

Tuesday, 1st August, 1950

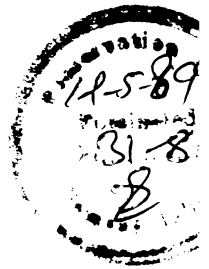


PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(PART I— Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

Volume IV, 1950
(1st August to 14th August, 1950)



Second Session
of
PARLIAMENT OF INDIA
1950

30 P. S. D

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**THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(Part I—Questions and Answers.)
OFFICIAL REPORT**

VOL. IV

No. 1

Second day of the Second Session of Parliament of India.

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Tuesday, 1st August, 1950

*The House met at a Quarter to
Eleven of the Clock*

[**MR. SPEAKER** (The Honourable **Shri G. V. Mavalankar**) *in the Chair*]

MEMBERS SWORN

The Honourable **Shri Sri Prakasa**
(Minister of Commerce).

The Honourable **Shri Chintaman
Dwarkanath Deshmukh** (Minister
of Finance).

Shri S. Nijalingappa (Bombay).

Shrimati Kalawati Dixit (Madhya
Pradesh).

Shri P. Y. Deshpande (Madhya
Pradesh).

Dr. M. Channa Reddy (Hyder-
abad).

Shri G. Ramachar (Hyderabad).

Shri Kashinathrao Vaidya (Hyder-
abad).

Shri Pannalal Bansilal (Hyder-
abad).

Shri Jamulapur Keshava Rao
(Hyderabad).

Shri Shridhar Vaman Naik
(Hyderabad).

Shri Konda Venkat Ranga Reddy
(Hyderabad).

Shri Annarao Ganamukhi (Hyder-
abad).

Kumari Padmaja Naidu (Hyder-
abad).

Shri H. C. Heda (Hyderabad).

Shri J. H. Subbiah (Hyderabad).

Shri Arigay Ramaswamy (Hyder-
abad).

Shri Puli Ramaswamy (Hyder-
abad).

Shri Manik Lal Gupta (Hyder-
abad).

Shri Abul Hasan Syed Ali
(Hyderabad).

Shri Bakar Ali Mirza (Hyder-
abad).

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

PREFABRICATED SWEDISH HUTS

*1. **Shri Kamath**: Will the Minister
of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Swedish pre-
fabricated huts erected on Queens-
way and in other parts of New Delhi,
and occupied by refugee stall-hold-
ers;

(b) the number damaged by rain so
far;

(c) whether the huts had a water-
proof guarantee of the Swedish
manufacturing firm from whom they
were purchased; and

(d) what action has been taken by
Government in regard to this matter
and against whom?

**The Minister of State for Rehabi-
litation (Shri A. P. Jain)**: (a) 300
huts (converted into 600 stalls) have

been erected by the New Delhi Municipal Committee on Queensway, Irwin Road and Panchkuian Road. These stalls have been allotted by the New Delhi Municipal Committee to the stall holders squatting in the verandahs of Connaught Place.

(b) During the first shower in the current Monsoon many stalls were reported to have leaked. The roofs of two stalls were reported to have been blown off by the storm.

(c) Yes.

(d) The Director General of Industry and Supply has taken up the matter with the suppliers.

Shri Kamath: Was the material of these huts tested for its water-proof quality after its arrival in India?

Shri A. P. Jain: No, it was not so tested.

Shri Kamath: Why was it not tested?

Shri A. P. Jain: Because the guarantee was thought to be enough.

Shri Kamath: Is it a fact that this Swedish firm has deposited a sum of a lakh or over against its water-proof guarantee?

Shri A. P. Jain: About Rs. 2½ lakhs.

Shri Kamath: Has it been forfeited?

Shri A. P. Jain: It is still with us, and the whole question is under consideration.

Shri Kamath: Is it not proposed to give any part of this sum to the refugee stall-holders as compensation for the damage caused?

Shri A. P. Jain: The whole question is under consideration, and one of the matters which has to be decided is whether any compensation has to be paid to refugee stall-holders.

Shri Kamath: Will this question be referred to the enquiry committee appointed the other day?

Shri A. P. Jain: No, that is not a matter for the enquiry committee.

Shri Kamath: What is the scope of the enquiry?

Shri A. P. Jain: The scope of the enquiry has already been published in the papers. It consists of two parts: whether any error was committed in ordering for these huts, and, if so, who is responsible.

Shri Kamath: Will it be a public enquiry?

Shri A. P. Jain: The procedure for the enquiry has been left entirely in the hands of Shri V. T. Krishnamachari, and it is for him to deal with the enquiry in any manner he likes.

Shri Kamath: Will the report of this enquiry be made available to Members of Parliament?

Shri A. P. Jain: Yes, when it is available.

Shri Hanumanthaiya: Will the hon. Minister state who is the person or the officer who recommended the contract to the Government?

Shri A. P. Jain: The decision to import Swedish huts was taken at a meeting held on the 11th May, 1949, under the chairmanship of the hon. Minister for Rehabilitation. The meeting was attended by the Chief Commissioner, the Deputy Commissioner, Delhi, the Chairman, Delhi Improvement Trust, the Adviser to the Ministry of Rehabilitation, Dr. Koenigsberger, and the Superintending Engineer, Rehabilitation Circle, C. P. W. D.

Shri Hanumanthaiya: My question was, who is the person or the officer who.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I might invite the hon. Member's attention to the fact that this subject of placing the order was a matter which was discussed for half an hour during the last session. He need not go into it again.

Shri A. C. Guha: Was there any guarantee that these huts would be fire-proof?

Shri A. P. Jain: No such guarantee.

Shri A. C. Guha: Are these huts resistant to fire?

Shri A. P. Jain: Well, they are not fire-proof?

Shri Tyagi: Has full payment for these huts been made to the firm?

Shri A. P. Jain: Except for a sum of Rs. 2½ lakhs or near about.

Dr. V. Subramaniam: Because of the poor quality of material supplied, may I know what is the life of these huts?

Shri A. P. Jain: The firm guaranteed that these huts will last at least three years.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know whether the hon. Minister has not yet determined what sort of an enquiry it should be? Is it going to be left only to the person concerned? Is it a fact that the hon. Minister has yet to determine the nature of the enquiry?

Mr. Speaker: I think he has not understood the reply.

Shri Tyagi: How much was the total cost and how much money has already been paid to the firm?

Shri A. P. Jain: The total cost was Rs. 11,84,000, out of which the whole sum except about Rs. 2.5 lakhs has been paid.

Shri Tyagi: Over and above the security money?

Shri A. P. Jain: That Rs. 2.5 lakhs is the security money.

Shri Naziruddin Ahmad: The hon. Minister said that it is reported that some huts are leaking. What is the personal view or finding of the hon. Minister?

Shri A. P. Jain: It is correct that some of these do leak.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Is it a fact that corrugated iron super-roofing has lately been provided on the stalls? If so, what is the cost?

Shri A. P. Jain: The cost of providing super-roofs inclusive of the necessary timber, was Rs. 65,531.

DISPLACED STALL-HOLDERS EVICTED FROM CONNAUGHT PLACE, NEW DELHI.

*2. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) the number of refugee stall-holders who were evicted from Connaught Place and forced to occupy Swedish prefabricated timber huts put up on Queensway and in other parts of New Delhi;

(b) whether the goods and other merchandise of the stall-holders were damaged by rain inside the leaking stalls;

(c) the extent and value of such damage;

(d) whether any compensation has been paid or is proposed to be paid to the refugees for the losses so sustained by them;

(e) the costs of repair and reconstruction of the damaged stalls; and

(f) the rent charged for each stall?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) to (f). Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

Shri R. L. Malviya: May I know whether all these stall-holders in Connaught Place have been accommodated in the new stalls?

Shri A. P. Jain: Not all of them.

Shri R. L. Malviya: Then where have they gone?

Shri A. P. Jain: They must have dispersed to different places in the town of Delhi and elsewhere.

Shri Kamath: Is it a fact that some of the shopkeepers who were

not refugees and who occupied Connaught Place corners in preparation days, were forced to leave their shops under the baton of the police?

Shri A. P. Jain: I have no such information but I would enquire into the matter.

Shri Kamath: Who supervised the erection of these huts?

Shri A. P. Jain: The installation of these huts was supervised by the Executive Engineer on behalf of the New Delhi Municipality.

Shri Kamath: Has any target date been fixed for the submission of the prefabricated report, I mean, the report on the enquiry into the prefab. muddle, by Shri V. T. Krishnamachari?

Shri A. P. Jain: In fact, I may inform the House that Shri V. T. Krishnamachari has already started the enquiry and he is expected to submit the report very soon. Of course, no target date has been fixed.

IMPLEMENTATION OF INDO-PAKISTAN AGREEMENT OF THE 8TH APRIL, 1950

*3. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the action so far taken by the Governments of India and Pakistan towards the implementation of the Indo-Pakistan Agreement of the 8th April, 1950;

(b) whether it is a fact that the exodus of Hindus from East Bengal has not ceased; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): As there are a number of questions relating to the Indo-Pakistan Agreement of April 8th, 1950, perhaps it may be convenient for the House if I give a somewhat fuller and more consolidated reply to this question than the Honourable Member requires.

The action taken by the Governments of India and Pakistan in furtherance of the Indo-Pakistan Agreement was as follows:—

Each Government appointed a Central Minister whose main task was to see to the implementation of the Agreement. The two Central Ministers have already visited together many districts in East Bengal, Assam and West Bengal.

One representative of the minorities has been included in the West Bengal and East Bengal Cabinets respectively. There is already a representative of the minority in the Cabinet of Assam.

Minority Commissions have been set up in West Bengal, Assam and East Bengal. Commissions of Enquiry have also been set up to enquire into and report on the causes and extent of the disturbances in February-March and to make recommendations with a view to preventing recrudescence of similar troubles in future.

The Governments concerned have issued instructions to ensure easy travel for migrants between East Bengal on the one hand and West Bengal, Assam and Tripura on the other, in accordance with the provisions in Section B of the Agreement. Liaison Officers have been appointed by each Government in specified border custom posts within the territory of the other. Legislation is being undertaken in West Bengal to facilitate restoration of property to returning migrants and also to set up trust committees for the purpose of looking after the properties of those migrants who decide not to return by the 31st December 1950.

Search Service Bureaus for the recovery of abducted women have been set up in both West Bengal and East Bengal respectively.

The immediate effect of the Agreement was a great easing of the tension which existed between India and Pakistan, and more especially, between West Bengal

and Assam, and East Bengal. It gave immediate relief to millions of members of the minority communities in both countries. It also gave an opportunity to large numbers of people in both countries to migrate in safety and with their moveable property. In Western Pakistan and in India generally, it brought about a great improvement in the atmosphere.

A number of goodwill missions, unofficially organised, have gone from one country to another and have been cordially welcomed. I should like particularly to express my appreciation of the Newspaper Editors' Conferences, both of India and Pakistan, for the good work they have done. They have evolved a code of behaviour which, I am glad to say, is largely adhered to by most newspapers now. I regret that all newspapers do not act up to that code.

As is well-known, large migrations took place before the Agreement. These migrations were in particularly distressing circumstances and were accompanied by lack of security. Usually the migrants could bring nothing with them. As a result of the Agreement and the removal of restrictions on travel and provisions for security as well as the opportunities given for bringing moveable properties, a stimulus to migration was given. While this migration of considerable number of Hindus from East Pakistan to West Bengal, Assam and Tripura, and of Muslims from West Bengal and Assam to East Pakistan continued, a stream of traffic in the contrary direction started and gained in volume. There has thus been, for many weeks past, a considerable two-way traffic. In the balance, however, there have been a larger number of coming away from East Bengal than those returning to it. In recent weeks there has been a slow diminution in the numbers going in either direction. On some days during the last week or so, there have been more Hindus returning to East Bengal than those coming away from East Bengal. On the whole, more Muslims are coming

back to West Bengal than those who are going away to East Bengal.

It is difficult to give precise figures of migrations. We have got accurate figures of movements by train into and out of West Bengal, as a record of such movements is kept at the border stations of Ranaghat and Bongaon within India. No accurate estimate is, however, possible of persons who have crossed the frontiers on foot. The State Governments concerned have made estimates of such migrants, both Hindus and Muslims, who have travelled on foot.

We have recently been supplied with the figures maintained by Pakistan of the daily movement by railway of Hindus and Muslims between East Bengal and West Bengal. These cover the post-Agreement period only. There is a considerable difference between the Pakistan figures and our figures for this period. Steps are now being taken to set up a joint checking agency for compiling figures of movement by train at the border stations.

I am laying on the Table of the House figures of migrations between East Bengal and West Bengal, Assam and Tripura. [See Appendix I, *annexure No. 19*]. It should be remembered that these figures necessarily include not only the normal traffic between the two countries but also many people going backwards and forwards. Thus the figures do not give the total number of persons involved, but those who travelled. It is clear that many of the Hindus, who returned from West Bengal to East Bengal, subsequently came back again to West Bengal. An attempt was made to calculate how many of such persons returned in this way from East Bengal. Estimates based on two days' figures were that about 20 per cent. of the Hindus returning from West Bengal to East Bengal came back again. From this it would appear that 80 per cent. remained, for the present at least, in East Bengal.

A distressingly large number of cases have been reported to us, chiefly by refugees, of thefts, dacoities and molestation of women. It is exceedingly difficult to verify these reports. We have been sending them on to the Pakistan Government. We have also received recently a similar list of Pakistan of alleged incidents in West Bengal. These are being investigated.

An agreement has now been reached between India and Pakistan that homes for women who are recovered will be set up in both West Bengal and East Bengal under the management of social workers, the majority of whom will be members of the minority community.

Recent disturbances and migrations have largely upset the social life of the minority community in East Bengal. Economic distress has made life more precarious. I think it is true to say that there is no sense of security in the minds of the minority community in East Bengal. The problem is partly psychological. There has undoubtedly been an improvement in some ways, but much remains to be done.

I am meeting the Central Ministers and the Chairmen of the Minority Commissions of West Bengal and East Bengal next week to discuss these various problems with them.

Mr. Speaker: As I understand that, it has been decided to allot one day for the discussion of the Bengal question, I wanted to make a statement at the end of Question Hour, but as this question has been answered in detail by the hon. the Prime Minister, I think I should place this matter for the consideration of hon. Members, at this stage. A number of questions have been tabled by hon. Members calling for information on various aspects of the Bengal question and it is but proper that the discussion should take place after the hon. Members are in possession of the relevant information that they wish to have. The questions are

spread over today, the 4th and the 9th instant, that is to say, almost up to the end of the Session. I, therefore, propose that instead of the questions coming up for answer in the usual Question Hour, answers containing information required by all of them should be put up collectively—not in the form of a separate answer to each question, but in the form of a comprehensive statement containing the information that the various questions call for. Many of the questions overlap each other and it will be more convenient for hon. Members to have the information together. This will also save time from the Question Hour. I would therefore propose, if the House is agreeable, that Government should place a statement on the Table of the House tomorrow. Can it be done tomorrow?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: A consolidated answer to all these questions, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: Yes. All these questions—not only those for today but all those up to the 9th instant.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Certainly, I shall place some kind of a paper. It may be that some particular piece of information is not in my possession, but generally speaking we shall do that by tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker: So it may be placed on the Table of the House tomorrow and it should give all information asked for by all questions, irrespective of the days for which they have been put down. The statement will be circulated to hon. Members and we may then have the discussion on the 4th inst. Is the House agreeable?

Hon. Members: Yes.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: As it is proposed to distribute this to hon. Members, perhaps it may be convenient to have it printed. If so, it may not be ready by tomorrow morning. It may be ready only by day after tomorrow morning.

Mr. Speaker: We might have it on the day after tomorrow then. It makes no difference. All that I am

anxious about is that hon. Members should have this paper, at least twenty-four hours before the discussion starts.

Shri Kamath: Does your announcement that the discussion on this Indo-Pakistan Agreement will be held on the 4th instant mean that the debate on Korea will be limited to less than two days?

Mr. Speaker: I think the arrangement is that we discuss the President's Address and the amendments, minus the Korean question and the Indo-Pakistan Agreement today, and tomorrow and the day after we may discuss the international situation—it will last for two days—and after that, we shall have discussion on this Bengal question on the 4th.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know if the replies to the questions which are entered in today's list will be supplied to the members or not? They must be ready with hon. the Prime Minister.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I am prepared to give them to hon. Members.

Mr. Speaker: Even if they are not put, they will go in as Unstarred Questions.

INDIA'S REPRESENTATION ABOUT SENTENCES PASSED ON CERTAIN PERSONS IN MAHE

*4. **Shri Kesava Rao:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether any reply has been received from the French Government to India's representation regarding the unduly harsh sentences passed on certain persons in Mahe, who tried to lead a resistance movement against French domination?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): Our Ambassador in Paris has handed over personally a strong protest to the French Foreign Office regarding the harsh sentences passed in Mahe and has expressed

the Government of India's grave concern in the matter. No reply to our protest has so far been received though we have been told that the matter is receiving the attention of the French Foreign Office.

Shri Kesava Rao: May I know the number of persons who were sentenced by the Mahe Government?

Dr. Keskar: About 68 persons were proceeded against, of whom 52 or so were sentenced in absentia and the rest sentenced and put in prison.

Shri Damodara Menon: Is it a fact that the properties of these convicted persons have been confiscated?

Dr. Keskar: That is a fact.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : जिन लोगों को इस मामले में सजा हुई है, क्या अब भी वह जेल में हैं और यदि वह जेल में हैं तो उन के साथ वहां पर जो व्यवहार किया जाता है उस की निस्बत कोई शिकायत गवर्नमेंट आफ इंडिया को मिली है।

[**Seth Govind Das:** Are these persons, who were sentenced in this case, still in prison and if so, has Government of India received any complaints regarding the treatment accorded to them in prison?]

Dr. Keskar: Those persons who have been sentenced are in prison at this moment and we have no information as to how they are being treated. In fact, no specific complaint about their treatment has come to us.

Sardar B. S. Man: Have reports reached Government that widespread oppression is being practised in other French Settlements in India against persons who stand for merging with India?

Dr. Keskar: Yes, there are widespread complaints that people who are pro-India are being persecuted in many ways.

Shri Kesava Rao: May I know whether these persons have asked

for any assistance from the Government of India?

Dr. Keskar: It is as a result of that, that we have put up a very strong protest to the French Government about this matter.

Shri Tyagi: Is there any hope of these people being released before a plebiscite is held in these areas?

Dr. Keskar: We have pointed out to the French Government that unless these people are released and an atmosphere necessary for a referendum is created, the results of the referendum will not be acceptable to us.

Shri Tyagi: By which time will the referendum be held?

Dr. Keskar: It all depends upon any agreement arrived at between us and the French Government in regard to the referendum.

Prof. Banga: Are any efforts being made to represent to the French Government not to terrorise the people who favour merger with India and that we will not be a party to the results of the referendum unless satisfactory proof is forthcoming that terrorism is not practised.

Dr. Keskar: Certainly. We have been bringing continuously to the attention of the French Government, I would not say acts of terrorism but acts of persecution practised against various people who are pro-India and unless we are satisfied that these have ceased we will not accept any referendum.

Shri Tirumala Rao: Is there sufficient reason to believe that there is a change of heart on the part of the French Government in regard to this matter?

Mr. Speaker: It is a question of opinion.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : भारत सरकार ने इन ब्रह्मचर्यों में कासीसी सरकार को जो कुछ

अब तक लिखा है उस का कोई उत्तर भारत सरकार को प्राप्त हुआ है ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** Have the Government received a reply to their communications addressed so far to the French Government on the subject?]

Dr. Keskar: We have received no reply.

Sardar B. S. Man: The hon. Minister said that protests have been made to the French Government, but in spite of continued reminders the French Government have not replied in regard to the protection of the lives of these people. I want to know what steps are being taken by the Government of India to ensure their safety.

Dr. Keskar: The Government of India can take only those steps which are in accord with international usage. It is not possible for the Government of India to interfere in the internal affairs of a territory which is not under it, but is under a foreign Government.

NEWLY BUILT SHOPS ON IRWIN ROAD AND QUEENSWAY FOR DISPLACED PERSONS

*5. **Shri Kesava Rao:** (a) Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the newly built shops on the Irwin Road and Queensway, New Delhi have been damaged due to the recent rains?

(b) What is the number of such shops damaged?

(c) Do Government propose to replace the roofs by corrugated sheets?

(d) What is the estimated loss due to the damage caused to these huts?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). During the first shower in the current Monsoon many stalls were reported to have leaked. The roofs of two stalls were reported to have been blown off by the storm.

(c) No. Roofs are not proposed to be replaced. It was, however, decided to provide super-roofs, of C.I. Sheets in addition to the hard board roofs. This work has been completed.

(d) The figures are not known.

Shri Kesava Rao: May I know what is the original cost of a hut and what is the money spent on repairs?

Shri A. P. Jain: The cost we paid to the Swedish Government for a hut was Rs. 470 F.O.B. Sweden. In addition to that, freight charges and certain expenses on storage and insurance etc. were incurred at about Rs. 260 each hut.

Shri Kamath: What was the cost of superstructure for these pre-fabs?

Shri A. P. Jain: The total expenditure would be about Rs. 1,53,082 on all these 600 stalls.

श्री भट्ट : जिन दुकानदारों के माल का नुकसान हुआ है उस की फेहरिस्त क्या सरकार ने बनवाई है ?

[**Shri Bhatt:** Have the Government got a list prepared of the losses suffered by the shopkeepers?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : इन दुकानदारों को यह दुकानें नई दिल्ली म्युनिसिपैल्टी ने किराये पर उठाई थीं। नई दिल्ली म्युनिसिपैल्टी इस सम्बन्ध में कार्रवाई कर रही है।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** The shops in question were rented out to these shopkeepers by the New Delhi Municipality. Action on the subject is being taken by the said Municipality.]

श्री भट्ट : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि उन के माल का जो नुकसान हुआ है उस की फेहरिस्त नई दिल्ली म्युनिसिपैल्टी ने बनवानी शुरू की है या नहीं, क्या गवर्नमेंट ने कोई हिदायत इस बारे में दी है ?

[**Shri Bhatt:** I wanted to know whether the preparation of lists regarding the losses suffered by these

persons has been undertaken by the New Delhi Municipality or not or have any instructions been issued by the Government in the matter?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : मुझे इस के बारे में कोई इत्तला नहीं है।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** I have no information on the subject.]

Shrimati Velayudhan: May I know whether similar stalls are used for similar purposes in the country from where they were imported?

Shri Kamath: By what amount has the rent of these stalls been increased owing to the building of the pucca houses over and above these kutchha houses?

Shri A. P. Jain: We have got a certain amount of the money of the Swedish firm as 'guarantee' and as the houses have not proved to be rainproof we hope that we shall be able to deduct this expenditure from the guarantee money.

Sardar B. S. Man: How does the cost of these stalls compare with stalls made of pucca materials?

Shri A. P. Jain: Much less.

Shri T. N. Singh: Why were tin sheets not used, instead of corrugated sheets. The former would be cheaper.

Mr. Speaker: We are entering into an argument. Next question.

SALE OF STEAM OR MOTOR LAUNCHES FROM DISPOSALS

*6. **Shri Sidhya:** Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steam or motor launches were sold from the Disposals at any time;

(b) if so, what their book prices were, at what prices and on what date they were sold; and

(c) whether such launches are available for sale?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total number of steam and motor launches sold is 214. Of these 112 were from U.K. surpluses of a book value of Rs. 18,42,340. They were sold on different dates from 1946 to April 1950 and the total sale value realised was Rs. 10,04,944. The total number of launches sold from American surpluses is 102. The book value of these is not separately available. They were sold during the period May 1946 to August 1947 and the sale price realised was Rs. 12,79,613.

(c) Only two launches are still available for disposal.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether any steam launches were sold during this year, or the latter part of last year?

Shri Mahtab: I have already given the period when they were sold. If the hon. member wants I shall lay on the Table a statement showing the dates on which the launches were sold.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether any launches were sold this year and also why the sales were held over?

Shri Mahtab: I have already said that they were sold up to April 1950, but it will not be possible for me just now to find out on which date they were sold. If the hon. Member wishes to have the information I can find out and lay it on the Table.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know if any of the launches sold have been re-purchased by Government?

Shri Mahtab: Most of them have been sold to 'priority indentors', that is, to Government departments, Provincial Governments and Corporations. So this is only a book transfer.

Shri Sidhva: Is it not a fact that some of them were sold to private persons and that they have re-sold them to others?

Shri Mahtab: I have no information, but if the hon. Member brings any such case to my notice I will make enquiries.

Shri Raj Bahadur: Were the sales to private dealers effected on the basis of tenders or by means of open auction?

Shri Mahtab: There are three systems. The first is the sale to 'priority indentors'. Then tenders are called. If no tender is available then auction is held.

Shri Sidhva: For the last sale may I know whether tenders were invited?

Shri Mahtab: I cannot say off-hand; I require notice for that.

WAR REPARATIONS

*7. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state whether there is any special staff employed in foreign countries for the realisation of India's War reparations?

(b) How much amount is to be still recovered?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) Reparations are at present being received from Germany only. The work of allocation of German reparations to the claimant countries is done by a body called the Inter Allied Reparations Agency at Brussels. India is represented on that body by the Charge d'Affaires for India in Belgium who is the Delegate; and the Commercial Secretary of the Embassy in Belgium who is the alternate Delegate. These positions are held by them in addition to their normal duties. Bids for plants are offered by Government on the basis of the reports sent by the Inspection staff in Germany which consists of one Deputy Development Officer, two Inspectors, two Clerks and three Drivers.

(b) A greater portion of the available reparations from Germany has already been distributed to the claimant countries and the amount remaining to be allotted to India is unlikely to exceed half a crore of rupees. It is not certain what policy is likely to be followed in regard to

Reparations from Japan from which country no reparations have so far been received.

