

(b) the total amount spent by the Government of India and the Government of the United States of America on account of that personnel, *i.e.*, on account of their salaries, travel and other administrative costs; and

(c) whether Government will lay a statement on the Table of the Council showing blockwise distribution of these experts?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR PLANNING AND IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI J. S. L. HATHI): (a) Five.

(b) No information is available regarding salaries and other expenses paid by the Government of United States of America. The Government of India is responsible for providing local facilities only. Information regarding expenditure in regard to these is being collected.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement showing the blockwise distribution of Technical Co-operation Administration Experts.

<i>Name of T.C.A. Expert.</i>	<i>State-Ministry to which attached.</i>
Mr. Donald Reznik	Madhya Pradesh.
Mr. Howard Chapman Ford.	Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
Mr. C. A. Svinth	Ministry of Food and Agriculture.
Mr. Harold Hay	Ministry of Works Housing & Supply.
Mr. Henry D. Whitney	Ministry of Works, Housing & Supply.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBERS

SHRI J. H. SUBBIAH

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have to inform "hon.. Members that the following letter has been received from Shri J. H. :Subbiah which reads thus:

"I beg to state that on account of certain private affairs I had not been able to attend and shall not be able to attend the session for another two

weeks and request that leave may kindly be granted to me."

Is it the pleasure of the House that permission be granted to Shri J. H. Subbiah for remaining absent from all meetings of the Council during the current session?

(*Wo hon. Member dissented.*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Permission to remain absent is granted.

BABU GOPINATH SINGH

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have received another letter and this is from Babu Gopinath Singh, which reads thus:

"As I am still unwell and confined to bed in the Ursula Horsman Memorial Hospital, Kanpur, I shall be grateful if the Council of States as well as yourself are gracious enough to extend the period of my leave until the end of the present session of the Parliament."

Is it the pleasure of the Council that permission be granted to Shri Gopinath Singh to remain absent from all meetings of the Council from the 7th March 1953 till the end of the current session?

(*No hon. Member dissented.*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Permission to remain absent is granted.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: Is the leave of the House necessary in such cases?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes. We shall now proceed with the discussion of the Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 1953.

THE APPROPRIATION (No. 3) BILL, 1953—*continued*

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, I have to make some suggestions for the Commerce and Industry Department. Of course the Commerce and Industry Department has been doing everything possible to es-

[Dr. Shrimati Seeta Permanand.]

establish cottage Industries but, Sir, it is desirable that something more should be expeditiously achieved over while the Board is making enquiries. It is not a new subject, Sir. So many conferences have been held during the last 7 or 8 years but in spite of all the measures taken and suggestions made to improve the condition of the people in the villages as a result of the benefits accruing from cottage industries, their position remains the same. In spite of the fact that the Government sent a delegation to Japan, spent several thousands of rupees over it, had a long report written, imported Japanese experts here to train our personnel, and brought machinery from Japan, we do not find much progress made even in respect of such an industry as the bamboo industry of which we are told, nearly 200 articles are made. Very often the State experts campaign that there is a dearth of raw materials and where perhaps there is a market the personnel there are not trained. How lone will such a state of affairs continue, Sir? The Central Government should direct the State Governments to take the necessary steps to undertake this cottage industry scheme as their pilot project. A pertinent question was asked this morning to which the Minister for Industries could not give a satisfactory reply and that was with regard to Khadi. The Hon. Minister explained the methods that would be followed for popularising Khadi. With regard to Khadi as well as the products of cottage industries it is absolutely necessary to make propaganda and the 1952 conference also admitted that propaganda was necessary for Swadeshi articles and advocated a national outlook in matters-of economy for the country. This can best be done, Sir, through schools, particularly those in the villages. Government at their 1952 conference admitted that it would take steps to popularise cottage industries' products by means of a report sent to the different States at least once a year. But nothing seems to have been done so far and it appears to be due to the want of co-ordination between the various departments. Apparently

something goes wrong somewhere and the results of the various plans and of the conferences are not made available to the public. It is only fair to expect that something is done immediately.

Now I shall give some suggestions for the Home Ministry. The Home Ministry is getting legislation passed galore to stop corruption and bribery, and it would be pertinent to ask how many prosecutions have been launched and how many of these have resulted in convictions during the last three or four years. There is apparently something, that is lacking which makes it difficult to put an end to this practice. The question of tackling the problem of corruption also finds mention in the Five Year Plan. In order to make the Plan, successful it is necessary to inspire the confidence of the public about the Government's determination to tackle that problem and also the other problems, which when tackled would give relief to the common man. Bribery and corruption must be curbed and it should be-made possible to proceed even at State level against people in high offices who* are openly charged with being guilty of corruption. The Gorwalla Committee which was asked: by Government to-give-a report has suggested the establishment of a permanent tribunal which would make it easy for Government to at once proceed against and take up-the cases of those persons who are openly complained of in the different States. Without the appointment of such a; ■ Tribunal, all our legislation in this respect is going to remain only pious resolutions.

Then, Sir, the- administrative work: is also very slow. There is no doubt that Government work is heavy and' perhaps as a result of work connected! with Parliament, it becomes heavier still, but all the same something has to-be done to make the work quicker at the administrative level, otherwise people are not going to be convinced: that Government means what it professes. I will give you one example.: The compensation which was to be given to some villagers as a result of their land having been acquired during the war has not yet been

given and the poor villagers who were ousted from their hearths and homes have not yet been given any relief even after enquiries have been instituted for the past five years and that too in spite of eight to ten reminders. This is a state of affairs that can be remedied if casual inspections by a permanently appointed committee are made.

If we look at the Finance Department, it would be seen that drastic economy is required not only there but in all the Ministries and it is the duty of the Finance Department to see that this is done. We have been assured by the Finance Minister that an economy committee is always sitting and always trying to see what economies could be effected, but if we look at the budget figures presented by every Ministry this year, it would be obvious that in spite of the efforts of the Finance Ministry not a single Ministry has been able to reduce its expenditure.

Then I would like to say a word with regard to the Law Department and the Hindu Code. We were told that the Hindu Code would be introduced in instalments and we have before this House two such instalments which have been introduced already, namely the one that deals with the Hindu Minority and Guardianship and the other the Hindu Marriage and Divorce Bill. But if we go at this rate, it would be almost impossible to deal with the entire Hindu Code before four or five years elapsed. This Hindu Code has been before the country for the last ten years and it should not take so long to introduce practically most of it in one or two sessions, because it takes a long time to come back after circulation. I would therefore suggest, Sir, that a Committee of both the Houses should be appointed by the hon. the Law Minister which could decide beforehand which portions of the Hindu Code could be introduced immediately, and then it could be taken up as and when time is available to the House, that is, when this House has to go without business because other business is not ready.

With regard to the sittings of Parliament, Sir, I would like, on the floor of

this House, to make a suggestion to the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs that the time table should be arranged in such a way that both Houses finish their business in the first week of April, so that Members are free to go back to their constituencies and do what work is possible for them by contacting people in their constituencies. Because that, Sir, is the only time when the agriculturist is fret from his work when communications are open, when days are long and when it is easier to meet the people for a longer time. The legislative business for next year could be arranged from now in such a way that the Budget Sessions would begin from the first of January and end by the first week of April. If necessary, a change could be made and the financial year changed so that this time of the Members is not spent locked up in the legislature.

I would also like to say something about the business for the Council of States and I would like to see—all Members in fact, I am sure, would like to see—better use made of the time of the Members of this House by giving more business and inviting suggestions from the Members. If necessary, suitable changes could be made in the Constitution by which all legislation which is not of a monetary nature can be introduced here; not only that, even if it is a Money Bill, it could also be introduced here leaving the final authority with the other House which that always has. Otherwise, if the business is to proceed in the present manner it is going to mean a lot of strain on the exchequer of the country.

I would also like to say a word or two about the Faridabad and Nilokheri Projects. These projects are pilot projects and the eyes of the country are directed towards them to see how far they are going to fulfil the promises that were held out. If Members were to go to these projects and to see what has happened within the space of these three to four years both in Nilokheri and Faridabad—I have not seen the other projects—they would feel that the promises held out are not showing signs of being fulfilled within such a short

[Dr. Shrimati Saeta Permanand.] time. I would like to know in time what is happening so as to make suitable adjustments, because for the Five Year Plan we have to take lessons from this and whatever mistakes have been made will have to be rectified. Sir, farms have been started on a co-operative basis and within a short time, submitting to pressure from outside they have been made into private enterprise without a fair trial. It is not possible for me to go into all the details, but this is a very sad spectacle indeed. Those who were asked to settle down in those places in the hope of getting full employment are faced with the problem of remaining unemployed for half the year. If Government does ultimately intend to give a trial to co-operation and make co-operative ventures popular, it is necessary to see that co-operative projects of farming are introduced in these places and they become successful because this is the best laboratory for the purpose that Government could get. With regard to agriculture, Sir, I would request Government to take a bold step through State legislation or Central legislation as is found suitable to introduce co-operative farming, other-wise the abolition of zamindari will have no meaning. If we are going in one breath to ask for the abolition of zamindari and then not give any help to the agriculturists when the land is fragmented, by division they will not be able to cultivate it and the abolition of zamindari will not justify itself.

With regard to cinemas and broadcasting, though the Minister in charge is doing all he can, he requires support at the hands of all the members of the Legislatures and of the public to make them useful for education and we should wherever possible educate public opinion and make it possible for this Ministry to introduce reforms and also start what might be called Radio Colleges.

As the time is up, I would not like to take up more time, but I would like to say one thing about the Ministry of Production and Natural Resources. I would like to suggest to that Ministry that while they are in the stage of

development—they are not fully developed—they should make use of the trained personnel available in the country, before importing people from outside without stamping them with disqualifications on the ground that they have no practical experience. Our trained personnel should be given jobs, even on honorarium basis, scholarships or apprenticeship, in different projects under these foreign experts so that it will be possible for them to do their jobs without the help of foreign experts later on.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We have just half a day, and I have here about 16 speakers whose names have been given. This is the third day of the discussion, and I hope, therefore, that Members will not exceed 15 minutes at the most.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR (West Bengal): Mr. Chairman, the other day my hon. friend Mr. Sundarayya, criticised the hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs for the treatment which the Council of States receives at the hands of his Ministry. Since then I have been told that it is the Speaker who is reluctant to take some decisions about the questions which are pending for a long time and about which suggestions were made in this House, particularly in regard to giving the Council of States more power as regards the use of the Parliament building, the functioning of the Parliament Library, and so on. As under the rules we cannot criticise the Speaker, we have to criticise the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs. It is for him to say why they are not able to do all the things which they intend to do.

Now I shall take up some other points. I also oppose this Bill, because we feel that it is no use permitting the Ministries to appropriate these sums of money. They are not serving any useful purpose and they are not serving the national interest. I shall take up first the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Sir, either in the sphere of foreign trade or in the sphere of our internal economy, the policy of the Government as represented by this Ministry is work-

ing against the national interest, against the interest of the broad masses of the people. I shall take first the question of foreign trade. We have often criticised the Government and said that our foreign trade is dependent entirely on the economy of the imperialist countries, an economy which is geared to preparation for war, and that for that reason promotion of our exports has also suffered, for that reason the various industries which are now passing through very serious conditions are also suffering. Sir, the Minister for Commerce and Industry and his Deputy on many occasions tried to refute this argument and said that we had no restrictions about trading with any country. That may be so on paper, but in actual practice the fact remains that the foreign trade of India is mainly dependent on imperialist countries. The truth comes out in spite of all the attempts of the Ministry to deny the fact. I shall quote from *The Journal of Industry and Trade* for January 1953 published by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. There of course they have not drawn any political conclusion, but the fact is there. I shall quote only a portion from page 11, from the article on "Planning Commercial Policy—Changing Pattern ' of Trade": —

"These are the contraction in the volume of exports, increased dependence on imports of food and raw materials, lag in replacements of machinery and capital equipment, excessive reliance on a few markets partly on account of insufficient diversification of exports, and the imbalance in the trade with the dollar area."

The truth comes out. The Ministry may not have any objection to trading with other countries, but I say with all responsibility that no attempt has been made to promote trade with the U.S.S.R. and with other countries. Recently we have an example how in Ceylon the people, including the labourers of the rubber plantations, have benefited greatly by an agreement

with the People's Republic of China. I shall also quote the opinion of another gentleman who is not a Communist, and this also will show the nature of the policy which the Government is following. The other day there was a conference of jute growers at Delhi and the president of the conference, a gentleman who happens to be a Member of the other House, said in his presidential speech:

"The industry is thus controlled by foreigners who determine the trade channel for the export of jute goods . as also the countries to which the export should be made. All the transactions are made through the Bank of England and are restricted to the dollar and sterling areas. We do not export our jute goods to countries, like Yugoslavia, China, Russia and East European countries, Germany and Japan. An effort was not made even to find out whether these countries constitute a potential market for our jute goods."

So much for jute. About tea, I have not got the figures, but in the same *Journal of Industry and Trade* it will be found that in 1948-49 the amount of tea exported to U.S.S.R." from India was greater than that exported to the United Kingdom. But since then there has been no export of tea to the U.S.S.R. Why? The reason is that pressure was brought upon India by the United Kingdom buyers or British monopoly interest that tea should not be exported to U.S.S.R., thus injuring the national interest, thus injuring our people. The Government is following a policy which helps foreign monopoly interests.

Coming now to our internal conditions, here also I shall cite only one example to show how the Government is shielding foreign monopoly interests. There was talk of a national inquiry into the conditions of the tea industry. Even the Labour Minister was forced to take up this subject and said that there would be a thorough inquiry into all the aspects of the tea industry and into the charges that British interests are ruining the Indian tea industry

[Shri S. N. Mazumdar.] which were made from all quarters. Still, in spite of this demand which was voiced on the floor of the House and outside the House, what step did the Government take? At last they are proposing to set up an- Expert Committee. I say that this proposal to set up an Expert Committee was taken up in order to shield the misdeeds of British monopoly interests.

Sir, the hon. Deputy Minister for Commerce stated just a few minutes ago on the floor of the House that the crisis in the tea industry is now over. I do not know whether it is over. What is the situation today? The situation today is that those gardens which have been closed are mostly Indian gardens, small and medium gardens. At the expense of the labourers, at the expense of the small and medium Indian owners, the tea industry has been helped by Government. The tea industry we all know is dominated by British interests. But this industry has been helped by Government to tide over the present critical situation at the expense of the labourers and at the expense, of the small and medium Indian owners.

I shall give another example. My hon. friend the Minister for Commerce and Industry was recently talking about the Indianization of employment of foreign firms. Sir, in the report of the Commerce and Industry Ministry there are some figures about employment of Indians in foreign Arms. There it is said that in the 1,060 foreign-controlled concerns which submitted reports in 1952, more than 75 per cent, of the superior posts carrying a salary of Rs. 1,000 and above were occupied by non-Indians. The very terminology used by this report is repugnant. It seeks to hide the truth by a jugglery of words. How is it framed? "Indians predominated in the two lower salary groups of Rs. 300-499 and Rs. 500, getting 99 per cent, of the posts in the former category and 85 per cent, in the latter category." This is a fact, but this is stating fact** in quite the opposite way. The fact

is that Europeans predominate in most of the higher salaried posts. There also all the facts have not been brought out. Sir, there are about 1,600 foreign firms in India, of which 1,350 are registered abroad and all the rest are registered in India. The Ministry sent a questionnaire to all those firms. The questionnaire was answered by only 1,060 firms. Most of the others did not think it fit even to reply to the questionnaire, and those who sent replies to the questionnaire inflated the figures of Indians employed there. Not only that. Foreigners employed in those firms get more than double the pay; they are provided with cars, luxurious bungalows, etc. • Even newly recruited youngsters are posted to boss over senior Indian executives. There are cases of arbitrary suspension or demotion in the case of Indians; even Indians who have put in several years of service were sacked simply in order to make room for newly recruited boys from foreign countries.

Lastly, Sir, some months ago a Memorandum was published in the press and circulated. I think, to most of the Members of Parliament on behalf of the Indian employees who are engaged in those foreign firms. In that Memorandum these foreign firms have been characterised as so many little South Africans on Indian soil. And the Government of India pleads helplessness in these matters. Here, in spite of their pious wishes, Indian-isation is only a farce. All the higher posts are occupied by Europeans on the soil of India; they boss over these employees. They do not belong to any political party. They submitted this Memorandum to the country at large and* to all the Members of Parliament and still we find that no action was taken. The Government pleads helplessness and this report rather tries to hide the real truth. Sir, so much as regards the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Then, Sir, I shall come to the Ministry of Home Affairs and I shall deal particularly with the question of the Central Government employees, or

more specifically, the Central clerical services and their grievances. I had the occasion to ventilate their grievances on the floor of the House previously also. So, today I shall confine my remarks to some of their most burning problems. The first point is regarding their service conditions. Most of them are temporary even in spite of putting several years of service. I shall quote only a few examples. In the offices of Iron and Steel Controller, C.P.W.D., Director of Supplies and Disposals, Central Stationery and some other offices, a large number of employees who have put in a minimum service of five years—and there are others who have put in a service of more than 8 and 10 years—are not only temporary, but they are facing retrenchment and reversion. And as regards retrenchment,

Sir, I shall quote.....(*Time bell rings.*) Can I not have a few minutes more?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You must cooperate.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: That is right, Sir. But I had to put the point of view of my party before the House.

