

THE
Punjab Legislative Assembly
Debates

From 19th February to 19th March 1945

Vol. XXIV

OFFICIAL REPORT



Lahore :

Printed by the Superintendent, Government Printing, Punjab.
1946

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS OF THE PUNJAB
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Speaker

The Hon'ble Chaudhri Sir Shahab-ud-Din, Kt. K E.
B.A., LL.B. (Sialkot South, Muhammadan, Rural).

Deputy Speaker

Sardar Bahadur Sardar Gurbachan Singh (Jullundur
West, Sikh, Rural).

Secretary

Sardar Bahadur Sardar Abnasha Singh, Barrister-at-
Law.

Deputy Secretary

Khan Bahadur Hakeem Ahmed Shujaa, B.A.

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

LIST OF MEMBERS

PREMIER

The Hon'ble Malik Kbizar Hayat (Khushab
Muhammadan, Rural).

MINISTERS

The Hon'ble Sir Manohar Lal, Kt., M.A., Finance
Minister (University).

The Hon'ble Mian Abdul Haye, B.A., LL.B., Minister
of Education (South-Eastern Towns, Muhammadan
Urban).

The Hon'ble Sardar Baldev Singh, Minister of
Development (Ambala North, Sikh, Rural).

The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Nawab Sir Muhammad
Jamal Khan Leghari, Minister of Public Works
(Tumandars).

The Hon'ble Major Nawab Ashiq Hussain, M.B.E.,
Minister of War Planning (Multan, Muhammadan,
Rural).

The Hon'ble Chaudhri Tikka Ram, B.A., LL.B.,
M.B.E., Minister of Revenue (Rohtak North,
General, Rural).

Ahmad Yar Khan, Khan Sahib Chaudhri
(North-West Gujrat, Muhammadan, Rural).

Ajit Singh, Sardar (South-West Punjab, Sikh, Rural).

Akbar Ali, Pir, M.B.E. (Fazilka, Muhammadan,
Rural).

Ali Akbar, Chaudhri (Gurdaspur East, Muhammadan,
Rural).

Allah Bakhsh Khan, Khan Bahadur Nawab Malik
Sir, M.B.E. (Shahpur, Muhammadan, Rural).

Allah Yar Khan Daulatana, Khan Bahadur Mian
(Mailsi, Muhammadan, Rural).

Amar Nath Shah, Lala (Sialkot-Amritsar, General,
Rural).

Amir-ud-Din, Khan Bahadur Mian (Inner Lahore,
Muhammadan, Urban).

Anant Ram, Rai Sahib Chaudhri, B.A., LL.B.
(Karnal South, General, Rural).

Asghar Ali, Khan Sahib Chaudhri (Gujrat East,
Muhammadan, Rural).

Badr Mohy-ud-Din Qadri, Khan Sahib Sayed
(Batala, Muhammadan, Rural).

Balwant Singh, Sardar (Sialkot, Sikh, Rural).

Barkat Ali, Malik, M.A., LL.B. (Eastern Towns,
Muhammadan, Urban).

Bhagat Ram Choda, Lala (Jullundur, General, Rural).

Bhagat Ram Sharma, Pandit (Kangra West, General,
Rural).

Bhagwant Singh, Rai (Kangra East, General, Rural).

Bhim Sen Sachar, Lala, B.A., LL.B. (North-Western
Towns, General, Urban).

Brijraj Saran, Kanwar (East Punjab, Landholders).

Chaman Lal, Diwan, B.A. (Oxon) (East Punjab,
Non-Union Labour).

Chanan Singh, Sardar (Kasur, Sikh, Rural).

Dasaundha Singh, Sardar, B.A., LL.B. (Jagraon,
Sikh, Rural).

Deshbandhu Gupta, Lala (South-Eastern Towns,
General, Urban).

Dev Raj Sethi, Mr. (Lyallpur and Jhang, General,
Rural).

Dina Nath, Major, M.B.E. (Kangra, South, General,
Rural).

Duni Chand, Lala (Ambala and Simla, General,
Rural).

Duni Chand, Mrs. (Lahore City, Women, General).

Faiz Muhammad Khan, Rai (Kangra and Eastern
Hoshiarpur, Muhammadan, Rural).

Faqir Chand, Chaudhri (Karnal North, General
Reserved Seat, Rural).

Faqir Hussein Khan, Khan Bahadur Chaudhri (Tarn
Taran, Muhammadan, Rural).

Farman Ali Khan, Subedar-Major Raja (Gujar Khan,
Muhammadan, Rural).

PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIES

Rai Bahadur Thakur Ripudaman Singh, B.A.,
Finance (Gurdaspur, General, Rural).

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad, B.A.,
LL.B., M.B.E., General (Dera Ghazi Khan Central,
Muhammadan, Rural).

Sardar Jagjit Singh Main, Home (Central Punjab
Landholders).

PARLIAMENTARY PRIVATE SECRETARIES

Sayed Amjad Ali Shah, C.I.E., O.B.E. (Ferozepore
East, Muhammadan, Rural).

Bhagat Hans Raj, B.A., LL.B. (Amritsar and
Sialkot, General Reserved Seat, Rural).

Sir William Roberts, Kt., C.I.E. (European).

Sardar Gopal Singh (American), M.B.E. (Ludhiana
and Ferozepore, General Reserved Seat, Rural).

Sardar Lal Singh, M.Sc., LL.B. (Ludhiana Central,
Sikh, Rural).

Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Suraj Mal, B.A., LL.B. (Hansi,
General, Rural).

Mian Sultan Mahmood Hotiana, B.A. (Fakpattan,
Muhammadan, Rural).

MEMBERS

Abdul Aziz, Mian (Outer Lahore, Muhammadan,
Urban).

Abdul Hamid Khan, Sufi (Ambala and Simla, Mu-
hammadan, Rural).

Abdul Rab, Mian, B.A., LL.B. (Jullundur South,
Muhammadan, Rural).

Abdul Rahim, Khan Sahib Chaudhri (Shakargarh,
Muhammadan, Rural).

Abdul Rahim, Chaudhri (South-East Gurgaon,
Muhammadan, Rural).

- Fatehjang Singh, Captain Bhai (South-East, Sikh, Rural).
- Fateh Khan, Khan Bahadur Raja (Rawalpindi East, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Fateh Muhammad, Captain Mian, M.B.E. (Gujrat, North, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Fateh Sher Khan, Malik (Montgomery, Muhammadan Rural).
- Fazal Din, Khan Sahib Chaudhri, M.B.E. (Ajnala Muhammadan, Rural).
- Fazal Karim Bakhsh, Khan Sahib Mian (Muzaffargarh Sadar, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Few, Mr. E. (Anglo-Indian).
- Ghasanfar Ali Khan, Raja (Pind Dadan Khan, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din, Khan Bahadur Maulvi (Sheikhupura, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Ghulam Qadir Khan, Khan Bahadur Nawab (Mianwali North, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Ghulam Rasul, Chaudhri (Sialkot Central, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Ghulam Samad, Khan Sahib Khawaja (Southern Towns, Muhammadan, Urban).
- Girdhari Das, Mahant (South-East Multan Division, General, Rural).
- Gokul Chand Narang, Dr. Sir, M.A., Ph. D. (West Lahore Division, General, Rural).
- Gopal Das, Rai Bahadur Lala (Kangra North, General, Rural).
- Guest, Mr. P. H. (Punjab Commerce and Industry).
- Gurbakhsh Singh, Sardar (Batala, Sikh, Rural).
- Habib Ullah Khan, Khan Bahadur Malik (Sargodha Muhammadan, Rural).
- Haibat Khan Daba, Khan Bahadur, Khan (Khane-wa, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Hari Chand, Rai Bahadur Rai (Una, General, Rural).
- Hari Lal, Munshi (South-Western Towns, General, Urban).
- Hari Singh, Sardar (Kangra and Northern Hoshiarpur, Sikh, Rural).
- Harjib Singh, Sardar (Hoshiarpur South, Sikh, Rural).
- Harnam Das, Lala (Lyallpur and Jhang, General Reserved Seat, Rural).
- Harnam Singh, Captain Sodhi (Ferozepore North Sikh, Rural).
- Hot Ram, Rai Bahadur Chaudhri (Hisar South, General, Rural).
- Iftekhar Hussain Khan, Nawab (Ferozepore Central, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Inder Singh, Sardar Bahadur Sardar (Gurdaspur North, Sikh, Rural).
- Jafar Ali Khan, Chaudhri (Okara, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Joginder Singh Man, Sardar, M.B.E. (Gujranwal and Shabdera, Sikh, Rural).
- Jugal Kishore, Chaudhri (Ambala and Simla General Reserved Seat, Rural).
- Kabul Singh, Master (Jullundur East, Sikh, Rural).
- Kapoor Singh, Sardar, B.A., LL.B. (Ludhiana East, Sikh, Rural).
- Karamat Ali, Khan Bahadur Shaikh, B.A., LL.B. (Nankana Sahib, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Kartar Singh, Chaudhri (Hoshiarpur West, General, Rural).
- Kartar Singh, Sardar (Lyallpur East, Sikh, Rural).
- Kishan Das, Seth (Jullundur, General Reserved Seat, Rural).
- Kishan Singh, Sardar (Amritsar Central, Sikh, Rural).
- Krishan Gopal Dutt, Chaudhri (North-Eastern Towns, General, Urban).
- Maqbool Mahmood, Mir, Barrister-at-Law (Amritsar Muhammadan, Rural).
- Mazhar Ali Azhar, Maulvi, B.A., LL.B. (North-Eastern Towns, Muhammadan, Urban).
- Mohar Singh Rao, B.A., LL.B. (North-West Gurgaon, General, Rural).
- Mohy-ud-Din Lal Badshah, Syed (Attock South, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Mubarik Ali Shah, Major Syed, M.B.E. (Jhang Central, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan, Chaudhri (Jullundur North, Muhammadan Rural).
- Muhammad Akram Khan, Khan Bahadur Raja (Jhelum, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Muhammad Alam, Dr. Shaikh, B.A. (Hons.) (Oxon) LL.D. (Dublin) (Rawalpindi Division Towns, Muhammadan, Urban).
- Muhammad Amin, Khan Sahib Shaikh (Multan Division Towns, Muhammadan, Urban).
- Muhammad Ashraf, Chaudhri (South-West Gujrat, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Muhammad Azam Khan, Khan Sahib Sardar (Dera Ghazi Khan North, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Muhammad Faiyaz Ali Khan, Nawabzada (Karnal, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Muhammad Hassan, Chaudhri (Ludhiana, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Muhammad Hassan Khan Gurohani, Khan Bahadur, Sardar, C.I.E. (Dera Ghazi Khan, South, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Muhammad Hassan, Khan Bahadur Makhdom Syed (Alipur, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Muhammad Hussain, Khan Bahadur Chaudhri, B.A., LL.B. (Gujranwala East, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Muhammad Hussain, Sardar (Chumian, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Muhammad Iftekhar-ud-Din, Mian, B.A. (Oxon) (Kasur, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Muhammad Nawaz Khan, Lt.-Col. Sardar Sir (Attock Central, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Muhammad Nurullah, Mian, B. Com. (London) (Lyallpur, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Muhammad Qasim, Khan Sahib, Chaudhri (Bhalwa, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Muhammad Raza Shah Jeelani, Makhdomsada Haji Sayed (Shujabad, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Muhammad Saadat Ali Khan, Khan Bahadur Khan (Samundri, Muhammadan, Rural).

- Muhammad Sarfraz Khan, Chaudhri (Sialkot-North, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Muhammad Sarfraz Khan, Raja (Chakwal, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Muhammad Shafi Ali Khan, Khan Bahadur Chaudhri (Rohtak, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Muhammad Wilayat Hussain Jeelani, Makhdumzada Haji Sayed (Lodhran, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Muhammad Yasin Khan, Khan Sahib Chaudhri, B.A., LL.B. (North-West Gurgaon, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Muhammad Yusuf Khan, Khan, B.A., LL.B. (Rawalpindi Sader, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Mukand Lal Puri, Rai Bahadur (Rawalpindi Division, General, Rural).
- Moola Singh, Sardar (Hoshiarpur West, General Reserved Seat, Rural).
- Mumtaz Muhammad Khan Daulatana, Mian (West Punjab Landholders).
- Muni Lal Kalra, Pandit (Ludhiana and Ferozepore, General, Rural).
- Mushtaq Ahmad Gurmani, Khan Bahadur, Nawab Mian (Muradpur North, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Muzaffer Ali Khan Qizibash, Nawab Sardar (Lahore, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Muzaffer Khan, Khan Bahadur Captain, Malik, M.B.E. (Mianwali South, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Nasir-ud-Din, Khan Bahadur Chaudhri (Gujranwala North, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Nasir-ud-Din Shah, Khan Sahib Pir (Toba Tek Singh, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Nasrullah Khan Nasir, Rana (Hoshiarpur West, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Naunihal Singh Mann, Captain Sardar, M.B.E. (Sheikhpura West, Sikh, Rural).
- Nawazish Ali Shah, Sayed (Jhang East, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Nur Ahmad Khan, Khan Bahadur Mian (Dipalpur, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Partap Singh, Sardar (Amritsar South, Sikh, Rural).
- Pir Muhammad, Khan Sahib Chaudhri, M.B.E. (South-East Gujrat, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Prem Singh, Chaudhri (South-East Gurgaon, General Reserved Seat, Rural).
- Prem Singh, Mahant (Gujrat and Shahpur, Sikh, Rural).
- Pritam Singh Siddhu, Sardar Bahadur Sardar, B.A., LL.B. (Ferozepore West, Sikh, Rural).
- Ragbir Kaur, Shrimati (Amritsar, Sikh Women).
- Rallia Ram, Mr. K. L. (West Central Punjab, Indian Christian).
- Ram Sarup, Chaudhri (Rohtak Central, General Rural).
- Ranpat Singh, Chaudhri (Karnal North, General Rural).
- Rashida Latif Bajji, Begum (Inner Lahore, Muhammadan Women, Urban).
- Riasat Ali, Khan Bahadur Chaudhri, M.B.E. (Hafizabad, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Roshan Din, Khan Bahadur Chaudhri (Shahdara, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Rur Singh, Sardar (Ferozepore East, Sikh, Rural).
- Sadiq Hassan, Sheikh, B.A., Barrister-at-Law (Amritsar City, Muhammadan, Urban).
- Sahib Dad Khan, Khan Sahib Chaudhri (Hissar, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Sahib Ram, Chaudhri (Hissar North, General, Rural).
- Sampuran Singh, Sardar (Lyallpur West, Sikh, Rural).
- Santokh Singh, Sardar (Eastern Towns, Sikh, Urban).
- Sant Ram Seth, Dr. (Amritsar City, General, Urban).
- Sardar Khan Noon, Major Malik (North Punjab, Landholders).
- Shahadat Khan, Khan Sahib Rai (Jaranwala, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Shah Nawaz, Mrs., J.A., M.B.E. (Outer Lahore, Muhammadan Women, Urban).
- Shanno Devi Sehgal, Shrimati (West Multan Division, General, Rural).
- Shaukat Hyat Khan, Sardar (Attock North, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Sher Singh, Sardar (Montgomery, Sikh, Rural).
- Shri Ram Sharma, Pandit (Southern Towns, General, Urban).
- Singha, Diwan Bahadur S. P. (East Central Punjab, Indian Christian).
- Sita Ram, Lala (Trade Union, Labour).
- Sohan Lal, Rai Bahadur Lala (North Punjab, Non-Union Labour).
- Sohan Singh Josh, Sardar (Amritsar North, Sikh, Rural).
- Sudarshan, Seth (Eastern Towns, General, Urban).
- Sumer Singh, Rao Sahib Chaudhri, B.A., LL.B. (South-East Gurgaon, General Rural).
- Talib Hussain Khan, Khan (Jhang West, Muhammadan, Rural).
- Tara Singh, Sardar Sahib Sardar (Ferozepore South, Sikh, Rural).
- Teja Singh Swatantar, Sardar (Lahore West, Sikh, Rural).
- Ujjal Singh, Sardar Bahadur Sardar, M.A. (Western Towns, Sikh, Urban).
- Uttam Singh Dugal, Sardar (North-West Punjab, Sikh, Rural).
- Wali Muhammad Sayyal Hira, Khan Bahadur Sardar (Kabirwala, Muhammadan, Rural).

TABLE OF CONTENTS

THIRTEENTH SESSION OF THE FIRST PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

	PAGES.		PAGES.
<i>Monday, 19th February 1945.</i>		<i>Friday, 2nd March 1945.</i>	
Hours of sitting	1	Starred questions and answers ..	227
Reference to late Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram	2	Unstarred questions and answers ..	245
		Leave of absence of M. L. As. ..	246
<i>Tuesday, 20th February 1945.</i>		Adjournment and Privilege motions ..	246
Starred questions and answers ..	9	Supplementary Demands	249
Unstarred questions and answers ..	27	Privilege motion—	
Adjournment motions	50	Arrest of Lala Bhim Sen Sachar ..	263
Papers laid on the table—			
Amendments to Punjab Vehicles Rules, 1940, and statement showing action taken against corrupt officials ..	53	<i>Monday, 5th March 1945.</i>	
General Sales Tax Rules—Rules for determination of turn over ..	53	Starred questions and answers ..	267
Consolidation of Holdings (Amendment) Bill	53	Unstarred questions and answers ..	294
Bedshahi Mosque Fund Cess Bill ..	68	Leave of absence of Pandit Muni Lal Kalia	299
Sale of Holy Quran Restricting Bill ..	72	Adjournment motion—	
<i>Thursday, 22nd February 1945.</i>		Arrest of Lala Bhim Sen Sachar ..	299
Question hour	83	Budget—General Discussion	300
Starred questions and answers ..	83	<i>Tuesday, 6th March 1945.</i>	
Unstarred questions and answers ..	104	Question hour	331
Reference to late Ch. Sir Chhotu Ram ..	124	Budget—General Discussion	331
Leave of absence of Ch. Kartar Singh ..	124	<i>Thursday, 8th March 1945.</i>	
Legislation—		Starred questions and answers ..	377
Tenancy (Amendment) Bill	121	Unstarred questions and answers ..	396
Land Revenue (Amendment) Bill ..	126	Demands for grants—	
Publication and sale of Holy Books Restricting Bill	127	General Administration	411
Fixation of Minimum Rates of Wages Bill	128	<i>Friday, 9th March 1945.</i>	
Legislative Assembly Powers and Privileges Bill	129	Starred questions and answers ..	447
Muslim Musawat Bill	131	Unstarred questions and answers ..	464
Prohibition of Malba Bill	136	Demands for grants—	
Punjab Children Bill	138	General Administration	466
Resolution—		<i>Monday, 12th March 1945.</i>	
Post-war Development	138	Starred questions and answers ..	489
<i>Friday, 23rd February 1945.</i>		Reference to late Raja Narendra Nath ..	512
Starred questions and answers ..	153	Adjournment motions—	
Unstarred questions and answers ..	179	Security prisoners, New Sub-Jail, Gujrat	518
Adjournment	180	Restrictions on Lala Deshbandhu Gupta	518
Supplementary Estimates (Second Instalment)	180	Supplementary statement of expenditure authenticated by the Governor ..	519
Report of the Public Accounts Committee	180	Demand for grant—	
District Boards Bill	180	Education	520
<i>Thursday, 1st March 1945.</i>		<i>Tuesday, 13th March 1945.</i>	
Starred questions and answers ..	203	Starred questions and answers ..	535
Budget—Presentation	216	Adjournment motion—	
		Treatment of security prisoners, Special Jail, Gujrat	558
		Demand for grant—	
		Education	558

PAGES.		PAGES	
<i>Thursday, 15th March 1945.</i>		<i>Friday, 16th March 1945.</i>	
Starred questions and answers ..	597	Starred questions and answers	649
Adjournment motions (leave to move)—		Unstarred question and answer ..	668
Security prisoners, Gujrat Jail ..	614	Personal explanation ..	668
All-India Muslim League presidential procession	614	Demands for grants ..	669
Personal explanation	617	<i>Monday, 19th March 1945.</i>	
Point of order—		Starred questions and answers ..	681
Presentation of demands for grants in the absence of members ..	617	Short-notice questions and answers ..	697
Supplementary Estimates (presented) ..	617	Unstarred questions and answers ..	701
Demands for grants—		Reference to late K. B. Sardar Muhammad Hassan Khan Gurchani ..	701
Miscellaneous and Extraordinary Charges	617	Adjournment ..	703
		Schedule of expenditure, 1945-46, authenticated by the Governor ..	703
		Supplementary Demands ..	705

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

THIRTEENTH SESSION OF THE FIRST PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Monday, 19th February 1945.

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber at 12 noon of the clock. Mr. Speaker in the Chair.

HOURS OF SITTING.

Premier (The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat) : I move—

That on and from Tuesday, the 20th February 1945, to the end of the Session on the days of the meeting other than Fridays the Assembly shall meet at 12 noon and on Fridays at 10 a.m. of the clock. and the Speaker shall adjourn the Assembly without question put at 4.30 p.m. on days other than Fridays and at 1.30 p.m. on Fridays.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That on and from Tuesday, the 20th February, 1945, to the end of the Session on the days of the meeting other than Fridays the Assembly shall meet at 12 noon and on Fridays at 10 a.m. of the clock and the Speaker shall adjourn the Assembly without question put at 4.30 p.m. on days other than Fridays and at 1.30 p.m. on Fridays.

Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan (Attock North, Muhammadan, Rural) : Sir, it is indeed painful for me to get up today of all days, when we have to mourn one of the greatest leaders of that party, to have to oppose this motion. On behalf of my party I requested the Honourable Premier not to put this controversial motion before the House today, but unfortunately he could not see our point. Therefore I have on behalf of my party to oppose this motion most vehemently and to inform the Premier and the honourable members on his side that it does not do well for his party to go against our wishes every time, to curtail our liberties by always thrusting this motion on us. Last time and even before, we have been opposed to this motion. I think it is an encroachment on the rights of the members of this House that the Honourable Premier has been trying to foist this motion on us. He is trying to amend by this motion the rules made by this House, by his own party which was in the majority on the committee which drafted the rules. Now it has become the practice of the Honourable Premier to try and throttle us by fixing a time when the lawyer members and others who work in the High Court and other courts cannot attend. I would therefore most respectfully request through you that this motion should be withdrawn.

(At this stage Lala Bhim Sen Sachar entered the Chamber amidst Opposition cheers.)

Premier (The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat) : May I say a word ? I had thought that this particular motion for the change in the time was no longer controversial. The practice was started with the consensus of opinion of this House. It may be controversial according to my honourable friends opposite, but I do think that it is no longer controversial. The practice has been in vogue for the last four years and for four years at the commencement of every session we have been moving this motion.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Malpractice.

Premier : Raja Sahib calls it a malpractice. The arguments for and against the motion have been the same every time it was moved. Individuals may differ, but by the verdict of this House and the four years' practice which I call a valid practice, the decision of this House prevails. I was going to say that I would have been the last person to put forward a motion like this if I had not been fortified with precedents. I would like to point out that in the Houses of Parliament similar motions are moved and even on days when references to deceased members are to be made similar motions about the hours of sittings are made. I would come to the practice of this House. May I remind the honourable members that when a reference was being made to the death of that great Unionist member of this House—I am referring to Khan Bahadur Mian Ahmad Yar Khan Daulatana—a similar motion was moved by Sir Sikander Hyat-Khan, and not only was the Opposition opposed to it but if I am not wrong Mian Abdul Aziz also amongst others spoke against it? The motion was then put to the House and carried. More recently while making a reference to the death of Sir Sikander Hyat-Khan a similar motion about the hours of sitting stood in my name. I would refer the honourable members to the proceedings of this House. That motion was put and carried. I have no objection to the honourable members opposing the motion, but I think that they would have shown good taste not to have taken up this position today. I was not able to take the consent of every member or of every Party in this House, but I did consult the Leader of the Opposition and it is with his concurrence and approval that I have put this forward. I have not done anything which is not in keeping with the precedents or which has not happened before. I would say that this is now no longer controversial. There are undoubtedly a few members who do not like this time, but it is convenient to all sides of the House. We come here after meals and disperse at 4-30 and if there is an adjournment motion we can get away at 6-30. That enables us to fulfil our evening engagements. These are the reasons for my placing this motion before the House and I am fortified in this by the approval of this House on previous occasions as well as the practice in the House of Commons. I do not think it is a motion to which serious objection can be taken but if my friends will go on opposing it like this I would request them to please show good taste.

Mr. Speaker : The question is—

That on and from Tuesday, the 20th February 1945, to the end of the session on the days of the meeting other than Fridays, the Assembly shall meet at 12 noon and on Fridays at 10 a.m. of the clock, and the Speaker shall adjourn the Assembly without question put at 4-30 p.m. on days other than Fridays and at 1-30 p.m. on Fridays.

The motion was carried.

REFERENCE TO LATE CHAUDHRI SIR CHHOTU RAM.

Premier (The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat) : Sir, it is with considerable feelings that I rise to make this reference to the demise of a respected colleague and a friend, the late Honourable Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram. His sudden death was a great shock to his friends and admirers all over the province. The shock was intense because the tragic end came when we were getting better news and looking forward to his return to duties. Actually, the collapse came just two days before the date which the doctors had fixed for his resuming duty. Therefore, this was a great shock to all of us.

As to Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram's life, his later life is known to each and every one, even to the very children in the villages and cities. He was born in 1881 in a peasant home at Garhi Sampla, in Rohtak District, the village and the district which he made famous by his subsequent public service. He had to face many difficulties and surmount obstacles during the earlier portion of his life but with his usual perseverance, ability and zeal, he got over all of them and graduated in law. First of all to the best of my knowledge, he practised as a lawyer at Agra and then shifted to his

home district of Rohtak in 1912. He soon found that legal work was not the only thing which interested him and he began to take an interest in wider affairs of local politics and education. He started founding schools and many of them exist today to his great memory. Later on he became a popular figure in the local district board and he started a party on non-communal and economic lines. He did very well in the district board and gained popularity all over the district. Later, his chance came when he was returned to the old Legislative Council and he was appointed a Minister in 1924 or thereabouts. His work was such that his ability and his zeal and enthusiasm won him the recognition of all those who came in contact with him. He made his voice felt in the wider provincial field and he was soon found to be the popular defender of the rights of the zamindars. He was the co-founder of the Unionist party with the late lamented Sir Fazl-i-Husain and worked as his first lieutenant and right-hand man till Mian Sahib left to join the Central Government. Sir Chhotu Ram then became the *de facto* and *de jure* leader of the Unionist Party for a long time in the old Legislative Council. If I am not wrong, his stand for his ideals was so strong that at one time he had only one Hindu follower left. But still he stuck to his guns and he had the unique distinction of being the only Hindu leading a party with a majority of Muslims. Before he was returned to power in 1936 it is well known that ministership was offered to him many times. It is also well known that he could have been the leader of certain other sections which were ready to have him as their leader. But he said, 'No, I will not have anything to do either with the ministership or leadership' unless it is on Unionist lines and according to the programme that he had in view. His chance came in 1937 when the party of which he had been the leader was returned to power. He was then appointed Minister of Development and later as Minister of Revenue which office he held till the day of his death.

His work in the interests of the poor of all classes, and particularly the zamindars, is well known. The part he played in getting the agrarian legislation through in this House is well known. Nor could I fail to mention what he did under these difficult circumstances for communal harmony. His life work can be seen here on these benches. If people of these various communities and classes could be welded together, the cementing factors were the great personalities of Sir Fazl-i-Husain and the Honourable Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram. His work in the interests of communal harmony will never be forgotten. His work for the uplift of the poor will never be forgotten and it is well known that he travelled day and night, motoring hundreds of miles, to see the poor and redress their grievances. It was that, I think, which mostly affected his health. Doctors advised him to take rest, but he would not. He went on making journeys all in the interests of the cause so dear to his heart and in the interests of the poor. He saved nothing, as is now well known to all. All he earned went to the furtherance of the cause he believed in, or as stipends to the poor. His eloquence was such that thousands came to hear him from great distances, walking on foot. He lectured for hours and kept the audience spell bound.

He was a statesman with a dynamic personality. His contribution to the life of the province will be long remembered. He has passed away but the ideals and the work he has done shall remain for ever. In him the province has lost a great Punjabi and myself a personal friend. His loss is all the greater now when his constructive brain was needed for the service of his country. Future generations of Punjabis will always remember the life work and the services rendered by the late Sir Chhotu Ram to the cause of the Punjab.

With these words I will ask you, Mr. Speaker, to convey the sympathies and the condolence of this House to the bereaved family of the late Chaudhri Sahib.

Lala Bhim Sen Sachar (North-Western Towns, General, Urban): Sir, on my return to the House after an exile of two and-a-half years—and no one can say that it will not begin again as soon as I get out of the Assembly Chamber—my first

[L. Bhim Sen Sachar]

thoughts are those of sorrow. In vain my eyes travel to rest on the broad, brave and beaming forehead of my much lamented friend, the late Sir Sikander Hyat Khan. He was a parliamentarian of the first order and a politician possessing astuteness. We miss him, and miss him greatly, and no one can say when, if at all, that loss will be repaired. Of him, on this occasion, I shall say no more. I also take this opportunity to offer my tribute to the memory of my other colleagues, Sir Fazl Ali, Rao Pohop Singh and Chaudhri Jalaluddin Amber, who all left us during my absence from the House.

The death of Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram has decidedly left the House poorer. His presence was felt as it was bound to be felt in the House. His was not an ordinary personality. He was, if I may say so, energy personified. He was a gentleman of strong convictions and had the courage to live up to them. He will be missed in the deliberations of this House, in the counsels of the inner meetings of the Cabinet and in the outside activities of the party to which he belonged, and he would be missed by the Honourable Leader of the House as a personal friend. On such occasions one cannot, as one should not, enter upon subjects which may even distantly give rise to any controversy, but one cannot refer to Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram without giving rise to mixed feelings. By the very force of his personality he created friends around him and he created enemies around him, as any strong personality would. There may be shortcomings, so far as he was concerned, but who amongst us has not? Human beings are not perfect. I would not try to assess the value of his work, but I would say one thing that in his activities two items were such that if his other activities, which may not be approved by me or by others, were to be put in the balance against those two items, they will still leave a credit balance in his favour. My reference, of course, firstly is to his desire to keep religion distinct from politics. (*Hear, ear*). The second item that I wish to refer to was his brave and uncompromising opposition to the attempt to destroy the indestructible unity of India. On these two points, I think, he will score with any other person. If I may be permitted to address a word to his friends and followers who are keen—and very naturally so—on building a monument to his memory, I would say that a monument built in brick and mortar may not last long but they can build a real monument for him if they decide to give practical shape to the two items I have referred to. They can close the foolish controversy of the rural and the urban. They both are the two lungs of the same body politic. You cannot collapse the one without injuring the other. And if the followers of the late Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram would concentrate on these two items, they will raise a worthy monument to his memory.

Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan (Attock North, Muhammadan, Rural): Sir, it is indeed painful to have to get up to mourn the loss of a colleague and a friend. The deepest sympathies of my party and myself today go to Chaudhri Tika Ram and his party who have lost in their deceased leader the greatest of the Hindu Jat leader of the present day. He fought for his convictions and I am sure the loss which his party has suffered will be found irreparable. We on this side of the House, so far as my party is concerned, are indeed sad to have lost such a great opponent whom we should have liked to have been arrayed against us alive. However, God's will be done and it is my request that the sympathies of my party and myself be conveyed to the family of the deceased.

Sardar Santokh Singh (Eastern Towns, Sikh, Urban): Sir, all sections of the House join in mourning the unfortunate death of the late Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram. The gentleman had a great push and energy in him. At the age of sixty he was working like a young man of thirty. He worked for the cause which he espoused fearlessly and unflinchingly. Whatever the opinion of others, he went on according to his own light, and fearlessly worked for the cause which he thought was

right. We non-agriculturists had our differences with him and those differences were quite serious. However this is not the time to refer to them ; all controversy ceases on the death of the gentleman. The loss which the Unionist Party has particularly suffered by his death is really irreparable. The Punjab in general and the Unionist Party in particular are the poorer today by the passing away of this gentleman.

Rai Bahadur Lala Gopal Das (Kangra North, General, Rural) : I rise to associate myself with the feelings that have been expressed by the Honourable Premier, the Leader of the Opposition and other members of this House. We have lost a great man indeed, a person who was an asset to this province. In Sir Chhotu Ram the Unionist Party has lost a great pillar of strength. We all admired him notwithstanding a few differences that we had in the political sphere with him in this House. We request you to kindly convey to the bereaved family our deepest sympathies and condolences.

Begum Rashida Latif Baji (Inner Lahore, Muhammadan Women, Urban), (Urdu) : Sir the Honourable Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram was a person of whom the Punjab could very well be proud. He was born amidst the poor zamindars and it was on account of that that he always sympathised with them and had always their well-being at heart. During his life time he tried his level best to better their lot. In fact he got many measures passed in this House for improving the poor condition of the zamindars. Such persons are needed most and his death has not only made us sad but has given an irreparable blow to the community, the welfare of which he had undertaken. Had he been spared, God alone knows, what more he would have done for the zamindars. His death has shocked not only the zamindars but the labouring classes as well. It was mainly due to his efforts that the Shop Employees Act was passed. Therefore the city labourers, whose hours of work he got fixed and in addition got them a weekly holiday, would remember him as their benefactor. With these words, I join with other honourable members in expressing my heartfelt sympathy at his sad demise. I whole-heartedly support the request made by the Honourable Premier, that the sympathies of the House be conveyed to the bereaved family.

Captain Sardar Naunihal Singh Mann (Sheikhpura West, Sikh, Rural) : Sir, I fully associate myself with what has been said by the honourable members of this House. The late Sir Chhotu Ram came from a very poor family and as the Honourable Premier has said, his work for the cause of the poor will not be forgotten for many years to come. He was one of those who worked very hard and even gave his life for the cause of the poor zamindars of this province. He was a man of great personality. He was a man who lost no time in looking after the troubles of his fellow brothers. In him we lose today a very great leader and particularly the zamindar community is very poor today and his loss will be difficult to fill up. I must say that the great Chaudhri so long as he lived, did wonderfully good work in bringing forward agrarian legislation for the betterment of this class. He has lost his life for the poor and as the Honourable Premier has pointed out, even in spite of medical advice, he never cared and he worked very hard and at the age of over 60 he was running from place to place in spite of several warnings that he had. I remember having seen him twice during the days of his illness. Although he was not allowed by the doctors to speak, whenever I went to him, he had a very long discussion with me in regard to the present situation and what was happening. I, of course, was advised not to talk to him, but I can honestly tell you that all the time I sat with him, he never kept quiet and went on talking and discussing things with me. His loss is a very great loss and I join whole-heartedly with the request made by the Honourable Leader of the House to convey the deepest sympathies of this House to the members of the bereaved family.

Sir William Roberts (European): Sir, I have the privilege of paying my tribute to the memory of the late Sir Chhotu Ram on behalf of the European community. He had many great qualities, which, perhaps, appealed to my community more than to any other community. As a political partner, I would refer to his steadfastness and reliability. It was perhaps as a Unionist that I came in close touch with him chiefly and I appreciated his great reliability as a Unionist. The late Sir Fazl-i-Hussain could never have succeeded in forming the Unionist Party if he had not got a convert and an ally of the type of Sir Chhotu Ram, who had strong convictions. He had the courage and wisdom of creating unity on economic basis and he was the heart and soul of that movement. He believed that the true foundation of unity of the Punjab and even of unity of the whole of India was only possible if it were based on economic factors. In these matters he was heart and soul. His zeal and selflessness during the years he was in the Opposition carried his Muslim friends with him and as a Leader he got their full support. It was not an easy matter for a Hindu to lead a party the majority of whom were Muslims. They followed him steadfastly because they had great respect for his selflessness and convictions. It will be no easy matter today for a Muslim to lead a party, the majority of whom are Hindus unless they have strong belief and confidence in his selflessness and strong convictions. There is one aspect of the loss of a great man which is sometimes forgotten. We are conscious of the loss to a party or loss to a country when a great man leaves us, but a community or country which follows a great man also shows signs of great qualities of heart and soul. Let us, therefore, gird up our loins and see that the Punjab in future will have great leaders and we will be great enough and loyal enough to follow them so that the progress of the Punjabis and of this country may go on uninterrupted.

Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram (West Central Punjab, Indian Christian): Sir, the Honourable Premier and other honourable members of this House, who have followed him, have paid their tributes to the memory of one who figured so prominently in the social, political and economic life of this country. As has been rightly said by the Honourable Premier, he was one of the most forcible personalities ever produced in this province. For the last two decades, he chalked out a programme of work for him. Nobody, perhaps, visualised the conditions under which our masses live in such a realistic way as he did. He dedicated all his energies, talent, time and labour to their betterment and amelioration. Such people are a great honour to the country. He was practically a great politician who I should say saw things in their true perspective. He realised fully that unless the Government did something real for the good of the masses India could not make progress worth the name. I should claim that he was a great nationalist in a way inasmuch as he was very keen to solve the communal question. In his idea the Muslims, Hindus, Christians and the Sikhs were one community and he wanted to do away with the questions of division in this country, which is, in my opinion, an integral part of democracy. Those people who serve the country like this deserve all praise and cannot be forgotten. They are always remembered. We cannot give them immortality. They are past our help and praise but we need them for ever and ever. The spirit which they leave behind and the ideals which they set up serve as a great strength and inspiration to those who follow them and the work which they leave behind will be carried on by others. I am sure the best monument which we can build is to carry on the work which he started.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam (Rawalpindi Division Towns, Muhammadan, Urban) (*Urdu*): Sir, now after a very long time I rise to address this august House on a very unpleasant subject regarding which condolences have to be expressed orally. I wish to express my feelings in a few simple words about this unfortunate event. People belonging to all shades of opinion have showered encomiums on the late Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram. Among those who paid a glowing tribute to the memory of the late Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram, are included the leaders of the parties holding the view that religion should not interfere with politics and,

also the leaders of those parties who believe that religion should interfere with politics. The leaders of different parties, namely the parties who claim themselves to be the well-wishers of the down-trodden zamindars and parties who seem to be desirous of ameliorating the condition of the poor labouring classes and also those persons who are said to be the leaders of non-agriculturists have associated with us in praising the late Sir Chhotu Ram. I do not want to say anything in connection with what these leaders of different parties have expressed about the greatness of Sir Chhotu Ram, but one thing has been quite clear from the speeches made so far that as a man Sir Chhotu Ram had something distinguished in him and I would say this was the only quality which had always appealed to me very strongly. It is only due to that quality that even today I stand to praise him in this House, not as a Unionist, not as an agriculturist, and not as a nationalist but as a man. He had indeed, something very high in him as a man which could distinguish him from others and only because of that quality he was so popular with us. I may also submit that on account of that very quality people belonging to even different classes are now showering encomiums on him and are deeply grieved on his sad demise. Now putting aside all unnecessary remarks that have been made on the floor of the House I would again submit that Sir Chhotu Ram, as a man, held a very distinguished position among us. His friends and even opponents while presenting him in different shades, have also admitted the fact that his qualities of head and heart had always been too great to be praised and his truthful nature and forceful character had always commanded respect from them. He was strongly opposed to capitalism and being fond of the poor he would always take up cudgels for them. His life was a constant struggle for ameliorating the condition of the poor and down-trodden zamindars and none of us can deny the fact that throughout his life he had been endeavouring for the betterment of a class no matter whether the majority of that class were Muslims or Hindus. He did well for the class he was out to help. He protected their rights. He infused new blood into them. He got their rights acknowledged by the House and did everything possible for them in order to keep their heads high. He had many qualities but two things which struck me most were Chhotu Ram as a man and as one opposed to capitalism.

Now, Sir, I wish that our sympathy should be conveyed not only to the bereaved members of the family of the late Sir Chhotu Ram but it ought to be conveyed to the poor zamindars living in huts and even to those poor kisans who can hardly make both ends meet, with whom the late Minister had always been friendly. However, I would like to ask the Government to convey our feelings to the foes of the late Sir Chhotu Ram as well.

My honourable friend Lala Bhim Sen Sachar, Leader of the Opposition, has aptly said that on account of his forceful personality Sir Chhotu Ram could not help creating friends and foes as anyone with a forceful personality was bound to have. I quite agree with him, but I would say that there are different types of foes. There are foes whose enmity is based on honesty while on the other hand there are foes whose animosity takes root in malice. Sir Chhotu Ram had the second type of foes also. Let me in this connection point out that there were certain papers whose publication and livelihood mainly depended upon abusing Sir Chhotu Ram, and by throwing mud on him they used to get money. Now obviously the death of Sir Chhotu Ram has given a fatal blow to their profession. I pity those papers very much, because now they would not be able to grab money which they have been doing so far. It pains me to say that even the papers taking upon themselves the responsibility of protecting the rights of the zamindars have been working on the same lines as adopted by the papers whose source of income, as I have pointed out, mainly depended upon abusing the late Minister, and the Persian line applies to them aptly

بر عکس نهند نام رنگی کاذب

I have every sympathy with the papers whose income, on account of the death of Sir Chhotu Ram, has stopped for ever.

[Dr. Sh. Mohd. Alam]

Before I resume my seat I would say that Sir Chhotu Ram was really a great man and I held him in great esteem, not as a Unionist but as a man, as a staunch opponent of capitalism, as a great well-wisher and sympathiser of the poor Zamindars. In the end let me express great sympathy with the bereaved relatives and the poor zamindars, as well as the pitiable foes of late Sir Chhotu Ram whose death has put an end to their income.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan (Pind Dadan Khan, Muhammadan, Rural) (Urdu) : Sir, I am deeply grieved over the death of Sir Chhotu Ram and even more grieved I felt on having heard some unnecessary remarks which ought not to have been made on this occasion. Every one of us has felt the sorrowful demise of the late Minister. The honourable members sitting on this side of the House have also shared the sorrow caused by his passing away. I had the privilege of working with him as his Parliamentary Secretary and I had always found him hardworking and painstaking as a Minister and he was undoubtedly head and shoulders above his colleagues. He was a man of great qualities and now we find his personality and greatness enhanced when compared with those of other Ministers. We are deeply grieved over his death, although we had some political differences with him on certain matters, and now remembering his qualities of head and heart we feel more grieved on his sad demise. I do not want to make a lengthy speech, as my honourable friend sitting on my right has done because I do not think lengthy speeches should be made on such occasions. It is very surprising indeed that the Government are going to intern my friend Lala Bhim Sen Sachar again and in this connection let me submit that our party's earnest desire is that the Government should not commit this foolish blunder again. They should on the other hand, release other detenus as well. Not dwelling much on this point I would like to finish my brief speech by saying that Sir Chhotu Ram was vigorous, hardworking and conscientious worker and as such I do not think he can be replaced by any person. However, I do hope, that the new Minister would do his best to prove himself a good successor of Sir Chhotu Ram and that he would not let people say that a fat salary of three thousand rupees has been a sheer waste on him. In the end I request that our sympathies may kindly be conveyed to the relatives and friends of the deceased in general and to lady Chhotu Ram in particular.

Sardar Bahadur Sardar Gurbachan Singh (Jullundur West, Sikh, Rural) : Sir, I fully associate myself with the previous speakers. I may say that the cruel hand of death which had already snatched away two flowers from the top-most branch, has now plucked the third one. Although Chaudhri Sahib has parted from us for ever, his great deeds live and will always keep his memory fresh and green. Chaudhri Sahib had not only infused new blood into the veins of the poor and down-trodden zamindars but had also removed to an appreciable extent the load of groaning debt from their heads which has made them capable of keeping their heads up. People loved him so much that they used to collect in thousands to hear him and to have his *darshan* wherever he went. His loss is very great and irreparable, not only to the Punjab and India but to the Allies, because he worked wholeheartedly for the successful termination of this war. The will of the Creator must always prevail and we must bow to it. With these words, I strongly support the request made by the Premier.

Mr. Speaker : The question is—

That a message of condolence and sympathy be sent to the members of the family of the deceased Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram and that the House be adjourned as a mark of respect to him.

The motion was adopted by all members standing.

The Assembly then adjourned till 12 noon, on Tuesday, the 20th February 1945,

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

THIRTEENTH SESSION OF THE FIRST PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 20th February 1945.

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber at 12 noon of the clock. Mr. Speaker in the chair.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

DEFENCE OF INDIA RULES DETENUS, BELONGING TO DELHI PROVINCE

***9005. Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) the number of persons belonging to Delhi Province, detained under Rule 26 of the Defence of India Rules in Punjab Jails on the 31st October 1943 ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the expenses incurred on these detenus are borne by the Delhi Administration ;

(c) whether it is a fact that almost all of them are kept in Camp Jail, Ferozepore, which was designed for the use of ' C ' class prisoners ;

(d) whether it is a fact that there are no covered bathrooms there and all detenus kept there have to bathe in the open even in winter ;

(e) whether it is a fact that there are no purdah walls in the latrines ;

(f) if the answer to (b), (c), (d) and (e) above be in the affirmative what action do the Government propose to take in the matter ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : These prisoners are detained under the orders of the Central Government. Questions about them cannot be asked on the floor of this House, and should be addressed to the Government of India.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : May I know why the Punjab Government thought fit to detain these prisoners in their jails ? Is the Punjab Government under the Government of India ?

Parliamentary Secretary : This does not arise out of the answer given.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : What is the reason for detaining these persons in the Punjab jails ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have stated that questions concerning these gentlemen should be put in the Central Assembly.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : The question does not concern the Central Assembly. These persons are being detained in the Punjab jails and I want to know why they are being detained here.

Parliamentary Secretary : Because the Government of India asked us to do so.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Can the Punjab Government refuse to do it when the Government of India want them to do so ?

Mian Muhammad Nurullah : Is the Punjab Government paying for them ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Yes.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Are these prisoners being kept in the Punjab jails at owners' risk ? *(Laughter).*

Premier : That owner has lot of property here and there are chances of many risks. *(Laughter).*

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether the responsibilities of the Government of India and the Punjab Government are defined in this respect? When a prisoner falls ill, do the Government of India or the Punjab Government look after him?

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is the Punjab Government a commission agent of the Government of India?

Mr. Speaker : Disallowed.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : Parts (c), (d) and (e) refer to Ferozepore Camp Jail. Is this a central subject?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have said that questions relating to these prisoners should be addressed to the Government of India.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : I am only pressing for answers to parts (c) (d) and (e) of the question.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : May I know whether the administration of the Ferozepore jail is the concern of the Punjab Government or any other Government?

Premier : I have failed to see why honourable members are persistent about these questions. The matter is quite clear. We are performing certain function on behalf of the Government of India and it is they who are really responsible. The Government of India are the proper persons from whom to ask these questions. As a matter of fact, questions of this nature have been asked and replied to in the Central Assembly and I do not see why the time of this House should be wasted in bringing forward these questions.

Mr. Speaker : The next question.

DOCTOR GOPI CHAND BHARGAVA

***9011. Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state:—

(a) whether he is aware of the fact that Doctor Gopi Chand Bhargava, a security prisoner, was brought to Lahore on medical grounds during the month of August 1948;

(b) whether it is a fact that there was no improvement in his health when he was transferred to the District Jail, Sialkot, by the middle of September 1948;

(c) whether it is a fact that on his return to the Sialkot District Jail, Doctor Bhargava had severe attacks of heart trouble and had several fits of unconsciousness;

(d) whether the replies to the above parts be in the affirmative the nature of Dr Bhargava's disease and the opinion of the medical experts of the Mayo Hospital, Lahore and the medical authorities of the Jail concerned regarding Dr. Gopi Chand Bhargava's health;

(e) whether any recommendations were made by the Jail medical authorities regarding Dr. Bhargava's health; if so, the nature of these recommendations;

(f) whether the Government intends to allow Doctor Bhargava to seek medical advice of his own liking and at his own expense;

(g) Dr. Bhargava's weight at the time of his arrest, his weight at present and the general state of his health?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat : For the honourable member's information Dr. Gopi Chand Bhargava has since been released.

SECURITY PRISONERS

***9012. Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Security Prisoners confined in the Special Jail, Gujrat, have been deprived or are about to be deprived of the facilities granted to them regarding interviews and correspondence ; if so, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : No.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether these prisoners are forbidden to make any collective representation either to the Jail Superintendent or to the Government ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have answered the question in the negative.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Is the Parliamentary Secretary aware of the fact that these prisoners formerly were allowed to make an application collectively to the superintendent ? Is that privilege being given to them now ?

Parliamentary Secretary : It does not arise out of the answer that I have given.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Does the Parliamentary Secretary know that the privilege of writing applications collectively to the superintendent was allowed to the prisoners ?

Parliamentary Secretary : If the honourable member will give notice I shall make endeavour to supply the required information.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether paper shortage has anything to do in depriving these prisoners of this facility ?

SARDAR MEHMAN SINGH

***9274. Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) whether a book named "Garib-Hindustan" in Gurmukhi script was received by Sardar Mehman Singh, a security prisoner confined in the Sub-Jail, Muzaffargarh, and was sent to the Superintendent, Police, Muzaffargarh, for censorship and was withheld by him in March, 1943 ;

(b) whether Sardar Mehman Singh requested the said Superintendent, Police, to deliver the said book to his friend Ajit Singh, who had gone to Muzaffargarh on 12th January 1944 but it was not delivered to him ;

(c) whether Sardar Mehman Singh again requested the said Superintendent, Police, to send the book in question to his friend Sardar Ajit Singh Margindpuri, by post, but he declined to do so ;

(d) whether Sardar Mehman Singh applied to the Deputy Inspector-General Punjab, C. I. D. Police, to reverse the orders of the said Superintendent, Police, and send the book to his friend by post ;

(e) if the answers to parts (a) to (d) of this question be in the affirmative the action taken by Government in the matter ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : This prisoner is detained under the orders of the Central Government. Questions about him cannot be asked on the floor of this House, and should be addressed to the Government of India.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is the Superintendent of Police, Muzaffargarh, under the Punjab Government or not ?

Parliamentary Secretary : The question relates to a prisoner who is being detained under the orders of the Central Government and such questions should be addressed to them.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : If the Parliamentary Secretary would read part (a) of the question he will find that the question relates to a book named 'Gharib Hindustan' which was withheld by the Superintendent of Police, Muzaffargarh. Is this Superintendent under the Punjab Government or the Government of India?

Parliamentary Secretary : I cannot add anything to what I have already stated.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether the books that are given to the prisoners are censored by the Central Government or the Punjab Government?

Parliamentary Secretary : That is exactly the question which ought to be addressed to the Government of India.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know who looks after these prisoners in the jails?

Parliamentary Secretary : When I say 'questions relating to these prisoner should be addressed to the Government of India' I mean all questions including the one now asked.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : When any one of these prisoners is lying on his death bed, is the Government of India consulted before any treatment is given?

Mr. Speaker : Hypothetical question. Disallowed.

Mian Abdul Aziz : May I know whether the Government of India have deputed any officer to look after these prisoners or is it the Punjab Government's responsibility?

Parliamentary Secretary : Honourable members do not gain anything in repeatedly asking the same question. We perform certain functions on behalf of the Government of India and in such matters we supply them (Government of India) any information that they may ask.

SARDAR UDHAM SINGH

***9275. Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) whether Sardar Udham Singh of village Dhamob in the Patiala State was arrested at Meerut Cantonment under section 26 of the Defence of India Rules on 20th March 1941 and was brought to the Lahore Fort Police lock-up;

(b) whether he was transferred from the Lahore Fort to the Mianwali jail in August 1941;

(c) whether he was again transferred from the Mianwali jail to the Sub-Jail, Muzaffargarh on 18th January 1943 and is still confined in that jail;

(d) if the answers to parts (a), (b) and (c) above be in the affirmative, the number of interviews allowed to him and which he had with his (1) son, (2) his relatives and friends at (Lahore Fort), (3) at Mianwali jail and (4) Muzaffargarh jail from 22nd March 1941 to 4th February 1944;

(e) whether the total number of the interviews allowed to him and which he had since his detention does not exceed one;

(f) whether he sent a representation, dated 10th February 1943, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Punjab, to the effect that since his wife had died leaving two minor sons behind and he had not seen his sons during the last three years, he may be transferred to the Ludhiana jail for the convenience of interviews, but his request was rejected, if so, the reasons therefor?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad): This prisoner is detained under the orders of the Central Government. Questions about him cannot be asked on the floor of this House and should be addressed to the Government of India.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan: Mr. Speaker, can you not compel the Parliamentary Secretary not to evade the answering of questions relating to the responsibility of the Punjab Government? I invoke your assistance in compelling him to answer questions about matters where the responsibility of the Punjab Government is involved.

Parliamentary Secretary: Nobody can compel us.

Mr. Speaker: Will the honourable member please quote the authority under which I can compel the Parliamentary Secretary to answer questions?

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan: It is a commonsense view.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: Will the Parliamentary Secretary be pleased to state whether the Government of India make any contribution towards the salary of the staff who look after these prisoners?

Parliamentary Secretary: Before I answer the question, I would like to know how the question arises out of the answer given.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: The Parliamentary Secretary has stated that it is the responsibility of the Government of India and therefore he cannot answer the question. My supplementary question arises out of that answer, whether that Government are making any contribution towards the salary of the staff who look after these prisoners. Does it not arise out of the question?

Parliamentary Secretary: I decline to answer the main question; therefore no question of elucidation of the answer arises.

Mr. Speaker: The next question.

PUNITIVE POLICE AT PIND NOWSHERI

***9289. Khan Muhammad Yusaf Khan**: Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state:—

(a) since when punitive police has been stationed at Pind Nowsheri and Thata Khalil in Rawalpindi tahsil;

(b) whether the local authorities have recommended the removal of punitive police from Pind Nowsheri, if so, what action has the Government taken in the matter?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad): (a) punitive police were stationed at Pind Nowsheri and Thata Khalil in the Rawalpindi district, with effect from the 18th December 1941, but were withdrawn on the 12th December, 1943.

(b) Does not arise.

NUMBER OF CASES DECIDED BY EACH MAGISTRATE IN LUDHIANA DISTRICT

***9290. Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan**: Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state:—

(a) the number of cases decided by each magistrate in the Ludhiana district from the 1st of November, 1943, to the 1st of March, 1944;

(b) the number of cases pending in the court of each magistrate in the Ludhiana district on 26th February 1944;

(c) whether the Treasury Officer and the Revenue Assistant in the Ludhiana district are given any criminal cases; if not, the total number of cases decided by each of them from 1st January 1943, to 1st January 1944?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad): I regret that the time and trouble involved in the collection of this information would be incommensurate with any possible benefit to be obtained.

SUBSCRIPTION TO SPECIALLY DESIGNED WEEKLY WAR EDITIONS OF
NEWSPAPERS

*9292. **Malik Barkat Ali**: Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state:—

(a) the total amount paid as subscription to specially designed weekly war editions of newspapers during the year 1942-48; and

(b) the details of the distribution of this amount among the newspapers giving the names of the newspapers with the total amount given to each during the year 1942-48?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad): (a) Rs. 52,978-5-8.

(b) It is not in public interest to give these details.

Mian Muhammad Nurullah: What does the honourable member mean by "specially designed weekly"?

Parliamentary Secretary: That expression does not occur in my reply.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh: May I know what amount of money is given to the Ajit or the Akali?

Parliamentary Secretary: I have said that the answer cannot be given in the public interest.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan: How does the public interest suffer if the answer is given?

Parliamentary Secretary: I am here to state facts and not to say how or why.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: Is it that the Government feel ashamed to give that information?

Sardar Lal Singh: Does the Parliamentary Secretary feel that it is unfair to the papers which do not get any money not to divulge the names of those newspapers which are getting money?

Mr. Speaker: Disallowed.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad: May I know the amount paid to the *Inqilab*?

Mr. Speaker: Disallowed.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad: May I know the amount paid to the *Shahbaz*?

Mr. Speaker: Disallowed.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh: May I know whether that money is given through the honourable member here?

Mr. Speaker: Disallowed.

Parliamentary Secretary: I have already stated that I am not going to give any information with regard to these details.

SUBSCRIPTION TO SPECIALLY DESIGNED WEEKLY WAR EDITION OF
NEWSPAPERS

*9293. **Malik Barkat Ali** : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) the total amount spent up to date as subscription to specially designed weekly war editions of newspapers during the year 1948-44 ;

(b) the names of the papers to whom this subscription has been paid together with the amount given to each ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Rs. 88,008-1-3.

(b) It is not in public interest to give these details.

WIDOW OF INAYAT ULLAH KHAN

*9302. **Khan Sahib Chaudhri Sahib Dad Khan** : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) whether he has received a complaint from the widow of one Inayat Ullah Khan of village Auliapur, district Sheikhupura, to the effect that her two mares and fodder stacks have been stolen, her servant beaten and other harm done to her in the absence of her sister's son now in police custody ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the police failed to trace the culprits ;

(c) what action was taken on the complaint referred in (a) and with what result ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) A complaint was received and passed on to the police for investigation.

(b) & (c) A case in respect of the theft of horses belonging to the widow of Inayat Ullah Khan was registered under section 457, I. P. C. but ultimately was filed as untraced. Sultan Mahmud, nephew of Mst. Nur Nishan was responsible for the brutal murder of three persons for which he has been sentenced to death. Nur Nishan therefore submitted fictitious and baseless applications with a view to thwart the smooth progress of the case to save her nephew and to implicate the complainant and investigating officers.

SODHI PINDI DASS

*9303. **Sardar Teja Singh Swatantar** : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the wife of Sodhi Pindi Dass, a security prisoner confined in the Central Jail, Lahore, went mad in May 1948 ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the said Sodhi Pindi Dass applied for parole in May 1948, so that he might attend upon his ailing wife ;

(c) whether the request mentioned in (b) was granted, if not, the reasons therefor ;

(d) whether Government took any other measures in respect of his ailing wife, if not, why not ;

(e) when the case of the said Sodhi Pindi Dass was examined last, and with what result ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Her mental condition was not normal in May 1948.

(b) Yes.

[K. H. Sh. Faiz Muhammad]

(c) *First part.*—No.

Second part.—Enquiries showed that Sodhi Pindi Dass's wife was not dangerous or suffering in health. She was being treated free by a doctor and looked after by her grown up son and mother. In these circumstances, Government considered it was not essential that she should have the personal attention of her husband.

(d) At the request of Mr. B. P. L. Bedi, arrangements were made for her admission to the Punjab Mental Hospital and he was informed that a request for financial assistance would be sympathetically considered by Government.

(e) December, 1944. It was decided that his detention should continue.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Was his request for allowance considered by the Government recently ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have stated that he was informed that a request for financial assistance would be sympathetically considered.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether she was admitted to the mental hospital ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Yes.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : For how long ?

Parliamentary Secretary : That is asking too much. If the honourable member gives notice, I can supply the answer.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Why was she discharged ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I want notice for that.

STATE OF HEALTH OF RUR SINGH, M.L.A., KESAR SINGH, KARAM SINGH CHIMA,
LAL SINGH JANDIALA AND SUNDER SINGH MAKHSUSPUR

*9309. **Sardar Teja Singh Swatanter :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) the state of health of the following persons confined in the Gujrat Jail :—

Baba Rur Singh, M.L.A.

Baba Kesar Singh.

Baba Karam Singh Chima.

Baba Lal Singh Jandiala.

Baba Sunder Singh Makhsuspur.

(b) when were they last medically examined ;

(c) whether it is a fact that Baba Rur Singh is suffering from acute eye trouble, if so, what medical treatment has been given to him so far ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) All these prisoners have been released except Rur Singh, the general state of whose health is good.

(b) Baba Rur Singh was last examined on 27th November, 1944.

(c) *First part.*—No.

Second part.—Does not arise.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : What standards of health are applied to a man of 70 for judging whether he is keeping good health or not ?

Parliamentary Secretary : The same as apply to my honourable friend opposite.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Was he weighed when he was medically examined on 27th November as stated in part (b) of the answer ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have given the date on which he was examined. If further details are required I want notice.

MASTER RAM NATH

***9310. Sardar Teja Singh Swatantar :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that Master Ram Nath has been interned in Amritsar city for a long time now ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the restrictions imposed upon him are a great hindrance in the way of his starting any business ;

(c) whether it is a fact that he applied for the removal of these restrictions, if so, what action the Government intends to take in the matter ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) He has been restricted to Amritsar since 11th January 1948.

(b) As was stated in answer to Assembly question No. 9088¹, Government are not aware that restriction to Amritsar hinders his work ; the contrary would appear to be the case.

(c) *First part.*—Yes.

Second part.—The intentions of Government cannot be disclosed.

MR. SANT PARKASH

***9323. Sardar Ajit Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Sant Parkash, the representative of the "Bombay Chronicle" and the 'Hindustan Standard' in the Punjab applied to the Punjab Government in November 1948 for a permanent gate pass to enter the compound of the Punjab Civil Secretariat, as he had to go to the Secretariat very frequently as a representative of the above-mentioned papers ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the request for the pass was rejected ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Sub-Inspector of Police at the main gate of the Punjab Civil Secretariat was directed by the Punjab Government on 3rd January 1944 not to allow Mr. Sant Parkash to enter the premises of the Civil Secretariat even on a temporary permit from the man in charge of the gate, if so, why and under whose orders this was done ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) No.

**ARREST OF ABDULLAH KHAN AND OTHERS BY SECURITY STAFF,
FEROZEPORE**

***9328. Malik Barkat Ali :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Abdullah Khan, Supervisor, Special Ledger Checking Section Ordnance Depôt, Ferozepore, Mr. Taj Din, Supervisor, Traffic Branch Ordnance Depôt, Ferozepore and Mr. Muhammad Yusaf, Supervisor, Executive Branch, Ordnance Depôt Ferozepore, were arrested by the Security Staff of the Police, district Ferozepore, in 1943 ;

(b) the exact dates of their arrest in each case and, if they were released afterwards, the exact dates of their release, respectively ;

(c) the grounds on which the above-mentioned persons were arrested and later on released ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Yes ;

(b) Abdullah Khan, Taj Din and Mohammad Yusuf were arrested on 18th October 1943, 7th August 1943 and 14th October 1943 and they were released on 1st November 1943 ; 5th September 1943 and 21st October 1943 respectively ;

(c) to prevent subversive activities prejudicial to the war effort.

PUNJAB ZAMINDARA LEAGUE

***9382. Sardar Sohan Singh Josh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) whether any coercive methods have been used by officials in the Punjab in realising the funds for the Zamindara League ;

(b) whether the Government machinery and National War Front platform have been used for the purpose of collecting funds for the Zamindara League ; if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether Zamindara League funds have been realised in any district along with land-revenue ; if so, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Not to the knowledge of Government.

(b) No.

(c) Not to the knowledge of Government.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether in the Hoshiarpur district the Zamindara League fund was collected along with land revenue ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Not to the knowledge of the Government.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether it is a fact or not that Zamindara League fund was collected along with land revenue in Multan district ?

Parliamentary Secretary : The original question relates to the Hoshiarpur district and I have replied, 'not to the knowledge of the Government'. So far as other districts are concerned, particularly Multan, I repeat that answer.

Lala Bhagat Ram Choda : Is it not a fact that no registrations or mutations are made nor licences renewed unless contributions are made to the funds of the Zamindara League ?

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : May I know whether several complaints have been received from the Ludhiana district that coercive measures are adopted for collecting Zamindara League funds and for that reason they have started an organisation known as Anjuman-i-Zamindara ?

Parliamentary Secretary : So far as Government is concerned, I can assure my honourable friend opposite that no complaints have been received.

Premier : As regards the latter part of his question, we are glad to note that my honourable friend has come under that flag.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is the Premier prepared to recognise the Anjuman-i-Zamindara ? If so, has that organisation passed a resolution expressing want of confidence in the Premier ?

Premier : Individuals do not matter. If that organisation has no confidence in one man, it can have another man. But we are glad to note that the honourable member has recognized the necessity of an organisation of that kind.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is it a decision of the Cabinet that answers to all questions relating to Zamindara League should be false ?

Mr. Speaker : The word 'false' is unparliamentary.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : If so, I withdraw the word 'false' and substitute for it the word 'untrue' or 'wrong'.

Lala Bhagat Ram Choda : If the farmer makes a complaint, will the money realised from him be refunded to him ?

Parliamentary Secretary : There is no question of refunding when no money has been realised.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I enquire whether the Government can deny that a purse was given to the Honourable Premier on the National War Front Platform ?

Parliamentary Secretary : How does it arise out of my answer ?

WARNING TO GAZETTED OFFICERS FOR TAKING PART IN THE ACTIVITIES OF VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

*9397. **Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state the names and the designations of the gazetted officers serving in the Province who have been from time to time given warnings for taking part in the activities of—

- (a) the Zamindara League ;
- (b) the Unionist Party ;
- (c) the Jat Mahasabha ;
- (d) the Hindu Mahasabha ;
- (e) the Akali Dal ; and
- (f) the Muslim League ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : If any such warnings were given, it would be contrary to public policy to advertise them.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I draw your attention to the sort of answers the Government is giving ? My question is very simple. I wanted to know whether any warning has been given to any gazetted officer and the reply begins with 'if any such warnings were given'. I think you will realise that the Government are definitely determined to give evasive replies.

Parliamentary Secretary : It is not the policy to advertise the warnings, if any, given to officers.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Has any officer been warned or not ?

Khan Sahib Shaikh Muhammad Amin : Do not name the officer but just say whether any officer has been warned or not.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Just say whether any officer has been warned or not for taking part in the activities of the various organisations named in the question.

Rai Bahadur Lala Gopal Das : It is a simple question from a simple person !

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : And to a simple person !

Khan Sahib Shaikh Muhammad Amin : Is there any objection to give the simple fact as to whether any warning has been given ? The names may be suppressed but for the present can they say whether any warning has been given or not ?

Parliamentary Secretary : My answer is the same that the Government does not disclose warnings if at all given.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is it a fact that the officers are ordered to take part in the activities of the Zamindara League ?

Parliamentary Secretary : No.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is it a fact that the Government officials are invariably present in the meetings of the Zamindara League ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Not within the knowledge of the Government.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Let the Premier endorse what the Parliamentary Secretary has said.

Parliamentary Secretary : But I am speaking on behalf of the Premier.

Premier : This matter has been discussed in an adjournment motion and I made it abundantly clear then that when I go and address meetings in pursuance of the war effort, it is the duty of all officers to be present there.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : In the Zamindara League meetings ?

Premier : As far as the Zamindara League is concerned, it is for total war effort and it takes a prominent part and will continue to take prominent part. (*Hear, hear*).

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I know whether the object of the Zamindara League is to get independence for India ?

Parliamentary Secretary : How does it arise out of the answer given ?

Mr. Speaker : It does not arise out of the answer given.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is the Zamindara League a political organisation ?

Mr. Speaker : The honourable member knows better than any one else.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I want to know whether it is a fact that whenever the Premier receives addresses on behalf of the Zamindara League or gives replies to the same, the Deputy Commissioners and all other officials of the Government are usually present ?

Premier : I have given a clear reply already and I have made the position clear in the course of my speech on the adjournment motion. I have repeatedly stated that when I go to address meetings in pursuance of the war effort, it is the duty of all officials to be present and all those organisations which stand for total war effort are equally welcome.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : You do not stand for total war effort. You are extorting—

Mr. Speaker : The honourable member should not be personal.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I am asking only about the Premier and not about 'Khizar Hyat Khan'. I want to know whether any officer has been warned for taking part in the activities of the Muslim League.

Premier : The reply is clear.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : If the Government have definitely decided to treat our interpellations in this way, then the result would be—

Mr. Speaker : I cannot allow a speech. Questions have been asked and answered.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I ask you, Mr. Speaker, if during your long career as Speaker of this House you have ever seen the Government giving a reply that if such and such a thing has happened, then—

Mr. Speaker : No question can be put to the Speaker.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I would request you, as the custodian of the rights of the members of this House, to intervene and advise the Government that they should not give such useless and evasive answers. We do not want to know who the officer is but we want to know whether any warning has been given or not. The Government, in its own interest, should give the information, otherwise the public will judge for themselves that they are persecuting the Muslim League.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : May I know from the Honourable Premier whether it is the policy of the Zamindara League to create slavish habits among the zamindars? (*Hear, hear*).

Mr. Speaker : The question is disallowed.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : May I know whether the activities of the Zamindara League in the matter of collection of subscriptions are detrimental to the National War Front or the war effort?

Mr. Speaker : That is a question of opinion.

Sardar Shaukat Hyat—Khan : Is it a fact that the Muslim officers in the Punjab are being prosecuted and persecuted on mere suspicion that being Muslims they must have sympathies with the Muslim League? (*Hear, hear*).

Premier : It is not a relevant question, but it is an allegation which is baseless. Every matter is considered on its merits.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : We shall force the Premier to give replies.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know how many people carrying out the activities for the Unionist Government have been bestowed the titles of Sardar Sahib, Khan Bahadur, Rai Sahib and so on?

Mr. Speaker : Disallowed.

Premier : Is the honourable member one of the candidates?

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : How many Khan Bahadurs are taking part in the Muslim League agitation?

Mian Abdul Aziz : Many and they will continue doing so.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Have they been deprived of their titles?

Sardar Shaukat Hyat—Khan : The honourable member can have one.

Mian Abdul Aziz : Could the Honourable Premier kindly tell me whether any of the Muslim officers have been transferred from one place to another on account of the suspicion that they are helping the Muslim League?

Premier : It does not arise out of the answer but as these are questions meant to insinuate, I say that transfers take place on account of exigencies of service. (*An honourable member :* Question.)

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Will the Government be pleased to state if it is a fact that the only political party which has become the target of attack is the Muslim League party?

Premier : How is it relevant ? It is a vague allegation. (*An honourable member : Oh !*)

Pandit Bhagat Ram Choda : May I know whether the Muslim League will be declared an unlawful body ?

Premier : Every body is treated on its merits.

Mr. Speaker : The next question.

DISMISSAL OF CAPTAIN SHAUKAT HYAT KHAN

***9429. Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to give the details of the "serious case of injustice" alleged in the Government Communiqué, the case which was the cause of Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan's dismissal from Ministership ?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat Khan : This subject cannot be adequately dealt with in answer to a question. The information required is available in the report of the Chief Officer of the Lahore Corporation and the order of the Commissioner of Lahore on the case of Mrs. Durga Parshad. Copies of these documents are readily obtainable.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : The Honourable Premier has said that this matter cannot be dealt with adequately in answer to a question. Do I understand that he is going to allow a day for the discussion of this matter ?

Premier : How does it arise out of this question ?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : It arises out of the answer given.

Premier : These things are irrelevant here. The budget discussion is coming along when honourable members can get a reply to such questions. At that time I can place such information before the House as the circumstances and official restrictions allow.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I request the Honourable Premier to be kind enough to read the answer again and then he will realise that in that answer he has said that full justice cannot be done to this question by means of a reply. So my supplementary question is, does he mean to give us a day to discuss this matter, particularly when at the time of the last meeting he said that his heart was full on this matter ?

Premier : My position regarding this matter is wellknown to the Leader of the Opposition with whom I had a talk. What I said was that during the budget this matter might be discussed, and that it cannot be discussed in reply to a question. I did not say that full justice cannot be done to it. My words are these : that this matter cannot be adequately dealt with in answer to a question. This matter can only and properly be raised, according to the rules, either by means of a substantive motion or during the budget discussion when it will be relevant. My honourable friends should have patience. Such information as I can place will be placed before them. Why should they be anxious about it ?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I ask the Honourable Premier whether he is aware of any rules under which a lengthy answer to a question is restricted ?

Premier : It is in accordance with Parliamentary Practice ?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I know to what Parliamentary practice he is referring ?

Khan Sahib Shaikh Muhammad Amin : Is the Honourable Premier prepared to lay on the table the details of the correspondence and the report of all the officers concerned ?

Mian Abdul Aziz : He has already admitted that he will give all the documents.

Premier : I said 'such information as I can give'.

Khan Sahib Shaikh Muhammad Amin : What do the words 'such information as I can give' mean?

Premier : My honourable friend understands it well and if he does not, God help him.

Mian Abdul Aziz : Therefore we want to crush you—

Mr. Speaker : I cannot allow a dialogue.

Mian Abdul Aziz : The Honourable Premier has been pleased to state today that some other correspondence is available. May I ask whether he is prepared to lay on the table the references which were given in the correspondence which was held between Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan and the Government?

Premier : I have great respect for the age of the honourable Mian Sahib. For his information I repeat my reply again; It is :

"This subject cannot be adequately dealt with in answer to a question. The information required is available in the report of the Chief Officer of the Lahore Corporation and the order of the Commissioner of Lahore on the case of Mrs. Durga Parsbad. Copies of these documents are readily obtainable."

To that I added that if a discussion were raised on this matter, such other information as I can give, would be made available to the House. But there is a limit to it. I will give such information as I can.

Khan Sahib Shaikh Muhammad Amin : The Honourable Premier was pleased to say that certain documents were available. Would he make other documents available that are not otherwise available, namely, the report of the Deputy Secretary and the reports of other officers who dealt with this case?

Premier : This question does not arise out of the answer given. The reply will be given when a proper discussion is raised.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : May I know whether the Honourable Premier is prepared to give us an assurance that no privilege shall be claimed with respect to those documents?

Mr. Speaker : Disallowed.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I request the Honourable Premier to state whether on the basis of information supplied to him by the intelligence department, he realises that nobody in the Punjab was pleased that Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan was dismissed because of this case? Is that allegation correct?

Premier : It is a baseless insinuation.

Khan Sahib Shaikh Muhammad Amin : If the Honourable Premier is not prepared to lay on the table the correspondence and the report of the officers concerned, will he make the copies of those documents available to us on payment?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether he believes that the documents he has referred to contain complete information regarding this case?

Premier : It is a question of opinion. I think I made it clear that such information as can be given is available in the report of those officers.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is that information, in his opinion, correct?

Premier : I cannot answer that question.

Mr. Speaker : Next question.

Mian Muhammad Nurullah : On a point of order. I would invite the attention of the House to Rule 12 (2) which is as follows—

"On notice given at question time, a period not exceeding half an hour after the hour of interruption or after the conclusion of the business on the list for the day, whichever is earlier, may be allowed to a member to raise a debate on any matter of urgent importance which has been the subject of a question on that day, but no votes shall be taken on such debate".

Under this rule I ask that half an hour be given to this question to be discussed properly.

Mr. Speaker : Is it the pleasure of the House that half an hour be allowed as desired by Mian Muhammad Nurullah?

The leave was refused.

DISMISSAL OF CAPTAIN SHAUKAT HYAT KHAN

***9430. Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) whether His Excellency the Governor consulted him regarding the dismissal of Captain Shaukat Hyat Khan ;

(b) if so, what advice did he give in the matter ; and

(c) whether before giving his advice, he consulted his colleagues of the Cabinet?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat Khan : I regret that I am unable to answer this question because to do so would be a breach of the oath of secrecy which I took on appointment as a Minister.

I shall give as much information as can properly be revealed if and when this subject comes up for discussion during the course of the debate on the budget.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether His Excellency the Governor consulted the Honourable Premier in this matter?

Premier : I have nothing more to add.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Does His Excellency the Governor consult the Honourable Premier in any matter?

Premier : I have nothing more to add. May I refer my honourable friend to a similar question asked by Diwan Chaman Lall in 1937 when the late Sir Sikander Hyat Khan made a statement that no such questions would be answered on the floor of the House?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Will the Honourable Premier tell us whether he honestly believes that the moment he mentions the late Sir Sikander's name, everything is all right?

Premier : I think he was the Leader whom my honourable friend followed and so long I quote him, it will carry respect for him.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Rules are worthy of more respect than personalities.

Premier : He may not follow, but I am quoting my late lamented Leader.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : May I know whether the Honourable Premier is precluded from making references?

Khan Sahib Shaikh Muhammad Amin : May I request that under Rule 12 (ii), half an hour may be allowed to discuss the answer to this question?

Mr. Speaker : Is it the pleasure of the House that half an hour be given for its discussion?

Leave was refused.

MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE FOR THE FAMILIES OF CERTAIN M.L.A.s

*9438. **Mrs. Duni Chand** : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) since when Sardars Rur Singh, Harjab Singh and Kabul Singh M.L.A.s have been detained in jails and the reasons for their detention ;

(b) whether they and their families have been getting any maintenance allowances ; if so, what ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Sardar Rur Singh and Sardar Harjab Singh have been detained since 26th June 1940, and Sardar Kabul Singh since 28rd December 1941, to prevent them from acting in any manner prejudicial to the defence of British India, the public safety, the maintenance of public order, or the efficient prosecution of the war.

(b) The families of Sardar Harjab Singh and Sardar Kabul Singh are getting Rs. 80 and Rs. 60 per month, respectively.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Were their cases reviewed by the Punjab Government to consider whether their release was desirable ?

Parliamentary Secretary : That does not arise out of the original question or the answer.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Please refer to part (a), that is, the reasons for their detention. What are the reasons for their detention ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have stated the reasons ; and the reasons which necessitated their detention still exist.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether Sardar Rur Singh has made any representation to the Government for an allowance ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I cannot say whether he made any application but it is a fact that no allowance is being given to his family.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know the reasons for refusing him an allowance ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Government is informed that he has sufficient means for carrying on.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Informed by whom ?

Parliamentary Secretary : By the human agency.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : What was that human agency ?

Parliamentary Secretary : The official agency.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Were the Superintendent of Police and the District Magistrate of Ferozepore consulted by the Government in the matter of his allowance ?

Parliamentary Secretary : My honourable friend should realise that the agency employed to collect information in all the three cases was the same. In two cases the agency stated that an allowance was called for, and in regard to the third it said that allowance was not necessary. My friend should realise that the agency is not making a wrong report.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Has the Parliamentary Secretary in his possession the report of the local agency that the allowance should not be granted to Sardar Rur Singh ?

Parliamentary Secretary : It is not with me here.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Can the Parliamentary Secretary give reasons quoted in the report as to why the allowance was not recommended by the local authority ?

Parliamentary Secretary : The report was that Sardar Rur Singh could carry on without any allowance as he was a man of means.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether Sardars Harjap Singh and Kabul Singh have made any representation for an increase in their allowance ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Yes, they have.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : What was the action taken ?