Shri Sidhva: In view of the fact that only half a crore of rupees is the amount to be recovered will the staff that is maintained in Belgium, particularly at Antwerp, be abolished?

Shri Sri Prakasa: There is no idea of abolishing the staff yet.

Shri Sidhva: Have the Government any idea and have they ascertained from our Embassy in Belgium or Germany as to whether the staff is necessary now, in view of the very small amount of reparations that has to be recovered?

Shri Sri Prakasa: Even half a crore is not a very small sum for a poor man like me!

Shri Sidhva: What is the expenditure on the staff, may I know?

Shri Sri Prakasa: I could not tell you exactly what we spend upon the salaries of the staff.

Shri Tyagi: More than a poor man can afford to pay!

Shri B. Das: May I know whether the original estimate of the Government of India of the reparations machinery from Germany was not expected to be more than £2 millions worth and if so why it has now been reduced to half a crore of rupees and how much of that half a crore worth of plant has been imported into India?

Shri Sri Prakasa: I could not follow the hon. Member, but from what I did I will just say this. The total amount of reparations submitted on behalf of pre-partition India in Germany was Rs. 486.82 crores or Rs. 490 crores roundly and that from Japan is Rs. 2,800 crores.

Shri Tyagi: Have we received any complete industrial plant among the reparations articles?

Shri Sri Prakasa: I regret, being new to this job, I am unable to say

whether we have received any complete plant, but we have got a large number of plants that are in Calcutta at the present moment.

Shri Gautam: Are we in a position to instal even one complete factory out of the materials that we have got from Germany?

Mr. Speaker: It is the same question.

Shri Sri Prakasa: It is a matter for an expert to answer, but I can make enquiries if the hon. Member wants.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Are Government aware that the plant and machinery received out of the reparations are lying in Calcutta and deteriorating seriously because they are not being installed?

Shri Sri Prakasa: I must confess with regret that the hon. Member's information is correct.

Shri Kamath: At this time when another war is casting its shadow over the earth, does India intend to forego any portion of the German or Japanese War Reparations due to her, as a gesture to those people, considering the fact that the Congress which is now in power was not a party to World War II?

Mr. Speaker: It need not be answered.

Shri A. C. Guha: How long are those goods lying at Calcutta?

Shri Sri Prakasa: I could not give the exact date but if the hon. Member wants I can find out.

An Hon. Member: Since the date they were received.

Shri Tyagi: How do the Government intend to dispose of the reparations articles received?

Shri Sri Prakasa: The system that we have is to ask various Governments and private parties to take these plants off our hands, and that is what we propose to go on doing.

An Hon. Member: Has some been taken away?

Mr. Speaker: Let us go to the next question.

AUTOMOBILES WITH DISPOSALS DIRECTORATE

*8. **Shri Sidhva:** Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) the number of automobiles left under the Disposals at various places in India and their book value; and

(b) the number of automobiles still available from the Disposals at various centres in India and their book value?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Shri Mahtab): (a). The total number of automobiles reported for disposal upto 15-7-50 was 74,642. Of these, 35,917 were from American surpluses, located in a number of depots in and around Calcutta and in Assam and one depot in Delhi and 88,725 from U.K. surpluses located in various depots all over India. The book value of automobiles from U.K. surpluses is Rs. 10 crores approximately. Book values in the case of American stores are not available.

(b) The number of automobiles still awaiting disposal is about 3,679—326 American and 3,353 from U.K. surpluses. Book value of these automobiles is estimated at Rs. 2·84 crores. The vehicles are located in Calcutta, Delhi, Chheoki, Avadi, Dehu, Ondal, Nirsa, Dhanbad, Panagarh, etc.

Shri Sidhva: Out of these 3,600 how many automobiles are serviceable and how many are not?

Shri Mahtab: There is no means of checking these up.

Shri Sidhva: Have Government adopted any means to find out whether they are serviceable, and if so what steps have been taken to

dispose of them or to keep them for our own purposes?

Shri Mahtab: As a matter of fact, in 1947 a Committee was set up and a report was produced, but I must confess with regret that sufficient action could not be taken on that report for want of an agency—we cannot send our civil officers to check these automobiles.

Shri Sidhva: Is it not a fact that they are lying in the open in Kirkee and in the Bombay area and deteriorating and may I know whether Government still think of disposing of them or not?

Shri Mahtab: I entirely agree with the hon. Member that these Disposals could have been sold by 1948, but for various reasons they have not been sold and attempts are being made to sell them.

Shri Shiva Rao: Is it a fact that the Defence Ministry has been ordering large numbers of jeeps and other kinds of automobiles from abroad without making any enquiries whether they are available in Disposals or not?

Shri Mahtab: I am afraid it is not a fact because the Committee on Disposals includes one representative of the Defence Ministry. The priority indent, as I have already said, goes to various Departments. If they do not find the materials according to their choice then alone they go and make outside purchases.

Shri Shiva Rao: Is it not a fact that within the last few weeks 545 cases which were lying on the Beach in Madras for five years have been opened and discovered to contain first-class motor trucks?

Shri Mahtab: It may be a fact; I do not know.

Shri Gautam: Why did the Government place orders with the

U.K. firm for 2,000 jeeps when these jeeps were available in the Disposals and with the dealers in the country?

Shri Mahtab: Under the rules that cannot be done because first of all these priority indents must be satisfied and then alone they will go abroad.

Shri Gautam: Am I to understand that these orders were not placed or the jeeps that were ordered from the firm were not acceptable to the Government of India?

Shri Mahtab: I presume the hon. Member is referring to the indent of the Defence Ministry. In that case, they must have found out that the materials were unserviceable.

Shri Kamath: Is it not a fact that these 2,000 jeeps to which my hon. friend Mr. Gautam has referred were purchased through the High Commissioner's Office or the India Stores Purchase Department in London and that subsequently they had proved unserviceable in India?

Shri Mahtab: I think the Defence Ministry will be able to answer this question.

Shri Kamath: The Stores Purchase Department is under the Industry and Supply Ministry.

Shri Tyagi: That is a different story.

Shri A. C. Guha: Was there a ban imposed on the disposal of these articles by certain Ministries of the Government of India? If so, when was that ban imposed and when was the ban removed totally?

Shri Mahtab: When the Kashmir operations started the ban was imposed; the ban was imposed again when the rehabilitation question came in and only very recently the ban has been lifted. As a matter of fact the delay in the disposal is due to these bans.

DISPLACED PERSONS SENT TO BHOPAL

*9. **Thakur Lal Singh:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) how many displaced persons have been sent to Bhopal up to the 30th June, 1950;

(b) how many of them have been allotted land;

(c) how many of them have been provided otherwise;

(d) how many of them are still being given monetary help and in what manner; and

(e) how many are without any means of livelihood and what kind of arrangement is being made for them?

The Minister of States for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) 16,318 persons.

(b) 2,200 persons or 575 families.

(c) 2,189 families or 10,945 persons have been given urban loans for settlement at Bairagarh and at Sehore. 377 shops have been constructed for displaced persons in Bhopal and 100 shops are proposed to be constructed at Sehore. Out of 75 shops constructed by the Bhopal Municipality, 50 have been allotted to displaced persons.

(d) and (e). 1,406 persons, who are awaiting settlement on land, are being given food loans. 904 infirm persons, widows and minor dependents are given free doles at Rs. 14/- per adult and Rs. 10 per minor per month, and are living in the Widows' and Destitutes' Home at Gandhi-nagar (Bairagarh).

ठाकुर लाल सिंह: यह जो बैरागढ़ में इतने आदमी आबाद किए गये हैं क्या ये मुस्तकिल तौर पर आबाद किये गये हैं? इन को जो मकानात वगैरा दिये गये हैं ये मुस्तकिल तौर पर दिये गये हैं या टैम्पेरी (Temporary) दिये गये हैं?

Thakur Lal Singh: Is the rehabilitation of this large number of people in Bairagarh of a permanent nature

and is the allotment of houses to them on a permanent basis or is it temporary only.]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : जी हां मुस्तकिल तौर पर आबाद किये गये हैं।

[Shri A. P. Jain: Their rehabilitation is a permanent one, Sir.]

ठाकुर लाल सिंह : भोपाल में उन के लिए जो ७५ दुकानें म्युनिसिपैल्टी की तरफ से बनाई गई हैं और दूसरी जो दुकानें बनाई गई हैं वह खाली पड़ी हैं और उन में कोई आदमी आबाद नहीं किये गये क्योंकि वहाँ पानी भरा हुआ है।

[Thakur Lal Singh: The 75 shops constructed for them by the Municipality together with a number of other shops built for this purpose are all lying unoccupied and no persons have been rehabilitated therein as they are water logged.]

Mr. Speaker: He should put a question and not argue.

ठाकुर लाल सिंह : Who is responsible for these shops, I am asking. इन ७५ दुकानों के अलावा बाकी जो दुकानें बनी हैं वह ऐसी जगह बनी हैं जहाँ पानी भरा हुआ है। इन दुकानों के एक हिस्से का बनरजी मारकेट कहा जाता है। यह दुकानें किसी काम नहीं आ रही हैं इन में बहुत रुपया बरबाद हुआ, इस के लिए कौन जिम्मेदार है ?

[Thakur Lal Singh: Who is responsible for these shops, I am asking. Apart from these 75 shops, the other shops have been constructed in a locality which is water logged. A portion of these shops is known as 'Banerjee Market'. No use is being made of them and considerable money has thus been wasted in their construction. May I know who is responsible for this?]

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He should resume his seat now. He is asking who is responsible.

श्री ए० पी० जैन : मुझे अभी तक इस किस्म की कोई इत्तला नहीं मिली है कि जहाँ ये ३७७ दुकानें बनी हैं वहाँ पानी भरा हुआ है। लेकिन मैं इस के मुताल्लिक दरियाफ्त करूंगा।

[Shri A. P. Jain: I have received no information to the effect that the whole locality where these 377 shops have been constructed is water logged. But I will inquire into the matter.]

ठाकुर लाल सिंह : जिन लोगों को अब खाने को नहीं दिया जा रहा है और जो भूखे मर रहे हैं उन्होंने ने यद्यपि चीफ कमिश्नर (Chief Commissioner) साहब को कई बार रिप्रेजेंटेशन (Representation) किया और बाद को जब वह वहाँ उन के पास जाने लगे तो उन पर लाठी चार्ज किया गया.....

Thakur Lal Singh: The starving people there, who are not given any food, made many representations to the Chief Commissioner and subsequently while attempting to make a representation to him personally, they were lathi-charged.....]

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Sardar B. S. Man: May I know whether those people who have been settled on land in Bhopal are refugees from Sind or Punjab and whether those refugees who did not own any land in Pakistan were given those lands, or whether the lands were given to those who owned lands in Pakistan?

Shri A. P. Jain: In Bhopal some of the agriculturist families were Sindhis and others Labana Sikhs and there were other mixtures.

लाला अचिन्त राम : क्या जानरेविल मिनिस्टर साहब बल्लार्येमें कि जितने आदमी अब तक भोपाल में भेजे गये हैं उन के अलावा और भी आदमी गवर्नमेंट वहाँ भेजने का इरादा रखती है ?

[**Lala Achint Ram:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether Government intend to send more persons to Bhopal in addition to those sent there so far?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : कुछ आदमी हर जगह ऐसे थे जिन को गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से नहीं भेजा गया था और जो खुद बखुद वहाँ चले गये हैं। ऐसे आदमी भोपाल में भी कुछ हैं।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** At every place there are some persons who have not been sent there by the Government but have gone there of their own accord. Some such persons are in Bhopal also.]

लाला अचिन्त राम : क्या गवर्नमेंट वहाँ अपनी तरफ से और आदमी भेजने का इरादा रखती है।

[**Lala Achint Ram:** Do the Government intend to send more persons on its behalf?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : यह तो इस के ऊपर मुन्हसिर होगा कि वहाँ पर कितनी जमीन ऐसी है जो रिक्लेम (Reclaim) की जा सकती है और जहाँ आदमी बसाये जा सकते हैं।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** It depends upon the extent of the land that could be reclaimed and made fit for rehabilitation.]

श्री द्विवेदी : क्या भोपाल में भी अरब की सराय की तरह कोई ट्रेनिंग स्कूल खोला गया है ?

[**Shri Dwivedi:** Has any school been opened in Bhopal also on the lines of the one at Arab-ki-Sarai?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : जी नहीं, वही तक नहीं खोला गया।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** No, Sir, no such school has been opened there so far.]

Sardar B. S. Man: May I know whether these lands that have been given to the refugees were evacuee land or Government land and whether they were properly reclaimed?

Shri A. P. Jain: I have no information on that point at the moment. But if the hon. Member wants, I can supply him the necessary information.

Mr. Speaker: Let us go to the next question.

TREATMENT OF INDIANS IN SOUTH AFRICA

*10. **Shri Raj Bahadur:** (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether India's formal request to the U. N. Secretary General to place the question of treatment of Indians in South Africa on the agenda of the next session of the General Assembly has been accepted?

(b) What measures and policies do Government propose to adopt to meet the situation created for the Indians in South Africa as a result of the passing of the Group Areas Bill by the South African Parliament?

(c) Have Government any information with regard to the attitude of other Commonwealth countries in this matter?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) The matter is included in the provisional agenda of the next session of the General Assembly. All items on the provisional agenda are to be considered by the General Committee prior to the inaugural session of the General Assembly before they can be recorded for the final agenda. It is however, open to any Member at that stage to object to the inclusion in the agenda of any item.

(b) Government will consider this after the United Nations General Assembly Meeting.

(c) The attitude of Pakistan can be gathered from the published correspondence between the three Governments, copies of which are laid on the Table of the House. [Information placed in the Library. See No. P-96/50]. The Government of India have no information as to the attitude of other Members of the Commonwealth.

Shri Raj Bahadur: Have Government taken any steps to know the attitude of sister Commonwealth countries on this question and how far the stability of the Commonwealth links would be affected by that attitude?

Dr. Keskar: Government will try to find out the attitude of other Commonwealth countries when the moment comes.

Shri Raj Bahadur: Have Government any information with regard to the steps taken by the local African population against this law-less law?

Dr. Keskar: I have no information on the subject.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : जहाँ तक पाकिस्तान का सम्बन्ध है माननीय मंत्री जी ने अभी कहा कि इस सम्बन्ध में कुछ वक्तव्य पत्रों में निकले हैं। इस के अलावा क्या अभी जब पाकिस्तान के प्रधान मंत्री यहाँ आए तो उन से इस विषय में कोई बात चीत हुई थी ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** So far as Pakistan is concerned, the hon. Minister has said that some statements have been published in the papers. In addition to this, were any talks held on the subject on the occasion of the recent visit of the Prime Minister of Pakistan?]

Dr. Keskar: There was no talk about this matter. The correspondence between the three Governments has been published which expresses very definitely the opinions of the Pakistan Government. I do not think there is any need to add or have any more discussion at this moment at least.

Prof. Banga: Was any effort made by India to try to bring this matter for discussion before the Security Council in the recent past?

Dr. Keskar: No. Of course, not.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

INDIA'S BALANCE OF TRADE

*11. **Shri Raj Bahadur:** Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the balance of trade, in imports and exports, during the four quarters of the year 1949 and the first two quarters of this year; and

(b) the total value of imports from and exports to the dollar and the sterling areas respectively during the above periods?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) and (b). I place on the Table of the House three statements giving the required information. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 1].

DESIGNATION "TRADE COMMISSIONERS"

*12. **Shri Tyagi:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state whether the officers performing the functions of Commerce Secretaries in the various embassies in foreign countries are designated 'Trade Commissioners'?

(b) If not, what are the countries where Trade Commissioners are appointed and what is the correct designation of India's representatives in foreign countries appointed for the purposes of commerce?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) and (b) Officers appointed in foreign countries for the purposes of dealing with the trade and commerce of India do not bear uniform designations. In Commonwealth countries generally they are designated as Trade Commissioners or Assistant Trade Commissioners, while in non-Commonwealth countries, they are designated as Commercial Counsellors, Commissioners, Secretaries and Vice Consuls in accordance with the importance of the country. In some Commonwealth countries such as the U.K. we have in addition to a Trade Commissioner, a Commercial Adviser to the High Commissioner. A list showing the designations of India's Trade Representatives abroad is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, *annexure* No. 2].

SINDRI FERTILIZER FACTORY

***13. Shri Shiva Rao:** Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) the original estimates for the Sindri Fertiliser Factory;

(b) the present estimates of the final cost of the scheme; and

(c) the probable date on which the factory is likely to go into full production?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Shri Mahtab): (a) The original estimate furnished by the Fertiliser Mission in 1944 was Rs. 10.5 crores.

(b) On the basis of information now available, the total ultimate cost of the Project will be about Rs. 22 crores.

(c) About August next year.

MOVEMENT OF DISPLACED PERSONS FROM EAST AND WEST BENGAL

***14. Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Hindu displaced persons who have returned to India

from East Pakistan since the signing of the Indo-Pakistan Agreement of the 8th April, 1950 and the number of Muslim evacuees who left India during the period;

(b) the number of Hindu displaced persons who have returned to East Pakistan and the number of Muslim evacuees who have come back to India during the period;

(c) how many of them have actually got back their properties and how many have been rehabilitated;

(d) how many of them went to dispose of their properties and have again returned to their respective places;

(e) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the statement recently made by Mr. J. N. Mandal, Minister for Law, Pakistan, criticising the appointment of the minorities Minister in East Bengal; and

(f) whether Government made any representation to Pakistan Government that such an appointment was not likely to inspire confidence amongst members of the minority communities?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Hindus about 13,00,000; Muslims about 4,50,000;

(b) Hindus about 5,30,000; Muslims about 3,00,000;

(c) No exact information is available about East Bengal. In West Bengal most of the Muslims who have returned to urban areas have got their houses restored to them and a large percentage of industrial Muslim employees have also got back their old jobs. Large areas of land which would otherwise remain vacant were allotted to refugees temporarily on the understanding that they would be restored to returning migrants at the

end of the crop season. Some difficulty has arisen because of the return of a number of Muslim migrants during the season, but arrangements have been made by the West Bengal Government to find alternative accommodation for them and also to give them relief until their lands can be restored to them.

So far as Assam is concerned, although no exact information is available, it is reported that steps have been taken to restore lands to the returning migrants as far as possible and to look after them in cases where immediate restoration is not feasible.

(d) It is not possible to say how many persons are returning to India for the second time, but it is estimated that such persons form about 15 per cent. of the total of the incoming migrants during the last two or three weeks.

(e) Yes.

(f) No.

JUTE DELIVERIES BY PAKISTAN

*13. **Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the failure on the part of Pakistan Government to effect deliveries of jute in terms of the Agreement made with the Indian Government; and

(b) whether Government can assure that the deliveries will be made soon to make up the shortage?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) As the hon. Member will appreciate, it would not be possible for me to answer this question except by way of speculation. To the best of our knowledge the delay on the part of the Government of Pakistan in effecting deliveries of raw jute according to the terms of the Trade Agreement, seems to be due to (i) difficulties of procurement at prices considered reasonable by the

Pakistan Jute Board, (ii) transport arrangements and (iii) the usual initial difficulties in organising supplies under a system of State Trading.

(b) A senior officer of this Government has just come back from Dacca and Narayanganj where he had discussions with the Pakistan Jute Board and his report indicates that there is every possibility of the Jute Board despatching the full quantity of 40 lakhs maunds of jute under the Agreement by the 31st of August.

DISPLACED PERSONS FROM EAST AND WEST BENGAL

*17. **Shri Jhunjunwala:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of non-Muslims who have returned from West Bengal to East Bengal from the time of the Indo-Pakistan Agreement till the 15th July, 1950, and the total number of non-Muslims who have come from East Bengal to West Bengal during the same period; and

(b) the total number of Muslims who have come from East Bengal to West Bengal and have gone from West Bengal to East Bengal from the time of the Indo-Pakistan Agreement till 15th July, 1950?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) and (b). I invite the hon. Member's attention to the answer I have given today to Shri H. V. Kamath's question No. 3.

NATIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION*

*18. **Dr. Deshmukh:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which the National Planning Commission started functioning;

(b) the date on which any definite estimate of expenditure for the Planning Commission was drawn up; and

(c) the total expenditure incurred so far?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) The Planning

Commission began to function on March 28, 1950.

(b) An estimate of expenditure on the Planning Commission for 1950-51 was furnished on March 6, 1950 and the sanction of the Ministry of Finance issued on March 13, 1950.

(c) The total expenditure incurred so far is Rs. 1,44,520/-.

OFFICERS APPOINTED BY PLANNING COMMISSION

***19. Dr. Deshmukh:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the number of officers appointed by the Planning Commission with grades of salaries and terms of appointment;

(b) the dates by which the National Planning Commission is expected to place their plans before Parliament; and

(c) whether it is contemplated that Parliament will be given an opportunity to discuss the same?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 3].

(b) The plan being prepared by the Planning Commission for the two years 1951-52 and 1952-53 is expected to be ready by the end of the year. It is too soon to say exactly when the plan for the succeeding period of three years will be completed.

(c) Any important proposals will be placed before Parliament for consideration. Government have not yet considered the procedure for doing this.

STATEMENT ON IMPORT POLICY

***20. Dr. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state the date on which the last policy with regard to imports was announced?

(b) Is it a fact that there were many mistakes in the publication which outlined the policy?

(c) What is the number of mistakes that had to be corrected and after how many days after the publication of the main policy statement was the errata issued?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) The import policy for July/December, 1950, licensing period was announced on the 15th June, 1950, in Commerce Ministry's Public Notice No. 14/ITC/P.N./50.

(b) and (c). Yes, there were about 170 mistakes. A list of corrections No. 14(A)-ITC/P.N./50 was issued on the same date as the main Public Notice No. 14-ITC(P.N.)/50. One further error was corrected in the Public Notice No. 48-ITC(P.N.)/50 dated the 4th July, 1950.

INDIA'S BALANCE OF TRADE

***21. Shri T. N. Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state the Balance of Trade position for the period April-June 1950, as between (i) India and the United States of America and (ii) India and the United Kingdom?

(b) Will Government further state the position of invisible imports and exports for the same period?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) I place on the Table of the House a statement giving the required information. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 4].

(b) The information is not yet available for this period.

SCIENTISTS FROM INDIAN UNIVERSITIES EMPLOYED ON GOVERNMENT OF INDIA RESEARCH SCHEMES

***22. Shri T. N. Singh:** (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state the number of Scientists working under the Government of India's various research schemes and in the various National Laboratories who were previously employed in different Indian Universities?

(b) How many of these Scientists have come on deputation and how many are now permanently employed with the Government of India?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) and (b). A statement giving available information is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 5]. Information is being collected from other organisations and a second statement will be placed on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

RAIDS ON INDO-PAKISTAN BORDER

***23. Lala Raj Kanwar:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of raids by Pakistanis on the Indo-Pakistan border (i) prior and (ii) subsequent to the Nehru-Liaquat Agreement;

(b) the total number of casualties which resulted therefrom; and

(c) the total value of property looted during each such raid?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) to (c). Detailed information, called for from the State Governments concerned, is still awaited. The information asked for will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as it is received.

GENERAL ELECTIONS

***24. Shri Gautam:** (a) Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state on what basis will be Delimitation of Constituencies' Committees, appointed by the Speaker, proceed with regard to the method of voting and the basis of delimitation?

(b) What steps have Government taken to conduct the forthcoming General Elections "free and fair"?

The Minister of Law (Dr. Ambedkar): (a) The Representation of the People Act requires the Election Commission to consult each of the Advisory Committees and submit proposals for the delimitation of

constituencies in each State. It is not for the Government to say on what basis the Committees will proceed when they are consulted by the Election Commission. Government are, however, considering whether the views of Parliament should not be ascertained beforehand in order to guide the Advisory Committees and the Election Commission in their task.

(b) The Chief Election Commissioner is consulting the leaders of political parties on the point mentioned by the hon. Member and will submit his proposals to Government shortly.

REHABILITATION OF DISPLACED PERSONS FROM WEST PAKISTAN

***25. Shri Gautam:** (a) Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state how many displaced persons from West Pakistan have been so far rehabilitated and how many still remain to be rehabilitated?

(b) What new schemes have been prepared or are being prepared during the term of the office of the present Rehabilitation Minister for rehabilitating the West Pakistan displaced persons?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The amount of economic recovery which constitutes 'rehabilitation' differs in each individual case and in the absence of a full economic survey of the refugees, it is impossible to give a precise answer to the question. A statement showing the rehabilitation works and assistance provided by Government is however laid on the Table. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 6].

(b) The general policy to be adopted in the matter of rehabilitation was recently reviewed by a High Powered Committee presided over by my colleague, the hon. Minister of Transport. The recommendations made by the Committee have been generally accepted by Government and are being given effect to.

MATHEMATICAL INSTRUMENT OFFICE

*26. **Shri Gautam:** (a) Will the Minister of **Industry and Supply** be pleased to state if it is a fact that the Government of India have incurred loss of the Mathematical Instrument Office during the last three years and if so, how much?

(b) What are the causes of these losses?

(c) Is there any proposal to amalgamate it with the Ordnance Factory at Dehra Dun producing similar articles?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Shri Mahtab): (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

From 15-8-47 to 31-3-48.....Rs. 5,66,157.

1948-49.....Rs. 7,17,188.

1949-50.....Rs. 6,74,495.

(b) (i) Increased pay and allowances to staff and workers as a result of the Central Pay Commission's recommendations, which accounted for over Rs. 4 lakhs per annum.

(ii) Post-war disorganisation due to sudden cessation of demands from the Defence Services.

(iii) Shrinkage in the extent and number of indents from Government indentors consequent on the economy drive.

(iv) India's requirements of mathematical instruments are not for large quantities of a few types but for small quantities of a number of types. Mass production and sales on a profit-earning or self-supporting basis are therefore very difficult in the existing circumstances.

