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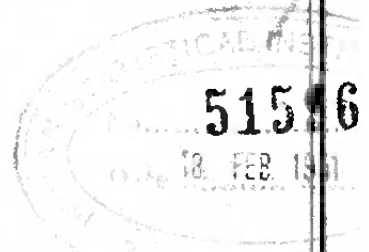
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

RAJYA SABHA

OFFICIAL REPORT

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[P.T.O.]

RAJYA SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

62 NAYE PAISE (INLAND)

ONE SHILLING (FOREIGN)

110 RSD

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RAJYA SABHA

Thursday, the 17th December, 1959/
the 26th Agrahayana, 1981 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the
clock, Mr. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*534. [Transferred to the 21st
December, 1959.]

SUPPLY OF IRON ORE TO JAPAN

535. SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: Will
the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUS-
TRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Japan
will lift about 22 lakh tons of iron
ore from India during the current
third year of the long-term bilateral
agreement at a basic price of 80 shil-
lings a ton; and

(b) if so, what are the terms of
the agreement and the period for
which the agreement will remain
valid?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY
(SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) Yes,
Sir; 17.5 lakh tons at Sh. 60; 3 lakh
tons at Sh. 85 and 1.5 lakh tons at
Sh. 60 per ton.

(b) The agreement will remain
valid during the year July, 1959 to
June, 1960.

SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: Why do
we export this ore? Is it not neces-
sary for our steel plants like the
Rourkela and Bhilai steel plants?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Because,
Sir, we are so much in surplus in iron
ores that even after ensuring supplies
for all our steel plants today and in
the long future also we will be left
with a big surplus of ore.

SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: For how
many years do you think that this ore
will be available in India? Will it be

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available for hundred years or even
for more than that period?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Sir, it is
a very much unlimited period.

SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: We are
setting up four or five steel plants.
Do you think that in spite of that, we
will be able to export this ore?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Let all
our plants be doubled and even
trebled. Even then we will have a
big surplus.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I
know, Sir, whether it is a fact that
the prices contracted with the Japa-
nese firms are less favourable to
India?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: No, Sir.
The prices, as I have already indicat-
ed, do not seem to be unfavourable,
because it is a long-term contract—
80 shillings, 85 shillings and 60 shil-
lings.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: May I know,
Sir, from what part of India this ore
will go to Japan?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Practi-
cally, Sir, it will go from most of
the Orissa Coast.

देवपुरी तथा साबुन गोदाम, मेरठ में मकान
बनाने के लिये दिये गये ऋण

*५३६. श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान : क्या
पुनर्वास तथा अल्पसंख्यक-कार्य मंत्री यह
बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मेरठ में देवपुरी तथा साबुन
गोदाम की बिस्थापित व्यक्तियों की बस्तियों
में मकान बनाने के लिये १९५२ से १९५५
तक ऋण के रूप में दिये गये चार लाख रुपये
में से जिन व्यक्तियों को ऋण दिये गये थे,
क्या सरकार ने उनकी संपत्ति जमानत के
तौर पर रهن रख दिये जाने की शर्त रखी
थी :

(ख) यदि उपरोक्त भाग (क) का उत्तर 'हां' हो तो क्या इन व्यक्तियों को ये ऋण उक्त शर्त पूरी करने पर दिये गये थे ;

(ग) इन बस्तियों के इन व्यक्तियों को ऋण की अन्तिम किस्त कब दी गई और उनकी संपत्ति को रेहन रखने से संबंधित कार्यवाही कब पूरी हुई ; और

(घ) इन दोनों बस्तियों में कितने ऐसे मकान रेहन रखे गये जो मुआवज के शर्तों में समायोजन कराकर उनमें रहने वाले व्यक्तियों द्वारा पहले ही खरीदे जा चुके थे ?

†[LOANS GIVEN FOR CONSTRUCTION OF HOUSES IN DEVPURI AND SABUN GODAUM, MEERUT

*536. SHRI NAWAB SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of REHABILITATION AND MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had imposed the condition of mortgaging, as security, the property of persons who were given loans out of rupees four lakhs advanced as loan during the years from 1952 to 1955 for the construction of houses in displaced persons' colonies of Devpuri and Sabun Godaum, Meerut;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether the loans were given to these persons on fulfilling the said condition;

(c) when the last instalment of the loan was given to these persons in these colonies and when the proceedings regarding the mortgaging of their properties were completed; and

(d) the number of houses mortgaged in both these colonies which were already adjusted against the compensation claims of the occupants?]

पुनर्वास तथा अल्पसंख्यक-कार्य मंत्री (श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना) : (क) से (घ) जानकारी एकत्रित की जा रही है और उपलब्ध होने पर सभा की मेज पर रख दी जायेगी ।

†[THE MINISTER OF REHABILITATION AND MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA): (a) to (d). The information is being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha].

श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान : क्या सरकार के पास पहले कभी ऐसी शिकायतें आई हैं कि इ। लोन के बारे में जबकि सिब्योरिटी पहले लेने का कायदा था, अधिकारियों ने रुपया बगैर जमानत लिये हुये दे दिया और बाद में एक-दो वर्ष बाद जमानत ली ?

श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना : मेरे पास इसके मुताल्लिक तो शिकायत पहले नहीं आई, लेकिन कुछ मकानों की कीमतों के मुताल्लिक जो झगड़े होते थे उनकी शिकायतें आती रहीं ।

श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान : क्या सरकार इस संबंध में जांच कर रही है कि भ्रष्टाचार शर्तनामे के मुताल्लिक ठीक ढंग से यह फर्ज दिया गया और पहले शर्त पूरी कराई गई या बाद में ?

श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना : जहाँ तक इस लोन का मुताल्लिक है, यह लोन स्टेट गवर्नमेंट ने एक किसी प्राइवेट इन्डियन को दिया है कि वह शरणार्थियों के लिये कुछ मकान बनाये । मेरे पास पूरे फिगर्स तो नहीं हैं, लेकिन चार लाख रुपया पान्च-सात वर्ष हुये दिया गया था और उसमें से कोई-तीन, साढ़े तीन लाख रुपया के करीब बचल ही चुके हैं । मैं इस बकल डिटेल्स नहीं दे सकता । जब स्टेट गवर्नमेंट से पूरे डिटेल्स आ जायेंगे तब दे दूंगा ।

†[] English translation.

श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान : क्या यह सच है कि यह रुपया केन्द्रीय सरकार से जाता है और स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स के जरिये डिस्ट्रिब्यूट होता है ?

श्री मेहर चन्द्र खन्ना : जितना रुपया रिलीफ और रिहैबिलिटेशन पर खर्च होता है, सब केन्द्रीय सरकार से जाता है।

CONFERENCE OF CHIEF INSPECTORS OF FACTORIES

*537. SHRI HARIHAR PATEL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a conference of the Chief Inspectors of Factories of all States was held at Ranchi recently;

(b) if so, whether the conference has made any recommendations to Government; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, what action Government have taken on the recommendation or recommendations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI ABID ALI): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. The Conference has made certain suggestions for amendment of the Factories Act, and rules framed thereunder, to obviate certain difficulties experienced in the administration of the Act.

(c) The decisions are under consideration in consultation with the State Governments.

SHRI HARIHAR PATEL: May I know, Sir, if the Conference has recommended the appointment of security officers and also legislation with regard to organisation of occupational health services?

SHRI ABID ALI: Yes, Sir; these subjects also were discussed at the Conference.

SHRI HARIHAR PATEL: May I know what steps Government propose to take in this connection?

SHRI ABID ALI: As I have submitted earlier, Sir, we are consulting

the State Governments which are administering this particular Act, and after we receive their opinions, further action will be taken.

SHRI RATANLAL KISHORILAL MALVIYA: May I know, Sir, what the major recommendations of this Conference are?

SHRI ABID ALI: The Conference has proposed that the Factories Act should be amended regarding extra wages for overtime. It has also recommended the stipulation of the remuneration limit at Rs. 400 per month for the purpose of overtime wages as in the Payment of Wages Act. Then it has also recommended exemption from the provisions of certain sections in respect of the workers in the factories, and so on and so forth.

SHRI HARIHAR PATEL: May I know, Sir, if the Conference also discussed anything about protection against radiation hazards and made a certain report to that effect?

SHRI ABID ALI: Yes, Sir; it is true that it discussed this subject also.

STATEMENT MADE BY SHRI KARAM SINGH ABOUT ILL TREATMENT METED OUT TO HIM BY THE CHINESE

*538. SHRI V. K. DHAGE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Shri Karam Singh, Deputy Superintendent of Police, who was captured by the Chinese on October 21 last, has made a statement regarding the treatment meted out to him and to his colleagues by the Chinese?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): Yes, Sir; Shri Karam Singh has given in his preliminary statements an account of the treatment given by the Chinese to him and the other policemen captured by them.

Sir, I may add here that Shri Karam Singh's statement and other

श्री तत्राज सिंह चौहान : क्या यह संभव है कि यह अध्यापक संस्थान में जाया है और स्टेट गवर्नमेंट के अधिकार विस्तृत हो गए हैं ?

श्री मेहर चन्द्र खन्ना : जितना संभव रिजर्व फॉर रिजर्विडिजेशन पर खर्च होगा है, सब केंद्रीय संस्थान में जाता है।

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SHRI HARIHAR PATEL: May I know, Sir, if the Conference also discussed anything about protection against radiation hazards and made a certain report to that effect?

SHRI ABID ALI: Yes, Sir; it is true that it discussed this subject also.

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THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): Yes, Sir; Shri Karam Singh has given in his preliminary statements an account of the treatment given by the Chinese to him and the other policemen captured by them.

Sir, I may add here that Shri Karam Singh's statement and other

relevant papers were placed on the table of the House on the 15th December.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: May I know, Sir, whether any information has been received with regard to the missing colleagues of Mr. Karam Singh?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Sir, whatever information we had, that information has already been laid on the Table of the House.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: After the receipt of that information, Sir, has the Ministry got any further information with regard to his missing colleagues?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: No, Sir.

SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: May I know, Sir, whether the Government has received any information from the Chinese Government—because it has been stated that they have received the information that they had been treated well—may I know whether the Government has received any statement from these people which was recorded by the Chinese Government and whether it is in possession of that record or not?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: No, Sir, except the statement by the Chinese authorities in reply to our letter saying that they rejected our protest and the prisoners were treated well.

SHRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR: It seems, Sir, that the Government lodged their protest with the Chinese Government over the treatment that was meted out to Mr. Karam Singh—the forced statement that was received. Have they received any definite reply with regard to that protest?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I have already stated, Sir, that earlier, on the 24th of November, we protested to the Chinese Embassy on the statement of Shri Karam Singh, and to that we received a reply on the 28th of November, rejecting our protest and maintaining that the prisoners

were treated well. Then, after getting the full statement from Shri Karam Singh we again lodged our protest with the Chinese Embassy on the 13th of December on the basis of the facts provided by Shri Karam Singh.

SHRI V. SHIVA RAO: May I ask, Sir, whether any arrangements have been made by the Ministry of External Affairs to send copies of the statement made by Shri Karam Singh and the other documents that have been placed on the Table of the House to all our Embassies abroad; so that the world at large may know our version of these facts?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I do not know whether the statement was sent to all the Embassies or not, but it was sent to Peking.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I note from the answer of the Deputy Minister that the statement of Shri Karam Singh has been sent to the Chinese authorities. It can be taken for granted that this will be rejected. What further action...

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I could not follow the question, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He says that you sent a protest on the 13th of December. He assumes that those claims which you have made, will be rejected. What then are you going to do?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Sir, hon. Members should have a little patience.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right, they will exercise patience.

चीलवा पहाड़, पीडो पट्टान की बोटी पर
एक अत्यन्त चमकदार प्रकाश का दिखाई
पड़ना

*५३६. श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान : क्या
प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान गत ५
दिसम्बर के 'टाइम्स आफ इंडिया' में प्रकाशित

इस आशय के समाचार की ओर दिखाया गया है कि नवम्बर मास के अन्त में पौड़ी गढ़वाल में चौखम्बा पहाड़ की चोटी पर एक अत्यन्त चमकदार प्रकाश दिखाई पड़ा था ; और

(ख) क्या सरकार ने इसके कारण की जांच कराई है और यदि कराई है, तो उसका क्या परिणाम निकला ?

†[FLASH LIGHT SEEN OVER CHAUKHAMBA MOUNTAIN, PAURI GARHWAL

*539. SHRI NAWAB SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in the *Times of India* of the 4th December last, to the effect that a brilliant flash light was seen on the top of the Chaukhamba mountain in Pauri Garhwal in the end of November; and

(b) whether Government have investigated the cause thereof and if so, with what results?]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir; enquiries were made and Government have no information whether such a light actually appeared on the mountain peak.

‡[बैदेशिक कार्य उपमंत्री (श्रीमती लक्ष्मी मेनन) : (क) और (ख) जी हां। पृष्ठताछ की गई थी और सरकार को इसकी कोई सूचना नहीं है कि पहाड़ की चोटी पर ऐसी कोई रोशनी सचमुच दिखाई पड़ी या नहीं।]

श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान : इस न्यूज़ आइटम में यह भी कहा गया है :

"Some say it might be the American or Russian satellite burning down, while others think that it might be due to the exploding of Chinese mines."

†[] English translation

†[] Hindi translation.

तो क्या इस दृष्टिकोण से भी जांच कराई गई है ?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Yes, Sir, on the basis of this report we made these enquiries, and there is no evidence whatever that such a light...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nobody saw the light?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: No, Sir.

श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान : किसके जरिये से इन्क्वायरी कराई गई है, क्या कोई एक्सपर्ट उसमें थे, और इन्क्वायरी का नतीजा क्या हुआ ?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Sir, the result is that they did not see the light.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It was an invisible light.

SHRI NAWAB SINGH CHAUHAN: May I know, Sir, whether any experts had been included in the Committee?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: It was not a Committee, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

*540. [The questioners (Shri Babubhai Chinai and Shri Lavji Lakhamshi) were absent. For answer, vide col. 2891 infra]

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION IN DELHI

*541. SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI: Will the Minister of Works, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a Building Construction Corporation in Delhi; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the scheme and what are the basic objectives of the proposed Corporation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA): (a) and (b). The matter is under the consideration of Government.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: It has been stated that the matter is under the consideration of the Government. May I know when the Government propose to take a final decision in regard to this matter?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Such questions are always followed by: How long has it been under consideration, when is the consideration to be completed and when is some decision going to be taken? These are all inevitable questions when you say that it is under consideration.

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: How can we elaborate the answer, Sir, when a firm date is not possible?

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: Sir, can't he give us some idea as to when this question was first mooted?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: Yes, Sir. Some time last year, the hon. Prime Minister mooted the idea that the question of a Building Construction Corporation being set up, might be looked into. We discussed it with the various Ministries concerned of the Government of India, and also we had discussions with the Planning Commission and the Finance Ministry. They have now given the green light and the matter is in its final stages for Government sanction.

SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI: May I know, Sir, whether the Government intends to institute this corporation?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: Yes, Sir.

SHRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR: What is "national" about it?

(No reply.)

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: May I know the probable date of coming to some conclusion?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: I have already stated, Sir, that it is not possible to give any definite date.

MEMORIAL TO MAHATMA GANDHI AT RAJGHAT, DELHI

*542. SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the delay in the construction of the memorial to Mahatma Gandhi at Rajghat, Delhi; and

(b) the cost of at which the memorial will be built and when the construction work is likely to start and by when it is likely to be completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY: (SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA): (a) and (b). Before commencement of the actual work of construction, an estimate, based on the detailed plans and drawings of the architect, had to be sanctioned. The preparation of these plans, drawings and the estimate took some time. The estimate amounting to Rs. 34.09 lakhs plus departmental charges at the rate of 8½ per cent. for the 1st phase of the work has since been sanctioned. Tenders for pile foundations have been received and are under consideration. The work will be physically started as soon as the contract is awarded. From the date of commencement, the work will take about 4 years to complete.

SHRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR: What was the estimate?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: It is Rs. 34 lakhs now.

SHRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR: Can a model of it be exhibited in the Central Hall here?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: It has been exhibited several times and many hon. Members have seen it.

SHRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR: Where is it now?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: It is now in the Gandhi Sangrahalaya near the Rajghat memorial.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know, Sir, whether this work will be undertaken by the C.P.W.D. or will it be entrusted to a contractor?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: I have already said in the answer that tenders have been called for by the C.P.W.D. and the work will be done by contract.

SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI: How many tenders were received?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: I have no information here as to how many tenders were received.

CHINESE VERSION OF 'DISCOVERY OF INDIA' DEPICTING MAP OF INDIA'S FRONTIERS

*543. DR. A. N. BOSE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a Press Trust of India news dated November 13, 1959 from Bombay (published in daily 'Jugantar' Calcutta, November 15, 1959) that the Prime Minister of China showed to Dr. A. V. Baliga, President of the Indo-Soviet Cultural Society, a copy of the book "Discovery of India" containing a map depicting India-China boundary as shown in Chinese maps;

(b) if so, whether the Prime Minister has got a copy of the Chinese edition of this book and has verified the statement of the Chinese Prime Minister; and

(c) whether the publication in China of this book and the map was authorised?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). We have not seen the Chinese edition of this book. The book has appeared in a number of different languages, and very roughly drawn maps are given in it. A map appears in the English edition of the book giving the broad features of India. In this the border between NEFA and Tibet is slightly erroneous; the border in respect of Ladakh-Tibet corresponds to the official maps of India. These maps were not real maps but artist-drawn on a small scale and no conclusions can be drawn from them.

DR. A. N. BOSE: The real point is not answered. The point is whether these maps show Indian territories as part of China or not.

MR. CHAIRMAN: She has answered it partly. She said about the NEFA side it is slightly erroneous. That means some part of our territory has been shown as not belonging to us. That is the implication.

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Yes, Sir.

DR. A. N. BOSE: If that is so, did the Prime Minister try to get a copy of that book and then take up the matter with the authorities or the publishers in Peking who produced this wrong map?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: It is not a proper map at all. It is an artist-drawn map. Anyhow, we are trying to find out whether we can get a copy of the book.

DR. A. N. BOSE: Whatever it be, the publishers are responsible for the erroneous map, whether drawn by an artist or not. Therefore, I ask whether the publication of this map was authorised and whether permission was obtained from the author of the book?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I have already stated that this map appears in the English edition of the book and in many other editions the same map has appeared.

DR. A. N. BOSE: When a book appears in another edition in another country, permission is obtained from the author or from the publisher for that production. My question is whether that permission was obtained or not from the author of the book?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: The hon. Member has slightly confused the issue. This has appeared in the English edition, not in the Chinese edition. Where the slight error was found, it was in the English edition of the book.

DR. A. N. BOSE: Was that erroneous edition published here in India?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I do not know, I want notice.

DR. A. N. BOSE: But permission should have been obtained whether it be in the English language or in the Chinese language. Whatever language it be, does not matter.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: May I now, Sir, whether this map was included in this book by the author himself or by the printers on their own?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: All these are details which I am unable to answer on the spot.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: May I know, Sir, whether any royalty is received for the publication of this book "Discovery of India" in China?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Many countries are not governed by the Copyright Act and they do not give royalties.

DR. A. N. BOSE: Sir, the hon. Deputy Minister said here that anyhow the question has been taken up. May I know in what manner the question has been taken up?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: About the map. The hon. Member wanted information about the map which appeared on the cover of this book "Discovery of India" and we are trying to obtain a copy of the Chinese edition to find out how far it is different from the other maps.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: The question is

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no question here. They are trying to get a Chinese edition of it and after getting it they will know the exact details. Now it is irrelevant to discuss this matter.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: No, Sir, it will not be

MR. CHAIRMAN: At this stage it is irrelevant.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: But the Deputy Minister said that it has appeared in the English edition

MR. CHAIRMAN: That will do, you may put the next question.

*544. [The questioner (Moulana M. Faruqi) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 2891-92 infra.]

U.S. EMBASSY'S PROTEST AGAINST THE DETENTION OF AN AMERICAN BY THE CHINESE CONSULATE AT BOMBAY

*545. { **SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE:**
SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH:
SHRI V. K. DHAGE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any note from the United States Embassy in India protesting against the action of the officials of the Chinese Consulate at Bombay who forcibly detained an employee of the American Consulate on the 27th November, 1959; and

{The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri B. D. Khobaragade.

(b) if so, what action Government have taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) and (b). Both the U.S. and the Chinese Embassy complained to the Ministry of External Affairs regarding this incident. Subsequently, on 30th November, the American concerned lodged a formal complaint with the Bombay Police alleging wrongful detention and manhandling in the building of the Chinese Consulate General. The Police have registered a case and are making investigations. Government are awaiting the result of the investigations.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: May I know when this investigation will be completed?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: We have really completed the investigation as far as the American side is concerned; but we have not been able to get the same co-operation from the Chinese Consulate General.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that high-ranking police officials on the date of this incident approached the Chinese authorities and demanded the release of Mr. Armstrong and whether this demand of the police officials was rejected by the Chinese authorities?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I could not follow the question, Sir. If the hon. Member would kindly repeat his question, I should be grateful.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: Sir, I asked whether high-ranking Indian police officials approached the Chinese authorities demanding the release of the American citizen—Mr. Armstrong—and whether this request or demand of the Indian police officials was rejected by the Chinese authorities?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: The police authorities did demand the release of the American, the person who was detained. They raised some objection at the beginning, but he was ultimately released.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: The hon. Deputy Minister has said that the Indian police officers' demand was rejected by the Chinese authorities at first. So there is a *prima facie* case against the Chinese authorities. Moreover, from the reports that appeared in the press we learn that there were marks of rope burns on the arms and neck of Mr. Armstrong, and so, since there is a *prima facie* case against the Chinese authorities, may I know whether the Government of India propose to take any action against those officials and to withdraw all those privileges which are enjoyed by diplomatic personnel and request the respective governments to recall those offenders?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is a suggestion for action.

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Yes, Sir, it is a suggestion for action.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: My question is whether this action will be taken or not?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: What action will be taken will depend on the investigation when it is completed.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: In the newspapers it was stated that the American Embassy or their Consulate General stated that Mr. Armstrong was manhandled and he informed the police. But the Chinese statement says that they informed the police. May I know which of these two statements is correct?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is under investigation.

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: How can the Chinese inform the police, Sir? The Taxi driver says that he informed the police; the neighbours say that they informed the police. Whoever it

is, who informed the police, the police was informed and the police came to the rescue of the person.

MR. CHAIRMAN: His point is simply this: In the report of the American Consulate it is said that the neighbours reported to the police while the Chinese say that they reported to the police. Which is correct?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Some people, including the taxi driver, who were present on the occasion, reported the matter to the police.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: In the report it was also stated that Mr. Armstrong was mis-handled.

DR. W. S. BARLINGAY: Man-handled.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: I am sorry, badly handled, and that he was forcibly taken away from the taxi. Is that correct?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Yes, Sir. Whatever answers I give are based on the investigations.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The investigations are not complete.

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: They are not complete, Sir, as far as I know.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: I think the Prime Minister must have been here to answer.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no use worrying about the point. The matter is still under investigation, and on the result of the investigation, definite action will be taken.

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Yes, Sir, and we have not heard the Chinese side of the story.