• MR. CHAIRMAN: You will hurry up.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Thank you, Sir.

Then as regards retrenchment. They are faced with retrenchment. As there is lack of time, I shall not dwell much on that point. But one point I must emphasise. It is found in the Reports and also from the Government's spokesmen. They try to show that often retrenched Government employees are taken into some other employment. Sir, there is a report of the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply. I shall show how vague these reports are and how determined they are to hide the real truth. Here it is given in their report:

"As a result of the reduction of establishment, considerable retrenchment of staff became inevitable, mostly in the ministerial grades.

• * * * *

Every endeavour was also made to get the retrenched staff absorbed in other Central Government undertakings."

This is a piece of statement which is beautifully vague. I would like to ask as to how many employees were actually retrenched and how many of them were re-employed? And then, even when they are re-employed, there is the question of their continuity of service etc. and they do not enjoy the benefit of continuity of service, when they are re-employed.

Lastly, Sir, as regards their trade union rights. I raised this question on the floor of the House during the debate on the Presidential Address. So I shall not take the time of the House by going into that matter.

Lastly, Sir, I shall come to the Ministry of Labour. Sir, I do not think that the Ministry of Labour is of any use. What that Ministry is doing, I cannot understand. The only work that the Ministry of Labour is performing is that they are merely talking platitudes about the seriousness of the labour problems, the unemployment situation, etc. etc. They are either doing nothing or they have no power to do anything. I will quote one example in this connection. Sir, the Labour Minister was a long time of the opinion that a high-power Commission to enquire into all the aspects of the tea industry should be constituted. But we see that he could not find his way to go ahead with that proposal. Then I shall cite a few more examples and I shall show how vague and misleading are the reports of the Ministry of Labour also. Sir, in the Ministry of Labour Report, page 6, in connection with the welfare of plantation labour, it is stated that under the Plantations (Labour) Act, the provision of housing and medical facilities for the workers is the direct responsibility of the employers and so on and so forth. But it fails to say that the Plantations (Labour) Act has not been implemented in any State as yet. It was passed two years ago. There was a hue

[Shri S. N. Mazumdar.] and cry. There \yas a consistent demand from the representatives of labour that the Act should be implemented, but it has not been implemented. And what 'do we find here? There is a statement that provisions for the welfare of labourers are there in the Plantations Act. Sir, the starving and dying labourers cannot find any satisfaction by knowing that such and such provisions are being made either in this Act or are being contemplated in the offices of the Secretariat. Similarly, Sir, as regards the question of subsidised housing of labourers either in industries or in coal mines, what is happening? The benefit is not actually going to the labourers. As regards unemployment also we find that the Ministry is able to do nothing. Then, Sir.....

(Time bell rings.)

SARDAR BUDH SINGH (Jammu and Kashmir):

سردار بدھ سنگھ (جموں اینڈ کشمیر): چھرمین صاحب - آج تین دن سے اس اپروپریشن بل (appropriation bill) پر بحث ہو رہی ہے اور فائنڈنس منسٹر صاحب تمام محکمات کے بارے میں جو اعتراضات کئے گئے ہیں ان کا جواب دینے کے لئے یہاں بیٹھے ہوئے ہیں - ہر ایک منسٹر کا محکمہ الگ الگ ہے - اس لئے ان کے اخراجات کا جب سوال آتا ہے تب یہ کہنا ضروری ہوتا ہے کہ جو ملک کا روپیہ ہے وہ جائز طور پر خرچ کئے جائے اور جائز طور پر یہ اسی صورت میں خرچ ہو سکتا ہے جب کہ اس کی پوری نگرانی کی جائے - جانچ پڑتال کی جائے -

ابھی ہمارے ایک دوست نے آڈٹ رپورٹ (audit report) کے متعلق

جو اعتراض کیا تھا وہ واقعی ایک صحیح اعتراض ہے کہ تین سال پہلے کی آڈٹ رپورٹ ڈیفنس (defence) کے متعلق اب یہیں کی جائے جبکہ سنہ ۱۹۵۳-۵۴ کا بجٹ ہمارے سامنے ہے - اگر فائنڈنس منسٹر صاحب تمام بجٹ کی بحث کا جو کہ ۲۶ محکموں کا بجٹ ہے اور جن پر اعتراض کئے جاتے ہیں جواب دینا چاہتے ہیں تو یہ اسی صورت میں ہی ہو سکتا ہے جبکہ وہ ہر محکمہ کے اخراجات کا آڈٹ کرائیں اور اس میں ان کے جو آڈٹ کے ایکسپٹ (expert) ہیں وہ اور محکمے کے جو ایکسپٹ ہیں وہ دونوں ہوں اور ہر محکمہ کے متعلق آڈٹ رپورٹ ہمیشہ چھپتی رہے - جب تک ایسا نہ ہو اور آڈٹ رپورٹ وقت پر نہ چھپتی رہے تب تک وہ جواب دینے سے کبھی بچ نہیں سکتے اور ہمیشہ یہ اعتراض قائم رہیں گے - اسکی صورت یہ ہے کہ جس آئیٹم (item) کے متعلق آڈٹ رپورٹ تیار ہو جائے اس کو فوراً چھپ کر سامنے آجانا چاہئے تاکہ محکمے والوں کو اور دوسروں کو پتہ لگ جائے کہ دراصل کہاں غبن ہوتا ہے اور کہاں روپیہ ضائع ہونا ہے جب تک ایسا نہیں ہوگا تب تک تمام اخراجات پر پوری نگرانی نہیں ہو سکی اور ترقی کا کوئی کام تھیک سے نہیں ہو سکتا -

میں دیکھ رہا ہوں کہ یہاں کنکڑ سے لیکر سنگ مرمر کی اور بڑی قیمتی لکڑی کی اور دوسری قیمتی چیزوں کی عمارتیں بنی ہوئی ہیں لیکن یہ جو عالیشان عمارتیں ہیں ان کو بنانے والے محکمات کس مزدور ہیں اور خوراک پیدا کرنے والے کسان ہیں لیکن آج کسان اور مزدور دن بدن کمزور ہوتے جا رہے ہیں - ان کی کمزورتی جا رہی ہے - تو کیا وجہ ہے کہ جب لاکھوں اور کروڑوں روپیہ ہم خرچ کر رہے ہیں تب بھی مزدوروں اور کسانوں کی حالت بدتر ہوتی جا رہی ہے اور جو تھیکیدار ہیں اور ان کے ساتھ ملے ہوئے رشوت خور اور سرمایہ دار و کارخانہ دار ہیں وہ بڑھتے جا رہے ہیں اور موٹے ہوتے جا رہے ہیں - اس میں شک نہیں کہ عام طور پر یہ جواب دیا جا سکتا ہے کہ ہمارا یہ ملک صدیوں سے غلام رہا ہے دبا ہوا رہا ہے بیگورہ رہا ہے اس لئے اس کی اصلاح کرنے میں کچھ وقت لگے گا - لیکن اب جب کہ ملک کی حکومت کی باگ توراہ ہاتھ میں آگئی ہے تب آزادی کو قائم رکھنے اور ترقی کے لئے یہ ضروری ہے کہ بہت جلد غربت و بیکاری کو دور کیا جائے اور اصلاح کی جائے - سوشل اکانامک یا اور کوئی نام لیکر یہ کہا جاتا ہے کہ ہم ملک کو ترقی دینا چاہتے ہیں لیکن آج جب کہ عام چلتا اکثر غریب کسان

اور مزدور بھوکا ہے نلکا ہے اور میدان میں پڑا ہوا ہے آسمان کی چھت کے نیچے بیٹھا ہوا ہے تب وہ اکانامک اور سوشل و پولیٹیکل پرائیٹ آف ویو (economic social and political point of view) کی باتوں کو نہیں سوچتا اور نہیں جانتا وہ تو ان اسپیچیز (speeches) کو قانون اور قاعدوں کو نہیں جانتا ہے - اس کو تو صرف اس سے مطلب ہے کہ اس کو کتنی اور کب کیسی خوراک ملتی ہے اور اس کو کتنا کپڑا ملتا ہے اور کتنے چھپر ملتے ہیں - یہ بالکل ٹھیک ہے کہ ہم ترقی کی طرف ایک قدم اٹھا رہے ہیں اور جیسا کہ گورنمنٹ نے پانچ سالہ پروگرام کے متعلق وعدہ کیا ہے اور اس کے ذریعہ سے ورکنگ کلاس (working class) کے لئے دعویٰ کیا ہے کہ اس کے لئے خوراک و کپڑا و مکان کے لئے اس کی ہیلتھ (health) کے لئے اس کی تعلیم کے لئے اور دوسری ضرورتوں کے لئے انتظام کیا جائے گا اور اس کو دوسرے اچھے آسودہ آدمیوں کے لیول (level) پر لانے کے لئے کوشش کر رہے ہیں - یہ مبارک قدم ہے لیکن سوال یہ ہے کہ یہ غریبی بیکاری کا سلسلہ کیسے اور کب ختم ہوگا - یہاں انسانی زندگی میں زمین و آسمان کا فرق ہے جہاں ایک طرف بڑے بڑے پختہ عالیشان مکان ہوں اور دوسری طرف ساتھ میں ہی گھاس کی کچی چھوڑیاں

[Sardar Budh Singh.]

ہوں جہاں ایک طرف غسالخانے
 ڈرائنگ روم اور طرح طرح کی آسانسوں کے
 ساتھ لاکھوں روپیہ کی آرام گاہیں و
 عمارتیں ہوں اور دوسری طرف
 محنت کش غریب انسان ہوں اور
 ان کے بیوی بچے بیمار ہوں اور
 ان کو پیشاب کرانے کے لئے بھی سکت
 سرنی و بارش میں کمزوری کی
 حالت میں باغ لانا بڑے وہاں
 ان کا کیا حال ہوگا - اتنا بڑا فرق ہے
 کہ ایک طرف تو ملک کا اکثر غریب
 طبقہ نڈا ہے پوری خوراک نہیں
 ہے اور دوسری طرف ایک ایک گھر
 میں بے تعداد کھانے کی چیزیں و
 کپڑے اور لباس کے بکس بھرے
 ہوتے ہیں - ایک طرف تو اتنے بڑے
 بڑے مکان ہیں کئی کمرے خالی ہیں
 اس میں جانور باندھے جائیں تو بھی
 جگہ زیادہ ہے اور دوسری طرف غریب
 عوام کے علاوہ لاکھوں روپیہ کی دکان بھری
 حالت میں دکانیں ہیں جو کہ بڑے
 بڑے اچھے مکانوں کو چھوڑ کر بہانہ
 شدہ حالت میں یہاں آئے ہیں ان
 کو سر چھپانے کے لئے بھی جگہ
 نہیں ہے - تو یہاں اتنا فرق ہے وہاں
 ملک کیسے ترقی کریگا - ملک
 میں ترقی کی اسکیموں کو چلانے کا
 سوال تو درکار لاکھوں مزدور غریب
 لوگوں کو زندہ رکھنے کا انتظام کرنا ہے
 ان کو مناسب خوراک گھوا اور با
 صحت مکان اور کام مہیا ہو -
 یہ پانچ سالہ پلان ایک ایسی

سکیم ہے جسکی ایوزیشن بیڈچیز
 (Opposition Benches) کے لوگوں
 کو بھی پورے ارادے اور
 اطمینان کے ساتھ مدد کرنی چاہئے
 اور اگر ضرورت ہو تو کنسٹریکٹیو
 (constructive) نکتہ چینی کرنی
 چاہئے - جائیز نکتہ چینی لازمی
 ہے لیکن وہ کنسٹریکٹیو ہونی
 چاہئے - آپ کو حق ہے کہ آپ ہر
 ایک معاملے کی اچھی طرح سے
 نگرانی کریں اور ان کی رپورٹ
 منسٹران متعلقہ کو دیں اور پھر اس
 ہاؤس میں پیش کریں اور ہاؤس
 میں بشرطہکہ اصلاح نہ ہو اس کا جواب
 لیں - لیکن مخالفت صرف مخالفت
 کیلئے نہ کریں اس میں ملک کی بہتری
 نہیں ہے بلکہ نقصان ہے اور ترقی
 رکتی ہے - یہ کہہ دینا کہ بجٹ کوئی
 چیز نہیں ہے بیکار ہے یہ تھیک نہیں
 ہے بغیر اخراجات کے کام چلنا مشکل
 ہے - جو ہندوستانی ہے اور جسکے اندر
 ہندوستانی گوشت پوست میں خون
 حرکت کر رہا ہے اور جو ہندوستان کا
 دیس بھگت ہے اور جس نے حلف
 لیا ہے کہ یہاں دیس کی آزادی و
 ترقی کے لئے بھلائی کے لئے اور دیس
 کے قانون اور قاعدوں کی حفاظت و
 تعمیل کے لئے آئے ہیں اس کے لئے
 یہ لازمی ہے کہ اس کا ہر ایک قدم و
 خیال ملک کی ترقی اور بہتری کے
 لئے ہو یہ تب **۵** وگا جبکہ
 مزدوروں اور کسانوں کے لئے جنہوں

نے اتنا ہوا سٹائس اور اچھی پختہ عمارت و سامان ہمارے آرام کے لئے بنا دیا ہے اور ہماری زندگی کے لئے یہ سب سامان پیدا کر دئے ہیں ان کو ہم اوپر اٹھائیں ان کا معیار زندگی بلند کریں - سوال یہ ہے کہ ان کو ہم کیسے اٹھائیں - کروڑوں روپیہ جو مختلف کاموں پر خرچہ ہوگا اس کا جائیز و اچھا استعمال کرنے میں مدد دیں - ہم دیکھتے ہیں کہ کارخانے وغیرہ کے جو لیبر (labour) ہیں ان کو تعلیم کے متعلق صحت کے متعلق اور مکانوں اور دوسری چیزوں کے متعلق کچھ کام کرنے اور فائدہ پہنچانے کی کوشش کی جاتی ہیں - لیکن دوسرے مزدور جن کا کوئی والی وارث نہیں ہے جو ادھر ادھر تک بناتے ہیں اور دوسری عمارت بناتے ہیں مزدوری کے کام کرتے ہیں ان مزدوروں کا پوچھنے والا کوئی نہیں ہے - کتھے دکھ و شرم کی بات ہے کہ مزدوروں کی عورتیں اپنے چھوٹے چھوٹے بچے دیکھتے بچے ریت و مٹی پر چھوڑ کر دن بھر مزدوری کرتی ہیں اور اینٹ و پتھر سے بنتے سووں پر تھوتی ہیں پھر ان کو تھیک سے کھانا کھرا نصیب نہیں ہوتا - اس طرح ان کی صحت پر کڑا برا اثر پڑتا ہے اس کا اندازہ مشکل ہے - کیا ہم اب بھی اس قابل نہیں ہوئے کہ ان کو روٹی کھرا دے سکیں ان کو چھوڑ دے سکیں کام دے سکیں - ہم کو اگر آزادی

کو قائم رکھنا ہے اور اگر ملک کو زندہ رکھنا ہے تو ان کی اصلاح کرنی ہی پڑے گی - جب لاکھوں اور کروڑوں آدمیوں کی حالت جو بے چین و پریشان ہیں سدھر نہیں رہی ہے تو تمارا اور ایوزیشن کے بھائیوں اور سب لوگوں کی دن رات یہ کوشش ہونی چاہئے کہ ہر طرح اس ملک کو ترقی دینا چاہئے کہ اس کی اقتصادی حالت کو بہتر بنا دیا جائے - اور مصنت کشوں کے مفاد و بھلائی کے لئے مکمل تعاون اور مشترکہ کوششوں کو عمل میں لایا جائے -

میں کچھ کشمیر استیٹ کے متعلق بھی عرض کرنا چاہتا ہوں اس کے لئے تیرہ کروڑ روپیہ رکھا گیا ہے - تین کروڑ روپیہ تو ایک بانہال تھیل پر لکایا جائیگا اور چار کروڑ روپیہ چند سکوں پر لکایا جائیگا باقی کاموں کے لئے روپیہ بہت تھوڑا ہے - جہاں کیمنس (defence) پر قریباً دو لاکھ کمپونیکیشنز (communications) پر قریباً پچاس کروڑ اور ایکسٹرنل افیئرز (external affairs) کے لئے قریباً دس کروڑ روپیہ لکایا جائے گا - اس طرح سے لیبر وغیرہ کے لئے رکھا گیا ہے - وہاں اس سلسلہ میں جموں و کشمیر کو زیادہ روپیہ ماننا چاہئے - ہمارے یہاں صرف ایک لاکھ جموں سے سرینگر تھیلیفون کی ہے اور کہیں تھیلیفون کا نام بھی نہیں ہے - اور اسی طرح تار سب جگہ نہیں

[Sardar Budh Singh.]