(v) Essential expenditure on research and development sections.

(c) The desirability of amalgamating the Mathematical Instrument Office with the Ordnance Factory, Dehra Dun, will be examined in consultation with the Ministry of Defence.

IMPORT OF RAW JUTE FROM PAKISTAN

*27. **Shri Jhunjhunwala:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce** be pleased to state whether the price fixed for raw jute to be imported from Pakistan under the Indo-Pakistan agreement has been on the higher side, having regard to the then prevailing rate of raw jute in Pakistan?

(b) What is the machinery set up for import of raw jute from Pakistan?

(c) Has any complaint been received by Government in connection with the machinery set up?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) This is a matter of opinion, but Government does not consider the prices settled in the Indo-Pakistan Agreement to be unreasonable.

(b) The machinery provided in the Agreement is that the Government of Pakistan, through their Jute Board, should arrange to supply the agreed quantity of raw jute to the Indian Jute Mills Association; the transactions will take place in Indian rupee for which a separate account is being maintained by the State Bank of Pakistan with the Reserve Bank of India.

(c) No.

HINDU WOMEN CONVERTED TO ISLAM IN EAST BENGAL

*28. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Hindu Women (appropriately) converted to Islam in East Bengal during the disturbances in the months of February, March, April and May, 1950; and

(b) the number, out of those referred to in part (a) above, re-converted to Hinduism and restored to the original families?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) and (b). No exact

information is available. The Search Service Bureau, West Bengal, registered 78 cases of abduction and 172 cases of missing women on information supplied by refugees from East Bengal. In addition to these, seven cases of abducted and missing women were reported to the East Bengal Government by our Deputy High Commissioner at Dacca. The East Bengal Government have sent information to West Bengal about 12 cases of alleged abduction and 76 cases of alleged missing. In a press Conference the East Bengal Government claimed that 23 abducted women have been recovered all of whom except one have been restored to their relatives and 50 other reports were not true.

ABDUCTED WOMEN RECOVERED.

*29. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state the number of abducted women recovered during the months of May, June and July, 1950 from (i) East Bengal, (ii) West Punjab and (iii) Kashmir?

(b) What is the number of Hindu and Sikh women recovered and detained in Lahore Trust Camp awaiting repatriation to India?

The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopaldaswami): (a) According to the report of a statement made by the East Bengal Relief Commissioner at a press conference on 3rd July, 1950, 26 abducted non-Muslim women have been recovered in East Bengal upto 31st May, 1950 and 8 more subsequently. We have no other reliable statistical information on recoveries in East Bengal. The number of abducted women recovered in West Punjab in the months of May, June and July, 1950, is 87 and from the Pakistan side of the Cease Fire Line in Kashmir is 411.

(b) The number of Hindu and Sikh women recovered in Pakistan and awaiting repatriation to India on 26th July, 1950, was 46.

DATE OF GENERAL ELECTION

*30 { **Shri Hanumanthaiya:**
Shri Channiah:

Will the **Minister of Law** be pleased to state what is the date fixed for General Elections to take place under the New Constitution of India?

The Minister of Law (Dr. Ambedkar): No dates have been fixed for the general elections. A great deal of preparatory work, both legislative and administrative, still remains to be done, and it is obviously much too early to fix dates.

EXPENDITURE ON PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO INDONESIA

*31 { **Shri Hanumanthaiya:**
Shri Ethirajulu Naidu:
Shri Channiah:

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state the expenditure incurred by (i) the Government of India and (ii) by the Indian Embassy offices in Indonesia in connection with and for the visit of the Prime Minister to Indonesia?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (i) and (ii). The journey from India to Indonesia was performed in the Indian Naval Cruiser *DELHI*. The Prime Minister arranged his programme in such a way as to fit in with the annual cruise of the Naval Squadron.

The return journey from Indonesia was performed in an Indian Air Force plane.

The Prime Minister and party were the guests of the Indonesian Government throughout their stay in that country. Some minor expenditure on tips and entertainment was incurred. Full accounts are not yet available.

PAKISTAN RAID ON SANGTA VILLAGE

*32 { **Shri Hanumanthaiya:**
Shri Channiah:

(a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether camel-borne raiders from Pakistan recently

raided Sangta village in the Suratgarh-Bikaner Division and shot dead three women?

(b) How many were injured?

(c) What are the properties robbed and what is their value?

(d) What steps have Government taken in this connection?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Koskar): (a) to (c). According to information received, two women were killed and three women and two children injured in a raid by 11 Pakistan nationals on the night of the 28th/29th May, 1950 on village Sangta. They looted about 9 or 10 houses and took away 11 camels worth Rs. 8,800/- as well as ornaments and cash etc. in all worth about Rs. 22,000/-.

(d) A protest has been lodged with the Government of Pakistan who have been requested to apprehend the culprits, return the looted property, and compensate the victims. Their reply is awaited.

RESULTS OF INDO-PAKISTAN AGREEMENT OF 8TH APRIL, 1950

*33. **Sardar B. S. Man:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state how far the Indo-Pakistan Agreement of the 8th April, 1950 arrived at between the two Prime Ministers of India and Pakistan, has brought relief to the minorities in India and Pakistan as regards their safe travel from Pakistan to India and *vice versa*; and

(b) what are the political and social conditions of the minorities in Pakistan at present?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) and (b). I invite the hon. Member's attention to the reply I have given to-day to Shri H. V. Kamath's question No. 3.

DECISIONS OF JOINT REHABILITATION BOARD CONFERENCE

*34. **Sardar B. S. Man:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state if a joint Rehabilitation Board meeting between the representatives of States and the Centre was held in the middle of June, 1950 to discuss how to prevent the eviction of displaced persons settled temporarily on land, though they owned no land in Pakistan?

(b) If so, what were the decisions arrived at and recommendations made by the conference?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) A meeting of the Joint Rehabilitation Board consisting of the representatives of the Central Government, and the Governments of Punjab, and PEPSU, was held on June 10, 1950, to review the progress made in the implementation of the quasi-permanent allotment scheme. It also considered the difficulties that could arise in accommodating landless tenants who had secured land in the temporary allotment scheme.

(b) The Board were given detailed information by the representatives of the Punjab and PEPSU. There was reported to be an actual shortage of tenants in the Punjab, and it was expected, therefore, that the landless persons would be able to secure lands as tenants.

UNDESIRABLE IMMIGRANTS ACT

*35. **Sardar B. S. Man:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state how many people have been evicted under the Undesirable Immigrants Act from Assam?

(b) To how many have notices been served under this Act?

(c) What is the total number of such people in Assam?

(d) What is the machinery created for these eviction purposes?

The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopaldaswami): (a) 165.

2 (b) 165.

(c) It is not possible to estimate the number of such persons now in Assam.

(d) No special machinery has been created. District and Subdivisional Officers take action under the Law on information received by them.

RESTORATION OF EVACUEE PROPERTIES TO MUSLIMS.

***36. Babu Ramnarayan Singh:**

(a) Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state whether it is a fact that over 400 evacuee properties were restored to Muslims during the period from 1st January to 31st December, 1949?

(b) If so, why and when were these properties declared evacuee property and why have the properties been restored?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). In the first instance properties are entered in the list of evacuee property on the basis of survey reports of the field staff. Later the owners come forward and file claim petitions which are investigated by the Custodians. Where the property is not found to be evacuee property, it is released.

As a result of such investigations properties referred to in part (a) were restored to Muslims.

The dates of the release of properties are not readily available; and the amount of labour and time involved in tabulating 400 cases will be out of all proportion to the utility of the information.

IMPORT OF DIESEL OIL ENGINES

***37. Shri Alagesan:** Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) what was the policy that was followed till recently in licensing the import of Diesel Oil Engines; and

(b) whether any change has been made in that policy?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) During January/June, 1950 licensing period, import of Diesel Engines against licences were allowed from Japan, Soft Currency countries and West Zone of Germany. No licences were granted for imports from U.S.A. Licences for Diesel Engines upto and including 10 H. P. were granted from Soft Currency countries and Japan. No licences for Engines over 10 H. P. and less than 20 H. P. were granted from any source. Licences for imports of Engines of 20 H. P. and over were granted for import from Soft Currency area on basis of quota of 100 per cent. of half of best years' imports or against actual orders from consumers. Licences upto 10 H. P. from the countries mentioned above were issued to Established Importers on the basis of quota of 100 per cent. of half of best years imports. A Public Notice in this connection was issued on 30th March, 1950. This was amended by the Public Notice issued on 7th June, 1950.

(b) Policy for July/December, 1950, regarding Diesel Engines has not yet been announced.

WEEKLY MOVEMENT OF HINDUS AND MUSLIMS FROM EAST AND WEST BENGAL

***38. Shri Hossain Imam:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to lay on the Table of the House a statement of weekly arrival and departure of Hindus and Muslims from and to East Bengal and West Bengal from the 1st of January, 1950 or from any such subsequent day as records may have been kept up to the 25th of July, 1950?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): I place a statement on the Table of the House giving the weekly movement between West Bengal and East Bengal for the period commencing 13th February, 1950. (See Appendix I, annexure No. 20).

EXEMPTION FROM PROVISIONS OF EVACUEE PROPERTY ACT

*39. **Shri Hossain Imam:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the exemption from the provisions of Evacuee Property Act granted to those who have migrated from Bihar to Eastern Pakistan is applicable only to recent migrants or also to those who migrated before the 1st of January, 1950;

(b) whether rules and notifications giving effect to this policy have been published in the *Gazette of India* and the Bihar Gazette; and

(c) if so, whether a copy of the same will be laid on the Table of the House?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The concession is applicable to all migrants from Bihar to East Bengal irrespective of the date of their migration provided their migration was due to communal disturbances, or the fear thereof.

(b) Yes. The necessary notification has been published in the *Gazette of India* delegating powers to the Government of Bihar to exempt property belonging to persons, who have migrated from Bihar to East Bengal, as a result of communal disturbances or the fear thereof. A notification in the Bihar State Gazette, is, therefore, not necessary.

(c) A copy of the notification is placed on the Table of the House.

NOTIFICATION

[Published in The *Gazette of India* (Part I) of 20th May, 1950]

MINISTRY OF REHABILITATION

New Delhi, the 16th May, 1950.

No. 695/Cus/50. In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 55 of the Administration of Evacuee Property Act 1950 No. XXXI of 1950, the Central Government is pleased to delegate to the Government of Bihar the power to exempt

under section 52 of the aforesaid Act property belonging to persons who have migrated from Bihar to East Bengal as a result of Communal disturbances or the fear thereof.

(V.D. DANTYAGI)

JOINT SECRETARY TO THE
GOVT. OF INDIA.

DISPLACED PERSONS FROM EAST PAKISTAN

*40. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state the number of persons who migrated from East Pakistan (i) before 1950 and (ii) in 1950 into the Indian Union?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): According to a census held in July, 1949, 12,89,443 persons migrated from the Eastern Pakistan to the Indian Union before 1950. 25,21,681 persons have migrated in 1950, according to registered figures.

IMPLEMENTATION OF INDO-PAKISTAN TRADE AGREEMENTS

*41. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of **Commerce** be pleased to state:

(a) how far the Indo-Pakistan Trade Agreements recently made have been implemented by both the parties; and

(b) how much coal, iron and cloth were sent to and how much jute, hides and other things have been received from Pakistan since January, 1950?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Prakasa): (a) and (b). The Indo-Pakistan Trade Agreement of 21st April, 1950 is the only Trade Agreement recently concluded by India with Pakistan. A copy of the Agreement is already in the Library of the House. A statement is laid on the Table of the House showing the Indo-Pakistan Trade in respect of the commodities covered by the Agreement for the period of twelve weeks from the

commencement of the Agreement up to the 8th July 1950 (See Appendix I, annexure No. 7). Later figures are not yet available. Trade between India and Pakistan for the period January to April 1950 prior to the above Agreement was more or less at a standstill. Coal is not one of the commodities covered by the Agreement and no exports thereof are allowed to Pakistan.

PRODUCTION IN SHOLAPUR MILLS

*42. **Shri Iyyunni:** (a) Will the Minister of **Industry and Supply** be pleased to state whether the Sholapur Mill which is under Government management has started production?

(b) What is the quantity produced during each of the months from March to June 1950?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes.

(b) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Month	Cloth	Yarn.
March 1950	Nil	13,013 lbs.
April 1950	208,508 yds.	141,618 lbs.
May 1950	991,081 yds.	334,610 lbs.
June 195	1,853,131 yds.	440,922 lbs.

OPENING OF CONSULATE IN MADAGASCAR.

*43. **Shri Buragohain:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to open a Consulate in Madagascar; and

(b) the arrangement whereby the interests of the Indian population there were looked after so far?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Kesar): (a) The question of opening of an Indian Consulate in Madagascar is under consideration.

(b) The interests of Indians in Madagascar are at present being looked after by the British Consul General there.

HOLIDAYS TO LABOURERS IN MICA MINES.

*44. **Shri Jnani Ram:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sundays are allowed as holidays to labourers in mica mines and factories at Koderma and Giridih; and

(b) if so, whether wages are paid to the labourers for those days?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jag-Jivan Ram): (a) Workers employed in mica mines and factories at Koderma and Giridih are generally allowed weekly holidays on the days on which the local market is held. Mines and mica factories in and in the vicinity of Koderma observe Wednesday, those in the vicinity of Jhumri Talaiya, Sunday and certain other groups of mines, Saturday as weekly holidays. Mica factories in Giridih observe Sunday as holiday.

(b) No.

GOODS PRODUCED AT JAMSHEDPUR IRON FACTORY.

*45. **Shri Jnani Ram:** Will the Minister of **Industry and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) amount of goods of different varieties produced annually at Jamshedpur Iron Factories from the year 1947;

(b) the quota allowed to different States;

(c) quotas not removed by the different States;

(d) quotas of one State diverted to another; and

(e) stocks lying at present?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Shri Mahtab): (a) and (b). Two statements are laid on the Table of the House [See Appendix I, annexure No. 8].

(c) Nil.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Approximately 210,000 tons.

SUPPLY OF YARN TO HANDLOOM WEAVERS

*46. **Shri Lakshmanan:** Will the Minister of **Industry and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of yarn supplied by the textile mills to the handloom weavers from 31st March, 1950 till the end of June 1950;

(b) the quantity supplied during the corresponding period last year; and

(c) whether the Textile Commissioner has made any attempt to assess the progress made in the manufacture of handloom goods since the 31st March, 1950?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Shri Mahtab): (a) and (b). About 112,038 bales during April to June, 1950, and about 173,137 bales during April to June, 1949.

(c) Yes. But as many of the State authorities do not have the necessary machinery for collecting reliable information, the progress made in the manufacture of handloom goods since 31st March, 1950, could not be assessed.

FACTORIES FOR NEWSPRINT

*47. **Shri Lakshmanan:** Will the Minister of **Industry and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of factories engaged in the manufacture of newsprint in India;

(b) whether there has been an offer from Russia recently to supply newsprint; and

(c) how does this offer compare with those from other countries from which this article is now imported?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Shri Mahtab): (a) None.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

TEA AUCTIONS IN CALCUTTA

*48. **Shri Ohaliha:** Will the Minister of **Commerce** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intend to start tea auctions in Calcutta and if so, when;

(b) whether it is a fact that foreign tea agency houses in Calcutta are opposed to such a move for alleged lack of warehousing facilities in Calcutta Port; and

(c) whether it is a fact that one of the British firms (Messrs. Warren and Co., Ltd., formerly Messrs. Planters' Stores Agency & Co., Ltd.) has been permitted to erect their plants for the manufacture of tea chest fittings in one of the warehouses under the Port Commissioners (originally rented to Messrs. Planters' Stores & Agency Co., Ltd., now Messrs. Warren & Co., Ltd.) for storage of tea etc. and if so, why?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) The tea auctions in Calcutta are conducted by the trade, not by Government. The export auctions which were suspended after the war broke out, re-opened in January 1947. While auctions for internal tea have always been continuing. There is no proposal of Government directly holding the auctions.

(b) The foreign agencies have drawn the attention of Government to the inadequate auctioning facilities at Calcutta and proposals are in hand to increase such facilities with a view to enabling large scale auctions taking place.

(c) No; the warehouse rented to Messrs. James Warren & Co. Ltd and in which tea chest fittings are manufactured was not intended for the storage of tea.

MANUFACTURE OF TEA CHEST FITTINGS

*49. **Shri Ohaliha:** (a) Will the Minister of **Industry and Supply** be pleased to state the number of

Indian-owned firms for manufacture of tea chest fittings?

(b) What is the number of firms other than Indian-owned?

(c) Is it a fact that a new firm (Messrs. Bobbins Ltd.) has imported machineries for manufacture of tea chest fittings in the warehouse at Hide Road, Calcutta?

(d) Was any permission given to them and if so, by whom, when and why?

(e) Is it a fact that this firm is a member of the London Tea Chest Association?

(f) Is it a fact that this Association (London Tea Chest Association) is directly opposed to import of tea chests by Indian Firms from plywood producing countries?

(g) If so, what steps have been taken by Government to prevent it from doing so in future?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Shri Mahtab): (a) Four.

(b) Two.

(c) Not to my knowledge.

(d) The Firm have not applied to the Central Government for permission.

(e) Government have no information.

(f) Government have had such reports.

(g) Import licences for plywood tea chests are granted on condition that supplies will be arranged direct from manufacturers or suppliers in the countries of origin.

DISTRIBUTION OF EAST BENGAL DISPLACED PERSONS IN DIFFERENT STATES

***50. Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** (a) Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state in what numbers the displaced persons, who have come after the 1st January, 1950, from East Bengal, are distributed over the different States of the Indian Union?

(b) Has the exodus increased since a month and if so, what are the reasons for this increase?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The number of displaced persons who have come to Indian Union from East-Bengal, after 1st January, 1950 is 25,21,681.

The distribution of these displaced persons is as below:

West Bengal	18,66,633
Bihar	41,089
Orissa ..	16,496
Assam (including Cachar)	3,82,281
Tripura ..	2,15,182
TOTAL	25,21,681

(b) The exodus from Eastern Pakistan has not appreciably increased since a month ago.

REHABILITATION MEASURES FOR EAST BENGAL DISPLACED PERSONS.

***51. Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** (a) Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state whether it is a fact that originally the arrangements were made by Government on the basis that at the most only two lakhs of displaced persons would be coming from East Bengal?

(b) Is it a fact that it was not before 29th of May 1950, that Government decided that rehabilitation measures would be necessary for a considerably greater number of displaced persons?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes.

(b) Relief measures were contemplated only in the initial stages of the exodus; but in March, 1950, it was decided to give rehabilitation facilities as well.

CLAIMS OF INDIAN MILLERS IN BURMA

***52. Shri Iyyanani:** (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to the reply to part (b) of starred question No. 618 asked on the 2nd

March, 1950 and state whether the Indian Embassy in Burma has been able to secure a settlement of the claims of the Indian Millers for the rice purchased from them by the State Agricultural Marketing Board, Burma in 1948-49?

(b) Have any mills been closed down on account of the non-receipt of their money?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Kesar): (a) The total amount claimed was Rs. 40 or 50 lakhs. As a result of vigorous efforts made by the Indian Embassy in Burma, about one-third of this amount has been paid by the Burmese Government. Further representation has been made to the Burmese Government and their reply to it is awaited.

(b) The Government of India have no information.

EXPORT PRICES OF HIDES AND SKINS

***53. Dr. V. Subramaniam:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce** be pleased to state whether representations were made to Government by the Indian Leather Federation and some others to intervene in the matter of low prices and to take up with the British Board of Trade the matter of reduction of the purchase price by London merchants of tanned hides and skins imported from India?

(b) Is it a fact that the prices are daily brought down and the London merchants are offering low prices and if so, what are the reasons therefor?

(c) What is the price fixed by the British Board of Trade for hides and skins imported from India for the current year?

(d) Is there any agreement regarding the prices between the Governments of India and U. K.?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) Yes. Representations have been received from the Indian Leather Federation. The

Commercial Adviser to the High Commissioner for India in London has been requested to take up the matter with the United Kingdom Board of Trade.

(b) It is known that U. K. prices of East Indian tanned leather have recently shown a downward trend. The United Kingdom is practically our only market and the fall in prices appears to be due to the interplay of the forces of demand and supply.

(c) So far as is known to us, the British Board of Trade do not appear to have fixed any specific price.

(d) There is no agreement between the Government of India and the Government of United Kingdom regarding the prices of tanned hides and skins.

EMPLOYEES STATE INSURANCE ACT

***54. Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** (a) Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state what is the present policy of the Government of India in regard to the enforcement of the Employees State Insurance Act?

(b) In which States or parts of the country is the Act likely to be enforced, and by which time?

(c) When is this Act likely to be enforced in the Centrally Administered areas of Ajmer, Delhi, etc?

(d) Have the Government of India set any target date for the enforcement of this Act throughout the Union, and if so, by what stages?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jag- Jivan Ram): (a) Government of India are anxious to enforce the Employees' State Insurance Act as early as possible.

(b) to (d). The Act will be enforced in stages in all the States. Arrangements had been made to enforce the Act, in Delhi and Kanpur with effect from the 1st July 1950 but the date could not be adhered to,

owing to certain unexpected developments at the last moment. Efforts are now being made with a view to enforce the Act in Delhi and Kanpur from October 1950 onwards. As programmed at present, the Government of India expect to enforce the Act in almost all the States by March 1952.

CLOSURE OF TEXTILE MILLS FOR WANT OF COTTON

***55. Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) the number of textile mills which were idle totally or partially for want of cotton supply as on 30th June, 1950;

(b) the total number of labourers who have been thrown out of employment as a result of closure of the said textile mills as on the above date; and

(c) what steps Government have taken so far or intend to take to ensure the supply of adequate quantity of cotton for these mills, and to arrange for the normal resumption of the working of the Mills?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Shri Mahtab): (a) 8 totally and 8 partially.

(b) 9,745.

(c) The following steps have been taken to ensure an adequate supply of cotton to the cotton textile mills.

(i) Imports to the extent of 11.69 lakh bales of cotton have been allowed.

(ii) The country has been divided into various cotton producing zones. Every cotton textile mill has been given a quota of cotton from the producing zones after taking into consideration the mill's proximity to the zone and the cotton used by the Mill.

(iii) Movement of cotton from one zone to another is prohibited except under a movement permit.

(iv) For increasing cotton production in the country State Governments have been requested to remove all legislative and executive restrictions on the growing of cotton and to extend to cotton lands all possible irrigation facilities. Remission of land revenue is allowed for additional areas brought under cotton cultivation.

BAN ON PRODUCTION OF SAREES BY POWERLOOMS

***56 Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity and value of Saree cloth produced by hand-loom and power-loom during the year 1949-50, and the total quantity of this cloth produced by each type of loom on an average every month;

(b) whether the Government of India have issued any notification banning the production of Saree cloth by power-looms;

(c) if so, the reasons for this step;

(d) whether this ban will apply to such power-looms as fall within the meaning of the Factories Act;

(e) if not, on what basis this distinction is made between the two; and

(f) what alternative the Government have in view to enable the powerloom industry to continue to work without any loss?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Shri Mahtab): (a) It is not possible to collect the information required as there is no agency to keep regular statistics of hand-looms.

(b) Yes, by only such power-looms which come within the purview of Factories Act, 1948.

(c) The step has been taken to reserve a field of production for hand-looms without competition.

(d) Yes.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) As stated in (c) above, the power-loom factories can shift their production to certain other varieties which have not been reserved for the hand-loom industry, viz., *malmul*, *dasuti*, long cloth and *saris* other than those reserved for the handloom industry.

PURCHASE OF URANIUM BY GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

***57. Dr. R. S. Singh:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government of India have decided to purchase all stocks of uranium available with dealers or mine-owners?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Yes. This was announced in the press on 11th July, 1950. A copy of the Press Note is placed on the Table of the House [See *Appendix I, annexure No. 9*].

INDIANS! RIGHT TO OWN LAND IN CEYLON

***58. Dr. R. S. Singh:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether the Indian residents of Ceylon could own land over there?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Yes, Sir.

IMPLEMENTATION OF INDO-PAKISTAN AGREEMENT OF 8TH APRIL, 1950

***59. Shri B. K. Das:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) which are the clauses in the Indo-Pakistan Agreement of the 8th April, 1950 about their non-implementation or want of adequate steps for proper implementation of which objections have been raised by the Government of India against Pakistan;

(b) what action has been taken by the Pakistan Government on these objections; and

(c) whether any clause of the agreement still remains to be implemented by the Pakistan Government?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) to (c). I had a brief discussion with the Pakistan Prime Minister during his recent visit to New Delhi. We did not go into details as we decided that the two Central Ministers and the Chairmen of the Minority Commissions of the East and West Bengal should first meet me and then proceed to Karachi for discussion with Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan. I hope to meet the Ministers and the Chairmen within the next two or three days and would prefer not to go into details at this stage.

COMPLAINTS BY PAKISTAN MINORITY COMMISSION

***60. Shri B. K. Das:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether the Minority Commission of Pakistan has complained of any breach or neglect of the terms of the Indo-Pakistan agreement on the part of the Government of India?

(b) If so, what are these?

(c) What action has been taken with regard to these complaints?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) The Government of India have no information.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

CRIMES AGAINST HINDUS IN EAST BENGAL

***61. Shri B. K. Das:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state how many cases of assault, loot, arson, murder, abduction of women, desecration of temples, conversion and other crimes have been reported to have been committed against Hindus in East Bengal after the conclu-

sion of the Indo-Pakistan agreement of the 8th April, 1950?

(b) What steps have been taken by the Pakistan Government for the prevention of such crimes?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) and (b). Exact figures are not available. A large number of incidents alleged to have taken place in East Bengal in which non-Muslims are victims have been reported by refugees. It is not possible for us to vouch for the accuracies of these reports. We have brought many of these cases to the notice of the Pakistan Government with request that they should investigate them and take suitable action in those cases where reports are found to be true. We have received informal assurances from the Pakistan Government that they will do so.