Parliamentary Secretary : The allowance they are getting was considered to be sufficient.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Was their allowance increased ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I cannot give exact details but I understand that their allowance was increased.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Was it increased in the case of Kabul Singh ?

Parliamentary Secretary : In both cases.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Does the honourable member know the annual income of Sardar Rur Singh which disentitled him to receive any allowance ?

Parliamentary Secretary : No.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : What is the criterion of the Punjab Government to judge whether he does or does not require a maintenance allowance ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I do not know just now but the information was collected through the local agency and the report was that Sardar Rur Singh was in a position to maintain himself without any allowance being granted to him by the Government.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is that report of the local officer available in the office of the Parliamentary Secretary ? Could we have access to that ?

Parliamentary Secretary : My learned friend, who is an old parliamentarian, should know that the communications from the local officers to the Government are always treated as confidential and it is not possible to make this communication available, but I can give information based on that report.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Did he or did he not collect the information about the maintenance allowance of Sardar Rur Singh ? If he did then I am supposed to presume that he has got in his possession various reasons which inclined the Punjab Government to reject his request for a maintenance allowance.

Parliamentary Secretary : The difficulty is that I do not look upon the officials of the Punjab Government with the same suspicion with which my friend looks.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : The question is not of suspicion ; it is straight forward whether the Parliamentary Secretary has in his possession the report of the officer saying that Sardar Rur Singh does not require any maintenance allowance ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Why should my friend think that Government has special reasons to withhold allowance for Sardar Rur Singh and not for Harjap Singh and Kabul Singh ?

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

SPECIAL INQUIRY AGENCY

1736. Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that ever since the constitution of the Special Inquiry Agency by the Punjab Government the officer-in-charge of the said Agency has been a Muhammadan;

(b) whether it is a fact that his term of office expires shortly, if so, whether it is intended to appoint some Sikh, Hindu or a Christian to this post this time, if not, why not?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat : (a) The Special Inquiry Agency was started only recently. The first officer in charge was a Muslim and so is the present incumbent of the post.

(b) No specific term has been set. It is not possible at present to say who the next incumbent will be, because the post is filled by selection on the basis of fitness for the special work to be done, irrespective of communal considerations.

INQUIRIES AGAINST PROVINCIAL CIVIL SERVICE OFFICERS

1737. Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state the number of Provincial Civil Service officers, community-wise, against whom inquiries have been made during the tenure of office of the present officer-in-charge of the special inquiry agency of the Punjab Government?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat : 12 (including those from the Judicial Branch)—3 Muslims, 3 Sikhs and 6 Hindus.

JHATKA MEAT AND SIKH STUDENTS OF RASUL ENGINEERING SCHOOL

1785. Sardar Lal Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Secretary, the Punjab Sikh United Party, made a representation to the Honourable Premier in his letter No. 101, dated the 18th July 1944, regarding the stoppage of the supply of *jhatka* meat (mutton) to Sikh students of the Government School of Engineering, Rasul; if so, whether any reply has so far been given; if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether it is a fact that the late Sir Sikander Hyat Khan and the present Premier have time and again given assurances to all the communities that '*status quo*' will be maintained with regard to their religious and cultural rights; if so, why the non-Muslim students of the Government School of Engineering, Rasul, are not allowed to import *jhatka* meat (mutton) from Pindi Baha-ud-Din from which place they have been getting *jhatka* meat for a very long time?

The Honourable Sir Muhammad Jamal Khan Leghari : (a) A representation was made but after this lapse of time it cannot be said exactly when or by whom. The Honourable the Premier explained the position to Giani Kartar Singh, M. L. A., and it was considered that no further answer need be given.

(b) It is a fact that the policy of Government is to maintain the *status quo* and this is being done in this case. The statement made in the latter part of the question that non-Muslim students at Rasul have been importing *jhatka* meat from Mandi Baha-ud-Din for a very long time is contrary to facts and, consequently, the *status quo* is being maintained and has not been disturbed.

**COMMUNAL REPRESENTATION AMONG SUPERINTENDENTS OF DEPUTY
COMMISSIONERS' OFFICES**

1787. Sardar Lal Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state community-wise the number of Superintendents of Deputy Commissioners' offices in the province?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tikka Ram : A statement giving the required information is laid on the table.

Statement showing communal representation among Superintendents of Deputy Commissioners' offices in the Province.

Division	Muslims	Hindus	Sikhs	Others	Total
Ambala	2	4	..	..	6
Jullundur	3	2	..	..	5
Lahore	4	1	..	1	6
Rawalpindi	4	2	..	..	6
Multan	4	2	..	..	6

**EXECUTIVE ENGINEERS PROMOTED TO CLASS I OF INDIAN SERVICE
OF ENGINEERS**

1788. Khan Bahadur Mian Amir-ud-Din : Will the Honourable Minister for Public Works be pleased to state —

(a) the number of Executive Engineers recently promoted to Class I of Indian Service of Engineers; and

(b) the proportion of Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs amongst them?

The Honourable Sir Muhammad Jamal Khan Leghari : I regret that the answer to this question is not yet ready.

CIVIL SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

1789. Khan Bahadur Mian Amir-ud-Din : Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state —

(a) how many officials are employed in the Civil Supplies Department and how many of these are Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs respectively;

(b) the strength of the staff of the Establishment Section of the above mentioned department and how many amongst them are respectively Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs;

(c) in how many districts of the Punjab Civil Supply Deputy Commissioners and Civil Supplies Officers have been appointed and how many of these are Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs respectively?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : (a) The question is not clearly understood. The Secretariat staff is interchangeable and is being deputed to different branches and departments from time to time. It is, therefore, assumed that the question relates to that part of the Civil Supplies Staff of non-gazetted rank which is non-Secretariat staff. The total number of officials of this category in the Civil Supplies Department including in rationed towns is 1,302, of which 598 are Muslims, 386 Sikhs, and 876 Hindus and others.

(b) There is no separate Establishment Section of this department as such, and it is not, therefore, possible to give communal percentages of that Section.

(c) There are no Civil Supplies Deputy Commissioners in the province. There are 28 Civil Supplies Officers as detailed below. One post is vacant. Seventeen officers have been deputed from the Provincial Civil Service to work as Civil Supplies Officers. Of these seven are Muslims, five are Hindus and five are Sikhs. Eleven officers have been appointed from amongst non-officials by the department. Of these six are Muslims, three are Hindus and two are Sikhs.

	P. C. S.	Non-P. C. S.	Total
Muslims	7	6	13
Hindus	5	3	8
Sikhs	5	2	7
Total	17	11	28

**STUDENTS ADMITTED TO THE PHARMACY CLASSES OF THE KING EDWARD
MEDICAL COLLEGE, LAHORE**

1790. Khan Bahadur Mian Amir-ud-Din : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state —

(a) the number of students admitted to the Pharmacy classes of the King Edward Medical College, Lahore;

(b) how many of them are Hindus, Muslims, and Sikhs respectively;

(c) whether the rule of communal proportion has been observed in the matter of admissions to the said classes, if not, the reasons therefor?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : (a) and (b) Six in all, of whom four were Hindus, one a Muslim and one a Sikh.

(c) Admissions were not made under the orders of Government but by a Committee of Control appointed by the University which, I am informed, proceeded purely on the basis of merit.

DISTRICT TAXATION OFFICERS

1791. Mian Muhammad Nurullah : Will the Honourable Finance Minister be pleased to state —

(a) the number and names of District Taxation Officers community-wise in the Province;

(b) whether the posts of District Taxation Officers have been distributed amongst the various communities according to the ratio fixed by Government; if not, the reasons therefor?

The Honourable Sir Manohar Lal : (a) (i).....17

(ii) District Taxation Officers appointed :

- Muslim.**— 1. M. Khuda Bakhsh Bhatti, P. C. S.
2. S. Feroze Hassan Shah.
3. Khan Bahadur Sheikh Shah Nawaz Khan.
4. Chaudhri Mohammad Sadiq.
5. M. Manzur Ahmad Dhami.
6. M. Sher Mohd. Bucha.

- Hindus*.—
1. Lala Wazir Chand Sikka, P. C. S.
 2. Lala Kanwar Bhan.
 3. Lala Bodh Raj.
 4. Lala Gopal Dass, P. C. S.
 5. Lala Gulal Chand Jain, P. C. S.
 6. Lala Bihari Lal.
 7. Thakur Raghbir Singh.
 8. Pandit Rattan Chand.

- Sikhs*.—
1. Sardar Sahib Fateh Singh.
 2. Sardar Narinder Singh.
 3. Sardar Achal Singh

These appointments, so far as members of the Provincial Civil Service are concerned, were made according as these officers could be made available.

(b) The prescribed communal proportions are invariably observed at the time of making initial appointment and according to well established practice promotions in the Taxation Department, as in other Departments, are made on the basis of seniority, record of service, etc. Due regard is, however, paid to the fact that members of one particular community do not predominate in a particular service or cadre.

OUTLETS OF VILLAGE PADRI KALAN IN THE AMRITSAR DISTRICT

1792. Sardar Sohan Singh Josh: Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state:—

(a) the date on which one of the outlets of village Padri Kalan in the Amritsar district was remodelled last;

(b) the volume of water reduced by the remodelling of the outlet;

(c) whether the villagers concerned have made any representations to the Government in this connection; if so, the nature of these representations;

(d) whether the Government has considered the question of restoring the *status quo* in this connection; if not, the reasons therefor?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tikka Ram: (a) One of the outlets of village Padri Kalan was adjusted on 16th October 1944.

(b) 23 per cent.

(c) Yes. It was represented that the outlet should not be reduced.

(d) As the outlet is now drawing its authorized discharge it cannot be restored to its original dimensions.

REMODELLING OF OUTLETS IN AMRITSAR DISTRICT

1793. Sardar Sohan Singh Josh: Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the date on which the remodelling of outlets was begun in the Amritsar district;

(b) the number and names of the outlets remodelled so far in the said area;

(c) the volume of water increased or decreased as the result of remodelling of each outlet in question;

(d) whether the villagers concerned have made any representations against the reduction of water; if so, their names;

(e) the names of the outlets Government contemplate to remodel in the said district under the above-mentioned scheme?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tikka Ram : (a) If the Honourable member refers to recent adjustment of some outlets which have been overdrawing, the adjustment was carried out in October, 1944.

(b) the number of such outlets is 10, and their description is given in the attached statement.

(c) The required information is also given in the attached statement.

(d) Yes. Their names are—

Teja Singh, Lambardar.	Mohindar Singh.
Dhian Singh.	Rattan Singh.
Banta Singh, Lambardar.	Man Singh.
Sundar Singh.	Munshi Ram.
Thakar Singh, s/o Sadho Singh.	Jawahar Singh.
Kartar Singh.	Jai Singh.
Teja Singh, s/o Sham Singh	Puran Singh.
Karam Singh.	Tulsi Ram.
Jaswant Singh.	Hari Singh.
Jagdish Singh.	Thakar Singh.

(e) Adjustment of outlets and remodelling of channels in the interest of equitable distribution of canal water supply has been in force ever since the canal was constructed and is likely to remain in force in future also. It is, therefore, impossible to state the names of outlets as asked for by the honourable member.

Statement showing R. Ds. of overdrawing outlets adjusted in Amritsar District in October 1944—

Serial No.	Name of channel	R. D. of outlet	Percentage reduction
1	2	3	4
1	Amritsar	97208-L	25
2	Do.	98349-R	19
3	Do.	101796-L	25
4	Chabhal	74100-R	22
5	Do.	77035-R	25
6	Do.	95243-R	25
7	Bhittewid Minor of Ranewali Left	4849-L	25
8	Aliwal	118980-L	25
9	Khawaspur	36822-L	25
10	Do.	39350-L	25

JHATKA MEAT SHOPS IN THE PROVINCE

1794. **Sardar Sohan Singh Josh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) the number of applications received, district-wise, up to date by the Punjab Government for opening *jhatka* meat shops in the province after the Baldev Singh-Sikander Pact;

(b) the names of the places and institutions where *jhatka* meat has been allowed after the pact referred to above?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat : It is regretted that information is not available.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR TEACHING GURMUKHI

1795. **Sardar Sohan Singh Josh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state the names of the schools and institutions where arrangements for teaching Gurmukhi to the students have been made on their representation after the Baldev Singh-Sikander Pact up to date?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : A statement giving the required information is laid on the table.

List of schools where teaching of Gurmukhi has been started as a Scriptural language.

Name of District	Serial No.	Name of School	REMARKS
1	2	3	4
		AMBALA DIVISION	
Hissar	1	District Board, Bachhowana (Hissar).	
	2	District Board, Rohri (Sirsa).	
Ambala	3	District Board, Lutheri (Kharar).	
	4	District Board, Ghanauli (Rupar).	
	5	District Board, Khizarabad (Rupar).	
		JULLUNDUR DIVISION	
Kangra	6	District Board Vernacular Middle School, Daroka (Palampur).	
Hoshiarpur ..	7	District Board Lower Middle, Kotla Naudh Singh (Hoshiarpur).	
	8	District Board Middle, Budhipind (Dasuya).	
	9	District Board Middle, Kharar Achhrowal (Garhshankar)	
	10	District Board Lower Middle, Muhandpur (Garhshankar).	
	11	District Board Lower Middle, Khuda (Dasuya).	
	12	District Board Primary, Anandpur (Una).	
	13	District Board Primary, Sataur (Dasuya).	
	14	District Board Lower Middle, Munak Khurd (Dasuya)	
	15	District Board Lower Middle, Garhdiwala (Hoshiarpur)	
	16	Central Primary, Hoshiarpur.	
	17	Municipal Board, Bahadurpur.	

Name of District.	Serial No.	Name of Schools.	REMARKS
1	2	3	4
Jullundur ..	18	District Board Primary, Bhogpur (Jullundur).	
	19	District Board Primary, Khan Khana (Nawansher).	
	20	District Board Primary, Bundala (Jullundur).	
Ludhiana ..	21	District Board Lower Middle, Mohi (Jagraon).	
	22	District Board Primary, Raipur (Ludhiana).	
	23	District Board Middle, Barundi (Ludhiana).	
	24	District Board Middle, Lalton (Ludhiana).	
	25	District Board Middle, Dakha (Ludhiana).	
	26	District Board Middle, Sowadi (Jagraon).	
	27	District Board Lower Middle, Kamalpura (Jagraon).	
	28	District Board Middle, Nasrali (Samrala).	
	29	District Board Lower Middle, Ikolaha (Samrala).	
	30	District Board Middle, Ghawaddi (Ludhiana).	
	31	District Board Middle, Mullanpur (Ludhiana).	
	32	District Board Lower Middle, Run i (Jagraon).	
Ferozepore ..	33	District Board Primary, P. H. Singh (Moga).	
	34	District Board Middle, Daroli Bhai (Moga).	
	35	District Board Middle, Kot Bhai (Muktsar).	
	36	District Board Primary, Jhoke Tehl Singh (Ferozepore)	
	37	District Board Middle, Bagapurana (Moga).	
	38	District Board Middle, Mehraj (Ferozepore).	
Montgomery ..	39	MULTAN DIVISION District Board 61/4 R. (Montgomery).	
	40	District Board, Harrappa (Montgomery).	
	41	District Board, 90/12-L. (Montgomery).	
	42	District Board, 269/E. B. (Pakpattan)	
	43	District Board, 32/Z. L. (Okara).	
Lyalpur ..	44	District Board, 470/G. B. (Samundri).	
	45	District Board, 108/G. B. (Jaranwala).	
	46	District Board, 74/J. B. (Lyalpur).	
	47	District Board, 358/G. B. (Toba Tek Singh).	
	48	District Board, 521/G. B. (Toba Tek Singh).	
	49	District Board, 66/G. B. (Jaranwala).	
	50	District Board, 72/R. B. (Jaranwala).	

Name of District	Serial No.	Name of School.	REMARKS
1	2	3	4
		MULTAN DIVISION—contd.	
Multan District ..	51	District Board, 355-W. B. (Lodhran).	
	52	District Board, 123/10-R (Khanewal).	
	53	District Board, 88/7 R. (Mailai).	
	54	N. A. C. High, Burewala (Mailai).	
Muzaffargarh ..	55	District Board, Sikhanwali (Kot Adu).	
		LAHORE DIVISION	
Lahore	56	District Board, Minhala Kalan.	
	57	District Board, Mari Mega.	
	58	District Board, Lulliani.	
	59	District Board, Kahna Nau.	
	60	District Board, Bhai Pheru.	
	61	District Board, Gillanwala.	
	62	Urban Area, Ram Garh.	
	63	Urban Area, Qila Lachhman Singh.	
Amritsar	64	District Board, Naushera Dhallu.	
	65	District Board, Dhottian.	
	66	District Board, Mallian.	
	67	District Board, Kheiala Kalan.	
	68	District Board, Akalgarh Dhapian.	
	69	District Board, Fatehpur.	
	70	District Board, Chawinda Devi.	
	71	Urban Area, Kot Khan Mohdammad Shah (Amritsar).	
Gurdaspur ..	72	District Board, Chima Khudi.	
	73	District Board, Singhpura.	
	74	District Board, Dharowali.	
	75	District Board, Gahlri.	
	76	District Board, Gurdas Nangal.	
Salakot	77	District Board, Raja Harpal.	
	78	District Board, Gunna Kalan.	
	79	District Board, Ghalotian Kalan.	
	80	District Board, Raib.	
	81	District Board, Khanpur Bolar.	

Name of District	Serial No.	Name of School	REMARKS
1	2	3	4
Sheikhpura ..	82	District Board, Nawankot.	
	83	District Board, Karyal Baghanwala.	
	84	District Board, Nizampur 38.	
	85	District Board, Nangal Sahdan.	
	86	District Board, Bucheke.	
	87	District Board, Bahalike.	
	88	District Board, Garmula.	
Gujranwala ..	89	District Board, Santpura.	
	90	District Board, Karyal Kalan.	
	91	District Board, Thatta Gulab Singh.	
	92	District Board, Wahudo.	
	93	District Board, Dhariwal.	
		RAWALPINDI DIVISION	
	94	Pohrianwala (Phalia).	
Gujrat ..	95	District Board, Qila Sura Singh (Phalia).	
	96	District Board, Primary, 25-S. B.	
Shahpur ..	97	District Board, Pinan Wal.	
Jhalum ..	98	District Board, Mangwal.	
	99	District Board, Basal (Rawalpindi).	
Rawalpindi ..	100	District Board Narali (Gujarkhan).	
	101	Cantonment Borad Anglo-Vernacular Middle, Rawalpindi.	
	102	Cantonment Board Primary, Rawalpindi (Gwahmandi)	
	103	District Board, Hasanabdal.	
Attock ..	104	District Board, Chakri.	
	105	District Board, Sadhwal.	
Mianwali ..			

DIN MUHAMMAD, PRESIDENT, MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, GURDASPUR

1796. Sardar Lal Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Public Works be pleased to state —

(a) whether it is a fact that in 1941-42 an inquiry was held into the conduct of Dr. Din Mohammad, the then President of the Municipal Committee, Gurdaspur, on the basis of some serious allegations ;

(b) the details of the allegations made against the said President ;

(c) if the answer to (a) be in the affirmative, the action taken by the Government as a result of the inquiry ; if no action was taken, the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Sir Muhammad Jamal Khan Leghari : I regret that the answer to this question is not yet ready.

**REMOVAL OF KHAN SAHIB ABDUL GHAFUR KHAN, MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONER,
GURDASPUR**

1797. Sardar Lal Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Deputy Commissioner, Gurdaspur, recommended the removal of Khan Sahib Abdul Ghaffur Khan, Municipal Commissioner, from the Gurdaspur Municipal Committee for bad record ; if so, what action the Government has taken or intends to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Sir Muhammad Jamal Khan Leghari : Government has so far received no proposal for the removal of Khan Sahib Abdul Ghaffur Khan from the Gurdaspur Municipal Committee.

DIRECTOR OF LAND RECORDS

1799. Sardar Lal Singh : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to refer to his reply, dated 9th March 1944, to unstarred question No. 1711¹ by Chaudhri Sumer Singh and state the period for and the dates from and up to which the Sikh Agriculturist Officer was appointed Director of Land Records, giving particulars of the Gazette Notification announcing the said appointment ?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat :

(i) One month and 16 days in 1942.

From 7th October 1942 to 22nd November 1942—

Notifications No. 55563, dated the 14th October 1942 and No. 65792, dated the 25th November 1942.

(ii) One month and 17 days in 1943.

From 6th August 1943 to 22nd September 1943.

Notifications No. 6973, dated the 26th January 1944 and No. 79037, dated the 9th November 1944.

SECRETARY TO CHIEF ENGINEER (ELECTRICITY BRANCH)

1800. Sardar Lal Singh : Will the Honourable Minister of War Planning be pleased to state :—

(a) the grades of the officers and members of the establishment community-wise, in the office of the Chief Engineer (Electricity Branch) ;

(b) the date on which the post of the Secretary to the Chief Engineer was created ;

(c) the community or communities whose members were appointed to the post of Secretary as also the period for which members of each community have held this post ;

(d) the maximum period for which members of a particular community can hold this post successively ;

(e) whether the appointment of a Sikh to this post is under the consideration of the Government : if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Major Ashiq Husain : (a) A statement giving the required information is laid on the table. It may be stated, however, that with the exception of a few posts the incumbents of all the posts shown in the statement are interchangeable with the incumbents of similar posts in the subordinate offices and therefore the representation of various communities in the office of the Chief Engineer, Punjab, Public Works Department, Electricity Branch, as shown in the statement is not a permanent feature.

(b) 1st July 1938.

(c) (i) Hindu from 1st July 1933 to 23rd December 1937.

(ii) Muslim from 24th December 1937 to date.

(d) No maximum period has been prescribed.

(e) No Communal considerations are not taken into account in filling the post of Secretary to the Chief Engineer; only those persons from the Punjab Civil Service cadre who have special qualifications for the post are selected.

Serial No.	Name of post	Scale of pay	Number of posts filled.	HELD BY				
				Europeans	Muslims	Hindus	Sikhs	Others
OFFICERS								
		Rs.						
1	Chief Engineer ..	1,600—100—2,000	1	1	..	..	..	..
2	Deputy Chief Engineer..	1,250—50—1,500	1	1	..	..	..	..
3	Projects Engineer ..	1,250—50—1,500	1	..	..	1	..	..
4	Commercial Officer ..	520—40—1,000	1	..	..	1	..	..
5	Sales Engineer ..	300—25—750	1	..	..	1	..	..
6	Assistant Accounts Officer	300—25—750	1	..	..	1	..	..
7	Secretary to Chief Engineer.	250—25—750	1	..	*1	..	..	..
8	Officer on Special Duty..	250—15—410	1	..	†1	..	..	..
9	Assistant Engineer (Senior scale).	275—15—470/15—500—20—600.	1	1	..	..	..	..
10	Assistant Engineer (Junior Scale).	150—20—200—15—275/15—380.	1	..	1	..	..	..
NON-GAZETTED STAFF								
11	Superintendents ..	250—10—350	4	..	3	1	..	..
12	Head Assistants ..	100—6—160/8—200	3	..	†3	1	..	..
13	Travelling Accountants..	100—10—300	4	..	1	2	1	..
14	Assistants ..	80—5—130/6—160	16	..	6	7	2	..
15	Clerks ..	35—3—95/4—115	13	..	11	1	1	..
16	Audit Clerks ..	35—3—95/4—115	7	..	2	4	1	..
17	Clerks ..	35—11—65/2—75	14	..	9	4	1	..

*Temure post.

†Temporary post for a short period.

‡Included one post sanctioned for a short period.

Serial No.	Name of post	Scale of pay	Number of posts filled.	HELD BY				
				Europeans	Muslims	Hindus	Sikhs	Others
		NON-GAZETTED STAFF— <i>concl'd</i>						
18	Head Draftsman, Class I	150—3—250	2	..	2	..	..	..
19	Head Draftsman, Class II	100—5—150	4	..	4	..	..	..
20	Assistant Draftsman ..	60—2—100	1	..	1	..	..	..
21	Stock Verifier ..	65—5—100/5—140/6—200	1	..	1	..	..	..
22	Technical Subordinate ..	65—5—100/5—140/6—200	1	..	..	1	..	..
23	Surveyor	60—5/2—120	1	..	1	..	..	..
24	Load Canvasser ..	60—5/2—120	1	..	1	..	..	..
25	Tracers	25—1½—40/2—60.	8	..	7	1	..	..

VETERINARY SUPERINTENDENT OF LAHORE DIVISION

1801. **Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the name of the Veterinary Superintendent of the Lahore Division ;

(b) the number of gazetted and non-gazetted posts excluding inferior servants under the Veterinary Superintendent of the Lahore Division and the number of Muslims, Hindus and Sikhs among them ;

(c) the number of second class officers working under the said Superintendent community-wise ;

(d) the number of transfers made by the present Veterinary Superintendent of the Lahore Division since his appointment as Superintendent and the number of Muslims in the transferred staff ;

(e) the date of appointment of the present Veterinary Superintendent of the Lahore Division to this post ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : (a) It is not usual to give names.

(b) and (c) 1. Two gazetted posts (1 Muslim and 1 Sikh).

2. 105 non-gazetted posts (88 Muslims, 40 Hindus and 27 Sikhs).

(d) Nil.

(e) The appointment of Veterinary Superintendent, Lahore Division, is under the consideration of Government. The duties of the post are, however, for the time being carried on by the Personal Assistant to the Director of Veterinary Services in addition to his own.

PROMOTIONS MADE BY SUPERINTENDENT, VETERINARY, TO CLASS II

1802. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of persons, community-wise, promoted by the Superintendent, Veterinary, Lahore Division, to class II during the current year ;
- (b) the length of service and qualifications of each officer thus promoted ;
- (c) the period of service which each person promoted to class II has yet to put in ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : (a) Nil.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

PROMOTIONS MADE IN THE VETERINARY DEPARTMENT

1803. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state the number of officers community-wise, promoted by him so far to class II in the Veterinary Department ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : No officers have been, in fact can be, promoted by me to class II in the Veterinary Department.

DEPOT-HOLDERS OF SUGAR, KEROSENE OIL AND CLOTH IN GURDASPUR DISTRICT

1804. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) the number, community-wise, of wholesale depot-holders of sugar, kerosene oil and cloth (woollen, cotton, yarn, etc.) in the Gurdaspur district ;
- (b) the number community-wise of retail depot-holders of the commodities mentioned in (a) in the Gurdaspur district ;
- (c) the names of the towns and villages of the Gurdaspur district where the retail depots of the articles mentioned in (a) are situated ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : Time and trouble involved in the collection of the material asked for would be incommensurate with the benefit likely to be obtained. Depots are not allotted on communal lines but preference is given to those who have previously been in the particular line of trade.

DEPOT-HOLDERS IN THE PROVINCE

1805. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state community-wise and district-wise the number of depot-holders in the province of all commodities made available in the depots ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : The time and trouble involved in collecting the information will not be commensurate with any possible benefit to be obtained.

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

1806. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) the number community-wise of officers in class I and class II of the Agricultural Department ;
- (b) the number community-wise of subordinate agricultural assistants ;

[K. S. Khawaja Ghulam Samad.]

(c) the action which Government propose to take to give due share to the under-represented communities in the said department ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : (a) * (i). *Class I.—19* (5 officiating or temporary)—

Muslims	..	..	..	..	10
Sikhs	..	..	..	..	5
Hindus	..	..	..	..	4

* (ii). *Class II.—59* (89 officiating or temporary)—

Muslims	..	..	..	..	24
Sikhs	..	..	..	..	19
Hindus	..	..	..	..	16

(b) *Agricultural Assistants.—483* (285 officiating or temporary)—

Muslims	..	..	..	..	165
Sikhs	..	..	..	..	129
Hindus	..	..	..	..	136
Others	..	..	..	..	3

(c) In the case of vacancies to be filled by promotion communal considerations are not kept in view. To give due share to all communities in the vacancies to be filled by direct recruitment a block system has been introduced according to which five out of every ten vacancies are allotted to Muslims, two to Sikhs and three to Hindus and others. This system has, however, been suspended temporarily in the case of Agricultural Assistants because the required number of persons from each community possessing the requisite qualifications was not forthcoming to fill vacancies.

KHAN SAHIB ABDUL GHAFOOR KHAN, MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONER'S SUPPRESSION OF CIVIL DECREE AGAINST CHIRAGH DIN

1807. Sardar Lal Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Municipal Committee, Gurdaspur, obtained a decree from the civil court against one Chiragh Din ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Khan Sahib Abdul Ghafoor Khan, a Municipal Commissioner, took upon himself the responsibility of realizing the sum and also took the decree sheet into his possession for that purpose ;

(c) whether it is a fact that he returned that decree sheet file without any realization after the limitation had expired, if so, the action Government propose to take against him ; if not, why not ?

The Honourable Sir Muhammad Jamal Khan Leghari : (a) Yes for Rs. 12-15-0.

(b) No, but the Municipal Committee sent the relevant file to Khan Sahib Abdul Ghafoor Khan asking him to recover the amount and report.

(c) The facts are that the file was sent to Khan Sahib Bashir Ahmad Khan, Municipal Commissioner, in the first instance. It was then sent to Khan Sahib Abdul Ghafoor Khan who at first returned it after two months. Some days later the file was sent back to Khan Sahib Abdul Ghafoor Khan for recovery of the amount due and on this occasion he only returned it after the expiry of the period of limitation. The question whether action ought to be taken against him is being considered by the local officers.

*Do not include temporary officers employed on schemes of the I. C. A. R. as no communal representation is observed in appointing them under instructions from that body.

PERMANENT VACANCIES FILLED UP BY DIRECTOR, INFORMATION BUREAU

1898. Sardar Lal Singh : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state the number of permanent vacancies, community-wise, filled up by the Director of Information Bureau during his tenure of office (1937—1944) with the designation and pay of each person so employed ?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat : Five, all Muslims : a statement is laid on the table.

Designation and scale of the post	How filled	Community
Stenographer (Rs. 80—4—120)	Direct appointment through a competitive examination.	Muslim.
Article Writer (Rs. 125—5—170/6—212/7—225)	Promotion by Seniority.	Do.
Senior Clerk (Rs. 75—5—159)	Ditto	Do.
Junior Clerk (Rs. 40—2½—75/2—85)	Ditto	Do.
Mohassir (Rs. 25—1—35/1½—50/2—60)	Ditto	Do.

MUSLIM E. A. C.'s

1899. Khan Sahib Chaudhri Sahib Dad Khan : With reference to the answer to my unstarred question No. 1765¹, dated 4th December 1944, will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state the names with their home districts of the four Muslim E. A. C.'s appointed from the Ambala Division ?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat : They are as follows :—

Names	Home district
1. Mr. Hamid-ud-Din	Gurgaon.
2. Sh. Ejaz Ahmad	
3. Khwaja Habib Ali	Karnal.
4. Ch. Mahbub Ali Khan	Hissar.

SUPERINTENDENTS OF COMMISSIONERS' OFFICES

1810. Sardar Bahadur Sardar Gurbachan Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number, community-wise, of Superintendents of Commissioners' offices, in the province ;

(b) the community to which each registered candidate for the post of the Superintendent of a Commissioner's office in the province belongs in the order of seniority ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Sikh community is under-represented in the above-mentioned cadre, if so, the steps Government propose to take to ensure in it the representation that is due to the Sikh community ?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tikka Ram :—

(a) Muslims	..	..	..	2
Hindus	..	..	..	2
Other ..	..	..	..	1

[Hon. Ch. Tikka Ram.]

(b) I regret the information asked for cannot be given as the list of approved candidates is confidential.

(c) These are selection appointments and the block system applies to initial recruitment and not to promotions. However Government satisfy themselves that the claims of suitable Sikh candidates already serving under the Heads of Departments receive due consideration when new candidates are selected.

OVERSEERS IN PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

1812. Chaudhri Sahib Ram : Will the Honourable Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the names of overseers in the Public Works Department officiating as Sub-Divisional Officers giving their number community-wise, and showing the number of agriculturists of each community among them ;

(b) the steps Government intend to take to safeguard the interests of agriculturists in respect of the above posts ; if no action is intended the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Sir Muhammad Jamal Khan Leghari :—

(a) Names	Number	Muslims	Hindus	Sikhs	AGRICULTURISTS			NON-AGRICULTURISTS		
					Muslims	Hindus	Sikhs	Muslims	Hindus	Sikhs
vide list below	34	11	19	4	7	..	1	4	19	3

(b) Promotions of Overseers as officiating Sub-Divisional Officers are not made on the consideration of an Overseer being agriculturist or not, nor on communal basis, but they are made by selection on merit.

Names of overseers at present officiating as Sub-Divisional Officers in the Public Works Department, Buildings and Roads Branch

Serial No.	Names	General line Community	Agriculturists	Non-Agriculturists
1	Lala Dharma Ram (retired overseer).	Hindu ..	..	Non-Agriculturist.
2	Lala Chunai Lal ..	Do. ..	..	Ditto.
3	M. Mohammad Ashraf ..	Muslim ..	Agriculturist ..	..
4	M. Allah Bakhsh (retired overseer).	Do. ..	Agriculturist ..	..
5	Lala Lok Nath ..	Hindu ..	..	Non-Agriculturist.
6	Bhai Bulaqa Singh ..	Sikh ..	..	Ditto
7	M. Nazir Ullah Aslam ..	Muslim ..	Agriculturist ..	..
8	M. Abdur Rahman ..	Do. ..	Agriculturist ..	..
9	Lala Ram Charan Lal ..	Hindu ..	..	Non-Agriculturist.

Serial No.	Names	General line Community	Agriculturists	Non-Agriculturists
10	Lala Guranditta Mal ..	Hindu ..	..	Non-Agriculturist.
11	M. Mohammed Rafiq ..	Muslim ..	..	Ditto
12	Bhai Lal Singh ..	Sikh ..	..	Ditto
13	M. Ghulam Haider ..	Muslim ..	Agriculturist.	..
14	Lala Sohan Lal ..	Hindu ..	..	Non-Agriculturist.
15	Lala Krishen Lal ..	Do. ..	..	Ditto
16	M. Abdul Aziz I ..	Muslim ..	..	Ditto
17	M. Abdul Aziz II ..	Do. ..	..	Ditto.
18	M. Qasim Ali ..	Do. ..	..	Ditto.
19	Pandit Gauri Nath ..	Hindu ..	..	Ditto.
20	Bhai Nirajan Singh ..	Sikh ..	..	Ditto.
21	M. Fazel Ali ..	Muslim ..	Agriculturist ..	..
22	Lala Bhola Nath ..	Hindu ..	..	Non-Agriculturist.
23	Lala Agya Ram ..	Do. ..	..	Ditto.
24	Lala Dina Nath Berry ..	Do. ..	..	Ditto.
25	Lala Shankar Das ..	Do. ..	..	Ditto.
26	Lala Sham Lal (retired overseer)	Do. ..	..	Ditto.
27	M. Firoz-ud-Din (retired overseer).	Muslim ..	Agriculturist. ..	..

In Public Health Branch

Serial No.	Name	Community	Agriculturist	Non-Agriculturist
1	Lala Dina Nath Duggal ..	Hindu ..	..	Non-Agriculturist.
2	Lala Ganga Ram ..	Do. ..	..	Ditto.
3	Bhai Puran Singh ..	Sikh ..	Agriculturist ..	..
4	Lala Bahadur Chand ..	Hindu ..	..	Non-Agriculturist.
5	Lala Ishar Dass ..	Do. ..	..	Ditto.
6	Pandit Pars Ram ..	Do. ..	..	Ditto.
7	Lala Milkhi Ram ..	Do. ..	..	Ditto.

COAL FOR HINDU AND MUSLIM BRICK-KILN OWNERS AT SARGODHA

1814. Shaikh Sadiq Hassan : Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state how much coal has been sanctioned for —

(a) the Hindu brick-kiln owners at Sargodha, and

[Sh. Sadiq Hassan.]

(b) the Muslim brick-kiln owners at Sargodha since coal has been brought under control?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : (a) 25 wagons among two Hindu brick-kiln owners.

(b) 10 wagons to one Muslim brick-kiln owner, who was previously the only Muslim brick-kiln owner at Sargodha. 10 more wagons have recently been allotted to a new kiln which has been started by a Muslim and a Sikh in partnership.

VERNACULAR MIDDLE SCHOOL, KHISRABAD

1816. Mrs. Duni Chand : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the building accommodation provided for the Vernacular Middle School at Khizrabad, Tehsil Jagadhri, district Ambala ;

(b) the extent of accommodation prescribed by the Education department for the upper middle schools ;

(c) if the said accommodation is inadequate, how the students are accommodated and the steps that the Government intend to take to make up the deficiency of accommodation, if any ?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : (a) Two rooms measuring 24'×12' and one hut measuring 16'×10'.

(b) The extent of accommodation required for a school depends upon the enrolment in the different classes of the school. No specific limit has been prescribed by the Department for upper middle school.

(c) The provision of accommodation is primarily the concern of the local bodies and they make this provision consistent with their financial resources. As regards the Khizrabad school the present seating accommodation seems to be sufficient considering the fact that there are only 21 boys in the Middle and 84 in the Primary. It is, however, not convenient to teach 8 classes in three rooms, and the District Board has, therefore, decided to add one more hut to the school building next year.

VEDIC AND UNANI PRACTITIONERS

1817. Mrs. Duni Chand : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the representations have been received by Government from the Vedic and Unani Tibbia Association of Rupar sub-division and other similar associations requesting the Government to admit qualified Vedic and Unani practitioners into the category of medical practitioners and enrol them as registered medical practitioners ; if so, the action Government have taken or propose taking in the matter ?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : One representation only appears to have been received. This was from the Dhanwantri Vaidya Sabha of Nakodar, proposing the opening of a register of vaidas. If the honourable member will refer to the report of the Punjab Indigenous Medicines Inquiry Committee (a copy of which is in the library) she will see that this committee recommended the opening of a register for indigenous medical practitioners. Government propose shortly to appoint a board of indigenous medicines to draft legislation on the general basis of the committee's report after sounding professional and public opinion.

POST GRADUATE TRAINING IN THE VETERINARY DEPARTMENT

1818. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the number of persons, community-wise, selected for post graduate training in 1943 and 1944 up to date in the Veterinary Department ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the number of Sikhs among the above persons is larger than that of the Muslims; if so, the action Government intend to take in the matter?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : (a)

Year.	Muslims	Hindus	Sikhs
1943	3	4	5
1944	4	5	3

(b) *First paragraph.*—Yes.

Second paragraph.—No action is necessary as officials are selected to undergo training having regard to their record of service, education and aptitude therefor and not communitywise.

TEACHERS OF GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS, AMBALA DIVISION IN PRIVATE TUITION

1819. Chaudhri Jugal Kishore : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the number of teachers of Government schools of the Ambala division who did private tuition work during the last calendar year without applying to their headmasters for departmental permission or who participated in private religious functions for making some extra money;

(b) whether Government have issued any circular against such practices; if so, the nature of the same;

(c) whether any action has been taken by the department against the teachers mentioned in (a)?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : (a) None.

(b) Yes. A copy of Director of Public Instruction's C. M. No. 16057-E., dated the 29th July 1938, is attached. Attention of the honourable member is also drawn to rule 5.57 of the Civil Services Rules (Punjab), Volume I, Part I.

(c) Does not arise.

PRIVATE TUTIONS

(D. P. I.'s C.M. No. 16057-E., dated the 29th July 1938, to all Inspectors, Inspectresses and Heads of Government Educational Institutions in the Punjab)

In view of the wide disparity in the rate of remuneration charged for private tuitions by Government servants and the amount of time given to such work, it has been felt necessary in the interests of uniformity to issue fresh instructions on the subject in modification of those circulated with the Government of the Punjab (Ministry of Education) C. M. No. 5426-E., dated the 16th April 1923.

2. The Punjab Government has now delegated to the Principals of Government Colleges, in addition to the Divisional Inspectors as heretofore, the power to sanction acceptance of fees for private tuition not exceeding Rs. 200.

3. As a general practice the giving of private tuition by a teacher to a boy in his own class is undesirable, and should be discouraged, since the assistance required to bring a backward pupil up to the level of his class-fellows is the ordinary function

of the teacher. In colleges, however, a teacher may give private tuition to a student in his own class, though it would be preferable to have another man to do the work.

4. The procedure in Government and Board Schools and Government Colleges in this regard shall in future be as follows :—

(a) Every request for private tuition must take the form of a written application from the parent or guardian of the pupil concerned stating clearly the reasons why private tuition is necessary. This application should be made to the head of the institution which the pupil is attending.

(b) On receipt of this application the head of the institution will first decide, in the light of what is stated in paragraph 3 above, whether private tuition is or is not necessary.

(c) If tuition is considered necessary the head of the institution will certify accordingly, and the question of the teacher to be employed will be settled between the head of the institution and the parent or guardian. Should a teacher from another institution be proposed, the head of the institution will communicate with the head of the institution, in which such teacher is employed and secure his assent to the arrangements proposed. In any case permission for private tuition must be obtained from the head both of the institution in which the pupil is studying and that in which the proposed teacher is employed.

(d) On completion of these preliminaries the application with full details will be sent to the Inspector for decision in the case of schools, and the private tuition applied for shall on no account be undertaken until the Inspector's sanction has been received. In the case of a college the Principal himself will dispose of the case.

5. The private tuition of girls by men teachers, where facilities for girls education already exist, should be discouraged or even forbidden.

6. The duration of private tuition should in no case exceed one hour daily. No teacher should ordinarily be allowed to undertake more than one tuition at a time. Coaching of 2, 3 or more students at the same time in a group should be discouraged. It is particularly emphasised that in case of group tuitions, if there be any, only one tuition fee prescribed by the Department shall be admissible.

7. It is difficult to lay down any hard and fast rules regarding the rate of remuneration. The following scale of maximum fees per mensem for an hour's work daily or for an aggregate of 25 hours in a month may, however, be observed subject to such alterations as may be considered necessary by Divisional Inspectors and Principals to suit the special requirements of a particular case :—

(a) Rupees 15 per mensem in the case of a student up to the 8th Class.

(b) Rs. 30 per mensem in the case of a student of high classes.

(c) Rs. 50 per mensem in the case of a student of intermediate classes.

(d) Rs. 75 per mensem in the case of a student of degree classes.

(e) Rs. 100 per mensem in the case of a student of M.A., or M.Sc., classes.

8. The head master of each institution will keep a register of private tuitions, which shall be carefully scrutinised at the time of each inspection. A complete list giving full details of all private tuitions sanctioned by the Divisional Inspectors and Principals during the year should be submitted to this office by the 1st of May each year.

9. It should be clearly borne in mind that if a teacher undertakes private tuition without permission he has committed a very serious offence. Inspectors and Principals are requested to forward all such cases to the Department. The punishment for the first offence will be the withholding of an increment or increments and loss

of seniority for the teacher concerned ; and, in the case of a repetition of the offence, dismissal.

10. It is believed that the managing authorities of aided institutions are anxious to co-operate in this effort to eradicate the abuse of the system of private tuition, and it is, therefore, hoped that such institutions will be able to accept the spirit of the above instructions so that uniformity of practice may be observed in all schools in the province.

INSANITARY DRAINS IN THE DISTRICTS OF ROHTAK, KARNAL AND AMBALA

1820. Chaudhri Jugal Kishore : Will the Honourable Minister for War Planning be pleased to state—

(a) whether the District Medical Officers of Health inspected any portions of insanitary drains of different municipal towns on the occasion of their official tours in the districts of Rohtak, Karnal and Ambala during the course of the last financial year ;

(b) if so, whether the said officers submitted any reports together with their suggestions to the deputy commissioners of their districts ;

(c) whether these deputy commissioners invited proposals from the various municipal committees within their jurisdiction about the improvement of any of the said insanitary drains ;

(d) whether any of these proposals are included in the current budgets of the municipal committees concerned ?

The Honourable Major Nawab Ashiq Hussain : (a) to (d) Where a municipal committee employs a whole-time health officer who holds the diploma of public health (or employs the civil surgeon part-time) the officer is subject to the general supervision of the Assistant Director of Public Health of the Range. In all other cases the municipal medical officer of health whether whole-time or part-time is supervised by the district medical officer of health. General supervision apart, district medical officers of health are required once a year to make a formal inspection of the towns within their jurisdiction, recording a report. Copies of these reports are forwarded to the municipal committees which may or may not comply with any suggestions they contain. Where the suggestions are not complied with the intervention of the Deputy Commissioner is invoked. The Honourable member will, however, understand that where, as is often the case, the carrying out of expensive works is required ; funds are a consideration, I am afraid I cannot undertake all the enquiries suggested by the honourable member, if, however, he will let me know of any particular towns in which action with regard to drains is needed, I would consider what can be done.

AGENTS OF ABSENTEE LANDLORDS

1821. Chaudhri Jugal Kishore : Will the Honourable Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there are several absentee landlords in several parts of the Punjab who have appointed agents to look after interests in their absence ;

(b) whether he is aware of the fact that these agents sometimes purchase articles of diet at cheap rates from village cultivators under threat or through intimidation ;

(c) whether any instructions have been issued to deputy commissioners and revenue assistants to make inquiries into such malpractices during their official tours through these villages ; if not, the action Government intend to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Sir Manohar Lal : (a) Yes.

(b) No specific instances have been brought to the notice of Government.

(c) No instructions in this respect can be issued to Deputy Commissioner or Revenue Assistants. If any offence is committed it is for the tenants to file a complaint or to report to the Police.

MUNICIPAL URINALS

1822. Chaudhri Jugal Kishore : Will the Honourable Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the number of municipalities in the Punjab which have a population of more than a lac of people but which have no municipal urinals for the use of the public ;

(b) the number of those municipalities where action is being taken against offenders for urinating in public streets and bazars ?

The Honourable Sir Muhammad Jamal Khan Leghari : I regret that answer to this question is not yet ready.

CORRUPT REVENUE PATWARIS IN THE DISTRICTS OF AMBALA AND KARNAL

1823. Chaudhri Jugal Kishore : Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of cases of corruption in respect of revenue patwaris noticed by deputy commissioners and revenue assistants, separately, in the districts of Ambala and Karnal during each of the last two financial years ;

(b) the number of cases in which the suspects were proceeded against either departmentally or judicially ?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tikka Ram : I regret that answer to this question is not yet ready.

CORRUPT TREASURY AND SUB-TREASURY CASHIERS IN THE DISTRICTS OF AMBALA AND ROHTAK

1824. Chaudhri Jugal Kishore : Will the Honourable Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) the number of cases of corruption in respect of treasury and sub-treasury cashiers, separately, noticed by treasury officers and deputy commissioners in the districts of Ambala and Rohtak during each of the last two financial years ;

(b) the number of cases in which the suspects were proceeded against either departmentally or judicially ?

The Honourable Sir Manohar Lal : The required information is given below :—

Number of cases of corruption in respect of

		1942-43		1943-44	
		Treasury Cashier	Sub-Treasury Cashier	Treasury Cashier	Sub-Treasury Cashier
(a)	Ambala ..	Nil	1	Nil	Nil
	Rohtak ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b)	Ambala ..	One (The Cashier was dismissed).			
	Rohtak ..	Does not arise in view of (a) above.			

RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY LOCAL BODIES THROWING OPEN PUBLIC WELLS IN AMBALA DISTRICT FOR THE USE OF ALL CLASSES OF PEOPLE

1825. Chaudhri Jugal Kishore : Will the Honourable Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the names of local bodies in the district of Ambala which have passed resolutions in compliance with the instructions of the Punjab Government to hang notice-boards on all public wells within their jurisdictions throwing them open for the use of all classes of people, depressed and non-depressed ;

(b) whether he would be pleased to place copies of the resolutions passed by the said local bodies in this connection on the table of the House ;

(c) if any of these resolutions are contrary to the instructions issued by the Government on the subject, the action Government intend to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Sir Muhammad Jamal Khan Leghari : I regret that answer to this question is not yet ready.

MALTREATMENT OF SIKH STALL-HOLDER BY DISTRICT NAZIR OF LYALLPUR

1826. Sardar Bahadur Sardar Gurbachan Singh : Will the Honourable Minister of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that for the convenience of the litigant public two refreshment stalls are allowed within the precincts of the Lyallpur district courts, one for the Mohammadans and the other for the Sikhs and Hindus ;

(b) whether it is a fact that in June last the District Nazir Mr. Ghulam Rasool sent for Tara Singh, the Sikh shop-keeper, who as the lease-holder of the stall had cooked *jhatka* meat as usual for his Sikh customers and openly abused, maltreated and threatened him for having cooked *jhatka* meat and asked him not to do so in future ; if so, the action Government intend to take in the matter ;

(c) whether it is a fact that both the Sikh and Muslim shops have been in existence for more than 20 years and carrying on their respective business harmoniously ?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram : I regret that the answer to this question is not yet ready.

SIKH REPRESENTATION AMONG SUPERINTENDENTS OF COMMISSIONERS' AND DEPUTY COMMISSIONERS' OFFICES

1827. Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh : With reference to the answer to unstarred question No. 1750¹ asked at the last session of the Punjab Legislative Assembly, will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the reasons which have led the Government to exclude the Sikhs entirely from the posts of superintendents of commissioners' and deputy commissioners' offices and of head treasury clerks in all the districts of the Punjab ;

(b) whether the Government intend to take any steps in the matter ; if so, what ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram : (a) The inference that Government have excluded the Sikhs entirely from the posts of Superintendents of Commissioners' and Deputy Commissioners' offices and of Head Treasury Clerks is groundless. Appointments to these posts are made by promotion which is guided solely by merit. Other things being equal, seniority is the determining factor. Communal or class considerations are not taken into account in making promotions.

(b) Does not arise.

SIKH DIRECTOR OF LAND RECORDS

1828. Sardar Lal Singh : With reference to the answer given by the Honourable Premier to unstarred question No. 1711¹ asked at the last Budget session of the Punjab Legislative Assembly, will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state the period for which and the date from which the Sikh agriculturist officer was appointed Director of Land Records, Punjab, giving particulars of the gazette notification announcing his appointment ?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat : (a) One month and 16 days in 1942, with effect from the 7th October, 1942,—*vide* Punjab Government notification No. 55563, dated the 14th October 1942, read with notification No. 65792, dated the 25th November 1945.

(ii) One month and 17 days in 1943 with effect from the 6th August 1943,—*vide* Punjab Government notification No. 6979, dated the 26th January 1944 read with notification No. 73087, dated the 9th November 1943.

APPOINTMENT OF A SIKH TO ONE OF THE POSTS OF PROVINCIAL PUBLIC ANALYSTS

1829. Sardar Sahib Sardar Tara Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Post War Planning be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that some time back the Government decided to appoint one provincial public analyst and two deputy provincial public analysts in the Punjab Public Health Department ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Public Service Commission has already interviewed and recommended suitable candidates ; also, whether any Sikh candidate was required by Government to be recommended ; if so, whether the Government intend to appoint a Sikh to any of the above-mentioned three new posts; if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Major Nawab Ashiq Hussain : (a) Yes.

(b) *First part.*—Yes.

Second part.—The Public Service Commission were asked to recommend for each post the names of one Muslim, one Hindu and one Sikh.

Third part.—Government have appointed a Hindu and two Muslims to these posts. The only candidates qualified for the post of Analyst was a Hindu. There was a Sikh qualified for one of the posts of Deputy Analyst but Muslims being at present even more under-represented in the Public Health Department than Sikhs it was decided to assign both the posts of Deputy Analyst to them.

ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS

Mr. Speaker : I have received notices of about 20 adjournment motions. The subject matter of almost every one of them was discussed last year or the year before.

1 p. m.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : No, Sir, the subject matters of all the adjournment motions have not been discussed.

Mr. Speaker : I said "almost every one of them". Our practice has been that if any adjournment motion can be postponed till the Budget discussion, it is not taken up. (*An honourable member :* Ma practice).

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : They say, Sir, it is a malpractice.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : It is so.

Mr. Speaker : This has been our practice and it was followed last year and the year before and rightly or wrongly a convention has been established that no adjournment motions are taken up during the budget session. I propose following the same procedure this year too. The subject matter of these motions will either be discussed during the general discussion of the budget or when demands for grants are considered.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Before you give your final ruling, Sir, I would request you to allow us to have our say in the matter.

Mr. Speaker : I cannot allow any discussion on that point. I have given my ruling.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : You were pleased to say "almost all" the adjournment motions have been discussed.

Mr. Speaker : I cannot allow the honourable member to criticise my ruling.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I am not challenging your ruling, Sir. My submission is that in view of the fact that you have been pleased to say that "almost all" the adjournment motions have been discussed, it follows that there are certain motions which have not been discussed.

Mr. Speaker : They can be discussed during the general discussion of the budget.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : No, Sir, they cannot be discussed then. Either you give a ruling that even if heavens fall, you will not allow an adjournment motion. If that is your ruling, I have nothing more to say and if that is not your ruling I would request you to judge whether if an adjournment motion is not allowed at this stage and is postponed till the budget, it will not seriously affect the situation. In this connection, I would draw your attention to adjournment motion No. 4 regarding Government's refusal to give Dussehra grounds for holding the annual session of the Muslim League.

Mr. Speaker : Order, order. That can also be discussed at the time of the budget.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : It will be too late then.

Mr. Speaker : Where is the urgency?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : The annual session is going to be held by the end of the next month and we have to make preparations and it takes time.

Mr. Speaker : I cannot allow any more discussion on this point.

Mian Muhammad Nurullah : On a point of order. You have been pleased to say that this is the budget session. Budget session starts from the day the budget is presented to the House and not before. The budget will be presented on the 1st of March. You can allow adjournment motions till then.

Mr. Speaker : Ordinarily the whole of this session is called the budget session. Strictly speaking the honourable member is correct, but budget session is coming and notice to that effect has been circulated. Matters can be postponed till then.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : This particular matter cannot be postponed till then. That day is far off.

Mian Muhammad Nurullah : Supposing I die tomorrow, I will not have an opportunity to raise a matter which I want to raise to-day. In that case you will be curtailing the rights of members of this honourable House.

Mr. Speaker : I have given my ruling and there the matter ends.

Mian Muhammad Nurullah : The budget session in fact starts from the day the budget is presented.

Mr. Speaker: Please do not call it the budget session, call it the current session.

Mian Abdul Aziz: Sir, as far as I remember—I hope our learned Secretary will correct me if I am mistaken—in the first notice that was issued the words “budget session” were not mentioned, it said that His Excellency has been pleased to fix Monday, the 19th February as the day on which the Assembly is to meet. In that notice it was not called the budget session. The second thing I would submit is that originally there used to be four or five days allotted for general discussion. That has been cut down.

Mr. Speaker: There is a motion to that effect. Therefore, that motion I cannot allow to be discussed.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan: You have been pleased to admit these adjournment motions and have given different numbers. In view of that, would your ruling be correct? I would humbly submit that it would not be correct.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: I want a definite ruling as to whether the Chair is empowered to give a ruling not only on matters of procedure and rules but also as to when any individual member should move a motion whether after twenty days or one month or two months. Is it within the power of the Chair to give a ruling on the point whether a member should move a certain matter today or after four months?

Mr. Speaker: He does not give a ruling that a motion may be discussed after ten days or twenty days, but he can say that such and such a motion can be postponed and that its subject matter can be discussed during the general discussion or while considering the demands for grants.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: Do you mean to say, when definite dates have been fixed for the holding of an all-India session for the preparation of which we require one month, that we can wait till the 15th of March to discuss this question of Minto Park?

Mr. Speaker: The honourable member is again referring to that motion. I do not wish these motions to be taken up individually.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam: May I know for how long your ruling is to be kept in suspense? (*Uproar*).

Mr. Speaker: I cannot allow any further discussion or any more speeches. I have ruled that these motions of which I have received notices can be postponed and discussed during the general discussion or under the demands for grants.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: If the Chair has the power to decide that a certain question can be postponed, then I would submit that the House is no more a democratic House. We have got our rights and we want a verdict of the House whether the Government should not be kicked out for having refused Minto Park.

Mr. Speaker: I am sending you Campion's book. Therein you will find that the Speaker has the power to throw out an adjournment motion simply on the ground that it is postponeable.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: Do you really believe that the question of one month's preparation is postponeable?

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam: Sir, you have repeated your ruling almost a dozen times and there has also been discussion upon it. May I know for how long your ruling is to be suspended and discussed?

Mr. Speaker: No more discussion please.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

AMENDMENTS TO THE PUNJAB MOTOR VEHICLES RULES, 1940 AND STATEMENT SHOWING ACTION TAKEN AGAINST CORRUPT OFFICIALS IN THE PUNJAB

Secretary laid on the table ¹ amendments to the Punjab Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940 and ¹ the statement showing action taken against corrupt officials in the Punjab from 1st April 1943 to 31st March 1944

GENERAL SALES TAX RULES

RULES FOR THE DETERMINATION OF TURN-OVER

Minister for Finance (The Honourable Sir Manohar Lal): I beg to lay on the table¹ the Rules for the Determination of Turn-over as defined in the Punjab General Sales Tax Rules, 1948.

CONSOLIDATION OF HOLDINGS (AMENDMENT) BILL

Minister for Development (The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh): I beg to introduce the Punjab Consolidation of Holdings (Amendment) Bill. I move—

That the Punjab Consolidation of Holdings (Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration at once.

This is a very simple Bill and I do not think any explanation is necessary. The Punjab Consolidation of Holdings Act of 1936 was intended to provide procedure for consolidation laid down by revenue staff and at the same time the Co-operative Department was carrying on this work, but later after the Act of 1936 the Co-operative Department has carried on consolidation in some villages and some of the civil courts have now held that the work carried on by the Co-operative Department is not legal or valid. So the present Bill is to validate the consolidation that has been done by the Co-operative Department. That is the only object of the Bill, and I do not think there is anything objectionable and I personally feel that if we accept the motion for circulation, we will be doing a lot of harm in the villages where consolidation has already taken place. If the civil courts had not held that the consolidation that has already taken place in the villages is invalid, then there would be no necessity for this Bill, but as the civil courts have held that the consolidation which has already taken place or done by the Co-operative Department is not legal, there is the necessity for the present Bill. That is all I have to say at this stage.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved is—

That the Punjab Consolidation of Holdings (Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration at once.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan (Ludhiana, Muhammadan, Rural) (Urdu): Sir, I rise to oppose this Bill. My honourable friend must be aware of the fact that two persons, whose names are pretty well known to him, have made one or two lakhs of rupees out of consolidation work in village Mulapur in Ludhiana district. Legal proceedings were instituted against them and as a result of that they have been convicted by the Additional District Magistrate. In the presence of such facts does the honourable Minister deem it fit to introduce this amending Bill which seeks to legalise all such illegal proceedings? Is it his intention to justify the activities of such person, who are out to ruin and destroy the zamindars lock, stock and barrel? I think before sponsoring such measures the Honourable Minister should consider the advisability

¹ Kept in the Assembly Library.

[Ch. Mohd. Hasan]

or otherwise of such enactments. The Consolidation of Holdings Act of 1936 has done and is doing so much harm to the zamindars, for whom he professes so much love and sympathy, that their loss cannot be made good at all. I, therefore, request him to very kindly desist from helping by means of this measure, those persons who have been the cause of ruin of zamindars. This amending Bill, if passed, would embolden those persons, who had been indulging in such activities, to loot the zamindars with both hands. I hope that in view of my submissions the Honourable Minister would withdraw this Bill.

Mian Muhammad Nurullah (Lyallpur, Muhammadan, Rural) (Urdu) : Sir, I

move—

That the Punjab Consolidation of Holdings (Amendment) Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 19th March 1945.

(At this stage Mr. Speaker left the chair and it was occupied by Mr. Deputy Speaker).

It will appear from the programme of the Budget session that Government business will be transacted till the 19th March. I have, therefore, put down the 19th of March in my motion so that it may not be said that by moving the circulation of this Bill I am in any way using dilatory tactics to impede its passage into law. If opinions in regard to it are elicited till the 19th March, sufficient time will be left at our disposal to enact this Bill into law in the light of opinions so received. Now if you turn to the amending Bill you would find that in clause 2, last line, the following words occur:—

“and shall be deemed never to have been enacted”.

Obviously it means that my friends are asking us that a part of the Punjab Consolidation of Holdings Act, which was passed by the old Legislative Council in 1936, be deemed as if it were never enacted. What an absurdity! Since then they had been sleeping and now it appears as if some jolt has brought them to life again. Do they know what they mean by these words? By providing these words they want to tell us that the measure sponsored and passed by the honourable members of the P. L. C. was a piece of rag only and therefore now they want us to forget all about and deem it as never to have been enacted at all. I am not opposed to the consolidation of holdings. Rather I entirely agree with the principle underlying it. But as numerous complaints have been received, as have been pointed out by the Leader of the Opposition, from many places in regard to the working of the Consolidation Act, it is, therefore, essential that the amending Bill be circulated for eliciting opinion thereon. The said Act had been in force for the last nine years and at some places zamindars have suffered enormously on account of it. A case in point has been cited by the Leader of the Opposition that in a certain village in Ludhiana district one or two lakhs of rupees have found their way into the pockets of certain individuals without consolidation being effected at all. I ask why do things hurriedly? Why do not my friends circulate the amending Bill and find out all the complaints of zamindars in regard to it and remove them once and for all so that they may not have to bring forward hurriedly another amending Bill which in the event to further defects having been discovered in the working of the said Act they will have to sponsor? The Ministry is doing strange thing. It really passes my comprehension that 9 or 10 years after the passing of an Act, an amending Bill be sponsored in regard to it and thereby we be asked to deem the Act, which had been in force for the last so many years, to have never been enacted at all. This is legalising illegal acts of certain persons for which there cannot be any justification. From this Ministry we can surely expect that one day it would bring forward another measure requiring us to deem what we are passing to-day as never to have been enacted at all. I ask who would be responsible for all the irregularities which I might have committed in pursuance of this Act? It is such bills that my friends want us to pass. They are doing all this on the strength of their majority and I warn them that they are creating a very bad precedent. I want that the words “and shall be deemed never to have been enacted” be deleted. By

making such provisions in the amending Bill my friends are setting up a very bad example. The object of the amending Bill as has been explained by the Honourable Minister in charge is to validate all irregularities in the consolidation work done by Co-operative societies, and that is the reason why he wants us to deem as if the original Act had never been enacted at all. This simply amounts to asking us one day to put down our thumb-impression on one thing and on the second day on another, whatever the Honourable Minister in his pleasure might put up before the House. We are opposed to it on principle. If my friends want to establish this precedent why do they not do it in a straightforward manner? Why do they not tell the public that they want to create a novel feature in the history of legislation of this province, and afford them an opportunity to express their opinion in regard to the desirability or otherwise of this measure. The people are entitled to have their say in regard to it. It is in view of this that I think that the amending Bill be circulated for eliciting public opinion thereon.

That is not all. This amending Bill is being enacted 9 years after the original Act had been in force. The said Act was enacted in 1936 and this amending Bill is being passed in 1945. Now in clause 8 it is laid down :—

After section 1 of the said Act, the following section shall be inserted and shall be deemed to have been inserted from the commencement of the said Act.

This is like blowing hot and cold in the same breath. On the one hand my friends are asking us to deem as if the said Act had never been enacted at all. On the other hand they want us to deem as if this provision had been made from the commencement of the said Act. What a piece of legislation! They say that this measure which they are enacting in the good year of our Lord 1945 be deemed to have been enacted in 1936. They are giving retrospective effect to it. As I have submitted this Act had been in force for full 9 years. After the expiry of so many years Government seem suddenly to have been aroused from a deep dream to tell us that the honourable members of the Punjab Legislative Council passed a rubbish and an absurd measure. They say in clause 2 that we should deem as if this measure had never been enacted at all. The story does not end there. In the same breath they want us to deem in clause 8 as if the proposed clause had been passed 9 years ago. What worse precedent can there be than this? It is with a view to affording an opportunity to the public to express their opinion whether or not Government are in the right to sponsor a measure in this manner or what other good or bad effects of this Bill will be that I want it to be circulated for eliciting opinion thereon. Believe me it passes my comprehension to think that a measure passed to-day be deemed to have been enacted 9 years ago. We think that the Honourable Minister would be well advised to withdraw this amending Bill.

After all what is the object of this Bill? I will tell you just now what it is and I want it also to be placed before the people so that they may express their opinions in regard to it. Section 2 says :—

In subsection (2) of section 1 of the Punjab Consolidation of Holdings Act, 1936 (hereinafter referred to as the said Act) the words commencing "and also" and ending "there to by notification" shall be omitted, and shall be deemed never to have been enacted.

Sir, what is the subsection which they propose to omit? If you look at the original Act you will find subsection 1 (2) runs as follows :—

It shall apply to all areas in the Punjab to which (the Provincial Government) may extend it by notification in the official gazettes from such date as may be specified in the notification.....

So far as subsection (2) of Section 1 of the Punjab Consolidation of Holdings Act 1936 is concerned, I wish to point out that it has been in force for the last nine years. Government by hurriedly passing this amending Bill, want to omit the clause

[M. Mohd. Nurullah.]

which in their opinion is replete with glaring defects. In this connection I would like to read out to you subsection (2) of section 1, which runs as follows :—

"And also to all societies having as their objective the consolidation of holdings and registered under the Co-operative Societies Act 1912 provided that the (Provincial Government) may by notification except any such society or class of societies from the operation of all or any of the provisions of this Act, and thereupon the said provisions shall not apply to other society or class of Societies until applied thereto by notification."

So far as the present Consolidation of Holdings Act 1936 is concerned, I wish to point out that Government are empowered to do anything they like for safe-guarding the interests of the society, so much so that they can issue any notification to the effect that the society may not come under the Act. It will not be out of place to mention here that Government must devise ways and means so that the civil courts may not prove the provisions of this Act to be replete with defects. So far as the proposed amending Bill is concerned, I wish to submit that no light whatsoever has been thrown on the detailed opinion of the civil courts by the Minister-in-charge of this Bill. It is not clear from the Statement of Objects and Reasons as to what are those defects which have made the Minister-in-charge of this Bill bring forward this amending Bill. Before this amending Bill is rushed through in this House, I would request him to state those defects which have made him bring this amending Bill before the House. In this connection I wish to read out a few lines from the Statement of Objects and Reasons which run as follows :—

"Certain Civil Courts have recently held that the effect of section 1 (2) of the Consolidation of Holdings Act which applies its provisions to co-operative consolidation societies is to render invalid all consolidation proceedings by societies which failed to conform to the procedure laid down in the Act."

2. During the 8 years since the Consolidation of Holdings Act came into force, Co-operative consolidation proceedings have been carried out over an area of several lakhs of acres and the status of thousands of landowners will be in doubt if exchanges made in the course of co-operative consolidation are invalidated. The Bill is designed to cure the legal defects in consolidation work already done by co-operative societies and to prevent similar difficulties arising in respect of future work to be done by them."

It is clear from this that no efforts whatsoever have been made to give in detail those glaring defects which are found in the present Act. I wish to submit that we are not opposed to the Consolidation of Holdings. We also want that scattered holdings should be consolidated as speedily as possible and to the best interests of the poor zamindars. There is no doubt that consolidation of holdings is highly useful. But what I want to know is, what are those defects in the present Act which have been revealed by the proceedings of the Civil Courts. It is really a pity that Government bring forward amending Bills without eliciting public opinion thereon. So far as the proposed amending Bill is concerned, I wish to submit that if all the defects are removed from this Bill, then we will be glad to see it through with a view to ameliorate the hard lot of the poor zamindars. Before I resume my seat, I would urge upon my hon'ble friends sitting opposite in general and the Minister-in-charge in particular to circulate the Bill for eliciting public opinion thereon by 19th March 1945.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motion under consideration, amendment moved—

That the Punjab Consolidation of Holdings (Amendment) Bill be circulated for the purposes of eliciting opinion thereon by the 19th March, 1945.

Khan Bahadur Chaudhri Muhammad Hussain (Gujranwala, East, Muhammadan, Rural) (Urdu) : Sir, I rise to make a few submissions in reply to certain observations made by my hon'ble friend Mian Muhammad Nurullah. It seems that the hon'ble member has not gone through the Bill. I may, however, bring this point home to him that mention has been made in this Bill that it was published in the *Punjab Government Gazette Extraordinary*, dated the 29th November 1944, under the Provision to rule 88 of the Punjab Legislative Assembly Rules. It is clear from this that this Bill was published three months ago. Instead of causing delay or opposing this Bill at this moment, it was but meet and proper on the part of my hon'ble friend to send his opinion to the Assembly office at the time it was published in the Gazette. So far as the Bill is concerned, I wish to point out that the zamindars would benefit

to a great extent by the passage of this Bill. If during the proceedings for the consolidation of fragmented holdings of lands by the co-operative societies there arise certain difficulties which are intended to be removed by the proposed Bill, then I do not see any reason why my hon'ble friend Mian Sahib should press the circulation motion. It is clear from the Statement of Objects and Reasons of this amending Bill that this Bill is designed to cure the legal defects in consolidation work already done by co-operative societies and to prevent similar difficulties arising in respect of future work to be done by them. Under the circumstances I make bold to submit that instead of supporting it whole-heartedly, my hon'ble friend wants to cause delay in the passage of this Bill, which is meant to ameliorate the hard lot of the poor zamindars. It is also given in the Statement of Objects and Reasons of this Bill that during 8 years since the Consolidation of Holdings Act came into force, co-operative consolidation proceedings have been carried out over an area of several lakhs of acres of land. Further it is stated there that the status of thousands of land owners will be in doubt if exchanges made in the course of co-operative consolidation are invalidated. My hon'ble friend Mian Muhammad Nurullah must know that in case this Bill is not passed, then none except the zamindars will suffer the loss. It really ill behoves my hon'ble friend to create obstacles in the way of getting this Bill passed in this House. If this Bill is not brought on the Statute Book and the defects in the proceedings of co-operative societies for the consolidation of fragmented holdings are not removed, I am sure that scuffles and strifes will take place among the land owners whose fragmented holdings have already been consolidated. Under the circumstances my hon'ble friend should not cause any delay in removing the defects which have already been found by the civil courts.

It will take time if I place before the House the advantages and benefits derived by the zamindars out of consolidation of holdings and I do not feel it necessary to describe things which are sufficiently known to almost every one of us. There is no doubt about it that certain difficulties were found in carrying out the consolidation work. But the Co-operative Department and Revenue staff managed to get over them. I may submit without fear of contradiction that now zamindars firmly believe that the consolidation of holdings is really a very useful thing. They have liked it very much.

Then, Sir, it has also been said from the opposite side of the House that the legislators while rushing through this Bill did not take it seriously and that is why certain flaws have been found in it. My submission is that legislators are after all human beings and human beings are liable to err. Therefore, if certain flaws have been found in the legislation there is no need of crying hoarse over it. May I ask my honourable friends sitting opposite as to why they take it for granted that every sort of fault is with the legislatures. May I submit that the decisions of the civil courts can also be incorrect, but we can do nothing against the findings of these courts. What we can do is to bow before their decisions. It is possible that the interpretation of the courts may be wrong, but we cannot make them mould their interpretations according to the wishes of the legislators. Simply for these reasons a few amendments were found necessary to be incorporated in the Bill. My honourable friends sitting opposite should take this point into consideration, while criticising the Bill, that the decisions of the courts of law cannot be objected to and as I have already submitted that there being no way out of it the Government have thought it fit to make certain improvements on the existing Bill. Now I think this point has been made sufficiently clear by me to the honourable members sitting opposite. These simple reasons which I have mentioned have made it necessary for the Government to make certain amendments in the Bill and I do not think there is any harm in doing so.

With these words, Sir, I oppose the motion now before the House.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh (Amritsar North, Sikh, Rural) (*Panjabi*) : Sir, I had absolutely no intention of speaking on this Bill but on hearing the speech of my honourable friend Chaudhri Muhammad Hussain I feel it necessary to make a few remarks. Since the consolidation of fragmented holdings of land is meant for the good of zamindars, I am not opposed to the contents of the Bill. To consolidate scattered holdings in compact blocks, is, of course, a useful thing for the small land-holder. But it is a pity that almost every honourable member who has spoken from that side of the House has either failed in expressing the reasons or has not sufficiently expressed the reasons for which the amending Bill is being brought forward by the Government. It may be said that reasons have been given in the Bill, but I may point out that these are not the main reasons. There is something else behind the curtain which I would like to reveal in a minute or two. If the honourable members read between the lines of the Bill they will understand the actual reason for amending the present Bill. It is said that certain courts of law which have made decisions on certain cases, have pointed out certain legal defects in the existing legislation and on account of that very reason this Bill is being designed to cure the legal defects pointed out by the civil courts in connection with consolidation work done by the co-operative societies. Now, before I proceed with my speech I would like to place before you the misdeeds of the co-operative societies which have been in most of the cases conspiring with big zamindars to get them superior quality of land. It is all the more regrettable that instead of letting petty zamindars derive benefit out of consolidation work, certain small land-holders have suffered a great deal at the hands of co-operative societies. Now let me tell you, Sir, how the Inspectors of co-operative societies appointed for carrying out the consolidation work go out of their way to help the big zamindars in grabbing good pieces of holdings. The Inspectors of Co-operative Societies are purchased by bribes and consequently they join hands with big zamindars and let them have superior pieces of land in return for inferior ones. Obviously this is done at the cost of small land-holders who in most of the cases do not find themselves financially capable of going to the courts. It is a well known fact that people of small means like petty zamindars cannot spend money on litigation for years and years together. For taking a decree against the opposite party a good deal of patience and money is required and a poor zamindar can afford neither. I think some injustice has been done to a rich zamindar and he has gone to the courts. Otherwise, as I have submitted, a poor zamindar cannot possibly move the machinery of the Government to such an extent as to affect amendments in the existing Bill. Now, Sir, as the Bill is being amended, I would suggest to Government to adopt every possible means to see that lands belonging to small land-holders are not swallowed up by the big zamindars. Injustice and favouritism have been in vogue as I have already pointed out. Grabbing land of superior quality belonging to a petty land-holder and giving him in return land of inferior quality has been the practice during the past, and the staff of the Co-operative Societies is to be blamed for all this corruption and favouritism. Let me, therefore, submit that the Government being anxious to cure legal defects in carrying out consolidation work should also come out to cure this evil which is very rampant in the province. When so unfortunate is the state of affairs we should place all the complaints of the small land-holders before the House, and the Government while enacting the amended Bill should see that the real object of the Bill which was once lost should now be completely regained—so much so that it may not be lost again. But it pains me to say that the Government without taking into consideration all these important points, are going to rush through the Bill. May I ask the Government who are the people whose interests are involved in the Bill? Are not the interests of zamindars involved in this Bill? If it is so, I see no reason why an opportunity is not being given to them for voicing their feelings. I am sure if this Bill is circulated the petty zamindars owning

10 or 15 bighas of land would tell woeful tales how their fields are scattered at long distances in order to secure good pieces of land for the big zamindars and how they are left at the mercy of the Co-operative Societies. My submission, therefore, is that only by circulating the Bill the Minister in charge would be able to collect facts and figures regarding the corruption and favouritism resorted to by the Co-operative Societies in carrying out the consolidation work. I am sure some glaring instances of corruption would be forthcoming. May I further suggest to the Government to make this Bill fool proof. And that can only be done if it is circulated for eliciting public opinion. As it has been crystal clear that only the interests of zamindars are involved in this Bill and it is primarily the zamindars who are going to be effected by it, then why not circulate it among them. Let zamindars have their say. Let them put their complaints before you. Let them give instances of injustice and corruption. I may again submit that the Government should not be afraid of collecting information in connection with cases where corruption has taken place. Otherwise, I am sure they would not be able to eradicate this evil from the province. As the greatest evil is corruption, I would like to quote a few instances of corruption done in carrying out consolidation. The copies of this complaint that I am going to read out were sent to the Honourable Premier, head office of Consolidation and the head office of the Kisan Committee, Lahore. This is from the inhabitants of Patti Jhaghar Singh and village Dhanda, Post Office Sang Dhesian, tahsil Phillaur, district Jullundur.

"... The meeting unanimously passed the following resolutions concerning objections, injustices and unfairnesses during the consolidation of holdings. During consolidation of holdings of the village, certain members of the village in conspiracy with the Inspector of Consolidation of Holdings got superior quality of land instead of their inferior ones and some got more lands than they were actually entitled to, which is clear from the following few lines....."

Sir, I am quoting from a letter addressed to the head office of the Kisan Committee by the residents of Patti Jhaghar Singh of village Dhanda, P. O. Sang Dhesian, tahsil Phillaur, district Jullundur. Further on they say :—

"When the people of the village came to know about these injustices, they submitted many applications to the Inspector of Consolidation of Holdings and Deputy Commissioner, Jullundur. We have been submitting applications for the last 3 years but up to this time no action has been taken. We have also submitted an application to your honour that necessary amendments may be carried out to the consolidation of holdings of our village, and necessary action may kindly be taken on the legal and rightful objection of the people of the village, and respectfully pray that unless the necessary amendment is carried out the present consolidation of holdings, the mutation in question, may not be effected."

The entire committee unanimously holds the opinion that unjust bargains were thrust upon the people forcibly. Bad lands were offered for good ones and *vice versa*. It is not the only instance of such an abuse and corruption. Bad consolidations of a similar type were made in the districts of Ferozepore, Jullundur and Amritsar.

Sir, now this measure affords us an opportunity to see that all those defects are totally removed. By pressing this motion I want to make arrangements for the maximum relief to the poor. With these words, Sir, I request the House to pass this motion for circulation without any hesitation.

Sardar Lal Singh (Ludhiana, Central, Sikh, Rural) (*Punjabi*): I rise, Sir, to oppose Mian Muhammad Nurullah's motion for circulation. Great many arguments have been advanced and in my humble opinion, they were totally irrelevant. My honourable friends have vainly tried to draw their support on the basis of corruption in this Department. According to them, clever people manage to exchange good lands of others for their own bad lands. I ask them, is there any department in which there does not exist any element of corruption? (*Interruption*). Yes, even great leaders are dismissed for corruption.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: On a point of order, Sir. The Parliamentary Secretary has used an objectionable phrase. I request you, Sir, to ask him either to withdraw it or to clarify it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Did the honourable member use an objectionable phrase ?