SHRI P. S. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: The investigation is proceeding on a private complaint made by the officials of the American Embassy but I would like to know whether Government is making an independent enquiry, apart from the police enquiry?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Yes, Sir, the Bombay Government is making an enquiry. The offences complained against are cognizable offences and the Bombay Government are competent to start investigations under the provisions of section 156 of the Criminal Procedure Code which they are doing.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: The hon. Deputy Minister said that the Chinese authorities are not co-operating in the investigation of the offence. I think the diplomatic personnel enjoy certain privileges and are not subject to the local laws. In that case, may I know from the hon. Deputy Minister as to what action Government propose to take in this matter so that the investigation can be fully and impartially completed?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: The Consul-General does not enjoy the privileges of a diplomatic envoy.

POSITION OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR SHOWN IN MICHAEL BRECHER'S BOOK "NEHRU—A POLITICAL BIOGRAPHY"

*546. SHRI S. PANIGRAHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the State of Jammu and Kashmir has been shown as disputed territory under International considerations in the book "Nehru—A Political Biography"—by Michael Brecher published by the Oxford University Press, London; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) There are three maps of Indian States at pages 338, 404 and 484 in Michael Brecher's book "Nehru—A Political Biography". The maps show the evolution of Indian States in 1947 at the time of partition, in 1950 when the Constitution of India was inaugurated and in 1959 following the reorganisation of the States.

In two maps on pages 404 and 484, the territory of Jammu and Kashmir is closely striped and the legend says: "Disputed territory under International consideration". In both cases Jammu and Kashmir is shown as part of India. Even in the map of Indian States in 1947 Jammu & Kashmir is clearly separated from West Pakistan by the same demarcation line which separates West Pakistan from India, the State boundary line between India and Kashmir in this map being exactly the same as boundary lines of other States in India.

(b) No action by Government is necessary.

SHRI S. PANIGRAHI: May I know whether the author himself has presented a copy of the book to the Prime Minister?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: How does this arise, Sir? Naturally he would present a copy.

SHRI S. PANIGRAHI: May I know whether a few copies were purchased by the different departments of the Central Government, and if so, what is the number of copies that were purchased?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I cannot answer this question, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is a question about maps, my dear friend, and you are talking of something else.

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: The book is available in the market and anybody can go and buy it.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: It is a very good book.

SHRI S. PANIGRAHI: Has the author agreed to withdraw the book from the market?

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: Why?

SHRI R. P. N. SINHA: Has the hon. Deputy Minister herself read the book?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Yes, Sir.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Not only in this book but even in the maps displayed at the U.N. Headquarters, Jammu and Kashmir has been shown as a disputed area. That being so, what action has Government taken in this regard?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: This question was raised in the House long ago and was answered also.

PAKISTAN'S LETTER TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL ABOUT LADAKH AREA

*547. { SHRI V. K. DHAGE†:
SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH:
SHRI NAWAB SINGH
CHAUHAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Hindustan Times of the 5th December, 1959 that Prince Aly Khan has informed the President of the Security Council that Pakistan would not accept any adjustment that might be made between India and China over the eastern part of the Province of Ladakh; and

(b) if so, whether any copy of this letter has been received by Government or its representatives on the United Nations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI N. MENON): (a) and (b). Copy of the letter is laid on the floor of the House by Shri V. K. Table of the House.

Letter dated 3 December 1959 from the Permanent Representative of Pakistan addressed to the President of the Security Council

Under instructions from my Government, I have the honour to draw the attention of the Security Council

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri V. K. Dhage.

to reports, widely published in the international Press, of recent events in the eastern part of the province of Ladakh of the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

2. For reasons which are evident and need no explanation, my Government is not in a position to ascertain the veracity of these reports or to determine the actual extent of the encroachment, if any, by a foreign Power into the area in question which is an integral part of the Jammu and Kashmir State. It follows that my Government is not able to endorse, or comment upon, the reason for action and for counter-action taken by either side in the controversy between India and China and in the confusion which has been attendant upon the events in Ladakh.

3. Nevertheless, consistently with its commitments to the United Nations and its stake and involvement in the problem of Jammu and Kashmir, my Government is anxious that the present situation, arising from the events in Ladakh, should not be allowed to obscure, far less to affect or detract from, the decisions of the Security Council, embodied in its resolutions of 21 April, 1948, 30 March 1951, 24 January 1957, and in the resolutions of the United Nations Commission for India and Pakistan dated 13 August 1948 and 5 January 1949, which have been jointly accepted by both India and Pakistan and by which both Governments, according to their continued declarations, stand engaged. The substance of these decisions is that the final disposition of the State of Jammu and Kashmir shall be made in accordance with the will of the people expressed through the democratic method of a free and impartial plebiscite conducted under the auspices of the United Nations and that, to enable such a plebiscite being held, all outside forces shall not only not be augmented but be withdrawn from the State.

4. It is the most logical consequence of this position that, pending the imple-

mentation of these decision of the Security Council and the resultant final disposition of the State, the situation in the Jammu and Kashmir State continues to be a matter with which the Security Council has to remain closely and intimately concerned. The preservation of the international frontiers of the State of Jammu and Kashmir is, therefore, a matter which falls directly within the primary responsibilities of the Security Council and no Government can take any action with regard to these frontiers save in consonance with the decisions of the Security Council.

5. For reasons implied in paragraph 2 above, my Government would leave it to the Security Council to judge the precise extent to which the present situation along the border between Ladakh and China impinges upon the responsibilities of the Council. However, my Government is bound by its duty to declare before the Security Council that, pending a determination of the future of Kashmir through the will of the people impartially ascertained, no positions taken or adjustments made by either of the parties to the present controversy between India and China, or any similar controversy in the future, shall be valid or affect the status of the territory of Jammu and Kashmir or the imperatives of the demilitarization and self-determination of the State laid down in the resolutions referred to in paragraph 3 above.

6. My Government regards it as a matter of self-evident principle that it is for the sovereign authority freely evolved by, and acceptable to, the people of Jammu and Kashmir, and for that authority alone, to effect, or refuse to effect, any adjustment of its frontiers with any foreign Power and that the emergence of such an authority shall not be allowed to be impeded by any necessity, supposed or real, of military defence felt at present by any party within the territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

7. I request that this communication may kindly be circulated as a Security Council document and brought to the notice of the members of the Security Council.

8. Please accept, etc.

(Sd.) PRINCE ALY KHAN

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations.

SRI V. K. DHAGE: May I know whether the representation of the Government in reply to this has been made?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Sir, our Representative has pointed out our position in this regard time and again.

SRI V. K. DHAGE: What has been the reply of the Government of India in this regard? Has any representation been made in this regard?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: No, Sir.

SRI V. K. DHAGE: No representation has been made. Is it so?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Are you sure? He asks whether any reply has been sent to the Chairman of the Security Council in answer to the representation made by the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the Security Council.

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Yes, Sir, our reply to the letter of the Permanent Representative of Pakistan is being sent.

SRI NIRANJAN SINGH: What is the reply, Sir?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Our official spokesman in New York has already made a statement. If you want to hear that, I can read it. It is a long one.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: No, we do not want to hear it. It is a long thing.

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: We have asserted in our statement our

incontestable sovereignty over Kashmir and we have also said that Ladakh is part of Kashmir which is *de jure* and *de facto* part of India by virtue of Kashmir being part of the Indian Union.

SRI V. K. DHAGE: May I know why there is this long delay in making representations to the Security Council?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Our Representative in New York having made this statement, it was not necessary to send any reply immediately. During the session of the General Assembly it is very difficult for our Representative to attend to other business because he has to attend to business connected with the Session.

SRI N. M. LINGAM: May I know whether the Chinese Government recognise our incontestable sovereignty over the whole of Kashmir? In other words, does the Chinese Government recognize our sovereignty over Pakistan-held territory? If not, what is Government's attitude?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I do not know whether the Chinese recognise it or not. I want notice.

STATELESS PERSONS IN CEYLON

*548. **SRI MAHESHWAR NAIK:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Ceylon have recently devised certain plans to solve the problem of "Stateless" people in Ceylon;

(b) if so, what are the details of the plans; and

(c) whether Government have been consulted in the matter as far as persons of Indian origin now in Ceylon who have been rendered "Stateless", are concerned, and in what way they are likely to be affected as a result of the recent plans?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) The Government of India have not so far received



any communication from the Government of Ceylon on this subject nor they have any official or authentic information as to the lines on which the Ceylon Government may take any initiative in regard to this problem.

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

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: What is the number of people of Indian origin in Ceylon who have been rendered Stateless?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: About eight lakhs, subject to correction.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Does not the Government of India owe any responsibility towards these people in Ceylon of Indian origin in securing for them citizenship either of Ceylon or of India?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: This matter was taken up with the Ceylon Government so many times at the Prime Ministers' level and also at the level of our Mission there. Some of these people have been given Indian citizenship while some have secured Ceylonese citizenship.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know whether some of these people who have been rendered Stateless are prepared to come over to India, and, if so, whether the Government of India is prepared to give them Indian citizenship?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: If we are satisfied that they can be given Indian citizenship, they will be given Indian citizenship; in fact, we have already granted citizenship to 42,259 persons of Indian origin in Ceylon who applied for citizenship.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: What is the attitude of the Government

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I am sorry, Sir, the figure should be as follows: 24,346 applications comprising 28,364 persons.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: ...in regard to those who want to settle down in Ceylon?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: We want to encourage them and we want to negotiate with the Ceylonese Government so that they may be given all facilities to settle down in Ceylon. They are Ceylonese citizens in the sense that they were born there, bred there and have lived there for generations.

SHRIMATI SAVITRI DEVI NIGAM: May I know what facilities are being provided by the Ceylon Government as well as the Indian Government to those Stateless people who want to come to India and settle here?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I have been answering that question all this while. (*Interruption.*)

SHRIMATI SAVITRI DEVI NIGAM: What I meant was this. I want to know what facilities the Ceylon Government is providing, because I have heard that they are providing some facilities to these people who want to come here.

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: The late Prime Minister of Ceylon during a debate on the Budget made a statement in which he said that some inducements would be given for these people to come to India.

SHRI N. M. LINGAM: Is Government aware of the statement of the Ceylon Prime Minister that there is increasing illicit immigration into Ceylon and what has Government done to stop this?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: That question also has been answered many times in this House. All sorts of steps are taken to prevent illicit migration to Ceylon.

REQUIREMENTS AND IMPORTS OF RIMS AND WHEELS FOR CARS AND TRUCKS

*549. **SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) what are the total annual requirements of rims and wheels for cars and trucks in India;

(b) what portion of the requirements is met from indigenous manufacture and what portion is imported from abroad and at what cost; and

(c) what steps are being taken to make the country self-sufficient in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) The present annual requirements of rims and wheels for automobiles are estimated to be of the order of 2 lakhs Nos., both for original fitment and for replacements.

(b) At present, the entire requirements are met by imports, the cost of which is not known as the import statistics for wheels and rims are not maintained separately.

(c) One firm is licensed under the Ind. (D&R) Act, 1951 for the manufacture of wheels for cars with an annual capacity of 50,000 Nos. It is scheduled to go into production before June, 1960. Another firm has recently been granted a licence for the manufacture of 1.8 lakh wheels per annum on single shift both for cars and commercial vehicles. It is expected to commence production by the end of next year. In addition, Government propose to examine whether there is scope for licensing an additional unit to meet the increase in demand when the targets for production of automobiles during the 3rd Five Year Plan period have been fixed.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: From the statement I find that one firm had been licensed for the manufacture of wheels as far back as 1951. Why is it that the firm has not so far gone into production?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: It is licensed under the Act of 1951; not that it was licensed in 1951. It was licensed only two years back and it is scheduled to go into production before June next.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: What will be the total capacity of this firm as well as of the new firm which is contemplated?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Both are given in the statement. The capacity of one is 50,000 units and that of the other is 1.8 lakh units.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: What will be the approximate value of the imports which we are having in so far as wheels are concerned?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: About Rs. 2 crores a year.

COTTON CRISIS IN THE COUNTRY

*550. **SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country is facing a cotton crisis and the mill-owners and cotton interests have approached Government with concrete proposals to avert the impending crisis; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

By 'cotton crisis' the hon'ble Member is presumably referring to the tight supply position of cotton in the country and the high prices ruling for it. It is a fact that due to successive failure of the cotton crop during 1958-59 season and the current season as a result of excessive rains in certain cotton growing tracts, the

textile industry has been facing difficulties both on account of high prices of indigenous cotton as well as inadequate supplies. Various representations had been received in this regard from mill-owners etc. urging Government to import sufficient quantities of foreign cotton to augment available supplies in the country. Government are fully seized of the situation and are taking necessary remedial measures to meet the maximum possible requirements of the industry.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know whether cotton production in the country has gone down, and if so, whether it is in respect of long staple cotton or short staple cotton also?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: That is true. As given in the statement this year's forecast of the crop estimate is low and that is why we are trying to see that more is imported. It is not at all in the sphere of long staple cotton, because that is not grown in India. It is all below 1 and 1/16.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know whether it is a fact that some time back there was some offer from Egypt as well as from Sudan for the supply of long staple cotton at a cheap and concessional rate and whether that opportunity was availed of?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: No such offer was made. It is always available, because Egypt grows far more cotton than it can consume but we have to look at our own foreign exchange position when we think of importing.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: What are the reasons for scarcity conditions prevailing in the country now?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Failure of crop as mentioned in the statement.

SRI MATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know if this estimate of low production has brought about any effect on the price?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Obviously, there has been high pressure selling and, therefore, the Forward Market Commission has imposed heavy margins and several other controls.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Is it a fact that some millowners have contended that because of this reduction in import quota for cotton scarcity conditions are prevailing in the country?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Quotas have been on the contrary liberalised. As against 600,000 bales in the normal year, we are contemplating to import this year about 7.5 lakhs bales.

†SETTING UP OF A SODA ASH MANUFACTURING PLANT AT SAMBHAR, RAJASTHAN

*384. **SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken by Government to set up a soda ash manufacturing plant at Sambhar in Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, whether the plant will be in the private sector or in the public sector?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) and (b). A scheme has been submitted by a party for the establishment of a plant at Sambhar to manufacture soda ash etc. and it is under examination.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know whether it is a fact that proposals were made to set up a factory in the public sector?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: No, Sir.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know the estimated cost of the plant which is to be set up at Sambhar?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: About Rs. 4 crores.

†Postponed from the 9th December, 1959.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know whether it is a fact that the Hindustan Salt Co. made no provision for exploring the possibility of setting up a factory?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: No, Sir. That is not the point because the Hindustan Salt Co. just now is primarily concerned with developing more and more production of salt. As far as the alkali industry is concerned, there are many private parties coming forward and we are making the country nearly self-sufficient. Therefore, it was not thought necessary for a public sector company to go into this line at present.

†**SIR NORMAN KIPPING'S VISIT TO INDIA**

*385. **SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA:** Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Sir Norman Kipping, a senior member of the British Federation of Industries, visited India in November, 1959 to assess the needs of the Third Five Year Plan; and

* (b) whether he has submitted any report or made any suggestions to the Planning Commission?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI S. N. MISHRA): (a) It is understood that the objects of the recent visit of Sir Norman Kipping were to discuss general problems affecting Indo-British trade and the kind of assistance which private industry in U.K. might be able to offer towards India's Third Five Year Plan and to visit the site of the Delhi College of Engineering and Technology, for which the members of the Federation of British Industries are to supply equipment worth £250,000.

(b) No, Sir.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know whether any tangible decisions

†Postponed from the 9th December, 1959.

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have been taken for furthering Indo-British industrial collaboration as a result of his visit?

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: I do not know what happened during the course of his talk with the Ministry of Commerce and Industry—with the Minister of Commerce and Industry and other senior officials, but so far as we are concerned, we have not got any information about that.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know if he has submitted any Report to the Planning Commission?

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: There seems to be some kind of misconception about the nature of his visit. His visit was not officially sponsored and he has not made any report or suggestion to the Planning Commission.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know whether there was any exchange of views regarding the assessment of India's needs for the Third Five Year Plan as far industries are concerned?

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: Again, Sir, about any matter relating to industry, probably the Minister of Industry would be in a better position to say. So far as we are concerned, we only know that Sir Norman Kipping paid a courtesy call on our Deputy Chairman and he also met the Prime Minister. Besides that, we are not in possession of any other information.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: The Deputy Minister just now said that he did not know about the talks he had had with the Minister of Commerce and Industry. Now that the Minister of Industry is here and may I know whether he could enlighten the House about the talks?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: We had considerable discussion with Sir Norman Kipping. As a result of his visit, perhaps the Report which is to be submitted under the Colombo Plan for the two projects of Sir Eric Coster's Mission might be expedited. There were other discussions also.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Questions are over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

BURMESE DELEGATION TO REVIEW THE WORKING OF THE INDO-BURMESE AGREEMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

*540. { SHRI BABUBHAI CHINAI;
SHRI LAVJI LAKHAMSHI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a lot of delay occurred in the settlement of terms and conditions for payment as envisaged in the Protocol signed in 1958 to the Indo-Burmese Agreement of Trade and Commerce; and if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether this matter came up for discussion at the time of the visit of another trade delegation to India in September 1959; and if so, what was the result of the discussions?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATISH CHANDRA): (a) No agreement has yet been reached between the Indian and the Burmese banks on questions relating to overdraft/limits and mode of payment of interest charges. But the two banks concerned have opened the accounts as required by the Protocol and have taken other steps for facilitating payments for imports and exports thereunder.

(b) No, Sir.

LIGNITE DEPOSITS FOUND IN PONDICHERY

*544. MOULANA M. FARUQI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Lignite deposits have recently been found at Sellamedu in Bahur Commune (Pondicherry); and

(b) whether any commercial exploitation of the deposits there has been assessed, and if so, to what extent they can be exploited?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) and (b). Yes. Lignite deposits have been found at Sellamedu in Bahur Commune in Pondicherry State. Commercial exploitation of the deposits there has not been assessed and the Indian Bureau of Mines has been asked to include this item in its mineral investigation programme for the Third Five Year Plan.

दुर्गापुर में औपटिकल ग्लास फैक्टरी

१८६. श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान : क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दुर्गापुर में औपटिकल ग्लास फैक्टरी स्थापित करने की जो योजना थी क्या उसके संबंध में स्वी विशेषज्ञों ने अपना प्रतिवेदन प्रस्तुत कर दिया है ;

(ख) क्या यह सब है कि छः मास पूर्व भारतीय इंजीनियरों का एक दल रूस के सोवियत संघ को इसी संबंध में भेजा गया था और यदि हाँ, तो उन्होंने वहाँ क्या कार्य किया ; और

(ग) इस कारखाने पर कब तक काम शुरू हो जाने तथा पूरा होने की संभावना है ?

†[OPTICAL GLASS FACTORY AT DURGAPUR

189. SHRI NAWAB SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Russian experts have submitted their report with regard to the establishment of the proposed Optical Glass Factory at Durgapur;

(b) whether it is a fact that a team of Indian engineers was sent to the

†[] English translation.

Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics in this connection six months back and if so, what work was done by them there; and

(c) by when the work on the factory is expected to start and by when it will be completed?]

उद्योग मंत्री (श्री मनुभाई शाह) :

(क) से (ग). भारत सरकार और मास्को की फर्म मैसर्स टेक्नोएक्सपोर्ट के बीच १४ दिसम्बर, १९५७ को हुए एक सन्धि के धाराओं के अनुसार भारतीय शिल्प शास्त्रियों का एक दल जून, १९५९ में रूस भेजा गया था जिससे वे वहाँ दार्ष्टिक यंत्रों और चश्मों का शीशा बनाने की प्रायोजना के लिये विस्तृत प्रायोजना रिपोर्ट तैयार करने में योग दे सकें। यह विस्तृत प्रायोजना रिपोर्ट अब प्राप्त हो चुकी है और सरकार उस पर तत्परता से विचार कर रही है। चूंकि भारतीय वैज्ञानिकों ने व्यापारिक पैमाने पर औप्टिकल कांच बनाने की एक विधि निकाल ली है, इसलिये प्रायोजना में परिवर्तन तथा संशोधन करके चश्मों का कांच और विशेष किस्मों का कांच बनाने का प्रस्ताव है।

†[THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) to (c). In accordance with the provisions of the Contract entered into on the 14th December, 1957 between the Government of India and Messers Techno-export of Moscow, a team of Indian technologists was deputed to the U.S.S.R. in June, 1959 to participate in the preparation of the Detailed Project Report for the optical and ophthalmic glass project. The Detailed Project Report has since been received and is under active consideration of the Government. As Indian scientists have already evolved a process to manufacture optical glass on a commercial scale, it is proposed to alter and modify the project to manufacture ophthalmic glass and special types of glass.]

चतुर्थ श्रेणी के कर्मचारियों के क्वार्टर

१९०. श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान : क्या निर्माण, आवास और संभरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पंचकुई रोड, नई दिल्ली पर के चतुर्थ श्रेणी के कर्मचारियों के रहने के कितने क्वार्टर इस समय मंत्रालय के कब्जे में हैं और कितने नई दिल्ली नगरपालिका को दे दिये गये हैं ;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि चतुर्थ श्रेणी के कर्मचारियों ने सरकार से फिर प्रार्थना की है कि इन क्वार्टरों में बिजली तथा नलों की व्यवस्था की जाये और अलग अलग टट्टियां बनवा दी जायें ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ने इस बात की जांच करवाई है कि इन क्वार्टरों के लिये बिजली के कितने प्वायंटों, कितनी टट्टियों और कितने नलों की आवश्यकता होगी और इन पर कितना खर्च आयेगा ; और

(घ) इस समय वहाँ प्रति परिवार कितने नल हैं और कितनी टट्टियां हैं ?

†[QUARTERS FOR CLASS IV EMPLOYEES

190. SHRI NAWAB SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) how many quarters for class IV employees, situated at Panchkuin Road, New Delhi, are at present in the possession of the Ministry and how many have been handed over to the New Delhi Municipal Committee;

(b) whether it is a fact that class IV employees have again requested Government for the provision of electricity and water-taps and for the construction of separate latrines in these quarters;

(c) if so, whether Government have made inquiries as to how many

†[] English translation.

electric points, latrines and water-taps would be needed for these quarters and the expenditure involved therein; and

(d) how many water-taps and latrines per family are there at present?]

निर्माण, आवास और संभरण मंत्री (श्री के. सी. रेड्डी) : (क) से (घ) पंचकुई सड़क के क्वार्टरों में रहने वाले चतुर्थ श्रेणी के सरकारी कर्मचारियों ने प्रार्थना की थी कि उनके क्वार्टरों में बिजली, पानी के नल और अलग अलग पाखानों की व्यवस्था की जाये। इस सड़क पर ११८४ क्वार्टर हैं—११५१ निर्माण आवास और संभरण मंत्रालय के और ३३ नई दिल्ली नगरपालिका के अन्तर्गत हैं। अभी ४ क्वार्टरों के लिये एक पाखाना तथा २० क्वार्टरों के लिये एक पानी का नल मौजूद है। क्वार्टरों में बिजली नहीं है। ११५१ क्वार्टरों के लिये प्रत्येक में आवश्यकता-नुसार बिजली लगाने—३ बिजली प्वायंट (Electric Points) और एक प्लग प्वायंट (Plug Point)— एक पाखाना तथा एक पानी के नल की व्यवस्था करने पर १६८६ लाख रुपये के खर्च होने का अनुमान है। यह पता किया जा चुका है कि डी० आई० जेड० क्षेत्र के क्वार्टरों की आयु समाप्त हो चुकी है तथा इन क्वार्टरों में छतों के बदलने का खर्च उचित नहीं होगा। इस-लिये यह सुझाव रखा गया है कि क्रमशः इस क्षेत्र का दुबारा विकास किया जाये ताकि जमीन का अधिकतम उपयोग हो सके। तदनुसार, पंचकुई सड़क के मौजूदा क्वार्टरों में छतों के बदलने के बाद पानी और बिजली लगाने के सुझावों पर कार्यवाही बन्द कर दी गई है।

†[THE MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI K. C. REDDY) : (a) to (d). The class IV employees of Government, residing in the Panchkui Road quarters, have requested for the provision of electri-

city, water taps and separate latrines in their quarters. There are 1184 quarters on this road—1151 with the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply and 33 with the New Delhi Municipal Committee. At present, one latrine for 4 quarters and one water tap for 20 quarters exist. The quarters have not been electrified. For providing the requisite electrical installations—3 electric points and one plug point—a latrine and a water tap in each of the 1151 quarters, the expenditure is estimated to be Rs. 19.89 lakhs. It has been found that the quarters in the D.I.Z. area have out-lived their life and that it would be undesirable to incur heavy expenditure on re-roofing them. It is, therefore, proposed to re-develop the area in convenient phases, to secure the most intensive utilization of land. Accordingly, the proposals for providing water and electricity in the existing quarters on Panchkui Road, after replacement of their roofs, have been dropped.]