COTTAGE INDUSTRY IN BHOPAL AND MADHYA BHARAT

1. Thakur Lal Singh: Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being taken by Government to improve Cottage Industry in Bhopal; and

(b) whether Government are thinking of opening training centres for such industry in Bhopal and Madhya Bharat?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Shri Mahtab): (a) A Cottage Industries Department with a nucleus establishment of three organisers is being organised for the first time in Bhopal. The existing handloom industries are being renovated to achieve maximum output in the fields of production of cotton textiles reserved for them. Enhanced marketing facilities and loans and subsidies to the extent of Rs. 15,000 are being given.

(b) The existing Technical Training School at Bhopal is being reorganised

to include training in cottage industries. The Madhya Bharat Government have under consideration a proposal for the establishment of some training centres. The number of centres proposed to be started and the industries in which training will be imparted are indicated below:

Handloom—Ten.

Tanning—One.

Leather-stitching—Three.

Palm *Gur* manufacture—Six.

COTTAGE INDUSTRY CENTRE FOR WOMEN IN DELHI.

2. Thakur Lal Singh: Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state what are the reasons for the delay in the opening of the Cottage Industry Centre for women in Delhi?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Shri Mahtab): When steps were being taken to open the Women's Wing of the Central Cottage Industries Institute, our attention was drawn to the possibility of overlapping of activities between the proposed Institute and Training Centres already at work under the Government. The matter is being placed before the Executive Committee of the Cottage Industries Board, which will meet on the 5th August, 1950. It is hoped that a decision will be arrived at shortly thereafter.

PRIME MINISTER'S CORRESPONDENCE ON SETTLEMENT OF KOREAN CONFLICT

3. Shri Kamath: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to lay on the Table of the House the text of all the letters exchanged between the Prime Minister on the one hand and the President of the U.S.A., the Prime Minister of U.S.S.R. and the Prime Minister of U.K. on the other since the outbreak of war in Korea upto date, with a view to the settlement of the conflict?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): Government is circulating, for information, copies of certain letters exchanged by the Prime Minister with the U.S.A. Secretary of State and Marshal Stalin. It is not possible to allow the publication of all letters pertaining to this matter as they are confidential.

PENSION AND PROVIDENT FUND CLAIMS FORWARDED TO GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN

4. Shri Sidhva: (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to refer to the answer given to my unstarred question No. 195 asked on the 19th April, 1950 and state what is the position as regards the 1028 claims for pension and Provident Fund of former servants of Governments and Local Bodies in Pakistan which were forwarded to the Government of Pakistan?

(b) What steps have Government taken to expedite the disposal of these claims?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The Government of Pakistan have not intimated their acceptance in a single case upto now.

(b) The whole matter was discussed at a meeting held between the representatives of India and Pakistan on the 4th May, 1950. Special Staff is to be appointed by both Governments for the verification of these and other claims of a similar nature totalling in all over 17,000 from either side.

Payment cannot however be made till a suitable machinery for concurrent clearance of the transactions is agreed upon. This matter is still under consideration.

CONFERENCE OF ASIATIC NATIONS

**5. { Shri Hanumanthaiya:
Shri Channiah:**
Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that he said on 7th June, 1950, "A Confer-

ence of all Asiatic Nations could conveniently be convened to further the friendship and mutual understanding among Nations without considering military re-actions elsewhere" in his address to the joint session of the Two Houses of the Indonesian Parliament?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): The Prime Minister did not make the statement referred to in the question.

REPRESENTATIONS FROM HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS OF LUDHIANA, PUNJAB

6. Sardar B. S. Man: (a) Will the Minister of **Industry and Supply** be pleased to state whether Government have received representations from hosiery manufacturers of Ludhiana, Punjab, regarding their difficulties and the crisis that is facing the industry?

(b) If so, what are their grievances and how do Government propose to redress them?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes, Sir. Some representations were received from the Hosiery Manufacturers of Ludhiana.

(b) The main points to which they have drawn Government's attention are:

- (i) Import of woollen yarn for the Hosiery Industry should be further liberalised in view of the high prices of woollen yarn;
- (ii) Import duty on woollen yarn should be either abolished or substantially reduced; and
- (iii) Indian woollen mills should be asked to make greater quantities of woollen yarn available to the hosiery industry.

Government have already taken steps to liberalise the import of woollen yarn, raw wool and wool tops during the current year and adequate ceilings have been provided for this purpose.

The question whether there is a case for investigation by the Tariff Board for abolition of or reduction in import duty on woollen yarn is being considered. It has been ascertained that the Indian Woollen mills are in a position to spare about 2 million lbs. of woollen yarn for the Cottage Industry, which should afford relief to the hosiery industry as well. Three new mills are also expected to begin production in the near future which will make increased quantities of woollen yarn available to the hosiery industry before the end of the year.

NON-AVAILABILITY OF RAW MATERIALS FOR SPORTS GOODS INDUSTRY IN PUNJAB

7. Sardar B. S. Man: (a) Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the difficulties the sports goods industry is experiencing in Punjab in getting raw materials from abroad?

(b) If so, what steps have been taken to make necessary raw materials available to this industry?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Sri Prakash): (a) Yes. The All India Sports Manufacturers Federation (Regd.) Meerut Cantonment had represented in this behalf in March, 1950.

(b) It has been announced in the Ministry of Commerce, Public Notice No. 14-ITC(P.N.)/50, dated the 15th June, 1950, that licences for import of essential raw materials such as Glue for Tennis and Badminton Rackets, Cork for Cricket and Hockey Balls, Twine for Hockey Sticks and Balls and Lacoline tape will be granted to manufacturers of Sports goods to meet their six monthly requirements. It has also been decided to grant licences for feathers for Shuttle Cocks and applications have been invited from manufacturers as announced in Commerce Ministry's Public Notice dated the 10th July, 1950. Copies of the Commerce

Ministry's Public Notices dated the 15th June, 1950, and 10th July, 1950, are available in the Library of the Parliament.

OBSTACLES IN PAKISTAN FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF INDO-PAKISTAN AGREEMENT

8. Shri B. K. Das: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether any non-official or semi-official organisations in Pakistan have been reported to have put obstacles to the fulfilment or proper implementation of the Indo-Pakistan agreement?

(b) whether objection has been taken to their activities and report made to the Pakistan Government; and

(c) whether any action has been taken by the Pakistan Government in that behalf?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) We have received reports stating that some members of the Ansar organisation in East Bengal are still harassing migrants on their way to West Bengal. Some Ansars are also mentioned as having taken part in offences against Hindus in East Bengal.

(b) and (c). We have brought to the notice of the Pakistan Government a large number of incidents in which non-Muslims have been victims, but in the absence of authentic information about the part played by Ansars, we have not complained against them specifically.

HINDUS DISPLACED PERSONS FROM EAST BENGAL

9. Shri B. K. Das: (a) Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state what are the numbers of Hindus displaced persons from East Bengal belonging to different occupations?

(b) What is the number of unattached women and children?

(c) What arrangements have been made for the rehabilitation of the displaced persons?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) 25,21,681 Hindus have migrated to India from East Bengal from 1st January, 1950 to 22nd July, 1950. Complete information is not available; but an occupational break up of displaced persons living in camps in Bihar and Ranaghat Transit Centre is placed on the Table of the House. [See *Appendix I, annexure No. 10*].

(b) The information has been called for from the State Governments.

(c) A statement showing the rehabilitation schemes, sanctioned, and in progress, is laid on the Table of the House. [See *Appendix I, annexure No. 11*].

**LAND ALLOTTED TO EAST BENGAL
DISPLACED PERSONS**

10. Shri B. K. Das: Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) how many families of East Bengal displaced persons have so far been settled on land;

(b) the total amount of agricultural land allotted to displaced persons; and

(c) the facilities given to them for the cultivation of the lands allotted?

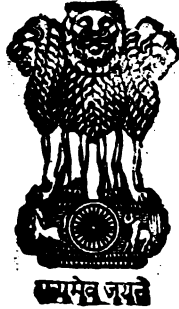
The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The number of displaced agriculturist families so far settled on lands is as follows:

West Bengal	1,01,284
Assam (excluding Cachar)	28,194
Cachar (surplus tea garden land)	3,000
Orissa	421
Bihar	300
Tripura	3,846
Total	1,37,045

(b) In West Bengal and Tripura the area allotted is 2,82,124 acres and 23,424 acres respectively. Information in respect of other States is not available.

(c) A statement showing the scales on which financial assistance is given to displaced agriculturists settled on land, is laid on the Table of the House. [See *Appendix I, annexure No. 12*].

Tuesday, 1st August, 1950



PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

VOLUME V, 1950

(31st July, 1950 to 14th August, 1950)

Second Session

of the

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

1950



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THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers.)
OFFICIAL REPORT

17

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Tuesday, 1st August, 1950.

*The House met at a Quarter to
Eleven of the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER (The Honourable Shri
G. V. Mavalankar) in the Chair.]

11-45 A.M.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Shri Sidhva (Madhya Pradesh): May I submit, Sir, that fourteen minutes were taken for the administration of oath. Under the rules, the first one hour is allotted for putting questions for oral answers. Will you kindly re-consider and...

Mr. Speaker: I think I need not refer to the rules. The practice is clear. It is the *first hour*. It is not *one hour*.

Shri Tyagi (Uttar Pradesh): On a question of privilege, Sir,...

Mr. Speaker: I have not yet finished. After I have finished, I will give him an opportunity.

Shri Raj Bahadur (Rajasthan): In view of the statement made by the hon. the Prime Minister which should have been made after the question hour, will it be possible to allow another five minutes?

18

DEATH OF SHRI A. B. LATHE

Mr. Speaker: Before we proceed further, I would inform hon. Members of the sad demise of one of the Members of the Constituent Assembly, Shri A. B. Lathe. He was a well known figure in Indian public life. He started life as a professor of English. He was an author. He was a member of the University Reforms Committee. Then, he attended the Round Table Conference as Adviser to the States Delegation. He was a Finance Minister at Bombay from 1937 to 1939 and thereafter was connected with the State of Kolhapur, as its Prime Minister. He was a member of the late Constituent Assembly. He died at his residence on 16th May 1950. Naturally, we are all sorry and our sympathies go to the family of the deceased. I trust hon. Members will rise in their seats in his memory, for a minute.

**RESIGNATIONS OF DR. JOHN
MATTHAI AND SHRI MOTILAL
PANDIT**

Mr. Speaker: I have to inform hon. Members that Dr. John Matthai and Shri Motilal Pandit resigned their seats in Parliament with effect from 1st and 17th June 1950 respectively.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE FROM THE
HOUSE**

Mr. Speaker: Before we proceed further, I would like to inform hon. Members that Shri G. R. Ethirajulu

[Mr. Speaker]

Naidu, Shri Suresh Chandra Majumdar and Dr. P. K. Sen have requested for leave of absence from all meetings during this session on account of illness.

Is it the pleasure of the House to grant them leave?

The leave was granted.

Shri Tyagi (Uttar Pradesh): While I heartily welcome the entry into this House of our great and revered leader Shri Rajagopalachari, I wish just to have one point clarified. I hope I shall not be misunderstood—I have all respect for him and this point does not relate to his personality. In the papers it was stated that the President had ordered that a particular seat be allotted to Shri Rajagopalachari. I am not resenting that order; but I want to know whether the practice of the President ordering this Parliament to allot a seat to one Member or the other is not really a breach of the privilege of this House. If there is any such tradition taken up that the President may by order deal with even a small matter like that, whether it is the Government...

Mr. Speaker: I may cut short the matter and say that the Press report is entirely baseless.

Shri Tyagi: What is the truth about it?

Mr. Speaker: It is baseless, that is, untrue. No such order has ever been passed.

Now, we will proceed further

Shri Kamath (Madhya Pradesh): Regarding your ruling about question hour, the rule is that the first hour of every meeting shall be available for asking and answering questions. Does that mean that during that one hour you can take up other matters too?

Mr. Speaker: First hour means first hour. It does not mean that we can exceed that and take up the time from the next hour.

Shri Kamath: What, Sir, is the reasonable interpretation?

Mr. Speaker: Opinions may differ. I hold the view that the first hour is the first hour and nothing more.

THE PRESIDENT'S ASSENT TO BILLS

Secretary to Parliament: I lay on the Table a statement showing the Bills which were passed by Parliament during the Budget Session, 1950, and assented to by the President. [See Appendix I, Annexure No. 13].

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

(i) DOCUMENTS ON KOREAN AFFAIRS.

(ii) TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AND THE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT OF IRAN.

(iii) REPORT OF THE INDIA DELEGATION TO THE NINTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL.

(iv) REPORT OF THE INDIA DELEGATION TO THE TENTH SESSION OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL.

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Documents on Korean Affairs [See Appendix I, Annexure No. 14]. I also lay on the Table a copy of the Treaty of Friendship between the Government of India and the Imperial Government of Iran [See Appendix I, Annexure No. 15]. Also I lay on the Table a copy of the Report of the India Delegation to the ninth session of the United Nations Economic and Social Council and also a copy of the report of the India Delegation to the Tenth Ses-

sion of the Economic and Social Council. [Placed in Library. See No. II.C.1(d)(91)].

Mr. Speaker: The hon. the Prime Minister has just now laid on the Table a copy of the Documents on Korean Affairs. This will be available to hon. Members who want to have it, in accordance with our practice, at the Notice Office, and along with it, a little booklet giving some information about Korea issued by the Parliament Secretariat.

Khwaja Inait Ullah (Bihar): Is it necessary that the Members should demand or will it be given to them?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member will call at the Notice Office and get a copy.

CONSTITUTION (REMOVAL OF DIFFICULTIES) ORDERS NOS. IV AND V.

The Minister of Law (Dr. Ambedkar): I beg to lay on the Table the following documents under clause (2) of Article 392 of the Constitution.

(i) The Constitution (Removal of Difficulties) Order No. IV. (Made by President on 24th May, 1950.) [Placed in Library. See No. P-92/50.]

(ii) The Constitution (Removal of Difficulties) Order No. V. (Made by the President on 6th June, 1950.) [Placed in Library. See No. P-93/50.]

REPORT OF THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT DELEGATION TO THE FIRST SESSION OF THE ASIAN REGIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION, HELD AT NUWARA ELIYA, CEYLON

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report of the Indian Government Delegation to the First Session of the Asian Regional Labour Conference of the International Labour Organisation, held at

Nuwar Eliya, Ceylon, in January, 1950. [Placed in Library. See No. IV.R.01(215)].

REPORT OF THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT DELEGATION TO THE THIRTY-SECOND SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE.

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report of the Indian Government Delegation to the thirty-second session of the International Labour Conference held in Geneva in June-July, 1949. [Placed in Library. See No. IV.R.01(214)].

ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON ASSURANCES ETC. GIVEN DURING OCTOBER SESSION 1949 OF THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA LEGISLATIVE.

The Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): I beg to lay on the Table a statement showing the action taken by the Government on various assurances, promises and undertakings given during the Special October Session 1949 of the Constituent Assembly of India (Legislative). [See Appendix I, Annexure No. 16].

ORDINANCES PROMULGATED AFTER THE FIRST SESSION OF PARLIAMENT.

The Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): I beg to lay on the Table a statement showing the Ordinances promulgated after the termination of the First Session of Parliament and before the commencement of the Second Session of Parliament [See Appendix I, Annexure No. 17].

MARKING OF HEAVY PACKAGES BILL

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Sri Prakasa): I introduce the Bill to give effect to the International Convention drawn up in Geneva on the

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30th day of May, 1929, for the marking of weight on heavy packages transported by sea or inland waterways.

PREVENTIVE DETENTION
(AMENDMENT) BILL

The Minister of Home Affairs and the States (Sardar Patel): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Preventive Detention Act, 1950.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Preventive Detention Act, 1950."

The motion was adopted.

Sardar Patel: I introduce the Bill.

VOLUNTARY SURRENDER OF
SALARIES (EXEMPTION FROM
TAXATION) BILL

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for exempting from taxes on income a portion of the salaries of certain persons who have in the public interest volunteered to forego it.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for exempting from taxes on income a portion of the salaries of certain persons who have in the public interest volunteered to forego it."

The motion was adopted.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I introduce the Bill.

FINANCE LAWS (AMENDMENT)
BILL

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): I beg to move

for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Indian Finance Act, 1949 and the Finance Act, 1950.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Indian Finance Act, 1949 and the Finance Act, 1950."

The motion was adopted.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I introduce the Bill.

CANTONMENT LAWS (EXTENSION AND AMENDMENT) BILL

The Minister of Defence (Sardar Baldev Singh): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to extend the Cantonments (House Accommodation) Act, 1923, and the Cantonments Act, 1924, to Part B States, to provide for elections to Cantonment Boards on the basis of adult suffrage and to provide for a temporary extension of the term of office of elected members of Cantonment Boards.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to extend the Cantonments (House Accommodation) Act, 1923, and the Cantonments Act, 1924, to Part B States, to provide for elections to Cantonment Boards on the basis of adult suffrage and to provide for a temporary extension of the term of office of elected members of Cantonment Boards."

The motion was adopted.

Sardar Baldev Singh: I introduce the Bill.

PORT TRUSTS AND PORTS
(AMENDMENT) BILL

The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Bombay Port Trust Act, 1879, the Calcutta Port

Act, 1890, the Madras Port Trust Act, 1905 and the Indian Ports Act, 1908 for certain purposes and to make certain consequential amendments in the Calcutta Port (Pilotage) Act, 1948.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Bombay Port Trust Act, 1879, the Calcutta Port Act, 1890, the Madras Port Trust Act, 1905 and the Indian Ports Act, 1908 for certain purposes and to make certain consequential amendments in the Calcutta Port (Pilotage) Act, 1948.”

The motion was adopted.

Shri Gopalaswami: I introduce the Bill.

DISPLACED PERSONS (INSTITUTION OF SUITS AND LEGAL PROCEEDINGS) AMENDMENT BILL

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Displaced Persons (Institution of Suits) Act, 1948, and the Displaced Persons (Legal Proceedings) Act, 1949.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Displaced Persons (Institution of Suits) Act, 1948, and the Displaced Persons (Legal Proceedings) Act, 1949.”

The motion was adopted.

Shri A. P. Jain: I introduce the Bill

ADMINISTRATION OF EVACUEE PROPERTY (AMENDMENT) BILL

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Administration of Evacuee Property Act, 1950.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Administration of Evacuee Property Act, 1950.”

The motion was adopted.

Shri A. P. Jain: I introduce the Bill.

LABOUR RELATIONS BILL

EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): I beg to move that the time appointed for the presentation of the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the regulation of the relationship between employers and employees, for the prevention, investigation and settlement of labour disputes and for certain matters incidental thereto, be extended up to the last day of the first week of the next session.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

“That the time appointed for the presentation of the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the regulation of the relationship between employers and employees, for the prevention, investigation and settlement of labour disputes and for certain matters incidental thereto, be extended up to the last day of the first week of the next session.”

The motion was adopted.

TRADE UNIONS BILL

EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): I beg to move that the time appointed for the presentation of the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the registration and recognition of

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trade unions and in certain respects to define the law relating to registered and recognised trade unions and to certain unfair practices by employers and recognised trade unions, be extended up to the last day of the first week of the next session.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

“That the time appointed for the presentation of the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the registration and recognition of trade unions and in certain respects to define the law relating to registered and recognised trade unions and to certain unfair practices by employers and recognised trade unions, be extended up to the last day of the first week of the next session.”

The motion was adopted.

ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATIONS BILL

EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE

The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): I beg to move that the time appointed for the presentation of the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the incorporation and regulation of Road Transport Corporations, be extended up to the last day of the first week of the next session.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

“That the time appointed for the presentation of the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the incorporation and regulation of Road Transport Corporations, be extended up to the last day of the first week of the next session.”

The motion was adopted.

PANEL OF CHAIRMEN

Mr. Speaker: I have to inform the House that under sub-rule (1) of rule 7 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Parliament, I nominate Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava, Shri M. Tirumala Rao, Shri Dattatraya Parashuram Karmarkar and Shri Prabhu Dayal Himatsingka on the Panel of Chairmen.

MOTION ON ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT

Shri Tirumala Rao (Madras): I beg to move that an Address be presented to the President in the following terms:

“That the Members of Parliament assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the President for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to the House.”

I am humbly conscious of the significance of this opportunity conferred on me, of moving this motion on Address by the President. It is exactly after six months after the inaugural Address of the Indian Republic that our revered President has delivered his second Address to the House under circumstances of great tension and danger in international relations.

It is unusual according to the traditions of Parliament which have been copied here faithfully, for the person who moves that such an Address be presented, to transfer the honour conferred upon him, without appropriating it to himself personally, to the constituency from which he comes. Even so, I feel that this is an honour done to that part of the Madras Presidency called Andhra Desa from which I come, and I feel grateful that it has not been relegated to the back chambers of the rulers of our land. We are always loyal upholders of the banner of the Congress and the lead of Mahatma Gandhi.

Though we are not up to the arts of peace with an amount of adjustability and adaptability that ingratiates us into the favour of the gods, yet we are nevertheless ardent patriots who have always carried out the behests of the leaders.

The Korean war has been forced upon this world by a diplomacy that is as meticulous in its planning as it is ruthless in its execution. Situated as India is on the continent of Asia, any decision taken by our country is fraught with dangerous potentialities to us. To lead the nation along the perilous and uncharted sea is a great and difficult task. Either to the individual or to a nation, rank opportunism in a time of crisis may not be a way of escape or solution. I am confident that I voice the feeling of the majority of this House and outside, that our Prime Minister and his Ministry have our unstinted support in the stand they have taken in the U.N.O. on the Korean issue.

One has to go back a little into our recent past to feel our ground on the present and assess the repercussions on the future. We are an Asiatic nation whose hoary past can be traced to pre-historic times. We are not born yesterday or the day before, as some of the materially forward nations of the West. The culture of the mind and the soul deeply embedded in the piece of humanity that inhabits our country persists for centuries, nay aeons, and have their inescapable effect on our conduct and way of life. The ideals that inspired our country during the freedom fight, under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi have been the bed rock of our Constitution. Viewed in this light, we feel that our Prime Minister is carrying on the policies of our Government inside and outside this country in conformity with those ideals. Our attitude in the U.N.O. is born out of a sense of justice and a desire for peace in this world.

Our ideals are put down in our Constitution as justice—social, economic and political; liberty of thought,

expression, belief faith and worship; equality of status and of opportunity and to promote among them all fraternity assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity of the Nation.

In his address to the House of Representatives of the U.S.A. our Prime Minister has quoted the fundamental tenets of our Constitution. Based on these ideals we have also formulated the tenets of our foreign policy and I think they bear repetition on the floor of this House, because this is the most appropriate context in which they can be recalled.

Referring to our foreign policy our Prime Minister again said:

“The objectives of our foreign policy are the preservation of world peace and the enlargement of human freedom. Two tragic wars have demonstrated the futility of warfare. Victory without the will to peace, achieves no lasting result, and victor and vanquished alike suffer from past wounds, deep and grievous and a common fear of the future.”

He further made it clear that India was not so impotent as to sit with folded hands, when naked aggression was being practised on weaker nations by militarily strong ones. But even when preparing to resist aggression, the ultimate objective—the objective of peace and reconciliation—must never be lost sight of and heart and mind must be attuned to the supreme aim. Obviously “where freedom is menaced, justice is threatened and where aggression has taken place we cannot and shall not be neutral.” That is the keynote of our foreign policy and the crucial occasion has come now when our past professions are going to be put to the test of international opinion. Judged from this point of view the principles and policy of our Prime Minister stand vindicated through our move at Lake Success.

With refreshing independence and understanding of reality, our Government has not hesitated to recognise

[Shri Tirumala Rao]

Communist China and has also pleaded for her inclusion in the Comity of Nations. Judged from these standpoints, judged from the ideology we have preached all along and the principles we have proclaimed to the world there is no other alternative before our Government except the stand that they have taken at the United Nations, when the Southern part of Korea was over-run by the Communist forces of Northern Korea. Once it has been accepted that aggression has taken place the second resolution of the United Nations becomes the inevitable corollary to the first resolution. Once it is accepted that aggression has taken place on Southern Korea, then all the freedom-loving nations of the world have to come to the assistance of the victim of this aggression. That is what is contained in the second resolution of the United Nations.

Irrespective of the military might that is at our command and irrespective of the possession of large trained armies or modern weapons of destruction, which we may or may not be able to put on the field at the time of war, the great moral strength that has been given to us by Mahatma Gandhi and the Indian National Congress has always inspired the rulers of our country and today we stand boldly and speak out the truth. Thirty-five crores of people are not a mere inert mass of humanity which can be slighted or ignored, whether they have got all the material weapons of destruction at their command or not. That is why Russia in the East and the U.S.A. in the West have been anxiously looking forward to know what will be the attitude of India in this crisis. There has been canvassing, insidious, open and overt canvassing on either side. At such a critical time when there is the greatest temptation for a country to join either this bloc or that and then take the fullest material advantage of such association, it requires courage and strength of mind and will to tell them "You are morally wrong in the attitude you

have taken." That is the stand that has been taken by our Prime Minister, who symbolises in him not only the personal courage but also the collective approach of the Indian nation and he has said to the world "Here you are wrong. You have to understand realities. You cannot go on buttressing Kuomintang China that is no more in existence. You have to realise and recognise the existence of Communist China, which has come to occupy the real stage in China." This might have pleased our Communists or the Russian Communists but it is an understanding and correct lead given by our Prime Minister. The British Prime Minister had no other alternative but to follow suit. Experienced diplomats as they are, with an unerring instinct they have come to the right conclusion that there is no escape for the nations of the world except to recognise Communist China as a fact, a solid inescapable fact, in the coming scheme of things. Situated as England is, tied to the apron strings of America, always dominated by the economic policies of U.S.A., she is afraid of offending her American masters. There was recently an interesting cartoon in *Shankar's Weekly* in which Pandit Nehru is depicted as offering a cigarette to Prime Minister Attlee, who is shown as looking back to U.S.A. for permission to accept the cigarette from our Prime Minister or not . . . (Interruption).

