttar Pradesh): How can you convert an arts college into an engineering college?

SHRI GOVINDAN NAIR: When I say that these colleges can be converted into technical colleges, I mean that the Central Government will have to subsidise these colleges, so that the necessary machinery and equipments could be had, because for starting an engineering college, or a medical college too much of finance is necessary. So, if the Central Government can help them with some subsidies, these colleges can definitely be converted into either medical colleges, or engineering colleges.

So, some bold step should be taken to solve this growing problem of the educated unemployed. With regard to the existing educated unemployed, I would suggest that as many people from our State as possible should be trained for work in the construction work that we are envisaging in connection with the Second Five Year Plan. By this, I do not mean that educated unemployment is the only problem that is confronting us. If you look at the whole problem of unemployment there, you will realise that only one-fourth of the unemployed are educated. The University of

Travancore has made a survey and the results of that survey show that out of 100 males in our State, only 44 are regularly employed; 31 are irregularly employed, and 25 are completely unemployed. That is to say, one in every four males is unemployed. Among women, out of every 100, 17 are regularly employed; 18 are irregularly employed; and 65 are completely unemployed. If the educational attainments of the unemployed are looked into, we will see that out of every 100 males 25 are illiterate, 48 can read and write, 23 have middle-school or S. S. L. C. qualification, and 4 are intermediates, graduates or technically trained people. Among every 100 females, 49 are illiterates, 42 can read and write, 8 are middle-school qualified or S. S. L. Cs., and 1 is intermediate, graduate or technically trained. Even if you take those, who have passed middle school, as educated, the percentage of educated unemployed is only 27.

So, educated unemployment is only part of the whole problem of unemployment which we have to face in our State. You should consider this in the context that 31 per cent. of our people are under-employed. The total number of under-employed people comes to about ten and a half lakhs. You know that the main industries of our State are cashew nuts and coir. The cashew nuts industry employs nearly 53 per cent. of the factory employees, and the coir industry 17 per cent. With regard to the present position of these industries the coir industry has gone into bad days, and the cashew industry is passing through a crisis. This I am quoting from the report on the State's Second Five Year Plan. So the problem of unemployment has to be looked into in connection with the huge problem of the under-employed in our State.

This question can be tackled only by the industrialisation of our State. But if you look at the allotment in the Budget you will find that proper attention to this problem has not been

paid by those concerned. Now, in certain quarters, it is said that Travancore-Cochin is in advance of the other

parts of India by at least some generations! It is also said more money *per capita* has been allotted to our State. But I ask, whether during the last eight years of Congress administration in our State, one single new industrial concern has been started in our State? In other parts of India, I admit that certain progress has been made in the matter of industrialisation, but as far as our State is concerned, I can assure you that not one new industrial concern was started during these years. I do not blame the State Government for that. Most of the industries that you now see in our State were started before the Congress took over the administration. They were started during the days of Dr. C. P. Ramaswamy Iyer. The Aluminium factory, the Glass factory, the Fertiliser factory, etc. were all started during the time of his Diwanship.

How was it possible for them to do it then? This is a matter which the Centre should go into. The reason was that we had better resources then. The main reason was that, as a maritime State, we were not mainly depend on land revenue. We had revenue from customs, income-tax, etc., so much so that the State could encourage the starting of industries in two ways: one by investing money in industries either in the form of shares or in the form of grants or loans, and the other was that, because income-tax was a States subject, we could attract outside capital to our State by reducing income-tax. If you look through the Finance Minister's speech, or through the draft Second Five Year Plan of our State, you will understand that to raise capital from our State is not possible, not because the capital is shy, but because the people are so poor. So, under the circumstances, the Central Government has a double duty to see that greater attention is paid to the industrialisation of our State. That is not being done. From another angle also, this question of industrialisation assumes greater importance.

Everybody knows that the highest density of population is in our State. It is 1015 per sq. mile, and if you take

only the cultivable land, it comes to something like 1829. Of the cultivable area of 32½ lakh acres, 30 lakh acres have already been cultivated. So, in order to solve this problem of unemployment, you cannot do it by expanding agriculture. Rather the pressure on agriculture is so big that some means must be found to relieve this pressure on agriculture itself. Even for that, there is only one way left and that is, to industrialise our State. Of the agricultural population, you should also remember, that 38 per cent. are landless. So, in a State where nearly 10½ lakhs of people are under-employed, where 14½ lakhs are completely unemployed, where the pressure on land is the highest, it is the duty of the Central Government to pay a greater attention and help that State in solving its problems.

Nowadays, we are hearing too much from all quarters about the unity of India. How can this unity of India be forged is a problem that is now confronting us. There are various suggestions from various quarters and I am not going into any of them, but I would suggest that, if the Central Government takes into consideration the special problems of every part of this country and helps them to solve such problems, then that will be really helpful in forging the unity of India. On the other hand, if you leave those States to look after themselves, then I think, it will very seriously affect the feelings and sentiments of the people in those regions. So I think, viewing it from any angle, you will come to this conclusion that this much help in the matter of industrialising our State should be given by the Central Government.

Now, the State Government had put forward so many plans about the Sheet Glass Factory, about the Sand-brick Factory, about the Heavy Electrical Equipment Factory etc. But when we find the plan is almost finalised, we find none of them there. About the Shipyard also, we heard that we are going to have a shipyard there. You know that Cochin Port is one of the

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best ports in India and if you start a Shipyard there, hundreds of people can be employed, but the Government has not yet decided to start one there. So, unless the Government seriously takes up this question, our people will be put to very great difficulties.