चतुर्थ श्रेणी के कर्मचारियों के क्वार्टरों का गिराने जाना

१६१. श्री नवाबसिंह चौहान : क्या निर्माण, आवास और संभरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का इरादा पंचकुई रोड, नई दिल्ली, के उन क्वार्टरों को गिरा देने का है, जो चतुर्थ श्रेणी के कर्मचारियों के लिये बने हुए हैं ;

(ख) ऐसे क्वार्टर कितने हैं और उनमें कितने परिवार रहते हैं ;

(ग) उन्हें गिराने का क्या प्रोग्राम है ;

(घ) उन क्वार्टरों को गिराने से जो कर्मचारी बेघर हो जायेंगे, क्या सरकार उन्हें घर देने की कोई व्यवस्था कर रही है और यदि हाँ, तो यह व्यवस्था क्या है ; और

(क) वर्तमान क्वार्टरों के स्थान पर जो नये क्वार्टर बनाये जायेंगे, वे कैसे होंगे और क्या वे पहले उन्हीं लोगों को किराये पर दिये जायेंगे, जो उनके गिराये जाने से पहले वहाँ रह रहे थे ?

†[DEMOLITION OF QUARTERS OF CLASS IV EMPLOYEES

191. SHRI NAWAB SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of Works, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to demolish the quarters situated at Panchkuin Road, New Delhi which are meant for class IV employees;

(b) what is the number of such quarters and the number of families living in them;

(c) what is the programme of demolition;

(d) whether Government are making some arrangement to provide houses to the employees to be rendered homeless because of such demolition and if so, what is that arrangement; and

(e) what will be the type of the new quarters to be built in place of the existing ones and whether they will be first rented out to those persons who were in occupation before demolition?]

निर्माण, आवास और संभरण मंत्री (श्री के० सी० रेड्डी) : (क) हाँ।

(ख) चतुर्थ श्रेणी के सरकारी कर्मचारियों के क्वार्टर १,१५१ हैं। इन क्वार्टरों में रहने वाले परिवारों की वास्तविक संख्या अभी उपलब्ध नहीं है।

(ग) से (ङ) मौजूदा क्वार्टरों को गिराने तथा उपलब्ध जमीन पर नये स्थानों के बनाने के कार्यक्रम को अभी बनाया जा रहा

है। इसलिये यह ठीक-ठीक बताना कठिन है कि क्वार्टरों को गिराने का क्या कार्यक्रम होगा तथा किस प्रकार के क्वार्टर बनाये जायेंगे, परन्तु जो कर्मचारी गिराये जाने वाले अपने मौजूदा क्वार्टरों को खाली करेंगे, उनकी बदले में स्थान दिया जायेगा। यह प्रबन्ध क्वार्टरों के गिराने के कार्यक्रम का फँसला हो जाने पर निश्चित किया जायेगा।

†[THE MINISTER OF WORKS HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI K. C. REDDY): (a) Yes.

(b) There are 1,151 quarters for Class IV Government employees. The actual number of families living in these quarters is not readily available.

(c) to (e). The programme of demolition of the existing quarters and of construction of new accommodation on the land, which will become available after demolition, is still being worked out. It is, therefore, difficult to say precisely what the programme of demolition and the type of the quarters to be built will be. The residents, who will vacate their present quarters for demolition, will, however, be provided with alternative accommodation. These arrangements will be finalized when the programme of demolition is decided upon.]

सरकारी दफ्तरो का चंडीगढ़ को स्थानांतरण

१६२. श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान : क्या निर्माण आवास और संभरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने अपने कुछ दफ्तरो को चंडीगढ़ स्थानांतरित करने का अन्तिम निर्णय कर लिया है ;

(ख) यदि ऐसा है तो कौन-कौन दफ्तर वहाँ भेजे जायेंगे ;

†[]English translation.

(ग) उन दफ्तरों में कितने कर्मचारी काम कर रहे हैं ;

(घ) उनके लिये कितने स्थान की आवश्यकता होगी और क्या उसका इंतजाम हो गया है ; और

(ङ) क्या सरकार ने अपने कुछ दफ्तरों को अन्य स्थानों पर भी ले जाने का कोई निर्णय किया है और यदि किया है तो वह निर्णय क्या है

†(SHIFTING OF GOVERNMENT OFFICES TO CHANDIGARH)

192. SHRI NAWAB SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have taken a final decision to shift some of its offices to Chandigarh;

(b) if so, which offices are to be shifted there;

(c) how many employees are working in those offices;

(d) how much accommodation will be required for them and whether arrangement for the same has been made; and

(e) whether Government have taken any decision to shift some of its offices to other places and if so, what is that decision?]

निर्माण, आवास और संभरण मंत्री (श्री के० सी० रेड्डी) : (क) नहीं।

(ख) से (घ). सवाल पैदा ही नहीं होता।

(ङ) कुछ केन्द्रीय सरकारी कार्यालयों को शिमला और ग्वालियर में ले जाने के प्रयत्न किये जा रहे हैं।

†[THE MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI K. C. REDDY): (a) No.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

(e) Efforts are being made to shift some Central Government offices to Simla and Gwalior.]

जापान को नमक का निर्यात

१६३. श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान : क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का विचार जापान को नमक का भारी मात्रा में निर्यात करने का है ;

(ख) यदि उपरोक्त भाग (क) का उत्तर 'हां' हो तो कितने नमक का और किस भाव पर निर्यात किया जायेगा ; और

(ग) देश की आवश्यकता को पूरा करने के बाद वर्ष में निर्यात के लिए कितना नमक बच रहता है ?

†[EXPORT OF SALT TO JAPAN

193. SHRI NAWAB SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to export a large quantity of salt to Japan;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, how much salt will be exported and at what rate; and

(c) what is the annual quantity of salt that remains surplus for export after meeting the requirements of the country?]

†[] English translation.

उद्योग मंत्री (श्री मनुभाई शाह) :

(क) जी. हाँ।

(ख) राजकीय व्यापार निगम और जापानी आयातकों के बीच जिस करार पर हस्ताक्षर हुये हैं, उसके अर्वाह जापान का जनवरी, १९६० से मार्च, १९६१ तक ४५०,००० टन भारतीय नमक का निर्यात किया जायेगा जिसका ए.फ.ओ. प्री. वी. भाव २० पिविंग प्रति लॉंग टन (ट्रिम्ड) होगा। इसके अतिरिक्त भारतीय निर्यातक भा. कु. उ. परिमाण में नमक जापान का निर्यात करेंगे जिसके लिये विभिन्न भावों पर अप्रैल, १९५९ से पहले जापान सरकारों के साथ उनके साथ बंधे हुए हैं। जापान द्वारा यह आयात कुल १,३०,००० टन का हो सकता है। इस प्रकार उपर्युक्त अवधि में अर्थात् १५ महीनों में ५,८०,००० टन या लगभग ४,६४,००० टन प्रतिवर्ष के हिसाब से निर्यात होने का सम्भावना है। पिछले वर्षों में हुये निर्यात की तुलना में यह बहुत अच्छा है।

(ग) लगभग १० लाख टन।

† [THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY
(SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) Yes,
Sir.

(b) Under an agreement signed between the State Trading Corporation and the Japanese importers, 450,000 tons of Indian salt will be exported to Japan during the period January, 1960 to March 1961 at a selling price of 20 Sh. per long ton F.O.B. (trimmed). In addition, certain quantities of Salt will be exported by Indian shippers to Japan under contracts entered into by them direct with the Japanese buyers at different prices prior to April, 1959. These imports may aggregate to a quantity of 1,30,000 tons. Thus, during the above-mentioned period, i.e. 15 months, exports are expected to be of the order of 5,80,000 tons or about 4,64,000 tons per year. This compares

very favourably with exports in the previous years.

(c) About 10 lakh tons.]

त्रिदलीय निर्णयों का सरकारी क्षेत्र में कार्यान्वित न किया जाना

१९४. श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान : क्या श्रम तथा सेवा नियोजन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या उन्होंने १७ नवम्बर, १९५९ के "टाइम्स आफ इंडिया" (दिल्ली संस्करण) में प्रकाशित नेशनल फेडरेशन ऑफ इंडियन रेलवे मैन के अध्यक्ष श्री एस. आर. वासवडा द्वारा १६ नवम्बर, १९५९ का पूना में एक प्रेस कॉन्फ्रेंस में दिये गये उस वक्तव्य को देखा है जिसमें उन्होंने नैनीताल में हुये त्रिदलीय निर्णयों का सरकारी क्षेत्र में कार्यान्वित न करके सरकारी और गैर-सरकारी कर्मचारियों में भेदभाव बरतने का अभियोग सरकार पर लगाया है।

(ख) यदि उपरोक्त भाग (क) का उत्तर 'हाँ' हो तो इस संबंध में वास्तविक स्थिति क्या है ; और सरकारी क्षेत्र में पंच फेसले को लागू न करने के क्या कारण हैं ; और

(ग) नैनीताल में पंच फेसले के संबंध में जो निर्णय हुये हैं, क्या उन्हें तीनों दलों—सरकार मिल मालिकों और श्रमिकों ने स्वीकार किया था ?

† [NON-IMPLEMENTATION OF TRIPARTITE
DECISIONS IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR

194. SHRI NAWAB SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has seen the statement made by Shri S. R. Vasavada, President of the National Federation

† [] English translation.

of Indian Railwaymen at a Press Conference in Poona on the 16th November, 1959, published in the "Times of India" (Delhi Edition) of the 17th November, 1959, in which he accused the Government of discriminating between Government and non-Government employees by not implementing the tripartite decisions in the public sector, which were taken at Naini Tal;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what is the actual position in this regard and what are the reasons for not implementing the arbitration award in the public sector; and

(c) whether all the three parties—the Government, the mill-owners and the labour—accepted the decisions taken at Naini Tal in regard to the arbitration award?]

अस उपमंत्री (श्री आश्रित अली) : (क)
जी हाँ।

(ख) और (ग). ऐच्छिक पंच फैसले का सिद्धांत जोकि उद्योग अनुशासन नियमावली में दिया गया है, कामगारों और नियोजकों के संगठनों तथा सरकारी क्षेत्र की कंपनियों और कारपोरेशनों ने स्वाकार कर लिया है। इस सिद्धांत को सरकार द्वारा संचालित उद्योग-संस्थाओं पर लागू करने के बारे में विचार किया जा रहा है।

†[THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF
LABOUR (SHRI ASHIT ALI): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The principle of voluntary arbitration contained in the 'Code of Discipline in Industry', has been accepted in principle by the Employers and Workers Organisations and by Companies and Corporations in the Public Sector. The question of its extension to departmentally run establishments of Government is receiving consideration.]

†[] English translation.

SHIFTING OF GOVERNMENT OFFICES TO SIMLA

195. SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government contemplate shifting some of its offices to Simla; and

(b) if so, which offices are proposed to be shifted there and when are they proposed to be shifted?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS,
HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI K. C.
REDDY): (a) Yes.

(b) No decision about shifting any particular office has been taken so far. Efforts are, however, being made to shift some offices as early as possible.

SHIFTING OF GOVERNMENT OFFICES TO GWALIOR

196. SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Government offices which have so far been shifted to Gwalior; and

(b) whether residential accommodation for the employees of such offices has also been provided?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI K. C. REDDY): (a) No Central Government Office has so far been shifted to Gwalior.

(b) Does not arise.

HOT WATER BOILERS IN CENTRAL GOVERNMENT HOSTEL, ALIPORE

197. SHRI V. K. DHAGE: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of hot water boilers in the Central Government Hostel at Alipore.

Calcutta, are not in working order and cause inconvenience to the residents; and

(b) if so, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI K. C. REDDY): (a) and (b). Three boilers are out of order. The rooms to be served by these three boilers are not at present being used for residence except only occasionally when all the other rooms are full. In such cases, hot water is supplied to the residents in buckets and as such no great inconvenience is caused to them.

SECURITY MEASURES TAKEN FOR CHINESE TRADE AGENCY IN KALIMPONG

198. SHRI V. K. DHAGE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken measures for the security of the Chinese Trade Agency in Kalimpong; and

(b) if so, what are those measures?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Armed guards have been posted at the gates of the Agency.

MEMORANDUM FROM THE INDIAN MINE MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION

199. SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a memorandum was submitted to him by the Indian Mine Managers' Association in the month of October, 1959; and

(b) if so, what are the contents of the memorandum and what action Government have so far taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI ABID ALI): (a) Yes.

(b) Mainly some amendments to the Mines (Amendment) Bill, 1959. The Matter was discussed on the 18th November, 1959 with representatives of the Association, which resulted in accepting some of their suggestions. Accordingly official amendments to the Bill were moved in the Lok Sabha.

ASHOKA HOTEL, NEW DELHI

200. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) the average daily occupancy of the Ashoka Hotel, New Delhi, so far in 1959-60 season;

(b) the average daily occupancy in 1958-59 season; and

(c) whether the construction work in the Hotel has been completed?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI K. C. REDDY): (a) The average occupancy in Ashoka Hotel from April, 1959 to November, 1959 (five months of which period constitute the slack season) has been about 264 persons per day.

(b) The average occupancy from April, 1958 to March, 1959 was 243 persons per day.

(c) Yes.

REPORT OF THE INDIAN TRADE AGENT IN TIBET

201. SHRI V. K. DHAGE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Trade Agent in Western Tibet has recently submitted a report to the Ministry of External Affairs about the trading season there; and

(b) if so, what is his report?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU): (a) As is usual, the Indian Trade Agent, Western Tibet has submitted a report on completion of his recent tour of Western Tibet.

(b) While it is not customary to disclose the contents of individual reports, it may be stated that the trading season in Western Tibet has been slack this year on account of various difficulties, which our traders have had to encounter in selling goods and in barter of their merchandise. The difficulties of the traders have been indicated in our note of 26th October, 1959, to the Chinese Government and subsequently published in White Paper No. II.

PRODUCTION OF CARS, JEEPS AND OTHER COMMERCIAL VEHICLES AT THE END OF THE SECOND FIVE YEAR PLAN

202. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimated production of cars, jeeps and other commercial vehicles at the end of the Second Five Year Plan; and

(b) how these figures compare with the plan targets fixed by the Planning Commission?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) and (b). The estimated production of cars, jeeps and commercial vehicles at the end of the Second Five Year Plan and the targets laid down in the Plan compare as follows:—

	Second Plan Targets (Nos.)	Estimated Production (Nos.)
Cars	20,000	20,000
Jeeps	5,000	6,000
Commercial vehicles	40,000	35,000
TOTAL	65,000	61,000

UNEMPLOYMENT ASSESSMENT

203. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment as to the progress made towards solving the

unemployment problem of the country has recently been made; and

(b) if so, what is the latest position and how far the progress accords with the plan targets?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI ABID ALI): (a) and (b). It was estimated by the Planning Commission last year that the increase in employment in the first three years of the Second Plan was of the order of 3 millions, non-agricultural. Estimate for the remaining period of the Plan is 3.5 millions, non-agricultural. It is difficult to estimate the increase in employment in the agricultural sector. Further studies to review the employment achievements are in progress.

पूर्वी पाकिस्तान में अल्प-संख्यकों से पूछताछ

२०४. श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान : क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने का कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान ५ दिसम्बर, १९५६ के ट्रिब्यून में प्रकाशित इस समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है कि पूर्वी पाकिस्तान में अल्प-संख्यक समुदाय के लोगों से उनकी आमदनी व बँकों के हिसाब इत्यादि के संबंध में पूछताछ की जा रही है और बड़ी तादाद में नवीनीकरण के लिये भेजे गये पासपोर्टों को महीनों से नहीं लौटाया जा रहा है ; और

(ख) यदि उपरोक्त भाग (क) का उत्तर 'हां' हो तो क्या सरकार ने इस पूछताछ के कारणों के बारे में कोई पूछताछ की है व इससे वहाँ अल्प-संख्यकों पर क्या प्रभाव पड़ रहा है ?

† [INTERROGATION OF MINORITIES IN EAST PAKISTAN]

204. SHRI NAWAB SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item pub-

† [] English translation.

lated in the Tribune of December 5, 1959, to the effect that the persons belonging to the minority community in East Pakistan are being interrogated in respect of their income and bank accounts etc. and that a large number of passports sent for renewal are not being returned to them for months together; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether Government have made any enquiry about the reasons for such interrogation and what is its effect on the minorities there?]

प्रधान मंत्री तथा वैदेशिक कार्य मंत्री

(श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू) : (क) और (ख). भारतीय हाई कमिशन और डिप्टी हाई कमिशन, ढाका से समय समय पर जो रिपोर्टें मिलती हैं उनसे पता चला है कि पूर्वी पाकिस्तान की अल्पसंख्यक जातियों के पासपोर्ट रोक लिए गये हैं और उन्हें पासपोर्ट कारियों को वापस नहीं दिया जा रहा है। इस पर भारतीय हाई कमिशन, कराँची और डिप्टी हाई कमिशन ढाका, को यह आदेश दिया गया है कि वे इस विषय पर पाकिस्तान के सम्बन्धित अधिकारियों से लिखा पढ़ी करें। अगस्त, १९५९ में कलकत्ता में पूर्वी ओर के मुख्य सचिवों की जो मीटिंग पिछले वार हुई थी उसमें भी यह मामला अग्रीमचारिक रीति से उठाया गया था। उस समय पूर्वी पाकिस्तान सरकार के प्रतिनिधि ने यह बतलाया था कि उन्हें इसका पता लगा है कि बहुत से जाली पासपोर्ट चल रहे हैं, इसलिये उन्हें सभी पासपोर्टों की जांच करने की आवश्यकता पड़ा है जिससे इसका इतना नान किया जा सके कि वे पासपोर्ट असल हैं या नहीं। अदरहात, उन्होंने यह वादा किया था कि वे संबंधित अधिकारियों को आदेश जारी करा देंगे कि जांच का काम जल्दी खत्म किया जाय। पाकिस्तानी विदेश कार्यालय से भारतीय हाई कमिशन को भेजे गये एक वीट में इस आरोप से भी इन्कार किया गया था कि अल्पसंख्यक जातियों को पासपोर्ट जारी नहीं किये जाते और उनका

नवीकरण नहीं किया जा रहा है। उसमें महत्ती कहा गया था कि इन मामले में किसी तरह का भेदभाव नहीं किया जाता।

पाकिस्तानी अधिकारियों ने कितने पासपोर्ट रोक लिए हैं इसका हमें ठीक पता नहीं है, यह खासकर इसलिए कि इतना संबंध पाकिस्तान के राष्ट्रियों से है जो भारतीय मिशन के सामने अपने मामले नहीं लाते। ताहम ऐसा अनुमान किया जाता है कि पूर्वी पाकिस्तान की अल्पसंख्यक जाति के सदस्यों के लगभग ७०,००० पासपोर्ट अभी तक रुके पड़े हैं। मुख्य सचिवों के पिछले सम्मेलन में जो आश्वासन दिये गये थे, उनके आकार पर पूर्वी पाकिस्तान के अधिकारियों से इस मामले पर लिखा पढ़ी चल रहा है।

इस बात की भी सूचना मिली है कि पूर्वी पाकिस्तान के अधिकारी अल्पसंख्यक जाति के बहुत से सदस्यों से इन बातों की पूछताछ कर रहे हैं कि उनका आमदनी क्या है, वे कितना कर अदा करते हैं, उनके खातों में कितना रुपया जमा है, उनके परिवार के कितने सदस्य पाकिस्तान के बाहर हैं और वे उनका कितना धन भेजते हैं। ऐसा समझा जाता है कि यह पूछताछ इसलिए की जा रही है कि विदेशी मुद्रा-विनियम पर जो नियंत्रण लगाया गया है उसका कड़ाई के साथ पालन किया जा सके, और इस बात का इतना नान करने के लिये भी कि वहाँ के हिन्दू निवासी अल्पसंख्यक उपायों से रुपया बाहर न भेज सकें।

†[THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU): (a) and (b). According to reports received from the Indian High Commission and the Deputy High Commission, Dacca, from time to time, passports belonging to the minority community in East Pakistan were being held up and not returned to the holders. The Indian High Commission in Karachi and the Deputy High Commission in Dacca

†[] English translation.

were accordingly instructed to take up this matter with appropriate authorities in Pakistan. This matter was also raised informally at the last meeting of the Chief Secretaries of the Eastern Zone held in Calcutta in August, 1959. The representative of the Government of East Pakistan then explained that they had detected a large number of forged passports in circulation and that they were, therefore, obliged to exercise a check on all passports in order to ensure that these were genuine. They, however, promised to issue instructions to the authorities concerned to expedite the checking. A Note by the Pakistan Foreign Office to the Indian High Commission also denied the allegation regarding the stopping of issue and renewal of passports of members of the minority community and added that no discrimination was made in this regard.

No authentic information is available regarding the number of passports withheld by Pakistan authorities, particularly as this is a matter affecting Pakistan nationals who do not approach the Indian Missions. It is estimated, however, that nearly 70,000 passports belonging to members of the minority community are still held up in East Pakistan. The matter is being pursued with the authorities of East Pakistan in pursuance of the assurances given by them at the last Chief Secretaries' Conference.

It is also understood that the authorities of East Pakistan are making enquiries from a large number of members of the minority community regarding their income, taxes, accounts, members of family outside Pakistan, remittances, etc. It is understood that these enquiries are being made in order to tighten up the operation of foreign exchange restrictions and to ensure that Hindu residents do not send currency abroad through illegal means.]

205. [Transferred to the 21st December, 1959.]

†PLANT FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF MARINE DIESEL ENGINES.

206. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a plant for the manufacture of marine diesel engines in India; and

(b) if so, at what stage is the proposal at present?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) and (b). The proposal to set up a Marine Diesel Engine project in the public sector is under active consideration of Government, and the project is expected to be implemented in the Third Five Year Plan.

‡FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVE FOR IMPORT OF TEXTILE MACHINERY, SPARE PARTS, ETC.

211. SHRI S. PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what was the foreign exchange reserve and the value of licence for import of textile machinery, spare parts and accessories by the mills in India during April—September, 1959; and

(b) what is the foreign exchange licensed for the mills in the States of Madras, Mysore, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and for Pondicherry for the import of textile machinery, spare parts and accessories with the details of amount licensed for each mill against respective items during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) and (b). Information relating to the foreign exchange reserve is treated as confi-

†Originally Starred Question No. 486; this question was transferred from the 15th December, 1959.