Mr. Speaker: I want to make one point clear to the House. As I stated a little earlier, we are going to have a special day for the discussion of the international situation. We are also going to have a special day for the discussion of the Bengal situation. I would, therefore, earnestly request Members not to refer to these two matters in the discussion on the Address and thus take up the time of the House. Therefore, on the Address, other matters may be discussed and in view of that, I am going to suggest to those who have given notice of a number of amendments that such of them as relate to

these two subjects will not be permitted but that they may speak on other subjects mentioned in the Address. The time limit is of course not more than 15 minutes.

Prof. K. T. Shah (Bihar): Did I hear you, Sir, correctly that such amendments will not be permitted?

Mr. Speaker: Yes, I meant the amendments, in so far as they related to these two subjects.

Prof. K. T. Shah: You mean not today or that they will be taken up on some subsequent date?

Mr. Speaker: Certainly, by all means. By amendments, I mean not the amendments as have been tabled but the substance of the amendments or the points referred to in the amendments. I find that a large number of amendments are wholly argumentative and some of them as long as speeches. Obviously, under the rules of procedure, amendments of that nature cannot be permitted but I am not referring to that point of the inadmissibility of such amendments now. I am referring to the points which may be taken up in the present discussion.

✓ **Shri Syamnandan Sahaya** (Bihar): Sir, I would like to know whether I have understood you correctly on one point, namely, that the amendments to the motion of my hon. friend Mr. Tirumala Rao which relate to the Korean situation or the international situation and those relating to the Indo-Pakistan agreement should not be moved in the present discussion which we are holding today and that tomorrow or the following day when these subjects come up these amendments may be moved. Am I therefore to conclude that the discussion tomorrow, the day after or perhaps the following day will be a continuation of the discussion of the motion of my friend? If that is not so, then these amendments may now be discussed though not at great length. Where an amendment touches upon any subject in the Address I personally feel that it should not be shut out.

This matter requires reconsideration. If such amendments have been tabled, I do not know how they can be ruled out or not permitted to be moved.

Shri Tyagi (Uttar Pradesh): On a point of order. I am afraid there can be no ruling out of these amendments. The only way to fulfil your wishes and the wishes of the majority of the Members of the House is that in the fitness of things the Government Whip might go round and take the agreement of all the parties concerned and give it to you so as to enable you to postpone the discussion. Otherwise, constitutionally, I am afraid the Chair cannot rule out these amendments so long as they are relevant.

Dr. Pattabhi (Madras): May I make a humble submission? Whatever ruling the Speaker may be pleased to give in regard to both the amendments and speeches, in so far as the speech rendering thanks to the President for the Address is concerned, there should be no restriction whatever and any omission, simply because we are going to have a discussion upon the subject later, will be considered a laxity or want of courtesy.

Mr. Speaker: I am afraid there has been a little misunderstanding. I had made a statement when the questions about the Bengal situation came up, and I had then stated as to what the division of the discussion was going to be. And the House seemed to agree with me that the discussion should be in three compartments. So, it is not a question of the Chair taking upon itself any of the rights or privileges of the House. As the House agreed, and naturally for better discussion and for avoiding repetition of the same points over and over again, we excluded the Bengal question and we also excluded the Korean situation. There are so many other points which could be discussed with advantage in the time at our disposal today. It was, therefore, that I said that all points

[Mr. Speaker]

excepting these two points should be taken up for discussion today on the President's Address. Of course, I did not mean to encourage any kind of laxity or want of courtesy, but I do not think that every point in the President's Address need be referred to even in a general motion of thanks. Therefore, I divided these things in this manner and I am requesting Members not to take time in referring to the other two points which are coming up for discussion during the next three days. That will save time, that will save repetition and the arguments will be more to the point on the other questions. Otherwise the effect of the debate will be lost altogether. (*Interruption*) I may say that I do not propose now to have any further arguments on that, because this point has been settled by a majority view of the House.

As regards the legality of the admissibility of the amendments, I may make it clear that even without referring to the particular arrangement, which I had suggested, I find a large number of amendments are of such a nature that they could be legitimately ruled out of order because of their argumentative character, because of their mixing up more than one issue in the same amendment. They are of that type, but we need not go into that.

As regards the other difficulty, namely the point raised by Mr. Sahaya, this discussion will end today. Tomorrow there will be a separate motion on Korea. So, it will not be a continuation of the debate. But I am prepared to permit the substance of these amendments being re-tabled again up to this evening, if the Members so like, on Korea as well as the other questions that we may take up for discussion. Even if they are not re-tabled, I am prepared to allow them arguments in support of the views which they have placed in their

amendments. That is the position. I do not think we need take more time by discussing.

Shri T. Husain (Bihar): May I know whether you have allotted a day for discussion on food? We would like to know the different subjects which have been allotted separate days so that discussion may be avoided now.

Mr. Speaker: That is for the Government to arrange and it is for the Members to see that they get the time that they want. If they make a request and the majority agree, I think it could be arranged that way, but as at present advised, there are only two issues which are to be excluded.

Shri Tirumala Rao: Sir, I am much obliged to you for your advice, but since I have been put as the first speaker in this discussion I thought it fair not to rise up again for a second time when discussion on Korea would be taken up and that was why I wanted to deal with the two or three important points in the Presidential Address. The main question for which the session has now being convened is the Korean issue and I thought I could conveniently refer to it during the first half of my speech and deal with one or two other points in the other half. I was about to come to a conclusion on the Korean matter when you gave me this advice.

The efforts made by the Prime Minister to impress on both Marshal Stalin and President Truman the need for an understanding was commendable. Some of the fiery American politicians have started breathing fire and brimstone against our Prime Minister because they dub him as an agent of the Reds. But if you look at the propagan'da carried on till recently in the communist Press of Russia, our country was characterised as one of the most reactionary countries headed by a reactionary Prime Minister. The

surest sign that we are in the right is that we are disliked by both the sides. We are sticking to a position which we think is right. Whatever that may be, world opinion is gradually veering round to the idea that there is at least one moral giant in the world who can speak out the truth and pull up these people to come to an understanding before they envelop the whole world in flames.

That is one point in my discussion. I do not want to enter into any argumentative details, but I would like to say that whatever has been done so far by the Indian Government has got the solid support of the masses. India being such a vast country, riddled with so many 'isms' and political ideologies, there are bound to be certain sections of people who think otherwise, but their ability to influence the people at large is considered negligible and the great mass of the people are behind the Government and I am sure when the test comes our stand will be more than vindicated.

The other important questions that have been agitating the public mind, namely Indo-Pakistan relations and the Kashmir issue, are being dealt with at the highest level by the most experienced statesmen that our country has produced. This House is always free to give its criticism and also to instruct them if necessary to go on certain lines, but we had always expressed an abiding faith in the wisdom and unflinching patriotism that they have exhibited in dealing with these problems and I am sure the interests of the country as well as of Kashmir are in safe hands. We hope that the negotiations that are now taking place will culminate in victory for justice.

With regard to the question of South Africa. Mr. Speaker, you are personally aware of our reactions when you led the Indian Parliamentary Delegation and I was one of the members with you there. When we

had to meet the various delegations, the South African Delegation was one of them, and in our discussions with them we invariably pointed out the injustice that was being perpetrated in South Africa.

The leader of the South African Delegation had the temerity to say in that Commonwealth Conference that the South African Constitution contains a clause which says that citizenship rights can be conferred only on those of European descent. We have compared the Constitutions of Australia and Canada which are the other Commonwealth countries: no such clause exists in them. Therefore, the South African Government and the white settlers of South Africa are always haughty and racially-minded and they are trying to liquidate all the coloured communities, including Indians, in that continent. Whether the matter can be settled amicably in the U. N. Security Council or not will determine if South Africa is going to be the author of a mighty and even bigger war than the one now threatening the world, namely, a war between the coloured and the non-coloured nations of the earth. People who are in charge of world affairs should take a timely warning that seeds of conflagration are being sedulously fostered by the Malan Government of South Africa. The issue has to be fought by all the coloured races of the earth against this aggressive and racially-minded South African Government. That is the only thing that I can say from this place as a Member of this House. This matter will not be taken lying down. Unless the world is going to be a place safe for all people—whether coloured or non-coloured, whether white or black—unless all people can live peacefully and can pursue their avocations and ideals undisturbed by others, this matter is bound, sooner or later, to engage the serious attention of one and all.

[**Shri Tirumala Rao**]

With regard to the last item, namely, the economic situation, it is a perpetual situation that has been facing us every day at every moment of our lives. The hon. the President has rightly referred to the question of the ever mounting spiral of prices. In this connection, a very interesting cartoon has come in last evening's *Hindu*. It shows the commodities making an attack on the Mount Everest of prices. Some of these commodities have been reached a height beyond that of the Mount Everest. For instance, take the pulses. If there is a war in Korea, the price of gram in U.P. goes up. The price of gow has gone up in C. P. Every little thing is being taken advantage of by the black-marketeers to rocket these prices and bring misery upon the poor people. I urge upon Government to deal with this question of prices with a firm hand. It is not customary to complain in an Address, but I am simply mentioning a fact when I say that the black-marketeer and the man who has learnt the art of getting rich quickly have got a very soft dealing with the Governments—both in the States and in the Centre. I want that these people should be handled firmly and taught a lesson. Some of the black sheep should be treated exemplarily so that the rest of the country will have the benefit of such a treatment.

I do not want to take the time of the House any further. I am grateful that on this occasion we have an opportunity of meeting here once again and dealing with the important problems of the country.

Shri Hanumanthaiya (Mysore): I am not making a speech. But I want to bring to your notice one observation which my hon. friend made. He referred to the British Prime Minister Mr. Attlee in rather cartoonist language. On a solemn occasion like this, when my hon. friend is speaking in a representative capacity, I feel that it is not right to refer to the Prime Minister of a

Commonwealth country like England in those disparaging terms. It may be all right for a paper like the *Shanker's Weekly* to do that, but not for my hon. friend when he speaks on behalf of all of us. I would very much wish that he withdraws the remarks.

Shri Tirumala Rao: Shall I explain?

Mr. Speaker: I do not think it requires any special explanation.

✓ **Shri Syamnandan Sahaya:** The less explained it is, the better.

Shri Tirumala Rao: If you see the *Punch* and other journals published in England, you will see how their cartoons are. We claim to have a better sense of humour than the British. I do not see the reason for this unnecessary fuss.

Kumari Padmaja Naidu (Hyderabad): I must confess that in rising to second this motion that has been so eloquently moved by my hon. friend I am painfully conscious of the fact that the ink is hardly dry on my signature entitling me to the membership of this great Assembly of India. But it may well be that it is just because I am still a stranger in this alien place and am ignorant of the factitious and over-exacting standards of hardened parliamentarians that I am still able to judge with the eyes of the millions outside this House to whom the President's Address must have carried an urgently needed message of comfort and hope. For though it deals with grave issues, with matters pregnant with vast potentialities to affect the lives of myriads of human beings, this Address is dominated by a quiet and steadfast note of confidence which is of the deepest significance to us today, for the President speaks with the voice of authority and interprets the considered policy of his Government.

For many months now—indeed almost from the day of the inauguration of our Republic—the people of India have endured a long drawn out

and ever-increasing agony of suspense over the tragic happenings in our own and neighbouring countries. This anxiety reached its crescendo a few weeks ago with the sudden outburst of war in Korea. Millions of people have watched with eyes of fear the swift development of a delicate and difficult international crisis which threatens to plunge the world into flames. No matter how ignorant he may be of the subtleties and intricacies of international relationships there is not one illiterate peasant in the remotest of the far-flung villages of our country—who is not aware, consciously, sub-consciously or unconsciously, that any conflict in any distant part of the world has inevitably and almost instantaneously its repercussions on the life of his little village. We are proud that India has pledged herself to remain independent and is determined to follow the path which she has chosen according to the ideals best suited to the genius of her people. But the time has now come for a brave recognition of the fact that the destiny of India is inextricably intertwined with the destiny of every other nation, not only in Asia but in the whole world. And there is—there can be—no ultimate enduring solution to many of our most vital problems except in proportion to their adequate and final settlement on the international plane. Therefore, it is entirely in keeping with the fitness of things both in keeping with the International outlook that the relentless compulsion of events has thrust upon us and also in accordance with the ancient traditions of our country that our Government did not hesitate

to make unmistakably clear our attitude on the Korean situation. For us to have faltered from selfish motives of expediency or caution or to have delayed in a mercenary spirit of barter would have been an unorigivable betrayal of the teachings of the great master at whose feet we have learnt that if we condone

aggression and remain passive watchers of aggression, we share in some measure the guilt of the aggressor. The far famed wealth of India has never been in her treasure houses and palaces. Her real treasure has always been the imperishable things of the mind and spirit and all of us in this House are individually and collectively heirs and guardians of the incomparable gospel of peace bequeathed to us by the greatest man of any epoch in any age since the dawn of history. And the country owes a debt it cannot repay to our Prime Minister, who has made it his life's mission to spread this gospel of peace to the farthest corners of the earth and create a new design for international behaviour. It is in this spirit that we welcome the correspondence he has had with Marshal Stalin and Mr. Dean Acheson.

The Minorities Pact which a few months ago averted incalculable disaster was a demonstration of the practical application of Gandhiji's technique of non-violence to the solution of problems of human conflict on the international plane.

It is the sacred duty of every man and woman who treasures the honour of India to labour sincerely and steadfastly to implement in the spirit as well as in the letter every clause of the minorities Pact to which India is pledged. The task of fulfilling the Pact should be entrusted only to men of imagination and understanding capable of interpreting the Pact in the spirit in which it was conceived who will deal with it not as just a problem of administration but in terms of human beings. Let us not, therefore, imperil this Pact which is the very symbol of life of millions of people in India and Pakistan. lest we be arraigned at the bar of history in the words of Paracelsus:

“Yea, the conception was a rose but the fulfilment is a rose grown grey.”

[Kumari Padmaja Naidu]

The hon. the Mover in his motion has already referred to the various matters of national importance discussed in the President's address. There is only one to which I would like to refer, because it touches the life of every human being in this country.

We are grateful to the hon. the President for the assurance he has given us that the highest priority is being given to the food situation and also for the further assurance that there will not be a shortage of food. But I wish to emphasise security is one thing and a sense of security is entirely different. Today everywhere in India there is a feeling of insecurity in connection with food. And without the feeling of security the maximum of security is only a handful of dust. I am sure Government will do their utmost to instil a sense of security among the people of India.

I have great pleasure in seconding this motion.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the Members of Parliament assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the President for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to the House."

There are a number of amendments. Some of them are vague and some others relate to the two motions which will come up for discussion from tomorrow onwards. Therefore, those amendments need not be moved.

Sardar Hukam Singh (Punjab): I beg to move:

"That at the end of the Motion the following be added:

'but regret—

(i) that the Government has failed to take effective steps to rehabilitate the refugees who are

undergoing extreme privations and untold sufferings;

(ii) that no progress has so far been made towards the solution of the evacuee property problem vexing the minds of the unfortunate refugees from Western Pakistan; and

(iii) that the address omits to make mention of any progress made in the recovery of Hindu and Sikh abducted women which should have received top priority in the Government of India activities'."

Prof. K. T. Shah: Parts (a) and (b) of my amendment relate to Korea; therefore, I do not wish to move them just now. Part (c), I submit is a matter of general international policy and might be permitted to be moved.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That might also be reserved for the discussion on Korea.

Prof. K. T. Shah: But that relates to a general international situation which may exist independent of Korea.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have no objection to permit it. But we have already two days allotted for that and I think it will be more appropriate to take that item tomorrow or the day after.

Prof. K. T. Shah: I beg to move:

"That at the end of the Motion the following be added:

'but regret that Government have proved utterly unable to deal with the steadily worsening economic situation in the country, particularly in regard to food and clothing, notwithstanding the appointment of a Planning Commission, or the improvement in the country's balance of trade'."

Pandit Kunzru (Uttar Pradesh): I beg to move:

"That at the end of the motion the following be added:

'but regret that notwithstanding the declared policy of the

Government with regard to the maintenance of the civil liberties of the people, they have recently been severely curtailed'."

I also beg to move:

"That at the end of the motion the following be added:

'but regret that the statement contains no indication of the steps that Government propose to take to deal in the immediate future with the fast deteriorating economic situation'."

Shri Jaipal Singh (Bihar): I beg to move:

"That at the end of the motion the following be added:

'but regret that no mention has been made in the address of any intention to give effect to the special provisions relating to certain classes according to Part XVI of the Constitution'."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Amendments moved:

"That at the end of the Motion the following be added:

'but regret—

(i) that the Government has failed to take effective steps to rehabilitate the refugees who are undergoing extreme privations and untold sufferings;

(ii) that no progress has so far been made towards the solution of the evacuee property problem vexing the minds of the unfortunate refugees from Western Pakistan; and

(iii) that the address omits to make mention of any progress made in the recovery of Hindu and Sikh abducted women which should have received top priority in the Government of India activities'."

"That at the end of the motion the following be added:

'but regret that Government have proved utterly unable to

deal with the steadily worsening economic situation in the country; particularly in regard to food and clothing, notwithstanding the appointment of a Planning Commission, or the improvement in the country's balance of trade'."

"That at the end of the motion the following be added:

'but regret that notwithstanding the declared policy of the Government with regard to the maintenance of the civil liberties of the people, they have recently been severely curtailed'."

"That at the end of the motion the following be added:

'but regret that the statement contains no indication of the steps that Government propose to take to deal in the immediate future with the fast deteriorating economic situation'."

"That at the end of the motion the following be added:

'but regret that no mention has been made in the address of any intention to give effect to the special provisions relating to certain classes according to Part XVI of the Constitution'."

The general discussion on the original motion as well as the amendments will now follow.

Shri J. R. Kapoor (Uttar Pradesh): Will the Chair be pleased to fix some time-limit for the speeches?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Ordinarily the time-limit is fifteen minutes. But in view of the fact that a number of amendments have been tabled and a number of Members are anxious to speak I would request them to confine their observations to ten minutes as far as possible.

Prof. K. T. Shah: I have already read out my amendment, or that part of it which relates to the internal economic situation of the country.

[Prof. K. T. Shah]

Therein I have laid specific stress on the difficulties in regard to the food supply of the country and the situation in regard to clothing. The economic situation seems to be in perpetual crisis, almost ever since this Government has taken office. While I am not suggesting that our present economic difficulties are the result exclusively of the sins of commission or omission of this Government, I think there is a great deal in the policies and measures pursued by the Government which may justly be held responsible for our present economic situation. It is not only in regard to the absolute necessities of life, like food, clothing and housing, that there is very considerable discontent and distress in the country. It is as much in regard to the general position of the country's industry, commerce and related matters, which have, time and again, come before this House; and which have created a volume of criticism, both inside and outside the House, that has not been, in my opinion, effectively answered.

We have been perpetually faced with difficulties, for example, in regard to industrial production. We have been told that there have been signs of steady improvement in the leading industries of the country. Here and there you do find signs of improved production, which, however, I am afraid, are neither abiding nor substantial. The discontent of the working class, both in organised industry and in unorganised agriculture, breaks out again and again, either in strikes or sets of strikes or industrial disputes, the results of which have left no abiding satisfaction. Hardly is an industrial dispute settled by adjudication before a proper tribunal, when complaints have arisen about its insufficiency, about the injustice done to one or the other side in the matter; and the one or the other side have again had recourse to measures or devices by which the discontent in the indus-

trial world becomes, manifest.

We have been presented, in the last session, with legislative proposals to regulate more effectively the Industrial Relations between workers and owners in this country, and also in regard to the Trade Union movement of the country. Only this morning we were told that the Reports of the Select Committees in regard to both these Bills will have to be postponed. I am not sorry that this decision has been taken by Government to postpone further consideration at any rate of the reports of the Select Committees on these very vexatious and contentious measures which Government have brought before the House, and which will sooner or later have to be considered in every detail.

In this connection will you permit me, Sir, to make a point of what I think to be of cardinal importance for the future growth of political consciousness in the country, namely, that though we have passed in our Constitution an article which makes Hindi the national language, all our important measures still seem to be in the English language. And when measures of such importance, like those to which I just referred, are placed before the voter, or even before the worker, in the English language, all the technicalities and all the peculiarities of such legislation is hardly grasped by that class which is most concerned in it. Requests have been made to the Ministry concerned that these measures at least be translated in the National Language, and in the principal languages of the country, so that the class affected thereby—the class which is perhaps relatively more conscious, better organised, has perhaps even a better understanding of these provisions—should have a proper understanding of Government's policy in this regard. So far as I am aware, this request has up till the moment not been satisfactorily met.

The point is not merely of debating importance. The point, I submit, is a matter which will affect the growing consciousness of the people in regard to their own Government. If you desire the people to be effectively associated in the governance of their country and of themselves, if you desire that there should be a real understanding of the proposals placed before the public by Government, if you desire that there should not be merely partisan or deliberate misleading of the public by interested parties in such matters, then I submit that it is high time the decision was taken to make all such legislation at least in the national language, and, if you must, in the English language, and, I would add, as much as possible, in the leading languages of the country; so that, at any rate this fear should not remain in the minds of the masses.

In this connection, you must remember, there is hardly one per cent. of the population which is familiar with the intricacies of the legal terminology, and in a foreign language at that. There should, therefore, not remain this fear in the public mind at least that legislation of far-reaching importance is being enacted in the country, when those being vitally affected by such legislation have not understood a single clause of it, have not grasped the purpose of it, have not appreciated the intention lying behind it. It is a counsel which I hope those concerned will accept in the spirit in which it is tendered; and I trust that, hereafter, matters of such vital importance will be placed before the people in the form and in a manner which the people will understand, so that your desire to associate the people really in the task of their own government will not be merely a paper promise, but will be an actual fact.

I apologize for the little diversion I have created by reference to this point; but I hope its importance will be understood, and the more so because of the legislation which pro-

vided the occasion for that reference. That is a legislation, I am free to admit, creating the greatest misgivings in the minds of organized labour. And it is not only labour which is opposing that legislation. Even the representatives of the employer class, who had occasion to deal with this legislation, have put forward the strongest objection. The demand seems, therefore, to be unanimous, as far as I am able to judge that this proposed legislation, may at least be postponed for some time, if not until after the General Elections, at least after sufficient time has been given to the people to understand all the implications and consequences of that legislation.

For there is much in that which is seriously objectionable and I do not wish to take the time of the House by going over that matter which will be discussed on some later occasion. But I must make this one general remark: There is much in that proposed legislation which makes the working-classes feel that their dearly won costly liberties or facilities are being attempted to be taken away; and even their fundamental citizen's rights as citizens are being attempted to be side-tracked.

I hope that will not be the result. I trust that the growing discontent in the masses, and the distress that is visible everywhere on account of the worsening of the economic situation, will be prevented; or will, at any rate, be remedied as far as it lies with the Powers that be, by approaching the people in the language in which they can understand, and by making their intentions more clear, more specific, than is likely to be the case through the English language.

Referring to the specific points that I have brought in my amendment, there is for the last four years, if not longer, growing complaint about an insufficiency of native grown food-supply in the country; and it has been our unenviable fate to have to import large quantities, costing ever-increasing sums of

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 money, from abroad. India was, in the matter of food-supplies, a self-sufficient country, if not able even to spare a little surplus for export. This unfortunately has been completely changed, and we are obliged notwithstanding great promises to the contrary to import very considerable quantities, running into millions of tons every year to meet the deficit at home. I am not sure whether really the supply grown in the country is actually in deficit, or whether it is the fault of procurement, whether it is the insufficiency or inadequacy of procurement or inefficiency of the Rationing Administration that is responsible for this shortage of food-supply. But the fact remains that a very considerable section of the population is under hard rations; and this, judged according to any standard of nourishment needed to maintain working efficiency, is not quite adequate to maintain the working efficiency of those, at any rate, who are obliged to have hard manual work or for the matter of that intellectual work.

Even apart from those sections of the population which are living under a regime of rationing, there are other sections of the population which are suffering from shortage; and this shortage has been responsible for a great deal of black-marketing and corruption. That I am afraid seems inevitable while the present system of food administration continues.

It is not possible, in the limited time at my disposal to make concrete suggestions. But I do think, Sir, that the system of control including procurement and rationing, so long as it remains half-hearted, insufficient and partial, will not succeed. If you must have control—and I am one of those who believe in it—you must have a rigid, universal, effective control, without any chance of leakage. But if you cannot do so, then I would join with my friends who demand that all controls must go (hear, hear). You cannot have partial control. Partial control will not succeed and therefore, it will have

to be either that you dispense altogether with control and allow the freest room for any anarchy that may develop in this country;—I very adversely use these words,—or you must take the only alternative of socialising completely all means of production whether of food supply or any other necessities of life.

Between the two extremes I see no middle course which will be a happy and a successful solution. Personally, I make no secret of my belief that there is no future for the world, and certainly not for this country, short of complete socialization in all matters of production and distribution of the material wealth of the country.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is the hon. Member likely to take some more time?

Prof. K. T. Shah: I will take five minutes more.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House will now stand adjourned to 2-30 P.M. today.

The House then adjourned for Lunch till Half Past Two of the Clock.