Then, another question which the State Government have failed to tackle, I would like to bring to your notice. I have told you about the condition of the agriculturists, the great pressure on land etc. Now it is eight years since the Congress has been in power—more than that but till now, no land legislation has been passed in our State. I don't know whether there is any other State in India where the peasantry had been so neglected. Last year, when the P.S.P. was in power, they brought a few Bills before the Assembly. Now, with the dissolution of the Assembly there, you know what the fate of those Bill is. So, I would request that those Bills that were discussed in the State Legislature should be taken up here and passed into law.

Again, if you go through the Budget you will be very much disappointed to find that many of the problems have been rather ignored. The question of housing is a very important one in our State. The Central Government is trying to help the States in this matter, but as far as our State is concerned, very little use has been made of this and again with regard to flood relief and other things, even if you go through the Budget, you will see that very little has been allotted for that. You know that our State is blessed with a number of small rivers. We may not have big rivers like Brahmaputra or Ganges but we have small rivers, and from them we can produce electricity more cheaply than in any other place. We can produce it in abundance but at the same time, these small rivers are a handicap to us in another sense. The strong currents, during the flood seasons, cause much harm to the peasants. Now, if you look into the Budget, you will see that the Government was bothered about only a small river in the

southern part of our State. So also, about the growth of population, I think it is a matter which has drawn the attention of the people throughout India. There also, we stand top-most. The all-India average is 1.3 per cent. while our growth of population is 2.37 per cent. We hear so much about family planning and other things here. What has been done to check this growth of population in our State? Has any money been allotted to our State to meet this need? You will find that very little has been done with regard to this question also.

The other day somebody in the other House made a remark about the Budget that it is a jumble of figures. The hon. Minister protested against that statement. But I would draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the report of the Public Accounts Committee of our State. I will read out just one paragraph from that:

"The Committee examined in detail the accounts of a few Departments for the year 1952-53 and was distressed to note the utter lack of proper estimating, budgeting and the execution of the Budget. The demands for grants were approved by the Legislature in the form submitted to them. Thereafter the State Government came up with supplementary grants thrice during July, 1952, November, 1952 and March 1953 and on the basis of the explanations given, those were also approved by the Legislature. The final accounts for the year indicated that there were savings exceeding 3% in 36 grants and that the savings under 10 grants were appreciable ranging from 13% to 89% in the capital portion, and 36% to 55% in the Revenue Section, with the result that the supplementary grants voted by the Legislature proved wholly unnecessary or excessive. The explanations for these savings were given more or less in the same form in which they had been given during the previous years."

That is to say, as in the previous years there has been an utter lack

of proper estimating, proper budgeting and proper execution of the Budget. Sir, this state of affairs continues even to this day.

If you look at the present Budget, you will see that it started as a deficit Budget and ended up as a surplus one. This has been going on in our State for the last few years. If you examine those items on which money was not expended, you will see they were all items which affect our people very very badly. Of the Rs. 30 crores that was set apart in the First Plan for our State Rs. 5 crores is not expended. Then last year the then Minister included Rs. 10 crores in the First Plan to be expended that year. Some Members of the Assembly raised the doubt whether he would be in a position to expend it all. Then they said that every arrangement had been made to expend the amount. But let me tell you, Sir, that actually 50 per cent. of that allotment was not expended. And if we look at the other items, what do we find? Under irrigation, a sum of Rs. 31.83 lakhs was not expended. The allotment was Rs. 141.51 lakhs and the amount expended was Rs. 112.68 lakhs. Under the head "Medical", the unexpended amount is Rs. 17.39 lakhs. Under "Agriculture", the unexpended amount is Rs. 21.05 lakhs and under Rural Development it is Rs. 9.53 lakhs. And when speaking on this subject of rural development, I would request the House to look into the statement of our own Finance Minister. While explaining these variations, he said that this was an amount allotted for sinking tube-well etc. Sir, though I told the House that our State is one where there are plenty of small rivers, there is a large tract of land where you cannot get good drinking water and the money allotted for digging tube-wells, we find here, has not been spent. That means that they have denied even good drinking water which they could easily have provided to our people.

If I were to speak to you about our labour, Rs. 5.01 lakhs which was expected to be spent for the welfare of labour has not been expended.

Again on Civil Works, a sum of Rs. 135.99 lakhs remains unexpended. As you know, Sir, one of the ways of reducing unemployment is to give work to the people on such constructions as the making of roads etc. There has actually been a clamour in our State for the digging of certain canals, as for instance, the Chertala Canal, for the last few years. Every year they would allot some money for this work, but what happens is that because of certain pulls from certain quarters, the work will never be completed. So this sum of Rs. 135.99 lakhs allotted for Civil Works, which, if properly utilised would have given work to hundreds of our people, has been left unexpended.

Then again, under the head "Miscellaneous Items", a sum of Rs. 12.66 lakhs remains unexpended, and under this head are included contributions to municipalities. Sir, you know that during the last recent municipal elections, the Congress had to face a very disgraceful defeat and if you want to know the reason for this, you need only look into this Budget. A sum of Rs. 12.66 lakhs which should have been given to the municipalities was not expended. Again speaking of the Community Projects, Rs. 7.81 lakhs remains unexpended. Under N.E.S., a sum of Rs. 38.2 lakhs has not been spent. Under Transport, Rs. 10.22 lakhs has not been spent. Under Irrigation, a sum of Rs. 7.94 lakhs remains unexpended. I will not elaborate the list. Under Loans and Advances, an amount of Rs. 91.94 lakhs meant to help the municipalities has been left unexpended.