‡[Transferred from the 21st December, 1959.]

dential but information relating to value of licences sanctioned during the period referred to is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT RE STARRED QUESTION No. 208 ANSWERED ON 1ST DECEMBER, 1959

PROPOSAL TO SELL PROPERTY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR STATE IN WEST PAKISTAN BY THE "AZAD KASHMIR" GOVERNMENT

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): Sir, on December 1, 1959, I replied to Starred Question No. 208 tabled by Shri Niranjan Singh regarding the so-called Azad Kashmir Government's decision to sell the property of Jammu and Kashmir State in West Pakistan. While answering a Supplementary Question, I said that the property in question was "situated in our constituent State of Jammu and Kashmir, in what is called Azad Kashmir, by Pakistan". This reply is not quite correct. As stated in our Permanent Representative's letter addressed to the President of the Security Council, the property in question which belongs to the State of Jammu and Kashmir is situated in West Pakistan.

OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before we pass on to the next item, it is my painful duty to draw your attention to the fact that a former Member of the Council of States, Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya, passed away this morning. I just heard about it. He served our country in various capacities. He was the President of the Indian National Congress; he was the President of the All-India States People's Conference; he served as the Governor of a Province and was leading a retired life in Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh. He was old no doubt

but when I last saw him, I did not think that his end was so near. He was one of the intellectuals of our country and has written an official history of the Indian National Congress. His patriotism and outstanding public services are well known.

I would like you to stand for a minute in token of our respect to his memory.

(Hon. Members then stood in silence for one minute)

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

REPORT OF THE UNION PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION FOR 1958-59

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): Sir, on behalf of Shri B. N. Datar, I beg to lay on the Table, under clause (1) of article 323 of the Constitution, a copy of the Ninth Annual Report of the Union Public Service Commission for the period 1st April 1958 to 31st March, 1959. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1790/59.]

STATEMENT re REPORT OF THE U.S. TRADE DEVELOPMENT MISSION WHICH VISITED INDIA IN 1958

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAN): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a statement showing the recommendations made in the Report of the U.S. Trade Development Mission which visited India in October-November, 1958, and the decisions of the Government of India thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T.1806/59.]

REPORT (1959) OF THE TARIFF COMMISSION ON THE FAIR PRICE OF RING PAYABLE TO THE METAL CORPORATION OF INDIA LIMITED AND RELATED PAPERS

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAN: Sir, I also beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (2) of section 11 of the

Tariff Commission Act, 1951, a copy each of the following papers:—

(i) Report (1959) of the Tariff Commission on the Fair Price of Zinc payable to the Metal Corporation of India Limited.

(ii) Government Resolution No. 15/15/Met/58, dated the 5th December, 1959.

(iii) Statement under the proviso to sub-section (2) of section 18 of the Tariff Commission Act, 1951, explaining the reasons why the documents referred to at (i) and (ii) above could not be laid within the period mentioned in that sub-section. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1907/59 for (i) to (iii).]

REPORT (SEPTEMBER, 1959) OF THE REVISION OF THE PATENTS LAW IN INDIA AND RELATED PAPERS

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Sir, I also beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers:—

(i) Report (September, 1959) on the revision of the Patents Law in India by Mr. Justice N. Rajagopala Ayyangar.

(ii) Summary of the main recommendations contained in the report mentioned at item (i) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1808/59 for (i) and (ii).]

NOTIFICATION UNDER THE INDUSTRIES (DEVELOPMENT AND REGULATION) ACT, 1951

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Sir, I also beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry Notification S.O. No. 2599, dated the 24th November, 1959, issued under section 15 of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1809/59.]

AMENDMENT IN THE COTTON CONTROL ORDER, 1955

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Sir, I also beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the

Essential Commodities Act, 1955, a copy of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry Notification S.O. No. 2627, dated the 4th December 1959, publishing an amendment in the Cotton Control Order, 1955. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1810/59.]

AMENDMENTS IN THE CUSTOMS AND CENTRAL EXCISE DUTIES EXPORT DRAWBACK (GENERAL) RULES, 1959

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA): Sir, on behalf of Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (4) of section 43B of the Sea Customs Act, 1878 and section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944, a copy each of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Development of Revenue) publishing further amendments in the Customs and Central Excise Duties Export Drawback (General) Rules, 1959:—

(i) Notification G.S.R. No. 1325, dated the 5th December, 1959.

(ii) Notification G.S.R. No. 1326, dated the 5th December, 1959.

(iii) Notification G.S.R. No. 1327, dated the 5th December, 1959.

(iv) Notification G.S.R. No. 1328, dated the 5th December, 1959.

(v) Notification G.S.R. No. 1330, dated the 5th December, 1959.

(vi) Notification G.S.R. No. 1332, dated the 5th December 1959.

(vii) Notification G.S.R. No. 1333, dated the 5th December, 1959.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1802/59 for (i) to (vii).]

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER THE SEA CUSTOMS ACT, 1878

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: Sir, on behalf of Shrimati Tarkeshwari

Sinha, I also beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (4) of section 43B of the Sea Customs Act, 1878, a copy each of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) publishing certain amendments in Government Notification No. 296-Customs, dated the 6th December, 1958:—

(i) Notification G.S.R. No. 1334, dated the 5th December, 1959.

(ii) Notification G.S.R. No. 1335, dated the 5th December, 1959.

(iii) Notification G.S.R. No. 1336, dated the 5th December, 1959.

(iv) Notification G.S.R. No. 1338, dated the 5th December, 1959.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1803/59. for (i) to (iv).]

REPORT OF THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT DELEGATION TO THE 43RD SESSION OF INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI ABID ALI): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report of the Indian Government Delegation to the 43rd Session of the International Labour Conference held at Geneva in June 1959. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1804/59.]

REPORT OF THE RESCUE STATIONS COMMITTEE, DHANBAD FOR 1958-59

SHRI ABID ALI: Sir, I also beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Report of the Rescue Stations Committee, Dhanbad, for the year 1958-59 constituted under the Government of India Coal Mines Rescue Rules, 1939. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1805/59.]

MESSAGE FROM THE LOK SABHA
THE DELHI LAND HOLDINGS (CEILING)
BILL, 1959

SECRETARY: Sir, I have to report to the House the following message

received from the Lok Sabha, signed by the Secretary of the Lok Sabha:—

"I am directed to inform Rajya Sabha that Lok Sabha, at its sitting held on Wednesday, the 16th December, 1959, adopted the annexed motion in regard to the Delhi Land Holdings (Ceiling) Bill, 1959.

I am to request that the concurrence of Rajya Sabha in the said motion, and also the names of the members of Rajya Sabha appointed to the Joint Committee, may be communicated to this House.

MOTION

"That the Bill to provide for the imposition of a ceiling on land holdings in the Union territory of Delhi and for matters connected therewith be referred to a Joint Committee of the Houses consisting of 30 members; 20 from this House, namely:—

1. Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani
2. Shri Radha Raman
3. Choudhury Brahm Perkash
4. Shri C. Krishnan Nair.
5. Shri Naval Prabhakar
6. Shri Shivram Rango Rane
7. Shri K. V. Ramakrishna Reddy
8. Shri Bholu Nath Biswas
9. Shri Ramappa Balappa Bidari
10. Shri Surti Kistaiya
11. Shri K. Periaswami Gounder
12. Shri Daljit Singh
13. Shri Bhakt Darshan
14. Swami Ramanand Shastri
15. Choudhary Pratap Singh Daulta
16. Shri Mohan Swarup
17. Shri N. P. Shanmuga Gounder
18. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee
19. Shri N. G. Ranga; and
20. Shri B. N. Datar.

[Secretary]

and 10 members from Rajya Sabha;

that in order to constitute a sitting of the Joint Committee the quorum shall be one-third of the total number of members of the Joint Committee;

that the Committee shall make a report to this House by the first day of the next session;

that in other respects the Rules of Procedure of this House relating to Parliamentary Committees will apply with such variations and modifications as the Speaker may make; and

that this House recommends to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do join the said Joint Committee and communicate to this House the names of members to be appointed by Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee."

ALLOTMENT OF TIME FOR
CONSIDERATION OF THE
APPROPRIATION (NO. 8)
BILL, 1959

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I have to inform Members that under rule 162(2) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I have allotted one hour for the completion of all stages involved in the consideration and return of the Appropriation (No. 8) Bill, 1959, by the Rajya Sabha, including the consideration and passing of amendments, if any, to the Bill.

THE INDIAN STATISTICAL INSTI-
TUTE BILL, 1959

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINIS-
TER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SRI
JAWAHARLAL NEHRU): Sir, I beg to
move:

"That the Bill to declare the insti-
tution known as the Indian Statis-
tical Institute having at present its
registered office in Calcutta to be an

institution of national importance
and to provide for certain matters
connected therewith, as passed by
the Lok Sabha, be taken into con-
sideration."

This Bill really tries to acknow-
ledge an existing fact. This Statis-
tical Institute, which was started many
years ago, has in fact, become a
vital institution in India performing a
basic and essential task. It is well
known that planning and indeed many
Government activities can hardly func-
tion without proper statistics and
statistics today mean something much
more than the counting of heads. All
kinds of social problems come in
statistics, and the more the subject
becomes complicated, the more they
develop complicated machines to deal
with the matter. All our sample sur-
veys, which are so important, are done
now by this Institute. In fact, there is
none other of that size. Our various
Government Ministries have, of
course, their own statistical depart-
ments like Food and Agriculture and
others which do very important work.
But none of them covers the whole
field and none of them can really take
into consideration the entire country
with its various problems. Obviously,
the State Governments also have their
statistical departments. Nevertheless,
it was found necessary some time ago
to have a Statistical Adviser to Gov-
ernment here, partly to advise Gov-
ernment and co-ordinate these activi-
ties. But the way of co-ordinating
these activities, the major way, is
through this Indian Statistical Insti-
tute. Many years ago, even before
independence, this Institute was func-
tioning on behalf of Government on
a contractual basis to carry out all
kinds of enquiries. Till lately, even
up till now, most of the work it has
done for Government, like sample
survey work, and the rest has been on
a contractual basis. The Institute is
a private, non-profit making society.

Now, the problem came before us
as to how to put this Institute in a
more effective relationship with the
Government. On the one hand, it was

considered undesirable to make it a governmental institution for a variety of reasons which, I think, are relevant not only in this case, but probably in other cases too. But in the matter of statistics I feel that one should have as independent an approach as possible. I do not mean to say that a Government institute does not have an independent approach. But nevertheless there would be a certain tendency, an unconscious bias, to show, let us say, that a particular Government Ministry is doing well. Their statistical department, without consciously trying to do that, could do it. Just like a kind of audit, it has to be independent and it has to get the objective facts. Therefore, it seemed desirable to us that this Institute should not be converted into a governmental institute. On the other hand, Government was giving large sums of money to it, whether on a contractual basis or as grants and it was necessary that there should be checks in regard to its work and its spending. Again, so far as spending is concerned, most people, I believe probably in this House also, are feeling that as against the necessity of having proper checks on public funds which are quite essential, we should have a certain flexibility, so that these checks do not come in the way of work being done. One of our major problems in India, not about statistics only but about the whole system of Government is that excellent as it is, there are innumerable delays in it. I am talking more about the procedures—administrative and others. To some extent perhaps it may be even said about certain Parliamentary procedures, but I am not referring to that. I am referring to administrative procedures and delays. Now, those procedures are essentially meant for having proper checks which are very desirable, but if the check prevents the thing being done or delays it so much that it is harmful, then obviously some other method has to be devised and that is a major problem which we have to face. The question often arises. We want to do things quickly in India, Five Year

Plans and all that. Can you do them through your parliamentary system of Government? Will you be driven to some other system? That question sometimes is discussed in the newspapers. Now, I think that the parliamentary system of government itself is a very good system. Of course, I believe in it. It is not so much that but the administrative aspects that delay, and there is no reason why we should not evolve administrative aspects which have proper parliamentary control, checks, etc., and yet do not delay. However, that is a larger question.

Coming to this, we had to find a way between these two, that is, a certain flexibility, a good deal of autonomy and at the same time the ability to check abuses, and ultimately even to take over the whole thing. Now, hon. Members who have no doubt read this Bill as passed by the Lok Sabha, will observe that we have tried to steer in between these two positions. It remains as it is, a private, non-profit-making organisation. But Government have taken very considerable powers of telling them what to do. They cannot change their rules or regulations without the consent of Government. So far as audit is concerned, we thought about it very carefully and we decided that we should not compel the audit being done by the Auditor-General because, excellent as the Auditor-General's office is, it also functions under certain governmental routines which may not be applicable more especially to a scientific organisation. It is one thing for a normal Government office where you can measure the work done. It is very difficult to deal in the same way with scientific organisations. Therefore, we have suggested in this Bill that the auditors should be naturally Chartered Accountants but recommended or selected by the Government on the advice of or in consultation with the Auditor-General.

Now, the really important innovation in this Bill to which I should like to draw the special attention of the House is the fact that Government

[Shri Jawaharlal Nehru.] normally can appoint any number of committees to find out what is being done, but the real thing is that they can appoint a committee to judge of performance, not only performance but achievement. Now, take audit, financial audit. It means that the auditor has to find out if money has been spent according to law and according to sanctions received. That is all his business. He cannot go beyond that. Whether the money has produced results or not is no function of the auditor. Surely, if we spend money, we spend it to get something, not merely because it has been sanctioned. What is most important for all activities of Government, therefore, is to find out what has been achieved by the money spent. That is an audit of performance or achievement. Now, in this Bill some effort has been made to bring that out. Hon. Members will see clause 8:

"The Central Government may constitute as many Committees as and when it considers necessary consisting of such number of persons as it thinks fit to appoint thereto and assign to each such Committee all or any of the following duties, namely:—

(a) the preparation and submission to the Central Government as far as possible before the commencement of each financial year, of statements showing programmes of work agreed to be undertaken by the Institute during that year for which the Central Government may provide funds, as well as general financial estimates in respect of such work; and

(b) the settlement on broad lines of the programme of such work".

What I was particular to point out was clause 9:

"The Central Government may constitute a Committee consisting of such number of persons as it thinks fit to appoint thereto for the purpose of—

(a) reviewing the work done by the Institute and the progress made by it;

(b) inspecting its buildings, equipment and other assets;

(c) evaluating the work done by the Institute; and

(d) advising Government generally on any matter which in the opinion of the Central Government is of importance in connection with the work of the Institute".

This is what I call a real audit of performance which I should like really in so many other activities which Government indulges in. And then, Government has the power to send directives, and if the directives are not carried out, Government has the power to take over the whole Institute. So, the House will observe that we have taken very adequate powers to see how work is done and left the normal working in the hands of the Institute, and it is not necessary for it to come up for sanctions, to make references on all kinds of petty things which delay. If, as I hope it will, this approach is a successful one, we should like to extend it to industrial enterprises and others also, because we cannot, at any rate I feel we should not, centralise all these activities too much under a Department of Government. There may be State-owned enterprises as many major enterprises are, and there may be many more State-owned enterprises, but I feel more and more that they should not be directed from a Department of Government or a Department of Government should not interfere too much. Even now, as the House knows, Corporations have a certain measure of freedom; maybe, that freedom may be increased and some kind of audit of achievement or performance should be instituted to see how they are doing and to pull them up whenever it is considered necessary.

Now, clause 3 of this Bill says that because of this and that "it is hereby declared that the Indian Statistical

Institute is an institution of national importance". I submit that it is the recognition of a fact. We have been really treating it as that and, what is more, it has a very high place in the world today amongst statistical institutions. It is really considered one of the principal world organisations in this line. They have actually made some contribution to the advancement of statistical science in the world, and they are now beginning to make their own computing machines—they have made some smaller ones which are used, and probably the bigger ones will be used.

If hon. Members will look at the monies given to them in the past, they will see that a very considerable sum of money, about Rs. 80 lakhs, was given last year. Out of that, over Rs. 50 lakhs, it must be remembered, are contractual, for sample surveys, and they have been given varying sums in the last few years. Of the other sum, it goes as grants or in other ways for their numerous activities. There is an International School where it is teaching people from all over Asia in statistical science. That is partly supported by the UNESCO and partly by the Government of India. And there are so many other things because it is an Institute of research training, and there are, I believe, about 2,000 persons working there at present. When I say 2,000, they are more or less specialists or are learning and trying to become specialists.

Now, in clause 5 it is said that Government may, when it considers necessary, give this Institute help through grants, loans or otherwise. That is exactly what has been happen-

ing thus far. I submit, 12 Noon therefore, Sir, that this Bill is worthy of consideration by the Rajya Sabha and ultimately of being passed as it is.

The question was proposed.

SRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal): Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are very glad today that we have got here

this Indian Statistical Institute Bill. As you know, Sir, such Bills on the subject had been proposed earlier but were withdrawn. That became the subject matter of all kinds of speculation, and we should be all glad if this speculation today is set at rest by the enactment of a measure of this kind. But then probably, the Bill could have been a little better than what it is. That is why, when we discussed these matters amongst ourselves, we felt that we might as well make a suggestion for referring it to a Select Committee, not that we want the Bill to be delayed. But if we thought along that line, it was because we felt that the matter was of such great importance that the Prime Minister who naturally would be on such a Select Committee would get an opportunity to have more intimate consultations and discussions in this matter and what is more, he would have an opportunity of meeting these staff workers, scientific workers and so on when they came before the Select Committee and gave evidence, because that would have improved the measure. I am sure he is aware of some of the things there, and naturally he has tried to find out the basis on which the Bill should be formulated.

Then again, we had another point in mind; that would have given ourselves also a little opportunity to see something more intimately on the spot by going into the details. Coming from Calcutta as some of us in this House and in the other House do, we have some knowledge of the working of this Institute. However, since this has not been done, I hope the Prime Minister will kindly note what I say and see that things are set right if they are wrong somewhere.

Now, Sir, I agree with the Prime Minister that this is in acknowledgment of an obvious fact. This Institute is a great institute and it has a status of eminence and importance not only in this country, but, I believe, abroad also. For this, naturally we must acknowledge the pioneering activity of the Director, Prof. Mahalanobis, and his ability, organisational skill and knowledge in

[Shri Bhupesh Gupta.]

this matter we have all appreciated, and I do not think that we could have begun without him and I do not think we can carry on without him. I make it very clear, but at the same time, I should also like to mention what is not often mentioned in official circles—the great work done by large numbers of scientific workers of the Institute. They are not very much famed or named that way, but silently and devotedly, whether in Delhi or in the other places or in Calcutta, they have been carrying on a magnificent work and it is they who have played also a very noble part, creative part, in making this Institute what it is today. Therefore, our good wishes and for that matter, our felicitations, should go to them as well.

Now, Sir, this is what I wish to say in the beginning. But that Institute acquires importance for another reason also. The Prime Minister is himself connected with it. I do say any Prime Minister's connection with it would have given it importance, but we have our present Prime Minister connected with the Institute, and therefore it gets an added importance. How many times have I been asked by the workers of the Institute to approach the Prime Minister about their grievances! I told them that he had no time for such matters, for going into the details. But they have always some expectations from him. Well, I do not know whether you call it the Nehru touch or not, but people have this kind of a feeling about him. But I did not try, but we asked our colleague Shri Hiren Mukherjee who has more or less regular correspondence with him over this, to deal with the correspondence part of it. But I told them that if they brought the matter to the notice of the Prime Minister, he would look into the matter because he is scientifically minded and but for his encouragement and inspiration and assistance, this institution would not have gone forward. We know it in Calcutta, everybody knows it; more so when we have some Ministers who believe in astrology rather than in statistical theories.

Therefore, Sir, I need not go into that.

The Prime Minister is responsible for it. I say this thing because he will look into the matter, now that we are giving it acknowledgment of law and we are taking certain responsibilities and obligations to give more and more attention to the affairs of the Institute.

Now, Sir, let me come to the question of autonomy. As far as autonomy is concerned, we all stand for autonomy being given to it. I do not think that it should be a departmentalised institution. We have in West Bengal the Statistical Bureau of the Food Ministry. One of my class friends who was with me in England, Mr. Gupta, is in charge of this Bureau. Statistics are made to order. If the Food Minister thinks that there is a deficit in the State, the statistics must show the deficit; if he thinks that there is a surplus in food, the statistics must show a surplus. You see, statistics rise and fall according to the mental feeling or inclination of the particular individual. Therefore, I do not like such a great scientific institution to be tied up with a particular department or even with the Government because all kinds of things happen. I do not say that the Prime Minister will ask it to prepare statistics according to his wishes. I am not at all suggesting it. But, then, some other Minister might ask it to do so. What can I do? Well, then, these people seem to do it. Therefore, it is good that it is an autonomous institution and I generally agree with him in principle when he said that such bodies should function with a great measure of autonomy and initiative left to themselves.

Then, Sir, with regard to money, yes, money should be given. There should not be any grudging in this matter, because we are developing an Institute which is important and which is going to acquire more and more importance if we are to stand for planning and planned economic

development, because planning cannot be thought of without statistical research. Whether in the field of statistical theory or in the field of applied statistics, we cannot think of planning without developing that branch of activity to the maximum possible extent. Therefore, this is important. I say this because some people seem to make a lot of fuss about money being given to it.

Then the question of audit comes. Audit there should be. It is not the type of audit that we have. Well, Sir, those who are in the Public Accounts Committee and the Estimates Committee know very well that even with all this meticulous auditing of Government expenditure, there is a lot of misuse of funds; with all the meddlesomeness and so on, many things slip through the fingers. Everybody knows it. Therefore, let us not make a fetish of that kind of direct, heavy-handed auditing by the Comptroller and Auditor-General. But some auditing has to be there. It is in the interests of the Institute. It is in public interest that audit has to be there when public money is given. A suggestion has been made. I accept it; I accept that it is a good suggestion that has been made in the Bill that Government should appoint auditors of the Institute in consultation with the Institute as well as the Comptroller and Auditor-General. It is good. Let this system operate, and then we can discuss as to whether it is satisfactory or not. But it is a good beginning; it combines autonomy with accounting. That is what I want—autonomy should go hand in hand with accounting and auditing in this matter. That is needed. Therefore, I support that clause on the whole.

Now, Sir, let me come to the direction of the Institute. Forgive me, Sir, if I make a critical observation here, because whenever I speak on this Institute, I speak with all the best intention with a view to improving it. I think in May, 1958 I made a speech here. I made certain critical observa-

tions and I also paid tributes where it belonged. But then I was very sorry to hear that the Director was personally annoyed at what I had said. I am very sorry if I have angered him. It was not my intention at all. But I thought that I should say in public interest what should be said. Therefore, it is not a question of just being blind to anything. When we build up an institute, we should be self-critical as well. Therefore, Sir, whatever criticism I make, I make subject to my acknowledgment of all the positive sides, and the positive sides naturally outweigh the negative sides or outshine the weak points.

