

**SIVASANKAR'S REPORT ON PURCHASE OF
DEODAR SLEEPERS FOR THE HIRAKUD DAM
PROJECT**

Sir, I also lay on the Table a copy of the Report by Shri T. Sivasankar, I.C.S., Joint Secretary, Ministry of Irrigation and Power, on the purchase of 24,000 Deodar sleepers from the Punjab for the Hirakud Dam Project. [Placed in Library. See No. IV. M. 4 (35).]

**THE HYDERABAD COINAGE AND
PAPER CURRENCY (MISCELLANEOUS
PROVISIONS) BILL, 1953**

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR FINANCE (SHRI M. C. SHAH): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to extend the period during which Hyderabad coins and notes of the denominational value of one rupee may continue to be legal tender, to repeal the Hyderabad Paper Currency Act No. II of 1927F and to make certain other incidental provisions.

SHRI S. MAHANTY (Orissa): Sir, may I know whether the Report of Shri Sivasankar about Deodar sleepers is going to be circulated to us.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is over. This is a new point. Mr. M. C. Shah is moving for leave to introduce a Bill. That particular thing was over.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE (Hyderabad): Sir, before you put the question, I just want a little clarification from the hon. Minister. The Bill has already been circulated and sub-clause (2) of clause 4 says:—

“Notwithstanding such repeal, currency notes of denominational values exceeding one rupee issued under the provisions of the repealed Act and in circulation as legal tender in the State of Hyderabad immediately before the commencement of this Act shall continue to be legal tender

This seems to be otherwise than what the hon. Minister has moved just now.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: When the Bill will be discussed, I shall explain that matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to extend the period during which Hyderabad coins and notes of the denominational value of one rupee may continue to be legal tender, to repeal the Hyderabad Paper Currency Act No. II of 1927F and to make certain other incidental provisions.”

The motion was adopted..

SHRI M. C. SHAH: Sir, I beg to introduce the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We pass on the Budget (PEPSU).

PEPSU BUDGET

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY (Mysore): Before you start, Sir, may I seek some clarification from the hon. Minister with reference to this Budget, which may be useful for discussion especially with regard to privy purses here? Could the hon. Minister give us the details of the privy purses? Demand No. 39 relates to rupees 22 lakhs and 40 thousand for privy purses and again for Household and other allowances of His Highness the Rajpramukh, there is an amount of rupees five lakhs. I want to know some details as to who are the recipients of the privy purses. Is Rs. 5 lakhs in addition to the privy purse that is being given to the Rajpramukh from the Centre?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He will note it and give you the details later on

SHRI M. C. SHAH: The Explanatory Memorandum shows everything.

SHRI KARTAR SINGH (Pepsu): Mr. Chairman, as we go through the Budget, we find that for the year 1953-54 revenue receipts are estimated at Rs. 634.93 lakhs and expenditure at Rs. 703.54 lakhs. Thus we have got a deficit of 68.61 lakhs in the Bud-

get The area and the population of this State is not more than two districts of the Punjab, i.e., Ferozepore and Hissar. It was declared by the late Sardar Patel that it was the homeland of the Sikhs. By going through this Budget, I would call this Budget as an Excise Budget and the State as Excise Union. If we examine the various heads of revenue we find that the land revenue including irrigation etc. is placed at Rs. 1 crore, 30 lakhs and 69 thousand and 5 hundred. This is the total land revenue of the State.

But the income from excise duties is Rs. 157,91,000. It comes to this that the income derived from the excise duties far exceeds the land revenue of the State so that this Union of ours rests more on the income from excise. What is this huge income due to? It is due to the huge income derived from auctioning liquor, opium and tobacco shops. Therefore it can be said that this Union consumes very large quantities of liquor, opium and tobacco. Many of my hon. friends yesterday in this House raised various objections with regard to the existence of this Union. Some of them suggested that PEPSU should be merged with East Punjab or Himachal Pradesh. My submission is that no steps need be taken in this matter. This Union exists simply on the good-will of the people who drink heavily, and the moment prohibition is introduced in this Union the Union automatically will cease to exist. I for one would ask those friends of mine who want this Union to continue to go to the countryside and ask people to drink more and more so that this Union may continue to exist. My only comment on this Budget is that happily for us the President has assumed powers, so that we are in a position to judge things as they exist in PEPSU.

Hon. Members of this House must be fully aware of the fact that PEPSU is known throughout the length and breadth of this country as being a State of opium smugglers who supply opium not only to the rest of this country but also export the same

to countries like America through their agencies. We all know that the matter came to the notice of the Indian Government some time back. It is the Excise Department of this Union which makes for its existence. Three days ago we heard of a decision given by Mr. Rau, the Administrator of PEPSU in what is known as the Hamira Distillery scandal. Hon. Members may know that Mr. Takshak who crossed the floor of the house to become a Minister within two hours, was in charge of this Excise Department. Fortunately for him he came into office when important decisions for the next year had to be taken and contracts for 1953-54 were to be auctioned. The Chief Minister of PEPSU, Sardar Rarewala, called this man a man of integrity, a man who crossed the floor from the Congress benches or from any benches for that matter, and got himself appointed as a Minister within two hours of his crossing the floor. Mr. Rau in his order has cancelled the contract in favour of the Hamira Distillery for supplying country liquor in PEPSU for 1953-54. Originally tenders were invited by the Department for the auction and Messrs. Om Parkash Suri & Company gave the lowest tender, but the hon. Minister for Excise for reasons best known to him and the reasons are obvious—gave the contract in favour of persons who gave the highest tender. Of course this matter was brought to the notice of the Finance Department before the assumption of power by the President but no action was taken in the matter. Mr. Rau, when he took over charge as Administrator, ordered that this auction in favour of the Hamira people be cancelled and it was given to those who gave the lowest tender. One can see from this single instance how things were being conducted in that Union. I am referring to this Excise Department because the very existence of the Union depends upon this department. When a person in no less a position than that of a Minister sanctions the contract in favour of people who gave the highest tender as against people who gave the lowest tender you can

[Shri Kartar Singh] see what kind of situation prevails there. So my submission is that those who were responsible for this scandal should be severely dealt with.

I will now pass on to the Land Revenue and Irrigation Department. About the Irrigation Department I will give only one instance to prove the case. PEPSU is irrigated mostly by the Sirhind Canal, of course a part of it on Narwane Jind side is irrigated by the West Jamna Canal. The water rates charged in PEPSU are the highest. Take the case of one distributary that supplies water. There is one place in PEPSU adjoining to which there is the East Punjab territory. There is one distributary coming from the same canal. When it irrigates the fields in the East Punjab territory the rate of water is, say Re 1 per bigha. Adjoining that field is some village of PEPSU. There the water rate is more than double and in some cases treble. The same distributary goes on to some other areas and the same thing repeats. The people in PEPSU think "Are we to be here in PEPSU simply to pay double or treble the rates for water coming from the same distributary?" Take another case. There is one distributary branching off from PEPSU. So long as it supplies water to PEPSU, the rate is say Rs 2 or Rs 3. That distributary has its origin in PEPSU. The moment it enters the East Punjab territory, the rate is reduced to Re 1. What is the reason? It is obvious. The reason is that the expenditure for administration per head is more in PEPSU. The main line is governed by the East Punjab Government and their administration charge is less. When we go into that matter we find that the expenditure of the State in administration is the highest. That is the finding arrived at by the Finance Commission of the Government of India that *per capita* expenditure in PEPSU is the highest. My submission is that the first thing that the administrator should do in the matter is that he should reduce the rates of irrigation in the Patiala

territory and bring them on par to that existing in the East Punjab territory. That is the just demand of the people of PEPSU.

I pass on to certain items under this land revenue. The population of PEPSU is slightly less than 35 lakhs. There are as many as 8 districts. There is Kandaghat District with a population of 115 000. There is another district Fatehgar Sahib with a population of something more than 2 lakhs. We have Kapurthala with a population of 2 20 000. There are 8 Deputy Commissioners. The State will function better if the districts are reduced by half. Four are more than sufficient for administrative purposes. Why does the Union require so many districts? It is only for the purpose of providing jobs for these people and not for administrative purposes. So the number of districts should be reduced so that the expenditure on administration may be somewhat reduced. These Deputy Commissioners were also the Returning Officers for the Legislative Assembly as well as for election to the Union. They have behaved in a manner in which they ought not to have behaved. Take a few instances to prove my case. Day before yesterday one of my brothers on the opposite side Col J S Mann was defending the United Front Party. He must do it. He made out a case that the United Front Party on the 4th March won both seats in the Kandaghat constituency. We need not go into the merits of the case. One of the candidates for election belonging to that party was none other than husband of the sister to the Patiala Maharaja. Two Ministers of the United Front Party—one Chaudhry Inder Singh the Revenue Minister goes to the constituency to propagate

SHRI H C MATHUR (Rajasthan). On a point of order. Is it fair to criticize people who are not here to defend themselves? Yesterday a grave objection was raised.

MR CHAIRMAN Quite true. Don't mention names and criticize people who are not here. As a matter of

fact, we had a general discussion of all these matters yesterday on the PEPSU Proclamation. Let us limit our remarks to the Budget.

3 P.M.

SHRI KARTAR SINGH: Yes, Sir. I am just giving this instance because there is this item in the Demand for Grant—providing a sum of more than Rs 2 lakhs for the elections to be held in PEPSU, and for the matter of that, the Constitution has been suspended in the State for the reason that the elections had not been fair, and I say they cannot be fair if they are held at an early date. That is my point. Yesterday Sardar Hukam Singh in the other House on behalf of the Akali Party made out a case for the early holding of the elections in PEPSU. But here my case is that two Ministers, one the Revenue Minister and the other the Chief Minister had been supporting different candidates in the same constituency. Here the Revenue Minister ordered that a certain tahsildar who had been working more or less as the election agent of one of the candidates be suspended. And here, Sir, the question of administration comes in. The Revenue Minister in his capacity as Revenue Minister ordered that the said tahsildar be suspended for taking active part in the elections on behalf of one of the candidates. The matter did not end there. The Chief Minister was supporting the other candidate—the same candidate whom the tahsildar was supporting. So within almost 12 hours, the Chief Minister announced from the microphone that he had cancelled the order of suspension. I am not going to deal with this particular case. But here one actually finds direct interference with the elections. One Minister orders the suspension of the man and another Minister within 12 hours announces from the microphone the cancellation of the order. That too for obvious reason, because he knew that if the people came to know that the tahsildar had been suspended, they might not vote for the candidate supported by the Chief Minister. My submission is, this thing

has happened in PEPSU, and it is in this atmosphere that Sardar Hukam Singh urges that the elections should be held at the earliest possible moment. My submission is that the Deputy Commissioners in PEPSU who were the Returning Officers there had, for no other reason than to help their own candidates, rejected nomination papers of so many candidates. So in a House of 60, at least 23 seats would have fallen vacant because of the illegitimate rejection of the nomination papers by the Deputy Commissioners for the purpose of giving advantage to one party or the other in whom they were interested. No doubt, in PEPSU, elections have to take place. But my submission is that these elections must not be allowed to be held unless these corrupt officers are properly dealt with, unless enquiries are held into the conduct of the Returning Officers who had for no valid reasons, rejected the nomination papers of candidates and thus involved the Centre and the State to unnecessary expenditure from their Exchequer. The Centre also has to pay for these elections. It is given in the Budget Estimates here that the amount received from the Government of India for election was Rs. 1,18,700. The question of expenditure of money a second time by the State or by the Centre, for the holding of fair elections has come up because the Deputy Commissioners or the Returning Officers behaved in a manner in which they should not have behaved and they have done it for obvious reasons. There is no reason why action should not be taken against them. So, I suggest on the floor of the House, that the attention of the Administrator and of the Administration in charge of PEPSU should be drawn to this important factor so that the elections when they take place, take place in a calm atmosphere, in an atmosphere which is free from mal-administration so that the people may have a government of their own choice.