We speak about industrialisation. Even our State Finance Minister in his speech laid stress on industrialisation. But if you examine the Budget, you see that out of Rs. 67.22 lakhs allotted for industrial development, only a sum of Rs. 19.93 lakhs was spent. The rest Rs. 47.29 lakhs remained unspent. This is the state of affairs with regard to the amounts budgeted.

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Let me next examine another aspect namely that relating to the amounts actually spent. I shall not go into all the details, but will take up only one or two items. Sir, you know that the coir industry is one of our main industries. In the year 1952, the position of this industry had deteriorated to such an extent that hundreds and thousands of people were in distress and help flowed from all parts of India to the distressed people there. Representations after representations were made to the State Government. Not only that; the coir workers came on a deputation to Delhi and met the Prime Minister. An officer was sent there to study this question and he submitted a report on the basis of which Rs. 64 lakhs were allotted for the coir industry. The scheme was that the coir workers should be organised into co-operatives so that they may be relieved from the clutches of the middlemen.

With regard to this industry, the main difficulty is that the industry is controlled by those people who deal with the husk. There was a provision in the arrangements which said that all the people who were engaged in this industry could be taken into the co-operative societies. Utilising that loophole, in every place, these co-operative societies were captured by the very same people who were dealing with husk and who were the cause of crisis in that industry. This resulted in a further accumulation of capital in that industry. The workers were refused admission into the co-operatives by means of a bye-law which said that the managing committee could refuse admission to anybody. Where the middlemen have captured these societies, they have refused admission to the workers so much so, that there is a further accumulation of capital in the hands of these middle people. This enables them to create a further crisis in that industry. The very purpose, for which this money was allotted, was defeated by the way that money was spent in our State.

In the handloom industry, though there is a slight difference, some of these co-operative societies are controlled by the weavers themselves, but the central society which deals with the marketing is controlled by a few people. This society should rush to the help of these handloom weavers, but it has failed to do that, so the very purpose for which this allotment was made has not been made use of fully.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There are still four more speakers.

SHRI GOVINDAN NAIR: I will stop within ten minutes.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There are four more speakers, three from your side. You can pass on the points to your friends. Please finish.

SHRI GOVINDAN NAIR: As a result of this callous and indifferent attitude towards the problems of our people, the Government is depending more and more upon the police force, and is dealing with the problems of our people in a very wrong way. People are attacked, and then it is said that they have become wicked. But there is no excuse for calling people wicked when justice is craved for. I say this now because I found the hon. Home Minister trying to justify the police atrocities in our State in the other House. Even before I became a Member of this House, a few months ago, I had the occasion to come and report certain facts to the Home Ministry regarding the police atrocities. The answer that we received a few weeks ago was that proper action had been taken with regard to these matters. Since there is no time, I shall not go into further details, I shall not go into the old stories but shall place before you one instance of police atrocity which cannot be justified in any way. One Jacob of Mundakayam, a trade-union worker, was arrested on the 26th. He was in police custody on the 26th of April. On that day, there was a case against him in a Magistrate's Court at Peermade. While he is in custody it is physically impossible for him to

be present at the court without the assistance of the sub-inspector of police there. He requested him to take him to the court or to get him leave. The sub-inspector did none of these things; on the other hand, he got a warrant against this man from the same Magistrate.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR (West Bengal): The Minister does not listen to this.

SHRI GOVINDAN NAIR: I want the Home Minister to listen to this.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Datar, something against the Home Ministry.

SHRI GOVINDAN NAIR: I am putting to you a concrete case. On the 26th April, one Jacob was in police custody at Mundakayam. On that very day, there was a case pending against him in a Magistrate's Court at Peermade. While in police custody, as you know, he could not physically be present in the court without the assistance of the sub-inspector of Mundakayam. When the matter was reported to him and when he was requested to take the prisoner to the court, the sub-inspector said that he would get leave for him. Instead of getting leave for him, what he did was he got a warrant against him because he knew that he would be out on bail without much delay. When the man came out on bail on the 5th May, he was arrested by the same sub-inspector and was beaten very badly. Sir, when we go and represent these matters before the hon. Ministers, if they feel that they should somehow defend the police officers in our State, or if they feel that what the police inspectors or police officers say is the only correct version, we are in a very difficult position. Sir, about this sub-inspector, a few months ago, a leading citizen of our State, with the full confidence that he will get justice at the hands

of the Prime Minister wrote to him that he was ill-treated. He is an advocate. You know, what was the reply we got? He was man-handled, remember, in the presence of hundreds of peoples on the road, and he complained to the Prime Minister here, and the reply he got was the same reply which our Home Minister in the Assembly gave, which everybody knew was an utter lie.

I know that this Central Government has a very efficient intelligence system working in our State. Even the activities of the local committees of opposition parties, the Intelligence Department is very clever to find out. I admire them for that. Now I ask you when we complain about the police atrocities, instead of repeating what those police officers themselves say, why not make an independent enquiry and find out who is speaking the truth. Well, Sir, we feel, and I would demand of this House, that a parliamentary committee be set up for this purpose, because what we find there is a kind of police atrocity which, I understand, does not exist in any other State in India. I have talked to people from many other States and they cannot believe that such things can happen in 1955 and 1956 in a State in India.