ہے۔ ریلوے نمائش میں جب میں نے نقشہ میں دیکھا کہ ہمارا ملک کہاں ہے تو میں نے پایا کہ وہاں کہیں ریلوے نہیں ہے۔ جو کام دکھائے گئے ہیں نہریں سڑکیں سب نیچے ہی ختم ہو گئیں۔ ہمارے۔ وہاں ایسی سڑکیں و لائن بھی ختم ہو گئیں پوسٹ آفس ٹیلیگراف اور ٹیلیفون بھی ختم ہو گئے۔ آخر یہ چھڑیں ہم نے ملک میں گب بندیں کی۔ میری سمجھ میں نہیں آتا کہ جب اس ملک کو ٹپ کو اٹھانا ہے اور اپنے ساتھ ہمیشہ کے لئے اس کو شامل کرنا ہے اور وہاں کی جنتا کو مطمئن کرنا ہے تو اس طرح سے کیسے ہو سکتا ہے جب کہ ترقی کی سکیموں کے لئے کافی روپیہ نہیں دیا جاتا۔ لازمی بات یہ ہے کہ اس کو کافی روپیہ دیں اور وہاں جو قبائلی اور پاکستانی حملہ آوروں سے ریویو چھڑا ہوا ہے گئے ہیں کیا وہ اس کے مستحق نہیں ہیں کہ معاوضہ حاصل کریں اور آپ سے مزید خاطر خواہ امداد پا سکیں۔ جب معاوضہ کے لئے روپیہ کا سوال ہوتا ہے تو وہاں کی اسٹیٹ سرکار یہ جواب دیتی ہے کہ ہمارے ذرائع محدود ہیں ہم نہیں دے سکتے واقعی وہاں روپیہ نہیں ہے۔ لیکن یہاں تو روپیہ موجود ہے اور گورنمنٹ آف انڈیا جہاں لاکھوں اور کروڑوں روپیہ

ٹینٹس پر خرچ کر رہی ہے وہاں جو بے گھر لوگ ہیں بھوکے ہیں ننگے ہیں ان کو بھی کچھ دے اور وہاں کی اقتصادی حالت کو درست کرنے میں کافی مدد دے۔ دوران جنگ برباد شدہ لوگوں کو پھر سے اچھی حالت میں بسانا بھی گورنمنٹ آف انڈیا کا فرض ہے۔

(Time bell rings.)

کیونکہ جموں و کشمیر کی جو چالیس لاکھ کی آبادی ہے اس میں قریب آٹھ نو لاکھ کی آبادی در بدر ہو گئی ہے ان کے لئے مکان نہ بنانے کی وجہ سے وہاں کی گورنمنٹ کی بدنامی ہو رہی ہے۔ وہ مجبور ہے اس کے پاس روپیہ ہی نہیں ہے۔ تو اس کے لئے وہاں کی گورنمنٹ کیا کرے وہاں کی جنتا کے پاس اور گورنمنٹ کے پاس اس کام میں روپیہ لگانے کے لئے سرمایہ نہیں ہے۔ پچھلے چند سالوں سے جب سے پاکستانی حملہ آوروں نے وہاں حملہ کیا ہے کروڑوں روپیہ کا نقصان ہوا اور لاکھوں کی فصل برباد ہو گئی ہے۔

[For English translation, see Appendix IV, Annexure No. 106.]

SHRI S. N. DWIVEDI (Orissa): Mr. Chairman, I am unable to lend my support to this Bill because I have no faith that the money provided in the Budget will be spent properly and also because the Government have failed to effect economy in the administrative sector so as to make more money available for the social welfare schemes. Sir, we inherited a bureaucratic administration from the British. It was natural to expect that the ad-

mihistrative machinery would be so simplified and democratised as to be able to meet the needs of the people but what do we find today? We see that the administration is increasingly becoming top-heavy. Take alone the Central Cabinet. The present number of Ministers is double or more than double the strength of the Ministry that was functioning before. We don't know what will be the actual number by the end of the five year period because every month or fortnight we read reports of appointments of new Parliamentary Secretaries or Deputy Ministers perhaps at the sweet will of the Prime Minister. This is because our Constitution, although it puts a limit on the strength of the Parliament, has not laid down any provision as to the strength of the Cabinet. So it is increasing and my feeling is that this increase has not in any way improved the efficiency of the administration but rather it has created more confusion. That is what we find from the performance of the Ministers and I feel that some of them are a burden on the people. We can better do away with such a large Cabinet and I am sure the administration would become more workmanlike and would function more properly if the number is reduced. In this House we have come across several instances as to how the Ministers are quite ignorant about their own Departments. Some time back, during the last session I put a question as to whether any transport facilities were given by The Central Government to the Ministers who attended the Hyderabad session of the Congress Party and whether any T.A. was drawn by them. The question was duly given notice of, before ten days, and the Hyderabad session, I believe, was held in the last week of October or in the first week of November. All these five months or more have gone by and the Home Minister has not been able to give this simple answer.

Then again, Sir, you know perhaps that a scandal has been going on about a certain matter and an enquiry was held by the Special Police Establishment. The Home Minister

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mised that as soon as the case which was then pending before the High Court of Orissa was finished he would take the necessary steps. But no action has yet been taken. The enquiry report has long been received and perhaps it is lying quietly in the shelf of the Home Minister. The Home Minister, I feel, is behaving more like a bureaucrat of the old British days. I am convinced that this Ministry, the Home Ministry is really the Ministry which is giving shelter to all the misdeeds and corruption.

Sir, the Home Minister, in the other House during the discussion of a resolution about corruption among officials said things of which even the Members of the Congress Party would feel ashamed. Regarding service associations he has recently said that no person who is not in the services would be permitted to hold any office in the servicemen's associations. I do not want to enter into an argument on this. But if any injustice is done to any service man, how is he going to get it remedied? I understand that if he approaches a Member of Parliament he would be punished. Of course it is not proper for Members of Parliament to take up individual grievances of officers. But they have certainly a right to know and I do not think the Ministry should punish the man if he approaches a Member of Parliament who may be able to speak to the hen. Minister and if there is any real grievance, get it rectified.

Sir, I have said that the Ministry is not effecting economy so as to make funds available for useful projects. Take for example the question of the allowances of the Members of Parliament. You know that a Joint Committee of both the House submitted its report some time back and on the Agenda Papers one day we saw an item concerning this. We thought it would be discussed; but it was withdrawn. Party considerations have come to play. I put it to the Minister to say whether or not this was withdrawn because the Members of the Congress Party were not unanimous and did not agree to the recom-

[Shri S. N. Dwivedy.]

mendations of that Committee as regards their allowances. As the representatives of the people, as Members of this sovereign Parliament we should show more concern towards such matters.

Before going to other matters, I would say a few words on the river valley projects. The speakers who preceded me have said a lot on these projects, especially about the Hirakud Project and I do not want to repeat those arguments. The Public Accounts Committee have made their recommendations. They too did not have the whole story before them. We have several times brought allegation before this House about corruptions in Hirakud and at last the P.A. Committee has vindicated our remarks. It has corroborated every one of our remarks. The Minister himself was pleased to pay a visit to the place before the Public Accounts Committee placed its report before Parliament. Of course, he was quite aware of the allegations that were being made and brought before the House and by the public at large. He stayed there for 13 to 14 days. He had originally intended only a short visit, but later he extended it as he wanted to make a thorough enquiry. He then issued a statement and that very statement shows how very negligent this Minister has been about his own Department. He has actually given a good certificate to the engineers working on this project. He says, "The least I can say about the Hirakud Project is that it is being managed as well as any other project in the country. I could see ample evidence of commendable care on the part of the administration to secure economy, speed and good quality of work." As against this, please see what the Public Accounts Committee has to say. Therefore there is no wonder if officers are allowed to go their own way, if exemplary punishment is not given to them. The Minister is responsible for all this. He has characterised these allegations as "misconceived and damaging." If that is the attitude

of the Minister in charge of these river valley projects, on which our entire development depends, I do not know how the country will progress. I think it is time that (Time bell rings.)

MH. CHAIRMAN: Yes, it is time.

SHRI S. N. DWIVEDY: I will finish in a minute. It is time I think that this Minister was dismissed or replaced by a person who has more regard for public expenditure.

Sir, one word more and I finish.

I want to draw the attention of the Finance Ministry to a simple problem of the tobacco cultivators. Sir, I have before me a representation from them. Some of them have left this cultivation because the assessment rate is high. It was fixed when prices of leaves were high. Now it is time that the Ministry examined this problem and saw that the rate was amended properly.

DR. RADHA KUMUD MOOKERJI (Nominated): Sir, I am glad to take advantage of the opportunity given to the Council of States, to offer a few suggestions on the Appropriations Bill

[MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair]

At the outset I would like to say that it is not open to me as a layman to discuss details of the appropriations. I wish to place before the Finance Ministry certain general suggestions as to how, in my opinion, the Budget and Appropriation scheme might be placed before the public and also before the House.

My suggestion is that first of all, the appropriations should be based upon a well-planned system of percentages of total revenue in appropriations given to different subjects. That is to say, we should be able to see at a glance the percentage of the total revenue that has been granted to the different subjects of administration in accordance with some sense of priority. In this connection I would like to suggest further that this would help us easily to find out the percentages of the distribution of the revenue among the different subjects.

Now, in this connection, I should like to place before the Finance Ministry a very convenient system which is followed in preparing the United Kingdom Budget. In the U.K. Budget, although it is formidable in its figures and proportions because as you know the U.K. Government has been able recently to show a revenue which amounts to about Rs. 500 crores per month as against our total revenue of Rs. 420 crores per annum, in spite of these formidable figures, I find that at a glance you can see that Defence constitutes 6·8 shillings in the pound of the total expenditure. Similarly, National Debt absorbs 2·6 shillings in the pound, Social Services and Subsidies 6·6 shillings in the pound and so on. Now, what I mean to suggest is this that the percentages of revenue that should be allotted to different subjects should be fixed in accordance with a scientific scheme by which a sort of priority would be established as between the contending claims of different Departments and the different interests of national life. Now, for instance, although it is stated that the military Budget applies to the whole of India, including the Budgets of the States, still, considering the Federal revenue, we find that more than half of the Federal revenue has been appropriated for Defence expenditure. We are unable to find out what percentage of the total revenue has been given to Education or what percentage of the total revenue has been given to Social Services and so on. Now, in the U.K. Budget it is clear that even with a heavy re-armament programme which is facing the U.K., they have been able to dispose of the demands of re-armament by apportioning only 33 per cent., *i.e.*, 1/3rd of the total revenue for this purpose. So, I think, Sir, that it is for the Cabinet to prescribe from time to time, the percentages referred to above. I do not mean to say that it should be bound down by a scheme which cannot be altered but, every year, in framing the Budget for the year the percentages of revenue to be allotted to different subjects should be fixed by the Cabinet as a whole so that the Cabinet as a

whole can prescribe the priorities of our national demands.

Now, the second subject that I wish to touch upon is that some Members have been rather dubious about the protection that has been given to the interests of handloom and cottage industries by means of legislation that we have just passed. Now in that connection, I may say that perhaps it is very necessary at the present stage of our economic development that we should lay very great stress upon the home and the cottage industries. As you know, Sir, millions of agriculturists, the dumb masses as they are called—their number probably amounts to about 250 million—these people live on land but, unfortunately, there are off-seasons of agriculture extending to about six months. On this subject, I speak with some amount of special experience which I had acquired as a Member of the Bengal Flood Commission which went into the subject thoroughly by investigations which continued for a year and a half. Now, on the basis of the findings of this Commission, I must tell the House that we have calculated that for more than half the year these dumb millions of agriculturists go out of work in the off-seasons of agriculture and, therefore, it is our duty to find ways and means by which these starving millions can be fed by work being brought to their doors. Now, the only remedy is the development of handloom and cottage and home industries. It is rather an unsafe assumption that much of the agricultural population that remains in a state of enforced idleness during the off-seasons of agriculture may be transferred to the seats of large and heavy industries but I am sorry that the large and heavy industries are unable to absorb any appreciable percentage of this vast agricultural population. Therefore, we are called upon to feed the agriculturists when they have no work for no fault of their own. The Commission on which I served thought that the remedy that can be applied against starvation that is facing the agricultural millions would be to employ them by means of well planned

[Dr. Radha Kumud Mookerji.] schemes of handicrafts and cottage industries. Now, the most important thing is that this is a subject which really bristles with controversy, as to priority of the handicrafts which can be undertaken for development in certain regions with reference to the availability of raw materials, etc.; but, I think we should concentrate upon spinning and weaving as the most important crafts which should be thought of in this connection instead of wasting time upon mere planning. Now, in this connection, as a humble student of history, I shall place before the House what happened in about the end of the 18th century. Now, as long ago as 1786, the great orientalist, Colebrooke who was associated with the codification of Hindu Law, has delivered himself of this opinion which was suggested by the economic conditions he had himself seen with his own eyes. He says "to a Government as enlightened as British India, it cannot be a trifle consideration to provide employment for the poorest classes". I think this dictum holds good even for free India; free India is bound to provide employ--aioo -sassep isajood aqj JOJ luauī brooke continues: "No better provision exists in these provinces to relieve the wants of the poor and the helpless. The only employment in which widows and female orphans, incapacitated for field labour by sickness or by their rank, can earn a subsistence, is by spinning and it is the only employment to which females of a family can apply themselves to maintain the men if these be disqualified for labour by infirmity or for other cause. To all, it is a resource which even though it may not be absolutely necessary for their subsistence contributes to the relief of the distress of the poor. In this view it appears essential to encourage an occupation which is the sole resource of the helpless poor." So, my point is this that, the arguments that were advanced by Colebrooke in those days of the late 18th century, apply with "far greater force in the present day economic conditions of the country in which the pressure of population upon the soil is

getting more and more heavy. Therefore, immediate relief should be given to our agricultural millions when they have no work to do in the fields in the off-seasons of agriculture by organising the handicrafts of spinning and weaving.

In this connection. I should like to say that some Members of this House thought that we need not be very strict about the definition of khadi or handloom cloth because, in their opinion, the mills may be expected to supply the yarn and the purity of khadi need not be guaranteed; but, I think, Sir, that it is a vital point that genuine khadi or handloom cloth should be absolutely woven out of hand made yarn. So, hand spinning and weaving must go together as parts of an integral system of economics. Now, we need not despair that the country will be unable to produce khadi of the proper quality which can compete with the best mill made products.

In this connection again I would like to have your permission to remind the House of a historical fact namely this that India was able to produce yarn of 500 counts centuries ago. I should like the Industries and Commerce Minister and the Production Minister to note this, namely, that India was able in olden times to hold her own in the industry of yarn-making. India was producing yarn of 500 counts out of which the famous Muslin of ancient India was woven. And the definition of that Muslin, according to the Roman historian, Pliny, is that 20 yards of this Muslin could be passed through a finger ring. The supremacy that was achieved by ancient India in this field of handicraft was admitted on all hands. The Roman Empire was the best customer in those days of Indian textiles and silks so much so that there was an adverse balance of trade for the Roman Empire which had to part, with vast quantities of gold in favour of India to support this export trade' so that India in those days, in the second century A.P. was really able

to hold her own in the foreign markets of the world by supplying Muslins and textiles. So, when we have this standard of production achieved in ancient India I do not think that with all the advantages of the modern appliances available now to free India we shall not be able to recapture some of our old economic heritage and produce yarn of the highest quality out of our handlooms.

Now I come to the Defence budget.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have three minutes more only, Dr. Mookerji.

DR. RADHA KUMUD MOOKERJI • Only three minutes, Sir? All right, I shall finish soon.