Then, Sir, I pass on to the items with regard to the emoluments of the Rajpramukh. Of course, it was given to understand some time past by respon-

[Shri Kartar Singh]

sible persons there that the Rajpramukh was willing to impose a voluntary cut on his emoluments; not with regard to his privy purse—of course, that he would not do. But the question is with regard to the emoluments that he gets for the purpose of functioning as Rajpramukh. As the House is aware and as far as my information goes, the Rajpramukh of PEPSU gets about Rs. 20,000 per month. Perhaps it is free of income-tax. Well, the President of India might very well envy that position. The President of India was allowed to have Rs. 10,000 and by a voluntary cut he has reduced his emoluments with the result that he now gets about Rs. 3,600 per month. Well, I do not want to go further into these details and show how the Vice-President of India and how the Speaker of the House of the People have made voluntary cuts in their emoluments. I was told by a responsible person last year that the Rajpramukh of Patiala was also thinking of having a voluntary cut in his emoluments. If he was thinking in those lines, now is the proper time for him to take action. That is the suggestion from the floor of this House. Whatever privy purse you pay to these persons, I do not talk about it, it is for you to decide about that. But so far as the question of being the constitutional head goes I have to say this. A Governor of Part A State has powers similar to those of a Rajpramukh. Well, hon. Members of this House may just think of the province of Uttar Pradesh with a population of more than six crores of people. The Governor of such a State gets not more than Rs. 5,000 and I think he pays income-tax also on that. He has about 45 districts in that State and he is busy all the time with active work. But on the other side, look at this State of PEPSU with a population far less than that of Gorakhpur district in U.P. I know Gorakhpur district has now been divided, but I refer to the undivided district of Gorakhpur with a population of 45 lakhs. PEPSU with a population of about 35 lakhs has a Rajpramukh or Governor getting Rs. 20,000 per month.

This is discrimination. The amount is more than 40,000. That is the amount that is given for other expenses.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: Salary and allowances.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No exchange get along.

SHRI KARTAR SINGH: So, my suggestion is that whatever the position be, even if it be 5 lakhs and if we multiply 5,000 by twelve, I am sure it will not be 5 lakhs; it will be 60,000. I am subject to correction, I say that he gets more than two lakh rupees and, anyway, if it is 5 lakhs I gain my point. It is far more than any Governor of any province gets. I wish I were incorrect on this point. Some of this money is paid out of this Consolidated Fund of India, and the money that he gets as Rajpramukh is not to be counted towards the Privy Purse. That is my point. Or, anyway, whatever the Rajpramukh is getting, he should have a voluntary cut and he should in no case be paid more than the Governor of any of the A States. My case, on the other hand, is that for such small States as PEPSU the pay and other emoluments should be in proportion or bear relation to the duties that he performs and should not be more, in any case, it should not be abnormal.

Then, the position of law and order has already been discussed in this House. On going through the Budget of PEPSU we find that a sum of about Rs. 90 lakhs is spent on Police. I would have been happy if with this spending of money, there would have been law and order in the true sense of the term. As compared with the income of that tiny State, a sum of Rs. 90 lakhs out of a Budget Estimate of 634 lakhs—this expenditure of about a crore out of a total revenue of over six crores of rupees—is far too much as compared with the resources of the State. The situation has been stated yesterday that the law and order position has deteriorated to such an extent that to say that there is any law and order in that State is a con-

tradition in terms. After having spent one crore of rupees, we have no law and order there. Looking at things from the State point of view, my submission is, that so far as this PEPSU goes, the question of law and order is not for the people of that State only, nor is it for the State administration only, but, it is a problem which concerns the very security of this country. Therefore with the assumption of power by the President and, the state of things that have been narrated, after pointing out the things that are happening there, I should like to come to the point that the Centre has also neglected the State's financial needs from the time of the very existence of the State. More financial aid is required for the State and it amused me when I went through the report of the Finance Commission particularly at that portion where the Commission had observed that a special problem was created for East Punjab and Assam for financial assistance from the Centre. It stated that it was due to the partition of the country and, in the same breath, the Commission observed that no case was made out for such financial assistance for the purpose of law and order in PEPSU. I think when the report was being written or when this observation was being made the members of the Commission completely lost sight of the picture of PEPSU and of its geographical position. Members of this Commission might have gone to Patiala but PEPSU does not begin from Patiala proper; it begins from within ten miles from our north frontier, from Ferozepore City. On this side of the river we all know there is Ferozepore City. Next we have got Ferozepore Cantonment and then we have got Kasu Begu. Of course that is a military station on the border. After Kasu Begu is a station Goleh Wala which falls within the territory of PEPSU and only less than twenty miles from Ferozepore City is Faridkot. PEPSU territory begins from within an area of 12 miles from the border. I do not understand how it can be said with any logic that East Punjab should be given financial assist-

ance while PEPSU was not to be given any assistance for the maintenance of law and order. The situation of law and order in the East Punjab, it is believed, requires assistance from the Centre because additional Mounted Police and other police arrangements are to be made by East Punjab. East Punjab in this respect is being granted annually a sum of Rs 125 lakhs for the purpose of maintenance of law and order over and above what that State spends on it. Assam is being given a sum of a crore of rupees as recommended by the Finance Commission due to the fact that law and order has to be maintained and things have to be improved in Assam because that State has suffered from partition. My case for PEPSU is that PEPSU, lying as it is just close to the borders—we had small States which were put together as PEPSU—the law and order situation deteriorated in PEPSU after the disturbances. I may say without any fear of contradiction that the law and order situation had deteriorated in PEPSU because of the partition and the conditions that came along with it. After partition, this Union has to incur a sum of Rs 90 lakhs annually for the purpose of maintenance of law and order. The Centre does not contribute anything for this purpose. Here is a strong case that, for the purpose of the maintenance of law and order, in the name of the security of the country, in the name of the security and the defence of India, immediate steps should be taken to see that the situation of law and order does not deteriorate further in PEPSU and that financial aid by the Centre should be adequately given to this part of the country.

The argument that there is no case for PEPSU getting Central aid loses ground

Various reasons have been given for the present situation in respect of law and order. But one point I would like to bring to the notice of the House, and it is that the law and order situation in Bhatinda district is what it is because there are no adequate means of communication in that part of the country. PEPSU with its resources

[Shri Kartar Singh.] cannot fully cope with the situation. Construction and development of highways and of missing links in the road system of the State cannot be undertaken without Central aid. My submission is that we should have more roads in PEPSU, and this should be done by the Centre. For what purpose? For no other purpose than the defence of the country. Just see what the position is. On the border we have got Hindu-malkot, near Abohar, and from there Pakistan begins. From Hindu-malkot to Bhatinda there is no pucca road. What happens if the country needs immediate help to be sent to that area? You will not find any road from Hindu-malkot to Bhatinda, and from Bhatinda to Dhuri, and from Bhatinda to Jakhai. Again, there is no road from Bhatinda to Jind. I can say without fear of contradiction that no road exists in that part of the country. Therefore, from the point of view of the defence of the country, and also from the point of view of the development of that backward area, and also from the point of view of the welfare of the people of the frontier, it is essential that we should have more roads. The Central Road Organisation should assume administrative and financial control over this area, so that for the defence of Bharat we have more roads in that area. It means construction of about 200 miles of road on that side, and it would be of great benefit to the country as a whole and to the people of PEPSU also.

The more the means of communication are developed, the more the law and order situation will improve in that part of the country. And the more the law and order situation improves in that area and the happiness of the people of the frontier area is assured, the more it will serve the cause of this country. Therefore, I want to make out a clear case for the intervention of the Centre, which the people of PEPSU will cherish for a long time to come, if along with the assumption of power by the President the welfare of the people of that area is also looked into. That is the point I want to emphasise

in the name of the country, in the name of good and efficient administration, in the name of law and order.

This Budget which has been presented was prepared by Sardar Gian Singh. Of course the Administrator took charge of PEPSU only a few days ago, and he could not be expected to make any major changes in this Budget. For education, a sum of Rs. 1 crore is provided. When you go to the rural areas in PEPSU, you find that there are no facilities for medical relief, no hospitals, no dispensaries. There are very few schools in the countryside. The rural areas are backward in education. In respect of health, communications, and education, rural areas are generally poorly served. According to the report we find that the percentage of literacy in PEPSU is 10. The Centre provides only Rs. 5 lakhs for the purpose. My submission is that PEPSU should be considered as a special case for the purpose of education. The more the people are educated the less they will take to crime. The law and order situation in PEPSU is what it is because the people are less educated. The sum of Rs. 5 lakhs that is being given by the Centre as aid for education in a backward area is no assistance at all. My submission is that the need of the people should be the paramount consideration in giving financial assistance by the Centre. In this respect, a case has been made out, because in PEPSU we have not more than 10 per cent. literate persons. Therefore, a larger sum must be forthcoming from the Centre in aid of PEPSU. The people there cannot pay anything more. The last straw has already been put to break their back. Not a pie more can be taken from them. The Centre should continue giving help for education in rural areas, and for more hospitals in rural areas. The people are not at all worried about the general elections being held early. What they are worried about is their welfare. My submission is that the cause of the people of PEPSU cannot be better served than by the provision of education facilities, by the provision of medical relief, by the provision of

transport facilities, and by making their life more secure. If the law and order situation improves, the people will welcome President's rule.

I wanted to draw the attention of the Government to the needs of the PEPSU people in the matter of education, in the matter of health, and in ~~the matter of education, in the matter of health, and in the matter of communications,~~ and to request the Central Government to pay more attention to these and extend liberal financial assistance to PEPSU. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI B. RATH (Orissa): Mr. Chairman, we are being presented with a Budget of a 'B' State. It is the Budget of a State whose area and population may be the same as that of some districts of Part A States. The area of this State is practically the same as that of Gaya, Muzaffarpur district of Bihar and Malabar or some other districts of Madras. So we are here confronted with the Budget of a State having a population equal to that of some of the districts, which was created by the amalgamation of eight princely States. Now, Sir, when we discuss the Budget of this State, which was created some time in 1948, we have to look to the history of this State.

This State, after its creation, was almost ruled, till the general elections, by three Congress Ministries which were advising the Maharaja in the administration of the State. After the general elections this State was administered for about a month by the Congress Ministry and then it was replaced by a Ministry which was a non-Congress Ministry which continued till the State was taken over for administration by the President through his Proclamation at the beginning of this month. So, Sir, during these four years we have had for about three years Congress Ministries advising the Rajpramukh of the State and the State was ruled after the general elections for a period of about one year, mostly by a non-Congress Ministry. So we find that

the position as regards law and order situation of the State was not very happy, as was complained by the Home Minister. If we see the report on agrarian reforms in PEPSU distributed by the Ministry of States, we find that this is not a new disease that has taken hold of the State, but it is disease continuing for the last so many years. I need not read through the various observations made there, but I would simply request the Finance Minister and also the Home Minister who has just now come, to go through the first few pages in order to see the development that has taken place in the State with regard to crime. It is the Maharaja of Patiala and his sympathisers who were responsible for the state of crime in the State because of their 1872 Law that was made with respect to the land tenure system in the State and the Congress Ministry which continued in office before the general elections did not advise the State authorities to change the agrarian law in order to improve the situation in the State. Here you find a State where the administration is in the hands of the very people who resort to various types of crime, about which Mr. Sundarayya said so much yesterday. Out of the eight Deputy Commissioners five belonged to the Biswedars' family and out of 7 superintendents of police 4 belong to Bisweddar class, and the arrangement is such that each district must have a Bisweddar, either as Deputy Commissioner or Superintendent of Police. Now, Sir, the class origin of the officers reflects the nature of the administration and that is why we find that the attacks of the Biswedars on the ryots still continue and the 1872 law, still remains

When we look at the Budget, we find the people have to pay Rs. 14-0-8 per head per year towards the revenue by way of taxes. As compared to that, how much do they get for their development services? If we look superficially into the figures that have been given in the Budget, we find that out of the total expenditure, about 51.21 per cent. is spent on social services and development services.