That is the present position, Sir, and that police officer is now given the honour of "Padma Vibhushana" by the President. Now he is going about organising meetings, etc. I shall not go into those details, but I would say that, if the Central Government is prepared to conduct an enquiry we are prepared to substantiate almost all the charges that we have placed before this House and before the Home Ministry. Instead of doing that, coming and defending petty police officers, who are committing atrocities after atrocities, is something which we cannot understand. Against the same police inspector, when the president and secretary of the union were representing before the present Adviser to His Highness the Rajpramukh, on the 8th of May—they had got an appointment

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with the Adviser, Mr. P. S. Rau, for this day—about the atrocities of the very same police officer, which he had committed not only on the 26th of April, but also on that day, when that man was manhandled, he said, "Well you go and represent again." This is what we are going to do. This is the way in which we are treated.

In this connection, there is one more point to which I should like to refer while speaking on this question. Here this morning I got a statement about the Preventive Detention Act. There is no need of the Preventive Detention Act in our State. As long as there is section 107, as long as there is provision for security proceedings, why should there be the Preventive Detention Act? Now, almost 90 per cent. of the trade union workers and 90 per cent. of the Kisan workers of all opposition parties are involved in one case or the other. Hundreds of cases are filed and security proceedings which have been extending for more than three years and four years are there. Hundreds of false cases are filed against trade union and Kisan workers. When we say all this, at least the Central Government should look into this matter. If we are to get a flat refusal, and if we are to be confronted with a defending of the police actions, then Sir, it would be a pitiable thing. So, I would request the Home Minister and the Finance Minister to look into these problems more sympathetically. Let us also, in the southernmost corner of this country, have the democratic rights which people in other parts of India enjoy. Let us not be harassed by the police officers in the way in which they are doing now.

With these words, Sir, I conclude.

SHRI PERATH NARAYANAN NAIR (Madras): Mr. Deputy Chairman, the circumstances in which this Budget has come to be discussed in this House, and not in the Travancore-Cochin State Assembly, have their wider political aspects, and it is rather difficult for us, who belong to political

parties, to leave aside those political aspects even for a moment, and to concentrate on the more pressing economic, administrative and budgetary issues. All the same, I shall resist the temptation to enter into party politics, and I would just bring to the notice of the Government, the hon. Finance Minister and the hon. the Home Minister, some of the more pressing problems in regard to which the people of the Travancore-Cochin State look for immediate solution.

My friend, Shri Govindan Nair, just referred to the land problem. Now, that is the most pressing problem there. He has already referred to the high density of population there and the pressure on land, and if the agricultural land available there were distributed evenly among the agriculturists, even then an individual holding would come to just one-third of an acre.

Now, at the time of the dissolution of the Travancore-Cochin Legislature, of the 26 Bills pending there, six related to tenancy reform and land reform. I shall not go into that aspect, as to why the five Congress Ministries never brought any land reform. At any rate, the P.S.P. Ministry did bring forward certain measures of legislation and I would just refer to three of those Bills, which were on the legislative anvil in various stages, some having passed the Select Committee stage and some in the Select Committee stage, and all that. Now, one particular Bill is the Compensation for Tenancy Improvements Act. The House will be shocked to hear that there has been absolutely no provision for compensation for tenancy improvements in that State all these years. I may bring to the notice of the hon. Ministers here that this legislation for paying compensation for tenancy improvements was enacted in the neighbouring State of Madras in the year 1911, 45 years ago. Now, all these years, the people of Travancore-Cochin, the tenants, have been waiting for this very pressing piece of legislation. At long last, they were about to get it but because of the dissolution of the Legislature, it is pend-

ing there, and I want the Government of India, the hon. Ministers, to tell me what they propose to do about it.

Another Bill relating to tenancy reform is the Travancore-Cochin Verumpattom Bill. Apart from land reforms, in almost all States, there have been tenancy measures giving some relief at least to the tenants in the matter of rent reduction and in the matter of evictions. I come from that part of the State which was formerly the State of Cochin. The Verumpattom Bill now in force was passed at the time of the late Shanmugam Chettiar. There was so much of rack-renting there. It was natural that when there was so much of pressure on land, there was rack-renting. But the provisions of that Bill, passed then, made the existing high rate of rent as the fair rent. There has been absolutely no reduction for the tenants all these years. Now, this Verumpattom Bill, which the P.S.P. Ministry introduced, seeks to give a measure of relief in the matter of reduction of rent and in the matter of security of tenure to large numbers of tenants in that part of the State. I want to know from the hon. Minister as to what they propose to do about this.

The third Bill is about restriction on possession and ownership. In our Five Year Plan, the pressing need for land reforms and thus releasing the purchasing power of the people has been very forcefully stated. Why I stress this point is this. At the time when the present Administrator's appointment was announced, I had read in the papers—and I had occasion to read even before—that while he was in Pepsu, whatever might have been the other aspects of the Administrator's rule in Pepsu, at any rate, he had occasion to bring in at least three significant pieces of legislation which did considerable good to the people there. So the people of Travancore-Cochin now want to know, whether during the Administrator's rule, these Bills would be actually passed. In Pepsu, I was told that there was some

advisory committee to go into this matter, and I want to know if it is the idea of the Administrator to have an advisory committee there in Travancore-Cochin or not. It is quite open to the Administrator to bring them before this Parliament, and I am sure that the very justice of the provisions of those Bills will make this House accept them without much debate. So I want the hon. Minister to tell us what he proposes to do about these pressing pieces of land and tenancy legislation there.