Sardar Lal Singh : I did not name any person.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : He should withdraw that expression.

Sardar Lal Singh : I withdraw it. Sir, if we may presume for a moment that corruption exists in this beneficial department, even then, the motion for circulation does not receive any support. The circulation motion in no way removes it. My honourable friends have made reference to the consolidation work at Mulanpore. I may add for their information, Sir, that a committee of local men is appointed before starting consolidation work. It is crystal clear that no corruption is possible unless and until the members of the committee themselves choose this ugly course. The consolidation at Mulanpore has been declared null and void, and therefore, its reference is totally out of place.

Sir, it will not be out of place if I may add that consolidation work is done by two departments separately. But their powers differ. As far as the hereditary lands are concerned Co-operative Department cannot give effect to any change, similarly many other obstacles stand in the way of this useful work.

2 p.m. The fact is that some of the members of the committees formed in each village to carry on the work of consolidation, being themselves corrupt, manage to corrupt the Patwari and the Inspector as well. That is why some of the villages have lost instead of deriving any benefit out of this useful work. Certain civil courts have held that certain exchanges of land, which had been made for the purposes of consolidation, were not validated by the Revenue Department and therefore they were not valid. That property has not remained ancestral after the exchange and now the civil court has decided in this way. This means that many persons shall be deprived of their properties.

The statement Of Objects and Reasons says—

" During the 8 years since the Consolidation of Holdings Act came into force co-operative consolidation proceedings have been carried out over an area of several lakhs of acres and the status of thousands of land-owners will be in doubt....."

As my learned friend has put it, the work of several years shall be wasted and the big pieces of land shall again be reduced to tiny pieces scattered over miles. That is not proper and reasonable. The arguments advanced in the House have been mostly irrelevant. This Bill shall allay the doubts raised in the minds of the people by the recent decision of court and they shall be quite satisfied. With these words I oppose the motion for circulation of the Bill.

Mian Abdul Aziz (Outer Lahore, Muslim, Urban) (*Urdu*) : Sir, I think there has been some misunderstanding about the attitude of the Opposition towards this Bill. My honourable friend Sardar Sohan Singh Josh made it quite clear that we were not opposed to consolidation. My learned friend Chaudhri Mohammad Hasan cited the case of a village where property worth 2 lakhs had been exchanged wrongfully, because the officials had been bribed. Of course we are not opposed to consolidation. On the other hand we consider it quite proper and appropriate. The Honourable Minister in charge of the Bill said in the early stages that people had many complaints against this work and had gone to courts to get them redressed. The decisions of the court showed many defects in the proceeding and also in law. The Government now intends to validate all the wrong acts performed under that law and legalise those *malafide* acts since 1936 up till now. I ask the Minister if it is not doing injustice to those poor people, who have been deprived of their good lands by the rich either by bribing the co-operative or revenue staff or by some other methods, that he is now depriving them of the chances of getting those wrongs redressed through courts of law. The Government may bring in any measure howsoever severe for the future, but it should not try to cover the past mis-deeds by

bringing in this Bill. It is not proper for this Legislative Assembly to go on passing laws full of mistakes and then to try to redress all their defects and evils caused to justify those by giving retrospective effect with one stroke of pen. What impressions will the outsiders carry about our intelligence? There may be flaws in any law. Amending Bills may also be necessary at times. But to bring in amending Bills one after the other in quick succession and to give retrospective effect on past misdeeds cannot be called creditable. That is why I say that we should not pass any Bill with unnecessary haste. This Assembly has passed about 85 Acts in all. Some of the Bills passed after 1937 have been amended, not only once or twice, but three or four times and there is an instance of a single Bill being amended six times even.

Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Suraj Mal : It is a repetition of arguments.

Mian Abdul Aziz : Am I to take your advice?

Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Suraj Mal : You may not, but the fact is there.

Mian Abdul Aziz : No. Why pass unnecessary remarks without knowing or thinking? Well, Sir, I was submitting that the present Bill should not be rushed through, so that we may not have to bring another Bill to amend it within a year or so.

The Parliamentary Secretary said during his speech that there was no department where corruption was not rampant. He should convey the names of such persons to the Ministers, so that they may take action against them. Bringing in new Bills is not the proper way to remove that defect.

It is generally admitted that a Bill with what is called a retrospective effect is not good legislation. Only the other day this Government passed into law the Frontier Crimes Regulations Bill and thus validated the illegal acts of the past. Now they are again trying to cover their improper actions of the past by passing this Bill with undue haste. Suppose we circulate this Bill for a month or so. Heavens will not fall if we pass it after a month. Mian Muhammad Nurullah has only asked to circulate it till the 19th of March, 1945. That is quite reasonable. It is said that such motion should have been brought earlier. The Assembly was not in session, and the Bill is now brought in, and the fact is that there was no time to bring this motion earlier. Besides, a measure which seeks to give retrospective effect to any law is considered to be an obnoxious enactment. If this bad precedent is set up to-day and unjustified consolidation work done by co-operative societies and others is covered by this Act, we can surely expect that to-morrow measures justifying illegal activities of other departments will be moved and passed. It is, therefore, highly essential that when such measures are brought before the House they be circulated for eliciting opinion thereon. Now what we have to see is this that if this Bill is circulated for eliciting public opinion thereon and as a result of that it is delayed, say for one or two months, will it in any way adversely affect the work of consolidation? I assure you no such thing will happen at all. My honourable friend Khan Muhammad Yusuf Khan has observed that this Bill was brought on the agenda in November 1944 and that if Mian Muhammad Nurullah had no other intention except delaying the enactment of the amending Bill by moving his circulation motion to-day he could have moved his amendment at that time. I may tell him that it is very easy to indulge in such like arguments. I ask what other time could be more suitable than the present one for moving and carrying out this amendment? So far the amending Bill had not been introduced in the House at all. How could an amendment to this effect be moved in regard to it? Now when the said Bill has been introduced Mian Muhammad Nurullah has availed of the first opportunity to move for its circulation. What he wants is that the amending Bill be circulated for eliciting opinion thereon till the 19th March with a view to affording an opportunity to the zamindars, who would be adversely affected by its provisions, to put forward their point of view. My submission is that if my friends want to enact this Bill let them do so. But they should not give retrospective

[M. Abdul Aziz.]

effect to it. By sponsoring such measures and giving retrospective effect to them they should not try to protect corrupt officers who have made fortunes by corrupt methods. It appears that this amending Bill has been introduced for that object and that object alone. I think that if this Bill is circulated it will not hamper the work of consolidation at all. The Punjab Consolidation of Holdings Act is already in force and circulation of this Bill will not in any way hamper that work. On the contrary a great benefit will accrue and that is this that the Government will be in a position to know the troubles of the zamindars which they have to suffer in the matter of consolidation of holdings and after that Government would be well within their rights to enact whatever measure they deem fit. I therefore strongly urge upon them to circulate this amending Bill for eliciting public opinion thereon.

(At this stage Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair).

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad (Southern Towns, Muhammadan, Urban) (Urdu): Sir, I had absolutely no mind to participate in the debate on the amending Bill as I think that the Consolidation of Holdings Act is highly useful for the zamindars. The said Act has been in force in the Punjab for the last 9 years or so and during this period Government have not been able to discover any shortcomings or defects in its working. Now when a revenue court has criticised its working they have suddenly realised them and have as usual brought forward this Bill to remove them. It is their usual practice that whenever any court criticised the working or illegality of any Act, the Unionist Party brought forward an amendment of the Act to meet the objection of the court and to protect the misdeeds of their officers. In this Bill, Sir, you will find that the Government desires to give retrospective effect to it in order to shield the misdoings of their corrupt officials which is unjust and inequitable on the very face of it. It has so to say become a habit with the Unionist Government that no sooner any civil or revenue court points out any defect in any measure they bring forward an amending Bill to remove it regardless of the fact whether the amending Bill so sponsored would benefit the people or not or whether the opinion expressed by the said court was justified or not. As soon as they find that the measure which they passed in hot haste has been declared to be defective by any court they at once bring forward an amending Bill to rectify the mistake. That is what has happened in this case too. What has struck me as very odd to-day is that a Parliamentary Secretary who not very long ago sat on these benches, has deemed it fit to oppose the circulation motion which is very useful.

Sardar Jagjit Singh Man: The honourable member is attributing personal motives.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad: No, Sir, I am not attributing any motives. Have I anything to divide with him? Is my estate joint with him? I have no personal motive at all.

Mr. Speaker: What did the honourable member say?

Mian Abdul Aziz: What the honourable member has said is that the Parliamentary Secretary who not many months ago sat on these benches used to support the opposition point of view and now when he has been made a Parliamentary Secretary he has suddenly become the champion of Government.

Minister for Development: The honourable member has stated that my honourable friend here has supported the Government because he has been made a Parliamentary Secretary.

Mr. Speaker: Please do not be personal.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad: I am not personal at all. The Parliamentary Secretary has observed that corruption is rampant in all the departments. It is an admitted fact that under the regime of the Unionist Party corruption has

become the order of the day. (*Hear, hear from the Opposition Benches*). Corruption does not mean simply the acceptance of ready money as illegal gratification.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Unionist Government, thy name is corruption !

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : My honourable friends the Leader of the Opposition and Sardar Sohan Singh Josh have observed and rightly so that corruption is rampant in almost all the Government departments. In fact since the accession to power of the Unionist Party it has increased a hundredfold. My honourable friend the Leader of the Opposition cited the instance of a village in Ludhiana district where two Government officers have made one or two lakhs of rupees in connection with consolidation work by illegal methods.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : The Honourable Minister knows them as well.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Such things are daily happening but Government instead of taking action against corrupt officers protect and support them. Now, they have brought forward this Bill according to their old habit in order to protect those corrupt officers who have been harassing and torturing the zamindars. My honourable friend, Mian Muhammad Nurullah, has moved that the Bill be circulated for eliciting opinion thereon so that the people who are likely to be affected by it may express their opinions in regard to the advisability or otherwise of enacting this measure to which retrospective effect will be given. My honourable friends over there are opposing this motion. As I have already submitted, the acceptance of ready money as an illegal gratification is not the only form of corruption. Favouritism is also corruption. Nepotism is also corruption. I personally think that there must be some relatives of honourable members opposite among the corrupt officials for whose protection this Bill is being sponsored. What is more, the Honourable Minister himself indulges in favouritism and nepotism. In fact since the accession to power of the Unionist Party corruption has become rampant in all Government departments, so much so that all the available posts are being given to the relatives, friends and constituents of the honourable members of the Unionist Party. The Honourable Minister for Development is perhaps the worst offender in this respect. He is showing undue favours to the members of his own community to the detriment of the interests of Muslims, who are being deprived of their just rights. I may also submit that the mover of the Bill, now before the House, has himself fallen a prey to favouritism. It will not be out of place to mention here that the posts which would be created for carrying out this piece of legislation would, as usual, be filled by employing the relatives and friends of the Minister-in-charge of this Bill. What I wish to submit is this that for eradicating the evil of favouritism in the province we do not find any rule in this amending Bill. I make bold to submit and say that this amending Bill has been brought forward in this House with a view to benefit the near and dear ones of the Minister-in-charge of this Bill. Before I resume my seat I would urge upon the Government to circulate this Bill for eliciting public opinion.

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Man) : I had no idea of speaking to-day, but one or two remarks made by Mian Abdul Aziz have prompted me to say a few words. Mian Sahib has laid great emphasis on the point that this Bill should be circulated on the ground that the Unionist Ministry is generally making mistakes which are discovered afterwards and the reason for the mistakes is that the Bills are rushed through and therefore they have to bring in amending Bills and they cause great delay. In reply to this I would say that the Unionist Ministry is not a set of angels. They are men and they are liable to commit mistakes. There is a great difference in the Bill as framed and the Bill as actually worked later. Loopholes are bound to occur which are discovered only at the time of actual working. It does not stand to reason that because a Bill was not circulated, therefore mistakes are likely to occur. I may tell him that throughout the world Acts come back to the

[S. Jagjit Singh Man].

Legislature again and amendments are made and the Unionist Ministry is not an exception.

I would say one word about Sardar Sohan Singh Josh. He has stated that there has been great corruption in the consolidation. A mere statement that corruption has taken place will not do, unless the thing is fully investigated and the charge substantiated. A mere statement that certain persons have stated that they have given bribes will not do. There may be corruption, but the point is that it has nothing to do with the present Bill which is under discussion. The issue is quite plain and simple: Holdings which have been held together under the Societies have been rendered invalid by certain civil courts. There has been only a technical mistake and that mistake has to be rectified. That is the reason for this amending Bill. (*Mian Abdul Aziz*: Let the judgment come and then we will be able to say whether it is a technical mistake or otherwise). It is pure and simple a technical mistake which is going to be rectified by this amending Bill and in case the matter is delayed nothing good will come out of it. This Bill is a sound one and it should not be delayed unnecessarily. I would therefore oppose the circulation motion moved by my friend Mian Muhammad Nurullah.

Sardar Dasaundha Singh (Jagraon, Sikh, Rural): Consolidation of holdings has done a lot of good to the people. (*Hear, hear*). Anything done to widen the scope of the measure or to accelerate its pace should be welcomed by every one of us. There is indeed a lot of corruption in the department and that has very much retarded the pace of consolidation of holdings. (*Hear, hear*). It should not have been answered so easily, at any rate it should not have been said by the honourable member on this side as a reply or as a justification that corruption exists in almost every department. (*Hear, hear*). So far as this department is concerned, corruption leads to very bad results. It has led to quarrels, internecine quarrels, heated fights and even murderous assaults and something must be done to remove this evil and that immediately. But I would admit that this Bill has nothing to do with it. The removal of corruption cannot be brought about by legislation. It is the look-out of the department or of those who are responsible for it. There is another thing which I would like to say here and that is, that the scope of the Bill is exceedingly limited. No serious objection can be taken to the principle underlying it, but if the object is what my friend has said, to remove the adverse effects of consolidation of holdings on their ancestral nature, then this Bill does not seem to be a remedy for it. The ancestral nature is affected in one way. Supposing the proprietor has 100 bighas of ancestral land and one or two bighas of non-ancestral land, then the whole thing is mixed up and for ancestral land and non-ancestral land he gets another piece of land and the whole of it becomes non-ancestral, and this Bill would not remove this evil. This will be a great loss to the people. The property which was not alienable will become alienable and the wholesome restrictions that custom had placed on the ancestral land so far as its alienation is concerned, will be taken away. If this is the object of the Bill then there will be no harm in widening its scope and bringing in definite provisions that will remove this defect and in this way the object of the mover of this amendment too may be served.

Lala Bhagat Ram Choda (Jullundur, General, Rural) (*Urdu*): Sir, I rise to support the amendment moved by my honourable friend, Mian Muhammad Nurullah. There is no doubt about it that the scheme of the consolidation of holdings has proved very useful to the zamindars of the province. So far as the consolidation of holdings in Jullundur division is concerned, I wish to point out that some zamindars have derived benefit from it, while some poor zamindars have suffered a lot by it. The poor zamindars have suffered because the 'abalkars' force them to give them bribes for the work they do for them in connection with the consolidation work. An

honourable member sitting on the Unionist Benches, and who is also a Parliamentary Secretary, remarked in the course of his speech that corruption is not only found in any one department, but it is rampant in almost all the departments. So far as the Revenue Department is concerned, I make bold to submit that corruption is the order of the day in this department. I have only yesterday received a letter from Jullundur, in which the writer has given the following details about the hardships and inconveniences suffered by the poor zamindars in connection with the consolidation work :—

“The corrupt officers of this department are already receiving bribes from the rich zamindars and they help them in broad daylight in acquiring the valuable lands of the poor zamindars. The passage of this amending Bill will reduce the poor zamindars to a miserable plight. They will be doomed. Investigations should be made in this village. My uncle Nardgojar Singh got the application of my father for consolidation of holdings rejected. This did not satisfy him. He went to the extent of joining hands with the police and got my brother, nephew and other near relatives challenged under section 107. Now we are free from this trouble. Efforts are being made to persuade the villagers to boycott us. This is not all. They persuade the officers not to make any water supply to our lands, thus they deprive us of these ordinary facilities. Rahmat Ullah, Teli, an inhabitant of this village has cultivated the land which he received in exchange of his land measuring 3 kanals and 14 masals. He is being compelled to dispose of this land. The higher authorities do not care to give a patient hearing to our grievances. The only home of a widow Jigoree Mat. Kartari, was sold under compulsion through the President of the Consolidation of Holdings. Even the lands connected with the graveyards and the gurdwaras have not been spared.”

This is not all. The writer of this letter has mentioned many other things. As the time at my disposal is very short, therefore I do not intend to enter into any further details. It will not be out of place to mention here that the writer of this letter is a very respectable person. He is a member of the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee.

Then, Sir, the water used by the zamindars for their fields has been withheld. I do not say that action should be taken against such cruel big zamindars but what I would emphatically say is that the poor peasants should not be deprived of their rights. It is not only this. To illustrate how favouritism works I would like to give you an instance. In village Ghandiwala, district Hoshiarpur, consolidation work was carried out. In that village lands had remained scattered for four or five years. An application for consolidation was submitted by one of the big zamindars. One person was selected to act as an arbitrator. A good piece of land was taken away by him from the lands belonging to a woman and was given to the big landlord, from whom he had taken bribes. What I want to drive at is that corruption is prevalent in carrying out the work of consolidation of holdings. It is said that publication of this Bill has already been made in the Gazette and no objection has been raised to the passage of this Bill, therefore it should be passed forthwith without circulating it for public opinion. My submission is that it is very difficult to elicit public opinion by publishing it in the Gazette. I ask, how many zamindars read the Gazette? In this connection I would like to draw your attention to two things. First is that this Bill should not apply to consolidations made in the past. It has reminded me of an interesting anecdote. Nine mirasis went out for fighting a battle. On coming back one of them told the people that twenty were killed in action. When he was asked how, he said that he had given a piece of paper to the opposite party on which it was written that they were welcome to come to his village and kill the remaining twenty. Similar is the case here. In this connection I may also point out that injustice has been done to certain petty zamindars by big landlords who have devoured the lands of the former. And now the Government instead of helping the petty zamindars who can ill-afford to sue against the big ones to get their lands back, is going to ruin them completely by applying this Bill to the consolidations made in the past. I do not like this policy of the Government. I, therefore, submit with all the force at my command that this Bill should not apply to the consolidations made in the past years. But the Government should try to find out some remedy so that a big zamindar may not devour a petty zamindar just as a big fish devours a small fish. But it is regrettable that whenever Bills passed in a hurry by the Government have been put to test in judicial courts they have proved defective and then

[Bhagat Ram Choda]

the Government have no alternative but to bring forward an amending Bill. Take this Bill for instance. This was passed six or seven years ago. But on testing it in the judicial courts several defects were found in it. We do not say, let these defects remain in the Bill. Of course they must be removed. But my submission is that while removing them the Government should see that no chances are left in the Bill for big zamindars to take away the lands belonging to petty zamindars. Secondly, at the time of reconsolidation instead of arriving at a decision by taking the votes of two-thirds of the people concerned the decision should be made by taking the votes of three-fourths of the people, because in this way the proprietors would be able to have their say in the matter. You will remember, Sir, that when this Bill was last under consideration, Government was in a hurry to finish the work in hand and so this Bill was left where it was. Now, if this Bill has been published in the Gazette as it is said by the Government, I do not think much time will be lost if it is published in newspapers just to elicit public opinion thereon. The Honourable Minister-in-charge seems to be afraid of publishing the Bill in the newspapers. Perhaps he thinks that eliciting public opinion would give rise to some agitation in the province. May I submit that the Honourable Minister-in-charge should not be afraid of any agitation. I do not think heaven is going to fall if this Bill is circulated for 15 days or so for eliciting public opinion thereon.

With these words, Sir, I support the circulation motion.

Chaudhri Ali Akbar (East Gurdaspur, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Punjabi*) : Sir, after hearing the speech of the honourable member I have come to the conclusion that he does not know what is meant by consolidation of holdings and how it is made. The fact of the matter is that petty zamindars are much benefited by consolidation of holdings. For instance, a man possesses one acre of land at a distance of one mile. If a piece of land is consolidated with lands situated at small distance in return for the land situated at a mile distance, the zamindar would be naturally in a position to derive more benefit. By consolidating lands in this way a chak would come into existence which can be taken care of more easily. Now, if one acre of land had been left at a distance of one mile, the zamindar would not have cared for it, because it would be very difficult for him to plough it or provide it with water and other facilities. Next certain honourable members have pointed out certain defects in the Bill. I say that nobody on the face of the earth can bring forward a wholesome and sound scheme free from defects. By and by improvements are made in almost every scheme. Now if certain defects have been found in this Bill, why should all this hue and cry be made? Now it would be so improved as to give more benefit to the petty zamindars.

Then, Sir, it has been said that corruption is prevalent in the department of consolidation of holdings. I ask, which department is immune from corruption? You will find it in every department. First the honourable members sitting opposite were in the habit of saying that the Police Department was the most corrupt department. They were ever keen to wipe out corruption from this Department. Now when corruption has been wiped out to a great extent from the Police department they have started saying that corruption is prevalent in the department of consolidation of holdings. I admit that patwaris appointed for consolidation work may be taking bribes from the zamindars. But I may also tell the House that zamindars do not mind giving them bribes. As zamindars are deriving a lot of benefit by consolidation of holdings they do not mind giving a few rupees to the patwaris.

In this connection what I would want the Government to do is to instruct the officers concerned to see that at the time of making consolidation the petty zamindars are benefited the most. Before resuming my seat I would like to tell Mian Muhammad Nurullah that consolidation of holdings has proved very useful for the petty zamindar. Lands where no water could be provided and where plough and meals could not be

carried have now come under cultivation and are yielding a lot of produce. Obviously for these reasons consolidation of holdings is much liked by petty zamindars. I say that the more the time taken on making consolidation the less will be the yield. The Honourable Minister-in-charge should instruct the consolidation officers to carry it out more efficiently.

With these few remarks, Sir, I strongly oppose the motion moved by my honourable friend, Mian Muhammad Nurullah.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Punjab Consolidation of Holdings (Amendment) Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 19th March 1946.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : The question is—

That the Punjab Consolidation of Holdings (Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration at once.

The motion was carried.

Clause 2.

Mr. Speaker : Now the Bill will be considered clause by clause. The question is—

That clause 2 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Clause 3.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh (Amritsar North, Sikh, Rural) (*Punjabi*): Sir, I beg to move—

That in the proposed section I-A (b), line 2, for the word "two-thirds", the word "three-fourths" be substituted.

Our object is to bring about consolidation by persuasive methods. The practice up till now has been to collect the whole population of a village and then to convince them that consolidation was in their own interest and to do the work with their unanimous approval. The times are changed now. Every zamindar understands now that consolidation is in his interest. The question is only of method. Are we going to do this good work by persuasive or coercive methods? According to this Bill, if two-thirds agree the consolidation shall be done, whether the remaining one-third like it or not. I quite realize that even coercion is desirable at times. But this work is of such a nature that the approval of the greatest number should be obtained for it. My amendment makes this difference, the Honourable Minister may please note, that it lays down that the approval of the greater number be obtained before this work is done. Suppose there are in all 24 members in a village. Two-thirds make 16 and three fourths make 18. If my amendment is carried, the approval of 18 instead of 16 shall be required and that shall make the process more democratic.

My second point is that the staff carrying out such a responsible work involving the exchange of land worth thousands is getting extremely low pay. That is why there is so much corruption there. I wonder how the officials of this department make both ends meet. In Ferozepore, 14 out of the total strength of 16 belonging to this department have resigned on this account. There might have been such instances in other districts too. Therefore I request the Government that if it desires some useful work to be done, in this respect, it should appoint officers with higher pay on this duty.

With these few words I request the Government to accept my amendment.

Mr. Speaker: Clause under consideration, amendment moved is—

That in the proposed section I-A, (b), line 2, for the word "two-thirds" the word "three-fourths" be substituted.

Minister of Development : Sir, I oppose this amendment.

Mr. Speaker : The question is—

That in the proposed section 1-A, (b), line 2, for the word "two-thirds" the word "three-fourths" be substituted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : The question is—

That clause 3 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Clause 4.

Mr. Speaker : The question is—

That clause 4 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Clause 5.

Mr. Speaker : The question is—

That clause 5 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Clause 1.

Mr. Speaker : The question is—

That sub-clause (1) of clause 1 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : The question is—

That sub-clause (2) of clause 1 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Title.

Mr. Speaker : The question is—

That the title be the title of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Minister of Development : Sir, I beg to move—

That the Punjab Consolidation of Holdings (Amendment) Bill be passed.

The motion was carried.

BADSHAHI MOSQUE FUND CESS BILL.

Premier (The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat): Sir I beg to introduce the Badshahi Mosque Fund Cess Bill. I may intimate the House that I am introducing this Bill on the recommendation of the Governor as required by subsection (1) of section 82 of the Government of India Act.

I beg to move—

That the Badshahi Mosque Fund Cess Bill be taken into consideration at once.

In doing so I would refer the House to the Statement of Objects and Reasons. It has been found that the previous cess levied is not sufficient to complete the work that we had in view. The estimates have been exceeded for two reasons: for reasons of war and also because additional works have been added, for when the structure was first examined the extent of the repairs necessary was not properly realized. On opening up the structure greater repairs have been seen and necessary and it was found that more damage had been done to the fabric. For instance, some of the

'minars' were found to be not in good order, and the domes, not previously considered to require repairs, were also in need of repairs; and certain other items which were not considered necessary at that time, have had to be added to. I hope that with the amount that this cess will bring us we will be able to carry out the work; but I shall not rule out the possibility of more money being needed and if it is needed for such a good cause, I hope this House will grant it. The Muslim community is very keen—as a matter of fact everybody is keen—that this great structure, which is the pride of the Punjab, should be completely restored to a fit condition as soon as possible. Because of the war the cost has gone up. The work is being carried on by the Central Public Works Department Executive Engineer. The Chief Engineer of the Central Public Works Department, who supervises the work is an eminent Muslim Engineer. Nawab Yar Jung, through the courtesy of the Hyderabad State, also regularly comes, and I must thank him, for attending to every detail of the work which a layman cannot do. The cost would have been less if we had not insisted on its repair forthwith, but as far as I know everybody was keen that the work should be completed without delay and we had to pay more than we would have done otherwise. With these words I would ask the House to consider the Bill.

Mr. Speaker : The motion moved is—

That the Badshahi Mosque Fund Cess Bill be taken into consideration at once.

Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan (Attock North, Muhammadan, Rural) : Sir, I rise to support the Honourable Premier for this Bill which has been brought forward to augment the funds to repair the Badshahi Mosque. Every Muslim will be heartened to find that measures are being taken to restore that greatest place of prayers of Muslims. I, however, would like to suggest a little more scope for the Bill brought forward by the Premier on behalf of my party. What I wish to bring forward is that that this cess should not be just for one year or one season, but it should be continued, till all the schemes, which were originally foreseen by the inceptors of this Bill, have been put into action. I hope they will have enough funds to be able to carry on all the repairs and to start the university for learning which was originally contemplated. There is one little request that I want to make and that is that there should be greater supervision in the spending of the funds collected from the Muslims who gladly contribute for this great cause. I hope that the Government will take effective measures to see that these funds are not frittered away and that the best use is made of them.

Mian Abdul Aziz (Outer Lahore, Muhammadan, Urban) (*Urdu*) : I would like to submit that no Muslim wants to oppose this measure for the repair of this historical mosque. We want that money must be spent bravely so that this mosque may become safe from all the onslaughts of time. We want that this repair may not be like our modern buildings. In our modern constructions we find bills for repairs coming when the bills for the original construction are not yet paid.

Some complaints have been brought to my notice about the material which is used there. I am being given to understand that the material used is very inferior in quality than the one which was included in the original estimates. I ask the Government to take greater care of the affairs so that a single pie out of this account may not be wasted and these original estimates may not go on multiplying every time.

Mian Muhammad Nurullah (Lyallpur, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*) : Sir, we are glad that this Bill has been introduced in this House.

3 p. m.
All the Muslims are anxious that it may be enacted speedily so that they may contribute as much money as possible towards the Badshahi Mosque Fund because they regard it as an act of *sawab*. Nobody is against the levying of this cess. Of all the measures which this Government has introduced and passed so far the Badshahi Mosque Fund Cess Bill is the only good measure. Under the proviso to sub-clause 3 of clause 3 some Muslims are being deterred from contributing to this fund who otherwise would be only too glad to contribute their share. I think we should

(M. Md. Nurullah)

not debar anybody from paying this cess even though he may contribute only one pie. I admit that we will not get any substantial amount from such people but at least they will have the satisfaction of contributing towards the Shahi Mosque Fund for the sake of *sawab*. It is in view of this that I tabled an amendment for the deletion of proviso to sub-clause 3 of clause 3, which I do not intend to move now. However, if Government permit such persons who have been debarred from contributing to this fund under the proviso they will be grateful to them. Let them also share in this *sawab*.

In 1938 it was estimated that repairs would cost Rs. 8 lakhs and a sum of Rs. 2 lakhs would be set apart in order to provide for a permanent maintenance and repair fund. As the Honourable Premier has observed two reasons have led to the increase in expenditure and the fund previously collected was not sufficient and hence more money was needed. Get it by all means. We will be right glad to contribute to this fund. About the estimate my view is that Rs. 6½ lakhs which will be realized through this cess does not seem to be a correct one. The reason for this is that under the sliding scale system of land revenue the revenue has increased from Rs. 54 lakhs to Rs. 94 lakhs in the Lyallpur district alone. In view of this I think that instead of Rs. 6½ lakhs as previously estimated Rs. 9 lakhs would be received. After setting apart Rs. 2 lakhs for permanent repairs and maintenance charges the rest of the sum can be utilized for the repair and renovation of the Badshahi Mosque. As I have already submitted the Muslims will gladly contribute to such a fund because they regard it as an act of *sawab*. But along with this I would urge that care should be taken that the money so collected is utilized to the full advantage. The Government may spend as much money as is needed for the repair of this historical mosque but arrangements may kindly be made to see that not a pie is wasted. It is also an act of *sawab* to see that money belonging to any mosque is not frittered away. In order to safeguard against the misuse of the Badshahi Mosque fund I tabled an amendment which I do not intend to move now. Besides, contractors should not be permitted to make large profits. With that end in view I gave notice of another amendment in respect to clause 6 of this Bill that contractors should not be permitted to make more than 10 per cent profits. If the Honourable Premier can arrange this he will be doing an act of *sawab*. However I am glad that this Bill has been brought forward and I hope that it will be passed as speedily as possible. With these words I support the Bill.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan (Pind-Dadan Khan, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*)
Sir, it was the late Sir Sikandar Hyat Khan who introduced the Badshahi Mosque Fund Cess Bill and got it enacted. For this pious act of his the Muslims honoured him by providing ground for his mausoleum near the historical mosque after his death. So far as the Muslim League party is concerned I may make it clear that instead of passing these annual Acts a permanent measure be enacted and this cess be realised every year, because the religious requirements, such as the holding of daras, lighting and repair of the mosque require a lot of money. The Muslim League Party will be right glad if the Government were to bring forward a permanent Bill and the cess realised every year.

Now, the second request which I want to make to Malik Sahib is that though he is very busy otherwise I hope he will find some time to see the repair work of the mosque so that the work may be completed at an early date.

Premier (The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat): I just want to say two or three things in reply to what has been said by my honourable friends opposite. It was said that greater care should be taken in spending the money. I can assure the House that all possible care is being taken by the mosque authorities in supervising the expenditure. Accounts are properly looked into by the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts and his reports have been satisfactory.

Once or twice complaints were made and I came down from Simla to see the repairs myself. We have the services of eminent engineers at our disposal. We have our own Chief Engineer who is taking a keen interest. Whether Muslims or non-Muslims, all are equally interested in this great building which is the pride of the Punjab. Khan Bahadur Suleman has been of invaluable help. An eminent Muslim engineer of His Exalted Highness' Government also has visited the mosque. I do not say that no scope exists for improvement, but every care is taken to carry on the work as efficiently as possible. It was pointed out that the cost has gone up. The reason is that certain additional works have been considered necessary; for instance, electric lighting, bath rooms, sanitation, etc., which were not included originally. Originally there was no house for the Khatib and now provision for that has been made behind the mosque. I may say, and I am sure honourable members will agree with me, that I have not ruled out the possibility of levying yet another cess to carry the work to its completion for which this House by a special resolution gave us the permission. I may also state that in addition to these repairs if there is any other scheme which the Punjab Mussalmans want us to carry out and this House passes a resolution to that effect, Government will make every endeavour to carry out that scheme. But that is a very wide issue and the scope of the present Bill is limited.

With your permission, Sir, I am going to give for the information of the House certain figures in connection with the repairs of the Mosque. The total receipts amount to Rs. 18,89,000. Works actually executed have cost Rs. 11,67,000. The Endowment Fund is Rs. 2,00,000 and the sum of these figures gives the total expenditure which amounts to Rs. 13,67,000. The cost of the works that remain to be done according to to-day's estimates (they may go up and that is the reason why I am not ruling out the possibility of another cess) is Rs. 11,33,000. The previous cess brought us more than 6 lakhs and, as was pointed out by the honourable member from Lyallpur, as there is a sliding-scale, this cess may bring us more than 6, even 7 lakhs. Everybody is paying two pies on land revenue and I am sure nobody minds it. As a matter of fact everybody is taking it as *sawaab*.

Mian Abdul Aziz wanted that the same sort of material should be used as was used by the Mughals. (*Mian Abdul Aziz*: I did not say that). I confess that nobody is so sturdy nor are our buildings so strong. I can assure him that everything will be done to carry out the work efficiently.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad: May I ask a question? How is the endowment kept and by whom?

Premier: The endowment is invested in Government securities at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent interest.

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That the Badshahi Mosque Fund cess Bill be taken into consideration at once.

The motion was carried.

Clause 2

Mr. Speaker: Now the House will proceed to consider the Bill clause by clause. Question is—

That clause 2 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Clauses 3 to 5

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That clauses 3 to 5 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Clause 6

Mr. Speaker : The question is—

That clause 6 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Clause 7

Mr. Speaker : The question is—

That clause 7 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Clause 1

Mr. Speaker : The question is—

That clause 1 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Title

Mr. Speaker : The question is—

That the title be the title of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Premier : I move—

That the Badshahi Mosque Fund Cess Bill be passed.

The motion was carried.

SALE OF HOLY QURAN RESTRICTING BILL

Khan Muhammad Yusuf Khan (Rawalpindi Sadar, Muhammadan, Rural) :
beg to move—

That the Sale of the Holy Quran Restricting Bill be referred to a select committee consisting of—

- Sufi Abdul Hamid Khan.
- Khan Sahib Sayed Badr Mohy-ud-Din Qaderi.
- Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad.
- Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din.
- Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar.
- Sayed Mohy-ud-Din Lal Badshah.
- Major Sardar Sir Muhammad Nawaz Khan.
- Mian Abdul Rab.
- Khan Bahadur Malik Muzaffar Khan.
- Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan.
- Shaikh Sadiq Hassan.
- Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad.
- Khan Bahadur Chaudhri Muhammad Shafi Ali Khan.

and that the quorum shall be five.

(Urdu) : Sir, I wish to make a few submission in support of my motion. It is a matter of gratification that now after six years I am in a position to move this motion and proceed with this Bill in the House. It will not be out of place to mention here that this Bill is proceeded with, due to the kindness of the Honourable Premier. My honourable friends will remember that when the Bill was introduced for the first time in this House, the late Sir Sikandar Hyat Khan was of the opinion that a new measure will be brought forward by the Government on this subject. But its passage had to be delayed owing to certain reasons. In the meantime the Muslims of the Punjab urged its immediate enactment through Press, so much so that the Bill

is now given official time in this House. Incidentally the ballot was cast in the name of my honourable friend Mian Abdul Rab. I am highly thankful to him for affording me the opportunity of moving this motion in this House. So far as the Bill now before the House is concerned, I wish to point out that my honourable friends will co-operate with me when I say that the community concerned should be able to express its views on religious issues freely as to what should be done and what should not be done. The Muslims complain that it has been observed that the Holy Quran when printed and published by persons other than Muslims, is found replete with errors and it does not elicit the same respect and regard in the course of its handling as is due to it from the Muslim point of view and thus indeliberately injure the religious susceptibilities of the Muslims. Under the circumstances, the Bill has been introduced with a view to prohibit the printing, publishing and selling of the Holy Quran by non-Muslims. In this connection I wish to submit that a Bill of the same nature was introduced by the Congress Ministry in the Frontier Province. Even in Sind a Measure of this sort has been adopted. What I wish to point out is that it is regrettable that this Bill is still pending in the Assembly. Now the Muslims of the Punjab should be thankful to the Government of the province for legislating in accordance with their long sought desire.

I do hope that my non-Muslim friends would not shrink back in extending co-operation to me in this pious act as I have already made it quite clear that I was not at all actuated by any communal motives in moving this Bill. Let me once again assure my honourable friends sitting on the opposite benches that there is nothing communal about it. Only the right of publication and sale of the Holy Quran is being restricted because the non-Muslims cannot and do not hold the Holy Book with the same veneration and regard as we do. Let me also make it clear that if people other than Mussalmans study the Holy Book and choose to work according to the Quranic principles we would be too glad for it. A non-Muslim can have the Holy Quran for his private study, we would never object to it, but the question is regarding the respect and veneration of the Holy Book and let me point out once for all that my desire in bringing forward this Bill is merely to ensure due respect to the Holy Quran. Otherwise I believe Quran is light and it should illumine every-one. I am sure, Sir, that the House will rush through this measure causing no further delay over it.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved is :—

That the Sale of the Holy Quran Restricting Bill be referred to a select committee consisting of—
Sufi Abdul Hamid Khan.

Khan Sahib Sayed Badr Mohy-ud-Din Qaderi.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad.

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din.

Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar.

Sayed Mohy-ud-Din Lal Badshah.

Major Sardar Sir Muhammad Nawaz Khan.

Mian Abdul Rab.

Khan Bahadur Malik Muzaffar Khan.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan.

Shaikh Sadiq Hassan.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad.

Khan Bahadur Chaudhri Muhammad Shafi Ali Khan.

and that the quorum shall be five.

Shaikh Sadiq Hassan (Amritsar City, Muhammadan, Urban) (*Urdu*).
Sir, I propose that the report of the select committee should be submitted within three weeks. I am very glad that this Bill which had been lying buried somewhere for the last three years has been taken out. And I am also delighted to remark that my repeated efforts have proved successful as I have been waiting upon the Honourable

(Sh. Sadiq Hassan)

Premier, and requesting him to take up this Bill. At last the Honourable Premier was good enough to inform the House that one day would be allotted for it. The Government slept over it for such a long period that even the mover Khan Muhammad Yusuf Khan was greatly disappointed and was of the opinion that it might not be put before the House. But I told him that he should not be disappointed as the Holy Quran says that if a Mussalman is persistent in his efforts he is sure to succeed. So I asked him to be persistent and here is the good result of it. Before making further remarks in this connection I would like to clear a misunderstanding. My honourable Sikh and Hindu friends sitting in this august House should not consider that this Bill is the result of bigotry. As a matter of fact Mussalmans attach the greatest esteem to the Holy Quran. It is to them their life code. But when the Holy Book is published and printed by non-Muslims, it is painful to remark that the Holy Book is not handled with the same veneration and regard as we Musalmans do.

Let me first of all point out that I am opposed to the provision of banning the sale of the Holy Quran by non-Muslims though I think it is a good thing to restrict the work of publication of this religious book with a view to prevent any disrespect to the Holy Book and also lessening the chances of mistakes being printed in it. May I further point out that restricting the sale of the Holy Quran to non-Muslims is fundamentally wrong as it is clear to every Mussalman that Islam was introduced by the Prophet for everybody? Islam welcomes everybody. Everyone can learn and adopt the Quranic principles. I am, therefore, of the opinion that the name of the Bill should be changed and it should be 'The Bill to prevent Sacrilege against Holy Quran' instead of 'The Sale of the Holy Quran Restricting Bill'. Since this is one of the commandments of Allah that Islam should be spread in the whole world, we should not restrict it to a certain class or community. By doing so we would be disobeying the commandments of Allah. As I have already pointed out that every Mussalman is not only bound to respect his Holy Book but is also bound to see that the Holy Book is respected by others as well, therefore, the name of the Bill as it is is liable to be misinterpreted. It may be interpreted to mean that no Hindu or Sikh can purchase the Holy Quran as the name of the Bill indicates.

Premier : There is no rule which says that a date should be fixed before which the select committee report should be made. There is nothing to prevent the committee from submitting its report much earlier than what the honourable member suggests. But supposing the honourable member's amendment is accepted and the committee is not able to make the report by that date, then what will happen? So if the honourable member wishes to emphasise that it should be done without any delay he is welcome to do so. The honourable member is a member of the select committee and he can expedite the report himself. The rules do not allow any date to be fixed.

Mr. Speaker : The honourable member's amendment is unnecessary as under the rules the select committee may report even to-morrow.

Shaikh Sadiq Hassan : Sir, I have come to know that a measure of a similar nature was moved some years ago and it is still lying unattended. The Honourable Premier promised to provide us with one full day during the current session to enable us to pass this measure. I ask him, Sir, that when he gets so much time for other worldly pursuits he must give us some time for this religious affair. He can arrange that the select committee submits its report during the current session. In that case we will be able to pass this Bill and it will not have to wait for another session to take statutory form. For these reasons, Sir, I propose that the select committee may submit its report at the earliest possible opportunity.

Nawab Muzaffar Ali Khan Qizilbash (Lahore, Muhammadan, Rural) : In supporting this Bill I want to draw the attention of the House to a few points.

Firstly, I suggest that we should get the opinion of the maulvis on this Bill and that can be done by co-opting maulvis on the select committee. If that is not possible then the select committee should get the maulvis to come along and give evidence before it. It is, after all, a *Shariat* question and, therefore, the maulvis should come along and give their opinion from the *Shariat* point of view. Secondly, I would draw your attention to the fact that this Bill should not work as a monopoly for a few shop-keepers to make money. It is our religious book and it should be seen that the book is printed correctly and there are no mistakes. It is the duty of this House to see that copies of the Quran which are printed after this Bill is passed, are correct. It is for the Government and the select committee to formulate a machinery for this purpose which will guarantee the correctness of our Quran which is printed in future. Thirdly, I refer to the profit in the sale of copies of Quran. I suggest that this profit should be used for the purpose of betterment of the Muslims. It is again a question for the select committee to go into and the question is that all the profits from the sale of Quran should be put into a fund and that fund should be, as I have said, utilised for the betterment of the Mussalmans. Moreover, the Government should make some rules to the effect that copies of Quran which are printed in future are not put on the ground by the Muslims even. I am ashamed to say that although we are bringing this Bill before the House and we say that the same respect is not attached to Quran by other people, it is found that the Muslim shop-keepers have many times not attached the same respect which they should. The select committee should see that something is done in that direction. It has often come to my knowledge that while some shop-keepers are in haste and busy with the sale of Quran and other books, the copies of Quran lying at their shops are not better treated than novels or books of some other sort. The select committee should see that there must be some rule whereby Quran is respected more than is the case at present. These are the few points which I wanted to bring to your notice. I request that the select committee should go into those points and see that the general demands of the Muslims are met.

Begum Rashida Latif Baji (Inner Lahore, Muhammadan, Women, Urban), (Urdu): Sir, it is a matter of great pleasure that to-day we have got before us a measure for the protection of the Holy Quran. It is the duty of every Musalman to respect Quran and as far as the enactment of this measure is concerned every Musalman is with the mover. In the course of the debate some honourable members have mentioned things about profit and I too, personally think that such arrangements should be made that conditions that have been mentioned by some honourable members should not arise. It has been suggested by an honourable member of the House that a trust should be created and the publication of this sacred book should be entrusted to it and the profit thus earned should be spent over some good cause. In this connection I would like to add, Sir, that Anjamun-i-Hamait-i-Islam is the most suitable body for the purpose. It is the biggest Islamic body of its type and is also undertaking publication work of this sacred book. The income thus derived by the Anjamun can be spent over Ishait-i-Islam College or any other thing of the sort. I hope, Sir that the Honourable Premier will consider this suggestion of mine and the select committee will be pleased to accept it.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan (Pind Dadan Khan, Muslim, Rural) (Urdu): Sir, I rise to support the motion now before the House. I quite agree with my Honourable friend Nawab Muzaffar Ali Khan Qizilbash that the object of this Bill should not be to facilitate making profits for a few book sellers. The Bill now before the House is not quite very well worded. A much better Bill on this subject is given notice of by Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Suamad, which is going to be put before the House on the 22nd instant, the day for non-official business. The language of that Bill is clearer and more comprehensive. If the object of this Bill is to facilitate making profits for a few book sellers, we have no sympathy with it. Our object is that due respect and deference is shown towards Holy Quran, its copies are not thrown disrespectfully and it is published without mistakes.

[Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan]

In the first paragraph of this Bill the word 'handle' has been used. So far as my knowledge of English language goes, the word handle means touching with hands. If you mean that no non-muslim should touch the Holy Quran, I must oppose it vehemently. Holy Quran is the divine message and it is an article of faith with us that it should reach each and every person. If we can and if we had money enough, we should get it published in hundreds of thousands of copies, in all the languages of the world and supply it to the people of all countries and nationalities, so that they may read it and be guided by it. If any Bill limits the sphere of the Holy Quran, we being Muslims cannot support it, but so far as the question of showing disrespect towards the Holy Quran is concerned, we whole-heartedly support this Bill and urge that it should be passed within the shortest possible time.

Sir, the select committee shall have to make many alterations in the language of this Bill. On the other hand, the Bill given notice of by Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad has this good point—

Premier :—that it is Khawaja Sahib's Bill !

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan :—that it lays down that disrespect is not shown to the holy books of any religion. It includes Guru Granth Sahib, Gita and Vedas along with Holy Quran. (*Interruptions*). If the Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh does not like it, let him not. After all he is not the custodian of the Sikh religion. He may or may not respect Guru Granth Sahib, but I do, and according to the manifesto of the Punjab Muslim League, it is our duty to see that the holy books of all the religions are treated with respect. (*Begum Rashida Latif Baji got up at this stage*). The honourable lady member talks of Quran sitting on those benches ; let her come here and then talk of such matters. Well, Sir, I was discussing the work of the select committee. Firstly, the select committee should see that everything necessary for the due respect of the Holy Quran is included in the Bill. Secondly, it should be provided in the present Bill that a committee of Muslim 'Ulemas' shall be appointed by the Government and that committee shall be responsible for the correct publication of the Holy Quran. Moreover every newly published copy of the Holy Quran shall bear the seal of that committee. Thirdly, the Bill must include some such clause by which shop-keepers are prohibited from using the pages of the Holy Quran for wrapping the articles sold by them. It pains the Muslims to see the pages of the Holy Quran used thus.

In the end, I must congratulate Khan Muhammad Yusuf Khan on this Bill. It is long since he gave notice of this Bill. He kept quiet for 4 or 5 years, because the Government did not like the Bill and he could not force the Government at that time. Facts must be stated. To-day when the Muslim League has created awakening and life in the Muslim masses of the province, the Government has given way. It could no longer afford to ignore the continued and strong demand of the Muslim League.

Before resuming my seat I must congratulate Subedar Major Raja Farman Ali Khan. If any one person could be regarded as the cause of this Bill being brought before the House, it is Raja Farman Ali Khan. If he had not declared during the last session that he had sold his vote but not his faith, the Government would not have given time for this Bill. I hope the Government will not delay the Bill any further now and it shall be passed within one month. As to that I have still doubts in my mind. I am afraid this Unionist Government which considers it a sin to respect any religion will still try to postpone this Bill. I declare it on the floor of this House that the Government will not pass it unless some ten or twenty more members of the calibre of Raja Farman Ali Khan press for it from those benches. (*Begum Rashida Latif Baji got up at this stage*). Sir, I would gladly accept the challenge of Honourable the Premier or any other gentleman, but I do not accept the challenges of women.

To-day is the 20th February and I declare it that Government will not permit the passage of this Bill into a law. They will go on postponing it on one excuse or the other until 10 or 20 members as ardent as Subedar Major Raja Farman Ali Khan force them to enact it. (*Interruptions by Baji Sahiba*). Sir, if the Honourable Premier or any other responsible member of the Government rises up to interrupt me I would certainly give way. But I regret to say that I am not in the habit of accepting challenges from women. (*Laughter*).

Begum Rashida Latif Baji : On a point of order. The honourable Raja Sahib has observed that it was a mistake on his part to have remained in the Unionist Party for six long years. The fact is that so long as he remained here he continued to obstruct the enactment of this measure. Now when he has crossed the floor we have brought forward this measure.

Mr. Speaker : This is not a point of order. The honourable lady member has no right to stand up and make a speech without being called by the Chair.

Premier : The lady member has simply reminded him of a fact that when he was here he put obstacles in the way of enactment of this measure.

Begum Rashida Latif Baji : The honourable member referred to me saying that he would not accept the challenge of a lady. Everybody knows that I am a staunch and a free Muslim and I have the courage of conviction as well. That is the reason why he is afraid of accepting the challenge of a lady.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I have repeatedly stated that when I sat on those benches I was so to say a sinner and now God has enabled me through His graciousness to come over to these benches. Let her if she feels like a true Muslim come over to this side.

Begum Rashida Latif Baji : I am quite free here.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : The lady member is not free at all. Anyway my submission is that it is highly necessary that this Bill should be enacted. Such Bills have been enacted in other provinces and Government would be well advised to follow their lead. I request not the Government, but the Muslim members of the Unionist Party who are the mainstay of the Ministry, to force their Government to enact this measure. This is a question of protecting the cherished institution of Islam. It is a question of the protection of the holy books of all the religions. The honourable members should force the Government to get this Bill through the select committee as soon as possible and see that before the Budget session ends this Bill is enacted into law. In addition, let the select committee also take into consideration the other Bill notice of which has been given by my friend Khawaja Sahib. I hope that this Bill will be brought before the House quickly and passed into law.

Subedar Major Raja Farman Ali Khan (Gujar Khan Muhammadan, Rural) (Urdu) : Sir, I am really grateful that the Honourable Premier has removed a long standing complaint of the Muslims by permitting Khan Mohammad Yusuf Khan to introduce the Sale of the Holy Quran Restricting Bill. (*Hear, hear*). Sir, as you are aware there are two members in this House who are above 80. One of them is myself and there is another whose name I do not want to mention. He is also an octogenarian. (*A voice : Both of you are angels*). (*Laughter*). Every one of us is desirous that the Holy Quran be protected. If the Muslims had read and understood the Holy Quran thoroughly Islam would have spread in the whole of the world. But now the condition of the Muslims is such that they are unprotected everywhere and the reason for this is that they do not protect the Holy Quran in the manner in which they should do. It is stated in the Holy Quran وَلَا تَقْرَأُوا عَلَيْهِ that none should touch it who is not purified. The restriction of its sale will result in some benefit to some shopkeepers and the object of this Bill will not be realized at all. I want that no unpurified person should even touch it.

[Raja Farman Ali Khan]

Sir, my honourable friend Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan during the course of his speech accused me of having sold my vote and conscience for casting my lot with the Unionists. So far as selling of conscience is concerned, I repudiate the remark of my honourable friend categorically (*interruption*). He should know that one who sells his conscience goes straight to hell according to our belief. What I feel is that the honourable member does not know the use of these poisonous expressions (*Laughter*). I have again got up from my seat to make my position clear and I wish to bring this point home to my honourable friend Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan that I am a soldier. It is against the principle of a soldier to desert one party and join the other. Similarly as a true and loyal soldier, it is against my principle to join any other party. Under the circumstances the arguments advanced by my honourable friend Raja Sahib are groundless and unconvincing.

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat (Premier) (Urdu): Sir, I had

4 p. m.

absolutely no intention of intervening in the debate but as certain insinuations have been made against the Government, I should like to say a few words by way of reply. My honourable friend Raja Sahib has observed and quite cynically, that Government would not take up this Bill and that it would try to postpone it on some excuse or the other. I think he is far from being right in making this wild conjecture. Government gave time for the introduction of this Bill previously and we have allotted time for it to-day as well, as I promised to do so when we met in December last. Whatever my Government has done in this behalf is an open secret and the honourable members can judge it for themselves. Anyway, the credit for introducing this Bill is due to my honourable friend Khan Muhammad Yusuf Khan in the first instance and to my honourable friend Mian Abdul Rab in the second place. Now many new claimants have risen who claim direct or indirect credit for the introduction of this Bill. I really fail to understand as to why my honourable friends opposite try to claim credit for a thing where no credit is due to them. We all know very well as to who set the ball rolling. As I have already stated the credit for introducing this measure is due to my honourable the Unionist friend Khan Muhammad Yusuf Khan. Honourable members will recall that when this Bill was introduced for the first time in this House, a committee was set up to consider the question as to how to enact this Bill. If I remember aright, my honourable friends Shaikh Sadiq Hassan, Mir Maqbool Mahmood and Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din were the members of the committee. The committee remained incognito and could not be found anywhere in spite of our best efforts. This matter was discussed many a time in the party meetings and where were they at that time? The honourable lady member has rightly pointed out that at the time Raja Sahib took considerable pains to explain the difficulties that stood in the way of enactment of a measure of this nature and it was mainly due to his efforts that this Bill could not be passed into a law. Now how does he dare come forward and claim credit for the introduction of the Holy Quran Bill? Anyway I am glad that my honourable friend is now supporting this Bill and wants it to be speedily placed on the Statue Book. I am one with him so far as that is concerned. But there are certain difficulties which stand in the way of enactment of this measure and these will have to be carefully considered by the select committee.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : De not exploit religion for political ends.

Premier : There is a group of persons in this House who sit in the neighbourhood of those who have nothing to do with any religion and despite their not taking any interest in the Bill feel flattered by being called highly religious persons. The attitude adopted by those persons regarding the Bill now before the House has indeed been different from the one they have adopted now. Now they attempt to take credit for a thing for which no credit is due to them.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Does the Honourable Premier consider himself to be a 'Thekedar' and 'Ijaradar' of Islam ?

Premier : No. The honourable member is himself opposed to it. Let him pray that I may become a 'pakka Musalman' I am not against any religion.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is it parliamentary to say that a person is against all religions or is irreligious ?

Premier : I do not want to say anything which may injure the feelings of any one. It has never been my practice. I never said those words which are being attributed to me. My honourable friend is trying to give a wrong impression. What I said was there is a group which is against all religions and there is another group which deems itself to be the monopoliser of religion and they sit in each other's neighbourhood. I am not talking particularly of any honourable member. For my part I claim to be a 'pacca Musalman' and can say without any fear of contradiction that I have never exploited Islam.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Yes, you were doing it just now.

Premier : I never did that. In fact it has never been my practice to do so.

Mian Abdul Aziz : If you want to do some good, then why have you not introduced the Augaf Bill ?

Premier : The trouble is that there is a legal difficulty involved in this question. We have to consider the question whether or not this Assembly can enact a measure restricting the publication and sale of the Holy Quran to non-Muslim business men. The select committee will have to consider this question as well.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : What about the Bills passed by the Sind and the Frontier Government ?

Premier : In the Frontier Province a Bill of this nature has not been passed by the Muslim League Ministry but by the Congress Ministry. Similar measures have been enacted there. I have instructed the select committee that those measures should be kept in view. But I may remind my honourable friend Raja Sahib that the Bills passed by the League Ministries in the Muslim provinces have become dead letters. We do not want to do that. What we want is that the object for which this measure is being enacted, is achieved. It will be for the select committee to decide how to spend the profits that will accrue as a result of the passage of this measure. So far proposals have been received and they will be considered by the honourable members in the select committee. The representatives of my honourable friends opposite will be there in the select committee and this committee will decide as to what should be done and what should not be done. Let the honourable members put forward sound proposals in the select committee and get 'sawab' for it. I do not know how my honourable friend Shaikh Sadiq Hassan has come to the conclusion that Government would impede and delay the enactment of this Bill.

Shaikh Sadiq Hassan : What I said was that Khan Muhammad Yusuf Khan had told me that he did not expect that the Bill would be taken up at present.

Premier : So far as that is concerned, I think some misunderstanding has arisen. He must have heard that thing from my honourable friend Khan Muhammad Yusuf Khan when the result of ballot was announced. As we all know ballot favoured my honourable friend Mian Abdul Rub. But later on it was decided that my honourable friend Khan Muhammad Yusuf Khan should move this Bill and as he did not know the date when the Bill was to be introduced, he must have talked in that strain. Anyway all the proposals, that may be submitted before the select committee, will have to be considered. We cannot settle this question off-hand. We are doing this work for *sawab* only and not for any ulterior motive.

[Premier]

It has already been made clear that as the Holy Book was sent by God for the inhabitants of the whole world it cannot be restricted to a few. The Bill seeks to restrict the publication of the Quarn to Muslim publishers only. So making objections to the sale of the Holy Quran is nothing but confusing the issues. Then, Sir, some of my honourable friends sitting opposite have urged upon the Government that the report of the select committee should be expedited. I am afraid that my honourable friends sitting on the opposite benches do not seem to have realised the responsibilities placed on the shoulders of the select committee. For instance, the Ulemas are still to be consulted by the select committee in order to know as to how the publication should be effected. In these circumstances, I am afraid no date can be fixed on which the select committee report should be made. However, I assure the House that beyond the time which might be necessary for making the Bill as perfect as possible, no delay will be allowed in placing the Bill on the Statute Book. Then, Sir, futile attempts were made by certain honourable members sitting opposite to take credit for a thing where no credit was due to them. Let me make it clear to the House that I was never asked by my honourable friends sitting opposite for allotting time for this measure. On being asked by Raja Farman Ali, time was fixed for this Bill and I, therefore, think that 'sawab' should go to him for this pious act. It would be very interesting to remark that at that time my honourable friend Raja Ghazanfar Ali having remained busy creating differences between Mussalmans never thought of this. If he had asked me I would certainly have allotted time for this Bill as I did on being asked by Raja Farman Ali. But he (being busy otherwise, as I have already pointed out) never cared to ask me and now making tall claims he comes forward to take undue credit which he does not deserve. Let me again assure my honourable friends who are anxious to see this Bill on the Statute Book that as soon as the report of the select committee is submitted time will be fixed for this Bill even if I have to snatch it from the time for Government business. I may also submit that in order to avoid pitfalls, we should not take hasty steps in passing a Bill of such importance. I would, therefore, suggest to my honourable friends sitting opposite to let this Bill have time to ripen.

There is no gainsaying the fact that much is still to be done by the select committee. Let me, in this connection, further point out that certain non-Muslim publishers have taken the credit of publishing the Holy Quran in a very presentable and superior manner. They have earned a lot by the publication of the Holy Book and now as the publication is going to shift to Muslim publishers it becomes all the more necessary for the select committee to decide how the profits accruing from the publication should be utilised. Before I resume my seat, I would again ask my honourable friends sitting opposite not to feel much worried for not having got the credit for this Bill. They have been unnecessarily bringing party motives into the discussion about this Bill which seeks to protect the most cherished religious sentiments of the Muslim people. Still, I would assure them that all parties will be fully represented on the select committee, and no delay will be caused by the Government. But every effort will be made to place this Bill on the anvil of legislation, as early as possible. I am sure that no delay will be made by the select committee in submitting its report about the Bill and I hope everyone of us in general and the mover of the Bill in particular, will receive the blessings of God by the passing of this Bill.

With these few remarks, Sir, I submit that the Bill should be referred to a select committee.

Khan Muhammad Yusuf Khan (Rawalpindi Sadar, Muhammadan, Rural) (Urdu): Sir, it has been repeatedly emphasised in most of the speeches made in this House which is proof positive of the fact that the Bill requires certain amendments that the Bill ought to be referred to a select committee. But I am sorry to remark

that most of my honourable friends sitting opposite have been labouring under a misapprehension. For instance, my learned friend Raja Ghazanfar Ali is one of those who have misconceived the actual points. The main object of moving this Bill is to restrict the publication of the Quran to Muslim publishers and by doing so there will be practically no chance left for the printer's mistakes to appear on the religious book as are found in those printed by non-Muslims. It really amazed me to see no less a learned member than Raja Ghazanfar Ali to have confused the issues. While criticising the Bill it was comfortably forgotten by him that I never said that the Holy Quran would not be handled or touched by people belonging to other communities. To say like this is all incorrect as the object of the Bill is quite different as compared with what Raja Sahib had interpreted. The fact of the matter is that during the long stages of printing, publishing and selling the Holy Quran, non-Muslim publishers have to deal with it in hundred and one ways and being careless and indifferent they cannot and do not hold the Holy Book with the same veneration and regard as we Mussalmans do. Therefore the real object of this Bill is to protect the most cherished religious sentiments of the great Muslim people by restricting the publication of the Holy Quran to Muslim publishers only. I am pleased to remark that besides criticism a few suggestions were also made by certain honourable friends sitting on the opposite benches. For instance, it was suggested that a board of Ulemas be appointed to verify the copy of the Holy Quran before publication. Let me in this connection point out to the honourable members who have put this suggestion before the Government that regarding this matter there is already one proposal by me in another Bill relating to the sale of Holy Quran and that is this. A board of at least two Hafizs and one Maulvi be appointed with a view to verify every copy of the Holy Book and affix their seal before publication. I may also point out for the satisfaction of my honourable friends like Shaikh Sadiq Hassan and Raja Ghazanfar Ali particularly that improvements will also be made on this Bill whenever felt necessary. The Honourable Premier has already said much regarding this point during his speech. It has been further said by my learned friend Raja Ghazanfar Ali that a Bill of a similar nature but with a greater scope and better worded has come into the ballot against the name of Khawaja Ghulam Samad who would like to beg leave for introduction of the said Bill in the present session. But I can assure Raja Sahib that my Bill is decidedly better worded than that of Khawaja Sahib and I can say this with full confidence because it was my Bill which was copied by two provinces in India. (*Hear, hear*) May I also suggest to them not to make futile and ridiculous attempts to take credit for a thing where no credit was due to them? Since the Honourable Premier is as keen as I am in passing this Bill I do not see any reason why this day should be wasted by raising discussions on unnecessary issues. If my honourable friends sitting opposite will give us better suggestions in all earnestness we would be delighted to accept them because all that is being done, is being done for ensuring due respect to the Holy Book. But it is very painful to remark that my learned friends sitting on the opposite benches have been unnecessarily bringing party motives in the discussion about a Bill relating to entirely religious matters. I quite understand as to what is at the back of their mind. Cheap notoriety is the main reason for their playing up to the galleries. They want people to believe that only with the help of the Muslim League Party this measure has been adopted by the legislature. May I ask them where was the Muslim League Party when this Bill was, for the first time, introduced in this House in 1938? They have been unnecessarily mixing party politics with an entirely religious matter. Can Raja Sahib tell us if even once the Muslim League passed a resolution asking such a measure to be adopted? May I further ask him if such a measure has ever been adopted by a Muslim League province?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Frontier Province.

Khan Muhammad Yusuf Khan : Excuse me, it was the Congress Government to which belongs the credit of having placed this measure on the Statute Book.

[Khan Muhammad Yusuf Khan]

Moreover the Bill passed by the Frontier Government was word for word copy of my Bill (*Cheers*). Will Raja Sahib tell me if any resolution to adopt this sort of measure was passed by the Muslim League in the Punjab or anywhere in India? The truth of the matter is that it never occurred to any class or individual except me and there is absolutely no bluff in it when I say that I was the first person in India who voiced this right thing at the right moment. The Bill ballotted in the name of Khawaja Ghulam Samad has been much praised by Raja Ghazanfar Ali for the simple reason that it is in the name of a Muslim Leaguer and that is all. It has also been said by Raja Sahib that the scope of that Bill is greater than that of mine as all the religious and holy books have been proposed to be restricted in the said Bill. May I ask Khawaja Sahib as to why he has gone out of his way in restricting holy books of other communities? If they want such a legislation regarding their books let them come forward. Why poke your nose in other people's affairs? When I introduced this Bill in 1938 I was not actuated by any party motives. I did it as a Mussalman and asked for the co-operation of the House as a simple Mussalman. But I do not understand what motive has compelled Khawaja Ghulam Samad to restrict the sale of religious books of other communities. I am afraid his word cannot be final to decide which book is holy and which book is not. He should mind his own business. How can he decide whether Granth Sahib is sacred or Manu Smriti is sacred or Vedas are sacred? This is not his business and, therefore, he should not poke his nose in other people's affairs. (*Cheers*). As these are matters of opinion I would submit that making matters complicated like this would do us no good in getting through the Bill. But this will cause delay in the passage of the Bill. Unnecessary scratching of the Bill may give rise to any sort of complication—social, religious and so many others. I have already made it clear to the House that the object of the Bill is so simple as to ensure due respect to the Holy Quran. Besides, it seeks simply to restrict the publication of the Quran and that is all. My honourable friend Shaikh Sadiq Hassan has also complicated the issue by saying that it is not clear from the name of the Bill whether the 'Sale of Holy Quran Restricting' means that the non-Muslims would not be allowed to purchase the Holy Book. The object of the Bill is quite clear even from the name of the Bill and as I have already made this point clear to the House I am not going to say much about it. But, in the end, I must point out that the Bill may be from anybody, if it is according to the wishes of the Mussalmans and the honourable members sitting opposite, keeping themselves above party politics, should support it whole-heartedly. I may also remark that as the tactics of the Leaguers to make political capital out of a religious matter have not been considered desirable in the House they would never be appreciated outside the House as well. The Leaguers should not feel worried over it as the number of members from the opposite side is greater on the select committee and I can assure them that every healthy proposal from them would be welcomed by me.

Mr. Speaker : The question is :—

That the Sale of the Holy Quran Restricting Bill be referred to a select committee consisting of—

Sufi Abdul Hamid Khan.
Khan Sahib Sayed Badr Mohy-ud-Din Qaderi.
Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad.
Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din.
Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar.
Sayed Mohy-ud-Din Lal Badshah.
Major Sardar Sir Muhammad Nawaz Khan.
Mian Abdul Rab.
Khan Bahadur Malik Muzaffar Khan.
Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan.
Shaikh Sadiq Hassan.
Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad.
Khan Bahadur Chaudhri Muhammad Shafi Ali Khan.
and that the quorum shall be five.

The motion was carried.

The Assembly then adjourned till Thursday, 22nd February 1945.

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

THIRTEENTH SESSION OF THE FIRST PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Thursday, 22nd February 1945.

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber at 12 noon of the clock. Mr. Speaker in the chair.

QUESTION HOUR

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Sir, with your permission I would request the Honourable Premier that he should move for the suspension of the question hour as was done previously during the Budget session on the 15th of March 1940. I am sure he will agree with me that more time should be given to the members of the Opposition for discussing the non-official resolution and Bills and he should not throttle discussion by simply saying that the question hour cannot be suspended. I hope he will agree because this is the desire of the Opposition. I hope he will be fair minded in this respect.

Premier : I regret that I am unable to accede to the wishes of the Leader of the Opposition in this matter. He mentioned this to me just before I was coming to this Assembly. The difficulty is that there is a long list of questions pending. The opposition Party alone is not interested in that list but there are many questions belonging to this side of the House. Because of the lengthy supplementaries being put these days, the business of the House is already behind. It has happened on very rare occasions that the question hour has been suspended on non-official days. I am afraid if this convention is established once, we shall have to stick to it. Therefore, in the interest of the business of the House I cannot agree to it.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

SARDAR HARI SINGH, M.L.A.

***9439. Mrs. Duni Chand :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) the period for which Sardar Hari Singh, M.L.A., was detained in jail and the period for which he has been restricted after his release ;

(b) whether Government propose to remove the restrictions placed on him, if so, when ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) *First part* :—from 27th June 1940 to 28th November 1942 ;

Second part : He was externed from the Punjab on 28th November 1942 and restricted to village Dhut Kalan, Kapurthala State, by an order issued by the Kapurthala Government on 2nd November 1942 ;

(b) The question of cancellation of the externment order by the Punjab Government depends on future circumstances and developments ?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know why he is restricted in a village in Kapurthala State and not at the place in Hoshiarpur where he was living since his becoming a member of the Punjab Legislative Assembly ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Sardar Hari Singh was externed from the Punjab and thereafter the Kapurthala State authorities interned him there.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Is he aware of the fact that since his becoming a member of the Punjab Legislative Assembly Sardar Hari Singh was living in Hoshiarpur and not in his village Dhut Kalan in the Kapurthala State ?

Parliamentary Secretary : It is impossible for the Government to be of the whereabouts of so many gentlemen.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know what circumstances and developments the Government consider should come about that may result in the release of Sardar Hari Singh ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have stated that at present Sardar Hari Singh is interned in the Kapurthala State. It rests with the Kapurthala State authorities to allow him to move about and when Kapurthala State authorities have passed orders, then it will be time for the Punjab Government to consider what action should be taken.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : I draw the attention of the Parliamentary Secretary to the words "future circumstances and developments" in the reply to this question. Does he mean any unforeseen circumstances ? What circumstances does he mean to convey ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have stated that at present Sardar Hari Singh is restricted in village Dhut Kalan in Kapurthala State under the orders of the Kapurthala State authorities. Unless the State authorities cancel the order, it is impossible for us to do anything.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Is it or is it not a fact that Kapurthala State authorities are under the bidding of this Government ?

Minister of Development : That you seem to know better.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Was the Punjab Government consulted by the Kapurthala State authorities at the time of internment of Sardar Hari Singh ?

Premier : The Parliamentary Secretary has already replied that we cannot enlighten the honourable member opposite so far as the question of correspondence between this Government and the Kapurthala State is concerned.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : I did not ask for contents of the correspondence. I want to know whether the Punjab Government were consulted.

Premier : We cannot enlighten the honourable member to that extent even.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : It is stated that Sardar Hari Singh was detained on 28th November 1942. May I know how many times his case has been reviewed ?

Parliamentary Secretary : It is entirely a new question and I would like to have notice for that.

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din : Will the Parliamentary Secretary be pleased to state the reason for not removing the restrictions placed on Sardar Hari Singh, M.L.A. ?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : He has no reason.

Parliamentary Secretary : There is no question of reason. If my honourable friend had listened to me, he would not have put this supplementary question. At present Sardar Hari Singh is restricted to a village in Kapurthala State under the orders of the Kapurthala Government. Where does the question of Punjab Government removing the restriction arise ?

Lala Bhagat Ram Choda : May I know from the Honourable Premier whether State authorities are empowered to place restrictions on persons belonging to British India ?

Premier : State authorities can issue orders against any person residing in the State.

Lala Bhagat Ram Choda : Sardar Hari Singh does not belong to that State.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : Did Sardar Hari Singh ever apply for permission to come to this House to attend the meetings of this Assembly ?

Parliamentary Secretary : That is altogether a new question. My honourable friend should not expect that he can get an answer by springing surprises upon me.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : I want to know from the Parliamentary Secretary whether the Punjab Government proposes to remove restrictions just to enable Sardar Hari Singh to attend the meetings of this Assembly.

Parliamentary Secretary : I regret to say that it is not in the public interest to disclose the intentions of the Government.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : May I know whether public interest is involved in the case of a member who comes to this House to represent his constituency or public interest is involved in not allowing him to come here ?

Parliamentary Secretary : It is an interpretation of the expression 'public interest'.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it within the knowledge of the Punjab Government that the Kapurthala State authorities requisitioned certain papers at the time of internment of Sardar Hari Singh from the Punjab C.I.D. ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I am sorry I cannot enlighten my honourable friend on that point.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether it is in the public interest or that of the Unionist Government that this absence will save them from his hammering blows ?

Parliamentary Secretary : We have ample experience of these so-called hammering blows.

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din : Do I understand that the Punjab Government will have no objection if the Kapurthala State releases Sardar Hari Singh ?

Premier : Not one but a bundle of hypothetical questions.

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din : I put only two and not a bundle of questions. May I know if the Kapurthala Government releases Sardar Hari Singh, the Punjab Government will have no objection to his coming to the Punjab ?

Mr. Speaker : It is a hypothetical question.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : May I know whether it is a fact that the State authorities allowed Sardar Hari Singh to come to attend the session of the Assembly ; but it was the Punjab Government who raised objection to his coming here ?

Parliamentary Secretary : It appears that my honourable friend is giving me some information of which I am not aware.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : I am not giving information but stating a fact. May I know whether it is a fact that the Punjab Government raised an objection to his coming here ?

Mr. Speaker : Next Question.

MASTER KABUL SINGH, M.L.A.

*9440. **Mrs. Duni Chand** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Master Kabul Singh, M.L.A., has been ill ever since his detention, if so, the nature of his ailment and the present state of his health ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : He has been ill and suffered from pains in the limbs, giddiness and insomnia. He was

[K. B. Sh. Faiz Muhammad].

treated for these ailments with some success but continued from time to time to complain of insomnia and pains in the heels. His general state of health is good. Since 4th July 1942 he has gained 30 lbs. in weight.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know what treatment is being given to him ?

Premier : Whatever the treatment may be, the result is that he is 30 lbs. more in weight.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state how much he had lost in weight during his illness ?

Premier : That is a fresh question.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : It is not a new question. I want to ask how much weight he lost during his illness ?

Parliamentary Secretary : If my honourable friend sees the original question he will find that certain information was asked for and I have given that information. I have said what the state of health of Master Kabul Singh is just now. If my honourable friend wants more information as to how much he had lost in weight, he should give me notice. All I can say is that to-day he has gained 30 lbs. in weight.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : My honourable friend must have taken his weight at the time when he recovered from his illness. I want to ask how much he lost in weight during his illness.

Parliamentary Secretary : That requires collection of certain data which I have not got.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : The Parliamentary Secretary has referred in his reply to some treatment. May I know what treatment is being given to Master Kabul Singh ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Does my honourable friend mean that I should carry with me all the prescriptions by various doctors or should I request the doctors to send me the copies of those prescriptions so that I may give that information ?

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din : Am I to understand that the Parliamentary Secretary, while coming to the conclusion from the facts on the file that Master Kabul Singh had gained 30 lbs. had studied his whole case ?

Premier : What does the honourable member mean by 'whole case' ?

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : What was the weight of Master Kabul Singh at the time when he was admitted in jail ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I thought that when I informed the honourable members that Master Kabul Singh had gained 30 lbs. they would be happy and would not put supplementary questions. Anyhow, for collecting further information, I want proper notice.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Sir, is this question not being evaded by the other side ? I want to know what was his original weight ?

Sayed Amjad Ali Shah : X Minus 30 lbs.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : What is that X ? Will he define it ?

Mr. Speaker : Next question.

SECURITIES DEMANDED FROM NEWSPAPERS

*9504. **Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) the number of newspapers in the Punjab, from which securities have been demanded during the years 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943 and 1944, respectively ;

(b) the aggregate amount of the securities demanded from the newspapers of the province during each of the above years ;

(c) how many newspapers have forfeited their securities during each of the said years and the aggregate amount of the securities so forfeited ?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat : The honourable member is referred to the answer given to Question No. *9485¹.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : Sir, last year it was decided that if in answer to a question, the Government refers to an answer to a previous question, the member concerned should be supplied with the copy of that previous answer, but this practice is not being followed now.

Mr. Speaker : This is not the time to raise this question and seek the decision of the House. The honourable member will please represent this matter to me in writing. Next question.

HAKIM ABDUL GHANI AND COMRADE ABDUL AZIZ.

***9523. Shrimati Raghubir Kaur :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Hakim Abdul Ghani (detained in the New sub-jail, Gujrat), and his brother Comrade Abdul Aziz (detained in the district jail, Ludhiana), applied for release on parole before and after the death of their mother, if so, the reasons for not releasing them on parole ;

(b) whether the Government has considered the question of their release, if so, whether the Government intends to release them and if not, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Yes. Their mother Ghulam Fatima was 90 years old and had been ailing for some time. During her illness she was looked after by another son who performed the necessary ceremonies after her death.

(b) *First part.*—Yes. Their cases are reviewed periodically.

Second part.—The intentions of Government cannot be disclosed.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Can the Government deny the fact that Hakim Abdul Ghani and his brother Comrade Abdul Aziz applied for parole when their mother became seriously ill ?

Parliamentary Secretary : It is impossible for any one to deny a fact provided it is a fact. But I am not aware if it is a fact.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether the Government is aware that after her death they applied for bail for attending to the religious ceremonies in connection with her death ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I want notice.

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din : May I understand that while answering this question, the Parliamentary Secretary did not study this question at all ?

Parliamentary Secretary : My honourable friend may understand anything.

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din : On a point of order. The question is whether it is a fact or not that Hakim Abdul Ghani and Comrade Abdul Aziz applied for parole and the Parliamentary Secretary says that he would require notice for it. He can say 'yes' or 'no', but he cannot say that he requires notice.

Parliamentary Secretary : The difficulty with my honourable friend is that he does not listen to the answer.

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din : How does the Parliamentary Secretary, while answering part (a) of the question, say that he requires notice? There is nothing requiring notice. If he had studied the question he could have said in answer 'yes' or 'no'.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Does the Parliamentary Secretary know whether Comrade Abdul Aziz from Ludhiana jail applied for parole to perform religious ceremonies on his mother's death?

Parliamentary Secretary : It is a fresh question. How can I answer it off hand?

Premier : How can he say that such and such a comrade applied for parole? There are so many comrades!

CONGRESS DETENUS.

*9524. **Sardar Kapoor Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Congress detenues can receive five books a month but cannot send them back with the result that they cannot borrow books from public libraries;

(b) whether the Government has ever received any representation on the subject; if so, what action, if any, has so far been taken by the Government in the matter?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. It was rejected.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know why the representation that they be allowed to send back the books was rejected?

Parliamentary Secretary : So far as this particular question is concerned I may inform the honourable member that this is an all-India policy which is followed everywhere. Printed matter is not allowed to go out of jail because there are certain apprehensions. Therefore, I am afraid I cannot give any further information.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether books can be taken from the public library, Lahore, and returned to them again?