[Shri B. Rath.]

But if we say that almost half the amount is being spent on social services and development services, that would be very wrong because here too various types of expenditure connected with security services are included. There is one item of expenditure connected with security services are included. There is one item of expenditure which amounts to about Rs. 52,700 to be spent on Huzuri Dispensary. That is a dispensary the like of which we do not find in any of the Part A States. That must be remembered. That is a dispensary where we find that the expense on medicines is equal to dearness allowance paid to the staff and in no other case do I find that the expenditure on medicines is equal—(it is much less)—to the dearness allowance which the staff of the hospital gets. In the Rajindar Hospital, Patiala, which is one of the biggest hospitals in the State, the dearness allowance comes to Rs. 49,200, whereas the expenditure on medicines is only Rs. 35,000. The people whom this Hospital serves do not take medicines of an amount which is at least equal to the dearness allowance paid to the staff, leave aside the pay. Then we find another Hospital, Lady Dufferin Hospital, where the dearness allowance paid to the officers is Rs. 38,400 and the medicine expenses is Rs. 25,000. It is only for the Huzuri Hospital that we find an amount of Rs. 6,000, which is for the Rajpramukh and for his 40 brothers and sisters, both legitimate and illegitimate.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order, order.

SHRI B. RATH: And for his legitimate and illegitimate issues. This serves his family and nobody else. This must be remembered, and I submit that this hospital must go. We find also another hospital in the State, the Venereal Diseases Hospital, where the money spent for the sufferers of venereal diseases is very much less. We know that because the Sikhs are a martial race and they have travelled far and wide to fight in World War I and World War II, they have in-

herited this disease not of their own fault but of the masters whom they served. There the provision is much less than the requirement.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You should not cast any reflection on any particular class of persons.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR (West Bengal): It is not meant as a reflection.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is a reflection on the Sikh community. Please do not cast any reflection.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: It is not the policy of our party to cast reflection on any community. So Mr. Rath will explain his position.

SHRI B. RATH: If you think that is a reflection on any community, I beg to apologise to that community, but it is not my intention to make any reflections. I only plead that the amount given for the curing of venereal diseases should be increased, and that the Huzuri Dispensary should go. That is my only submission.

We find also that there is an increase in the Education budget. I tried to find as to how far this is going to help in the field of primary education in the rural areas. It is envisaged that 60 primary schools will be newly established, some primary schools will be upgraded and some primary schools will be converted into basic schools. This conversion of one type of school to another does not help in the expansion of education in the State. I find that nearly Rs. 1 crore is to be spent in the maintenance of nine colleges, but the amount mentioned for primary schools is not very much.

Then there is another thing which the Government should remember, when they are taking over the administration of the State. They must be careful to see that the things of the past are not repeated. The previous speaker has drawn the attention of the Government to the scandal in the Excise Department, and I would be glad if the present adminis-

tration could cure the various scandals in the State. I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the scandals in the Education Department. One of the Ministers took it into his head one day to change overnight the text books of all the classes from V to VIII. Sardar Tirath Singh changed all the text books in the month of November 1951. He was a Congress Minister. So, I would request the hon. Ministers to see that something is done to prevent a repetition of such things. In the month of November 1951 this Minister changed all the text books and prescribed the books of one Mr. O. P. Sharma, mainly English text books, for three years for Classes V to VIII, and for the entire State. Immediately afterwards, the price of the books of Mr. Sharma went up very high, so much so that there was an agitation and there was also a demand in the legislature, and the last Ministry was forced to appoint a Book Scandal Enquiry Committee, which was working when the administration was taken over by the President. I hope that the Finance Minister will see to it that the enquiry work will be completed and their report submitted and the persons involved in this scandal taken to task.

Then, Sir, I come to the privy purse of the Ruler. Here we find that nearly 16 per cent. of the revenue of the State is being spent on this head. We find that the salary and allowances of the Rajpramukh and the other Rulers is Rs. 22,40,000 this year.

We also find that the allowances to relatives and rulers of the 8 States come to about Rs. 8 lakhs. This sum I demand, must be stopped forthwith or must be reduced drastically. We find that about Rs. 31 lakhs are being paid by a population of 34 lakhs to be paid to rulers and members of their family. This is a strange kind of equity that is being practised by our Congress rulers. Every man of PEPSU has to pay about fourteen

annas every year towards the upkeep of the rulers whom they bade good-bye in 1948. I submit that this amount must be completely stopped and they must be asked—because they are competent men, they are educated men and some of them have even got into offices—to earn for their own living. Not only is this amount given to the rulers but something more also. For example, the Maharaja of Patiala—I am not talking of the Rajpramukh of the State but am talking of the Maharaja of Patiala—is getting a privy purse of Rs. 15 lakhs and his relatives get about Rs. 5 lakhs as allowances. Besides that the Maharaja has usurped a farm which was practically built up by the Agriculture Department of the State before the merger—a farm of about 500 acres and which is within 2 miles of the City called Bahadurgarh. At the time of the merger perhaps the Minister in charge of States made a gift of this 500 acres to the Maharaja of Patiala and not satisfied with that our Minister of States has also made another gift of another 500 acres farm to Her Highness the Maharani of Patiala just in front of the farm given to the Maharaja and also another farm to the mother of the Maharaja just behind the palace of Patiala. Then the Raja of Nalagarh who is the brother-in-law of the Maharaja of Patiala was persuaded to join PEPSU by the Rajpramukh and as a gift he was given another farm of about 600 acres in exchange of the barren lands of 400 acres. These things done in the last 4 or 5 years must be looked into and if necessary, the relevant facts must be gone into and if possible, these farms must be recovered because they were built by the Agriculture Department of the State from the money paid by the people and as such cannot be made a gift to some particular individual for services done to our Government with which the people are not interested. I submit that the Budget as presented must be improved upon at the earliest. Although it cannot be done now, I submit that the money spent on Police must be reduced because we find here a 'B' State com-

[Shri B. Rath.]

petes with Bombay with regard to expenditure under Police and many A' class States pale into insignificance in this matter. If we look to the figures we find in the year 1952-53 Saurashtra was spending Rs. 2-9-0 per head on Police, then Bombay spent Rs. 2-6-0 and then came PEPSU with 2-4-0 and this year it is spending Rs. 2-7-6. West Bengal was spending Rs. 2-4-0 and Hyderabad was spending Rs. 2 per head, Punjab Rs. 2-2-0, U.P. Rs. 1-1-0, Madhya Pradesh Rs. 1-1-0, Bihar Rs. 1 and Orissa Rs. 1. So I submit that there is enough justification for reducing the money spent on Police and that should be done by taking the quickest action. They should bring about agrarian reform about which our Home Minister is apparently so keen and to which his brothers never opened their eyes during their rules of 4 years in that Part B State. I submit that the different Ministries should combine their heads to reduce the expenditure to the minimum and I submit that this inequitable distribution of money under the different heads must be reduced to the minimum. With this, I conclude.

SHRI RAMA RAO (Madras): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I should like to make a preliminary observation, which is of professional interest, before I proceed to discuss some of the items on this Budget. The relations of the Government of PEPSU with the Press of that Province have been a major headache to the Working Journalists Federation. We have received the largest number of complaints from our unit in PEPSU and I trust the very clean administrator who has gone out to that Province will take good care to see that the Press functions effectively and is no longer a prostitute or an instrument of rival and competing political camps.

4 P.M.

I should express my apprehension that one of the reasons why the Press of this country has not been able to make a good and happy impression on the new democracy in free India

is that it has been becoming more and more servile to the dictates of vested interests. I have no doubt that if the Press in PEPSU had been functioning properly, the present democratic debacle would not have taken place. I must refer, in particular, to the complaints that we have been receiving with regard to interference by government agencies with its working. Bribe, cajole, intimidate—these are some of the tactics followed by Government officers towards the newspapers. These complaints are on record. With an Administrator as competent as Mr. Rau and an able lawyer as Dr. Katju, the Home Minister, directly responsible for the administration of the State, I trust they will see to it that this unfortunate process of prostituting democratic agencies for evil purposes will no longer be tolerated in that backward State.

Sir, as regards the Budget, I should like to begin my observations with a salutation to the Rajpramukh. He is an old friend of mine. He was playing cricket and I was watching him. It was on the Bombay European Gymkhana grounds. He was a hefty batsman and a rather useful change bowler. This country owes much to the former ruling house of Patiala for the way it has promoted that royal game.

I was, therefore, very happy to find in the Explanatory Memorandum attached to the Budget—that there is a Sports Department in PEPSU. I wonder whether we have got any such Department in any other State, let alone the Centre. I do not know whether the Education Ministry of the Centre is going to do anything for literature. At any rate, let me hope that it will do something for sport. Soviet Russia has got a regular portfolio for sport, and even casual readers of newspapers will remember that at the Olympic Games at Helsinki held recently, the Russians swept the board and the United States of America came second—the extremes meeting very pleasantly. This is one lesson we can learn from PEPSU.

In the Budget, Sir, provision is

made for the Rajpramukh's allowances. My friends over there have already discussed this subject and it is not my habit to traverse the ground already covered. But I should be failing in my duty if I did not say certain words about this institution and this individual, because it is very necessary that in the interest of this country we should know where we stand in this matter. It is not enough for us to be told that the Rajpramukh functions only as the agent of the Government of India. I am extremely sorry, Sir, I was not present yesterday when Dr. Katju spoke. I understand he was referring to what I had been saying previously. He said that the Rajpramukh is expected to function like all Rajpramukhs as a Constitutional Governor, but the fact remains that this Rajpramukh has not been functioning as a neutral Governor. This is our information. If the Government or the Law Minister has different information, I am sorry. But I can assure the House that it can always depend on the information of a journalist as it is more authentic. Indeed, we journalists lead and the Government follows.

You will find that provision has been made in the Budget for allowances for relatives of the Maharaja. I want to know what these men do for their living. Is it the business of the State of India, which represents a working class democracy to provide for a class of droves? It is not its business. Let them do honest work. I work for my living and I am not as hefty as most of these men. They ought to be able to work much better than myself. This Parliament must refuse to provide for lazy men.

There is also a provision for pensions. I think it would have been quite right on the part of the Finance Department to have thrown some light on this aspect of the matter, as to whom these pensions go. Do they go to the relatives of the ex-ruling family? We should like to have more details because we in this Parliament must be quite clear ...

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR FINANCE (SHRI M. C. SHAH): Please see page 208.

SHRI RAMA RAO: Yes, but I do not understand these figures. I wish you had stated the relationship of these pensioners to the ex-ruling family; that would have been more illuminating.