Now as regards the Military Budget one Member has already complained and justly too that we are really called upon to discuss the Budget which was framed for 1949-50. I have a suggestion to make. The Military Department should be asked to explore the possibilities of economy by trying to provide for universal military training by which the youths of our country could be trained. If you can really build up a vast territorial army as is done in the other countries of the world perhaps military expenditure could be reduced. In this connection also I wish to suggest the possibilities of employing usefully the military in times of peace on purposes which may be both civil and military such as construction of strategic roads and so forth. And then as regards women they also should be eligible for military career and I wish to bring to the attention of the House the remarkable sculpture of the second century B.C. which shows how the women figured in the cavalry and the army carrying the banner on horse-back. I think this kind of information is very necessary so that the women of modern India may also feel that military career is not barred against them. On the contrary the women of modern times should come up to the standard of the women of ancient India. The great

grammarian Patanjali, the author of Mahabhashya, commenting on Panini's Sutra has mentioned the formation *Saktiki* to denote the woman laace-bearer. Therefore there is much evidence to show that the women also were called upon to play their part in the defence of the country. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR (Rajasthan): Mr. Deputy Chairman, while talking on this Bill my first thoughts go to those scarcity areas in Rajasthan where hundreds and thousands of families, a vast mass of population is faced with starvation, where they are eking out a most precarious and miserable existence. Sir, I have no intention to give any exaggerated account of the picture. I would only tell you what is actually happening there. Though it may be correct but I will not mention it if it is going to create any sort of panic. My facts would be based mostly on Government reports. Even according to the Rajasthan Government report, Sir, we find that there are more than 22 lakhs of people who are very acutely affected by the famine conditions in that unfortunate part of the country comprising Bikaner, certain districts of Jodhpur and certain districts of Udaipur. Dr. Katju the Minister for States has recently been there to one of the relief centres and I hope he has been awakened to the situation there. He had found, Sir, that in those centres the ordinary wage which is being paid to the labourer ranges from 8 annas to 10 annas, and Sir, this is to include the sustenance of the minor children and others ranging say from 4 to 5 in a family. This was represented to the Minister for States on the spot and he himself was flabbergasted and he found that the case was so strong that he on the spot had to confess that some sustenance allowance should be given to the members of the family who were there in these relief centres. Now, Sir, if we examine what is being done there we will find that for giving relief to these 22 lakhs of people the Rajasthan Government has been able to provide about 34 to 35 lakhs of rupees. Now, Sir, the

[Shri H. C. Mathur.] giving of relief to over 2 million people covering a period of over 6 months with this paltry amount is not understandable. Government of course has on occasions mentioned that they have not got any magic wand. I wish the Rajasthan Government had that miraculous pitcher from which they could produce relief to all these teeming millions and would also be able to save the hundreds of thousands of cattle heads which, as a matter of fact, are the entire wealth of that part of the country. There are certain families, Sir, whose entire property consists of 4 or 5 heads of cattle and these families by force of circumstances are being forced to part with their cattle, to abandon them or to sell them for a pittance of one rupee or even 8 annas simply because they cannot maintain them. They cannot maintain them even during that short period when grazing is not available. Such is the state of affairs and I hope, Sir, that the Hon. the Finance Minister would be able to find funds to meet the most urgent demand from this part of the country. It is definitely the duty of every Government to cater to such immediate and urgent demands, Sir, and even if we have got no ready funds available, I would go to the extent of suggesting that the Development Programmes might be slowed down but relief must definitely be granted to those people and to the cattle which constitute, as I have submitted, the entire wealth of that country. I hardly need stress this point any further. I have got the cuttings from the papers in which not only the political parties but people connected absolutely with social service have given harrowing tales. In this connection I might also emphasise the necessity of seeking public co-operation. There are many well-to-do families and people in that part of the country, Sir, and it has been our past experience that well-to-do families in that area have always been most willing and very active in being helpful to give relief in such conditions, but it is most unfortunate that our Government has not been able to enlist the co-operation of the people

who have all the time been anxious -to play and have played a very important role in giving relief in such times and in such circumstances. I hope the Government while granting funds from here will make it a condition precedent or at least it will emphasise the importance of this view point on the Congress Government that they should go out and enlist the support of the well-to-do people. The Marwari Relief Societies are very well known for doing most excellent work in this direction.

Sir, passing on from this subject, I will come to something which is very important and which, again, I believe, is exercising the mind of every thinking man in this Republic; I mean, Sir, the Kashmir and Jammu problem. Well, Sir, we all know and we may very well deprecate the political exploitation of the situation in the State. We know that the political situation in that part of the State is very difficult and delicate and we may with all justification, condemn any political exploitation of the situation. But I think what is still more important is that we realise the hard realities of life which have made such political exploitation possible. We cannot afford to permit our Government to let the condition deteriorate any further. I wonder, Sir, if many of us here even realise what amount of money Government of India is spending in that part of the country. As a matter of fact, I wrote to the Finance Ministry more than four months back enquiring if they could give us any idea as to what amount is being spent in that State under the various Ministries on various works and the reply which I received—it was about four months ago; it was about the 16th January—was that the information was being collected. What I wish to stress, Sir, is that we ourselves do not realise and it is unfortunate that our Government is not even in possession of the information and they are not able to give this information in spite of the three or four months allowed to them to find out what amount we are spending in that State of Jammu and Kashmir.

However, Sir, it should be obvious to everyone of us here that India has discharged in full its responsibilities so far as this State is concerned. We have certainly treated this State as part and parcel of India and we have discharged our responsibilities in full in all matters, at all stages in men, material and money. But may I know, Sir, what the response of the Government of Kashmir has been? They are asking for special terms; they are mentioning special circumstances and they say that special consideration should be given to them. Even they are nagging at the implementation of that Agreement about which there has been a discussion both in this House and in that other House. Well, Sir, is it not natural that in such circumstances there are grave apprehensions in the minds of the people? Only if the Government of Kashmir were not to ask for any special treatment, even now if they can tell that they accept only the same treatment as is being accorded to any other part of the country, definitely there will be no question of any misapprehensions and there would be no trouble whatsoever, and the ground will be taken from under the feet of the agitators. I definitely feel, Sir, that the Government of India should ask the Government of Kashmir to make it absolutely clear. To me there is no doubt that the Kashmir Government has acceded to India in full; the accession is full, final and irrevocable and there is no doubt of that. As a matter of fact, the people of Kashmir have given indications more than once that they want to go full length with India. It is only certain rulers of that place who want special powers and sovereignty for them and they are the source of all this trouble. And that is why the implementation of the Agreement is being obstructed and that is why all this trouble is there. If only those people could understand the real position, I think the entire trouble would be over in no time.

Sir, during the short time at my disposal I will pass on to the States

Ministry. I have been asking here questions which have made it absolutely clear how the States Ministry has been a source of trouble in Part B States. I was very happy, Sir, that even my Congress friends here, as also a Member from the Opposition, made it more than abundantly clear that what I was, as a matter of fact, hinting or hitting at, was more than substantiated by them. The hon. the Home Minister while answering a question the other day said, when I asked him about the services and the influence which they were exercising and the trouble which they were creating, that I was anticipating trouble. There is no question of anticipating trouble. We have seen what has been happening all these four years and my viewpoint has, in the most vigorous manner, been given expression to by my valued Congress friend on the other side. Sir, I feel that the States Ministry has more than outlived its utility; it would be only proper if all the functions of this Ministry are immediately handed over to the Home Ministry and you do not require more than two Deputy Secretaries to handle all the work of this Ministry. The States Ministry is a great demoralising and a great undemocratic force which sits on all the B and C States. We see every day the Chief Ministers of these States taking a pilgrimage to-Delhi for anything and everything. You will find that in the last month the Chief Minister of Rajasthan came down to Delhi. He got the blessings of the Prime Minister; he got the blessings of the States Minister to expand his Ministry. "He goes back there, makes an announcement and contacts the Rajpramukh. The swearing-in ceremony is fixed. The two-would-be Ministers receive heaps of garlands, heaps of congratulations and all sorts of messages and then just the next day there is a telephone from the States Ministry here that no expansion of the Ministry is to take place. The Chief Minister sends back a telegram to say that he is left with no alternative but to resign. Am I to understand that the Chief Minister's resignation is subject to the favours-

[Shri H. C. Mathur.] and frowns of the States Ministry or is his resignation subject to the will and vote of the State Legislature⁷

(Time bell rings.)

Well, Sir, I will immediately pass on and say a word about the Home Ministry. Our experience has left us in no manner of doubt that the Home Ministry which deals with all the political and executive life of this country is influenced in its decisions in the administration of the highest judiciary of the State. I must respectfully submit that the administration of the highest judiciary of the State should be transferred from the Home Ministry to the Law Ministry. I do not know what will be the effect; at least there will be a good psychological effect. We have before us the example of the gift of a High Court Bench; we have before us the example of the gift of a High Court Judgeship on grounds of political and party considerations.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: They are appointed by the President, Mr. Mathur.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: But, Sir, I think the President is advised by the Government. Most of the orders are issued by the President. Everything is done in the name of the President.

SHRI K. S. HEGDE (Madras): On a point of order, it is not on the advice of the Home Minister. It is on the advice of the Supreme Court and the Constitution provides for the appointment of High Court Judges.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Sir, I submitted that there is the example of the gift of a High Court Bench and looking back at the discussion which took place on the floor of this House, there was not one Member—even none from the Congress side—who could support that Bill. If there had been any democracy functioning, I have no manner of doubt that it would have been thrown out.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR LABOUR (SHRI ABID ALI): Certainly not.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR DEFENCE (SHRI SAUSH CHANDRA): Mr. Deputy Chairman, during the course of the debate on the Appropriation Bill, many points have been raised relating to the Ministry of Defence. Sir, defence is a national subject and I am glad that many constructive suggestions have been made by friends on both sides. Whatever criticism has been made is helpful and welcome to the Government because it enables them to look into the deficiencies of the administration which may sometimes be due to the failure of the human element and sometimes to other causes. But, Sir, many points which have been raised require to be answered because some of these are based on misapprehensions or on wrong notions. I want to submit that the defence administration, with all its failings and shortcomings, is sound today and that the armed forces are maintained and equipped in a manner that we can very well be proud of the fact—that our frontiers are secure. The morale of our troops *is* quite high. The average officer and soldier in the armed forces is happy and contented, and is well trained and well equipped. As I have got very limited time at my disposal, I will pass on to the points that have been raised.

Professor Ranga said that the policy regarding the purchase of weapons and equipment abroad should be reviewed. He wants the Government to examine whether it should go in for the latest type of equipment or whether it should try to maintain old weapons and purchase second-hand equipment. This point has been discussed in great detail over a number of years. It is obvious that every country wants to have the latest type of equipment. It is absolutely essential that we should have as modern and fine weapons and equipment as possible. But all the same, we have limited resources. At present we are spending about Rs. 215 crores for the

defence of a country with 350 million people.

SHRI P. V. NARAYANA (Madras): What about the standard of the Army, the Navy and the Air Force?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: I will come to it, if the hon. Member will be patient.

So, with that limited amount of money, we have to plan and make its best use. The hon. Member just now asked? What about the Navy? Well, we have to go in for second-hand naval ships sometimes.

SHRI P. V. NARAYANA: I referred to the standard of all the three forces.

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: I am dealing with weapons and equipment. I do not know if the hon. Member is aware that a new destroyer, which is a small naval ship as compared to the huge ships of the larger navies of the world, costs Rs. 4 crores. A modern cruiser costs something like Rs. 6 crores. A frigate, which is considered to be a very small ship in naval warfare, costs about Rs. 3 crores. Well, Sir, we have to see whether we can afford to spend these five or six crores of rupees for each ship, or whether we should go in for second-hand naval ships which may cost much less. Should we purchase four or five or six of such ships or one huge battleship to defend our long coast line? We have to strike a balance between our resources and needs. Whether, in view of the tremendous cost of modern warships, aircraft, tanks and other weapons and equipment, we should go in for the latest modern types, or whether we should have a larger number of slightly obsolete types and depend more on our manpower and the strength, and morale of our people, considering of course at the same time the overall political situation and our immediate defence requirements. It is only a question of balancing such important factors. We may desire to possess the latest types of weapons and equipment, but we cannot always afford them. The amount that we are spending **on our defence services** is probably spent by small countries of

Western Europe. Almost as much money may be spent by great powers on research in the field of defence science alone. So, however, colossal these figures may appear to be in the context of our total budget, it would be wrong to compare ourselves with other foreign countries or to try to emulate them in the matter of equipping our armed forces with the latest types of weapons. I hope the hon. Members will think more deeply over this problem.

Now, as between the two alternatives, I agree with Prof. Ranga that it is essential to find out what is good for us. What role our army is reasonably expected to perform in the immediate future, what exactly are our requirements, who can be possible aggressors endangering the security of the country? We should examine in the light of the above only whether we are well equipped to face any imminent danger. If we indulge in an armament race and try to compare ourselves with the U.S.A. or Russia in the matter of weapons and equipment, we shall find ourselves nowhere; we shall discover that we cannot have those things, and even if we have certain things, they will not be of much use to us. It is better to have more aircraft, as compared to a few modern latest aircraft, because if we lose those few latest aircraft, we lose all the money that has been spent by a poor country. I have given you just by way of example the cost of a naval ship. Therefore, when we go in for second-hand or slightly obsolete weapons and equipment which may not be of the latest type, it is done deliberately, after taking into account all these factors as also the availability of more modern weapons which are difficult to obtain. But that does not mean that we must not try to get the latest types of weapons and equipment, if that is possible within our existing resources.

Here, Sir, I may also refer to a point raised by my esteemed friend Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru about the purchase of stores left by the Britishers after the war. Firstly, I may point out that all these stores were not old

[Shri Satish Chandra.] stores. They had of course, been lying here for some time. Some of these were not kept in ideal storage conditions. Some of these were lying in the open. But a lot of these stores was unused and quite serviceable. Many of the packages had never been opened. A lot of it was kept in fairly good condition. The book value of these stores was about £375 millions, *i.e.*, about Rs. 500 crores. We negotiated with the British Government for the purchase of these stores for £100 millions, *i.e.*, about Rs. 133 crores. Thus we have only paid about 25 to 30 per cent, of the book value in 1948. This was done when the Finance Minister went to the United Kingdom to negotiate about India's sterling balances there and this amount was paid by debiting it to the sterling balances account in the United Kingdom.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU (Uttar Pradesh): Did the hon. Minister say that only a portion of the stores left behind by the British Government had been purchased?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: No, Sir. All the stores that were lying here, the stores that were brought during the war by the British Government and the installations that they had put up during the war time, the property which in fact belonged to the United Kingdom Government was purchased. Some of it was new, some of it was old, some of it was kept in good storage conditions also.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: My difficulty is this. The hon. Deputy Minister said that the stores had been purchased at a price 25 or 30 per cent, below their market price, but if their total price was £375 millions they have been purchased for £100 millions. Then the advantage in respect of price is not merely of the order of 25 or 30 per cent, but much greater.

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: I said that we have paid 25 or 30 per cent, of the total value. If the book value was 100, we have paid less than 30 for it. That is what I have said. This bargain took place during our negoti-

ations for the outstanding sterling balances. Moreover, Sir, this covered all stores and installations here in India. The Parliament was fully informed of this agreement and even a vote was taken for the payment of the amount for these stores and installations. Pandit Kunzru was a Member of the Parliament then; a White-Paper was published and presented to the Parliament. This deal was considered financially satisfactory from India's point of view. If these stores and equipment had not been available to us, we would have been put to very serious difficulties during the next two years especially when the Kashmir operations were going on. There were certain articles which had a sufficiently long life and there was little fear of any significant immediate deterioration.

Now, Sir, Mr. Rath has mainly based his criticism on the contemplated retrenchment of labour. Firstly, Sir, I will request the hon. Members to separate the ordnance factories from the ordnance depots and the M.E.S. establishments. There are three different organisations, the Ordnance-factories, the ordnance depots and the Military Engineering Service. Some Members have mixed up all the three. As far as the industrial production is concerned, it is limited to Ordnance-factories. It has been pointed out that we are importing many things from abroad though we can manufacture them here for our defence services. that we are also capable of manufacturing many additional items to meet the civilian requirements, that we are not doing so and are retrenching labour from all these ordnance establishments, that so many people have been retrenched from this factory or that factory. Figures were given in support of the argument showing that so many persons were retrenched from the Panagarh Factory, so many from some other factory. As a matter of fact, Sir, there is no factory at Panagarh. There the goods are simply stored. The factory as such does not exist at Panagarh. The problem before us is that we have got some surplus staff. During the war time our

requirements of stores had tremendously increased. We had plenty of war time stores which have now been gradually consumed or disposed of. Our Ordnance depots today do not have as much stores as we had two or three years ago. Now, naturally these workers have to be retrenched. I do not think that the hon. Members mean to suggest that they should be retained in the Ordnance depots even if there is no work for them and that they should idle away their time. There may be about 1,500 surplus workers in the Ordnance depots—spread over 30 Ordnance depots or so—and the M.E.S. installations. It forms less than 5 per cent, of the total strength of our Ordnance depots. This labour is surplus to our requirements today and it cannot be absorbed profitably there. But every effort will be made to offer them alternative employment wherever possible, or to get them employment in other industries through the help of Employment Exchanges. That is the only assurance that I can give to the House. Effort will be made to give preference to those retrenched persons if our Ordnance depots and the M.E.S. require more labour at some later stage.

As regards the surplus labour in the Ordnance factories the position is slightly different. Some of the articles that we are producing have piled up to such an extent that we do not want to produce them any more. We cannot go on producing things which are not required in the immediate future. We find today that there is a surplus of about 3,000 workers in the Ordnance factories. I however quite agree with the suggestions that have been made on the floor of this House during the debate that this surplus labour in the Ordnance factories should be utilised, as far as possible, by taking up the production of some new items of equipment, and if necessary, by producing items for civilian requirements. An effort is being made in this direction and a scheme has already been drawn up. Production of many new items has already been established and certain new items are being developed and designed. Every effort

will be made to utilise this surplus labour for additional production in our Ordnance factories. If the retrenchment has to be made, "it will be substantially less than this figure of 3,000.

Mrs. Alva complained about the delay in putting the audit report before this House and she said that the accounts of 1949-50 were placed on the Table of the House in 1953. I think my friend the Deputy Finance Minister will reply to those points. As far as the Defence Ministry is concerned, we signed the Appropriation Accounts in October 1951. Those things come-up before the House at a later stage when they had been audited or scrutinised by the Public Accounts Committee etc. My colleague will be able to explain that procedure in greater detail.