Parliamentary Secretary : Books can be taken from the libraries and so far as the question of returning is concerned there are some objections to that.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether he is afraid that a coded message may be sent in between the pages of the books?

Parliamentary Secretary : Something of the sort may possibly happen.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Has the Parliamentary Secretary found out any rule in the Jail Manual which prohibits the sending back of books, and if he does not know, will he consult the Finance Minister?

Parliamentary Secretary : I am not aware of any rule which enjoins Government to allow the returning of books; if the honourable member gives reference to any such rule I hope the Finance Minister will be able to explain it.

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din : Can a detenu send back the books through the Superintendent of a jail?

Parliamentary Secretary : Yes, he can hand over the books and they will be kept there.

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din : And not sent back to the library ?

Parliamentary Secretary : No.

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din : What are the reasons ?

Parliamentary Secretary : There are certain apprehensions that these books may carry some message and so many other things.

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din : The Parliamentary Secretary was pleased to say that a detenu can send back the books to the Superintendent of jail. Is it not one of the duties of the Superintendent to scrutinise the papers which are sent through him ?

Parliamentary Secretary : How can he do it ?

Mian Muhammad Nurullah : Do these books contain germs of independence which he does not want to be conveyed ?

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is there any likelihood of these books exploding ? (*Laughter*).

CONGRESS DETENUS

***9525. Sardar Kapoor Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that congress detenues are not permitted to receive from their relations or friends eatables like ghee, fruits, etc., with the result that they have to be content with the stuff supplied through the jail contractor ;

(b) whether the Government has ever received any representation from the detenues or their friends on the subject, if so, what action has so far been taken or is intended to be taken by the Government in the matter ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Yes. The eatable supplied by the jail contractor are of satisfactory quality.

(b) Yes. It was rejected.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it not provided in the jail rules that jail diet can be supplemented from outside provided the relations and friends of the detenu are in a position to do it ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I may inform my honourable friend that there must be a proviso that such a thing can be done with the permission of the jail authorities.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether Government is afraid of ropes being sent in the sweetmeats for scaling the walls ?

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din : Is the Parliamentary Secretary aware that a detenu and a criminal prisoner belong to two different categories ?

Parliamentary Secretary : If my honourable friend wants an obvious answer, I say 'yes'.

CONGRESS DETENUS

***9526. Sardar Kapoor Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Congress detenues are not allowed to purchase writing materials at their own cost ;

(b) whether the Government has ever received any representation on the subject, if so, what action has so far been taken or is intended to be taken by the Government in the matter ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad): (a) yes.

(b) Yes. They were rejected.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan: What were the reasons that inclined the Punjab Government or the Superintendents of different jails to reject this request which was quite innocent?

Parliamentary Secretary: It is not in the public interest to disclose reasons.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh: May I know whether Government themselves supply any writing material to the people inside the jail?

Parliamentary Secretary: Writing material is supplied.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh: What sort of writing material?

Parliamentary Secretary: I cannot say off hand what kind of ink is supplied and whether a fountain pen is supplied and so on.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam: What is the make of the writing material? (Laughter).

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh: Of Unionist make.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam: Of dis-Unionist make.

COMRADE MANGE RAM.

*9534. **Shrimati Raghbir Kaur**: Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Comrade Mange Ram Vats, now interned in his village in Rohtak district, has been suffering from a severe attack of Typhoid for some time;

(b) whether the Government are prepared to consider the release of the said Comrade Mange Ram Vats to enable him to secure medical treatment for himself: if so, when, if not, the reasons therefor?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad): (a) He had been suffering from fever probably malaria but has now recovered.

(b) No, although his restrictions were temporarily relaxed during his illness. The circumstances necessitating his restriction still exist.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan: Has not the doctor who treated Mange Ram given the ailment from which he was suffering? The Parliamentary Secretary says that it was probably malaria.

Parliamentary Secretary: Sometimes malaria assumes rather a serious form of malignant malaria and it is difficult to differentiate between the different types of fever. That is why I said it was probably malaria. I may, however, inform the honourable member that he has since recovered which shows that it was malaria.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan: Has that information been supplied to the Parliamentary Secretary by the District Magistrate or the Civil Surgeon or the Superintendent of Jail?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh: May I know whether he is restricted simply because he was a rival to the late Sir Chhotu Ram in the last elections? Is he not being released so that he may not be able to contest elections?

Premier: What has the late Sir Chhotu Ram to do with elections?

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan: Was his case for release reviewed by the Punjab Government, as such cases are said to be reviewed periodically?

Parliamentary Secretary : I may assure my honourable friend that all cases are periodically reviewed and there are no exceptions.

SYED MUTTALBI.

***9535. Shrimati Raghbir Kaur :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Syed Muttalbi is interned in his village, Faridabad, Gurgaon district ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : Yes.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : May I know the reasons for interning Sayed Muttalbi in his village ?

Parliamentary Secretary : It is not in the public interest to give reasons.

Sardar Teja Singh Swatantar : Is the Government aware that Sayed Muttalbi is a very influential person among Meos and Jats of his district and if he is set at liberty, he will be very helpful in solving the communal tangle there ?

Sardar Teja Singh Swatantar : Did any deputation of Meos wait upon the Honourable Premier in that connection ?

Premier : I have not received any deputation in regard to that matter.

An Honourable Member : Did not Chaudhri Muhammad Yasin Khan see him ?

Premier : Chaudhri Muhammad Yasin Khan sees me every day.

SECURITIES DEMANDED FROM NEWSPAPERS.

***9545. Syed Muhammad Wilayat Hussain Jeelani :** Will the Honourable the Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the number of newspapers in the Punjab from which securities have been demanded during the years 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943 and 1944, respectively.

(b) the aggregate amount of the securities demanded from the newspapers of the province during each of the above years ;

(c) how many newspapers have forfeited their securities during each of the said years and the aggregate amount of the securities so forfeited ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : The honourable member is referred to the answer given to Question No.* 9485¹.

S. HARJAB SINGH, M. L. A.

***9546. Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether he is aware of the fact that S. Harjab Singh, M.L.A., of village Mahalpur, District Hoshiarpur, is kept as a detenu in some jail, if so, since when he has been detained and the name of the jail where he is kept at present ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the said S. Harjab Singh has been keeping very bad health on account of bad molar teeth for some time, if so, since how long he has been suffering from this trouble ;

(c) whether any facilities are being given to him to improve his health and whether the Government has allowed him to have artificial molar teeth ;

(d) whether the family of the said S. Harjab Singh is being given a maintenance allowance, if so, the amount which is being so paid and if the allowance is meagre, what action the Government intend to take in the matter ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad): (a) Security prisoner Harjab Singh was arrested in June 1940 and is at present confined in the New Sub-Jail, Gujrat.

(b) and (c) He is maintaining good health but five of his teeth are missing. He can get them replaced at his own expense like any other prisoner.

(d) Yes, Rs. 20 per mensem which was subsequently increased to Rs. 30 per mensem. There is no ground for any further increase.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan: Has any dental surgeon of his own choice examined the teeth of Sardar Harjab Singh inside the jail?

Parliamentary Secretary: If Sardar Harjab Singh wants to have his teeth replaced at his own expense, he will be allowed to do so.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan: Will the Government issue instructions to the jail superintendent to allow a dental surgeon of Sardar Sahib's own choice to go inside the jail?

Parliamentary Secretary: That question will arise only when he wants his teeth to be replaced.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan: Is the Government aware that Sardar Harjab Singh has several times applied for permission to have a surgeon of his own choice for examining his teeth?

Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh: Is the Government prepared to transfer him to the Lahore Central Jail where he can have better facilities for the purpose?

Parliamentary Secretary: That is a request for action.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh: Why do the Government not bear the expenses for the treatment of his teeth?

Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh: Is the Government aware that no expert dental surgeon is available at Gujrat and Sardar Harjab Singh can have better medical aid here at Lahore?

Parliamentary Secretary: My honourable friend cannot say that no dental surgeon is available in that town.

Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh: When did Sardar Harjab Singh have that trouble?

Premier: It is very difficult for anybody to say when a person lost a particular tooth. I do not think even Sardar Sahib himself keeps a record of it.

Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh: Approximately?

Premier: If you give notice, we shall make enquiries.

Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh: The question is already there.

Premier: Even if the question is there, it is very difficult for the parliamentary secretary to give any reply. I do not think any respectable gentleman can say on what particular date he lost a particular tooth.

Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh: The family of Sardar Harjab Singh is being given Rs. 30 per mensem as maintenance allowance. May I know from the Government whether they consider this amount to be adequate for a family consisting of two or three adults and some children?

Parliamentary Secretary: The adults can earn their own living. The Government are of the opinion that this amount is sufficient for the children.

S. HARNAM SINGH MATHI.

***9547. Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh :** Will the Honourable the Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that S. Harnam Singh Mathi, a political prisoner, has recently been transferred from the Alipur jail to some jail in the Punjab ;

(b) if so, the name of that jail ;

(c) whether the said detenu is suffering from chronic Asthma and is not enjoying good health, if so, whether he is receiving any medical treatment in the jail ;

(d) whether Government intend to release him so that he may get himself treated according to his own choice, if not, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) and (b) Harnam Singh Mathi was received in the New Sub-Jail, Gujrat, from the Alipur, Central Jail, Bengal, on 7th September 1944 ;

(c) } *First part*—No.

and }

(d) } *Second part*—Do not arise.

S. AJIT SINGH BHUSA.

***9548. Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether he is aware of the fact that S. Ajit Singh Bhusa, a security prisoner in the district jail, Multan, is very much reduced in health and weight, if so, the reasons therefor ;

(b) whether the class in which he is placed in the jail and the diet money which he is receiving are according to his status in life, if not, the action Government propose to take in the matter ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : For the information of the honourable member, security prisoner, Sardar Ajit Singh has since been released.

SECURITIES DEMANDED FROM NEWSPAPERS.

***9554. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the number of newspapers in the Punjab from which securities have been demanded during the years 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943 and 1944, respectively ;

(b) the aggregate amount of the securities demanded from the newspapers of the province during each of the above years ;

(c) how many newspapers have forfeited their securities during each of the said years and the aggregate amount of the securities so forfeited ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : The honourable member is referred to the answer given to question No. *9485¹.

PANDIT NEKI RAM SHARMA.

***9555. Sardar Sohan Singh Josh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the date on which Pandit Neki Ram Sharma of Bhiwani was released from jail ;

[S. Sohan Singh Josh.]

(b) the reasons for his re-arrest and his release from jail again ;

(c) whether he applied to the District Magistrate, Hissar, for leave to go to Lahore in the months of September and October, 1944 ;

(d) whether the leave was granted ; if so, for how many days ;

(e) whether he had any correspondence with the Honourable Premier in this connection after that ; if so, what reply, if any, was given by the Honourable Premier ;

(f) whether the District Magistrate, Hissar, wrote to Pandit Neki Ram Sharma in October 1944, to stop correspondence with officials, if so, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad): The attention of the honourable member is invited to the answer to Assembly Question No. *9576 (below).

PANDIT NEKI RAM SHARMA.

***9576. Sardar Sohan Singh Josh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the date on which Pandit Neki Ram Sharma of Bhiwani was released from jail ;

(b) the reasons for his re-arrest and subsequent release ;

(c) whether he applied to the District Magistrate, Hissar, for leave to go to Lahore in the months of September and October 1944 ;

(d) whether the leave applied for was granted to him ; if so, for how many days.

(e) whether he had any correspondence with the Honourable Premier in this connection ; if so, the reply given to him by the Honourable Premier ;

(f) whether the District Magistrate, Hissar, wrote in October, 1944, to Pandit Neki Ram Sharma to stop correspondence with the Honourable Premier, if so, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad): (a) 26th of July, 1944.

(b) He was re-arrested for breach of a condition of his restriction order and was released again as the case was withdrawn.

(c) He applied in October, 1944.

(d) Yes ; for ten days.

(e) The correspondence was conducted before he applied to the District Magistrate. He was informed that he should address his request for permission to visit Lahore to the District Magistrate, Hissar.

(f) No. For the information of the honourable member, all restrictions on Pandit Neki Ram Sharma have been withdrawn.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether Pandit Neki Ram Sharma did break the restriction order ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Yes, he violated the restriction order and that was why he was re-arrested.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Why was the case withdrawn ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I cannot say off hand. Probably, Government made up their mind to remove all restrictions against him and it was not considered necessary to proceed against him.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Is the Government aware that they committed a blunder in this case? Pandit Neki Ram was at liberty to go anywhere he liked.

Parliamentary Secretary : All the restrictions have been removed. You should thank the Government for that.

RURAL PROGRAMME FROM LAHORE RADIO STATION.

***9578. Khan Muhammad Yusuf Khan :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Punjab Government pays certain amount of money to the Broadcasting Department of the Government of India, for broadcasting the rural programme from the Lahore Radio Station ; if so, how much money is spent for this purpose every year ;

(b) whether the rural programme for broadcasting at the Lahore Radio Station is set by the Punjab Government or by the Department concerned ; independent of the Punjab Government ;

(c) whether it is a fact that there are very few Radio sets in the rural areas of the province ;

(d) whether the Government has considered a more comprehensive plan for the broadcasting of its rural programme, under the post-war reconstruction scheme, if not, why not ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) *First part.*—No.

Second part.—Does not arise.

(b) The programme is prepared by the Provincial Department concerned in consultation and co-operation with the Station Director of All-India Radio, Lahore.

(c) It is estimated that there are about 2,500 radio receiving sets in the rural areas of this province.

(d) Plans for post-war expansion of rural broadcasting are under consideration.

PEONS IN GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

***9579. Khan Muhammad Yusuf Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister of Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the peons in Government Departments are allowed privilege leave on full pay as is done in the case of other Government servants in permanent cadres ;

(b) whether it is a fact that peons are entitled to one month's leave without pay in a year ; if so, the reasons for the discrimination made regarding leave between peons and other Government employees ?

The Honourable Sir Manohar Lal : (a) Yes—in so far as peons in permanent employ are concerned.

(b) *First part.*—In view of part (a) of the question the exact significance of this question is not understood.

Second part.—Does not arise.

M.L.AS. EMPLOYED AS ASSISTANT RECRUITING OFFICERS, ETC.

***9590. Mian Muhammad Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to lay on the table a list of M.L.As. in the Punjab who are employed as Assistant Recruiting Officers and of those who hold other offices of profit under the

[Mian Muhammad Nurullah]

Crown and emoluments that each one of them draws and the source from which they are drawn ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad): A list is laid on the table. As regards the emoluments that each one of them draws Government have no precise information as all the honourable members mentioned are employed under the Central Government.

List of M.L.As in the Punjab who are employed as Assistant Recruiting Officers and of those who hold other offices of profit under the Crown

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Dina Nath, Major. | 26/17 Dogra Reg.
Ambala Cantt. |
| 2. Fateh Jhang Singh, Captain Bhai. | A. R. O., Simla. |
| 3. Fateh Muhammad, Capt. Mian. | A. R. O., Gujrat. |
| 4. Harnam Singh, Capt. Sodhi. | |
| 5. Joginder Singh, Man, Capt. Sardar. | A. R. O., Sheikhpura. |
| 6. Mubarik Ali Shah, Capt. Sayed. | A. R. O., Lahore. |
| 7. Muhammad Faiz Ali Khan Capt. | R. O., Simla. |
| 8. Naunihal Singh Mann, Capt. Sardar. | A. R. O., Sheikhpura. |
| 9. Sardar Khan Noon, Major Malik | A. R. O., Gujranwala. |
| 10. Asghar Ali, K. S. Ch. | A. R. O., Gujrat. |
| 11. Habib Ullah Khan Tiwana, K. B. Malik. | Member, Selection Board,
Rawalpindi. |
| 12. Abdul Rab, Mian. | |
| 13. Muhammad Akram, K. B., Raja. | |
| 14. Mushtaq Ahmad Gurmani, K. B., Nawab. | |
| 15. Shah Nawaz, Begum. | |
| 16. Maqbool Mahmood, Mir. | |

PORTFOLIOS ENTRUSTED TO HONOURABLE MINISTERS.

*9591. **Mian Muhammad Nurullah** : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the portfolios entrusted to each Minister before the 27th of March, 1944 ;

(b) the portfolios entrusted to each Minister after the appointment of the two new ministers ;

(c) the portfolios entrusted to each Minister after the 27th of March, 1944, and before the appointment of the two new Ministers ?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat :

Premier.—The Honourable Lieutenant Colonel Malik Khizar Hayat.—Portfolio of General Administration and maintenance of Law and Order.

Honourable Minister for Revenue.—The late Honourable Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram.—Portfolio of Revenue and Irrigation.

Honourable Minister for Finance.—The Honourable Sir Manohar Lal.—Portfolio of Finance and Industries.

Honourable Minister for Public Works —The Honourable Captain Sardar Shaukat Hayat Khan.—Portfolio of Public Works, Communications, Electricity and Local Government.

Honourable Minister for Education.—The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye.—Portfolio of Education, Medical Relief and Public Health.

Honourable Minister for Development.—The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh.—Portfolio of Development.

(b) As given in part (a) except that Sir Muhammad Jamal Khan Leghari was allotted the portfolio of Honourable Minister for Public Works, in place of Captain Shaukat Hayat Khan and Nawab Ashiq Hussain was allotted the portfolio of Post-War Reconstruction.

(c) As given in part (a) except that the work allotted to Honourable Minister for Public Works (Captain Shaukat Hayat Khan) was distributed amongst Honourable Minister for Revenue, Honourable Minister for Development and Honourable Minister for Education, until the new Ministers were appointed.

Mian Abdul Aziz : Is the present distribution of portfolios available for this House ?

Premier : If you put a question, it shall be made available.

Mian Abdul Aziz : It is your duty to inform the House.

Premier : Will the honourable member quote the provision under which it is my duty to inform the members of this House of the portfolios held by every Minister ?

SECURITIES DEMANDED FROM NEWSPAPERS.

***9610. Khan Sahib Chaudhri Sahib Dad Khan :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the number of newspapers in the Punjab, from which securities have been demanded during the years 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943 and 1944, respectively ;

(b) the aggregate amount of the securities demanded from the newspapers of the province during each of the above years ;

(c) how many newspapers have forfeited their securities during each of the said years and the aggregate amount of the securities so forfeited ?

Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat : The honourable member is referred to the answer given to question No. *9485¹.

MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE FOR FAMILY OF SODHI PINDI DAS, SECURITY PRISONER.

***9612. Mian Mumtaz Muhammad Khan Daulatana :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it has been represented to Government that the wife of Sodhi Pindi Das of Lahore, who is at present detained as a security prisoner has had a nervous break-down ;

(b) the period for which the said Sodhi Pindi Das has been in detention so far ;

(c) whether he is aware of the fact that the said Sodhi Pindi Das is the sole bread-winner of his family, if so, whether the Government intend to release him, if not, whether Government is prepared to sanction a maintenance allowance for his family ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) No such representation has been made to Government recently.

(b) He is under detention since September 1940.

(c) An allowance of Rs. 80 per annum is already being paid to his family for maintenance. His case for release will be reviewed in due course.

BABA GURMUKH SINGH, KAMAGATA MARU CASE PRISONER.

***9613. Mian Mumtaz Muhammad Khan Daulatana :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Baba Gurmukh Singh who was sentenced to transportation for life in the Kamagata Maru Case is still confined in a jail in the Punjab ;

(b) the age of the said Baba Gurmukh Singh now ;

(c) his weight now and his weight on January 1, 1930, January 1, 1940, and November 1, 1944 ;

(d) whether he is aware of the fact that Baba Gurmukh Singh needs spectacles and a denture, which have not been supplied to him by the Government ;

(e) whether it is a fact that Baba Gurmukh Singh has served more than 14 years imprisonment including remissions ;

(f) the period for which he has been in jail already ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Yes.

(b) 58 years.

(c) His present weight is 136 lbs. He was at large on 1st November 1930, his weight on 1st January 1940 is not known ; his weight on 1st November 1944 was 182 lbs ;

(d) Spectacles have been supplied to him. He was permitted to have dentures at his own cost.

(e) Yes.

(f) 17 years, 4 months and 25 days including remissions, actual period being 15 years, 6 months and 23 days.

MR. GAYA PRASAD, LAHORE CONSPIRACY CASE PRISONER.

***9614. Mian Mumtaz Muhammad Khan Daulatana :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Gaya Prasad a convict in the 2nd Lahore Conspiracy Case is confined in a Sanatorium in the United Provinces, under orders of the Punjab Government ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the said Mr. Gaya Prasad is suffering from T. B. ;

(c) whether it is a fact that Mr. Gaya Prasad has already served over 16 years' imprisonment including remissions ; if so, whether the Government intend to release him, if not, why not ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) No. He has been transferred to a sanatorium under orders issued by the Government of the United Provinces.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes. It is not considered advisable to release him at present.

PUNITIVE POLICE.

***9615. Sardar Tara Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether he is aware of the fact that a punitive police post has been stationed in villages Bhuchu Kalan, Chak Ram Singhwala and Tangwali, etc., in the jurisdiction of police station Nathana, district Ferozepore, if so, the reasons therefor ;

(b) whether the punitive post has been stationed on account of an increase in cases of breaches of canal embankments or on account of increase in crime in general ;

(c) whether he is prepared to lay on the table of the House a statement giving details of the cases of canal breaches and of the crime in general in the above-mentioned villages during the past three years ;

(d) whether it is a fact that the inhabitants of the aforementioned villages have made several representations to him, to the Honourable the Revenue Minister and to the Deputy Commissioner, Ferozepore, for the abolition of the above post ;

(e) whether he is aware of the fact that the inhabitants of these villages have rendered valuable services in the matter of recruitment to the army and contribution to war loans ;

(f) if the answer to (a) and (b) be in the affirmative the action Government propose to take in the matter ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Man): (a) and (b). Yes. The additional police post was located because of the criminal tendencies of the villagers and more particularly because of their persistence in cutting the canal bank.

(c) A statement is placed on the table.

(d) An application from the residents of Bhucho Kalan was received and considered. No facts were brought to light which were not already known and weighed when the decision to impose the post was taken.

(e) Yes.

(f) It is regretted that it will be necessary to retain the post so long as the inhabitants of the area concerned persist in their criminal activities.

Statement showing details of the cases reported from and traced to villages Bhucho Kalan,

Chak Ramsinghivala and Tungwali in the Ferozepore District, during the past three years

REPORTED CASES

Bhucho Kalan

1940.—409/3, 457/2, 326/307/1, 379/1, 19/11/78/2, 430/2.
1941.—324/3, 395/397/1, 9/1/78/1, 457/1, 379/1, 430/2.
1942.—379/380/2, 457/458/2, 61/1/14/2, 235/1, 324/1, 430/1.
1943.—430/4, Defence of India Rules/1.

Chak Ramsinghivala

1940.—430/1, 302/1, 307/1, 19/11/78/2.

1941.—430/1, $\frac{332/1}{147}$

1942.—379/1.

1943. 457/1, 324/1, 307/1, 430/1.

Tungwali

1940.—457/4, 430/1, 308/342/1, 17/5/18 (H. O. Act)/1, 458/1, 19/11/78/3, 354/1
436/1, 428/1, 380/1.

1941.—429/1, 325/2, 457/1.

1942.—302/2, 435/1, 457/4, 379/1, 411/1, 324/147/1.

1943.—324/352/3, 149/1, 20-11-78/1, 430/4. 457/1.

CASES TRACED

Bhucho Kalan

1940.—457/458/454/4, 420/1.

1941.—395/397/1, 484/511/1.

1942.—379/1, 457/1.

1943.—Nil.

Chak Ramsinghwala

1940.—9/1/78/1, 19/11/78/1, 109/55/1.

1941.—302/1.

1942.—Nil.

1943.—457/1.

Tungwali

1940.—457/4, 430/1, 19/11/78/1, 5/2/30/1.

1941.—Nil.

1942.—457/2.

1943.—457/2.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it within the knowledge of the Parliamentary Secretary whether it is the inhabitants of the district who are turbulent or whether it is on account of the inefficiency of the Superintendent of Police that crime has increased ?

Parliamentary Secretary : It is on account of the residents of the district who are generally turbulent.

PUNITIVE POLICE.

*9619. **Sardar Tara Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the total amount of punitive police tax realised in the Ferozepore district during the last two financial years ;

(b) the names of villages where punitive police posts were stationed and the amount of the tax realised from each of the villages during this period ;

(c) the names of the villages in the district in question where punitive police posts are stationed at present with the strength of each post and the amount of the punitive police tax which has been realised or is to be realised during the current year in respect of each of these posts ;

(d) whether there has been decrease in cases of dacoities since the stationing of the above-mentioned punitive police posts ;

(e) whether he is prepared to place on table of the House a statement showing the strength of each police post stationed in villages Bhachu Kalan, Chak Ram Singhwala and Tungwali in the jurisdiction of police station Nathana, district Ferozepore, with the estimated or actual expenditure of each of these posts ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Man) : (a) Rs. 3,08,524/12/4.

(b) and (c) A statement is placed on the table.

(d) Yes.

(e) There is only one additional police post in the three villages, with headquarters at Chak Ramsinghwala. It consists of 1 Assistant Sub-Inspector, 1 Head Constable and 12 Foot Constables. The actual expenditure to date is Rs. 3,545-1-0.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Does the Punjab Government consider that the number of punitive chaukis imposed on the zamindars of Ferozepore is much too excessive ?

Parliamentary Secretary : It is a question of opinion.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Will the Parliamentary Secretary please state whether any of the police chaukis has been withdrawn ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I want notice for that.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Has the question of withdrawing police chaukis from Ferozepore ever arisen ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Yes, many times and the police force was abolished when it was considered necessary.

Statement.

Serial No.	Name of Police Post (with villages)	TAX RECOVERED				Tax recovered during the year from 1st April 1944 to 31st October 1944	Tax recoverable	Strength	
		1942-43		1943-44					Total
		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.				
1	P. P. Shaktar	4 4 0	106 14 5	111 2 5	
2	P. P. Gholla Kalan Gholla Khuri	7,103 8 9	7,422 3 0	14,525 12 6	
3	P. P. Middu Khara	7,121 6 9	6,462 3 0	13,573 9 9	
4	P. P. Mndki	563 0 9	124 13 8	688 7 0	
5	P. P. Abdul Kharana	4,700 11 6	125 12 9	4,826 8 3	
6	P. P. Bareke	3,088 6 5	8,788 6 5	6,876 12 10	
7	P. P. Dhalake	5,681 0 0	7,157 2 4	12,838 2 4	
8	P. P. Chabranwall	4,380 9 0	18,698 4 0	23,088 4 0	
9	P. P. Bhuttwala Asa Butar	4,008 6 6	12,745 0 10	17,413 7 4	
10	Tarajwala	..	12,176 8 9	12,176 8 9	4,105 6 10	15,268 15 4	S.I. A.S.I. H.C. F.C. 1 2 17		
11	P. P. Chubarchak	14,188 1 0	21,251 2 8	35,439 3 8	322 7 11	9 30 11	1 2 16		
12	P. P. Daudhar	9,165 2 9	28,341 0 0	37,506 2 9	4,806 14 0	121 5 0	1 1 6		
13	P. P. Doda	3,780 5 0	6,226 7 7	9,956 13 4	..	6,881 2 10	1 1 6		
14	P. P. Harke	250 0 0	14,883 14 10	15,133 14 10	..	..	1 1 15
15	Sito Guano	..	23,289 2 5	23,289 2 5	10,483 8 0	..	1 2 14		
16	P. P. Mallan	..	12,816 7 5	12,816 7 5	..	13,223 6 7	1 2 14		
17	P. P. Almawala	..	12,632 2 8	12,532 2 8	6,856 2 5	3,961 13 9	1 2 14		
18	P. P. Bhuttwala	..	12,217 11 5	12,217 11 5	9,714 2 1	1,684 15 10	1 2 16		
19	P. P. Machhike	..	17,259 0 5	17,259 0 5	10,976 3 7	..	1 2 23		
20	P. P. Kishanpura Kalan	..	9,044 11 8	9,044 11 8	6,246 6 7	..	1 1 12		
21	P. P. Saloke	..	17,210 13 0	17,210 13 0	12,282 13 2	0 0 1	1 2 18		
22	P. P. Chak Ram Shughwala	..	..	..	..	9,024 6 0	1 1 12
Total		64,654 15 2	2,43,860 13 2	3,08,524 12 4	66,783 0 7	49,565 10 5			

MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE FOR FAMILIES OF CONGRESS DETENUS,
SECURITY PRISONERS AND CONVICTS.

***9648. Lala Bhagat Ram Choda :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of Congress detenues of 1942, security prisoners and Congress convicts in the Punjab detained in various jails up to the 30th November, 1944;

(b) the total amount paid so far to the dependents of these prisoners as family allowance;

(c) whether the Government intend to release them, if not, the reasons therefor?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad): (a)

Civil Disobedience detenues .. 52

Security prisoners .. 109 (including 10 detained under the orders of Government of India).

Civil Disobedience convicts .. 46

(b) It is regretted that the information is not available and the collection of it will involve labour and paper out of all proportion to the result.

(c) Their cases are reviewed at six-monthly intervals except those of Civil Disobedience convicts who are released on the expiration of their sentences.

MEMBERS OF PUNJAB ASSEMBLY CONGRESS PARTY IN JAIL.

***9649. Lala Bhagat Ram Choda :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to give the following particulars about the undermentioned members of the Punjab Assembly Congress Party, the date of their arrest, the names of jails where they are confined, the period of their detention, facilities given to them regarding correspondence and games, their weight at the time of arrest and at present and the general state of their health:—

(1) Mian Muhammad Iftikhar-ud-Din, President, Punjab Provincial Congress Committee;

(2) Sardar Partap Singh, General Secretary, Punjab Provincial Congress Committee;

(3) Lala Deshbandhu Gupta;

(4) Master Kabul Singh;

(5) Sardar Harjab Singh;

(6) Baba Rur Singh;

(7) Ch. Kartar Singh;

(8) Pandit Shri Ram Sharma;

(9) Mr. Dev Raj Sethi?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad): A statement is laid on the table giving in each case the date of arrest and the name of the jail in which the M. L. As. named in the question are detained at present.

It is regretted that the other information asked for cannot be supplied as its collection would entail an expenditure of time and labour incommensurate with any benefits to be obtained.

Statement

Names	Date of arrest	Jails
Partap Singh	13th August 1942 ..	District Jail, Sialkot.
Deshbhandu Gupta	14th August 1942 ..	Central Jail, Lahore.
Kabul Singh	23rd December 1941 ..	New Sub-Jail, Gujrat.
Harjab Singh	26th June 1940 ..	Ditto.
Dev Raj Sethi	10th August 1942 ..	District Jail, Sialkot.
Rur Singh	26th June 1940. ..	New Sub-Jail, Gujrat.
Kartar Singh	22nd August 1942 ..	Ditto.
Sri Ram, Sharma	23rd August 1942 ..	District Jail, Mianwali.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Was the information collected when this question was sent ?

Parliamentary Secretary : As soon as notices of questions are received, enquiries are started and information collected.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Did the Government ask for information about the respective weights of these gentlemen ?

Parliamentary Secretary : The statement is laid on the table giving the information available.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Did the Government ask the authorities of the different jails to supply information about their weights both at the time of arrest and at present ?

Parliamentary Secretary : If the honourable member is very keen about it, he can table a question asking for any definite information and I will try to collect it.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : The notice is already there. The question of further notice does not arise.

Premier : The Parliamentary Secretary has supplied the information which is available here and has stated that the collection of other information would entail an expenditure of time and labour incommensurate with any benefits to be obtained. But if the honourable member wishes to know any details about any particular person or two, then we can get that specific information.

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din : The Honourable Premier will be pleased to observe that the question contains the words "their weight at the time of arrest and at present".

Parliamentary Secretary : True, and it is stated that the time and labour involved in collecting that information would be incommensurate with any benefits to be obtained.

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din : Does the Parliamentary Secretary mean to say that it will be inconvenient for him to enquire about the weight of honourable members of this House ?

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din : Did he enquire from the different jails the weight of these honourable members or did he not ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have already stated that the Government did not consider it worth while to collect that information.

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din : May I know the reasons for Government not considering it worth while ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Because the expenditure of time and labour involved is not commensurate with any benefits to be obtained.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : On a point of order. May I know whether it is open to the Government to answer a question admitted by you, only partly and refuse to answer the other parts ? In this question they have answered only one part and refused to answer the other parts.

Mr. Speaker : I have no power to interfere in the matter. If a question can be answered in parts and separately from the other parts, it is open to them to reply to some parts and to refuse to answer the other parts.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : On a point of order. This particular question was admitted by you. The position taken by the Parliamentary Secretary is that he chose to collect information to one portion of that question and he has left out the remaining portion and does not collect any information. I want to know whether it is within the power of the Parliamentary Secretary to collect information only with respect to a convenient part of the question and leave out the rest ?

Mr. Speaker : Yes, it is open to him.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STAFF OF THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER (ELECTRICITY BRANCH)

1830. Sardar Sher Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Public Works be pleased to state :—

(a) The grades of the officers and members of the establishment community-wise, in the office of the Chief Engineer (Electricity Branch) ;

(b) the date on which the post of the Secretary to the Chief Engineer was created ;

(c) the community or communities whose members were appointed to the post of Secretary as also the period for which members of each community have held this post ;

(d) the maximum period for which members of a particular community can hold this post successively ;

(e) whether the appointment of a Sikh to this post is under the consideration of the Government ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Sir Muhammad Jamal Khan Leghari :—The attention of the honourable member is invited to the answer given to Assembly question No. 1800¹ put by S. Lal Singh, Member of the Legislative Assembly.

JHATKA MEAT

1831. Sardar Sher Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Public Works be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Secretary, The Punjab Sikh United Party, made a representation to the Honourable Premier in his letter No. 101, dated the 18th July 1944, regarding the stoppage of the supply of Jhatka meat (mutton) to Sikh

students of the Government School of Engineering, Rasul; if so, whether any reply has so far been given; if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether it is a fact that the late Sir Sikandar Hyat Khan and the present Premier have time and again given assurances to all communities that "status quo" will be maintained with regard to their religious and cultural rights; if so, why the Sikh students of the Government School of Engineering, Rasul, are not allowed to import Jhatka meat (mutton) from Pindi Baha-ud-Din from which place they have been getting jhatka meat for a very long time?

The Honourable Sir Muhammad Jamal Khan Leghari: I regret that answer to this question is not yet ready.

GURGAON POLICE PERSONNEL

1832. Rao Sahib Chaudhri Sumer Singh: Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state:—

(a) the total number community-wise of the posts of Head Constables, Assistant Sub-Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors, Inspectors and Deputy Superintendents of Police sanctioned for the Gurgaon District including the criminal investigation agency;

(b) what action does the government intend taking to remove the long standing grievance of the Hindus concerning their paucity in the police posted in the Gurgaon district?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat: (a) The communal proportion formula does not apply to the Police. A statement showing the staff (community-wise) as at present employed in the Gurgaon district is, however, laid on the table.

(b) No special action seems called for in the matter.

Statement

Rank	Muslims	Hindus and others	Sikhs
Deputy Superintendent of Police	1	..	..
Inspectors	2	..	..
Sub-Inspectors	14	6	7
* Assistant Sub-Inspectors	14	12	1
† Head Constables	44	45	4

BOARDING HOUSE OF GOVERNMENT HIGH SCHOOL, PALWAL

1833. Rao Sahib Chaudhri Sumer Singh: Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to give the following information regarding the Boarding House of Government High School, Palwal, District Gurgaon:—

(a) the number of boarders for which the Boarding House was originally constructed in accordance with Departmental instructions;

(b) the number of students actually living in the Boarding House on 1st January 1945;

* 3 Vacant.

† 4 Vacant.

[Rao Sahib Ch. Sumar Singh.]

(c) the reasons for allowing the students to live in the Boarding House over and above the sanctioned strength ;

(d) whether it is a fact that this state of affairs has been in existence for the last two or three years ; if so, the reasons therefor and the action Government intend to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : (a) 96.

(b) 146.

(c) and (d) The abnormal rise in the number of boarders came into existence from 1st April last year. In the year previous to this the number never exceeded 118 and this excess was accommodated in two additional rooms available. Since April 1944 when the school attracted an unusually large number of resident students, attempts have been made by the local officers of the Department to secure a suitable rented building. As soon as a suitable building is available, the over-crowding will be removed. In the meantime it was considered advisable to house the surplus proportionately in the accommodation available rather than to refuse admission to rural boys.

MAHABIR SINGH

1834. **Sardar Bahadur Sardar Pritam Singh Sidhu :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the reply to unstarred question No. 1759¹, asked by Sardar Bahadur Sardar Gurbachan Singh at the last session of the Assembly is now ready ; if so, will he be pleased to lay a copy of it on the table ?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : I regret that answer to this question is not yet ready.

REMUNERATION ALLOWED TO ZAILDARS AND LAMBARDARS

1835. **Khan Sahib Chaudhri Fazal Din :** Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether any addition has been ordered in the remuneration allowed to the Zaildars and Lambardars ; if not, the reasons therefor ;

(b) whether any dearness allowance has been sanctioned for the Zaildars and Lambardars in the province ; if not, the reasons therefor ;

(c) the average remuneration allowed by Government to the Zaildars and Lambardars, respectively ?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram : (a) No. The remuneration of zaildars and lambardars is governed by the Land Revenue Act, 1887, and the Rules thereunder.

(b) No. Zaildars and lambardars are benefitting like other owners of land from the high prices of agricultural produce. They are village officers and not whole-time employees of Government.

(c) Government have fixed no average remuneration for zaildars and lambardars. Zaildars are graded, but the grades and the emoluments fixed for each grade are not uniform, but vary from district to district. The *pachotra* which lambardars receive depends on the amount of the revenue of the patti or estate for the collection of which they are responsible, and varies from a few rupees to several hundreds a year. It thus corresponds as a rule to the amount of work which they perform.

RESTRICTIONS ON THE SLAUGHTER OF CERTAIN KINDS OF CATTLE

1837. Sardar Kapoor Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state :—

(a) whether Government is aware of the public criticism made by Sir Datar Singh, that the Punjab Government had not yet enforced the restrictions imposed by the Government of India on the slaughter of certain kinds of cattle ;

(b) the steps which Government have so far taken to enforce restrictions on the slaughter of certain kinds of cattle in the province ;

(c) the latest census figures of cattle in the Punjab ;

(d) the measures adopted by the Government for the protection of live-stock in the Province ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : (a) No.

(b) Restrictions have been placed on the slaughter or sale for slaughter of the following classes of cattle by the army authorities :—

(i) cattle below 3 years' of age ;

(ii) male cattle between 3 and 10 years of age which are used or likely to be used as working cattle ;

(iii) all cows between 3 and 10 years of age which are capable of producing milk, other than cows which are unsuitable for bearing offspring ; and

(iv) all cows which are pregnant or in milk.

As regards slaughter for consumption by civilians, the Municipal by-laws already prohibit the slaughter of cattle in the following categories :—

(i) Pregnant animals or animals with unweaned young ;

(ii) milch buffaloes and cows that are in milk ;

(iii) working bullocks in a good state of health below the age of 10 years ;

(iv) animals that are diseased or in a dying condition.

Government is however, considering whether it is necessary to further impose restrictions, on the slaughter of cattle besides those which already exist under the Defence of India Rules.

(c) Figures of the last live-stock census held in the year 1940 are as under :—

Cows	2,407,490
Bulls	11,116
Bullocks	3,965,144
Young stock (calves)	2,868,812
Buffaloe (calves)	2,594,604
Breeding cows	2,231,531
Male Buffaloes	489,415
Cow buffaloes	3,077,876
Male buffaloes for breeding	15,306
Breeding bulls	10,559
Breeding cow buffaloes	2,890,067

The figures of the latest census which is under operation, are not yet known.

(d) Government have regulated the export of cattle or other live-stock of any age, whether male or female. No export is now allowed except under a permit issued in writing by the Director, Veterinary Services, Punjab, or any other officer not below

[Minister of Development.]

the rank of a Deputy Superintendent, Civil Veterinary Department, authorised by him in this behalf.

In the case of milch cattle, before a permit is issued for export, the recipient Government is required to satisfy this Government that these will be properly looked after during the dry period, and will not be slaughtered as long as they are fit for breeding.

DISCOVERY OF PETROL DEPOSITS

1838. Sardar Kapoor Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state:—

(a) whether it is a fact that large deposits of petrol have been discovered near the village of Joya Mair or some other place in the Jhelum District ; if so, whether he is prepared to place a copy of the survey report on the table ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Attock Oil Co. have applied to the Punjab Government for a lease to exploit the area ; if so, the terms offered to the company by the Government ;

(c) whether Government have passed any orders on the lease application ; if so, whether he is prepared to place a copy of the said order on the table ;

(d) if no decision has so far been taken, whether Government is prepared to place the matter before this Assembly to ascertain its opinion on the subject ; if so, when, if not, why not ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : (a) Yes. No survey of the area has been carried out by this Government.

(b) Yes. Government have not yet offered any term to the Company.

(c) The matter is under the consideration of Government.

(d) Government do not consider it necessary to place the matter before the Assembly.

MR. DEV RAJ SETHI, M.L.A.

1839. Sardar Kapoor Singh : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state:—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Dev Raj Sethi, M.A., M.L.A., a detainee in District Jail, Sialkot, is suffering from 'Sciatica', and muscular pains in the legs besides piles and psoriasis ; if so, the treatment given to him by the local medical officer, and the results thereof ;

(b) whether the Government intend to transfer him to the Mayo Hospital, Lahore, for expert advice, if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat : (a) He has been complaining of Sciatica and Myalgia and nothing else. He has been getting treatment for it, but is not fully cured so far.

(b) If and when his health so warrants, Government will consider the question of his transfer.

AMRITSAR, CHETANPUR, FATEHGARH AND DERA-BABA-NANAK ROAD

1840. Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Will the Honourable Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the Amritsar-Chetanpur, Fatehgarh and Dera-Baba-Nanak Road has been given a place in the Post-War Reconstruction programme of the Punjab Government ; if so, the approximate date by which this road is likely to be made pucca ?

The Honourable Sir Muhammad Jamal Khan Leghari : The road from Amritsar to Dera Baba Nanak will pass through Majitha and Fatehgarh and Chetanpur will eventually be connected to this road by suitable link. It is not possible to give the date on which this road will be constructed as the final proposals have not yet been decided upon.

PERSONS INTERNED IN OR EXTERNEED FROM THE PUNJAB UNDER THE DEFENCE OF INDIA RULES

1841. Sardar Kapoor Singh : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state the number and the names of persons interned in or externed from the Punjab under the Defence of India Rules since 1st November 1944, and the reasons therefor in each of these cases ?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat : Forty-two persons have been interned in and 5 persons have been externed from the Punjab since November 1944, to prevent them from acting in any manner prejudicial to the public safety and the maintenance of public order. It is not in the public interest to give names.

PROVINCIAL CIVIL SERVICE OFFICERS

1842. Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

- (a) the number of P.C.S. Officers (Executive and Judicial Branches) recruited since April, 1941 ;
- (b) the various registers from which they have been recruited during this period and the number recruited from each register ;
- (c) the percentage fixed under each category ;
- (d) whether the number of those recruited from Register 'B' during the year 1942—44 is less than the quota fixed ; if so, the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat :—

(a)	(i) Judicial Branch	..	..	..	..	Nil
	(b) Executive Branch	..	..	..	..	77
(b)	(i) Register A-I—Tahsildars and Naib-Tahsildars, etc.	..	..	..	..	33
	(ii) Register A-II—Members of the Subordinate Services holding Ministerial appointments	..	..	..	..	14
	(iii) Register B—Persons accepted as candidates on the result of a competitive examination and	..	..	..	..	10
	(iv) Register C—Direct nomination	..	..	..	..	20
(c)	(i) A-I—37½ per cent.					
	(ii) A-II—12½ per cent.					
	(iii) B—25 per cent.					
	(iv) C—25 per cent.					

(d) Yes. The attention of the honourable member is invited to Press Communiqué No. 1888-W. P., dated the 11th March 1941.

SHORTAGE OF NECESSARIES OF LIFE IN URBAN AREAS

1843. Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether he is aware of the fact that there is an acute shortage of charcoal, firewood, kerosene oil, cloth and other necessities of life in the urban areas of the Punjab ; if so, the action Government intend to take in the matter ;

[Pt. Bhagat Ram Sharma.]

(b) whether he is aware of the fact that black markets are flourishing in various towns of the province and exorbitant rates are charged for various articles and commodities; if so, the steps so far taken or proposed to be taken by the authorities to put an end to the black markets?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : (a) Attention is invited to the reply to Assembly Question No. 9237 (starred) with regard to firewood and charcoal. There is shortage of kerosene oil, cloth and other necessities of life, both in rural and urban areas. Government are trying their best to distribute whatever supplies are available as equitably as possible, but it is not in the power of the Provincial Government to increase the supplies. Representations, however, continue to be made to the Central Government for larger quotes. Short supplies are inevitable on account of war conditions.

(b) Prices of firewood and charcoal are not controlled. Consequently, there can be no black markets for these commodities. The sudden rise in the prices of firewood and charcoal during January 1945 was due to the heavy demand on account of the cold wave which swept over the province and to greatly restricted imports consequent upon critical wagon situation with the North-Western Railway. As regards commodities other than charcoal and firewood, it is correct that there is some black marketing activity in some places. Government have appointed a large staff of Gazetted Officers and Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors to check such activities and a number of prosecutions have been launched and licences have been cancelled or suspended.

MR.INDER PRAKASH ANAND

1844. Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) the particular law or act under which Mr. Inder Prakash Anand, M.A., Assistant Secretary, Indian Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta, is detained and the place of his detention;

(b) whether it is a fact that he is not allowed to have interviews with his father, wife or even his child; if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has received any representation from his father or his wife for transferring him to some jail in the central districts; if so, the action taken or intended to be taken by the Government in this matter?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat Khan : (a) Mr. Inder Prakash Anand is detained under Restriction and Detention Ordinance (No. III of 1944) in District Jail, Dera Ghazi Khan.

(b) No. Such interviews are now permitted.

(c) *First part*—Yes;

Second part—I. P. Anand is being shortly transferred to Jhang Jail.

TEACHING OF HINDI OR GURMUKHI IN THE GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS

1845. Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state :—

(a) whether arrangements have been made for teaching Hindi or Gurmukhi in the various Government schools in the Punjab as a result of the Sikandar-Baldev Singh Pact;

(b) the amount of money out of the sum budgetted and ear-marked for this purpose which has so far been spent and the future plans proposed to be adopted in this connection?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : (a) In pursuance of the Sikandar-Baldev Singh Pact arrangements for the teaching of Hindi and Gurmukhi as scriptural languages have been made as an experimental measure in selected vernacular schools in the province. Vernacular schools are maintained, as a rule, by local bodies and not by Government, and therefore, the question of introducing the teaching of scriptural languages in Government schools does not arise.

(b) Government sanctioned Rs. 30,000 in the year 1944-45 to be given to local bodies in the form of grant-in-aid on expenditure incurred on the teaching of scriptural languages in a few selected schools in the province. This money is being spent on the teaching of these languages in local body schools but not in Government schools.

REALISATION OF LAND REVENUE ARREARS IN THE JHANG DISTRICT

1846. Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the total land revenue realised each year from the District of Jhang since 1937-38;

(b) the total amount of remissions granted each year since 1937-38 in the said district;

(c) the total amount of arrears of land revenue in each year since 1937-38 in the said district;

(d) the steps taken to realize the arrears of land revenue mentioned in (c) above?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram :

Year	(a)	(b)	(c)
1937-38	13,79,228	2,00,276	62,695
1938-39	11,89,388	1,50,671	1,43,485
1939-40	15,37,417	33,907	1,02,722
1940-41	14,74,359	33,932	1,78,560
1941-42	17,62,409	36,173	56,511
1942-43	17,05,423	35,012	32,444
1943-44	17,52,442	34,508	21,028

(d) Regular steps were taken to realize the arrears, in accordance with the provisions of the Land Revenue Act.

FEES COLLECTED BY THE MARKETING COMMITTEES OF GOJRA, TOBA TEK SINGH, LYALLPUR AND JHANG MAGHIANA

1847. Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the total amount of fees collected under the Punjab Agricultural Produce Markets Act by the Marketing Committees of Gojra, Toba Tek Singh, Lyallpur, and Jhang Maghiana, during 1942-43 and 1943-44;

(b) the main items of expenditure so far incurred by the aforesaid marketing committees;

[Pt. Bhagat Ram Sharma]

(c) whether any facilities by way of shelter, sheds and so forth have so far been provided by the marketing committees as required under the provisions of the Act in the above-mentioned areas ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : (a) and (b) The required information is given in the attached statement.

(c) The following facilities have been provided by the Market Committee, Jhang Maghiana :—

(1) A reconditioned well is maintained at Rs. 46 per mensem for drinking purposes, and

(2) a big reservoir has been constructed for storage of water for the use of human beings and animals.

Schemes for the construction of shelters and sheds, etc., are under the consideration of these market committees, but it has not been possible so far to execute them owing to the non-availability of material.

Statement

Name of Market Committee	INCOME		
	1942-43	1943-44	Total
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Lyalpur ..	50,924 11 9	57,261 10 0	1,08,186 5 9
Gojra ..	26,978 12 9	24,432 4 9	51,411 1 6
Toba Tek Singh ..	19,068 12 0	18,480 1 0	37,548 13 0
Jhang Maghiana ..	7,313 0 0	7,403 0 0	14,716 0 0

Name of Market Committee	Main items of expenditure	Rs. A. P.
Lyalpur ..	(1) Salary of establishment including provident fund	22,844 12 6
	(2) Contingencies including supply of drinking water in the market	15,061 8 6
	(3) Purchase of standard weights, measures, etc. ..	401 7 3
Gojra ..	(1) Salary of establishment and dearness allowance ..	10,919 9 0
	(2) Contingencies including travelling allowance, stationery, printing, rent of office, postage etc. ..	3,521 9 9
	(3) Cost of weigh-bridge etc. ..	1,512 14 0
Toba Tek Singh ..	(1) Salary of establishment and dearness allowance ..	13,773 14 10
	(2) Contingencies and other miscellaneous expenditure	465 14 6
Jhang Maghiana ..	(1) Salary of establishment	2,350 0 0
	(2) Provident Fund	106 0 0
	(3) Office rent	542 0 0
	(4) Forms and Registers	363 0 0
	(5) Furniture	54 0 0
	(6) Stationery	33 0 0
	(7) Works	1,26 0 0
	(8) Miscellaneous expenditure	247 0 0
	(9) Contingencies	79 0 0

URBAN IMMOVABLE PROPERTY TAX

1848. Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : Will the Honourable Finance Minister be pleased to state :—

(a) the number of towns in the province where the Urban Immovable Property Tax is in force ;

(b) the total amount of tax realised in 1942-43 and 1943-44, respectively, in this respect ;

(c) the total amount of expenditure incurred on establishment and other necessary items in connection with this department ;

(d) the arrears for the two years mentioned in (b), and the steps taken to realize these arrears from the towns mentioned in (a) ?

The Honourable Sir Manohar Lal : (a) 55.

(b) Rs. 17,98,194 in 1942-43 and Rs. 24,23,776 in 1943-44.

(c) There is a combined taxation staff for the administration of the Punjab Urban Immovable Property Tax Act and the Punjab General Sales Tax Act, and expenditure on it amounted to Rs. 4,05,157 in 1942-43 and Rs. 4,85,667 in 1943-44. Separate figures of expenditure on the working of the former Act are not available.

(d) The arrears as they stood on the 31st December 1944 in the areas where the Punjab Urban Immovable Property Tax Act was in force during 1942-43 and 1943-44 were as under :—

						Rs.
1942-43	..	..	..	..	..	1,23,209
1943-44	..	..	..	..	..	1,44,135

The provisions of sections 14 to 16 of the Act are utilized to realise arrears where necessary.

GUN LICENCES

1849. Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) the number of licences for guns cancelled during the years 1942 to 1944 by the Deputy Commissioner of the Jhang District and the reasons for the cancellation in each case ;

(b) the number of licences for guns granted during the said period in the said district ?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat : (a) 119 licences for guns were cancelled during the years 1942 to 1944 for the following reasons :—

(i) 3 licences were cancelled as the licensees sold their guns and applied for the cancellation of their licences ;

and (ii) 4 licences were cancelled as the licensees were found guilty of misconduct

(iii) 112 licences were cancelled as the licence holders were considered undesirable and not likely to assist the authorities in keeping peace and order in the event of disturbances.

(b) 96.

**TRAVELLING ALLOWANCE DRAWN BY THE DETUTY COMMISSIONER AND
SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, JHANG**

1850. Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the total amount of travelling allowance drawn by the Deputy Commissioner and Superintendent of Police, Jhang, respectively, during 1942-43 and 1943-44 ;

(b) how many times did they visit Kot Shakar and Bhawana Police Stations during the said period ?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat :

	1942-43			1943-44		
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
(a) Travelling Allowance drawn by the Deputy Commissioner, Jhang.	1,871	1	0	2,785	12	0
Travelling Allowance drawn by the Superintendent of Police, Jhang.	1,748	1	0	1,840	15	0
(b) (i) Visited by the Deputy Commissioner, Jhang.	<i>Kot Shakar</i> Once			<i>Kot Shakar</i> Once		
Visited by the Superintendent of Police, Jhang.	Nil			Once		
	<i>Bhawana</i>			<i>Bhawana</i>		
(ii) Visited by the Deputy Commissioner, Jhang.	Once			Once		
Visited by the Superintendent of Police, Jhang.	2			4		

MURDERS COMMITTED IN THE LYALLPUR AND JHANG DISTRICTS

1851. Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the number of murders committed in the Lyallpur and Jhang districts during the years 1941 to 1944 ;

(b) the number of cases out of these in which the culprits could not be traced ;

(c) the special measures adopted by the police to trace the culprits ?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat :—

	1941	1942	1943	1944	Total
(a) Lyallpur district ..	66	75	78	89	308
Jhang district ..	26	36	41	28	131
(b) Lyallpur district ..	12	20	25	13	70
Jhang district ..	7	9	7	6	29

(c) Necessary measures to trace the culprits have been and are being taken by the Police.

THEFTS IN THE JHANG DISTRICT

1852. Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

- (a) the number of thefts reported in the Jhang district during the years 1941 to 1944 ;
- (b) the number of cases in which stolen property was recovered and restored to the owners ;
- (c) the number of cases in which the thieves could not be arrested ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that thefts, especially in respect of cattle lifting are on the increase in the said district ;
- (e) the special measures, if any, which are being adopted by the police to cope with the situation ?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat :

	1941	1942	1943	1944
(a)	300	421	456	311
(b)	137	188	151	178
(c)	144	211	223	187

- (d) No. Theft, including cattle lifting, are on the decrease.
- (e) Does not arise.

CONCILIATION BOARDS IN THE JHANG DISTRICT

1853. Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state :—

- (a) the dates on which the Conciliation Boards were set up in the Jhang District ;
- (b) the date or dates on which they were finally dissolved ;
- (c) the total amount for which applications for the adjudication of debts were received during the entire period of the existence of the Boards ;
- (d) the total amount finally awarded by the Boards during the entire period of their existence ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : (a) and (b) Originally a Debt Conciliation Board for the whole of the Jhang district was set up from the 11th September 1935. A second Board was established for the Chiniot and 6 sails of the Jhang tahsil from the 5th August 1938. The remaining 19 sails of the Jhang tahsil were subsequently included in the jurisdiction of the second Board with effect from the 29th August 1939. The second Board thus extended to the Chiniot and Jhang tahsils. The original (or first) Board was closed on the 31st March 1940, and the jurisdiction of the second Board was extended to the whole of the district, with effect from the 1st April 1940. The Board ceased to exist from the 4th October 1941. The Board was later reconstituted for the whole of the district from the 16th March 1942, and it was abolished from the 17th March 1943.

(c) Rs. 3,75,99,531.

(d) Rs. 1,61,56,482.

SPECIAL JAGIRS

1854. Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state :—

(a) the total number, names and value of special jagirs granted since they were first instituted in 1917-1918 up to date in the Multan Division ;

(b) the considerations on which special jagirs are awarded ;

(c) the number of cases in which such jagirs have been confiscated since their inception ?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram : (a) A statement is laid on the table.

(b) These jagirs are given as a mark of reward to persons who have rendered conspicuous services such as work done for the preservation of law and order, advancement of the co-operative and panchayat movements, encouragement of education, sanitation and medical relief, popularisation of agricultural improvements, breeding of horses and cattle of improved type, planting of trees, etc., and assistance in the war effort.

(c) One.

List of special jagirs granted in the Multan Division

Serial No.	Name of grantee	Annual amount of Jagir
		Rs.
1	Risaldar Sardar Bahadar Partap Singh of Lyallpur ..	750
2	Khan Bahadur Mian Shaikh Ahmad of Thatta Gurmani, Muzaffargarh district	500
3	Khan Bahadur Makhdum Muhammad Sadr-ud-Din Shah, Gilani, Multan district	500
4	Khan Sahib Sardar Karim Dad Khan of Dera Ghazi Khan district ..	750
5	Khan Saadat Ali Khan of Kamalia, Montgomery district	500
6	Mehr Humayun of Mukhiana, Jhang district	500
7	Lala Khan Chand of tahsil and district Jhang	250
8	Chaudhri Hassan Muhammad Lyallpur	250
9	Sardar Bahadur Jawala Singh of Rasiana, Lyallpur district ..	500
10	Khan Sahib Mehr Abadan of Chak No. 242-R. B. Lyallpur district ..	750
11	Bhai Harnam Singh 64-J. B., of Lyallpur	250
12	Lala Khan Chand of Jhang	250
13	Mehr Wali Dad Khan of Chak No. 269-G. B., Lyallpur District ..	(Raising his jagir at Serial No. 7 to Rs. 500). 250
14	Mr. S. David of Lyallpur	250
15	Mehr Amir Bakhsh of Maghiana, Jhang	250

Serial No.	Name of grantee	Annual amount of Jagir
16	Chaudhi Nazir Ahmad Khan, Montgomery	250
17	Chaudhri Bhoja Ram, Jampur tahsil, Dera Ghazi Khan district ..	250
18	Charagh Din of Chak No. 5—4-L, Montgomery district	250
19	Khan Bahadur Makhdom Ghulam Qasim of Daira Din Panah, Muzaffargarh district ..	250
20	Sardar Bahadur Risaldar Dilbagh Singh of Surjanpur, Jaranwala tahsil, Lyallpur district ..	250
21	Sayyed Chuhr Shah of Thatti Bala Raja, Chiniot Tehsil, Jhang district ..	250
22	Chaudhri Bakhtawar Singh of Kot Haki Rai, Montgomery District ..	250
23	Chaudhri Jahan Khan of Chak No. 80/5-L, Montgomery district ..	250
24	Khan Bahadur Sardar Hasan Khan, C.I.E., Dera Ghazi Khan ..	500
25	Chaudhri Imam Din of Chak No. 89/6-R., Montgomery district ..	250
26	Sardar Pal Singh Randhawa, Chak No. 138/G. B., Lyallpur District ..	250
27	Mahar Haq Nawaz of Amirpur Kanaka, Muzaffargarh District ..	250
28	Chaudhri Hassan Muhammad, Lyallpur	250
29	Risaldar Muhammad Hayat Khan, Chak No. 111-G. B., Lyallpur District ..	250
30	Thakur Bhana Ram, Pleader, of Multan	250
31	Malik Pir Bakhsh Bucha of Khusrabad, Multan district	250
32	Sayed Khadim Ali Shah of Montgomery	250
33	Khan Bahadur Sardar Din Muhammad Khan, C.I.E., Dera Ghazi Khan District	500
34	Chaudhri Nand Lal Midha of Kamalia, Lyallpur district	250
35	Maulvi Faiz Rasul, Ovasi, of Multan	250
36	Mr. Raj Indra Lal Sahni, Wakil, Montgomery	250
37	Mehr Ghulam Qasim Khan of Ahmedpur Syal, Jhang district ..	250
38	Chaudhri Mohammad Qasam of Chak No. 310-J.B., Lyallpur district ..	250
39	Chaudhri Ata Muhammad of Chak No. 82/6-R., Montgomery district ..	250
40	Sardar Bahadur Sardar Dilbagh Singh, Chak No. 66-G. B., Jaranwala tahsil, Lyallpur district	250
41	Khan Maula Dad Khan, Jhang	250
42	Sardar Bishan Singh of Chak No. 16/1-L, Montgomery district ..	250
43	Rai Bahadur Lala Piyara Lal of Rangpur, Muzaffargarh district ..	250
44	Khan Sahib Rai Sikandar Khan of Chak No. 282-G. B., Jaranwala tahsil, Lyallpur district	250
45	Sheikh Muhammad Ameen, Chiniot, Jhang district	250
46	Chaudhri Sultan Ahmad of Chak No. 82/6-R., Montgomery district ..	250
47	Lt. Jawand Singh of Chak No. 52/2-L., Montgomery district ..	250

(Having his jagir at Serial No. 8 to Rs. 500).

(In addition to the jagir of Rs. 250 already granted,—vide No. 20 above).

Serial No.	Name of grantees	Annual amount of Jagir
48	Subedar Ragha Ram of Chak No. 6/1-L, Montgomery district ..	250
49	Sardar Sahib Lt. Gurbakhsh Singh Chak No. 201-R. B., Lyallpur district	250
50	Chaudhri Faiz Muhammad of Chak No. 328-J.B., Lyallpur district ..	250
51	Khan Sahib Sheikh Yusaf Shah of village Haveli Bahdur Shah, Jhang district	250
52	Maalvi Faiz Rasul, Ovesi, of Multan city	250 (Raising his jagir,—vide Serial No. 35 to Rs. 500).—
53	Sardar Sundar Singh of Chak No. 88/W.B., Mailsi tahsil, Multan district	250
54	Pandit Nand Kishore of Multan city	250
55	Khan Muhammad Akram Khan, Zaildar of Tarpai, Multan district ..	250
56	Khan Sahib Malik Qadar Bakhsh of village Jakhar, Muzaffargarh district	250
57	Malik Ahmad Bakhsh of Jhalarin, Muzaffargarh district	250
58	Mahr Rajada Khan of Chak No. 82/5-L, Montgomery district ..	250
59	Khan Ghulam Muhammad Khan of Kamalia, Lyallpur district ..	250
60	Khan Sahib Rai Sultan of Pir Panja, Jhang district	250
61	Risaldar Inder Singh, I.O.M., I.D.S.M., of Chak No. 143-E. B., Montgomery district	250
62	Rai Bahawal Khan of Chak No. 459-G. B., Lyallpur district ..	250
63	Sardar Mohan Singh of Chak No. 219-J. B., Lyallpur district ..	250
64	Chaudhri Jan Muhammad of Multan City	250
65	Chaudhri Khillu Ram of Jampur, Dera Ghazi Khan district ..	250

PROVINCIALIZATION OF JHANG-CHINIOT KATCHA ROAD

1855. Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : Will the Honourable Minister for Public Works be pleased to state :—

(a) the length of new pucca roads in the districts of Lyallpur and Jhang metalled during the year 1941 to 1944 ;

(b) the length of katcha roads metalled in the same districts during the same period ;

(c) whether Government intend to provincialize the Jhang-Chiniot Katcha Road and to metal it ; if so, when ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Sir Muhammad Jamal Khan Leghari :—(a) Nil.

(b) The following lengths of Katcha roads were metalled during the years 1941 to 1944 :—

District	Name of road	Length in miles
Jhang	Jang Bhakkar Road	33.74
Lyallpur	Toba Tek Singh-Kamalia-Chichawatni Road	21.50
	Total ..	55.24

(c) The road is already down on the Post-War Road Reconstruction Programme

LALA SANAM RAI

1856. Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma: Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state:—

(a) whether the Government has received a complaint from Lala Sanam Rai, M.A., a Congress detenu, now lodged in the District Jail, Sialkot, regarding the loss of his trunk containing clothes, etc., on the occasion of his transfer from Multan to Sialkot during the night between 15th and 16th November 1944, when all of his belongings were under police custody;

(b) what action, if any, has so far been taken by the Government in the matter?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat: (a) Yes. For the honourable member's information, Civil Disobedience detenu Sanam Rai has since been released.

(b) Government has the matter under consideration.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS IN THE PROVINCE

1857. Captain Sodhi Harnam Singh: Will the Honourable Minister of Education be pleased to state:—

(a) the number of Elementary Schools in each division in the Punjab to which grant-in-aid or any other aid has been given by Government and to which recognition has been granted since 1933 in each year;

(b) the number of such schools in each division to which recognition or grant-in-aid has been refused;

(c) the number of applications received since 1933 and the number of those which are still pending with the reasons for refusing recognition or grant-in-aid in each case;

(d) the amount spent by the Government in establishing Elementary Schools in each division during the years 1942—44 and 1945?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye: I regret that the answer to the Assembly question is not ready.

EDUCATIONAL GRANTS TO CERTAIN DISTRICT BOARDS

1858. Captain Sodhi Harnam Singh: Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state:—

(a) the percentage of literate persons in the districts of Hissar, Rohtak, Gurgaon, Karnal, Ambala, Dera Ghazi Khan, Shahpur, Mianwali and Multan, separately, as compared with that of the province as a whole;

(b) the basis on which the Government gave educational grants to District Boards of the above-mentioned districts;

(c) the reasons for giving some district boards 70 per cent and to others cent per cent grants;

(d) the amount granted to each District Board of the above-mentioned districts for this purpose during the years 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943 and 1944?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye: (a) It is regretted that this information is not maintained on the records of the Education Department. The census report usually gives such information, but this information is given for the whole province and not districtwise.

(b) and (c) The district boards were graded in 1918 for purposes of provincial grants. The grading was fixed on the following considerations:—

(i) the capacity and financial resources of each district;

[Education Minister.]

(ii) the educational needs of the district ;

(iii) the war services rendered by the rural population of the district.

The grant given by Government to a district board is calculated as follows. The grant received by a district board prior to 1918 was treated as its basic grant for the year 1918-19. This basic grant has increased from year to year by the amount due to the board as grant-in-aid according to its grade on account of its approved additional expenditure on vernacular education in the previous year. Thus each year a district board receives from Government grant-in-aid equal to its basic grant for the year plus the grant calculated according to its grade on the approved additional expenditure during the previous year.

(d) The following grants for vernacular education were paid during 1940-41 to 1943-44 :—

	1940-41	1941-42	1942-43	1943-44
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Hissar	1,77,914	1,81,573	1,80,604	2,07,897
2. Rohtak	2,78,801	2,94,536	2,82,203	3,90,546
3. Gurgaon	2,70,632	2,88,688	2,80,530	2,96,671
4. Karnal	1,89,039	1,89,759	1,87,912	2,17,983
5. Ambala	1,77,034	1,76,984	1,62,471	1,92,540
6. Dera Ghazi Khan	3,04,105	3,07,724	3,05,405	3,72,807
7. Shahpur	2,89,664	2,82,986	2,88,809	3,37,238
8. Mianwali	2,55,465	2,57,780	2,54,151	3,83,006
9. Multan	2,78,519	2,78,467	2,78,768	3,71,337

The information for the year 1944-45 is not complete as the grants for certain items of expenditure have yet to be paid.

GRANT OF S. V. AND J. V. SPECIAL CERTIFICATES TO FEMALE TEACHERS

1859. Captain Sodhi Harnam Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state :—

(a) the rules which govern the grant of special certificates of S. V. and J. V. to teachers of secondary schools ;

(b) the reasons for not granting such certificates especially to female teachers ?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : (a) A copy of the rules is laid on the table.

(b) As the special Junior Vernacular and Senior Vernacular certificates to men and women teachers are granted every year, the question does not arise.

Rules

(a) The special Junior Vernacular Certificate is awarded if the applicant—

(i) is a middle pass ;

(ii) is above 25 years of age ;

(iii) has put in 10 years' approved and continuous service in a recognised school in the Punjab ;

(iv) is of good moral character ; and

(v) shows good reasons to the satisfaction of the Divisional Inspector/Circle Inspectress why he/she is or has been unable to undertake a course of training in a normal school.

The special Senior Vernacular Certificate is awarded if the applicant—

(i) is a Junior Vernacular certificated ;

(ii) is above 35 years of age ;

(iii) has had continuous and approved service for 15 years in a recognised school in the Punjab ;

(iv) is of good moral character ; and

(v) shows good reasons to the satisfaction of the Divisional Inspector/Circle Inspectress that he/she is or has been unable to undertake a course of training in a normal school.

SLAUGHTER OF CERTAIN KINDS OF CATTLE

1860. Captain Sodhi Harnam Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India issued certain instructions under rule 81 of the Defence of India Rules to the Punjab Government in July, 1944, or thereabout to restrict the slaughter of certain kinds of cattle and not to allow some of them to go to slaughter-houses and to direct veterinary officials to inspect those slaughter-houses for this purpose and to have some meatless days ; if so, whether he would be pleased to place this notification on the table of the House and state what action has been taken by the Punjab Government in this behalf ;

(b) the number of (1) cows, (2) bullocks, (3) bulls, (4) heifers, (5) calves, (6) buffaloes, (7) she-buffaloes, and (8) calves of buffaloes of all ages and descriptions that have been slaughtered in each slaughter-house of the province from 1936 to 1944, separately, in each year ;

(c) the number of slaughter-houses licensed or unlicensed in the province during the years 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944 and the reasons for the increase in their numbers ; if any ;

(d) the reasons as to why certain slaughter-houses are classified as unlicensed and why they are allowed to exist ;

(e) whether there are any other places besides the licensed and unlicensed slaughter-houses, where cattle are slaughtered ; if so, the number of cattle slaughtered in each of such places from 1936 to 1944, in case such statistics are maintained by Government ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : (a) No. No notification has been issued by the Government of India under Rule 81 of the Defence of India Rules in this connection. The question of prohibiting slaughter of certain types of cattle by legal orders and also of enforcing meatless days is however under the consideration of Government.

(b), (c), (d) and (e) The time and labour involved in collecting the information will not be commensurate with any possible benefit to be obtained.

EXTORT OF CERTAIN KINDS OF CATTLE

1861. Captain Sodhi Harnam Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state :—

(a) whether any orders have been issued by the Punjab Government prohibiting the export of certain kinds of cattle from this province ; if so, a copy of the said order may kindly be placed on the table of the House ;

(b) the number of cows, she-buffaloes and other live-stock which have been permitted by the Director of Veterinary Services, Punjab, to go out of the province from 30th June 1944 to 31st January 1945 with separate figures for each of the species giving the place of destination and the purpose for which these were exported ;

(c) the number of cases regarding the violation of the above-mentioned orders which have been detected and proceeded with in courts with their results and the number of cases which have not been proceeded with ;

(d) whether it is a fact that the number of cattle has considerably gone down in the districts of Hissar, Rohtak and Gurgaon ; if so, the action Government intend to take in the matter ;

(e) whether it is a fact that the number of bullocks used for agricultural purposes has decreased in the Punjab ; if so, the action Government intend to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : (a) A copy of Punjab Government notification No. 9490-ST (G)-44/100460, dated the 18th November 1944, regulating the export of certain kinds of cattle from the province is attached.

(b) A statement containing the information asked for is enclosed.

(c) The information asked for is not readily available. It is known however that a few cases of comparatively large attempted exports to Delhi and North-West Frontier Province have been detected.

(d) and (e) There is at present no information that the number of cattle has decreased considerably in the districts of Hissar, Rohtak and Gurgaon or that the number of bullocks for agricultural purposes has decreased in the Punjab. The exact position will, however, be known when the figures of the 1945 cattle census are available. In case those figures reveal any substantial decrease Government will consider whether any further action is necessary.

Notification

(i) In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (a) of sub-rule (2) of rule 81 of the Defence of India Rules, the Governor of the Punjab is pleased to direct that no person shall export cattle or other livestock of any age and whether male or female, belonging to any of the species enumerated in the schedule hereunto annexed from any place within the Province of the Punjab, and the lands (hereinafter referred to as the said lands) lying within the States specified in the second column of the Schedule to the Government of India, Political Department, notification No. 206-IB., dated the 15th June 1939, as amended by the Government of India, Political Department, notification No. 342-IB., dated the 14th September 1939, which are, or may hereafter be occupied by the railways specified in the first column of the said schedule (including the lands occupied by stations, by out-buildings and for other railway purposes), except under and in accordance with the terms and conditions of a permit issued in writing by the Director of Veterinary Services, Punjab, or any officer not below the rank of Deputy Superintendent, Civil Veterinary Department, Punjab, authorised by him in this behalf.

(ii) In this Order unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context :—

“ export ” means to take out of the Province of the Punjab or the said lands to any province of British India other than the Punjab or to any Indian State and includes taking out of the Province of the Punjab to any place situated in the said lands.

2. Punjab Government notification No. 5203-ST (G). 44/9266, dated the 22nd June 1944, is hereby cancelled.

SCHEDULE

1. Bovine Cattle.
2. Buffaloes.

Statement

NUMBER AND KIND OF LIVESTOCK PERMITTED TO GO OUT OF THE PUNJAB BY THE DIRECTOR, VETERINARY SERVICES, PUNJAB, DURING THE PERIOD FROM 30TH JUNE 1944 TO 31ST JANUARY 1945

She-buffaloes	Cows	Sheep	Goats	Buffalo bulls	Cow bulls or bullocks	Place of destination	Purpose
190	151	..	..	..	1	Bengal ..	Milk and Breeding.
3,443	64	..	..	1	..	Bombay ..	Ditto.
413	22	..	9	..	..	North-West Frontier Provinces.	Ditto.
192	15	..	..	..	6	Sind and British Baluchistan.	Milk, Breeding and work.
96	103	..	..	..	10	Punjab and Punjab States.	Ditto
184	14	..	..	..	10	Central Provinces.	Ditto
24	12	16	8	..	1	Central India	Ditto
23	32	26	26	1	..	Orissa ..	Milk and Breeding.
40	..	3	..	..	..	Madras ..	Ditto
32	..	..	..	..	..	Bihar ..	Ditto
1	11	74	1	..	..	Miscellaneous	Ditto
29	220	..	..	..	..	Delhi Province	29 buffaloes } for Milk and 20 Cows. } Breeding.
1,296	184	6,120	1	4	116	United Provinces	200 cows for slaughter for the Army. 1,296 buf- faloes. 84 Cows. 29 Sheep 1 Goat 4 buffaloes bulls. 41 bulls. 100 Cows } For slaughter 6,100 Sheep } for the Army 75 bullocks for work.
5,933	818	6,238	44	6	144		

NOTE.—The above statement does not include figures of exports to North-West Frontier Province for slaughter, information in respect of which is not readily available.

REFERENCE TO LATE CH. SIR CHHOTU RAM

Mr. Speaker : My attention has been invited to the fact that on the 19th instant I failed to associate myself formally with the sentiments expressed in the House, before putting to the vote of the House the condolence motion on the sad and untimely death of Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram. I intended to express my feelings, but I was so overwhelmed with grief and sorrow that at that moment I altogether forgot to do so and put mechanically the condolence motion to the vote of the House. So, I take this opportunity of associating myself fully with the sentiments expressed by the various sections of the House. Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram's loss is like a loss of a brother to me. My relations with him were not only friendly, but brotherly. Ever since we came to know each other, we loved each other like real brothers.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE OF CH. KARTAR SINGH

Mr. Speaker : An application for leave of absence has been received from Chaudhri Kartar Singh, M. L. A. He writes :—

"I want to inform you that I have been under detention since August 1942. Therefore, I want through you, to be allowed to remain absent from the Punjab Legislative Assembly for a period of one year, I hope the Assembly would grant me the necessary permission".

The question is—

That the permission asked for be granted.

The motion was carried.

TENANCY (AMENDMENT) BILL

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : I move—

That leave be granted to introduce the Punjab Tenancy (Amendment) Bill.

Minister for Revenue (The Honourable Chaudhri Tikka Ram) : I oppose leave being granted.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh (Amritsar North, Sikh, Rural) (*Punjabi*) : Sir, I should like to make a few observations in regard to my motion. At present dynamic changes are afoot in the world. Europe is undergoing rapid changes in the present War and the landlords cannot claim to have any hold on their lands. The landlords of Eastern Prussia are no longer the masters of their lands. Under the circumstances I feel that the honourable members sitting opposite who also happen to be big zamindars will take stock of the situation and do something substantial with a view to improve the hard lot of the poor tenants. I do not see any reason as to why the honourable members opposite oppose this simple measure. To me it appears that they do not want to bring about any change with this changing world. The condition of tenants in the Punjab is far from satisfactory. One shakes and shivers to hear the hardships that are caused to them by the ruthless landlords: I have brought this measure with a view to ameliorate their pitiable condition. This is a simple measure. By the first amending clause of this Bill it is intended that a tenant who has continuously been cultivating land for a period of six years or more immediately preceding the first day of October 1938 shall be deemed to have acquired a right of occupancy in that land. At present landlords demand a large quantity of produce from their tenants. It is also provided in the Bill that no tenant shall be made to pay as rent when the same is payable by division of more than half of the whole produce. Many exactions are being made from the tenants. They have to pay abiana, malba and other taxes. I was surprised to hear from the Honourable Premier that it was a matter of a contract between the tenants and the landlords. May I know from him whether a contract between a wolf and a lamb is a legal contract? Poor tenants are harassed by the landlords so much so that the women of these poor tenants are required to present themselves daily before the landlords to pay them their 'salams'. This is not all.

These tenants have to bear the expenses of the police staff, patwaris and other officers. These poor tenants are subjected to forced labour. The woeful tale of their untold miseries knows no end. These tenants are at the mercy of their landlords. Landlords lay their hands upon the property and cattle belonging to these poor tenants at any time they like. It is really unbecoming on the part of the landlords to meet out such a harsh treatment towards their tenants who after all happen to be human beings. Perhaps the honourable members sitting opposite who are out to oppose this Bill, forget this fact that these very tenants are the pride of the world. I have brought this Bill in this House with a view to safeguard the interests of the poor tenants. In this connection I may point out that this is not a revolutionary Bill by which the jagirdars of this province may be thrown overboard. Now we have to test the Unionist Ministry which claims to be the real well-wishers of the poor tenants. Let me assure my honourable friends opposite that this is a very simple Bill and it aims at giving occupancy right to the tenants whose meagre earnings are snatched by their landlords. Under the circumstances I request the honourable members opposite not to oppose this Bill; if they have any sympathy with the tenants. With these words, Sir, I ask for leave to introduce the Bill.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That leave be granted to introduce the Punjab Tenancy (Amendment) Bill.