The House re-assembled after Lunch at Half Past Two of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

Prof. K. T. Shah: When the House adjourned for Lunch, I was speaking about the undesirable effects of controls as they are operating today. I made it clear that, on principle, I am not against control as control. In fact, I would desire wholesale socialisation of all means of production and distribution; and that kind of socialisation cannot work unless there is simultaneously all round control. But, unfortunately, in this so-called mixed economy, which is neither fish, flesh nor good red herring, which is neither individualism nor socialism, controls are operating, if I am say so, in such a way as to create all sorts of evils. Corruption is said to be rampant in the highest places. But, the direct ancestry of corruption, I, for my part, find in

this very hotch-potch of controls that are operating so imperfectly in this country. People responsible for such things may affect to treat such criticism as has appeared in the public press with contempt. Time and again names have been mentioned, facts have been given, and dates have been given about the prevalence of corruption. But, these have not been prosecuted, exposed, or denied, except by this very convenient statement, we do not take notice of such rags. If you do not take notice of such rags, if you do not take notice of this kind of criticism that goes on, what you are actually doing is that under the shadow of these rags, a great campaign goes on, call it a campaign of calumny or lies or falsehood affecting and influencing a growing volume of public opinion. But, so long as you do not expose them, so long as you do not deal with them in the only open and honourable way in which you should deal with them, you will only add to the misunderstanding among the people and increase of corruption.

For, corruption feeds on corruption. The more it escapes unpunished or unnoticed, the more it will thrive. I heard of one officer who was sent a blank cheque for procuring a licence for some one who was interested in the matter. I do not vouch for the accuracy of that statement; but that such things might even be imagined is an index of the amount of evil that is being produced in this country by the half-hearted and ill-digested measures of control that are being taken.

In this particular matter of food, there is admitted shortage, or insufficiency, and, therefore, the regime of rationing. We are told that there have been no actual deaths from starvation. I do not know what is the meaning of "starvation" that those authorities who deny the fact of starvation in the country have in their mind. If by "starvation" is meant sheer foodlessness for a long continued period of ten, twelve or fifteen days, whatever the ability of

a person to resist, then, it may be that such absolutely clear deaths from undeniable starvation may be few: not that there are none. If you understand by starvation insufficiently fed, half fed or less than half fed, ill-nourished and mal-nutritioned, I am afraid such cases of starvation are much greater in number than those in power are apt to admit or recognise.

Vital statistics in this country are proverbially very poor and insufficient; and admission of death from starvation is itself such a stigma that, if the authorities insist upon a rigid definition of starvation, and notification of death from such starvation, I am afraid, the information that they have cannot be reliable.

In any case, that there is insufficiency of food, and that there is shortage is undeniable whether or not you accept, the charge of causing starvation. Time and again newspapers have published such inconvenient facts; and we are today still living in a paradise of our own creation, at any rate, a comfortable position that actually starvation is not there. I have been given to understand that there may be some later special occasion for debating this very question at fuller length in this House during this session. If that is so, I do not wish to dwell on this subject any longer.

But, I would like to urge that as in the case of food, so also in the case of clothing, there has been a muddle created by directions and counter-directions, orders and counter orders, about price fixing, about ceiling fixing, about Government purchase, about collective bargaining, and so on; which have only gone to add to the confusion in the public mind. That does not speak of a clear policy or definite intention on the part of Government regarding national policy in such matters. We have been, I am afraid, blundering from order to order, each order perhaps undermining or counteracting the previous order or Ordinance. In such a state

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of things, believe me, no class can take a definite measure for constructive progress. It is not only the working classes, the organised workers, who are dissatisfied. I do not know whether the whispers reach the ears of those in power that every class from the big capitalist to the small trader and the poor peasant, is dissatisfied. You may not like to know it; it is not a very pleasant thought; but it is still true that one hears not merely whispers, but very loud shouts regarding the confused mentality of those who make the policy in this country, particularly the economic policy. Cloth, for example, is a striking illustration of that; and, therefore, I feel that the immediate cause of the steadily worsening economic situation in the country is to be found in the absence of a definite, correlated, clear-cut policy in the mind of Government as to what they intend this country to have.

We had been led to expect a great many things from the Planning Commission which had been heralded long before its advent by glowing promises. I feel a certain amount of delicacy in speaking on this subject, as I may be misunderstood if I indulged in greater criticism. But, one thing I would say, and that with a clear conscience, that the role of the Planning Commission is not defined, so far, at any rate, as the public knows, that would justify the expectations we had been led to form. What exactly is the Planning Commission to do, we do not know. That the Planning Commission should demand precise status for the Members, Cabinet rank for the Members, high salaries for the Members, is, of course, human. But, that the Planning Commission should give some indication of constructive policy, should prepare some sort of a blueprint of overall development of the country, is a thing, which I at least for one had been led to expect, as a direct result or consequence of the Planning Commission.

At what stage that is, I do not know. But, so far as I have been

able to gather from the public pronouncements, I feel no clear-cut policy is to be found even in regard to the nature and function of that body. As high an authority as the former Finance Minister was obliged publicly to state that he did not see the necessity for it, and he could not agree to the urgency of such a body. The former Finance Minister may be mistaken, as much as I may be mistaken in the matter. But, I think, this can be said without any chance of being mistaken, namely, the absence yet of any definite, clear-cut policy as to what is to be expected, let us say, for the next five years from this body about the development of this country.

Shri B. Das (Orissa): The Planning Commission is reading your reports—the 26 volumes of them.

Prof. K. T. Shah: I am not flattered, Mr. Das, because I am convinced that all these series of reports may be above the heads of most of the members.

Well, as I was saying, the sort of thing that we should expect, that we have a right to expect from the Commission, is yet denied to us.

Then again is the campaign of economy that we were told could be expected, on which a committee was working for perhaps two years, that has not yet borne fruit in the form of substantial savings in public expenditure that we are entitled to expect. If there has been economy here and there, a few clerks or a few peons might have been retrenched. But I for one do not know if any large, substantial, long-range economies have yet been effected in the national budget. Under the circumstances, in spite of the concessions that you may make, in spite of the remissions of taxes, or reduction in taxes that you may make to the monied classes, you feel that even those classes are not coming forward with the enthusiasm that may be expected from them as a result of the concessions made to them, to bring about that increase of pro-

duction that we were told would be the result.

It is generally assumed that if production does not increase the fault must lie with labour. I am afraid that is a very one-sided, and even at that a very unjust, view. I say this because production cannot merely depend upon labour being always responsible for it. Labour has to work with the machinery, with the equipment, with the plant provided, and if that plant, or machinery or equipment is not adequate or up-to-date, or not the most efficient or economical, how on earth can the worker, even if he were to work more than 48 hours a week, give you the results that you expect? And if those who have the command of the equipment will always indulge in a policy of selfish grabbing for themselves, naturally the worker would feel that class consciousness which may be hostile to the increase of production, but which in his eyes, is inevitable. I, therefore, feel the absence of a definite, clear-cut, constructive policy, which we had a right to expect, but which has so far not been announced by the Planning Commission. It may be coming, and I hope it will come soon; but so far that is not the case.

The last point on which I would like to say a few words, and which has been mentioned in my amendment is with regard to the improvement in the trade balance. I am not quite sure whether Trade Balance means the balance of accounts, or merely the figures of imports and exports. Certainly, so far as the official year 1949-50, ending on the 31st March, 1950, is concerned, the balance is the other way about. If you say that the figures of two or three months suggest that it is a steady, permanent improvement, then I am afraid I for one will not be able to agree with that view until I see a more lasting trend in the same direction. Our economy does not seem to me to be based on such sound foundations as would result in a permanent improvement, a lasting

improvement of the kind that has been indicated in the hon. the President's speech, and has been suggested in some figures that I have seen. But your bringing this out as an index of the growing prosperity, I mean the trade balance, is, if you will permit me to say so, misleading, in as much as the trade balance which varies so very widely from year to year and even from month to month is not a very sound, or a very reliable index of the substantial national prosperity that we are entitled to expect from a national government of the kind we have.

The prosperity that is indicated, if at all it is indicated by the figures of trade balance, relate to large-scale industries and not to the peasants, not to the workers who form ninety per cent. of the mass of this country. I, therefore, beg those who are in authority in this matter to realise that such indices as these are not to be worked to death. These indices may be all right with their limitations, but they are not to be depended upon for an absolute indication of the real state, or the real economic position of the country at any given moment, and not certainly for a long range of years.

There is only one word more I would like to add before sitting down, and that is in explanation, if you will permit me, of the kind of amendment I had tabled. At the time that this amendment was tabled, there was only one motion before the House, that of the vote of thanks to the President for his Address to this House. I had, therefore, the misfortune to take up the points occurring in the President's Address, and table my amendment as I have done. But now that it is clear that certain items from that Address will figure separately, and separate motions will be tabled on that account, naturally those portions which are not quite relevant now, or which have become not quite relevant now, will be taken up separately, and I hope this will be understood and realised. I submit when the motion was tabled, there was no alternative except to

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bring in items that form the salient features of that Address on which I for one, felt dissatisfied.

In conclusion, if it is not impertinent, may I congratulate the Mover on his eloquence in this motion of vote of thanks, and still more the seconder of the motion, who, in her ringing tones and in the eloquent phrases she has used, has reminded us of a great Indian woman who, unfortunately, is no more with us.

Shri Sidhva (Madhya Pradesh): I shall deal only with para. 12 of the President's Address, namely, that relating to food. I am very glad that the hon. President has besides dealing with international questions, dealt with important domestic questions also in his Address, like the food problem and the refugee problem.

The question of food is very important because it has a direct bearing on our economy, and it is as important as any other subject. But there seems to be a lot of confusion of mind and of thought on this question of food, both in the country and in this House. One does not really know whether there is surplus or whether there is real shortage of food in the country. My friend, Prof. Shah just now stated that there is shortage of food. But if one is to rely upon the figures of Government and the statistics they have, as I have more than once proved, there is no shortage, and I maintain that position even to-day despite the scare that has been going on in this country that there is starvation and famine. We must, however, remember one factor that we are on the eve of elections, and these things which are agitating the mind of the public and undoubtedly exaggerated to a considerable extent. There may be deaths, I do not dispute that, but I refuse to believe that these deaths are due to want of food. I have more than once quoted government figures and the hon. Minister's predecessor, with whom I was in constant touch, both by way of correspondence and personally, was

not able in a satisfactory way to refute my figures and my arguments, although I must say that my figures were also his figures. I have not created those figures from anywhere or at any time.

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): Neither do I.

Shri Sidhva: I was very glad to hear, when I was in Europe, that my friend Mr. Munshi was appointed Minister and fortunately we crossed each other at London when he was returning from America. It gratified me to learn that he had taken the portfolio of Food and Agriculture. As Home Minister in Bombay, we know how successful he proved and encomiums were showered on him all round and I therefore felt that within a short time he can tackle this ticklish question which has been agitating the mind of the public. This question has not only been agitating the public mind but it is fact that people do not get sufficient food. I also hope that my friend Mr. Munshi will be able to solve the food question. It is only two months since he took up office and it would be most unfair if I pass judgment on his working. Time will come in the October session of Parliament when we will take full account of his achievements. (Interruption) I expect that he will solve the problem satisfactorily and not merely stand on prestige and on the statistics that have been compiled by the Government and try to maintain them. That is my point. It has been proved times out of number that our statistics are not correct. I want my friend Mr. Munshi to tell us where his Ministry procured their statistics regarding food grains, which were placed before the Purshotamdas Thakurdas Committee at an earlier stage when the question was investigated. These are the basic figures and whichever committee is appointed by the Government they place these figures before them and ask the committee to give their findings.

Their own officials have stated times without number that the agricultural production of the country is merely a forecast and a guess. Hence the statistics are not reliable and I hope my friend Mr. Munshi will look into the matter.

I am glad that he is visiting places to acquire a first-hand knowledge of the working of the food and agricultural departments of the various States so that he may know where the fault lies. At the same time I would request him to study the figures and not stand on mere prestige as his Secretaries have been doing all along by maintaining that their statistics are correct without substantiating them.

I have dealt with an important part of the question, namely the adult equivalent, on which there is great difference of opinion between the Ministry and the Scientists. I have quoted the scientists' figures and said that the 86 per cent. which they have calculated is absolutely wrong. I will not go into the details of that question. I would request Mr. Munshi to study the question and refute the arguments of the scientists and not mine. I would request him to find out how his predecessor Dr. Rajendra Prasad took it at 76 per cent. and all of a sudden the Food Ministry has come out with 86 per cent., thus inflating the figure and stating that there is a deficit in the country. That is the point to which I desire to draw the attention of Mr. Munshi.

I have here a book entitled *The Indian Journal of Agricultural Economics* and there is a report by Government's own officers, the Director of Agricultural and Rural Development, Bombay and an official of the Civil Supplies Department of Bombay. On page 289 it is said:

"It is admitted by many who know the actual conditions under which these acreage figures are reported that there is a tendency to report a higher acreage under food crops than the actual and

a lower acreage under cotton and tobacco in order to show compliance with the provisions of the Grow More Food Campaign."

It further says:

"There has been a tendency, which has grown in recent years i.e., since the allocation of food-grains to deficit areas became the order of the day, of underestimating the actual production. This tendency has perhaps seized all government agencies from the Taluk Officer to the Government of India."

That is the problem which I want my friend Mr. Munshi to consider and solve. Here are the comparative figures for 1938-39 and 1947-48. In 1938-39 the acreage was 124,958,000 and in 1947-48 it increased to 130,876,000, that is an increase of 5,918,000. As regards the yield it was 36,313,000 tons in 1938 and it came down to 34,671,000 tons in 1947-48. What is the reason? If you say that cotton acreage has increased, let us take the cotton figures. From 11,495,000 in 1938 it came down to 6,366,000 acreage in 1947-48 and the tonnage from 2,355,000 in 1937-38 to 1,252,000 in 1947-48. So both food crop and cash crop have decreased and Government have paid no attention to solve the problem.

Unfortunately some deaths have occurred out of starvation during recent months and people are making a hullabaloo about it, saying that there is a famine and people are dying for want of food. I have not made personal enquiries as to the cause of these deaths and perhaps my friend Prof. Shah has made enquiries and is therefore able to say that they are deaths due to starvation. But I can say this much that these deaths are not due to shortage of food. There is no famine, it is merely an electioneering stunt.

I am not going into the question of control and decontrol at the present moment. It is such an important question that I cannot say straight-away that the control should be removed. However it would not be out of place for me to quote what

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Gandhiji said on decontrol. Since the Government's name has been spoilt it would be in the fitness of things for me to quote the pertinent remarks of Mahatmaji and ask Mr. Munshi to bear them in mind.

In a message read out by him on 4th November 1947 Mahatmaji said:

"There is, therefore, no real scarcity of food. There are enough cereals, pulses and oil-seeds in the villages of India. The growers do not, and cannot understand the artificial control of prices, they, therefore, refuse to part willingly with their stock at a price much lower than they would command in the open market. The naked fact needs no demonstration. It does not require statistics or desk-work civilians buried in their redtape files to produce elaborate reports and essays to prove that there is scarcity. It is to be hoped that no one will frighten us by trotting out before us the bogey of over-population."

In season and out of season it has been stated that every year we have to feed an increased population of 30 lakhs. If the population has increased I do not know how all of a sudden within a year these babies are able to produce a shortage of food. These old outworn arguments should be stopped, if you want the problem to be solved. I have confidence in my friend Mr. Munshi, at any rate up to now. I do not know what will happen hereafter. He is a man of determined action and if he wants he will see that the right thing is done. I do not want to discourage him or make disparaging remarks. It would be unfair on my part to sit in judgment over him within two months of his accepting office.

My hon. friend Mr. Munshi has been making sometimes statements which are contradictory. Therefore, I am obliged just to give him a warning that he should not indulge too much in these statements. Although

statements are necessary and publicity also is desirable, it should be done cautiously. Today when

3 P. M. people are saying that there is famine, they misunderstand these statements and misquote not him but the Government. I therefore wish that when he makes statements he should see that he does so rather cautiously.

I would only refer to one of his speeches which has startled everybody. He was speaking before the South Indian Chamber of Commerce in Madras on 8th July when he said:

"It is the Government's intention to lift food control by 1951."

So far so good, although I might state, despite my friend Mr. Tirumala Rao who has submitted a report, that there is enough food. I will strongly continue to make that statement unless somebody refutes the arguments I have repeatedly made both in public and in this House. I maintain that statement because I am convinced that there is sufficient food. The only point is that there is no surplus. If we had 25 per cent. surplus, I can assure you that all that is hoarded now could easily come out. Let me give you an illustration. Last year there was an acute shortage of sugar in Calcutta. Immediately—two days later—there was a scare of salt shortage and people began to loot the shops saying there was a salt shortage. The panic then spread to Bombay and shops in the labour areas were looted thinking there was a shortage. What we did was this. We had 25 per cent. surplus stock. We released this immediately, we asked the Bombay Government to give us transport and we rushed the salt to the ration shops and salt was just thrown into the market. Within two days both in Bombay and in Calcutta the salt scare had absolutely died down.

Therefore, I am reluctant to say that until we have some reserve it will not be possible straightaway to remove control on foodgrains. But there is no reason why gram should be controlled. Gram is surplus in

our country. Up till now we were told that it is in deficit. Last time I asked a question of the hon. Minister as to why he had not imported gram from Aden, but there was no answer. The question is one of defective movement and defective procurement. That is the only reason I have come across for this kind of deficit in one area and surplus in another. It is not an overall deficit.

I was referring to the statement of Mr. Munshi. He suggested that we must have only vegetables on one day and that if people adopted the habit of eating only vegetables on one day then the food problem will be solved. I would request him not to treat the problem like that. There is already confusion in the public mind today. It may be all right for the hon. Minister to ask people to eat vegetables. But is it practicable? That is the point. We have experimented on sweet potatoes and bananas and spent some money. I want to know how much the Ministry has saved thereby. There is an organisation for the "Miss-a-meal" campaign; good in their own way, but how much money has been saved? I asked that organisation, "Please let me know the figure. You have done a good thing, how much grain has been saved?" But no answer was forthcoming. The slogans are very good but the results are very defective.

Now, in Madras Mr. Munshi stated that there are five crores of monkeys and wild animals in our country. He also stated that more than 20 per cent. of the population are aged above 55. He told the audience, "You have to choose either of the two": meaning, "Either kill all those monkeys and wild animals in the country, or ask those above 55 to commit suicide". I don't know what Mrs. Munshi would say to that—she will resent it. My wife will certainly resent it if she is told that people above 55 should die by suicide. I don't know whether he said it in a lighter vein, but it was not proper. It confuses the public mind. Last time I put a question as to how many monkeys there were in this very

House (*Laughter*). I meant in the country—I am sorry. It is a fact that the monkeys destroy a large portion of our grains. The figures are not there. Why do you state like that when you have not got the figures? Let us know the quantity of grain destroyed by the monkeys and the wild animals and then let us find a solution. Your Department is not prepared to give the correct figures. That is the main argument I have been harping upon in this food problem.

Last time I stated that the State Governments are demanding unnecessarily more than their actual requirements. I then said that Rajasthan wanted 50,000 tons and Government supplied only 18,000 tons; Rajasthan was satisfied—there was no starvation and no death. My submission is that the Government of India should be very strict in this matter. The Governments in the States are functioning to please their people and today the ration quantity is so small that they would like to give the people more. They are clamouring for sugar, cereals, etc. They want to give as much as possible to the people and please them. The result is that some hoard, some do not procure.

I may also state that my friend Mr. Munshi has stated once that food imports will end in the year 1951-52. Of course, up to March 1952 is the official year, but why should he go up to March 1952 when the Government policy is to stop imports after December 1951?

If you want to maintain a surplus, only that much of food should be imported to meet this need and nothing more. If my friend keeps a proper check, there will be an absolutely good economy in our country. We will be saving lots of money; the millions of dollars that we now spend to buy rice and wheat will be automatically saved. Prof. Shah stated that starvation deaths are occurring. It is all electioneering propaganda. My friend himself may

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verify and let the House know what the deaths are due to.

With these words, I commend the motion that has been moved by Mr. Tirumala Rao, though I am surprised at the affairs of this Ministry. My friend Mr. Munshi's predecessor appointed two committees: one, the Food Grains Committee, and the other the Food Grains Procurement Committee. I am trying to study the reports of both these Committees, and I can assure you that I have got both the copies. The first Committee had a most comprehensive reference, including transport, quality, etc. I want to know from Mr. Tirumala Rao, who is a member of that Committee, why did the previous Minister or why did the Ministry appoint a second Committee thereby starting a sort of confusion in the mind of the first Committee? I will only read a paragraph in which the Foodgrains Committee presided over by Pandit L. K. Maitra has said:

"While the Committee was functioning, another Committee called the 'Foodgrains Procurement Committee' with three officials presided over by a Member of the Parliament was appointed in early February and consequently this Committee was placed in a somewhat embarrassing position, besides creating confusion both in the minds of the people at large and the State Governments as to the exact scope and functions of these Committees."

Now, I ask you: is this not a blunder on the part of the Food Ministry? Apart from the money that has been spent on the second Committee, I want to know to what conclusion this Government will come. Divergent opinions have been given: one by the official Committee presided over by an M.P. and the other by a purely non-official Committee. I can understand the latter—the popular Committee. But I cannot

understand the former—only the Chairman being an M.P. and the rest being officials. I can understand a purely official Committee, but here is a Committee of officials but to which a non-official colour is given by having an M.P. as Chairman. I would not condescend to preside over a Committee where there are only officials. Now, I would urge Mr. Munshi to look into this matter and re-organise his whole Department. Unless all these kinds of tomfoolery are eliminated, and the administration is made pure, people won't have confidence. If the people have confidence in the establishment, then the natural corollary is that confidence will come in the Ministry and consequently in the Government. The food problem has all along been dealt with wrongly and inaccurately, whether it be innocently or deliberately. They have not given the figures and what is more, this Committee's report has not been supplied to Members yet. It has been printed and still we have not been supplied a copy. If this report would have been given to us earlier,—and the report of both these Committees were presented to Parliament long ago—we would have discussed this matter and brought up the important question of food on the President's Address. I hope therefore that my hon. friend Mr. Munshi will at least clarify why a second Committee was necessary and how he is going to take a decision on this matter and why has such a long time elapsed. The food problem is so serious and still you are waiting, as you waited in the case of sugar. The decision to appoint an Enquiry Committee into the sugar muddle was taken during the last Budget Session but the Committee has been appointed only now and its report will come hereafter. That is the old policy. I think the quicker the disposal the quicker for the interests of the country. People will speak a good word only if everything is disposed of quickly. Disposal is slow in the office—in fact, everywhere. With these few words, I support the motion moved by my hon. friend Mr. Tirumala Rao and am ably seconded by the lady member.

Pandit Kunzru: Mr. Speaker, the first question that I should like to refer to is that of civil liberties. When the Constitution was under discussion, many Members of the Constituent Assembly were anxious lest the provisions of the Constitution should provide insufficient protection for the rights of the individual. It was recognised that in special circumstances the State, in order to ensure its security, may adopt extraordinary measures, but it was generally desired that unless it was shown that the State was faced with an emergency the rights of the individual should be fully safeguarded.

Many cases have come before the High Courts, that have given rise to considerable anxiety on this score. They have shown that either the provisions of the Preventive Detention Act or of the State Public Security Acts have not been used with proper care and that the detention of many persons has been ordered on wholly insufficient grounds. The latest series of cases that created great apprehension among the public with regard to the manner in which the State Governments were using their extraordinary powers came before the Bombay High Court. The Bombay High Court had to deal with the cases of Communists and members of the Hindu Mahasabha. One of the members of the Hindu Mahasabha whose case came before the Bombay High Court was Mr. Bhopatkar. Now, it appears from the judgment of the High Court that the Magistrate informed the High Court that Mr. Bhopatkar was an active member of the Hindu Mahasabha. In view of this, the High Court came to the conclusion that the Magistrate had been influenced by certain extraneous considerations. The Magistrate had said that the order detaining Mr. Bhopatkar contained the information that he was trying to commit acts of violence against Ministers, but the High Court was not informed of the nature of the conspiracy or of the names of Ministers against whom he was alleg-

ed to have conspired. The High Court therefore ordered his release. It similarly ordered the release of a number of other members of the Hindu Mahasabha and members of the Communist Party. It appears from the communicate issued by the Bombay Government that the Bombay High Court had ordered the release of a number of detenus placed under detention in 1947 and 1948 and who were continuing under detention under fresh orders passed in February 1950 under the Preventive Detention Act. The High Court came to the conclusion that there could have been no adequate grounds for renewing under the Preventive Detention Act the orders passed as far back as 1947 and 1948 and ordered the release of the persons concerned. The High Court also pointed out that some persons had been detained owing to orders passed by Magistrates who had no jurisdiction in the area concerned.

The Bombay Government, seeing which way the wind was blowing, released all the detenus: not merely those whose detention had been criticised by the Bombay High Court, but all of them, and then re-arrested sixty of them on the ground that they had sufficient material in their possession to justify their detention.

Now, Sir, there are two points that require careful consideration in this respect. The first is that but for the Bombay High Court, but for the fear in the minds of the Bombay Government of the intervention of the Bombay High Court, the people who were arrested in 1947 and 1948 would still have been in detention. We are grateful, Sir, to the High Court for having put fear of God into the hearts of the Bombay Government. But the instance that I have quoted and the number of people involved shows with what little care at least some local governments have used the extraordinary powers that they have obtained under legislation authorised by the Preventive Detention Act.

The other point, Sir, is that if the Bombay Government thought that there was sufficient ground for the

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continued detention of sixty persons, why were they released in the first instance and re-arrested later? Obviously, there was some flaw in the orders that had been passed against them and the Bombay Government, therefore, released these people too and passed fresh orders to detain them again. This again shows how lightly the State Governments have made use of their extraordinary powers. Now, Sir, this House as the guardian of the rights and privileges of the people has every right to ask the Central Government to exercise proper vigilance in matters relating to the rights of the individual.

It is easy for anyone to say that under the Preventive Detention Act and the various State Security Acts a man can be detained for three months only without the matter being placed before an Advisory Board. Will those who put forward this argument ask themselves whether they would like to be detained even a week under such a law without adequate cause?