As regards the allowances of the Rajpramukh himself, my distinguished friend over there who spoke like an expert on PEPSU stated very clearly one proposition to which I think this House would with very great alacrity, subscribe and it is this: What is he doing to deserve any allowance? Leave aside for the present the privy purse which I am told is not votable. The allowances evidently appear to be votable. I do not know exactly the legal position. Whatever it is, why on earth should we provide money for a purpose which is not being discharged today? If anybody is overworked, pay him more, I do not mind, but why should the Rajpramukh continue to get any allowance from this deficit Budget. Why does he not voluntarily forego it? That would be excellent, and sportsman-like. We are disgusted with the remnants of an aristocracy in our democratic age. We cannot afford to keep them. I would repeat what I have been saying, that not only should the institution of Rajpramukh be removed as soon as possible, but drastic steps should be taken, wherever possible, to see that those Rajpramukhs who are not allowing the legislatures and the popular governments to function are removed. The old Government of India on some occasions did it. At the instance of the then Maharaja of Patiala—the father of the present Rajpramukh, the then Government of Delhi intervened and bundled out the then Maharaja of Nabha and installed an Administrator in his place. There they did extremely well. They did a thing which ought to have been done now also, in order to make the work of the adviser in PEPSU smooth and pleasant. If such things continue to be done, it would be possible for our

[Shri Rama Rao.]
institutions to function, otherwise they will not.

Sir, I agree with my friend over there about not holding the general elections for a long time to come. It may look somewhat undemocratic and unconstitutional; but there is a certain rationale behind it and I shall explain. May I just point out to you, Sir, that in the Explanatory Memorandum, page 1 there occurs a very illuminating little tit-bit. Item (8)... actuals for the year 1951-52—State Excise Duties—"There is an increase of Excise on account of increase in the amount of auction of excise and opium shops both retail and wholesale and also due to more consumption of liquor on account of general elections". I am sure that the soul of Dr. Katju—a very sensitive soul—will be terribly upset at this development of democracy.

THE MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS AND STATES (DR. K. N. KATJU): Democracy and beer have had a very long intimacy.

SHRI K. RAMA RAO: I thought we were Indian and not English. English democracy was certainly brought up on beer, Sir, I admit. I thought Indian democracy would be brought up on Ganga water.

I would also refer to provision on page 37, for general elections. I am opposed to general elections being held for a very long time. I make the confident assertion, rather a confident prophecy—though it is a very risky thing to make any prophecy in politics—I make the confident prophecy that as a result of general elections that may be held in PEPSU within a year, the same political instability will ensue. There will be the same sudden shiftings about of loyalties; consequently, there will be no stable Government. Again it may be necessary that the Centre will have to take over. We cannot go on repeating this experiment time and again. What are we going to do, as a matter of practical politics, about the B States? Lacking a democratic back-

ground, these States are bound to blunder. So long as we keep the Rajpramukh, they will go on giving us trouble. This being the situation, whenever we get an opportunity to take over the administration of a B State, it would be necessary for us to apply a settled technique of action, and to make a philosophical approach. I submit that when we take over, we should see to it that we take over for a long time. The mentality of the caretaker Ministry is obnoxious to me. I say when we step in, we step in to rule; we step in to rule resolutely; we step in to raise and advance the processes of democracy.

I must now refer, Mr. Deputy Chairman, to land reforms. In the last minute additions to the Resolution Dr. Katju added day before yesterday, there was the statement that the Parliament of India would also function as a legislature for the State of PEPSU. Now, if it is not to be a mere idle proposition, what exactly are we going to do about it? The most urgent thing in the State is agrarian reforms. If you are not going to sell the pass in PEPSU to Comrade Sundarayya and others, it is the business of the Indian National Congress ruling from the Centre and the Congress Government taking over at PEPSU, to see that land reforms are introduced forthwith. There is already a basis and a platform for action.

(Interruption by Shri S. N. Mazumdar.)

Sir, in this White Paper on the PEPSU Budget, I read the first paragraph: "Agriculture is the main-stay of the people of PEPSU, out of a population of 35 lakhs about 72 per cent. depending directly on agriculture for their subsistence. The total area of PEPSU is about 6.4 million acres of which about 69 per cent. is under cultivation and about 14 per cent. is culturable waste". And so on. Now, I would suggest that for a beginning we should pass on this 14 per cent. of culturable waste to the harijans if we are to make good our great principles of the past, directive and otherwise. Here is an excellent

opportunity for the Congress and the Government to put a programme of action before the people of PEPSU and the country which will dazzle their imagination and attract popularity to the Government. Will the Government be prepared to do it forthwith under any executive power that they may be having? Sir, at this moment the process of consolidation of land holdings is going on in PEPSU. I understand from the newspapers that it is very much of a success. I wish it to go forward. Then ejections have got to be stopped and all the proceedings that arise out of ejections. There is the Venkatachar Committee Report on land reform. Above all, we have had recently Sardar Rarewalla coming over for discussion with the Planning Commission on land reforms. I read out from my notes what appeared in a newspaper recently. "The Chief Minister Sardar Rarewalla is said to have pleaded his inability to promulgate an ordinance on the two measures and to have blamed the Central Government for not agreeing to the idea. The Chief Minister further indicated that the State Government would be taking up consideration of the agrarian measures in the Budget Session of the Assembly." The Bills are of far reaching importance and seek to settle once and for all age-old agrarian disputes. The Occupancy Tenancy Bill provides for the abolition of occupancy tenures and the vesting of the proprietary rights with the occupancy tenants on a payment of compensation to the landlords, who own over 2 lakhs and three thousand acres of the State. The Agricultural Labour Bill fixes a ceiling of 500 acres for ownership and gives occupancy tenants the option to purchase lands when it is acquired and I understand from the newspapers that it was also decided that land should be passed on to the tenants on easy terms. I should now like to ask the Central Government what they are going to do about these measures of land reform.

Finally, I should like to make this observation. It would be undesirable—absolutely undesirable—for the Cen-

tral Government to step into awkward and difficult situations like this in PEPSU if it is not able to follow up to a logical conclusion what the situation dictates. I maintain and maintain fanatically that there is no place for PEPSU in the polity of India. It has got to go, even as Hyderabad has got to go. Linguistic States are a evil. From this morning's papers I gather that the Prime Minister is somewhat favourably inclined to the formation of a Karnataka State. I hope and believe and pray that it is the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. I expect that this philosophy will spread to other parts of the country. If that is so, there is only one logical end to the future of PEPSU—that is, absolute dissolution.

SHRI KISHEN CHAND (Hyderabad) Mr Deputy Chairman, I have seen carefully this Budget presented by the hon. the Finance Minister.

DR K N KATJU Would the hon. Member come nearer the microphone?

SHRI KISHEN CHAND I think this place will be all right. It is just my height and properly adjusted.

This is a stereo-typed Budget and if you compare it with the Budget of the previous year you will only find a few alterations of numbers here and there. It is further complicated by adopting different reference numbers in the synopsis of Budget and in the Explanatory Memorandum. If anybody wants to follow up it is very difficult to find out the various items in the Explanatory Memorandum. I think, Sir, that this would have been a very good opportunity for the Centre to set up a model Budget for the States, but, instead of setting up a model Budget what do we find in this Budget? Just a repetition of complicated miniature Central Budget. Some figures are given under one head and others under another head and it is very difficult for any legislator to fathom these details and obtain information as to where any particular head is shown.

I shall try to place before you a few principles that I think are very essen-

[Shri Kishen Chand.]

tial in considering a State Budget I submit, Sir, that in a State Budget, the greatest importance should be given to education, public health and medical departments. India is a large country, and unless we can so provide that in every State the citizens get equal opportunities for education, public health, etc., we will not be attaining a uniform standard in all the various States. Therefore, I submit that the hon. the Finance Minister should fix a minimum figure for expenditure on education and I suggest to him the amount of Rs 4 per head of population. It will mean that if the population of PEPSU is 35 lakhs, the expenditure on education should be Rs. 1,40,00,000. This procedure can be followed and insisted upon in the various States of India, because unless we spend Rs 4 per head of population, we cannot get compulsory primary education, which is an essential of democracy. Similarly, for the public health and medical departments I would suggest the figure of Rs. 2 per head. That is, for PEPSU it will be Rs. 70 lakhs. In the Budget before us, the provision for education is Rs. 95 lakhs and for public health it is Rs. 46 lakhs. I would suggest to hon. Finance Minister that he may increase the grant for education from Rs 95 lakhs to Rs. 1,40,00,000, and a similar increase in the grant for medical relief may also be made.

Naturally, the question will arise: where is the money to be found? As has been pointed out by various other speakers, great economy is possible in general administration and in law and order. It is not possible for any legislature to suggest to the hon. Minister how to reduce the expenditure on general administration by pointing out to him particular posts which may be abolished. It is for him to set a ceiling to expenditure on civil administration and on police. As a broad principle, let him fix it so that on civil administration and law and order not more than 40 per cent. of the income is spent. Then, I would point out to him that in the develop-

ment budget we are just duplicating. The Centre also borrows money. The Centre also looks after the big projects. The States also borrow money. The States also look after the big projects. In our Five Year Plan we have a budget of Rs. 2000 crores. of which about Rs. 500 crores are set apart for education and social services. May I submit that if the portion to be spent on education is entirely entrusted to the States and if the States are relieved of the bother of borrowing money for the projects, it will simplify matters considerably? There is no point in duplicating the agency in the States and in the Centre. One good effect of doing away with this duplication will be reduction in rates. The States now, when they go to the market for borrowing, have to offer larger rates of interest, because some States have greater credit than others. If all the borrowing is done by the Centre, it may be possible to reduce the rate of interest. The Centre can distribute loans to the States. There will then be only one security—the Government of India. The loan transaction between the Centre and the States will be a paper adjustment, because the Centre always gives some sort of grant to the States. In this way a large measure of economy can be achieved. Looked at from this point of view, I would say that this Budget is just a stereotyped Budget, and I request the hon. Finance Minister to consider recasting it on the lines I have suggested.

DR ANUP SINGH (Punjab): Mr Deputy Chairman, one thing is quite clear from the discussion in this House as well as in the other House and also from the reports that we have been receiving from PEPSU, and that is, that what we are witnessing in PEPSU today is not the work of any particular political party. I think they have all made a generous contribution to precipitate the present crisis. I regret to say as a Congressman—that there were more desertions from the Congress side than from the opponents. And, as I said yesterday, most of the politicians in PEPSU, while crossing the floor, have double-crossed

their constituencies and the people. I am reminded of an observation that a confirmed bachelor once made when he said that a woman's mind must be clean because she changes it so often. If that were the criterion, I think the politicians in PEPSU must be Simon Pure.

Coming to the Budget, one of the biggest items is law and order. The Akali representative from PEPSU gave us some figures yesterday, designed to show that there has been a considerable decrease in crime. But I think he forgot to mention one thing which I gather is common knowledge in PEPSU, and that is that there have been a large number of cases which have not been recorded by the police. I am not saying that this was done deliberately, but I gathered from those people who know that in most cases the police officers refused to take any notice of those cases. And there is another matter which should be brought to the attention of the House—that a very large number of the goondas and thugs and dacoits are subsidised and kept by the Biswedars, and the Biswedars as a clique are very largely responsible for the sad law and order situation that we witness in PEPSU today.

I said yesterday, and I repeat today, that the Centre cannot possibly take this opportunity of bringing about large-scale reforms which may have something to do with matters of policy, because otherwise we will be setting a very dangerous precedent. All that the Centre can possibly do, and I hope will do, is to create a healthy atmosphere whereby the elections can take place within a very short period.