The second point is about the prices of foodgrains, which are soaring here. But that is not a peculiar phenomenon which we have in Travancore-Cochin State alone. We have reports about these soaring prices from Orissa, from Madras and elsewhere. The prices of cereals including rice, and the prices of pulses and the prices of coconut oil, which hon. Members know is an essential commodity for the common people there, are soaring very high. Representations have been made to the Administrator, and I think to the Central Government also. Now, I read in today's papers that the Madras Government have taken some prompt measures to meet the situation. They have leased their stocks to the market, which in some degree has led to the fall of the prices. Our demand so far this question is concerned is this. May I inform the hon. Minister that the coming three months are the most scarcity months, in the State; July—August are the most scarcity months and unless the Administration takes some immediate steps to open some fair price shops, unless the Government takes some immediate steps to get some stocks of rice and see that rice is sold in the market at a fair price, the lot of the people here will be very difficult. Why I stress this point is, when this point was brought to the notice of the Administrator there at a Press Conference and in other forms also, my impression was that he took a very complacent attitude about it. So

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I want the hon. Minister to just bring home to Administration there that, on this pressing problem, something good, something adequate must be done. Fair price shops must be opened and foodgrains and other essential commodities should be made available to the people at reasonable rates.

The third point I have to make is about education. I am not referring to literacy and all that nor am I referring to that question just now with reference to unemployment problem. My hon. friend Mr. Govindan Nair said that there are some 5,800 and odd educational institutions there. There are over 18 lakhs of students in the tiny State. Now, one feature of these educational institutions there is that a vast majority of them is private managed. When I say private managed, it does not mean just by private individuals, nor just by educational societies, but mostly by communal and religious bodies, by churches, by christians of all denominations, by the Nairs organised in the Nair Service Society, and by the Nairvas organised in their S.N.D.P. I have no objection to these various organisations running the schools, but what happens is this. In the matter of recruitment, the public services regulations do not apply. In the matter of recruitment of thousands of teachers to these five thousand and odd educational institutions, only religious considerations weigh with the management and anybody showing the least symptom of any democratic sense has absolutely no place there. So my point is that in this matter, the Administration there must take immediate steps to bring the recruitment into line with the public services regulator

Again in the matter of pay and other things, these teachers coach the students with the syllabus in primary, secondary and even colleges. They prepare the students for the same examinations, but then the pay they get is very much lower than what is paid in Government institutions.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI R. P. TAMTA) in the Chair.]

Because of this private system of management, there is also another thing there. The Central Government are very particular in rooting out corruption. I had occasion to read in the speech of the Home Minister in the other House that corruption at lower levels and even at higher levels will be put down. I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the fact that corruption of a very very disgraceful nature exists in these educational institutions there. Because of the system of private management, the teachers are made to sign for moneys which they do not receive. It may be asked, why should they do it? If they do not sign for it, in the context of the prevailing unemployment, they lose their job. And what is the solution, I suggest? The solution that I suggest is the solution which the Congress Ministry—Shri Rajagopalachari's Ministry—in the neighbouring State of Madras took. They just ordered that the pay of the teachers in private managed schools which received grant from the Government must be disbursed directly to the teachers and not through the managements. It is a very simple thing, and it must be done to avoid this corruption. If these educational institutions, where our younger generation get their education, happen to be sources of corruption, woe unto our country. So my solution is simple. I am only asking for a thing that has been done by a Congress Ministry in the neighbouring State of Madras. So on this point, I am pressing for two things; first recruitment to be done under the public services regulations, without any discrimination on grounds of religion community etc., and direct payment of salaries.

The baneful influence in Travancore-Cochin is the communal influence, and these various communal organisations get this influence mainly because they are allowed to manage these institutions. Primary education is the main concern of the State. And

I am told that the Central Government, in order to fulfil the provisions of the Constitution, are prepared even to share part of the expenses of primary education which will arise as a result of giving increased pay to primary teachers. Now, these various communal organisations there, the churches, the N. S. Society—the baneful influences of which we are realising to our cost in the political atmosphere—are flourishing because of this particular system of education. And so, many thousands of teachers of these private schools, scattered over the whole area, with so much of discontent in them, unless they owe their allegiance to these particular communal organisations, would lose their job. That atmosphere, that spectre, we must remove. I am just giving the background. I am only suggesting that what has been done in other States should be done, that is, recruitment under the public service regulations, and direct payment to the teachers, and not through the managements, should be made. If the present administrator will do these, it will be a great help to thousands of teachers. It will do a lot to mitigate the discontent among a large section of the people. But more than that, you will be doing a real service, to cut at the growing communal influence, influence which has cost us dear in the Travancore-Cochin State.