Sir, the fact is that it is not merely the State Governments that have been guilty of laxity, but the Central Government itself has viewed the question of civil liberty in such a way as to show that it does not realise its importance. Anyone who reads the Preventive Detention Act can see for himself the difference between it and the provincial Public Security Acts previously in force. It was thought that any preventive legislation passed under the Constitution of India would place restrictions on the power of detention both of the Central Government and the State Governments. But we find that, on the contrary, the Preventive Detention Act increases the authority of the Government to detain people who are outside. Sir, under the provincial Security Acts people who were thought to be carrying on activities prejudicial to the maintenance of essential supplies and essential services would be punished only after trial in a court of law. But under the Preventive

Detention Act these people can be detained under executive orders and they can remain under detention for three months without their cases being placed before an Advisory Board.

Again, Sir, under the Public Security Acts the cases even of persons detained on the suspicion that their activities were prejudicial to the maintenance of law and order or the security of the State could be placed before an Advisory Board. But under the Preventive Detention Act the cases of these people need not be placed before any board for at least one year. And, even in the meanwhile, that is, during this period, the Central Government would review the cases of these people with the help of a judicial officer. Now, here again we see, Sir, that instead of progress there has been a good deal of retrogression. When the mind of the Central Government acts in this way, instead of trying to limit the powers of the authorities to detain persons without trial it extends the scope of preventive detention.

The Deputy Prime Minister said during the course of the discussion on the Preventive Detention Bill that he had passed two sleepless nights before agreeing to the Bill being placed before the House. I do not doubt his sincerity at all. But the result of his scrutiny of the Act was poor indeed. I think, Sir, that on a review of the cases that have gone before the High Courts, any fair-minded man would come to the conclusion that the power of detention without trial is being used to an excessive degree by the Government and that it is necessary to modify the present law drastically. There were some cases that came before the Supreme Court. We all know that the decisions of the Supreme Court in the three cases that I am referring to—that is, of Mr. Rajagopalan, the "Cross-roads" and the "Organiser"—were unfavourable to the Government. In the course of one of the judgments I believe the Chief Justice

pointed out that criticism of the Government with a view to creating dissatisfaction was not a crime under the Constitution. I think that this observation of the Chief Justice should be taken to heart by the executive Governments in this country. I fear they are apt to think that when people strongly hold views different from their own and carry on activities which reflect adversely on the State they are guilty of a crime and must be detained without trial for being guilty of doing a thing "prejudicial to the safety of the State". What is contrary to the interests of the Government in power need not necessarily be contrary to the interests of the State. I know that the views of the Chief Justice will receive due consideration from the Central Government and that the moral weight of his authority will compel Government in the near future to modify the Preventive Detention Act, even before its term expires, so as to limit the power of the executive Governments to deprive people of their freedom on inadequate grounds.

I should like to say a word about my second amendment. Dr. John Matthai speaking in connection with devaluation in Parliament placed an eight-point programme before it with a view to controlling inflation. One of those points was that the retail prices of foodgrains and other things should be brought down by at least 10 per cent. So far from his hope being realised we find that an alarming rise in prices has taken place during the last few weeks. The rise has not taken place during the last five or six weeks; it has been taking place for some time, but there has been a pronounced rise during the four or five weeks lying between the 6th June and the 8th July. On the 6th June the wholesale index for foodgrains was 399.6, but on the 8th July it stood at 423.6. That is, there has been a rise of 24 points or 6 per cent. The President said in his Address that Government were very anxious about the unsatisfactory

economic position and had appointed the Planning Commission in order to devise proper methods of advancing the economic development of the country. Whatever the Planning Commission may do, it will take Government some years to put its recommendations into effect. I shall not be surprised if most of its recommendations are found to be long-term propositions. But what we want is the adoption of measures in the immediate future to deal with the present highly unsatisfactory economic position. The hon. the Food Minister has threatened all those persons who continue to indulge in anti-social activities that they will be properly dealt with unless they mend their ways soon. I do not know what he and his colleagues are thinking about. But if he does not think that the rise that has already taken place in foodgrains is alarming I doubt whether his warnings will give much consolation to the public or create apprehensions in the minds of the hoarders and the black-marketeers. My hon. friend Mr. Sidhva spoke, as he has often done in this House, about the sufficiency of foodgrains in this country. I remember very vividly the arguments that were used during the terrible Bengal Famine of 1943-44 by those who said that the deficiency in the rice harvest of Bengal was so small that it could not conceivably bring about such a catastrophe. Yet people starved and died in numbers that nobody would have believed but for the testimony of the Bengal Famine Commission. This Commission said that in all, probably, the deaths due to starvation and famine amounted to 15 lakhs. I personally think that the number of deaths was even greater. I saw death in those days in Bengal that I had never seen in my life before, and I hope I shall never see again. There cannot be many Members in this House who saw as much of the misery inflicted on the poor people by the Bengal Famine. The very fact that prices have risen and that foodgrains are not available to the consumers shows

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that the hoarders are aware of the fact that the supply of foodgrains is not quite adequate to the needs. Even if the quantity is just enough, to be sufficient for everybody, if it were equitably distributed, even then we cannot be certain that hoarding will not occur. There must be a certain hoarding before we can allow the ordinary law of supply and demand to operate. If we do not bear this in mind and cease either to import foodgrains or adopt again the policy of de-control, whose results were found by us in the short space of 9 months to be disastrous, we shall be faced with a situation that will be far more irremediable than the situation in 1948 was.

The next point to which I should like to draw the attention of the Government is their failure to place a co-ordinated programme of agricultural development. My hon. friend, Mr. Munshi in the course of the many speeches that he has delivered during the last four months referred to the determination of the Government not only to increase the production of foodgrains but also the production of jute and cotton. I was very pleased to read that statement because nothing baffled me more during the last session than the inability of the Government to tell us whether they were content with self-sufficiency in foodgrains and whether they had given any thought to the co-ordination of the agricultural programme so that not merely foodgrains but all those commodities that we stood in need of were produced in adequate quantities.

My hon. friend Mr. Munshi has not told us what our land resources are and how much of it would be needed in order to bring about self-sufficiency in foodgrains and at the same time to grow enough cotton and jute crops. We should like to have definite information on this matter. If we find that we cannot carry out our programme with respect to all these things at the same time we shall have to make up our minds as

to the priority to be given to any particular commodity. As regards self-sufficiency in foodgrains, although it is very desirable, nevertheless can we say that if there is self-sufficiency today, we shall not need more foodgrains say five years or ten years hence and if we cut down our production of cotton and jute which are far more valuable which can bring us foreign exchange, I think, this will be a short-sighted policy and cotton and jute are not the only things that we want from a commercial point of view.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

We want grains too. The Commodities Prices Board pointed out long ago the importance of oil-seeds and asked Governments to follow a policy that would be both in the internal and external interests of the Country but their advice has so far fallen on deaf ears and the Government is continuing with its bungling policies. The index number for ground nuts has risen from about 350 in 1947 to 700 and in other oil seeds too there has been almost equally a high rise in prices. The prices have become so high as to be above the international prices for oil-seeds and the result is that these seeds which were a valuable means of acquiring foreign exchange have now become useless for this purpose. There are other things that I could mention in this connection but I do not propose to take the indulgence of the House to dwell any further on this matter, but I hope you will allow me to say that the situation is unsatisfactory not only agriculturally but also in other ways. I have looked up the figures of production in respect of certain important industries and I find that except in regard to coal and cement, we have hardly any cause for satisfaction. In respect of steel in the first quarter of this year the production may have been slightly more than in the first quarter of last year but it has fallen in April, and therefore, on the whole, we have no reason to be satisfied with such progress as has taken place. What

does Government mean in regard to this? This question of production is connected with the entire economic policy. Would the Government consider the matter afresh, give their best thought to it and then carry out with determination any integrated policy that they may arrive at? But our complaint is not merely there is failure in this direction or in that direction but the Government have so far not placed any co-ordinated programme before us either in respect of the industrial development or in respect of agricultural development. These are the two serious deficiencies I find in the Address of the President. But I think, Sir, that if we want to secure the contentment of the people and if we want the Government should be broad-based on the affections of the masses, it is necessary for them to attempt the problem of production and to show that they will pay due regard to the rights of the individual and not deprive the people of their liberty simply because their freedom is an inconvenience to the executive authorities.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : सभापति जी, सब से पहले तो मैं राष्ट्रपति जी को इस बात पर बधाई देना चाहता हूँ, कि उन्होंने इस बार भी पहल अपना भाषण हमारी राष्ट्रभाषा हिन्दी में दिया। अपने विधान में हम इस बात को स्वीकार कर चुके हैं कि इस देश की राष्ट्रभाषा हिन्दी है और अगले पन्द्रह वर्षों के भीतर हिन्दी अंग्रेजी का पूरा स्थान लेने वाली है। परन्तु जहाँ में एक ओर राष्ट्रपति जी को उन के हिन्दी में भाषण देने के लिए बधाई देना है, वहीं दूसरी ओर मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि यदि हिन्दी को पन्द्रह वर्षों में अंग्रेजी का स्थान लेना है, तो इस सम्बन्ध में हमारी सरकार ने अभी तक पहला कदम भी नहीं उठाया है। कम से कम एक बात में मैं श्रीयुत शाह से सहमत हूँ जो उन्होंने यह कही कि यदि हम चाहते हैं कि इस देश की

जनता हमारे कार्यों में अनुराग ले, तो यह आवश्यक है कि हम हिन्दी को अंग्रेजी के साथ यहाँ पर चलाने का प्रयत्न करें। हमने पन्द्रह वर्षों तक अंग्रेजी चलती रहे, ऐसा ज़रूर कहा है, परन्तु हमने यह भी कहा है कि उस क साथ हम इस बात का प्रयत्न करेंगे कि अंग्रेजी का स्थान पन्द्रह वर्षों में हिन्दी ले ले और अंग्रेजों के साथ जितने स्थानों पर हिन्दी चल सकती है, उतने स्थानों पर हम हिन्दी चलाने का प्रयत्न करें।

उत्तरप्रदेश में जितने कानूनों के मस्विदे बनते हैं, वे सब हिन्दी में बनते हैं। वहाँ की पूरी कार्यवाही हिन्दी में होती है। जैसा श्रीयुत शाह ने कहा मेरी समझ में नहीं आता कि यदि हम अपने यहाँ के कानूनों के मस्विदों को अंग्रेजी के साथ हिन्दी में बनायें तो हमारे रास्ते में कौनसी बाधा उपस्थित होती है। जब विधान परिषद् का अधिवेशन होता था उस समय रोज़ की विषय सूची भी अंग्रेजी के साथ हिन्दी में छपती थी, यहाँ पर यह भी आरम्भ नहीं हुआ है। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि अंग्रेजी के साथ यहाँ की विषय सूची हिन्दी में ज़रूर आनी चाहिए अंग्रेजी के साथ यहाँ के प्रश्न भी हिन्दी में आने चाहियें, अंग्रेजी के साथ यहाँ पर जो कानून के मस्विदे पेश हों, जो प्रस्ताव पेश हों, वे भी हिन्दी में आने चाहियें और जो सरकार करोड़ों रुपया अन्य कार्यों में खर्च कर रही है, वह इस सम्बन्ध में खर्च की ओट लेकर हमारे कथन को कार्य रूप में परिणत नहीं कर सकती, यह बात नहीं कह सकती। इस लिये मैं आशा करता हूँ कि जिस प्रकार हमारे राष्ट्रपति का भाषण हिन्दी में हुआ है, उसी प्रकार जितनी बातें मैं ने यहाँ पर अभी कही हैं उन के सम्बन्ध में हिन्दी का उपयोग आरम्भ होगा।

दूसरी बात जो मुझे कहनी है वह यह है कि राष्ट्रपति ने अपने भाषण में हमारे

[सैठ गोविन्द दास]

सामने जो इस समय सब से संकटमय स्थिति है, आर्थिक, उस की ओर हमारा ध्यान आकर्षित किया है। हमारा देश कृषि प्रधान देश है और हमारे यहां पर सब से अधिक कमी अन्न की है, जिसे हमें बाहर से मंगाना पड़ता है। यह कहा जाता है कि १९५१ के बाद हम बाहर से अन्न नहीं मंगावेंगे। परन्तु जैसी अंतर्राष्ट्रीय परिस्थिति है, उस परिस्थिति में यह भी सम्भव हो सकता है कि हम जो कि १९५१ तक अन्न मंगाना चाहते हैं वह भी न मंगा सकें। अपने यहां अधिक अन्न उत्पादन करने के सम्बन्ध में हम ने अनेक योजनाएँ बनाई हैं और मैं कृषि मंत्री जी जो इस समय जा रहे हैं, उन से जाते जाते कहना चाहता हूँ कि यदि वे अपनी योजना को सफल बनाना चाहते हैं, तो जब तक अधिक अन्न उत्पन्न करने के साधनों की ओर हम ध्यान न देंगे तब तक हमारी वह योजना सफल नहीं होने वाली है। मुझे अधिक अन्न उत्पादन करने की योजना में जो एक सब से बड़ी कमी दीखती है और जिस कमी की ओर मैंने एक नहीं अनेक बार यहां पर सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित किया है, वह बैलों की कमी है। जहां तक ट्रैक्टरों का सम्बन्ध है, दूसरी खेती की मशीनों का सम्बन्ध है, मैं उनके खिलाफ नहीं हूँ। हम को ट्रैक्टरों की भी आवश्यकता है, हम को दूसरी खेती की मशीनों की भी आवश्यकता है। यदि हम इस देश की बंजर भूमि को आबाद करना चाहते हैं, जो कांस, घास, कचरा से भरी जो यहां की जमीन है उसको ठीक करना है, तो हम को ट्रैक्टरों की और उन मशीनों की आवश्यकता है और हम को इस की ओर से घाबले मून्द न लेनी चाहियें। परन्तु यदि हम यह मानते हों कि इन ट्रैक्टरों और खेती की मशीनों से हमारी अधिक अन्न उत्पादन करने की योजना पूरी हो जाती है, तो उससे मैं सर्वथा असहमत हूँ, इस देश में जमीन का जिसप्रकार का

विभाजन है, हमारे कृषकों को जमीन जितनी तादाद में मिली हुई है, उस के देखने पर हमें यह मानना पड़ेगा कि बिना बैलों के हम यहां खेती नहीं कर सकते। मुझे बड़ा खेद होता है कृषि की योजना को देख कर, इस कृषि प्रधान देश की कृषि की योजना को देख कर, जिस योजना में बैलों, गायों और दूध तथा दूध से सम्बन्ध रखने वाली अन्य चीजों का कोई स्थान ही नहीं है। दो वर्ष पहले सरकार ने इस विषय पर एक कमेटी बिठाई थी, मैं भी उस कमेटी का एक सदस्य था और हम लोगों ने विचार करने के उपरान्त सरकार के सामने एक योजना पेश की थी। उस योजना पर जब मैंने इसी संसद् में कुछ प्रश्न पूछे, तब उस समय के हमारे कृषि मंत्री श्री जयरामदास दौलतराम जी ने हम को आश्वासन दिया कि जो हमारी रिपोर्ट है, उस के अनुसार कार्य दो वर्षों के अन्दर हो जायेगा। दो वर्ष बीत चुके और गायों और बैलों की स्थिति वही है जो आज से दो वर्ष पहले थी। उस समय जो हालत थी वही आज है और उस दिशा में भी हम एक भी कदम आगे नहीं बढ़े हैं। यदि श्रीयुत मुन्शी जी चाहते हैं कि इस विषय में वे सफल हों, तो उन का यह कर्तव्य है कि इस सम्बन्ध में वह एक निश्चित योजना इस संसद् के सन्मुख उपस्थित करें।

अभी कुछ दिन के पहले मैंने मुन्शी जी का एक भाषण पढ़ा था। उस भाषण में उन्होंने यह आश्वासन दिया था कि वह गोरक्षा के विषय में एक कानून बहुत जल्द इस संसद् के सम्मुख पेश करने वाले हैं, कल उन्होंने मुझे भोजन के लिए बुलाया था। वहां जब मैं गया और मैंने उनसे पूछा तब हमारे मुन्शी जी राजनीतिज्ञ होने के साथ एक साहित्यिक भी हैं उन्होंने कुछ कविता लिखी हैं कुछ नाटक लिखे हैं कुछ कहानियां भी लिखी हैं.....

श्री के० एम० मुन्शी : कविता नहीं लिखी है।

सेठ गोविन्द दास : गद्य काव्य सही पद्य काव्य नहीं तो, गद्य भी एक काव्य होता है, उन्होंने हमारे सामने एक बड़ी सुन्दर कल्पना रखी कि वह इस देश में गो रक्षा के विषय में क्या करना चाहते हैं। मैं उनकी कल्पना पर मुग्ध हो गया, पर प्रश्न यह है कि जिस प्रकार साहित्यिक कल्पनाएं बहुधा केवल कल्पनायें ही रह जाती हैं उसी प्रकार वह कल्पना केवल कल्पना रहने वाली है या उस कल्पना का कोई प्रत्यक्ष रूप भी हमें दिखाई देगा। मैं देखना चाहता हूँ कि वह उस कल्पना को कहां तक कार्य रूप में परिणत करते हैं और जो कार्यरूप वह परिणत करते हैं वह कानून के रूप में हमारे सामने कब तक प्रस्तुत होता है।

मुझे और भी कुछ बातें कहनी थीं परन्तु आप ने घंटी बजा दी है इस लिए मैं इस संसद् का और समय नहीं लेना चाहता। जिन दो विषयों पर मैं नें विधान परिषद् में और उस के पहिले जब से मैं इस संसद् का सदस्य हुआ हूँ, गत २७ वर्षों से, मैंने सदा जोर दिया है आज भी राष्ट्रपति जी के भाषण के सम्बन्ध में दो शब्द कहते हुए वहीं दो बातों के ऊपर जोर दूंगा और वह दो बातें हैं राष्ट्र भाषा और गो रक्षा।

(English translation of the above speech)

Seth Govind Das (Madhya Pradesh): At the outset I wish to congratulate the President for having, this time again, delivered his address at first in Hindi, our national language. In our Constitution we have accepted Hindi as our national language and it is going to replace English fully in the course of the next fifteen years. But, whereas, on one hand, I congratulate the President on his having delivered the address in Hindi, on the other hand, I also wish to say that although Hindi is intended

to replace English within fifteen years our Government has, as yet, not even taken even the first step in that direction. I agree with what Shri Shah has stated that if we want that the people of this land should take interest in our activities then it is essential that we encourage the use of Hindi along with English. Of course we have laid down that English should hold the field for fifteen years but we have also stated that we should so direct our efforts that Hindi be enabled to replace it at the end of fifteen years and that we should make an endeavour to introduce Hindi along with English wherever possible.

In Uttar Pradesh all bills are drafted in Hindi. All their proceedings are conducted in Hindi. As stated by Shri Shah, one fails to understand what is there to stand in our way if we were to draft our bills in Hindi alongside with English. In the case of the Constituent Assembly the list of business for each meeting used to be printed in Hindi alongside with English but here even that practice has not yet been introduced. I wish to urge that the list of business here must be supplied in Hindi along with English, the questions too should be supplied in Hindi along with English and the drafts of bills and resolutions to be introduced here should be in Hindi as well as in English. If the Government which is spending crores of rupees on other projects were to plead that she is unable to act upon this suggestion on account of the expenditure involved therein—slight though it will be—such a plea would be untenable. Hence, I hope that just as the President's address has been delivered in Hindi in the same way Hindi would be introduced for the other purposes mentioned by me.

The President has drawn our attention, in his address, to the most difficult situation that is facing us at present, viz., the economic situation. Ours is a mainly agricultural country and the most serious shortage, that is facing us, is that of food-grains, which we have to import from

[Seth Govind Das]
 abroad. It is said we will not be importing foodgrains from abroad after 1951. In view of the international situation, however, we may not possibly be able to import, up to 1951, even that amount of foodgrains that we intend importing. We have formulated numerous plans for the growing of more foodgrains here. I wish to tell the Minister of Agriculture—who is leaving just now—that if he wants that his plan should succeed he will have to attend to the means for growing more food, for unless we do that our plan is not going to succeed. The biggest lacuna which I perceive in our grow-more-food campaign, to which I have drawn the attention of the Government not once but a number of times, is the shortage of oxen. I am not opposed to the use of tractors and other agricultural machinery. We do stand in need of tractors. We also stand in need of other agricultural machines. If we want to reclaim our fallow lands which are infested with reeds and thorny bushes etc., we do stand in need of tractors and the other machines and we must not become oblivious of that necessity. But, if we think these tractors and agricultural machines are going to make for the success of our grow-more-food plans, I do not at all share that view. Looking to the distribution of land in this country and the area available to an average cultivator we must concede that we cannot carry on cultivation here without bullocks. I am sorely grieved to look at our plan for agriculture, at the plan of agriculture for this predominantly agricultural land, a plan which has no place in it for oxen, cows and milk and allied things. Two years back the Government appointed a Committee for that purpose of which I too was a member. After due consideration we presented the Government with a plan. When, in this House, I asked some questions about that plan the then Minister for Agriculture, Shri. Jairamdas Doulatram, assured us that action would be taken in accordance with our report in two years' time. Two years are

past but the situation in regard to cows and oxen is just the same as it was two years ago. The position today is just what it was then, and we have not advanced even a step further in that direction. If Shri Munshi wants to succeed it is his duty to present to the Parliament a definite plan in that respect.

Only a few days ago I read a speech delivered by Shri Munshi. In that speech he held out the assurance that he was very soon going to move in Parliament a legislation regarding cow-protection. He invited me to dinner yesterday. I went to his place and when I questioned him about it—incidentally, besides being a statesman, our Shri Munshi also happens to be a man of literature and has written some poetry, some dramas, also some stories.....

Shri K. M. Munshi: Not poetry.

Seth Govind Das: Let it be poetry in prose if not in verse; prose too is poetry in a sense. He placed before us a very beautiful plan showing what he intends to do in the matter of cow-protection. I became enamoured of that plan. But the question is whether, like other literary plans which generally end as plans, this one is also going to remain just a plan or whether we would be able to see it in a concrete shape and form. I am anxious to see the day when he translates that plan into action and when that action comes up before us here in the form of a Bill.

I had to speak on other subjects too but since my time is over I had better close. During the last 27 years, that is ever since I became a member of this House, as also while I was a member of the Constituent Assembly, I have expatiated on only two subjects and today again, in saying these few words with reference to the President's address, I wish to lay stress on just these two things, viz., the national language and cow-protection.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Three long years have elapsed since this problem of evacuee property arose. More

than six millions of people came over from West Pakistan, leaving property of the value of more than four thousand million rupees in that country. They have been looking towards the Government that it would solve their problem and their miseries would end. But I am pained to remark that even though there was no lack of sympathy on the part of Government, this question remains where it was in 1947. If we were to judge the efforts by the number of conferences that have been held with the other country, Pakistan, certainly we might conclude that the attempts have been splendid. But if real achievement is to be taken into consideration, then I dare say that the results have been little so far. Up till June, 1949 we were told that there had been six conferences to solve this problem, and though different aspects of the question were tackled, nothing came out of those conferences, and there is little hope of getting any relief or compensation from Pakistan. Our hon. Minister in charge convened a meeting, or rather a conference of the refugee leaders here in Delhi on the 21st and 22nd of July, 1949, if I am correct, and there he observed that surely, refugees would be given compensation; it might be in cash or it might be in the form of property, or it might be in the form of bonds. Nobody doubts, he said that they have a right to get this compensation and that they would be given compensation. Nobody denies that. When this was known, that Government had a mind to give that compensation, and because the question of evacuee property had not been solved so far by means of conferences, a non-official resolution was moved here on the 9th February, 1950, that some kind of tax might be levied so that funds might be raised to give this compensation to the refugees. But that resolution was rejected and again the attention of the refugees was directed towards getting compensation from Pakistan. Further attempts were started and what I find is that there have been one or two other conferences as well. The last conference

on the subject took place on 26th June, 1950. but so far as the reports go to show, we find that no tangible result has come out of that as well.

Sir, believe me, whatever little these poor refugees could bring with them when they were leaving their hearths and homes, that has been exhausted. Their misery is greater now than it was in 1947. They have withstood these three monsoons and three severe winters and suffered privations that cannot be described. The present rains also have brought greater miseries to them, and I cannot do better than read three or four lines here, to show in what plight they are living in this capital city of Delhi.

"The downpour has worsened the already miserable condition of the refugees. Many refugee families have gone without food or sleep during the past two days because of rainwater trickling down through the roof and flooding the shacks from below."
Then again—

"A round of the city showed the pitiable condition of the refugees living in tents or thatched huts. The most badly affected area was the Bela Road where there is a small colony of a hundred mud huts. The refugees had piled all their belongings on *charpois* to prevent them from being washed out. The inmates could not cook their food. There was no place to sleep or lie down. Refugee men, women and children spent the whole day throwing water out of their shacks."

That is not the condition in one camp, but it is the general condition in most of the camps. And even in huts that have been provided or the stalls that have been allotted, the condition is no better. Even the condition of the people whom the Government believe they have rehabilitated, is no better.

Unless this question is solved there cannot be any contentment in

[Sardar Hukam Singh]
the minds of the poor refugees, who believe that they are the victims of circumstances, and they alone have suffered for no fault of theirs. It is the duty of the whole country to bear this burden.

Sir, you must have read about the recent All India Refugee Conference that had its session in Delhi. The Government was warned that the non-rehabilitation of the refugees would endanger India's freedom. They had gone so far because they felt that unless this section of our country is rehabilitated and put to work there cannot be any peace in their mind and they would feel agitated all along. They have therefore proposed that a capital levy might be imposed on the country. The refugees think that they are justified in making this demand. There is no justification why one part of the country should suffer for the sake of the whole country and why the price should be paid by one section alone and the others should not contribute to it. The moneyed people of India do owe a duty to the country: they should come out with their savings to contribute towards this fund. My submission is that that is a proposal that has come from the Refugees Conference which was presided over by an eminent Congressman whose integrity and fidelity is beyond doubt: I mean Babu Purushotamdas Tandon.

