

meetings of the Council from the 25th of March 1953, till the end of the session?

(No hon. Member dissented)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Permission to remain absent is granted.

THE FINANCE BILL, 1953 AND THE
CENTRAL EXCISES AND SALT
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 1953—
continued.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU (Uttar Pradesh): Mr. Chairman, during the course of the debate on the Finance Bill several hon. Members referred to the need for economy. One of them was the hon. Shri Hegde who pointed out the need for it in connection with the defence expenditure which he regarded as high. No one here thinks that the defence expenditure is low. But when he went on to make the statement that the defence expenditure was not open to audit by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India ...

SHRI K. S. HEGDE: I am sorry I did not say that. All that I said was that there was a feeling prevailing in some sections of the people that they were not amenable to control.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: Well, I will accept his words and say that if such a feeling prevails, it is not founded on facts. The expenditure of the Defence Ministry is as much open to audit by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India as that of any other Ministry. In respect however of stores, no stock has yet been taken. If the Public Accounts Committee or the Comptroller and Auditor-General can devise a suitable method of checking the stores, it will be a desirable thing and I am sure that the Defence Ministry will raise no objection to it. The question of economy, Sir, however, must be regarded as an important one and even if we are unable to reduce our expenditure, it is necessary to see that the funds that are granted by Parliament are spent for the purposes for which they have been

granted and that they are used to the greatest advantage of the country. From this point of view, Sir, what is known as exchequer control, i.e. the control over the expenditure of the funds granted by Parliament is of great importance. The matter has received the attention of the Public Accounts Committee and it has made certain recommendations which I hope will receive the serious consideration of the Finance Ministry.

The present system, Sir, makes the audit department responsible not merely for auditing Government accounts but also for keeping them and making payments. The Comptroller and Auditor-General has strongly objected to the continuance of this system and he has pointed out that it is anomalous that the auditing authority should be required to maintain accounts as that places the Comptroller and Auditor-General in a very embarrassing position when he has to audit the accounts compiled by his own officers. It is obvious, Sir, that the present system is indefensible and should be changed as early as possible. It has been in existence no doubt for a long time and it may not be possible for Government to change it all at once. The Public Accounts Committee recognises this, but insists that steps should be taken to bring about a change in the system though it may be that the completion of the change may take a few years. The Committee has said:

"The reform is urgently needed, apart from the necessity of obedience to the Constitution, in view of the expansion of the activities of Government which have resulted in enormous increase of expenditure not only on the normal administration of the country but also on account of State-trading schemes, community projects, rehabilitation schemes and the multi-purpose river valley schemes and various other schemes in the Five Year Plan."

In view of this, Sir, it is necessary that the State Governments should

[Shri H. N. Kunzru.]
make their own arrangements for the maintenance of their accounts and that audit should be separated from accounts as early as possible.

Another recommendation made by the Public Accounts Committee at the instance of the Auditor-General is that when grants are made to State Governments, the purposes for which they are made should be clearly specified. The expenditure from the grants would, in any case, be open to audit by the Comptroller and Auditor-General. But it is obvious that the audit would become easier and more effective if the audit department knew the precise purpose for which the grants were given. I think that this is a recommendation that can be carried out without incurring the slightest expenditure.

Lastly, Sir, the Committee has referred to a very important matter which has been considered by some Members of Parliament themselves from time to time. Government, Sir, have a number of organisations under their control which are of a commercial character. It is obvious that the conduct of commercial organisations is different from that of the normal activities of Administration. It may be necessary, therefore, to find some way of managing the affairs of the commercial organisations, which are different from other administrative departments, but it should be such as not to diminish the control of the Comptroller and Auditor-General over the expenditure of funds by these organisations. What the Government have done during the last few years is to set up private limited companies for the management of their industrial undertakings. Now, the Comptroller and Auditor-General points out that this seriously affects the audit control. A company set up by Government by an executive order is not bound to ask the Auditor-General to audit its accounts, but even if it is laid down by the Directors of the company that the Auditor-General should be requested to audit its accounts the Comptroller and Auditor-

General will be in an anomalous position. He cannot audit the accounts at the request of a private limited company. Apart from this, even if he audits the accounts, he can make a report to the company and not to the Government. The Public Accounts Committee thinks that there is great force in these objections and that the present state of things should be altered as soon as possible. Before pointing out the remedy, I may also mention that the objection of the Auditor-General to the setting up of private limited companies applies equally to the participation of Government in companies by making themselves responsible for a substantial share of the capital of the company or guaranteeing it against loss.

PROF. G. RANGA (Madras): It is a matter of policy.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: My hon. friend, Mr. Ranga, says that it is a matter of policy. The Comptroller and Auditor-General has nothing to do with the policy of the Government. All that the Auditor-General is concerned with is the form that is given to the management of the commercial organisations. What he wants is that his statutory right of auditing all expenditure from funds given by Government should not be affected in any way by anything done by Government to secure the better management of the trading concerns. The Committee has therefore suggested that private companies should not be created by executive action and that if such companies have to be created, legislation regarding their establishment should be passed by Parliament. It also appears to be of the view that, when Government purchase the shares of a company, it should be given such a form and it should be set up with such legislative authority as to enable the Comptroller and Auditor-General to exercise unchecked the functions and responsibilities with which he is invested by the Constitution. In view of the Auditor-General's desire that, when Government give grants to a State, they should specify clearly the

purposes for which they are given, so that the task of the auditors may not be unnecessarily difficult, I should like to ask what is the exact purpose for which a grant of Rs. 10 crores has been made to the Government of Jammu and Kashmir. I should also like to know whether the expenditure from this grant will be open to audit by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India. To ask this question, Sir, is not to doubt the *bona fides* of the Jammu and Kashmir Government. The accounts of all the other States are audited by the Comptroller and Auditor-General, and even though the Jammu and Kashmir State occupies a special position in this respect, there is no reason why development expenditure from funds contributed by the Government of India should not be audited by the Comptroller and Auditor-General. This will be in the interests both of the State Government and of the Government of India. We know that the Audit Officers have been able to point out to Government from time to time irregularities in the expenditure of funds and have thus enabled them to apply the necessary check before it was too late. The Jammu and Kashmir State is like any other State and the officers there may make mistakes as officers in other States have done. If irregularities are brought to light, a great waste of public money can be stopped, but if the public does not become aware of them, there is no possibility of checking them at any stage.

Now, I should like to ask a question about the financial position of the States. Whatever the hopes entertained by the Government with regard to the future financial condition of the States, it is serious enough at present. It appears from the revised estimates for 1952-53 that have recently been received by the Government of India, taking 'A' and 'B' States together, the deficit was expected to be Rs. 340 lakhs. The position with regard to the balances appears to be even more serious. Many States have minus balances. For instance, the State of

Bombay has a minus balance of Rs. 8.79 crores. Madras has a minus balance of Rs. 5.57 crores. Taking 'A' and 'B' States together, there is a minus balance of Rs. 17.89 crores, i.e. nearly Rs. 18 crores.

PROF. G. RANGA: Are they borrowing or what?

SHRI B. C. GHOSE (West Bengal): Revenue deficit.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: There is a revenue deficit. The closing balances have been drawn upon to such an extent that the net result, taking all the States together, is that there is a minus balance of about Rs. 18 crores. If we take the figures for 1953-54, i.e. the Budget figures, they disclose even a more serious state of things. The deficit on revenue account, for both 'A' and 'B' States, will amount to Rs. 15.75 crores. There will be a minus cash balance of Rs. 24.62 crores. This discloses a serious state of things and I should like to know whether the financial position of some of the States is due to temporary causes or to causes which are likely to last. If they are likely to last, what steps do the Government of India propose to remedy the present highly unsatisfactory state of things? It is obvious that if this state of things continues much longer, many of the States will become bankrupt. I should also like to know what those States are doing that have minus cash balances. I know that the Government of India have recently given a grant to Madras. I think that was what was stated in the other House a few days ago but are they giving grants to all these States to enable them to cover the deficits in their closing balances? If not, how do these States propose to meet their liabilities? If they have not received money, have they borrowed money from banks?

SHRI RAJAGOPAL NAIDU (Madras): Madras wants only for relief measures.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: What steps have they taken to meet these overdrafts. I hope that we shall be given full information on this point because we are as much interested in the solvency and indeed, the financial prosperity of the States as in that of the Government of India.

I should now like to say a word or two about two important matters viz. the U.P.S.C. and the University Grants Commission. The U.P.S.C. submitted its report for 1950-51 long ago. It made certain recommendations for the removal of the limitation on its functions but we don't yet know the decision of the Government with regard to that. Under article 320, the President can make regulations specifying posts or classes of posts to which appointments may be made without consultation with the U.P.S.C. Now no new regulations have been made under the Constitution. But under article 372, the old rules made under the Government of India Act, 1935 continue in Force. Under these rules a fairly large number of posts have been withdrawn from the purview of the U.P.S.C. and the question is whether it is desirable in the existing state of things that the old restriction should continue. Two points must be considered in this connection. One is the complete removal of all restrictions and the second is the reduction in the number of posts to which appointments can be made otherwise than after consultation with the Commission. I don't know what recommendations the U.P.S.C. have made with regard to this matter but I know from the report of the Commission that it has made recommendations on this subject. I should like to know why Government has come to no decision on this subject during the last 18 months or more.

There is another subject of great importance to which the Commission has drawn the attention of Parliament. At present temporary appointments for periods not exceeding one year can be made by the various Ministries without the approval of the Commis-

sion. The Commission says:

"This provision has been indiscriminately invoked by the Ministries. In many cases the Ministries' nominees have been kept in office for periods far in excess of one year without any reference to the Commission."

Again, Sir, the Commission points out that people who are appointed in the first instance for one year but who are kept on for long periods have an undue advantage over other competitors when Government decide to make the post permanent and make suitable recruitment for it through the U.P.S.C. As the House knows, this particular provision has been subjected to strong criticism in the other House. Still it continues. The Commission recommends and I think rightly recommends, that it should be done away with. There seems to be no reason why it should be maintained. If a man has to be appointed for a period of one year, the approval of the Commission can be easily obtained. If it is a matter of urgency, the Commission can be asked to attend to it sooner than they would in the regular course of their business.

Lastly, it is necessary to refer to those cases where Government of India have not accepted the advice of the U.P.S.C. Government are under no statutory obligation to accept the Commission's view. But it is laid down in the Constitution that in cases of non-acceptance of the recommendations of the Commission, the President should inform Parliament of the reasons for non-acceptance. The number of cases in which difference of opinion has arisen between the Commission and the Government are few but they are of a very important character. Government have not always accepted the recommendation of the Commission even in disciplinary cases. As an instance, I shall mention a case of an officer from West Bengal who while on deputation with the Government of India, drew house rent allowance without paying any rent. When this irregularity came to light, the Commission

recommended that this officer should be reverted to the post which he previously held and that two increments should be withheld in his salary with cumulative effect. The Bengal Government, however, took the view that the reversion of the officer to his previous post would be enough, though the Government of India agreed with the Commission, on the ground that a convention had been established that in these matters the view of the lending Government is generally accepted. They did not consider it necessary to pursue the matter any further. Sir, these are matters of great importance. They have a great effect on the character and morale of the public services and it is necessary, therefore, for us to know as soon as possible, the decision of the Government on the recommendations made by the U.P.S.C. at least eighteen months ago.

Sir, in the end, I should like to make a few observations with regard to the University Grants Commission. The Government of India propose to undertake legislation to control standards of teaching in the Indian Universities. It appears from the proceedings of the conference convened by the Government of India to consider this subject that the Bill was strongly opposed both by the vice-chancellors and the representatives of the States. I hope that the views expressed by these two sets of representatives will carry weight with the Government of India; but I should definitely like to know what is the decision that they have come to in this respect. Have they wisely decided to drop the Bill or do they mean to insist on passing the legislation on which, judging from the Education Minister's speech, the Government of India had set its heart? The future of the universities is involved in a proper decision on this matter and I earnestly hope that the Government of India will take no steps which would in any way affect the academic autonomy of the universities on which your Commission, Sir, rightly laid so much stress. The conference pointed out that the control that the Government of India wanted to exer-

cise could be exercised through the University Grants Commission, an advice which will be regarded as absolutely sane by those who have any experience of the working of the universities and who understand the value of the academic independence of these institutions. It is clear, therefore, that if that recommendation of the conference is accepted, the functions of the University Grants Commission will become even more onerous than those which the University Education Commission proposed to lay on it. The University Commission's recommendations implied that the University Grants Commission will bring its moral influence to bear on academic questions so as to raise the standard of teaching in the universities and to prevent the waste of money on account of duplication of subjects of higher teaching and research in the various universities. This has been made explicit by the conference. It is therefore, all the more necessary and it is all the more important that the recommendations of the University Commission with regard to the composition and powers of the University Grants Commission should be accepted by the Government of India. The Notification issued by the Government of India on this subject, however, shows that they have not accepted in full the recommendations of that Commission. The Commission made two important suggestions with regard to the composition and powers of the Grants Commission. It said that there should be five non-officials and two officials on it. That in any case the Chairman should be a non-official and that the distribution of the funds earmarked by Government for the development of higher studies and research in the universities should be distributed by the Grants Commission in accordance with its views on the needs of the various universities. It seems to me that in both matters the Government have departed from the recommendations of the Commission. One of the functions of the Grants Commission will be to advise the Government on the allocation of grants needed from public funds, to the Central Universities. This

[Shri H. N. Kunzru.]

I think, shows that the Government still want to keep the power of distribution of grant, of deciding what sums should be given to each university, in their own hands. As regards the Chairman, the Government say: the Chairman shall be a whole-time officer appointed by the Government of India. This is the view of the University Education Commission also. But the sting lies in the fact that the Government of India have not made it clear that the Chairman will be a non-official, as desired by the University Education Commission. I should like to know the intentions of the Government with regard to this matter. The University Education Commission, in view of the importance of the functions of the Grants Commission, recommended that the members of the Commission should, broadly speaking, be in the same position as the members of the U.P.S.C. and that after the completion of their tenure of office, they should not be eligible for service under any university. Now, this being the importance which the University Education Commission rightly attached to the functions of the University Grants Commission, I think Government owe it to us to make it clear whether they propose in accordance with the University Education Commission, to appoint only a non-official as the Chairman of the Grants Commission. This is a matter of far-reaching importance and the universities attach considerable importance to it. It is only through the proper working of the University Grants Commission that the universities in Great Britain have been provided with funds to an increasing extent, and have been able to secure advice on important academic matters.

Our Grants Commission should, therefore, function on the lines on which the British University Grants Commission is functioning. For, it is only in that way that we can raise the standards of the Universities and bring about the necessary co-ordination between them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have here a long list of speakers. I allotted three days

for the discussion of this matter. We have had a general discussion on the President's Address, a general discussion on the Appropriation Bill, a general discussion on the Budget and we are now having another general discussion on the Finance Bill.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: But, no Demands for Grants, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, yes; what I say is that mostly the same ground is being traversed again and again. I have nearly 25 speakers in my list and it will not be possible for us to go on extending the discussion much longer. We have to finish it today. If it is your desire that more Members should be given opportunities to speak then you have to meet in the afternoon.

PROF. G. RANGA: I think we had better meet.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am putting it to you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No. no.

DR. P. C. MITRA (Bihar): It is only repetition.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have said that, but you want to repeat yourself. What can I do?

PROF. RANGA: The Ministers also have to give a reply.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I cannot help it. Those who are for an adjournment—not now but at 1-15—for an afternoon session may raise their hands.

(Some hon. Members raised their hands)

That means that there is no session in the afternoon and you will have to be content with ten minutes, not more and at a quarter to twelve I shall ask the Minister to reply.

SHRI K. B. LALL (Bihar): May I say, Sir, that those who have raised

their hands against an afternoon session are those who have already spoken?

MR. CHAIRMAN: What he says is that those who had already had an opportunity of speaking are in favour of closing the meeting at 1-15. So, the vote must be taken among the neutrals but, I must say in fairness to Dr. Kunzru that even though he spoke, he said that he wanted an afternoon session.

PROF. G. RANGA: I have raised my hand for an afternoon session.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR (West Bengal): I have a submission to make, Sir. If the Ministers are to reply today, it will be better if the Members of the Congress Party do not put up more number of speakers from their side.

PROF. G. RANGA: That is the most important point, Sir.

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA (Uttar Pradesh): May I know, Sir, whether you are going to call me next to speak?

PROF. G. RANGA: We would like as many of the Ministers to reply as there were points raised.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister of Planning is prepared to speak and there are other Ministers also.

PROF. G. RANGA: That is why I say that the time at our disposal would not be enough.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Ten minutes hereafter and I suppose, in view of the general feeling, you have to meet in the afternoon at 4 o'clock.

DR. P. C. MITRA: The Chair's decision cannot be twice.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It does not matter. Sit down. I can go back on my previous suggestion. Shrimati Maya Devi Chettry.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR FINANCE (SHRI M. C. SHAH): May I know from four up to what time?

MR. CHAIRMAN: From 4 to 7; you will be called upon to reply at 5-30 P.M.

[MR. DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN in the Chair.]

SHRIMATI MAYA DEVI CHETTRY (West Bengal):

श्रीमती माया देवी छेत्री (पश्चिमी बंगाल) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, इस फाइनेंस बिल (Finance Bill) पर तीन दिन से बहस में आलोचना हो रही है और जितनी आलोचना होनी थी वह भी पूरी तरह से हो चुकी है लेकिन मेरा खयाल है कि एक दो प्वाइंट्स (points) जो छोटे छोटे हैं वे अभी तक आनग्नेबिल मेम्बर (hon. Members) द्वारा हाउस (House) की नज़र में नहीं आये हैं इसलिए उसी के बारे में बोलने के लिये मैं खड़ी हुई हूँ। मैं ज्यादा समय भी नहीं लेना चाहती हूँ और दस मिनट से पहले ही खत्म करना चाहती हूँ।

10 A.M.

पहली बात जो मैं कहना चाहती हूँ वह यह है कि भारत में एक्स सर्विसमेन (ex-service-men) के लिये जो पोस्ट वार रिकंस्ट्रक्शन स्कीम (post war reconstruction scheme) के अन्दर काम हो रहा है वह कितनी जगहों में अभी तक नहीं हुआ है? पेंसू में, पंजाब में, उत्तर प्रदेश में, भोपाल में, हैदराबाद में, बम्बई में, मद्रास में, मैसूर में और ट्रावनकोर कोचीन वगैरह में काम हो रहा है लेकिन वेस्ट बंगाल और आसाम को छोड़ दिया गया है। यह बात गलत है कि वेस्ट बंगाल और आसाम में एक्स सर्विस मेन नहीं हैं क्योंकि वेस्ट बंगाल में जो रिक्रूट (recruit) होते हैं वह दार्जिलिंग में होते हैं और वहां से रिक्रूट हो कर जाते हैं। वहां पर अभी तक उन एक्स सर्विसमेन के लिये जो वहां से रिक्रूट होते हैं और फिर लड़ाई से वापिस आते हैं उनके रिसेटलमेंट (resettlement) के लिये कोई बन्दोबस्त नहीं है। जैसे कि दूसरे

[Shrimati Maya Devi Chetty.]

स्टेट्स में रिसेटेलमेंट का बन्दोबस्त है उसी तरह से वेस्ट बंगाल में भी होना चाहिये। मुझे मालूम हुआ है कि पिछले जून या जुलाई के महीने में करीब दो या तीन सौ गोरखा एक्स सर्विसमेन ने रिसेटेलमेंट के लिये सेंटर (centre) को लिखा था लेकिन उसके ऊपर कोई विचार नहीं हुआ और खयाल नहीं हुआ। वे अपनी स्टेट को और सेंटर को लिखते लिखते हैरान हो गये हैं लेकिन अभी तक उनका कोई विचार नहीं किया गया है। तो मैं सेंटर से यही प्रार्थना करना चाहती हूँ कि जैसे एक्स सर्विसमेन के रिसेटेलमेंट के लिये दूसरी स्टेटों में बन्दोबस्त हुआ है और कालोनीज (colonies) वगैरह बनी है उसी तरह बंगाल में भी बन्दोबस्त हो और वहाँ के एक्स सर्विसमेन का पूरा पूरा बन्दोबस्त हो क्योंकि वे जब रिस्कूट होते हैं तो इस आशा से होते हैं कि जब युद्ध से रिलीज (release) हो कर लौटकर आयेंगे तो उनके रहने आदि का बन्दोबस्त होगा। जब वे लड़ाई में जाते हैं तो परिवार को और घर के सुख को छोड़ कर जाते हैं और अपने सुख को छोड़ कर और त्याग कर देश के लिये अपना प्राण देने के लिये आगे बढ़ कर जाते हैं तो जब वे लौट कर आते हैं तब उनके रहने आदि का कोई बन्दोबस्त न करना बहुत ही अनुचित होगा।

यू० पी० (U.P.) में एक्स सर्विसमेन के लिये बापू इंडस्ट्रियल होम (Bapu Industrial Home) चल रहा है और उसमें एक्स सर्विसमेन के लिये बन्दोबस्त है उसमें अभी तक उनकी विडोज (widows), लड़कियाँ और स्त्रियाँ ली जाया करती थी लेकिन अब गुरखा एक्स सर्विसमेन की स्त्रियों को और विडोज को लेना वहाँ पर बन्द कर दिया गया है। यह बताया गया कि यू० पी० में इन गुरखा लोगों को कोई खास अधिकार नहीं

है और यह उनके हक में नहीं है इसलिये उन लोगों को लेना बन्द कर दिया गया है। मेरे खयाल में यू० पी० में सबसे ज्यादा रिस्कूटमेंट गोरखपुर में होता है और गोरखपुर से गुरखा ही ज्यादा रिस्कूट हो कर जाते हैं तो फिर उन लोगों को लेना बन्द कर देना और जो २५ रुपये महीने का स्टाइपेंड (stipend) पोस्टवार रिकंस्ट्रक्शन फंड से मिल रहा था उसको बन्द कर देना कोई न्याय की बात नहीं लगती है क्योंकि वहाँ पर जितने रिस्कूट होते हैं वे सब ज्यादातर गुरखे हैं जो कि गोरखपुर से रिस्कूट होते हैं इसलिये जब वे लौट कर आते हैं या मर जाते हैं तो उनकी स्त्रियाँ और बाल बच्चों के लिये कोई खास बन्दोबस्त न करना ठीक तरीका नहीं है। स्टेट गवर्नमेंट जो स्कीम चला रही है उसमें उन लोगों का लेना यह कह कर बन्द कर देना कि उन लोगों के अधिकार से बाहर है ये इन लोगों की कार्रवाई अच्छी नहीं लगती है। इसलिये मैं अनुरोध करूँगी कि किसी भी स्टेट में जहाँ इस तरह की स्कीम चल रही है वहाँ गुरखा एक्स सर्विसमेन की स्त्रियाँ और बच्चों को पूरा अधिकार मिले। यू० पी० में बापू इंडस्ट्रियल होम या बापू काटेज इंडस्ट्रियल होम, ऐसे किसी नाम से एक्स सर्विसमेन के लिये एक संस्था है, उसमें जो गुरखा लोगों को स्थान नहीं देते हैं वह देना फिर शुरू किया जाय।

दूसरी बात जो मैं कहना चाहती हूँ वह टी इंडस्ट्री (tea industry) के विषय में है। तीन दिन में जो आलोचनार्थें हुईं उनके अन्दर टी इंडस्ट्री में जो क्राइसिस (crisis) चल रहा है उसके बारे में कुछ नहीं कहा गया। इसलिये मैं इस विषय में थोड़ा कहना चाहती हूँ। टी इंडस्ट्री अगर सबसे पहला स्थान नहीं लेती है तो कम से कम जूट के पीछे ही ये दूसरा स्थान जरूर लेती है और सैकड़ों

रूपे का रेवेन्यू (revenue) इससे गवर्नमेंट को मिल रहा है लेकिन अब जो क्राइसिस इस में आ रही है उसकी तरफ गवर्नमेंट ने विचार नहीं किया है। मैं कहना चाहती हूँ कि जो टैक्स (tax) इस पर आगे लगा रहे थे उसको गवर्नमेंट कम कर दे, इस क्राइसिस के बीच में कुछ दिन के लिये थोड़ा टैक्स कम कर दे क्योंकि बिना ऐसा किये हुये यह इंडस्ट्री सुचारु रूप से नहीं चल सकती है। कितने ही गार्डन्स (gardens) इस टैक्स के कारण बन्द हो गये हैं और उस में जो स्त्री पुरुष और बाल बच्चे काम करते थे वे बेरोजगार और बेकार हो गये हैं और अपनी जीविका निर्वाह नहीं कर पा रहे हैं और उन लोगों को खास तौर से काम दिलाने के लिये स्टेट गवर्नमेंट भी कोई नई स्कीम नहीं चला रही है जिससे उन लोगों को रोजगार मिले। इसलिये सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट (Central Government) से मैं यह अनुरोध करती हूँ कि वह टी गार्डन के ऊपर थोड़ा टैक्स कम कर के जो टी गार्डन्स बंद हो रहे हैं उनको खुलवाये ताकि इन मजदूरों को काम मिल सके। जो टैक्स इस वक्त लगा रहे हैं उनको कम न करने से ये लोग अपनी पहले की अवस्था में नहीं आ सकेंगे और जो टी गार्डन्स बन्द हैं वे खुल नहीं सकेंगे और बन्द ही रहेंगे। हम लोग नई नई इंडस्ट्री बनाने के लिये और खोलने के लिये इतना रुपया बर्बाद कर रहे हैं और नये नये एक्सपेरिमेंट (experiment) में पैसा बर्बाद कर रहे हैं लेकिन यह टी इंडस्ट्री जो पुरानी है और बहुत दिनों से चल रही है उसको अगर थोड़ी सी मदद दे दें तो वह सुचारु रूप से चल सकेगी और गवर्नमेंट का रेवेन्यू भी जैसा का तैसा हो जायेगा जो कि अब है। इसलिये थोड़े दिन के लिये, परमानेंटली (permanently) नहीं बल्कि थोड़े दिन के लिये क्राइसिस को हटाने के लिये थोड़ा

टैक्स कम कर दें जिससे हम इंडस्ट्री को वही रूप मिल जाय जो कि पहले था, यह मेरी गवर्नमेंट से प्रार्थना है।

मैं हाउस का और ज्यादा समय नहीं लेना चाहती हूँ क्योंकि बहुत से बोलने वाले हैं। इसलिये इतना कह कर फाइनेंस बिल को सपोर्ट (support) करती हुई मैं बैठती हूँ।

[For English translation, see Appendix IV, Annexure No. 127.]

SHRIMATI ANGELINA TIGA (Bihar):

श्रीमती एजलिना टिगा (बिहार) : माननीय सदस्यों को मालूम है कि बिना रुपये पैसे के कोई भी डिपार्टमेंट (Department) नहीं चल सकता और इसलिये जो यहां भिन्न भिन्न जगहों से आये हुए हैं वे अपनी मांगे फाइनेंस मिनिस्ट्री (Finance Ministry) के सामने रखते हैं। मैं भी दो तीन बातें फाइनेंस मिनिस्ट्री के सामने रखना चाहती हूँ जिससे कि पंचवर्षीय योजना अच्छी तरह सफल हो।

पहली बात जो मुझे कहनी है वह सरकार के कल्याण विभाग के विषय में कहनी है। इस कल्याण विभाग में महिलाओं को किसी तरह का प्रोत्साहन नहीं दिया जाता है। एक महिला को जब यह मालूम हुआ कि कल्याण विभाग में महिलाओं की जरूरत है तो उसने सरकार के पास दरखास्त भेजी तो उसको यह उत्तर मिला कि सरकार के पास फण्ड की कमी होने की वजह से नहीं रखा जा सकता है। अगर सरकार शिक्षित महिलाओं को कल्याण विभाग में न लेगी तो क्या देहातो में केवल पुरुषों से ही काम चल जायेगा जब कि हमारे देहातो में लाखों और बरौंडों की संख्या में स्त्रियां हैं। इसलिए फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर साहब से मेरी यह अर्ज है कि शिक्षित महिलाओं को इस काम में लगाया जाय और इसके लिए फण्ड दिया जाय।

[Shrimati Angelina Tiga.]

दूसरी बात मुझे काटेज इन्डस्ट्री (cottage industry) के बारे में आपके सम्मुख कहनी है। ट्राइबल एरिया (Tribal area) में लोग अक्सर जंगलों के नजदीक ही रहते हैं। इन लोगों के धन्धे भी विशेष प्रकार के होते हैं। ये लोग अपना घरेलू काज धधा, जैसा कि जंगल की घास से रस्सी बनाना, वास की कई प्रकार की चीजे बनाना और दूसरे तरह के कार्य कर के अपना पालन करते हैं। हान ही में छोटा नागपुर में इस घास के लिए, जिसके लिए अभी तक किसी ने परिश्रम नहीं किया, उन लोगों के इस्तेमाल करने पर उनमें कर लिया जा रहा है। मेरी सरकार से यह प्रार्थना है वह इस बात का ख्याल रखे कि उन लोगों से इस तरह का कर न लिया जाय। अगर उनसे कर लिया गया तो यह इन्डस्ट्री बन्द हो जायेगी और गरीब लोग पैसा नहीं कमा सकेंगे। किसान लोग जब खेती से फुरसत पा लेते हैं तो वे नाना प्रकार के घरेलू उद्योग करते हैं जिससे कि वह पैसा कमाते हैं। जब वे लोग जंगल जाते हैं तो इन लोगों के ऊपर जुल्म किया जाता है और पैसा लिया जाता है। इस ओर भी सरकार को अवश्य ध्यान देना चाहिये जिससे कि उनकी काटेज इन्डस्ट्री बन्द न हो।

उस क्षेत्र में जो जुलाहे अपना घरेलू धन्धा करते हैं उनकी सूत बहुत दामों पर दिया जाता है। सरकार को इस बात का ध्यान रखना चाहिये कि इन जुलाहों को सूत कम दाम पर मिले जिससे कि वह अपना कार्य भविष्य में अच्छी तरह से कर सकें और गरीब जनता को सुगमता से कपड़ा पहिनने के लिए मिल सकें। इसके साथ ही साथ मुझे सरकार का ध्यान इस ओर भी दिलाना है कि रूरल एरिया (rural area) में बहुत चोरी और डकैतियां हो रही हैं जिससे कि वहां की

गरीब जनता बहुत ही परेशान है। रात के समय करीब १०० और १५० आदमी जिन के पास रोशनी भी होती है, जिसका प्रकाश आध मील और मील भर तक चला जाता है, गावों में लोगों को डराते हुए चोंगी और डकैतियां करते हैं। कई बार यह देखा गया है कि ट्राइबल औरतो को भी पुरुषों का वेश धारण किये हुए डकैतियों का सामना करना पड़ता है। इन डकैतों के भय से वहां पर गरीब जनता को रात भर जागना पड़ता है और जो कुछ भी थोड़ा सा बन्ध और सामान उन लोगों के पास होता है उसको ये चोर और डकैत ले जाते हैं। इससे वहां की जनता बहुत ही दुखित हो गई है। ये चोर और डकैत गाव वालों के हाथ और पैर तोड़ या काट कर चले जाते हैं तथा उन्हीं के कपड़ों से लोगों को जला भी देते हैं जिसमें कि वहां की गरीब जनता को बहुत नुकसान हुआ करता है। सरकार को इस ओर उचित ध्यान देना चाहिये ताकि वहां की जनता का कष्ट दूर हो जाय।

एक और बात जो वहां पर फैली हुई है वह यह है कि गावों और शहरों में दारू चुलाई उन्नति कर रही है जिसको देहात के लोग नहीं चाहते। इससे वहां की जनता बहुत दुखित है और सरकार की ओर से इस को रोकने का कोई भी प्रबन्ध अभी तक नहीं किया गया है जब कि सरकार को इस विषय में कई दार लिखा जा चुका है।

ट्राइबल लोगों को विदेश में उच्च शिक्षा देने का भी कोई विशेष प्रबन्ध सरकार की ओर से नहीं किया गया है यद्यपि उसके नाम से रकम दी जाती है। हम में से बहुत से ऐसे योग्य लोग हैं जो कि फौरन उच्च शिक्षा प्राप्त करने के लिए बहुत ही इच्छुक हैं मगर सरकार की ओर से इस तरह के लोगों को किसी तरह वा प्रोत्साहन नहीं दिया जा रहा है। सरकार के बहुत से विभागों में ट्राइबल एरिया के लोगों को जगह मिलनी चाहिये। मगर होता

यह है कि जब कोई जगह किसी विभाग में खाली होती है तो इन लोगों को मालूम नहीं होता और दूसरों को नौकरी दे दी जाती है और ऊपर यह रिपोर्ट दी जाती है कि ट्राइबल लोग योग्य नहीं और यों हम दबाये जाते हैं। मेरी सरकार में यह प्रार्थना है कि सरकारी विभागों में एक तिहाई जगहें ट्राइबल लोगों को दी जानी चाहिये। जिससे कि इस जाति की भी उन्नति हो सके। बहुत से टेक्निकल स्कूलों (technical schools) में लड़कों को ट्रेनिंग (training) दी जा रही है लेकिन उनमें से बहुतों को किसी तरह का वजीफा नहीं मिलता है। मेरी सरकार में यह प्रार्थना है कि ट्राइबल एरिया के जो लड़के उस तरह के टेक्निकल स्कूलों में शिक्षा ग्रहण कर रहे हैं उनको वजीफे दिये जाने चाहिये। अक्सर यह देखने में आता है कि इस तरह के लड़के आधी शिक्षा करके स्कूलों में चले आते हैं और इधर उधर भटकने फिरते हैं। इस ओर भी सरकार को ध्यान देना चाहिये कि उनको पूरी ट्रेनिंग मिले।

अन्तिम बात जो मुझे कहनी है वह यह है कि नागपुर में बहुत खानें हैं जिनमें ट्राइबल लोग काम करते हैं। वे दिन भर परिश्रम करते हैं और रात को अपने घरों में विश्राम करने के लिए जाते हैं। उन लोगों के मकान जो कि झोपड़ियां हैं दूर जंगलों के नजदीक बसी हुई हैं। रात को जाते वक्त उन लोगों को जंगली जानवरों का सामना करना पड़ता है जिसमें उनमें कुछ लोगों की जान भी चली जाती है। इसलिए मेरी सरकार में यह प्रार्थना है कि इन गरीब मजदूरों के लिए जो कि घास की झोपड़ियों में रहते हैं, अच्छे मकान बनाने का प्रबन्ध किया जाय। इसके साथ ही साथ उनके बच्चों को शिक्षा देने के लिए स्कूलों का भी प्रबन्ध किया जाना चाहिये। ये बातें

मैंने प्रेसिडेंट साहब के एड्रेस (Address) के अवसर पर अपने भाषण में नहीं कही थी, इन्हें अब मैं आपके सामन रखती हूं। इन शब्दों के साथ मैं अपना भाषण समाप्त करती हूं।

[For English translation, see Appendix IV, Annexure No. 128.]