(At this stage Mr. Speaker left the chair and Mr. Deputy Speaker occupied it.)

Minister for Revenue (The Honourable Chaudhri Tikka Ram) (*Urdu*): Sir, I would have been too glad to accept this measure if it had been really useful for the tenants. But in the clauses given in the Bill such changes as to improve the lot of tenants have not been proposed, I, therefore, oppose leave being granted to this Bill. My honourable friends sitting opposite should not be oblivious of the fact that to help the backward classes has been a rule with our party from the very beginning and therefore they may rest assured that if there arises any need of such a measure, Government would lose no time in bringing forward such a Bill. I fear that the clauses of this measure instead of doing good to the tenants would affect them adversely. For instance in clause 2 it has been provided that a tenant who has continuously been cultivating land for a period of six years shall be deemed to have acquired a right of occupancy in that land. I am afraid, to give a permanent right to a tenant who has been tilling a land for the last six years beginning from 1938 does not seem to be reasonable enough. This formula is irrational and I do not see any sense in it. Moreover, when the lands were given to the tenants for cultivation the circumstances were different. The land owners by giving land to the tenants showed them a great kindness without having ever thought that after a few years they would have to suffer for this kindness. I think it will not be justified at all to let landowners suffer for the kindness and help extended to tenants. It was really very nice on their part to give lands to the tenants for cultivation. Now let me ask my honourable friend Sardar Sohan Singh Josh, is there any justice in punishing the landowners for all the co-operation and good treatment meted out by them to the tenants? The tenants, as a matter of fact, have been deriving benefit by cultivating the lands for years together and moreover the relations between landowners and tenants have always remained cordial in the province. I, therefore, submit that such a provision would mean an injustice to landowners, who have allowed their tenants to till their lands continuously for six years without having ever thought that any such measure is coming. Since this measure is not practicable I strongly oppose it.

Now, Sir, the other principle laid down in this Bill is that no rent shall be paid by the tenants amounting to more than half of the whole produce. I am afraid this clause is likely to give rise to a strife between the tenants and the landowners as the latter may start taking rent from the former in cash. I may also point out that instead of doing some good to the peasantry this Bill would create unhappiness between the

[Revenue Minister.]

two classes. The problem of the tenants may be existing in other provinces but the mover of the Bill should take it from me that it does not exist in our province at least. Besides, the land revenue paid by the tenants is far less than that paid by the landowner. To clarify this I may point out that more than 10 thousand rupees are paid by nearly 13 landlords. Over and above all, the relations between tenants and landowners, as I have already submitted, have never been bad up to this moment. They have been co-operating with each other like brothers. If the principles underlying this Bill are accepted by us what will be the result? The tenants would be ousted from the lands by the landowners and ejection would be the order of the day. Consequently the landowners will avoid giving land to the tenants for many years and thus the ejections would give rise to hundred and one troubles. Now as the work is being done quite smoothly, I do not want to change the existing system as this change will never bring happiness to the tenants. I would again say that if an amendment to Punjab Tenancy Act was really useful for the poor I would have been the first man to welcome it. (*Hear, hear*). But as I have already stated the principles underlying this measure are not such as to benefit the peasantry and I deem it my duty to oppose it.

Then, Sir, much has been said for improving the lot of the backward classes. I do not understand why my honourable friends sitting opposite have comfortably forgotten the fact that the Punjab Government's record of service to the tenants and other backward classes has always been good. The Unionist Government have always been interested in ameliorating the condition of the poor peasantry. It is quite clear from the legislation which this House has been passing from time to time that the petty zamindars have derived much benefit. Let me assure my honourable friends sitting opposite once again that if this measure was really intended for the benefit of the petty zamindars, the leave would surely have been granted. But as the passage of this measure would create unpleasantness in villages and particularly the cordial relations between the tenants and the landowners would be adversely affected, I am not one with the mover of the Bill in saying that the leave be granted for the introduction of this Bill. Then it has been provided in the proposed Bill that except the legitimate expenses directly relating to the cultivated land no other exactions shall be levied from the tenant. May I point out that the words 'legitimate expenses' have not been defined by the mover of the Bill? We do not understand what he means by saying legitimate expenses. In this connection I would like to say that the amount already levied under the Punjab Tenancy Act from the tenants in villages is quite reasonable and therefore we are not going to make any change in the existing Tenancy Act. With these few remarks, Sir, I strongly oppose leave being granted to this Bill.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : The question is—

That leave be granted to introduce the Punjab Tenancy (Amendment) Bill.

The motion was lost.

LAND REVENUE (AMENDMENT) BILL

Sardar Sampuran Singh : Sir, I beg to move—

That leave be granted to introduce the Land Revenue (Amendment) Bill.

Minister for Revenue : I object to it.

Sardar Sampuran Singh (Lyallpur West, Sikh, Rural) : Sir, this is now an admitted fact that according to the Punjab Land Revenue Act, the owner of the land is the proprietor, the zamindar, and the revenue which the Government assess on the land is a tax. As a matter of fact in the rest of the world the practice is that taxation should be on that land which pays some income. We know that small landholders are running these farms without any profit from the land. They cannot get even the

ordinary wages. There cannot be any saving on these small uneconomic holdings. Therefore, I beg to ask for leave to move this Bill, so that the land may at least be able to pay to the small landholders at least their living.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motion moved—

That leave be granted to introduce the Land Revenue (Amendment) Bill.

Minister for Revenue (The Honourable Chaudhri Tikka Ram) (*Urdu*): Sir, I rise to oppose this Bill. My honourable friends must be remembering that the Government appointed a Committee for this very purpose. Its name was Land Revenue Committee. After devoting full attention towards this question of granting exemptions to the petty landlords of this type they came to the conclusion that there was no need for such an action, because exemption of such petty amounts could not prove of any avail to the people. Their report was fully debated in the House at that time. To meet this emergency we decided to start Peasants Welfare Fund. In the year 1942-48 thirty lakhs of rupees were earmarked for this purpose. We allotted last year in this fund, sixty lakhs of rupees and a similar amount was subscribed year before last. The fund now touches the fabulous limit of 210 lakhs of rupees. In our uplift programme we have included all the peasants who pay revenue up to the limit of twenty rupees per annum.

Sir, it is with sorrow when I recall that our late president of this fund Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram could not speed up this beneficial programme on account of his illness. Now these schemes are progressing rapidly and I entertain no doubt about their final results.

It will not be out of place, Sir, if I may add here for the information of the House that ten lakhs of rupees have been reserved for scholarships and we intend to start military stipends and scholarships for vocational training.

Sir, before I may resume my seat, I want to bring home one thing and that is that there is no use in granting such small exemptions. On the one hand they cannot be of any practical use to the peasant himself and on the other they will prove a considerable loss to the state revenues. Government is fully aware of its duties and we are utilising every penny for the welfare of this class by allotting it to the Peasants Welfare Fund. For these reasons, Sir, I request the House not to grant the requested leave.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : The question is—

That leave be granted to introduce the Land Revenue (Amendment) Bill.

The motion was lost.

PUBLICATION AND SALE OF HOLY BOOKS RESTRICTING BILL

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad (Southern Towns, Muhammadan, Urban) (*Urdu*): Sir, I beg to move—

That leave be granted to introduce the Publication and Sale of Holy Books Restriction Bill.

Minister for Education : I oppose it.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Sir, day before yesterday we were discussing the sale of Holy Quran Restriction Bill. In the course of debate my honourable friend Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan explained some good points of this very Bill which is on the very face of it non-controversial. But, Sir, to my greatest disappointment, the Honourable Minister for Development declared that he was not at all prepared to tolerate any sort of interference in the matter of Guru Granth Sahib by any non-Sikh. Sir, in the presence of such unfortunate atmosphere I do not think it fit to move this motion for leave to introduce my Bill. I had sponsored this Bill as I had equal regard for the holy books of other religions.

FIXATION OF MINIMUM RATES OF WAGES BILL

Sardar Kapoor Singh (Ludhiana East, Sikh, (Rural) : I move—

That leave be granted to introduce the Fixation of Minimum Rates of Wages Bill.

Minister for Finance : I object to leave being given.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Sir, I had no mind to attend the House to-day on account of my illness, but I realised that this Bill was one of those Bills which had been agitating the minds of thousands, even crores, of poor workmen and that made me come to bring forward this very important measure. You will see, Sir, that we have 99 per cent of our population who have to earn their livelihood by manual labour and get wages which hardly enable them to keep body and soul together and they are being exploited on all sides. I will not take much time of the House but will quote only one instance which has been provided to me by the Trunk Makers' Union, Lahore. The House will be surprised to know how the big manufacturers and factory owners exploit these poor labourers who are being under-fed, under-clothed, and it will be no exaggeration to say that they are being starved to death. In this connection I shall quote certain facts and figures. The cost of making a trunk 6 ft. by 3 ft. comes to about 30 to 40 rupees and you will be astonished to know that the factory owner or the big manufacturer gets more than 60 rupees for that, but the poor labourer who is the real maker of the trunk gets only annas 4. I want to know from the Minister for Development—unfortunately he is not in his seat—and from the Honourable Premier what for their Anti-profiteering and Anti-hoarding Acts are meant. It seems to me that the Government have never bothered themselves about these poor labourers and the big manufacturers are allowed to have their own way. They get not only 30 per cent or 40 per cent but sometimes even 100 per cent profits but nothing is being done against them. It is for this reason that I have brought forward this Bill. I have proposed that Rs. 60 p.m. should be fixed as the minimum wage and if the prices of food-stuff and other commodities go up, this wage should also be increased proportionately and for that purpose joint boards should be established in the districts.

I may make one thing clear and that is this. It is just possible that this Bill might be one of the measures in the bag of the late Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram. I will be only too glad if they come forward with this Bill because my intention is that something must be done for the poor workers and labourers and I do not want to make any demonstration that this Bill is being sponsored by the Congress Party. Let the Government take credit for that. I am even prepared to withdraw it if I am given an assurance that the Government will bring forward such a measure. If in spite of this, the Government is not prepared to do anything for the uplift of the poor labourers, it deserves condemnation.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motion moved—

That leave be granted to introduce the Fixation of Minimum Rates of Wages Bill.

Minister for Finance (The Honourable Sir Manohar Lal) : Sir, I shall place before the House just one consideration in regard to this matter. A committee called the Labour Investigation Committee was appointed by the Government of India. That Committee have collected a large amount of information on all relevant subjects connected with the immediate problem which engages the attention of the honourable member on the other side. That Committee have not yet made their report and as soon as that report is made, the Government of India propose to make definite suggestions thereon. I am sure the House will agree with me that that will be the time to take up legislations of this character. Anything done before that will be hopelessly premature. I do not wish to go further and all that I urge is that the suggestions contained in the proposed legislation are premature, and the implications thereof are far beyond those which lie within the contemplation of the honourable member.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : In view of the undertaking given by the Honourable Minister for Finance, I beg leave to withdraw the motion that I have moved.

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY POWERS AND PRIVILEGES BILL

Shrimati Raghbir Kaur (Amritsar, Sikh, Women) : Sir, I beg to move—

That leave be granted to introduce the Punjab Legislative Assembly Powers and Privileges Bill.

Minister for Finance : I object to leave being given.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : The motion moved :

That leave be granted to introduce the Punjab Legislative Assembly Powers and Privileges Bill.

Shrimati Raghbir Kaur (Amritsar, Sikh, Women) (*Punjabi*) : The object of the Bill is that the privileges of the members of this Assembly, who are the elected representatives of the public are not violated. Baba Rur Singh, a member of this Assembly, is put in jail by the Government without any trial. He is an old man. His eye-sight is bad. He is keeping indifferent health. His voters to-day, demand that he should represent them in this House. Similarly, Master Kabul Singh, who had remained in Deoli Camp for a long time, is now in Gujrat Jail. His financial condition is not satisfactory. You know that patriots generally do not own lands. They are 'kisans' and not 'zamindars'. The Government has not sanctioned any maintenance allowance for his family. Master Hari Singh, a capable member of this House, is interned in his village, and cannot represent the view point of his voters here. Similarly Sh. Shanno Devi and Lala Duni Chand, etc., have been deprived of their rights by the Government. Let those in power to-day bear in mind that it is possible that to-morrow a coalition Government may come into power here. In that even the members now sitting on this side of the House will also have some hand in the running of the administration of Government. At the same time the Defence of India Act will be applied to them and they will have to pass some time in jails. If they cannot think of others let them safeguard their own interests. It is not to the credit of a Government to keep the elected members of the people behind the prison bars. Although tall claims are put forward about the democratic nature of this Government, I ask, is it democracy that the elected representatives of the people are shut up in jails? It is nothing less than Hitler—shahi. Just as Hitler is perpetrating cruelties on the people similarly the Premier of the Punjab is making inroads on the rights and privileges of the honourable members of this House. I am moving this Bill so that the privileges which so far have been denied to the honourable members of this House may be defined and specified. With these words I move the Bill.

(At this stage Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.)

Premier (The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat) (*Urdu*) : Sir, I have listened to the speech of the lady member, the mover of the Bill, with rapt attention. But I must confess that it has no connection whatever with the subject matter of the Bill. If she studies the Bill carefully she will find that no provision has been made in it in pursuance of which a member of this House would be immune from arrest, detention and imprisonment for any criminal breach of law. What has been provided in it is simply this that in cases of civil proceedings or under any civil process a member shall not be liable to arrest, detention or imprisonment during the session of the Assembly. That is all. Beyond that there is no other provision in the Bill which confers any special privilege on the members. The lady member during the course of her speech did not refer to any provision of the Bill but, as usual, she harped on the same old theme that Hitlerite methods were being adopted here and that the Punjab Government was out to arrest and imprison the Congress members. This thing has nothing to do

[Premier]

with the Bill at all. I may tell her that the executive powers of any Government cannot be taken away by a measure of this nature. There is not a single country in the world where executive powers of a Government have been taken away in this manner nor any such thing can happen in future. I hope she has understood the position now. This Bill, which she has sought to introduce in this House, has some good points in it, but its drafting is very defective. Let me tell her that some time ago a proposal was under the consideration of Government that the privileges of members be defined and if necessary a Bill be introduced in the House to that effect. This matter has been and is under our consideration. Afterwards we shall have to consult with the Speaker as well. I am aware that in some other provinces attempts have been made to define the privileges of members but nowhere has any Bill been enacted. We will consult those provinces as well and if, after mature consideration, Government are convinced of the necessity of enacting a measure defining the privileges of members they will enact it. The Bill, as drafted, is very defective. It will not serve any useful purpose if it is enacted. As I have submitted if Government are convinced of the necessity of moving such a Bill they will certainly bring it forward. The lady member is probably under the impression that if this Bill is passed into law, members will not be arrested, detained or imprisoned at all. I assure her that no such provision has been made in it which confers any such privilege on them. In view of this I hope she will not press her motion. With these words I oppose the Bill.

Mr. Speaker : The question is—

That leave be granted to introduce the Punjab Legislative Assembly Powers and Privileges Bill.

The Assembly divided : Ayes 29, Noes 60.

AYES

Abdul Aziz, Mian.	Muhammad Hassan Khan Gurchani,
Abdul Hamid Khan, Sufi.	Khan Bahadur Sardar.
Allah Yar Khan Daulatana, Khan Bahadur Mian.	Muhammad Sarfraz Khan, Chaudhri.
Amir-ud-Din, Khan Bahadur Mian.	Mumtaz Muhammad Khan Daulatana, Mian.
Duni Chand, Mrs.	Mushtaq Ahmad Gurmani, Khan Bahadur Nawab
Ghazanfar Ali Khan, Raja.	Nasrullah Khan, Rana.
Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din, Khan Bahadur Maulvi.	Raghubir Kaur, Shrimati.
Ghulam Samad, Khan Sahib Khawaja.	Rashida Latif Baji, Begum.
Girdhari Das, Mahant.	Sahib Dad Khan, Khan Sahib Chaudhri.
Gokul Chand Narang, Dr. Sir,	Sahib Ram, Chaudhri.
Iftikhar Hussain Khan, Nawab.	Sampuran Singh, Sardar.
Kapoor Singh, Sardar.	Santokh Singh, Sardar.
Mazhar Ali Azhar, Maulvi.	Shaukat Hya t- Khan, Sirdar.
Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan, Chaudhri.	Sohan Singh Josh, Sardar.
	Teja Singh, Sardar.
	Uttam Singh Dugal, Sardar.

NOES

Abdul Haye, The Honourable Mian.	Ali Akbar, Chaudhri.
Abdul Rahim, Khan Sahib Chaudhri (Gurdaspur).	Allah Bakhsh Khan, Khan Bahadur Nawab Malik Sir.
Abdul Rahim, Chaudhri (Gurgaon).	Amjad Ali Shah, Sayed.
Ahmad Yar Khan, Khan Sahib Chaudhri.	Anant Ram, Rai Sahib Chaudhri.
	Asghar Ali, Khan Sahib Chaudhri.

Ashiq Hussain , The Hon'ble Nawab Major.	Muhammad Ashraf , Chaudhri.
Badr Mohy-ud-Din Qadri , Khan Sahib Sayed.	Muhammad Hussain , Khan Bahadur Chaudhri.
Baldev Singh , The Honourable Sardar.	Muhammad Jamal Khan Leghari , The Honourable Khan Bahadur Nawab Sir.
Brijraj Saran , Kanwar.	Muhammad Nawaz Khan , Lieutenant-Colonel Sardar Sir.
Dasaundha Singh , Sardar.	Muhammad Saadat Ali Khan , Khan Bahadur Khan.
Faiz Muhammad , Khan Bahadur Shaikh.	Muhammad Sarfraz Khan , Raja.
Faqir Hussain Khan , Khan Bahadur Chaudhri.	Muhammad Yasin Khan , Khan Sahib Chaudhri.
Farman Ali Khan , Subedar-Major Raja.	Muhammad Yusuf Khan , Khan.
Fateh Khan , Khan Bahadur Raja.	Muzaffar Ali Khan Qizilbash , Nawab Sardar.
Fateh Muhammad , Captain Mian.	Muzaffar Khan , Khan Bahadur Captain Malik.
Fazal Din , Khan Sahib Chaudhri.	Pir Muhammad , Khan Sahib Chaudhri.
Few, Mr. E.	Prem Singh , Chaudhri.
Ghulam Qadir Khan , Khan Bahadur.	Prem Singh, Mahant.
Gopal Singh (American) , Sardar.	Pritam Singh Siddhu , Sardar Bahadur Sardar.
Gurbachan Singh , Sardar Bahadur Sardar.	Rallia Ram, Mr. K. L.
Haibat Khan Daba , Khan Bahadur Khan.	Ram Sarup , Chaudhri.
Harnam Singh , Captain Sodhi.	Ranpat Singh , Chaudhri.
Het Ram , Rai Bahadur Chaudhri.	Riasat Ali , Khan Bahadur Chaudhri.
Jagjit Singh Man , Sardar.	Ripudaman Singh , Rai Bahadur Thakur.
Jogindar Singh Man , Sardar.	Sher Singh , Sardar.
Khizar Hayat , The Honourable Malik.	Sultan Mahmood Hotiana , Mian.
Lal Singh , Sardar.	Sumer Singh , Rao Sahib Chaudhri.
Manohar Lal , The Honourable Sir.	Tara Singh , Sardar Sahib Sardar.
Mohar Singh , Rao.	Tikka Ram , The Honourable Chaudhri.
Mohy-ud-Din Lal Badshah , Sayed.	
Muhammad Akram Khan , Khan Bahadur Raja.	
Muhammad Alam , Dr. Shaikh.	

MUSLIM MUSAWAT BILL.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad (Southern Towns, Muhammadan, Urban): Sir, I beg to move:

That leave be granted to introduce the Muslim Musawat Bill.

Nawab Muzaffar Ali Khan Qizilbash: I object.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad (Urdu): Sir, before I proceed with my speech, I wish to submit that I do not see any reason as to why my honourable friend sitting opposite wants to oppose this Bill. I am really surprised to see that a Muslim member for whom I had much regard, has risen from his seat to oppose this Bill. So far as this Bill is concerned, I wish to make this point clear that this Bill has been based on the teachings of the Holy Quran. Our Holy Prophet (May peace be on him) strived all his life to teach equality and fraternity to his disciples. If my honourable friend knew that our Holy Prophet considered equality to be the most important virtue, then he would not have stood up to oppose the Bill. It will not be out of place to mention here that the Holy Prophet raised the banner of equality to such an extent that slaves were installed as masters. People who called themselves masters during the reign of darkness and ignorance, prided later on to call themselves 'Syeds' when they were converted to Islam. Every principle of Islam does evince emphatically that Muslims are ordained to observe fraternity

2 p.m.

[K. S. Khawaja Ghulam Samad.]

and to treat each other like brothers. While offering our prayers to God Almighty we observe equality in the true sense of the word. Even the king has to stand in the last row if he happens to come late to offer his prayers. If a person clad in rags were to sit by the side of the king, he cannot be ousted from that place by the latter on the ground that he happens to be poor. In fact a king and a beggar are equal before the Almighty God while offering their prayers. The same principle of Masawat is strictly being followed on the occasion of Haj. When the Muslim pilgrims go for celebration of Haj, may they be beggars, may they be kings, they all go rubbing their shoulder with each other. This is not all. Akhwat and Musawat dominate in the principle of Zaqat which was introduced by the Holy Prophet (May peace be on him) to bring poor and rich on equal footing. The condition of Muslims would have been worse without Zaqat. The introduction of Zaqat has nullified Masawat. I really fail to understand the basis on which my honourable friends wants to oppose this Bill. By this Bill it is intended to introduce the principle of Masawat (equality and fraternity) among the Muslims of the Punjab province with a view to remove the distinction of caste and creed which is rampant among others. What I wish to point out is this that the very institution of caste system is foreign to the teaching of Islam and is a main source of creating heart burning and dissension among Muslims by bringing into existence various hindrances on the ground of accident of birth. It is in the interests of harmony and concord that the evil of caste among the Muslims be wiped off by means of this legislation. Hazrat Asaama bin Zaid (May peace be on his soul) was the son of a slave but the Holy Prophet (May peace be on him) made him the Commander-in-Chief of Muslim Army and the Quraish who used to feel pride in their superiority before their conversion to Islam had to obey his commands. It was my intention that there should be Musawat in all the other religions, which I have not ventured to touch on account of the respect for religions of other communities inhabiting this province.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : Expunge the word ' Muslim ' and we shall all support you.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : If you all agree, then I am prepared to expunge the word Muslim. It was my earnest desire to introduce a Bill of that nature.

Premier : The honourable member was lecturing on Islam and now he intends to take away the word ' Muslim '. If this is so, then the whole controversy is over.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : On a point of order, Sir. I take strong exception to the honourable Premier's ridiculing the national flag. He says ' sawa Jhanda '.

Premier : No Sir. On a point of personal explanation Sir. The House is here as witness. I said nothing about ' sawa jhanda '. What I said was this that if the word ' Muslim ' is expunged then the ' jhagra ' is over.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I am sorry I misunderstood the honourable Premier.

Premier : On a point of personal explanation, Sir.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : I have not given way.

Premier : Because the shoe pinches.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : I am constrained to remark that the Unionist Party, of which the Honourable Premier is the leader, is not a Unionist Party in the true sense of the word. It is a ' munafic ' party, which is out to create discord and friction amongst the Muslims of the province, and it is in regard to these persons belonging to this party, that the Holy Quran says :—

ختمه الله على قلوبهم وعلى سمعهم وعلى ابصارهم غشاوة ولهم عذاب عظيم

(God hath set a seal on their hearts and on their hearing and on their eyes is a veil. Great is the penalty they incur.)

Since this party came into power, its aim and object has been to sow the seed of discord among the Muslims inhabiting this province. This party is responsible for creating misunderstandings between the Muslims by forming Zamindara League, Jat Sabha, Gujar Conference and Rajput Conferences. This is not all. The prominent members of this party are responsible in creating differences among the Jats, Rajputs, Gujaras and the agricultural classes of this province. They always tried to impress upon the simple Jats, Rajputs and Gujaras that they are brethren in spite of their observing various religions and to then cut them off from other Muslims and create hatred against each other. This Bill has been brought forward to put an end to all such differences and dissensions. Although it is really a matter of shame for me to request the Government to safeguard the pious principles of Islam, yet this Bill will test their loyalty towards the religion of Islam. It will not be out of place to mention here that people are already tired of the present Ministry, which is out to resort to unholy, underhand means in creating dissension among the Muslims of this province. This Bill has been introduced to remove the distinction of caste and creed among the Muslims of the province, basing my arguments on a quotation from Holy Alquran, i.e.

ان اكرمكم عند الله اتقاكم

Under the circumstances I appeal to all the Muslim members of the House to give their unanimous support to it. With these few words I finish my speech and resume my seat.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That leave be granted to introduce the Muslim Musawat Bill.

Nawab Muzaffar Ali Khan Qizilbash (Lahore, Muhammadan, Rural) : Sir, before going into the principles of this Bill, I would like to congratulate my honourable friend the Khawaja Sahib. He has got a knack at every session of bringing something where he can do a sort of missionary work for Islam and for this we the Muslims are thankful to him. This is not the first time that my honourable friend the Khawaja Sahib has brought the Masawat Bill into this House. In 1941 he brought an identical Bill and at that time the honour of opposing it fell to my honourable friend Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan who is now sitting opposite. I would like to oppose this Bill with exactly the same words as my honourable friend Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan said then. He said—

Sir, I have risen to support each and every word that my honourable friend Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad has spoken and if his bill had been in conformity with his speech, or if his speech had even a remote relevancy to his Bill, I would not have opposed his Bill either.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : He made a wrong speech at that time.

Mr. Speaker : Such remarks should not be made.

Nawab Muzaffar Ali Khan Qizilbash : Let us see what the Khawaja Sahib has said. He talked about tenets of Islam. We all agree with it. There is no class distinction between poor or rich or middle class or any type among Islam. We are proud of it. He talked about the history of Islam. We agree with every word of his, as far as Islam goes. But again similar tactics have been used, the same story that Islam is in danger has been repeated. It has been said that we are opposed to the principles of Islam. That is not so. Now, what does he want? It is the Land Alienation Act which is being torpedoed by these means. It is not the first time, but this is being done for the last 10 or 15 years. Every 2nd year we find some gentleman in one form or another stabbing the zamindar in his back. This is the *magna charta* of the peasantry. If you go through the principles of the Bill in clause 8, you will find it runs as follows :—

Notwithstanding the provisions of any other enactment or law at present in force in the Punjab, no Muslim shall, by means of mere accident or birth in any particular calling or profession, of family, whatsoever, be debarred from acquiring or purchasing or obtaining any interest in land as defined in the Punjab Alienation of Land Act.

[Nawab Muzaffar Ali Khan Qizilbash]

(An honourable member: What a noble principle!) I am taking objection against it because it is a class legislation. Why not the Hindus and Sikhs have the same benefit? Will you tell me whether any Government worth the name can pass a class legislation of this type? (An honourable member: Why not?). You as an irresponsible opposition might bring anything. The object of the Khawaja Sahib is different. He read out the history of Islam and we are most grateful to him. But no Government can bring such a class legislation. If the word 'Muslim' is removed, then I see some force in it and I can understand it. But as it is, no Government worth the name can pass it. Not only that, but the other thing is that if the Land Alienation Act is tampered with in this manner, it will disturb the economic equilibrium. As it is, the zamindars are not completely saved. I personally think that the Government will have to go much further and take more drastic steps to save the zamindars because the time has come when the Land Alienation Act is not being acted on to save the zamindars as it should. There are different ways where land is acquired under different names and then re-sold. There are such cases in Lahore Improvement Trust. Now, what is more, it has nothing to do with Islam. If there is anything adversely affecting the zamindars, then you should shout against it. I would like to have Rs. 10,000 for my land if it is put to auction, but under the Land Alienation Act no one but a zamindar can buy and zamindars being poor would not offer more than Rs. 1,000. So what it comes to is that under the Land Alienation Act certain privileges have been taken away from us. It is a disabling Act.

The other thing is about services. There are two principles involved in this Bill. One is about the Land Alienation Act and the other is about services. He says that services should be opened to everyone and the discrimination of zamindars and non-zamindars should be removed. I submit that the population of zamindars is 85 per cent. (An honourable member: No). Very well, 85 per cent subsist on land.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang: Cent per cent subsist on land.

Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan: On a point of order, Sir. The honourable member is trying to waste the time of the House by going into irrelevant details.

Mr. Speaker: I think a learned speaker or a learned lawyer can make anything relevant.

Nawab Muzaffar Ali Khan Qizilbash: The limit of zamindars which the Khawaja Sahib has placed is 66 per cent. This is not so in all departments. There are very few departments in which it is so. With these words I oppose to the permission being granted to move this Bill. Here the question of Islam does not arise at all. They have done this only to play up to the galleries and outside public. It is just a backdoor legislation to get at the Land Alienation Act.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: On a point of personal explanation. The honourable Nawab Sahib has made a reference to my having opposed the same Bill on a previous occasion. May I tell him that I opposed Khwaja Sahib's speech and not the contents of the Bill. Even if I voted against it, my explanation is that it was due to the fact that at that time I was sitting on the benches where the atmosphere was anti-national, un-Islamic and reactionary (laughter).

Premier: At one time you were there as a Muslim Leaguer, then you came here and now you have gone there again. God knows in what atmosphere!

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang: May I ask one question? As we would be called upon to vote I want to know whether the Bill for which leave is sought by the mover is Musawat Bill or the Muslim Masawat Bill. (Honourable members: It is the Muslim Musawat Bill).

Mr. Speaker: The question is—

That leave be granted to introduce the Muslim Musawat Bill.

The Assembly divided : Ayes 27, Noes 63.

AYES

Abdul Aziz, Mian.
 Abdul Hamid Khan, Sufi.
 Akbar Ali, Pir.
 Allah Yar Khan Daulatana, Khan Bahadur Mian.
 Amir-ud-Din, Khan Bahadur Mian.
 Bhagat Ram Choda, Lala.
 Bhagat Ram Sharma, Pandit.
 Duni Chand, Mrs.
 Ghazanfar Ali Khan, Raja.
 Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din, Khan Bahadur Maulvi.
 Ghulam Samad, Khan Sahib Khawaja.
 Iftikhar Hussain Khan, Nawab.
 Kapoor Singh, Sardar.

Karamat Ali, Khan Bahadur Shaikh.
 Muhammad Hasan, Chaudhri.
 Muhammad Hussain, Sardar.
 Muhammad Nurullah, Mian.
 Muhammad Sarfraz Khan, Chaudhri.
 Mumtaz Muhammad Khan Daulatana, Mian.
 Nasrullah Khan, Bana.
 Raghbir Kaur, Shrimati.
 Sahib Dad Khan, Khan Sahib Chaudhri.
 Sahib Ram, Chaudhri.
 Sampuran Singh, Sardar.
 Shaukat Hyat Khan, Sardar.
 Sohan Singh Josh, Sardar.
 Teja Singh, Sardar.

NOES

Abdul Haye, The Honourable Mian.
 Abdul Rahim, Chaudhri (Gurgaoon).
 Ahmad Yar Khan, Khan Sahib Chaudhri.
 Ali Akbar, Chaudhri.
 Allah Bakhsh Khan, Khan Bahadur Nawab Malik Sir.
 Amjad Ali, Shah, Sayed.
 Anant Ram, Rai Sahib Chaudhri.
 Asghar Ali, Khan Sahib Chaudhri.
 Ashiq Hussain, The Honourable Nawab Major.
 Badr Mohy-ud-Din Qadri, Khan Sahib Sayed.
 Baldev Singh, The Honourable Sardar.
 Brijraj Saran, Kanwar.
 Dasaundha Singh, Sardar.
 Faiz Muhammad Khan, Rai.
 Faiz Muhammad, Khan Bahadur Shaikh.
 Faqir Hussain Khan, Khan Bahadur Chaudhri.
 Farman Ali Khan, Subedar-Major Raja.
 Fateh Khan, Khan Bahadur Raja.
 Fateh Muhammad, Captain Mian.
 Fazal Din, Khan Sahib Chaudhri.
 Few, Mr. E.
 Ghulam Qadir Khan, Khan Bahadur.
 Ghulam Rasul, Chaudhri.
 Gopal Singh (American), Sardar.
 Gurbachan Singh, Sardar Bahadur Sardar.
 Gurbakhsh Singh, Sardar.
 Haibat Khan Dahi, Khan Bahadur Khan

Hans Raj, Bhagat.
 Harnam Singh, Captain, Sodhi.
 Het Ram, Rai Bahadur Chaudhri.
 Jagjit Singh Man, Sardar.
 Jogindar Singh Man, Sardar.
 Khizar Hayat, The Honourable Malik.
 Lal Singh, Sardar.
 Manohar Lal, The Honourable Sir.
 Mohar Singh, Rao.
 Muhammad Akram Khan, Khan Bahadur Raja.
 Muhammad Alam, Dr. Shaikh.
 Muhammad Ashraf, Chaudhri.
 Muhammad Azam Khan, Khan Sahib Sardar.
 Muhammad Hussain, Khan Bahadur Chaudhri.
 Muhammad Jamal Khan Leghari, The Honourable Khan Bahadur Nawab Sir.
 Muhammad Nawaz Khan, Lieutenant-Colonel Sardar Sir.
 Muhammad Saadat Ali Khan, Khan Bahadur Khan.
 Muhammad Sarfraz Khan, Raja.
 Mula Singh, Sardar.
 Muzaffar Ali Khan Qizilbash, Nawab Sardar.
 Muzaffar Khan, Khan Bahadur Captain Malik.
 Nasir-ud-Din, Khan Bahadur Chaudhri.
 Pir Muhammad, Khan Sahib Chaudhri.

Rallia Ram, Mr. K. L.
 Ram Sarup, Chaudhri.
 Ranpat Singh, Chaudhri.
 Riasat Ali, Khan Bahadur Chaudhri.
 Ripudaman Singh, Rai Bahadur Thakur.
 Roberts, Sir, William.
 Sardar Khan Noon, Major Malik.

Sher Singh, Sardar.
 Sultan Mahmood Hotiana, Mian.
 Sumer Singh, Rao Sahib Chaudhri.
 Suraj Mal, Rao Bahadur Chaudhri.
 Tara Singh, Sardar Sahib Sardar.
 Tikka Ram, The Honourable Chaudhri.

Lala Bhagat Ram Choda: I want to ask for a piece of information. Is the convention that the Bills affecting a particular community shall be voted upon by the members of that community only set aside? If that is the case no religion will be left and the Government shall be the only religion in the province.

PROHIBITION OF MALBA BILL

Sardar Sampuran Singh (Lyallpur West, Sikh, Rural): I move—

That leave be granted to introduce the Prohibition of Malba Bill.

Minister for Revenue: I object to leave being given.

Sardar Sampuran Singh: Sir, Malba is a cess which is levied in villages. I can very easily foresee the arguments that the Honourable Minister for Revenue will bring forward against this Bill. He will say that the amount is so small that it is not worthwhile bothering about. That is possibly the only argument that the Honourable Minister can give and this seems to be the strongest card that he is holding at present. It means that if a poor *kisan* has got only one anna with him and if he cannot buy a square meal with that, that one anna too should be snatched away from him; he has no right even to possess that one anna. My submission is that there is absolutely no justification for levying such a cess. You have centralised all the facilities to the towns and whatever small mercy the poor villagers have got is being taken away. In my opinion, Sir, there is no moral justification, no legal justification for levying such a cess and it is an irregularity, illegality almost cruelty to continue it for any length of time.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved—

That leave be granted to introduce the Prohibition of Malba Bill.

Minister for Revenue (The Honourable Chaudhri Tikka Ram) (Urdu): Sir, I rise to oppose the Prohibition of Malba Bill. The mover has not advanced any argument in support of his measure justifying its enactment. He has simply stated that the Minister would get up and object to it on the ground that this cess has been in vogue for a long time and that it would not serve any useful purpose in opposing it now. I may tell him straightaway that no objection lies against the principle of Malba cess. That is my main objection against this Bill. Besides, he has observed that it is an illegal cess. It is absolutely legal. Under sub-clause 10 of Section 8 of the Land Revenue Act the zamindars have been permitted, if they so desire, to levy Malba cess for meeting their common needs.

Sardar Sampuran Singh: If they so desire. But they do not want it.

Minister: The position of Government is that it is optional for the zamindars to have or not to have Malba.

An Honourable Member: Which zamindars decide about this matter?

Minister: Only those zamindars can decide to have it or not to have it who live in that particular village. Outsiders cannot have any say in that matter in respect of that village. As I have stated the position of Government in this behalf is that Malba cess is levied at the request of majority of the people of villages and this fun

is utilized in the manner in which the zamindars deem fit and proper to use it. For instance, this fund is utilized for improving the *shamlats* or for entertaining guests and on other common needs of the villages for which money is required. It is this fund from which expenses like these can be met. As I have already observed it is the village community that has to decide whether they would like to keep it or not. Government have no hand in the matter nor can they force them to have it. When on some previous occasion, probably in 1938, a similar motion was made in the House my predecessor, the late Sir Sunder Singh Majithia, clarified the position of Government beyond any shadow of doubt. This is what he said :

Government wish also to emphasise the fact that it is optional with villagers either to have or not to have a Malba fund and that the money can be handed over either to the *lambardar* or to a village *panchayat* or to any kind of trust that they may like to set up for the purpose.

This is the position of Government in regard to this cess. They do not want to interfere in this matter at all. It rests entirely with the zamindars to continue or to discontinue this fund and they can expend it on the common needs of the zamindars in whatever manner they choose to do so. My learned friend professes to be a great lover of freedom. But his actions belie his professions. This little freedom of the villagers that they can, if they so desire, set up a fund of this nature for meeting their common needs and use it in the manner they deem fit, is an eyesore to him and he wants to take it away from them. (*Hear, hear*). He does not like this freedom to be given to the zamindars. It entirely rests with them to have or not to have this fund. Government do not force them to levy it or to administer it in any particular manner.

Sardar Sampuran Singh: On a point of order, Sir. The Honourable Minister is making a wrong statement. I will not say false, but it is a definitely wrong statement. The idea is not to let these officials use their influence and prosecute the people who do not pay malba.

An Honourable Member: The honourable member is making another speech.

Mr. Speaker: Is that a point of order? The honourable member cannot make another speech.

Sardar Sampuran Singh: It is a point of order, because the Honourable Minister is making a wrong statement.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. If wrong facts are stated by an honourable member, then under the rules they can be corrected at this stage or at the end of his speech.

Sardar Sampuran Singh: The Honourable Minister had no right to impute motives. I was only giving a personal explanation.

Mr. Speaker: The honourable member is not in order.

Sardar Sampuran Singh: The words of the Bill are clear on that point. How does the Honourable Minister say that we want to take away liberty?

Minister: My honourable friend has stated that there is no legal sanction behind the Malba cess. I have pointed out to him that sub-clause 10 of Section 3 of the Land Revenue Act permits the zamindars to levy this cess if they choose to do so. We all know very well that at the time of settlement one of the conditions provided in *wajib-ulras* is that zamindars are asked whether they would like to have or not to have malba cess. If the majority of a village is in favour of it then permission is granted to levy it, otherwise not. (*Interruptions*). I have made it abundantly clear that malba is an optional cess and it is levied only at the request of the zamindars. If they decide in its favour it is continued, otherwise not. With these words I oppose the Prohibition of Malba Bill.

Mr. Speaker: The question is—

That leave be granted to introduce the Prohibition of Malba Bill.

The motion was lost.

PUNJAB CHILDREN BILL

Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram (West Central Punjab, (Indian, Christian) : Sir, I beg to move—

That leave be granted to introduce the Punjab Children Bill.

Mr. Speaker : Does any one object? (*after a pause*). No one objects. So the motion will be put to the vote of the House.

The question is—

That leave be granted to introduce the Punjab Children Bill.

The motion was carried.

Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram : I introduce the Punjab Children Bill.

RESOLUTION

POST-WAR DEVELOPMENT

Khan Bahadur Raja Muhammad Akram Khan (Jhelum, Muhammadan, Rural) : Sir, I beg to move :

This Assembly recommends to the Government the desirability of securing within a reasonable period adequate post-war development particularly in the beneficent departments in the Punjab.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : On a point of order. I submit that this resolution is not in order. It is not in accordance with the rules. It could have been ruled out at an earlier stage. The mere fact that the Speaker has allowed it does not preclude its being ruled out of order at this stage if it is not in accordance with the rules. I invite your attention to rule 114 of our rules which says :

Subject to the restrictions contained in the Act and the rules, any member may move a resolution relating to a matter of general public interest :

Provided that no resolution shall be admissible which does not comply with the following conditions, namely :—

(a) it shall be clearly and precisely expressed, and shall raise substantially one main definite issue ;

Mark the words "clearly and precisely expressed" and "definite". Now my submission is that this resolution is not at all definite. It does not make any concrete proposal. It is vague and is neither clear nor precise. Again, "Every resolution shall be in the form of a specific recommendation to the Government". The resolution now moved says, "this Assembly recommends to the Government the desirability of securing." It recommends the "desirability." Now 'desirability' is not a definite, precise matter. Then "securing". "Securing" what and for whom and from whom? From God Almighty or from the Government of India or from the Imperial Bank or wherefrom? It reads :—

This Assembly recommends to the Government the desirability of securing within a reasonable period adequate post-war development particularly in the beneficent departments in the Punjab.

But to secure from whom? Is it to secure from the Punjab Exchequer or is it to secure from the Government of India? Is it to secure from the Secretary of State or is it to borrow from some money-lender? He says "post-war development." Post-war development for whom and for what purpose? Therefore, my submission is that the resolution is absolutely vague, indefinite and meaningless. As such it does not fall under the rules and I would request you to rule it out of order. I agree that in the rush of work when you get a very large number of resolutions, it is very difficult for you to go minutely into the words of every particular proposal, but under the rules it is up to you to rectify an omission at any stage and I have taken advantage of bringing this matter to your notice at its earliest stage. The time of the House is very valuable. It is after

3 p.m.

three years that we have been given one non-official day. The Unionist Party, in their anxiety to prevent the Opposition from bringing in non-official resolutions or proposals, has substituted certain meaningless resolutions. The ballot has, unfortunately, favoured them.

Premier : Is it a point of order ?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Their having drawn No. 1, does not entitle them to waste the time of the House by bringing forward any proposal which has no meaning and no significance. The main operative phrase in the resolution is "of securing". I ask, to secure from whom? I, therefore, submit that the Government intentionally wanted to make it indefinite. I quite sympathise with the Government in their effort to avert the uncomfortable resolution drawn by a member of my party but they should have the courage to face facts and not violate the rules. On the other hand, I am sure that the Honourable Premier will have the courage to get up and request Raja Muhammad Akram Khan to withdraw this resolution because it is not in order.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : On this point of order I want to say a few words. When deciding about a resolution you have to see whether it is vague or not and whether it is indefinite or it is definite.

Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan : On a point of order.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : I am standing on a point of order and until the point of order is finished—

Mr. Speaker : Is that your point of order ?

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : The honourable member raised a point of order and I am speaking on the same point of order.

Mr. Speaker : I cannot allow discussion on that point of order.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : A point of order is raised before you and to meet that point of order I am raising my point of order.

Mr. Speaker : The honourable member has started speaking without the Chair's permission and that I cannot allow.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : I seek the permission of the Chair to speak on the point of order. I am asking permission of the Chair. Have I your permission ?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : The very object of the point of order will be lost. The proposition is simple and does not require any constitutional rules and regulations. I have read to you the words of the resolution.

Mr. Speaker : I have read the resolution as carefully as I possibly could. I think it is not so clear as it should be. It is not intelligently worded but to hold it inadmissible at this stage after the ballot has been taken would not be fair. I would disallow it if I am convinced that it is entirely inadmissible. That is not the case. Will Raja Sahib tell me where the fault lies in the language ?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : In your own words you have said that it is not quite clear.

Mr. Speaker : It is not clearly worded.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : It is clearly worded but not clearly understood.

Mr. Speaker : The honourable member may proceed with his speech.

Khan Bahadur Raja Muhammad Akram Khan (Jhelum, Muhammadan-Rural) (Urdu) : Sir, I rise to make a few observations in regard to this resolution. The Unionist Ministry came into power in 1937 and war broke out only a couple of years

[Raja Md. Akram Khan]

later. The Government of the province could not devote as much time as was incumbent on it for the material development of the province, because it was pre-occupied with the successful prosecution of the war. The activities of the people in general were also directed towards the different aspects of war-effort. Now after six years when the victory is close at hand, the Punjab Government has got an opportunity to take full interest in the material welfare of the province. A sum of one thousand million has been sanctioned to the Punjab Government for carrying out the schemes of adequate post-war development for the betterment of the people in the province. First of all we have to see what are those beneficent activities which are to be given priority in utilising this sum. I think that this sum can be spent on specific beneficial matters, e.g., Education, Industries, Agriculture, Irrigation and Medical aid. While making allotments in this direction, the first and the foremost duty of the Government should be to keep in view those places in the province wherefrom the recruitments have been made in connection with the war. It would be far from doing any justice if the urban areas are afforded much more help than is due to them. What I wish to submit is that fairly large recruitment has been made in rural areas, as is evident from the various war fronts where so many people from rural areas are fighting to their last for the successful prosecution of the war. Government should make it a point to give a fair deal to the rural areas in recognition of their war services.

Mr. Speaker : Is this the object of the resolution ?

Premier : The honourable member wants to say what sort of post-war development is needed.

Khan Bahadur Raja Muhammad Akram Khan : What I wish to submit is this that the sum of one thousand million should be spent in the first instance for the betterment of those areas which have contributed to the war effort both physically and materially. Instead of spending much on towns the Government should spend it on constructing roads especially in the areas which have been giving recruits for the war. This may be regarded as compensation for what they have been doing for the successful prosecution of war. But it is regrettable that except Grand Trunk road no other road has been constructed between Gujrat and Campbellpur. There is not a single pucca road in this area except one that goes from Sohawa to Talagang. Sir, when we invite the attention of the Government to such demands of the people concerned we are told that it will not be possible for the Government to construct roads unless and until the financial position of the district board gets stable and satisfactory. In this connection let me tell the House certain places where roads are essentially needed. First of all a road should be constructed between village Dina and Kurla up to Lahri. There is another village. Lahri is a big village which gave 344 recruits to the army in the last great war, out of which 40 were killed in action, in the memory of whom a monument was constructed there and which is still present. The road within the radius of 9 miles from Kurla to Lahri is so bad that it is very difficult to go around even on horseback. You will be surprised to know that the Deputy Commissioner has never visited that place for the last so many years. May I submit, Sir, that at least for the sake of those soldiers who shed their blood in the last war Government should lose no time in constructing a pucca road in that village ? Besides, in the neighbourhood of this village there are ten other villages where there are absolutely no roads for communication. Once His Excellency Lord Irwin happened to go there to meet the old soldiers and he had to go on boats from Sheikhpura and with much difficulty he reached the actual place by horse-ride. Even now when recruiting officers want to go there they have no alternative but horse-ride which is very expensive. For 9 miles six rupees are charged for one pony. I submit that these troubles of communication should be removed forthwith. Then, Sir, there is no road except a kacha

one going from Jhelum to Pind Dadan Khan to Jhelum and from Jhelum up to Lalae. It may be said by the Government that on account of so many nalas and bridges coming in the way no pucca road has been made. My submission is that if elaborate arrangements are made every difficulty can be removed. The condition of Rawalpindi-Chakwal kacha road is also not satisfactory. Now, Sir, I would like to make a few submissions with regard to places where irrigation facilities should be made available. There is one village Buchal Kalan in the constituency to which my honourable friend Raja Ghazanfar Ali belongs. But it is a pity that he seldom goes there while it is visited by me at least once a month. The population of the said village is nearly seven thousand and it is inhabited mostly by military officers. But it pains me to say that even water for drinking purposes is not available in that village. Wells are not visible within a radius of two miles and the people living in the said village take water from the village pond. Not to speak of this village even 50 villages are such in the same vicinity where no arrangement has been made for providing water to the people. There are certain villages where tube-wells can be sunk. But I do not understand why the Government has been sleeping over this matter so far.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: You should come here; everything will be done.

Khan Bahadur Raja Muhammad Akram Khan: Now as an irrigation scheme for the Rawalpindi division is under consideration I would like to make a few observations, in this respect. It was in 1898 that an irrigation scheme was carried out for the first time from Jalalpur to Lilla side. A canal was dug for 16 miles and was suddenly stopped for reasons best known to the Government. Thousands of acres of land which were going to be irrigated by the proposed canal were left in the lurch and that area is still as *banjar* and *kallar* as it was at that time. Even the village of my honourable friend Raja Ghazanfar Ali also falls among those which were likely to be irrigated by that canal. Now if that canal is completed and the scheme is carried out as it was intended to be carried out a few years ago, I am sure that not less than thirty or forty villages would stand to gain and the Government would also receive land revenue from that area.

Now let me say a few words with regard to providing educational facilities to certain districts which are comparatively backward in this direction and as such require Government's help in this matter. First of all I would like to quote the instance of district Jhelum which has never been second to none in providing recruits to the army. But the number of the recruits given by this district probably tops the list. Now, as funds are available and the District Board is in a position to make arrangements for providing English education to the people of Jhelum, why not start it at the right moment?

There are only three Government High Schools at Tahsil headquarters. Besides opening schools in the district, my submission is that at least one college should also be established in return to the military services of the people of that *ilaga*. It is indeed a great honour for the district of Jhelum which has given far more recruits to the army than those given by Shahpur, Campbellpur and Rawalpindi districts. Is it not a pity that no other high school in the district of Jhelum has been opened and provincialised by the Government? I, therefore, submit that now when funds are available the Honourable Minister in charge should not lose time in complying with the wishes of the inhabitants of the Jhelum district.

I would also like to make a few submissions to the Government in connection with medical facilities. It is said that medical aid has been made available within a distance of ten miles. But this is not true. What I know about the availability of medical aid is that it is not available even within a radius of 30 miles. Much of the amount earmarked for providing medical aid to the rural side of the province is being expended on the Medical College, Lahore. I do not object to it. But

[Baja Md. Akram Khan]

what I take objection to is this. Why is sufficient medical aid not made available to other divisions as well? Take for instance the Rawalpindi division where a Medical College is badly needed and I am sure it will not prove a liability for the Government if one is opened in this division. A small tuberculosis hospital was opened at Murree by Dr. Muhammad Hussain and that has become quite popular in that *ilaga*. But the trouble is this that the quarters attached to the hospital are very small and congested and are an easy prey to infectious diseases. If the Government takes over the charge of this hospital or if a new one is opened at Rawalpindi it would definitely earn the good will of the people of that *ilaga*.

Now as to industry, there is still much for the Government to do. Take for instance the Dalmia Cement Company, Khewra which is number one and therefore is the most paying concern. I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that the people at the head of this industry happen to be very narrow-minded as they engage labour not from the neighbouring districts but exclusively from their own district. They do not want other people to work with them and this narrow-minded policy will never speak well of them. I remember that the late Sir Sikander Hyat managed to get hold of a small part of land in Hasan Abdal which has now considerably flourished. But what a pity that the people of Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan constituency have not paid for the labour which was engaged by them. No consideration is being paid to the lands falling in the salt range which as a result of carelessness have turned into kalar lands:

Sir, now I take up agriculture. On account of military recruitment our male population has decreased considerably. We must make some satisfactory arrangement in this connection. We cannot do anything in the direction of 'Grow more food' in the presence of the present circumstances.

It will not be out of place, Sir, if I may mention here the absence of sufficient number of veterinary hospitals in our district. We seldom find a distance less than thirty miles between two hospitals in our district. With all the emphasis at my command, Sir, I lay full stress upon this crying need of our district. (*Interruptions*).

Our district is a military area and, therefore, we stand in need of a military college on the lines of the college at Dehra Dun and a military farm. I had the honour, Sir, to place this very subject before the Honourable Minister during his visit to our district. Such institutions are very badly needed in our district and necessary arrangements for their establishment should be made at the earliest opportunity so that our martial people may be able to maintain their martial characteristics.

Before I resume my seat, Sir, I want to remind the Government once again that we should not be left to the care of district board scholarships alone but the Government itself should do something in this direction.

Mr. Speaker : The Resolution moved is—

That this Assembly recommends to the Government the desirability of securing within a reasonable period adequate post-war development particularly in the beneficent departments in the Punjab.

Minister for Post-War Planning (The Honourable Major Nawab Ashiq Hussain): Sir, before the discussion proceeds any further I wish to inform honourable member that Government have already taken practical steps for the post-war development of the province. With your permission I would like to read out to you the details of the programme that are under the consideration of the Government.

Rana Nasrullah Khan: On a point of order. The Honourable Minister is reading out his speech.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : He is reading a paper.

Mr. Speaker : Let me point out that a Minister can read out a statement but a private member cannot.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : He is not reading out a statement but is reading out his speech.

Mr. Speaker : A Minister can read out his speech.

Premier : I could not follow the anxiety of my friends opposite. Why should they be worried if one of my colleagues was trying to refresh his memory by consulting his papers? No human being is known to carry all the figures in his head dealing with schemes amounting to one hundred crores under various heads.

The Honourable Major Nawab Ashiq Hussain : This is a question of hundreds of crores for the whole province. I cannot possibly carry all the figures in my head. I have to refer to my notes.

Mr. Speaker : I will refer the House to rule 95 of our Rules. It lays down—

A private member may not read his speech, but may refresh his memory by reference to notes.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karmat Ali : It does not *ipso facto* follow that a Minister can read his speech.

Mr. Speaker : This is a question of interpretation and my interpretation is that a Minister can read his speech, if he so desires.

Minister : Since I have to quote many facts and figures and it is not possible for me to commit all of them to memory, I shall have to look to my notes.

Now, Sir, with your permission I would acquaint the House with the details of the programme which is under the consideration of the Government in connection with post-war planning. The first and foremost item is naturally Irrigation department for which forty crores will be set aside.

1. *Thal Project*—The project when completed, will provide perennial irrigation for 8½ laks of acres out of a gross area of 19 laks of acres in the Mianwali, Muzaffargarh and Shahpur districts.

2. *Gurgaon Canal Project*—This project provides for extension of irrigation from the Western Jumna Canal across the Delhi ridge by means of a tunnel and will provide irrigation to about four hundred thousand acres of land in the Gurgaon district.

3. *Bhakra Dam Project*—This comprises a dam about five hundred feet high across the river Sutlej at Bhakra. This scheme will cover a gross area of nearly five million acres of the famine-stricken tracts of the Hissar, Rohtak and the adjoining tracts and will provide perennial irrigation to nearly two million acres besides generating over two hundred thousand kilowatts of hydro-electric power.

4. *Kishau Dam Project*—This scheme contemplates a masonry dam on the tributary of the Jumna river about 730 ft. high. It will be utilized to extend irrigation in the Gurgaon district and an additional area of three hundred and thirty-four thousand acres will be brought under irrigation. The electric energy generated will be about ninety thousand kilowatts.

5. *Rasul Hydro-electric and Tube-well scheme*—This scheme comprises a power station at Rasul utilising the eighty feet fall from the Upper Jhelum Canal into the Lower Jhelum Canal or the Jhelum in generating power for use in pumping water from a battery of two thousand tube-wells for the dual purpose of extracting water from the subsoil and extension of irrigation to about nine hundred thousand acres.

6. *Bist Doab Canal*—This will be a perennial canal taking off from the river Sutlej at Rupar and running into Jullundur district and will bring about one hundred and eighty thousand acres under irrigation.

7. *Dhyangarh Dam Project Maru Tunnel*—This comprises a dam about ten hundred feet across the Chenab at Dhyangarh in Jammu State. Linked with this scheme for the construction of a tunnel about five miles long and 35 feet internal

[Minister for Post-war Planning]

diameter at Maru in the Chamba State to divert water from the river Chenab into the river Ravi. This scheme will generate about two hundred and fifty thousand kilowatts.

The next item in the programme is the development of roads for which twelve crores of rupees have been set aside. The scheme incorporates the construction of the following length of roads of different categories. In the arterial road system provision will be made to improve 4,881 miles of existing roads and the new construction will be 6,905 miles. While in the case of rural road system we will have 19,845 miles. The scheme is estimated to cost approximately Rs. 45 crores in 15 years. When it is complete all towns in the province above five thousand population will be situated on the metalled road and no village in the Province will be more than a couple of miles from an all-weather road.

Then comes Education for which ten crores of rupees are to be provided.

The Education department has prepared a 35 years plan dealing with—

- (i) improvement in existing institutions ;
- (ii) universal compulsory free education to be introduced between the ages of 6 and 11 necessitating the opening of twenty-one thousand five hundred new primary schools ;
- (iii) efficient medical school service and provision of proper nutrition in needy cases ;
- (iv) reasonable provision of education before the compulsory age in the form of pre-primary schools ;
- (v) secondary and college education for those who are likely to benefit from it ;
- (vi) technical, commercial and arts education, adult education, suitable facilities for training teachers on proper lines, raising the number and value of scholarships and an efficient administrative system.

Let us now turn to the Forest department for which two crores are earmarked.

Forest Department schemes mainly relate to the expansion of the soil conservation activities, formation of minor forests, providing timber and firewood supplies in the rural areas, development of industries for the utilisation of forest produce and the utilization of vast areas of waste land for the increase of forest resources. The soil conservation schemes which are proposed to be extended to Jhelum, Gujrat, Attock, Gurdaspur, Kangra, Hoshiarpur, Gurgaon, Mianwali and Dera Ghazi Khan districts (estimated cost Rs. 146 lakhs in the first five years) will not only result in immediate improvement of existing cultivation but also in the direct reclamation of large areas of new land which may approach to one hundred and fifty thousand acres. In addition large areas of valuable village forests will be found.

Now I come to Public Health and Medical departments for which a sum of rupees twelve crores is to be provided.

The scheme of the Public Health department includes improvement of water supplies, maternity and Child Welfare Centres, anti-malarial measures, expansion in the Public Health establishment and establishment of a second Public Health School.

Medical—Tahsil headquarters hospitals for the two tahsil headquarters at present without hospitals will be constructed. It is proposed during the first five years to double the present number of subsidised practitioners and to create another fifty posts per year in the subsequent years. It is also proposed that in future all district headquarters should have accommodation for one hundred patients together with a clinical laboratory, X-Ray plant and a T. B. clinic. The same arrangements are proposed tahsil headquarters except that the number of beds will be fifty and to both classes

institutions womens sections will be added. It is proposed that to six rural dispensaries in each district there should be added a 12 bedded womens section and all other rural dispensaries and subsidised dispensaries be given a trained *dat*. It is further proposed to construct a new Medical School for Women and to construct a T. B. Hospital at the headquarters of each civil division together with a first class T. B. institution at Lahore which will provide, besides treatment facilities, for research and teaching. Additional hospital accommodation will also be provided at Lahore and Amritsar.

Next comes Agriculture and we have earmarked five crores of rupees for it.

The schemes of the Agricultural department are divided into three main heads—

- (1) Agricultural Education ;
- (2) Agricultural Research ;
- (3) District Demonstration and Propaganda.

Under agricultural education provision has been made for the teaching of agricultural engineering, statistics and economics. Special courses in agriculture will be provided at Lyallpur and seven other centres in the province to vernacular classes of 100 boys each. Fruit preservation classes, teaching in poultry, bee-keeping and dairying will be arranged. Provision has been made for research scholarships for post-graduate study abroad. Research schemes provide for the strengthening of the various sections of the Agricultural College including poultry, fisheries and game. Under propaganda four more Deputy Directors of Agriculture, 656 Agricultural Assistants and 1,086 Mokaddams are proposed to be added. There will be experimental farms at the headquarters of each Deputy Director of Agriculture and each district will have one demonstration farm of 100 acres. In order to collect results of farming by means of tractors one large farm of at least 2,500 acres is proposed to be set up at Lyallpur.

Veterinary department is another item in the programme and we are providing one crore. The Veterinary department schemes include—

- (i) the development of dairying ;
- (ii) production of biological products and establishment of a well-equipped independent laboratory for the production of vaccines, etc ;
- (iii) establishment of a sub-station for research work on animal nutrition at the Government Cattle Farm, Hissar survey of the housing and milking arrangements for cattle in villages and towns ;
- (iv) extension of live stock service in villages, employment of 450 stock assistants, development of wool industry, establishment of breeding farms, maintenance of animals' health, increasing the production of milk and ghee and opening of one hundred new veterinary hospitals and veterinary first aid centres.

Co-operative and Rural Reconstruction come next. Rupees two and one crore, respectively, are proposed to be spent.

Apart from a large expansion of facilities for co-operative credit, provision has been made for co-operative marketing, consumers co-operation and co-operative societies for consolidation of land holdings, anti-erosion, reclamation, forest, public health, fruit growing, bee-keeping, cattle breeding and veterinary First Aid.

Improvement of Panchayat System is another great need of the province for which we have ear-marked one crore.

The panchayat scheme provides for cultural centres, village works and additional staff. It is proposed to have some three thousand panchayat thars of which half the cost will be contributed by the panchayats themselves. Lump sum grants will be made to panchayats for village works to undertake such work as the construction of village roads and culverts, provision of amenities of common life, e.g., village libraries,

[Minister for Post-war Planning]

public gardens, etc. Some three thousand village guides will be appointed. They will be trained organisers and sellers of the ideas of various departments to the people generally.

Development of Industries is another important thing which we have to take into consideration and we propose to spend rupees five crores on it. Provision is being made for the opening of additional industrial schools and institutions, particularly for girls, awards of scholarships for industrial training, financial assistance to ex-soldiers, development of cottage industries, establishment of demonstration parties, development of sericulture industry and the expansion of the demonstration weaving factory at Shahdara.

Electricity goes with the Irrigation department for which I have already stated that rupees forty crores have been provided. The Electricity department propose to develop several projects of transmission and distribution by linking up various stations on a Grid system.

It is proposed to construct rest houses at each district headquarters for serving soldiers and ex-soldiers. Each rest house will have a large central hall adequately equipped with furniture, books, newspapers, radio and recreational facilities, etc. In addition a number of rest houses will be provided in heavily recruited tahsils.

We have reserved seven crores for miscellaneous items also.

I should like to make it clear here that these 100 crores are in addition to our ordinary year's budget.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : The question may now be put. You have to protect the rights of the minorities and the Opposition in this House. Not a single member on the Opposition side cares to speak.

Premier : The constructive side of the House is wanting to construct. They have constructed in the past and they plan to construct in the future. We are not concerned with the destructionists and with what they do.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : The question be now put.

(Shouts of no, no from the Treasury benches).

Mr. Speaker : I think we should wait for a few minutes. Then I will decide this question. There is no law or rule to the effect that so many speeches should be made.

Premier : The Honourable Minister has given us the post-war reconstruction programme which is likely to cost 100 crores. We want the criticism of the Opposition. We want their constructive suggestions.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh (Amritsar North, Sikh, Rural) (*Punjabi*) : Sir, the resolution now before the House is vague, indefinite and as usual is the result of a half hearted attempt. Besides it is neither directive nor has it any preciseness, which simply means that the time of the House is being wasted so that the next resolution on the agenda may not be taken up. If Government want to make this resolution effective let them accept my amendment which I am going to move. Without the incorporation of that amendment the resolution will remain meaningless, and it will lead us nowhere. I therefore beg to move :—

That in line 2 of the resolution for the words "recommends to the Government the desirability" the words "urges upon the Government the vital necessity" be substituted.

As my friend Raja Sahib has pointed out the word "desirability" means nothing. It is time for us to think over the matter whether when the Fascist borders are being eliminated and the war is nearing its victorious end all the sacrifices which we have made to achieve that end will go in vain or whether a new heaven and a new earth will be created where all those facilities would be provided to the people which

they should get. I, therefore, think that for the word "desirability" the words "vital necessity" be substituted. In the post-war reconstruction work we should do all that is humanly possible to improve the standard of living of people. Besides I think that the schemes which are formulated by Government officers behind closed doors without taking the public into confidence and without knowing their vital needs cannot serve any useful purpose at all. We can benefit the people only if we know their true needs. That can be done only if we afford an opportunity to the public to place their vital needs before us through committees formed by their elected representatives. It is only such committees which can do satisfactory planning. But what we see is that Government is framing these schemes behind closed doors. I am at a loss to understand why they do not take the public into confidence.

Sir, I beg to move—

That in line 2 of the resolution for the words "recommends to Government the desirability" the words "urges upon the Government the vital necessity" be substituted.

Secondly, I beg to move—

That in the and of the resolution after the word "Punjab" the following words be added "and considers that satisfactory planning cannot be done by departmental staffs working behind closed doors but only by co-ordinated committees which should include, among others, elected representatives of industrialists, trade unions and peasant organisations".

If these amendments are incorporated, the whole resolution will read as under :—

"This Assembly urges upon Government the vital necessity of securing within a reasonable period adequate post-war development particularly in the beneficent departments in the Punjab and considers that satisfactory planning cannot be done by departmental staffs working behind closed doors but only by co-ordinated committees which should include, among others, elected representatives of industrialists, trade unions and peasant organisations".

Sir, it will not be out of place to mention here that the Indian National Congress is very much interested in the problem of post-war reconstruction. One or two quotations from Pandit Jawahir Lal Nehru will clarify the position of the Congress. This is what Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru said in May 1940 :—

"Real planning can only take place with full political and economic freedom.... Our plan for development must, therefore, be drawn up for a free and independent India. This does not mean that we must wait for independence before doing anything towards the development of planned economy...."

Referring to the war situation Pandit Nehru said on 1st May 1940 :—

To some it may appear that this is a most unsuitable time for planning which is essentially a labour of peaceful co-operation. It may be argued that we should wait for better times. Can we plan in India with all this doubt and uncertainty?"

"These considerations fill our minds and yet these considerations lead us to a contrary conclusion. For it is this very time of change and uncertainty that demands mental activity and a vision of the future that we desire. If we are mere on lookers now, instead of preparing for future, we hand the reins to others. A period of war and dynamic change, therefore, demands even more than the static times of peace, the planned activity of the mind".

Now, Sir, this quotation fully clarifies the position of the Congress about this all important question of post-war reconstruction. The Congress has been taking a very keen interest in this problem as is evident from the above-mentioned quotation dating back to 1940. The Congress is even now interested and will continue being interested in the question of post-war reconstruction. But I must point out that the problem of post-war reconstruction cannot be adequately dealt with without the active co-operation of the public and I may point out further that the co-operation of the public cannot be obtained without setting up a National Government in the country. In the absence of National Government, all schemes of post-war reconstruction will be meaningless and empty of all significance. In the U. P. Shi Umman Ji and others have produced a post-war reconstruction scheme with the active consent of Tandan Ji. They are doing real useful work. Without coming into direct contact with the masses and ascertaining their real difficulties and needs, nothing can be done in connection with the problem of post-war reconstruction. Our Government is incapable and inefficient that it has not been able to make adequate arrangements for the good supply of wheat to the citizens of Lahore during the rationing system.

[B. Sohan Singh Josh]

What else can we expect from this regime? Unless fresh elections are held and true patriots are placed at the helm of affairs, good results cannot be hoped for.

With these few words, I beg to move my amendments to the resolution which is now under consideration.

Mr. Speaker: Resolution under consideration, amendment moved:

That in line 2 for the words "recommends to the Government the desirability" the words "urges upon the Government the vital necessity" be substituted.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: I move.

That the question be now put.

Mr. Speaker: The question is—

That the question be now put.

(*Mr. Speaker called for a division and the division bells were ringing*).

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: I do not think it is necessary to put the motion to a division. It is within the discretion of the Speaker to accept the closure motion or not. If it is to be put to a division it will be a majority rule and not the discretion of the Chair. You may, therefore, please exercise your powers and accept the closure motion.

Mr. Speaker: There is no authority for such a procedure. It is open to me to refuse to put the motion. When once I put it to the House it will have to be decided by the House.

The question is—

That the question be now put.

The motion was lost.

Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Suraj Mal (~~Hansi, General, Rural~~) (*Uda*): Sir, I rise to make a few observations in regard to the resolution now before the House. It is really a matter of regret that my honourable friends are making noise when a very important matter is being discussed for the first time to benefit the zamindars of the province. Now we have to see as to how the sum sanctioned by the Central Government is to be utilised for the betterment of the province. In this connection I would like to point out that I belong to Hissar district which unfortunately is the most backward area in the whole of the province. The war is going to end soon, and in the matter of post-war reconstruction Government should keep this area in view. I have my reasons for it. This district has contributed at its best both physically and materially for the successful prosecution of war. It will not be out of place to mention here that very recently His Excellency the Governor of the Punjab toured this district and he has been pleased to make the following remarks:—

Hissar is a district which even in this most martial of all Provinces is notable for the vigorous and sustained part that it has played in the War Effort of the country. I count it therefore not only a pleasure but an honour to pay another visit to Hissar.

So far as the contributions of this district in connection with the war loans and the war fund are concerned, I may say without any fear of contradiction that this district stands third in the whole of the province. This is not all. The district of Hissar stands fifth amongst the areas where recruitments have been made. In total contributions to war efforts, when war loans and recruitment are taken together the district of Hissar stands either second or third in the Province. On the one hand this district has these laudable sacrifices to its credit, while on the other hand the condition is so miserable that the people have no water even to drink, so much so that there are about three hundred villages in the District where people are experiencing great inconvenience for want of drinking water. Very recently the Honourable Minister for Public Works paid a visit to this district. He was pleased to give a patie

hearing to the grievances and difficulties that the people of this place are faced with in connection with the dearth of drinking water. He thereupon told us to lay this matter before the House in the coming Budget session.

Water and air are two indispensable elements for human life. I would appeal to the Government to provide drinking water for the population of these three hundred villages. I am constrained to remark that if a guest happens to come to one of these villages, ghee in enough quantity can be supplied to him but not a single drop of water can be provided to him easily. The people living in these villages have to get drinking water from places which are at a distance of six to ten miles from their residence. They have to fetch it on camels. Under the circumstances it is but meet and proper on the part of the Government to spend a fairly large amount out of the above sum with a view to provide drinking water which is the most essential need of human life.

Further I wish to point out that in our district out of every 30 acres of land only one acre of land is irrigable and the rest are barani. The whole of the land in the district is plain. If water is properly supplied to these areas then the production could be increased to a great extent. It is a matter of gratification that the Bahra Dam is speedily being constructed and that large amounts are being spent in this connection. I would like to suggest that three or four crores of rupees more should be spent on this scheme so that it may fertilize the waste lands.

Now I have to say a few words about the education of our district. There are only six high schools in our district and there is no high school in Fatehabad Tehsil. In this connection I would like to draw the attention of the Honourable Minister of Education to provide one high school in this tehsil. Besides, there are two or three colleges in every division of the province, and it is a pity that there is no college in our district. I am given to understand that Government intend shifting the college in Bahra to some other place in its neighbourhood. I would request the Honourable Minister for Education that if this is so, then this college may be shifted to the Headquarters of our district. I have already stated the reasons which justify Government's spending money for the amelioration of the people of this district. There is one thing more to which I wish to draw the attention of the honourable members sitting on the Treasury Benches. So far as the district of Hissar is concerned, there is much scope for industries. Money is needed for starting industries. Honourable members know it full well that our district is a barani illaga where sheep and goats are found in abundance. We possess enough of raw material as well, and we can run a woollen factory on a large scale. It will not be out of place to mention here that previously there were 32 ginning factories in Hansi alone. Now these have been reduced to three or four on account of less supply of irrigation water. The labour and the material are available there and it is not very difficult for the Government to start a woollen factory on a large scale there. When you look at the Geography of the Punjab you will see that everything begins with Hissar, and when there is a question of giving anything to the district, Hissar comes last of all and is ignored.

So what I want to submit is that the share in the post-war planning scheme should be given according to the war efforts made by a district. As far as the war efforts are concerned it is the district of Hissar that tops the list. I, therefore, do not see any reason why due share should not be given to my district. But looking at the step-motherly treatment meted out to this district in the past I fear it may not be given at the time of carrying out the post-war scheme. The Honourable Premier on his visit to Hissar has seen it for himself that this district does not in any way lag behind in making war efforts as compared with others. It pains me to remark that this district is backward in communication. Whenever we have invited the attention of the Communication Board authorities to this fact they have evaded it by saying

[R. B. Ch. Suraj Mal]

that communications would be improved with the availability of funds and when funds were available do you know what they would do? The members of the Communications Board would spend them for the benefit of districts to which they belong. Unfortunately there is no one from our district on the Communications Board. I have been on the district board for a period of 15 years and I know how things are done by district boards. When such is the state of affairs, what can we expect? You will be surprised to know that the Hissar District board has not been able to make even 20 miles pucca road. Now I would like to urge upon the Government that if under such circumstances applications are made by the people of Hissar to the Communications Board for the construction of pucca roads in the district, the Communications Board should sympathetically consider this matter as the construction of roads is one of the important programmes of post-war planning. Unfortunately my district is one that lags behind in communication as I have already pointed out. Therefore the Government should extend every sort of help towards spreading pucca roads in the district. It will be all the more surprising for the House to know that in the District Board of Hissar the number of pucca roads is the minimum. Do you know how much road is pucca in the whole of the District Board of Hissar? Only nine miles is pucca and even this is not one piece. It is divided into different pieces. Certain roads were constructed during the famine. But those were kacha roads made at high level. Now when post-war planning is under consideration, I would like to submit that the Public Works Department may kindly be instructed by the Government to start work on the existing kacha roads. Labour can be made available and a lot of *kankari* can be had from Tesham Hills which are quite in the neighbourhood of the *ilaqa*. Water can also be obtained during the rainy season. There are places inhabited by five to ten thousand people and the recruiting officers have to visit those places in connection with recruitment and I have seen military lorries stranded on account of bad roads.

Another important matter to which I would like to draw the attention of the Government is with regard to educational facilities. There is no gainsaying the fact that the Hissar district has given forty thousand recruits to the army who are fighting in as well as out of India and it is really a pity that educational facilities are not being provided to the children left by their fathers who are fighting abroad. May I further point out that they are not making good use of the money received by their fathers as it is useless to spend it on purchasing land yielding nothing substantial? My submission, therefore, is that the Government should see to it that the children of the soldiers are not deprived of education. Stipends and scholarships should be fixed for their encouragement and every effort should be made in order to let them keep their pace with the march of time. Under these circumstances I deem it very necessary that the maximum amount of money should be spent on this district which demands Government's full attention.

With these few remarks, Sir, I lend my whole-hearted support to this resolution.

Shaikh Sadiq Hassan (Amritsar, Muhammadan, Urban) (Urdu) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in lines 2 and 3 of the resolution, for the words "a reasonable period", the words "five years" be substituted.

Before I proceed with my speech I would like to point out that post-war planning schemes are being made by the whole world. There is no doubt about it that almost every country is thinking over post-war schemes with all the interest and earnestness that they require. But looking at the activities of this province I am sorry to remark that our Government is comfortably sleeping over them. It was last that, seeing the lethargy and negligence of the Government I moved in matter by writing a letter to the Honourable Premier. A comparative study of

different countries are doing in this respect would tell you how backward we are in this respect. For example in England every consideration is being paid to find out post-war schemes which would let people not only to exist but to live comfortably. But in our province nothing is being done with a view to let people live even reasonably after the end of war. Let me bring this point home to the Government that after the war when lacs of people would come home from abroad on demobilisation of the armies it will be most difficult for the Government to tackle the problem. Do you know what will be the result? The result will be economic slump and unemployment. It will be very difficult for the Government to find employment for all of them—numbering in lakhs. This is a serious problem and its solution must be found out before hand. Besides, this war has made thousands of people rich and millions of people have become poorer. It may be asked how it is possible that millions of people have become poorer while the salaries and wages of almost all people have been increased. We should not at the same time forget that the prices have gone abnormally high. A thing which used to cost a rupee in normal days is now sold at four times that price. Particularly the people working in private concerns have been hard hit by this war. As to Government servants I may say that they are sometimes in a position to take bribes and so they can maintain themselves well. But people in private services cannot do so. Take for instance these journalists whom we see every day working in the press galleries. They cannot be bribed as there are no chances to this effect. It is true that their salaries have been increased by 25 per cent. But my point is that this increase is not in accordance with the rise in prices which have gone up 4 times as compared with those of normal days. Although the salaries have been increased yet the buying capacity has not remained the same as it was before the war. My submission, therefore, is that the removal of poverty from the province and finding employment for the unemployed people should be the main object of the post war planning. The Government might have appointed committees for carrying out the work of post-war planning. But I would submit that the Government should not take into their heads that only the Ministers and other big officers can make sensible schemes and other people are not capable to do so. I strongly believe that if chances are given to other people even more sensible schemes will be forthcoming. There are hundred and one ways of doing it. My friend Sardar Sohan Singh Josh has rightly pointed out that we should include the labour representatives on every consultative body for the purpose.

Sir, at one time we used to think that India was totally self-sufficient. But now that myth is nothing but a shattered dream. Our agricultural production compared with our population is totally insufficient. It must be doubled to meet the requirements of our teeming millions. We are awfully backward in the industrial field and nobody knows how long we will have to lag behind at the present speed. We must devote our serious attention towards mining industry, heavy chemicals and other basic industries. We want, Sir, that these industries should be taken over by the Government and should not be left to the care of a few selfish capitalists. In the meantime, Sir, we should not ignore cottage industries. A net work of them should be spread through the length and breadth of the country. We should leave no stone unturned in converting our nation wide poverty into immense prosperity.