First of all, let me come to the direction. There is a saying in Calcutta that it is a one-man show, and it has been said in another place also. Well, Sir, sometimes, perhaps in the beginning, such a kind of thing is understandable, because the pioneer becomes naturally a one-man show, when there are very few people around it. But when it develops into a big national institution, that is no longer suitable for the growth of the institution, it stunts its growth—as we say, Sir, the cult of personality. Whether it is in politics or in the scientific field, nowhere it is good. Therefore, we should more or less come out of that vice of the cult of personality, and if it is cultivated there, that should go. Now, what happens there in the direction? The Director generally goes abroad, for various reasons—I am not questioning that at all—and he is absent. The result is that a small coterie of people run the Institute, and very often they do not even have the initiative. They are too much subservient even then and they look back to him even when he is in Moscow or in Peking or Washington or London. No initiative is taken and they come to a kind of dead stop. This is no good. As you know, Sir, ultimately it creates difficulty in the way of development. Then as a result of this another thing happens, that is a hiatus exists between leadership and direction of the Institute on the one hand, and the scientific workers and

[Shri Bhupesh Gupta.]
 others on the other. This is no good. There should be synthesis among them. They should be integrated into a big vigorous and vibrant team of scientific workers. That is what I say. But that is not done, because the cult of personality comes in the way of the growth of the collective. That is what we find, and I believe this is also inside the Congress Party if I may say so; it is much more so in scientific fields. Now, Sir, this is another aspect of the matter. Therefore, I say that in order to build this Institute on very solid and correct foundations, efforts should be made through a proper internal organisation to draw more and more scientific workers—there are many of them—into the leadership and direction of this Institute. They should be given due responsibilities. They should be given proper initiative and they should be made to feel that they are the masters of the Institute; the masters should be collective that way. That is very very important. There is complaint in this respect. I have talked to many of them. I know some of them. I had studied with a few of them in England and so on. Many I know. Somehow or other, there is a feeling of inferiority complex and scientific workers can never function in conditions where you generate inferiority complex. It should not be so. Therefore, Sir, that is a point to be noted and must be looked into.

I find another thing, that the internal organisation is not suitable, and now the Bill does not go into that. That is my complaint with regard to the Bill. But then rules should be framed. First of all, I want to say in this connection that the Memorandum of this Institute is quite outmoded. It was good perhaps when the Institute was organising meetings or publishing things and so on. But today, such a Memorandum would not serve the purpose. The Memorandum has got to be revised, because what we need today is proper division of work. Recruitment of

staff, service conditions of the worker, etc. should be covered by a proper Memorandum. That is not there any more. Yet the Bill is based on the Memorandum. In fact the spirit of the Memorandum has crept into, has infiltrated into this measure. Therefore, the Memorandum which is a very old document, has to be considerably changed and revised. I hope the Prime Minister will spare time and give attention to this Memorandum, and see how it can be improved. Here is again another point.

Now, I come to the question of the N.S.S., National Sample Survey. That is very very important. In fact the Institute acquired its present status with the undertaking of this project of National Sample Survey, for which we give rightly so much money. But then there have been certain very serious shortcomings in that field of activity. First of all, the data collected take a long time to be processed. One and a half or two years they take for the data to be processed. I do not know as to why so much time should be taken. I have talked to some friends, who have some knowledge of this matter. I have not talked to the Director himself. I have seen him, but I have not had the privilege of talking to him. They seem to be of the view that it should not take such a long time. Where is the snag? There must be some defect in the organisation and an organisation, in so important a matter, is of vital importance. Therefore, that point has to be noted. Then, even when the materials had been collected—I understand that twelve rounds of National Sample Survey were completed in eight years—only one full report was published. Why is it so? That is again not very good showing. Then, Sir, always I find that even after the complete reports have been submitted to the Government—after completing the survey and after processing the data—the Government takes a long time—I do not blame the Institute here—to

publish them. Now, I find that, there is a feeling amongst some, especially amongst those who are in authority, that if the reports were found to be wrong or inaccurate—as they have been found, in some cases, to be inaccurate—it would not bring credit to the Institute. Even so, Sir, what is the harm? Let us publish them. As provisional reports, these should be made available. Otherwise the Planning Commission does not get the benefit of these reports, and some of us who would like to have an occasional look at statistical reports and so on do not have any opportunity of going through them. In their absence I think all of us will suffer, especially when the Third Five Year Plan will be discussed. Now we would like to have the materials dished out, research material, statistical material, and so on. Why should they not be made available much earlier. There is a time-lag of four years and five years between completion of survey and publication thereof. That has to be eliminated by a proper organisation and by developing the initiative. That, Sir, is another important aspect.

Then there are two other aspects of this departmental work which are called, I think, planning and R.T.S. As far as planning is concerned, it seems the planning section is proceeding on the basis of intelligent guess-work. When guess-work has to be there perhaps, and it must be intelligent; never it should be foolish. But then scientific research should not be made on guess-work, howsoever intelligent it may be. That has to be looked into. In other matters also I find that the R.T.S. aspect of it again needs a little attention. Here again things are not properly handled, and so on. I need not go into all that, but then that has to be gone into.

Then, Sir, I come to the question of the security about the workers. Two thousand workers are there in the Institute. Some people were

trying to accuse the Director, that he is perhaps guided by provincial ranking and other things. I can tell you, Sir, that I am not provincial. I do not speak as a Bengali. I speak as an Indian and next as a member of the Communist Party. No consideration of Bengali or other should creep into all these things. But some people seem to think that just because the Director is a Bengali, more Bengalis are getting into the Institute. If that is so, it is bad, but I can tell you from my investigations—I would not support such a thing, whether Bengali or Madrasi or some other, I would not support provincialism—that no such thing is there. Just because this Institute is situated in Bengal, it may be that more Bengalis are there, that more non-technical workers are Bengalis; It may be so. And there are others also. That is true, but that should not create an impression that it is an Institute of this kind, run on that basis.

[MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.]

And I think that the Director, Prof. Mahalanobis,—whatever you may or may not say—is not a provincial-minded person; he is a scientific personality. There is no doubt about that.

Then, Sir, I come to the question of security of service in the Institute. The two thousand odd workers there do not have security of service; they are on a contractual basis. From time to time I raised this matter on the floor of this House and I tried also to get it raised on the floor of the other House. This year, for instance, suddenly notices were served on these two thousand workers because of the contractual system of their service that their services would be terminated with effect from 1st of April, because the Institute pretended that no contract would be forthcoming but actually they knew that contract would be coming. But it was due to certain internal disputes that two thousand odd notices were served on

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 the workers and that created a terrible commotion in Calcutta and many newspapers came out with all kinds of comments. Sir, I have got some of these materials and it appears that some time wrong type of instructions are issued. Here I have got a document signed by the Director, Prof. Mahalanobis, dated, Calcutta, 30th January 1959. He says in that document:

"As a result of recent negotiations, Government have agreed to place project work on a contract basis with effect from 1 April, 1959.

Re-organisation of the work of the Institute has thus become necessary. The number of workers and pay and allowances of the staff would have to be determined by the type and volume of the project work and the amount of the contract grant. A time-scale (as in Government services) is not compatible with business-like contracts because there would be no guarantee of necessary funds being provided by Government indefinitely."

Please note the words "no guarantee of necessary funds being provided by Government indefinitely." Then he says in the next paragraph:

"I have therefore recommended to the President and the Council of the Institute to give notice to the workers terminating their services on present conditions; and to determine future terms and conditions of service of the workers on business-like lines in accordance with actual needs and available resources."

Then, again he says:

"There is no difference of opinion regarding audit for contract grants as the audit would be done by the Institute's own auditor as usual."

These notices were issued after a meeting of the Council. In that meeting, there was a lot of dispute and I have got all the papers connected with that meeting. Some members of the

Council said that there was no such decision taken. However, whether a decision was taken or not, these notices were issued and there was a terrible commotion in Calcutta and almost all the papers started writing about it. I also raised the question here. Now, what I say is that this sort of thing should not be allowed to happen and I would ask the Prime Minister to consider as to how such a situation could be avoided. Every year scientific workers, who are not well paid at all, are served with notices or a threat that such notices might be coming because the Government might or might not give a contract and their retention would depend on the amount of funds received from the Government. It creates confusion. It dampens their initiative and they lose faith and they seek jobs elsewhere. In fact, some people have already left the Institute. For example, Mr. Samar Roy, a very able worker of the Institute, has left the Institute. It is a very sad thing that the services of such able persons should have been lost to the Institute. Then, there is a feeling somehow or other that others do not count much in the Institute. Quite a good number of people have left the Institute. I think it is not a good thing for an Institute of national importance that they should discourage people from coming there. On the contrary, I think, they should attract talent by their attitude, attract talent by service conditions, attract talent by conditions offered, attract talent by idealism and so on. That should be the approach of an institute of this kind. But, unfortunately, somehow or other I find that despite all the good intentions on their part and on the part of everybody concerned, people are leaving the Institute because they feel insecure. Some of them left the Institute and others do not know what their future is going to be.

Then, Sir, I come to the pay-scales of the Institute. A large number of workers get very little. Their service

conditions are bad and relations between them and the higher-ups are also not good. It is not an industrial concern. It is a non-profit making scientific institution and in such an institution, one should be a little generous in such matters. There should not be the feeling that some kind of exploited labour is going on. That is bad for scientific research. Some of the unskilled workers in the Institute get Rs. 20 or Rs. 25—very low pay even for an unskilled worker. Even some of the skilled workers are not well paid. But there might be others who get a good salary at the top—I do not deny that. But generally there is a grievance on the part of the workers. I would ask the Government to give a little more money to this institution, because the money invested there is safe. Good statistics bring about economy and good statistics help better planning and, therefore, we ultimately gain in the long run whatever the loss may be due to more investment in this field. If you go to Calcutta, you go and talk to the workers. Some of them have said that they are functioning in a zamindari. I do not like this expression, but they say this and what can I say? About their representation in the Council, the workers feel that the rules are not properly followed. This is another matter which should be looked into. I think proper representation should be given to the staff in the management council. I know that employees are there in the managing council but they are the official nominees of the Director himself. I am not saying that they should not be there but along with them the chosen representatives of the scientific workers also should be there. That should be done. Otherwise, it loses its proper character, and its importance and significance are lost. Today nobody takes the council as a representative council. On the contrary, they feel that it is a kind of show and it does not matter very much at all. I think if we make proper arrangement for representation of the scientific workers in the council and for proper consultation with the repre-

sentatives of the workers, this feeling would go and it would be a good thing for the Institute. This is the other point that I would like to make.

I could have said very many things but I would not like to mention them because we are not concerned with them at this moment. The Bill will be passed. I hope the Prime Minister would answer the points raised by me, not today or tomorrow but any time that is convenient to him. I would suggest in this connection, if I may, that when he next visits Calcutta, he should find the time—for two hours or so—to visit the Institute and talk to the workers there. They are all scientific people, well-educated people, doing good research work and it is a good thing for the Prime Minister to talk to them, listen to them directly as to what they feel about the Institute and what are their suggestions about improving matters and that is the only way in which the Prime Minister can apprise himself of the situation. I do not mean to say that he is not getting proper information from the Director of the Institute but then, perhaps, if he talks to the scientific workers and others, he should have still better information as to how the Institute is running in practice.

Sir, I have nearly finished. I do not want to say anything except that I offer my wholehearted support to this measure. As you know, on the floor of this House whenever I have spoken, I have suggested that a Bill should be there and a Bill has now come, beatedly though it is and the tangle of audit has not come in its way. In fact, once I talked to Mr. Morarji Desai: "Can't you have some kind of flexible system of audit with regard to this matter?" I did it because I was interested in this Institute, which is a thing of pride for all of us. Well, his reply was favourable. But then the tangle of audit continued. Mr. Deshmukh made a speech that audit was a rock on which everything was being smashed. I think we have

[Shri Bhupesh Gupta.]
 now steered clear of the rock and we have found a solution. It is a good thing. I think good auditors will be appointed and economy in the running of the Institute effected. I would through you, Mr. Deputy Chairman, and through the Prime Minister, appeal to the Director of the Institute who controls the Institute to look into the economies of the Institute. There is a lot of scope for economy and there is a lot of wastage going on in the running of the Institute. I have got plenty of information about these affairs but the Prime Minister should himself be able to find out all the necessary information and I cannot do that for him. He should himself look into it and see that every outlet and all such improper use of funds and wrong use of funds is stopped and whatever loopholes are there plugged. There is no such thing at present and in that matter co-operation would be given by the workers of the Institute. Finally, I again pay my tribute to the workers of the Institute. I have seen in what difficult conditions they are working, going to the villages, doing their work day after day and straining at their job devotedly. Anybody would be proud of this devoted set of men. I find that they are doing excellent work. The only thing that is required is proper direction and proper organisation. Given proper leadership it will prosper.

Somehow or the other the Director does not like these time-scales of pay because, he thinks, that brings inefficiency. It is not right. The Prime Minister should go into all these matters. There is a great controversy between the workers of the Institute and the Director on this question of time-scale. Some think that this is inefficiency in the name of false sense of security. Others do not think so. That controversy is outstanding. Bills do not offer a solution to that controversy. These are some of the many questions that have

to be gone into and solution found for them.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL (Punjab):
 Sir, I rise to support the measure which has been proposed by the Prime Minister. I am sorry to hear the speech of my friend, Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, because one must recognise that this institution like one other, the Atomic Energy Commission, is an institution which makes one feel a little higher in stature when we look at them. They are wonderful institutions run by wonderful men, dedicated to this country, dedicated to their service, and I want to take this opportunity to pay my tribute and I am sure the House will join with me in offering my tribute to Prof. Mahalanobis, the Founder of this Institute, and you will forgive me for mentioning also Prof. Bhabha of the Atomic Energy Commission. One has only to visit these institutions to see the wonderful work that is being done and to feel proud about what is happening in our country because of the work being done by dedicated men, who have given their whole lives to this particular job in order that India may be great and prosperous.

In a situation of this nature, my learned friend, Mr. Bhupesh Gupta's raising little criticisms of the administration—paltry little objections—and at the same time his paying a tribute to the wonderful work done by the scientists engaged in this institution, I think, do not fit in. I have not the slightest doubt that any organisational difficulties that there might be will certainly be looked into by Prof. Mahalanobis.

Sir, it is not correct to say that it is a one-man show. My learned friend has not probably looked into the report—either the Annual Report or the other document—which has been presented to us. If he would only look into it, he will find that pages 37—102 of this particular Report cover the activities engaged in by this Institute and by the scientists engaged in this Institute. They could not

possibly be functioning under the direction of one man. All the departments are functioning separately, under very able scientists who are dedicated to their work. It is incorrect and untrue as it would not be possible for them to function if they were functioning only under the guidance of one man. As a matter of fact, here is an example of collaboration, of working together, of men who are great scientists, who are doing this great job not for money.

My friend must remember the great saga of the development of this particular institution. In 1917 a young man, who was studying at Cambridge, came back during the first World War, and then suddenly he decided not to go back to England. He stayed and became a Professor, and it is his genius and the money which he used out of his own pocket for the purpose of developing this institution which has resulted in this magnificent organisation being set up. It is not only admired by people and scientists in India, but equally admired by people and scientists abroad. Now, an institution like this, started by a dedicated young man, who has devoted his entire life, whose work has been recognized everywhere in the world, must not be criticized and one must not offer little pinpricks when we are in the presence of something that is very magnificent and very wonderful for our own people.

Now, there have been three reasons which compelled the Prime Minister, I believe, to bring in this measure. One difficulty that arose was in reference to assistance being given to this Institute which is not merely a research institute but also a teaching centre, a teaching centre of very great importance, of international renown. Assistance could not be given because under the University Grants Commission rules money could not be handed over to it as it was not a university and not considered to be such. Therefore, that difficulty had to be got over, and the difficulty is being got over now by the presentation of this Bill

and making this Institute an institute of national importance, as is contemplated in Item 64 of the Union List, Seventh Schedule of the Constitution, which says:

"Institutions for scientific or technical education financed by the Government of India wholly or in part and declared by Parliament by law to be an institution of national importance."

Therefore, any such difficulty that might have arisen will be avoided, since under the Act, this institution is now going to be considered as an institution of national importance.

The second difficulty was in connection with audit objections. The Prime Minister said just now that if the experiment that we are making, as far as this institution is concerned, succeeds, it is possible that we might take that example and apply it to other public sector organisations also. This is a very important statement that the Prime Minister has made and it is very necessary too in the context of institutions which are coming up in the course of the development of the welfare State. Till now we are governed by rules which were valid when there was no talk of a welfare State or the public sector as such except only in one or two matters like the Railways, for instance. But we are now fast developing our public sector and it is very necessary that the rules and regulations that govern the relationship of audit and these institutions should be so eased that the administrative work or the work of research in these institutions does not come to a standstill. That has been a very serious handicap. It is not only a serious handicap as far as this Institute is concerned, but it is likely to develop as a handicap in reference to all other institutions of this nature in the public sector as we develop the economy of the welfare State. Therefore, Sir, I have not the slightest doubt that this method that is being

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 adopted, namely, taking the advice of the Comptroller and Auditor General for the appointment of Chartered Accountants who will look into the financial affairs of this concern, will give them full autonomy to function as they would actually function in the private sector in reference to public limited companies today.

Those were the difficulties that compelled the Government to bring in this particular measure. A reference in this connection should really be made to the development of this institution. The three stages which are stated here of the development of this institution from absolutely nothing to something are of vital importance to our planning and to the future of our country. Every aspect of our economic and financial and industrial development depends essentially upon statistical data to be provided for the purpose of development. Unless and until we have an institution of this nature, an institution which can provide the necessary factual data, correct data—not guesswork as my learned friend, Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, said, but correct data—planning itself is likely to be jeopardized. As a matter of fact, how important this is is realized from a reference to the three stages of development of the work of this Institute.

The first stage was during the first few years of its existence when it functioned as a scientific society and also served more or less as a laboratory for analytical studies. The second stage came in when the studies were applied to actual facts of the situation, when crop surveys were ordered by the Bengal and Bihar Governments and later when the Government of India asked the Institute to prepare most of the Tables of the 1941 Census. Then came a third stage, which is now the most important stage, where the connection of this Institute with our planning and development had become most intimate. As a matter of fact, Professor Mahalanobis, for whom no praise is good enough, who

is really a man beyond praise, was invited and his Institute was invited to collaborate with the preparation of the Draft Plan Frame for the Second Five Year Plan and now he is functioning and his Institute is functioning in the closest collaboration with the Planning Commission and the Central Statistical Organisation. I submit that an institute of this nature, therefore, is an institute which should be praised as much as we can, encouraged as much as we can, in order that the work of planning and the development of our country towards its socialist aims and ends is carried on quickly, without hindrance and without the necessary difficulties that arise in the working of ordinary concerns which are in the public sector today.

Therefore, this Bill that has been presented to you, has eight aspects which must be kept in mind by hon. Members when they come to discuss the various provisions. First of all, the Bill, in essence, sets up an autonomous organisation, a Corporation, or gives it the status of an autonomous Corporation. That is very essential. As it is today, it is a private concern which receives the assistance of the Government of India and of various other organisations but it is not functioning as an autonomous Corporation. This Bill will remedy that particular defect.

The second part of this measure is that it will raise the status of this Institute to that of a University. The difficulty that arose originally, namely, that no grants of assistance could be given by the University Grants Commission to it merely because it had not the status of a University, will be avoided now under the provisions of this measure.

Then what are the objectives of this body? The objectives of this organisation are very important and must always be kept in mind. The basic objective is the advancement of knowledge of statistics and allied subjects relating to planning and national development, social welfare, collection of information for planning

and efficient management of industries, not merely industries in the public sector but industries also in the private sector because no development can now take place in India unless its base is absolutely sound and safe and the base has got to be sound and safe only on the strength of data collected for statistical purposes.

Now, the next provision in this measure is to the effect that the Government keeps a hand of control over this organisation which at present it does not possess. The Government, under the measure, has the authority to order that there should be no change in the objectives of this organisation without the consent of the Central Government. That is very very important indeed because we do not desire that the activities of this very fine organisation should be diverted towards other things which are not as essential as the matter which is in hand.

The next point that arises out of the measure is that the Government has a right to appoint a committee for preparing programmes of work. If, for instance, Government desires that a particular survey should be made, Government will now have the authority to say so to this organisation and the organisation will be under an obligation to undertake that particular task.

Finally, the Government control goes as far as the appointment of a committee to review the work of this organisation. At any time the Government can, if it is not satisfied with the operation of this organisation, order that the work of this Institute should be reviewed by a committee appointed by the Central Government. That review of the work done and the order of inspection of assets and of the state of affairs of the institution, that authority, is very important, vesting as it does under this measure, in the Central Government. In certain circumstances, where there is a danger of failure, the Central Government can take over the entire institution and function

from the Centre and control the work of this organisation.

Therefore, you will see that the measure itself is comprehensive enough and has avoided all pitfalls that, experience has shown, are likely to arise in the functioning of this Institute and its relationship with the Central Government. Therefore, I give my support and I welcome this Bill, which is now before you.

Dr. A. N. BOSE (West Bengal):
Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I have great pleasure in giving my whole-hearted welcome to this Bill which proposes to declare the Indian Statistical Institute as an institution of national importance, which it has been already for quite a number of years. Sir, for planned development on national lines, for the efficient handling of any social or economic problem, the use of statistical data and methods is essential. Surveys have to be undertaken for collection of data. Designs have to be made for samples in order to eliminate elements of bias and then the materials so collected have to be analysed, processed and examined to have a comprehensible picture of the problem. Even after developmental operations are taken in hand, a perpetual scrutiny has to be kept up, a certain sort of audit or examination of the achievements. The Institute has been forging these techniques for a number of years and has applied these for the purpose of surveys of great national importance. The first important field survey was undertaken in 1937 when the Government of Bengal made an allocation for the survey of jute crop. The allocation was continued year after year and a recurring survey was maintained, giving a tolerable forecast of the crops of Bengal for the purpose of crop planning. After 13 years, the Institute undertook the grand National Sample Survey, a project of unprecedented dimensions, a socio-economic survey which made an enquiry into the level of living of people in the different strata all over the country, a project which was perhaps the

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biggest in the world undertaken so far. Before this achievement was made on the practical side, there was hard work in the field of theoretical research to which training was added in the year 1932. In the course of 17 years thereafter, the Institute gave technical training and issued certificates and diplomas to as many as 2,504 candidates among whom are 280 trainees from foreign countries. The alumni of the Institute, who came out with its diplomas and certificates, have manned the different departments of the Governments in the Centre as well as in the States. They have adorned the teaching posts of the different Universities and scientific institutions. Government officers have been coming on deputation to the Institute to receive professional training from its very inception. Hence there is nothing new in the Bill in the sense that the Institute has already become an organisation of national importance and it has become indispensable for the Government itself.

These activities of the Institute drew the attention of statisticians from every corner of the globe. The best experts of the world have made their pilgrimage to India to visit this statistical institute and to have first-hand acquaintance with the highly technical work that is being done there. The first to visit was Mr. R. A. Fisher who is known as the founder of the science of statistics. He visited this country in 1938 and made several visits thereafter. He was followed by Harold Hotelling of America and thereafter by Walter Showhart who is known as the father of statistical quality control. Thereafter expert from China, Russia and Japan followed in a stream and the East and West met together on a common ground at a common place of pilgrimage.

The coping-stone of this achievement was laid when the International Statistical Educational Centre was founded in 1950 with the patronage of the UNESCO. This Institute has

made a turnover of as many as 347 statisticians drawn from 17 Asian countries. Meanwhile, the flow became a two-way process. Scholars of the Indian Statistical Institute have been in great demand in foreign countries, not excluding England and America, the very homes of statistical science. In 1950, two of the statisticians of this Institute went as visiting professors to the universities of America and thereafter, at the request of the universities, they adorned professorial posts. Thereafter experts of this Institute have been in constant demand in foreign countries. Sir, if today there is any branch of science in which India can take its pride of place in the world, it is the science of statistics and the focal point of this science is the Indian Statistical Institute.

Since the year 1952, this Institute has been functioning as a national institution in every conceivable sense. In that year studies of planning were added to the other faculties and as a result of these studies, Prof. Mahalanobis drafted for our Second Five Year Plan a plan-frame which was a great landmark in the history of our national planning. Thereafter, the Indian Statistical Institute has been an essential part and a vital part of our planning organisation.