THE MINISTER FOR PLANNING & IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA): Mr. Deputy Chairman, I rise to deal briefly with some remarks and references made in the course of speeches here, which have a bearing on the work of the Ministry of Irrigation and Power. Most of the things, around which controversy has been raging, occurred not recently—not in 1953, or in 1952. The two or three cases which have attracted such wide attention occurred towards the end of 1950 or just in the month of January, 1951. Sir, why do I stress this fact? Not from any personal point of view. It is from the national standpoint that I stress it. People should know if any lapses or mistakes occur anywhere in the Administration. They should know also what action we are taking with regard to the wrong-doers, those who misbehave; they should know what preventive and remedial action has been taken. They should also be informed as to what has been happening since the time of those regretful occurrences—have things improved; have they been steadily getting better? Are they satisfactory now? Without that it will be an incomplete picture before the people.

Sir, in this case, the Hirakud project was started in a time of rush. There was a period of mismanagement, but as soon as possible, as soon as things came to notice, action was taken from time to time and every effort was made to bring things to a state of efficiency and this succeeded in a very large measure. Sir, when the people know that in the Hirakud project irregularities occurred, they will certainly be anxious; they will be concerned. But when they know that appropriate action was taken, they will be relieved, and when they

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will further know that fortunately because the things occurred at a very early stage of the project, therefore much damage has not been done, they will feel more relief. Stores had been purchased from the Disposals; preliminary works had been done, buildings had been constructed, some work had been started, but yet a great deal—much the larger part—was yet to be done. Therefore that experience came handy and stood us in good stead. We took advantage of it and made all the necessary changes and improvements. Sir, when I say that the extent of the damage is not much, let me not be misunderstood. I do not want to see a vestige of corruption. We shall have inefficiency nowhere in the Administration. This country cannot afford either inefficiency or corruption or anything which will make for less than the best use of our resources. The point is, Sir, that there can be overdoing of this thing and we might possibly defeat the very object we have in view. We want to enthuse the people and we want to get their co-operation at every stage, we do not want to discourage them needlessly. Not to tell them that though certain things happened two or three years ago, conditions have improved greatly, and the same Administration has brought them up to a state of efficiency, is really damping their spirit.

SHRI C G K REDDY (Mysore)
Sir, to what period does the Report of the Public Accounts Committee refer?

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA Sir let him have a little patience. I am coming to that. I will deal with the dates.

This is one thing. But more important still than that is that if efficiency is to be achieved, if works have to be done with economy, if good progress is to be made, who is to do the work? It is those people, those engineers and others who are working on the spot, and as could be judged from the numerous newspaper cuttings that I

have got here, if it is made to appear as if everything is dark without any distinction as to the time—the appearance is that things are happening now—and that it is a totally hopeless state of affairs, it is not fair. Now these people, engineers and others, if the large bulk of them who are working under hard conditions and on whose sense of patriotism and goodwill will depend the success of the project, if they feel that there is no distinction at all between the good and the bad, certainly we won't get results. And what are the results that we are aiming at? Well, we want to see—it is my ambition—that we raise the work in that project to that level of efficiency, more than normal efficiency, more than normal honesty, so that whatever we have lost will be more than made up. For that conditions have to be created, and I have been striving to work for those conditions. We are defeating the very object when we go about painting everything in lurid colours and creating a sense of frustration among those who are trying to do well by the country.

Sir, I took charge and immediately I was faced with the Report of the Estimates Committee. Then I promised the House that I will look into everything, take action and that I will report. At that stage a Committee had been appointed. It was a Committee consisting of the Road Development Adviser and Joint Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Transport, an Accountant General and the Chief Engineer, Roads and Buildings Department, Orissa and this Committee had among its terms of reference

SHRI S MAHANTY (Orissa) Is it Mr Bennett?

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA Yes.

AN HON MEMBER What are the other names?

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA: I am not concerned with the names.

SHRI K S HEGDE (Madras)
Names are of some importance

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA All
right They are McKelvie, Padhi and
Bennett

SHRI S MAHANTY With your kind
permission, Sir, may I know if the
minute of dissent of Mr Padhi is also
included in that Report?

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA No
Report has been placed on the Table
of the House I am only referring to
the terms of reference and to the con-
stitution of the Committee which has
been asked to report regarding
various matters including efficiency
or otherwise and the arrangements
hitherto obtaining in so far as they
relate to technical control over the
Executive of the project Sir, in addi-
tion, this Committee was charged
with the task of reporting on certain
irregularities Before the Committee
met, and, during the period of their
appointment they were sent several
detailed notes and mass of connected
papers on irregularities alleged to
have been committed at Hirakud and
this Committee was at work on those
irregularities That was towards the
end of 1951 and it continued After
that, in August last year, we made the
appointment of a Joint Secretary
specifically with the idea that he
should go to Hirakud and make a
special study of the conditions there

SHRI K S HEGDE Who is the Joint
Secretary?

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA Mr
Sivashankar He was authorised to
take all necessary action as he went
along He made protracted enquiries
on the spot A number of persons had
to be questioned and records had to
be seen Then I went there I spent
13 days there I had a very detailed
look into everything during that
period I am going back there again
I saw the records I went round and
familiarised myself with the working
of the project And then—and this is
something which concerns me per-
sonally—I issued a statement I find

that some observations were made on
the floor of the House about that
statement Mr Hegde said.

“He made a statement, but what
do we see in it? He has paid a
compliment to the officers there.
But what do we see in the report
of the Public Accounts Committee?
How are you going to reconcile the
two? How do you expect the public
to have confidence in your state-
ments if they are patently wrong
and patently unacceptable”

Now, this is what was said here I
have a record of that speech I agree
that if any Minister says anything
which is calculated to mislead the
people or has that effect because of
his negligence, that is a most heinous
offence And therefore, Sir, I have to
make my position clear in categorical
terms about this matter I reiterate
every word of that statement which
I issued I stick to every word of it.
I stand by every word of it I am
prepared to be judged by it Sir, I
repudiate the suggestion that was
made that the statement which I
issued was inconsistent with what the
Public Accounts Committee has said.
There is no connection between the
two I will quote from the statement,
because it is relevant I will not read
the whole of it This is what I said
in the statement

“I could see ample evidence of
commendable care on the part of
the administration to secure econo-
my, speed and good quality of work.
No pains are spared to make a sound
job of it and no risks are taken.
The quality of every bit of material
which is going into construction is
being examined with meticulous
care The efficiency of the various
operations has been improving
There is still scope for further de-
velopment and I expect all concern-
ed will raise the level of the work-
ing of the project to the best that
can be achieved

“The project is making satis-
factory progress We have, how-
ever, to make sure that lands in the
commanded area will be prepared

[Shri Gulzarilal Nanda.]

for the use of the water when it is available. A good deal remains to be done on that account."

And this is what I said about the administration of the project:

"The administration of the project....."

This is with reference to the question which was raised in the course of observations about recruitment from Orissa,

".....is doing its best to discharge its obligation to give preference to the residents of the area in filling various posts subject of course to the need for observing standards of efficiency and competence. It has been noticed, however, that in enforcing discipline the officials have recently been betraying a degree of nervousness owing to the trouble created by certain persons dealt with for mis-demeanour or failure to discharge their duty and the support which they are able to enlist on their side. If this continues, discipline and efficiency on the project are bound to suffer. I have, therefore, told the officers and the staff that they should not be deflected by any such consideration from the performance of their own duties in the interest of the success of the project and I have assured them that the administration will not be influenced by any irresponsible and unfounded allegations. At the same time I have stressed the imperative need of securing for the project a reputation which none can challenge. The absolute incorruptibility and high efficiency of employees of all grades alone can bring this about."

Sir, I said something about the past also. This is what I said:

"I am aware of the suspicions which have been aroused, and I have been looking into all these matters during the 13 days that I have spent here. I have also not lost sight of the fact that the Government felt itself impelled to start

the project without delay and in the earlier stages things have happened which must cause concern and regret."

And I said more about it:

"Steps have been taken to prevent the recurrence of such happenings, and I have impressed on every one here the need for constant vigilance and continued improvement. The loss or wastage of a single pie should be prevented."

Sir, this was the statement. As I said, I am prepared to be judged by this statement. There are two parts of it. The first part relates to what I saw. I said something about what I learnt then. But I knew about the past.

PROF. G. RANGA: Our difficulty is about what is happening today, and day after day. Questions are asked, and our own Ministers are not able to give any satisfaction.

SHRI K. S. HEGDE: On a point of information. Does the statement show the situation as it existed when the hon. Minister went there, or does it show the administration of the Hirakud Project as such?

SHRI S. MAHANTY: May I interrupt just for one minute?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order, order. No interruption. All these questions have been raised quite a number of times.

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA: Sir, I am asked: what about the present? I have seen the remarks made by the hon. Member that we should not think that we can allow small instances of inefficiency, etc., where such big projects are concerned. I agree with him. We want to see that not the least bit of inefficiency prevails anywhere. But the point is that all these things which are under discussion relate to a past period.

SHRI K. S. HEGDE: I am afraid we are unable to agree. If the hon. Minister reads the Public Accounts Committee's report, it looks as if things are going on in the same strain even today.

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA: Sir, let me repeat the questions that have been raised. Questions have been raised about irregularities in the accounts, and it has been said that there has been fraud, there has been cheating, and so on. All those cases relate to a very old past.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I think the position will be clear if the hon. Minister tells the House to what period the Public Accounts Committee refers

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA: The Public Accounts Committee has dealt with various cases of irregularities—for instance, the case of the purchase of buffaloes, the case of the purchase of sleepers, etc. That was in December 1950 and January 1951. It has referred to the subsidiary dam. It has referred to another bridge that was being built. All these are also things which concern that period.

So far as procedural matters are concerned, well, I cannot say that at no time will anything occur to which an audit objection cannot be raised. What institution is there which will not get audit objections about something or other? But I have been insisting that we want to prevent that. We have been trying to take action, and we have taken action, and we are satisfied with the improvement, but we are not satisfied that all that we want to achieve has been achieved. We want to go on improving further and further and to get out the best that we can. (Interruptions).

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order, order, I will not allow any interruption.

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA: Now in the face of all these facts, it is really difficult to understand why they go on repeating the charge. The difficulty of the hon. Members is this, that they have not been able to see the statement in the context in which it has been made. Where is the surprise that the newspapers will do the same? I have seen the newspapers. I saw *The*

Bombay Chronicle, for example. It says:

'Mr. Nanda, Union Minister for Planning, after a brief visit, gave a certificate of good conduct. But now the bubble is pricked.' "

I am prepared, Sir, to quote chapter and verse to show that among all those persons who are employed there now there is not a single person to whom the Public Accounts Committee's report refers. I will be able to give the details of that. All those people do not exist there now. That is one outstanding fact. And therefore when I say that the people there are doing well, I am entitled to do that because the things have improved.

PROF. G. RANGA: But you are going to encourage them, you give them further encouragement, that is the usual trick that is being played ..

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA: Sir, their charge can be justified only if I am not able to show that action has been taken against every person who was concerned in these matters.

SHRI K. S. HEGDE: What action have you taken against the Chairman.

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA: I will come to that. That person is the uppermost in the minds of the hon. Members.

SHRI B. RATH (Orissa): Let us also understand that action was not taken by the Government unless these matters were brought to light and no action will be taken against other people unless their cases are brought to light.

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA: Sir, action was taken long before any committee came on the scene. Action was taken against the Chief Engineer long before anybody dealt with this matter here.

PROF. G. RANGA: Sir, is this ..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order, order. I won't allow any disturbance.

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA: Sir, the Chief Engineer was recalled from

[Shri Gulzarilal Nanda]
that place and not only recalled but demoted, which occurs very rarely in the case of a Chief Engineer. The Chief Engineer went back as Superintending Engineer and later on again when a reference was made to me for promoting him, I came in his way there. Now that is about the Chief Engineer. Again another Superintending Engineer who has been mentioned in the report police investigations are going on against him for some time and all the records have been handed over to the police.

SHRI R. U. AGNIBHOJ (Madhya Pradesh) Are the officers under suspension?

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA Sir, not only suspension, but the person against whom still an enquiry is going on was removed—the person who is concerned in this report. Not only I suspended him but I removed him. He has been removed. (Interruptions)

MR DEPUTY CHAIRMAN. Order, order.

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA And then, Sir, that is not the end of the matter apart from what action has been taken on the report of the Public Accounts Committee. Action was being taken from time to time as things arose and that is why within a day of the Committee's report being placed on the Table of the House I was able to make a statement showing that 16 out of 22 recommendations of the Committee had been accepted and as far as the other recommendations were concerned, they were under examination. That shows that we had already been working on those things long since and therefore it was possible for us to deal with all those cases so quickly. The persons mentioned in this report are not there at all and police investigations and further inquiries are being made in respect of them, covering a range of material much wider than what the Public Accounts Committee has brought to our notice.

DR RADHA KUMUD MOOKERJI (Nominated) May I ask one question, Sir? Why did

MR DEPUTY CHAIRMAN Dr Mookerji, I am not allowing any disturbance.

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA I shall cite some other action that was taken

(Several interruptions)

MR DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. Order, order. Please resume your seats. I will not allow any further disturbance.

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA Sir, there was a case of a division clerk who was convicted by the lower court and he made an appeal, the question of import of bullocks is under examination, Sir, there was another case of falsification of Muster-roll which is under examination and enquiry by the S.P.E., there is a further case of false measurements and consequently over-payments. This is under enquiry by the Special Police Establishment. And then there is a case of illegal gratification received by one S.D.O. and cognizance has been taken and it has been registered by the Special Police Establishment. And there are one or two other cases which are under enquiry. Sir, it will be seen that in every case enquiry is going on and certainly action will be taken as soon as the enquiry is completed. Sir, it is not for me to complete all the enquiry. A certain procedure is prescribed for enquiry. Maybe we should simplify this procedure. I am in favour of doing that and maybe, we should have some special action taken; I am in favour of that. But today whatever the position is, we have to abide by a certain procedure prescribed and doing that we find that it takes some time.

Sir, I am now being asked "What about those above?" Sir, here I have to talk with a certain amount of feeling. I was very much pained when

some expressions were used here as "marauders and acts of depredation by certain officers and the Government of India giving protection and promoting those people". Sir, I am asking Which is the case of promotion? Mr. Hegde said that some people have been promoted. Who has been promoted? I would like to know that

SHRI K. S. HEGDE. Sir, the Public Accounts Committee itself refers to one of the officers who was the Chairman of the Power and Water Works and who was recommended for deputation to America and

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA That was the case of a Superintending Engineer before these things arose. There was his previous record. Now, Sir, this is rather a serious matter if hon. Members say that the Government is harbouring offenders and giving them protection in these serious matters. It is intolerable, Sir, particularly for a person like myself who was for 25 years with the man who laid down the highest conceptions of moral conduct and moral values. Sir, I was under his direction for 25 years although I may not have observed all his teachings and precepts fully. I can certainly say this that I could not have degraded myself to that level that ..

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY No one has made that suggestion (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN Order, order.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY We have not accused the hon. Minister of moral depravity; we have not accused him and I do not think any responsible Member would say that

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN Well, it has been said that the Minister's statement exonerates them

SHRI K. S. HEGDE. We said Sir, that the administrative machinery had failed.

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA Sir, if they say that a Minister knowingly protects a person or an officer who has done something wrong, it amounts to something which is unpardonable. It is said, Sir, promoted. But promoted whom? The whole thing which is occupying the minds of the hon. Members is this. It has been said that the Chief Engineer was the least part of the whole show. Now I do not know anything which has not to do with the persons on the spot—the Chief Engineer on the one side and the Financial Adviser on the other—who were dealing with these matters. And if any responsibility arises later, it is derived from the primary actions of these two individuals or the set-up there on the spot. Still the question remains that for whatever happens—it may be due to the Chief Engineer or anybody else—the Government as a whole is responsible. Certainly, on the CWINC—now C W P C—and the Ministry there is an over-all responsibility, and unless they show that something happened which they could not help, they have to be held responsible, I agree entirely. On the first impression certainly one does go away with the idea that the standard of efficiency of this CWINC had not been high at that time. I agree with it, and therefore I have been going into this aspect and I might say that this is still worrying me and has been exercising my mind throughout. According to the P W D rules, the Chief Engineer was placed in a position of full responsibility and he is the person who is fully responsible for whatever happens. Did they make a mistake in appointing this man as Chief Engineer, is the next question. I looked up that I have been assured that till then there was nothing against him which would show that there was such an inherent possibility in this gentleman. There was another thing. At that time, a number of projects had been started, and there were only two persons available, and they chose this man as the better of the two. He was not chosen as Chief Engineer. He was chosen as Superintending Engineer in charge of

[Shri Gulzarilal Nanda.] investigations, and when it came to a question of selecting a Chief Engineer, this man was chosen, since he had done his work fairly well according to competent technical opinion and there was nobody else available. This question of Punjab *versus* the rest of the country has been posed. It was said that only Punjab engineers were chosen and everybody else was excluded. I can give facts to show that every effort was made to obtain people from all places, I can show the letters written to the various States and their replies also, pleading their inability to give technical personnel. At that time there were these displaced persons from the Punjab who had a lot of irrigation experience which is restricted only to a few States, and these were chosen. I do not see what harm there was. These people were available and why should they not be taken? Again, I find really nothing against this man. Anyhow, I am looking into it more carefully.

After that, the question arises that he had not been carrying out his duties and responsibilities properly and why action was not taken against him early. This requires careful examination. I have shown before that some action was taken and instructions were issued when something came to our notice, but whenever somebody from CWINC went there, there was no sign of anything wrong on the spot. Technical men looked at the technical aspect. I do not justify; I am only explaining what happened. How much blame should be apportioned to different individuals is a different matter, but the point is that there is no responsibility on any person outside the range of action of the Chief Engineer, but no doubt there is some responsibility on people above him in that they have the over-all responsibility. To say that the Chief Engineer was the least responsible is wrong. As regards the action taken against individuals, even before the report of the Public Accounts Committee came, action was being taken. It was a con-

tinuous action. Even in regard to the people against whom action has been taken, this is only interim action. The whole process is still going on. The ground traversed by the Public Accounts Committee was practically the same as had already been covered by our officers. The action which is being taken now is not only on the basis of the materials given in these reports, but on further materials which we are trying to secure by every possible effort and from every possible source, and we are taxing the people concerned with those facts and asking them as to what they have to say about them. Every shred of material from anywhere we are trying to examine and we are not going to let go anybody who is in the least degree culpable. This is about the past.

Now, I would like to deal with one or two matters which have arisen in the course of the discussions, and which relate to certain administrative details. It was said that the Ministry had deliberately defied the accounting procedures. I have examined this question and I asked for explanation. I find that the Ministry has been taking action all the time to see that whatever procedures had been laid down were strictly followed. It was no doubt true that the engineers on the spot experienced some difficulties and also some records, etc., were not being kept in proper condition. That difficulty remained for a long time and it has put us, I should say, into a very regrettable plight, but every action has been taken and in the course of our efforts in this direction, we have found that we can solve, partly at least, our own difficulties and also the difficulties of the engineers, while ensuring the effectiveness of financial control. Still certain residual difficulties remain, and we have submitted them to the Comptroller and Auditor General, so that he could solve the difficulties of the engineers and at the same time ensure that whatever control has got to be exercised is exercised. All that has been done, and I think that this particular charge against the Ministry

has been very unfair, and I thought that I should bring this to the notice of the House.

The real issue is this. We have to see that in the choice of the projects the limited resources that we have are applied in the best possible manner. We should see that we do not make any technical mistakes and that we choose those projects which, in relation to their costs, will give us the highest benefit and which will also bring us a financial return which should be not less than what has been laid down for productive works. The Hirakud Project should not be judged merely from the angle of non-sanctioned estimates. What does a non-sanctioned estimate mean? It does not mean that there were no designs. It does not mean that the estimates have not been worked out. It means, that at various stages, the concerned papers may not have reached the Executive Engineer or the Superintending Engineer or they have been lying with the Financial Adviser, etc. That does not mean that I under-rate the importance of sanctioned estimates. The point is that we want to see that this project is completed in a manner that there is no delay, that it is not spread over a long time that it is carried out economically and that it yields results which we are looking forward to. I am sure that this question of delta irrigation that has been talked out is really an important question. On the material that we have, I have every reason to believe that it is going to do well, that is, the delta irrigation will come about and therefore the project will be found to be a good one. It is those big things which we have to examine, the merits of the project and the merits of the action that has been taken.

It was mentioned that people from Orissa were neglected. I don't want to go into the details. We laid the information on the Table of the House of the People, and I am prepared to place here a statement showing how the recruitment of engineers and other personnel from Orissa has been increas-

ing, and how not a single person who is available from Orissa has been rejected unless he is found unsuitable totally and also how the share in the total employment has been increasing, and the first preference is being given every time to Oriyas. I don't wish to take up the time of the House but I will be able to give all that information. So, any suspicion on that score is wholly unwarranted.

SHRI B. RATH. What about your High School? Is there any Oriya class there?

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA. I will get all the information about that School for the hon. Member, the classes, the teachers and the names of the teachers etc. I am not able to say immediately what is the name of the Headmaster etc.

Reference was made by hon. Mr. Hegde to a small personal matter. He said that the Ministers do not give co-operation. That was the substance of what he said. He said that he wrote to me but nothing was done. I received a letter from the hon. Member and immediately instead of making a formal acknowledgment only which the Secretary or anybody can do, action was taken. The Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission Shri V. T. Krishnamachari took that letter to Madras because it referred to Madras, had discussion on the basis of that with the Madras Government. They gave certain replies. We had correspondence about that with the Madras Government. The hon. Member had a talk with the Deputy Secretary of the Community Projects Administration and with the Deputy Minister on the subject and he received a reply from the Madras Government also.

SHRI K. S. HEGDE. I am sorry, that was in some other connection.

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA. I cannot help it if the Madras Government say that his suggestions are not acceptable to them at this stage. But we earnestly took up that matter and

[Shri Gulzarilal Nanda]

pursued it. It is sufficient guarantee of the fact that there is every desire and earnestness in trying to help the hon Members to do the very useful work that they are doing themselves outside to assist in the progress of the economic schemes of the country and in the better administration of these projects and other works.

The hon Member may be informed regarding the Budget from the Madras Community Projects that as soon as it came—within 2 or 3 days—it was sanctioned.

SHRI K S HEGDE My complaint is against the Madras Government.

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA That is a bigger matter than I can deal with. There were several other small questions and I think I ought not to encroach on the time of hon Members wishing to speak on other matters by giving details about various things that had arisen. I may have another opportunity or I may circulate a note to hon Members dealing with all those points.

Finally I may, in conclusion, assure the House that if there was one thing I had in mind when I took over these Irrigation Projects it was this that a large bulk of our resources was being devoted to them. I may assure my hon friends that all my efforts will be to achieve greater efficiency and try to raise the level of honesty and I will strain my utmost unsparingly to that end.

11 A M

PROF G RANGA On a matter of personal explanation. The hon Minister said they undertook these enquiries long before any Member had taken the initiative. I want to assure the House and my hon friend that it was myself who raked this matter 3 or 4 years ago and then I had a long and detailed reply and I may tell you

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA I meant the Committee.

PROF G RANGA The late Mr Asaf Ali who was then the Governor sent a detailed report which I found to be very unsatisfactory.

MR DEPUTY CHAIRMAN A credit.

SHRI C G K REDDY Sir, I had thought that I will take almost all the time that I have in referring to the principles underlying the Finance Bill but it is rather unfortunate that the Minister who was preceding me has provoked me into saying something which I hope he will take in the spirit that he should. Sir, he referred to a statement he had made regarding the administration of the Hirakud Project and he asked us to take it in the correct context and also to examine the statement carefully and tell him whether he has made any mistakes in trying to protect inefficient and corrupt officials. I am sorry that the whole attitude of the hon Minister both in that statement and in the speech gives us an impression from which we are not able to escape that the hon Minister is trying to protect the officers too much. If I may refer from memory to what he has read, he has said that he will protect them to his utmost against irresponsible criticism, irresponsible allegations and other things. But he does not use the same strong language in telling them that he shall not tolerate even the least bit of wastage that may come about or the least bit of corruption that may be.

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA I have said that. In the statement it occurs thrice.

SHRI C G K REDDY So as far as I can see and the tone of the entire speech has been such that he has been protecting the officers too much and he has been trying to make an apology for them in so far as criticisms that have been levelled against them not only by us but in the press and elsewhere also. I would only request him that he should not think that any criticism that we may level against the Administration should be taken by

him personally as though we are criticising him and that we have been accusing him of corruption or nepotism or anything else. He being a person responsible for the whole programme and the Minister in charge, it is up to him to face this criticism and it is our duty to bring it forward to him again and again. But he is trying to tell us that by carrying this too far, we will be defeating the very object with which we are criticising the Administration. He wants it to be soft-pedalled against the Department.

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA I said the criticism against corrupt officers could be as caustic as possible, but those who have done nothing should not be subjected to this criticism.

SHRI C G K REDDY I don't think there is any case where those who have done nothing have been criticised either by us or by the press but when the hon. Minister makes a statement like that it would only mean that in the interest of the project and in the interest of the Administration this criticism should be a little soft-pedalled and the officers should be supported. He may deny this impression but I may assure him that the manner in which he has taken up this subject seems to give us no other impression.

Now if I may go on with the principles of the Finance Bill. Do I have the time? How much time have I?

MR DEPUTY CHAIRMAN Five minutes more.

SHRI C G K REDDY I can't do anything in five minutes.

MR DEPUTY CHAIRMAN Each Member is given 10 minutes. The Chairman announced it here.

SHRI C G K REDDY Well, Sir, I cannot do anything in just five minutes.

MR DEPUTY CHAIRMAN Just go on.

SHRI C G K REDDY But within five minutes I cannot do anything with the Finance Bill.

MR DEPUTY CHAIRMAN If every Member goes on like this.

SHRI C G K REDDY But had I known that it was only ten minutes, I would not have spoken on.

MR DEPUTY CHAIRMAN The Chairman announced it.

SHRI C G K REDDY Well, I would rather give the time to somebody else.

MR DEPUTY CHAIRMAN Please go on. You can take five minutes more.

SHRI P V NARAYANA (Madras) Good, good.

MR DEPUTY CHAIRMAN Get along.

SHRI C G K REDDY I was in any case, going to refer to the Administration in so far as the Finance Bill is concerned. We have heard everybody talk again and again about decentralisation. Everybody talks about decentralisation in administration, of administrative reform and decentralisation in everything else. We all seem to agree on the main question, but unfortunately no one seems to put down what exactly they mean by this decentralisation. For instance the Government say that they believe in decentralisation. So far as the Ministers are concerned, they also say they believe in decentralising things, especially those powers which come to them from above them. So far as the States are concerned they probably believe in decentralisation of those powers which descend from the Centre up to the State level. But no one believes in decentralisation below his own level, no decentralisation any further than that. Sir, I should like to know how this decentralisation is going to be effected by the Government. There is talk of decentralisation not only in the political field but also in the field of Administration.

[Shri C. G. K. REDDY.]

and they also talk of economic decentralisation, decentralisation in the economic field. The hon Finance Minister has again and again assured us that because of the special conditions that are in existence in the country, it is essential that the country should go in for economic decentralisation, that the country should go in for labour intensive methods, that the country should go in for methods which would encourage the cottage and small-scale industries. But we see absolutely no indication of it in the policy of the Government and much less in any executive action. I should like to know from the Government, especially from the Finance Minister, categorically, as to what exactly is the type of decentralisation that they mean, what exactly is their type of decentralisation in the political field, what is their type of decentralisation in the economic field and in the other fields.

Now, I come to the next subject—administrative reform. We take pride in the fact that the Viceroy has gone, that the British Governors have gone. But I would like most respectfully to submit that the agents of these Viceroy—the little viceroys—are still left over here undisturbed. We have been shouting against colonial administration for the last 20 or 30 years or more, and in spite of that, since 1947, for the last five or six years we have retained it and if there has been any change at all it has been with a view to strengthen this colonial administration which has been introduced in this country, which was sustained in this country merely for one purpose, and that purpose was to keep the people under subjection. We are using the same machinery, the same tiered machinery, the same kind of tiers among the district officials and the lower officials, merely for one purpose. You have not disturbed this system of Administration. This type of Administration we have not in the least tried to change and the only aim of the Government seems to be, their only interest seems to be, to keep the

people under subjection, and each seems to work for his own ends and not for serving the people at all. Even on this matter we would like to know what exactly the Government mean by administrative changes or administrative reforms or in what manner this wonderful Five Year Plan or the Community Projects where the people's enthusiasm is supposed to be yoked to the national effort, are going to be fitted into this type of colonial administration where the people have no opportunity at all for expressing themselves or to contribute their bit to the country.

Now, I would like to refer to one or two points regarding the financial control and the financial administration, especially in connection with the Defence Department. So far as the Defence Department is concerned, as everyone is aware, we are spending something like Rs. 200 crores—almost half of our Budget—on the Defence Department. There has been a statement by an hon. Member here that perhaps 30 per cent. of this Rs. 200 crores could be saved or perhaps could have been saved, if more strict financial control could be effected. I want to know what exactly is the financial control, not only here at the Centre, but in almost every unit of our Army, Navy and Air Force and in every ordnance workshop and in every other branch of the Defence services—what type of financial control is there to ensure that we are getting the full value for the money. I do not want to make any irresponsible allegation, but it is the general impression in the country, and I am sure almost all Members present here will bear me out when I say that there is the impression that for good reasons the money that is spent upon the Armed Services most of it, is going either to waste or often into undesirable channels.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR
LABOUR (SHRI ABID ALI): No, no.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: Mr Hegde, I think, is saying, 'No, no'.