As for the Rajpramukh, a great deal has been said here and in the other House, and I will merely utilise this opportunity to repeat once again that, there again, whatever may be the allegations against the Rajpramukh, this certainly is not the occasion, and the Centre cannot constitutionally and properly take any action in regard to a single individual, whatever may be his sins of commission and

omission. But at some suitable time, and I hope it will be not very long, the institution of Rajpramukh will have to be liquidated. I recall the very pungent phrase that our Prime Minister once used when he referred to the Rajpramukhs or the Rajas of that time, as the picturesque relics of the mediaeval past. Well, if that was the condition during the time of the British, I think the privy purses that we are giving to them is a very cruel joke on the impoverished tax-payers of India.

I do hope that the Centre will take all necessary precautions to see that not one single group in PEPSU has a grievance that the Centre intervened to help this party or the other. I fully subscribe to the view that was expressed by the hon. Home Minister that he had not the least desire to help any group. The elections should take place at the earliest opportunity.

One very large consideration I would like to present to this House is the problem of the merger of PEPSU and Punjab. Any one who has travelled in Punjab would realise that there are many instances where the farmer or the shopkeeper does not know whether he belongs to Punjab or to PEPSU. As you go along, you find the most idiotic zigzag boundaries of Punjab and PEPSU intertwined. For the sake of efficient administration, for the sake of economy, for the sake of the solidarity of the people of that region, and also for the sake of strengthening of a State situated on the border, it would be desirable to consider very seriously the merger of Punjab and PEPSU and also Himachal Pradesh. I believe that, barring a few politicians who invariably look to their own interests first—a handful of politicians in these three States—the overwhelming majority of the people do wish that a merger of these States should come at an early date. It is very unfortunate that this issue which can stand on its own intrinsic merits has been vitiated by dragging into it extraneous considerations. The Hindu Sikh problem, the problem of Punjabi speaking area and all that

[Dr. Anup Singh.]

controversy has more or less vitiated the atmosphere. All that the people in Punjab want is that if and when the establishment of the linguistic provinces is to be taken, Punjab will be treated precisely and exactly in the same manner as any other province and I think all these misgivings are false that if the merger were to take place, the Sikhs will be in majority. I think those are really concoctions and misgivings of petty minds in Punjab and PEPSU and I do repeat, Sir, that at some suitable opportunity the Home Minister will consider the desirability of merging PEPSU, Punjab and Himachal Pradesh.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR (West Bengal): Mr. Deputy Chairman, I shall start by congratulating and at the same time sympathising with my friend Mr. Rama Rao, congratulating because of his excellent speech and sympathising because he will soon find himself disillusioned. The suggestions which he put forward here cannot be carried out by the party to which he belongs. His party is wedded to the forces of reaction and in PEPSU particularly, as is evident from the speeches of even some of the Congress Members, his party is strongly wedded to the forces of reaction that are not only rotten but stinking, namely the feudal forces. His party is finding that the ground is slipping from under their feet from many places and so is resorting to various manoeuvres. What has happened in PEPSU is that the Congress party is resorting to such manoeuvring. That is the real game there. Sir, about this my friend Mr. Sundarayya and my friend Mr. Rath also spoke yesterday. So I do not like to take the time of the House by repeating those arguments, but I shall only try to prove these arguments by some instances.

This Budget, Sir, so far as I understand, can be called a hybrid Budget. It was prepared by the PEPSU Ministry and the printing of the Budget was almost completed before the President's Proclamation and there-

after some changes have been made—changes not for improvement, not for the better, but changes for the worse.

I shall cite an example of the Police Budget. Sir, last year, the Rarewala Ministry was reluctantly compelled to give an assurance that the Police Budget will be reduced gradually. The Ministry was compelled to give this assurance because of the three Communist M.L.A's. about whose holding the balance of power my friend the hon. Minister had so much grouse. The balance of power was utilised for the good of the people. Actually the Police Budget was reduced by Rs. 10 lakhs last year by the Rarewala Ministry, but this year in this Budget it is found that the Police Budget has again been increased. And increased why? Increased in order to help those very forces of reaction. A good part of this money which will be sanctioned for the Police Budget will go towards the construction of more police stations. Sir, I do not say that police stations need not be constructed. But what is the real situation in PEPSU? In the Report on agrarian reforms in PEPSU, of which the Chairman was a Government official, it has been clearly stated that there was an unholy alliance between the officials and the landlords. That still continues and that fact has been substantiated by instances given by my friend Mr. Rath. So this money for the construction of police stations, I am sure, will be utilised not for rooting out the rest of dacoits or the forces of reaction, but for crushing the peasant movement. Yesterday, the Home Minister, I shall say, in order to defend a most hopeless case, resorted to a most irresponsible statement i.e. he was hurling some allegations on our party and on my friend Mr. Sundarayya which were denied by Mr. Sundarayya. He said that Mr. Sundarayya went there on a triumphant tour. The peasant movement there was carried on in a most peaceful manner. The origin, the background of the peasant movement has been clearly set out in the report on land reforms in PEPSU. The scandals of the Biswedars were so manifest and so evident that even the official

Committee was forced to admit all these things. It had to admit that at the time of the settlement there was a campaign of highhandedness and aggression on the part of landlords. Nothing was practically done to remedy this situation. Sir, we have observed that the constitutional powers are invoked by the Congress Government only when some steps are to be taken against democracy, against the people. Why could not an ordinance be promulgated to stop the evictions immediately and to tackle the problem of this agrarian situation in PEPSU? But that will not be done by this Government. About that I am sure.

Then, Sir, I shall cite another example about the Huzur dispensary which has also been cited by my friend Mr Rath. During the time of the Rarewala Ministry a sum of Rs 25,000 was deducted from the privy purse of the Rajpramukh for services rendered to him by the Huzur dispensary. But this time it is found that that deduction has not been made. I find that instead of trying to reduce the emoluments or allowances of the Rajpramukh, a sum of Rs 25,000 is presented to him. This is another example of how things are going on. Then there is also another point. In the month of January last there was a Tripartite Labour Conference and in that Conference the Government assured the labour representatives that a number of free beds in the T.B. hospitals will be reserved for the industrial workers. There is no mention about this fact in the Budget. I have cited three examples which now show that the change in the Budget is not for the better, but for the worse.

About the privy purses, my hon. friend Mr Reddy has already raised a question. As far as my information goes, it is the custom in all Part B States that in the Budget details of the privy purses are shown, but here the hon. Minister has not found it necessary to supply us with the necessary details of the privy purses.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: If I may interrupt, Sir, could not the hon. Finance Minister give us the infor-

mation which I asked in the beginning of the debate as to the details of the privy purses? That would be helpful for the discussion.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: I shall not take much time of the House. I shall conclude by saying that PEPSU has no place in the Indian polity. It should be merged with East Punjab. I also find in the Budget another item, provision for a Punjabi Department, the purpose of which evidently is to promote Punjabi literature and culture. Why should an area which in all respects is Punjabi, linguistically and culturally, be allowed to have a separate existence, which only boosts up a totalitarian feudal order? PEPSU should be merged with the East Punjab so that the just aspiration of the Punjabi people for the Constitution of a Punjabi-speaking province can be fulfilled. As for the immediate future, I offer a few suggestions and the acceptance of these suggestions will prove whether the Government is prepared to meet some of the burning demands of the people, the poor peasantry there who form nearly 80 per cent. of the population. An ordinance should be immediately promulgated stopping all evictions forthwith. And general elections should be held within a very short time, say, within one month, not after the delimitation of constituencies but before that, so that the elected representatives of the people can co-operate with the delimitation work. With these words, I take my seat.

SHRI KANHAIYALAL D. VAIDYA (Madhya Bharat):

श्री कन्हैयालाल डॉ० वैद्य (मध्य भारत) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, जो बजट पेप्सू का हमारे सामने है उस पर सदन में जो विचार आज बताये गये हैं, उनमें हमें बहुत सी बातें ऐसी जानने को मिली हैं कि जिससे हमारी राष्ट्रीय सरकार का जो मुख्य ध्येय इस देश को और इस देश की जनता को आगे ले जाने का है, उसके विपरीत कई बातें इस राज्य की पालीसी में मिलती हैं। आज

[Shri Kanhaiyalal D. Vaidya.] हमारे एक मित्र ने आंकड़े सहित यह बतलाया था कि पेप्सू की जो बजट आमदनी है उसका अच्छा हिस्सा शराब, अफीम और ऐसे ही पदार्थों से बनी वस्तुओं से है और बजट की आय का साधन बनाती है। हमारी राष्ट्रीय सरकार की जहां तक पालीसी है वह इस देश के अन्दर शराबखोरी और नशाबन्दी को दूर करने का है। हमारे देश की कई प्रान्तीय सरकारें इस पालीसी पर अमल भी कर रही हैं मगर दुःख की बात है कि पेप्सू में इस दिशा में कोई प्रगति नहीं की गई है बल्कि इस दिशा में ऐसी चीजें हुई हैं जिससे कि उसमें दिनों-दिन तरक्की होती रहे। जैसा कि हमारे मित्र रामाराव जी ने अभी पढ़ कर बतलाया कि चुनाव के समय में, चुनाव की वजह से पेप्सू में शराबखोरी की वजह से आमदनी बहुत बढ़ गई। यह आय का तरीका किसी भी सुधरी हुई सरकार के लिए अच्छा नहीं माना जा सकता है और खास तौर पर जब हमारे पूज्य राष्ट्र पिता ने इस देश को आजाद करते समय जो कार्यक्रम रखा था तब उन्होंने कहा था कि यदि स्वराज्य हो जाये और इस देश की सरकार की बागडोर हमारे हाथ में दो घंटे के लिए भी आ जाये तो सबसे पहिले में इस देश में शराबबंदी पर अमल करूंगा। इस समय जबकि केन्द्र को पेप्सू राज्य का शासन प्रबन्ध देखने का मौका मिला है तो मैं केन्द्रीय सरकार का ध्यान इस ओर आकर्षित करना चाहूंगा कि वहां पर शराबबन्दी के लिए कोई न कोई कदम अवश्य उठाये जाने चाहिए जिससे कि यह बीमारी जो वहां की जनता में घर कर चुकी है हमेशा के लिए खत्म हो जाये।

दूसरा प्रश्न जो मैं सदन के सामने कहना चाहता हूं वह प्रीवी पर्स और एलाउन्स के सम्बन्ध में है। इस विषय में कल भी और आज भी काफी चर्चा की गई है। यह बात ठीक है कि प्रीवी पर्स के बारे में जो रकम

२६ लाख ५९ हजार की हमारे सामने रखी गई है वह प्रति वर्ष पेप्सू के बजट से हटकर केन्द्र की जिम्मेदारी में जाने वाली है क्योंकि केन्द्र से इस रकम को पेमेन्ट करने का एग्री-मेन्ट है। हम अपने विधान की कुछ धाराओं से इस तरह बन्धे हुए हैं और इस विषय पर एक एग्रीमेन्ट भी हो चुका है कि यह रकम केन्द्र इन राजाओं और महाराजाओं को देती रहेगी। इस बजट में जो रकम इन राज्य-कर्ताओं और उनके परिवार वालों के लिए रखी गई है वह ८ लाख, ८० हजार ९०० के करीब आती है जो हमारे सामने वोट के लिये रखी गई है। मैं समझता हूं कि इस प्रकार की जो व्यवस्था की गई है वह इस राज्य की विशेष हालातों को देखते हुए उचित मालूम नहीं होती। इस राज्य की आमदनी और बजट जो हमारे सामने रखा गया है वह एक घाटे का बजट है इसलिए यह उचित नहीं मालूम होता है कि इतनी बड़ी रकम राज्यकर्ताओं को दी जाये। इसमें हमें कमी करनी चाहिए जिससे कि यह रकम राज्य की जनता के हित के लिए व्यय की जाय।