Sir, I have no time to go into the past history of this Institute. I have no time, but I cannot help recalling the hectic days of the Institute during the last War. Under the stress of Japanese bombing the materials and staff had to be shifted from Calcutta to Baranagar with bombs falling within a stone's throw of the place where work of vital importance was being carried on; from there the bulk of its work and materials were shifted to Giridih. I also recall that the end of the War did not mean the end of troubles, for the Government wanted to interfere more and more into the affairs of this Institute in view of the financial assistance it had been getting. All these storms have been weathered now. I also remember, as is stated at the very beginning of the

History and Activities of the Institute, that in April, 1932 the Institute started with only one part-time computer and an annual budget of less than Rs. 250/-. Within 25 years, the Institute had on its rolls more than 2,000 regular workers, apart from the workers appointed as temporary hands and an annual budget of Rs. 84 lakhs.

The whole fabric was built up by the constructive talent of one man—P. C. Mahalanobis—and in that sense, undoubtedly it is a one-man's show. But by no stretch of imagination can one describe this Institute as the close preserve of one man. The scientific brain behind was, of course, that of one man. But the output was collective in every sense. The Institute and its scientific output, its project work, everything, has been accomplished with the collective co-operation of a team of several thousands of men and the Institute has a most democratic constitution for its functioning. The supreme power rests with the General Body of members who meet annually to frame the rules, to amend and modify the rules to elect office-bearers and the Council which is the executive body. And then various other committees are entrusted with the different functions. The members of the different branches elect their respective committees. Then there is the governing body for the research and training school. The accounts are audited by chartered accountants appointed at the general meeting of the body of members and I understand that for the last few years they are being appointed in consultation with the Government.

Sir, I am very happy that our hon. friend Shri Bhupesh Gupta, gave his support to this Bill, although he otherwise maintains a very wholesome opposition to measures brought forward by Government.

SRI BHUPESH GUPTA: No, no. Not at all.

DR. A. N. BOSE: I said wholesome opposition. Of course, he has made

some criticism and I hope the Ministry as well as the Institute will do well to take due note of this criticism. At the same time, with my personal knowledge, I may tell the House that the picture is not as gloomy as it might appear to some from these observations.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Will you take more time?

DR. A. N. BOSE: Yes, Sir, about fifteen minutes more.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: But you have already taken fifteen minutes.

DR. A. N. BOSE: I will require another fifteen minutes, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Be brief. You can continue after lunch. The House now stands adjourned till 2-30 P.M.

The House then adjourned for lunch at one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at half past two of the clock, **MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN** in the Chair.

DR. A. N. BOSE: Mr. Deputy Chairman, I was referring to the comments offered by our friend, Shri Bhupesh Gupta. He has formulated certain misgivings, some of which I share with him, some of which I feel are exaggerated and some of which are wholly unfounded. He has said that no initiative and responsibility are allowed to grow among the scientific workers and that the Institute is for all purposes a one-man show. A reference to the 'History and Activities of the Institute' which has been circulated to Members—pages 14 and 15—will show how much the senior statisticians of the Institute have been participating in the external activities, how many of them have gone to visit foreign countries on invitation from scientific societies to attend conferences and things like that. He has also referred to the delay in the processing of the data of the National Sample Survey. Occasionally, Sir, work was interrupted and delayed due

[Dr. A. N. Bose.]

to crises among the workers, due to discontent among the workers. These things are inevitable in an institution which maintains not a few dozens, not even a few hundreds, but several thousands of workers engaged in work of different sort. Last year, there was a crisis when some workers were given notice of termination of service. Everyone is aware that it was merely a formal business and that it was caused by the failure to get statutory recognition for the Institute last year. It is common knowledge that the Institute has been maintaining its permanent core of workers from annual contract or from the funds obtained through other sources and there has been no case where a worker in the permanent cadre had to be sacked for want of funds. It is true that many people have left the Institute. The case of Shri Samar Roy was mentioned. I know the case. He went first as Visiting Professor on an invitation from an American University. After he had joined the Institute again, he was offered the Chair of Statistics in the Calcutta University. He left that job also and chose a professorial post in North Carolina. Sir, is there any institution or any University in our country which can offer competitive salaries with an American University? I quite agree that the Director has his faults. I have been in personal contact with him for long years; I have served under him and I have learnt much from him. I have quarrelled with him. He has his faults and the workers also have their faults. Every human being has his own fault.

SRI BHUPESH GUPTA: You also have got your faults.

DR. A. N. BOSE: There has been worse discontentment in the Institute. I myself had to face it more than once when I had been there and in regard to some, there were reasonable grounds for discontent. Some of them were real, and there is no denying the fact. However, about one thing I can affirm without the slightest fear of contradiction and that is

this: The workers of this Institute have pay scales, leave rules, conditions of service, amenities of life and provident fund contributions. These are at par with, if not better than, what prevails in institutions of a similar nature. There is only one difference. In this Institute, one cannot get away by only signing letters or by putting up some notes on the files or by sitting behind a desk for a few appointed hours. One has to work and one has to work to precision and maintain the high quality and precision which is the distinctive feature of this Institute.

Sir, the Institute has weathered many a storm and it will weather many others in future. I had the privilege of serving the Institute for a number of years during its formative days and I had the opportunity of seeing it grow from a baby into the colossal stature of today. It is today a national institution with an international reputation and what the Bill is going to do about it is already overdue. The Bill only gives recognition to facts which were accomplished long ago.

Clause 3 seeks to declare the Institute as an institution of national importance. It has been so for at least nine years. Clause 4 seeks to entitle the Institute to hold examinations and grant degrees and diplomas in statistics. That is being done for the last twentyfive years and the diplomas and certificates are highly valued not only in this country but also in other countries of the world where statistics is cultivated as a science. Clause 5 seeks to authorise the Government to make due financial contributions to the Institute by way of grants and loans. These things are being done ever since 1935. Clause 6 provides for auditing of the accounts by a Chartered Accountant appointed in consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India. This practice was introduced recently. So, Sir, the Bill only register accomplished facts and there are only two new things that I find in this Bill. One is that the Institute now gets financial security and stability. It has not to work

from hand to mouth; it has not to wait to pass the salary bill or a cheque coming from the treasury of the Government.

Another new thing which is inserted in the Bill is the possibility of Government taking over the Institute. It is right, or there may be some contingency in the future when the Institute falls from its high tradition of quality and precision. To guard against that eventuality it is in the fitness of things that ultimate control and the right of taking over should remain with the Government.

The Prime Minister rightly cautioned the House against over-centralisation. Right now, we should start with a bold scheme or decentralisation and we have to start with educational and scientific institutions of this kind. Like a tender plant educational and scientific institutions thrive best under the sun of liberty. Many an institution of this kind built up and nursed by private enterprise has been stereotyped under bureaucratic control. Among Government circles there is the unwholesome tendency to extend control commensurate with financial assistance. Sir, let us guard against that tendency and let us see that the Indian Statistical Institute is spared the fate which has overtaken so many other institutions of this kind due to unnecessary and excessive Government control. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI P. D. HIMATSINGKA (West Bengal): Sir, this Bill has been framed in a manner which serves both the purposes of allowing an autonomous body to function and at the same time limiting the amount of control to the minimum necessary for seeing that the money that the Government will be paying is properly utilised. It is with that end in view that a society which was registered under the Societies Registration Act is being declared to be an institution of national importance. Inasmuch as a lot of money will be given by the

Government for getting various statistics prepared by the Institute, certain provisions have been incorporated in the Bill in order to see that the money is properly utilised and that the work which the Government expect and which other bodies expect from this Institute is properly carried on. As you will find, there is a synthesis if I may call it so. There is autonomy and at the same time there are certain provisions for seeing to it that the accounts are properly audited by Chartered Accountants approved by the Auditor-General and for ensuring that the rules and regulations which are there are not altered to the detriment of the institution.

Sir, the hon. Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, while supporting the Bill, introduced certain extraneous matters which did not concern the provisions of the Bill. They are minor matters about staff, pay and all that and that will be looked after by the institution itself. The provisions in the Bill are for the purpose of making this Institute a useful body for being able to render proper service to the country and I think the Bill has been very well framed and deserves the support of the House. Sir, I wholeheartedly support the Bill.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: Mr. Deputy Chairman, the reaction of the House to this Bill has been not only favourable but, if I may say, enthusiastic. Mr. Bhupesh Gupta did say something in criticism but as the last speaker pointed out, it has nothing to do with the Bill. It was about internal management, some internal difficulties that might have arisen in the past, with the memorandum and all that. These are matters which could be looked into and undoubtedly from time to time they will be looked into. At the present moment the sole question before the House is this Bill as it is. There was some vague mention, I think, by Mr. Bhupesh Gupta about reference to a Select Committee. The Bill is so simple—there is

[Shri Jawaharlal Nehru.]

nothing complicated about it—that there is no necessity for reference to a Select Committee, apart from the fact that there is no formal motion to that effect.

Sir, one thing I should like to mention. It is our intention and the Institute's intention to send the Annual Reports to be placed on the Table of the Houses so that Parliament may be kept in touch with the Reports, Accounts, etc.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill to declare the institution known as the Indian Statistical Institute having at present its registered office in Calcutta to be an institution of national importance and to provide for certain matters connected therewith, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 to 12 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: Sir, I move:

"That the Bill be passed."

The question was proposed.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, the Prime Minister has been extremely brief in his reply but he has given an assurance that the various points connected with the internal administration of the organisation would be looked into. I attach much importance to this assurance and I am sure that he would look into that.

I did not give any motion for reference to a Select Committee precisely because I felt there was no purpose. I want this Bill to be passed. It was

wholesome support—it was not wholesome opposition—with little demur here and there, minor ones. Therefore, I said that I should have liked if we had had an opportunity for the matter to be taken to a Select Committee. But that does not matter; it could be looked into otherwise also.

I do not know why my friend, Diwan Chaman Lall, felt a little sorry. I pointed out certain things. If a Bill comes and I support it, it would not do if I merely say 'I support it' and then sit down. I will not be fulfilling my function; certainly not from the Opposition. That is the point. I read the Prime Minister's speeches in the other House and he is quite right when he says that this Bill is not directly concerned with the internal matters of the organisation but then by implication it is. And we are on the subject. An institute is being recognised as an institution of national importance. I also note that the Prime Minister had said that the Report will be placed on the Table and when the Report is placed every year I shall at least demand a discussion on it. There is no doubt about it because we would like to discuss it every time. We discuss here controversial subjects; there are many such things. These are matters by a discussion of which we educate ourselves; at least I educate myself. When I was handling plenty of material about this Statistical Institute, I felt I was educating myself on a matter of which I had no grasp at all. Therefore, it helps us.

Now, I make a few suggestions to the Prime Minister. About his meeting them, I hope he will bear it in mind—he has not said anything—when he goes to Calcutta, because they are very anxious to meet him. Once they came here and tried but Mr. Vishnu Sahay met them. Probably, the Prime Minister was busy at that time, and they went away, but they were satisfied in this case that the Prime Minister at least referred them to somebody else. Naturally you can

well understand that Mr. Vishnu Sahay in no way could be taken by them as a substitute for the Prime Minister when they came to meet the Prime Minister. Therefore, that is important.

Now, Sir, about their service conditions, I say that is very important—security of service, promotion, and so on. Now, he said that people left. He mentioned Mr. Samar Roy. Am I to understand that he has gone just because there is more money there? If that is so, then I hold no brief for him.

DR. A. N. BOSE: Then, he might have gone to the Calcutta University which offered him the Chair of Statistics.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I do not know. Dr. Bose is more conversant with this subject. But if he has gone for money, I would not hold any brief for him, because we can never compete with Americans in this matter. I do not know, but I am told that people do not at all feel that way. Therefore, the service conditions, promotion, security of service, etc. are important.

Now, we have got the contract clause. I do not know how it will affect, but I hope that no more notices of this kind will be served, mass-scale notices served on two thousand people saying that "your services would be terminated."

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No repetitions.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I hope that it will not be done. Then, Sir, the matter should be discussed with these people and settled. I do not say anything more because I expect a little more discussion.

As regards the training and diplomas, degrees and so on, the University will come and like any other University, it will function as a University. Therefore, some kind of educa-

tional council or academic council would be necessary, because in a big way it will now be dealing with this question of training and education where diplomas and degrees will be given. That point should also be considered by the Institute.

Sir, I do not wish to say anything more, although I would have said much more if the Prime Minister were not involved in it in the sense that he is concerned. I leave it in his hands. No Select Committee, no amendment, nothing of the kind is required. Therefore, I am saying nothing except that I leave it in his hands. I hope that whatever suggestions we have made or we may be making in future, he would give them a little personal attention, look into them and set things right. The Institute has done a great service and it has a very great future. We should also help it and contribute towards its growth.

Just before I sit down, I would again take this opportunity to pay my tribute to the many devoted workers of the Institute, who have done excellent work, not always in congenial circumstances, I must say. And if I said "one-man show" it was not that I discounted what they were doing. They have done good work. It is collective functioning. But then I was talking from the administrative point of view, from the point of view of direction. That is the position. We have got a fine set of people there. They must be nursed. They should be developed and they should be made the masters of the Institute, so that it remains not only as an institute of national importance, but its significance grows year by year and it radiates its authority and its influence and its other role in every sphere of national planning here and, if I may say so, also abroad in many ways. We wish this Institute well and I hope these matters will be looked into.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND (Uttar Pradesh): Mr. Deputy Chairman, I am

[Shri Amolakh Chand.]

very grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak about this Institute which has done pioneering work in the field of statistics. I would not like to take any more time of the House, but I would remind you that on the 17th December it was resolved that this Institute should come into existence and we are glad that on the 17th December, that is today, we are passing this important Bill. I hope that it will receive the assent of the President also on the 17th. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Any reply?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: No, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

THE APPROPRIATION (NO. 8) BILL
1959

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA): Sir, on behalf of Shri Morarji Desai, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1959-60, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Any speech?

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA: I would like to make a very small speech. The Bill arises out of the Supplementary Demands of Rs. 1464.84 lakhs voted by the Lok Sabha on the 11th December, 1959 and the expenditure of Rs. 32,000 "charged" on the Consolidated Fund of India, as detailed in the Supplementary Demands

Statement presented to the House on 2nd December, 1959.

Full information about the individual demands has, as usual, been given in the foot-notes of the statement. I propose, therefore, to make a brief reference only to the main items. On Revenue Account a sum of Rs. 23 lakhs is being asked for payment to cultivators for the purchase of opium following a better crop and Rs. 2 lakhs in connection with the setting up of the National Defence College. On Capital Account a sum of Rs. 7.37 crores is required for the import of fertilizers which will be recovered in full from their sale proceeds. The Oil and Natural Gas Commission set up as a result of the Act passed in the last session of the Parliament accounts for a provision of Rs. 5.55 crores; but the unspent balance of Rs. 2.7 crores provided in the original Budget under the Revenue grant for the former departmental Commission will be surrendered. A sum of Rs. 1.08 crores is needed for the additional contribution to the National Co-operative Development and Warehousing Board for the implementation of the new co-operative policy and development of co-operative sugar factories. An additional provision of Rs. 40 lakhs has been made for the refund of earnest money deposits collected under the scheme for controlled distribution of sugar as a result of the decision to continue the scheme for the next sugar season.

Sir, I move.

The question was proposed.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, fertilizer has been mentioned. I am glad that it has been mentioned. It is very important, and as stated in one of the speeches of the Food Minister even, a lot of money is necessary for it and we should see the money being spent. But I can tell you and I will go on repeating *ad nauseum* if you will permit me, that a lot of scandal is going on in this particular item, fertilizers. As far as our State

is concerned, they do not reach the agriculturist. They go into the black-market and some big people connected with some high people in high positions are carrying on blackmarketing. Everybody knows it. The Central Government should come into the picture, because fertiliser is not a small matter to be left in their hands. They should find out facts. Everything that we say may not be right, but then I have enquired personally and I find that names and numbers are there and I feel that the Government also know that they should do something about it. The agriculturists do not get it. From Bengal they go outside to other States, and *vice versa*. That is a thing which should be stopped, because we are short. Now, every ounce of fertiliser should be properly used and should reach the actual cultivators, cultivators specially in areas who should get priority, and the Government should also be interested in this matter.

This is all I have to say, Sir.

SHRI N. M. LINGAM (Madras): Sir, I wish first to take up the Supplementary Demand No. 9, "Defence Services—Effective—Army." The proposal is to set up a Defence College at Delhi. The decision of the Government in this regard is in pursuance of the recommendations of the Estimates Committee that instead of sending batches of our officers to England every year, there should be a Defence College in the country itself. I do not know whether after the establishment of this College, the higher personnel in our Army would continue to be sent abroad for higher training. I feel that even after the establishment of the College, it would be necessary for our officers to be sent abroad for advanced training to countries where the science of defence is certainly more advanced than in our own country.

Then again, Sir, there is the Defence Services Staff College at Wellington. I do not know if this College will not

serve the purpose of a Defence College which is envisaged by Government under this Demand. The Government has not given us an assurance that the setting up of this College will save the exchequer the expenditure that is now being incurred for sending our teams abroad.

Thirdly, I wish to say that if Government eventually go ahead, as they intend to do, with the establishment of the College, it should not be located at Delhi. You know, Sir, that Delhi is becoming very congested, and that every conceivable institution is having its habitat here. So, in the interests of dispersal of all important institutions, it is necessary that this institution should be at a central place far away from the maddening crowd and influence of Delhi which are not very healthy for an institution like this. It may be in any other place.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN (Andhra Pradesh): Like Hyderabad.

SHRI N. M. LINGAM: Let it not be in New Delhi. I know that even the civil servants are reluctant to go out of Delhi. Government's best efforts at dispersal of officers from Delhi have proved infructuous so far.

DR. W. S. BARLINGAY (Bombay): We can do it in Nagpur or Pachmarhi.

SHRI N. M. LINGAM: It may be that the officers have an attraction for Delhi and that they would like the headquarters to be in Delhi itself. But in the larger interests of the country there should be dispersal of at least the institutions that come into existence hereafter, and I have a horror of concentration of these institutions in Delhi itself. That is all that I have to say about this Demand regarding the Army.

Then, Sir, I wish to say a few words about Demand No. 121 of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. The demand is for the import of fertilisers. It was only the other day that we had a debate on the food situation in the country, and the hon. Minister of Food was good enough to assure the House that

[Shri N. M. Lingam.]

he would not leave a single stone unturned to see that the fertilisers required by the country were provided by import in the first instance, and secondly by the setting up of fertiliser plants in the country. Sir, it is true that the hon. Minister has given us this assurance. But what we see in the countryside today is that in spite of the fact that an intensive propaganda has been done by the Community Development organisation and Government Departments generally for the greater use of chemical fertilisers, the fertilisers do not reach the cultivator. Even this provision that is made in this Demand, I feel, is not adequate to meet the demands of the people for increasing food production. I only expect that an assurance will be given by the hon. the Deputy Finance Minister that this will meet all the requirements of fertilisers in the country at least in the coming one or two seasons.

That is all that I have to say, Sir.

श्री निरंजन सिंह (मध्य प्रदेश) :
उपसभापति महोदय, मैं कालेज के सम्बन्ध में जो कुछ कहना चाहता था मेरे पूर्व वक्ता के भाषण के बाद मेरा काम हल्का हो गया है। असल बात मुझे यह कहनी है कि हम कभी कभी बड़े देशों या पुराने देशों की बातों की नकल अपने देश में भी करना चाहते हैं। जिस तरह से लन्दन में डिफेन्स कालेज है—इम्पीरियल डिफेन्स कालेज है—उसी तरह का डिफेन्स कालेज हम दिल्ली में भी खोलना चाहते हैं। मेरा तो यह खयाल है कि उसी कालेज की नकल करने के लिये यह बात सोची गई है और सरकार इस तरह का कालेज दिल्ली में खोलने जा रही है। जिस तरह से लन्दन कैपिटल में डिफेन्स कालेज है उसी की नकल करने के लिये सरकार भी इस कालेज को दिल्ली या नई कैपिटल में खोलना चाहती है। उपसभापति महोदय, मैं इस सम्बन्ध में यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि चाहे जितने भी कालेज

हों—खासकर जो टेक्निकल कालेज हों—चाहे वे इन्कम टैक्स से सम्बन्ध रखते हों, अर्थात् ए० एम० के हों या मिलिटरी से सम्बन्ध रखते हों—वे सब कभी भी दिल्ली में नहीं रखे गये। आइ० ए० एम० का ट्रेनिंग कालेज पहले अजमेर में था और इन्कम टैक्स का कालेज नागपुर में था। इसी तरह से जितने भी टेक्नीकल कालेज थे वे सब बाहर ही थे, कोई भी कैपिटल में नहीं रखा गया। मेरी समझ में यह बात नहीं आती है कि यह कालेज सरकार क्यों दिल्ली में खोल रही है।

उपसभापति महोदय, दूसरी बात में यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि इस कालेज में कितने लोगों को हायेस्ट ट्रेनिंग दी जायेगी। क्या इसमें कर्नल्स, मेजर जनरल्स को ट्रेनिंग दी जायेगी या छोटे छोटे आफिसरों को, यह बात अभी तक नहीं बतलाई गई है। अगर आप इस कालेज में हायेस्ट ट्रेनिंग देना चाहते हैं तो मेरे खयाल में दिल्ली उसके लिये अनुकूल जगह नहीं है। पहले देहरादून में इस तरह का कालेज था क्योंकि वहाँ का वातावरण स्वच्छ था किन्तु दिल्ली में इस तरह का वातावरण नहीं है। इसलिये मैं समझता हूँ कि आपने दिल्ली में इस कालेज को स्थापित करने का जो निर्णय किया है वह गलत है। इसका कारण मैं आपको बतलाना चाहता हूँ और वह यह है कि अगर आपने इस कालेज को यहाँ पर स्थापित किया तो इसमें पोलिटिकल इन्फ्लुएंस आ जायेगा। मिलिटरी वालों को पोलिटिकल इन्फ्लुएंस से बचना चाहिये क्योंकि देश के डिफेन्स का भार उन्हीं के ऊपर होता है। अगर आप मिलिटरी में पोलिटिकल इन्फ्लुएंस डालना चाहते हैं तब आप दिल्ली में यह कालेज स्थापित कर सकते हैं, इसमें मुझे कोई एतराज नहीं होगा। किन्तु जब आप मिलिटरी को देश का रक्षक मानते हैं तो उसे ऐसी जगह पर शिक्षा दी जानी चाहिये कि जहाँ पर वातावरण स्वच्छ हो और किसी तरह का पोलिटिकल असर

उस पर न पड़े तथा वह अपनी शिक्षा सम्बन्धी तरह से प्राप्त करे।

दूसरी चीज उपसभापति महोदय, मुझे यह कहनी है कि यह टेन्डर किस बेमिस पर मांगे जाते हैं यह बात मेरी समझ में अभी तक नहीं आई। सरकार एम-फैक्टरी प्राइम लेकर टेन्डर मांगती है और टेन्डर कॉल करने के बाद फिर वह अपना फैक्टरी वानों को ही लौटा देती है। इस तरह से सरकार इस सदन से ४० लाख रुपये की डिमांड करती है जो मेरी समझ में उचित नहीं है। बाज़ार में आज जो कंजुमर है उसकी कठिनाइयां बढ़ती जा रही हैं और सरकार मिल मालिकों को पैसा देना चाहती है। आप को मालूम है कि यू० पी० में केन प्रोबर्स में, किसानों में, बड़ा डिस्सेटिस्फैक्शन है क्योंकि उनको पूरा पैसा नहीं मिलता है, लेकिन मिल मालिकों को सरकार कांटी-जेंसी फंड में से या यहां के बजट में से रुपये निकाल कर देना चाहती है। इसलिये यह ४० लाख का डिमांड अनुचित है।

यही दो बातें मैं कहना चाहता हूँ। इनके ऊपर यदि माननीय मंत्री जी प्रकाश डालेंगे तो ज्यादा अच्छा होगा।

SHRI P. S. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU (Madras): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, additional allotment is required for the purchase of fertilisers. The two previous speakers had spoken about the necessity of going in for more fertilisers with the object of growing more food in the country. Mr. Bhupesh Gupta had mentioned his experiences in his State, about the fertilisers not reaching the agriculturists. Sir, there is no second opinion about the requirements of more fertilisers in the country. As the hon. Food Minister has stated during the course of the debate on food the other day, our requirements are 18.5 lakh tons for the year 1959-60, but our indigenous manufacture is only 4.5 lakh tons. So, the rest,

namely, 14 lakh tons, has to be imported. But what was actually imported this year amounted to only about four or five lakh tons, thus leaving a net deficit of about nine or ten lakh tons. That was the state of affairs till last year. Time and again, on the floor of this House several Members had asked for the import of more fertilisers, but replies had been given that due to want of foreign exchange, no fertilisers could be imported. I am glad, Sir, that now the Government is coming forward before Parliament asking for more funds for the import of more fertilisers. I am glad that the Government have realised the necessity of importing more fertilisers without which we cannot grow more food at all in the country. If I am able to understand the position from the figures, even this additional allotment for the import of fertilisers is not going to meet the entire requirements of the country. Even then it looks as though there is going to be a certain amount of gap between demand and supply. I would urge that the Government should come forward for the purchase of more fertilisers so that the entire requirements of the country could be met.