SHRI K. S. HEGDE: I did not say that.

SHRI ABID ALI: I said, 'No, no'.

SHRI K. S. HEGDE: I don't agree with most of what you say, but with some portion I agree.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: I am glad that he agrees with me to some extent and even if it is only with one per cent., he can understand how many crores of rupees it comes to. Well, during the war, when petrol shortage was there, when rationing was there, everybody knows that almost every drop of petrol that was being burnt by private cars came from the Army or the service establishments. Even today if you go to any second-hand market of any big city, you will find that the spares for the motor-cars, the spares for the lorries or sometimes whole lorries, are from the Defence Department and..

SHRI ABID ALI: That was during the war period.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: No, I say now. If the hon. Minister will accompany me even to Bangalore where I come from and where I know something, I will take him to a second-hand market where he could get anything, and it is all from the military stores. I want to know what exactly is the financial control, how effective it is and in what manner it is being exercised. Is it merely exercised by the Financial Adviser sitting here in Delhi or is there some other kind of control even in small units where this sort of things is happening? If I get some good evidence of these things—it will be very difficult to get it—I will be in a position to pass on those individual allegations when and if I can substantiate them. But I know this, that in Bangalore things of this sort happen. There are supposed to be salvage depots, into which not only salvage goods go but even good stuff that could be used and that is being used by private people. I would like to know whether there is any intentions on the part of the Government to strengthen

its financial control not only here in Delhi where it has sadly failed, according to the reports of the Public Accounts Committee and other committees, where this has been proved—I am not talking of big contracts on which crores and crores are spent where it is easier to detect and control, but of smaller things and I should like to know in what manner Government exercise control, on these little things where probably fifty to sixty crores are involved, to see that, wastage is obviated, or in what manner it is seen that the money does not go into undesirable channels.

Now, before I sit down, although I should have liked to say something else, I would like to refer.....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Time is up, Mr. Reddy. You have already taken fifteen minutes.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: If you will give me two or three minutes, I will finish with this in so far as the Press in India is concerned. It is a matter of gratification to those of us who have worked in newspapers or who are still connected with newspapers that a Press Commission has been appointed. I hope that this Press Commission will be able to give us a report which will set right certain undesirable tendencies in India and I am sure that the Press Commission will do a good job of it but, in the meanwhile, Sir, the Governmental attitude towards the Press in India seems to be far from desirable. I am not going to refer to the controversy that is going on in Bombay regarding the Government of Bombay and a particular newspaper but I find that there has been more and more of a very unhealthy and undesirable and obstructive attitude that is being displayed by the Government, both at the Centre and the States in so far as the Press in India is concerned. They seem to think that unless the Press wholeheartedly and unreservedly supported the Government in power, that press is not a respectable newspaper at all and any newspaper which goes

[Shri C G K Reddy]

in for criticism, sometimes may be unbalanced criticism, sometimes may be a very correct criticism which may be unpalatable then, immediately the Government's attitude seems to be that that newspaper is not worth mentioning at all and that invariably belongs to what is called the Yellow or Gutter Press. Not only that, there seems to be some tendency also even to control the freedom of the newspapers in their managerial and other activities. Now, if I may refer to it I should like to have an answer today or some other time—unfortunately the Minister in charge is not in Delhi at the moment—but I should like to know what part Government played in so far as the PTI versus the Reuter negotiations that took place some months ago were concerned.

Now, Sir, in 1948 when the agreement between the PTI and Reuter was concluded I was one of those who was dead opposed to it because I felt that we should have nothing to do with a foreign agency which had an undesirable history behind it, which was able to influence the news that was coming to India and which was also influencing the news that was going out of India but this agreement went on for three or four years and so long as I was connected with a newspaper I should like to say, that it worked fairly well and although it is most desirable that we should have a completely independent news agency it was still a very healthy thing that we were able to work it out all right. Recently when there was a possibility of extending this agreement I understand the Government interfered and more or less influenced the decision of newspapers I should like to know what were the reasons for Government interfering in a domestic matter. The PTI is a limited company, it is a Trust in which almost all the newspapers in India are interested and these newspapers wanted to have certain negotiations in their own interest and in the interests of news dissemination in the country. Why did the Government express an

opinion which was almost in the nature of a threat, that if they did not do such and such a thing, the facilities that were being given to the PTI till that date would be withheld or suspended? Now I should like to know what were the reasons and what is the justification for the interference of the Government in a news agency which is controlled by all newspapers. It is not a monopoly news agency it is a news agency controlled by almost all the newspapers in India.

This sort of interference can only mean that the Government intends if not now at least a few years hence, to indirectly control not only the newspapers by distributing patronage only to those who support them but also to see that the very collection and distribution of news will be so influenced that only that type of news which is palatable to the Government, only that type of news which they certify will be sent out to the newspapers and will be published by them.

MR DEPUTY CHAIRMAN Mr B. M. Gupte Time limit is ten minutes, as you know

SHRI B M GUPTE (Bombay).
Mr Deputy Chairman I support the financial proposals of the Government. I am participating in this debate with the object of drawing the attention of the hon. the Finance Minister to a grievance of a large section of the people in my State namely, Bombay. I refer to the great disparity of rates in excise on tobacco used for *biri* making on the one hand and the excise on tobacco used for hookah and chewing on the other. The rate for the former is 14 annas per pound and for the latter 6 annas per pound. I am told that this disparity is based upon the assumption that hookah is a luxury of the poor but the *biri* is not. I have no hesitation in saying that at least as far as my part of country is concerned, the assumption is totally

wrong I do not know whether hookah is a luxury of the poor in the North, it may be I do not wish to quarrel with that proposition My point is that the same can be asserted with regard to *biri* also, with equal validity and with equal force because in my province, the smoking of *biri* is indulged in almost exclusively by the low income group not as a luxury—I would prefer to say that it is not a luxury but as a sort of relief from the dull and drab life which is their lot So once this assumption is knocked out then the case for discrimination falls to the ground and the case for one uniform flat rate becomes irresistible Apart from the burden of the high taxes of tobacco intended for *biri* there are other difficulties and anomalies which have arisen in the administration because of this discrimination and because of this differentiation There is the question of clearance at lower rates In 1951, in response to some of the complaints made by the merchants of tobacco, the Government announced that they were prepared to allow clearance at a lower rate where a particular variety or varieties were not used for *biri* making, but unfortunately that policy has not been properly implemented and anomalies have arisen I am told that one variety called *Black Chopdia* can be cleared at 6 annas at Thana or Kalyan but not in the Bombay City Even though responsible officers have admitted that in the city that variety is not used for *biri* making, there are these complications and there are these anomalies I therefore, submit that all this is arising because of the discrimination because of the differentiation in rates and it is very undesirable Perhaps this discrimination has given rise to corruption, harassment and evasion of duty If we have one single uniform rate it will not only eliminate corruption but simplify administration also and perhaps the income might also be raised I can have no better authority in respect of this proposition than the predecessor of the hon the Finance Minister and, with the permission of the House I should like to quote some of his sentences

Shri Shanmukham Chetty while replying to the Debate on the Finance Bill in 1948 said

"I am told that a great many people buy the tobacco by paying only four annas by declaring that it is intended for hookah, and then sell it to people who manufacture *biris*; there is therefore considerable loss of revenue already In fact, if our duty on tobacco is levied on a scientific basis, the yield must be very much greater than what it is today. This is one of the points that I have taken up for detailed and expert examination My own idea is that we must devise our excise on tobacco in such a manner that there would be a fairly low and a fairly uniform rate of duty on all classes of unmanufactured tobacco, and heavy excises on the manufactured article so that there may be no loophole in the matter of revenue I wanted to introduce this system in this very Budget but on an examination I found that the whole question was so complicated that it required very careful and expert investigation before we proceeded further My intention is to have such an investigation made during the course of the coming year so that at least for the next Budget we might rationalize our excise duty on tobacco"

That was in 1948 I do not know whether the matter was pursued in the Ministry Even if it was not pursued hitherto I would again request the hon Minister to look into the matter and give relief to the people of my State in the matter of this grievance

PANDIT S. DUBE (Madhya Pradesh) Deputy Chairman, Sir There has been so much debate of a mixed hotchpotch character that it leaves both the Government and the Members in a very confused state of mind I would suggest, Sir, that in arranging these debates which last for so many days some regular procedure should be

[Pandit S. Dube.]

followed, namely, that certain days should be fixed for debates on certain Ministries only. And in this way if all the departments of Government are divided into so many days for each it will be convenient for the hon. Members as well as the Government, and the criticisms will be more concentrated, and all aspects of the particular ministries will be discussed in a particular period of time and a great deal of repetition and a great deal of speeches of an uninformed character, of the type we now see, will be eliminated. I therefore suggest that you will be good enough to use your good offices in the matter of seeing that the debates in this Council are made more effective. For instance, I will say that when we talk about military matters we talk about the great deal of expenditure we incur unnecessarily—perhaps that is the insinuation regarding the Defence Department.

Now, Sir, so far as India is concerned we cannot rely entirely on the naval arm or air arm to protect us. The most important arm is the infantry and that is the only arm on which we can rely. No nation has ever succeeded in conquering another nation except by the infantry. Therefore it is our duty to see that infantry is maintained in the highest pitch of efficiency and of contentment. I am talking especially of contentment because, Sir, we must know that we have not got the latest weapons from the other countries and no country would be foolish enough to give its secret weapons or to give out the secrecy of its weapons to another country. So we must be content with the second rate or third-rate weapons, weapons which have outlived their usefulness as arms either of offence or of defence in other countries. Therefore all that we have got to do is to concentrate upon the rifle as part of our defence. The rifle is there but who wields that rifle? The rifle is wielded by the man, the sepoy, the soldier, who is to shoot, if need be. And who looks after these soldiers? They are the Lieutenants, the Captains and the Majors, the

people who are in charge of platoons and in charge of companies. It is they who are the foundation of our army.

Now what is the position with respect to these people? Are we treating them well? Are we keeping them contented? Are we keeping them in such a condition that they will give their utmost to the country? We must remember that these people are sworn to die for the country. We must be always conscious of the fact that they are sacrificing their lives so that we may live in peace. Therefore it is necessary that the country should see to it that they are given the utmost possible consideration. Now what is the consideration which we give? We expect that these Captains, these Lieutenants, these Majors and other officers should maintain a high standard of life. We expect them to travel first-class always. We expect them to be always dressed in uniform. We expect them to maintain a high establishment and we expect them to maintain the highest standard of gentlemanliness and decency. But what do we pay them? A miserable Rs. 400 or 500 or even 600 or 800. Does that go far in relation to the cost of living now-a-days and in relation to what we expect of them? It is impossible for a married man, if he is transferred from one place where he had married quarters, to another place where there are none, to find a suitable place to live in, and even if found, to pay high rent. Please remember that the 'military career' is not a place for money-making. Still at least something must be done to them to make both ends meet. They have their sons to be educated, their daughters to be married, they have to look after the other different things. I looked into the accounts of a gentleman who was for 8 years in the Army and saw that he had exactly Rs. 32 in the savings bank. This is a most regrettable state of things, Sir, because unless these people are given the necessary sustenance in life, unless they have satisfaction that they are not to worry for these things, it is not possible to get the best of them. They are the people

who are patriotic, who are self-sacrificing, who are devoting their utmost for the country's good and I can never agree to any proposal aiming at lesser expenditure on defence than what the Government is now spending on it. Of course, so far as expenditure on Defence is concerned, there are certain sections of that Department where you must be careful. Hon. Members have referred in more or less guarded terms to rat-holes and to leakages in the Army. Let us be more specific. My charge is that the Supply Department has not been properly looked into. It is the Supply Department mostly which is responsible for all those leakages and I wish that it were possible for Government to tighten its screws so far as this is concerned. In this connection I was rather surprised, so far as this corruption was concerned, that a claim was made by an hon. Member to say that the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code and the Evidence Act should be loosened in order that the offending people could be more easily convicted of their offences than it is otherwise the case. Sir, we ought to be proud of one thing that so far as India is concerned,—whatever else the British Government had not done—they have left a system of jurisprudence which is second to none in the world. (Interruption) I shall see to that. So far as this one thing is concerned it is said that the presumption of innocence is the golden thread which runs throughout the web of British jurisprudence. Even this we have given up in the Corruption Act that we passed in the last session by throwing the burden of proof upon the accused. And yet Sir, it is said that we must further loosen the whole Evidence Act, all the evidence that is brought forward. I submit, Sir, that it would be a great disaster if the highest standards of judicial procedure are loosened and if it is made possible to send men to jail on suspicion and not on evidence. I would like to recall to your attention, Sir, a small piece of news which appeared in the newspapers and that is this. In England a man was hanged for murdering his daughter. He protested his innocence

and yet he was hanged. After some time it was discovered that his fellow-lodger had committed the offence and it was he who was responsible for seven or eight deaths and that the skeletons of the women who were killed were found in the cupboards and in the various parts of his house. If this can happen on suspicion in England which has such a rigorous standard of evidence, surely we must recognise that it is possible, so far as we are concerned, that such grave mistakes may happen which are irretrievable. I for one would stick to the judicial standard which has been going on in this country for so long. Sir, I would refer.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your time is up.

PANDIT S. DUBE: I shall finish within a very short time after referring to an important thing. Sir, I come from a Province which is entirely undeveloped. The undeveloped area in the Madhya Pradesh is vast—although the State is a very large one—it is the largest Province in India—and yet there is only one line of railway which goes round the Province and there is nothing else. Then, Sir, I have referred in my questions to road communications that they should be made more extensive so that the immense resources of the forest material and minerals may be utilised for the benefit of the country. I am sure that Government will give its attention to the fact that this area requires to be improved.

May I, Sir, put in one word regarding the ceiling for agricultural holdings? It appears to me that so far as the proposed limit of agricultural holdings is concerned and this has to be considered in connection with the raising of the standard of life of the people, well, you want them to be better but you cut off their sources of income. You make a man earn less and spend more. He may have children to be sent to school; he may have boys to educate, he may have girls to educate and to marry and yet you do not

[Pandit S. Dube.]

help him to meet this situation. I hope this question will receive the very serious attention of Government when the question of fixing a ceiling for agricultural holdings is considered.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Mr. Deputy Chairman. Sir, the other day my hon. friend Mr. Shah, the Minister for Finance, tried to avoid answering our criticisms by remarking that we have repeated merely old slogans. But as we find Government pursuing the same policy and the same story of unemployment, starvation and misery of the people unfolding before us day by day, we have to repeat the same charges in our criticism in order to hold up the mirror before them. But though ordinarily our criticisms do not find an echo in the hearts of Government Members, they are finding an echo in the minds of the people outside; already the people outside are shedding their last lingering illusions about the Congress Government. Not only that, but I find inside the House also in the minds of at least some of the Members on the other side who have not thrown overboard their past traditions and patriotic conscience, our criticisms are finding an echo. I think, Sir, the Government should see the sign of the times.

Now I shall come to the Bill and as the time at my disposal is short, I shall deal with only a few aspects. Sir, I shall deal with that question of section 49A—Agreement for granting relief in respect of double taxation or for avoidance thereof. Sir, we are totally opposed to this. In the name of giving relief from double taxation Government is giving protection to the foreign capitalists who amassed huge profits by exploitation of our country for a long time. This can be called, in reality, loot of our country and even now that very thing is continuing. Sir, I shall cite only a few examples within the short time at my disposal how in the name of granting relief from double taxation and granting protection to Indian industries, Government is really giving relief and protection to foreign industries.

Recently there was a meeting of the Federation of medium and small industries at Calcutta. The President of that meeting complained that due to competition of foreign companies, some of the Indian industries are on the point of extinction. The indigenous soap industry is on the point of extinction due to competition from Lever Bros. the electric lamp industry from Philips and G.E.C. and the belting industry from Dunlop. Besides these, glass, pencil, fountainpen ink industries etc., are also on the point of extinction. I shall give you some more figures. Out of 44 protected industries, in 19 foreign capital is entrenched. In Aluminium out of the total capital of Rs. 290 lakhs invested in it, Rs. 140 lakhs belong to foreign capital. In the industry producing dry batteries, out of a total capital of Rs. 133.9 lakhs Rs. 101.4 lakhs belong to foreign capital. In the Match industry out of a total capital of Rs. 295.5 lakhs Rs. 110 lakhs belong to foreign capital and in the industry producing motor vehicles, batteries, etc., out of a total capital of Rs. 113.94 lakhs Rs. 52.78 lakhs belong to foreign capital.

Recently there was a conference of All India Federation of workers in Petroleum industry. In that conference complaints were raised that the three petroleum companies—Burmah Shell, Standard Vacuum and Caltex—together sell annually Rs. 170 crores worth of petroleum products but they show only Rs. 2 crores as profits. The workers are prepared to prove, provided the Government is prepared to accept their co-operation—that the profits are really Rs. 10 crores annually.

In the case of the shipping companies also, according to the figures given by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the total foreign owned paid up capital is Rs. 44.93 crores while Indian owned paid up capital is Rs. 8.51 crores. These foreign shipping companies are making a profit of Rs. 10 crores annually, but they behave with the Indian seamen in a most ignominious manner. I have no time to describe the treatment which the Indian

seamen receive at the hands of the foreign companies.

In Jute the foreign capital is to the extent of 70 per cent. and how do they behave? In 1950 there was a Jute Tribunal. It gave its award in October 1951 according to which 48 hours week was to be continued but within three months of that award, the jute magnates violated the decision of the award and introduced 42 hours week. When the attention of the Government was drawn to the fact, Government took no action. Recently according to newspaper reports a deputation from the I.J.M.A. is either coming to Delhi or has already reached Delhi with the request that the working in jute mill be restricted to 36 hours week and sealing up further 12½ per cent of loom. That is why I am opposed to granting relief to foreign companies. Sir, I was very glad to listen the other day to my hon friend Mr. Govinda Reddy who was also speaking about this and was expressing feelings almost similar to mine.

Now, I shall have to go to other points, I have to say a few words about the Tea Excise. Government has come up with a proposal to give some relief to the industry, but I am very doubtful, Sir, about the motives of Government. What is really at the back of the mind of the Government? Relief is really required by Indian small and medium gardens. This relief was required long time ago. At that time Government took no action. In the last Tripartite Conference at Calcutta an agreement was arrived at between the representatives of the employers and the employees, and I had referred to it on the floor of this House on a previous occasion also; according to that agreement the excise duty should have been refunded and afterwards if a committee found that some gardens have made a profit, then the amount of refund was to be utilised for the welfare of labour. At that time Government took no action, but now after a long time Government has come up with a proposal to give some relief to the industry.

Sir, there are several questions involved in this thing. Whom is this relief going to reach? Is this going to be extended to workers also? According to the figures supplied by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry the total foreign owned capital in the Tea industry is Rs. 39.54 crores while the total Indian owned capital is Rs 12.95 crores. So the fact that the industry is dominated by the British monopolists is established from these figures, but the Government tries to avoid facing the real truth. As regards this relief also, when this question whether this relief is going to reach the labourers was raised on the floor of the House of the People, I find, Sir, that my friend, the hon. the Finance Minister, in his reply made some remarks that labour had over-played their cards. Sir, I do not know what is at the back of the Finance Minister's mind. The tea garden labour is very backward. They cannot overplay their cards. They cannot play their cards even I have no time to dwell at length on this matter. I will only refer to the statement of the Finance Minister. He said that 42 gardens had been reopened, and that 39,238 labourers had been re-employed. Sir, I find a difference between the figures supplied by the Labour Minister and those supplied by the Finance Minister. In the report of the Labour Ministry it was stated that 100 gardens had been closed. The Finance Minister told us that 94 gardens had been closed. As regards the number of gardens which have been reopened also the Labour Minister said the other day that the number was 36, and there is also a difference in the number of labourers re-employed. The Commerce Minister, replying to a similar question of mine, could not supply any figures. I wonder whether these three Ministers are at logger-heads with each other and whether there is no co-operation between them.

Sir, I insist that the relief given to industry should reach the labourers, and Government should see that the consumers are also not made to pay higher prices. In this connection I

[Shri S. N. Mazumdar.]

should like to draw the attention of Government to an announcement made a few days ago.....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member has exceeded his time. I will give him only one minute more.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: I will finish in two minutes. A few days ago, Sir, there was inserted in "The Statesman" an advertisement, from Brooke Bonds probably, a formal advertisement, practically threatening the Government that because of the increase in the excise duty on package tea, many industries connected with packing would be affected and there would be retrenchment. I want the Government to take action about that.

SHRI K. RAMA RAO: I also saw that advertisement. I would request the hon. Member to take it to the Chairman and show it to him. It is a matter of privilege, Sir.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: I shall find out the copy of the newspaper and place the matter before the House tomorrow.

Sir, as the time at my disposal is short, before I conclude I will make one statement. Yesterday my hon. friend Mr. Narasimham referred to the strike at Hindustan Shipyard. Today we have been informed that the dispute has been referred to an Industrial Tribunal. Sir, those workers were retrenched without consulting the union. Government could have referred this matter to an Industrial Tribunal long before, and then the question of strike would not have arisen. Only when there was a complete strike, this matter was referred to the Industrial Tribunal. This highlights the policy of the Government towards industrial labour.

SHRI T. PANDE (Uttar Pradesh):

श्री टी० पांडे (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह वित्त विधेयक जो सदन के समक्ष उपस्थित है उसका समर्थन करने हुए मैं अपने कुछ विचार प्रकट करना चाहता हूँ।

मुझे ऐसा दीख पड़ता है कि भारत की अर्थ-व्यवस्था अत्यन्त दयनीय हो रही है। वर्तमान समय में जो हमारी अर्थ नीति है उससे शहरी जीवन को विशेष सहायता मिल रही है और देहाती जीवन का उपेक्षा होती जा रही है। इस देश की जनता जितनी शहरों में बसती है उसकी अपेक्षा देहातों में ज्यादा बसती है। मैं शासन का ध्यान इस ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ कि देहात की जनता की तरफ विशेष ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है।

हमारी अर्थ नीति का यह भाग परिणाम हो रहा है कि देश में जनता के ऊपर करों का भार बढ़ता ही चला जा रहा है और कुछ ऐसा दीख पड़ता है कि शासन के पास या उनके कर्म-चारियों के पास विशेष बुद्धि होती तो शायद ही कोई विभाग ऐसा होता जो कर में बच पाता।

घरेलू उद्योगधन्धों के सम्बन्ध में अपना विचार आपके सम्मुख रखना चाहता हूँ। घरेलू उद्योगधन्धों की इस देश में बड़ी आवश्यकता है और सरकार का ध्यान इस ओर विशेष रूप से नहीं जा रहा है। मेरा अपना मत है कि इस देश में यदि सदियों की गुलामी के बाद जनतंत्र सफलतापूर्वक चल सकता है तो इस बात में कोई सन्देह नहीं है कि बड़े बड़े उद्योगों का राष्ट्रीयकरण क्यों नहीं किया जाता। मुझे पूर्ण विश्वास है कि अगर इन बड़े बड़े उद्योगधन्धों का राष्ट्रीयकरण किया गया तो हमारी सरकार उनको कामयाबी के साथ चला सकती है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि सरकार का ध्यान इस ओर आकर्षित हो और देश को जो बड़े बड़े उद्योग धन्धे हैं उनका जल्दी से राष्ट्रीयकरण किया जाय। अगर ऐसा नहीं किया गया तो देश की आर्थिक अवस्था नहीं संभल सकती है। मुझे यह भी दीख रहा है कि जिस गति से हमारे उद्योग-पतियों ने ब्रिटिश शासन काल में औद्योगिक

विकास में तरक्की की थी उस गति से आजकल कार्य नहीं किया जा रहा है। इसका कारण यह मालूम पड़ता है कि उद्योग-पति सरकार को सन्देह की दृष्टि से देखते हैं। विदेशी व्यापार हमारे देश में बहुत चल रहा है और मैं यह देख रहा हूँ कि विदेशी लोग इस व्यापार से काफी लाभ उठा रहे हैं और कुछ समय में उनकी गति तीव्र होती चली जा रही है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि स्वदेशी रोजगार को, स्वदेशी व्यापार को विशेष प्रोत्साहन दिया जाना चाहिये। यह तब ही हो सकता है जब हम अपने देश की चीजों को अपनाने लगे और विदेशी व्यापार को सर्वदा के लिये बन्द कर दें। मेरा अपना विचार है कि समाज की आर्थिक नीति में क्रान्तिकारी परिवर्तन करने की आवश्यकता है। हमें समाज के अन्दर नवीन रूप और विचारधारा लाने की जरूरत है। जिस रूप में हमें चलना चाहिये उस रूप में हम नहीं चल रहे हैं। इसका परिणाम यह हो रहा है कि हमारी नीति जितनी स्थिर होनी चाहिये थी उतनी नहीं हो रही है जिससे कि साग समाज अधर में पड़ा हुआ है। इसलिए अगर समाज की उन्नति करनी है तो उसमें क्रान्तिकारी परिवर्तन करने की आवश्यकता है, बगैर इसके हमारी प्रगति होना सम्भव नहीं है।

इस समय हमारे शासन में जो कर्मचारी काम करते हैं, जिस प्रकार शासन परिवर्तन हुआ है और जिस कार्यप्रणाली के मातहत वे काम कर रहे हैं उसमें हम एकदम परिवर्तन नहीं कर सकते हैं। वर्तमान जो कायदे और कानून हैं उनके मातहत अगर कोई अपराध करता है तो हम शीघ्रता से उनको दंड नहीं दे सकते हैं और न ऐसा करना आसान ही है। मगर मुझे इसमें सन्देह नहीं है कि शासन के अन्तर्गत जो कर्मचारी काम करते हैं उनमें से बहुत से राष्ट्रीय भावना रखने वाले हैं,

देशभक्त हैं और उनके कार्य की सराहना की जा सकती है। लेकिन साथ ही साथ कुछ ऐसे भी कर्मचारी हैं जिनमें भ्रष्टाचार की मात्रा बहुत ज्यादा है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि शासन के कर्मचारी ईमानदार हो, वफादार हो और अपना कार्य जनता की सेवा भावना का ह्याल रखते हुए करें। इसके लिए यह आवश्यक है कि उनकी आय के ऊपर निरीक्षण रखा जाय। हमें यह देखना चाहिये कि जिन अनुचित जरियों से उनकी आय में वृद्धि होती है वह न होने पावे। मेरा अनुमान है कि अगर सरकार कर्मचारियों की आय पर निरीक्षण रखे तो आजकल जो भ्रष्टाचार हम को देखने को मिलता है वह बहुत हद तक बंद हो सकता है।

अब मैं उत्तर प्रदेश के पूर्वी जिले के बारे में आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। यह देश बहुत ही गरीब है और नदियों की बाढ़ की वजह से उसका बहुत सा इलाका पानी के अन्दर डूबा रहता है। कृषि की उन्नति की ओर सरकार ने कोई विशेष ध्यान नहीं दिया और उस पर बहुत अवलम्ब किया जा रहा है। मैं अर्थ मंत्री जी से यह प्रार्थना करूँगा कि कुछ ऐसी व्यवस्था वहाँ के लिए की जाय जिसमें कि वहाँ की प्रजा सुखी हो सके और उन्नति कर सके। हम लोग बहुत दिनों से यह सुना करते थे कि उस प्रदेश के लिए बहुत सी योजनाएँ चलाई जायेंगी। रिहन्द डैम (dam) के बारे में हमारे प्रदेश में काफी चर्चा थी। लेकिन यह देखकर बहुत ही निराशा हुई कि सरकार की ओर से इस बांध को बनाने के लिए जितनी तेजी से कार्य किया जाना चाहिये था वह नहीं हो पा रहा है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि शासन को इस बात की ओर विशेष ध्यान देना चाहिये जिससे कि वहाँ की प्रजा सुखी और मंगलमय हो सके।

[Shri T. Pande.]

दो शब्द में संस्कृति के विकास के सम्बन्ध में आपके सम्मुख कहना चाहता हूं। हमारा देश बड़ा प्राचीन है, उसकी सभ्यता और संस्कृति अतीतकाल से चली आती है, उसमें खेत और जीवन है और वह संसार को कुछ दे सकता है। प्राचीन समय, मध्य युग में, संस्कृति के प्रचार के निमित्त हमारे देशवासी उठे थे और उन्नति की थी, जिसका नतीजा यह हुआ कि हमारे देश का साहित्य और संस्कृति सीलोन, बर्मा, चीन, तिब्बत और सुदूरपूर्व के देशों में फैल गई। वहां के विद्यापीठों, मठों और पुस्तकालयों में बहुत से हस्तलेख और दूसरी चीजें पड़ी हुई हैं, जिनका उद्धार करना आवश्यक है। इसलिए मैं शासन में प्रार्थना करूंगा कि एक ऐसी निरीक्षण मंडली या विद्वत् मंडली को इन देशों में भ्रमण करने के लिए भेजा जाय जो हमारे देश के साहित्य के जो अंग वहां पर पड़े हुए हैं, उनको एकत्रित कर सकें और संसार के सामने प्रकाश में ला सकें।

एक दो शब्द यहां पर हिन्दी भाषा के सम्बन्ध में कहना चाहूंगा। इस में कोई सन्देह नहीं है कि हमने अपनी राष्ट्रभाषा हिन्दी की पिछले कई वर्षों में काफी उपेक्षा की है। हिन्दी की इतनी उपेक्षा की जा रही है कि मेरे लिए यहां पर सांस लेना कठिन हो रहा है। हिन्दी जब हमारी राष्ट्र की भाषा हो गई है, राज्य की भाषा स्वीकृत कर ली गई है, शासन की भाषा हो गई है तो उसका प्रयोग क्यों नहीं किया जाता है, उसकी उपेक्षा क्यों की जा रही है, यह बात मेरी समझ में नहीं आ रही है। हमारे मंत्रिपरिषद् में यह दिया गया है कि अमुक समय के अन्दर हमारी राष्ट्रभाषा हिन्दी अंग्रेजी का स्थान ग्रहण कर लेगी। मगर मुझे देखने में यह आ रहा है कि शासन की ओर से जिस गति में हिन्दी की उन्नति की जा रही है, उसमें तो 13 मालूम पड़ता है कि

चायद १० वर्षों तक हिन्दी राज्य की भाषा न हो सकेगी। मैं चाहता हूँ कि शासन इस ओर विशेष ध्यान दे। जो शासन जनता की इच्छा की पूर्ति नहीं करता है वह शासन चल नहीं सकता है।

अभी हाल ही में हमसे यह पूछा गया था कि राज्यपरिषद् की जो रिपोर्ट होती है उनको आप किस भाषा में चाहते हैं। तो मैंने उसका उत्तर दिया था कि विशुद्ध हिन्दी भाषा में होनी चाहिये। मगर मुझे यह देख कर दुःख और आश्चर्य हुआ कि जो सज्जन हिन्दी में यहां पर भाषण करते हैं, उसका विवरण यदि हिन्दू सदस्य हैं तो नागरी लिपि में और यदि मुसलमान सदस्य हैं तो फारसी लिपि में उद्धृत किया जाता है। जिसका हम नागरी लिपि कहते हैं उसे फारसी लिपि समझा जाता है। मैं इस बात को समझने में असमर्थ हूँ, मैं शिक्षा मंत्री और कर्मचारियों का ध्यान इस ओर दिलाना चाहता हूँ। पिछले मर्तबा जब एक विहार के मुसलमान मेम्बर सदन में बोलने के लिए खड़े हुए तो यहां बहुत से सदस्यों ने कहा कि आप अंग्रेजी अच्छी तरह जानते हैं, क्यों नहीं आप अंग्रेजी में भाषण करते। इस पर उन्होंने कहा कि मेरी राष्ट्रभाषा हिन्दी है, इसलिए मैं अंग्रेजी में नहीं बोलूंगा हिन्दी में बोलूंगा। उन्होंने हिन्दी में ही भाषण दिया मगर आश्चर्य यह है कि जब उनके भाषण का विवरण उपस्थित किया गया तो वह फारसी लिपि में था। मैं इस बात को समझने में असमर्थ हूँ कि उनके भाषण का विवरण नागरी लिपि में क्यों नहीं छपा गया। इस किस्म की गलतियाँ भविष्य में नहीं की जानी चाहिये, इस बात का विशेष ध्यान शासन के अधिकारियों को रखना चाहिये।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस विधेयक का समर्थन करता हूँ और आशा करता हूँ कि

शासन के सम्मुख जो विचार मने रखे हैं उनको कार्यरूप में परिणत किया जायेगा, यह जनता की आवाज है। जय हिन्द।

[For English translation, see Appendix IV, Annexure No. 129.]