Pandit Kunzru referred to the N.C.C and I think he has fully explained¹ our difficulties in this matter. I welcome his suggestions. I am in complete agreement with what he has said about the N.C.C. Some other hon. Members have also spoken about the necessity of expansion of our Territorial Army and the N.C.C. These are very necessary for expanding the defence potential of the nation and Government have been trying to develop them as much as possible. The two Advisory Committees have now been set up—one for the N.C.C. and the other for the Territorial Army. Some Members of this House are members of both these Committees. One is the Statutory Committee for which this House has elected its representative and the Members have been nominated on the other Committee. These Members will certainly advise us on these matters. Their advice will be listened to with esteem and respect when they consider these points. The Committees have already met once and will meet shortly again to discuss other details as to what can be done for the further development of these two Branches. The N.C.C. has got a strength of about 80,000 boys and girls. The girls' division of course has not made much progress but during the next year, 4 or 5 new girls' troops are--

being raised in the different States and I think that, as more girls offer themselves and the finances become available, the number of their troops will increase considerably. I may point out in this connection that as far as the Central Government is concerned we want the N.C.C. to develop as much as possible. The main difficulty is financial. A Committee was originally appointed to devise a scheme for the N.C.C. That Committee made certain recommendations. Weapons, equipment and instructors for imparting training to the cadets are provided by the Central Government but the rest of the expenditure such as the camp expenditure, the expenditure on uniforms, office expenditure etc. are borne by the State Governments. Now the main bottleneck at present is.....

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: Is the hon. Minister saying that the Committee recommended that the cost of uniforms and other things that he mentioned should be borne by the State Governments?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: The Committee made certain recommendations. The Committee probably recommended certain division of expenditure as between the Centre and the States, if I am not wrong. Now according to the present arrangement under the N.C.C. Act that was passed by the Parliament the expenditure is shared between the States Governments and the Central Government. At present the bottleneck is not the central finances. If and when any request from any State is received for an additional troop or company in a particular College or school, we agree to it. Some of the State Governments however don't want to spend 11 A.M.

additional money except one or two. We shall carefully examine this problem. The Members of the Advisory Committee will also consider certain suggestions for economy to find out if we can expand within our present resources. But I think the Members of this House may as well try to influence the State Governments if possible so that they could adopt a more helpful attitude as far as the N.C.C. is con-

cerned. I may point out here that the N.C.C. is not purely a defence activity. There is no obligation on the cadets of the N.C.C. to join the army or the navy or the air force. It is a purely voluntary organisation. It is more of a Youth Movement for the inculcation of discipline rather a character building movement and there is no military obligation on the cadets of the N.C.C. They may voluntarily choose to join the Armed forces if they so desire and we encourage them to do so. We have reserved a certain percentage of seats for them in the National Defence Academy but all the same there is no compulsion or obligation on the cadets. It is more of an educational activity and therefore it is proper that the State Governments should try to increase their allotment for the expansion of the N.C.C. The Territorial Army has also made progress but not to the extent that we desired. The Territorial Army has got two types of units, urban and provincial units. The urban units are raised in big cities. The provincial units are raised in the rural areas and are embodied for a month or so in a year, hold a camp and get military training. The response for the provincial unit has so far been quite satisfactory. In the urban areas we don't want to raise much of the ordinary infantry units. The idea is to raise as far as possible Technical and Engineering Units, the P. & T. Units and the Railway Units. They are generally located near work shops and in the factory areas where more people could offer themselves, and their services could be utilized in times of emergency. We are not making very satisfactory progress in the case of urban units. For the provincial units the response has been fairly satisfactory. It is only in the case of the urban units, that it is not as satisfactory.....

SHRI M. S. RANAWAT (Rajasthan): Is it not satisfactory from your point of view or from the people's point of view?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: I don't know what the hon. Member means by the people's point of view. The

Members opposite have, spoken in favour of the expansion of the Territorial Army. What I am pointing out is that we had set certain targets for the first few years. The response to provincial unit is quite satisfactory but the response to the urban units in which we want technical men is not as satisfactory. The hon. Members can, in their own constituencies and the important towns of their States, be helpful in the recruitment drive if they want that more people should join it.

SHRI M. S. RANAWAT: Recruiting zone No. 1 is too big an area and your recruiting centre is far off for Rajas-than and Madhya Bharat. That is my complaint.

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: Rajasthan and Madhya Bharat I believe have not provincial units and as I have said there is good response as far as that is concerned. After all we are not going in for an unlimited number. The question of many urban units does not arise in Rajasthan and Madhya Bharat because there are not many industrial cities there except probably Indore, where the possibility could be explored. These are mostly concentrated near railway workshops, telephone workshops, engineering factories, iron and steel factories etc. They are technical units which will be useful to the army in an emergency.

Another difficulty that has been experienced for some time is the reluctance of the employers to grant leave to the people to join their camps etc. That is being gradually got over and I am glad to inform the House that both the Federation of Chambers of Commerce and the Association of Chambers of Commerce are extending their co-operation in this matter. They have advised their constituents not only to grant leave to their employees who join the territorial army camps but also to make good the difference in their pays as far as possible. After all, in the territorial army, we pay according to the army scales and if a mechanic or an engineer gets more in his factory and if he is not paid

the difference for these days by the factory he is put to loss. Many of the industrialists have now agreed—I won't say all of them—to try to make up the difference between what we pay on the army scale and what they actually get in the factories. So I say this difficulty is being gradually got over and I hope it would be possible to develop the territorial army and the national cadet corps with greater speed in the future. We made a start only a few years ago and on the whole the progress has been not altogether unsatisfactory.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: May I know whether the Central Government will consider the desirability of increasing its share of the expenditure on the National Cadet Corps?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: Sir, that is a point which Dr. Kunzru as a member of the National Cadet Corps Advisory Committee knows, will be considered by that Committee. Government will surely consider the advice of the Committee on this matter. But then, Sir, the decision does not rest with me as the Finance Ministry has got to consider it. I shall, of course, be happy if we get more grant and if the Finance Ministry can allow us a little more elbow room.

THE MINISTER FOR DEFENCE ORGANISATION (SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI): You know how hard these finance people are (*pointing towards the Deputy Minister for Finance Shri M. C. Shah*).

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR FINANCE (SHRI M. C. SHAH): Perhaps Dr. Kunzru may be aware of the report of the Armed Forces Reorganisation Committee. As a matter of fact that Committee has recommended a reduction. At present we pay Rs. 50 lakhs in the Budget to the National Cadet Corps. What they have suggested is that there should be a reduction, that it should be brought down to Rs. 10 or 15 lakhs, the rest to be found by the Education Ministry. For the time being this figure is to be continued. With regard to additional

[Shri M. C. Shah.] expenditure, perhaps Dr. Kunzru is aware of the letter that the Prime Minister wrote to the conference where he had stated that it would not be possible to go faster, the main obstacle being finance. He said:

"I cannot say at present how far it will be possible for the Government to accept further financial liabilities in this connection. To some slight extent this might be possible and should be considered". That was the considered opinion of the Prime Minister when he wrote that letter. So I think that question will require fuller and further consideration by the Finance Ministry.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: I was not aware of the recommendations made by the Defence Armed Forces Re-organisation Committee; but the particular recommendation to which friend has drawn our attention shows how valuable the recommendations of this Committee are.

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: Sir, I will not take more time of the House. I think I have disposed of most of the points raised in the course of this debate. Shrimati Alva pointed out to the number of air-craft accidents during the last few years. I have studied these figures after she spoke in this House and I can, without going into the details, tell the House with confidence that the accidents rate in India is not as alarming as it is made out to be. As a matter of fact it compares favourably with aircraft accident rates in some of the advanced countries.

SHRI M. S. RANAWAT: Which other countries?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: The difficulty arises from the fact that some of the hon. Members just get reports of accidents here and there and conclude that the accident rate must be very high. They sometimes try to compare with the reports of accidents rates of the civil aircrafts, which is not quite fair. The Air Force nights

are very hazardous. Some of the hon. Members must have seen the other day at the Air Force Display, the normal type of flying they have to do. The pilots have to learn acrobatics of the plane. They have to learn diving, bombing and all sorts of things. If we take the number of accidents that take place in comparable conditions, in 10,000 hours of flying, it is not more than in the civilian aircraft and it compares favourably with the Air Forces of other countries.

SHRI M. S. RANAWAT: Which other country? Do you compare them with the figure for the United States or the United Kingdom?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: It compares I suppose favourably with that for the United Kingdom.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: That is no consolation, when people die.

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: Then Pandit Kunzru again raised the old issue of the jeeps. I do not wish to add anything to what the Prime Minister said in the other House. I shall read out a short extract and I think that would be a complete reply:

"But again coming back to this jeep scandal, I suppose there are few things or few questions raised in this House which have been so thoroughly enquired into, from every point of view, repeatedly, as this jeep purchase business, which began some time in May, 1948—Ave years ago, a long time ago. In fact it was the very first purchase on a big scale that was made after the transfer from the old India Office. They used to make our purchases before that. That was the first thing that was dealt with by our own people there. We had no apparatus, proper apparatus, in India House to deal with these matters, which we have now. It was a very difficult time. We were carrying on the Kashmir war. We were on the point of having the Hyderabad operations. We did not quite know the consequences of all those things.

There was the most urgent need felt for jeeps. We sent frantic telegrams: get these jeeps anyhow, any kind of jeep. We were quite unhappy. We made mistakes in it. We lost money, admittedly. But you must look at it in that context of things. Do not think we are sitting in an office here issuing public tenders which may take months and years to be answered. Here was an emergency, a war-time urgency; actually warlike operations were : going on and there were threatened operations. The question was: you won't get anything later, get something immediately. So in that hurry we made some contracts which were not adequate and which got us into trouble later on. And we have been trying to get out of them by other processes, and by trying to do that getting more entangled in the business. There it is. But they have gone through it very thoroughly. I confess mistakes were made, I admit. But I see nothing in it which can be called scandal or any corrupt practice. Mistakes have been made. Last session, I think, a statement about this was made by the late Defence Minister, Shri •Gopalaswami Ayyangar after this complete enquiry which he and many of us made. That applies even more to the ammunition business. We got the stuff ordered, and we got good stuff ordered too. There is no doubt about it. But certain procedures have been followed differently. So that, I do beg of the House—I want the House to be as critical as possible, to scrutinize everything most carefully and not to be chary of criticising anything—but I do beg of the House also to consider the context of things and not to run our own people down without being Sure that they are deserving of them. If they deserve it let us run them down. But this needless running down of hardworking, honest people, who are doing a difficult job in difficult circumstances is hardly, I submit, desirable."

I think, Sir, I need not add any-

thing more to this very comprehensive statement of the Prime Minister on this point.

THE MINISTER FOR WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SARDAK SWARAN SINGH) : Mr. Deputy Chairman, I had no intention of intervening in this Debate but certain things have been said by certain hon. Members of the Council that require some reply. My esteemed friend Prof. Ranga said something about the Central P.W.D. He said that the method of splitting up of the works is resorted to with a view to take it out of the purview of the applicability of the rule of tender. There may be some criticism about the working of the C.P.W.D. and the Government have never fought shy of taking action in suitable cases and of looking into cases where there is any doubt. But, Sir, so far as this point is concerned, there appears to be some misapprehension and the correct position does not appear to have been appreciated by the hon. Member. So far as the splitting up of the contracts is concerned, he referred to a case where a work of the value of Rs. 50 lakhs could be split into fifty items and then they could be doled out without calling for tenders. I am not, Sir, aware of the context from which he took out that proposition. As a matter of fact, the correct position is that if a work of the value of Rs. 50 lakhs is split into fifty items, for instance if fifty houses ^have to be constructed and if somebody invites a tender individually even then he has to do it exactly in the same way as if it were a bigger contract; and the splitting may be resorted to for various reasons, to phase out the work, to complete the work with speed or to do it better; he has to follow the same procedure as if it were one consolidated work comprising of those fifty houses and as if the entire amount of Rs. 50 lakhs had to be spent.

Then again, Sir, there appears to be further misapprehension on this score that by resorting to splitting perhaps the normal rule of calling

[Sardar Swaran Singh.]

out tenders can be evaded. That is not a correct proposition. As a matter of fact, Sir, except work of the value of less than a very petty amount—Rs. 2,500 in the case of the Executive Engineers, of the value of Rs. 5,000 in the case of the Superintending Engineers and below Rs. 10,000 in the case of the Chief Engineer—all works above this limit have to be given after calling for open tenders. Those tenders are opened in the presence of the tenderers and they are scrutinised in an open manner. Sir, I have further looked into this question as to the extent and nature of work that is done without calling for tenders. Sir, the cases where it is not necessary to invite tenders are of a petty nature, in the nature of either repairs or some small maintenance work. Now, as compared to the total expenditure that is incurred, this item that is works done without tender compares in such a manner that the result is not at all bad. Of the total expenditure of the order of Rs. 15 to Rs. 16 crores, not more than a few lakhs were spent by way of repairs or maintenance without calling for tenders. Therefore, Sir, to say that considerable amounts had been spent without adopting the normal procedure of calling tenders will not be a correct proposition. It is correct, Sir, that tenders of various amounts are actually scrutinised and looked into by officers of various grades. The Executive Engineer can call for tenders and can take final decisions upto a limit of say Rs. 40,000 or so. The Superintending Engineer has got still higher powers. But, Sir, all these officers have to resort to tenders in all cases except in those cases where the nature of work is such that the calling of tenders will either result in delay or perhaps will cause great inconvenience in the matter of execution of that work which is essential or which is in the nature of some petty repairs or maintenance.

Again, Sir, Prof. Ranga was pleased to say that generally the lowest tenders were not accepted.

PROF. G. RANGA (Madras): **Not**, generally but sometimes. I did not say 'generally'.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: I am grateful, Sir, for the modification which he has so kindly made and he says that sometimes the lowest tender is not accepted and a tender which is not the lowest is accepted. On that point, Sir, I may say that tenders of the value of over Rs. 5 lakhs come up to the Government and I can say without any fear of contradiction that during the last year not a single tender has been accepted which was not the lowest. I have also made enquiries and I can say that the lowest tenders have generally been accepted except in a very small number of cases.

It is not a very unsafe proposition because the lowest tenderer is not always the proper person who can execute the work either within time or according to the specifications.

PROF. G. RANGA: That is the standard answer always given.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: It is because the criticisms are also standard and unsubstantiated. I have got every respect for Professor Ranga but if anybody comes and says that he can construct a huge bridge and suppose for the matter of that Professor Ranga said that he could construct a big tunnel or a big bridge, then it is for somebody to scrutinise whether the individual who is making that claim has got the capacity to execute it or not, whether he has got experience in the line or not. The blind rule of accepting the tender of somebody because he is quoting a figure which is the lowest cannot be followed irrespective of the fact as to whether he has got the requisite capacity to execute the work or not, whether he can execute the work according to the standard laid down or not and whether or not he can execute the work within the time prescribed. Irrespective of these considerations, to say it should be accepted, will be a proposition which I am pretty certain that Professor Ranga on calmer con—

sideration will not press because, Sir, that will lead to very absurd results. Therefore I st.y, Sir, that the proposition by itself is not a sound one. Of course in its actual application if there are any cases in the mind of Professor Ranga in which he feels that the lowest tenderer has been passed over for invalid grounds or for insufficient grounds for improper grounds I will be most willing to go into such cases. Also there is some protection against the abuse of this power because in all those cases where the lowest tenderer has to be passed over the immediate authority who ordinarily can finalise the contracts is not in such cases permitted to finalise it but that authority has to refer to the authority which is immediately above him. For example, an executive engineer can finalise a contract of the value of Rs. 40,000 but if the contract is such where the executive engineer feels that the lowest tenderer should not be accepted then in that case he by himself is not empowered to take the final decision but he has to refer the matter higher up. This itself, Sir, is a safe provision and if proper scrutiny and vigilance are exercised there is very little chance of the abuse of the power given to reject the lowest tenderer, on the grounds of rejection being recorded. If my friend Professor Ranga can suggest any other method of an internal character which might afford a guarantee against the misuse of that power I shall be prepared to examine it and I might assure him that the intention is that we should be able to execute our works in the lowest possible time with the minimum expenditure.

My friend has further suggested that there should be some sort of parliamentary control. I must confess, Sir, that I have not fully grasped the import of that suggestion. If parliamentary control is meant to be applied at every stage of execution of the works then I am afraid it will be too much to expect the Members of Parliament to go into those details and it is not also fair that the responsibility for execution should be shifted

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on to the Members of Parliament that way. Perhaps what he means is that : some scrutiny should be there to ensure that the expenditure has been incurred in a proper manner. In that connection, Sir, we have of course got the parliamentary control and the Estimates Committee and the Public Accounts Committee and there who always look into all these matters. Besides that, Sir, we have got the independent organisation and machinery provided by the Auditor-General who always exercises effective control by way of audit of the expenditure and they scrutinise all these items. Then again, Sir, there is the Finance whose vigilance is proverbial and they always ensure that before anything is finalised the financial aspect is fully secured.