Sir, I would briefly refer to the amendment I have tabled about the recovery of abducted women. Since this question arose in East Bengal fresh complications have arisen and the recovery of abducted women from West Punjab has been thrown into the background. We have read that some numbers have been recovered but on scrutiny I have found that the fresh recoveries are of those women who had been abducted in the Kashmir operations and no recovery has been made of abducted women that we lost in West Punjab, the Frontier, Sind and Baluchistan. This matter ought to have received

top priority at the hands of the Government and I wish to point out that there was no mention of it in the Address of the President. I want to draw the attention of the Government to this very urgent matter and I want to know whether some special measures are going to be taken so far as the recovery of abducted women of the Punjab is concerned or is this a matter which Government wants all the refugees from West Punjab to forget altogether.

In the end I would wind up with this observation. What the refugees want consists of these items. They require houses for all refugees. They submit that all existing accommodation should be utilised for giving shelter to the refugees. It is a fact that several houses locked during the last few months in Delhi are lying sealed, while the refugees are squatting on the pavements and have to suffer all the inclemencies of the weather. The transfer of the refugees from one place to another should be stopped by Government and they should be allowed to earn their living by their own honest means, if the Government have no means to rehabilitate them in any other manner or by giving them compensation for their losses. Some provision should be made for the education of their children. As I have submitted special attention should be paid to the recovery of abducted women.

The last point I want to urge is that all displaced persons should be given the right of citizenship. No discrimination should be made and they should not be asked to give further proofs as to when they came here or whether they had the necessary qualification. Forthwith this right of citizenship should be conferred on all the displaced persons who have come over to this side. With these remarks, Sir, I move my motion.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Sir, I had only one purpose in tabling my amendment No. 21 and it was not so much

to praise or criticise what the President had been pleased to tell us as to point out what to my mind was a very important omission, significant all the more, because for the second time the President in his inaugural address had completely been silent on the welfare activities of the Government of India. In the first address that he gave us also there was complete silence on what I may call the Welfare Ministries of the Government of India and the same has happened again. While I do endorse all that he had been pleased to say in regard to the other matters I feel that I must mention about one failure of the Council of Ministers. To use his own words "I have appointed under Article 75, a Council of Ministers to advise me in the exercise of my functions and be responsible to this House for the good Government of India." I would like to single out article 338 of the Constitution which is in Part XVI. It is as well that I should read it out:

"There shall be a Special Officer for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to be appointed by the President . . ."

It may be argued by some that perhaps the State Governments are competent enough to look after the interests of what the Constitution calls, generally in a comprehensive term, "backward classes".

But article 339(2), reads:

"The executive power of the Union shall extend to the giving of directions to any such State as to the drawing up and execution of schemes specified in the direction to be essential for the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes in the State."

Here I am not speaking for the Scheduled Tribes only. I include the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and all other classes that may be comprehended within the phraseology "backward classes". Regretfully, I have to support my friend, Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru, in emphasising that Government have

failed to place a co-ordinated programme before us in regard to the backward classes. I think it is necessary that the Council of Ministers should advise the President to implement article 338 as soon as possible so that there may be a co-ordinated plan, a co-ordinated programme for the whole of India, so that the various States may work in harmony and not in different directions. I indeed welcome two of the Ministers of the re-constituted Council of Ministers—my friend Shri Hare Krishna Mahtab, and my friend, Shri Sri Prakasa, both of whom have come from areas that are preponderantly tribal. They should be able to advise their colleagues in the Council of Ministers as to what should be done and how necessary it is that article 338 should be implemented. It is already evident—this is not the place nor is there time for me to give instances—that some of the safeguards, some even of the fundamental rights that have been guaranteed to these backward classes under the Constitution are being denied them in some of the States. I will not give instances—I will only say this much, that it is necessary that the President should have someone who will advise him, and through him the Council of Ministers here at the Centre may also be acquainted fully as to whether the rights that have been guaranteed in the Constitution are being actually conceded and whether any fresh directions need emanate from the Centre to the various backward class areas.

Sir, I need say no more. I only wanted to draw the attention of the Government to a serious sin of omission—very serious so far as I am concerned. We are supposed to have the so-called reservation only for ten years. How many years are going to pass before the articles which are supposed to ensure those safeguards to bring about a general levelling up of the Indian population are going to be implemented? How many more years are going to elapse before an implementation of the specific articles

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laid down in the Constitution is to be made? It is a very serious affair.

To end, Sir, if I may have the permission of the House, now that I have been able, I hope, to draw the attention of the House—I do not find the Leader of the House present but there are his colleagues who may have listened to me—now that they have heard what I had to say, I would like permission of the House to withdraw my amendment.

Shri Tyagi: Sir, I support my friend Mr. Thirumala Rao's motion of thanks to the President. Discussion on most of the points that have been referred to in the President's Address has been postponed to a future date—points like the Indo-Pakistan Agreement and the Korean situation—and therefore I have very little to say just now. But there are one or two important and salient points which I want to emphasise.

I am glad the President has mentioned that he is conscious of the economic stress under which the country is passing today. I am sure our Finance Minister should also be equally conscious of it because the Address is always representative of the policies of the Government. But looking at the present method of administration, I want to emphasise that I do not find any recovery anywhere. The President has stated that with a view to achieve a recovery, his Council of Ministers have appointed a Planning Commission to improve the economic conditions of the country. I am not yet fully convinced whether this Planning Commission will really be in a position to deliver the goods in the present state of affairs. For, only the other day I have read in the papers that the Economic Committee of the same Council of Ministers have already chalked out a programme saying that for a number of years they would be able to incur no capital expenditure. If there is no capital expenditure to incur, I wonder what the Planning Commission would do except, of course, to devote its attention towards the administrative machinery itself

because there is nothing else to plan. Without money there can be no plan except the plantation which my hon. friend Mr. Munshi had. Sir, I was born in a rural area, I belong to a rural family and my constituency is a rural one. I feel it is useless to attempt any planning of production in the urban areas for it is not possible under the limited resources at the disposal of the State. In the rural areas there is absolute unemployment. Never during these thirty years of my political life have I seen unemployment so widespread as it is today. It is so especially in the educated classes and I wonder whether the Government has taken any notice of it. A deputation of about twenty or thirty M.As. came to see me at my place and said they had no employment whatsoever. The present system of education is so bad that all those who get even slightly educated refuse to produce any economic values—social values of course they have divorced as soon as they get admission into the Universities—so they are producing neither social values nor economic values. Sir, I submit the educated classes are absolutely unemployed. Those that are employed do not create any values; they only consume the values created by others. It is only the power of muscles that creates any economic values. In the villages there are muscles lying idle. I want to invite the attention of my hon. friend Mr. Deshmukh to this question. Last time I shouted here on the same subject. I have got a bad reputation that I talk aloud, but in the villages we are used to talk loudly—it is the urban etiquette to talk slowly. Any way, in my own natural way I want just to tell my hon. friend that there is great unemployment in the villages. They have nothing else to do except agriculture, but then everybody cannot find land for agriculture. All their industries have been taken away from the villages and brought into the towns. From the grinding mill down to the cobbler's work, it has come down to the towns and the villages are left in absolute unemployment.

You want more production. If you want more production do please take care to introduce cottage industries in the villages so that they can produce without investing much capital. That is an item that has always to be regarded in the State as well as in the Centre. I submit that the only cure is that we should produce more and we can produce more only when we approach the muscles which can produce. It is no use your approaching the muscles which really do not produce. Just as Mr. Munshi is now going about in foreign lands to procure grains, our Prime Minister goes out of the House to procure brains. He brings brains always from outside. By brains I mean brains which I lack. Such is the position. I submit that today muscles are lying idle. Instead of taking the muscles to the machines, you take the machines to the muscles and let production take place where the muscles are, so that our Labour Minister may be free of the trouble of providing housing and other amenities. They have their own little cottages, where they will live and work and give you production.

Sir, the paradox today is that inflation is on the decrease. The statistics show that in the beginning of the war, it was at a certain figure. At the end of the war, it went up to Rs. 1,307 crores and it is said that it has now come down to Rs. 1,182 crores. The bank credit also has come down from Rs. 998 to Rs. 862 crores. Thus, inflation is coming down. But, simultaneously prices are rising. The most serious thing which the country is facing today is this great rise in prices. Every time announcements are made from this House and on the radio that the rise in prices would be checked, they prove a mirage. People know it for a fact that prices go on rising. The index has risen from 348 to 393. It is still rising and there are the war clouds. So it will go on rising. Therefore, I submit that the greatest need of the day is to plan this way. It is no use your planning big industries.

I take this opportunity of welcoming the new friends who have come into this House as Ministers. I hope they will do better than their predecessors and help us to tide over the present crisis. But there are some Ministers who have, I believe, less work than they have been talking about in the past. Every time we want a man, we have to look to the outside world to find an expert. It seems that the House is bereft of experts. I would suggest that junior Ministers, or even senior Ministers, who have less work may devote some time as under-study to Mr. Deshmukh, so that they may learn something of the Finance Ministry, and if there is any further change, these Ministers who have less work today in their own Ministries may know something more about finance and about other Ministries too. That is the only way in which we can have more experienced people on the Government benches.

I have been in the Estimates Committee for some time on behalf of this House, and after peeping into the details, I see that most of the difficulty lies in less control over the administrative machinery. I can make bold to say that the budgetary expenditure can be reduced to the extent of Rs. 100 crores. I submit that the Council of Ministers and Advisers to the President have not been able to reduce a single pie from the Defence expenditure up till now. They say that war clouds are hanging and Defence is necessary. That is all right. But I submit that if money is being wasted in the Defence Department, the Defence Forces are also being wasted. Our Defence Forces must be taught to spend money with thrift and economise expenditure. I think that the Defence expenditure can be reduced to the extent of Rs. 50 crores at least without reducing the strength of the Army. There is so much waste at present.

There is so much waste in other Departments too. But this is not the occasion to discuss the Ministries. So I do not want to go into details. But

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I beg to submit before this House that if a scrutiny is made and if more detailed supervision is enforced, there can be a lot of saving in the expenditure which Government are incurring. The immediate need is to reduce the expenditure of Government. It is no use asking people to work more or saying that there is corruption among them and they do not work. Well, it is the responsibility of Government, if there is corruption, to remove it. You have all propaganda machinery. You have the Information Ministry, you have the Education Ministry. Why don't you educate people in a manner so that we can ward off this wave of corruption. Why blame the people? Every Government servant, right from the smallest man to the highest officer, is pompish. There is too much of pomp. Government servants are spend-thrifts. I would suggest that from the President down to the smallest officer, they must reduce expenditure. You must first reduce your personal expenditure. Reduce it to a very great extent, reduce it to the extent that you used to have at your own home, so that our simplicity and spending less will radiate and travel down to the people. Today the clerk is in the greatest trouble. He gets Rs. 100. It is very difficult for him to give milk to his children. I have seen many families. They are not living up to the standard which they used to have before. So austerity should be preached and radiated from the Centre and through the Council of Ministers of the President. They must reduce their expenditure first. They can reduce their expenditure on motor cars; on travelling expenses; on postage stamps; on trunk telephone calls. We should content ourselves with writing a letter; we should avoid putting in 'immediate' telephone calls. All this expenditure should be drastically cut. It is only then that we can stand up boldly and ask the country to reduce its expenditure. We must start a campaign asking people to live a life of self-abnegation by cutting down

their expenditure. I suggest that a campaign that no cloth should be purchased for three or four years should be started. For the sake of patriotism, I would not mind wearing torn clothes. We must be able to say that we would not purchase any new cloth but will reserve it for export. In Russia, I have read in the papers that even the biggest men went without shoes because there was no leather available in Russia and they did not want to import it from outside. If we start a campaign of austerity like this and thereby help the smaller men living in the towns and villages, it will be something.

I think many other friends have a lot more valuable to say. So I would only content myself by saying that the economic conditions are very telling and they are causing great disaffection. It is on that account that there is—if not widespread disorder—at least a marked down going of the law and order position. Morals are going down. Our wealth is going down and all this degradation is due primarily to our financial difficulties. I therefore submit that this should be rectified without delay.

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): I rise to deal with some of the points raised by my hon. friend Sardar Hukam Singh, and if I do so, I do not do it in the spirit of debate but as a human being who feels as much for the refugees as anybody present in this House or elsewhere.

I come at once to the points raised by my friend Sardar Hukam Singh. He raised the question of Evacuee Property. Government is fully aware that the question of Evacuee Property is an important one and unless that question is settled satisfactorily, the refugees cannot live in comfort and in peace. We have all along been trying to settle the question; but, unfortunately, in a number of conferences which were held in the early stages, there was not the same kind of response from the other side—I mean Pakistan. This House will realise that there are limitations to the ques-

tion of the settlement of Evacuee Property, because the final settlement of this question depends largely upon the settlement between ourselves and Pakistan. The House will also be aware that recently conferences between ourselves and Pakistan have been held with regard to Evacuee Property. An agreement was reached on the 28th of last month about movable property which the Hindus have left in Pakistan and the Muslims who have migrated to Pakistan have left in India. That agreement has been published in the papers and it has now reached a mature stage. Instructions between ourselves and Pakistan have been agreed upon and they will be issued for implementation in a day or two. I hope that within a few months—I am not in the habit of fixing time targets—this question of movable properties will be satisfactorily settled and the properties which refugees have left in Pakistan will be salvaged.

That leaves us Sir, with the two other kinds of property, namely rural property and the urban immovable property. As far as the rural property is concerned, we have had the records for the West Punjab and on the basis of those records, standard acres have been worked out both for Pakistan land which our people have left there and standard acres for East Punjab. As a result of that working it was found that about three-fourths of the land which our people have left in Pakistan is available here. A certain graduated cut was applied, ranging from 20 per cent. to 95 per cent. in the case of the biggest landlords and on the basis of that cut quasi-permanent settlements for three years have been made. Consequently on this settlement, I can say, because I have seen things with my own eyes on the spot, there has been a considerable easing of the situation. I have been to the villages of the Punjab and I was glad to find that the Punjabees, who are a hardy people and who can stand difficult times as few other people can, are now busy tilling their lands. I am sure, Sir, that the Punjabees, so far as the

rural areas are concerned, will be soon on their feet. The one thing that I noticed in the rural areas was the vast devastation done to the houses in the villages. I was particularly struck by that and I am trying to find out some way to help the Punjab Government in reconstructing the houses which have been destroyed in the rural areas.

Shri Sidhva: What about the cultivators' land in Sind?

Shri A. P. Jain: So far as Sind and areas outside the West Punjab are concerned, we have not so far received any records from West Pakistan except a part of the records about Bahawalpur. As soon as those records are received, we shall be in a position to assess the area and the quality of land that has been left behind. That question is before us.

Now the question of urban property is certainly a difficult one. During the course of the last conference we discussed that question with the representatives of Pakistan.

Dr. Deshmukh (Madhya Pradesh): May I know, Sir, if Pakistan has been supplying all the information that we have been asking for?

Shri A. P. Jain: I will answer that question presently when I have finished with this question of Evacuee Property.

As I said the question of Evacuee Property was discussed with the Pakistan representatives. My hon. friend Shri Gopalaswami Ayyangar had a further talk with the Pakistan mission and also with Nawab Liaquat Ali Khan. It is difficult for me to state anything in detail about the discussions that have taken place between us, but I can assure the House that we are making every possible effort to come to some settlement about the urban property and we are fully conscious that unless the question of urban property is settled the situation, so far as the towns and cities are concerned, cannot be eased.

The House will also remember that an Act for determining the claims of

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people who have come from Pakistan was passed by this Parliament. That Act has now been put into force and a joint Claims Commissioner has been appointed. Since the 1st of July Claim-Forms have been made available at all head post offices and in some other post offices as well. I regret, Sir, that the response to these claims has not been as good as we would like it to be. (An Hon. Member: What is the reason?) It is apparent that unless we know how much property each of the migrants (each of the refugees) has left behind, no final settlement of the evacuee property can be done in India. Our effort is to determine the claims at the earliest possible date so that the final solution of the Evacuee Property may become possible. I request, Sir, those Members of this House who are interested in the refugee problem to assist us to propagate among the refugees and to tell them that it is a matter of utmost importance that the refugees must fill their claims correctly and truly and file them before the officers whom we have appointed, so that after scrutiny we may be in a position to know as to how the property was owned between the refugees and on what basis we could distribute either the Evacuee Property left by the Muslims here or any other property that we may choose to put into the pool.

A reference has been made to a certain understanding given by my hon. friend Shri Gopaldaswami Ayyangar at the Refugees' Conference in July 1949. He stated that the compensation will be in the form of cash, or in the form of property, or in the form of bonds. Government stands by the pledge which he gave and Government proposes to implement it.

A question was put to me as to whether the Pakistan Government has been supplying all the information we have called upon. The Pakistan Government has supplied us some of the information, but not all the information. But during the last

conference they promised to send us the remaining information.

Shri Sidhva: May I in this connection, with your permission, draw the attention of the hon. Minister to an unstarred question which I had put this morning. I wanted to know the position as regards the 1028 claims for pension and Provident Fund of former servants of Governments and Local Bodies in Pakistan which were forwarded to the Government of Pakistan. The reply is that the Government of Pakistan have not intimated their acceptance in a single case up to now. May I know whether the Minister realises that these people depend upon these amounts for their very existence and what action are they going to take in this direction?

Shri A. P. Jain: My hon. friend Mr. Sidhva has read only a part of the reply. The remaining part of the reply says that a regular machinery has been set up for determining these claims.

Shri Sidhva: But with what result?

Shri A. P. Jain: Now, Sir, I come to the next question of housing in Delhi. My friend Sardar Hukam Singh is right when he says that quite a number of refugees in Delhi are lying almost without shelter. But I want him and the House to realise fully the situation in Delhi. A census of the refugees in Delhi was held in the month of December 1948, with regard to the refugees who were living in camps and in the month of July 1949 in regard to the refugees who were squatting in Government buildings. As a result my Ministry undertook the responsibility of rehabilitating three lakhs of persons in Delhi. It was found that the absorbing capacity of Delhi could not exceed 3 lakhs of people. Out of these 3 lakhs of people about one lakh and 90 thousand are living in the evacuee houses left by the Muslims. During the course of the last year we have been able to provide accommodation for another sixty-six thousand persons or

so. After these sixty-six thousand persons about forty-four thousand persons remain, to whom we are under an obligation to provide accommodation; and I hope that before the end of the financial year all these remaining forty-four thousand persons will be placed under roof built by us.

But about Delhi there has been a great difficulty. The more construction work we have been doing in Delhi the more persons have been pouring into Delhi. Those of my friends who are genuinely interested in the problem of refugees, to them I request and request very humbly, that they must co-operate with us in trying to put some sort of limit on the number of the people who can be absorbed in Delhi. My hon. friend Sardar Hukam Singh, and men like him, have influence with the refugees, and I request them that they should tell the refugees that Delhi cannot take any more refugees. If refugees continue to flow into Delhi at the rate they have been doing of late it would be impossible for any building programme to cope up with that inflow.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Rehabilitate them somewhere else.

Shri A. P. Jain: That is a point on which I join issue because we have been asking refugees to go out of Delhi and settle in other places. But a man who comes to Delhi is not prepared to go elsewhere. That has been my experience. Everyday I receive refugees without let or hindrance—any widow, any person suffering from an ailment or disease who wants to come and see me, has just to walk into my room and I listen to that person. I tell them that Delhi has not got the place to absorb everyone and I ask them to agree to go to another place, but I have not come across a single case where they have agreed to do so. In fact we have building programmes in other States. The High Power Committee has recommended a sum of Rs. 7 crores for building houses during the year 1950-51. Out of these seven crores two

crores are going to be spent in Delhi. My Ministry has been able to augment this two crores by another fifty lakhs by selling the houses, and we are going to spend during this financial year a sum of two crores and fifty lakhs in Delhi and five crores outside. Out of the five crores we are building houses outside Delhi. But the biggest problem about Delhi is that the man who comes to Delhi comes without being invited and he refuses to move out of Delhi. Unless that problem is solved I say it will be difficult not only for this Government but for any Government to solve the problem of housing in Delhi.

Shri B. Das: May I ask in what way the Punjab Government is co-operating with you?

Shri A. P. Jain: Well, the Punjab Government is co-operating with us fully and cent per cent.

Shri B. Das: Last year they were not doing it.

Shri A. P. Jain: I take this opportunity of paying a high tribute to the Punjab Government for the manner in which they have done the rural rehabilitation.

Shri B. Das: I am glad they have improved since you took up ministership!

लाला अब्दुल्ल रामआप न दो तीन दफा बताया है कि आदमी दिल्ली में आते चले जाते हैं। पर क्या आप ने जो तीन लाख आदमी आये हैं उन के अलावा किसी और आदमी को मकान या रिहबिलिटेशन बेंनीफिट्स (Rehabilitation benefits) दिये हैं? मेरा तो ख्याल है कि आप पहले तीन लाख को ही रिलीफ (relief) नहीं दे सके हैं।

दूसरे आप ने फरमाया कि हम आप के साथ कोओपरेट (co-operate) नहीं कर रहे हैं। क्या मैं आप से दरखास्त कर सकता हूँ कि आप भी हमारे साथ कोओपरेट करें।

[**शाला अचिन्त राम**]

आप ने यह भी कहा है कि क्लेम्स (claims) के लिए जो अपील की गई थी उसका संतोषजनक उत्तर नहीं आया। पर इस का कारण क्या है? इस का कारण यह है कि लोगों को आप के वादों में विश्वास नहीं है। ज़रूरत इस बात की है कि आप लोगों को विश्वास दिलायें कि आप अपने वादों को पूरा करेंगे।

(English translation of the above speech)

Lala Achint Ram (Punjab): More than once you have referred to the continued influx of people in Delhi. I would like to know whether apart from these three lacs of immigrants, housing facilities or other rehabilitation benefits have been extended to any person other than these. In my opinion, you have not been able to afford relief even to these three lacs.

You have again complained of lack of co-operation on our part. May I request you also to co-operate with us?

Further you have stated that no satisfactory response is forthcoming to the appeal made by you regarding the claims. What then is the reason thereof? The reason is that people have no faith in the promises made by you. It is essential that you re-assure them that you would fulfil your promises.

Shri A. P. Jain: Sir, is it me who is in possession of the floor or my hon. friend?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister will go on without any interruptions.

Shri D. D. Pant (Uttar Pradesh): On a point of order, today has been fixed for discussion of the President's speech and not for replies from Ministers. If the whole time is wasted between Ministers and others I believe we will hardly have any time to discuss the President's speech. And I believe that Mr. Jain, with all respect to him, should not have taken so much time of the House.

Shri Kamath (Madhya Pradesh): May I submit that it was not proper on the part of my hon. friend to have said "wasted" time; it is for you to judge whether an hon. Member is wasting time or not.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am afraid between these objections and explanations much time of the House is wasted. There is no point of order.

Shri Kamath: I only brought it to your notice.

Shri A. P. Jain: My friend Sardar Hukam Singh has referred to the question of capital levy. He has himself admitted that a non-official Resolution was moved on the 9th of February recommending the imposition of some kind of tax to give compensation to refugees, but that Resolution was rejected. Therefore, so far as this House is concerned I do not think that that remains as a live question. But that does not by any means mean that Government is not going to compensate, or create a pool for the compensation of, the refugees. Nonetheless the manner in which he has suggested it has already been rejected by the House and I am afraid it cannot be taken up once again.

Sardar Hukam Singh has again referred to the question of abducted women. He has said that most of the abducted women who are now recovered are those that had been abducted from Kashmir. That is partially true, and in fact some other women have also been recovered. Every effort is being made to recover the abducted women on either side and I quite agree with Sardar Hukam Singh that we must lay the largest amount of emphasis on the recovery of abducted women on either side.

Summing up his speech, Sardar Hukam Singh laid stress upon the housing programme about which I have already said something. It is true that some of the houses which have been left by the Muslims who have recently migrated to Pakistan are lying vacant, but under the Indo-Pakistan Pact we are under an obliga-

tion to restore those houses to the Muslims who come back to India before the 31st of December.

About the stalls we have been trying to find out alternative space and we have built quite a large number of shops, and if any hon. Member wants I will arrange for his visit to those places where we have done construction work.

About the education of children, during this year the High Power Committee has recommended that a sum of Rs. 3 crores—Rs. 1½ crores for vocational and technical training and Rs. 1½ crores for grants for education—should be allotted. That money has been allotted and instructions have been issued for giving free-ships and money for books and stipends.

Shri Dwivedi (Vindhya Pradesh): But that was spent in the capital only and not in other places.

Shri A. P. Jain: No, Sir, these are some of the questions. I can assure you that we are trying to solve the problem in the best manner possible. But difficulties there are and we cannot claim that we have done everything that was called for. Nonetheless, within the limited means at our disposal we have tried to do our

best. Government is prepared, and in fact desires, to give the fullest co-operation to any body of persons who want to do work for the refugees, and we invite co-operation from every section of people who are really interested in that problem.

Shri Goenka (Madras): On a point of information, may I know whether the debate is closed and whether you have called upon the Government Members to reply?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: In view of the fact that a large number of Members are interested and are anxious to take part in the debate, the debate on this motion will not conclude today. It will go on tomorrow.

Shri Goenka: My question was whether you have closed the debate and called upon Members on the Official Benches to reply to the debate.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The debate will go on tomorrow, and Mr. Jain's reply today does not mean that other hon. Members cannot take part in it tomorrow—part of tomorrow, that is till 3 o'clock as scheduled at present.

The House then adjourned till a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, the 2nd August, 1950.