SHRI RAMA RAO (Madras). Mr. Deputy Chairman, it is rather difficult to address a House where even the Congress Members are not present. It is a waste of time. (Some hon. Members: We are here; we are here).

12 NOON.

Sir, much has been said by the Opposition about waste and corruption. I am perfectly willing to admit that there is a good deal of waste and corruption, but waste and corruption in what connection? Perhaps with regard to the big projects mostly. Sir, too much—really too much—has been said about this Mr Nanda made a very good defence, but something may still be said in a general manner.

Sir, the greatest generals in history have been the greatest wasters. War is a terrible thing it costs much loss of human life, much money, much energy. We too, are fighting a war—a war against poverty. We have to race against time. We too, are, therefore, wasting. Our misfortune is that we are trying to build up a Welfare State on the basis of a colonial administrative set up. That is bad enough, but we are also in a hurry. I understand that it costs us a lakh of rupees every day to pay interest alone on the moneys we have borrowed from the banks. Is it the intention of this House that we should go slow with these projects by adopting dilatory bureaucratic methods? Is it our intention to pay these heavy interest rates or is it desirable for us to go ahead with our projects—in spite of waste and corruption, whatever it is—and produce results and do the best possible service to the country? As the poet has said, let us scatter plenty over a smiling land and read their history in a nation's eyes. I want every Member of this

House who launches his tirade against our public servants to put this question to himself. We have got to build up a new economy. We are not familiar with it. We are committing blunders. As I have said, it is a war and in a war a number of mistakes are committed. Therefore, I would request our friends not to bring up this charge too often.

Corruption is a different matter. I am prepared to say that it is the responsibility of every Member of this Parliament to bring up bad cases to the notice of the Government for action. But waste we may not altogether help. Washington Irving has said that much waste must exist in literature and finance. A poet, to write four lines of poetry, requires a ream of paper. He may not help it.

I would ask my friends one question. Is not the situation otherwise very hopeful? They should see the other side of the picture. Mr. Deputy Chairman, the Community Projects, the Prime Minister has said, have been a great success; the law and order situation has improved, the food prospects have been improving. The horizon which has suddenly changed in Pakistan, will perhaps enable us to cut down our defence expenditure altogether with the present peace fields and enforceable economics will probably enable us to save about Rs 60 to Rs 70 crores which money will be diverted to more sane, sensible and fruitful purposes. We are going to have a trade agreement with Burma, thereby giving opportunities to our industry to find new markets. The difficulties with Ceylon will be settled on the highest humanitarian level of which the Prime Minister of India is genuinely capable. We find that the international situation is changing. If really it will, it would mean that all the money that is being wasted on rearmament will be diverted to fruitful purposes. It is now the business of American spokesmen to reconcile themselves to the giving up of their rearmament programme. If that is done, abundant quantities of money would

[Shri Rama Rao.]

be available for development in welfare work all over the field, chiefly in South-east Asia which will develop into a good bastion of democracy. There will thus be tremendous progress. What will all that mean? That will mean that, without our asking, money will come to our door. The dollars will be coming to us on our own terms. Why should we be ashamed of foreign aid? This aid is bound to be helpful to this country in a variety of ways.

Sir, my friend Dr. J. P. Srivastava brought forward an excellent argument yesterday. He says that the mixed economy regime has failed. How has it failed? Government are not getting loans; heavy taxation is preventing capital formation; the private sector has been demoralised; the middle classes are almost all exhausted; unemployment is increasing; labour is inefficient and rebellious; machinery is out-of-date and no proprietor bothers to recondition it because no one knows how long this state of affairs is going to last.

If this is the position, my answer, my challenging answer is: Destroy for ever the regime of mixed economy. Be honest. Face the logical consequences. Go in for a complete Socialist economy. This country can flourish only on a labour economy. We have to give dignity to our labour. Reform the laws of the country so that the labourer may come into his own. Nothing has been done during these five or six years of our freedom to give the labourer his due status, and so long as his status is not improved, you will not get that response from labour which is due from it to the country.

Sir, deficit financing. I think, is bound to succeed, and I am also certain that foreign aid will help us considerably, so that it comes to this: It is a parallelogram of forces—foreign aid, deficit financing, labour economy and our way of life. We must command the thoroughness and the resourcefulness of the German Dr. Schacht who built the German economy after it had

been shattered by the first world war, and the crusading spirit and communism of the Russians who built up not only a great state before the second world war but also enabled that country to make tremendous strides after that war in a very short period. We have also to build up a labour economy and an industrial set-up based on the democracy and pragmatism of the Anglo Saxons, and above all, we must be true to our *dharma*.

What kind of *dharma* we are going to have? We may have the Asoka Chakra as our symbol, but what kind of *dharma* is going to be propagated. Is it to be the Bhuddist *dharma* or the Hindu *dharma*? Mahatma Gandhi taught us the doctrine of *Daivdra Narayana*. Every Hindu must remember the plain injunction that he must not take a morsel of food without his neighbour having his first. Sir, this *dharma* has maintained us through the vicissitudes of history. It is still keeping even heretics like me in its fold. And I am sure that it will be for ever and for ever with us as a pillar of smoke by day and column of fire by night.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Mahanty. Mr. Rama Rao has given you two minutes extra.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: I am very grateful to him. At the outset, I must acknowledge my appreciation of the manner of the reply of the hon. Minister for Planning in regard to the references here about Hiraakud, but that does not mean that I am satisfied with his reply. If at this hour of the day and at the cost of relevancy, I take my stand here, make still some more references to Hiraakud, it is only at the dictates of a public duty, which is often times unpleasant. Sir, I am very much grateful to the hon. Minister for Planning because he has indicated his awareness of the magnitude of the problem. He has also given us his assurance that he will see that further irregularities and further scandals do not occur, but he has made certain observations which, I think,

call for some reply. What he tried to make out was that possibly the critics of Hirakud are trying to overdo the thing by trying to focus the attention of Parliament on the irregularities and on the persons concerned with them *ad nauseum*. Of course, this is all a matter of attitudes. I for one am not prepared to accept with levity all the irregularities that have happened. He has admitted that in great haste, without adequate data and statistics the project was undertaken. The other day we came to know that the International Engineering Corporation of U.S.A. was paid a sum of Rs. 4.5 lakhs for merely preparing the project designs which were later found to be unsuitable. He has not given his attention to all the points that we have been urging against the Hirakud administration. I think, since the year 1949, it was not the Public Accounts Committee which first brought to light all the irregularities that have taken place there. Even before the Public Accounts Committee reported, not only during the question hour in this House and in the House of the People but also in the Orissa Assembly and in the local Press of Orissa this matter was being agitated and debated.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is all a matter of history now. Give us something new.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: In this world of relative values, nothing is new. What I was going to do was not to reveal any further scandals. I only wanted to draw his attention to one fact and one fact alone. The Minister invoked the name of Mahatma Gandhi and said that he would not be a party to corruption. In the name of Mahatma Gandhi again, I would ask him whether he is prepared to make a probe into the private fortunes of the members of the Central Water and Power Commission who were concerned with the project. I say this with a full sense of responsibility. I would request the House to remember that the Orissa Government has taken a loan at the rate of 3.4 per cent. interest. What has happened is that

millions of rupees have flowed down the drain, and the people of Orissa are not going to take it with any levity or in any lighthearted manner. I do not agree with Mr. Rama Rao when he equates writing poetry with building a bridge. He can write a single line of poetry after wasting four reams of paper; but it does not cost much. He has no right to equate writing poetry with building a project. Crores of rupees have been lost on account of the administrative marauders in the language of Mr. Hegde. The hon. Minister said that the Oriya Officers are being given at the moment a fair chance, but I completely repudiate it. Here again about those unscrupulous officers you will find in para. 87 of the Public Accounts Committee Report the following observation: "The Sub-Committee have already drawn attention to the fact that the selection of certain members of the senior staff of the Project was unfortunate from the commencement. It has been shown that some of the officers who have been responsible for some of the more serious financial misdemeanours were chosen without due care, of verification of their record and antecedents". They were chosen by C.W.P.C. in 1948. The hon. Minister who controls the C.W.P.C. has very inadequate appreciation of the subject. It might be quite possible that instead of the Ministry dictating the Commission the Commission is dictating the Ministry. Secondly, I would invite his attention to paragraph 76 of the Report where it has been stated:

"It is regrettable that in the past local people have not been given the preference in matters of employment to which they were entitled. A number of Engineering Graduates belonging to Orissa were available and they have not been engaged on construction work."

He has made another serious allegation against the critics of Hirakud. He has stated that certain officers who have been thrown out of the project because of their lack of discipline and several other misdemeanours have taken advantage of the Opposition

[Shri S. Mahanty.]

members. I repudiate it with all the emphasis at my command. Even before the report of the Public Accounts Committee was published, a leaflet was published by certain discharged members of Hirakud under the heading, "The Other Side of the Picture", wherein they made certain amazing exposures saying, "Well, if we made money, the others made also. Therefore compound the offence". May I ask whether the Minister for Planning has taken any notice of it? This is not merely in regard to Hirakud. About Bhakra also, a booklet has been published, wherein a number of irregularities have been pointed out. As you know, Sir, these multi-purpose river valley projects are the only major undertakings in our First Five Year Plan. Here we are spending crores of rupees by incurring foreign loans. So it behoves upon us to see that, that money is spent to the best purpose. In the other House the hon. Finance Minister has made an observation about Hirakud that these irregularities about Hirakud did not bother him so much. What bothered him was whether Hirakud would be able to pay. That is a moot point. I am perfectly in agreement with him. I am not also so much worried about the little irregularities which have been detected, though they are not little and cost us crores of rupees which the tax-payers of Orissa will have to pay ultimately with an interest at 3.4 per cent. on capital. How can the Hirakud Project pay itself when you bring buffaloes from Punjab on a monthly rental of Rs. 300? How do you think that it will pay itself after crores have been looted and debited to the cost account? All the same, with all respect to the hon. Minister for Finance, I would ask him to shed his *bania* outlook over this. Here the moot point that remains to be asked is whether a river valley project is an end in itself or a means to an end. If it is an end in itself, then the question would arise whether Hirakud would be able to pay itself. But it has been made clear since the very beginning that it will be a means to an end, that the Hirakud Project

will result in more production, in more industrialization, in uplifting a backward region. Thus Hirakud would pay itself. That is not a very small return. It should not be measured only in terms of Pounds, Shillings and Pence. If he is keen to see, that Hirakud should pay itself, then I will tell him this. Let him make a probe into the finances of the Members of the C.W.I.N.C. Let him make all the discharged officers, those administrative marauders and looters of national finance, pay all the money that they have looted out of the Hirakud project. I should also like to make another point that from the very beginning it was contemplated that the cost of Hirakud will be borne equitably by the industry and agriculture. Now you know that almost the whole cost of Hirakud is going to be borne by agriculture and increased amounts of betterment levy and doubled rate of water tax and irrigation tax are already being contemplated. Now when the power will be produced, there is no market for the consumption of power. An aluminium factory has been promised. It will only absorb 25,000 K.W. while by 1956 we will be producing about 80,000 K.W. from Hirakud. What about the Iron and Steel Factory? Though the Technical Committee has made a final decision that the Iron and Steel plant should be located at Orissa, it pains me to say that the Chief Minister for Madhya Pradesh has come to exert his influence over the Government of India to have it in Madhya Pradesh. Today he is in Delhi to influence the Government to have the Iron and Steel plant in Madhya Pradesh though the Technical Committee has made the findings that Hirakud is the best and ideal site from all points of view, with less cost but more advantage.

Under such circumstances how the Hirakud would be able to pay itself, unless the Government of India were determined to see it pay?

SHRIMATI SAVITRY NIGAM (Uttar Pradesh):

श्रीमती सावित्री निगम (उत्तर प्रदेश) :

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आज डिबेट (debate)

का तीसरा दिन है और प्रायः सभी आवश्यकताओं पर अनेक मेम्बरों द्वारा प्रकाश डाला जा चुका है, इसलिये फिर से उन विषयों का पिष्टपेषण न करके मैं केवल थोड़ी सी बातें कहूँगी और थोड़ा सा समय लूँगी। मेरा कहना है कि देश निर्माण के लिये यदि छोटे मोटे टैक्स (tax) बढ़ा दिये जायें और हम बान का खास तौर से खयाल रहे कि उसका सीधा असर सब से गरीब जनता पर पड़े तो मेरी समझ में उसका सभी को स्वागत करना चाहिये क्योंकि एक ओर तो हम फारेन कैपिटल (foreign capital) में भयभीत होते हैं और दूसरी ओर देश का निर्माण भी हमें करना है, ऐसी दशा में यह आवश्यक हो जाना है कि हम अपने ही देश से किसी न किसी प्रकार कैपिटल इकट्ठा करके अपने देश का निर्माण करें।

श्रीमन्, किसी को भी यह मानने में आपत्ति न होगी कि इन पांच वर्षों में हम लोग प्रगति पथ पर बराबर आगे बढ़ रहे हैं और हमारे देश की सरकार ने पीड़ितों, दुखितों, हरिजनों और ट्राइबल लोगों के लिये बहुत कुछ किया है। शरणार्थियों के लिये भी कुछ उठा नहीं रखा गया है। किन्तु खेद है कि अभी तक एक ओर किसी का भी ध्यान आकर्षित नहीं हुआ है और यह सचमुच देश का दुर्भाग्य है। आजाद होने के बाद भी गरीबी और बेकारी के दानवों से पीसी जाने वाली स्त्रियों की रक्षा का अब भी कोई बन्दोबस्त नहीं हुआ है। यह कौन नहीं जानता कि सामाजिक रूढ़ियों और गुंडों द्वारा फुसलाई जाने वाली तमाम बहनों को फिर से बसाने की कोई भी व्यवस्था नहीं है। सम्भव है कि बहुत से लोग यह मोचें कि मृद्धे स्त्रियों की बेकारी के साथ ही क्यों विशेष गहान्भूति है। किन्तु श्रीमन्, यह कौन नहीं आगता कि जहां पुरुष की गरीबी केवल उसे

इतना ही पतित कर सकती है कि वह भीख मांगने लगे वहां स्त्री की बेकारी और स्त्री की गरीबी क्या नहीं करवाती, यह किसी से छिपा नहीं है। उसके गरीब होने पर किस तरह लोग उसका शोषण करते हैं, किस तरह एक बाजार से दूसरे बाजार में वह बेची जाती है, एक शहर से दूसरे शहर में ही नहीं बल्कि एक देश से दूसरे देश में भी यह नाजायज व्यापार चल रहा है, यह भला किसी से छिपा है? इसके पश्चात् अंत में बृद्धापे में अनेक पापों और अनेक बीमारियों का बोझा लेकर उसे दर दर भीख मांगनी पड़ती है, यह भी हम लोग प्रत्यक्ष रूप से देखते हैं। आज हिन्दुस्तान में भिखारियों की संख्या १ करोड़, १ लाख, ४१ हजार ७८८ है। भीख मांग कर, आधे पेट खाना खा कर भी ये बहनें गुंडों के जुलम और ज्यादाती से नहीं बच पाती हैं और बहुत सी गरीब बहनों को बच्चों की चोरी और गांजा तथा भांग आदि के व्यापार में गुंडों का खिलौना बनना पड़ता है। यदि आप केवल उत्तर भारत की फालेन सिस्टर्स (fallen sisters) की संख्या ही मुनंगे तो आश्चर्यचकित हो जायेंगे। केवल उत्तर भारत में ही १ लाख ३३ हजार ३३२ फालेन सिस्टर्स हैं और यह कौन नहीं जानता कि केवल गरीबी और बेकारी का शिवार बन कर ही ये बेचारी बहनें इस दशा को पहुंच गई हैं। अभी एक हफ्ते पहले टिहरी-गढ़वाल से ७५ नई बहनों के आने की सूचना पा कर राजमाता जी को लेकर जब मैं उनसे मिलने के लिये गई तो उन सब बहनों ने एक स्वर से यह कहा कि हमें और कुछ नहीं चाहिये सिर्फ इस चंगुल से छड़ा दो और कम से कम दो रुपये रोज की मजदूरी दिलवाने का प्रबन्ध कर दो तो हम सब ७५ की ७५ चलने को तैयार हैं। सभी के मन में यह प्रश्न उठा था कि क्यों नहीं उन बहनों को आश्रमों में रख दिया जाय जो कि आजकल इसके लिये

Shrimati Savitry Nigam]

मौजूद है किन्तु उन्होंने साफ इन्कार कर दिया कि हम आश्रमों में नहीं जायेगी क्योंकि वहाँ भी मार खा खा कर और घुड़कियाँ खा खा कर बहने पड़ी रहती हैं और उनको उचित और अनुचित आदमियों के साथ मौदा करना पड़ता है और तब भी हमारी वही हालत होगी जो कि अब होती है। इसलिये यदि फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर साहब मेरा सुझाव मान ले तो मुझे विश्वास है कि देश की लाखों बहनों की रक्षा हो सकती है और साथ ही साथ ऐसे अत्याचार और ऐसे अनाचार जो आज कल चल रहे हैं वे भी बन्द किये जा सकते हैं। वह सुझाव यह है कि हर शहर में ऐसे सेमी गवर्नमेंट वीमेन इंडस्ट्रियल होम्स (Semi-Government women industrial homes) बना दिये जा जिनके साथ में नाईट स्कूल (night school) भी हो और जिसमें ऐसी कोई फैक्ट्री (factory) भी खोली जाय जिस के अन्दर बहनें दिन में काम करके अपने होस्टल (hostel) का खर्च, यानी खाने पीने आदि का खर्च, कमा सकें और रात में शिक्षा प्राप्त कर सकें। जो शिक्षा उन्हें दी जाय वह ऐसी शिक्षा नहीं दी जानी चाहिये कि एक टीचर (teacher) बैठ गये और सौ या दो सौ लड़कों लड़कियों को पढ़ान लगे। उनकी शिक्षा ढग से होनी चाहिये और उनको परीक्षाओं में बैठाया जाय और उन को सेल्फ सपोर्टिंग (self-supporting) बनाया जाय। इस सम्बन्ध में यह विशेष रूप से ध्यान रखने की आवश्यकता है कि वे भी विधवाश्रमों तथा और आश्रमों की तरह अनाचार के अड्डे न बन जाएं। इसके अतिरिक्त आजकल जिस तरह के इंडस्ट्रियल सेटर्स (centres) खुले हुये हैं या जितने भी गवर्नमेंट ने इंडस्ट्रियल स्कूल खोले हैं उनमें यह है कि आठ आना या एक रुपया

गाम तौर से मजदूरी मिलती है जिसका नतीजा यह होता है कि उनका एक्सप्लाय-टेशन (exploitation) वहाँ भी होता है। इसलिये इस बात का ध्यान रखा जाय कि वहाँ कोई भी ऐसी इंडस्ट्री न खोली जाय जिसमें कि उनको दो रुपये या ढाई रुपये रोज से कम मिले। उनको दो या ढाई रुपये से ज्यादा का काम रोज दिया जाय तभी कुछ लाभ हो सकता है। दूसरी बात यह ध्यान में रखी जाय कि चपरासी से ले कर डाइरेक्टर (director) तक, मैनेजमेंट (management) में जो भी हो, सब में स्त्रियों को ही रखा जाय।

SHRI T. PANDE.

श्री टी० पाण्डे. यह कैसे संभव है आजकल तो समानता है।

SHRIMATI SAVITRY NIGAM:

श्रीमती सावित्री निगम. इसके अतिरिक्त यह नियम हो जाय कि जब तक कोई लड़की या स्त्री सेल्फ सपोर्टिंग न हो जाय तब तक उसका विवाह न किया जाय। विधवाश्रम आदि जो हैं उनमें भी यही नियम हो जाना चाहिये और इन इंडस्ट्रियल होम्स में तो यह खास तौर पर ध्यान में रखा जाय। इसके अतिरिक्त यह भी ध्यान रखना बहुत जरूरी है कि ऐसी इंडस्ट्रीज इस्टैब्लिश (establish) की जाय जो बहुत ज्यादा पेइंग (paying) हो। जैसे कि अलमूनियम की इंडस्ट्री है या सेल्यूलोइड (celluloid) के खिलौने बनाने की इंडस्ट्री है जिसमें कि दुगना या तिगुना प्राफिट (profit) होता है उनको खोला जाय। इससे इन होम्स का भी कोई नुकसान नहीं होगा और वहाँ की औरतों को दो या तीन रुपये मजदूरी भी मिल जायेगी। इसके अतिरिक्त इन होम्स को चलाने का एक बहुत अच्छा तरीका यह है कि दो या तीन इंडस्ट्रीज को मानो पोलाइज (monopolise) कर दिया

जाय कि यह दो तीन इंडस्ट्री सिर्फ इन होम्स में ही चलेंगी तो इन होम्स को कभी भी लास (loss) नहीं हो सकेगा। संभव है कि मिनिस्टर महोदय यह कहें कि यह तो काटेज इंडस्ट्रीज (cottage industries) विभाग का काम है लेकिन मैं कहूंगी कि हर एक काम को प्रारम्भ करने में सब से बड़ी बाधा धन की ही होती है। इसलिये यदि फाइनेस मिनिस्टर चाहेंगे तो इस काम में रुपया दे सकेंगे। इसके अतिरिक्त भिखारियों और पंगु बहनों के लिये भी पूअर हाउसेस (poor houses) होने चाहियें। आजकल जो मजदूर पूअर हाउसेस में उनकी हालत बहुत ही खराब है और उनकी हालत बराबर गिर रही है, सुधर नहीं रही है।

इस के अतिरिक्त मैं एक बात और कहना चाहती हूँ। वह यह है कि कुरीतियों के कारण और अविवेकी पतियों के द्वारा जो बहनें छोड़ दी गई हैं या जिनके पति या रिश्तेदार मर गये हैं वे भी भिखारियों का सा जीवन व्यतीत कर रही हैं। बहुत संभव है कि आप पूछें कि इसका क्या कारण है। इसका कारण यह है कि हमारा यहां का कानून ऐसा है कि जब वे मेन्टेनेंस (Maintenance) के लिये दावा करना चाहती हैं तो मान लीजिये कि उनको दो सौ रुपये महीने के मेन्टेनेंस की दरखास्त देनी है तो दस साल का जिनना मेन्टेनेंस एलाउंस (allowance) होगा उस धन के ऊपर जो कोर्ट फीस (court fee) लगती है वह उन्हें कोर्ट में देनी होगी। उन्हें इतना अधिक रुपया कोर्ट फीस का जमा करना पड़ना है कि वे दावा कर नहीं पातीं। आप ही बताइये कि मिवाय कुछ रईस स्त्रियों के और कौन इस कानून का लाभ उठा सकती हैं। जो गरीब स्त्रियां हैं वह कहां से धन लायें और इंसाफ की मांग करें। इसलिये मैं ला मिनिस्टर साहब से अनुरोध करूंगी कि वह ऐसा नियम बना दें कि ऐसी बहनों के

केसेज (cases) कोर्ट में पापर केसेज (pauper cases) की तरह लिये जायें और उनको मेन्टेनेंस दिलाया जाय। आज भी हमको बहुत ऐसी मिसालें मिल जायेंगी कि बहुत सी स्त्रियां ऐसी हैं जिनके पति करोड़पति और लखपति हैं उनको भी एक पैसा मेन्टेनेंस का नहीं मिल रहा है क्योंकि वे यदि मेन्टेनेंस एलाउंस मांगती हैं तो कोर्ट फीस इतनी ज्यादा लम्बी है कि वह दे नहीं पाती। इसलिये मेरी प्रार्थना है कि ला मिनिस्टर साहब कोई ऐसा प्रबन्ध कर दें कि उनके केसेज कोर्ट में लिये जा सकें और उनको मेन्टेनेंस एलाउंस मिल जाय।

(Time bell rings.)

बैसे तो मैं दो एक बातें और कहना चाहती थी परन्तु चूँकि आपकी घंटी बज रही है, इसलिये मैं यही खत्म करती हूँ। धन्यवाद।

[For English translation see Appendix IV, Annexure No. 130.]

DR. ANUP SINGH (Punjab): Mr. Deputy Chairman, at this late stage I intervene in this debate just to make a few observations. I shall confine myself to two or three items at the most. I am fully aware that I will not be able to substantiate any of the points that I shall be submitting, and the statements may, therefore, appear too general or categorical; but I can assure the House that they are the results of a good deal of thought and reflection.

A word about the Five Year Plan about which so much has been said. Mr. Rama Rao has just told us that so much is being made of corruption and irregularities. A gentleman from the opposite side has said that there was much more than is being talked about. Well, I will not go into the problem of corruption or irregularities, except to say what I have already

[Dr. Anup Singh.]

said, that there is a great deal of discontent and disillusionment among the people. They do not have the enthusiasm for the Five Year Plan that they should have, and I think one of the reasons for this is lack of knowledge. We have produced bulky volumes, one after the other in great rapidity; but if you go to small towns and villages and ask the people what do they know about it, I think you will be surprised to find that there is complete ignorance. Once again, let me repeat that I speak from my personal knowledge of the Punjab. I would like to make one or two suggestions. The basic principles and some of the items of the Five Year Plan should be circularised among the people in their own languages and in very small, simple pamphlets, put in simple language. And I think the provincial radios should also be utilised. Here, I would like to make an observation on the Hindi language which I hope will not hurt the susceptibilities of the purists. I think one of the difficulties that we, who are not well-versed in Hindi, find in the radio broadcasts is that invariably the announcer is trying to impress upon us with his literary knowledge of Hindi and his vast vocabulary. In other countries—and I happen to have travelled a good deal—the radio language is the simplest so that everyone could understand it. I would, therefore, request the Central Government and the Provincial Governments to try to broadcast these facts and their programmes in as simple a language as possible.

Now a word about the linguistic provinces which has also a very direct bearing upon my own province of Punjab. I am quite sure that hon. Members realise that a certain section of the Punjabi community has launched a very vigorous and at times a very bitter campaign for a Punjabi-speaking province; and there is no use hiding the fact that in some sections at least, the movement is gaining ground. Unfortunately the impression has been created by interested parties

that the Central Government is somehow prejudiced against the Punjabi-speaking province, that they have been yielding to the establishment of an Andhra State and will probably shortly yield to the establishment of a Karnataka State, but that because Punjab happens to be near the border, the Centre somehow feels very reluctant to concede the claim for a Punjabi-speaking province. I would like to make a suggestion which I think is constructive. If a statement could be issued from the Centre in some context or at some suitable opportunity to the effect that if and when the Centre decides ultimately to establish all the linguistic provinces and finds that they are desirable and feasible, then Punjab will be treated on the same basis as any other province. If such a statement is issued, I think that will remove a good deal of the misunderstanding which is being exploited by those people who are out to embarrass the Central Government.

Now, a word about the displaced persons and, particularly, the compensation to the displaced persons. Most of the people in Punjab are affected and that is one problem about which our own people come to us as their representatives. One thing that they like to know is: Has the Central Government made up its mind to make some contribution towards the pool of compensation? I see in the papers that the Finance Minister made some reference to it the other day in the House in which he said that it can be conceded that the compensation is also part of rehabilitation. Now, the people in Punjab say, I know that they are not so unreasonable as to think that the Central Government should make a very large contribution out of proportion to its resources and at the risk of jeopardising, let us say, the Five Year Plan, but they do want to know whether there is going to be some contribution or not. Secondly, they are very anxious that it should be expedited. I know of a dozen cases which have come to my own personal knowledge where everyone says that he would much rather accept 30 or

40 per cent. of what is coming to him in six months or a year because he is so hard up and everything is being tied up that he will be quite satisfied to accept a small contribution now, as early as possible and I wish, Sir, that—although the matter is under active consideration of the Centre and I presume it is coming up very soon—no time is wasted in clearing up some of these misunderstandings. I think that would create a healthy atmosphere all round.

BEGAM AIZAZ RASUL (Uttar Pradesh):

بیگم ایاز رسول (اُتر پردیش) :

جناب ذہنی چھرمین صاحب - میں بہت مشکور ہوں کہ ایسے وقت میں اس بل پر مجھے اپنے خیالات کا اظہار کرنے کا آپ نے موقع دیا۔ پچھلے تین دنوں میں فیڈانٹس بل کے اوپر اس ہاؤس میں مختلف میمبران نے تقریریں کی ہیں اور قریباً تمام موضوعات پر انہوں نے اپنے خیالات کا اظہار کیا ہے۔ چونکہ وقت کم ہے اور میں یہ بھر نہیں چاہتی کہ ان چیزوں کو دھراؤں جو کہ یہاں پہلے کہی جا چکی ہیں اس لئے میں صرف دو تین باتوں کے اوپر اپنے خیالات کو محدود رکھوں گی۔

سب سے پہلی چیز جو میں جناب کے ذریعہ سے گورنمنٹ کے سامنے رکھنا چاہتی ہوں وہ ایک سنجیشن (suggestion) ہے اور وہ یہ ہے کہ ہماری گورنمنٹ کو چاہیئے کہ وہ جلد سے جلد ایک کمپلسری ایشورنس

(compulsory insurance scheme) بنائے جس کے ماتحت (local bodies) کی لوکل باتیز کے اور ایڈیڈ انسٹی ٹیوٹس (aided institutions) کے جتنے ملازمین ہیں ان سب کو شامل کیا جائے۔ اس وقت جو حالت ہے وہ یہ ہے کہ پروونسز (Provinces) میں لوکل باتیز کے جتنے ملازمین ہیں وہ ایک آنہ فی روپیہ اپنی کمپنیاؤں سے پروویڈنٹ فنڈ (provident fund) کے لئے دیتے ہیں جو کہ جمع ہوتا ہے اور جب وہ ریٹائر (retire) ہو جاتے ہیں تو وہ ان کو مل جاتا ہے۔ میں اس وقت جو سنجیشن رکھ رہی ہوں وہ یہ ہے کہ اسٹیٹ ایمپلائز (State employees) کو بھی اس سکیم میں شامل کیا جائے اور مرکزی گورنمنٹ کے ماتحت جتنے صوبہ جات ہیں ان میں بھی یہ سکیم رائج کر جائے۔ اس سے گورنمنٹ کا اور ملازمین دونوں فائدہ ہے۔ اس وقت جو اسٹیٹ کے ملازمین ہیں وہ کوئی کانٹریبیوشن (contribution) پروویڈنٹ فنڈ کے لئے نہیں کرتے کیونکہ ان کی پینشن ہوتی ہے۔ لیکن اگر ایک آنہ فی روپیہ کے حساب سے پروویڈنٹ فنڈ کٹے گا تو گورنمنٹ کو اس طریقہ سے فائدہ ہوگا کہ گورنمنٹ کو بہت سا روپیہ اپنے کپیٹل ایکسپینڈیچر (capital expenditure) پر خرچ کرنے کے لئے مل جائے گا اور ملازمین کو یہ

[Begam Aizaz Rasul.]