There was one other honourable Member, the Leader of the Communist Party, Shri Sundarayya, who used certain strong words while criticising this Ministry. I am, Sir, not accustomed to use strong words and I will not try to say any strong words in reply. And, if those strong terms are eliminated there are two points that he has made out. One is about housing and the other is about eviction. So far as housing is concerned, Sir, I was somewhat pained to read the report of the speech made by him where he has said that we are perhaps doing too much for the industrial labour in the towns and too little in the direction of rural housing. I do not know, Sir, what he meant by adopting that argument. I thought that they always stood for the rights of the labour.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: He said that the problem of housing for the rural people had been neglected. He did not say that more preference is being given to the industrial labour at the expense of the rural people.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: I am glad, Sir, that there is some clarification although by proxy. Still I accept it. But the real point is that the solicitude which is normally exhibited

[Sardar Swaran Singh.] for labour somehow or other seemed to lead the Leader of the Communist Party to make a distinction between rural and urban labour perhaps in his anger against this Ministry. Normally the cause of labour is taken up very much, but on this occasion it was shifted *on* to the rural side into the domain of Professor Ranga. But I may say, Sir, that even on the rural housing side my esteemed friend the Leader of the Communist Party did not have any suggestions to make as to what should be done. Is it the suggestion of that honourable Member or any Member of his party that the Government should undertake, by spending directly from the Exchequer, the construction of houses for the rural side? I am pretty certain that that could not be the suggestion because that would lead to fantastic results because the financial commitments thereof would be so colossal that no Government could ever face that. Again, Sir, it is forgotten that that will be a problem which would be the primary concern of the State Governments, *ilnterruvtion.*)

When I give way then my hon. friend does not exercise his option. I was saying, Sir,.....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He wants the dissolution of your Ministry.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: He ran-not have a dissolution of this Ministry. If he secures a majority at the time of the next election he might then ask for a dissolution of this Government but I might tell him that that time is a long way off.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: There may be a landslide and Members from that side may cross over to this side.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: As I was saying. Sir, I was anxiously expecting that some suggestions would be made as to what should be done by the Government in the matter of Industrial housing besides what is already being done by the Government. In

the Community Projects which have been started in a large number of centres all over the country this problem of improvement of rural housing is engaging the attention of the Government. There are people in those, organisations who are fully qualified to go into this matter and they are guiding the rural people in the matter of improving sanitation, in the matter of improving their living conditions, in the matter of improving the structures of their houses and in the matter of utilisation of cheaper material and better modes of construction. Apart from that many State Governments have also got plans according to which they are making available plots of land for those residents who are not owners. I am aware of such schemes which are being undertaken by many Governments. Again, Sir,, consolidation of land holdings is proceeding in a large number of States and in all these States they are planning their new villages in the matter of both sites and the structures that are existing upon them in such a manner that the shape of the rural country side will definitely be improved. I am certain, that these steps coupled with some sort of aided self-help will go a long way to relieve that question of rural housing.

Again, Sir, to the extent to which the housing condition in the country as a whole improves, every part of the country does derive some benefit. Therefore, Sir, to say that the Ministry should be called the Ministry of Dehousing is nothing but an outrage on language which is not based on any substance. I can well appreciate his anger on a small personal matter—that is the matter of eviction from No. L Windsor Place.

SHRI K. L. NARASIMHAM (Madras) r It is not a personal matter. It is the policy of your Government.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: Sir, it is a very convenient method of converting a small personal matter into a policy matter. That is a narrow approach which unfortunately has gripped many

parties and many people and I cannot think of any remedy for that. I have gone through the report of his speech and the hon. Member has brought in the No. 1 Windsor Place thing on more than one occasion in the course of his speech on this Appropriation Bill. I must confess, Sir, that the little parliamentary experience that I have got bears me out when I say that if the eviction of A, B or C from a particular house is to be related to a discussion on the Appropriation Bill it is, if I may say so, an improper use of the time that is allotted to the Member.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: It is not a question of eviction of A, B or C. It was a question of treatment meted out to the Leader of the Opposition.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: Sir, so far as the rights and privileges of the hon. Members of this Council are concerned, no one is more anxious and more desirous than myself to uphold the prestige and privilege of the Members of this hon. Council whether they are members of the Treasury Benches or whether they are members of the Opposition. But, Sir, I am equally clear in my mind that whereas we have got privileges, whereas we have got certain prestige, there are certain obligations also which we must willingly undertake to perform and to execute in the best possible spirit. Now, Sir, it passes my comprehension when I look at the facts of that case as to how and why that could be made a matter of course. After all, we have all voluntarily agreed that a certain procedure should be followed in these matters. We have constituted a Parliamentary Committee which we call the House Committee which looks after this matter of allotment of houses and which looks after the convenience of the members. They may have felt

(Interruption by Shri S. N. Mazumdar.)

Mk. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order, order.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: I am sure, Sir, that the interrupting Member

of the Communist Party fully knows that a Member of his own Party—no less a person than Prof. Hiren Mukhejee—is a member of that Committee.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: But that Committee never met.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order, order. The facts are fully well known*.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: I was saying, Sir, that we have got certain obligations and certain obvious rules of the game which we should observe and which should be followed by hon. Members and I am clear in my mind that by following them and by discharging those obligations we will, if anything, be enhancing our prestige in the eyes of the entire world. But, Sir, for any hon. Member, however high he may be whether he is in the Opposition or on the Treasury Benches to think that he can circumvent the rules or he can go against the rules is, to my mind, an idea which does not add either to the stature or to the prestige of any Member of this or of any other Parliamentary House, if anything, it derogates from our prestige and we will stand exposed in the eyes of the people of the world that these makers of laws and rules, when it comes to the application of those rules and laws to themselves, are making out these excuses on one ground or another to get out of those rules. When that Parliamentary Committee cancelled that allotment and reallocated it to four other Members of this House

(Interruption.)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is not necessary to go into the details.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: I won't, Sir. Therefore, Sir, it was a question as to whether the prestige of those four members or these two members' should be upheld and if a body that was competent to decide took a decision, then in all fairness that decision ought to have been followed, rather than a show of that should have been made by staging walk-outs or raising

[Sardar Swaran Singh.] this point in season and out of season. Therefore, Sir, without labouring that point further I would leave it at that for this Council to decide as to whether the discharge of the functions of the Ministry, onerous and unpleasant though they are, could be really evaded and a policy of drift ought to have been followed or whether in a clear and decisive manner some action ought to have been taken. The answer could be only one, that is that the action that was taken was the only possible action and if it were not a Member of the Opposition, perhaps eviction would have come much earlier. Every possible opportunity was given to them and when it could not be straightened by any other method, then only recourse to that method was resorted to.

Then, again, Sir, I fail to understand why the name of Mr. Gopalan, the Leader of the Communist Party in the Lower House should have been brought in this matter of eviction. I could not imagine how a gentleman sitting in Moscow in Russia could be evicted here; because he was in Russia when this eviction took place and Mr. Sundarayya was pleased in his speech to say that men like Mr. Gopalan and Mr. Sundarayya have been evicted.

(Shri S. N. Mazumdar tried to stand up.)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please do not disturb.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: But the hon. Minister's statement is not correct.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have seen the speech. He has mentioned that.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Not that, Sir, I shall

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order, order.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: Now, Sir, as my hon. friend is challenging that proposition. I can read out for his benefit the words that were used by his Leader.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: But, Sir,...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am sorry. Mr. Mazumdar, please do not disturb.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: But the hon. Minister is saying that

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He is reading from the speech.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: This is what Mr. Sundarayya said: "With all their prestige they have been able to throw out A. K. Gopalan from No. 1 Windsor Place" ". As I was saying, Sir, it is difficult to imagine how a man sitting in Moscow could be thrown out and if I have made a wrong statement I am prepared to correct it. But I thought the laws of Gravitation and Science applied to all Parties—whether it is the Communist Party or any other Party. Sir, I have finished, because no other point besides this was raised and I leave it to the hon. Members of this Council to decide whether all the strong words used against this Ministry were at all justified.

SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO (Orissa): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, last year I began my speech on the Appropriation Bill with the words of wisdom in our ancient books :

“ऋणकर्ता पिता शत्रुः”

The hon. the Finance Minister who is conspicuous by his absence in this House this year

SHRI M. C. SHAH: There is the Finance Bill in the House of the People and he is there.

SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: Yes, I know. The hon. the Finance Minister with his ready wit promptly answered back by completing that line with an original composition which read:

ऋणकर्ता पिता शत्रु
मित्रं मन्त्रिवरः परम् ।
ऋणात् पुत्रा वितश्यन्ति
वृद्धिं राष्ट्रं तु गच्छन्ति ॥

This was rendered into English by the hon. Minister: —

"A borrowing father is a foe,
A borrowing minister never so,
While sons through debts do come to
woe,
Through loans and aid *fia* nations grow."

However, in view of the fact that the policy of indebtedness continues to flourish and we are always so ready to manufacture money whenever we feel the want of it by the hat-trick— or is it the rope-trick—of deficit financing, I should like to suggest an emended version of the *shloka* composed by the Finance Minister last year, according to my point of view:

ऋणकर्ता पिता शत्रुः
मंत्री च ऋणकृत्परः ।
ऋणात् पुत्रा विनश्यन्ति
वृद्धि राष्ट्रं तु यच्छति ॥

Not "यच्छति", but "यच्छते" "यच्छति" meaning "gives", instead of "यच्छति" which means "goes". The word "वृद्धि" in Sanskrit means both prosperity and interest on debts. So, from my point of view, from this emended point of view, that *shloka* may be translated as:—

"A debt-contracting father is a foe,
So is a minister, whose efforts
throw,
Interest-paying debts upon the realm,
As debts paternal sons do overwhelm."

This introduction of my speech dealing with loans and indebtedness into which in my opinion the Central Government is surely and slowly sinking automatically draws my attention to the loans and advances which it is so anxious to dole out so liberally to

applicant debtors, like the proverbial jackal who lost its tail and wanted all other jackals also to cut off their tails. I come to vote No. 122 of the Appropriation Bill which shows a total of Rs. 157,91,97,000 for loans and advance to be disbursed by the Central Government. The charged that amount Rs. 131 crores in this item, according to Volume III of the Demands for Grants, consists of loans and advances to State Governments. I am at a loss to understand, Sir, how and why loans and advances to State Governments are shown as a charged appropriation while loans and advances to others are shown as voted. Does this mean that the Central Government is legally liable to sanction increasing loans and advances to State Governments as an obligatory disbursement from the Consolidated Fund? Has the Lower House no say in the matter at all? Why I am anxious to know more about this is because, as emphasised by me before, most of the loans to the State Governments are going to prove irrecoverable despite all the assurances we received from the Treasury Benches about the repaying capacity of the State Governments. At page 1383 of Volume III of the Demands for Grants' this item of Rs. 157 crores is stated to consist of interest-bearing advances. But if my information is correct, the Government have often stated that loans for industrial housing schemes, for which Rs. 448 lakhs have been provided, do not bear any interest. If this is true, the whole of the Rs. 157 crores of loans apparently does not bear interest.

I would also like to know why loans* given in the accounts for 1951-52 are not detailed fully on pages 1383-88 Of Volume III of the Demands for Grants.* relating to Appropriation No. 122 of the present Bill. Advances to foreign* Governments are shown as Rs. 1 crore in each of the three years 1951-52 Accounts to 1953-54 Budget. I should like to know the names of the foreign Governments who have borrowed these sums. In 1946-47 the Government of Siam took a loan of Rs. 5 crores, the certificate of acceptance of liability for

[Shri P. C. Bhanj Deo.]
which was still to be furnished, it seems, to the audit authorities.

Now, as an example of the confusing and almost misleading way in which figures are presented in the Budget literature provided to Members for study and information I should like to draw the attention of the House to the corresponding demand of Vote No. 122 in Volume III of the books presented to us. While the sum under this head appears as Rs. 158 crores, in Volume III of the Demands for Grants, it is shown as Rs. 116 crores, on page 15 of the 24-page booklet called "The Budget of the Central Government for 1953-54."

Now, I come to Vote No. 125. There is an item in the Appropriation Bill for Rs. 6 lakhs as capital outlay of the Ministry of Education. I am really sorry to see this sum entered in the capital account of the Appropriation Bill instead of in the revenue account to which it should rightly belong.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Vote No. 125 is: Other capital outlay—Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: Vote No. 125 embodies a new capital demand for Rs. 6 lakhs for the Ministry of Education. My point is that, instead of being included as a capital outlay, it should be included in the revenue account of the Budget to which it rightly belongs.

Vote No. 125—Other capital outlay of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture is in two parts. The voted part is Rs. 19,87,38,000 while the charged part is for Rs. 15,67,000. About this charged portion which is on account of interest charges on the capital outlay on land reclamation, I had occasion to submit to the House on the 20th December last that this was the surest way of inviting bankruptcy in the general finances of the country. The sound principle lies in the fact that we should meet interest charges from revenue and not from capital. It has

been explained in reply to a letter in this connection by the Finance Minister that the land reclamation scheme is run as a Government trading scheme and all receipts and expenditure pertaining to it are taken to the capital head. Interest charges on the entire capital including the loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development invested in the scheme are initially met from revenue as usual, but are eventually transferred to the capital head so that the entire expenditure on the scheme may be shown at one place and so that the rates and charges to be recovered for services rendered by the Organisation may include interest on capital. I wonder whether we could not have made full recovery including an element of interest on capital for the payment of services rendered to different parties.

Last but not least, Vote No. 129 embodies a sum of Rs. 3,79,84,000 under the head "Capital Outlay on Multipurpose and River Valley Schemes." I would like to know whether the Rs. 3,73,00,000 of Central Government's share of the capital outlay on the Damodar Valley Project includes any element of capitalised interest which I understand amounts to a sum of Rs. 55,00,000 in 1953-54. I had of course a number of other things to say on the general policy of the Government and also on the Explanatory Memorandum upon which Members are supposed to enlighten themselves as far as the Budget volumes are concerned, but there will not be any time, Sir, for this and I will not take up the time of the House any more; I will only conclude by saying that the Government should see that when large amounts of public money are spent on appropriations of this kind, as Vote No. 129 embodies, these appropriations should be real appropriations in the public interest and not be the sources of misappropriation. Thank you very much. Sir.

SHRI S. MAHANTY (Orissa): Sir, I have got to submit one point.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: At this stage?

SHRI S. MAHANTY. Yes. Sir. We find that the hon. Minister for Works, Housing and Supply and the hon. Minister for Defence have explained the position to the House with regard to certain charges which were levelled against their Ministries. In the same way many things have been said about the other Ministries and it will be better if those Ministers also reply to the various points raised here.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order, order. Mr. Mahanty. You are taking the time of the House. Mr. Rajendra Pratap Sinha,

12 NOON

SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA (Bihar): Mr. Deputy Chairman, I wish to confine my remarks on the activities of the Education Ministry for which we find appropriation for Rs. 4,88,06,000 under the head 'Education'. Sir, there was a bit of confusion the other day as to how the Government of India and this Parliament was responsible for education. In this connection, I would like to draw your attention to article 45 of the Directive Principles of the State Policy of our Constitution. It reads like this:

"The State shall endeavour to provide, within a period of ten years from the commencement of this Constitution, for free and compulsory education, for all children until they complete the age of fourteen years."

Now, Sir, let us see how the word 'State' is defined and I would like to draw your attention to article 36, which

"In this Part, unless the context[^] requires, "the State" has the same meaning as in Part III."

Now, let us see what Part III says. Article 12 of Part III says:

"In this Part, unless the context otherwise requires, "the State" includes the Government and Parliament of India **and** the Government

and the Legislature of each of the States and all local or other authorities within the territory of India or under the control of the Government of India." I therefore submit, Sir, that it is as much the responsibility of this Parliament and as a matter of fact, of the Government of India, as of any other State Government or legislature, to see that article 45 is implemented. Sir, the article 45 directs that the Government should endeavour to provide for free and compulsory education for all children up to the age of 14 years within a period of ten years from the commencement of the Constitution. Sir, in my opinion, it is the duty of the Government of India to direct and to co-ordinate the activities of the State Governments so that the provisions of article 45 may be given effect to. Sir, I tried to look into the Annual Report of the Education Ministry to find out how they were working on this point. But, Sir, I failed to gather anything from that Report as this Report reads like a State's Education Department Report, giving the activities of the Education Ministry itself. It does not give us any idea as to how education on the whole, is progressing in the country. I submit, Sir, that the Annual Report of the Education Ministry should give a resume of the activities of the different States-as a whole and should explain as to how they are making progress towards the ends set in our Constitution, what are their plans and what money they are spending on primary education for our children. Sir, in the absence of any such report from the Education Ministry, we fail to assess as to how the country as a whole is making progress on this subject.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is a State subject—primary education.

SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA: That is right, Sir. But I have explained that the Government of India too is responsible to see that necessary facilities are provided for all school **going** children. So we **want to know as to**

[Shri Rajendra Pratap Sinha.] how the States are making progress on this point.