Much could be said in the matter of distribution of fertilisers. There is a certain amount of truth in saying that fertilisers do not reach the cultivators at fair prices. That defect is in the distribution system. There is no uniform distribution system in the whole country. Distribution is left to the State Governments, whereas procurement is left to the Central Government. The Central Government procures the fertilisers and distributes them through the various agencies appointed by the State Governments. In the matter of the distribution of fertilisers it is the responsibility of the State Government. Some State Governments distribute them through their accredited merchants. Certain States distribute them entirely through the co-operatives, for instance, Andhra. Certain States like Madras, distribute them both through the merchants and

through the co-operatives. Most of these members have their supply only at the local level and when the shortage comes then they have to walk a number of miles to go to the main store. And even when they do so, it is most trouble to walk there for the purpose of fertiliser, nothing is available to them. The main thing, Sir, should be that the Government should ensure that the supply of fertiliser is taken care of and when there is a shortage, the whole thing goes to the Government and the price goes up. When the commodity goes to the hands of the monopolists, they put up the price and the poor agriculturists are not able to get the fertiliser at reasonable prices at all. And there is no other alternative to the agricultural sector most of the agriculturists in the country have become highly-minded fertiliser-minded. In all days they were using organic manure. Now, they have observed in the use of nitrogenous fertilisers, thank to the government made by the various State Governments and the various Agricultural Departments. Due to the intensive propaganda made by the various State Governments, the agriculturists have taken to nitrogenous fertilisers and when they want those now they are not getting their necessary requirements. And when they do not get the nitrogenous fertilisers, they would rather not feed the soil at all instead of resorting to the other alternative measures like farm-yard manure or any other kind of manure, and the ultimate result of the whole thing is that food production suffers in the country. So I would suggest that there should be a uniform distribution policy about fertilisers in the country at least till such time as the Government of India is in a position to supply the entire fertiliser needs of the agriculturists. So long as there is a short supply of fertilisers, the Government of India should be vigilant and they should have an eye on the distribution of the fertilisers in the country and not leave it to the sweet will and pleasure of the State Governments, particularly when it is

the responsibility of the Central Government to procure the fertilisers and distribute them to the State Governments for the benefit of the agriculturalists.

Sir, the state of affairs is going to be there only for one or two years, not more than that. We are going to get fertilisers from Bengal. Probably, in about a year or two, the factory there will go into production. Even the stockpile we have seen in the papers that in Bihar fertiliser manufacturing has been inaugurated yesterday, and we will have some stocks of this or fertilisers available. So I wish that for these one or two years, the Government should be very careful in the manner of distribution to States and we that a uniform policy is adopted in the matter of distribution of fertilisers so that fertilisers reach the remotest villages in the villages' hinterlands and they are not made to walk to the urban areas for the purchase of fertilisers, only to get back to their villages without getting anything.

I am glad, Sir, that additional allocations is made for the National Co-operative Development and Warehousing Board for the purpose of the requirements of the State Governments for the development of co-operative organisations in the country. Sir, we find that about Rs. 75 lakhs are needed for the purpose of credit-creating programmes for the 10,000 service co-operatives that are to be organised in the country during 1965-66, both for the organisation of new societies and for the conversion of the existing single-unit societies into multipurpose service co-operative societies and also towards the contribution of share capital for 500 marketing societies and 150 processing units.

Sir, the Working Group appointed by the concerned Ministry had suggested a greater outlay for the co-operatives in the country, and as a result of it the Government have come forward with this additional provision of Rs. 100 crores, and I am glad that this requirement is felt and

the additional provision is made. In addition to this, a provision of Rs. 30 lakhs is made for giving loans to the State Governments to enable them to participate in the share capital of the four co-operative sugar factories to be organised in the country. Sir, my feeling about the whole thing is that this allocation of Rs. 30 lakhs is not going to meet the requirements of these four co-operative sugar factories. It means that only Rs. 7½ lakhs will be the contribution towards share capital that would be made by the respective State Governments for each of the four co-operative sugar factories. As experience in recent years has shown, the establishment of even a medium-sized co-operative sugar plant costs between Rs. 80 lakhs and Rs. 1 crore, and this allocation of Rs. 7½ lakhs is not going to serve the purpose. The balance has to be met by borrowings from the Industrial Finance Corporation. But then the policy of the Industrial Finance Corporation now seems to be to advance only about Rs. 50 lakhs for each sugar plant, and with the small amount of loan that is sanctioned by the Industrial Finance Corporation and with this meagre allocation towards share capital made by the various State Governments ultimately the co-operative sugar factories would suffer for want of enough finance. As a result, at the nick of the moment the factories may not be in working condition for want of enough finance. So, I would submit, Sir, that the Government of India should be more liberal in allocating funds to the State Governments to enable them to participate not only in the share capital of the sugar factories but also to be in a position to come to their financial assistance, whenever it is needed by these factories.

With these few words, Sir, I resume my seat.

SHRI V. PRASAD RAO (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I shall confine my remarks to Demand No. 9 which relates to the establishment of a Staff College for senior officers. I am glad

at least now the Government is trying to establish a Staff College for senior officers, but I am afraid, Sir, the mere establishment of a Staff College will not suffice unless the whole of our thinking on the problem of the entire strategy of our defence itself is re-modelled and unless—to quote our own hon. Prime Minister—we look ahead, and leave our traditional method of thinking as far as defence is concerned.

Many a time it has been pointed out, Sir, from this House that in matters of defence we have bound ourselves too much to the chariot of the Commonwealth, to the so-called Commonwealth defence strategy. It has been also pointed out—and history has conclusively proved—that a country should follow a strategy which is based upon its resources, upon its genius and upon the industrial development or technique of the particular country. We cannot try and keep up with Joneses in matters of defence. We cannot try to ape some other country, because the needs of our defence are mainly dependent on and flow from the policy we adopt in foreign affairs. Viewing from that angle, Sir, if we examine our defence strategy, I am afraid no new reorientation has taken place as far as strategy is concerned. Take for instance the purchase of the aircraft carrier itself. We are not carrying war to other countries' shores. Our strategy should be mainly concerned with defending our own country when an aggressor comes and attacks us, and any student of military strategy perfectly understands that an aircraft carrier is not a pre-eminently suited vessel for carrying on the defence side. Had we spent that much amount on strengthening our own coastal batteries or, even for that matter, guided missiles to combat, then certainly our defences would have been far stronger than that additional strength obtained by spending more than Rs. 2 crores on this obsolete type of thing. I can quote like this so many instances. We have that way too much bound ourselves with the strategy that is being adopted by the

[Shri V. Prasad Rao.]

Commonwealth. We have not taken into consideration the actual needs of our strategy. So, it is not merely enough to say that we have established our own Defence College. I think fundamental re-thinking should go along with this. Unless we think afresh of the needs of our own strategy flowing from out of our own foreign policy, really, our defence policy will not be in line with our foreign policy if that line of strategy which is now in evidence is not revised. It is not weapons alone that decide a war. Many a time, even backward countries, when they are fired with zeal and enthusiasm, when they follow the correct strategic principles, certainly have stood against much bigger armies, more well-armed and more well equipped also. The whole of China rose to a man against Japan. Military pundits had declared that the Chinese army—of course under the leadership of Chiang Kai-shek—would not be able to stand even for a few days before the armed might of the Japanese. Those pundits had been wrong and their prophecies had been belied. China rose to a man and stood against Japan. It was not that China was better equipped than Japan. No. It was because they correctly understood the forces that were working in their favour, and they used it to their best advantage. I can understand the Deputy Minister gesticulating. But it is not gesticulating that would help us much. He should at least seriously think about this matter. I know, Sir, that one of our Deputy Ministers of Defence said on the floor of this House that as far as matters of defence were concerned, it would be better to be conservative than be experimenting with them. If such is the outmoded attitude we have in matters of defence, namely, that we cannot take realities into consideration and make the necessary and bold experiments in matters of defence so that our country could be better defended, I should be only sorry. So, it is not merely a question of establishing a Staff College. I wish that our

strategy planners take the experience of every country. It is not only of Britain, but take the military experience of every country and thus try to enrich our own military science and see that our own independent military line is followed where matters of defence are concerned. And then, Sir, . . .

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Have you finished?

SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: One more remark about these Warehousing Boards and I conclude. It is related to Demand No. 108. At the time the Warehousing Corporations Act was under consideration, Mr. Deputy Chairman, it had been clearly pointed out that from the co-operative sector hardly 5 per cent. of the rural credit was met. For an improvement in this direction it had been clearly suggested that the present form of security demand from the farmers should be changed, and unless their standing crops also were taken as security, nothing much would come of that extension of rural credit.

SHRI P. S. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: A committee is examining the whole thing. The V. L. Mehta Committee recently appointed by the Government is examining it.

SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: I think action should be expedited. At the time of that Bill the then Food Minister, Mr. Ajit Prasad Jain, gave an assurance to the House that the whole issue would be examined and examined immediately and that necessary decisions would be taken. Sir, more than three years have passed since that assurance was given to the House, but still I am being told that another committee is examining the whole issue. Even now, at the end of the third year of the Second Five Year Plan, even now I think the credit that is being advanced by the co-operative societies and warehousing corporations does not exceed more than 5 per cent. of the total rural credit. So if things

are to be radically improved, then certainly the standing crops must also be taken as security. Unless this is done, nothing much would come out of these State Warehousing Corporations and the Central Warehousing Corporation. I hope the hon. Minister would see to it that this method particularly is accepted.

Thank you, Sir.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH (Madhya Pradesh): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I have a few remarks to make in respect of two different Demands. To begin with, I take up Demand No. 131. It is about underground cable scheme for Army Headquarters. I find from the explanations that are given that this proposal was first submitted in the month of May, 1959. I would only wish and expect the hon. Minister in charge of Transport and Communications to realise or to just envisage what conditions prevailed on that very wet day in this city of Delhi in the month of July last year when everywhere it was flooded and all lines of communication had broken down. I think he knows something of defence strategy. I think the hon. Minister appreciates that if certain eventualities were to come, just bombing out of one exchange here and another exchange there should not paralyse the whole telephone system or the system of other communications. So, I would wish that this sort of scheme—underground cable scheme—should not only be extended to Army Headquarters but also for Air Headquarters and for administrative purposes. I do think that the hon. Minister will look into the matter and we will hear more about these matters when he presents his Demands at the time of the General Budget.

Now, coming to Demand No. 9, while I welcome the fact that a National Defence College is going to be inaugurated and started here in India, I agree with some of the previous speakers who said that its location is not very right. I entirely agree with them on this point. I think that

it should be located in a place where the climate is more salubrious and the officer scholars can give more of their time and have less of diversion for, above all, at least in such matters, more of attention and fuller concentration is wanted. Therefore, Sir, I would earnestly plead with the hon. the Defence Minister to have this College located in a different place and in a much cooler climate.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND (Uttar Pradesh): Why?

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: Because in Delhi, there are so many diversions.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: But so is in London.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: Well, my friend forgot that London had its own traditions of defence and Delhi had always fallen a prey—more than once,—that a student of history can tell him in detail.

Now, Sir, I have a few comments to make in respect of the Defence College itself. I have carefully gone through the details of the number of posts sanctioned and I find that there is a very serious omission in them. A Defence College like this should necessarily have a first class library. Without a good library, such a College cannot be a success and I find that in the list of posts sanctioned, Librarian's name is completely missing. I rather regret this omission. I think the Army can plan better.

As I said in the very beginning, I welcome the establishment of a Defence College but I have very serious and grave misgivings as to how far in the early stages of its establishment it would be a real success. I have very great respect for our Generals, and for our Commanders but hard realities cannot be ignored. It has to be admitted that none of them have handled major warfare and some of the persons who may be in charge of this training, have not gone through that rough side and seen the

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practical things. It is not very easy. Therefore, Sir, I would beg of the hon. the Defence Minister to consider if it is not very necessary or useful that at least during the early stages certain eminent veteran soldiers from outside may be called upon to come and deliver various series of lectures in this College. I think that will do us a lot of good.

Sir, I pleaded more than once with this House that what India needed today was a complete reorientation and developing its own school of war. But what we find today—the entire training—is nothing but an unchanged continuation of the past and we cannot possibly go on with that. We have got to develop our own strategy and our defence training will have to be reorientated and completely based on the changed conditions. Therefore, I would wish and hope that this Defence College will ultimately lead to a step in the right direction in that respect. I, therefore, while welcoming this Defence College do hope that something should be done and will be done in that respect in future when this College comes into being.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I do not agree with Dr. Raghubir Sinh, the previous speaker, that this College—this new training College—should not be at Delhi. Probably, he has not read page 4 of the Explanation to the Demands for Grants where it is said that every year two or three officers belonging to the Defence Services and Civil Services used to be sent for training to the Imperial Defence College in London. Now, Sir, he wants that our senior army officers and civil officers, who are to be trained in this College, . . .

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: It is all an arm-chair talk.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: I am talking like a lay-man, not having much knowledge of the Armed Forces, and I know that you have been

there in the Armed Forces. But I may point out that if it is for cadets, there is Khadakvasla or there is Dehra Dun. But if you want to train senior officers, you have to put them at a place where they can see the life of this world. What my friend wants is that they should be far away from the capital and they should not have that general and other training here in Delhi and they should be only in their own barracks and in their own Companies. Sir, he claims that he belonged to the Army. I do not belong to the Army. That is correct. But why should we deprive our officers of the privilege of living in big cities and force them to be unacquainted with conditions and problems of cities?

SHRI LAVJI LAKHAMSHI (Bombay): Don't you see the very result of the segregation that you find in him?

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: We want our officers to know the problems of the city also. My friend forgets that there was a water breakdown last year and the Army came to our help and the Army was led by senior officers and they were doing the work day and night.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: Do you mean to say . . .

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Don't disturb him. Nobody disturbed you while you were speaking. Let him go on.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: It was the report of the Estimates Committee of 1958-59 in which it was recommended that there should be a Defence College in India and the Government in its wisdom thought that New Delhi was the most suitable place for such a College. I do agree with him, however, that there should be other persons visiting that College and giving lectures and all that. As far as this is concerned, this is a right step in the right direction, as suggested by the Estimates Committee and

it is now right and proper that the Government should come up with supplementary demands for this purpose.

Then, I come to page 12 and that is about Demand No. 121. There, as once I pointed out on an earlier occasion, I fail to understand why, when the Government goes in for arbitration, all the cases are decided against the Government. I am referring to item (b) on page 12 of the Supplementary Demands for Grants. Sir, it is said:—

"In 1954, 10,000 tons of Sulphate of Ammonia were procured from America, through the D.G.S. & D. Payment for the cost of stores was made at the official exchange rate. The firm demanded payment at the then ruling bank rate of exchange which involved extra payment of cents, 0.14 per rupee, amounting in all to Rs. 18,500 in respect of the entire contract. As the Government were not agreeable to pay this amount, the contractors referred the case to arbitration."

Sir, in such a simple case, where the price has to be paid according to the rate, and the exchange rate goes up, how can anybody agree to take the money according to the rate which was prevalent at a previous time? Naturally, what do we find? We find that as the Government were not agreeable to pay, the contractors referred the case to arbitration. In accordance with the award, besides the sum of Rs. 18,500/- an additional sum of Rs. 7,075/- is payable to the firm towards interests, cost of reference etc., etc. The actual amount thus payable becomes Rs. 25,575/-.

Sir, it is only an illustrative case. We find that in all these cases the arbitrators are usually Government officers or special counsels engaged in so many cases. Now, whenever a case is referred to arbitration, the Ministry of Law is consulted. After that consultation, we find that the arbitrators are our own officers, giving judgment

against us. As I pointed out previously also, this is a point to be considered by the Government. It does not look decent for the Government of India to go in for arbitration, to fight with the contractors with whom they have to deal, and later on to get defeated. I would like the Finance Ministry to look into this matter and settle this dispute with the Ministry of Law. In *prima facie* cases, where the Government has to pay, it is better to pay the amount then and there instead of going to arbitration, engaging our own officers on that work and thereafter paying interest, cost, etc. etc. The hon. Finance Minister should see to it that in future such cases of arbitration, in which we have been adjudged against, should not come before the House. They should take care of it.

Now, I come to the last item, Demand No. 131. It is a fact that the demand for telephone connections in the city of Delhi and Meerut is increasing, and I do not think that even with this extension, the hon. Minister of Transport and Communications would be able to satisfy the demand of the people of Delhi. That is an increasing demand, and I think the Minister in charge should look into it.

Sir, let me tell you about the persons who are having telephone connections at the moment. My hon. friend will remember that there was a question in this House regarding Telephone Directories. The Telephone Directories have not been supplied up till now to the subscribers. The Telephone Directory which was supplied in April 1958—if I remember aright—still continues. Since then lots of numbers have been changed; new exchanges have come up, and it becomes very difficult to get the right connection at the right time and without extra cost. Probably, the hon. Minister will feel that the complaints from the Members of Parliament may not be very important from the point of view of finances, because the Members are entitled to get free calls up to a limited number—I think 1,500 or 1,600 a year. But, Sir, if we go on

[Shri Amoiakh Chand]
dialling from one number to another to find out a person when there is important work also to attend to and important engagements too, one feels difficulty. I think the hon. Minister will look into it.

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA:
Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, many hon. Members have raised the point about the Defence College to be situated in Delhi. Sir, the hon. Member, who has just spoken, himself pointed out that there was need for sending some of our top-ranking officers to the U.K., but as the accommodation and the admission there were very limited, many other people could not take advantage of the College in London. Therefore, we felt the need of opening a college here for our high-ranking officers and also the civilians.

The purpose of this College to be situated in Delhi, as has been explained a number of times in answer to some questions, is mainly to meet the requirements of the teachers and the lecturers for that college. This College is meant for the senior officers, and therefore, some very very senior Defence personnel, as well as civilian officers in the Defence Ministry, will be required to give lectures. Sometimes Ministers may also be required to give lectures in this College. Therefore, looking to all these things and looking to the availability of people, people who can be readily available in Delhi, it was thought that it would be quite desirable to place this College in Delhi and not at any other place.

Some hon. Members compared this College to the Staff College at Wellington. The Staff College in Wellington is entirely for a different purpose. That is meant only for the Defence Services. The College here will be for the civilians also, and the purpose of this College will be to keep our Defence—top-ranking officers—as well as Civilian Defence personnel up to date in everything. Therefore, looking to these things, Government

thought it necessary to locate this College in Delhi.

Then, Sir, one or two hon. Members criticized our sending high-ranking personnel to the I.D.C. I think it is good for some of them at least to go and keep themselves in touch with what is happening in those countries which are highly advanced in Defence matters. I do not think anything improper in it that some of our people go, rather they should go to the I.D.C. in future also. I think it is a very good and sound policy to send some of them, who really deserve going there, to know what is happening round about the world.

Some criticisms have been made about the import of fertilisers. I appreciate the feelings of the House in this matter. Everybody wants that we should have our requirements of fertilisers fully satisfied. But all these are interlinked with the availability of foreign exchange, suitability of the material, ready market from where we can buy, the price, etc. All these things are interlinked. If hon. Members kindly look at the Supplementary Demand, they will find that we were able to locate fully the estimated demand for fertilisers in this country. We did provide in our Budget for 18.72 lakh tons, of which 4.82 lakh tons were expected to be produced in India and the balance was to be imported from abroad. But provision could be made only for 3.32 lakh tons of fertilisers as the foreign exchange available then was limited to only Rs. 6 crores. In the figures that we have given, we have also included the help that we have got from the T.C.M. as well as under the Colombo Plan. Not that the Government has not searched for any avenues. All the avenues were searched, from wherever we could get them. At that time foreign exchange could not be available, and therefore, the allotment was reduced. Now, in this Supplementary Demand we have been able to make a further allocation of nearly Rs. 7.32 crores of foreign exchange for the import of fertilisers. Realizing the importance of fertilisers,

Rs. 6-10 crores have been given from free sources, as mentioned in the Supplementary Demand, and Rs. 1-22 crores have been from the export of oilcake. It depends, as I said, on the availability of the thing—the foreign exchange component and the availability of ready foreign exchange. Therefore, this is our limitation.

Mr. Bhupesh Gupta raised the point about the State Governments not handling the situation properly. We have no reason to doubt about the handling of the situation by the State Governments. Sometimes when any difficulty arises, if hon. Members would really bring those difficulties to our notice, we shall find out the position from the State Governments. We have been trying to improve the situation. I have also some experience of going to the rural areas and I do not think that there is so much dissatisfaction about the distribution system of the fertilisers. There may be some dissatisfaction about the non-availability of the fertilisers but we cannot help it but I do not think there is any dissatisfaction prevailing at this time about the particular distribution of the fertilizers.

An hon. Member pointed out about certain arbitration in which we lost. The thing is that there are many arbitration cases which are decided by arbitrators every day in our favour. But nobody knows about them because they are not brought before Parliament because no extra expenditure is involved in them. But so far as this is concerned, it was generally done in this way. We do take goods at the ruling exchange rate or at the official prevailing exchange rate. I do not have the details of the case but perhaps it was due to some variation during the time that passed in between, namely, between the time when the consignment was despatched and the time it was received. Perhaps, there might have been some variation in the rate of exchange and, therefore, the arbitrators decided against us and we had

to abide by the decision. It is one of the very very few cases where we have lost and where we had to pay some extra exchange for that. Therefore, there is no cause for any serious concern for the House.

With these words, I thank the House for giving general support to the Supplementary Demands and I move that the Bill be taken into consideration.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1959-60, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 and 3 and the Schedule were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA: Sir, I move:

"That the Bill be returned."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

THE MINES (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1959

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT AND PLANNING: (SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Mines Act, 1952, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Sir, we are putting forward through this Bill a set of proposals to modify

[Shri Gulzarilal Nanda]
certain provisions of the Mines Act, 1952.