Our primary education too, Sir, stands in need of immediate attention. Its spread must be increased. It will make technical and industrial education much easier and the latter will lead us towards our national prosperity. Nowadays only rich people can send their children to foreign countries for technical education and for an ordinary person it is totally difficult to get his children technically educated. I ask the Government that they should make the necessary arrangements for technical education and then we may need not send our youth abroad.

[Sb. Sadiq Hassan]

Now I want to say something about the Beveridge scheme in England. Under this scheme, Sir, salaries will be given to the unemployed and the old-age pensions will be increased to forty shillings a week. But here in our country we find nothing else but mass poverty and nation-wide starvation. The Government should take serious account of these things. I know for certain, Sir, that no harm can be done to the British Imperial Government with all her might and strength. But what will happen to our provincial Government if it loses popularity and confidence? I well remember that once, during my membership of the Central Assembly, I asked Sir Goerge Schuster, who was Finance Member at that time, why beneficial schemes were not taken up. His plain answer was 'absence of funds.' I proposed to him to raise money on the principles of *Zakat*. It is $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on the capital. In this way unlimited amount of money can be raised and can be spent for the betterment of our downtrodden people.

Sayed Amjad Ali Shah (Ferozepore East, Muhammadan, Rural): Sir, We have heard the speech of the Honourable Minister for Post-War Planning. He has told us that we are going to receive Rs. 25 crores from the Government of India. I want to place one point for the consideration of this House and this Government. These 25 crores, which the Government of India is going to give us, will be got from the Succession Duty. As you know this duty will come from only one section of the population, namely, the urban population. Now the point I want to place before the House is that if we seriously want to help the poor zamindars and the backward classes then those landholders who have hundreds and thousands of acres of land should also be taxed as other members of the population are being taxed.

At this stage the Assembly adjourned till 10 a. m. on Friday, 23rd February 1945.

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

THIRTEENTH SESSION OF THE FIRST PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Friday, 23rd February 1945.

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber at 10 a.m. of the clock. Mr. Speaker in the chair.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

CONGRESS DETENUS.

*9650. **Lala Bhagat Ram Choda** : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to give the following particulars about the undermentioned Congress detenues in the Punjab Jails :—

- (a) the names of the jails where they are confined ;
 - (b) the weight (i) at the time of arrest and (ii) at present ;
 - (c) period of detention in each case ;
 - (d) facilities given to them regarding correspondence, interviews, games, books, writing materials, pocket allowance, etc., and
 - (e) the present state of their health—
- (1) Maulana Daud Ghaznavi, member, P. P. C. Working Committee ;
 - (2) Lala Jagat Narayan, President, Lahore City Congress Committee ;
 - (3) Mr. Virendra, M.A., Managing Editor, *Daily Partap*, Lahore ;
 - (4) Lala Hans Raj, General Secretary, Lahore Congress Committee ;
 - (5) Comrade Ram Kishen, Secretary, P. P. C. C. ;
 - (6) Baba Sohan Lal, Office Secretary, P. P. C. C. ;
 - (7) Mr. Yashpal, Managing Editor, *Daily Hindi Milap*, Lahore ;
 - (8) Mr. Yudvir, Manager, *Daily Hindi Milap* ;
 - (9) Prof. Inder Prakash Anand, M.A. ;
 - (10) Pandit Mangal Das of Lakshmi Insurance Company, Lahore ;
 - (11) Pt. Ram Rup Sharma, former Managing Director of New Hindustan Bank and Peoples Insurance Company, Lahore ;
 - (12) Lala Achint Ram of the Servants of the Peoples Society, Lahore ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : A statement is laid on the table showing the names of the jails in which the detenues are confined and the date of arrest in each case.

It is regretted that the remainder of the information asked for cannot be supplied, as its collection would involve the expenditure of an amount of labour and time incommensurate with any benefits to be obtained.

[K. B. Sh. Faiz Muhammad]

For the honourable member's information, I may say that Maulana Daud Ghaznavi, Lala Jagat Narayan, Baba Sohan Lal and Hans Raj, have been released.

Statement

Names	Jails	Date of arrest
Virendra	Central Jail, Lahore	9th August 1942.
Ram Kishan	Ditto	August 1942.
Yashpal	District Jail, Sialkot	18th August 1942.
Yudhvir	Central Jail, Lahore	10th September 1942.
I. P. Anand	District Jail, Dera Ghazi Khan	30th September 1943.
Mangal Das	District Jail, Sialkot	9th August 1942.
Ram Rup Sharma	New Sub-Jail, Gujrat	6th February 1943.
Ashint Ram	District Jail, Sialkot	9th August 1942.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : The Parliamentary Secretary has given us every information except the weights of the prisoners. May I take it that the detenus have lost weight during their detention ?

Parliamentary Secretary : To collect such figures is not such an easy task as my honourable friend thinks. Moreover it is hardly necessary in view of the fact that the prisoners are keeping good health. If the honourable member requires information with regard to a particular individual, he may give notice.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Does the Parliamentary Secretary challenge my statement that all these gentlemen have lost weight during the detention ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I cannot say off-hand.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it a fact that all this information has been collected from the headquarters in Lahore and not from different jails ?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Does the statement given by the Parliamentary Secretary contain any reference about Mr. Virendra, Mr. Yashpal and Mr. Yudhvir ?

Parliamentary Secretary : The statement contains as much information as has been available. So far as these 8 gentlemen are concerned, their names do appear in the statement.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : What about their health ?

Parliamentary Secretary : My honourable friend can table a question on that subject.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Has the attention of the Government been drawn to various statements in the press that the health of these gentlemen is deteriorating and some of them are in the hospitals ?

Parliamentary Secretary : So many things appear in the press which later on are found to be incorrect. We do not therefore attach very great importance to what appears in the press.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Were any facilities regarding games, books, interviews, etc., given to these persons ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Such facilities as are permissible under the jail rules were given.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is supply of books permissible under the jail rules ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Yes.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Who out of these gentlemen were provided with books ?

Parliamentary Secretary : That is very difficult for me to say off hand.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : From which disease is comrade Ram Kishen, Secretary, P. P. C. C. suffering ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have not referred to any disease in my answer. The honourable member may give notice of that question.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it within the knowledge of the Parliamentary Secretary that the father of Professor Inder Prakash was not allowed to interview him ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I cannot say off hand.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Has the father of Professor Indar Prakash made a complaint to the Government that he was not allowed to see his son ?

Parliamentary Secretary : So many communications are received by the Government that it is very difficult for me to say whether any such complaint was made.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : 'Interviews' is specifically mentioned in the question. Did the Parliamentary Secretary make any enquiry in regard to that ?

Parliamentary Secretary : If the honourable member is interested in any particular gentleman, he may give notice to that effect.

Mr. Speaker : The next question.

WAR FUND.

*9664. **Mian Muhammad Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state the total amount of the War Fund raised in each district of the Punjab during the years 1943 and 1944, up to date ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : A statement showing the total of voluntary donations in districts to His Excellency's War Purposes Fund during 1943 and 1944 to date is laid on the table.

Statement showing figures of War Funds raised in the districts of the Punjab during the year 1943 and 1944 (up to 15th November 1944).

Serial No.	Name of the District	Funds in 1943	Funds in 1944 up to 15th November 1944
		Rs.	Rs.
1	Hissar	1,59,042	60,550
2	Rohtak	2,31,501	71,664
3	Gurgaon	1,05,845	1,26,260

Serial No.	Name of the District	Funds in 1943	Funds in 1944 up to 18th November 1944
4	Karnal	2,61,482	13,406
5	Ambala	1,67,245	43,015
6	Simla	66,042	36,603
7	Kangra	97,298	29,077
8	Hoshiarpur	2,19,376	1,00,000
9	Jullundur	3,15,750	64,140
10	Ludhiana	71,305	51,959
11	Ferozepur	2,47,294	30,019
12	Lahore	4,57,066	4,11,930
13	Amritsar	1,39,679	69,956
14	Gurdaspur	1,65,335	78,089
15	Sialkot	2,97,730	9,229
16	Gujranwala	4,13,055	1,491
17	Sheikhupura	3,79,586	30,755
18	Gujrat	4,30,762	1,33,916
19	Shahpur	2,34,222	22,790
20	Jhelum	86,367	4,205
21	Rawalpindi	2,82,390	1,12,180
22	Attock	1,09,639	18,675
23	Mianwali	73,590	45,507
24	Montgomery	3,43,248	1,21,473
25	Lyallpur	5,34,973	3,05,410
26	Jhang	1,27,490	1,18,392
27	Multan	9,34,868	59,322
28	Muzaffargarh	1,83,254	51,809
29	Dera Ghazi Khan	96,158	22,979

MR. INDAR PRAKASH ANAND.

***9696. Sardar Ajit Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) whether a M.O. for Rs. 30 was sent by Shrimati Ram Pyari of Lyallpur to Mr. Indar Prakash Anand detained in the custody of D. I. G., C.I.D., Punjab, in March, 1944, which was received by that Officer, but no acknowledgment thereof was sent to the sender ;

(b) whether the full amount was made available to the said Mr. Anand for use ;

(c) if not, whether the balance due to him in that respect from the Lines Officer, Gobindgarh Fort, Amritsar, where the said person was being detained in June, 1944, has been paid to him since ;

(d) whether Mr. Anand wrote to the Home Secretary as also the D. I. G., C. I. D., Punjab, some time ago about the transfer of the amount due from the L. O., Gobindgarh Fort, Amritsar, to him in the D. I. Khan Jail and whether it is a fact that neither the amount nor any account thereof has been sent to him ;

(e) the reason why the remaining amount due to Mr. Anand has not been paid to him so far ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Yes.

(b) The amount was deposited with the officer in whose custody I. P. Anand was detained and the full amount was spent as desired by I. P. Anand ;

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes.

(e) No amount being with L. O. Govindgarh Fort.

SECURITY PRISONERS.

***9697. Sardar Ajit Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether any instructions have been issued by Government about the travelling of security prisoners of class I during their transfer from one place to another particularly regarding the class of the compartment in which they are to travel and the quality of food they are to be given, if so, the nature of these instructions ;

(b) whether these instructions were complied with when Mr. Indar Prakash Anand, a security prisoner, was transferred from the Gobindgarh Fort, Amritsar, to the D. G. Khan District Jail, on 28th June 1944 ;

(c) whether it is a fact that he was made to travel standing in a crowded 3rd class compartment with handcuffs on from Lahore to Multan throughout the night while the escort managed to get seats for themselves ;

(d) the steps Government intend to take to see that the instructions mentioned in (a) are faithfully carried out ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Yes Except when prison vans are provided, they are permitted to travel in inter class compartments at Government expense. They are provided with diet on the same scale as allowed to "A" class convicts.

(b) As no inter class accommodation was available Indar Prakash Anand travelled in a 3rd class compartment.

(c) No. He was provided with sleeping accommodation throughout the journey by rail.

(d) The instructions are already being carried out.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RAISED BY OFFICIALS FOR THE ZAMINADARA LEAGUE.

***9731. Nawab Iftikhar Hussain Khan :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that subscriptions for the Zamindara League Funds have been and are being, realised by the Deputy Commissioner, Muzaffargarh, through the Revenue Staff, Civil Supply Officers and other officials of the district ; if so, the amount realised through this agency ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Commissioner and other officials of the Muzaffargarh district are taking an active part in organising the Zamindara League in the said district ;

[Nawab Iftikhar Hussain Khan]

(c) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Commissioner and other officials were present at a meeting held on 6th August 1944, at Muzaffargarh, where an address on behalf of the Zamindara League was presented to the Premier ; if so, the reasons for allowing officials to attend meetings of the Zamindara League ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) No.

(b) No.

(c) No meeting was held on the 6th August 1944. A meeting of the National War Front was held on the 3rd August 1944 at which local officers were naturally present.

SUBSCRIPTIONS REALISED BY THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, GUJRAT,
FOR THE ZAMINDARA LEAGUE.

***9732. Nawab Iftikhar Hussain Khan :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that subscriptions for the Zamindara League Funds have been, and are being, realised by the Deputy Commissioner, Gujrat, through the Revenue Staff, Civil Supply Officers and other officials of the district ; if so, the amount realised through this agency ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Commissioner and other officials of the Gujrat district are taking an active part in organising the Zamindara League in the said district ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Commissioner and other officials were present at a meeting held on 10th July 1944, at Gujrat, where an address on behalf of the Zamindara League was presented to the Premier ; if so, the reasons for allowing the officials to attend meetings of the Zamindara League ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) No.

(b) No.

(c) The meeting in question was a National war Front meeting at which local officers were naturally present.

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din : Can the Parliamentary Secretary tell me if he had made enquiries as to through whom these funds were collected ?

Premier : What funds is the honourable member referring to ? If he is referring to the Zamindara League funds, they are collected by the workers of the Zamindara League and if he wants any further information regarding that point, he can apply to the headquarters of that League.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether all the officials of the Government are the workers of the League ?

Premier : No.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know if all the zaildars, lambardars and all those dars are working for that League ?

Premier : If anybody cares to adopt the creed of that League, he is entitled to become a member.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Is it a condition that he will be made an honorary magistrate ?

Premier : All good people who have confidence of the ilaqa are made honorary magistrates ?

SUBSCRIPTIONS RAISED BY DEPUTY COMMISSIONERS FOR THE ZAMINDARA LEAGUE.

***9733. Nawab Iftikhar Hussain Khan :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that the subscriptions for the Zamindara League Funds have been, and are being, realised by the Deputy Commissioners of Multan, Montgomery, Lyallpur, Gujrat, Jullundur, Karnal, Sialkot, Ambala, Ludhiana and Muzaffargarh districts, through their Revenue Staff, Civil Supplies Officers and other officials of the districts ; if so, the amount realised through this agency ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Commissioners and other officials of the districts mentioned in (a) above, are taking an active part in organising the Zamindara League in the said districts ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Commissioners and other officials were present at meetings held at Ambala, Montgomery, Gujrat, Ludhiana, Khanewal, district Multan, Muzaffargarh, Karalee, district Ambala, Karnal, Rohtak, Hissar, Jagraon, district Ludhiana, Sialkot and Toba Tek Singh, district Lyallpur ; where addresses on behalf of the Zamindara League were presented to the Premier ; if so, the reasons for allowing the officials to attend the meetings of the Zamindara League ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) No
(b) No.

(c) The meetings in question were National War Front meetings at which local officials were naturally present, except that at Kurali which was a meeting in aid of the War effort at which local officers were welcome.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it within the knowledge of the Parliamentary Secretary that on the same day in the same pandal meetings of the National War Front and of the Zamindara League were held in the Ludhiana District ?

Parliamentary Secretary : There is nothing sacrilegious about it.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : It must be within the knowledge of the Honourable Premier that he attended the meetings of the Zamindara League and of the National War Front in Jagraon and funds were raised through the different officials present, the S. P., D. S. P. and so on.

Premier : My honourable friend is always confused. Whenever I attend a meeting of the National War Front, officials are present. In the Zamindara League addresses are presented to me as representative of this House and I go there in pursuance of the policy of total war laid down by this House. The soil is not of the National War Front or anybody else. It is the Punjab soil and it belongs to the zamindars of the Punjab and I address their meetings.

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din : The soil may belong to this country but we are talking of the pandal.

Premier : I go there. It is erected for me. Anybody that believes in total war effort is welcome there. People who do not believe in the total war effort are not there.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is the Honourable Premier an office bearer of the Zamindara League ?

Mr. Speaker : Disallowed.

PUNJAB CIVIL SERVICES (PUNISHMENT AND APPEAL) RULES

***9756. Sardar Bahadur Sardar Gurbachan Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to refer to his reply to starred question No. 9174¹ asked in the last session of the Assembly and state :—

(a) whether there are any rules besides the Punjab Civil Services (Punishment and Appeal) Rules which govern inquiries against ministerial Government servants, if so, what are they ;

(b) whether the inquiring officer is bound to stop the proceedings if the person charged informs him that an appeal against his decision is contemplated ;

(c) whether the appeal against the decision of the inquiring officer lies to the officer empowered to dismiss, remove or reduce the person charged or to the appellate authority laid down in the Subordinate Service Rules to which the Government servant is subject ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) There are no other rules.

(b) and (c) The rules applicable to each service lay down the authority competent to dismiss, remove or reduce members of that service. An appeal against the decision of this authority lies to the appellate authority prescribed by the Rules. If the inquiring officer is himself empowered to pass orders for dismissal, removal or reduction, he decides the case ; if not, he reports to the authority competent to do so. As there can be no appeal till the case has been decided, the question of stopping proceeding does not arise.

KHAKSAR PRISONERS.

***9765. Shaikh Sadiq Hassan :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) the number of Khaksar prisoners who are still in jail ;

(b) whether the Government intend to release any of them ; if so, when ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) 15 only 10 of these are serving long terms of imprisonment.

(b) The intentions of Government cannot be disclosed.

Shaikh Sadiq Hassan : Is it a fact that some of them had gone on hunger strike ?

Parliamentary Secretary : This question does not arise out of my answer. If the honourable member wants some information to be collected in this connection, he may put a fresh question.

MR. SAT NARAIN SARRAF, PLEADER, HISSAR.

***9767. Chaudhri Sahib Ram :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) the reasons for continuing restrictions on Mr. Sat Narain Sarraf, Pleader, Hissar ;

(b) the number of times since his release in February 1944 he has been permitted to leave Hissar ;

(c) whether he was permitted to appear in cases fixed by the Magistrate for hearing in camps, if not, the reasons therefor ;

(d) the number of times he made applications for permission to leave Hissar to appear in his cases ;

(e) whether it is a fact that in June 1944, he applied for permission to see his mother at Bahadara in Bikaner State as she was seriously ill ;

(f) whether his application was rejected ; if so, the reasons therefor ;

(g) the period for which the Government proposes to continue restrictions in Mr. Sat Narain Sarraf's case ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) To prevent him from acting in any manner prejudicial to the public safety and the maintenance of public order.

(b) one up to 20th December 1944, on which date his restriction order was modified and he is no longer restricted to Hissar.

(c) and (d) He made two applications for permission to appear in cases in camp and both were refused. Under the new order he is free to go anywhere he likes without obtaining permission from the District Magistrate, Hissar.

(e) Yes.

(f) Yes . The application was rejected because he was an internee from the Bikaner State. Later, however, when the Bikaner Darbar permitted his entry into the State for a week, he was granted leave and allowed to go there for that period.

(g) Government's intentions cannot be disclosed.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Was the case of this internee examined after some period ?

Parliamentary Secretary : My honourable friend is aware that all cases are periodically reviewed. There appears to be no reason why this should not have been reviewed.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Were any reports received from the local officers that he was still continuing to take part in unlawful activities ?

Parliamentary Secretary : So far as the reports are concerned, the honourable member knows that it is not the policy of Government to disclose the contents of the report. If he wants to know the factum of the report having been received, I would say, yes.

— — — — — DACOITIES COMMITTED IN HISSAR DISTRICT

***9780. Chaudhri Sahib Ram** : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) the number of dacoities committed in the Hissar district during the year 1944 up to date ;

(b) the number of dacoities in which the police has been successful in arresting the culprits or in recovering the stolen property ;

(c) whether any of the accused in the Devabas and Gawar dacoities has been arrested ;

(d) whether it is a fact that both the dacoities were committed by the same gang of dacoits.

(e) whether it is a fact that one of the victims of the Devabas dacoity submitted a list of persons suspected by him ; if so, whether any enquiry was made from these persons ;

(f) the name of the officer who was appointed to investigate the said dacoities ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) 3, one being a case of technical nature.

(b) One.

(c) No.

(d) Yes.

[K. B. Sh. Faiz Muhammad]

(e) Yes. The clue is being followed up.

(f) The investigation is being personally supervised by the Superintendent of Police, Hissar, and the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Ambala Range.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is the Parliamentary Secretary in a position to say that the crime is on the increase in that district and since when?

Parliamentary Secretary : I cannot say whether it is on the increase.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : What is the reason for so many dacoities in the district?

Parliamentary Secretary : The dacoits come from the Indian State territory. There are gangs of them on the borders of the district.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it a fact that additional police has had to be placed there on account of inefficiency of the district police?

Parliamentary Secretary : Additional police has been sent there and the Deputy Inspector-General has been there in order to destroy the gangs that come from the State territory.

Khan Sahib Chaudhri Sahib Dad Khan : What was the number of dacoities in the Hissar district during the last three years?

Parliamentary Secretary : That requires fresh notice.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Is it a fact that when previously this question was put, the Honourable Premier said that the labour involved in collecting the information was incommensurate with the results to be achieved?

Parliamentary Secretary : It is not a fact.

HOLIDAY FOR JOR MELA IN SHEIKHPURA DISTRICT.

***9827. Sardar Lal Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether it is a fact that this year no local holiday was allowed on the occasion of Jor Mela, the martyrdom day of Guru Arjan Dev, the 5th Sikh Guru by the Deputy Commissioner, Sheikhpura, although it was being observed as a local holiday for the last several years up to 1942; if so, the reasons therefor?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : Yes.

It is incorrect to say that in Sheikhpura a local holiday on account of Jor Mela was observed for several years up to 1942. It was observed in the years 1937 and 1941 only. In 1942 because of the War situation orders issued that no offices subordinate to Government were to observe local holidays for the duration of the war. These orders are still in force.

MR. ZAFAR ALI.

***9828. Chaudhri Sahib Ram :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Zafar Ali, B. A., at present detained in Sub-jail, Gujrat, wrote to the Government last year for permission to appear in M. A. History Examination of the Punjab University;

(b) whether it is a fact that in 1941 the Government offered conditional release to Mr. Zafar Ali which was refused and the offer repeated in January 1944, was also refused;

(c) whether it is a fact that in March 1944, Mr. Zafar Ali was permitted to appear in M. A. History Examination of the Punjab University but the permission was withdrawn by the Government in May, 1944, if so, the reasons therefor?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad): (a)

Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes. Under the Punjab University Regulations he could not appear in the M. A. Examination as a private student without attending a course of lectures.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan: Was he indulging in any unlawful activities? And would the public interest have suffered if this gentleman had been allowed to appear in the M.A. examination?

Parliamentary Secretary: One cannot sit in a University examination unless he has attended a course of lectures, and as he was under detention, he could not attend the lectures.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan: Could not the Punjab Government or the Punjab University exempt him?

Parliamentary Secretary: It is for the Punjab University to relax conditions and not for the Punjab Government.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan: Did the Punjab Government bring this case to the notice of the University, with a view to exemption?

Parliamentary Secretary: The people concerned should have taken the case to the University.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan: He was detained in a jail. Was it not the duty of the Punjab Government to bring the various difficulties of the case to the notice of the Punjab University?

Mr. Speaker: The next question.

LAMBARDARS AND CHAUKIDARS CHALLANED UNDER SECTION 176, INDIAN PENAL CODE, IN THE DISTRICT OF MONTGOMERY.

*9839. **Sardar Sher Singh**: Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state:—

(a) the number of lambardars and chaukidars challaned under section 176 Indian Penal Code, in the district of Montgomery in the years 1943 and 1944;

(b) the number of lambardars and chaukidars who were convicted;

(c) the number of cases in which lambardars were challaned without previous enquiry by gazetted officers and the reasons for the same?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the table.

(c) It is regretted that this information is not readily available. Its collection would involve an expenditure of time and stationery incommensurate with any advantage to be obtained and would place an undue burden on officers already overworked.

Statement showing the number of Lambardars and Chaukidars challaned and convicted under section 176, Indian Penal Code, in the district of Montgomery.

	CHALLANED		CONVICTED	
	1943	1944	1943	1944
Lambardars	60	287	60	226
Chaukidars	31	12	28	12

IRRIGATION OF BHAINI LANDS.

***9617. Sardar Tara Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that the lands of village Bhaini in the jurisdiction of Police Station Nathana, district Ferozepore, comprise thousands of acres but no arrangement exists for the irrigation thereof ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the construction of a new rajbah was recently under the consideration of the Government for the irrigation of the above-mentioned area, if so the reasons for not proceeding with its construction ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the inhabitants of the village have been making representations to the authorities concerned in this behalf for several years past and also represented their case to him personally when he visited Nathana ;

(d) whether he is aware of the fact that the villagers have rendered valuable services in the matter of recruitment in the present war and contributing to war loans ;

(e) if the answers to the above be in the affirmative, the action Government propose to take in order to provide irrigation facilities to the afore-mentioned area ?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram : (a) Yes. The total gross area of the lands of village Bhaini is about 1,500 acres.

(b) Yes. The possibility of extending canal irrigation facilities to the area of Bhaini village was thoroughly examined, recently. It is found that it is not possible technically to irrigate the area from the existing sources of canal water supply, and therefore the idea of extending canal irrigation to the Bhaini village area had to be dropped.

(c) Yes.

(d) Bhaini village has given 70 recruits and Rs. 1,330 under small Saving Scheme

(e) The honourable member is referred to reply to clause (b) of the question.

BLOCK SYSTEM FOR RECRUITMENT TO VARIOUS SERVICES.

***9709. Sardar Lal Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) the cases in which rotation on block system for recruitment to various services in the province was suspended and the reasons therefor ;

(b) what steps, if any, were taken by the appointing authorities before making recommendations for the suspension ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : This question savours of communalism and in accordance with the established convention I must decline to answer it on the floor of the House. If the honourable member will put down an unstarred question on the same subject, I shall endeavour to supply the information asked for.

ANTI-SEM MEASURES IN TEHSILS PHALIA AND BHALLOWAL, DISTRICT GUJRAT.

***9749. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state :—

(a) whether he is aware of the fact that the western and the eastern parts of Tehsils Phalia and Bhallowal are affected heavily by sem ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a big sum had been budgeted and allotted by the Government to remedy the destruction caused by the sem ;

(c) the steps Government has taken or propose to take to meet the danger created by sem in the tehsils mentioned above ;

(d) the amount which has been allotted to start the anti-sem campaign in the above-mentioned ilaqa ;

(e) the approximate date on which the anti-sem work is proposed to be started in this ilaqa ;

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The construction of certain important drainage works has been taken in hand.

(d) About Rs. 8 lakhs during the current year.

(e) The works are in progress.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, IRRIGATION BRANCH PERSONNEL.

***9772. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of S. D. Os., Overseers, Sub-Overseers, Draftsmen and Tracers in temporary and permanent cadres, respectively, in the Irrigation Branch of the Public Works Department ;

(b) the number of officials mentioned in (a) in the temporary service of Irrigation Department who have put in—

(i) 15—20 years' service,

(ii) 10—15 years' service ;

(iii) 5—10 years' service, with the salary drawn by each ;

(c) whether the men in temporary service are allowed the benefit of provident fund or whether any other concession is allowed to them after the termination of their service ;

(d) the reasons for not bringing them on to the permanent cadre of the service ;

(e) whether the Government is prepared to bring them on permanent cadre ;

(f) the age limit prescribed for the retirement of temporary hands from service ?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram : (a) It is assumed that the honourable member refers to the number of posts. This is given in the table below :—

Posts					Permanent	Temporary
Sub-Divisional Officers	..	..	..	..	135	48
Overseers	..	..	..	..	574	341
Draftsmen	..	..	..	..	88	65
Tracers	..	..	..	..	80	68

{Hon. Ch. Tikka Ram}

There is no rank of sub-overseer in the Irrigation Branch to-day.

(b) The number of officers to occupy the above posts is given in the table below :—

	Permanent	TEMPORARY			
		Below 5 years service	5 to 10 years service	10 to 15 years service	15 to 20 years service
Assistant Executive Engineers, P.S.E., Class I.	9	..	..	..	..
Assistant Engineers P. S. E. Old ..	39	..	..	..	..
Assistant Engineers, P. S. E. Class II	54	..	..	..	..
Sub-Engineers (Obsolescent) ..	8	..	..	..	..
Temporary Engineers .. ..	..	65	20	..	1
Total	*110	65	20	..	1
Overseers	574	236	83	6	16
Draftsmen	88	51	12	..	2
Tracers	89	47	19	1	1

*Including 14 on deputation and Military duty.
34 officiating as Executive Engineers.

—
48
—

The scales of pay for the above classes are as under :—

	Rs.
(i) Assistant Executive Engineers, P. S. E., Class I	300—25—525/25—700
(ii) Assistant Engineers, P. S. E. (Old) ..	250—20—550/20—750
(iii) Assistant Engineers, P. S. E. (New) ..	200—15—275/15—470/15—500/20—600
(iv) Sub-Engineers (Obsolescent) ..	300—20—600
(v) Temporary Engineers	200—15—275/15—470/15—500—20—600
(vi) Overseers	80—7—129/7—199/7—255
	65—5—100/5—140/6—200
(vii) Draftsmen	60—2—100
(viii) Tracers	30—2—60
	25—1½—40/2—50

(c) Men in temporary service are permitted to subscribe to the General Provident Fund provided that they have, or are expected to be not less than three years in service. Government makes no contribution to this Provident Fund. No other concession is granted to temporary employees save in very exceptional circumstances when a gratuity is occasionally granted on retirement.

(d) Broadly speaking, no man can be appointed to the permanent service of Government unless a permanent post is sanctioned against which he will count. It follows, therefore, that until permanent posts are sanctioned by Government, the above temporary employees cannot be made permanent.

(e) The Irrigation Branch is already engaged in an investigation of all temporary posts which have been in existence for five years and more and which are not likely to be abolished. Irrigation Branch will approach Government with a view to making these posts permanent as soon as the enquiry is completed.

(f) Temporary servants as well as permanent servants retire from Government service at the age of 55.

DISPENSARY IN BAGHBANPURA.

***9501. Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din :** Will the Honourable Minister of Education be pleased to state :—

(a) the population of Baghbanpura, Lahore ;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is no Government dispensary in Baghbanpura, if not, why not ?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : I would refer the honourable member to the reply given to starred question 9484¹.

DR. MISS KHADIJA BEGUM.

***9503. Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that Dr. Miss Khadija Begum Feroze-ud-Din, B.A., Hons., M.A., M.O.L., M.F. (Punjab), was appointed in the P. E. S., Class I, on September 29, 1938 ;

(b) whether it is a fact that Miss Bhan, B.A., L.C.P., S.A.V., was appointed in her present grade of P. E. S., Class I, only after December 1943 ;

(c) whether it is a fact that Miss Bhan has been appointed to succeed Miss Thomas, Deputy Directress of Public Instruction, with effect from December 15 1944 ;

(d) whether there is any rule in the Education Code disqualifying a purdah lady from holding the post of Deputy Directress of Public Instruction ;

(e) whether the Education Department ever received any complaints alleging improper and insulting behaviour by Miss Bhan towards her subordinates ;

(f) the reasons for preferring Miss Bhan to Miss Khadija Begum for the appointment ?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) No.

(e) No.

(f) The claims of all the ladies eligible for the post were considered and Miss Bhan was selected as the most suitable.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : Will the Honourable Minister be pleased to say why seniority was ignored in this case ?

Minister : It is a matter of discretion with the Government to select the most suitable person. Besides Miss Khadija Begum was not the senior most officer there. There were other officers senior to her.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : Is it or is it not a fact that Miss Bhan was not in Class I when she was appointed to her present post ?

Minister : She was.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : Is it or is it not a fact that purdah was the handicap in this particular case ?

Minister : No, Sir.

Begum Rashida Latif Baji : Is the Honourable Minister aware of the fact that in meetings held by Muslim ladies a strong protest was made against the orders of the Government disqualifying Miss Khadija Begum because of her observing purdah ?

Minister : There had been certain meetings, but they were held on the wrong assumption that purdah was at the root of this matter.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : Has there been any charge of inefficiency against Miss Khadija Begum due to which she has been superseded ?

Minister : She has not been superseded. It is a selection post and ladies with high academic qualifications like the Principal of Women's College, Lahore, and the Principal, Queen Mary College, have been thought fit to retain that position.

Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan : Are not the educational qualifications of Miss Khadija Begum better than those of Miss Bhan ?

Minister : I have already answered this question.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : What was the criterion before the Honourable Minister for Education for the selection of Miss Bhan and for superseding Miss Khadija Begum ?

Minister : She has not been superseded. Suitability was the criterion.

Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan : In which way was Miss Khadija Begum not suitable ?

Minister : She holds high qualifications and it was thought that she should be at the head of the Stratford College at Amritsar.

Khan Sahib Chaudhri Sahib Dad Khan : Who are the judges of suitability ? Is it the Honourable Minister for Education or somebody else ?

Minister : The Government.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : The Principal of Stratford College and Deputy Directress are equal in rank and grade. Was she selected for her high educational qualifications ?

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Did the Honourable Minister for Education take this position in order to please the non-Muslims ?

Premier : What an absurd insinuation !

Minister : The senior most officer was a non-Muslim ?

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : What were the extra high qualifications of Miss Bhan for her appointment ?

Premier : Whenever a non-Muslim is selected, according to the honourable member it is a case of Islam in danger. The Honourable Minister of Education has made it clear that it was not because of purdah that Miss Bhan was appointed and Miss Khadija Begum was not appointed.

GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL AT BAGHBANPURA.

*9542. **Sayed Muhammad Wilayat Hussain Jeelani :** } Will the Honour-
 *9607. **Khan Sahib Chaudhri Sahib Dad Khan :** }
 able Minister of Education be pleased to state :—

(a) the population of Baghbanpura, Lahore ;

(b) whether there is any Girls' High School at Baghbanpura, if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : (a) The honourable member is referred to the last Census report.

(b) There is no recognised high school for girls in Baghbanpura. Government is however, already considering the opening of such a school there during 1945-46 provided funds are voted and a suitable building is available.

GOVERNMENT DISPENSARY AT BAGHBANPURA.

*9543. **Sayed Muhammad Wilayat Hussain Jeelani :** Will the Honour-
 able Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the population of Baghbanpura, Lahore ;

(b) whether there is any Government Dispensary at Baghbanpura, if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : I would refer the honourable member to the reply given to starred question 9484¹.

WHEAT FLOUR SUPPLIED BY LAHORE SYNDICATE TO PUBLIC OF LAHORE.

*9608. **Sardar Sher Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have recently rejected thousands of bags of wheat flour which proved to be unfit for human consumption and which were supplied by the Lahore Syndicate to the public of Lahore ;

(b) where the said bags of flour are lying at present ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Lahore Syndicate has sold the rejected flour to some mill, if so, the name of that mill ;

(d) whether it is a fact that the said mill is mixing up the rejected flour with good wheat, and is despatching it to the deficit areas in the country, if so, the action Government intend to take in the matter ; if no action is intended, the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : (a) In August 1944 the Rationing Controller found that some of the *atta* bags issued from the Badami Bagh Flour Mill were deficient in gluten contents, as the *atta* contained between 60 per cent and 70 per cent gluten against the minimum of 80 per cent described under the Pure Food Act. He therefore prohibited the issue of this *atta* through the Rationing channels. The quantity was 998 bags of two maunds each.

(b) The bags remained at the premises of the mill.

(c) Yes. The Rationing Controller recently allowed the Syndicate to sell this *atta* to the owners of the Badami Bagh Flour Mill, who are included amongst the "authorized traders" of Lahore and can therefore export wheat products from the rationed area with the permission of the Rationing authorities.

(d) The mill will probably recondition this *atta* by mixing it with other stuff and export it from Lahore. So long as the final product is wholesome and not deficient in gluten, Government can have no objection to this course.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Who was at fault in allowing the Syndicate to supply bad wheat to the citizens of Lahore for their consumption ?

Minister : The question does not relate to bad supply of wheat. It relates to bad quality of *atta*.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Will the Honourable Minister repeat his answer with regard to (a) ?

Minister : The question is, "(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have recently rejected thousands of bags of wheat flour which proved to be unfit for human consumption and which were supplied by the Lahore Syndicate to the public of Lahore?"

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Wheat flour was found to be defective because the Syndicate's work is not being properly supervised by the Rationing Controller.

Minister : I would have been glad to reply to that information but I am sorry it does not relate to this question. This particular question relates to the bad flour lying at Badami Bagh Flour Mills.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Has the Honourable Minister received complaints from the citizens of Lahore that the Rationing Controller is not supervising properly the work of the Syndicate ?

Minister : I have received complaints of bad supply of wheat in Lahore City.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is the Honourable Minister prepared to hold an inquiry as to why the Rationing Controller is not discharging his duties properly ?

Minister : This does not arise out of this question but the honourable member will get a reply to this question some time later, probably on Monday or Tuesday next.

Begum Rashida Latif Baji : Is the Honourable Minister aware of the fact that for some days the Syndicate has not been receiving wheat and, therefore, has not been supplying it to mills to grind, and this is causing anxiety to the citizens of Lahore ?

Begum Rashida Latif Baji : Is the Honourable Minister aware of the fact that up till now wheat which is being supplied is of very bad quality ? I was appointed to inspect the wheat and I found that it was of very bad quality.

Minister : I am aware of this but reply to this very question will be given after two or three days. The question is already there and I will give the reply.

Begum Rashida Latif Baji : It is a question of foodstuffs and the Honourable Minister should be aware of the position.

BEOPARIES CHALLANED UNDER FOODGRAINS CONTROL ORDER.

***9840. Sardar Sher Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state ;—

(a) the number of beoparies challaned under Foodgrains Control Order, 1942 in the province, giving the figures district-wise ;

(b) how many of them were convicted ;

(c) the actual offence alleged to have been committed in each case for which they were challaned ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : (a), (b) and (c). A statement is laid on the table showing number of cases prosecuted and convicted. Information about the actual number of persons concerned in these prosecutions is not available and the time and labour involved in collecting this information as well as the information asked for in part (c) will not be commensurate with the result achieved.

Sardar Sher Singh : Is it a fact that 1,600 dealers were challaned and a majority of them were very heavily punished, although in 80 per cent of cases there were simple technical mistakes, and some of them kept their shops closed for six months even ? Is it not a hardship ?

Minister : It may be true in certain cases, I do not deny it.

Statement showing the number of prosecutions and convictions for breach of food orders.

	Chalans	Convictions
Hissar	46	40
Rohtak	132	99
Gurgaon	203	102
Karnal	74	48
Ambala	57	38
Simla	1	..
Kangra .. .. .	..	..
Hoshiarpur	21	18
Jullundur	27	15
Ludhiana	12	9
Ferozepore	101	91
Lahore	24	13
Amritsar	12	4
Gurdaspur	25	17
Sialkot	19	11
Gujranwala	414	379
Sheikhupura	27	25
Gujrat	7	4
Shahpur	64	42
Jhelum	19	8
Rawalpindi	17	11
Attock	145	132
Mianwali	11	10
Montgomery	64	46
Lyallpur	24	17
Jhang	7	6
Multan	38	22
Muzaffargarh	28	19
Dera Ghazi Khan	6	5

GOVERNMENT QUARTERS IN CHAUBURJI GARDENS ESTATE.

***9724. Mian Abdul Rab :** Will the Honourable Minister for Public Works be pleased to lay on the table of the House —

(a) the rules governing the allotment of Government quarters in the Chauburji Gardens Estate ;

[M. Abdul Rab]

(b) whether these rules are being strictly observed or whether they have been relaxed in certain cases ;

(c) whether it is a fact that some of the quarters in the said Estate are at present occupied by persons who own houses in Lahore ;

(d) whether it is a fact that some of the quarters have been further sublet by the Government servants to whom they have been allotted ; if so, the reasons therefor and the action Government intend to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Nawab Sir Muhammad Jamal Khan Leghari : (a) A copy of the rules governing the allotment of Government quarters in the Chauburji Gardens Estate, Lahore, is laid on the table¹.

(b) Yes, there has been no relaxation as far as it has been possible to ascertain.

(c) No information in this connection is available. There is no provision for this information in the application form for allotment of the quarters or in the agreement form.

(d) Cases of sublets have been noticed from time to time and suitable action taken in such cases. A concerted drive to eradicate this was made recently and notices of vacation and imposition of penal rent pending vacation have been served in such cases.

GOVERNMENT QUARTERS IN CHAUBURJI GARDENS ESTATE.

***9755. Mian Abdul Rab :** Will the Honourable Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that one Bh. Bhagwant Singh who has retired from Government service is still an occupant of a quarter in the Chauburji Gardens Estate ;

(b) whether it is a fact that one or two other persons who have retired from Government service and have been re-employed in connection with war work have applied to be allowed to remain as tenants in the above estate ;

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether the Government intends to grant the same facility to the applicants mentioned in (b) ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Nawab Sir Muhammad Jamal Khan Leghari : (a) Yes, but he is under notice of vacation and steps are being taken for his ejection.

(b) Only one other person has made such an application. His case is however different from that of Bh. Bhagwant Singh. He retired from Government service on 12th October, 1943, and refused to vacate the quarter in spite of notices. It was ultimately decided to file a civil suit for his ejection and the papers for this are in the hands of Government Pleader. On 22nd September, 1944, he applied that he had been re-employed in the office of the Deputy Secretary to Government, Punjab, Home Department (War Front) and might be permitted to continue to live in the quarter. As this request could not be granted according to the rules, it was refused.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

SIDE DRAINS FOR HEARNE ROAD IN LAHORE.

***9825. Rai Bahadur Mr. Mukand Lal Puri :** With reference to the answer to starred question No. 9849² asked at the last session of the Punjab Assembly will the Honourable Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) how long the Lahore Corporation will take to provide side drains for Hearne Road in Lahore ;

¹ Kept in the Assembly Library.

² Vol. XXIII page 180.

(b) whether it is a fact that the said locality has not been drained for the last 15 years and the people living on Hearne Road have cried hoarse for the last 4 years for side drains ;

(c) the length of the 20 feet wide part of the Hearne Road, ;

(d) if the answer to part (b) be in the affirmative, the action Government intend to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Nawab Sir Muhammad Jamal Khan Leghari : (a) The work will be taken up shortly.

(b) The Hearne Road area is an old *abadi*. Schemes for draining the area and the adjoining areas of Krishannagar are ready, and preliminary work of constructing trunk sewers was actually commenced in 1939. But progress has been slow on account of the war.

(c) The total length of Hearne Road is 1,500 feet. The length which is 20 feet wide is 1,150 feet.

(d) The work is being pushed on as fast as the supply of materials permits.

GRIEVANCES OF RESIDENTS OF HEARNE ROAD.

***9826. Rai Bahadur Mukand Lal Puri :** With reference to the answer to starred question No. 9858¹ asked at the last session of the Punjab Assembly will the Honourable Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the grounds on which no action has been taken by the Lahore Corporation so far to relieve the residents of Hearne Road of their troubles, viz., unhealthy conditions, inconvenience to the public regarding traffic on rainy days and damage to buildings caused by rain water overflowing the road and compounds of the bungalows on the said road for more than three years ;

(b) the reasons for which no drains have been built nor any other arrangements made so far to drain the said locality for such a long period ;

(c) the officials responsible for the above state of affairs in regard to Hearne Road and the action, if any, Government intend to take against them ;

(d) whether Government intend to pay any compensation to the residents of the said locality for the damage done to their health and to their buildings ; if not the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Nawab Sir Muhammad Jamal Khan Leghari : (a) The essential preliminary work of providing trunk sewers and disposal works without which no local drainage is possible, has been proceeding for some time as far as war conditions permit.

(b) Trunk sewers have first to be provided.

(c) No official is at fault.

(d) No.

RIVAZ GARDENS

***9264. Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma :** Will the Honourable Minister of Public Works be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that cottages in the Government Estate known as Rivaz Gardens at Lahore are allotted only to ministerial Government servants belonging to the Anglo-Indian community ;

(b) whether it is a fact that members of no other community are eligible for these cottages ;

[Bhagat Ram Sharma]

(c) the reasons for making this discrimination against ministerial Government servants of other communities in this respect and whether Government intend to remove this discrimination and grievance, if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Nawab Sir Muhammad Jamal Khan Leghari : (a)

Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The cottages in the Rivaz Gardens Estate were constructed primarily for the use of European and Anglo-Indian clerks, while Indian clerks have been housed in a separate estate known as the Chaubirji Gardens Estate. As cottages in the former fall vacant as a result of the decrease of European and Anglo-Indian element in the clerical service, they are being allotted to Indians.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : May I know as to when the Chauburji quarters were constructed ?

Minister : I require notice.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : The Honourable Minister has said that the reason for the discrimination is that Indian employees are housed in the Chauburji quarters and the Anglo-Indians and Europeans are housed in Rivaz Gardeus Estate. I want to know whether both of them were constructed at the same time.

Minister : I want notice of that question.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : May I know whether he thinks it in consonance with the prestige of the Indians that the Anglo-Indians and Europeans should be given special quarters and Indians should not be allowed to be housed there ?

Minister : I have already stated that now indians are being allowed to be housed there.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : Can the Indians occupy the quarters in the Rivaz Gardens ?

Minister : They are being given now.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : How many Indians are now occupying those quarters ?

Minister : I cannot give that information off-hand.

CRIMES IN FERROZEPORE DISTRICT

***9298. Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the state of crime during the years 1940-41-42-43 and from January to March 1944 in relation to reported cases in various thanas of the Ferozepore district ;

(b) the state of crime in the said district prior to the posting of the present Superintendent of Police ?

Parliamentary Secretary (S. Jagjit Singh Man) : (a) A statement is laid on the table.

(b) The present Superintendent of Police was posted to Ferozepore on 11th May, 1942, and the figures in the above statement give an idea of the state of crime.

Statement showing all the reported crime from the various thanas of the Ferozepore district during the year 1940 to 1943 and 1944 up to 1st March 1944.

Police Station	ALL REPORTED CRIME DURING				1944 up to 1-3-1944	REMARKS
	1940	1941	1942	1943		
1. City Ferozepore ..	166	131	153	173	34	
2. Cantonment Ferozepore ..	255	239	211	226	39	
3. Sadar Ferozepore ..	157	170	207	203	25	
4. Nathana ..	135	112	140	134	17	
5. Mamdot ..	106	95	85	76	12	
6. Ghall Khurd ..	121	113	122	125	11	
7. Moga ..	302	229	227	224	27	
8. Nihalsinghwal ..	149	97	97	112	18	
9. Mehua ..	130	141	122	126	13	
10. Baghapurana ..	275	187	199	237	30	
11. Zira ..	108	117	119	121	12	
12. Dharamkot ..	144	145	116	112	17	
13. Makhu ..	64	55	73	69	11	
14. Mallanwala ..	61	60	66	68	8	
15. Muktsar ..	235	223	225	216	27	
16. Kot Bhai ..	145	144	171	196	18	
17. Gurnaharsahai ..	120	88	88	89	10	
18. Jalalabad ..	131	103	96	114	21	
19. Fazilka ..	242	246	243	237	23	
20. Abohar ..	169	170	163	188	23	
21. Khuyansarwar ..	124	84	128	141	20	
22. Malout ..	124	124	133	147	16	
23. Lambi ..	158	148	166	126	15	
Total ..	3,639	3,221	3,350	3,460	447	

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it a fact that the statement shows that the state of crime has increased during the posting of the present Superintendent of Police?

Parliamentary Secretary : Yes.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is the Parliamentary Secretary in a position to say whether the Punjab Government is going to take any action about the increase of crime?

Parliamentary Secretary : The Government is just taking care to see that the crime does not increase.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : What action has been taken so far ? Has the D. I. G. of that range been asked to supervise the work of the Superintendent of Police there ?

Premier : Steps are being taken in this direction. If my honourable friend gives notice, all the details will be supplied. The matter is under consideration. We are shortly holding a conference to deal with this subject as to how we can further decrease the crime.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Has the Honourable Premier brought it to the notice of the Inspector General that the state of crime in Ferozepore is deplorable ?

Premier : He has been asked to take all possible steps to put down the crime and he is doing it.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : May I know what particular step has been taken so far ? This thing happened in 1944 and up till now no action has been taken.

Premier : The strength of the police has already been increased. If legislation is necessary we shall consider as to what step should be taken to make sentences more deterrent in order to effect a decrease in crime.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Has the Honourable Premier ever considered the desirability of posting a Deputy Inspector-General specially in Ferozepore to control the crime ?

Mr. Speaker : Disallowed.

UNTRACED COGNIZABLE CASES IN FEROZEPORE DISTRICT

***9306. Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) the number of cognizable cases which remained untraced in the Ferozepore district during the years 1941-42-43 and from January to 1st March, 1944, and the reasons for the same ;

(b) whether it is a fact that several complaints of corruption came to the notice of the Superintendent of Police, Ferozepore, in connection with the above-mentioned cases against police officers and police men concerned, if so the result of investigation or enquiry, if any, held into the cases mentioned above ;

(c) whether any action was taken by the Superintendent of Police, Ferozepore, in this matter, if so, what, if not, why not ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Man) : The time and trouble involved in the collection of this detailed information is incommensurate with any possible result to be obtained.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it within the knowledge of the Parliamentary Secretary that a statement has already been supplied to me about this question ? Does he know it ?

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : May I read out the statement supplied to me by the Punjab Government about the number of cognizable cases which remained untraced during this period ?

Premier : May I say that the state of crime there is the lowest now since the last 10 years ? All credit to the Punjab Government.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : That is not the point. The Parliamentary Secretary declined to answer my question on the ground that much time and labour would be involved in collecting the information, but I have already been supplied with a statement about it.

Premier : That statement is with regard to a different question.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : I have asked the question about the state of crime there.

Parliamentary Secretary : The question relates to cases of corruption. This was never asked for in the previous question.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : The Parliamentary Secretary has not followed my question. He is referring to the next question.—Question No. 9307.

Parliamentary Secretary : The honourable member asked about the number of cognizable cases that remained untraced ; he is now asking about corruption.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Kindly read part (a) of the question, viz., the number of cognizable cases which remained untraced in the Ferozepore district during the years 1941-42-43.

Premier : May I ask the honourable questioner why he is so interested in the Ferozepore district ? Is it because of certain differences that arose between him and the police ? The crime there is the lowest for the last 10 years. This question does not reflect on the officer concerned.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : I find that the police officers there are not discharging their duties properly.

Premier : You have personal enmity with the officer and that is why you are putting this question.

Mr. Speaker : I disallow any further supplementary questions.

CASES OF CORRUPTION AGAINST THE POLICE OFFICIALS OF FEROZEPORE DISTRICT

***9307. Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that several cases of corruption were investigated by the Deputy Superintendents of Police posted in the Ferozepore district against the subordinate police officials and ultimately records were submitted to the Superintendent of Police, Ferozepore district for necessary action ; if so, what was the number of such cases giving details of the names, places of postings of the officials concerned, the names of the officers who made the enquiries and the nature of the punishment awarded by the Superintendent of Police, Ferozepore district in each case ;

(b) the names of police officials against whom allegations of corruption were made but the Superintendent of Police, Ferozepore did not punish them, and the reasons for the same ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Man) : The time and trouble involved in the collection of this detailed information is incommensurate with and possible result to be obtained.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it against the public interest to find out how many cases of corruption occurred in the Ferozepore district during this period ?

Premier : If you have anything against any officer, do proceed to prosecute him ; it does not do any harm.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : You may make him your P. A., but do not post him to any district.

Parliamentary Secretary : I repudiate the honourable member's remark most strongly. Mr. Sadhu Ram is a thoroughly capable and reliable officer.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Ask Sodhi Harnam Singh.

Captain Sodhi Harnam Singh : I say he is one of the best officers of the Punjab.

Premier : Personalities should not be brought in.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : It is not a question of personalities. Your officers have been condemned by different courts, even by the High Court.

SECURITY PRISONERS

***9312. Sardar Teja Singh Swatantar :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the names of the security prisoners of the Ambala district at present confined in the various jails of the province ;

(b) whether the Government has ever examined their cases for release ;

(c) if so, with what results ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Mehman Singh, son of Teja Singh, of Mullanpur Gharibdass, Police Station Chandigarh, district Ambala, is confined by the orders of the Central Government.

(b) and (c) Questions about him cannot be asked on the floor of this House, and should be addressed to the Government of India.

SARDAR GURBACHAN SINGH RANDHAWA

***9313. Sardar Teja Singh Swatantar :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that the wife of one Sardar Gurbachan Singh Randhawa, a security prisoner confined in the Gujrat Jail is suffering from hysteria ;

(b) whether the Government has received any application from the said Gurbachan Singh for release on parole, so that he might attend upon his wife and look after her, if so, the action taken in the matter ;

(c) when the case of the said Gurbachan Singh was examined last ;

(d) whether the Government intend to release Gurbachan Singh, if so, when, if not, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Gurcharan Singh Randhawa (not Gurbachan Singh Randhawa) was released on 27th May 1944 ;

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

GYANI HIRA SINGH DARD AND LAL SINGH KANWAR

***9314. Sardar Teja Singh Swatantar :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state the reasons for the continued detention of one Gyani Hira Singh Dard of Lahore and one Lal Singh Kanwar of District Sheikhupura and when it is intended to release them ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : *Part I.*—They have been detained with a view to preventing them from acting in any manner prejudicial to the public safety and the maintenance of public order.

Part II.—Their cases will be reviewed shortly.

DR. GOPI CHAND BHARGAVA

***9315. Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Dr. Gopi Chand Bhargava the former leader of Opposition in the Punjab Legislative Assembly was released on parole in November last ; if so, what was the nature of the ailment which led to his release ;

(b) whether it is a fact that before his release on parole Dr. Gopi Chand Bhargava, was examined and X-rayed by official doctors in the Mayo Hospital, Lahore, if so, what was their diagnosis of his disease and what were the reports of the Jail and Mayo Hospital medical authorities on the same ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : For the honourable member's information, Dr. Gopi Chand Bhargava has since been released.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : I am not seeking information about his release. I ask whether Dr. Gopi Chand Bhargava was released on parole in November last ; if so, what was the nature of the ailment ?

Mr. Speaker : The next question.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : My question has not been answered.

Parliamentary Secretary : The difficulty is that the honourable member gave notice of this question long ago when the doctor was in jail. Since then he has been released, the honourable member can go and seek all the information from the doctor.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : I seek information with respect to part (b) whether he was examined and X-rayed.

Mr. Speaker : The next question.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : On a point of order, Sir. My question is with respect to part (b) whether he was X-rayed. The report was palpably wrong. The fact that he has been released has nothing to do with the question. The Government may refuse to answer part (b) whether before his release on parole Dr. Gopi Chand was examined and X-rayed.

Parliamentary Secretary : The reply has been given from this side. The honourable member can go and seek the information from Dr. Gopi Chand. Why put supplementary questions ?

Lala Bhagat Ram Choda : It is because the Government denied his illness.

UNSTARRED QUESTION AND ANSWER.

BAN ON THE EXPORT OF MILCH CATTLE

1836. Mian Mumtaz Muhammad Khan Daulatana : Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) how many milch cattle were exported from the Punjab to other provinces of India between :—

January 1, 1942, and January 1, 1943 ;

January 1, 1943, and January 1, 1944 ;

January 1, 1944, and January 1, 1945 ; and

what was the total price of the same ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Punjab Government has banned the export of milch cattle from the Punjab to other provinces of India ;

[M. Mumtaz Muhammad Khan Daultana]

(c) whether it has been brought to his notice that this ban has very seriously affected the livelihood of Mussalmans of the Rohtak district;

(d) whether the Government contemplates the removal of the ban; if not the reasons therefor?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : (a) No record exists of the price paid for each cow or buffalo in private transactions nor are figures available of export during these periods by road, river and rail.

(b) No. It is not a fact that the export of milch cattle from the Punjab to other provinces of India has been banned. This has only been regulated and export is allowed under permits.

(c) A representation was received from the Association of the Rohtak district. The Director of Veterinary Services, Punjab, has been asked to prepare a list of the Punjab traders for communication to the other provinces. This has been done with a view to ensure that the recipient governments import cattle through the agency of the Punjab traders as far as possible.

(d) No. This action has been taken to protect the cattle wealth of the province and to ensure that the requirements of this province are adequately fulfilled before export to other provinces takes place.

ADJOURNMENT

Premier (The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat) : I beg to move—

That this Assembly at its rising this day shall stand adjourned to Thursday, the 1st March 1945 at 12 noon.

In moving this motion, Sir, I may mention that this is being done for the convenience of the honourable members because during this interval we will be having Id, Holi and Holi. If there is any sitting in between, that might cause inconvenience to the members. Now we meet on the day the Budget is presented, that is the 1st of March. (*Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan* : You have done well). I thank you for that.

11 a. m.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That this Assembly at its rising this day shall stand adjourned to Thursday, the 1st March 1945 at 12 noon.

The motion was carried.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES (SECOND INSTALMENT), 1944-45

Minister for Finance (The Honourable Sir Manohar Lal) : I beg to present the Supplementary Estimates (Second Instalment), 1944-45. The demands made therein are made on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

Minister for Finance : I beg to present the Report of the Committee on Public Accounts of the Punjab Legislative Assembly on the Appropriation Accounts and Finance Accounts of the Punjab Government for the year 1942-43. The date for the discussion of this Report will be intimated to members later.

DISTRICT BOARDS BILL

Clause 11

Mr. Speaker : The House will now resume consideration of clause 11 of the Punjab District Boards Bill.

Mian Muhammad Nurullah (Lyallpur, Muhammadan, Rural) : Sir, the other day I moved the following amendment—

That for part (a) of the proviso to sub-clause (2) the following be substituted—

"(a) the number of elected members shall not be less than eighty per cent but once fixed shall not be decreased."

Sub-clause reads—

The members of a board may be appointed by the Provincial Government either by name or by office or may be elected in accordance with rules made under this Act, or some may be so appointed and some so elected as the Provincial Government may by notification direct.

Then follow the provisos :

Provided that

(a) the number of elected members once fixed shall not be decreased unless the Board makes a request in this behalf or the district board area is reduced.

Now the proviso states definitely that under two conditions the number of elected members once fixed can be decreased. Number one is if the board makes a request to that effect and number two is that if the area of the board is decreased. What is my amendment? My amendment is that the number of elected members shall not be less than 80 per cent, but once fixed shall not be decreased. I want two things. Government have failed to define the number of elected members in any one board. The number of members in the board has been fixed at 20 minimum and we wanted it to be 50 at the maximum, but all the same even that is not fixed. We would like that there should be a definite percentage of elected members in the district boards. After the Government of India Act of 1935, we have seen that the provinces have become fully autonomous and cent per cent of their members are elected. When in the case of provinces we could do away with nomination, I ask why could not we bring that autonomy into force in the case of district boards and municipal committees, and elect all the members? Arguments are raised that we have to get certain minorities and certain interests represented on the boards. Very well. If you have to do it, even then you can fix the number of elected members on any board or any municipal committee. All I want by this amendment is that at least 80 per cent of the members should be elected. If once you have fixed the number of elected members on any one board, then you should not have the power to decrease the number even at the request of the board or even if the area is reduced. The number should remain the same. What I want is that all difficulties should be overcome. When we in this House can be all elected members, why cannot the board or municipal committee have all elected members? If there are difficulties, we have got arrangements to overcome those difficulties. Reservation of seats is one of the methods suggested. If you do want to have certain minorities to be represented, say in Lyallpur if you want the scheduled castes to be represented, why cannot you reserve seats for them and have those seats filled by election? Let those seats be elected as well. So I want all the members of the House to support me in the demand that the number of elected members should be fixed and if that cannot be done; then there should be at least 80 per cent of the total number on any one board to be elected. I request the House to support me because these are the days of election and not of nomination or appointment.

Mr Speaker : Clause under consideration, amendment moved—

That for part (a) of the proviso to sub-clause (2) the following be substituted :—

(a) the number of elected members shall not be less than eighty per cent, but once fixed shall not be decreased.

Minister of Public Works (The Honourable Nawab Sir Muhammad Jamal Khan Leghari) (Urdu) : Sir, I rise to oppose this amendment. I am opposed to it for two reasons. My first objection to the proposed amendment is that it seeks to reduce the nominated element in the district boards. Now let us see what is the actual position. Under the present circumstances we have a joint electorate in the district boards. As a result of joint electorate, Muslims are returned in a large majority in some districts while in other districts Hindus and Sikhs preponderate. In both cases one or the other community remains practically unrepresented or at least too inadequately represented. It is with a view to reduce this inequality that the Government want

[Minister of Public Works]

the right to nominate members of the minority community whether they belong to Islam, Sikhism or Hinduism. If nominated element is eliminated, minority communities will not be able to get sufficient representation in the district boards. In some districts Muslims will be denied seats and in other districts Hindus or Sikhs will be unrepresented. They will be there in name only without a substantial representation. I am sure the House will like the Government to remove inequality by exercising the right of nomination. My second objection to this amendment is that we need certain officers and experts to sit in the District Board for facilitating the work of the boards. The Select Committee's report has pointed out the vital necessity of representing the experts in the deliberations of the local bodies. For instance, how can we ignore the officers of the Education, Health, Engineering and the Medical Departments? The District Inspector of Schools, the District Engineer, the District Medical Officer of Health and the Civil Surgeon are experts in their own respective lines and are very useful in the district boards. (*Chaudhri Sumer Singh*: But there are no experts in the Assembly Chamber and yet the work is carried on. Why cannot the district boards also do without these experts?) Before this interruption, I was submitting that the participation of experts was essential in the deliberations of the district boards. So we need, on the one hand, four or five experts and, on the other hand, we need some persons to be nominated for removing the inequality of certain communities in the district boards. Both these objects have to be attained within a meagre margin of 20 per cent element of nomination. Under these circumstances, it is my considered opinion that the nominated element is essential and must be maintained. The existing conditions in the Punjab demand and justify the creation of a nominated bloc in the district boards with the twin purpose of giving adequate representation to the different minority communities in the different districts as well as to the experts that are needed to help the administration of district boards. Till conditions change in the country, nomination will have to be maintained. I, therefore, strongly oppose the proposed amendment which is at present before the House.

Pir Akbar Ali (Fazilka, Muhammadan, Rural): Sir, the Honourable Minister for Public Works was pleased to lay great stress on the necessity of nomination because this system enabled the Government to appoint or nominate experts to the district boards. He further opined that their presence in the boards was most essential since expert opinion tendered by them would prove very useful in the discharge of work requiring technical knowledge. To this my honourable friend from Gurgaon made a good retort that if the elected members of this legislature could enact measures of far reaching nature without the help of nominated experts, why should the Government presume that the elected representatives of the people in the district boards would not be able to perform their duties properly without the assistance of the nominated members? I, too, beg to differ from the remarks made by the Honourable Minister in upholding the principle of nomination. My submission is that if Government insist upon the policy of appointing or nominating experts to the district boards in view of the various technical departments like the Medical, Veterinary, Education, etc., then obviously there will remain no necessity of sending there any elected members, since the number of departments is large and Government would like to nominate an expert for every one of them. But what is underlying all this advocacy of importing expert opinion in these local bodies? Under this camouflage, the Government want to retain the power in their own hands. In fact they wish to bring in their own yes-men in the district boards with a view to keeping these local bodies under their thumb. In other words they do not intend to allow the elected members to have a free hand in carrying out the work of the district boards. They want to put a clog in the form of a nominated bloc in the way of the elected members. I, therefore, cannot help saying that this is the most undemocratic act on the part of my honourable friends on the treasury benches, who cry themselves hoarse that they are for conferring self-determination

on all local bodies, because they themselves enjoy autonomy in the provincial sphere. But they have signally failed to rise equal to the occasion since, as the wording of the clause indicates, they are not prepared to allow the elected members to shoulder their responsibilities independently. Then, Sir, the nominated element in the district boards does not serve any useful purpose. My experience as an elected member of a district board shows that the nominated members are not at all wide-awake. They do not know what is happening in the district. But all the same they are amenable to outside pressure and influence by interested parties. Thus they are a convenient tool in the hands of Government or anti-national forces to thwart any measure proposed by the elected members. Hence I consider that the system of nomination has become antiquated, obsolete and out of date.

Then, Sir, the greatest argument advanced by the Government in continuing this system is that if certain communities or important interests fail to find proper representation in the district boards through election, the deficiency can be made up by means of nomination. I would suggest that instead of resorting to this retrograde and back-door method of giving representation Government should do away with joint electorates and boldly introduce separate electorates in these bodies. Thus seats for all communities and interests will be ensured, and need for the application of the principle of nomination would automatically disappear. Besides, the majority of the people in the province do not like joint electorates. But if the Government feel averse to this suggestion, they should at least accept the amendment under consideration. It does not debar them from retaining the system of nomination. It only seeks to lay down that the ratio of elected and nominated members should be eighty and twenty per cent respectively. The fixation of this ratio would ensure the smooth working of the district boards. I may point out in this connection, that lesser the nominated element in the district boards, the better it will be for the people because the nominated members invariably prove a retarding force there. But if the Government turn a deaf ear to the wholesome suggestions made by the Opposition, and also being intoxicated of a comfortable majority at their back, are adamant to add another absurd enactment to the ones which they have passed already, they can please themselves as none can stop them from doing absurd things.

Mr. Speaker : The honourable member should not attack the Acts passed by this House.

Pir Akbar Ali : Well, Sir, I feel justified in making this statement. As you are aware, whenever this Assembly meets, plethora of amending Bills are brought forward by the Government. What does that signify? Acts passed after mature deliberations do not require to be amended so soon, unless, of course, some absurd lacuna is left in it.

Mr. Speaker : When any Act passed by the House is to be repealed, it can be attacked.

Pir Akbar Ali : True, but what I want to drive at is that if a Bill is properly discussed and useful suggestions made by the Opposition are incorporated in it then very little chance will be left for any such lacuna or absurd clause being passed over by the Assembly, as may require amendment in the next session. Now, Sir, this is a voluminous Bill comprising 400 sections. It has been discussed piecemeal in the past. Today it has been unearthed from the debris and brought forward for discussions. Heaven knows when it will be taken up next. The manner in which it is being deliberated upon, will serve no useful purpose.

Mr. Speaker : Please speak to the amendment now before the House.

Pir Akbar Ali : I am perfectly relevant, Sir. I am replying to the remarks made by the Honourable Minister in charge of the Bill. However, my point is that Government will be well advised to agree to giving eighty per cent representation to the elected members and twenty per cent to the nominated members. I feel that

[Pir Akbar Ali]

one-fifth share for the nominated members is quite sufficient. But here also I would like to draw the pointed attention of the Government to one matter and that is this. While making nominations they should take particular care to draw persons from the public and refrain from blindly bringing in persons from the services under the plea of importing experts. With these words I would appeal to the Government to accept this wholesome amendment.

Begum Rashida Latif Baji (Inner Lahore, Muhammadan Women, Urban) (Urdu): Sir, the Honourable Minister, while making a reply in connection with the amendment put forward by Mian Muhammad Nurullah, laid great stress on the necessity and nomination of experts to the district boards, but he totally lost sight of the right of women for satisfactory representation on these local bodies. The object of one of the two amendments moved by me, was to the effect that if Government insisted on having twenty members then at least two out of them should be women members, but if the number of male members is increased, the representation of women should also be increased proportionately. Then as you are aware, Sir, it is the women only who can effectively look after the interests of their sisters because they understand their requirements better than men. I, therefore, avail of this opportunity to register my strong protest against Government's policy of keeping women out of the district boards, when they can become members of august bodies like the Lahore Corporation and this Legislature. If the Government hold the view that the rural women are not yet imbued with this spirit, or that they do not possess the ability to discharge the duties of a member of a district board, then I may tell them that they are entirely mistaken. It is more or less urban women, who, being in the habit of remaining within the four walls of their houses, feel a little hesitation in moving about freely and taking active part in such bodies. But that is not the case with the Amazons of the rural Punjab. The rural women enjoy complete independence. They go about freely, help their kith and kin in the fields and work shoulder to shoulder with their men in every sphere of life. If they are elected to the membership of district boards, I can say with the fullest confidence that they would prove second to none in their zeal to participate in the activities of the district boards. They would not only prove themselves capable of rising equal to the occasion, but also would effectively safeguard their interests. Then, Sir, the number of schools under the District Boards is legion but those meant for the education of girls, are few and far between. It is a thousand pities that in villages, when boys get their lessons in the schools, the girls stand outside looking at them with longing eyes, praying in their hearts to get an opportunity for receiving education. It has often come to our notice that when a teacher teaches a poem to the boys and asks them to repeat it loudly, these girls also imperceptibly begin to repeat that poem. The result is that the teacher is offended at this because he considers it an interference in the discharge of his normal duties. So he gives them a beating and turns them out. In this connection I relate here an incident which I saw with my own eyes. Once in a village I found a village school master beating small girls outside the class room where boys were busy with their studies. I came to know that these small girls would often waste their time in disturbing the schoolmaster and the boys. Since there was no adequate arrangement for the education of these small girls, they would often waste their time in wandering about here and there. Sometimes they would disturb the school master who would often beat them and turn them out of the school premises. I am constrained to remark that there is no adequate arrangement in the villages for the education of girls. (Interruptions) Sir, the honourable members opposite neither allow others to hear their speeches nor do they allow any member to give expression to his or her thoughts in the House. I was submitting that it is very essential to make adequate arrangements to impart education to women in the province. If women are educated, it is but natural that their children can also receive proper education. It is an open

secret that things taught once by a mother are never forgotten by the child. Whatever is taught by a mother to her child he will never forget it. In this connection I am reminded of a story. Once a certain dacoit was sentenced to death. The day this dacoit was to be executed, he was asked to express any desire which would be fulfilled there and then. He said he wanted to see his mother. He was allowed to have the last glimpse of his mother. When he was taken to his mother, she extended her arms in order to embrace him. No sooner did she extend her arms, than he bit her arm. The persons who escorted him were taken aback and asked him to explain this uncalled for action. He said to them: "My mother taught me in my childhood to steal eggs. Whenever I would steal eggs and place them before her, she would pat me on my back with a view to encouraging me to steal more and more eggs. Whenever I did not succeed in this game, she would get displeased with me and punish me severely. Had I not been taught to steal eggs in my childhood, I would not have been a dacoit." What I wish to point out is this that this is the result of lack of education among the womenfolk.

The next point to which I wish to draw your kind attention is this that it is very essential to have lady members in the district boards, so that they may be in a position to make adequate arrangements for the education of girls. If this is done, I am sure children will never be taught by their mothers to steal things. In fact, there will not be any tendency for the children to become dacoits. It will not be out of place to mention here that suitable arrangements have already been made for providing education for boys in the district boards. It is really a pity that no such arrangement has ever been made for the education of girls in these district boards. This is not all. In villages womenfolk are not taught any industrial work. The House will agree with me that women can pick up hand industry very easily and in this way they can bring prosperity to their homes. In this connection I would like to suggest that district boards should open industrial schools as well, where men and women can work together.

Mr. Speaker : The honourable member is irrelevant. She should speak to the motion now before the House.

Begum Rashida Latif Baji : Very well, Sir. I shall obey your orders. I was submitting that lady members should also be given representation in the district boards. I wish to point out to the Honourable Minister-in-charge that the presence of lady members in the district boards is very essential. In this connection I have to submit that I had submitted two amendments but unfortunately these amendments did not reach in time. However, I wish to submit that womenfolk residing in the villages cannot fight elections successfully. I would therefore suggest that they should be nominated.

Mr. Speaker : The lady member is irrelevant. She is not to discuss the Bill. She should wind up her speech.

Begum Rashida Latif Baji : Very well, Sir. I shall wind up my speech. The Honourable Minister-in-charge was pleased to remark that it was his intention to nominate experts, i.e., engineers and doctors, as members to the district boards. I am pleading the cause of the women who have no representatives in the district boards and I would urge upon the Government that women should be given their due representation in the district boards through nomination. With these words, Sir, I resume my seat.

Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram (West Central Punjab, Indian Christian) : Sir, I will try to speak a little louder than I can in order to drown the whisperings which are going on. I rise to support the Honourable Minister who has given very cogent reasons for not fixing the ratio. In principle, no doubt, I would agree with the mover of the amendment and I wish that we could have a utopia for India when people will not be tainted with this narrow spirit and when electors will vote for the very best man they

[Mr. Rallia Ram.]

can think of or can find irrespective of caste or creed. Unfortunately this is not the atmosphere in India at present although we are trying to—

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Because people of your type are there.

Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram — work for it. If you do away with communal elections here in the Assembly, nobody will be happier than myself and we all pray that the day might come in India when we shall have elections on the basis of joint electorates, as is the case with the district boards, for this Assembly as well. So far as the district boards are concerned, we all know how they function and, therefore, they have not interested some of them in the nation-building departments. Hence, it is almost imperative that they should have some expert advice. First of all just look to the educational problem. The chief work and function of a district board is to give education, better health and good roads. These are the three functions which the district board has got to perform. Unfortunately, they look upon education as a necessary evil. They give money all right but their interest never goes beyond the appointment of teachers on communal lines. Some of the schools running under the district boards are in a very wretched condition and this is one of the reasons, in my opinion, which is responsible for keeping our country so backward. In my opinion it was an evil day when Lord Macaulay in formulating the policy of education started with a higher education and worked under a delusion that it will be filtered down to the masses. The results have been most unfortunately and most disastrous for the country. Even though this Government has been in India for centuries, we can boast of 10 per cent or less of literacy. That is all due to the bad conditions prevalent in the villages. Hence it is necessary that we should have—(Interruption by Sardar Sohan Singh Josh). I never interrupt you when you speak.* I am not used to these interruptions. I am a schoolmaster. (Laughter).

Premier : Use the rod !

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : But you have bad pupils also.

Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram : If this had been done in my class room, he would have been treated in the right manner !

Mr. Speaker : Order, order.

Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram : Similarly, we require medical experts. Then there is the question of guarding the interests of the minorities so far as our conditions for the present are concerned. In some districts there may be predominating either Muslims, or Hindus or Sikhs. Therefore, there would be bickerings if in elections one party is not represented. That deficiency is, therefore, to be made up by nominations. Then there are the scheduled classes, the depressed classes, the Indian Christians who would have no chance, under the present conditions in India of being elected. It is very unfortunate that it should be so. We should look at these things from a practical point of view and not try to bring heaven on earth. We must take cognizance of these things. We cannot get over them and in my opinion they are important. Moreover, the Honourable Minister has not fixed any percentage, may be 80 or 70 or 60, because the conditions of the districts in the Punjab vary. Some of them are politically, socially or educationally more advanced than others. Therefore, the Government should exercise their discretion. I do not think there is any hardship on any one. As Baji Sahiba has pointed out, I think ladies should not be debarred. I do not know if there is a lady on any district board, but I do think that there was a proposal in one or two places to have some ladies, like Baji Sahiba, who takes so much interest in public affairs. I know in the Lahore Municipality we had lady members and they exercised very wholesome influence on the members. Ladies are allowed to come here as members and there is nothing to debar them from nomination. Their interests can be preserved that way. Hence I submit that the amendment, which is proposed by my learned friend, Mian Muhammad Nurullah, will not do and I am sorry

to oppose it taking into consideration the circumstances of the country; although on principle I would agree with him.

Mian Muhammad Nurullah : May I ask the honourable member, who has just sat down, whether he wants all the members to be nominated?

Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram : Election should be there, but certain seats should be filled by nomination.

Chaudhri Sumer Singh (South-East Gurgaon, General, Rural) (*Urdu*): Sir, I rise to support the amendment. My point is that when elected quota is sufficient in the boards I see no reason for making nominations. I think if nomination is at all necessary, it should be made if sufficient elected quota is not forthcoming in the boards. But now as things are improving and times are moving fast, the Government should not consider it necessary. Now if still the Government stick to nominations, I would think that the elected element is going to be ignored intentionally by them. (*Cheers from the Opposition*). If the Government can carry on their work in this august House without any nominated members, why should they feel the necessity of having any nominated members in the district boards? The British Government have given rights to the party in power to do whatever it likes. But it is very painful to remark that the party in power do not want to give full rights to the elected members to have their say in the district boards. I, therefore, submit that this clause is repulsive to notions of democracy. I am afraid this being the policy of the Government how can we hope that swaraj will be given to them? (*Hear, hear from the Opposition*). To eliminate nominations and to let elected members have their say is the first step to the attainment of swaraj. Therefore democracy and justice demand that every respect should be attached to the votes of the elected members and their rights should be looked after. In case, however, the representatives of a certain class are not forthcoming and there is no alternative except to introduce nominated element in the boards, then it can be resorted to as a necessity. Otherwise it is not at all necessary to do so.

Now, Sir, I entirely agree with what the honourable lady member Baji Sahiba has said with regard to women's franchise. I am one with her in saying that women should also be nominated on the district boards. As things are advancing and almost every class is making progress, let women also keep pace with the march of time. But as women are going to be deprived of their rights of vote in this Bill, I would say it will never be justifiable for the Government to do so. I would, therefore, submit that instead of moving abreast of time the Government is taking retrograde step in this matter. Before I resume my seat I submit again with all the force at my command that nominations should be made open to women also and that in case elected quota is not sufficient enough to represent a certain class, nominated members may be appointed on the district boards. Otherwise it ought to be avoided by the Government.

With these few remarks, Sir, I support the motion now before the House.

Mian Abdul Aziz (Outer Lahore, Muhammadan, Urban) (*Urdu*): Sir, as I have been occasionally reading the manifesto of the Unionist Party and also statements made by them with regard to local self-government, one thing that has always been clear to me was their tall claims with respect to giving full powers to the district boards and municipal committees. I am at a loss to understand how the Unionist Ministry can blow hot and cold in the same breath. They have been making statements in favour of local self-government and now when the actual time has arrived to prove what they have been saying, they are shirking it by saying that they are not going to have a majority of elected members in the district boards. On asking the rhyme and reason for all this, the reply that we have been given from the other side of the House is that the Government do not want to keep back nominated element simply for the reason of maintaining their own power in the district boards.

[M. Abdul Aziz]

I think the House will remember when the Lahore Corporation Bill was under discussion, I said that when there was not a single nominated member in this House where legislation is made, where was the justification for keeping nomination in district boards which could be very well looked after by the Ministers themselves.

Now the speech made by my learned friend, Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram, has surprised me much. I was really shocked to hear when he said that if Lord Ripon was against nomination it was his mistake.

An honourable member : He never said this.