Sir, I would like to give you a few statistics on this point. It is estimated, Sir, that we have about one crore of children in the age group of between five and six years when they should get facilities to be admitted into primary schools. We understand, Sir, that only 42 lakhs of children out of this one crore do actually go to any of the primary schools in this country. And there is no provision for 58 lakh children to receive any primary education. Therefore, we have got to provide for schooling facilities for these 58 lakhs of children all over the country. Now in all we have got 2.1 lakhs of primary schools to which these 42 lakhs children are admitted. If now we want the rest of the 58 lakh children to get schooling facilities, we shall have to open another 3 lakhs of primary schools. Sir, I am giving you only round figures. So the problem at the present moment is to provide for extra three lakh schools so that these 58 lakh children may get admission into them.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Also funds for it.

SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA: I am coming to that. The other point that I would like to stress is that even out of these 42 lakhs children that are admitted into the school, only 12 lakhs get permanent literacy i.e., they pass the stage of primary school upto class IV standard. The rest of the 30 lakhs leave the school without completing the primary stage of education, in the first or 2nd year. You will thus see that these 30 lakhs children lapse into illiteracy again because it has been found that unless a child receives education for at least 4 years, he or she cannot retain literacy.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All these facts are not disputed. If you have any remedy to suggest, you may do so.

SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA: I am giving the problem.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Everybody knows the existence of the problem.

SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA: We have to see that these 42 lakhs children receive permanent literacy and in my opinion there is no other method by which they could attain this unless we introduce an element of compulsion for them to stay in the school for 4 years. I would therefore suggest to the Education Ministry to explore the possibilities of introduction legislation so that these children may be retained in the schools for at least 4 years and the State Governments may be guided to enforce this legislation. Otherwise we.....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Nothing prevents them from passing that legislation.

SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA: I want them to investigate that problem.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is for the State Legislatures.

SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA: The Education Ministry should also* direct them. It is their duty. The Planning Commission has also suggested this.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The direction is already there and in some States, they have done it.

SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA: In some they are not doing it. Anyhow I will not take much of your time on this point. I would only say that if we want that the element of compulsion should come in. we must upgrade all the single-teacher schools in the States and for that the States want money. The Planning Commission have also suggested that Rs. 977 crores every year should be provided for education but we find that only 4;8 crores have been provided under the head 'Education'. The State Governments should be given grants by making more provision in the Central Budget on Education so that these schools may be

upgraded. In conclusion the Commission recommends that the Government of India should make special grants to States for the development of education. My submission is that the special grant should be made to States for upgrading the schools at least to 3 or 4 teacher schools and of the 2.1 lakhs of schools, .67 lakhs schools are single-teacher schools and it is estimated that if we want to make them 4 teacher schools 14 crores will be required and even if you make them two teacher schools it will be possible for the 30 lakh children to be educated for 4 years and for that only 7.2 crores of rupees will be required. Even if the Central Ministry allocates funds according to the Commission's recommendations *i.e.*, Rs. 9.77 crores, they will be able to enhance their grants to the States so that they can upgrade at least a majority of the schools to two-teacher schools.

There is another point that I would like to speak about regarding the Education Ministry. We have to compliment the Government of India for opening many research and technological institutes, and this has really put India on the map of scientific and technological advancement and research, but the Government of India should also endeavour to put back India on the map of studies in ancient literature and ancient learning and they should endeavour to give liberal grants to such institutions which carry on Studies and Research in ancient learning. We have three Universities that are financed by us, one at Aligarh, the other at Banares and the third at Santiniketan and of course one at Delhi also. But I would submit that they should also consider taking up the Nalanda Pali Institute which has been opened up in Bihar. I may say a few words about this institution to enlighten the Members, of this House as to why I press for a grant to this institution. This institution has been built near the old ruins of the Nalanda University which flourished in this country between the 4th and 11th Centuries A.D. Ten thousand students in those days were reading in this

institution and it is a well known fact of history that scholars from all over the Asiatic countries, especially the Buddhist countries, came to study in this institution. The name of Nalanda is still held in great reverence and gratitude by those countries as will be evidenced from the fact that when this institution was opened by the Government of Bihar a few years ago, many of the eminent scholars of Japan, Indo-China, Tibet and Ceylon contacted the authorities of the institute and they have volunteered to come here and do research work and do teaching work as well. Actually 5 of the Members of the Staff on this institute are from foreign countries like Tibet, Indo-China, Ceylon, Japan and France. Many scholars have also come to carry on research work here. The institute is entirely meant for research in Pali literature and for post-graduate studies and the Constitution warrants the Government of India to help such institutions. The Bihar Government has spent Rs. 50,000 on recurring ex-penses and they have set apart 2 lakhs this year for building and for giving scholarship for the students coming here for research. I understand that the Government of Bihar made several approaches to the Education Ministry for getting a grant for this institute. It is in the fitness of things that the Government of India should come forward to liberally help this institution, as even in the ancient times it was not the Maghad State alone which helped the institution but all the neighbouring States used to help it. I would therefore request the Government of India to please consider the building of a Vihar which will cost about 2 lakhs and which is an amount equal to what has been set apart by the Government of Bihar in this year's Budget. *One word more and I have done.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your time is up.

SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA: Then I will end my speech.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri-mati Mona Hensman, you will please finish within ten minutes.

SHRIMATI MONA HENSMAN (Madras): Yes, Sir. Mr. Deputy Chairman, I know we are pressed for time and I shall finish in ten minutes and I trust the bell will not have to be called into use for this purpose.

I wish to say a few words about No. 39—in this Consolidated Fund Accounts under Grants-in-aid to States. I am aware that Education is a State subject; but I would like to know whether this Government when giving these grants-in-aid to the States—substantial amounts—could give some direction as to how this money should be spent. When I speak of how this money should be spent, I refer in particular to a direction regarding the expenditure for education. You are aware Sir, and the whole House is aware also that there are certain pays and allowances which do not attract the best type of people. Men and women go in for education because they feel they can serve their country best that way. They work hard for four or five years in the colleges and then pass out and then begin to work for a miserable pay which, as our Minister for Education said at one of the Conferences, is barely equal to the wage of a constable or a postman. We do not wish in any way, that our constables and postmen should not receive this meagre wage or the highest wages possible, because they are civic authorities and the whole State depends on their work. At the same time. Sir, when a teacher after having spent either Government money or his parent's money or his own money gets a Degree,—which after all may be only a poor hallmark, but still it is a hallmark of some sort—when I say, he gets such a low pay, should we not try to raise the scale when according these grants-in-aid to the States? We do not ask for a very great rise but we do ask for more, for some sort of reasonable pay, or for some sort of an allowance for the years of extra study the teacher has spent. In many States in this country Rs. 75 plus Dearness Allowance is given to a girl who passes out and she is expected to go and live

away from her home and to work in a place where she is not known. Perhaps she has some elderly relation who has to go with her, but she has to find a roof to put over her head and she has to keep enough money for her food, and she has to keep one woman servant. I ask you whether all this can be done within the Rs. 75 or Rs. 100 that is being given to her, in these hard days? Also many of these teachers are married. Men and women teachers work and they both draw their wages and somehow try to keep their balance. They have to do it so long as the State needs so many teachers, and uses all married teachers. But the married woman teacher should be free to work if she chooses and not to work if she chooses in order to look after her own children which also is a great civic responsibility. Otherwise she has to leave her own children in the morning and go out to look after other people's children. Her own children she has to leave to a paid servant, an ayah or at least to an elderly relation who may have no love for the children. I say this is also the case regarding doctors. We have a scheme for starting our doctors on Rs. 150. That is considered the minimum to meet their necessities. But in the rural districts these allowances even are not tempting and our doctors and teachers and our nurses are not willing to go out of the big cities. In the Scandinavian countries and in some other countries also, there is a very fair division made. The clerk and the administrator who enters service early in life, at 18, 19 or 20 years of age is given a good wage and the doctors there are given a bigger starting wage out of consideration for their five years of earnest work and one year at least extra of duty as internes in a hospital. The doctor thereafter is given very little more in the way of increments than those in other professions. How can we expect our country to be served properly unless we pay our men and women teachers, doctors, nurses and others at least the minimum living wage? Yesterday, in reply to a question, the answer was given that so many crores as are declared our annual income should be

divided by our population of 360 millions and then the per-capita income could be obtained. Sir, our per-capita income is perhaps the lowest in the world and I feel that these professions— not only teachers, doctors and nurses, but all similar professions in which people enter after a great deal of study should be properly looked after.

Now we have not got the joint family system. This system of joint family was there in different times in the different religions of our country. Whether it was called the joint family-system or not the system was there and worked as a sort of a Welfare State. But now we have distributed the family and their property, and we have neither a Welfare State nor the joint family to fall back upon. Under the old system when a person reached old age and had no pension, he had some one to look after him or the woman, if she were left without an income, could go back to her father's house. Similarly in the event of any sickness some relation would take care of the sufferer. If extra money was needed for some particular purpose or occasion some journey or wedding, this institution of the joint family came to the help of the individual. But now, in these days each man has to lay by (something for further security. We have not yet got a Welfare State; our country has decided it cannot afford it—and rightly so. But the people in the professional and other classes have nothing left to lay by for emergency from their miserable wages, to be used in their old age or in any contingency.

Now a word about the educational aid to the backward boys and girls in the intermediate course and other stages. We have Harijan scholarships and they are valuable to the recipient, and they are also generally well used. The Central Government has said that unless the recipient of a scholarship reaches the average of 45 per cent, of marks in the subjects taken at the end of the scholarship year, he or she should not receive the scholarship again. Forty-five per cent, may be all right as a criterion for the Central Government; but even if we keep the

standard as low as 30 per cent, or even 25 per cent, average in our State scholarships there is great difficulty in reaching a decision. What I say is, some indication should be made to the recipient to the effect that the scholarship will not be continued if the recipient has not used it seriously and well. I know many girls who receive these scholarships in the colleges and some of them use their opportunity well; but I also know that there are cases where it is not properly used. It is the fundamental right of every girl of 14 or 15 to go to a college; she has the right to play games, to take part in debating societies, dramatic and music societies, to come into contact with other girls to know how to use the library. But it should not be her fundamental right to have her scholarship continued, during the second year if she does not come up even to the level of 30 per cent, or 35 per cent, in her studies, for then her time will not have been properly used. I speak of girls, naturally, but the same applies to the boys also. If we do that there will be the desirable diversion to other professions like nursing or training for teaching in Elementary School at the proper stage of their educational career and these scholarships will not be wasted.

Then I come to the subject of the N.C.C. The hon. Member Dr. Kunzru advocated the starting of N.C.C. for girls—and rightly so. I have been studying the subject this year and I find that if there is a Cadet Corps of 30 girls, an officer is required—women of over 23 years age and certainly under 35. How many colleges can spare a member of the staff for this training? I do not see why Government when they are prepared to train men officers for their corps in the N.C.C., should not train also one or two women officers also for each State and give them to be supported by each State. They could form the women's N.C.C. battalions with the necessary numbers, (30 or whatever the number may be) and do very useful work. In our women's colleges, we are doing a good deal of nursing—the St., John

[Shrimati Mona Hensrian.] Ambulance Unit is there. We also take cooking and other Diplomas which may be included in the N.C.C. syllabus. It could be as well to learn to do marching, but we do not want our girls to have to learn to shoot. They need not be taught boxing nor do we want them to be taught how to wrestle. We certainly do not want all that. But we do want disciplined youth, and as Pandit Kunzru mentioned yesterday, we all feel that this would make a good background for a Corps at a team work project in colleges. I would beg of the Government to give some allowances whereby the training of women officers may be done in the proper places and by the proper people.

We should keep the Corps together in the States, and some allowance may be made for Camps and costumes or uniform or whatever is necessary, as with the Men's N.C.C. Then, Sir,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have to ring the bell, Madam.

SHRIMATI MONA HENSMAN: Have I exceeded the time?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes.

SHRIMATI MONA HENSMAN: I want just one or two minutes. Sir.

Let me come to films. Films like Quo Vadis should not be allowed in this country for they are probably not at all suitable for our public and for our children to see. Scenes of brutality and sensationalism should be tabooed. The radio would be improved if we could have definite teaching about integrity, unselfishness and goodness in definite talks or discussions, that would do a good deal more good than some of the pictures, that are shown. Sir, only the best, is good enough for our children and education must be encouraged and suited to give the best to our country and interpret it to the world.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR FINANCE (Swu M. C. SHAH): Mr.

Deputy Chairman, I have followed with interest and attention the discussion on the Appropriation Bill for the last three days. I may say, Sir, that most of the points that have been raised in the debate were raised previously and were replied to. I have gone through the speeches very carefully and I find that practically no major questions have been raised in the debate. I am thankful to the hon. Members who have, out of appreciative understanding supported the Appropriation Bill. I have also noted the criticisms made by several Members with regard to their States and, Sir, you will agree with me that it will not be possible for me to cover all the points that were raised in the debate which lasted for more than ten hours in about half an hour or so which has been allotted to me. However, Sir, I will try to take up certain points, not those that were already replied to previously in this House and in the House of the People—but certain points raised in questions as well as in the debates on the Budget. I am thankful to the Minister for Works, Housing and Supply for having replied to certain criticisms levelled against his Ministry. Certain points were also raised against the Defence Ministry by the hon. Dr. Kunzru, Prof. Ranga and other friends and those have been replied to by the Deputy Minister for Defence. So, I will not take the time of the House in dealing with those points which have been covered by those friends of mine.

Now, Sir, I will first take up the point raised about the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. Mr. Sundaray-ya, Mr. Rajagopal Naidu and some other friends have spoken about the business of this House and they had criticised the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs. I am afraid, Sir, that that criticism came out of absence of knowledge of actual facts. As a matter of fact, under the Constitution, Sir, in the Budget Session, a joint session of both the Houses has to be called to be addressed by the President. So, the Council of States was called at that time. Then there was the Budget Discussion and the House was to have

teen adjourned to April 10th. It was so decided provisionally but, in the meanwhile, an unforeseen event happened and that was the taking over of the administration of the PEPSU Government by the President and, therefore, the PEPSU Budget and the Appropriation Bill had to be brought forward to the Council of States as well as to the House of the People for passing before the 31st March. In regard to certain other matters, as we know, money Bills are to be introduced in the House of the People and I understand that in this session 23 Bills were introduced in the Lower House out of which 18 were money or financial bills and could not have been introduced in the Upper House. Of the remaining 5 Bills, three were introduced when the Upper House was not sitting, one was withdrawn and one had been introduced in the Lower House for the simple reason that it related to the amendment of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and is, thus, more or less, the concern of the Lower House. On the other hand, six Bills have been introduced in the Upper House in this session and I can say, Sir, that the matter is under consideration of Government and they would like to introduce as many Bills as possible in this House. At the same time, Sir, a point was raised as to why the Special Marriage Bill and Hindu Marriage and Divorce Bill were not taken up. If these Bills were taken up the House would have been occupied with the consideration of these Bills. As the House is aware, we had resolved that these Bills should be sent for circulation for the opinion of the State Governments. Some State Governments have not yet sent in their opinions and since we cannot get their opinions, we cannot take up consideration of those Bills. It was, at the same time, understood that when we consider those two Bills, we will just refer those Bills to a Joint Select Committee of both the Houses. So, I think some time may be taken for the consideration of these Bills. So, I submit, Sir, that the criticism that was levelled was not, really speaking, based on facts. We have to take into consider-

ation the provisions of the Constitution, the limitations imposed by the Constitution on the functioning of this House. Therefore, we should not go away with the impression that this House is being ignored or any disrespect is being shown to this House.

Now, Sir, I come to the points raised in the Course of the debate. As I have stated, Sir, I cannot reply to all the points raised with regard to all the Ministries but I assure the House that those which have been noted with regard to the Ministries which have not been replied to will be sent to those concerned Ministries and whenever any action is justifiable on the criticism made, that action will be taken by the Ministry concerned.

With regard to the other points on which I am going to reply, I will first refer to certain points made by the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Sundar-ayya. Unfortunately, he is not here but he and his friends have raised certain points. Really speaking, there were no new points but the usual slogans of "more taxation for the poor", "more relief to the rich" and "exploitation of the country by the foreigners", as also continued link with the Commonwealth and such other matters. We are used to hearing all these slogans so often here in this House as well*in the other House, but they have conveniently forgotten that this time in the Budget there are no additional taxes for the poor. As a matter of fact, there are reliefs to the lower middle-class group by the raising of the exemption limit from Rs. 3,600 to Rs. 4,200 and from Rs. 7,200 to Rs. 8,400 in the case of a Joint Hindu Family. At the same time, there are no reliefs granted to the rich.

SHRI B. RATH (Orissa): The Finance Bill will show it.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: The Finance Bill is before the House and will come up and I will stand by what I have stated that there are no additional taxes for the poor, no relief to the rich. And with regard to the question of the exploitation of the country by the

[Shri M. C. Shah.] foreigners, this is also a usual slogan. It has been said times without number that we always welcome foreign help if there are no political strings attached to it. If we get advantageous terms from the foreigners to send their money here to be invested for development purposes of the country, they are welcome to send that and Government are always keen to see that there is no exploitation whatsoever.