I shall say a few words about the background of these proposals. Since the passage of the original Act, we have had an amount of experience regarding its working, regarding the operation of its various provisions. There have been, since then a certain number of accidents, a certain number of enquiries into those accidents and we have gained experience. On the strength of that experience, we formulated certain new proposals for amendments to the Act. The draft proposals were placed before the Industrial Committee on Coal Mines. It is a representative body. On this body there are representatives of employers, workers, States, etc. and after very full consideration of these proposals, an agreement was reached regarding the changes that have to be brought about in the Act. After that, there was further consultation, extensive consultation, with the interests concerned. There was another event also, the Chinakuri disaster. After that we decided to set up a committee to enquire into the entire problem of safety. It was a conference on safety problems and as a result of the discussions in that conference, we gained new insights into this problem and certain further proposals emerged. Later on we have tried to embody in these proposals the conclusions of that conference also. Some of the conclusions appear in this Bill and some others are more appropriate for being incorporated in our regulations. That is being done. In some directions further work is still to be done. Therefore, committees have been appointed in pursuance of the conclusions of the conference. These committees are further examining those aspects. It may take a fairly long time, a considerable time, before the work of the committees is completed but there are certain matters connected with the operation of this Act which cannot now further await the conclusions of the committees. Therefore, there may be another stage

of fresh amendments of this Act but we thought that for the time being we might bring forward those proposals which have already been finalised.

If the various clauses of this Bill are examined, it will be found that they can be divided under three heads. There are certain clauses—and their number is considerable, nearly half—the sole purpose of which is to introduce clarification of the contents of the existing Act, to clear some doubts and ambiguities. The second category may be described as those which are aimed at making the working of this legislation much more effective, that is strengthening the machinery and improving the sanctions under this Act. The third category is calculated to improve the substantive provisions, specially in relation to the amenities that are being made available to the workers through this legislation, and also with regard to the provisions relating to safety which, in my opinion and in the opinion of everybody, are matters outstandingly important in relation to work in the mines.

I may, with your permission, refer hon. Members to some of the important clauses which have certain significance. There is, in the first place, clause 3. Here all that is being done is to bring into the Act itself in the body of the Act itself, a certain provision which now exists in the form of a notification but it is an important provision. The intention is to exclude from the operation of the Act excavations being made for prospective purposes only as also small quarries, subject of course to certain conditions.

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Next I come to clause 4. Its purpose is to allow greater latitude in administration by empowering the Chief Inspector to delegate some of his powers to the Inspectors working under him.

Then there is another important clause in which no new material is being added but something is being

taken away from the Act itself. In the Act there is a provision that the Inspector shall give information to the owner, agent, etc. of a mine regarding the regulations, rules, etc. applicable to the mine. This makes for administrative difficulties and provides excuses. There is no such provision in the Factories Act. We therefore thought that we might remove it from here also, taking the precaution at the same time that the necessary information is made available without any statutory obligation on the part of the administration.

Then there is clause 9. This has led to considerable controversy and this has been explained at length in the Lok Sabha. Some part of section 18 of the Act is being deleted in order to improve the effectiveness of the administration and in order to remove certain elements of weakness in the operation of this legislation. What is being removed is the proviso, that under certain conditions, the responsibility of the owner or the agent disappears. We find that in the absence of this proviso, there were sufficient safeguards and protections for the owner and the agent. That remains even after deleting those parts. I will read out sub-section (2) which will remain:

"In the event of any contravention of any such provisions by any person whosoever, the owner, agent and manager of the mine shall each be deemed also to be guilty of such contravention unless he proves that he had taken all reasonable means, by publishing and to the best of his power enforcing those provisions, to prevent such contravention."

Now, this is considered to be quite an adequate protection. If the proviso that is now being removed remains, the fear is that it will enable the owner or agent to shift the responsibility, to evade the responsibility and to shift it to somebody else.

Next, I proceed to clause 11. This relates to the provisions in the Act

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which deal with medical appliances, provisions relating to health, safety, etc. This is in Chapter V and this is how the clause deals with section 21 and 22 of the principal Act. In the Act as it stands at present, a provision for the supply of first-aid box is there and a certain ratio has been prescribed, namely, one for every 150. It was thought that it was both rigid and probably inadequate and, therefore, the provision has been altered and power has been taken to prescribe the number and the contents. This will be done, of course, in accordance with the needs and the conditions in different places. Sir, in the same clause, further down there are a few changes made which also have a certain importance. In the Act as it stands at present, these will be kept in the charge of a person and here it is said that they will be kept in the charge of a responsible person. Also the present wording is that the first-aid boxes or cupboards "shall always be available". Now, it is proposed to change it to "shall always be readily available".

Then there is the requirement of making available a first-aid room. In the present Act the figure of the number persons is 500 which necessitates the provision of a room. Now, this number has been changed to 150.

On page 7 of the Bill there is a new provision added. This is sub-section (1A) under section 22, and this is important from the point of view of safety. So far, when an Inspector finds that there are conditions in evidence in a mine which create serious danger for the health and safety of the persons employed there, he is empowered to give directions with a view to removing those sources of danger. And then if there is no compliance with those directions all that the administration now has is the power to prosecute. This was not good enough. In cases of this kind it is necessary to provide for something more effective, and hence this provision in sub-section (1A) is proposed, namely:

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"Where the owner, agent or manager of a mine fails to comply with the terms of a notice given under sub-section (1) within the period specified therein, the Chief Inspector or the Inspector, as the case may be, may, by order in writing, prohibit the employment in or about the mine or any part thereof of any person whose employment is not in his opinion reasonably necessary for securing compliance with the terms of the notice."

There is the further provision of the same kind or character, seeking to prohibit the working of a mine, in relation to extraction or reduction of pillars or blocks of minerals, etc. This is, in fact, an old provision. So far it had reference to certain situations like the outbreak of fire, etc. Now flooding also has been added. This risk is also attended to in this amending provision.

Sir, the next clause to which I would request hon. Members to turn their attention is clause 12 which requires notice to be given to the administration in the case of certain accidents. In this clause certain other classes of accidents have also been included. Hon. Members will kindly note that the wording used is "any other accident".

I now come to clause 13. In the Bill, as it was originally introduced, there was provision regarding enquiry into the question of cancellation of the certificate of a manager. The idea was that delays may be reduced and the enquiry may be made by the same person. That has been changed now and the old provision has been restored but I might point out here that the intention still is—when we are able to look into this matter further—to change this. The reason why we had to hold it over was that we had agreed on listening to representations made by representatives of mine managers that there might be an appeal from any such enquiry and we

have so far not been able to straighten out the manner in which the appeal could be provided for. Therefore, we are keeping it over for the time being.

In clause 14, there is a slight change with regard to the provision which enables the Chief Inspector of Mines to allow the spread-out to extend for a certain number of hours, not exceeding fourteen hours on any day. To this, we have added a small phrase "subject to such conditions as he may deem fit to impose". This is being done in the interests of the protection of women and in consonance with certain conventions of the I.L.O.

Then there is clause 17,—section 33 of the principal Act dealing with hours and limitations of employment—which makes some changes in the interests of the workers. The principal change is that overtime rate, which was twice the ordinary rate of wages for one section of the workers and one and a half for another section of the workers, is being made equally applicable to both the sections and both of them will get twice the ordinary rate of wages.

Clause 21 relates to the power to make exemptions from the operation of certain sections of the Act. What we have done is to exclude adolescents from the operation of these exemptions. Certain exemptions could be given in regard to weekly day of rest, hours of work, etc., but so far as the adolescents are concerned, these exemptions would not be applicable to them.

Sir, I proceed now to clause 27. Here also, some addition is sought to be made in regard to the working of women in the mines. We have said that every woman employed in a mine above ground shall be given an interval of not less than eleven hours between the termination of employment on any one day and the commencement of the next period of employment. This has also been done in conformity with an I.L.O. convention.

Then we come to the next chapter dealing with leave with wages. Here also substantial changes have been introduced. One is about the number of days of leave that can be granted to the workers, I mean leave with wages. There was in the parent Act a distinction between monthly-paid workers and others. This distinction is now sought to be removed through this amending Bill and the provision are also being liberalised. Section 52(1) of the parent Act is being amended and we have provided that in the case of a person employed below ground, he will get leave at the rate of one day for every sixteen days of work performed by him, and in any other case, at the rate of one day for every twenty days of work performed by him. The qualifying period has also been liberalised and the distinction has been abolished. The qualifying period has been reduced from 200 and 265 days to 190 and 240 days. On page 16 of the Bill, Sir, if hon. Members would kindly turn to that page, they would find an explanation which says that any days of lay-off by agreement or contract and maternity leave shall be deemed to be the days on which the employee has worked for purposes of computation of the attendance. This again is a provision which helps the workers. In the same page Sir, we have got sub-clause (4) which gives the workers the right to accumulate leave. Previously, this right was available only to the monthly-paid employees but now this right is being extended to others also. There is also the further facility of the carry-forward of earned leave without any limit, if, because of the exigencies of the situation, the leave is refused. There is another provision, Sir—sub-clause (7)—which reads as follows:

“If a person employed in a mine wants to avail himself of the leave with wages due to him to cover a period of illness, he shall be granted such leave even if the application for leave is not made within the time specified in sub-section (5).”

There is no obligation on the part of the worker to make an application giving fifteen days' notice. That does not apply in the case where illness is concerned. So far the worker had to go to an ordinary court of law for the purpose of recovering any arrears of wages, etc. But now this has been provided:

“Any sum required to be paid by the owner, agent or manager of a mine under this Chapter but not paid by him shall be recoverable as delayed wages under the provisions of the Payment of Wages Act, 1936.”

Then, Sir, there is a whole Chapter on penalties. One of the main aims of this amending legislation is to make those penalties more deterrent. What is at stake here is not a matter of a few rupees here and there but the life and limbs of the workers, and considering the hazards to which the workers are exposed in this occupation, it is necessary to strengthen the provisions to protect his interests in the matter of safety and therefore we have a number of provisions here by which the amount of fine and also the sentence of imprisonment, if it is imposed, have been increased, although I may inform hon. Members that in actual practice, as the outcome of prosecutions, the penalties imposed have been very very mild and there has been no case of sentence of imprisonment so far. But it was found essential to provide here that in one situation at least the imprisonment must be compulsory. That is given on page 23 of the Bill:

“72B. Whoever continues to work a mine in contravention of any order issued under sub-section (1A), sub-section (2) or sub-section (3) of section 22 shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years, and shall also be liable to fine which may extend to five thousand rupees.”

Now, it was contended that this makes it very drastic, very severe, but I must point out the situation to which this new provision relates. If the

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Inspector or the Chief Inspector finds that conditions in a certain mine are such that there is imminent danger to the lives of workers and gives orders prohibiting the employment of persons and if those orders are disobeyed, then only this provision will come into play. Then the person concerned shall be punishable with imprisonment for six months or with fine or with both if he continues to work the mine in contravention of those orders.

Then there is the question of second offences. The existing provision was only a little enhancement of the fine; instead of Rs. 300 it may be Rs. 400. But that was not sufficient. Now the provision is to double the punishment to which he would have been liable for the first contravention of such provision. The first punishment may be imprisonment for some months and a certain amount of fine and now the whole range of punishment becomes double in the case of a subsequent conviction.

Sir, an important provision is included and that is in clause 41. Here the object is to prevent the owner from escaping responsibilities and shifting them to some employee or someone else in the establishment. This provision imposes on the owner an obligation to specify the person residing in the place to take the responsibility for whatever happens there.

Lastly, I come to clause 43 which relates to the period of limitation. At the moment action has to be taken within a certain period from the date of the offence or the date on which the offence has come to the knowledge of the Inspector. The change here is that this period of limitation shall be computed with reference to every point of time during which the offence continues.

Sir, this and the several other provisions to which I have made reference are calculated to strengthen the hands

of the Administration in dealing with offences, with violations of the provisions of the existing Act and I believe that the changes which are sought to be introduced through this Bill will have the effect of improving the conditions of those who are engaged in the mines and of conferring on them much greater safety than has been possible hitherto, although I may make it clear that for these purposes, particularly for the purpose of providing safe conditions, we do not depend on these penalties alone but on the co-operation of those who are concerned, the managers, the owners, the agents and others. But there may be and there are some persons who do not take their responsibilities very seriously and therefore we have, through legislation, to provide for those contingencies. Sir, I believe that the changes that we seek to introduce through this Bill will be acceptable to the House.

The question was proposed.

SHRI RATANLAL KISHORILAL MALVIYA (Madhya Pradesh): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, this Bill—The Mines (Amendment) Bill, 1959—appears to me to be a very belated measure. Sir, in the form in which it is coming, I still feel that the Bill does not meet fully the requirements of mining labour.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN) in the Chair].

It has been made clear in the Bill, and by the hon. Minister just now, that it is intended to bring it in line with the Factories Act of 1948. An attempt is being made now in 1959, 11 years after, to bring the Mines Act in line with the Factories Act of 1948. There is reason for it and I should not put all the blame for this belated measure on the Ministry of Labour or the hon. Ministers.

SHRI P. D. HIMATSINGKA (West Bengal): Whom are you blaming?

SHRI RATANLAL KISHORILAL MALVIYA: The trade union movement in this country, though very old.

is very new to the mines. The trade union movement in the industries other than mining had the privilege of the leadership of great people like the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, our Prime Minister, Shri Subhas Chandra Bose, and people like the present hon. Minister, Shri Gulzarilal Nanda, Khandubhai Desai and others. Industries like textile and others had the privilege of this leadership, with the result that the trade union movement developed in those industries very early. In fact, it started from industries like textiles and it gained great strength. The trade union movement was organised very well and the labour did get its demands met early. The result of the agitation which was made in these industries naturally was that a lot of improvement was effected in the Factories Act, earlier than the Mines Act. I must admit that the mining labour had not the privilege of the leadership of big people like those whom I have named. The movement in the mining industry remained in the hands of second and third grade workers like myself who could not and did not possess the personality which was required for the amelioration of the conditions of the mine-workers. The result is that we are still left behind very much as compared to the factory labour. I still feel that the present amending Bill is not sufficient to ameliorate the conditions of the mining labour. It is only in certain mining industries just like coal that the labour has started organising. It is of recent origin. Only recently, for the first time, by their own agitation the coal-mine workers got their first award in 1956. The result of our weakness in the trade union movement is reflected in the previous Mines Act. I will just narrate some of the instances to prove how far we are still behind the factory labour.

Take, for instance, wages. The wages which have been fixed for the mining labour by the Award of 1956 are still far behind those of the factory labour in certain industries. For instance, take the textile industry itself. A

textile worker is still getting more than what a miner is getting including his bonus. The labour is getting differently in different places. But a coal-miner, including compulsory bonus a quarterly bonus, is getting much more than Rs. 79 and odd per month, whereas the factory labour is getting much more than Rs. 79 in Bombay, Ahmedabad and other places. In other industries like engineering, electricity, etc. the workers are getting still more than the mining labour. This is unique in this country. Nowhere in the world does the mining labour get less than any other labour in any other industry. Mining labour in foreign countries, in Europe and America, is called the aristocrat among labour. He is the worker who gets the most. He gets wages above the other workers and the amenities make him capable of working harder to put more vigour into the work and also to earn more.

There is an anomaly. The employers generally charge us that the worker in India does not produce equal to the labour of any foreign country. I do not admit this charge. Besides, the living conditions of the mine-worker in India are miserable, wretched in comparison with the worker in any other country. He puts in very hard work. If more productivity is accounted for among the labour of foreign countries, it is accounted for only due to mechanisation. If a foreign worker is left to work in the conditions in which we work, I am sure he would not be able to produce the same results as Indian labour. Sir, another complaint of the employers is that there is absenteeism among the workers. Previously, Sir, there was no incentive to the worker, and the labour used to be a shifting labour. Nobody likes to work in a mine if he can get a job outside. It is hazardous, it is a miserable work. But since the introduction of some incentives like bonus, foodgrains and other concessions, the Indian miners have started working marvellously well. Their attendance is very good. Now, one has to remember one thing, and that is the hazardous nature of the industry, and keep-

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 ing this in view, we can easily compare the conditions of work in other countries. I need not waste time in enumerating those amenities and conditions, but suffice it to say that the conditions in foreign countries are far far better—I am talking of the working conditions—than in India, and still we find a cry among the foreign labour for reduced hours of work and for reduced number of working days in the week, and they have achieved these to a certain extent. There is a cry in India also for reduced working hours, and it is not without any reason. It is because of the hazards to his life which he has to undergo that the cry is raised. It is difficult to explain the hazards, but if anybody wants to have any experience as to what a mine is like—and some of my colleagues and friends have gone round, and I am saying this to those who wish to know as to how hazardous life is in the mines—one hour's visit will suffice. No hon. Member would like to be in the mine for more than an hour or two. He would not like to be there for even half a day, whereas this unfortunate worker in the mine has got to work there day in and day out, for eight hours continuously, for months and years. Still, I submit, Sir, he has not been able to achieve what he should have achieved by now. As I have said, it is all due to the weakness of the labour organisation in the mines. The labourer is a victim still. On the one hand, he gets some increase in wages by a continuous effort over years, continuous movement over years; on the other, the employers have been trying to defeat the awards. The award which came in the year 1956 is not being fully implemented even today. You will be surprised, Sir, that the award which the labour got in the year 1947 has not in many cases been implemented by the various colliery managements. I am one of the victims of such employers. I am still fighting out cases in which I have claimed arrears from the year 1947, and naturally when the claim accumulates for so many years, it does accumulate to

lakhs and lakhs of rupees. In one case alone there is an award of about Rs. 50 lakhs in one single claim (Time bell rings). Sir, no time-limit was fixed.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN): Fifteen minutes each. You can continue for a couple of minutes.

SHRI RATANLAL KISHORILAL MALVIYA: I am sorry I did not know that.

SHRI N. M. LINGAM (Madras): Sir, let him carry on. His speech is interesting.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN): You carry on.

SHRI RATANLAL KISHORILAL MALVIYA: Sir, I was submitting that I am still getting awards of huge claims against the employers, showing the attitude of how they deal with the labour. In a smaller organisation in which I work the employers have filed eleven appeals against that organisation in the Supreme Court, and the total claim under those awards against which appeals are pending in the Supreme Court comes to about Rs. 60 lakhs. This is the case of a very small organisation with a labour population of only 50,000.

Sir, we are struggling for our existence. The labourer cannot proceed with other activities. He cannot improve his lot because he is involved in these struggles for arrears of wages even today. The award of 1947 has not been fully implemented, and the award of 1956 has also not been fully implemented. On the one hand, Sir, there is an attempt being made by the employers to defeat the awards, and on the other hand they have been defeating the legislation.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND (Madhya Pradesh): He must come to the Bill.

SHRI RATANLAL KISHORILAL MALVIYA: I am coming to it. This

is the background showing why this legislation has been necessary.

Sir, there has been a breach of the legislation as well. While this amending Bill has come before the House for greater safety and protection of the labour and with some other provisions like strictness in the penalties imposed on the employers, I very humbly submit that it is more necessary that any such legislation should be executed with vigour, and unless that is done, it is very difficult for the labour to get any benefit out of the legislation.

Now, Sir, so far as this Bill is concerned, I heartily welcome the measure. Though belated, it is a welcome measure. Sir, I have very little to comment on the clauses which form part of this Bill. I will, however, deal with some aspects which are likely to be objected to by the employers. There is an attack from the employers on this Bill, and several representations have been made by them and a vehement opposition was put up by them before the Consultative Committee also. A letter has been circulated by the Indian Mine Managers' Association, and some facts have been brought to my notice by another letter which has been circulated by the employers among themselves, and one of the employers has been good enough to give me a copy of it, in which they have very vehemently attacked this measure, especially the penalty clauses and the clause about the responsibilities of the agent and the manager. The Minister has very rightly pointed out that because these employers used to evade their responsibility, a provision has been made to make them responsible for the offences and crimes committed in the mines. I may point out to the House that in many collieries there are general managers who are not at all qualified. Even in very big mines, there are general managers who do not know the ABC of mining. One day they were secretaries to their employers; today they

have become general managers, an elevated post with more salary. There are many; I do not want to name anybody. But I know personally such people getting very fat salaries. One was an ordinary clerk; he became the secretary and then became the general manager. There have been so many accidents; there has been so much mismanagement in these collieries and these general managers and these agents escape the liability altogether, and every liability is fixed upon the poor manager or somebody else. There are violations of the mining regulations and of the other provisions of the Mining Act, and these people enjoy without doing the needful to improve the mines. Every time the employer or the general manager or the agent will take shelter under somebody, and will put the responsibility on the manager. Naturally, the employer must accept responsibility for the criminal acts which he commits. Sir, there were certain records in a mine about the claim of the workers worth lakhs of rupees. The records have been burnt inside the mine. Now, obviously, these records have been burnt with the consent of the owner or the general manager.

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA (Uttar Pradesh): With the connivance.

SHRI RATANLAL KISHORILAL MALVIYA: Directly. I cannot say 'connivance'. The poor manager is made responsible for all these things which are being done. There has been a very recent case. I do not want to name the colliery again. Sir, this is happening everywhere. What I want to point out is that this is happening every day and these employers or the general managers or the agents escape the liability, and the hon. Minister has rightly rounded them up in this amending Bill. It was necessary long ago. There have been so many accidents—the Amalabad mine accident, the Chinakuri mine accident and the Newton Chikli colliery accident. Those people who were responsible escaped

[Shri Ratanlal Kishorilal Malviya.] in these cases. And sometimes, it is difficult to get evidence. But this is one very good clause which has been introduced in this amending Bill.

SHRI P. D. HIMATSINGKA: Which clause?

SHRI RATANLAL KISHORILAL MALVIYA: Clause 41. But I am speaking generally and I am not pointing to the clauses.

Sir, I also want to point out one more fact. There is a representation of the managers and a copy of it is with me. The managers have accused the Government for granting more powers to the Chief Inspector of Mines, the Regional Inspectors of mines and to the Inspectors. They say that this is the worst that the Government could do against their interests. I am just pleading for the managers of these collieries. If they gather courage, have an association and tell the employers that they should not do anything against the Mines Act, these employers will come down to their knees and then and then alone will the Government be able to implement successfully these provisions of the amending Bill which is before us. If I am say so, the provisions of the previous enactments have not been fully implemented because of the fact that these managers did not have the courage to tell the employers that they should not work against the Mines Act. In Calcutta, they have complained that they have not got equal status with the labour, or with the management or with the Government. That is a right complaint. They should raise their voice and urge upon the Government to give them some status, to bring them on a par with the employers. If they enjoy that status, they will have the courage to face the employers, and will help the Government in the implementation of the provisions of

this Bill and the other existing provisions.

Sir, with regard to the penalty side.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN): Would the hon. Member like to continue his speech?

SHRI RATANLAL KISHORILAL MALVIYA: Yes, Sir.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN (Shri Akbar Ali Khan): Then, you can continue on the next day.

Now, Secretary will read a message.

MESSAGE FROM THE LOK SABHA

THE SUGAR (SPECIAL EXCISE DUTY) BILL, 1959

SECRETARY: Sir, I have to report to the House the following message received from the Lok Sabha, signed by the Secretary of the Lok Sabha:—

"In accordance with the provisions of Rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose herewith a copy of the Sugar (Special Excise Duty) Bill, 1959, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 17th December, 1959.

2. The Speaker has certified that this Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of article 110 of the Constitution of India."

Sir, I lay the Bill on the Table.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN): The House stands adjourned till 11.00 A.M. tomorrow.

The House then adjourned at five of the clock till eleven of the clock on Friday, the 18th December, 1959.