Mian Abdul Aziz : All right, I speak subject to correction. Leaving this matter where it is I would like to proceed further. I was submitting, Sir, that the speech which my learned friend, Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram, has made in support of clause 11 has amazed me. His speech has reminded me of one of those good old days when he happened to be on the Lahore Municipal Committee, first as a member then as Secretary and as a Vice-President. I remember he was then very much against nominations and wanted to abolish them from local self-government institutions. I think he being on those benches is pretty helpless as the overwhelming majority has influenced him. All his sane ideas and sound views seem to have been carried away by the party in power. (*An honourable member :* Had you been on these benches you would not have said what you are saying now.) My honourable friend is under a misapprehension. I may tell him that nobody can stop me from saying the truth, no matter on which side of the House I sit. Many a time our Unionist friends have declared that democratic government is their decided goal. But, to our disappointment, they are practising quite a different thing. Every one in the House will agree with me that these local bodies are considered as primary schools in democratic structure. If we start to offer these bodies such obstacles and deny them liberty, then the prospects of the latter structure which is to be raised on them are very doubtful. To err is human. If any board happens to act wrongfully then we can correct it through our official supervision. In the present circumstances the district boards are nothing but puppets in the hands of the Deputy Commissioners. In our province the number of independent boards which can maintain their independence is very small.

The Government has laid stress upon the need of experts to advise these bodies. As far as my knowledge goes these bodies already maintain their own experts in the form of Medical Officer, District Engineer and such other officers. These officers supervise the work of departments under their respective control and from time to time tender their advice to them. (*Interruptions.*) Sir, there are very few district boards which do not maintain all these officers. Their number is very small. Otherwise every board keeps the necessary staff which easily meets its needs. I do not think that a board can stand in need of any expert as its members in the presence of its permanent staff.

Once more I want to make it clear, Sir, that the Government desires to maintain its influence in the local bodies by maintaining this unnecessary element. I opposed the Lahore Corporation Bill in this very House. Eight years ago Government superseded the Corporation of the City of Lahore and since then no effort has been made by our "popular" Government to reinstal it. If the City Corporation of the capital of the province can be punished for the so-called misdeeds of very few members, then can we not take some members of these bodies to task whenever it is necessary? An analytical study makes my previous submission crystal clear that the under-lying motive of our "democratic" Government is nothing but to nominate its own men and thus to meddle with the affairs of these bodies. My honourable friend, Mian Muhammad Nurullah, having a long experience of affairs at Lyallpur, has rightly moved this amendment. He has made a praiseworthy effort to free these bodies from these undesirable influences as much as possible.

I fully agree with Baji Sahiba when she says that if it is not possible to make provision for electing women members then they may be nominated. I feel proud, Sir, when I take account of the tremendous advance made by our womenfolk. I foresee unlimited benefits accruing from their presence in these bodies. One point more, Sir. Generally the Government make rules which may help them to increase their powers easily. Moreover such rules are not put before the House, nor are they ever referred to any select committee consisting of members not belonging to the Government side. They are framed and laid on the table of the House. It is not proper to make rules with loop-holes in them, so that the Government may do what it likes.

12 noon.

I would request the Government to drop this unreasonable attitude and consider everything cool-headedly. Is this the age of democracy or nominations? If at all they must, they must nominate members from that community which is not adequately represented, and that only to give it due representation. In the present circumstances the Government will be well-advised to accept this amendment, because the clause as it stands is quite meaningless.

Sardar Teja Singh Swatantar (Lahore West, Sikh, Rural) (*Punjabi*): Sir, we have been discussing this Bill for the last seven years.

Mr. Speaker: Please speak to the amendment now before the House.

Sardar Teja Singh Swatantar: I am just coming to that, Sir. If we consider this clause as a part of the whole Bill then it becomes clear that this is the pivot around which the whole Bill revolves. There were two important matters in this Bill. One was that of taxation in clause 3 which the Government got passed in the form of a separate Bill, and the other was the constitution of the boards which this clause contains. In India we had been struggling for the last 50 to 60 years to get rid of diarchy. There is no more diarchy in this House now.

12 noon.

There is no nominated bloc here. There may be certain defects in the franchise to which I may refer at some later occasion but there is no diarchy here. It is the highest house in the province and the panchayats, district boards and municipal committees are below it like various steps. It is most unreasonable for the highest house in the province which itself is democratic to make these steps to democracy un-democratic by passing such laws here. This House was democratic in constitution but the most reactionary element of jagirdars and diarchs succeeded in capturing it owing to the ignorance of the masses, and now they are doing their best to bring about the conditions of the past in order to keep their present position for ever. The Government has been dismissing the duly elected members of the panchayats and appointing nominated members in their place. We shall bring such cases to the notice of the House during the budget discussion. The nominated bloc is being thrust on the district boards. According to this clause Government will have powers to nominate all the members of a district board if it likes, or it may allow both the elected and the nominated members. The most unpopular of the jagirdars who can never hope to get the votes of the electorate, will be smuggled in by nomination. Government wants to keep a group of reactionaries in every district board to strengthen the hands of the official chairman there. This nominated bloc with the official group plus a few elected toady members will do the needful for Government. The district boards as such are being given the power of increasing local rate to the extent of 2 annas in the rupee, and to spend the income in their own way. Government is striking at the very root of democracy. The Unionists mostly belong to the rural population of the province. They are just trying to secure their future seats in the Assembly by keeping in their hands the powers of nomination, and by nominating zaildars, jagirdars and retired military men, who have been helping the British to keep this country in chains. It has shown the Unionists in their true colours. Perhaps they do not know that the people in the villages are wide awake and we shall make them more so. We shall draw their true picture before the

[S. Teja Singh Swatantar]

masses and shall inform them that they can elect all the members of the Legislative Assembly but they cannot do so in the case of district boards. The zamindars are being befooled and by a party which claims to represent them. I say the Unionist Government is cutting at their very roots. One day the zamindars will come to know of the pranks which this Government are playing upon them. They are taking away their democratic rights and I warn them that they will have to rue the day. The provincial franchise has been widened, so much so that there is not a single nominated member in this House. But look at the retrograde measure which this Government are passing. Instead of doing away with nominated element in the district boards they are making provision for nominations. This shows that there is some sinister motive behind the scene. My submission is that if they cannot do away with nominations from the district boards, let them at least accept the amendment moved by Mian Muhammad Nurullah that 80 per cent of the members shall be elected. Government have not fixed any limit in this behalf. That means that they would be in a position to nominate as many members on the district boards as they like. Is this the way in which constitutions are framed? We see that when constitutions are framed in other countries, definite provisions are made in them in regard to such matters. But here the case is quite the reverse. In fact no definite provision has been made about the constitution of the district boards. It clearly means that there is something which Government are concealing. We all know that very recently district boards have been empowered to levy local rate at the enhanced rate of two annas in a rupee. Along with that, provision has been made that it can be increased to any extent by Government. Similar appears to be the case here. Under the clause as it stands Government will be in a position to nominate as many members to the district boards as they like. It is their duty to fix some limit in this behalf. But as they are not doing so, it means that they have some sinister motive. I therefore urge upon the Government to provide that at least 80 per cent of the members in the district boards shall be elected. If they do not fix any limit in this behalf, it will simply mean that they want to befool the people.

Besides I am of the opinion that in the remaining 20 per cent nominated members, officials of the district boards should not be included at all. The officials of the district boards should be allowed to sit in the meetings of the said boards just as the Secretary of the Assembly sits in the House, so that if the Chairman asks for any information they may be there to supply it to him. But they should not be permitted to take part in the deliberations of the district boards or vote in them. Nor should they be permitted to overawe the members by indulging in technicalities. For instance, engineers and doctors who are employees of the district boards are their members by virtue of their office. When any member rises and urges the necessity of building a pucca road in his *ilaga*, he is cowed down by the district board engineer. The latter raises technical objections as, for example, the earth in that *ilaga* is very soft and that it will require a number of bridges to be constructed which will entail a lot of expenditure, and so on. In this way he silences the member who urges the necessity of constructing a pucca road in his *ilaga*. At present what is happening in the district boards is too well known to require any further elucidation. In fact, where there are official chairmen there the members have not the courage to put forward any proposal, much less oppose him. For instance, if any official chairman makes any suggestion, at once jumps up a zaildar member and in an affected tone says : *Sahib darust batata hai*, and at this the matter ends. All other members remain deaf and dumb. They have not the courage to say anything against the suggestion of the official chairman. What is meant by all this farce? Is this self-government? Instead of this, why do not Government hand over the money to the Deputy Commissioners to throw it away where they like? If they really want to give self-government to the people the Deputy Commissioners should not be permitted to have any

hand in the administration of the district boards. This is a point which requires consideration on the part of Government. To-day they have a sufficient majority to enact this retrograde measure in whatever form they like, but I warn them that they are doing harm to themselves. The people will soon realise that they are being deceived and when that happens my friends will lose their ministry as well. Therefore my suggestion is that Government would be well advised to provide that at least 80 per cent of the members of district boards shall be elected, and in the remaining 20 per cent nominated members, no official shall be included at all. These are the concrete proposals which I have submitted before them and they are in their own interests as well as for the good of the people. If they do not accept them, we shall see how they can carry on the work of the district boards.

Sardar Bahadur Sardar Ujjal Singh (Western Towns, Sikh, Urban): While fully recognising the necessity of some nominated element in the local bodies to provide representation for smaller minorities who may not be able to send their representatives by election, I fail to understand why the Government should feel shy in providing a definite proportion of elected and nominated element in the body of the Bill. I might refresh the memory of my honourable friend the Minister for local Self-Government that this august Assembly only lately passed the City of Lahore Corporation Bill which is now an Act and in that Act a definite provision is made that out of 68 Councillors not less than 53 shall be elected. I do not understand why the Government is not feeling the necessity of providing a similar proportion of elected members in the district boards. They are keeping everything in the dark. I do not attribute any motives to the Government. They perhaps intend to provide the proportion of elected members in the rules, but why should they not come forward in this House and disclose their mind and get the advice of this Assembly? They want to keep everything to the rules. We do not know what proportion of elected members they may be providing. I fully realise that a certain proportion of nominated element will be required in certain districts for Mussalmans and in other districts for Hindus and Sikhs; but why not lay down a proportion of elected members, say to the extent of 80 per cent or even if you so like, 75 per cent? There is no reason why you should keep everything to yourself and to the rules when you will be free to fix any proportion or may not fix any proportion at all. I would appeal to Government to accept the amendment moved by my honourable friend Mian Nurullah. If they think that this proportion of elected members is a bit on the high side, they may make their own proposal, but they must take the House into confidence and not keep everything to the rules. With these few words I support the amendment.

Chaudhri Ali Akbar (Gurdaspur East, Muslim, Rural) (Urdu): Sir, I have been an elected member of the District Board, Gurdaspur, for the last 30 years and am fully aware of the handicaps that we have to encounter in the district boards. (*Interruption*). Please hold your patience. I am coming round to speak in your favour. I have personal experience of the working of the District Boards and my speech is based on that personal experience. (*An honourable member*: Are you a nominated member?) No, Sir. I am an elected member. I am not a nominated member at all. The people of my constituency have duly elected me as their representative. I am, therefore, not interested in nomination as such. But the force of facts urges me on to submit that under the joint electorate, different minority communities cannot get justice in the district boards. In my own district of Gurdaspur, Muslims are 52 per cent of the total population. But they get only 30 per cent representation in the district board. In these circumstances nomination affords the best method of doing justice to a community that otherwise fails to get representation through joint electorate.

In addition to the above, it is essential that the Civil Surgeon, District Engineer and District Inspector of Schools should also join the deliberations of the board. When

[Ch. Ali Akbar]

any matter comes under discussion in which they are not involved, these officers leave the meeting and do not stand in the way of the people's interests.

Now let us come to the question as to whether the deputy commissioner of a district should also be the chairman of the district board or not. I am not quite in favour of an official chairman but the fact remains that deputy commissioners prove very useful and helpful in the district boards. There are, of course, some deputy commissioners who oppose the best interests of the boards and bear a grudge against the members on the basis of speeches made in the meetings. But such unworthy officers are very few indeed. Most of the deputy commissioners are such as do not bear a grudge against those members even, with whom they happen to quarrel during the course of a hot debate in the meeting of the district board. The reason is that most of the deputy commissioners are drawn from the I.C.S. who are liberal-minded and have due regard for the privileges of the members. They do not make the adverse remarks of the members a basis of personal enmity.

With these few words, Sir, I oppose the amendment which is before the House.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan (Ludhiana, Muhammadan, Rural): Sir, this amendment is proposed in order to counteract the mischievous effect of the Bill which is intended to be introduced by the Honourable Minister for Public Works. You will be pleased to find that these district boards and municipal committees have been constituted so that the public of this country and particularly of this province may be in a position at some future time to govern themselves properly. I understand that the Honourable Premier and his colleague, the Honourable Minister for Public Works, fully realise that. But by bringing in a Bill of this nature they want somehow or other to take the province back to 40 years. There is a reason and everybody can see through this game of theirs. Everybody knows why the amendment proposed by the Honourable member on this side with the best of intentions is being opposed tooth and nail by members on the opposite side. It is very unfortunate that members have indulged in party politics without realising the implications of this Bill and without understanding the effect of the amendment proposed. They come forward and say that the deputy commissioner should be there, some nominated members should be there and so on. They have not understood that the honourable mover wants that there should be at least 80 elected members so that the deputy commissioner or any other official chairman may not be in a position to influence the decisions of the committee. This Government have more than once claimed for themselves that they are a progressive party, that they are a popular Government, but all their claims have been exposed at this time by this Bill which they want to bring forward. I was under the impression that the Honourable Minister for Public Works would get up and say that this is a very good and desirable amendment and that he would accept it. But it is unfortunate that the Honourable Minister himself has not realised the effects of his Bill. He could consult his secretaries and the members of his cabinet and find out why this amendment is being proposed and if it is an advancement on the present measure and will bring us nearer self-government, then he should have no hesitation in accepting it. Those who oppose the amendment say, "we want to take you back; we want to keep our hold on you; we want to tell the British Government, our masters, that we are doing this so that we may have a hold on the people of this province; so that they may act and do as we like." There is not the slightest doubt that this Bill is being brought forward with the intention, the malicious intention, of coercing the people and making them act according to their wishes. But they have not realised that the Punjab is a province where even the zamindars who are well educated, have realised that the Unionist Government is not a Government that should be supported. I draw the attention of the Honourable Premier to the several organisations which have passed vote of no-confidence against this Government and I claim to know it personally, being the President of the Anjuman-i-Zamindara where they have stated that they do not

expect any justice from the Unionist Government and where the Unionist Government has been condemned more than once. It should be an eye-opener to the Honourable Premier why such retrograde measures should be introduced in this House. The amendment of my honourable friend, Mian Muhammad Nurullah, is a very innocent one and it wants to take away the sting out of the Bill brought forward by the Government. It might be that in some Assemblies and in the Central Legislative Assembly there are some nominated or appointed members. But so far as our Legislative Assembly is concerned, thank God, we have not got any nominated members. Perhaps my honourable friend, the Premier, had the experience of having been a nominated member of the district board in his district. He was, I am told, a nominated member for some time and that is the reason why he insists on this clause. I believe the Honourable Minister for Public Works has been for some time a nominated member of his district. That is the reason why he cannot understand how an elected member can act, whether he has to subserve according to the wishes of his master, the Chairman, or whether he can say independently what he feels or he can convey the sentiments and ideas of his countrymen. I am informed just now that the Honourable Chaudhri Tikka Ram has also been a nominated member and I wonder if my honourable friend Sheikh Faiz Muhammad has not been a nominated member. He too, I believe, has been a nominated member either on the Municipality or on the District Board. All of them on that side, including my friend the Minister of Development, have been nominated members. They know, therefore, how a nominated member acts. They do not know the other side of the picture. I, therefore, with the greatest emphasis at my command, support the amendment proposed by Mian Muhammad Nurullah that the elected members should not be less than 80 per cent so that these gentlemen may not have the power to influence and coerce the zamindars into voting as they like.

Lala Harnam Das (Lyallpur and Jhang, General, Reserved seat, Rural) (Urdu): Sir, I am simply surprised at the attitude of my honourable friends opposite who are vying with each other in denouncing the system of nomination. It has been in vogue in local bodies for a pretty long time and it has proved very useful, particularly in giving representation to the backward classes. Now, Sir, scheduled castes are closely connected with the principle of nomination. They are a backward people and it is because of this system only that they have been able to find representation in the local bodies. If it is scrapped, as my honourable friends are advocating at the top of their voice, the interests of the scheduled castes would be seriously affected. I would rather say that its abolition would sound the death knell of the *Achhuts*.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh: Reserved seat in a plural constituency will solve their difficulty.

Lala Harnam Das: I can quote chapter and verse in support of my contention that but for this system of nomination, the scheduled castes would have gone totally unrepresented in the local bodies. As you are aware, Sir, under the Panchayat Act which was passed sometime back by this House, the sarpanch of a panchayat is elected through joint electorates. Since the zamindars are all powerful and wield great influence in the rural areas, they command the votes of *Achhuts* also. The result is that not a single *Achhut* has been able to find a seat in the panchayats through election. It is the system of nomination that has always helped them in getting representation on these bodies. In view of our bitter experience I would earnestly request the Government to retain this system or else I would suggest the introduction of separate electorates in the district boards. (*Hear, hear from the Opposition*). What I want to emphasise is that my honourable friend opposite should not press for the abolition of the system of nomination. It is intended to be utilised by the Government for giving proper representation to the communities or classes which fail to be represented through election. In other words, this is the only method by which protection of the rights of backward people, particularly the scheduled castes, can be ensured.

[L. Harnam Das]

I would, therefore, oppose the amendment tooth and nail since the motive behind it is to harm the interests of the scheduled castes in the district boards.

Sardar Santokh Singh : No, no. My honourable friend has not carefully studied the amendment. It seeks to fix twenty per cent seats by nomination and not to abolish this system.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : I would advise my honourable friend of the scheduled castes to learn to stand on his own legs and to give up hankering after props.

Minister for Development : But the difficulty is that my honourable friend's lip sympathy would not help them.

Lala Harnam Das : Well, Sir, what I think is that if according to my honourable friends over there, who are dreaming of full-fledged independence of this country, the system of nomination is done away with, then there will be a further tightening of chains of bondage around the necks of the backward classes like the scheduled castes and it will not be surprising if their existence is wiped out altogether. Only recently in Jullundur Municipality, the *Achhuts* were deprived of their rights of representation in that local body through the machinations of my honourable friends on that side.

Sardar Bahadur Sardar Gurbachan Singh : With your permission may I point out to the honourable member that District Board, Jullundur, has got one scheduled caste member ?

Lala Harnam Das : May be, but there is none in the Jullundur Municipality. I, therefore, submit that the ultimate object of my friends opposite is nothing but to deprive us of our rights. If they profess that they are not against our interests, then why are they opposed to this wholesome system of nomination ? (*An honourable member :* He has not correctly understood the import of the amendment). I am strongly of the opinion that nomination is the most suitable method of safeguarding the rights of the scheduled castes who are invariably deprived of representation through election on account of the immense influence wielded by powerful interests. With these words, I oppose the amendment under consideration.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : (Nankana Sahib, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*) : Sir, now you have been pleased to cast a glance towards this side of the House and have afforded me an opportunity to speak on the subject now before the House. Before I proceed with my speech I am reminded of a couplet which runs as follows :—

نشود نصیب دشمن که شود هلاک تیغ
سر دستان سلاست که تو خنجر آزمائی

I rise to support the amendment moved by my honourable friend Mian Muhammad Nurullah. Honourable members are aware of this fact that we occupy these benches as a result of genuine election. Various Bills are being brought on the Statute Book by the honourable members of this House. I do not see any reason as to why my honourable friends opposite who themselves happen to be the true representatives of their constituencies in the true sense of the word, take pleasure in opposing the amendment tooth and nail. While legislating for others it is but meet and proper on our part to keep this point in view that we occupy these benches in the House as a result of genuine election. What I wish to submit is this that those of my honourable friends who wish to support the system of nomination, will be causing a great harm to their own conscience and their votes, for retaining the system of nomination would be a vote of censure against themselves. These honourable members who are against the principle of self-determination, want that nominated members should dominate over the district board administration. They are supporting the nomination clause

with a view to increase the hold of the Government on the district boards. I really fail to understand the mentality of the Unionist Government. On the one hand it declared two months ago that like the All-India National Congress its chief aim was to attain complete independence and it conveyed this message to Mahatama Gandhi, while on the other hand it appears to be bent upon following undemocratic and anti-national lines. If according to its day-to-day announcements to the effect that it is one with the All-India National Congress and the All-India Muslim League who aim at complete independence, it does not adopt democratic and national measures, then how can it claim to be the real supporter of complete independence? My honourable friends sitting on the Unionist Benches who are devoid of any sense of self-determination, are introducing such undemocratic Bills in this House as are detrimental to the national cause of the country. Nominated members have no self-determination of their own. They are mere puppets in the hands of the Government. They have to work according to the dictates of the Government. They are always purchased by the Government. Government wants to continue these members to dominate over the district board administration. In this connection I wish to refer to an incident which took place a year back in the District Board of Multan. There it was not possible for the Chairman of the Board to attend to all the business and it was felt that two posts of Senior Vice-Chairman and Junior Vice-Chairman should be created with a view to serve a real relief to the Chairman. Nawab Allah Yar Khan Daultana moved a resolution to this effect and it was seconded by Mehta Gobind Ram. At that time the Honourable Minister for Post-War Reconstruction who was the Chairman of the Board felt that in case these two posts were filled, his influence would decrease. He immediately requested the Deputy Commissioner of Multan that the two proposed vacancies of Senior Vice-Chairman and Junior Vice-Chairman should not be filled. The then Deputy Commissioner was an English I.C.S. officer and he belonged to a country where democracy is the order of the day. He told him that it was not his business to interfere in this matter and that it was the business of the members of the District Board. Then efforts were made to influence the members of the District Board so that they may not vote for filling up the two posts. Revenue officers of the District were asked to do propaganda work and thereby influence the members of the Board not to cast their votes in favour of filling these vacancies. Efforts were made to influence Mehta Gobind Ram and thus persuade him to be on their side. He gave a blank refusal to them and told them that he was not going to cheapen his conscience. Thereupon he told them that he despised the system of nomination from the core of his heart and was ready to tender his resignation. Mehta Gobind Ram got tired of the underhand means which were employed to postpone the appointments. He tendered his resignation and it was accepted in due course of time. (*An honourable member*: May I know from the honourable member as to what happened to that resolution?) The honourable member wants me to give him this information. I think he knows it all right. It is regrettable that the Unionist party instead of removing the yoke of slavery is trying to make it more secure by retaining the system of nomination which is replete with glaring defects. I am constrained to remark that the nominated members are really the slaves of the Unionist Party, which moulds them in whatever way it likes. Underhand means are being employed every now and then to put an end to the feelings of the freedom-loving people. It is rather disgraceful for a well-advanced person to encourage this attitude.

Now I wish to tell the tale of my own woes. I have myself fallen a prey to this system of nomination. I think this is the most opportune time to put my case before the House. I happen to be the President of the Municipality of Sheikhpura. All went well so long as I was the member of the Unionist party. But no sooner did I subscribe to the creed of the All-India Muslim League than they began to adopt underhand means to bring about my dismissal from the office of the Municipality. By subscribing to the creed of the Muslim League, I do not believe that I am sinning

[K. B. Sh. Karamat Ali]

against God nor am I committing a crime against the State. I am constrained to remark that the names of all those members are entered in the Black List, who join the Muslim League Party. I really fail to understand the mentality of the Unionist Government in this behalf. Attempts were made through Zaildars and Numberdars to influence certain nominated and elected members to go against me, since some of the members of the Municipal Committee happened to be zamidars and relatives of those zaildars, etc. Efforts were made through them to get certain members sign a motion of no confidence against me. The Municipal Board consists of 12 members belonging to different communities. If out of these 12 members only 8 members were to go against me then I would surely have been ousted from the Board. It will not be out of place to mention here and I have no hesitation in saying without any fear of contradiction that this is the only municipality in the whole of the province which has a very bright and brilliant record in connection with the harmonious working by the members of the various communities. In spite of the combined efforts of the Deputy Commissioner, Revenue Officers, and others, the Unionist Government could not succeed in bringing about my dismissal from the office of the President of the Municipality. Even if the Unionist Government succeeds in this wire-pulling, and I am turned out of office, I will not be sorry for it, because removal from office, brought about by such intrigues, will not tarnish my name, but will on the other hand add to my prestige.

All these intrigues and opposition were due to the fact that I belong to the Muslim League Party. Just the same as a poet has said.

اس خطا یہ مجھ مارا کہ خطاوار نہ تھا۔

Sir, I, therefore submit with all the force at my command that to bring nominated element into district Boards is nothing but a retrograde, declining and reactionary measure. This is a creation of an inferior mind as I am certain that responsible, high and superior-minded legislators would never put forward such low and retrograde measure. Now, Sir, before I sit, let me say a few words with regard to the members of scheduled castes who are sitting on those benches and are entertaining hopes against hopes. I wish them every success in their pursuits. But at the same time I would like to remind them of the fact that I belong to a party whose motto has always been equality and which has never distinguished between high and low. As to the members of the scheduled castes, I may point out that our principle is simple, namely, if an *Achhut* has a record of good deeds he may be considered a better person than even a *Sayyad* whose record is black on account of bad deeds. May I further point out that in our party even an *Achhut* can be pushed to such an extent that he can be made a Minister? But on seeing them sitting on the opposite benches with the hope that by encouraging nominations and by supporting the Government they may succeed in acquiring a seat on district board, a feeling of pity arises in my mind. But I think I should tell them straightaway, before they are actually disillusioned, that they are moving in a dream land. I may, however, suggest to them that they should not be easily satisfied. They should aspire for something higher than this petty membership in the district boards which they can easily aspire after only if they join our independent ranks but they must look down upon backdoor method of nominations. Their aim should be rather to get a seat in the cabinet or in the Ministry. Without this aim it is no use following blindly the Unionist Government which is not going to give them anything better.

As to joint electorates, I would say that it is the result of evolution and there is no gainsaying the fact that it is higher than communal electorate. People like me who are presidents of municipal committees and members of District Boards have obviously attained those seats on account of joint electorate. Therefore it cannot be said that joint electorates prevent us from attaining these offices. And if the Government is out and out to ruthlessly curtail the scope of franchise they may resort to communal electorates as far as minorities

are concerned. (*Interruptions*). May I also point out that the Honourable Minister in charge while advancing arguments in favour of the clause under consideration, was looking a bit suppressed and on account of that suppression his speech was lacking in confidence? Hence his arguments fell flat and most of the honourable members would bear me out in saying that the Honourable Minister in charge was delivering his speech with half-hearted expression as if he was unwilling to say what he was saying or in other words he was admitting in his heart that whatever has been said by the Opposition was correct. His expression was such as to indicate that if the yoke of Ministry had not been round his neck he would have accepted the proposals made by the Opposition. Obviously a man of advanced views would never like to tighten and limit the franchise like this. Time has now marched abreast and those days have gone when an Englishman would take an Indian and say 'Baby sit down. I want to teach you what self Government is'. Much water has flown under the bridge and people have now become so wide awake that they cannot be satisfied unless nomination is entirely replaced by election. While it has been a rule with the Government to appoint a non-official chairman on the District Board, why this departure by putting official element in the District Boards? It is sheer reactionaryism to get such a measure through this legislature. Its passage will strengthen the hands of reactionary forces whose sole aim is to grind their own axes rather than think of the betterment of people. I do not think such a retrogressive policy would ever be appreciated by people of advanced views. It is really a pity that the Unionist Ministry is now putting back the hands of the clock by contemplating to create nominated blocs in District Boards. May I submit that as nomination is denial of the right of self-determination and above all it is reactionary and undemocratic, it should be given up.

Before I wind up I would like to say a few words with respect to certain underhand methods which have been adopted by the Government in order to save their own skin. For instance the Honourable Premier has given up his nomination on the District Board since long. But that seat has not been filled so far although a proposal was made for another suitable candidate. The Premier took objection to it as the person recommended belonged to the hostile camp. Let me quote another instance. Muhammad Hayat Qureshi has resigned from the nominated seat on the District Board. His son was recommended by the district authorities. But the seat has not been filled as yet. Another nominated seat has fallen vacant by Prince Mumtaz Tiwana. His son was proposed, but was not appointed because the persons recommended for all these seats were not the persons whom the Premier wanted to appoint. The seats, as a result, are still kept vacant. By giving these instances I want to make it clear that the Ministers have always been trying to put obstacles in the way of any measure that is just and proper.

With these few remarks, Sir, I lend my whole-hearted support to the amendment moved by my honourable friend Mian Muhammad Nurullah and would also request the Government that in this progressive age they should avoid bringing reactionary measures like this.

Chaudhri Ram Sarup (Bohtak Central, General, Rural) (*Urdu*): Sir, I have heard the learned speech of my honourable friend from Sheikhpura. In the course of his eloquent speech I thought that he was opposing Mian Sahib's amendment and he said nothing in his favour. He forcefully declared that there should not be any nomination at all. In the end he supported Mian Sahib. I expected some weight in his speech but to my astonishment there was nothing of the sort in it. His contention is this that weak people are nominated and they become puppets in others' hands and they do not exercise their opinion freely. Personally I believe, Sir, that it depends upon the type of the people who are nominated. Generally people from minorities are nominated and they are never subject to any restriction. Our lawyer friends put up things in such a round about way that

[Ch. Ram Sarup]

we are totally lost in the whirlwind of doubts. Formerly, I was partially in favour of this amendment but after his doubt-creating speech no course is left open to me but to vote with the Government. I declare that his skill proved useless.

We must nominate members, because this is the only way by which we can maintain the representation of the minorities. Many of my honourable friends have illustrated their arguments by quoting the system in this House. It will not be out of place, if I add that here we have got Ministers and parliamentary secretaries to answer our questions and speak on behalf of the administration. If we eliminate official members from the local bodies, then who will perform that job? Although there is much difference between local bodies and our House, yet official element is much more needed there. (*Interruption*). I was submitting, Sir, that the official element should not be eliminated at all but it must be maintained.

As far as nomination is concerned nobody objects to that. The percentage is the only debatable point. The proposed percentages are one-fourth and one-fifth. I do not know what effect one-fourth membership will have on the entire body. The principle of nomination is not debated at all and in the two percentages there is not much difference; therefore I oppose Mian Sahib's amendment and request the House not to pass it.

Premier (The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat): This Bill has come before the House after a very long time—probably after two years. Many of my honourable friends on both sides of the House have forgotten as to what happened when this Bill was brought before the House originally. I must admit that my own memory also is somewhat hazy on this point. I am, therefore, speaking subject to correction. Many of my honourable friends over there who have been opposing one clause or another were either signatories to the select committee's report or were there and heard the arguments for and against the Bill. First of all we appointed a committee of distinguished non-official members of the various district boards who were either chairmen or vice-chairmen. They submitted a report to Government. On the basis of that report we framed the present Act which is before the House. It was discussed here on the floor of this House and subsequently referred to a select committee of all sections of the House to which I am referring. These very honourable members had to agree when we put the great difficulties before them. I might make it plain that we, as Government, do not like nominations. We are not for nominations if they can be avoided. I would point out that there was another similar Bill which I had to pilot before this House—I mean the Panchayat Act. There is not a single nomination, all election. (*An honourable member*: But they are all superseded if they are not to the liking of the Panchayat Officers). If any panches are corrupt, it is up to the Panchayat Officers to bring such cases to the notice of the Deputy Commissioner who can take action against the panches. But this was a reply to an irrelevant point. The Panchayat Act is not under discussion. I was only saying that this Government is not wedded to the question of nomination. But there are certain handicaps in our country. When we took up the question of the District Board Act, I was up against the difficulty when we reached this question that the last Act was enacted in 1883. Since then we have been working it. Let me here refresh the memories of my honourable friends and I am taking them back to that Act because this Bill is a Bill of a hundred clauses and it cannot be rushed through. May I remind them what is the provision in the existing District Board Bill? To refresh their memory, I will read it out. It says:

11. (1) A Board shall consist of such number of members not less than 20 as the Provincial Government may from time to time by notification direct.

(2) The members of a Board may be appointed by the Provincial Government either by name or by office or may be elected in accordance with rules made under this Act, or some may be so appointed and some so elected as the Provincial Government may by notification direct.

So this Government is not taking any new powers. It is not true, as some of the the honourable members have tried to make out, that Government is trying to take some new powers under this Bill. Far be it from this side of the House to destroy democracy. We are trying to build it and not kill it. The present provision is more or less the same. No new power has been taken. We have provided in clause 16 that no district board should have an official chairman and that is certainly an improvement on the present Act. Section 16 says that the chairman shall not be an official. The present District Board Bill also provides for a non-official chairman. (*An honourable member* : The speech should relate to the amendment and not to the Bill.) If the honourable members had not raised other matters, I would not be referring to them. I am referring to the attack on Government when they went on and said that this Bill is a retrograde Bill. They said that we are killing democracy. I am replying that we are not killing democracy, we are trying to build democracy. However, we do not want to build it at too fast a pace. We do not want to run and break our necks. Let us proceed gradually. Our Party believes in gradualism, and is building up democracy, slowly but firmly, in the province. If any constructive and concrete suggestions are unanimously formulated by the House, we would be very glad to consider them. As I have said, we are not wedded to nomination at all. I was going to say that the plan of the Bill is far more liberal than the last Act. It lays down that the Deputy Commissioner would not be there unless the Board asks for him. That is a very big step forward. There is, of course, self-determination. We, however, do not want our district boards to fail as our municipalities have done. If any district board wishes that the Deputy Commissioner should be allowed to be its president he will be appointed; otherwise a non-official chairman will be the rule and that is what the present Bill provides. Some other provisions also lay that down.

Before I come to the question of nomination, I would like to reply to certain other matters mentioned by some of the honourable members. I find that Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali is not in his seat. He was pleased to say that in the Shahpur district some nominated seats had been kept vacant. That, I think, was the allegation. If a man objects to nomination, he should not have objected to a nominated seat being kept vacant. But may I tell him that there was nothing wrong about it? It happened long before I was a Minister. Having been appointed a Minister, I resigned, and the local officers recommended the name of my father. I found that it was embarrassing for me to nominate my own father. I thought that my rights were amply safeguarded and I did not agree to the nomination. That is one instance that the Khan Bahadur has quoted against nomination.

Then he went on to say that the seat of Mumtaz, an uncle of mine, has been kept vacant. There, again, may I tell the honourable members that an uncle of mine resigned and I have not filled his seat? What harm is done to the cause of nomination? In one case I did not nominate my father and in another case I did not appoint an uncle of mine. I do not think that that will help the Muslim League cause very much. (*An honourable member* : But what about Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi?) If you have patience I shall come to it. I was not evading anything. I am putting all the facts before you. Similarly, when Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi was appointed a member of the Public Service Commission, that seat was not filled, because you know there are parties in district boards. I did not fill two seats on one side and one seat on the other. I might make it known that this decision was not taken by me as Minister but as I had personal interests, my late chief decided the case. He thought that that was the best way to do it.

Then the same honourable member from Sheikhpura said that nominated members had been instructed to vote against him in the Sheikhpura Municipality. Had he been here I would have told him that this Government is not aware of any such

[Premier]

instructions issued to the authorities concerned nor have we said anything in the matter. The nominated members have their rights as much as the elected members. If they do not like to vote in favour of a certain member to be elected as President, they have every right to do as they like. But it is well known that in some places there are factions at work. It is neither a creation of to-day nor of yesterday. They have been there for ages. The Atma Singh—Karamat Ali wrangle is as old as the Sheikhpura town; it is as old as the stones. I am not responsible for that. Then in the same strain the honourable member mentioned something about Multan. I have not understood the exact allegation he made. But Multan is another place notorious for its factions. I wish they did not exist. I had tried to bring about a settlement. When there are factions and mighty influences on both sides, how can local-self-government help it? They test their strength occasionally.

I will now revert to the question now before the House. I have made it abundantly clear that we are not wedded to this nomination. I would like all members of the House to put together their heads and evolve a formula, if they can, which will be a substitute and I shall be glad to consider it. During the time I was in-charge of the Lahore Corporation Bill I tried to bring about a settlement, but no formula to solve this communal wrangle could be found. So in disgust I had to revert to the *status quo*. Similarly in this case I tried in various conferences and otherwise to find out an agreed formula but no constructive suggestion has been put forward by anybody. Now this Bill is not going to be passed into law today. There are 156 clauses and it will take some time before the whole thing is passed and I assure my honourable friends that if at any time and at any stage, an agreed formula is brought out, we shall be glad to consider it. The difficulty is that this question of electorates and the giving of due representation to minorities, is baffling the very freedom of this country. We have not been able to find a solution so far for giving adequate representation to minorities. If such a solution can be found in the case of district boards, it will also solve our bigger problem. If my friends here agree to something, somebody else will not agree. If my friends on the other side agree, the scheduled castes do not agree. That is the difficulty. (Mian Muhammad Nurullah: Accept my amendment; it does not affect anybody.) I wish I could. My honourable friend was on the select committee and he kept quiet. Now the question is how to give adequate representation to the minorities? If we give them reservation of seats, they say that the majority community will return puppets. If we give them separate electorates, it creates more trouble, particularly in the district boards. The villages are scattered. They are not like towns where the interests of a community are common. There may be two villages where the Muslims are in a minority and one village where the Hindus are in a minority. The inhabitants of each would be split up in separate electorates. They demand a road; they demand a school; they demand a hospital and so on. All these must be settled on non-communal lines. That is why the District Board Act has from the very beginning joint electorates. Then a great statesman came along. I refer to the late lamented Sir Fazli Hussain. He saw these difficulties. He found that in some district boards there was over-representation of one community and in others over-representation of another community. Then he devised a formula which has been adopted in the local bodies in the Punjab. It is well known as the Fazl-i-Hussain formula. We now hold elections according to that formula through joint electorates. As soon as a board is constituted then we see how a particular community is represented. If any community is under-represented then we give it representation by nomination and make up the quota. Communities are distributed unevenly, so that if we do not adjust in this way, in the south-east, for instance, there will be no Muslim representation and in the north-west the Hindus will be without representation. A look at the lists of voters of district boards will reveal to you all these anomalies. That is why we have included nomination in this Bill.

Apart from the difficulties I have pointed out above, we find that here and there there are retired officials or gentlemen of standing who have great influence in the ilaqa but who do not like to stand for a petty election like the district board election. There is need to have such men in our local bodies who can give constructive suggestions and who can be of real use to these local bodies. It is these people that are occasionally nominated.

Then there is the question of officials. We are reducing gradually the official element in these bodies by means of nomination. We do it as far as we can go. But the trouble is that the district board is not like what we are here, a representative form of Government. We are laymen, no doubt, but we have got here an array of experts sitting behind us who can always give us their advice and expert opinion. If we do not have the experts in the district boards, there will be difficulties. It is, therefore, necessary to keep a certain amount of nomination there. If we lay down a rigid rule, difficulties will arise when a particular community is under-represented or when we want some expert opinion. There are all matters which must be considered very carefully. I put the whole case before the select committee in black and white. Even Mian Muhammad Nurullah, the author of this amendment, had to concede that there was justification in what I said and that nomination, however undesirable it might be, must be there especially when no other substitute is available. That is why he put his signature to that select committee report and it is here before the House. I do not say that the select committee report is the last word of wisdom. There is plenty of time still. The world is progressing. My friends may be having new ideas. I can assure them that if they come forward with constructive suggestion, either from this quarter or from that quarter or from the *Joshila* quarter, the Minister in charge will give them his best consideration and if adequate representation could be given to the minorities by that means, I do not see why it should not be adopted. The trouble is we cannot be carried away by slogans like 'no nomination.' I wish I could also say that. If there is no nomination, what is the alternative? We have district boards partially elected and partially nominated. I have been trying to persuade them to have a larger elected element. The present scheme of this Bill is to leave much to the rule-making power so that we can progress from time to time.

At this stage the Assembly adjourned till 12 noon on Thursday, 1st March 1945.

1911

1911年1月1日
1911年1月1日
1911年1月1日

1911年1月1日

1911年1月1日

1911年1月1日



1911年1月1日

1911年1月1日

1911

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

THIRTEENTH SESSION OF THE FIRST PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Thursday, 1st March 1945

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber at 12 noon of the clock. Mr. Speaker in the chair.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

MR. DESHBANDHU GUPTA, MEMBER, LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

*9441. **Mrs. Duni Chand** : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the number and the names of the members of the Punjab Legislative Assembly who are still under detention ;

(b) whether there are any special reasons for their detention in view of the fact that some of the M. L. As. who were detained have been released ;

(c) whether it is a fact that Mr. Deshbandhu Gupta has been in a very bad state of health for a long time ; if so, for how long ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) 9. Mr. Dev Raj Sethi, Pandit Shri Ram Sharma, Sardar Partap Singh, Mian Iftikhar-ud-Din (now on parole), Lala Deshbandhu Gupta, Chaudhri Kartar Singh, Sardar Harjab Singh, Master Kabul Singh and Baba Rur Singh.

(b) For reasons connected with the public safety and the maintenance of public order.

(c) Mr. Deshbandhu was detained under the orders of the Central Government. Questions about him cannot be answered on the floor of this House and should be addressed to the Government of India.

I may, however, add for the information of the House, that Mr. Deshbandhu Gupta has since been released.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Has it come to the knowledge of the Punjab Government that Mr. Deshbandhu Gupta had to be carried from the Central Jail Hospital to his place of residence on a stretcher ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have explained that he was detained under the orders of the Central Government and questions about him cannot be answered on the floor of this House and should be addressed to the Government of India.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Has it come to the notice of the Punjab Government now that he had to be carried on a stretcher ?

Premier : The Parliamentary Secretary has told the honourable member to put the question in the proper place.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : The proper place is Lahore. He was carried from Lahore Central Jail to his place of residence on a stretcher. I ask, has it come to the notice of the Punjab Government or not ?

Premier : The honourable member will get a reply to this question in the Central Legislature.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is Lahore in the Punjab or Delhi province ?

Premier : The honourable member should ask all these questions in the Central Legislature.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : Is the Honourable Premier responsible for detaining these M. L. As. at present or is it the Central Government which is responsible for their detention ?

Premier : We were discussing something in connection with Mr. Deshbandhu Gupta and the honourable member has gone to something else.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : We are discussing the question of release of those M. L. As. who are inside the jails.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Would the Punjab Government stop receiving prisoners from Delhi ?

Premier : Is that a question, Sir ?

Sardar Kapoor Singh : They are detained here in the Punjab. Will it not be better for the Premier to refuse receiving them here ?

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it a fact that all the jails in the Punjab are under the authority of the Punjab Government ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Yes, they are.

Premier : I thought the honourable member knew as much as that.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : With particular reference to parts (a) and (b) of the question I want to ask from the Honourable Premier whether it is within his power to release these M. L. As. or it is still in the hands of the Central Government.

Parliamentary Secretary : Those who are detained under the orders of the Punjab Government can be released by the Punjab Government.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : Is the Honourable Premier aware of the fact that the Central Government has declared that it is within the power of the Premier of the province where they are detained, to release them ?

Premier : These matters cannot be explained in reply to supplementary questions. I made the position abundantly clear when there was a discussion about this matter in this House. If the honourable member would go through my speech, he would understand the position perfectly.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : Does the Honourable Premier think it democratic to put members of the Opposition in jail and then to carry on the Government which is clearly unrepresentative ?

Premier : Our opinions on democracy may differ.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Has Mian Iftikhar-ud-Din been released or not ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I said that Mian Iftikhar-ud-Din is now on parole.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Did he apply for parole ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Notice of a fresh question should be given if more details are needed.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : My question is simple. Has this parole been given to Mian Sahib at his request or has the Government given it of its own accord ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I cannot say offhand.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Were any conditions laid down for the period of parole ?

Parliamentary Secretary : No reference was made to any condition in the question.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is the Honourable Premier aware of it ? Does he know whether parole has been extended on Mian Sahib's application or whether have the Government extended it of their own accord ?

Premier : Mian Sahib was ill and was in hospital and he was released on parole and extensions have since continued. If he wants specific information that will be furnished on receipt of notice of a question.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Did the parole expire on 23th February, that is, yesterday? Has any extension been given to him? If so, has it been done on his application?

Premier : I have explained how the parole started. He fell sick and was operated upon and we let him out for reasons of health. If the honourable member wants any particular information, he should give notice.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Do the papers concerning grant of paroles come to the Premier or is it the Home Secretary who deals with them?

Premier : They come up to me but I cannot remember all the dates.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Does the Premier remember the order which he passed day before yesterday?

Premier : I may be remembering it but there are many things which I would not say unless proper notice is given.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Does the Premier know that Mian Sahib never applied for any extension?

Premier : When I do not want to go in a particular direction, the honourable member cannot take me.

Mr. Speaker : The next question.

PANDIT SHRI RAM SHARMA, M. L. A.

*9442. **Mrs. Duni Chand :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) since when Pandit Shri Ram Sharma, M. L. A. has been under detention;

(b) whether the Government contemplate releasing him, if so, when?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Since the 28rd of August, 1942.

(b) Government's intentions cannot be disclosed.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether Pandit Shri Ram Sharma applied for parole or release at the time of his daughter's marriage?

Parliamentary Secretary : How does it arise out of this question? Certain information was asked and I have given it. Now, my honourable friend has asked a question which is altogether unconnected with the answer I have given.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : With regard to part (b), "whether the Government contemplate releasing him, if so, when", may I know whether he applied for parole or release?

Parliamentary Secretary : In answer to that part of the question I have said that Government's intentions cannot be disclosed.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Was he detained under the orders of the Punjab Government or of the Government of India?

Parliamentary Secretary : I am not sure of it. Please give me notice.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Has the Parliamentary Secretary collected information since when Pandit Shri Ram Sharma has been under detention? Has he collected the information on receipt of this question whether he is being detained under the orders of the Punjab Government or the Government of India? What is the position?

Parliamentary Secretary : There appears to be some misunderstanding because the supplementary question does not arise at all out of the answer. The question is "since when Pandit Shri Ram has been under detention"? In reply to that I have said "since the 23rd of August, 1942." As regards part (b) 'whether the Government contemplate releasing him', my reply is "Governments, intentions cannot be disclosed". Supplementary questions can be asked only if the answer given is vague.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : With regard to part (b), the notice is there. May I know whether it is within the power of the Punjab Government or of the Central Government to release him? Whose intentions cannot be disclosed, whether the intentions of the Punjab Government or those of the Central Government?

Parliamentary Secretary : The difficulty with my honourable friend is that he does not listen to the answers.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : May I know whether his case was reviewed by the Punjab Government periodically as is the custom to review the cases of every detenu?

Parliamentary Secretary : It is understood. The honourable member should know that all such cases are reviewed periodically.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : In that case, is the Punjab Government authorised to sit in judgment over the Government of India?

Parliamentary Secretary : How does it arise out of the answer?

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : If Pandit Shri Ram Sharma was detained under the orders of the Government of India, how can his case be reviewed by the Punjab Government?

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : Has the Parliamentary Secretary seen the press report with regard to the refusal of Pandit Shri Ram's application for release on parole in order to attend his daughter's marriage?

Parliamentary Secretary : I am sorry I did not see it.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : Has the Honourable Premier seen it?

Premier : I have not seen the press report, but I know about it.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : Does he know that his application had been refused?

Premier : How does it arise out of this question?

CHAUDHRI KARTAR SINGH, M. L. A.

***9443. Mrs. Duni Chand :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) since when Chaudhri Kartar Singh, M.L.A. has been under detention;

(b) the various places where he has been detained during the period of his detention;

(c) the special reasons, if any, for not releasing him so far;

(d) whether the Government are now contemplating his release, if so, when?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Since the 9th of August 1942.

(b) Borstal Institution, Lahore, Camp Jail, Shahpur; Lahore Fort; Central Jail, Montgomery; District Jail, Mianwali; Central Jail, Rawalpindi; Central Jail, Lahore and New Sub-Jail, Gujrat.

(c) Reasons connected with the public safety and the maintenance of public order.

(d) No. The intentions of Government cannot be disclosed.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Was it the report of the local authorities to the Punjab Government that if he was confined in one jail, he would prove dangerous to public order and public peace ?

Parliamentary Secretary : The difficulty with my honourable friends opposite is that they do not read the question. They hear the answer and start putting supplementary questions. Part (c) of the question is 'the special reasons, if any, for not releasing him so far', and my answer is 'reasons connected with the public safety and the maintenance of public order'.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether he has been transferred from jail to jail on account of change of climate or for some other reasons ? Why was he transferred from one jail to another ?

Parliamentary Secretary : He was transferred from one jail to another in public interest.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Was his confinement in one jail injurious to public peace ? What is meant by 'public interest' ?

Parliamentary Secretary : When I say 'public interest', I mean 'public interest'. There are so many things taken into consideration.

Lala Bhagat Ram Choda : Is there any other jail left to which he has not been transferred so far ?

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : May I know as to who is the judge of the fact whether putting a person in a particular jail is prejudicial to public interest and safety ?

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : The Parliamentary Secretary has stated that the intentions of Government cannot be disclosed on the floor of the House. Does he refer to the intentions of the Punjab Government or the Central Government ?

Parliamentary Secretary : The Honourable Premier has explained the entire position in his speech previously and he has also explained it again to-day. If this is not sufficient to enlighten my honourable friends opposite, then I express my inability to add anything further.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know the explanation given by the Honourable Premier so that we may be enlightened ?

Mr. Speaker : Was the honourable member not in the House then ?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : I always remain in the House—

Mr. Speaker : Next question.

ARREST OF THE KISAN CONFERENCE (HAMIRPUR) WORKERS

*9512. **Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the annual District Kisan Conference was to be held at Hamirpur, district Kangra, on the 4th and the 5th April, 1944 ;

(b) whether it is a fact that before the conference could be held the Kangra Police arrested comrade Paras Ram, Secretary, District Communist Party, Comrade Durga Chand, Chairman, District Kisan Conference, Comrade Munshi Ram, Secretary, Reception Committee, Comrade Des Raj, Secretary, District Kisan Committee, Lala Jagdish Ram, shopkeeper, Hamirpur and Swami Jai Parkash, Vice-President, District Kisan Committee, under rule 129 of the Defence of India Rules and all of them were released after the date of the conference was over ;

[Pt. Bhagat Ram Sharma]

(c) if the answers to (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, the reasons therefor.

(d) whether it is a fact that all the persons referred to above who are educated and used to better standard of life were kept in police lock-ups and were given only six annas a day as diet money ; if so, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) and (b) Yes.

(c) It is not in the public interest to disclose the reasons for their arrest.

(d) No, they were treated according to their position and social status.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know who ordered the arrest of these persons, the local authorities or the Punjab Government ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I would like to have notice because this does not arise out of the answer given.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I know whether the Parliamentary Secretary has read the file relating to this question ?

Parliamentary Secretary : How does it arise ?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : It does, because it shows ignorance on the part of the Parliamentary Secretary.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : May I know whether all the persons mentioned in part (b) of the question were arrested so that the conference may not be held ?

Parliamentary Secretary : It is not a case of asking information but it is at ca^o of giving information.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : What was the reason for arresting these persons for a week and releasing them after the date fixed for the conference was over ?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether the officers who arrested these persons were taken to task for arresting them ?

MASTER HARI SINGH, M. L. A.

*9536. **Shrimati Raghbir Kaur** : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the reasons for the internment of Master Hari Singh, M. L. A., in the village of Dhut in Kapurthala State ;

(b) whether the Government is prepared to remove the restrictions imposed on him, if so, when ; if not, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether the Government is prepared to permit him to attend the forthcoming session of the Punjab Legislative Assembly ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : *Parts (a), (b) and (c)* Master Hari Singh is restricted to the village of Dhut, Kapurthala State, by an order issued by the Kapurthala Government. Questions in regard to the reasons for his restriction should be addressed to the Kapurthala Government. It is for that Government to decide whether to remove his restrictions and till his restrictions are removed he cannot attend any session of the Punjab Legislative Assembly.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : May I know whether the reasons for his detention by the Kapurthala State are within the knowledge of the Punjab Government ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I am afraid I cannot add anything to what I have already stated.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : With respect to part (c) the Parliamentary Secretary has stated that Master Hari Singh is restricted by the Kapurthala State. I want to ask whether the Punjab Government has any objection if Sardar Hari Singh comes and attends this session ?

Parliamentary Secretary : That is a hypothetical question and it does not arise out of my answer.

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din : May I know whether the Punjab Government cared to know whether the reasons for detaining Sardar Hari Singh were justified or not ?

Parliamentary Secretary : This relates to the administration of an Indian State which is not our concern.

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din : Did the Punjab Government take the trouble to know whether the reasons for detaining an honourable member of this House by an Indian State were justified or not ?

Parliamentary Secretary : It is very difficult to answer a question like this. An honourable member of this House may be doing certain things in some other territory unknown to us.

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din : Did the Punjab Government have any correspondence with the Kapurthala State over the detention of this honourable member ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Correspondence between two Governments can never be disclosed.

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din : I only ask whether there was any correspondence between the two Governments.

Mr. Speaker : I disallow this question.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : Was the Premier consulted by the State authorities before issuing the restriction order ?

Mr. Speaker : Questions relating to a State cannot be asked on the floor of this House.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : I want to know whether the State authorities communicated with the Premier on this question ?

Premier : Please study the Government of India Act of 1935.

Mian Abdul Aziz : Which section ?

Premier : The whole of it. (*Laughter*).

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Has the Premier been consulted about the detention of these detainees ?

Mr. Speaker : I disallow this question.

SARDAR NAINA SINGH

*9537. **Shrimati Raghubir Kaur :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the reasons for the internment of Sardar Naina Singh in the village of Dhut in Kapurthala State ;

(b) whether the Government is prepared to consider the question of removing the restrictions imposed upon him ; if so, when ; if not, the reasons, therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) :
(a) and (b) He is restricted to village Dhut, Kapurthala State, by the orders of the Kapurthala Government.

ABDUL AZIZ DETENU

***9556. Shrimati Raghubir Kaur :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact on the recommendation of the Medical Officer, district Jail, Ludhiana, detenu Abdul Aziz was transferred to district Jail Jullundur in April, 1944, for treatment of his teeth, and that he was transferred to District Jail, Ludhiana after a month without any treatment on the ground that the charges were too high for the Government to bear ;

(b) whether it is a fact that in May, 1944, the said Abdul Aziz applied to Inspector-General of Prisons for transfer to either Lahore or Rawalpindi for dental treatment ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Medical Officer concerned has recommended twice, since May 1944, the case of the said Abdul Aziz for proper dental treatment by a qualified dentist and that the Government has taken no steps in this direction so far ;

(d) if the answer to (a), (b) and (c) or any one of them be in the affirmative, whether the Government is prepared to arrange for the dental treatment of the said Abdul Aziz at an early date.

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) :

(a) Detenu Abdul Aziz was transferred to the District Jail, Jullundur, in April 1944 for treatment of his teeth. Government agreed to pay Rs. 100 on account of extraction of his teeth and other charges for treatment. The prisoner himself was to pay the cost of new dentures. He refused to pay for the dentures and so was transferred back to the District Jail, Ludhiana, for treatment.

(b) No. In March 1944 he applied to the Superintendent, District Jail, Ludhiana, for transfer to Lahore for treatment.

(c) and (d) The Medical Officer concerned has twice recommended that proper dental treatment be given to Abdul Aziz by a qualified dentist. Abdul Aziz has now been transferred to Gujrat Jail where the services of a qualified dentist are available and he will be treated, if necessary.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is that Dental Surgeon in the service of the Punjab Government ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Whether he is a private or a Government doctor I cannot say.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : What is his name : is he a dental surgeon or a compounder ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have said ' qualified dentist ' ; what is the good of asking his name ?

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : What are his qualifications ?

Parliamentary Secretary : The honourable member is asking too much.

DISTRICT VISITED BY HONOURABLE PREMIER

***9583. Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the names of the districts visited by him from May 1944 to the 20th November, 1944, giving the names and nationalities of the Deputy Commissioners of those districts ;

(b) how many of these meetings were attended by the Deputy Commissioners and at how many of these meetings purses were presented to him for the Zamindara League ;

(c) at how many of these meetings addresses were presented to him on behalf of the Zamindara League?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad): I would refer the honourable member to the reports published in the press which will give him all the information he requires.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: May I appeal to you to consider whether it is parliamentary for the Parliamentary Secretary to get up and make a reference to the reports appearing in the Press.

Mr. Speaker: Is he violating any rule?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: Under the rules nobody can give reference to newspapers. There was a definite question and the Parliamentary Secretary in reply said that reports have appeared in the Press and that I should read the papers. I appeal to you to consider whether the Government are not committing a breach of rules by giving such absurd, ridiculous and foolish replies?

Mr. Speaker: That is a matter of opinion.

Premier: Such questions deserve such replies. There are two ways of replying to such questions: one is to give such replies and the other is by silence.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: May I ask the Honourable Premier whether he honestly believes that the reports in the Press give the reply to my question? For instance, may I ask the Honourable Premier whether the reports in the Press mention the names and nationalities of the deputy commissioners asked for in part (a) of the question?

Premier: I think the honourable member who has been amongst us for so long knows how to look up the Civil List.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: May I draw the attention of the Honourable Premier to the reply that he has given me to the question? That reply does not make any mention at all about the Civil List. The reply refers to the reports of the Press. My question is whether the Honourable Premier realises that this is not a correct reply as the Press reports do not mention names and nationalities of the deputy commissioners?

Premier: There are two parts of the question. As for the first part, the honourable member in fact knows more on the subject than most of us. For the second part the honourable member was referred to the press reports. There the matter ends. It is an unnecessary waste of the time of the House.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: We value time more than you. May I know whether the Civil List is a public document and is available to the members of the House?

Premier: It is available in the Assembly Library. As a matter of fact, the honourable member has been to every district a number of times where I have been only once. It is a parliamentary game.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: The Honourable Premier has got to play that game. Will he be pleased to state whether it is a fact that he tours only those districts where there are Indian deputy commissioners?

Premier: It is entirely wrong. I have been to all districts and I expect equal efficiency from all deputy commissioners in the discharge of their duties.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: I have carefully gone through all the reports. May I tell the Honourable Premier that the only districts that have been honoured by his visits are those districts where the deputy commissioners are Indians? Is it not racial discrimination?

Premier : I go all round the Punjab and visit every district. If during a particular period I happen to be in a few districts where there are Indian deputy commissioners that is a mere coincidence and the honourable member may draw any inference he likes. May I also tell him that I shall visit those districts which I have not yet visited—this will probably set the anxiety of my honourable friend at rest.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I invite the attention of the Honourable Premier to part (b) of the question which asks—

“ how many of these meetings were attended by the Deputy Commissioners and at how many of these meetings queries were presented to him for the Zamindars League ? ”

May I ask the Honourable Premier not to depend entirely on his absolute majority in the House ? He should have courage enough to give a straight answer to a simple question.

Premier : There is no question of courage at all. The whole thing is quite simple. I tour in the various districts of the province for furtherance of the war effort and in connection with various other official duties. It is the duty not only of the deputy commissioners but of other officials as well, to be present at the meetings which are convened for the purpose. The press reports give that information. I could simply have refused to give any reply to the question of my honourable friend, but I have obliged him by giving the necessary information and still he is feeling disturbed.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I would draw your attention, Sir, to the remarks of the Premier. If by replying to a question, he is obliging the questioner, I would like to withdraw all the questions standing in my name. I want to know, Sir, whether we ask questions and receive replies thereto as a matter of right or whether in replying to our questions, the Premier is just obliging us. This is a very serious matter and is you are going to allow such irresponsible statements on the floor of the House to go unnoticed, democracy in the province will become a sheer mockery. (*Honourable members :* Is it not so already ?)

Premier : I did use that word. I do not think it is objectionable to say so.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I do not want to be under anybody's obligation.

Mr. Speaker : I am sorry to see that such matters should take so much time of the House. I may for the information of the honourable members say that questions are asked as a matter of right. (*Hear, hear from the Opposition Benches*). It is a privilege. As regards the answers, it is open to a Minister or his Parliamentary Secretary to decline to answer a question saying that it is not in the public interest to answer a particular question. Instead of doing that, if a Minister has said that he has replied to a question just to oblige an honourable member, I do not see any harm in that. (*Hear, hear from the Ministerial Benches*).

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : If a question fulfils all the conditions laid down under the Rules passed by this Honourable House, it is open to the Premier to say that he does not want to reply to that question in public interest. But, is he in order in saying that he is answering the question to oblige the questioner ?

Mr. Speaker : He could have said that it was not in the public interest to reply to the question, but he would do so just to oblige an honourable member.

Mian Abdul Aziz : If the reply given by a Minister is to the effect that it is not in the public interest to answer a question, is that also an obligation on his part ?

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din : On a point of order. It is no doubt within the discretion of the Honourable Premier to decline to answer a question, if he thinks that it is not in the public interest to answer it. My point is whether it is open to the Premier or a Parliamentary Secretary to evade a question by saying “ I refer you to Press reports ”. In this connection, Sir, I would invite your attention

to Rules 19, 20, 21 and 22. You will be pleased to see that it is open to any member to ask a question—

Mr. Speaker : What is the honourable member's point of order ?

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din : My point is whether it is open to the Premier or a Parliamentary Secretary to evade answering a question by referring to Press reports ? He can straightaway refuse to answer it.

REPORTING OF PROCEEDINGS OF MUSLIM LEAGUE BY A POLICE REPORTER

***9611. Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a police officer to report the proceedings is present at every meeting of the Muslim League held anywhere in the province ; if so, the reasons therefor and the authority under whose orders this is being done ;

(b) whether the proceedings at the meetings of the Zamindara League are also reported by the police ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Man) : (a) First part—Not at every meeting.

Second part : Does not arise.

(b) No. It is not necessary for the police to report the proceedings of every meeting.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : My question was whether the proceedings of any Zamindara League meeting have been reported or not.

Parliamentary Secretary : That is a separate question.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Part (b) of the question is whether the proceedings of the Zamindara League are also reported by the police ; if not, the reasons thereof. I want to know whether there has been any meeting of the Zamindara League so far and whether the police took reports of the meeting.

Parliamentary Secretary : I have nothing to add to what I have already replied.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : If Government answers by silence, then we will have to do without asking supplementary questions. Is it a fact that at a meeting held at Lahore, the C. I. D. was present to take down the proceedings of the Muslim League meeting ?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is the Parliamentary Secretary aware of any meeting held during the last six months where the C. I. D. reporter was not present to take down the report ?

Parliamentary Secretary : How can I answer ?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is the Parliamentary Secretary aware of the fact that practically at every meeting of the Muslim League there is a great display of the police force ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Not practically at every meeting.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is he in a position to substantiate his reply by mentioning one single meeting where the police was not present in large numbers ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have not attended any meeting myself, so I cannot tell you.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Does the Parliamentary Secretary know of any meeting of the Muslim League where the proceedings were not reported by the C.I.D. ?

Parliamentary Secretary : It is a definite question and it requires a definite reply.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : My question is very simple, namely whether it is a fact that the police takes down the reports of the proceedings at every meeting; and the Parliamentary Secretary says he wants notice of a fresh question for it.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Are these reports being taken at the orders of the Premier or of the District Magistrate ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I think by the orders of the local officers.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is he aware of the fact that the C. I. D. is sent from Lahore, to the place where the meeting is held, whether in Karnal or Hissar ?

Parliamentary Secretary : If the honourable member gives notice, I will answer the question.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : The question as to under whose orders it is being done is already there, and the Parliamentary Secretary says that it is done under the orders of the local authorities. My supplementary question arising out of his answer is whether it is a fact that the C. I. D. are sent from Lahore all over the province.

Premier : May I ask what is the object that the honourable member has in view ?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : It is a matter of commonsense. My question is why there is discrimination between proceedings of the Zamindara League and the Muslim League, because none of these bodies has been declared an unlawful association. Is it the intention of Government to overawe the public by improper means so that they should not attend the meetings of the Muslim League ?

Premier : That is an allegation that I refute. Government has to get itself informed of what is going on at the various meetings, and it is perfectly within the rights of Government to know what has happened. When we get that information from you, why should we overawe ?

An honourable member : Is he an official reporter ?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is the Honourable Premier of the opinion that the Zamindara League proceedings are not worth reporting ?

Premier : I do not need to get them, because I am there myself.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know from the Honourable Premier whether the Zamindara League meetings are attended by the C. I. D. to watch the revolutionary activities of the Premier there ?

Premier : I thought that that was something beyond me. I do not know but my honourable friends there may have the means to know.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know whether Government is prepared to remove the discrimination with regard to the Congress, Zamindara League and the Muslim League meetings ? Will the Government put them on the same level ?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : The Zamindara League is a *jholi-chuk* league.

Premier : We are *jholi-chuks* to the zamindars and not to anyone else.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know why these hounds of the C. I. D. are running after the Congress ?

Premier : Please do not use that unparliamentary word about public servants.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : It is not unparliamentary. Are they your hounds ?

Premier : That means that the Criminal Investigation Department is keeping some hounds.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Have they kept you as their hound ? Perhaps you are the biggest hound of the Governor.

Mr. Speaker : That is unparliamentary.

Premier : At least I am not the property of a foreigner from Moscow. Sardar Sohan Singh Josh is welcome to say what he likes about me.

Mr. Speaker : Will Mr. Josh withdraw the expression he has used, namely that the Honourable Premier is the hound of the Governor ?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : I withdraw.

REMOVAL OF SHEIKH MUHAMMAD SAID AND RAI AHMAD NUR FROM THE PLATOON COMANDERSHIP OF CIVIC GUARDS

***9621. Mian Mumtaz Muhammad Khan Daulatnaa :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Sheikh Muhammad Said and Rai Ahmad Nur, Advocate, President and member of the Jhang City Muslim League, respectively, have been removed from the posts of platoon commanders Civic Guards and when they approached the Superintendent of Police in this connection they were told that their removal had been ordered under the instructions of the Government ; if so ; the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Man) : Yes. The Platoon Commanders were removed from office in accordance with instructions issued by the Inspector General of Police. Members of the Civic Guard may, like police officers, have their own political convictions but cannot be active political workers.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I enquire if a member of the Civic Guards becomes liable to dismissal if he joins the Muslim League ?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is it the policy of the Government to forcibly push out Muslim Leaguers from every branch of the war effort ?

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : It should be. I do not know whether it is.

Mian Abdul Aziz : That is why you have left the League.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I enquire whether the Premier really wants the Muslim League members to have nothing to do with the war effort ?

Premier : If any of my honourable friends wants to join the war effort he is welcome ?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I know whether the Premier will tell the Inspector General of Police to withdraw the most foolish and ridiculous order for removing a man from the Civic Guards simply because he is a two-anna member of the Muslim League ?

Premier : I have no objection to the use of strong words against me. But why call the orders of an officer foolish when they are based on wisdom ? We cannot have the police and public services meddling in politics. This is a wise order that has been issued and I support it.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I ask the Honourable Premier whether his statement does not imply that all those members of the Civic Guards who are also two-anna members of the Muslim League should resign and get out of the Civic Guard organisation ?

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : May I with all respects appeal to the chair to keep the decorum of this honourable House by not allowing certain words which may be parliamentary but which should not be used ?

Mr. Speaker : Order, order. I do not think there is want of decorum in this House. Only occasionally there is excitement and that is to be regulated and stopped. That I am already doing.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : I was not out of order in appealing to you.

Mr. Speaker : When there was noise or disorder I did not hesitate to stop it.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : I am not casting any aspersion on the chair. I was only making a request to the chair.

Mr. Speaker : Order, please. It is my duty to keep decorum in the House.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : On a point of personal explanation.

Mr. Speaker : Order please.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : This is a very important question which will seriously affect the future programme. The Honourable Premier has laid down a new policy as regards the war front. A lot of supplementary questions have to be asked. I will put one now and ask the rest tomorrow. May I ask whether it is the policy laid down by the Premier that anybody who is a member of the Muslim League has no right to serve the country in the Civic Guard organisation and should be removed therefrom?

Premier : The honourable member is not facing the issue.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I am concerned with the answer given by the Honourable Premier. He has said in so many words that the Inspector General's order—which I would call foolish, I have no hesitation in repeating it—asking the platoon commanders of the Civic Guards to remove most loyal and enthusiastic Civic Guards simply because they are members of the Muslim League is a very wise order. Is it the policy of the Government?

Premier : The reply is quite clear.

(At this stage Lala Bhim Sen Sachar entered the chamber amidst applause from the opposition benches.)

BUDGET—PRESENTATION

Finance Minister (The Honourable Sir Manohar Lal) : Sir, I rise today in the firm assurance that the progress of your finances continues uninterrupted and exhibits an eminently satisfactory position.

I p.m.
It should be a matter of gratification to this House that under its watchful care the exiguous character of provincial finance has not deterred your Government from following bold lines of policy even while compelling circumstances like the war and the rising scale of prices seriously affected our estimates. I venture to think that the Punjab finances stand today on an ampler and surer footing than ever before. That does not make the task of Government any the easier, but it enables us, given the necessary forethought and deliberation, to plan securely and march assuredly. At no stage is it ever possible to say that the best has been achieved, that henceforward progress must be along an even course, for financial advance is something of an adventure. Unforeseen factors constantly arise to disturb calculations, normal conditions do not obtain even for short periods. This inevitably imposes on all of us the essential duty of strict vigilance and of patience under irksome restraint. Our task has hitherto been successfully performed, but many of the problems that now lie ahead, of the highest urgency as they are, are bound to raise serious financial issues. Questions of post-war reconstruction, and the transformation of present conditions into a peace economy confront us now. We start on this fresh course with much valuable preparation, but financial considerations are apt to prove exacting; they have to be borne into view at every step on pain of frustration and failure. Higher and more stringent tests than before will now have to be applied. In all this effort we must assume the difficult task of standing shoulder to shoulder; then the prize will be great and of untold value.

As in previous years, I propose to confine myself only to the most outstanding facts of our provincial finance. The Finance Secretary's Memorandum furnishes all relevant details, these lie beyond my strict purview. The earlier portion of the Memorandum is worthy of particular study by those interested in the broader features of our recent finance, it presents a masterly general description and expresses trends with remarkable success. My own survey must remain unencumbered by detail as my endeavour is to help Honourable Members to form a definite and sure picture of our finances.

As in previous years and according to well-established practice, I am concerned today particularly with three years, the year 1943-44 for which final accounts are now available, the current year 1944-45 for which revised estimates are now ready, and the next financial year for which I am to present the budget today. These three years mark an improving record of financial prosperity, each an advance on its predecessor, they also reveal in an unprecedented measure the larger features of our financial policy—the building of determined and comprehensive plans to add to the permanent sources of our wealth by Irrigation Works, the Government's solicitude to provide better life for the masses by steady and increasing development of beneficent activity, unstinted relief in an ever growing measure to all its employees, particularly the poorly-paid employees, against the rise in the cost of living. The weight of war on our finances has changed both in character and intensity in many ways, as the elaborate machinery rapidly devised to meet problems in connexion with price control and rationing has had to be largely amplified. These years have also witnessed a big endeavour to strengthen the means of ensuring peace and order. There is no part of our life in which these years have not a proud record to display—that it has been possible to carry forward this multifold activity is an incontestable proof of your financial strength as it is an unquestionable proof of the Government's foresight in planning ahead.

1943-44

This time last year, I placed before the House the revised figures for the year. They stood as below :—

				<i>In lakhs</i>
				Rs.
Ordinary Revenue Receipts	..	..	..	20,04
Ordinary Revenue Expenditure	..	..	..	17,25
indicating an ordinary revenue surplus of Rs. 2,79 lakhs. As the "accounts" stand now, the position is—				

				<i>In lakhs</i>
				Rs.
Ordinary Revenue Receipts	..	..	..	21,20
Ordinary Revenue Expenditure	..	..	..	16,84

yielding an ordinary revenue surplus of Rs. 4,36 lakhs—a surplus never before approached in the history of Punjab finance (*hear, hear*) and it will be remembered that towards the end of the year, provision was made of Rs. 60 lakhs in the Peasants' Welfare Fund, of Rs. 40 lakhs in the Special Development Fund and of Rs. 15 lakhs in a new fund, the Forest Reconstruction Fund, then created. But for these transfers, aggregating Rs. 1,15 lakhs, into these Funds, the surplus would have been of the magnitude of Rs. 5,51 lakhs. The disparity of Rs. 1,57 lakhs between the "accounts" and the revised estimates is due to an increase of Rs. 1,16 lakhs under receipts and a fall of Rs. 41 lakhs under expenditure. I do not propose here to analyse these variations, but on the side of receipts the increase is due mainly, as might be anticipated,

[Finance Minister]

to Land Revenue (Rs. 30 lakhs), Excise (Rs. 25 lakhs), and various minor heads; the decrease under expenditure is spread over a number of heads. The Stamps receipts showed an unprecedented buoyancy, but the position is not likely to be maintained. Receipts under the Urban Immovable Property Tax and the General Sales Tax show substantial increases, but in regard to them no stable position has been reached yet.

The year marked a substantial rise in Extraordinary Receipts on the revised estimates; the final figures stood at Rs. 5.13 lakhs.

1944-45

For the current year the budget estimates were—

In lakhs

Rs.

Revenue Receipts	19.64
Revenue Expenditure	15.78

yielding a revenue surplus of Rs. 3.86 lakhs. The revised estimates as now available show the receipts at Rs. 22.49 lakhs, and expenditure at Rs. 21.10 lakhs, resulting in a surplus of only Rs. 1.39 lakhs. But it must be pointed out that on the expenditure side provision is being made by a supplementary demand presented a week ago of no less a sum than Rs. 3.15 lakhs for our special funds; but for this transfer, the surplus would have stood at Rs. 4.54 lakhs as against the budgeted figure of Rs. 3.86 lakhs. It has again to be remembered that during the year large and increasing responsibility was assumed for relief against rise in the level of prices. The year marks a record in the size of our revenue receipts, it surpassed the figure of the previous year, which was at the time regarded a peak figure by a crore and a third. The receipts exceeded the budget figure by Rs. 2.85 lakhs, the main items being :—

In lakhs

Rs.

Taxes on Income received from the Government of India	17
under the Niemeyer Award	45
Land Revenue (gross)	86
Provincial Excise	26
Forests	17
Other Taxes	

It is not necessary for me to explain the reasons for this (revised) increase, they are well-known, and are set forth in some detail in the Secretary's Memorandum.

On the expenditure side, the increase is of Rs. 2.17 lakhs, not including the transfer of Rs. 3.15 lakhs into the special funds. The principal items are :—

In lakhs

Rs.

General Administration	26
Police	38
Education	15
Medical	12
Civil Works	55
Famine	12
Other heads made up of minor variations	26

Here again analysis and explanation lie beyond my scope. But all these heads cover substantial increases due to the grant of dearness allowance at enhanced rates and also to certain war allowances. The Memorandum examines the various items in some

detail, but I should refer to a few broad facts. Government have had under consideration for some time the question of the adequacy of pay of the lower subordinates of the Police Department, and it was decided to raise these rates with effect from the 1st of May 1944. This coupled with the grant of a supplementary allowance is responsible for the large increase under Police. Heavy rains and floods in the districts of Shahpur, Kangra and Dera Ghazi Khan, produced conditions that are technically described as "Famine". Immediate steps were taken to relieve distress at a cost of Rs. 12 lakhs. Under Education, grants-in-aid were made to private and aided schools to enable them to give dearness allowance.

I need only add that not only our ordinary receipts touched an unprecedented figure during the year, but also estimates of the extraordinary receipts (revised) stand at Rs. 6.05 lakhs, nearly double of the budgeted figure. Our financial position is the stronger in that measure, and all development to that extent secured on a surer footing. (*Hear, hear*).

1945-46

The next year offers its own difficulties of estimation. We can only rely on the experience of the immediate past. A rigorous study of all material available today places the Revenue Receipts at Rs. 21.17 lakhs, Revenue Expenditure at Rs. 19.25 lakhs, indicating a revenue surplus of Rs. 1.92 lakhs. But it will be remembered that this surplus is subject to deduction, according to the now well-established practice, for provision towards the end of the financial year for our Special Funds; and among these Funds there is now one—the Post-War Reconstruction Fund—the requirements of which may fairly be described as unlimited.

I do not propose to examine variations on either side as compared with revised figures for the current year. None of them are of any special significance, except the substantial drop of Rs. 20 lakhs in Taxes on Income, though they come to the comparatively large *minus* aggregate of Rs. 1.32 lakhs. The drop under Taxes on Income, received from the Government of India, is, perhaps, not a temporary phase and the income may suffer a further diminution as years pass by. Our share was already unduly small, and if this source of our revenues is reduced further, there would be a serious curtailment in our normal revenues.

BENEFACTANT DEPARTMENTS

The expenditure on Beneficent Departments which stood at Rs. 2.87 lakhs in 1936-37 has steadily risen till in 1945-46 it is proposed to spend Rs. 5.59 lakhs (*hear, hear*); in other words, during the life time of this Assembly the expenditure has been almost exactly doubled. (*Hear, hear*). So recently as 1941-42 the expenditure under this head was Rs. 3.42 lakhs. It rose next year to Rs. 3.62 lakhs and in 1943-44 to Rs. 4.15 lakhs. It would be remembered that the budget provision for the current year was Rs. 4.64 lakhs, while in the revised estimates it had already gone up to Rs. 4.99 lakhs. This will be readily admitted to be a most satisfactory position of which this House might justly be proud. It represents not only considerable outlay in these departments, it represents no less than 26 per cent of our total revenues, and this does not represent the whole measure of Government's nation-building activity, as it does not include our Irrigation Projects or expenditure on roads or the many indirect advantages which flow from our Special Funds. Of the proposed new expenditure charged to revenue aggregating a sum of about Rs. 2½ crores, no less a sum than Rs. 90 lakhs is devoted to beneficent departments. (*Hear, hear*). Not only is provision made for a larger volume of new expenditure on the whole than in any previous year, but also the largest provision is made for beneficent departments. If we take into consideration here expenditure on Buildings and Roads and Hydro-electric Schemes another sum of nearly Rs. 50 lakhs will have to be added. I may be permitted to refer to some of the major items under beneficent departments for which fresh provision is being made.