Now, Sir, my friend has already referred to the problems of industrialisation. He has already referred to the question of shipbuilding and other industries. I happened to read the speech of the hon. Finance Minister in the other House. He said, especially when the problem of unemployment is so pressing there—in the context of that situation—it is not very heavy industries involving huge investments that are called for there. He has suggested medium industries and secondary industries. I am all for medium industries and secondary industries. But I want the Government of India to look at the location of the heavy industries in that part of the State from another angle. After

all, we have already accepted the principle in the Five Year Plan that there must be proper regional distribution of these industries. It has all along been the complaint that the South has been neglected and we, in that part of Travancore-Cochin State, Malabar and Kerala, have reason to believe that we have been neglected. We can give any number of instances. But then, we have no steel, we have no coal there. We are not pressing for these industries. But we do want, in the long range perspective, the India Government to bestow some consideration that, wherever possible, some at least of the heavy industries can be located there. As my friend has pointed out, not a single industry worth the name has been started there during all these years. I will not refer to the shipbuilding yard. He has already said that because of the intelligent labour available there, because of the abundant supply of timber there, a shipbuilding yard will be best located in that area.

Now, I refer to rubber. You know that 96 per cent. of the rubber produced in our country come from that part, and you know that it is strategic material. Whatever little manufacture is being done is in the hands of foreign companies who mint tons of money and who do not serve the national interests. Even recently, when the Tariff Commission imposed some restrictions on the price of tyres and other things, hon. Ministers of the Government of India know in what way these foreign concerns accepted those things. They have created artificial scarcity. But I am not going into those aspects now. What I say is, start a rubber manufacturing industry in the public sector. I am told that some sort of negotiations are being undertaken with some foreign concerns now on the question of rubber industry. We have had enough of these foreign concerns. So, in the national interest, I say, we want that a rubber manufacturing factory must be started in the public sector, and the best place and the only place for that is there. And, again, I do not

[Shri Perath Narayanan Nair.]
want to refer to the titanium factory, or to monazite which is available in abundance there.

SHRI GOVINDAN NAIR: There is a factory.

SHRI PERATH NARAYANAN NAIR: It can be developed. I do not want to go into those aspects for want of time. So, what I say is, apart from the immediate problem of solving unemployment, and our having to establish some medium and secondary industries there, this question of heavy industries also must be taken up. There are possibilities there because of natural sources of supply, because of intelligent labour. So, at least during the period of the next Five Year Plan, I want the India Government to devote their attention, and give some consideration to this neglected part of the country.

Now, there is one other point. I happened to read the speech of the hon. Home Minister in the other House. He said that if specific instances are given of police excesses, of corruption in administration etc he will go into those things. Well, if Members of Parliament—not one or two, a number of them—bring forward specific instances, even give names of persons, are they not concrete? Is it not open to the Home Minister to conduct proper enquiries into these? My own information is that, during the last two or three years, not only to the Ministry there, but to the Ministers here, a number of specific instances of police excesses have been brought to notice. A number of instances of corruption have been brought to their notice. If only the Home Minister makes enquiries, and if the people of Travancore-Cochin know that at least now there is some sort of a response to public representations, the atmosphere will change like anything. Why can't you do it? Specific instances are given on not only the question of excesses, I can quote a number of instances of gross inefficiency of the administration there. What more striking

example do you want? Rs. 30 crores were allowed under the First Five Year Plan for this least industrially developed State. They spent only Rs. 25 crores and Rs. 5 crores were left unspent. What more striking inefficiency of the Congress administration—or whatever administration be it, I am not bothered—of the State administration you want? And, again, are they guided by any rational principles of budgeting? It is just always—and it has been the case for the last so many years—underestimating income and overestimating expenditure, a deficit budget to begin with and a surplus budget in the end. They do not follow any rational principles of budgeting.

And then, my friend has given numerous instances not only in the finance field, but in other fields also. Now, with regard to the police administration, my friends here and in the other House have dealt with the excesses committed by the police. To prove their gross inefficiency, I can give you any number of instances. Incendiaries set fire to the Sabrimala temple. It focussed the attention of the whole of India, but this administration—to which our Ministers are giving such praise—could not trace the incendiaries. They could not trace the culprits, and bring them to book. Valuables are stolen from the capital city—from the museum. The police there, with central intelligence or local intelligence, could not bring to book the culprits. And a number of murders take place. Most often the culprits go unpunished. Now, it is not a matter of satisfaction to me that in my State, that is Kerala, there has been all this inefficiency. You may put it at the door of the people there. You may say that you do not deserve a better administration. In that context, I just want to bring to the notice of the Ministers of Government of India here, that forces against this corruption, forces against this inefficiency, real democratic forces have been growing there all these years. I ask what have the Congress done

to hasten that process? My complaint against the Congress is mainly that they have sought to perpetuate the old federal set up, the old communal organisations there. Now, whenever ordinary people, common people organise into trade unions, or into kisan sabhas, or into political parties, when they make the slightest attempt to assert themselves, it is looked upon as destructive activity, it is looked upon as subversive activity. The result is that arch communal reactionaries get to the top, not only in the administration, but even inside the Congress. Sir, I can quote instances. Even Mr. Govinda Menon, the Chief Minister who has just resigned, has got his own story to tell. Especially, if the hon. Minister wants instances of corruption to be given, well, the founder-members of the Congress in Travancore-Cochin—Shri Kumbalam Sanku Pillai and Shri T. M. Verghese, ex-ministers—are the people who have brought the charges. Nothing more concrete than this is required.

I want the Minister to go into this question. As I said, democratic forces are growing there. We are sorry that the administration—the Congress leadership—has been more often fighting the forces of democracy, the progressive forces, and the result is, they succumb to communal reactionaries. My complaint is that the Central Government have not looked into these aspects and they have also, in effect, in practice, not hastened to help these forces of democracy.