कल भी इस विषय के बारे में कहा गया था कि स्वर्गीय सरदार पटेल की स्टेट मिनिस्टर के नाते, हिन्दुस्तान का जब विधान बना था तो कोशिश यही थी कि इस देश में जितने भी राज्य हैं उनको हम एक यूनियन के अन्दर ले आयेंगे। इस विषय के बारे में सरदार पटेल जी ने इस बात की भी चर्चा की थी और कहा था कि यह तो पहिला नक्शा है जो चुनाव के पहिले का है। जब स्वतन्त्र भारत में संविधान के अनुसार नये चुनाव हो जायेंगे तो हम इन राज्यों की सीमाओं को अन्य बड़े प्रान्तों के समान आने की दिशा में, इन स्टेटों में योजनापूर्वक कार्य करेंगे जिससे

कि छोटे छोटे यूनियनों के शासन में जो इतना खर्चीलापन है वह कम हो जाये। यह बात में इस सदन की जानकारी के लिए और माननीय काटजू साहब की जानकारी के लिए कह रहा हूँ। अब समय आ गया है जब इन छोटे यूनियनों को मिलाया जावे। मुझे पूर्ण आशा है कि सरकार इस बात की ओर विशेष ध्यान देगी और वहां पर जो व्यर्थ का खर्च हो रहा है उसमें कमी की जायेगी।

पेप्सू का जो यूनियन बनाया गया है वह पटियाला की ८ छोटी छोटी रियासतों को मिलाकर बनाया गया है। वहां पर छोटी सी आबादी के शासन पर जो खर्च व्यर्थ का किया जा रहा है वह एक भारी हाथी के रूप में है। पेप्सू जैसे छोटे राज्य में शासन के साधन जो कुछ भी है वह व्यर्थ के कार्य में लगाये जा रहे हैं और जनता को किसी तरह का पूरा फायदा उससे नहीं मिल रहा है। वहां पर ला एण्ड आर्डर और दूसरी बहुत सी परिस्थितियां पैदा हो गई हैं जोकि एक जन राज्य के लिए चैलेन्ज के रूप में हैं। इसीलिए इस प्रश्न पर हमारी केन्द्रीय सरकार को गम्भीरतापूर्वक विचार करना चाहिए कि इस तरह की जो छोटी छोटी यूनियनें हैं उनको एक यूनियन में परिवर्तित कर देना चाहिए जिससे कि वहां जो अव्यवस्था फैली हुई है, जो खर्च व्यर्थ में हो रहा है वह न होकर जनता की भलाई के कार्य में किया जा सके।

यह खुशी की बात है कि पेप्सू राज्य के बजट में कुछ ऐसी आय भी है, कुछ ऐसे साधन भी हैं जिससे कि वहां का बजट सरप्लस बजट हो सकता है। इस राज्य से काफी अच्छी मात्रा में दिल्ली राज्य को गेहूँ और दूसरा

अनाज दिया जाता है। वहां पर अनाज बहुत अच्छा होता है और खेती के साधन भी बहुत अच्छे हैं। वहां से दूसरे प्रान्तों को भी अनाज भेजा जाता है। अगर वहां के प्राकृतिक साधनों की अच्छी तरह से व्यवस्था की जाय तब स राज्य का विस्तार बढ़ा दिया जावे तो वहां बहुत अच्छी तरक्की हो सकती है। पिछले दिनों वहां पर खेतों में अच्छी तरक्की हुई है जिससे कि वहां के बारे में उम्मीद पैदा होती है। अगर केन्द्रीय सरकार की ओर से ऐसी व्यवस्था हो जाये जो वहां पर प्रतिगामी तत्व गड़बड़ मचा रहे हैं अगर उनको कन्ट्रोल में रखा जाये तो यह राज्य काफी प्रगति कर सकता है।

पेप्सू राज्य की सीमा पाकिस्तान की सरहद से मिलती है और इस लिहाज से यह एक महत्व का राज्य हमारे लिए है। अगर हम इस राज्य को मजबूत और बड़ा बना सकें तो वहां पर जनतन्त्र अच्छी तरह से विकसित हो जायेगा और अपनी सीमाओं की भी अच्छी तरह से रक्षा कर सकेंगे। इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस बजट का समर्थन करता हूँ।

[For English Translation, see Appendix IV, Annexure No. 88.]

SHRI H. C. MATHUR (Rajasthan): Mr. Deputy Chairman, as compared with the speeches made here, the Budget discloses a very happy state of affairs. When the hon. the Home Minister spoke yesterday in support of the suspension of the Constitution, he gave us the impression that almost the entire administrative machinery has broken down in PEPSU particularly the Revenue administration was almost crumbling down and collapsing. But this White Paper is almost a complete contradiction of what he had said. If we just refer to this White Paper we find that the revenue ad-

[Shri H. C. Mathur.]

ministration is not only intact but it has done a fairly good job. It has been stated on page 7 that:

"The increase under the head Land Revenue is mainly on account of consolidation of holdings. Under the Five Year Plan 378 villages with an area of 391,583 acres have already been completed and 457 villages with an area of 375,829 acres are in hand."

This makes it obvious and clear to us that as compared to other States, the revenue administration in this State has been not collapsing but making a fair progress. Also regarding the food supplies, the State of PEPSU has been very helpful to the rest of the country. I don't know to whom the credit for this state of affairs goes, whether to the administration which is taken over only a few days back or to the administration which was there in the State for about 3 years.

Coming to the law and order situation, I very much feel that as has been expressed in this House by Communist Members that the administration, that the Government, that was there was almost dictated by the 3 Communist Members who were there. The 3 Communist Members appear to have brought all the pressure on the Government to reduce their expenses on the Police Administration and this Budget discloses that a net saving of about Rs. 9 lakhs has been made and that is mainly due to the fact that the vacancies which existed in the cadre of the Police were not filled. As a matter of fact we have all been feeling that the superintendence of these States is to be exercised by the States Ministry and not by the Communists. It would have been, I feel, the States Ministry who definitely failed to discharge its duty and responsibility in not bringing pressure upon that State Government to build up their Police administration to fill up these vacancies and to see that the law and order

situation in that State was bettered. The hon. Member who spoke first on this Budget made references to certain scandals. It is really most disgusting to have to cite and go into these scandals. It is unfortunate that there is nobody here in this House who could defend those people who took that action and I am not at all directly or indirectly connected with that machinery but I just pointed out to the Chairman at that time that it was unfair to offer criticism against a machinery and against individuals who are not here to defend themselves. But I would only like to refer to one thing. He mentioned that there are about 8 districts in the State of PEPSU, that these districts are not justified and the allegation was that these have been there simply to provide certain people some jobs. It hurts us to hear such sort of vile allegations. These 8 districts in the State of PEPSU are there for all these 5 years and if anybody is responsible for them, it is definitely the Centre as well as the Congress Government that has been in power in that State for over 4 years. I don't feel that it would be just even to accuse the Centre or the Congress Government in that State for the existence of these 8 districts. My honest impression is that there is a historical background for the existence of these 8 districts. A certain number of States had come together to form this State of PEPSU and out of consideration for the importance of those States and for the capital of those States, they were possibly permitted to be the District Headquarters and it was only to satisfy the people of those integrating States that these districts have been maintained. So I think it is absolutely unfair to impute motives to the administration that these districts have been maintained for providing certain jobs and it is equally unfair to say that the Congress Government or the States Ministry were a party to the maintenance of these 8 districts on certain ulterior motives. But why I particularly touch this subject is that I feel it would be extremely difficult for a responsible Govern-

ment, for the people's elected representatives, to reduce the number of these districts. There are certain vested interests always there in the Assembly. The representatives of those particular areas always bring pressure upon the Government that exists and the Government has got to yield to that pressure from the representatives from those areas and it becomes extremely difficult for that Government to reduce the number of the districts. So I earnestly suggest that this opportunity must be taken by the Interim Government which is under no pressure from any local representatives and they should as a matter of fact take up this question and see what administrative set up would be most essential for the conduct of administration in this State and they can recast the districts. For this political expediency I do certainly suggest that the Interim Government should take up this job and finish it before we have the general elections. I must also mention that it hurts us to hear from some of the hon. Members that the elections should not take place for a fairly long time. I mentioned it yesterday that there is a grave apprehension in the minds of the people that the elections should be delayed and in spite of a clear statement of the Home Minister, such an apprehension was likely to persist and now if some of the Members make such statements, they will create further suspicion in the minds of the people that the general elections would be delayed and it would therefore be in the interest of gaining confidence in the minds of the people that an absolutely clear and categorical statement is made that the elections would be held in this State by a particular date.

5 P.M.

I am very happy, Sir, that the hon. Home Minister and the hon. Finance Minister get ~~into~~ support even from their own party so far as the Rajpramukh and his emoluments are concerned. I do hope that though they may be bound by certain covenants, they will definitely take the view of the general people, parti-

cularly the people who are concerned and who are resident in these Part B States, who very strongly feel that this institution must disappear. This is not the occasion when I should advance all the reasons in favour of the abolition of this institution. I have only just mentioned it in order to associate myself with the sentiments expressed on this subject.

Thank you, Sir.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY (Mysore): Sir, it is a rather extraordinary thing that the Council of States should be discussing the Budget of a State Government, because we are decidedly at a disadvantage in the sense that those of us who have nothing to do with PEPSU, not even seen this PEPSU, should, by duty bound, take part in this debate. Therefore, so far as I am concerned, I shall confine myself to the general policy which I think, the Central Government while administering PEPSU should follow during the course of the next few months while the President's Proclamation will be in force.

Before and after the debate actually started, on one or two occasions, I have tried to find out from the Finance Minister as to what the details of this sum of Rs. 22 lakhs are. Since this has not been forthcoming, I am left with no other conclusion than this, that the Finance Minister himself does not know where these Rs. 22 lakhs are going.

Sir, apart from this privy purse which probably includes the privy purse of the Rajpramukh—the ex-Maharaja of Patiala and other small States which now form PEPSU—there is another thing under Demand No. 39 and that is regarding allowances to the relatives of the rulers. One of the reasons trotted out against the discontinuance of the payment of this privy purse is that we are committed to this by a solemn covenant. We have also been told that at a time when these ex-Maharajas could have created trouble, they were so good as not to create trouble and we have bought them at this price. I for one

[Shri C. G. K. Reddy.]

moment will not agree that this covenant is shrouded with so much sanctity, that the change of times and the change of conditions cannot make us decide to discontinue these allowances.

But even assuming that it does have a certain amount of sanctity, I should like to ask the Government, what is the sanctity attached to it that a whole brood of relations of the ex-Maharaja should be sustained by the finances of this State? I am sure there is nothing sanctified or otherwise which commits us to go on paying year after year a sum of something like Rs. 9 lakhs to the relations and pseudo-relations of the ex-Maharajas. As far as I know even in some of the Part B States, even in the State from which I come, at least the Chief Minister of Mysore during the last Budget Session of 1952 has promised that this is going to be done, that it is going to be scaled down, and in fact, in many cases the pensions have been stopped in my State. I should like to know from the Central Government, I mean from the Finance Minister, whether he will consider stopping the allowances of the relations, near and far, of these ex-Maharajas from this year at least so that we may at least give some sort of an indication that we are going in a particular direction.