They wanted to oppose the grant for the External Affairs Ministry because they said that India is still in link with the British Commonwealth and so we should not vote the grant for the External Affairs Ministry. That point has also been raised so often on the floor of this House as well as on the floor of the other House and the Prime Minister has given a very good exposition of the whole matter and I do not think I can add anything to what has been already stated by the Prime Minister that it is advantageous for India to remain in the Commonwealth. When it is found that there is even the slightest disadvantage to our country then we will get out of the Commonwealth. I think after such an exposition by the Prime Minister it is no use ■just to stress that point every now and then—and we hear that point every now and then. I think that it will be absolutely fruitless on my part to persuade my friends opposite to take to constructive paths and not to barren paths. So much for my friend Shri Sundarayya and his friends.

Now I come to certain other points that were raised by other friends. My friends Messrs. Rajagopal Naidu and Ranga raised the point with regard to the rural credit facilities. That point was raised during the Budget discussion here as well as in the other House. Then it was explained that concrete steps were being taken. I believe that the House is well aware that there is a department of Banking Development in the Reserve Bank of India and that department is working in close association with another department of agricultural credit and after receiving the Rural Banking Enquiry Committee's

recommendations the Reserve Bank called in informal conference to see how to implement the recommendations of the Rural Banking Enquiry Committee. Thereafter certain recommendations were made and we have brought forward the Reserve Bank Act (Amendment) Bill which is pending in the Lower House. The moment that Bill is passed by the Legislature there will be more facilities for rural finance. At the same time the agricultural credit department of the Reserve Bank has already appointed a small committee for an all-India agricultural credit survey, which is already going all over the country and they are preparing a report. The moment that report is ready it will be submitted to the Reserve Bank and to the Government of India and the Reserve Bank and the Government of India will consider those recommendations and all possible facilities for expansion of rural credit will be given. I think that fact was *wp.de.* known to the Members. Still that point was raised and I have to give this explanation to this House on that point.

Then, Sir, another point was raised by Mr Ktsiter. Chand about the form of the Budget. He raised that very question at the time of the general discussion of the Budget. Then the Finance Minister replied that it was not possible to accept the suggestions made by him then and to-day. I think Dr. Mookerji had also raised that point. It is not possible, it is not feasible rather to have this in a fixed percentage for the two items that he suggested.

Then he raised the question of Public-Debt and he also said that with regard to our sterling balance we can get more interest. I think there too he is not right. To-day on this sterling balance, which is in the Banking and Issue Departments of the Reserve Bank of India we are getting on an average about 2 per cent, interest. It is not *b* per cent, or *J* per cent, as was suggested by the Member. On an average we are getting 2 per cent, interest on this balance. At the same time we cannot go in for long-term investment

of this sterling balance because we would require some portion of it for implementation of our plans. So whatever we can invest we are investing and whatever more interest we can get we are trying to get. Therefore, his contention that we are losing interest to the extent of nearly 16 crores is not correct.

Then, Sir, the point was raised by many Members about the famine condition in Madras and the meagre relief provided, and it was suggested that the Centre was not giving enough help. I submit, Sir, that that is not the correct position. Honourable Members may be aware that in the Five Year Plan assistance to the extent of 20 crores has been assigned to the Madras State in respect of their Development Programme. Now, Sir, the Centre provided liberal assistance to Madras in 1951-52 and 1952-53 to enable them to go ahead with their essential Development Programmes. Against the total provision of Rs. 20 crores recommended for the period of the plan the Centre paid as much as Rs. 17 crores in the first two years. As a matter of fact Madras can claim only at the rate of 4 crores every year. That means, at the most, for three years, they can get 12 crores. In place of that we have already given them 17 crores. With regard to famine also the Centre has assisted Madras by giving a loan of Rs. 2 crores and a grant of Rs. 47 lakhs for famine relief. We always give, for the gratuitous relief works, 50 per cent, of the actual expenditure whenever it has been so requested by any State. That is a uniform policy which the Central Government and whenever necessary we give them loans as well as grants to the extent of 50 per cent, on the expenditure incurred for gratuitous relief and we have given likewise to Madras also. The House is well aware that in the final Plan we have provided 15 crores for work in connection with famine relief. Out of that 15 crores for the three years, 5 crores are available for the whole country. As a matter of fact we have given 2 crores to the Madras State apart from the grant of 47 lakhs. In addition to

such direct assistance to the Madras State, to improve their ways and means position also we have made advances of 17 crores to meet their immediate financial difficulties and these 17 crores were paid quite recently, in March 1953. So, Sir, it will be seen from these figures that there was no point in the complaints from Members of the Madras State and from Members of the South that when their financial position was very bad there was no liberal assistance forthcoming from the Centre. But from these figures it will be seen, Sir, that the Centre has tried to be as liberal as possible with regard to financial assistance to the Madras State.

Then, Sir, Mr. Mahanty complained about certain figures, about certain payments made, about certain loans made to the Orissa Government. He raised the point that out of the 32 lakhs given as loan to the State of Orissa, not a single pie was spent for cottage industries. As a matter of fact, if he refers to the statement that he had shown me that day, it would be seen that out of these 32 lakhs granted as loan to the Orissa State, 25 lakhs were to be given to the Orissa textiles. Six lakhs were to be given to the cottage industries as well as for jute seeds, I mean to say that 6 lakhs were to be given for cottage industries which included the procurement of jute seed and the State's cotton expansion. The loan for cottage industries was therefore for a very much lower amount than what was suggested by Mr. Mahanty. I am not in a position to agree with Mr. Mahanty that not a single pie out of that 6 lakhs has been spent by the Orissa Government on the cottage industries. I will enquire into that matter and I will let him know about the correct position.

Then, Sir, he also spoke about the pre-fabricated housing factory.....

SHRI S. MAHANTY: What about the 25 lakhs? My point was, how the Orissa Government got a loan and paid it to a private concern. That was the point.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: I do not think that it is beyond the jurisdiction of

[Shri M. C. Shah.] the Orissa State Government. If the Orissa State Government are of opinion that a certain industry should be developed in that very State for the welfare of the people of that State then they can advance moneys. Now if their Ways and Means position is not good and if they cannot find the money, then certainly they can come to the Government of India and the Government of India will examine any such proposal on its merits and if necessary grant a loan to that State, which may be given over to the Orissa textiles by that State. Recently we considered that question with reference to the Bombay Corporation also. That was about refineries. We had to give a certain loan to the Bombay Corporation—about 40 lakhs of rupees or something like that. We cannot directly deal with the Bombay Corporation; we always deal with the State Governments. So we gave the Bombay State Government that amount of 40 lakhs to be given to the Bombay Corporation. The Central Government cannot have direct contact with any industry, any local body or any corporation except through the State Government. So the State Government is responsible to the Central Government. And for the moneys advanced by the State Government to the Orissa Textiles, it is for the Orissa Government to see whether those amounts are safe or not, and, as a matter of fact, as I have explained earlier, those amounts are quite safe.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: What is the rate of interest and how much are you getting back as repayment of the loan?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: We are charging them interest. We do not give free loans. It may be from four to four and a half per cent. I have not got that figure with me, but I can give the information to the hon. Member if he wants.

SHRI B. RATH: Which refinery was referred to?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: I referred to it only in this way I said whenever some amounts are to be given to a

corporation or other body, it is done through the State Government. The refinery in Bombay now wants some water and other facilities. For this purpose the Bombay Corporation has to lay certain pipes, but the Bombay Corporation has no money and its position is not such that they can spend that amount of money. They wanted a loan from the Central Government and I said that the Central Government gave that loan through the State Government. That is what I said.

Now, Sir, my hon. friend Mr. Mahanty referred to the iron and steel plant. I think I need not go into details because it has been fully replied to. If he wants to have more information, I can say that that iron and steel plant project has not been yet finally decided upon by the Cabinet. The matter is there. A statement was read by the Minister for Production in this House and I think I need not say anything more about it.

Then there was some criticism about the housing factory. About that also a statement was made and the whole position was explained. About foreign experts, Sir, the Prime Minister has already stated in his reply in the House of the People that whenever we cannot get qualified persons here in India, we should bring foreign experts. We are spending crores and crores on these river valley projects and we can draw upon the experience of foreigners in order to save a good deal of money, and we can have the projects very well done. It is not a question that equally qualified Indians are not taken. I do not think there is any justification for any criticism on that score. As a matter of fact we do require foreign experts and I have got a list here from the Ministry of Irrigation and Power. It is a very long list and I do not think I should take the time of the House by reading it out.

Then, Sir, Mrs. Alva raised a point about Audit Reports. She is not here now though she made a very bitter comment yesterday. She commented upon the delay in the presentation of

the Audit Report On the Defence Appropriation Accounts for 1949-50. The position is that although the Appropriation Accounts proper were signed in October 1951, the Audit Report thereon became ready only recently because of some delay in obtaining the material necessary for preparing that Report. There were certain heavy transactions which had to be gone through by the auditors and therefore they took some more time. With regard to the year 1950-51 we hope that the Report will be placed before the House—and also the other House—during the current session and with regard to the Report for the year 1951-52 also, we hope that that will be ready within a few months' time. As I stated, because of **some** investigations into heavy transactions the auditors took some time and therefore there was no justification for the criticism that the Finance Ministry makes inordinate delay in presenting the Reports. **The moment** we get these Reports with the auditors' signatures we immediately place them before the House. The Finance Ministry never makes any delay in placing these Reports before the House, because, after all, these Reports are to be placed before the Houses. Under the Constitution it has been laid down that we have to lay the Reports on the Table of the House. There is no delay on our part and whenever there is such delay because of certain circumstances, I think it cannot be made a matter of grievance.

Now, Mr. Ranga raised certain points about heavy arrears of income tax. He also said that the Appellate Tribunals were rather at the mercy of the Income Tax Commissioners. I think he perhaps does not know the procedure as to how these Appellate Tribunals are constituted. Appellate Tribunals, Sir, are a permanent body under the Income Tax Act and Members of the Tribunals are selected by the Union Public Service Commission. There is no question of the members of the Appellate Tribunals being at the mercy of the Income Tax Commissioners.

With regard to arrears, I have got the figures here and the arrears for 25 CSD.

the assessment year 1952-53 are *prima facie* high, but the amount actually realisable is not very great. An analysis of the figure of arrears as on 31st December 1952 can be shown in this way:

Pending settlement of double income tax relief	... 30 crores
Amount due from persons who have left India including those who have left no assets in India	... 13 crores
Amount probably irrecoverable	... 4 crores
Amount due from companies in liquidation	... 3 crores
Amount for which coercive measures have already been taken	49 crores
Amount held in abeyance pending disposal of appeals	... 16 crores

So, Sir, though the total amount seem³ to be high, if we break up the figures,* it will be seen that the arrears are not so high.

SHRI RAMA RAO (Madras): Those 13 crores relate to those who went to Pakistan?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: That is amount due from persons who have left India including those who have left no assets in India.

SHRI RAMA RAO: Where did they go?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: They went away to Pakistan before 1952. They had no assets and they have left already.

[Shri M. C. Shah.] Then there was one complaint that after the disclosures certain enquiries and investigations were made and that these steps scared away persons who wanted to come forward with disclosures. I think my hon. friend Mr. Ranga must be knowing that the disclosure drive ended in October 1951. Only up to October 1951 they were allowed to make disclosures and with regard to those disclosures no investigations were made. There were certain settlement cases of arrears that were paid. So with regard to that there is some misconception on the part of my friend Mr. Ranga.

Then, Sir, there was one question raised about the Japanese method of cultivation. It was raised perhaps by my hon. friend Mr. Rath. He said he had gone to the Pusa Institute and had found that the expenditure per acre was Rs. 220.

SHRI B. RATH: I asked a question, and they said that they had not prepared the estimate. This was according to my calculation. I have calculated it.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: I am sorry My hon. friend Mr. Rath has calculated that the expenditure will be between Rs. 200 and Rs. 220 per acre and the produce of paddy will fetch Rs. 250. I have inquired into the matter, and I would like to say, as has been mentioned in the statement laid on Table of the House of the People on the 18th February 1953 by the Minister for Food and Agriculture, that the economics of the Japanese method of rice cultivation have still to be worked out on the basis of trials which the Government of Bombay and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research are conducting. However, apart from the economics of the method, it has been established that the yield can be increased up to as much as 6,000 lbs. per acre if the salient features of the

system are followed. It is obvious that the increased rice production which will follow the adoption of this method will save the country a good deal of foreign exchange by reducing or even totally doing away with the imports of rice. As I said, it is under the consideration of the Government of Bombay and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. But as it stands, the position is that we can have a production of up to 6,000 lbs. per acre. That will be always fruitful. The matter will be further investigated, as suggested by my hon. friend Mr. Rath.

SHRI B. RATH: Does not your handout say that 8 to 10 maunds more of paddy will be produced per acre?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: Six thousand lbs. I have got the note here.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is a matter of calculation.^A

SHRI M. C. SHAH: I have got the note of the Food and Agriculture Ministry, and it says that the production will be up to 6,000 lbs. per acre, I will convey to the Food and Agriculture Ministry what has been stated by my hon. friend Mr. Rath.

As regards the point that was raised by my hon. friend Dr. Kunzru about the general index of prices, I have looked into those figures and I have found that there is yet no significant or persistent rise in the wholesale prices. I have got those figures with me. At the same time I have found from other statistics that the general index of prices rose slightly during the week ending March 21st, mainly due to an increase in the prices of oils and oilseeds. The market seems to be passing through a bout of speculation in oils and oilseeds which would not be material but for its effect on a number of other prices.

Now, the falling trend in the cost of living which commenced generally in October 1952 continued up to January 1953 except at Sholapur, Jalgaon, Kanpur and Nagpur. At the same time, according to my information, from the statistics, it has been found that, with the exception of the State of Bombay where the index over the year rose by 10, the cost of living indices have generally fallen all over the country in varying degrees. The fall in the indices for food and clothing has naturally played a determining part in the fall in the general cost of living, though, as I said in the beginning, there has been a slight rise of 3 points in the last week. But it is not at all alarming. As I have said, there is no persistent rise or anything of that sort. Still we will be always watchful about the price trend. The hon. Member warned to know what steps Government propose to take with regard to the rise in prices. I do not think my hon. friend Dr. Kunzru will expect me to give a reply on that point at the present time. As I said, Government are very watchful about that matter, but up till now statistics do not show that there is any cause for alarm.

Then, Sir, there were certain criticisms about Part B States, and criticisms were levelled against the Home Ministry and against the States Ministry. It was also suggested that the States Ministry should be wound up. But the Members who made those suggestions must be knowing that there is article 371 in the Constitution which fixes the responsibility of good administration of these Part B States for the next ten years upon the President. Also, it is well known that these Part B States are not in a fully developed condition as compared with Part A States. So it is absolutely necessary that there ought to be some supervision and control over the administration of Part B States, but that ought to be the minimum and that is what the States Ministry is doing. So, Sir, the supervision and control is only for a limited period of ten years. The States Minis-

try's expenditure is being lowered down. It was Rs. 14,50,000 last year and now it has come down to about Rs. 11,50,000 or so. It is entirely wrong to say that the institution of Counsellors is the continuance of a political regime. The Counsellors are to assist Part B States. Their functions and duties are explained in paragraphs 14 and 15 of the Report of the States Ministry for the year 1952-53. As the hon. Members are aware, the Counsellors; are being withdrawn in various States and at present there are Counsellors only in Rajasthan and PEPUSU.

Then, Sir, there was some criticism made about some officers being recruited from outside regardless of the consideration for local talents. That is idso not correct, Sir. Whenever a very experienced officer was considered to be necessary just to level up the administration of Part B States, that officer was recruited from outside and this was done only to help the Part B States. Except in the case of the posts of Chief Secretary, Finance Secretary, the I.G.P. and the Chairman and Members of the Public Service Commission, the State Governments are not required to obtain the approval of the Government of India for any other posts.

SHRI M. S. RANAWAT: By underhand methods they do bring pressure. If you want, I can give you the whole list of such cases.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: If there are any specific instances of that type and if the hon. Member passes that information on to me, certainly I will pass it on to the States Ministry and the needful will be done. But today according to my information, they do not interfere in the selection of officers for posts other than those I have already mentioned.

SHRI M. S. RANAWAT: Thank you for that.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: Then, Sir, there are many more points. I think the time will not permit me

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN. They will be remembered and suitable set*OB taken.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: So, Sir, some of the points will be taken when the Finance Bill will be discussed; and we will have to deal with those points then and reply them.

SHRI RAMA RAO: Keep those notes.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: As I said, Sir, I have not been able to reply to all the points that have been raised, but I will make it a point to send all those points to the Ministry concerned and whatever action is justified, that will surely be taken in regard to those matters. Sir, I commend the motion for the acceptance of the House

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain

sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the service * of the financial year 1953-54, as passed by the House of the People, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill. There are no amendments of which notice has been received.

Clauses 2 and 3, the Schedule, clause 1, the Title and the Enacting Formula, were added to the Bill.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: Sir, I move:

"That the Bill be returned." The motion was adopted.

The Council then adjourned till a quarter past eight of the clock on Friday, the 17th April 1953.