فائدہ ہوگا کہ بچت ہوگی - اول تو مجبوری اور دوسرے فرض کیجئے کہ وہ مر جائے تو اس کے متعلقین کے لئے کچھ ہے کچھ روپیہ مل سکے گا اور اس طرح سے اسے اپنے بال بچوں کے لئے اور اپنے وارثوں کے لئے اطمینان ہوگا کہ ان کا انتظام اس کے پیچھے ہو جائے گا - دوسری بات یہ بھی ہے کہ اس وقت انشورنس کمپنیز (insurance companies) میں جو لوگ اپنی زندگیوں کا بیمہ کراتے ہیں اس کے مقابلہ میں اگر گورنمنٹ کی انشورنس اسکیم ہوگی تو اس میں ایمپلائے (employee) کو بہت زیادہ فائدہ ہوگا - کیونکہ قریب ۲۰ فیصدی کے حساب سے ان کی بچت ہو جائے گی جو کہ انہیں ڈاکٹری معائنے وغیرہ کے لئے دینا پڑتا ہے اور اکثر جو رقمیں lapse ہو جاتی ہیں اس کا بھی امکان نہیں رہے گا - اور میں سمجھتی ہوں کہ یہ ایسی چیز ہے جو کہ ملک کے مڈل کلاس (middle class) نے لوگوں کی حالت کو سدھارنے کے لئے ایک بہت ہی مفید چیز ثابت ہوگی - اس وقت سنٹرل گورنمنٹ کا پے بل (pay Bill) ملازمین کو تنخواہیں دینے کے لئے قریب ۲۵ کروڑ کا ہے - اور اسٹیٹ گورنمنٹس اور سنٹرل گورنمنٹ دونوں کو مل کر اگر اس پے بل کا تخمینہ لگایا جائے تو وہ قریب آٹھ سو کروڑ کا آتا ہے

اس لئے آنریبل ممبران اندازہ کر سکتے ہیں کہ اس طرح کتنا روپیہ حاصل ہوگا اور وہ کتنے مفید کاموں میں خرچ ہو سکتا ہے - اس کے ذریعہ سے انشورنس کا نیشنلائزیشن (nationalisation) بھی ہو سکے گا - جو گورنمنٹ کی بھی پالیسی ہے اور ملک میں بھی مبالغہ ہے - اس لئے میں امید کرتی ہوں کہ اس چیز کی صرف ضرور غور کیا جائے گا -

دوسری بات جسکی طرف میں دھیان دلانا چاہتی ہوں وہ یونیورسٹیز کے گرانٹس کمیشن کی بابت ہے جس کے متعلق آنریبل ڈاکٹر گزرو نے بھی اپنے خیالات کا اظہار کیا ہے اور دوسرے مختلف ذرائع سے بھی ہم سن رہے ہیں کہ اس چیز کے اوپر غور کیا جا رہا ہے - ایجوکیشن منسٹر صاحب نے ایک بل پیش کرنے کا ارادہ ظاہر کیا تھا جس کا مقصد یہ تھا کہ ہماری یونیورسٹی کی ایجوکیشن میں زیادہ تر یونیفارمیٹی (uniformity of standard) ہو - اس بل کے متعلق بہت رائے زنی ہو چکی ہے - ایجوکیشن بورڈ نے اپنی رائے دی ہے اور وائس چانسلرز کی میٹنگ جو ابھی ہوئی تھی اس نے بھی اپنی رائے دی ہے لیکن مجھے افسوس ہے کہ انہوں نے چند وجوہات کی بناء پر اسکی بہت

مخالفت کی ہے میں سمجھتی ہوں کہ یہ ضروری ہے کہ ایسا کوئی نہ کوئی قانون مرتب کیا جائے جس کے ذریعے سے ہماری یونیورسٹیوں میں ایک یونیفارم اسٹیلنڈرڈ کو قائم کیا جائے اور یہ چیز لازمی کی جائے کہ اگر ہمارے اسٹوڈنٹس (students) کا اسٹیلنڈرڈ اس اسٹیلنڈرڈ سے کم ہے یا کسی یونیورسٹی میں تعلیم کا اسٹیلنڈرڈ اتنا نہیں ہے جس کو کہ بل کے ذریعے سے مناسب سمجھا جائے تو ان کو پبلک سروس (public service) کے لئے کامپٹیٹیو ایکزامینیشنس (competitive examinations) میں بیٹھنے کی اجازت نہیں ہونی چاہئے۔ رادھا کرشنن کمیٹی نے بھی ان تمام چیزوں پر غور کر کے اپنی رپورٹ دی تھی لیکن روپیہ کی کمی کی وجہ سے اس میں جو سمجھش رکھے گئے ہیں ان کو ہم عملی جامہ نہیں پہنا سکتے اس بارے میں میں ایک بات سے بالکل اتفاق نہیں کرتی ہوں کہ یہاں بھی پورٹس یونیورسٹی گرانٹ کمیشن کی طرح ایک یونیورسٹی گرانٹ کمیشن بنایا جائے اور اسی کے ذریعے سے یہ سب سوالات طے کئے جائیں یہ کہاں تک تھیک ہے انگلستان میں گرانٹ کمیشن کو جو روپیہ ملتا ہے وہ تمام گورنمنٹ کی طرف سے مہیا ہوتا ہے۔ تو آپ کو معلوم ہوگا کہ اس وقت انگلستان میں ۲۳ یونیورسٹیز

ہیں اور کمیشن کو سنہ ۱۹۵۲-۵۳ میں ۲۳۰۳ ملین پونڈ کی گرانٹ دی گئی تھی اور ۷۵ ہزار پونڈ کا لون (loan) تھا جو کہ نان ریکرننگ (non-recurring) تھا اور ۶۷ ہزار روپیہ اسکالرشپ کا تھا۔

[The Vice-Chairman (Shri K. S. Hegde) in the Chair.]

تو اس سے آپ اندازہ لگا سکتے ہیں کہ ۲۳ یونیورسٹیز کے لئے کتنا روپیہ تھا۔ کیا ہماری سنٹرل گورنمنٹ اتنا روپیہ خرچ کر سکتی ہے؟ ہمارے ملک میں ۳۰ یونیورسٹیز ہیں اور ان میں سے صرف ۴ سنٹرل یونیورسٹیز ہیں اور ان کے اوپر سنٹرل گورنمنٹ روپیہ خرچ کرتی ہے اب سوچنے کی بات یہ ہے کہ انگلستان میں پانچ کروڑ کی آبادی کے لئے ۲۳ یونیورسٹیز ہیں اور ہمارے یہاں ۳۶ کروڑ کی آبادی کے لئے ۳۰ یونیورسٹیز ہیں۔ تو یہ کہنا کہ ہلدوستان کے لئے بھی یونیورسٹیز گرانٹ کمیشن بنایا جائے اور جتنا روپیہ یونیورسٹیز کے متعلق دینا ہو وہ اسکو دے دینا جائے اور وہ اسکو طے کرے کہ کس طرح خرچ کیا جائے کس طرح سے مناسب ہوگا کیونکہ ۳۰ یونیورسٹیز میں ۲۴ یونیورسٹیز سنٹرل گورنمنٹ کی ہیں باقی ۲۶ یونیورسٹیز اسٹیٹ گورنمنٹس کی ایڈ (aid) سے چل رہی ہیں۔ تو پھر اسٹیٹس کس طرح سے چاہیں گی کہ اس گرانٹس کمیشن کا زیادہ سے زیادہ

[Begam Aizaz Rasul.]

داخل ہو - یہ بات مناسب نہیں معلوم ہوتی - اور میں سمجھتی ہوں کہ اس چیز کو ہم لوگوں کو اپنے سامنے ضرور رکھنا چاہیئے جبکہ ہم اس مسئلہ پر غور کریں - اس لئے یہ مناسب ہے کہ سنٹرل گورنمنٹ کی طرف سے کوئی ایسا ^{ٹھکانہ} مرتب ہو جس میں یہ کنڈیشن (condition) لگائی جائے کہ کیا کیا اسٹینڈرٹس یونیورسٹیز کے لئے قائم کئے جاتے ہیں اور ان کے اوپر چلنے کی یونیورسٹیز زیادہ سے زیادہ کوشش کریں -

عورتوں کی ایجوکیشن کے متعلق بھی میں عرض کرنا چاہتی ہوں کہ گرلس ایجوکیشن کے لئے زیادہ سے زیادہ روپیہ ہونا چاہیئے - جو روپیہ اس وقت گرلس ایجوکیشن کے لئے مل رہا ہے وہ بالکل ہی نامناسب ہے اور ناکافی ہے - ایک طرح سے وہ نہیں کے برابر ہے - اس کے متعلق ملک کی جو ضرورتیں ہیں ان کو دیکھتے ہوئے روپیہ دیا جانا چاہیئے - اس سلسلہ میں مجھے کہنا ہے کہ یہاں دہلی میں جو لیدی ارون کالج (Lady Irwin College) ہے وہ اپنی طرح کا ملک میں ایک ہی انسٹیٹیوشن ہے - اس میں بی اے کلاسز کھولی گئیں جس کے لئے کہ سنٹرل گورنمنٹ تین سال سے روپیہ دے رہی تھی - لیکن اب اس انسٹیٹیوشن سے کہا جا رہا ہے

کہ ہم گرانٹ بند کرینگے - اور آئندہ کے لئے تم اپنا انتظام خود کرو - میرے خیال میں یہ اس کالج پر بہت سختی ہے اور میں امید کرتی ہوں کہ گورنمنٹ اس چیز پر مزید غور کریگی - اگر آپ اپنے دو سال کے لئے اس انسٹیٹیوشن کو روپیہ دے دیا تو بہت ہی اچھا ہوگا - کالج کے منتظمین چاہتے ہیں کہ بی-اے کلاس کی لڑکیوں کے لئے ایک ہوسٹل (hostel) بنایا جائے اور اس کے لئے انہوں نے گورنمنٹ سے روپیہ کی مانگ بھی کی ہے - مجھے امید ہے کہ گورنمنٹ ان کی اس مانگ پر ضرور غور کریگی - لڑکیوں کی تعلیم اور خاص کر وہ تعلیم جو اس انسٹیٹیوشن کے ذریعہ سے خاص طریقہ سے دی جا رہی ہے وہ بہت ہی اہم ہے - آرٹ سائنس اور دوسری چیزوں کو پڑھانا ہماری لڑکیوں کے لئے بہت ضروری ہے - تو اس انسٹیٹیوشن کو اچلانے کے لئے ہماری گورنمنٹ کو ضرور روپیہ دینا چاہیئے - تیس لاکھ روپیہ میں ۳۲ لڑکیوں کے لئے ایک ہوسٹل تیار ہو سکتا ہے اور وہ لوگ یہ چاہتے ہیں کہ اگر ساڑھے تین لاکھ روپیہ مل جائے تو ۵۶ لڑکیوں کے لئے دھلے کا ایک ہوسٹل بن سکتا ہے - میں امید کرتی ہوں کہ گورنمنٹ اس چیز پر ضرور غور کریگی -

ایک بات میں گورنمنٹ سے دریافت کرنا چاہتی ہوں وہ یہ ہے

کہ میں نے سنا ہے کہ مرکزی گورنمنٹ
یو۔ پی۔ گورنمنٹ کو ۱۵ کروڑ روپیہ
بائنچ سال کے لئے تین کروڑ روپیہ کے
حساب سے دیئے والی ہے۔ میں
دریافت کرنا چاہتی ہوں کہ کیا یہ
بات صحیح ہے۔ اگر یہ بات صحیح
ہے تو کیا یہ رقم کسی خاص سکیم
کے لئے یعنی دھند قدیم وغیرہ کے لئے
دی جا رہی ہے یا ہماری گورنمنٹ
جس طرح سے چاہے اسے خرچ کر سکتی
ہے۔

جناب والا۔ دو تین باتیں میں
آپ کی خدمت میں اور کہنا چاہتی
ہوں۔ مجھے اس بل میں یہ دیکھ کر
خوشی ہوئی ہے کہ ہمارے فائننس
منسٹر صاحب نے دوائیوں اور دوا
پر مثلاً پیلسلین اور سلفر ڈرگ پر
دیوتی کم کر دی ہے۔ ہمارے ملک
کی آبادی زیادہ تر غریب لوگوں کی ہے
اور بہت کم لوگ اس قسم کی
قیمتی دواؤں کو اپنے علاج کرانے کے
لئے خرید سکتے ہیں۔ ہماری گورنمنٹ
کا مدعا ویلفیئر اسٹیٹ بنانے کا ہے
اور ہم چاہتے ہیں کہ زیادہ سے زیادہ
لوگوں کو مفت علاج مہیا کیا جائے
مگر ہم ایسا نہیں کر سکتے ہیں
کیونکہ ہمارے پاس اتنا روپیہ نہیں کہ
ہم اپنے لوگوں کا مفت علاج کر سکیں۔ تو
میری سرکار سے درخواست یہ ہے کہ
ہماری کوشش یہ ہونی چاہیئے کہ کم
سے کم دواؤں پر ان دوائیوں کو جلتا کو

دے سکیں۔ یہاں دواؤں کی قیمت اتنی
زیادہ ہے کہ معمولی حیثیت کے درجہ
کے لوگوں کے لئے اور کبھی بڑے بڑے
لوگوں کے لئے بھی خریدنا ناممکن ہو
جاتا ہے۔ اوسط درجہ کے لوگوں کا تو
کہنا ہی کیا ہے۔ آج معمولی آدمی
ایدا علاج کرانے میں بہت دقت
محسوس کرتا ہے۔ اس لئے ہماری
کوشش یہ ہونی چاہئے کہ دواؤں کے
دام کم سے کم ہونے چاہئیں۔ جناب
والا اس سلسلہ میں میں یہ ضرور
کہونگی کہ آج کل ملک کے اندر جو
نقلی دوائیں تیار کی جا رہی ہیں
ان کی تعداد بہت بڑھ گئی ہے۔ اس
سے لوگوں کی صحت پر بہت برا اثر
پڑتا ہے۔ ہماری سرکار کو اس چیز کو
روکنے کے لئے زبردست کارروائی کرنی
چاہیئے۔ اس کو اس بات کے لئے قدم
اٹھانا چاہئے کہ نقلی دوائیں کوئی نہ
بلا پاور اور نہ کوئی فروخت کرنے
پاور۔ آج کل ان نقلی دواؤں کو غریب
لوگ کم داموں میں بازار سے خرید
لئے ہیں جس سے ان کی صحت پر
صحت نقصان پہنچتا ہے۔

میں صرف ایک بات اور عرض
کرنا چاہوں گی وہ ہے ان ایمپلائمنٹ
(unemployment) کے بارے میں
اس ہاؤس میں فائننس بل کے سلسلہ
میں اور بجٹ کے سلسلے میں۔
بھی اس بارے میں بہت سی
باتیں کہی جا چکی ہیں۔ مجھے
اس میں کچھ زیادہ کہنے کی ضرورت

[Begam Aizaz Rasul.]

نہیں ہے - مگر میں یہ ضرور سمجھتی ہوں کہ ہمارے لئے یہ بہت ہی اہم مسئلہ ہے - اس مشکل کو حل کرنے کے لئے سرکار کو جلد ہی کوئی نہ کوئی صورت نکالنی چاہئے - جس سے کہ ہمارے تعلیم یافتہ لوگوں میں جو بے روزگاری بڑھتی چلی جا رہی ہے - وہ دور ہو سکے اور ان کے دماغ میں جو ایک فرسٹریشن (frustration) کی حالت پیدا ہو گئی ہے وہ نکل سکے - ان کو روزی کمانے کا موقع دیا جانا چاہئے تاکہ وہ دماغی اطمینان کے ساتھ اپنی زندگی گزار سکیں اور ملک کی بھی خدمت کرنے کا جذبہ اپنے میں پیدا کر سکیں کیونکہ اقتصادی اطمینان کے ساتھ ہی اس طرح کے جذبات پیدا ہو سکتے ہیں -

[For English translation see Appendix IV, Annexure No. 131.]

SHRI RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, our Finance Minister in the Lower House has stated that there is general improvement in the economic condition all over the country and he has further stated, Sir, that even the cost of living has fallen in almost every State except in Bombay.

Sir, the hon. Finance Minister is obviously wrong in his utterance so far as Madras State is concerned. In South India the cost of living has been steadily rising in recent months and in February this year, Sir, there was the record increase by 24 points. It has come up to 351, probably a record in the history of Madras State. Sir, I do not know whether the hon. Finance Minister has looked into the latest statistics with regard to the

living index among the working classes in the Madras State, or, probably it was to his taste to have omitted to look into it. I fear that the Central Government has not paid that much attention that the Madras State requires. It is the feeling amongst the Members belonging to the Madras State that Madras State has not been properly cared for by the Centre, and that the cry of the South for help has been completely ignored. In fact I may make bold to say that there was not even a prompt response from this Government when a representation was made by very many Members belonging to the Madras State that Madras needs immediate help by way of financial accommodation in the matter of helping the famine-stricken areas of Madras State. Nothing will convince the people of the South unless they are made to feel that they are not forgotten, that their miseries are noted and sympathised with and that quick response comes from the Centre. I would only urge that at least a fraction of the money that is being spent on Kashmir be given to the Madras State. Sir, a sum of Rs. 10 crores has been given as a grant—I can use a more appropriate word, Sir—as a gift to the Kashmir State for development purposes under the Five Year Plan. But so far as Madras is concerned, where there was such a hue and cry, wherefrom representations were made that the State is suffering and that her coffers are empty, nothing concrete happened: And what was the result? A glorious sum of Rs. 2 crores had been given not as a grant but as a loan and a sum of Rs. 48,00,000 had been paid towards half the cost of gratuitous relief. That is not the thing, Sir, that we expected. We would only request that at least a fraction of the amount that is spent on Kashmir, on the slippery State of Kashmir, be diverted for the grief-stricken and the misery-stricken people of the State of Madras. There is also another grievance, Sir, that the Ministers are not making frequent visits to the South. It has been alleged in the Lower House by the hon. the Finance Minister that there was not enough information

about the actual conditions in the South. I would only request the hon. the Finance Minister or the Deputy Minister for Finance to make a trip to the South and see the conditions there. Unless that is done, Sir, I do not think a real picture of it would appear before the Central Government. What more is required, Sir, than the representations of almost all the Members belonging to the Madras State that the State is in very great danger? I would once again urge that the Union Government should come forward and advance money to facilitate the economic development and completion of the major irrigation and hydro-electric works undertaken in the State of Madras. These works are in no way different from the great dams of Bhakra, Nangal and Hirakud or the Damodar Valley project. The State Government has invested about Rs. 75 crores since the last war and it is essential that these works are speedily completed for the economy of the South and the welfare of her people.

Due to the continuous failure of monsoon there is enormous electric cut in the Madras State. We are getting only 15 per cent. of the current that we were getting before. The agriculturists are not able to raise any crops. In fact, they had to switch on to the purchase of oil engines and for that they had to invest Rs. 3,000 to Rs. 4,000. They are not able to find that money and they look to the Government for help, but no help is forthcoming from Government. It has been repeatedly urged that more thermal stations should be installed in the South, because the meagre supply of current that we get either from Mettur or from Pykara is not sufficient for Madras State. Thermal stations are being installed here, there and everywhere, but nothing in Madras State. Unless more thermal stations are installed, the entire agricultural economy of the State would come to a standstill. My friend has been urging, Sir, that so far as industry is concerned, there has been an enormous set-back due to the failure of the monsoon and the consequent electric cut. My friend has not touched upon the

point how it is affecting the agriculturists and on behalf of the agriculturists of the State, Sir, I may state with boldness that agriculture is at a standstill in Madras State, at any rate, in such regions which have been supplied with electric power. And even the scanty supply we get, we get at about 12 at midnight. And do you expect the agriculturists to do any sort of cultivation at midnight?

Then I would, on this occasion, state something about the rivers. It may concern only two districts in Madras State, that is, Chingleput and North Arcot. Almost all the important rivers that flow into the Tamil districts take their origin from Mysore. Sir, about 50 or 60 years back there was a dam constructed by the Mysore Government right across the river Palar and two huge reservoirs have been constructed so much so that river Palar that had been getting perennial supply of water has been completely dammed with the result that these two districts of North Arcot and Chingleput are completely starved. Repeated representations have been made to the Centre. Recently a memorandum was also submitted to the Prime Minister by some of the members of the Legislative Assembly of Madras—some of the members coming from the two districts and also by some Members of Parliament belonging to that region. But nothing yet has taken shape. Sir, it is a legitimate right that we demand. It is not a question of riparian ownership. It is a question of principles of natural justice that the people of the two districts and of Madras State demand from the Mysore Government. Members coming from Mysore have been saying that there is this question of Mahad and all that. And what is it that the Mysore Government has done? The Mysore Government has been playing this kind of obstructive tactics so far as the water in the rivers that take their origin from the Mysore State is concerned. They have been constructing dams after dams and obstructing the water that should legitimately be flowing into the rivers of Madras. Sir, this has happened when Mysore was directly under the

[Shri Rajagopal Naidu.]

bureaucratic Government. Now Mysore has been integrated into the Union and it is now time that we demand that these two reservoirs that had been constructed right across the river Palar be blown up and the water allowed to flow freely as before.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Pardon my interruption, Sir. I should like to correct the hon. Member that the distance between the dam and the two districts is over 300 miles; and the dam is at the very source of the river. It is a very small dam.

SHRI RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: My friend is obviously wrong. Evidently he is not fully familiar with the topography. The distance between my district and the dam is only 30 miles and not 300 miles. And I wish to correct my friend.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN: Order, order.

SHRI RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Sir, I am running against time. I would like to say one thing. Whatever reforms that come, it only affects the villagers. I am not talking about the goodness or the badness of the land reforms proposed by Government. I only urge this. Why is it that Government has not touched the pockets of the multi-millionaires living in urban areas? What is it that the Government has done to see that the man, having 50 buildings and 60 buildings in an urban area when he needs only one building which is enough for his living, gives up those extra buildings, so that they may be distributed to the homeless poor; or to see that a man owning 20 or 30 industries is made to distribute them to those who are not having any industry at all? Whatever comes in the way of reform, it affects only the villager, but nothing has been done to touch the pockets of the multi-millionaires who are living in the urban areas.

Now, I would like to say a few words with regard to corruption. Hon.

Members have been saying a lot about corruption.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN: Just two minutes more.

SHRI RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: I shall confine myself within the time. There is one concrete instance in Madras. There was a Revenue official who was found, by a tribunal set up by the Government of Madras, to be guilty of corruption. The tribunal had recommended for his dismissal. The matter went up to the Government of Madras and the Madras Government decided that he should leave the service. He was dismissed. He filed a mercy petition to H.E. the Governor. That was about three years back. The Governor refused to interfere and he was dismissed. This was about two or three years ago. Now what happened. This Government came in and another mercy petition was filed before the Governor. He forwarded it to the Chief Minister and the Chief Minister recommended that this official should be restored. And he has been restored to his old position.

AN HON. MEMBER: With retrospective effect?

SHRI RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Yes, with retrospective effect, with all the rights and privileges as before. This is the sort of thing that the Government is doing, at any rate, the Madras State Government. It is only one of the instances. I would urge upon the hon. Minister to immediately make enquiries with regard to this to see whether what I have stated is correct or not and under what circumstances a case which had been disposed of by one Government was raked up again?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: State Government or the Centre?

SHRI RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: The State Government of Madras. I cannot say that the Centre has no responsibility about this.

Sir, I wanted to say one or two things more, but I do not find time to speak

SHRI K B LALL (Bihar):

श्री के० बी० लाल (बिहार) :
स्थानापन्न सभापति जी, मैं आज हिन्दी में बोलने की कोशिश कर रहा हूँ। यह बात नहीं है कि मैं कभी हिन्दी में नहीं बोला बल्कि इस सदन में पहिले कभी हिन्दी में नहीं बोला था इसलिए कुछ दिक्कत मालूम हो रही है। फिर भी मैंने सोचा कि अगर मेरा समर्थन हिन्दी के लिए सच है तो मुझे इसको महत्व देना ही होगा, इसलिए मैंने आज हिन्दी में बोलने का फैसला किया।

मेरे पास समय बहुत कम है इस समय दो तीन विषयों पर ही आपके सामने कुछ कहना चाहूंगा। मैंने सोचा कि जब मैं बोलने को खड़ा होता हूँ तो रिलेवेंट (relevant) और इरिलेवेंट (irrelevant) का सवाल पैदा हो जाता है। हमारे सामने जो फाइनेंस बिल (Finance Bill) है उसके जरिये सरकार जितने भी टैक्स (tax) लगाती है या और दूसरी कार्रवाई करती है ये सारी बातें इस बिल के दायरे के अन्दर आ जाती हैं। इसलिए मैं इस समय दो तीन ही विषयों पर कहूंगा।

पहली बात जो मुझे कहनी है वह देश में बढ़ती हुई आबादी के विषय में है। यह हमारे लिए एक ऐसी समस्या है जिसकी ओर सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित होना चाहिये। जब तक हम इस समस्या को अच्छी तरह से हल नहीं कर लेंगे तब तक हम अपनी खाने की समस्या को भी हल न कर सकेंगे। इस समय हमारी सरकार का करोड़ों रुपया, अरबों रुपया और स्टर्लिंग बैलेंस (Sterling balance) साफ हो गया है। स्टर्लिंग बैलेंस

खाद्य पदार्थ मगाने में व्यय हो रहे हैं। आप लोग घबराहट से पूछेंगे कि इसका इलाज क्या हो सकता है कि देश की घटती हुई उत्पत्ति दिनो दिन बढ़ती हुई आबादी के साथ कैसे कदम रखे। उत्पत्ति कम करने के क्या क्या उपाय हैं? यह भी हाउस (House) में सुना गया कि आबादी कम करने के लिए मर्दों को स्टेरिलाइज (Sterilise) कर दिया जाय जिससे कि बच्चे कम पैदा हों। किसी ने प्लान्ड पेरेंटहुड प्लानिंग (planned parenthood planning) के बारे में कहा। मगर मेरे दिमाग में ये बातें नहीं आई कि इस तरह के प्लानों से क्या हो सकता है। इस प्लानिंग के ऊपर बड़ी बड़ी किताबें लिखी गई हैं। प्लान्ड पेरेंटहुड के बारे में तो यह होगा कि लोगो को यह विचार करना होगा कि इतनी सन्तान पैदा करनी होगी। कभी कभी तो पति पत्नी में इस बात में झगड़ा हो जायेगा कि पति कहेगा कि मैं लड़का पैदा करूंगा और पत्नी कहेगी कि मैं लड़की पैदा करूंगी। तो इस तरह के प्लानों से हमारा भला होने वाला नहीं है और न इन तरीकों से हम आबादी में किसी तरह की कमी कर सकेंगे।

SHRI S N DWIVEDY (Orissa): A special planning commission.

SHRI K. B. LALL:

श्री के० बी० लाल : मैं आपको सम्मुख दो उपाय रखना चाहता हूँ। इसको तय करने के लिए आपको एक नया दृष्टिकोण अपनाना होगा। हमको इस बात का ख्याल करना होगा कि हम राष्ट्र को किस तरह से मजबूत कर सकते हैं, किस तरह से हमारे देश में आबादी कम हो, इस बात को सही दृष्टिकोण से समझने की हम सब की कोशिश करनी चाहिये। यह प्रश्न आज हमारे लिए एक महत्व का प्रश्न बन गया है और हम सब को

[Shri K. B. Lall.]

इस विषय में गम्भीरता-पूर्वक विचार करना चाहिये। जो बात में आपको बतलाने जा रहा हूँ उसके विषय में आप लोग शायद यह सोचेंगे कि मैं कोई क्रान्तिकारी बात आपके सम्मुख रखने जा रहा हूँ। जो बात में आपके सामने रखना चाहता हूँ वह यह है कि प्राचीन काल से हमारे यहाँ जो सती की प्रथा चली आ रही है क्यों न उसको हम लोग अपना लें, क्यों न उसको जायज करार दे दिया जाय।

दूसरी बात यह है कि अगर हम सती प्रथा को जायज करार दे देते हैं तो हम को "सुसाइड ला" (Suicide Law) में भी सरमिग करना चाहिये जिससे उस को भी जायज बना दिया जाय। आप लोगों के ख्याल में सुसाइड एक बुजदिली की निशानी है मगर मैं इसको एक बहादुरी की निशानी समझता हूँ। जो व्यक्ति सुसाइड करके अपना जीवन दे देता है वह एक बड़ा भारी त्याग करता है। उसके दिल में एक तरह की भावना पैदा होती है जिससे कि वह अपने जीवन को व्यर्थ समझता है और अपनी जीवन की बलि दे देता है। जिस तरह से जापान में लोग हराकिरी करते हैं उसी तरह से आपको सती होने की भी इजाजत दे देनी चाहिये। जापान में जो हराकिरी की प्रथा है उसमें एक भावना निहित है। जिस व्यक्ति में अपने राजा के प्रति, अपने देश के प्रति भक्ति होती है वह हराकिरी करता है। जो व्यक्ति इस तरह की ऊँची भावना को रख कर सुसाइड करता है उसको इसकी इजाजत दे दी जानी चाहिये। इस तरह से आपको आबादी कम करने में मदद मिलेगी।

SHRI S. N. DWIVEDY:

श्री एस० एन० द्विवेदी : पहिले अस्पताल बन्द कर दीजिये।

SHRI K. B. LALL:

श्री के० बी० लाल : मैं पहिले ही कह रहा था कि जो बात में बतलाने जा रहा हूँ उससे आप लोग घबरा जायेंगे। जापान में इसी तरह से लोग सुसाइड करते हैं जिसको कि हराकिरी कहा जाता है मगर इस चीज को यहाँ पर बुरा नहीं माना जाता है।

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY (Mysore):
Is the hon. Member, thinking of it?

SHRI K. B. LALL:

श्री के० बी० लाल : आप लोग फैमिली प्लानिंग (family planning) की बात सोचते हैं जिसमें जाखो रुपया बरबाद हो जाता है मगर कुछ परिणाम नहीं निकलता है। आप यह बात क्यों सोचते हैं कि जो आदमी सुसाइड करता है वह बुजदिल है और अपने बाल बच्चों की परवरिश करने के काबिल नहीं है, इसलिए वह मरने की बात सोचता है। अभी हाल ही में एक आदमी कुतुब मीनार से गिर कर मर गया। क्या वह सुसाइड नहीं था, क्या इस तरह की वारदातों को आप बन्द कर सकते हैं। मैंने अपने विचार आपके सामने रख दिये हैं, शायद आपको ये विचार मजाक के रूप में मालूम होंगे मगर मैं आपसे यही कहना चाहूँगा कि जो आप लोग बड़ी बड़ी प्लानिंग की बात सोचते हैं उससे आप देश की बढ़ती हुई आबादी को रोकने में कामयाब नहीं हो सकते हैं।

दूसरी बात जो मुझे कहनी है वह प्रान्तीयता और साम्प्रदायिकता के प्रोविंशियलिज्म और कम्युनलिज्म (provincialism and communalism) के बारे में है। अभी मैं इस विषय में नहीं जाना चाहता हूँ। मैं अब एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन (administration) के विषय में कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ।

We have declared war against communalism and provincialism. But every moment we are placating provincialists and communalists.

में फिर अंग्रेजी में चला गया इसके लिए मुझे क्षमा करेंगे। हमारे देश के लोगों में जो प्राप्तीयता और साम्प्रदायिकता की भावना है वह एक अच्छी भावना नहीं है। इससे देश का हित होने वाला नहीं है। इस विषय में पीछे समय मिलने पर कहूंगा।

पहिले में एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन के बारे में कुछ कहना चाहता हूं। जितनी आलोचनाएं होती हैं वे एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन के बारे में ही होती हैं और सरकार एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन को बचाने की कोशिश करती है और उसकी तारीफ करती है। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि सरकारी नौकरों को जितना प्रोटेक्शन (protection) दिया जाय और जितना बचाव किया जाय वह सही है लेकिन कभी कभी एकान्त में बैठ कर हृदयमंथन करके यह भी सोचना चाहिये कि हम लोग जो कहते हैं उसमें कुछ तत्व भी है या नहीं। हम लोग पहले अंग्रेजों को क्रिटिसाइज (criticise) किया करते थे और कहते थे कि वह ब्यूरोक्रैसी (bureaucracy) है। ब्यूरोक्रैसी में गवर्नमेंट सर्वेंट (Government servant) का एक जाल होता है और इसलिये ब्रिटिशर्स (Britishers) अपने राज्य को चलाने के लिये उनका पूरा बचाव करते थे। लेकिन आज यह हालत नहीं है। मेरा यह कभी भी मतलब नहीं है कि आप गवर्नमेंट सर्वेंट के ऊपर बिना जरूरत कड़े हो जायें लेकिन यह सोचने की बात है कि आज की हालत में आप किस तरह से काम करेंगे ताकि आज की जो जरूरत है उसको पूरा कर सकें। यह मैं मानता हूं कि बहुत बहस करने से जो जरूरत है वह पूरी नहीं होती लेकिन लोग आज देख रहे हैं कि हालत खराब होती जा रही है, सड़ती जा रही है और उस सड़ान में इतनी दुर्गन्ध हो रही है कि अब बर्दाश्त से बाहर है। कही ऐसा न

हो जाय कि हम कहें कि इसका सुधार कर रहे हैं, बुराई निकाल रहे हैं और नतीजा यह हो कि "The operation is successful but the patient has died". आपकी बहस तो यही होगी कि बहुत कामयाबी के साथ इंतजाम कर रहे हैं लेकिन बहुत कामयाबी के साथ इंतजाम करने का फल क्या हो रहा है? हम यदि कुछ कहते हैं तो हम आपके शत्रु नहीं हैं, हम आपके उतने ही मित्र हैं जितने कि वे हैं। यदि आपकी जवाबदेही है तो मेरी भी जवाबदेही है।

[For English translation, see Appendix IV, Annexure No. 132.]