My time is up and I may just say one thing more. Probably, this Budget, which is introduced here will be the last Budget for the Travancore-Cochin State. We are now on the eve of having our much cherished Kerala State. We are anxious to make the State a complete success. As I have already informed the House, we want some minimum assistance from the Centre in the matter of starting some major industries, in the matter of producing raw materials. And far more than that, we want the

Central Government not to stifle democracy, but to understand the growing forces of democracy in their true perspective. We are an intelligent people. We have got natural resources. But then we have also got this legacy of communal rule. We had the legacy of foreign rule and it is an uphill task for us to get over these, settle ourselves and bring real democracy to prevail. We want the Central Government to look at us from that aspect and not stifle democracy.

I am not going into the various aspects as to how the President's rule has come to be established there. It is no credit to our State. I realise it. But then, what is the remedy? The remedy is not President's rule. The remedy is not to perpetuate this communal, reactionary and federal rule. The remedy, as I say, is to bring in land legislation, tenancy legislation. Already the Bills are there. Try to do something to reduce the soaring prices of foodgrains. Do something just, to take away the influences of these very reactionary elements from the educational institutions of our State. Do some justice to the primary school teachers.

There are wider problems about plantation labour, the implementation of the Minimum Wages Act, and the nationalisation of some of the foreign-owned plantations. But I want to focus the attention of the Minister on these immediate questions and the crying need that our democracy be helped and not stifled. With these words, Sir, I sit down.

SHRIMATI K. BHARATHI (Travancore-Cochin): Mr. Vice-Chairman, while supporting this Budget, I do not wish to go into details of figures, because my friend, Mr. Nair, has done that in an exhaustive or rather aggressive or even destructive manner.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: What is constructive?

SHRIMATI K. BHARATHI: I will come to it. I am glad that he did not find it to be a stupid Budget.

[Shrimati K. Bharathi.]

I do not wish to waste the time of this House in answering all sorts of mean allegations, misrepresentation of facts, insinuations, and daring and deliberate lies levelled against the former Congress regime in our State. Of course hon. Members here know.....

AN HON. MEMBER: Utter lies.

SHRIMATI K. BHARATHI:that some of the points had been raised in this House several times before, and had been answered by the Home Minister as well as Members on this side. So, there is no point in my answering them again and again on the floor of the House, though they deem it a privilege or even a pleasure to indulge in these things more often.

Sir, I just ignore these remarks and only wish to remind my friend there that there is no point in making an electioneering campaign on the floor of the Rajya Sabha. Sir, we are here to discuss the Travancore-Cochin Budget and not to arouse public sympathy in favour of the speaker. So, while discussing this Budget, I only want to place some concrete suggestions before the House. It is evident from the speeches of my friend there, and from other sources, that the acute problem that gives headache to our State is unemployment, especially educated unemployment. Precariously perched between the marauding sea and the Western Ghats, that narrow strip of land had been a problem to the State Government and is a problem to the Central Government now. Sir, to the tourist, it is a paradise on earth, with its dense tropical forest, the evergreen vegetation of the highlands and the lowlands, the swift running rivers, the beautiful chain of backwaters, and the 200 miles of sea coast. Yes, it is a splendid sight for others. Sir, it would have been a paradise indeed for the inhabitants also, but for the pressure of population and the utter poverty that exists there.

Very often visitors wonder how there can be poverty in a land on which nature has lavished its gifts so generously. Nature has been generous in giving us not only the flora and fauna but also population—thick population. There lies the main reason of our poverty. It is a natural question to ask, "What do we grow there? What do we manufacture there?" Our main crops are coconut, paddy, rubber, tea, coffee, cardamom and tapioca. All these are cash crops, and so, from a comparatively small acreage, we can get a good income. And you must know that we are good cultivators also. But even if it is a gold mine, it cannot support so large a number of stomachs.

So, the only solution for our problem is to industrialise the State and give employment to our starving people. Sir, we have, as Mr. Govindan Nair mentioned, the coir industry and the cashewnut industry which provide employment for six lakhs of people. We have a few spinning mills and weaving establishments also, though we do not grow cotton. But the employment potential is not much. Manufacture of tiles and bricks does support a few thousands. So also does the oil crushing industry.

Sir, our State does not possess any raw material except coir, copra, clay etc. to tempt industrialists. Nor do we have coal or oil. But the generation of hydroelectric power gives us some hope. It is in that way that some industries were started there. But most of these industries are capital-intensive and not labour-intensive. So it will not touch even the fringe of our unemployment problem.

In order to provide employment for our rural unemployed and the educated unemployed, we have to think of labour-intensive industries. We should have small-scale and cottage industries. This is no easy task requires great organisational and P. Wherever possible, hydroelectric power can be utilised. With timber, we may be able to manufacture furniture, matches, doo and even build ships. With a harbour like Cochin, the prelevan lay, the

shipbuilding is there. Oil crushing can be organised on a cottage industry basis, with the manufacture of soaps and toilet articles. With our fine clay, we can produce crockery. The fine sands of Shertalai can provide material for glass manufacture. With our fruits like bananas, jack-fruit and pine-apple, we can start a canning industry. Tapioca can be the raw material for manufacturing starch and sago. Sir, we can envisage a number of industries. But it means that great abilities for organising these industries are required, as also for marketing the products.