After having dealt with that subject, I would like to ask another question of the Finance Minister and that is about this sum of Rs. 5 lakhs which goes as salary and allowances of H.H. the Rajpramukh. Am I to understand that apart from the privy purse we are going to give the Rajpramukh at the rate of Rs. 5 lakhs per year? I am not able to understand why this should have been continued so long and why it should continue even a day hereafter. After all, for the same amount of work, for probably much more efficient work and much more balanced work, we are paying only Rs. 5,500 to the Governors. What justification is there for giving Rs. 5 lakhs to the Rajpramukh of Patiala in addition to the privy purse which,

I for one, do not say he should be paid at all? Now, apart from the privy purse, Rs. 5 lakhs which comes to about Rs. 43,000 or Rs. 44,000 is being paid every month out of the finances of the State and not being voted, but charged straight to the Consolidated Fund of India. There is no question of anybody voting this amount or questioning it. It is a charged amount. I should like to have some clarification regarding this also, whether another sanctified covenant makes it essential that the State's finances should be depleted to the extent of Rs. 5 lakhs every year for the purpose of paying a bloated salary to the Rajpramukh of PEPSU. As we know, apart from being the Rajpramukh, he has got other interests also which probably prevent him from carrying out or discharging his functions which he as Rajpramukh.....

(The Deputy Minister for Finance on his legs, and the Minister for Finance were heard talking.)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order, order.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: A lot of loud discussion seems to be going on, Sir. Anyway, it does not distract me.

THE MINISTER FOR FINANCE (SHRI C. D. DESHMUKH) We are trying to help you.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: How difficult it is going to be for the Finance Minister to find out from the data what constitutes this sum of Rs. 22 lakhs, I do not know. But how is he going to administer the finances of PEPSU if it means so much trouble to supply the little information that I have asked for? Anyway, it is his responsibility.

I should like to refer to one or two things which I think the Central Government and the Central authorities in charge of the administration of PEPSU should take in hand immediately. The first is about the Administration. The second is the the question of land reforms. Regarding Administration, the hon. Minister for States who gave, what he felt to

be, a very good case for the promulgation of the President's Order taking over the functions of the Government of PEPSU, himself admitted that the Administration in PEPSU State was not what it should be and that was one of the many reasons that constituted the case for the taking over of the administration in PEPSU. If that were the case, I should like to know from the Minister for States, who is going to be in charge of the administration in PEPSU so long as this Order continues, what steps he is going to take to see that this administration is bettered? We have had it stated by an hon. Member here—and it has not been contradicted and we have therefore to take it that it is true—that something like 70 to 80 per cent. of each tier of the administration, whether it is in the districts, or Secretariat, and whatever department, are manned by friends and personal relations of H.H. the Rajpramukh of PEPSU. Now, this only indicates that a feudal administration which existed in Patiala before integration continues even to this day. What steps are going to be taken by the Central Government to see that this state of affairs does not continue any longer?

Because, as far as I can see, Sir, in the absence of denial, it must be taken for granted that one of the reasons for the breakdown of the administration, why there is such a rotten state of affairs in the State of PEPSU is because of the very fact that this administration is ridden by officials who have no business to be there at all. They do not administer but they have taken a direct hand in the manoeuvring of the machinations that have been going on in PEPSU during the last three or four years. Now, here is an opportunity and, if there is any justification at all for the President to take over the powers of administration of PEPSU, it could be discharged, it could be proved by saying today that these officials who have no claim whatever to continue in the administration of PEPSU should be immediately removed.

Secondly, Sir, regarding land reforms. Now, history tells us, history of the state of Patiala and other States round about tells us that, apart from other considerations whereby certain individuals got hold of rights of landlordism over large tracts, essentially every procurer got a Biswedari right, every murderer on behalf of the ex-Maharaja got a right over large tracts of land. So, the nucleus for these Biswedars, for these big landlords, really composed of procurers for the late Maharaja and also for those who helped him in liquidating those who were inconvenient to his lustful acquisition. This is a historical fact. Now, this state of affairs continues; the descendants and even those who have helped him in that manner, continue to hold biswedari rights over large tracts of land. Apart from the social justification for introducing land reforms; so that no one has a right over large tracts of land which he does not himself till and which he does not himself cultivate, there is an added justification, especially in these States which are today in the PEPSU. That is the history of the zamindari and biswedari is so fouled up, that that in itself is reason enough for which all of them should be sent home and should have no right whatever over large tracts of land. Apart from that, you will find also that during the three or four years, all those who have been manoeuvring and who, according to the Minister of States, have been doing this despicable thing of crossing the floor time and again for positions, they are mostly people who are big zamindars and big biswedars. Now, if you continue their position, their posts of influence, you will not be able to solve the root of the trouble which is behind all these happenings in PEPSU. By introducing land reforms immediately, you will not only be doing social justice, you will not only be putting right a very foul state of affairs in the history of landlordism in PEPSU but you will also be ensuring that those who have been doing nothing except manoeuvring for positions and taking the political conditions in PEPSU to the lowest level, will be

[Shri C G K Reddy]
liquidated and you will be able to start PEPSU in many ways towards a real democratic life

Therefore, Sir, what I would suggest is that the hon Minister should give us an assurance regarding this I am not touching the Privy Purses because it is an all-India question and we will have enough opportunity to discuss that along with the purses for other Rulers. But I should like to ask if he is going to take any measures at all to see that, atleast as an indication of the Central Government's idea of going on the right road, he is going to cut down the political pensions of a whole brood of relations of the *chota* Maharajas who used to exist in those days and Secondly, whether he is going to overhaul the administration in such a way that not only will he be able to tone up the administrative set up but he will also be able to remove those officials who have been directly responsible for the present state of affairs, and thirdly, through land reforms, whether he will be able to bring in three things together that is, social justice, setting right the foul origin of this *biswedari* and of removing those very persons of influence who have been bringing the State of PEPSU to such disrepute

THE MINISTER FOR FINANCE (SHRI C D DESHMUKH) Mr Deputy Chairman in regard to this Budget of PEPSU it would be useful if we direct our attention first of all to what the basic objectives of an interim administration should be. That, of course, Sir depends on the anticipated tenure of that administration. Therefore, it would be relevant to refer, first of all, to the question of the timing of elections. I believe at one time, the idea was prevalent that the elections should take place as early as possible—maybe perhaps in June. Now, for certain reasons that was found to be impracticable and I understand that it is now the intention to have the elections put through as soon as the work of the Delimitation Commission has been completed. One may expect that elections may take

place and perhaps a representative Government placed in position sometime by the end of the year. One must therefore, take it that the interim administration has, may be in about 6 or 8 months, to make certain reforms if it wants to, in the administration of the State

Now in trying to select what measures should be taken, I think it would be only natural for the interim administration to consider steps which would prevent, if possible, the recurrence of the circumstances which have devolved this responsibility on it and I believe, in the course of his speech, my colleague the Minister in charge of States gave an assurance—I was not here but I understand from him that he gave an assurance—that the interim administration will devote its attention to four or five important matters, all of them directed towards this end, namely that the state of affairs which brought about the devolution of responsibility on an interim administration should not be repeated. These five include, first, the restoration of law and order. Obviously that is the prime necessity of any administration—restoration and stabilisation of law and order. The second one would be the improvement of the administrative services. That category, I think, is broad enough to take care of some of the matters to which reference was made by Shri Reddy that is to say, if it is found that officials holding key posts have attempted to influence the course of events in a way which is undesirable from the point of view of the State then, steps should be taken to see that they do not continue to be in that position. Then the third objective would be to prosecute all the preliminary work for the general elections and to ensure the purity of the general elections after the work of the Delimitation Commission has been completed. These are basic matters

Then I come to perhaps the most important matter of all in PEPSU and, that is the agrarian reforms. Now doubts have been expressed by certain hon Members that perhaps the interim

administration will allow this question to be put on the shelf. Well, I can assure them that that is not the intention.

I do not know whether the House would be interested in being informed of the actual stages of the various measures comprising agrarian legislation in PEPSU. They are: The Legislature has already passed the PEPSU Tenancy (Temporary Provisions) Act, 2008 and this has been assented to by the President. Then, the Legislature has passed Bills which are awaiting the assent of the President, that is, PEPSU (Abolition of Ala Malkit Rights) Bill, 1952. This was reserved by the Rajpramukh for the President's consideration on the 12th February 1953 and was received here in Delhi on the 18th February 1953. But before the completion of the examination, the President assumed the administration. So, that is pending. Then, there are several Bills which have been forwarded to us for approval but which have not yet been introduced in the Legislature. These are the PEPSU Occupancy Tenants Vesting of Proprietary Rights Bill, 1952; the PEPSU Tenancy and Agricultural Lands Bill, 1952; the PEPSU Agricultural Lands Limitation of Ownership Bill, 2009. These three Bills were discussed on the 27th February 1953 by the Planning Commission and representatives of the Ministries with the Chief Minister and officers of the PEPSU Government. The first two Bills were approved at this meeting in principle, and the third Bill was to be recast by the PEPSU Government on the lines of the recommendations in the five Year Plan. Sir, I have been authorised to give the assurance that this programme will be pursued without any loss of time. That is to say, the Administrator has been authorised to go ahead with this programme.

Then, Sir, there was some question of the passing of an Ordinance to prevent the eviction of tenants. I am told that there is already in force in

PEPSU, the PEPSU Security of Tenures Temporary Provisions Act, 1952. The chief object of this Act is to stop the wholesale eviction of tenants-at-will in areas owned by persons owning more than 100 acres. Tenants in areas owned by persons owning less than 100 acres are liable to ejectment only when the owner is going to take up self-cultivation himself. Thus, evictions are allowed by law only in certain cases which may be regarded as equitable. This, Sir, is the position in regard to agrarian reforms.

The other objective, of course, is the continuation of the development contemplated in the Five Year Plan. And in a sense all the budgets that are being introduced this year and will be introduced in the next two years will be somewhat simpler than budgets in previous years, because their main features will already have been delimited by the recommendations of the Five Year Plan. Therefore, no matter what Government is in power, the minimum will be the prosecution of the schemes which are comprised in the Plan. For instance, this Budget makes provision for the continuation of the community projects.

Now, in the light of this perspective, I think one can consider whether some of the suggestions that have been made in the course of the debate could be given effect to. Shri Kishen Chand, for instance, had his own scheme of allocations in a budget. Without going into the details I am not prepared to say whether the particular criteria which he has adopted, namely, Rs. 4 per head for education, Rs. 2 per head for health, and so on—whether these very orderly arrangements are feasible or not. But in a general way I should say that this is a counsel of perfection not only for PEPSU but for all the States in India as well as the Centre. These are matters to which considerable attention has been devoted by the Planning Commission over the last two years, and they have come to the conclusion that this approach to the ideal state of affairs cannot be achieved overnight so to speak:

[Shri C. D. Deshmukh.]

it will have to be spread over a number of years. In other words, what Shri Kishen Chand asks us to do in regard to the PEPSU budget is to alter entirely the pattern of the budget as determined by the Five Year Plan. And through what agency? Through an interim administration which may or may not be in office for about 6 or 8 months. I think the problem has only to be stated in these terms to be found to be somewhat unpractical.

Therefore, I think the House might concede that it would not be possible for the interim administration to make any major departure in policy or any revolutionary change. That is not to say that this is going to be just a standstill or maintenance level budget, because, as I said, the main features of the budget have now to be governed by the dictates of the Five Year Plan.