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN: Mr. Lall, it is time.

The House stands adjourned till 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

The Council then adjourned for lunch till 4 of the clock.

The Council reassembled after lunch at four of the Clock in the afternoon, Mr. Deputy Chairman in the Chair.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND (Madhya Pradesh): Mr. Deputy Chairman, in rising to support this Bill, I feel it my duty to make a few observations and comments. In view of the limited time at my disposal, I will try to confine myself strictly to the contents of this Finance Bill. I would like to suggest that in presenting this Finance Bill to this House next time, it would be better if the Government were to put in an appendix to the Bill in the nature of an explanatory memorandum as given with the Budget. For instance, the various revenue duties are given and when we are asked to decide on the tariff duties given in the Schedule, Parts A and B, there is no means of comparing and determining which of these are worth retaining and which not. I find no means of comparing

[Shrimati Seeta Parmanand]
the figures given here with what the duty was in the previous year

Next, I would turn to the policy which the Government should adopt with regard to the tariffs shown in Parts A and B. I would suggest that in view of the Government's policy of saving foreign exchange, Government would do well if the import of items mentioned under food, fabrics of various kinds, etc is banned, so that we might give an impetus to our own cottage industries. If Government were to ban the import of such articles, it would be very helpful. I would mention item No 19, biscuits, cakes, vegetables, canned or bottled, tinned fruits, toilet requisites, etc. If the import of these things is banned, the country is not likely to feel their absence. It may be mentioned that if articles like biscuits are banned, available supply in the country would go into the blackmarket or would be so prohibitive in price that it might be outside the reach of the common man, but it is exactly here that Government would be able to step in and start its own industries or to subsidise the existing industries without much trouble, and this will give employment to many people. Similarly, Sir, I would mention utility goods like ink, brushes, salt, etc. If their import is banned, no harm will be done since they can easily be produced in the country. Salt, for instance, should not be necessary at all to import. Government should find it easy to produce the entire salt requirements of the country. They should be able to nationalise the salt industry without any hardship to anybody. They can take half of the factories under Government ownership immediately and the other half gradually.

I would also mention, Sir, that it is necessary for Government, if it is to make a success of this Five Year Plan, to start austerity drive as that alone would make the common man realise that the Government are tackling things in a really serious man-

ner, and this is what the Government are really trying to do by stopping the import of luxury articles. I would mention, Sir, articles like cosmetics of which I have spoken several times, because if things like scents, various kinds of pomades, lipsticks, powders, etc are banned, nobody is going to suffer much, and if this money could be saved, it could be usefully spent on education and on nutritious food for the children. I would here mention the example of Japan again. When Japan, after taking Formosa, wanted to popularise her own tea, she was very particular about seeing that the people in their country would develop a taste only for their own tea. She did not allow the import of even one pound of tea when a permanent resident of that country returned from abroad, because she felt that allowing such articles to be imported would result in a taste being created for those articles. This is how Japan made her Formosan tea popular. If our Government were to do something of the kind, it would be a great help.

Next, I want to suggest the creation of a permanent Economy Committee. The Finance Ministry, it is said, has some Economy Committee. I do not know whether that Committee is confined to its own Ministry or not, but I feel that if a permanent Economy Committee were to be appointed, it would be able to keep a check on the expenditure of the different Ministries from time to time and this will enable the Government to reduce its expenditure in an appreciable manner.

I would also refer, Sir, to what I have already said about the agenda for the Budget Session. The Finance Ministry is the appropriate Ministry to whom this appeal can be made. If the Budget Session could be confined only to such measures—and not ordinary legislative measures—as are connected with the Budget, it should be possible to finish all the monetary Bills between the second of January and the beginning of April, and this would leave time for the Members of

Parliament to contact their constituencies during the summer, and the other session should begin from the middle of July or August as the case may be.

I would here make a few remarks about the way in which the Budget is discussed on the three occasions. As it is intended that everybody should get a chance to speak, I would suggest that right from the beginning, before the Budget, the Appropriation Bill and the Finance Bill are presented, time should be allotted in such a manner that everybody gets the maximum time once. If this were done, then people would try to make all the remarks that they want to make on the subject on one occasion.

I would like here to suggest that there is in fact no use of the Council Members discussing the Budget proposals in the House as they are done today because they are not in a position to make any changes which can be taken into consideration. All that can be done is that the Ministry would make notes of the suggestions and perhaps try to remember for the next Budget Session, if any of these could be given effect to. Recently all the Ministries had agreed that the suggestions made on the floor of this House would be considered and replies would be sent to Members as to which of them are practicable and which of them are not practicable. I find that the Railway Ministry has been a very credible exception to the rule because this Resolution has not so far been put into practice by any of the other Ministries. I don't think it is possible for any of the Ministries to remember all the suggestions made on the floor of this House and to give effect to them after the lapse of a year. It is for this reason if at a certain stage the Budget is put and a chance is given to Members of the House to comment—maybe when the Appropriation Bill is considered or even when Budget proposals are laid—and if their suggestions are put into the Finance Bill finally, then the Members of the Council would feel that their sugges-

tions are at least of some value in the framing of Government's policy. If necessary, changes will have to be made in the Constitution so that the voice of the Members of the Council of States even in Budget matters would be effective. I would not like to go into some other matters because I think they are not strictly relevant to the Finance Bill which deals with only duties imposed, but I should like to ask Government that though Government had said in the Budget statement made by the Finance Minister that duties on milk and sulpha drugs are reduced, I find they are reduced only up to 20 per cent. I would say that as far as infant milk and essential drugs which are not manufactured in India are concerned, they should be duty-free and final. I would again impress on the Government that all the fabrics including cotton fabrics, silk etc. in order to give an impetus to the Indian industries, in order to save exchange and in order again to give impetus to the austerity drive, the import of these fabrics should be strictly banned. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI V K DHAGE (Hyderabad).
Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I rise to speak because yesterday I heard the Finance Minister give answers to my Short Notice Question and I was amazed to hear the answer that he gave. It appears to me that, whenever the question of Hyderabad is there before the Government of India, they still treat the people of Hyderabad as the British did before Independence.

After the Police Action in Hyderabad, the consideration, which should weigh with a democratic Government like the Government of India, that is, the good of the people of Hyderabad, was not there. We find that after the Police Action, there was an invasion by outside officers into Hyderabad who continued in office for a time longer than was necessary. The result was that we had, what is known as, a "Military Administration". We had officers imported into Hyderabad who were not competent

[Shri V. K. Dhage.]
to hold the posts that they did. Some Inspector of Police had held the post of D.S.P. in Hyderabad which led to a lot of corruption in the State.

But I will not recount the murky instances of that time. I would say that even in the question of financial integration of Hyderabad with India, the case of Hyderabad went by default and there was a lot of dissatisfaction. There was an agitation in order that the case of Hyderabad might be treated fairly.

I would not even look into that but after that, the question of demonetization of the currency came up and they made a muddle of it.

There was a Bill introduced in the House of the People first and, according to that Bill, instructions were given to the Hyderabad Government, probably also to the banks to the effect that the O. S. Currency Accounts be converted into I. G. Currency Accounts. The result was that people in Hyderabad had to pay blackmarket money for purchasing the O. S. currency from the I. G. currency. I had referred in the Short Notice Question yesterday to the speech delivered by the Chief Minister of Hyderabad before the Demonetization Advisory Committee on the 5th April. I would like to draw attention to the speech that he delivered at that time. He said:

"The Government of India introduced it as late as the first week of March and it did not take final shape till the 31st. First the Bill was withdrawn and replaced by another introduced in the Council of States. Originally, the Bill did not stipulate the exact date by which the Government of India would issue a notification. We did not know the final shape of the Bill nor were we aware of the notification that they proposed to issue. We were not even sure of any further notification laying down terms and conditions of the legal tender character of O. S. currency which will continue for the next two

years. With this disadvantage, we have to make certain arrangements".

He further said that there was going to be another notification issued by the Government of India in Hyderabad and that notification also was not issued. He added:

"No new notification had been issued by the Government of India and the Hyderabad Government was again suffering under a disadvantage."

Another complaint he made in his speech was:

"We represented that the rupee coins and rupee notes, should also be in circulation for a period of two years, or till such time as the prices are firmly stabilised and replaced by I.G. currency. If the Government of India had accepted to keep in circulation one rupee note and coin also there would have been further relief in the lower income groups and our difficulties would have been relieved to a large extent. But that was not to be."

These are the woes which the Chief Minister of the Hyderabad Government wailed before the Demonetization Committee. I will further read to you what he wailed further.

"I am conscious of the difficulties and distress. Perhaps this is the price which we have to pay for freedom, and fullest integration with the rest of India, which we have all so ardently desired for a long number of years. We have to make a certain amount of sacrifice by way of losing our individuality of the state of currency or coin and even to suffer some temporary hardship during the period of transition and changeover."

Here is the Chief Minister of Hyderabad who has contended that all the difficulties and distress that we have had to face in Hyderabad are entirely due to the way in which

the Government of India have handled the situation. Yesterday the hon. Finance Minister stated that legal tender does not mean that the Government of India or the Government of Hyderabad is bound to issue it. I do not know as to how he was able to say this. I will refer to his own statement to the country in the Statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill which he introduced in this House on the 28th March in which he stated as follows:

"So far as the Hyderabad currency notes of higher denominations are concerned, the Hyderabad Paper Currency Act, II of 1327 Fasli, under which these notes are issued, imposes an obligation for the exchange of the notes into coins. Once the coins and one rupee notes cease to be legal tender on the 1st April 1953, it will not be possible to fulfil this obligation."

Further he has stated:

"Considering the volume of this currency still in circulation it is considered that hardship may be created to the public by sudden withdrawal of this currency. It has therefore been decided that the legal tender character of the Hali Sicca currency should be continued for a limited period."

Now, the fact is that the Hyderabad Paper Currency Act does not govern the coinage or the issue of the coin, neither does it govern the issue of the one rupee note. The one rupee notes are legal tender under the Government of India Ordinance of 1940, and the one rupee coin and the coins of lower denominations are legal tender under the Coinage Act. The corresponding Hyderabad Acts, so far as coins and the one rupee notes are concerned, have been repealed two years ago and yet the Government of Hyderabad had been issuing the one rupee note, as well as, one rupee coins till the 31st of March 1953. The amendment that has been proposed in the Bill passed by Parliament is only to the Indian Act with regard to Indian coinage and also with regard

to the one rupee note. In the amendments proposed, it is merely stated that for the words "two years", the words "four years" may be substituted. So also in the Indian Ordinance of 1940 in section 2A for the words "two years" the words "four years" are to be substituted. With regard to the Hyderabad Paper Currency Act, it was repealed and notes of denominations higher than the one rupee note were, under the Bill passed, allowed to continue as legal tenders. Such being the case, I do not understand why or how the hon. Finance Minister yesterday stated that legal tender does not mean issue and acceptance. I do maintain, Sir, that the Chief Minister in his speech before the Demonetization Advisory Committee at Hyderabad on the 5th April did say that it means acceptance and issue as well. I further maintain that there is no difference between the law as in force on 31st March 1953 and as on 1st April 1953.

Just one remark more, Sir, and I shall have done. In his written reply to me, the Finance Minister stated that the banks of Hyderabad converted the O. S. currency into I. G. currency on their own account. I am sorry to say that I rather doubt this statement. The reason is that, under the Negotiable Instruments Act, no bank can close its doors on any particular day, unless and until they have been so authorised by the Government, I may say here that for two days, the 29th and the 30th or the 30th and the 31st, all the banks in Hyderabad were closed and notices were published in the Press that they had to do so as they had to convert the entire O. S. accounts into I. G. accounts.

Sir, in conclusion, I beg to maintain that the people of Hyderabad have not been given the consideration by the Government of India whenever any problem connected with the people of Hyderabad arose which a popular Government should and that they have been treating the people of Hyderabad in the same manner as the Britishers were doing before.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Sir, in the course of my speech I referred to an advertisement in a paper. I have got a copy of it here with me and with your permission, I am placing it on the Table of the House.

DR. RADHA KUMUD MOOKERJI: Sir, the Finance Minister has been annually presenting before us a Budget followed by a Finance Bill. I am afraid he is coming every year with a tale of woes and a tale of the appalling poverty in which the country is steeped. I should think we should have a clear idea of the actual economic conditions of the country and these conditions as revealed in the Budget show that India's poverty is growing on a colossal scale. This can be understood only by reference to certain comparative figures of budgets of two countries with which India is very closely associated—the Budget of the United Kingdom which shows a revenue of Rs. 500 crores per month as against Rs. 420 crores, the total of India's revenue per annum and the Budget of the U. S. A. of course runs into astronomical figures—Rs. 500 crores per day. Now, India's appalling poverty may also be understood in the light of certain other facts which I should like our Communist friends to deeply ponder over. Out of a population of 36 crores only about 7 lakhs have an income that is taxable, and as regards the higher incomes, incomes exceeding Rs. 40,000 per annum, the number of assesseees is only 14,000. Therefore, our Communist friends must see that in India we are all "have-nots" and there need not be any controversy about the "haves" and the "have-nots" because we are all reduced to equality in poverty.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Equality in poverty?

DR. RADHA KUMUD MOOKERJI: Yes, in fact, we have already set up a classless society here where there are no "haves", there are only "have-nots".

The real point that a progressive Government should consider is how to produce wealth and how to achieve increased production in different fields, how to produce an incentive budget, as it is now called. But I am afraid, considered from this point of view, the Finance Bill does not show any signs of dynamic drive for the increase of our resources. Now, I take into account the important fields of industry. In agriculture I do not know how on earth the yield from agriculture is going to improve and what steps are being taken to improve the low yield from agriculture. At present agriculture is in the hands of small farmers who are carrying on their small subsistence farms in under-sized and un-economic holdings; and these farms have reached the limits of intensive cultivation and therefore, I for myself, do not see how on earth you can increase the yield from such small farms.

And then you have to consider the off-seasons of agriculture extending for half the year. During these six months these inarticulate millions of agriculturists who live on land are practically without any work and they have to face starvation. For that, the National Planning Commission has rightly emphasised the need of developing the cottage and home industries which might bring work and food to the agriculturists who are reduced to a condition of enforced idleness under circumstances beyond their control. Therefore, I think that there should be a nation-wide programme for the development of handicraft and home industries which might feed the agricultural millions when they are out of work. In that connection, I can say that Mahatma Gandhi with his foresight and vision rightly stressed the need of having spinning and weaving adopted as a national handicraft all over the country. In this connection, some of our friends are very dubious, in this modern mechanistic age, of the prospects of the handloom industry. For these gentlemen, I wish to place some kind of historical material which will

show what splendid economic heritage was actually left to us and which we should recapture even in this modern age. In the days of old, in the first and second centuries after the Christian era, South India was the home of the most advanced handicraft in textiles. They were able to produce muslin, twenty yards of which could be passed through a finger ring and Mommsen, the great historian of the Roman Empire said that the Roman Empire was the best customer for the Indian silks and muslins in those days of the earlier centuries of the Christian era. Roman ladies—I wish my friends to remember this very humorous point of historical interest—Roman ladies draped in seven folds of muslin went about the streets of Rome every evening and became a menace to the city's morals with the result that the Roman Parliament was enforced to intervene with a legislation which banned the import of Indian muslin into the Roman markets. Please remember, seven folds of muslin and the context in which this reference is made. In fact, here in Delhi, probably you do not know the magnitude of our metallurgical achievement which stands to the credit of another handicraft in those days. I mean the iron pillar of Delhi which was examined by a body of metallurgical experts. Nowhere in the ancient world—because that belonged to about 400 A.D.—was there any foundry capable of producing such a monumental piece of metallurgy. The iron pillar of Delhi still remains strong and entire, standing four square to the winds. So, I say that we need not despair about the possibility of handicrafts. If we are so minded, we can recapture some of those unparalleled economic heritages. Indeed, India's foreign trade was very soundly built up in those days. Mommsen, the historian, records that India was draining the Roman Empire of its gold which he assessed at 6 millions of sesterices amounting to, I think several millions of sterling. There was a regular drain of gold from the Roman Empire into India and there was naturally a favourable balance of trade resulting therefrom to India.

Now, I come to the industrial sphere where also no attempts are being made really to increase the output. Now, the most important national key industry of India is no doubt steel upon which depends practically the military strength of the whole country. It has been calculated that the entire need of India is in the neighbourhood of 35 lakhs of tons per annum against which our installed capacity is 15 laks of tons whereas the actual output amounts to less than ten lakhs—about 9 lakhs of tons. So, if we have allowed this kind of condition to prevail in our most important national key industry of steel, how are we going to make up matters in regard to other important industries? Take the example of U.S.S.R. U.S.S.R. began in 1922 with a steel output amounting to 4 lakh tons per annum. But, Stalin was so steel-minded, and invited the whole nation also to be steel-minded with him—because steel is the first necessity for building up military strength—that in 1952 the U.S.S.R. production of steel amounted to 1 crore tons per annum while the U.S.A. has a higher record of 12 crore tons per annum and we are pigmies lagging so far behind them in this matter. That is the condition of our most important steel industry.

The question now is: How are you going to achieve industrial expansion in these important spheres? The primary need of industrial expansion is capital and I am afraid, being an orthodox economist, I think that there has not been enough growth of private capital in the country due to taxation and I prefer therefore not to rule out the entry of foreign capital. Besides, I do not think we need to rule out the investment of foreign capital in India because I have got a statement signed by some American experts of the highest authority to the effect that American capital is able to earn in the domestic market of U.S.A. a profit of about 10 per cent. and, therefore, the American capitalist is not at all anxious to invest his money in India. Of course, we may not like the entry of foreign

[Dr. Radha Kumud Mookerji.] capital in India but, I think there is no such foreign capital anxious to enter India. Now, therefore we have to depend upon our own resources as regards capital. The formation of private capital in the country has not been showing any good pace of progress and this is entirely due to the load of taxation which destroys the incentive to capital formation. At present I find that we are charging about 13 annas in the rupee for individual super-tax incomes as against 12 annas in U.S.A. The U.S.A. as an industrially advanced country was prepared to have a much lower load of taxation so that the formation of capital in the country might not be retarded. So, I am putting this consideration before the Finance Ministry and especially before the Taxation Enquiry Committee.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: The limits are not the same.

DR. RADHA KUMUD MOOKERJI: I have considered the limits. Here the super-tax begins above two and a half lakhs of rupees but generally, I say, that the U.S.A. has been able to produce a structure of taxation which, on the whole, has justified itself by results in showing the growth of private capital in the country which has been enormous and adequate for industrial expansion.

Similarly now, as regards the other industries, we are not happy as to their prospects. For instance, in textiles, the most important activity of the textile mills should be in the department of export trade. As regards exports, Indian textiles are already outpriced in foreign markets by Japan and U.K.

Similarly, tea is the best dollar earner after jute. There is formidable competition between Indian tea and tea produced in Indonesia, Ceylon, Pakistan, China and Japan. Therefore, there is no prospect awaiting the tea industry unless, according to the latest Committee's report, Government is prepared to find out.....

(Time bell rings.)

.....how to reduce cost of management. And lastly.....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your time is up.

DR. RADHA KUMUD MOOKERJI: I shall take only one or two minutes more.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have already taken five minutes more than what is your due.

DR. RADHA KUMUD MOOKERJI: So I shall just finish with one sentence. What is needed is an export drive for earning dollars, so as to finance the import of plant and machinery. Then I should like to bring to the attention of the Government the important automotive industry upon which depends the defence of our country. Now this industry has been very much neglected though alone it contributes in the shape of taxes about 50½ crores of rupees. Therefore this industry is entitled to serious consideration. Finally, Sir, I say that the mineral resources of our country are the dollar-earners and there should be a very good mineral policy such as the policy in the U.S.A.

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA: Sir, I support the Finance Bill and along with it the Central Excises and Salt (Amendment) Bill, 1953.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: This is the first time that anybody knew that there was another Bill under discussion.....

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA: The two have been circulated separately although the hon. the Deputy Minister said the day before yesterday that these proposals were also part and parcel of the Finance Bill. I do not want to take up much time in this regard. I support the financial proposals with some satisfaction as they have at least allowed one concession in Clause 3 according to which a residential house has been exempted from the payment of the taxes if it is left empty for the reason that it can-

not be actually occupied by the owner who is not able to live in the house where it stands and is living elsewhere. So I am glad to see that no tax will be levied on that.

Then, Sir, in these proposals I find a most repugnant tax proposal and that is the tax on royalty and copyright. You may very well tax an industrial or a mill magnate but certainly you should not tax a man for his brain and for his intellect. Royalty is the accumulated result of the person's work, work with his brain, work of those persons who have starved and yet kept their mental faculties bright and green. You are going to tax those people also who work with their brains and with their mental faculty.

SHRI K S HEGDE. It is not a new taxation, it is only a concession which was given.

SHRI H P SAKSENA. If it is a new taxation, that should be scrapped, that is my whole point. Then in the same strain and on the point of taxation I refer to the increase in taxation on account of higher rates on book-post. My hon friend Mr Sundarayya was complaining the other day that any advice coming from that side of the House was never taken into account. I want his close friends to convey to him that Saksena said, "Even any advice given from this side of the House is not taken note of or attended to by Government" (Laughter).

Now, Sir, I make a humble suggestion that the postage on book-post should not be raised from 9 pies to 1 anna but that has not been done. Now if my policy were to be adopted and if a post-card is sold for two pice and an envelope for one anna, I am dead certain that it will bring more money to the coffers of the Postal Department than the present rates bring. But then the Government is adamant. Well, I cannot help.

Then, Sir, in spite of what my close and dear friend Mr Jaspat Rai Kapoor said yesterday, I shall never be a party to the re-imposition of the salt tax. He forgot altogether that the salt tax has got a history behind
30 C of SI)

it. Are we going to forget it altogether? After a period of 23 years only are we going to forget that stirring Dandi March? The whole of our national struggle is woven closely with the Salt Satyagraha. Thousands upon thousands of us went to jail simply for that reason. Can we forget that Mahatma Gandhi held an iron pan in his hand while proceeding on his Dandi March and telling the people that he would certainly be a brave man indeed who would attempt to snatch the iron pan away from his hand, and nobody ever did it. Then, Sir, the tax on salt is sought to be reimposed on the pretext that the backward classes may be helped by the realisation of that salt tax. I say, even if money of this tax is required and earmarked for raising a memorial for the great Mahatma himself, I can never vote that tax on salt, which is needed both for human beings as well as for animals. It adds a little taste to the feed of those speechless and tongueless animals if a little salt is added to it. Are we going to deprive them of that little luxury also? So, Sir, I strongly repudiate and stoutly oppose the idea for ever and ever of the re-imposition of the salt tax. It should be a thing of the past and should never be re-imposed (Interruption).

I do not oppose the Bill. I am speaking on 'salt tax' which comes under the financial proposals.

Now, Sir, one thing I have got to mention here and that is with regard to my own province of UP. It is an important point. Last year in the cane season, the sugar-mill owners purchased cane worth crores of rupees from the cane-growers. Some of that money is still lying unpaid. It is about a crore of rupees and since sugar excise is a Central subject, I invite the attention of the Central Government to see that the money is paid back to the cane-growers as early as possible.

Now, Sir, we are badly in need of money, as the speaker who preceded me pointed out. India is a country of poor people. Now that poverty will to a certain extent be removed when we would have passed our Estate

[Shri H. P. Saksena.]

Duty Bill. Let us hope so. But then these excise duties are anathema to me and whenever a certain factory goes into production, the Government comes forward, whether State or Central, and lays the excise duty. Now that only serves as an impediment to production and the excise duty has become a regular cancer. I have never known; it was never so before.....

(Time bell rings.)

It is only five minutes that I have spoken.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have noted when you began. You began at 4.40 and it is 4.50 now.

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA: Now if you please allow me a few more minutes

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, please excuse me. There are still two more speakers.

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA: Then am I to cut short my speech, Sir?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, please.

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA: Then I resume my seat, Sir.

SHRI D. NARAYAN (Bombay):

श्री डी० नारायण (बम्बई) : श्रीमान् उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आज की हमारी सरकार की जो अर्थ नीति है वह सम्पूर्णतः पंचवर्षीय योजना को सामने रख कर निर्धारित की गई है। यह स्वाभाविक ही है कि जब सरकार ने यह निश्चय कर लिया है कि इस मुल्क और इस देश की बेहतरी के लिए पंचवर्षीय योजना को कामयाब करना ही उसका उद्देश्य है तो जनता को भी उसे अपना उद्देश्य बना लेना चाहिये। स्वाभाविक तौर पर हर एक यह सोचता है कि यह योजना किस तरह से यशस्वी की जाय। पंचवर्षीय योजना का उद्देश्य इस देश को और इस देश की जनता को स्वावलम्बी बनाना है, स्वाश्रयी बनाना है और स्वयंपूर्ण बनाना है। हमारा अन्न स्वदेशी हो,

हमारा कपड़ा स्वदेशी हो, हमारा घर स्वदेशी हो, हमारा रहन सहन स्वदेशी हो, हमारी भाषा स्वदेशी हो, हमारा चाल चलन स्वदेशी हो और हमारा जिस्म भी स्वदेशी हो। परन्तु आज हम क्या देखते हैं? मैं इस विषय में बहुत गहराई में तो जाना नहीं चाहता हूं।

जब आप इस फाइनेंस बिल (Finance Bill) की ओर निगाह डालेंगे तो आपको टेरिफ एक्ट (Tariff Act) के शेड्यूल (Schedule) में यह मिलेगा कि कितनी अनावश्यक चीजें इस देश में आज भी बाहर के देशों से चली आ रही हैं, कितनी चीजों को लाने में हमारी सरकार जिम्मेदार है। कपड़े के विषय में यह कहा जाता है कि हमारे देश में जरूरत से ज्यादा पैदा होता है, उस पर भी विलायत में, जापान से और दूसरे मुल्कों से कपड़ा इस देश में मंगाया जाता है। इसी तरह से ऊनी कपड़ा इस देश के अन्दर बाहर से आ रहा है, रेशमी कपड़ा आ रहा है साथ में सूत आ रहा है, रेशमी सूत आ रहा है, आर्टिफिशियल सिल्क (artificial silk) आ रहा है, क्या क्या नहीं आ रहा है, उनके नाम नहीं गिनाये जा सकते हैं, ये सब चीजें हमारे देश के अन्दर बाहरी मुल्कों से आ रही हैं। क्यों आ रही हैं, क्या ये चीजें हमारे देश के अंदर पैदा नहीं होती हैं? साबुन को ही लीजिये, ग्लास को ले लीजिये, चाईना वेयर (china ware) को ले लीजिये, टाइल्स (tiles) ले लीजिये, जूते ले लीजिये, ऐसी बहुत सी चीजें हैं जो कि हमारे देश के अन्दर पैदा होती हैं, जो यहां बनाई जाती हैं, बन रही हैं, फिर क्यों ये चीजें इस देश के अन्दर बाहर से मगाई जा रही हैं, यह बात हमारी समझ में नहीं आती। ये तो सब अनावश्यक चीजें हैं जो बाहर से मंगाई जा रही हैं, इससे हमारे देश को हानि पहुंच रही है। टायलेट गुड्स (toilet Goods), परफ्यूमरीज

(perfumeries) और लगजरी गुड्स (luxury goods), ये ऐसी चीजें हैं जिनकी कोई आवश्यकता इस देश के अन्दर नहीं है। इन चीजों के न आने से हमारी देश की जनता भूखी मरने वाली नहीं है और न इनसे देश कोई ऊँचा ही होने वाला है फिर ये चीजें क्यों आने दी जाती हैं ? जब इस तरह की बातें हो रही हैं तो बतलाइये किस तरह से हमारा देश स्वावलम्बी, स्वयंपूर्ण और स्वाश्रयी बन सकता है, किस तरह से हमारे देश के उद्योग पनप सकते हैं।

एक बात में और आपके सम्मुख कहना चाहता हूँ। यहाँ पर यह कहा जाता है कि हम जनता का "स्टैण्डर्ड आफ लिविंग" (standard of living) बढ़ाना चाहते हैं, परन्तु जब तक हम अपने देश की जनता के स्टैण्डर्ड आफ मोराल (standard of morale) को नहीं बढ़ायेगे, कलचरल स्टैण्डर्ड (cultural standard) नहीं बढ़ायेंगे, सोशल स्टैण्डर्ड (social standard) नहीं बढ़ायेंगे तब तक हम लिविंग स्टैण्डर्ड को नहीं बढ़ा सकते हैं।

मैंने अभी आपसे कहा कि इस देश में बहुत चीजें बाहर से मंगाई जा रही हैं जिनकी कि कोई आवश्यकता नहीं है। इस तरह से एक बहुत ही भयानक और निषिद्ध चीज हमारे देश में बाहर से मंगाई जा रही है और वह है शराब। शराब एक ऐसी चीज है जिस से यह मुल्क काफी बरबाद हो रहा है। आज फारेन लिक्वर्स (foreign liquors) फारेन वाइन्स (foreign wines) बहुत ज्यादा तादाद में बाहर से इस मुल्क में आ रही हैं। इस शराब के बाहर से आने से हमारी सरकार को कुल ३० लाख रुपये की आमदनी होने को है। क्या हमारी सरकार इस रकम का त्याग नहीं कर सकती है। आप सब लोग

जानते हैं कि शराब में देश का कितना अधिक नुकसान हो रहा है। यह एक बहुत ही गन्दी चीज है, जिससे पीने वाले को भी नुकसान होता है और पिलाने वाले को भी नुकसान होता है और हमारी सरकार का भी नुकसान हो रहा है। राजा जी ने शराब के विषय में अभी ठीक ही कहा है। उन्होंने कहा है कि :

"It is immoral to encourage others to take any form of intoxicant and this is what we are asked to do when people tell us to open liquor shops to catch wage-earners. It is not just immoral but extreme wickedness to do this to get a revenue for the benefit of persons other than those to whom the drink is sold."

इस शराब के इस्तेमाल से आज देश में क्या हो रहा है। आज शराब पीना एक फ़ैशन (fashion) सा बन गया है। दिल्ली की तो बात ही न पूछिये। अभी हाल में जो कुछ दिल्ली के कनाॅट सर्कस में हुआ उसके बारे में सब माननीय सदस्यों को अच्छी तरह से मालूम है। इस चीज का जिक्र यहाँ सदन के भीतर हो चुका है। इस तरह की बहुत सी बारदाते रोज होती रहती हैं। आज दिल्ली के नामी होटलो में अगर आप चले जाइये तो आपको वहाँ पर फ़ैशनेबुल सोसाइटी (fashionable society) के लोग मिलेंगे जो कि फारेन वाइन और फारेन लिक्वर का इस्तेमाल करते दिखलाई देंगे।

वाइन को छोड़ दीजिये, अफीम को ले लीजिये। आज सरकार की ओर से अफीम का व्यापार किया जाता है, अफीम की खेती की जाती है और अफीम का कारखाना चलाया जाता है। अफीम के व्यापार से सरकार को दो करोड़ की आमदनी होती है मगर उस पर सरकार का २ करोड़ ९३ लाख रुपये का खर्च होता है। इस तरह से सरकार इस अफीम के

[Shri D. Narayan.]