Sir, somebody might ask whether we were sleeping all these years, when we had so much scope for industrialisation. Unfortunately, I regret to say, Sir, that till now the Centre had been pursuing a step-motherly policy towards that unfortunate State of ours. That may be because we were out of the way, in the southern-most corner of India, or that may be because of the pressure from other States to be served first. We waited and waited in a queue for all these years, as Charles Dickens's Mr. Micawber, hoping against hope for something to turn up.

Sir, in this connection, I do not forget the fact that the atmosphere of political uncertainty has also contributed much to our inability to do something in that direction. We should have political stability, as also a healthy and patriotic labour movement, in order to give stability to our industries. Labour and capital must regard each other as partners and not as enemies. Prosperity of the industry should be their mutual concern. Unfortunately, my friend there, who was so vociferous in criticising the inefficiency or the misdoings of the Congress Government there, and his colleagues, attributed their mite to the inefficiency, or rather the utter destruction of every little industry that we have here. Sir, I do not hesitate to say that these so-called politicians, based on trade-unionism, not to mention the lot of the workers, but content with the conflicts which ultimately

injured them and the society at large, due to the industries being cracked, were partly or wholly responsible for this sad plight there.

Sir, in India, political revolution preceded industrial revolution, and democracy in the political field is setting the pace for economic development. On the other hand, in Britain, the industrial revolution preceded the political revolution, which ushered in democracy. The industrial prosperity of Britain, which made the payment of higher wages and the provision for social security possible in later years, was built on the sweat, blood and tears of the workers at home, as well as on the exploitation of the colonies abroad. In the early years of the industrial revolution, labour had not the right even to organise or to bargain for minimum wages or fixed hours of labour. In the U.S.S.R., industries are built up by the tremendous sacrifices exacted from the people in general, and the working classes in particular, by a system in which the trade union, the employer and the Government are practically merged into one all-pervading and all-powerful master, who exacts more work and still more work from the employees. Sir, in the countries which were sparsely populated and confronted by the two devastating wars, the problem was one of shortage of man-power. I only wanted to impress upon the House how our problem differs from that of others, so that the Planning Commission can apply its mind to it and formulate plans accordingly and solve it in partnership with the States.

Sir, about the educated unemployment, I would like to make a few suggestions. In Travancore-Cochin, we have as many colleges as other States have middle schools or high schools. The thousands that come out of these colleges spread out not only throughout the length and breadth of India, but they spread out throughout the globe. Today, their market is steadily dwindling, because with the advent of literacy in other States, they refuse to absorb our young men now. So I fear that would create

[Shrimati K. Bharati.]

some more problems. Sir, our education has given us various opportunities, or rather it has compelled us to spread out. And that has created in us a cosmopolitan outlook.

In this connection, I would like to draw the attention of the House to two of the most eminent Members of this House itself. One has nationalised herself and the other has internationalised himself, and I do not know whether they remember their mother-tongue even. Sir, this tendency in our people to have a cosmopolitan outlook is a great asset to us, if only the Central Government could utilise it in a proper way.

Sir, it is no doubt a good thing to encourage our educated young men to lead groups of families and settle down in different parts of the country which are sparsely-populated. But I would be failing in my duty if I fail to disclose certain facts about our resettlement schemes in Bhopal. Last week, I had been to Sultanpur in Bhopal. It was a painful experience to me to see people in utter misery due to lack of proper facilities for drinking water, medical aid and proper quarters to live in, and they had no facilities to educate their children. I do not ignore the fact that the Government of India thought of lavishing some land and some funds in respect of these 150 families who came to Bhopal in three batches about 1½ years back. But lack of proper management of affairs had led these poor refugees to utter misery. First of all, the liaison officer, who is supposed to manage these affairs properly, should be removed from the scene, and some other officer, who has some imagination, some sympathy, and who can understand Malayalam, should be allowed to assume that office. Otherwise, all the labour and money spent will be a definite loss. Sir, these 150 families comprise 300 and odd children. Having been used to a milder climate, they are simply roasted in the iron-sheet huts, without water, without any proper medical aid. The present liaison officer is

practically a slave driver of the twentieth century, and I would strongly appeal to the hon. Minister for Food and Agriculture to take speedy steps in order to hasten proper help to these unfortunate victims of our resettlement scheme. Sir, why do I say 'speedy steps'? It is because these poor people are practically roasted, as if in a frying pan, in that iron-sheet colony, and within two weeks' time, these huts will be flooded. Sir, we will be the messengers of goodwill and brotherhood among all Indians, if you handle us in a proper way.

Sir, our problem, whether it is the problem of unemployment, under-employment or resettlement, or something else, has now become the national problem or the problem of the nation.

THE MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI B. N. DATAR): May I know whether the hon. Member has visited the Bhopal camp?

SHRIMATI K. BHARATHI: Yes, I have visited that place. Sir, we have to tackle this problem not at a State level, but at a national level.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI R. P. TAMTA): Mrs. Bharati, how much more time you will take?

SHRIMATI K. BHARATHI: About one minute more. So, our State should work and move in harmony with the national Government, whether we have the President's rule, or the popular rule. If we go out of step with the nation at large, we will be lost in a mess. So, the prerequisite for the solution of all our problems is political stability and rapid industrialisation. Thank you, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI R. TAMTA): The House stands adjourned till 11 A.M. tomorrow, the 17th May 1956.

The House then adjourned at five of the clock till 11 of the clock on Thursday 17th May 1956.