There was some reference perhaps not here I was not here throughout the debate in the Lower House perhaps—in regard to the university. Now, these are matters which obviously cannot be attended to by the interim administration. Hon. Members will say that, even if this is conceded, they have referred to various matters which can perhaps be handled by the interim administration in their attempt generally to purify the administration or to reduce the burden on the people. The matter which has attracted the greatest attention is the matter of the privy purses. I was asked for the details of the privy purses. I have been able to secure them, although I still cannot see the figures tallying, because, this adds up to Rs. 33.24 lakhs whereas the figure given there is Rs. 22 lakhs plus Rs. 9 lakhs.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: There must have been a cut after the hon. Minister took over.

SHRI C. D. DESHMUKH: Anyway, the break-up of the privy purse figures of the covenanting Rulers that

have been furnished to me is as follows: Patiala, Rs. 17 lakhs; Nabha, Rs. 4.10 lakhs; Faridkot, Rs. 3.81 lakhs; Jind, Rs. 3.28 lakhs;—the handwriting here is as standard as the affairs of PEPSU—Kapurthala, Rs. 2.70 lakhs; Malerkotla, Rs. 1.10 lakhs; Kalsia, Rs. 0.65 lakhs; and Nalagarh, Rs. 0.60 lakhs. That makes a total of Rs. 33.24 lakhs.

Hon. Members think that our adherence to these figures of privy purses and so on are evidence of our being wedded to the forces of reaction. Well, Sir, in all these matters it is always a case of either being wedded to the forces of reaction or living in companionate marriage with the forces of disruption. It is not so much a question of being wedded to forces of reaction, but we are certainly wedded to the Constitution, and there is a provision in the Constitution which seems to have been overlooked by hon. Members who criticised our inclusion of privy purses in the Budget. I refer to article 362, which bears the side heading "Rights and Privileges of Rulers of Indian States." It is a short article, and if you permit me, I would read it:—

"In the exercise of the power of Parliament or of the Legislature of a State to make laws or in the exercise of the executive power of the Union or of a State, due regard shall be had to the guarantee, or assurance given under any such covenant or agreement as is referred to in clause (1) of article 291 with respect to the personal rights, privileges and dignities of the Ruler of an Indian State."

I am told that this refers not only to privy purses, but also to covenants governing the payments made to the relatives.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: I should like to have an assurance from the hon. Minister whether that is really so because in Mysore we have reduced the pensions to relatives. I should like to have a clear interpretation of that article.

SHRI C. D. DESHMUKH. I am afraid I do not know the circumstances in which a reduction has been made, nor do I say that a reduction could never be made. It may be found that some allowance to a relative may be excessive or it may be confined only to him and not to his posterity, but I do think that this article generally draws attention to the desirability of keeping our side of the bargain. And it is only about four years since the integration took place and I do not think it is worthwhile being so impatient with these sums. For the whole of India they amount to about Rs. 4 or Rs. 5 crores in a total Budget of Rs. 800, crores and perhaps another Rs. 700 or Rs. 800 crores for the States. So in a Budget of about Rupees 15 or 16 hundred crores, I do not think one ought to devote this kind of critical attention to this payment.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The relevant article is 291.

SHRI C. D. DESHMUKH: Well, article 291 says:

"Where under any covenant or agreement entered into by the Ruler of any Indian State before the commencement of this Constitution, the payment of any sums, free of tax, has been guaranteed or assured by the Government of the Dominion of India to any Ruler of such State as privy purse—

(a) such sums shall be charged on, and paid out of, the Consolidated Fund of India; and

(b) the sums so paid to any Ruler shall be exempt from all taxes on income."

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: If I may interrupt, you will find that under Demand No. 39, whereas privy purses are charged direct, the pensions and allowances are not. They are voted

and therefore they can be reduced or increased

SHRI C. D. DESHMUKH: That is why I referred to both articles 291 and 362. The point I wish to make is that if the interim Administration, in its discretion, decides not to interfere with these payments, I do not think it will be just on the part of the hon. Members to charge it with partiality to the forces of reaction. That was the point I wished to make. There may be difference of views or opinion as to whether one should do it now or one should try and do it later. The view that we take is that everything considered, there would be advantage in keeping our side of the bargain. Now, Sir, that is all that I wanted to say in regard to this question of privy purses.

Then, after I have stated our objectives including, as I said, the objectives of the development schemes in the Plan, we are left with certain matters of detail and, that is, questions of saving some money here or questions of reducing some revenue elsewhere. I confess I have no particular explanation to give about that statement in regard to excise revenue. Maybe, it only records a fact that the revenue did increase, but who was responsible for that additional liquor, I do not know.

DR. K. N. KATJU: The people who drank.

SHRI C. D. DESHMUKH. Then, Sir, a suggestion has been made that this opportunity should be taken for reducing some of the districts. Now if one were to examine the areas of districts in India, I believe one would find a large number of districts with an average area of 2,500 sq. miles. I admit it is a small district. Perhaps in the whole of India for a population of 358 millions, I think there are 330 districts. So the average population must be a little over a million, whereas here it is a little under half a million. And I have no doubt that if the

[Shri C. D. Deshmukh.]

State is hard-pressed by economies or economic management, they may think over about it. I believe the problem has come off-and-on but the previous Government shirked from taking any such decision for fear of the unpopularity that it might evoke. I think in a troubled area like PEPSU perhaps that kind of decision could be recognised as a wise one. In any case, I would again make the point that it is hardly possible for an interim Administration, which is going to be in the saddle, according to its own calculations, for about eight months, to take such unsettling steps as the reduction in the number of districts.

SHRI S. N. DWIVEDY: Why not amalgamate it with the Punjab?

SHRI C. D. DESHMUKH: Well, that suggestion, Sir, is even more unreasonable than this legitimate suggestion that administrative expenses might be reduced by a reduction in the number of districts. The suggestion now made that PEPSU should be amalgamated with the Punjab is a suggestion which concerns the Constitution itself and I think it is most unreasonable to expect the interim Administration to promote any such measure.

Now, Sir, there were some criticisms in regard to the sum to be recovered from the Ruler as his contribution towards expenditure on one of the dispensaries—the Huzuri dispensary. Now, I do not think the hon. Members who advanced this criticism read the entry on page 162 of the Budget very carefully. I think it is only due to a change in the system of accounting that Rs. 25,200 is no longer shown as reduction in expenditure. Well that means that it must appear somewhere as a recovery and a credit. Therefore, there is no change in the practice hitherto followed, namely, recovery of Rs. 23,200. I think the figure varies a little from year to year. It was Rs. 25,200; now it is Rs. 23,200. But I hope hon. Members will feel assured that this recovery will continue to be

made and the accounts as finally adjusted will show that the recovery has been made.

Now, Sir, there was some reference about expenditure on police and the explanation was advanced that this increase was due to building of more station houses or something. But I looked up the records and I found that the additional expenditure was on additional motor equipment and uniforms and other equipment for the police, which had not been supplied before. I think it is under the Head "Superintendence". Therefore it is not correct to say that expenditure on police has increased as a result of the proposed establishment of a large number of additional station houses. But even if that was so, I should say that it probably represented a deliberate judgment that more station houses were required. The point is that no addition has been made by us and the increase was there in the original Budget. I do not know from where the hon. Member obtained his information that this increase was made after the Budget left the Government that originally framed it. It was said that PEPSU spends a great deal on its police. Of course, so do most of the border States as would have been clear from the figures which were read out by the hon. Member there. He read out, I think, from the report of the Finance Commission. This problem is common to all border States, and we find, for instance, in Saurashtra it is 2.5, Punjab 2.1, etc. This is what the border States have to bear. What they have in compensation. I do not know, but they have to meet this expenditure, and the fact that they have to meet this has been taken into consideration by the Finance Commission in making their allocations of the various sources of revenue. That is the important point.

Then, there were a few specific grievances, that there should be additional facilities for the treatment of venereal disease and so on. Frankly, Sir, the interim Government has not had time to find out whether this is so. I

think it would be unreasonable to expect it within the space of about a fortnight to get to the bottom of these matters and to make extensive changes in the layout of the social services of the PEPSU State.

Then there was some reference to irrigational rates. I think the impression given was that the irrigation rates were very high. On investigation I find that they are actually somewhat lower than they are in the neighbouring State of Punjab, and indeed they do not differ very much from the irrigational rates for similar land elsewhere.

There were suggestions that larger provisions should have been made for education as well as for dispensaries. I repeat the observation that I made before, viz. that the Budget represents the Plan. In any case, I am told that the present budget, in accordance with the Plan, provides for a considerably larger number of schools. And the same answer, I think, can be given to the suggestion that there should be increased communication. As I said, all these requirements have been taken into consideration, priorities fixed and monies have been allotted. I should say that by and large as long as a State like PEPSU has on hand the big job of participating in the completion of project like Bakhra Nangal, it would probably find that it has not got resources enough to devote to some of the other matters, important though they may be. On the whole, I do not think that this State could be regarded as among the poorer States in the Union. I believe the expenditure per head, according to the Budget, will be about Rs. 20 or a little short of Rs. 20, as against perhaps Rs. 10 per head in the much larger and more populous States like Uttar Pradesh and Madras. So, I would submit that we have done the best that we could with this problem that has been handed over to us, and I think that on the whole it is a Budget which is designed to achieve what the Five Year Plan has set out to achieve and therefore I think it deserves commendation from the House.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: May I have some information about the thing I asked, Rs. 5 lakhs salary and allowances of H. H. the Rajpramukh. Is this in addition to the privy purse?

DR. K. N. KATJU: May I clear the position about these allowances. As I understand it, when these States were integrated, it was found that in most of the States the Rulers had already, made grants or were giving allowances to their relatives, uncles, aunts, widows, step-mothers, etc. That was being paid out of the State Treasury at the time in compliance with the orders formally made by the Rulers. When the merger came along and the integration came along, it was one of the conditions under the Covenant with the Maharaja that the integrated Union would, in addition to the payment of the privy purse to the Ruler himself, would also continue to make these payments to their collaterals in accordance with the existing order. The figure that has been referred to on account of allowances refers to them. After the privy purse is granted, supposing the Ruler has four sons, then on his death there would be no question of the Government granting any allowances to his junior sons, but the payments that were being made before to his collaterals, step-mothers, uncles, etc., for these the Government took the responsibility and we cannot shake it off. It is guaranteed under the article which my hon. friend referred to, article 362. That is the position.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: I am aware of the other thing. I asked about the salary of the Rajpramukh. Does the Rajpramukh get a salary in addition to the privy purse?

DR. K. N. KATJU: You see the privy purse every Ruler gets in accordance with certain directions. There is then a gentleman appointed as the Rajpramukh of a State. He corresponds to the Governor of a State, and he might like to have some personal A.D.Cs., Military Secretary, etc. to add to his dignity. Then he has also to

[Dr. K. N. Katju.]

entertain State guests. He might have been enjoying a palace for residence. I went to Saurashtra. The Rajpramukh there is His Highness the Jamsaheb. The State capital is at Rajkot. One of the conditions of the agreement is that there shall be provided for the Rajpramukh a separate residence in Rajkot whenever he goes. Allowances are paid to each Rajpramukh for keeping up his dignity and carrying on his duties as Rajpramukh just as in the same way these allowances are paid to every Governor of a State. These amounts vary. They were taken into consideration and calculated for each State. The Rajpra-

mukh of Saurashtra gets it. The Rajpramukh of Madhya Bharat gets it. The Rajpramukh of Rajasthan gets it. The Rajpramukh of PEPSU also gets it. That goes with the dignity of the Rajpramukh. If you abolish Rajpramukhs, these allowances go.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Probably the word "salary" is not appropriate. It should be allowances.

The House stands adjourned till 2 P. M. tomorrow.

The Council adjourned till two of the clock in the afternoon on Saturday, the 28th March 1953.