व्यापार में करीब ६३ लाख रुपये की हानि उठा रही है। क्या सरकार इस विपैली चीज को बन्द नहीं कर सकती है जिससे कि देश की जनता को बहुत हानि हो रही है। मैं नहीं समझ सकता कि इस तरह से और इन हालतों में हम किस तरह से इस देश का नैतिक, सामाजिक और सांस्कृतिक उत्थान कर सकते हैं।

यहां पर बराबर कहा जाता है कि करप्शन (corruption) बहुत हो रहा है, खर्च बहुत बढ़ रहा है और किसी तरह की इकानामी (economy) नहीं हो रही है। मुझे इस बात का दुःख है कि बजट डिस्कशन (Budget discussion) के वक्त हमारे माननीय अर्थ मंत्री ने कहा था कि अगर हम बड़े अफसरों की तनखा कम कर भी दें तो जो छोटी तनखा पाने वाले कर्मचारी हैं उनको केवल रुपया या सवा रुपया का ही मासिक फायदा होगा। यह तो एक हास्यास्पद उत्तर था। यहां पर सवाल सब से मुख्य यह है कि हमारा देश एक गरीब देश है, उसको इतनी ताकत नहीं है कि वह इतनी बड़ी तनखा दें। जिस तरह से हमारे अफसरों को बड़ी बड़ी तनखा दे दी जाती है उसी के साथ साथ करप्शन भी बढ़ता जाता है। इसका परिणाम यह हो रहा है कि लोगों में एक तरह से ईर्ष्या की भावना पैदा हो रही है, होड़ की भावना पैदा हो रही है जिससे आपस में आज एक तरह का संघर्ष पैदा हो रहा है। हमारा तो ध्येय यह होना चाहिये कि जो नीची श्रेणी के लोग हैं उनको ऊपर उठाना चाहिये और बड़ी तनखा वाले को कुछ नीचे खींचना चाहिये, जिससे कि देश में समानता की भावना फैले।

अन्तिम बात जो मुझे कहनी है वह पी० डब्लू० डी० (P.W.D.) विभाग के

विषय में कहनी है। इस सदन में पी० डब्लू० डी० विभाग का और सिविल सप्लाय (civil supply) विभाग का कई बार जिक्र किया गया है। यह दो डिपार्टमेंट (Department) ऐसे हैं जिनमें किसी तरह की तरक्की होना अशंभव सा है। मेरे एक माननीय मित्र जो कि एक बड़े स्टेट में मंत्री हैं उनका कथन इस पी० डब्लू० डी० विभाग के लिए यह है कि यह विभाग "plunder without detection department" है। मैं ये शब्द अपने शब्दों में नहीं कह रहा हूं बल्कि यह शब्द इस देश के एक जिम्मेदार मंत्री के हैं। यही हालत हमारी सिविल सप्लाय विभाग की है। इसका कारण यह नहीं है कि हम खास कोई गिर रहे हैं। इसका कारण यह है कि जब तक केन्द्रीय व्यवस्था होगी, तब तक ऐसी व्यवस्था नहीं होगी कि जनसाधारण शासन को समझ सके, तब तक यही होने वाला है। इसीलिए हमारे पूज्य राष्ट्रपिता ने एक दफा नहीं, सैकड़ों दफा यह कहा था कि जब तक व्यवस्था सेंट्रलाइज्ड (centralised) रहेगी तब तक हिन्दुस्तान बरबाद होगा। इसलिए मेरी आपसे यह प्रार्थना है कि हिन्दुस्तान में डिसेंट्रलाइजेशन (decentralization) होना चाहिये। मैं उन्हीं के शब्दों को उद्धृत करना चाहता हूं और आपके सम्मुख उनके कुछ शब्द कहना चाहता हूं।

5 P.M.

"What I would personally prefer would be not centralisation of power in the hands of the State but an extension of the same trusteeship as in my opinion the violence of private ownership is less injurious than the violence of the State."

इसलिये मुझे कहना है कि जो मेरे भाई इस तरह से हर एक चीज को सेंट्रलाइज करना चाहते हैं वह यह नहीं सोचते कि

सेंट्रलाइजेशन ही एक ऐसी चीज है जो इस करप्शन की बीमारी को पैदा करने वाली है। यदि आप करप्शन को हटाना चाहते हैं तो आपको सेंट्रलाइजेशन को कम करना होगा और डिसेंट्रलाइजेशन को बढ़ाना होगा ताकि जनता जागृत हो और अपनी आंखों से जनता हर एक चीज को पहचान सके। जब जनता जानेगी ही नहीं कि क्या हो रहा है, जब जनता समझेगी ही नहीं कि क्या हो रहा है तो कैसे दुरुस्ती हो सकती है। जिस चीज को दो चार ही समझ सकते हैं और सभी नहीं समझ सकते तो दुरुस्ती नहीं होगी क्योंकि थोड़े आदमी तो मेल कर सकते हैं और कांस्पिरेसी (conspiracy) भी कर सकते हैं लेकिन सब आदमी ऐसा नहीं कर सकते।

आखरी बात जो मुझे कहनी है वह यह है।

(Time bell rings)

One minute please. आप जानते हैं कि सेंट्रलाइजेशन और डिसेंट्रलाइजेशन का जो सवाल है उसी को मद्देनजर रख कर राष्ट्रपिता ने यह कहा था कि हिन्दुस्तान की व्यवस्था ऐसी होनी चाहिये कि जिस व्यवस्था में एक हरिजन की लड़की भी राष्ट्रपति की जगह पर जा सके। वह यह नहीं कहते थे कि किसी लड़की को यहाँ पर उठा कर बैठा दिया जाय, उसकी मशा यह नहीं थी। उन की मशा यह थी कि यह एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन (Administration) इतना सिम्पलीफाई (simplify) कर दिया जाय, इतना सरल और सुगम बना दिया जाय कि साधारण तौर का जो हिन्दुस्तान का नागरिक है वह भी ऊँची से ऊँची जगह पर पहुँच सके और उस काम को देख सके और चला सके। तो मेरा निवेदन यह है कि आज की जो गवर्नमेंट की सारी मशीनरी (machinery) है वह इतनी कम्पलीकेटेड (complicated) है कि उस कम्पली-

केटेड मशीनरी को हिन्दुस्तान का गरीब देहाती समझ नहीं सकता। इसलिये मेरी प्रार्थना है कि यदि हमें पंचवर्षीय योजना यशस्वी करना है और देहातियों की दृष्टि से यशस्वी करना है तो हमें सरकारी मशीन को बिल्कुल सिम्पलीफाई कर देना चाहिये ताकि उसको सब लोग समझ सकें। जय हिन्द।

[For English translation, see Appendix IV, Annexure No 133]

SHRI R U AGNIBHOJ (Madhya Pradesh)

श्री आर० यू० अग्निभोज (मध्य प्रदेश): अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं इस विधेयक का समर्थन करने के लिये खड़ा हुआ हूँ और साथ ही यह भी चाहूँगा कि दो चार बातें जो इस सदन में नहीं कही गई हैं उनके विषय में भी कुछ कहूँ।

सब से पहली बात तो मैं यह कहूँगा कि हम लोगो को जो विधेयक दिये जाते हैं उनमें बहुत से दूसरे कानूनों का इशारा रहता है। आप जानते हैं कि यह कानून बनाने का काम और खास कर सम्पूर्ण राष्ट्र के लिये कानून बनाने का काम बहुत ही बड़ी जिम्मेदारी का है। ऐसी हालत में कोई भी बिल यहाँ के दो सौ और वहाँ के पाँच सौ अर्थात् सात सौ पार्लियामेंट के सदस्यों के हाथ में थमा देना और कहना कि इसको पास कर दिया जाय न केवल पार्लियामेंट के सदस्यों के साथ अन्याय है वरन् देश के साथ अन्याय है। मैं चाहूँगा कि जब कभी भी कोई विधेयक हमारे सामने आये तो जितने भी कानून उस बिल के सम्बन्ध में हमारे सामने हो या जिनका उस बिल में जिक्र हो उन सबकी एक एक प्रतिलिपि प्रत्येक सदस्य को दी जानी चाहिये। मैंने यहाँ के सेक्रेटरी साहब को, अपने हाउस के सेक्रेटरी साहब को, इस बारे में लिखा था तो उन्होंने लिखा कि यह यहाँ का कायदा नहीं है और अगर आपको कानून देखना हो तो लाइब्रेरी में जा कर देख लीजिये। यदि आप

[Shri R. U. Agnibhoj.]

सात सौ पार्लियामेंट के सदस्यों को लाइब्रेरी में कानून देखने और अध्ययन करने को कहेंगे और सुबह और शाम यहां कानून पास करने को कहेंगे तो मैं प्रार्थना करूंगा कि हमारा कानून डिफेक्टिव (defective) बनेगा। उसमें कई दोष रहेंगे और यह न केवल हमारे लिये बल्कि देश के लिये घातक सिद्ध होगा। इसलिये मेरी प्रार्थना है कि जितने भी केन्द्रीय सरकार के कानून हैं उन सब की अपटूडेड (up-to-date) प्रतियां प्रत्येक पार्लियामेंट के सदस्य को मिलनी चाहिये जिससे कि उन कानूनों का अच्छी तरह से अध्ययन कर के हम यहां पर विचार कर सकें।

दूसरी बात मैं यह कहूंगा कि हमारे राष्ट्र के पास जंगल एक बहुत महान सम्पत्ति है। यदि यह पूछा जाय कि केन्द्रीय सरकार का जो कृषि विभाग है और जंगल विभाग है उस के पास क्या है तो सिवाय एक देहरादून के जहां पर कि कालेज है और उसमें शायद सौ दो सौ एकड़ के जंगल हैं, उसको छोड़ कर केन्द्रीय सरकार के पास कोई जंगल नहीं है। एग्रीकल्चर मिनिस्ट्री (Agriculture Ministry) के अन्दर भी एक दो फार्म (farm) को छोड़ कर भारत सरकार के पास कोई ज्यादा फार्म नहीं है परन्तु एग्रीकल्चर डिपार्टमेंट (Agriculture Department) चल रहा है। मैं निवेदन करूंगा कि जिस तरह से खनिज सम्पत्ति बहुत मूल्यवान है उसी तरह से हमारी जंगल की सम्पत्ति भी बहुत मूल्यवान है। हमारे देश में जो मालगुजारी प्रथा थी वह भी खत्म हो रही है और चार पांच वर्षों में सब मालगुजारियां छिन जाने वाली हैं, जब से यह उन्होंने सुना तब से हमारे फॉरेस्ट्स (forests) का इतना रेकलेस डिस्ट्रक्शन (reckless destruction) हुआ है, इस तरह से नाश हुआ है कि हमारे देश के जंगलों को फिर

से हरा भरा करने के लिये हमें शताब्दियां लग जायेंगी। परन्तु दुःख है कि मुंशी साहब ने फॉरेस्ट पालिसी (forest policy) बनाई थी और सौभाग्य से मैं भी उसका सदस्य था तो वह पालिसी और नीति तो हम ने निर्धारित कर दी परन्तु केन्द्रीय सरकार ने कौन सा सक्रिय कदम उस तरफ उठाया है यह मुझे पता नहीं। मैं आपसे निवेदन करूंगा कि जंगल के नाश के कारण और देश में जंगलों की कमी के कारण जगह जगह वर्षा की कमी हो गई है, पानी सूख गया है, नदियां सूख गई हैं और यह उम्मीद नहीं की जा सकती कि यह काम कब पूरा होगा। इसलिये सरकार का कर्तव्य है कि वन विभाग की तरफ से जो राष्ट्र के लिये नीति निर्धारित की गई है उस तरफ आगे ठोस कदम बढ़ाये जिससे कि १०, १५ साल में हमारे यहां जंगलों की तरक्की हो सके और हमारा देश फिर से हरा भरा हो सके।

तीसरी बात मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि हमारे इस कानून में बहुत जगह प्रिफरेंशियल ट्रीटमेंट (Preferential treatment) दिया गया है, कहीं कहीं परसेंटेज (percentage) घटा दिया गया है, ब्रिटिश माल को जगह जगह प्रिफरेंस दिया गया है। मैं देवकीनंदन जी की भाषा में ही कहूंगा कि शताब्दियों तक हम अंग्रेजी राज्य के नीचे रहे और लगभग ५० वर्ष तक उन से लड़ते रहे, हमने उनका विरोध किया और महात्मा गांधी ने विदेशी वस्त्रों की और चीजों की होलियां जलाई लेकिन इस के बाद भी एक स्वतन्त्र राष्ट्र में भी एक विशेष देश के लिये प्रिफरेंशियल ट्रीटमेंट की बात करते हैं तो हमें दुःख होता है। हमें पता नहीं कि वह प्रिफरेंशियल ट्रीटमेंट किसी विशेष विदेशी राष्ट्र को क्यों दिया जा रहा है। मैं समझता हूं कि किसी विशेष देश के लिये प्रिफरेंशियल ट्रीटमेंट

रखना हमारे देश के लिये उचित नहीं है। जिस भी देश को हमें सामान भेजना हो वह हमें सस्ती कीमत पर सामान भेजे और यदि वह सामान देश की स्वीकार होगा तो उसे हमें खरीदना चाहिये लेकिन किसी देश को प्रिफरेंशियल ट्रीटमेंट दे कर, विशेषाधिकार दे कर, विशेष सुविधा दे कर उस देश का समान अपने यहां खपाने का हम क्यों प्रयत्न कर रहे हैं।

चौथी बात मुझे यह कहनी है कि आप जानते हैं कि हमारे देश में बहुत सी पिछड़ी हुई और हरिजन जातियां हैं। हरिजनों के लिये महात्मा गांधी ने बार बार आमरण अनशन किया और इसी कारण हरिजनों के प्रति देश में, कांग्रेस की और दूसरे नेताओं की, धर्म के नेताओं की और देश के शुभचिन्तकों की बड़ी सद्भावना थी परन्तु स्वतन्त्रता के मिलन के बाद, महात्मा गांधी के न रहने के बाद, पता नहीं कि वह सद्भावना कहाँ चली गई और असेम्बली में तथा पार्लियामेंट में कुछ जगह देने के बाद देश के जिम्मेदार लोगों ने यह समझ लिया कि हरिजनों की समस्या हल हो गई मैं आपसे प्रार्थना करूंगा कि उनकी समस्या अभी हल नहीं हुई और कही कही तो इसका उल्टा परिणाम हुआ है। उल्टा परिणाम यह हुआ है कि जो लोग हरिजनों का उत्थान नहीं देखना चाहते थे और हरिजनों को विशेष रूप से दबाना चाहते थे उन्होंने कहा कि अच्छा यह पार्लियामेंट का या असेम्बली का मेम्बर होने वाला है इसलिये उनके प्रति उल्टा एक रिएक्शन (reaction) पैदा किया और उनके प्रति एक रिएक्शन पैदा हो गया है। इसके बाद सरकार की उदासीनता उनकी तरफ से हुई और जो हरिजन सेवक सघ सरीखी संस्थाएँ हरिजनों की सेवा कर रही थी उनमें भी शिथिलता आ गई है तो फिर इन का कौन रक्षक होगा। विधान में हमने दस साल की अवधि दे दी है परन्तु यदि हम बहुत

ही अधिक निष्ठा के साथ, तत्परता के साथ और बेचैनी के साथ इस कलक को दूर नहीं करेंगे तो आप स्मरण रखिये कि दस साल के खत्म होने के बाद वे फिर रिजर्वेशन (reservation) मांगेंगे और १०, १५ या २० साल का रिजर्वेशन मांगेंगे और दुनिया में एलान करेंगे कि हमारे देश के लोगों ने दस साल का यह रिजर्वेशन दे कर हमारे साथ अन्याय किया है। उनका दस साल में उद्धार नहीं होगा बल्कि उनके अन्दर कानशसनेस (consciousness) बढ़ जायेगी इसलिये इस समस्या को और इस कलक को दूर करने के लिये सरकार को अधिक सक्रिय रूप से, अधिक सहानुभूति में और अधिक बेचैनी से आगे कदम बढ़ाना चाहिये।

बहुत सी बातें हीराकुड़ डैम (dam) के बारे में कही गई हैं। उस सम्बन्ध में मैं आपसे प्रार्थना करूंगा कि जब हम सम्पूर्ण देश की निधि हीराकुड़ डैम में खपाते हैं तो हमें इस बात को स्मरण रखना चाहिये कि वह व्यर्थ न जाय। मैं तो यह कहूंगा कि आफिसरो (officers) के बल पर, आफिसरो के कंट्रोल बोर्ड (Control Board) के बल पर ये बुराईया कभी दूर नहीं हो सकेंगी। मैं यह कहूंगा कि इस काम के लिये बहुत ही तपे हुए और देश के अच्छे से अच्छे लोग होने चाहिये। एक नानआफिशियल बाडी (non-official body) बने और उस का कंट्रोल बोर्ड बने और वह प्रत्येक सप्ताह, प्रत्येक पखवारे में और प्रत्येक मास में जा कर इन कामों को देखे और वहाँ के काम करने वालों से लेखा जोखा ले तभी यह बुराई बहुत हद तक दूर हो सकती है।

इसके बाद मैं बैकवर्ड क्लासेज (Backward Classes) के सम्बन्ध में कुछ कहूंगा। हमारे देश में बहुत से जंगल हैं और उन जंगलों के चारों ओर कई जंगली जातियाँ और पिछड़ी हुई जातियाँ रहती हैं। ऐसी हालत

[Shri R. U. Agnibhoj.]

में उनके लिये भी हमको अधिक से अधिक प्रयत्न करना चाहिये। इसी के साथ मैं यह भी कहूंगा कि हमारे देश में इस तरह की भाषा का प्रचार हो जिसको न केवल हम और आप बल्कि एक देहात का आदमी, एक जंगल में रहने वाला आदिवासी समझ सके। हम बहुत बड़े बड़े जिम्मेदार व्यक्तियों से सुनते हैं, जो कि कहीं के गवर्नर है या किसी बड़ी भारी कोर्ट (court) के जज (judge) हैं, कि हिन्दुस्तान की भाषा संस्कृत होनी चाहिये और यदि आप संस्कृत सीख जायेंगे तो सब भाषायें सीख जायेंगे तो मुझे बड़ा आश्चर्य होता है। जिस देश का आदमी मनुष्य की भाषा नहीं बोल सकता है, मनुष्य की भाषा नहीं सीख सकता है, लिखना नहीं जानता और पढ़ नहीं सकता है उसके लिये आप कहें कि संस्कृत सीखो तो तुम्हारी सब तकलीफ दूर हो जायेगी, बड़े आश्चर्य की बात है। यह तो वैसा ही है कि एक आदमी ने पूछा कि दुबले क्यों हो तो उसने कहा कि अन्न नहीं मिलता है इसलिये दुबला हो रहा हूँ तो उससे उसने कहा कि मिठाई क्यों नहीं खाते, लड्डू क्यों नहीं खाते, फल क्यों नहीं खाते, संतरे और मुसम्मी का रस क्यों नहीं पीते। तो यदि इस तरह की भाषा का हम उपयोग करेंगे तो हमारे देश का क्या होगा? हमारी राष्ट्रभाषा ऐसी होनी चाहिये जो कि देश के सब लोग समझ सकें, वह बहुत ही सुगम और सरल होनी चाहिये और ऐसी होनी चाहिये कि एक अपढ़ आदमी की भी समझ में आ जाये। यदि हम बहुत ही क्लिष्ट भाषा का उपयोग कर के राष्ट्रभाषा बनायेंगे तो वेस्टेड इंटरैस्ट (vested interest) की ही चलेगी, पंडित लोग ही यहां आ कर बैठेंगे और आदिवासी तथा हरिजन दूर हो जायेंगे क्योंकि वे समझ नहीं सकेंगे। इसलिये मेरी प्रार्थना है कि हमारे देश में सरल, सुगम और ऐसी

भाषा का उद्भव और प्रचार हो जिसे हमारे देश के कोने कोने के लोग समझ सकें।

SHRI J. R. KAPOOR:

श्री जे० आर० कपूर : जिस भाषा में आप बोल रहे हैं वह क्या वैसी भाषा नहीं है जिसको आप चाहते हैं ?

SHRI R. U. AGNIBHOJ:

श्री आर० यू० अग्निभोज : वह तो मैं आप को समझाने के लिये बोल रहा हूँ।

मैं केवल एक ही बात और कहूंगा और वह यह है कि स्टील प्लांट (Steel Plant) का बहुत जिक्र आया है और उसके बारे में बहुत झगड़ा चला हुआ है। उसके विषय में भी सरकार जल्दी कदम उठाये क्योंकि वह राष्ट्र के लिये एक बड़ी भारी समस्या है जिसकी कि हमारे देश को बहुत जरूरत है। यदि वह मध्य प्रदेश में जल्दी से जल्दी आरम्भ हो जाय तो बहुत अच्छा है।

[For English translation, see Appendix IV, Annexure No. 134.]

SHRI M. C. SHAH: Mr. Deputy Chairman, I have heard with attention the speeches made by the hon. Members on the Finance Bill and the Central Excises and Salt (Amendment) Bill for the last about 11 hours. Many Members, Sir, have spoken on the clauses of the Finance Bill; many Members have spoken on their needs in the various States to which they belong and some Members have spoken on the general policy. It appears that the House is tired after such a protracted debate on the Finance Bill and those Members who have made certain points are not in their seats. However, I will try to reply generally on the proposals of the Finance Bill i.e., the proposals which were criticised or rather opposed by certain Members and thereafter I will say something on the general questions raised in the debate.

Sir, the first point that I would like to deal with, and which was referred to by some Members of the Opposition and by Prof. Ranga and some other

Members, is direct and indirect taxation or rather the taxation policy of the Government of India. Sir, a wrong impression is being created by quoting certain figures which are not correct and it has been stated that the taxation policy of the Government of India is to make the rich richer and the poor poorer. It has been stated, Sir, that the proportion of direct taxation to the entire income has gone down considerably whereas the proportion of indirect taxation to the entire income has gone up appreciably. One Member has quoted the figures that the direct taxation is nearly 28 point something and the indirect taxation is 71 point something. I say, Sir, that these figures are absolutely incorrect and misleading. I do not know whether those figures were quoted in ignorance or perhaps they were quoted in order to mislead the general public of the country. Sir, I have got the figures for 1945-46 as well as I have got the figures for the latest years 1949-50, 1950-51, 1951-52, 1952-53 and 1953-54 and I can show, Sir, that in the year 1949-50 the direct taxation was 159·6, in 1950-51 it was 173·2, in 1951-52 it was 187·1, in 1952-53 it was 170 and in 1953-54 it is 160. And looking to the grand total of the income, the percentage comes to 49 in 1949-50, 50 in 1950-51, 45 in 1951-52, 46 in 1952-53 and 43 in 1953-54. So, Sir, even today i.e. 1953-54, the direct taxation percentage is 43 per cent. and not 28 per cent. as has been stated by one of the Members here. It appears, Sir, that they have taken the figures from the Budget i.e. from the Central share of income-tax and they have just deducted therefrom the State share. The above figures are the total income-tax collections in India and the States share is not shown separately in the Central Budget.

In regard to the customs, Sir, they have excluded export duties. So, Sir, if you look to these figures, it will be seen that the proportion is almost nearabout 43 or 45 and so on. Again, Sir, if you look to the years 1945-46 and 1953-54, it is 44·4 and 43·9 respectively.

Now it is also stated * by Prof. Ranga that we are giving relief to the higher income groups and are increasing the burden of the lower income groups. If you look, Sir, to the figures that I have got, you will find that that is also not borne out by the facts. If I just give the figures, Sir, you will find that up to the income of Rs. 5,000 the percentage of income-tax in 1945-46 was 4·7 whereas today in 1953-54 it is 2·3. It is reduced perhaps by 50 per cent. If you look to Rs. 10,000 there is a reduction. And if we go to Rs. 30,000 and odd and also more, we find the percentage in 1945-46 was 48·4 and today it is 50·1. If you take the Rs. 1,50,000 group, it was previously 55·2. Today it is 59·6.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: Is that the total tax collected or the relief in taxation given to them?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: Percentage of income-tax on this income. It has been said that on the lower income groups, there has been a rise. That was the point raised by Prof. Ranga. He said also that in the case of the larger income groups, there was some relief given. It was said that the taxation policy of the Government of India is to make the rich richer and the poor poorer.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: That is quite right.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: These things are not borne out by facts. The higher income groups are paying more than what they were paying before in 1945-46 and 1951-52.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: Does the hon. Minister seriously contend that there has been no relief given to the higher income groups since 1945-46?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: I have got the figures here which show that there has been no relief given to them comparing 1945-46 with 1953-54. If you look to the world figures for these higher income groups, it is about 82 per cent. in India, higher than all other countries except in the case of the U.S.A. and U.K., thus taking all the countries, you will find that India

[Shri M. C. Shah.] comes third in taxing these higher income groups. So, I submit that the point that was made out is not correct. My hon. friend, Mr. Reddy, was evidently not here when I mentioned the figures about direct taxation. The proportion of direct taxation is not 28 per cent. as was alleged. It is 43 per cent. today, and during the last four years, it has been something like 45 per cent., 46 per cent. and 43 per cent. This has been the percentage of direct taxation in the entire income.

PROF. G. RANGA: Your figures have got to be studied by an auditor.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: They are audited figures.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: What is the income group to which this percentage applies?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He has already mentioned it.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: I have got the figures from 1945 onwards for income groups of 5,000, 7,000, 10,000, 15,000, 20,000, 30,000, 50,000, 80,000, 1,00,000, etc. and I have compared the figures for all these years with the figures for 1953-54.

PROF. G. RANGA: Everything is all right.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: So, that is the position about income-tax. When I am talking about income-tax, I must say that there was one point made by Mr. Mazumdar, and that was with regard to double taxation relief. He objected to clause 49(a). The position is that we are only taking power for giving relief from double taxation in the case of countries with whom agreements will be entered into on a reciprocal basis. So, we are not giving anything to foreigners. The tax that such people will pay will not be less than what a person will pay who earns his whole income in India. So, there is no question of giving any preference to foreign firms.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: See 49(b).

SHRI M. C. SHAH: Yes. You said that we are giving relief to foreign firms. It is not so. It is a reciprocal agreement to be entered into with other countries, and then only double taxation relief is given. We are only taking power to enter into such agreements. So, the objection raised is not tenable.

I was really amazed at the statement made by Mr. Rath regarding betel-nuts. He quoted certain figures which are not borne out. Unfortunately he is not here. I would like to inform him that it was the producers who wanted a rise in the import duty on betel-nuts to 12 annas. As a matter of fact, it was because we looked to the interests of the consumers also, that we came to the conclusion that we should not increase it to 12 annas. He also stated that there was a rise in prices just before the Budget. It is also not borne out by facts. I see that the rise began from Rs. 95 or so in October last. That was because there was no pronouncement about the import policy and so there was a rise of about 10 or 15 rupees. At the same time, he has also forgotten to say that the price of indigenous production had fallen from Rs. 55 to nearly Rs. 33. As a matter of fact, it was to give relief to the indigenous producers that we have resorted to this increase of duty on imported betel-nuts. I have got all the figures here, but unfortunately Mr. Rath is not here at the moment and I do not want to tire the House with all those figures.

Then, there was objection about the increase in the postal rates. I will just inform the House that we were forced to raise some of the rates, and we had to choose the items on which we should raise the rates, because there was a huge deficit in the working of the various items. There was also the question raised here about the reduction of the post-card rate. Even at the rate of nine pies we are today losing about 132.6 lakhs of rupees per annum on the post-cards. Then, there was another item which came in for discussion, on the rates for registered newspapers. There also we are losing Rs. 112.3 lakhs.

Then we are also losing on the book packets and registered articles. Even without the proposed increase, the loss on book packets is expected to be nearly Rs 87 lakhs, while in the case of parcels it is approximately Rs 137 lakhs. So, we had to decide which to choose, in order to make up about Rs 130 lakhs. We rejected the proposal to increase the price of the post-card or the raising of the rates for newspapers, and we came to the conclusion that we should raise the rates for book packets and parcels, and thereby we are going to get Rs 190 lakhs. It has been said that by raising the rates on book packets etc., we will be hitting the students who are studying. I have examined this point and I found that they get these books by railway parcel and not by postal parcel. We are satisfied that the increase will not cause any suffering to the common man. These increased rates will have to be borne mostly by businessmen, and I am really amazed that a member of that Party which professes to speak for the masses, should take up the cause of the trading community. As a matter of fact it may be that a certain part of the profits of these traders will be mopped up but there is not going to be any substantial effect on the consumers and therefore in order to raise about Rs 190 lakhs we are forced to come to this decision. My friend Mr Saksena, who also objected to this, is not here.

SHRI H P SAKSENA I am here

SHRI M C SHAH Then there is the question of excise duty on tobacco. Prof Ranga raised that point but perhaps he may be aware that there are certain rules of the Excise Act whereby the producer can keep his produce at least for 6 months. He is not asked to pay the duty immediately and if he puts his goods in the public warehouse, then he can keep for 3 years. So the question of suffering on account of excise duty on the part of the poor does not come into operation.

PROF G RANGA Where are the public warehouses? They are very few

SHRI M C SHAH There are. They can keep in their own warehouses and for 6 months they are not to pay. In fact they can keep even for 18 months—a year following the crop.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY Which grower can afford to keep for months?

SHRI M C SHAH I don't understand what further relief the Government give in the matter.

Then comes the question of crop insurance. I had enquired into that and I may inform Prof Ranga that perhaps he may be aware that this matter has been under investigation by the ICAR for some time past. A proposal was put forward by that body. That proposal provided for expenditure of about Rs 29 lakhs for administrative expenses excepting the premia. That was sent to many States like Madras, Bombay, U.P. and Madhya Pradesh. There was no encouraging response from those States. They thought that the expense is too much and therefore again that proposal was revised and the expenditure has been brought down to Rs 20 lakhs and has again been sent to those Provincial Governments for consideration. We are awaiting their reports and after that we want to have a pilot experiment. We cannot have it on a big scale. After we get concurrence of those States to have those experimental pilot schemes, we propose to take that into consideration.

PROF G RANGA I am aware of all these, maybe much earlier than my hon. friend. My point is I want an experiment to be made in regard to this particular instance. Because it is specially amenable to crop insurance.

SHRI M C SHAH That matter can be considered when we get the reports from the Provincial Governments on that subject.

PROF G RANGA On this I want it to be specially studied.

SHRI M C SHAH Then the question of preferential treatment in connection with certain duties, certain import duties, was raised. It was

[SHRI M. C. SHAH.]

said that we give preference to the British manufactured goods and that all this should be abolished. I may invite the attention of hon. Members to the fact that there was an agreement entered into in the year 1939 known as the UK India Trade Agreement, and there India allowed a preferential margin to certain products on the basis of reciprocity. Under the Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, India agrees with the prior consent of the United Kingdom, to reduce the margin of preference on some of the goods. As a result of all this, as long as India continues to be a party to the United Kingdom-India Trade Agreement of 1939, we are obliged to maintain the agreed margin of preference. But as was stated in the other House by the Finance Minister, this matter is now under the consideration of the Commerce and Industry Ministry and by the Finance Ministry and we are just considering whether we should do away with them, taking into consideration if there are any residual advantages resulting from this agreement. So this is because of the agreement which had been entered into and which has not yet been abrogated and therefore you will find in the Schedule these preferential duties.

PROF. G. RANGA: What is the use of such replies?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: What use?

PROF. G. RANGA: Well, it is no good.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: I find that practically there was no opposition as far as the financial proposals are concerned and I am very grateful to the hon. Members of the House for giving general agreement to the financial proposals contained in the Finance Bill.

I come now to certain general questions raised during the course of the debate. I will first take up the question raised by Dr. Kunzru this morning—the audit of Government-owned companies. I may inform him that when joint-stock com-

panies are formed as Government-owned industrial undertakings, the articles of association provide that the audit of accounts should be by the Comptroller and Auditor-General. The Comptroller and Auditor-General's objection to this is that he would submit the report to the President; but as the report is always submitted to the Government this is only an objection with regard to the procedure. Now, if we are to accept the suggestion of Dr. Kunzru and form the corporations, then we have to come in for legislation for each individual corporation whenever we want to set up one; and that position will be rather a cumbersome one. If we legislate on a general basis, then too there are certain conditions which might apply to certain corporations only and so there will be difficulty for a legislation of that kind. Therefore, as I have stated, whenever joint-stock companies are formed as Government-owned industrial undertakings, the condition of audit by the Auditor-General is kept there.

With regard to the separation of audit and accounts, the principle has been already accepted by Government and the implementation will take some time.

But, that matter is being pursued. With regard to payments to be made by the Comptroller and Auditor-General that is only a limited number and, as far as New Delhi is concerned, he is relieved of that responsibility and other States are also considering the matter.

Now, Sir, he had raised points about the U.P.S.C. I have got a note from the Home Ministry also.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: What about the development grant given to Kashmir?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: We have not given a grant of Rs. 10 crores; we have provided for a loan of Rs. 10 crores for the development projects of the Jammu & Kashmir Government.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: It is the same thing.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: And, as a matter of fact, as long as the Federal Financial Integration Scheme is not effected between the Jammu & Kashmir Government and the Government of India, it is not possible to have those accounts audited by the Indian Government, but, it has been stated that all the accounts audited by the Accountant General of Jammu & Kashmir are to be submitted to the Central Government before payments are made towards that loan of Rs. 10 crores which is given for specified projects provided for in the Plan. Therefore, Sir, till that is not done, we have to just get along as a loan to the Jammu & Kashmir Government and that is being done. As a matter of fact, we have also provided a condition that our experts will go and inspect the working of these projects and the reports will be submitted to the Planning Commission and the Finance Ministry. They will also satisfy themselves whether the loan granted for a specific purpose is being spent for that particular project and whether that project is satisfactorily progressing or not. For this purpose, we are.....

SHRI K. S. HEGDE: That is not the same thing as audit.

SHRI M. C. SHAH:sending a team of our officers to visit the Jammu & Kashmir projects that are taken in hand.

SHRI K. S. HEGDE: It is not the same thing as audit.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: I have stated that as long as agreement is not reached on the Federal Financial Integration between the Government of Jammu & Kashmir and the Government of India, we cannot just insist on this audit and with that fact clearly before our eyes we have accepted in our Plan to help the Jammu & Kashmir Government just to have these development projects carried out and we have decided to give a loan of Rs. 10 crores to the Jammu & Kashmir Government.

About the U.P.S.C., Sir,.....

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: It is the financial condition of the State which has given rise to great anxiety.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: I am coming to that also.

About the U.P.S.C., Sir, the U.P.S.C. recommended a drastic curtailment in the list of posts which under the regulations are outside the purview of the Commission for a long period, in some cases from the inception of the Commission in 1926. So, all these recommendations have to be sent to various Ministries, their opinions have to be obtained and after that all these matters are to be considered. After consideration, Government will take a decision. In fact, I have got a long note but I would not like to tire the House by reading the whole note on this point.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: But this consultation has been going on for eighteen months.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: Yes, Sir, but I have stated that there were certain drastic modifications proposed; there were certain posts which were of a highly technical and specialised character. Some of these involve appointments outside India also in the Diplomatic or Trade Missions and also in certain Part C and Part B States, like Coorg and Andamans. In those circumstances, it was not possible to come to a decision immediately. We had to submit all these recommendations to the various Ministries concerned and, thereafter, we cannot come to conclusions early. So it has taken time, Sir.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: Have the observations of these Ministries been received?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: No, it does not seem that the opinions have been received. At the same time I may inform Dr. Kunzru—perhaps Dr. Kunzru is well aware—that the amendments made in the Union Public Service Commission (Consultation) Regulations have been laid before each House of the Parliament

[Shri M C. Shah]

as required by article 325 of the Constitution. And about others also, as I stated, Sir, the final decision of Government on these proposals will be reached in the near future. That much I can say because these modifications necessarily require careful and detailed consideration and consultation.

PROF G RANGA Quite prolonged

SHRI M C SHAH Now, Sir The one matter that was raised by Dr Kunzru was, I think, about an officer of Bengal. The case of the officer of the West Bengal Government, who has been referred to, was explained in the Memorandum along with the First Report of the Union Public Service Commission which were placed before the Parliament on the 11th October 1951. In this connection attention is invited to para 45 of the Report and para 13 of the Memorandum.

SHRI H N KUNZRU I have read both of them.

SHRI M C SHAH There is only one point and that is with regard to the States. I am coming to that and that also very soon.

AN HON MEMBER Very good.

SHRI M C SHAH Now, Sir, there are several other points raised by many Members with regard to their States. I think it will not be possible to reply to each and every point raised by those Members. But I can assure those Members that I shall send the several important points of their speeches to the Ministries concerned, I mean of those Members whose points are not covered in the reply that I proposed to give,—very soon.

Now, Sir, there was also one question with regard to economy in expenditure. It was said by many Members that there ought to be

economy in expenditure. I have got with me a long note as to what steps were taken previously but I will not tire the House out with this but I may inform the hon Members that there is today an economic unit working and which is inspecting all the various Ministries. The Central Government being fully aware of the constant need for the scrutiny of administrative expenditure has set up a special unit representing the Home and Finance Ministries. There are one Joint Secretary of the Finance Ministry, a Deputy Secretary of the Finance Ministry and a Deputy Secretary of the Home Ministry representing the Home and Finance Ministries, to make an objective review of the organizational structure of all the Ministries and the offices attached and subordinate to them with a view to economy. This unit has already examined so far the Ministries of Food & Agriculture, Irrigation & power, and Labour and the offices under them. It has also examined the office of the Public Service Commission and made some recommendations. The expenditure of these three Ministries comes to 354.04 lakhs, i.e. 3 crores, 54 lakhs and odd. The economy they have recommended is 87.12 lakhs and all these recommendations are under the consideration of the Government. Some of them have been accepted and the others are under consideration.

SHRI V G GOPAL (Bihar) Does the recommendation involve retrenchment of employees?

SHRI M C SHAH Yes, Sir.

AN HON MEMBER Only small ones, not big ones.

SHRI M C SHAH No, Sir. Big ones also. So it will be seen that we are very earnest with regard to economy in expenditure. I may say that Government are as keen, if not more keen—if I say more keen some Member may say 'Question'—the Government of India are as keen as the Members of this House to see that not a single pie is wasted, not a

single pie is spent unnecessarily and we are trying to see that this objective is reached as early as possible. Today they have examined only three Ministries which cost, as I said, about Rs 3 54,00,000, and the savings they have recommended are about Rs 87 lakhs. You will see that not only the Ministries here but also their attached offices elsewhere have been already included in that. That economy unit will now examine other Ministries also and slowly and slowly we are trying to economise as much as possible. At the same time it was my friend Mr Reddy who mentioned about the Defence Ministry and the financial control there. Financial control is there not only at Delhi but at several other places and they are just trying to see that there is no waste whatsoever. But at the same time we must remember, Sir, that ours is a very vast organisation and the developmental expenditure has mounted up. We want to spend as much as Rs 2069 crores for this Five Year Plan and all this developmental expenditure needs vast organisation and it is possible that in a vast organisation we may not attain as much as we desire. So there may be as my friend Shri Hegde said some rat-holes in the Defence Ministry also but we will try to block them up. At the same time I can assure you that with regard to financial control we are trying our level best and we will see, though, as I said the developmental expenditure has increased tremendously, that the financial control is most effective. The Government are one with the Members of the House that the tax-payers' money should not be wasted in any way. I can assure you this much and I hope that the House will accept this assurance from us.

Then, Sir, a very important point—a point of policy was raised by my friend Mr Ghosh with regard to nationalisation of insurance and banking companies. He had quoted certain extracts from the Five Year Plan also, I have gone through those paragraphs carefully and I may say that so far as I can understand, so far as I can

see from the Report of the Planning Commission, the Planning Commission has in its mind the reorientation of banking, insurance and of the whole mechanism of finance including the Stock Exchange and other institutions concerned with investment. The Report of the Planning Commission does not say that this reorientation necessarily involves nationalisation. He quoted the Finance Minister saying in the other House that he was not in favour of socialism or nationalisation as such. That interpretation of my friend is correct. Nationalisation is after all a means to achieve certain objectives. Under certain conditions it may be that public ownership and management will be necessary and will be sufficient to attain that objective, but, Sir, it should be remembered at the same time that governmental regulation, control and direction also may attain that objective. When the Planning Commission considered these institutions, they had in mind the reorientation of the whole financial structure. At the same time we have to see what part the banking institutions will play in the existing circumstances and in the existing economic objectives of the country.

Sir, there are three objectives for these banking institutions. One is that the credit institutions should be spread over the whole country to give help to agriculture and industry, especially to cottage industries and small-scale industries. Now, this form is a new development where the co-operative principles will play a very vital role. At the same time well established and enterprising commercial banks also may play a certain part, and a very good part too. That is one objective. The second objective is that the depositors' interests must be safeguarded, and for that, as you know under the Banking Companies Act the Reserve Bank has got ample powers. The third objective is that it must be seen that all these credit facilities are not directed towards undesirable channels like speculation and so on. So, Sir, if we view the matter from this angle, we have to consider whether

[Shri M. C. Shah.]

the banking institutions as they exist at present will play a part in the financing of the Five Year Plan.

Sir, under the Plan certain priorities are given to certain industries, and it has to be seen that the financial resources of the private banks are directed towards financing those industries which have been given very high priorities in the Plan.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: May I ask how the Government intends to direct the banks to do such a thing?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: I am coming to that. That can be established by conventions, in consultation with the Reserve Bank.

And so, Sir, we want to have the substance and not the form of the change in the banking institution.

SHRI K. S. HEGDE: On a point of information. Are the commercial banks, constituted as they are, in a position to finance agriculture? Is it the opinion of the hon. Minister that they will be able to do so?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: I said that there were three objectives for these banking institutions from the point of view of which we should consider the question. The question is whether without resorting to nationalisation we can make the banking institutions play their part in financing the Five Year Plan, keeping those three objectives in view.

SHRI K. S. HEGDE: How does the hon. Minister propose to do it?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Through the Reserve Bank. That is what he says.

SHRI K. S. HEGDE: The last report of the Reserve Bank makes the confession.....

SHRI M. C. SHAH: The hon. Member should please hear me.

I stated in reply to Mr. Ranga on the debate on the Budget that the Reserve Bank of India had convened an informal conference wherein all the recommendations of the Rural

Banking Enquiry Committee were examined, and as a result certain amendments to the Reserve Bank of India Act were suggested whereby we could extend credit to the agriculturists through co-operative banks, by granting loans to apex banks which will advance to district and primary banks. I had also stated then that the Agricultural Credit Department of the Reserve Bank had already established a committee to carry out an all-India credit survey. That committee will submit its report to the Reserve Bank, and it will come to Government. It is expected within two months. After we get the report, we will take action according to their recommendations to extend credit facilities to the rural areas. And also we are proposing to have more and more branches 6 P.M. just in the small district towns from which advances can be made to some co-operative banks or private banks which can reach the agriculturists.

SHRI RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: May I just point out that the Imperial Bank can advance only to the apex bank and not to the rural banks? That is the banking principle.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: As I said, Sir, the Imperial Bank or the Reserve Bank will give to the apex bank and the apex bank will just give loans to the district banks and then to the private banks. That is what I stated.

PROF. G. RANGA: Everything is all right now.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: Thank you. So, Sir, I was just saying that.

Now, Sir, Mr. Ghose has stated that the Reserve Bank has ample powers to direct the banks about the extension of credit in the channels required under the Plan and, Sir, also the Planning Commission has stated that it is possible that the profit motive left to itself may, to a certain extent, inhibit the extension of credit facilities on lines which are particularly important and urgent from the overall national point of view. It is, therefore, necessary that the banking system must operate more and more

in the light of priorities for the development projects indicated in the Plan and less and less in terms of return on the capital. To a great extent this can be done by developing certain conventions, as I stated, Sir, among the banks.

About the insurance, Sir, the same considerations apply. My friend said, Sir, that the compensation to be paid will be very small and we can take over and we can just use those funds for the development of the Plan. But at the same time, we must remember, Sir, that the private sector has also its own needs for finance. We have to remember that without nationalising the insurance companies if we can achieve the objective in view, then I think we should not mind about the form or pattern. We should look to the substance and the substance is whether we can get all those funds for the development projects, high priorities for which have already been given in the Plan and I submit, Sir, that our approach to these questions is pragmatic. Such changes in ownership and management must be made in order to secure the ends in view. This does not rule out nationalisation altogether. The essential point in the recommendations of the Planning Commission, therefore, is that we must look in these cases to the substance rather than to the form and examine all the possibilities of the various techniques and devices available for securing the ends in view and that, I believe, was the reasoning adopted by the Finance Minister in the Lower House.

Now, Sir, I am sorry I have taken more time. Then there was a doubt expressed by some Members opposite that the Government was not serious with regard to the Estate Duty Bill and they had not taken up that Bill though the Finance Minister had stated that he was very keen to see that the Estate Duty Bill was passed in this session. I may say, Sir, that the Finance Minister is as keen as he was and the Government are keen that the Estate Duty Bill should be passed as early as possible. The Select Committee has already report-

ed, but because of want of time—the Business Committee allotted only five days for the consideration of the Select Committee's report—the clause by clause consideration will be taken up in the next session perhaps in July or in August, and the Bill will be passed in that session without any doubt and I am sure that before the close of the financial year, the Finance Ministry will be collecting estate duties, as the Bill will be passed into an Act possibly before the end of the next session.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: Will they get a commission on that?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: Commission?

Then, a point was raised about the centralisation of sales tax. My hon. friend, Mr. Kishen Chand, raised it. Perhaps he is aware that sales tax is in the State List, and we cannot interfere, except in regard to essential goods for which an Act has been passed, and though uniformity is desirable, we cannot force the State Governments to accept our point of view. It is entirely for the State Governments to do what they like. The State Governments get a good deal of revenue from sales tax—more than Rs. 50 crores annually—which is very useful to them to prosecute their development plans. At the same time, he raised the point that the multi-point sales tax will lead to evasion of income-tax. I was really amazed at this argument. As a matter of fact, if there is multi-point sales tax, evasion of income-tax will become very difficult.

Mr. Basappa Shetty raised the question about the Malnad Improvement Committee and made the charge that the Planning Commission had prevented the Malnad Improvement Committee from submitting its further report. The charge is not correct. What happened was this: The Committee which was set up by the Ministry of Agriculture in 1950 made an interim report recommending large capital expenditure and the setting up of an Inter-State Board. These recommendations had naturally to be referred to the State Gov-

[Shri M. C. SHAH.]

ernments concerned, and in the absence of replies from all the State Governments, no progress could be made. This does not mean, however, that Malnad goes without any development expenditure. I may inform the House that the Mysore Government for instance has provided Rs. 123 lakhs in the State Plan for the development of the Malnad Area. Also a modest plan suggested by the Committee will come in for discussion in due course between the Food and Agriculture Ministry and the Planning Commission.

Then, there was the question raised about the power shortage in Madras, and it was asked why, when the Central Government has built the Kalyan Power Station, a power station should not be built in Madras to supply power to the Madras Suburban Railways. I have ascertained that in 1951-52 the consumption of the Southern Railways was only between 4 and 5 per cent. of the total power generated by the Madras Government. Considering this small consumption, it is doubtful whether it will at all be worth while to set up a separate power plant for generation of power exclusively for the Railways, nor will this be an immediate solution to the problem of power shortage in Madras.

Some point was raised about the Delhi Transport Service also. A special enquiry committee was appointed in July 1952 and it made certain recommendations and thereafter a new General Manager has been appointed. They have already ordered for 41 new buses and they propose to order 70 new buses and two new depots are also under consideration. That I think will improve the position. This time they are making profit and I believe the Bus Transport Services well run, must make profit. I had experience of it in Ahmedabad where we had the first Nationalised Bus Transport and in 3 years on a capital investment of Rs. 25 lakhs we had got depreciation to the extent of Rs. 23 lakhs over and above the profits. There is no reason why the

D.T.S. should not run very efficiently and also not make profits.

Then there was a point raised about export of wool. I have ascertained the facts from the Ministry. Today the production is about 55 million lbs. of wool and the consumption in India is about 25 million lbs. So there is a clear exportable surplus of nearly 30 million lbs—perhaps more. There was reference also that the Carpet Industry suffered because of export of wool. From facts it does not appear to be so and about the price also I obtained the information. I find that for the last few months there is almost no change in the prices too and with regard to white wool, it has been ascertained that the production is about 19 million lbs. and the requirement of the Carpet Industry is about 9 million lbs. There is also a surplus of 10 million lbs. and therefore it is not correct to say that if we ban the export of wool, then only the Carpet Industry can flourish.

SHRI B. B. SHARMA (Uttar Pradesh): On a point of fact. Have prices of wool gone up or not? And why?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: They have not gone up. It was stated that it had gone up by 150 per cent. According to my information there is some slight variation.

SHRI B. B. SHARMA: Not downward, I think.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: It was between Rs. 241-8-0 to Rs. 280-11-0 in the months from 11th October 1952 to 21st March 1953 and the Commerce and Industry Ministry has examined the position and the question is always under review and if anything is necessary, they will certainly do it but there is an exportable surplus.

SHRI B. B. SHARMA: My point is this.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let the hon. Minister proceed.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: Pandit Kunzru had raised the question about the financing of the States and many other Members also raised that ques-

tion and I may say that it was stated first also in the General Debate on the Budget and the hon. Finance Minister has already expressed his opinion that though for a variety of reasons some of the State Governments have not succeeded in raising the resources expected of them, during the first 2 years of the Plan, there is really no cause for pessimism. There are still 3 years and I hope that the States will use this period for making every endeavour in raising the bulk of resources expected of them. While a feeling of caution is natural, I don't think there need be any serious misgiving that the plans will not be fulfilled. I find that only Madras State in 1952 had certain difficulties and we had to make a ways and means accommodation to the extent of Rs. 17 crores in 1952-53.

SHRI RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: May I point out to the hon. Minister Sir, that this sum of Rs. 17 crores was advanced for development plans?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: For the development plans also they were given, as I have stated on the Appropriation Bill about Rs. 16 crores during these three years; and as a matter of fact, it was much more than what they were entitled to under the Five Year Plan. Possibly they were entitled to only Rs. 11 to 12 crores. About loans also, it was complained that they were not given enough loans. A sum of Rs. 15 crores has been provided for the purpose of meeting famine and scarcity conditions for three years for the whole of India and this comes to Rs. 5 crores a year for the whole country and the State of Madras alone got Rs. 2 crores, besides a gratuitous relief of about Rs. 48 lakhs. So out of this sum of Rs. 5 crores meant for the whole of India, Madras alone got Rs. 2 crores.

SHRI K. S. HEGDE: Is it your idea that famine could be rationed out?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: I say out of this sum of Rs. 5 crores, we have to meet the demands of other States also, if there is famine in Maharashtra, Karnataka, Mysore.....

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: Mysore got nothing. Why talk of Mysore?

KHWAJA INAIT ULLAH (Bihar): Everybody is leaving out Bihar.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: I have stated generally what was stated by the Finance Minister. After Dr. Kunzru's speech, I made enquiries and I find that the information that he has got possibly may not be correct. According to my information, only Madras had a minus balance in 1952-53 and.....

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: I may state, Sir, I have got this information from the Finance Ministry.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: I have got the latest information from the Finance Ministry after what my hon. friend had said in his speech. After the point was raised I have examined the.....

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: I may inform the hon. Minister that I got the information only last evening.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: I can assure the hon. Member that I got it at 3-30 p.m. today.

So only Madras had a minus balance in 1952-53 which we helped to cover and no State had a negative balance on the 31st of March 1953. Some of the States have not allowed for the market borrowing which they hope to be able to make and it is possible that the actual position may not turn out to be as bad as has been shown by the State Governments in their Budget estimates. In fact, as I have said earlier, we hope the State Governments will be able to raise sufficient resources to implement their part of the Plan.....

SHRI K. S. HEGDE: Is there any rational basis for your hope?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: I am sure that all the State Governments will play their part.

[Shri M. C. Shah.]

At the same time, I hope that all the Members of the Parliament as also of the Legislatures will do their duty by the country to get the Plan through. Therefore, I will appeal to them that instead of being bitter over certain matters and saying things feelingly on so many matters, it should be rather our duty to enthuse by our own example the people at large in the country. I do not believe in a defeatist mood and I do not believe in pessimism. I have great hope and faith in the future of my country and we will have to tighten our belts and find the money. There is no defeatist mood whatsoever in the hope that I cherish. Though my hon. friend Mr. Srivastava is not here.....

HON. MEMBERS: He is here.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: I wanted to say something about the common man he talked of.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: Is my hon. friend aware that according to the Revised Estimates for 1952-53 and the Budget figures for 1953-54 the position in Part A and Part B States together will be much worse in 1953-54 than it was in 1952-53?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: I have examined it from that point of view and I still believe that realistically, at the end of the year, the position is not going to be bad. That is my reading of the situation and I hope that it will come out to be true.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Something will turn out.

KHWAJA INAIT ULLAH: Shall turn out.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is 6-20 p.m. and I hope the hon. Minister is going to close soon.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: Dr. Kunzru had quoted those Revised Estimates and I am quoting the actuals as they stood on the 31st March 1953.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: Actuals in twenty days?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: By the end of March, 1953, as I had stated, only Madras had a minus balance on 1952-53 which we had to cover and no other State had a negative balance and I am quoting from the actuals that we have in our Finance Ministry.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: Dr. Kunzru was supplied the estimates yesterday?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: I wanted to say something about my hon. friend Mr. Srivastava as to how he can help. I wish that he were a common man, divesting himself of all his riches and there are many things which can be done.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We will probably have to sit overnight if the hon. Minister wishes to reply to every Member's speech.

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA: I wish there were millions of common men like himself here in India.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: I think, Sir, that I have taken more than the time allotted to me and so I will not refer to anything else. Many other points were raised by hon. Members who wanted that they would like to have some answer for the points that they had raised. I had prepared notes on all the questions raised but I can only assure the Members that all the points that they have raised and which have not been replied to will be looked into by the Ministries concerned and whatever is possible will be done.

There is one point about Income Tax which was raised by my hon. friend from Vindhya Pradesh but as I will take more time, I will just explain to him if he comes to me.

Sir, I think the Members of the House for patiently hearing my reply and I commend the Motion for consideration of the Finance Bill to the House, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Cen-

tral Government for the financial year 1953-54, as passed by the House of the People, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now we shall take up the other Bill. The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944, as passed by the House of the People be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bills. First of all we shall take up the Finance Bill. There are no amendments to Clause 2.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Clause 3 stand part of the Bill."

There are two amendments, the first one being in the name of Shri Pydah Venkata Narayana. You please move it.

AN HON. MEMBER: What is the use.....

ANOTHER HON. MEMBER: It is too late in the day.....

SHRI P. V. NARAYANA: I must have at least 10 minutes, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have already had time; you have spoken already.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: May I rise to a point of order that the amendment is not in order because we are not amending that clause in this Bill and I think this amendment should not be allowed. He wants to amend.....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am afraid your point is not correct.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: Is it so, Sir?

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: What is the point of order?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: I say, Sir, that we are not amending the clause that my friend wants to amend. So my submission is that if that clause is not there in this Finance Bill, then no amendment on a clause which is not proposed to be amended should be allowed. This is my submission.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Is the hon. Minister serious in raising this objection?

(No reply.)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Are you moving your amendment. Mr Jaspotroy Kapoor? No speech please.

SHRI J. R. KAPOOR: (Uttar Pradesh): First of all, Sir, there seems to be much force. I suppose, in the contention raised by the Deputy Minister in his point of order. That may be considered.....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have considered it and I have given my ruling that the amendment is in order.

SHRI J. R. KAPOOR: I think, Sir, that on such important matters we should express our views. Of course we have to submit to your ruling.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order, order. Please go on, Mr. Narayana.

SHRI P. V. NARAYANA: In Clause

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please move your amendment first.

SHRI P. V. NARAYANA: Sir, I beg to move:

"That in clause 3 of the Bill, after sub-clause (a), the following new sub-clause be inserted namely:

'(aa) In clause (a) of the second proviso to sub-section (2) of

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section 9, for the words "one-half of the total amount of such taxes or one-eighth" the words "the total amount of such taxes or one-fourth" shall be substituted."

'This is my amendment, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Is the hon. Minister likely to accept this amendment?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: No, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Amendment moved:

"That in clause 3 of the Bill, after sub-clause (a), the following new sub-clause be inserted, namely:—

'(aa) In clause (a) of the second proviso to sub-section (2) of Section 9, for the words "one-half of the total amount of such taxes or one-eighth" the words "the total amount of such taxes or one-fourth" shall be substituted.'

The amendment and the clause are open for discussion.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There is one amendment in the name of Mr. Kapoor. Are you moving it, Mr. Kapoor?

SHRI J. R. KAPOOR: As the House seems to be tired and exhausted and it is taxing your patience also, I do not wish to move my amendment.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Narayana.

SHRI P. V. NARAYANA: In clause 3 of the Finance Bill, Sir, the Income-tax Act is sought to be amended firstly "to give exemption in respect of a residential house which the owner is unable to occupy by reason of his occupation or employment elsewhere." This removes a hardship.

There is another great hardship in that very section, section 9, Sir, and it is only to remove that hardship that I have given notice of this

amendment and which I have now moved

Sir, sub-section (1) of section 9 of the Income-tax Act deals with the property, its income and the assessment to local taxation by the local authorities and the allowances and other things.

Then sub-section (2) of that section deals with the net income on which the income-tax is to be levied. Sir. Here sub-section (2) says, "For the purposes of this section, the annual value of any property shall be deemed to be the sum for which the property might reasonably be expected to let from year to year." Then, Sir, the second proviso lays down: "Provided further that where the property is in the occupation of a tenant and the taxes levied by any local authority in respect of the property are, under the law authorising such levy, payable wholly by the owner or partly by the owner and partly by the tenant." Clause (a) to this proviso is what is sought to be amended by me. It says: "one-half of the total amount of such taxes or one-eighth of the annual value of the property, whichever is less, shall, notwithstanding anything contained in such law, be deemed to be the tenant's liability for such taxes." and "in determining the annual value of the property with reference to the rent payable by the tenant, a deduction shall be made equal to that part, if any, of the tenant's liability which is borne by the owner."

Sir, if a man possesses a property and if it was within the limits of a municipality, he has to pay some taxes to the municipality for the amenities provided by the municipality or the local authority and if he gets Rs. 1,000 he has to pay something like Rs. 200 towards taxes. But the amount of taxes levied by the local authority should be deducted from the annual income of the house and the net income only should be assessed for this tax. Now under clauses (a) and (b) of sub-section (2) of section 9 of the Income Tax Act it is only a part of the taxes that are now

allowed to be deducted from the gross rental or annual income.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You want the whole of those taxes to be exempted?

SHRI P. V. NARAYANA: Yes, Sir. The Income Tax authorities have been assessing tax on the taxes paid to the local authority. If the net income has to be calculated, it should be after deducting all the taxes paid to the local authorities and it is quite reasonable that Government should have accepted my amendment. Not only they did not accept that but the Government raised some point of order and I am thankful to you, Sir, for having ruled it out. Double taxation is worse; but this is a much worse system than double taxation. If I get any income and if that goes into my pocket, I can understand that being taxed by the Income Tax authorities. But if I pay taxes to the local authorities and if I am asked to pay income tax on the taxes paid to the local authorities also, it is certainly worse than double taxation system. I have come across a case recently when the sales tax has been.....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let us not go to the Sales Tax.

SHRI P. V. NARAYANA: It was just an analogy, Sir. Now, Sir, if a certain person collects a certain tax as an agent on behalf of a local authority, it should not be taxed and when a certain tax has been paid to a local authority, that tax should not again be taxed. Only the net income should be taxed.

Also there should be incentive for some of those people who can invest money in the construction of buildings and all that and in these days of scarcity of housing accommodation, it is all the more necessary for the Government to rise to the occasion and give such incentive and attraction to people who can invest in buildings. To some extent that will also solve this problem. It should be noted that it is only because of the civic amenities provided by the local authority to these houses and buildings that

such properties fetch high incomes and naturally only when it fetches a high income, you can pay high taxes to the income tax authorities. If no amenities are provided by the Municipality and if no taxes are paid to the Municipality, then the income from that property would be much less and the income tax payable would be also comparatively less. These amenities provided by the Municipality enable the owner to realise more rent on which he pays taxes. After all both are public receipts—whether the tax is paid to the Municipality or to the income tax authorities. So it is reasonable that tax paid to the local authority must be deducted for the purpose of assessment of income tax. If it is not reasonable I wonder what else would be reasonable. I would also refer to clause (i) of sub-section (1) of this very same section, where for keeping the property in good repair about one-sixth of the annual rent is allowed to the owner. He may incur more or less expenditure for the purpose, but one-sixth of the total annual rental income is deducted. If in the case of private companies the income-tax authorities allow this concession, why not in the case of a payment which is made to a public authority under a stamped and signed receipt? Why is not such an allowance made in the latter case? It is only just and reasonable and I hope the Finance Minister will kindly accept my amendment.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: Sir, I oppose the amendment. Municipal taxes are made up of two parts: tax on property for ownership and general services, and tax for particular services to the tenant. It is only if the burden of tax for particular services which ought to have been borne by the tenant is borne by the landlord, that he is entitled to a deduction. There is no proper bifurcation of the taxes into those which fall on the owner and those which fall on the tenant. So, if half the tax which is the tenant's burden is paid by the landlord, he is allowed a deduction. One-eighth of the annual rental is quite proper and it should not be changed to one-fourth.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: In the hon. Minister's opinion, the exemption allowed is quite sufficient?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: Yes, quite sufficient.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will put the amendment. The question is:

"That in clause 3 of the Bill, after sub-clause (a) the following new sub-clause be inserted namely:—

'(aa) in clause (a) of the second proviso to sub-section (2) of section 9, for the words "one half of the total amount of such taxes or one-eighth" the words "the total amount of such taxes or one-fourth" shall be substituted.'

The motion was negatived.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 3 stand part of Bill "

The motion was adopted

Clause 3 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9, the First Schedule, the Second Schedule and the Third 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.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill be returned "

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Central Excises and Salt (Amendment) Bill. There are no amendments of which notice has been received.

Clause 2, 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.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill be returned."

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR (West Bengal). Sir, the hon. Minister has not thrown any light on this Bill and on the remarks which I made in the course of my speech. I shall therefore take the remarks of the hon. Finance Minister, Shri C. D. Deshmukh, made in the other House. Sir, my main point is that the relief which is being given to the industry should reach the labourers. The hon. Finance Minister, Shri Deshmukh, expressed in the other House that, with an improvement in the situation, he hoped that all the retrenched labourers might be taken back.

Sir, the first thing, about which I want to remind the House and also the hon. Minister for Finance, is that on a previous occasion, on the floor of this very House, when I raised this subject of the committee to enquire about the tea industry, assurances were given that the privileges already being enjoyed by the labourers will not be curtailed, but since then, in actual practice, their privileges have been curtailed and I find that what the British planters were asking for the last several years, they have almost got everything they wanted. They wanted a restriction on the export quota; they wanted production to be restricted; they wanted retrenchment; they wanted conversion of food subsidy into cash; all these things they have got. And then, Sir, one day in this very House, when the hon. the Commerce Minister was questioned about the assurances given on the floor of the House, he tried to wriggle out of that position saying that Government did not take up any position regarding the supply of food subsidy. So, Sir, I am very sceptical about the assurances of the Government and I ask now for a categorical assurance that this relief will reach the labourers.

Secondly, Sir, the hon. Finance Minister, Mr. C. D. Deshmukh, said in the other House that there has been an improvement in the situation and many labourers have been taken back into employment and others, he hoped, may later be taken back into employment. I admit, Sir, that some of them may have been re-employed but that is not the whole picture. Those who have been taken back into employment and those who were in employment are subjected to other cuts and other curtailment of privileges. In most of the gardens they have resorted to three or four days work in the week; then wages have been cut from 25 per cent. to 50 per cent. and work load has been increased to such an extent that in the majority of the gardens no worker can finish his daily task in one day. Then, besides this, there is retrenchment, victimisation and so on and so forth. So, Sir, I want a categorical assurance from the Government that these things will be put a stop to and this relief would reach the labourers.

About the point that the consumers should not be taxed, I made that point during the course of my speech. So I do not like to dilate on that point.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: I have nothing to add, Sir. How can I give such an assurance, Sir? I can only say, Sir, that every effort will be made to see

that this relief will go to the labourers, as far as possible.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill be returned"

The motion was adopted.

EXTENSION OF SESSION OF THE COUNCIL

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have to make an announcement.

According to present Programme, the Council of States is to adjourn on 8th May. I understand that important Government business which still remains to be transacted during this session will require an extension of the present session. It has accordingly been decided that the Council should sit up to the 15th May 1953.

During the extended period, four days namely, the 11th, 12th, 13th and 14th, will also be allotted for Questions.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Council stands adjourned till 8-15 A.M. tomorrow.

The Council then adjourned till a quarter past eight of the clock on Friday, the 24th April 1953,