[Finance Minister]

Education is being given Rs. 27 lakhs. Additional staff is to be added to higher institutions. A new college for boys is contemplated at Dera Ghazi Khan, three new Government High Schools are to be established for girls as also some new Vernacular Middle Schools. Substantial facilities are to be secured for the teaching of Science in some of our colleges—a very important reform. The re-organization of the Sub-ordinate Educational Services so as to remove the existing impediments in the way of promotion has been settled. The annual maintenance grant for the Islamia College for Women, Lahore, is to be increased as also that of the Zamindara College at Gujrat, and the Anjuman-Khadiman-i-Islam of Jullundur City is to be assisted in the acquisition of land for a college building. Grants to local bodies will be made for the improvement and expansion of girls' education and other allied objects. The Youth Movement on which present day thought lays such large emphasis is to be placed on a strong and satisfactory basis; the Boy Scouts and Girls Guides Associations will receive considerable grants and an effort will be made to establish Farmers' Clubs all over the Province. (*Hear, hear.*)

Medical—There is a further provision of Rs. 5 lakhs under this head by special provision of relief for women and increasing the number of nurses. Beginnings are to be made for the provision of dental treatment in a number of selected head quarters hospitals and attention is being given to the important service of blood transfusion. Public Health is given an additional Rs. 15 lakhs in connexion with the enlargement of installations for water-supply, increased work in connexion with town planning and building schemes, additional units of Public Health Corps and food inspection.

Agriculture (Rs. 14 lakhs). The number of Agricultural Assistants and Mukaddams will be brought up to a strength that has been long the ideal of the department and research is to be pursued in several urgent directions. The network of this great department's activity is to be amplified in many directions.

Veterinary also is to receive an additional three lakhs for new veterinary hospitals and conversion of dispensaries into properly equipped hospitals.

Co-operation is also to receive support in many of its useful activities.

Industries receive an additional grant of Rs. 5 lakhs. The scheme of industrial survey is continued. Travelling demonstration parties will also carry on their good work. There is provision for the expansion of industrial education among girls as also for the development of cottage industries. It will be noted that the Industries grant which stood at about Rs. 15 lakhs in 1936-37 will now have a provision of over Rs. 35 lakhs.

Some miscellaneous items would interest the House. Substantial increase has been made in the grant to the Public Library, a large measure of assistance is to be given to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and the Board of Economic Enquiry will be able to undertake its investigations with greater thoroughness. An effort has been made also to think out how best to secure a sound financial position for the Panchayats and bring home to them increasingly the desirability of self-reliance.

INDUSTRIES

The Committee to which I referred last year has continued its regular deliberations. Industrialists and others competent to speak on industrial matters have guided the course of our inquiries with genuine interest and zeal, and a number of proposals are sufficiently advanced to be helpful in post-war planning. Power for new industries should be available at no distant date, and Government is otherwise prepared to render all necessary assistance. Several broad questions of policy are still under consideration, but a provision is contemplated in post-war planning for industries of a sum of Rs. 5 crores during the first five years. In the meantime regular increase is made under normal annual grants. Questions of support to our numerous cottage industries are also engaging the attention of Government.

DEARNESS AND WAR ALLOWANCES

On this occasion last time I pointed out that expenditure on dearness allowance was estimated during 1943-44 at Rs. 1.82 lakhs and that a provision had then been made in the budget for Rs. 1.47 lakhs. As a matter of fact during the current year expenditure under this head comes to Rs. 3 crores. During the course of the year dearness allowance now admissible to all Government servants on pay up to Rs. 250 per month has been revised on more than one occasion so as to make it more liberal. It is estimated to cost over Rs. 2 crores in 1945-46. In addition there are war allowances of various kinds, house rent concessions, certain temporary allowances and further revisions of pay have been made leading to relief in the same direction. Relief to pensioners is also given amounting to no less than Rs. 7 lakhs per year and various other proposals are at present under consideration. In this connexion I must particularly refer to the revision of the rates of pay of patwaries, both Canal and Revenue, that have just now been sanctioned by Government (*loud applause*) and will involve a very substantial additional expenditure. Already the various schemes of relief to which only a passing reference has been made here mean an additional pay bill of over Rs. 8½ crores. With the new proposals still under contemplation this figure is likely to rise substantially. The Secretary in his Memorandum has given ample details of these measures. It will be noted that there has hardly been a month when Government's mind was not anxiously applied to the distress and privation caused by rising prices. The burden thrown on the provincial exchequer on this account has been very heavy but it will be realised that it has been readily undertaken and every possible method sought to afford relief against hardship.

HYDRO-ELECTRIC

Last year I drew attention to the fact that the interest on account of the capital invested in this enterprise is not paid to any outside capitalist. The whole of the capital was invested by us and the interest is paid by the enterprise to the provincial funds. It was merely the formality of Government's commercial accounting that showed this interest as part of the cost of the enterprise and converted what would otherwise be the profit of the concern into a liability. I then ventured to observe that thus viewed the scheme was yielding a net return of 3 per cent. The revised estimates for 1944-45 show that the net income from Electricity Schemes was Rs. 80.06 lakhs, while the interest payable during the year is estimated at Rs. 29.16 lakhs. For the first time in the history of the enterprise there is a net return even after making an allowance for interest under the existing accounting system. (*Hear, hear*). This is a happy fact, the result at once of expanding income and enforcement of strict economy. Under the existing conditions, when war has interfered with the completion even of projects that had been well advanced, the income has not any large scope of expansion but the requirements of economy can always be made stricter and I anticipate happier result in the future. Indeed, budget estimates already indicate some increase in net income after allowing for interest.

There has been some unavoidable delay in the taking over of the Lahore Electric Supply Company because of legal and other formalities but when these have been duly carried out, further profits in the Electricity Department are certain to accrue. I must also mention that schemes of producing hydro-electric energy in connexion with several of our dam projects, such as the Bhakra Dam, should, in the course of time, yield considerable gain to our finances, as they would bring the benefits of cheap energy to the public consumer. A similar benefit is to follow from the scheme at present under way at Rasul.

EXTRAORDINARY RECEIPTS

These receipts constitute a very special feature of our provincial finance. They have showed recently a most welcome upward trend. Up to the year 1939-40 they lay within very modest limits. The total of these receipts up to 1936-37 starting

[Finance Minister]

far back to the early part of the century is Rs. 10·19 lakhs and the next three years yielded Rs. 91 lakhs, making altogether an aggregate up to the year 1940 of little over Rs. 11 crores. Since 1941 they stand as below :—

						<i>In lakhs</i>
						Rs.
1941-42	..	..	..	..	..	1,10
1942-43	..	..	..	..	..	2,00
1943-44	..	..	..	..	..	5,18
1944-45 (revised)	..	..	..	..	..	6,05
1945-46 (budget)	..	..	..	..	..	4,71

making an aggregate for five years of Rs. 18,99 lakhs. These receipts are exhibited entirely outside our normal revenue receipts and are not taken into account for meeting ordinary revenue expenditure. They are, therefore, not responsible in any manner for our revenue surpluses. They lend great strength to our finances, they enable, in their full measure, large capital expenditure to be undertaken without resort to the loan market. They also furnish an effective support for our balances whenever they are threatened with any depletion on account of exceptional circumstances such as famine.

WAYS AND MEANS POSITION

Reference must be made to the Memorandum for details in connexion with our ways and means position. All that I need say is that it continues to be sound. With our abundant financial resources such small temporary ways and means advances as we had to take were for extremely short periods, aggregating in all to Rs. 20 lakhs, and on no occasion was the advance more than Rs. 5 lakhs and was always paid within the course of a few days, as would be borne out from the fact that during the whole year we had to pay only Rs. 800 on account of interest on these advances. Balances surplus to our normal requirements continue to be invested, as in previous years, both in short period treasury bills and long-term securities. On short-term investments alone the interest earned is likely to be in the neighbourhood of Rs. 8 lakhs ; while long-term investments are likely to yield Rs. 13·68 lakhs. This means that as against Rs. 7 lakhs of the last year and Rs. 4 lakhs of the year before, the current year exhibits an aggregate of Rs. 16½ lakhs. Still better results are expected in 1945-46. These happy results are due to the care and vigilance with which our ways and means position is watched from day to day ; and as I have said on previous occasions, it constitutes a handsome and comparatively novel contribution by the Finance Department to the provincial exchequer.

IRRIGATION

Last year I spoke of important decisions having been taken as regards the Thal Project. Further progress has been made with the execution of this project. The construction started in the year 1939-40 and up to the end of the last financial year an actual expenditure of Rs. 1,93 lakhs had been incurred. During the current year further construction will have been completed to the extent of Rs. 73 lakhs, and in 1945-46 it is expected to carry forward the works at a cost of more than Rs. 2 crores with an expenditure on establishment of Rs. 8½ lakhs.

On the Western Jumna Canal Extensions expenditure during the current year will amount to Rs. 14 lakhs, and a provision is being made in the budget for another Rs. 8 lakhs.

In addition, the Gurgaon Canal Project by the construction of a tunnel has advanced to a stage beyond merely that of a proposal. The necessary machinery for the purpose is actually being purchased. Some questions are pending with the United Provinces Government which will have to be decided before the work is actually

started. The project is estimated to cost about Rs. 1½ crores and would provide irrigation for a gross area of 400,000 acres in the Gurgaon district, apart from the relief that it will bring to the Delhi province.

What deserves special mention is the progress actually made in regard to the Bhakra Dam. The site has been inspected during the year by the distinguished American expert, Mr. Savage, and has been finally declared suitable. Necessary negotiations with His Highness of Bilaspur in connexion with this dam are well advanced, and arrangements have been made for starting work on an essential road to Bhakra for the purpose. Special machinery in connexion with the construction of high dams has been ordered in the United States of America at a cost of Rs. 23 lakhs and proposals for additional machinery worth about Rs. 50 lakhs have already been accepted. In this behalf an Executive Engineer has been specially deputed to the United States of America and he is already in America, and more engineers, both Irrigation and Electricity, are proceeding to America almost immediately for necessary training and experience. Study of relevant geological problems has also been arranged by the deputation of an expert to the United States. It will thus be seen that this project has now definitely entered upon a practical stage. (*Hear, hear*). Further, I may draw attention to some other projects like those of the Rohtang Tunnel Project, the Tons Dam, the Larji Dam Project and the Marhu Tunnel Project, indicating that every possibility to secure larger irrigation is being earnestly examined. Some of these projects are intended to ensure regular supplies in the Sutlej Valley Canals, which at present suffer from shortage particularly during the *kharrif* sowings. The Bhakra Dam and the other projects, when they materialise, will supply large hydro-electric power which should in time be a real boon not only to our industries but to the province generally.

I must not forget to notice that a detailed project has already been prepared for a canal taking off at Rupar for the Doaba area (*hear, hear*) where considerable difficulties have arisen because of the drop in the water level. This Bist Doab Project is estimated to cost Rs. 1½ crores.

When these schemes have been carried out, they will afford protection not only to south-eastern Punjab, which is exposed to periodical famine conditions, but also to other parts of the province. Now that the limits of flow irrigation may be said to have been fairly reached, our hope for more water rests on these dams. The expenditure involved on the whole of this network is almost gigantic, but ample provision is being made under post-war plans for work during the first five years, and considering the largeness of the benefits to accrue, no further necessary expenditure would be considered unjustified.

Perhaps here I should mention that Government is anxiously watching the spread of waterlogging in various parts of the province and a large scheme of tube-wells at Rasul as an anti-waterlogging measure has already made some advance. Incidentally, this scheme will also generate 22,000 K. Wa. of electric power, and will serve the districts of Montgomery, Lyallpur, Jhang and Sargodha. The whole of this scheme will probably cost about Rs. 8 crores. Orders are now being actually placed for the purchase of necessary hydraulic and electric machinery.

OUR SPECIAL FUNDS

I do not propose to dwell in any detail on our Special Funds. The Special Development Fund was created in 1937-38 with a sum of Rs. 55 lakhs. To this Rs. 18 lakhs was added in 1940-41 and Rs. 30 lakhs in 1941-42. During the next two years Rs. 60 lakhs were placed in this Fund and now during the current year another Rs. 40 lakhs have been added, making an aggregate of Rs. 1,98 lakhs. The essential idea of this Fund was to further beneficent activity and ensure that particularly in years of stringency beneficent departments do not suffer any curtailment. Out of this sum the Fund has already provided resources for making fresh experiments and generally enlarging the sphere of beneficent activity to the extent of about Rs. 90 lakhs and is successfully serving the object for which it was constructed.

[Finance Minister]

The Peasants' Welfare Fund was created in 1941-42 with Rs. 90 lakhs and during the next two years additions were made to it of Rs. 60 lakhs each year. A further addition is now being made of Rs. 60 lakhs, raising the aggregate total to Rs. 2.10 lakhs. (*Hear, hear*). The general objects of this Fund are well known. They lie in the main in the amelioration of conditions in the countryside and in securing reasonable and just terms to the grower in the marketing of his products. Some plans, such as those of scholarships, for expenditure under the scheme are already under way and several further schemes are under examination. As I view it, increase in its size should be of help in securing the highest benefit to our small peasants and workers. It should confer on them real capacity and strength which no mere small relief directly given could afford.

A new fund called the 'Forest Reconstruction Fund' was created last year with Rs. 15 lakhs. To this a further addition of Rs. 15 lakhs is being made during the current year. The necessity of preserving our forest wealth is obvious. Under post-war reconstruction plans an expenditure of Rs. 2 crores is contemplated for the purpose and it is hoped that the forest wealth of the province would be allowed to suffer no deterioration.

Apart from these Funds with which the House is familiar, full advantage has been taken of the accruing large surplus to set aside a sum of Rs. 2 crores for post-war reconstruction purposes. If finances permit, further provisions for this purpose would be made during the coming years. At any rate, it is a beginning on which the province can justly congratulate itself.

POLICE

I may perhaps make a special reference to Police expenditure. In 1920-21 the Police expenditure stood at a little over Rs. 96 lakhs, and in sixteen years thereafter it had risen by slow steps to about Rs. 1½ crores. So recently as 1940-41 it was Rs. 1.39 crores. Since then there has been a rapid rise as shown below :—

				Rs.
1941-42	..	..	..	1,52,12,254
1942-43	..	..	..	1,89,96,987
1943-44	..	..	..	2,16,21,705

The budget for 1944-45 was Rs. 2.34 crores, but the revised figures stand at Rs. 2.73 crores. This rise during the course of the year is due entirely, as I have mentioned already, to improvements in the emoluments of the subordinate staff (*Hear, hear*). The budget provision for 1945-46 is Rs. 2.82 crores. It will be seen that since 1920-21 the expenditure has been trebled and since 1940-41 it has been more than doubled. In 1945-46, apart from continuing the Provincial Additional Police, the fourth and fifth Ranges at Jullundur and Multan and Additional Mounted Police in the Ferozepore district, steps have been taken not to allow the permanent sanctioned strength to be reduced or additional supervisory staff to be weakened, and it is proposed to increase the existing strength of rural police stations and posts with a view to complete the scheme of replacement of head constables by assistant sub-inspectors.

POST-WAR RECONSTRUCTION

A definite provision has been made towards post-war reconstruction of a sum of Rs. 2 crores from the emerging surplus of 1944-45, but in addition to any assistance received from the Government of India, the whole strength of our finances will be available for this essential task. It is hoped that during the next five years it might be possible to spend a sum of Rs. 100 crores (*hear, hear*) on this work directed at once to secure enrichment of our economic resources and improvement of our mind and body. It is contemplated that Rs. 40 crores should be applied to irrigation and electric development, Rs. 12 crores to roads, Rs. 5 crores to agriculture and Rs. 5 crores to industries. This expenditure would be directly helpful in building up economic

strength. It is proposed to spend Rs. 10 crores on education and Rs. 12 crores on medical and public health. Schemes are not yet in their final form but a great deal of preliminary thinking has been done and individual proposals are under active consideration. My own mind goes out to problems of securing a balanced economy on which alone the prosperity of the country can firmly rest (*hear, hear*) because at present there are serious limits to improvement in our economic welfare. No less do I feel that the demands of education are urgent and imperative. (*Hear, hear*). Not to speak of western countries where in many illiteracy has completely disappeared, we have shining examples in India itself. In this regard the figures in some of the Indian States are instructive. I read that in one of these literacy ranges at about 48 per cent and in two others at about 35 and 24 per cent, and plans are being developed in a fourth to double its activity in this direction during the next five years. In the Punjab we obviously have much leeway to make up. We are still limping between 10 and 11 per cent. (*Mian Abdul Aziz : Shame*). To me the highest task that lies before us is to wipe out the curse of illiteracy in the shortest period possible because that alone can open up a vista of efficiency in every direction. By that alone can the other good things that we long for be really achieved. Problems of production, of health and of other advance are contingent on a wide spread of education. Efforts in this direction are of basic importance, for on the furtherance of education rests our moral and material welfare.

OUR DEBT POSITION

Our debt position discloses a most happy situation. On the introduction of Provincial Autonomy in 1937 the net debt of the Province stood at Rs. 32½ crores; and excluding the three recent loans raised for the purpose of repaying a part of the Consolidated Debt due to the Government of India, it rose by 6·3 crores since 1937. The net debt therefore should normally have amounted to Rs. 38½ crores but actually on the 31st March 1944 it stood only at Rs. 27 crores. In 1943-44 we were able to pay off to the Government of India a sum of Rs. 10 crores towards our unconsolidated debt, and there have been certain other annual payments reducing our net liability. I do not propose to enter upon the details of this net debt of Rs. 27 crores; but as against this debt it is important to remember that we have today capital wealth as represented by capital expenditure up to the end of 1945-46 of Rs. 53½ crores. (*Hear, hear*). Excluding items chargeable to Revenue, at the close of the year 1945-46 the capital expenditure would amount to Rs. 53 crores. And of this sum no less than Rs. 41½ crores are due to irrigation works—a permanent asset in our provincial wealth. Not considering any rise in their capital value or not basing any calculations on the capitalised value of their annual yield it means that our irrigation works constitute in themselves a value of Rs. 15 crores above our total existing debt, and we have our electricity schemes that have cost nearly Rs. 7½ crores and other capital expenditure of over Rs. 8 crores. Put into simple language, it means that we have 31 crores of capital wealth over and above what is due from us on account of monies raised for our capital expenditure. The key to understand this big fact lies firstly in our Extraordinary Receipts to which I have already referred and secondly in our recent surpluses.

In finance prudence must still be our guide. We must not be affected overmuch by the doctrine of budgetary balance. It is no simple teaching anyhow, and in provincial finance where emphasis lies on acquiring and gathering all possible strength within its exiguous limits, its application is of a very restricted nature. Most liberally interpreted, it cannot mean 'balance' in any single year, it can only signify a balance in a series of years—the balance to be secured not by cutting down revenues but by prudent and wise expansion of expenditure along urgent and desirable directions. We cannot introduce elasticity where none exists in order to secure rapid adjustment between income and outgo, we would in any such endeavour fail in the primary object and cause dislocation and disturbance and uncertainty generally. Elsewhere here and in countries outside India these questions of balance are now being regarded as not

[Finance Minister]

single year issues, and the present war has tended to their study mainly in connexion with problems of National Debt. In this view, I wholly welcome our surpluses and consider their transfer into our funds of the highest utility. Not only there is no error in the course we have followed but they constitute sound finance inasmuch as they represent financial strength. Further a normal budget is difficult to define, particularly as revenue may easily shrink due to the stress of circumstances beyond our control and expenditure is never easy rapidly to adjust. On sooth-saying nothing depends, we must march straight on.

Sir, India today is astir with many aspirations, our skies are rent with myriad cries. Of the making of plans there is no end, innumerable cures are proposed for our many ills. In all this clamour, in all this anxiety, the humble logic of the account book cannot be ignored, for that alone often points with sureness the path of progress, otherwise there can only be much stumbling over broken roads. Is this too grave a fetter to impose upon the impatient idealist in his bold stride? The question is sometimes presented in another wise—Must we build or must we blindly strike? The answer of the nicely calculated lore of less and more is that there is no such sharp alternative, the contrast is not well-founded, and we must build in order to move forward. I make bold to say that this is the answer that seems to stand out in our recent financial history, I feel that it is a worthy answer. In the measure that we have exemplified its correctness, we are in the forefront of true national endeavour. The times today are far from normal; the need for circumspection cannot be put away. We have had some years of unprecedented prosperity; during this time the difficulties amidst which we labour and the limitations that are imposed on us have never been forgotten, and the main directions of our policy have been courageously laid down and boldly adhered to. In the present fast changing world the forces that govern our action are not all within our compass, but we have devised many safe moorings. We here do not take life at random, nor does fate drive us as it chooses; we do not feel that we are bound by the inexorable decrees of gods. No thoughts are too high for our estate, we have struck our own courses, we have attempted to be the architect of a noble heritage for those who come after us. That is our justification, that is our anchorage. And because of our achievements our confidence in the high destiny of the Province is unbounded.

I must not conclude without a word of appreciation for the department of which I am privileged to be in charge. Hard work is the lot of all in the Finance Department and this has grown steadily in volume and complexity. I am glad to feel that it has been undertaken willingly and with singular devotion to duty by everyone from the most junior Assistant upwards, and the result has been a high standard of efficiency and accuracy. Mr. C. N. Chandra's work will always stand out (*loud applause*) as worthy of special mention in the long annals of the department and the other officers in the department have given him of their best. I must particularly express my indebtedness to our Superintendents and the staff generally whose labours are arduous and on whose discharge of their onerous work our success rests.

On behalf of the Government I wish to record my tribute to the valuable help received from Mr. P. K. Wattal (*hear, hear*) who has for another year held charge of our accounts as Accountant-General in the Punjab. His standards have been rigorous, but I trust we have not failed to improve under his vigilant scrutiny. I understand he is about to retire, we hope that his knowledge and ability will still be available in the service of the country, at any rate he carries our best wishes with him. (*hear, hear*).

We are indebted to Sir Cameron Badenoch, Auditor-General for India. Our relations with him have been most cordial and his advice on questions of procedure has always been of great value.

Sir, I beg to present the Budget for the year 1945-46. (*Loud applause*).

The Assembly then adjourned till 10 a. m. on Friday, the 2nd March 1945.

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

THIRTEENTH SESSION OF THE FIRST PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Friday 2nd March 1945

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber at 10 a.m. of the clock. Mr. Speaker in the chair.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

REMOVAL OF SHAIKH MUHAMMAD SAID AND RAI AHMAD NUR FROM THE PLATOON COMMANDERSHIP OF CIVIC GUARDS

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : With reference to the answer to Question No. 9621¹ asked yesterday will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether the Inspector-General of Police, while laying down this new policy, namely, that nobody who takes part in any political movement will be allowed to remain a member of the Civic Guards, consulted the Honourable Premier before passing those orders or not?

Parliamentary Secretary (K. B. Shaikh Faiz Mubammad) : I gave a reply to this question yesterday, but I may add that when a member of the Civic Guards also takes active part in any political movement, he is debarred from membership.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I know what the Parliamentary Secretary means by 'active part'?

Premier : Active part means active part.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : It is absurd. May I ask the Honourable Premier whether merely becoming a member of a political organisation is tantamount to taking active part?

Parliamentary Secretary : No.

Premier : I have stated that active part means active part.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : The reply given by the Parliamentary Secretary is "no". Let the Parliamentary Secretary and the Honourable Premier decide between themselves first. May I ask the Honourable Premier whether at the time of starting these Civic Guards and A. R. P. movements, the policy of the Government was to persuade everybody, irrespective of his political party, to come and do his duty to the country by becoming a member of those movements?

Premier : That was and is still the policy.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Then how does he reconcile that policy with this policy, namely, that a gentleman who merely becomes a two anna-member of the Muslim League, is removed at the instance of the Inspector-General of Police without any complaint from the Superintendent of Police, who is in charge of that organisation?

Premier : I have not seen any clash between the two policies. To me they are not in conflict but are in accord.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I ask whether he has received any complaint so far that any member of the Civic Guards, who is also a member of the Muslim League, has failed in the performance of his duties?

Premier : That is not the issue. If a man joins a public organisation like the Civic Guards, he cannot be an active functionary of a political body.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I ask whether anybody, who is a member of the Civic Guards, can take active part in the Zamindara League? Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether becoming a member of the Zamindara League is tantamount to taking active part in politics?

Premier : That is not the real question. A person cannot be a member of the Civic Guards and yet take an active part in politics. The honourable member knows why objection is being taken to this. The functionary should have the confidence of all communities. That is the point. If he can retain the confidence of all communities then there is no objection and if he cannot, then there is objection.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Do I understand that retaining of confidence of the general public is to be judged by the Honourable Premier or the Inspector-General of Police?

Premier : As long as we are here and he is the Inspector General of Police it is our place to judge.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether it is a fact that in this particular case, the Superintendent of Police, who is directly concerned with the movements of Civic Guard Officers, told those gentlemen that he had no idea of removing them but it was from the top that orders were received?

Premier : That is giving information.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I draw the attention of the Honourable Premier to the original question? It is definitely stated therein that when they approached the Superintendent of Police in this connection they were told that their removal had been ordered under the instructions of the Government.

Premier : I am not prepared to accept everything that the honourable questioner lays down in his question. I am only responsible for the reply given. If the fellow takes an active part in politics and thereby loses the confidence of the public, then we cannot help it.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : The question is whether the Superintendent of Police reported against those officers of the Civic Guards that they had lost the confidence of the public and it was then that this action was taken against them or whether it was out of vengeance that the Premier did so.

Premier : That is an allegation which I can only refute.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I know whether these orders were passed by the Premier?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I ask whether he knows that there are hundreds of Muslim Leaguers who are serving in the Civic Guards?

Premier : We are not concerned with one or another, but we are concerned only with the person who takes an active part in politics. That is all.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I know whether the Honourable Premier has read this question and whether he knows that one of these gentlemen was no more than a mere two-anna member of the Muslim League?

Premier : That is a question of opinion. We are only concerned with the active functionary.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I ask him, in the interest of war efforts, about which he boasts in season and out of season that he is very fond, to tell us what he means by taking active part? His idea would seem to be that becoming a member of the Muslim League is tantamount to taking active part in politics. Does he propose to turn out hundreds of such Civic Guards members?

Premier : Nothing of the sort.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Does he not realise, as an honest gentleman and a responsible Minister of the Government, that it is his duty to explain what he means by 'active part' and to give a straight reply to a straight question? Will he be pleased to state whether merely becoming a member or holding office or making a seditious speech is tantamount to taking active part in politics?

Premier : The trouble of my honourable friend is that he is unnecessarily getting cross early in the morning. I will ask him to be calm. What I was saying was that by 'active part' I only mean 'active part', because these are common expressions of the English language. But if he wants me to elucidate it further, the proper time will be on the general discussion of the budget. He should raise this question at that time and I will tell him what I mean by 'active part'.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : My question is very simple. The Parliamentary Secretary, when answering my question whether the membership of a political organisation was tantamount to taking active part, said 'no', and then the Honourable Premier got up and said 'Yes'.

Premier : I neither said 'no' nor 'yes'. I was only elucidating the position. He was explaining in his own way and I am explaining in my own way.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad : On a point of order, Sir. May I know if matters of policy can be dealt with in answer to a question?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : The question of policy arises from the reply given and not from the question put; in reply to the original question it was stated that they could not take active part in politics. Now, is it a fact that the Premier called the Inspector-General of Police and directed him to issue orders for the dismissal of these two men? Was not the initiative taken by the Premier who approached the Inspector General of Police and influenced him to pass orders removing these two men?

Premier : That cannot be gone into: it is wrong.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know how many members of the Unionist party taking active part in politics have been removed from that office?

Parliamentary Secretary : Put a separate question and you will get the reply.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether the same principle of dismissal applies to the members of the Unionist party who take active part in politics?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is it a fact that some of the Unionist members taking active part in politics are also recruiting officers?

Mr. Speaker : Next question.

COLLECTIONS FOR ZAMINDARA LEAGUE FUND IN JHANG

***9622. Mian Mumtaz Muhammad Khan Daulatana :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that on the receipt of his programme of visit to Jhang in November, 1944, the Deputy Commissioner, Jhang, started collecting money through tahsildars and subordinate members of the staff for the Zamindara League; if so, the amount of money thus collected in this connection;

(b) the amount of money collected for this purpose through the Civil Supply Officer from the shops of those persons who hold sugar depots?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) The Premier did not visit Jhang in November 1944. The Zamindara League is a non-official organisation and its office bearers who are non-officials are responsible for collecting funds.

(b) Nil.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Will the Parliamentary Secretary please read the question again? What is said in the question is not that the Premier visited Jhang. The question asks whether when the programme (which was subsequently cancelled), reached the Deputy Commissioner, he started collecting money through the tahsildars?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have already answered the question. The Premier did not actually visit Jhang on that date. The Zamindara League is a non-official organization and its office bearers are responsible for collecting funds.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I know whether it is a fact that the Deputy Commissioner actually called the Revenue Assistant and the Tahsildar and said 'please go on collecting money for the Premier'?

Parliamentary Secretary : The answer is quite clear and I am afraid I cannot add anything to it.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Please do not be afraid. Please add something sensible. May I know whether it is a fact that when the tour programme of the Premier reached the Deputy Commissioner the first thing the latter did was to collect the Revenue staff and ask them to realise money from the public to be presented to the Premier for the Zamindara League?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have answered that question by saying that the funds were collected by the workers of the Zamindara League which is a non-official body and its workers are responsible for collecting funds.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : My question is a direct one and I would request the Parliamentary Secretary to give a direct reply. Did the Deputy Commissioner or the Revenue staff collect the money or not? Why does he not say 'yes' or 'no'?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have already stated that the Zamindara League is a non-official body and so far as my honourable friend's question is concerned I assure him that we know nothing about it.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether any complaints have reached Government in this connection?

Parliamentary Secretary : Not that I know of.

TAJ DIN BHAI QASIM, TRADERS OF JHANG

***9623. Mian Mumtaz Muhammad Khan Daulatana :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Messrs. Taj Din Bhai Qasim, traders of Jhang, were challaned under the Defence of India Rules some time this year and the challan was subsequently withdrawn; if so, the nature of the offence alleged to have been committed by them and the reasons for withdrawal of the challan?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : Part (i).—No.

Part (ii).—Does not arise.

MR. RATTAN DEV BHANDARI

***9633. Sardar Kapoor Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Ratan Dev Bhandari, who is restricted in Lahore Corporation area, applied for permission to go to Ludhiana and then to Lyallpur in connection with his marriage;

(b) whether his application was rejected; if so, the reasons therefor?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad): (a) He applied to Government for permission to visit Lyallpur for a fortnight in connection with his marriage.

(b) He was informed that the previous order of his restriction had been cancelled and that under the revised order he could go to Lyallpur without permission.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan: Is it within the knowledge of the Parliamentary Secretary that Mr. Rattan Dev Bhandari wanted to go to Ludhiana to arrange the marriage party?

Parliamentary Secretary: He was informed that he could go without any permission since the restriction order had been cancelled.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan: That is not the question: the question is whether he could go to Ludhiana to arrange the marriage party from that place?

Parliamentary Secretary: He applied for going to Lyallpur. Ludhiana is not mentioned in the question. He was told that he could go to Lyallpur without permission.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan: Did he apply that he wanted to take the marriage party from Ludhiana?

Premier: When anybody applies to go to Lyallpur, should he be allowed to go to Ludhiana?

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan: The Premier should know that Mr. Bhandari applied for taking the marriage party from Ludhiana to Lyallpur.

Parliamentary Secretary: The gentleman applied for permission to go to Lyallpur and he was told that he could go there without any permission. What I mean to say is that in his application he did not mention Ludhiana. He mentioned Lyallpur and the permission for going there was not necessary.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan: Has the Parliamentary Secretary in his possession the application of Mr. Ratan Dev Bhandari?

Parliamentary Secretary: It must be in the Secretariat and if my learned friend is so keen to look at it he can see the Premier to have a look at the application?

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan: Has the Parliamentary Secretary in his possession the application of Mr. Rattan Dev Bhandari and has the Parliamentary Secretary collected the information about what is stated in the application?

Parliamentary Secretary: I have answered the straight question in a straight way. Now my friend wants to drag me into other matters. Mr. Rattan Dev Bhandari applied for permission to go to Lyallpur and the permission was not necessary for it. He was free to go there.

MR. ABNASH CHANDRA, BEHGAL, M. A.

*9634. **Sardar Kapoor Singh**: Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the date of arrest of Mr. Abnash Chander Behgal, M. A., son of Shrimati Shanno Devi, M.L.A., now detained in Dera Ghazi Khan Jail;

(b) The date on which he was sent to Dera Ghazi Khan Jail;

(c) the various police stations and other places, in which he was detained or kept in custody from the date of his arrest up to the time he was sent to Dera Ghazi Khan jail;

(d) the reasons, if any, for this segregation from other Civil Disobedience detenus and prisoners;

(e) the present state of his health?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) :

(a) 25th of January 1943.

(b) 21st of April 1943.

(c) In the lock-ups of Police Stations, New Anarkali, Civil Lines and Munawan and the Lahore Fort.

(d) It is not in the public interest to answer this question.

(e) No report has been received.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Will the Parliamentary Secretary kindly state the reasons why Mr. Abnash Chandar Sehgal was kept in different jail lock-ups ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Public interest.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it a fact that the police wanted to coerce him to divulge some information not known to him ?

Parliamentary Secretary : If coercion had been the object then he could be coerced in one and the same police station also ; it was unnecessary to move him to different police stations for that purpose.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it a fact that he complained to the Punjab Government that he was beaten and maltreated by the police officers while he was in various police stations ?

Parliamentary Secretary : There is no reference to it in the original question. I want notice for this question.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : You have been pleased to state that he was kept in different lock-ups. I ask, was any complaint made that he was beaten and maltreated in the various lock-ups ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I do not think that any such complaint was made to anybody ; if there was any such complaint it is beyond my knowledge.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Is it not a fact that he was kept in different lock-ups in order to extort certain statements from him ?

Parliamentary Secretary : It is not a fact.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : On what report do you say that it is not a fact ?

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : May I know what is his present weight ?

Parliamentary Secretary : May I invite the honourable member's attention to the original question in which there is not the remotest mention about weight ?

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Kindly read part (e) of the question which seeks information about the present state of his health.

Parliamentary Secretary : No report about his health has so far been received. When any report is received it will be communicated to the honourable member.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it a fact that no report has been received because he has lost weight ?

Parliamentary Secretary : The honourable member should know that collection of information sometimes takes time.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : Is it a fact that Mr. Abnash Chandar's health is practically shattered and that is the reason why no report has been received ?

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know the reasons for his segregation from other prisoners ? Why has he been kept alone ?

Mr. Speaker : The next question.

SARDAR SAJJAN SINGH MARGANDPURI

***9644. Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Sardar Sujjan Singh Margandpuri, a security prisoner in the new sub-jail, Gujrat, handed over a complaint under section 409, I.P.C., on 17th August 1944, to be filed in the Court of the District Magistrate, Muzaffargarh, to the Superintendent of the Gujrat sub-jail;

(b) whether Sardar Sujjan Singh handed over another application to the said Superintendent under section 197, Criminal Procedure Code, along with his complaint mentioned in (a) for obtaining the sanction of the Government for filing the complaint; if so, whether it was forwarded to the Government; if not, the reasons therefor?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Yes.

(b) Government have no knowledge about this.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Has a recent ruling given by the High Court come to the notice of the Government that applications from the prisoners and detenus which they want to be forwarded to the courts or the Government cannot be withheld by the executive authorities?

Parliamentary Secretary : Provided an application is made.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Was no application made?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have no knowledge of that. I have said that one application was made and so far as the other one is concerned, Government have no knowledge. My honourable friend is evidently referring me to a ruling of the High Court, which will be relevant only if an application is made.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Have you made enquiries from the Gujrat sub-jail?

Parliamentary Secretary : The reply has been prepared after due enquiries from the officers concerned.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Has the Government issued instructions to the jail authorities that no representation made by the prisoners be passed on to the Government?

Parliamentary Secretary : When honourable members opposite come and sit here on these benches, they will probably issue such instructions.

CARRYING OF KIRPAN INSIDE RESERVE BANK OF INDIA

***9645. Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether he is aware of the fact that no Sikh is allowed to carry his kirpan (a religious symbol) inside the Reserve Bank of India at Lahore;

(b) whether he is aware of the fact that there is a great commotion amongst the Sikhs on this account;

(c) whether the above restrictions are imposed by the Punjab Government; if so, whether Government intend to remove them; if not, the reasons therefor?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) For security reasons a general order has been issued to the police guard that no person may enter the Exchange Hall of the Reserve Bank carrying a sword, lathi or any other weapon which may be used for purposes of defence. No order has been issued in regard to kirpans specifically.

[K. B. Sh. Faiz Muhammad]

(b) Not so far as Government is aware.

(c) *First part.*—The general order referred to in the answer to part (a) was issued for security reasons by the Senior Superintendent of Police, Lahore.

Second part.—In case there has been any misunderstanding, the position is being clarified for the guidance of the police.

Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh : May I know whether the Government will consider the desirability of removing those restrictions so far as kirpan is concerned as it is not a weapon but a religious symbol ?

Parliamentary Secretary : That is a request for action. I have already stated that Government has issued instructions for the clarification of the position.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know the nature of the clarification of the position ?

Premier : I cannot see how it concerns the honourable member. Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh asked a question and we have stated that there are orders for security reasons in respect of lathi, sword, etc., but there are no specific orders in regard to kirpan and if there is some misunderstanding that will be clarified. My honourable friend Sardar Sohan Singh Josh always knows more about everything than myself ; he should be in a position to know more about this matter also.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : I want your ruling on this point, Sir. The Honourable Premier has stated that since Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh has asked a question, I have nothing to do with it. Does it mean that if a particular member has put a question no other member can ask any supplementary questions in regard to that question ? Is that your ruling or is it simply a brain wave of the Premier ?
(Laughter).

Mr. Speaker : Every member has a right to put supplementary questions.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : May I know whether every Punjabi is allowed to take a sword inside the Reserve Bank ?

Premier : Sword is not allowed.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulma Samad : What is the difference between a sword and a kirpan ?

Premier : I have not tried to differentiate between the two. I have said that sword is not allowed.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : If a kirpan is allowed, why this discrimination ?

RELEASE OF PANDIT RAM RUP SHARMA ON PAROLE

*9651. **Lala Bhagat Ram Choda :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that various representations were sent by Mrs. Ram Rup Sharma during the month of September, 1944, for the release of her husband Pandit Ram Rup Sharma of the People's Insurance Company, Lahore, on parole owing to the serious illness of her daughter Pushpa ;

(b) whether any reply was sent to her ; if so, when and how many days after the receipt of the representation ;

(c) whether Pandit Ram Rup Sharma was released on parole in response to this representation ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (A telegram and a representation were received.

(b) Her representation was received on the 25th of September 1944 and a reply was sent to her two days after.

(c) No. The condition of the child was not so serious as to justify his release on parole.

RESTRICTIONS ON RELEASED POLITICAL PRISONERS

*9652. **Lala Bhagat Ram Choda** : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that quite a large number of political prisoners released in the early part of the year 1944 were restricted within certain areas and a majority of them were required to report themselves weekly at the nearest police station on every Sunday ;

(b) the number of political workers thus restricted ; and the reasons for imposing restrictions upon them ;

(c) whether any ladies among them were also required to report weekly at police stations .

(d) the number of Punjab M. L. A's included in the list of those mentioned in (b) ;

(e) the number of those among them who were freed from such restrictions recently and the number of those among them who are still under restriction in one form or other ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Yes.

(b) *First part*.—145 during the first quarter of 1944.

Second part.—With a view to preventing them from acting in any manner prejudicial to the public safety and the maintenance of public order.

(c) Yes, but the condition requiring them to report at police stations was waived after a few days.

(d) 4, but they were not required to report at police stations.

(e) Out of 145 persons restricted during the first quarter of 1944 the restrictions of 57 have been removed and 88 are still under restrictions.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : After how many days was that condition waived ?

Parliamentary Secretary : After a few days.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : I want to know after how many days ?

Mr. Speaker : Disallowed.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know how many times during these few days the ladies had to go to the police station to report ? Can the Parliamentary Secretary give me some idea ?

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : Will the Parliamentary Secretary please state whether there were any ladies who actually went to the police station in order to report ?

Mr. Speaker : The next question.

REMOVAL OF RESTRICTIONS ON SARDAR BHAGWAN SINGH

*9653. **Lala Bhagat Ram Choda** : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Sardar Bhagwan Singh of village Baddowal in Ludhiana District has been restricted in his village since his release in 1942 ;

[L. Bhagat Ram Choda]

(b) whether he has made any representations to the Government recently for removing these restrictions in order to enable to earn his livelihood ; if so, whether he has been freed from these restrictions, if not, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a). He has been restricted since 8th March 1943 ;

(b) *First part*—Representations were received from him in December, 1943, and October 1944 ;

Second part—No, the circumstances which rendered his restrictions necessary still exist.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Did the Parliamentary Secretary make any enquiries whether he has any means of earning his livelihood in his village where he is restricted ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Enquiries are made in every case when a person is restricted to a particular place whether he will be able to make his living there and it is then that he is restricted.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : What are his means of livelihood in that village ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I cannot say offhand as to what means of livelihood are there.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Does the Parliamentary Secretary know that it is a small village with a population of 2,000 and that there are no means of livelihood in that village ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Government's information is that there are means of livelihood and he is making a living there.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Will the Parliamentary Secretary please state what are the means of earning his livelihood ?

PANDIT BAKHSI RAM OF WACHHOWALI

*9656. **Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh** : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Pandit Bakhshi Ram of Wachhowali, Lahore, now a detenu in Special Jail, Gujrat, is suffering from ear and eye diseases ;

(b) the amount Government has spent through its local dentist on the treatment of his teeth ;

(c) whether the local dentist has reported any improvement in the condition of the teeth of the detenu in question, if not whether Government is prepared to transfer Pandit Bakhshi Ram to some other Jail for the treatment of his diseases, if not, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a). No. He was reported to be suffering from pyorrhœa.

(b) The exact amount expended on his dental treatment is not known. But apart from the cost of patent medicines supplied to this detenu, a sum of Rs. 106 was paid to the local dentist for his treatment during the months of March and April 1944 alone

(c) *First part*—Yes.

Second and third parts—Do not arise.

WAR LOANS

*9665. **Mian Muhammad Nurullah** : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state the total War Loan raised in each district of the Punjab during the years 1943 and 1944 up to date ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad): A statement showing the investment of funds by districts in Central Government interest bearing and interest free loans during 1943 and up to date in 1944 is laid on the table. Statement showing figures of War Loans raised in each district of the Punjab during the year 1943 and 1944 (up to 15th November 1944)

Serial No.	Name of the District	Loans in 1943	Loans in 1944 up to 15th November
		Rs.	Rs.
1	Hissar	14,86,090	82,92,607
2	Rohtak	7,86,390	6,30,557
3	Gurgaon	1,61,590	18,03,670
4	Karnal	4,66,072	4,02,738
5	Ambala	15,65,512	73,31,405
6	Simla	26,13,860	29,66,375
7	Kangra	3,40,906	2,85,605
8	Hoshiarpur	12,00,743	10,43,478
9	Jullundur	12,02,739	59,97,363
10	Ludhiana	10,19,260	51,07,935
11	Ferozepore	47,55,430	38,83,220
12	Lahore	1,86,88,260	2,13,56,076
13	Amritsar	65,23,779	2,47,54,565
14	Gurdaspur	10,58,043	6,41,979
15	Sialkot	3,50,740	8,61,944
16	Gujranwala	7,89,796	4,78,993
17	Sheikhpura	1,49,370	46,15,219
18	Gujrat	39,79,000	8,07,354
19	Shahpur	80,81,232	60,21,360
20	Jhelum	5,23,321	5,50,403
21	Rawalpindi	16,83,220	16,57,767
22	Attock	4,66,796	9,32,422
23	Mianwali	3,19,545	1,92,816
24	Montgomery	11,06,020	88,07,937
25	Lyallpur	51,37,128	85,29,827
26	Jhang	5,92,680	14,80,085
27	Multan	30,61,218	17,13,349
28	Muzaffargarh	74,320	4,54,513
29	Dera Ghazi Khan	3,17,910	2,49,624

SMALL SAVINGS SCHEMES

***9656. Mian Muhammad Nurullah:** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state the total sum raised in each district of the Punjab under the Small Savings Scheme since its inception?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad): A statement showing the investment of National Savings Certificates in each district between 1st March and 15th November 1944 is laid on the table.

Statement showing figures of National Savings Certificates from March 1944 to 15th November 1944

Serial No.	District	Amount	Serial No.	District	Amount
		Rs.			Ra.
1	Hissar	394,860	16	Gujranwala	343,140
2	Rohtak	578,200	17	Sheikhpura	812,190
3	Gurgaon	252,240	18	Gujrat	439,210
4	Karnal	392,870	19	Shahpur	559,830
5	Ambala	420,590	20	Jhelum	414,060
6	Simla	3296,70	21	Rawalpindi	637,120
7	Kangra	183,670	22	Attock	485,990
8	Hoshiarpur	928,070	23	Mianwali	88,390
9	Jalandhar	1,078,430	24	Montgomery	541,090
10	Ludhiana	4,22,040	25	Lyallpur	2,574,300
11	Ferozapore	10,16,460	26	Jhang	538,350
12	Lahore	1,153,460	27	Multan	802,190
13	Amritsar	42,420	28	Muzaffargarh	220,330
14	Gurdaspur	92,680	29	Dera Ghazi Khan	147,170
15	Sialkot	417,800		Total	1,58,72,900

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh: May I know whether any coercion was used in realising this money for small savings certificates?

Mr. Speaker: The question is irrelevant.

Mian Muhammad Nurullah: Is the Government aware that the Registrars of Amritsar realise one per cent for small savings certificates from those who get a deed registered?

Parliamentary Secretary: Government is not aware.

Mian Muhammad Nurullah: Will Government make enquiries?

Parliamentary Secretary: If a written application is made against a public servant, enquiries will be made.

Mian Muhammad Nurullah: Khan Bahadur Amir-ud-Din is prepared to take responsibility for the accuracy of this statement.

Premier: Mian Nurullah is not Mian Amir-ud-Din.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: Is the small savings scheme considered sound by a large majority of the public?

Premier : I cannot say. We think it is a good scheme to save for the bad day in the future.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : In view of the fact that the principle of the scheme is welcomed by everybody, would not Government use better and more civilised methods?

Premier : Gentle persuasion is used, and if Raja Sahib can invest something, he is welcome.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether money for the small savings scheme has been collected along with the land revenue?

Mr. Speaker : From which part of the answer given by the Parliamentary Secretary does this question arise?

Khan Muhammad Yusuf Khan : Is it a fact that the whole scheme is based on an organisation of employment of various agents who talk to people and persuade them to invest money?

Parliamentary Secretary : Yes.

M. L. A's. WHO ARE STILL IN JAIL

*9673. **Mian Muhammad Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the names of the M. L. As. who are still in jail with the name of the jail in each case;

(b) the state of health of each of the M. L. As. mentioned above;

(c) the names of the M. L. As. who are out of jail but are under restrictions;

(d) the nature of the restrictions imposed on them and the reasons therefor?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) A statement is laid on the table.

(b) This information is not readily available at headquarters. If the honourable member is interested in the health of any particular M.L.A., in detention, I would suggest that he should put down a question in regard to that M.L.A., and I shall endeavour to obtain the information asked for.

(c) A statement is laid on the table.

(d) The restrictions have been communicated to the M.L.As. concerned from whom the honourable member can ascertain particulars.

Names of the M.L.As. who are in jail with the name of the jail.

1. Dev Raj Sethi.
2. Pandit Shri Ram Sharma.
3. M. Istikhar-ud-Din
4. Sardar Partap Singh
5. Sardar Harjap Singh
6. Master Kabul Singh
7. Baba Rur Singh
8. Chaudhri Kartar Singh

Sialkot.

Do.

On parole.

Sialkot.

New Sub-Jail, Gujrat.

Do.

Do.

Do.

Names of the M.L.As. who are under restrictions

1. Dr. Sant Ram Seth.
2. Seth Sudarshan.
3. Lala Duni Chand of Ambala.
4. Lala Duni Chand of Lahore.
5. Pandit Muni Lal Kalia.
6. Shrimati Shanno Devi.
7. Chaudhri Krishna Gopal Dutt.
8. Diwan Chaman Lal.
9. Munshi Hari Lal.
10. Mr. Bhim Sen Sachar.
11. Sardar Chanan Singh.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether it is a fact that those Congress M.L.As. who are released and are under restrictions are released because of their bad health ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I cannot say off hand. Some of them may have been released on grounds of health and others for other reasons. If my honourable friend is specially interested to know of any particular M.L.A., he can give notice and I shall try to reply.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is it or is it not a fact that all those Congressmen who have been released in the Punjab have been released on grounds of health ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I cannot say off hand.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Mian Iftikhar-ud-Din has been on parole now for more than 5 months ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Give notice please.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Has the Honourable Premier any rough idea of the period during which the Honourable Leader of the Opposition has been on parole ? Can he not give a rough idea ? Is it not a fact that the Honourable Premier saw Mian Iftikhar-ud-Din about 3 or 4 months ago outside the jail ?

Premier : The honourable member was first asking about the period. My friends of the Opposition know as much as I know.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Has the period of his parole been extended because he is not keeping good health ?

Premier : I am not able to follow the object of the question. Does the honourable member mean that he should no longer be on parole but should be sent back to jail ? I thought that he was friendly with that group.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : My question is very simple. Is it a fact that the parole of Mian Iftikhar-ud-Din has been extended on account of his bad health ?

Premier : The honourable member is trying to evade the issue. I said I could not understand the object of his question. Is he unhappy because the parole period has been extended ?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : My object is this. Mian Iftikhar-ud-Din has been on parole for 4 or 5 months on grounds of ill health. I, therefore, want to ask the Honourable Premier whether he should not now be released instead of his parole period being extended since he has not been keeping good health all these months, especially when other M.L.As. have been released on grounds of ill health. My contention is that the Government does not want to release Mian Iftikhar-ud-Din, even though it releases other M.L.As. This is against principle of justice, fairplay and equity.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : On what grounds was Pandit Gopi Chand Bhargava, M.L.A., released ?

Premier : The doctors found a stone in the gall bladder and he was operated upon.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Why was Lala Bhim Sen Sachar released ?

Premier : On grounds of health.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Why is Mian Iftikhar-ud-Din not released on the same grounds ?

Premier : He is out on parole.

Mian Muhammad Nurullah : Is the Government aware that one of the honourable members disobeyed the restriction order and he has been arrested ?

Premier : It does not arise out of this question.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is it because that Mian Iftikhar-ud-Din was one of the persons who were opposed to the August Resolution that he is not released ?

Premier : How does it arise ? But I know that he acted in pursuance of the August 1942 Resolution.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is the Honourable Premier aware that even some of the members of the Congress High Command have been released by the Government of India for reasons of health ?

Premier : The same principle applies here.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Then why is Mian Iftikhar-ud-Din made the target of Government vindictiveness ?

ZAMINDARA LEAGUE FUND

*9694. **Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether it is a fact that subscriptions for the Zamindara League Fund has been realized by Mr. Grewal the Deputy Commissioner of Gujrat with the help of the revenue staff and other officials in the Gujrat district ; if so, the amount realized through this agency ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : While Mr. Grewal was Deputy Commissioner, Gujrat, no orders were issued to the revenue staff or other officials of the district to collect money for the Zamindara League.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I never asked about the issuing of orders. My question is whether Mr. Grewal collected money for the Zamindara League with the help of the revenue staff ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have denied it in clear terms.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : The question is not of his issuing orders verbally. I want to know whether Government is aware of the fact that Mr. Grewal was himself present at the various meetings held in Gujrat district.

Premier : The Government has no knowledge. But if my honourable friends are upset against Mr. Grewal in connection with some other order regarding a procession, that is a different issue. Why not say so clearly ? Why beat about the bush ?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I ask the Honourable Premier whether it is a fact that Mr. Grewal borrowed money from a moneylender in order to pay it to the Premier at the time of his visit ?

Premier : That is an allegation which I must repudiate.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I know whether it is a fact that after the money was borrowed and presented to the Honourable Premier for the Zamindara League, the Deputy Commissioner and his revenue staff went on collecting money from people in order to repay the loan ?

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : It is a fact that they twist the tail of everybody in order to collect money. I know many instances where people have been forced to pay for the funds of the Zamindara League. Why do they not admit it?

Premier : My honourable friend makes an allegation. I am not prepared to accept it. But if my honourable friend has got any substantial proof to show that any individual has been forced to pay, I shall look into it. I say that no official has been asked to collect funds.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : Can the Honourable Premier deny that money is being collected with a fair amount of force and is being collected from people who are not zamindars but shop-keepers and merchants and the whole supplies staff is being employed for this purpose? (*Hear, hear*). I know it for certain.

Premier : I am sorry that Doctor Sahib has made a general allegation. He should quote specific cases. I am not responsible if somebody has gone off the rail.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : No action will be taken. They will be given *shabash*. Aroras, Khattris and Brahmins who are shop-keepers and live by trade are not zamindars.

Premier : People from Burewala and Arifwala came and gave me donations. They belonged to that honourable member's constituency and he left our party. He is sitting there as an independent member and I can quote cases like that.

Sardar Ajit Singh : I want to say that only those people were forced to contribute who were desirous of getting titles of Rai Sahib or Sardar Sahib.

Mr. Speaker : I disallow these comments.

Premier : I do not know what is in people's hearts, they come along and pay. I do not know whether somebody pays for the sake of becoming a Rai Sahib.

Mr. Speaker : I have disallowed the question. I notice almost daily that in answering questions the Parliamentary Secretaries go beyond the question with the results that very wide supplementary questions are asked.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether—

Rai Bahadur Chaudhri Suraj Mal : On a point of order. Last time you were pleased to order that a member putting supplementary questions should exhaust all his supplementary questions so that he may not have to rise again and then the next member should stand up. I beg to point out that that practice is not being observed now. I draw your attention to that ruling of yours.

Mr. Speaker : What I said was that once a member rises to ask a supplementary question he should exhaust all questions he wishes to ask. That is to say he should not ask one or two questions once and one or two after another five minutes. That is what I said but what happens is that after some supplementaries are asked, the answers to some other questions may be before the House (*Hear, hear*) and new supplementaries may arise from those answers, that is, the reason for asking more and more supplementaries. (*Cheers from Opposition benches*).

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : My question was, will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state if it is a fact that in view of this widespread feeling that money is being forcibly collected for the Zamindara League, he has under consideration the question of issuing a general notification to all the officials to abstain from coercion in future?

Premier : I deny the allegation. If anything of the sort has happened I would look into it in the interests of my own party. If one pays against his will, he will naturally become an enemy of the party. As you have just heard, there are some

people who do not believe in the cause but pay for their own selfish motives. I cannot stop it.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : They are told by the Collectors that they would be made Rai Sahibs or something of that sort.

Premier : When people aspire to various titles how can I keep them away ?

Sardar Kapoor Singh : The Honourable Premier wants definite instances. Has he not received many complaints from Karnal side that money has been extorted ?

Mr. Speaker : I disallow the question.

MR.INDER PRAKASH ANAND

***9698. Sardar Ajit Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the date since which Mr. Inder Prakash Anand, formerly Assistant Secretary to the Indian Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta, has been in detention in the Punjab ;

(b) the number of applications made by the wife, father and other relations of the said Mr. Anand seeking interviews with him and the replies of the Government thereto ;

(c) whether it is a fact that in reply to their numerous applications for interviews with him the Government wrote to the relations of Mr. Anand in August 1944 that interviews with the said Mr. Anand could not be allowed at that time ;

(d) how long the Government intend to disallow any interviews with the said Mr. Anand ;

(e) whether the Government intend to allow any interview to his blood relations, if not, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) ; (a) 30th September 1948.

(b) Ten. Applicant will be informed when an interview is permitted.

(c) Yes.

(d) and (e) Government's intentions cannot be disclosed.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Was any interview allowed on the application of these relatives of Mr. Anand or not ?

Parliamentary Secretary : The difficulty is that my learned friend would not follow the answer when it is read. I have stated in answer to part (b) of the question that ten applications were received and the applicant will be informed when an interview is permitted.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Have his father, wife and other relatives been informed that interviews will be allowed ?

Parliamentary Secretary : They will be informed.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : I now ask about last year. Were any interviews actually allowed or not and whether applications were granted or not ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have stated that he will be informed.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : My question is not whether they have been informed already or not. The question is whether those applications were accepted by the Government or not.

Parliamentary Secretary : If my honourable friend cannot follow what I am saying I am afraid I cannot say anything further.

Mr. Speaker : The next question.

MR. INDAR PRAKASH ANAND

***9699. Sardar Ajit Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) whether he is aware of the fact that a parcel containing biscuits, chocolates, etc., was sent by Mrs. Vimla Anand, wife of Mr. Inder Prakash Anand, a Security prisoner, to her husband care of the D. I. G., C. I. D., Punjab in March, 1944, and the parcel was duly received in that office ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the said parcel was delivered to Mr. Anand on 28th July, 1944, at Dera Ghazi Khan Jail after four months ;

(c) if the replies to (a) and (b) be in the affirmative the reasons why the said parcel was not handed over to Mr. Anand who at the time of the delivery of the parcel in the office of the D. I. G., C. I. D., Punjab, was detained at the Lahore Fort.

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Yes, it was received in May not March, 1944.

(b) Yes.

(c) Prisoner's conduct being unsatisfactory. He had previously tried to bribe his guard by offering him presents of similar nature.

SECURITY PRISONERS

***9700. Sardar Ajit Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to to state—

(a) the number and names of Security prisoners and Civil Disobedience prisoners now detained in the Dera Ghazi Khan district jail ;

(b) whether it is a fact that Security prisoners are now housed in the hospital ward without proper sanitary conditions or in cells previously used for condemned convicts or those separated from others on medical grounds ;

(c) whether it is a fact that proper facilities for sports and indoor games for the benefit of prisoners do not exist in the said jail ; if so, the reasons therefor ;

(d) whether it is also a fact that no proper latrines and no arrangements for bathing and taking exercise exist for the prisoners in the said jail ;

(e) whether it is a fact that the Civil Disobedience prisoner Mr. A. C. Sehgal, who is confined in the said jail in the course of his prosecution under section 52 of Prisons Act made several complaints about the mal-treatment of political prisoners in that jail, if so, whether Government have made or intend to make an inquiry into the matter ;

(f) whether the Government intend to transfer the political prisoners from Dera Ghazi Khan to some other jail in the province ; if not the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Now only Civil Disobedience detenu A. C. Sehgal who is under orders of transfer.

(b) No. "

(c) No. Both in-door and out-door games were provided for the detenus confined there.

(d) No.

(e) Yes. All the complaints were found to be false.

(f) With Mr. A. C. Sehgal's transfer the case is completed against him no security prisoners or detenus will be at Dera Ghazi Khan.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

COMMUNAL REPRESENTATION AMONGST THE OFFICIALS OF THE BUILDINGS AND ROADS
BRANCH

1871. Sardar Joginder Singh Mann : Will the Honourable Minister for Public Works be pleased to state the total number of Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents, Assistants, Senior Clerks, Junior Clerks and Restorers in the Buildings and Roads Branch and the proportion of Sikhs in each grade ?

The Honourable Sir Muhammad Jamal Khan Leghari : A statement giving the information is placed on the table. Five Sikhs resigned their posts during the last 12 months and the vacancies thus caused were filled in accordance with the orders relating to the filling of vacancies under the communal block system.

Statement showing the total number of Superintendents, Deputy Superintendents, Assistants Senior Clerks, Junior Clerks and Restorers in the Punjab Public Works Department Secretariat, Buildings and Roads Branch

Designation	Muslims	Hindus and others	Sikhs	Total
1. Superintendents ..	3	3	..	6
2. Deputy Superintendents ..	1	..	..	1
3. Assistants ..	10	14	1	25
4. Senior Clerks ..	4	5	1	10
5. Junior Clerks ..	14	4	3	21
6. Restorers ..	1	2	1	4
Total ..	33	28	6	67

SUPERINTENDENTS OF INDUSTRIES

1872. Sardar Naunihal Singh Mann : Will the Honourable Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the following five gentlemen are working as Superintendents of Industries at the places noted against them ?

- (1) Mr. Mohammad Hussain Lahore.
- (2) Mr. Mohammad Afzal Sialkot.
- (3) Mr. Nazir Hussain Multan.
- (4) Mr. Hamid Khurshid Ludhiana.
- (5) Lala Mulkh Raj Amritsar.

If so, how does the Government justify the correctness of the answer to item (c) of question No. 1756¹, given at the last session of the Assembly showing the proportion of Sikhs in the cadre of Superintendents as 20 per cent ?

The Honourable Sir Manohar Lal : There are five posts of Superintendents of Industries in the Punjab and the following persons are the substantive holders thereof :—

1. Malik Bashir Ahmad.
2. M. Muhammad Afzal.

3. M. Nazeer Ahmad.
4. Sardar Sahib Sardar Mehtab Singh.
5. Lala Mulkh Raj Saini.

The proportion of Sikhs in the cadre of Superintendents of Industries is therefore 20 per cent.

2. Sardar Sahib Sardar Mehtab Singh, who was Superintendent of Industries, Ludhiana is on deputation with the Government of India and his vacancy has been filled by M. Hamid Khurshid in an officiating capacity. The remaining four posts are at present held by the following gentlemen :—

1. M. Muhammad Afzal, Superintendent of Industries, Sialkot.
2. M. Nazeer Ahmed, Superintendent of Industries, Multan.
3. L. Mulkh Raj Saini, Superintendent of Industries, Amritsar.
4. M. Masood Hussain, Superintendent of Industries, Lahore.

(He is working in an officiating capacity in the vacancy caused by the appointment of Malik Bashir Ahmad as Labour Officer).

LEAVE OF ABSENCE OF M.L.As.

Mr. Speaker: I have received the following applications from the members of the Assembly for permission to be absent from the meeting thereof :—

11 a.m.

Major Dina Nath writes :

“Owing to the Oversea Military Service I am unable to attend the Assembly Session commencing from 19th February, 1945, permission for absence may please be granted.

Sardar Hari Singh writes :—

“On account of restrictions imposed upon me under the Defence of India Rules, I am unable to attend the sittings of the Assembly. Therefore, I beg the House to grant me leave of absence from sittings of the Assembly in this Budget Session (1945)”.

The question is—

That the permission asked for be granted.

The motion was carried

ADJOURNMENT AND PRIVILEGE MOTIONS

Mr. Speaker : I have received two notices of motions, one from Sardar Kapoor Singh and the other from Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma. The former relates to an adjournment motion and the latter relates to a privilege motion. I think even the admissibility of these motions cannot be considered before the next day of our meeting, that is, Monday.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : A privilege motion can be moved at any time and can be discussed at any time.

Mr. Speaker : I have no doubt that the honourable member has read the rule relating to privilege motions.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : The question is very simple. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition was arrested by the Government.

Mr. Speaker : Order, order. This motion cannot be taken up to-day as it is the last day for the discussion of supplementary budget.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Rules are quite silent on this point.

Mr. Speaker: No, rules are quite clear.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Will you kindly refer us to the rule under which a privilege motion cannot be moved on the day of supplementary budget.

Mr. Speaker : Yes. it is Governor's Rule 16, that is, Article 179 (4) of the Punjab Constitutional Manual, 1938, page 56. It is true that according to our Rules these motions are given first place ; but the Governor has made a rule that on the last day of the supplementary budget, no motion can be moved or discussed. It says :—

The provisions of sub-rule (5) of Special Procedure Rule 15 (Article 172 (5) shall also apply to the voting of demands for supplementary grants under this rule.

Now, the attention of honourable members is invited to Article 172 (5) on page 55. It says :—

On the last day fixed for the voting of demands for grants the consideration thereof shall not be anticipated by a motion of adjournment or be interrupted in any other manner whatsoever, nor shall any dilatory motion be moved in regard thereto.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang: Sir, apart from personalities, as it is a matter of principle, we should like to be very clear on this point. Rule 37 of our Rules is very clear on the point and the question that you will have to consider would be whether any Rule made by the Governor expressly cancels or contravenes this rule. I draw your attention to Rule 37 of our Rules. It is as follows :—

A motion on a question of privilege suddenly arising is entitled to immediate precedence over all other business.

This rule is perfectly clear and admits of no doubt whatsoever. Now the question is whether the authority, to which you have been pleased to refer, in any way militates against this rule. I may tell you at once, without a second's hesitation, that the rules which have been read out, do not militate against the rule framed by this Assembly and you will permit me to explain my conclusion. You were kind enough to refer to Article 172 (5) and the other one is only referring back to this. So, that is of no importance. That simply says that the provision of budget shall apply also to supplementary demands. Now, let us see what this Article says. It says :

On the last day fixed for the voting of demands for grants the consideration thereof shall not be anticipated by a motion of adjournment—

Let me first explain it. It need not be anticipated. Being anticipated means that it should be given precedence over other business. That is not necessary in the present case. The House adjourns at 1-30 and by that time all these supplementary demands must be disposed of. I hope I am perfectly correct on that point. So, the adjournment motion, if it is otherwise in order, can be taken up after this business is over and in that case it will not have anticipated the discussion on the supplementary demands. Then the Article goes on thus :

—or be interrupted in any other manner whatsoever, nor shall any dilatory motion be moved in regard thereto.

We are not going to interrupt that business. You have simply to say whether a motion is in order or not and the business proceeds. There is no interruption in the business. If you hold a contrary view, then every point of order and every question that may arise on the spur of the moment in this House is also interruption. Granting leave of absence to members will also amount to interruption. Application for leave of a member must be granted, because if it is not granted the member goes out. That is of great importance. If a member fails to attend certain session or certain meetings of this House, he ceases to be a member, otherwise those members who are debarred from attending the session would not send these applications. Do you mean to say that if such application is not granted and leave is refused, the member still continues to be a member ? I have grave doubts about it. In the same way, the moving or

[Dr. Sir G. C. Narang]

reading out of an adjournment motion is not interruption, because the debate need not be allowed at this stage. You can fix it for afternoon, you can fix it for Monday or any day or hour you like.

Let me submit that by reading sub-rule (5) of Article 172 one is led irresistably to the conclusion that there is nothing in the four corners of this section which in the slightest degree prevents or militates against the rules framed by this Assembly. We are not anticipating the business of the House, and nobody insists that the business should be interrupted or a dilatory motion should be moved before the business is finished. I think that Rule 37 is absolutely clear. There must be something equally clear to show that this rule has been abrogated by the higher authority.

Mr. Speaker : I need not read out the rules referring to privilege and adjournment motions because whenever they are allowed they have first consideration ; but I will refer to sub-rule (5) of Article 172 which says :—

On the last day fixed for the voting of demands for grants the consideration thereof shall not be anticipated by a motion of adjournment or be interrupted in any other manner whatsoever, nor shall any dilatory motion be moved in regard thereto.

These are the words on which the whole thing depends—‘ be interrupted in any other manner ’. The business is now being interrupted by this motion—

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : The business has not so far started.

Mr. Speaker : So far as privilege and adjournment motions are concerned they ought to be given first consideration after the question hour. The Governor's rule is also practically in the same words. Section 84 of the Government of India Act says—

And in so far as any rule so made by the Governor is inconsistent with any rule made by a Chamber, the rule made by the Governor shall prevail.

Consequently the Governor has allotted a day specially for supplementary demands, the first and the last day. On that day it is only the supplementary estimates that can be discussed. If anything else is to be done we will see when that business is finished :—

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : You are not ruling out the motion, then?

Mr. Speaker : I am not ruling it out. What I am saying is that this motion can be taken up next Monday or the next working day.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : If the business for to-day is finished, say at 12 noon, then we can take up this motion.

Mr. Speaker : No motion which can interfere with the business can be moved.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I make one submission? None of these rules apply to the privilege motions. I give an instance. Supposing we are discussing on a particular day the supplementary demands. Lala Bhim Sen is sitting here with us. A police constable enters the House and arrests and removes him. We want to move a privilege motion. Will you then get up and say “ No, because it is Governor's day you cannot move it ? ” My submission is that these rules which you have read out do not apply to privilege motions : they only apply to adjournment motions.

Mr. Speaker : They apply to all motions.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : So far as interruption is concerned my submission is that interruption does not mean moving of a privilege motion. It means that the supplementary demands must be disposed of this day. Supposing a privilege motion is moved and the discussion continues right up to the time when the Assembly adjourns, then after disposing of that motion the House will be called upon to guillotine the supplementary grants before it adjourns. It does not mean that you cannot allow a discussion. Supposing there is no quorum, will you then get up and say because it is Governor's day therefore it cannot be interrupted?

Mr. Speaker : We follow the practice of the House of Commons when our rules are silent.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : A privilege motion cannot be ruled out.

Mr. Speaker : I am not ruling it out. All I say is that it can be taken up on the next working day.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : Sir, you have not answered my question. Supposing the business is over by 12 o'clock. Then it will be open to you to consider this point.

Mr. Speaker : Yes, if the House decides that it will sit till midnight I will have no objection.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : A privilege motion cannot be postponed by the Speaker or anybody.

Mr. Speaker : I am not postponing it : I am relying on Governor's rule.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS

LAND REVENUE

Minister for Finance (The Honourable Sir Manohar Lal) : I beg to move—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 4,30,990 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1945, in respect of Land Revenue.

The motion was carried.

PROVINCIAL EXCISE

Minister for Finance : I beg to move—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 2,17,730 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Provincial Excise.

The motion was carried.

STAMPS

Minister for Finance : I beg to move—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 26,400 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1945, in respect of Stamps.

The motion was carried.

FORESTS

Minister for Finance : I beg to move—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 29,01,240 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1945, in respect of Forests.

The motion was carried.

REGISTRATION

Minister for Finance : I beg to move—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 10,500 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1945, in respect of Registration.

The motion was carried.

MOTOR VEHICLES ACTS AND OTHER TAXES AND DUTIES

Minister for Finance : I beg to move—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,67,070 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1945, in respect of charges on account of Motor Vehicles Acts and other Taxes and Duties.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved is—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,67,070 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of charges on account of Motor Vehicles Acts and other Taxes and Duties.

Rationalisation of Motor Transport

Mian Muhammad Nurullah (Lyallpur, Muhammadan, Rural) : I move—

That the item of Rs. 1,10,640 on account of inspection of motor vehicles be omitted.

Sir, in our manifesto, the Muslim League party as such is in favour of nationalisation of transport, that is all such things which are for the welfare of the people at large should be nationalised. But here I find the word used is 'rationalisation' and it is not clear to me what it really means. On page 19 of the Supplementary Estimates, you will find that a provision has been made for the appointment of a Technical Adviser, Transport, and further on page 20 other staff also is shown to have been engaged in this connection. I am told that one Mr. Wilson who is already a part time manager of Messrs. Walter Locke & Co. is being appointed. He has no technical qualifications at all and used to sell batteries in that firm. The House will agree with me that this is most objectionable. Moreover I am told that his assistants are issuing permits for batteries and naturally insist on the customers to use the particular kind of batteries that they deal with. As I have already stated that gentleman does not possess any technical qualifications at all. He is as a matter of fact some friend or a relation of some *Bara Sahib*. Is that not most objectionable? This sort of rationalisation we must oppose tooth and nail.

The Unionist Government have always claimed to be friends of the poor zamindars. I will show the way in which they in reality show their friendship. Ours is a land of petty zamindars. Supposing a family of four brothers own, say, one square of land. Naturally they cannot live on that alone. What they do is, sell some piece of land to buy a lorry and by working hard just try to make their both ends meet. Here comes our Government and tells them "You go out of this trade, we will manage it ourselves." Now the poor farmers who lost their land have to dispose of their lorry as well and are doomed for ever.

I will now refer to what the Honourable Premier said when he was Minister in charge of Public Works. He said that the interests of the poor lorrywallas were always safe in his hands and now what do we find? If you turn to page 664 of the Punjab Debates, Volume X, you will find what the present Premier said then—

I am fully conscious of the evils and I am at one with him that efforts should be made to remedy them. The betterment of the motor trade is one of our concern and I am anxious as anybody else. I would say more than anxious to set the motor trade on a stable footing and to bring about more earnings to the lorry owners as well as the drivers.

But what do we find in actual practice? Those poor drivers and lorry owners are being told to go away and make room for the Government control and Government management.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : The Premier is now under evil influence.

Premier : I shall give my reply to all this.

Mian Muhammad Nurullah : I want to ask the Premier as to what has happened to that assurance that he gave on the floor of the House when he himself was in charge of this portfolio.

Premier : What is your specific objection? Please explain.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : He is speaking very simple English. (Laughter).

Mian Muhammad Nurullah: I will quote the Honourable Premier himself. I hope he will understand his own language. Please refer to Volume XI-A, pages 387-88 of the Debates. This is what he says :

Then I would say just a word in reply to the honourable lady member. She said that I did not know the plight of lorry-walas and that if socialism came along when I will have to drive a lorry, I will realise it. I can assure that I have never been a lorry-wala and I am trying to do my duty to look after the interests of the lorry-walas.

This is the remark he then made that he was looking after the interests of the lorry-walas. Now he is telling them " We do not want you ; we will have our own arrangements."

I am trying to do my duty to look after the interests of the lorry-walas and I am trying to do my level best in that connection. I was a cavalryman and if lands are appropriated, I might be leaving that profession and then I might realise it better. I may assure her that I may not take to that type of profession, though I may look after the interests of the lorry-walas.

You can see how those interests are being looked after.

Some quotations were given and I would quote in my favour from the Resources and Retrenchment Committee Report where it is said that motor taxation in other provinces is greater than in the Punjab. All the credit for the Punjab for being so liberal to the development of motor industry, if we are remitting another tax, that is the wheel tax, I think we should get credit and not criticism.

I am sure he will get all the credit now from this side of the House and nothing but criticism, because he was in favour of the lorry-walas.

Certain honourable members in view of what is coming in the near future might be trying to placate the lorry-walas, but I think the lorry-walas will know which way their interest lies. With these words I commend this motion to the House and ask that it be passed.

Today again I am sure the Honourable Premier is going to stand up and say that the Opposition is placating the lorry-walas as he said then. He is always saying that the Opposition is placating the zamindars while he always says that he is the only person who is their well-wisher. My reply is, ask the lorry-walas outside what they think of it, whether we were placating them or whether he was placating them. I am sorry to say that it was he who was placating them with the intention which has now come out in true light that he is asking them to go away and leave the business.

Then I will refer to another assurance of the Honourable Minister of Local-Self-Government, now the Honourable Premier. That assurance is given in Volume XIII, No. 14, pages 805-06, and 810-20. On the 22nd April 1940 in the course of discussion on Punjab Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940, he remarked :

I would first of all like to say that the honourable members were arguing as if we were trying to make money out of these rules. That is not our purpose at all.

It was not the purpose of the Honourable Minister in charge of Local Self-Government to make money out of these rules, but somehow from the scheme as it is being presented now it is clear that Government is intending to make money by starting the Bus Service in Lahore and by starting the service from Rawalpindi to Kashmir. They might say that it is going to be for the benefit of all of us, for the benefit of the public and for the benefit of the zamindars, but it is not going to placate the lorry-walas, and they are no longer going to be deceived.

No doubt certain fees for the control of motor traffic are realised but only to cover the cost that Government has to incur. It is a question of public funds going from one pocket to the other and there is no question of Government trying to make money.

He goes on to say—

First of all I would like to re-emphasise what has already been stated to be the policy of the Government and stated by me also at the floor of the House. That is still our policy and it is with that policy in view that we have come forward with these rules.

And I think it is with the same policy in view that they have come forward with this new measure, with the new schemes which they are going to put into action.

The trouble with motor trade is that there is excess number of vehicles on the roads.

[M. Mohd. Nurullah]

Why should they go in for this scheme? And what would be the result of this business? They would lose all the money. It is the money of the poor zamindars which the war has brought that has given us all the surplus, and Government is going to use this surplus and utilise it in the way which would be detrimental to the public interest, detrimental to the drivers and the labourer. And Government says it has enough money, it has a surplus. They are wasting all the money of the zamindars. We want to avoid that.

There is cut-throat competition and uneconomical fares are charged and these vehicles ply without full quota of passengers. I am trying to remedy this evil and the Regional Authorities will lay down the requisite number for each road and this number to some extent and this competition to some extent be eliminated and they will be able to make more money out of the trade. That is what is being done and I hope that with the functioning of these authorities the object we have in view will be realised.

But now you are going to realise another object which is not liked by any one.

So far as companies are concerned, I have no special sympathy for them and I am all for the small man with a lorry or two.

I may tell you that that work is now being given to companies only and I know it for certain that three big companies have been given work. Which are those companies? There is the Union Transport Company which is owned by Mr. Ram Jawaya Kapur. He must be a very good driver! I am sure he cannot make his living anywhere else! He must be very poor and he has grown very thin because he cannot make any money. And they want to give him money in tens of lakhs and crores. Why should our poor people who have sold their land and who have from the initial stage taken up the enterprise, why should they be deprived of their work? And the Honourable Minister had said that he was against the big companies and that he had every sympathy for the small man. What a sympathy! Now Rai Bahadur Sohan Lal probably will be the next beneficiary, because he too is very poor! The next company is the Model Transport Company, owned by Messrs. Spedding Dinga Singh and others. They too are very poor! They could not till their land, they could do no labour, and therefore they were given this business! The third company is the Rawalpindi Power Electric Company, now Rawalpindi Transport Company, Ltd.

(At this stage Mr. Speaker left the Chair and Mr. Deputy Speaker occupied it).

It is a company worth crores and managed by Europeans. Probably there is one Indian Director, Sardar Bahadur Sardar Mohan Singh who is equally a fat man and a millionaire. When I was on the Electricity Enquiry Board some years ago I happened to go to Rawalpindi. We knew what the company was making. Their shares had gone up enormously. They were making thousands. I need not go into details but there are many things. My point is that after having given this promise and kept the people in the dark deliberately, it is not fair to get out of it. The Honourable Premier should rise to the occasion and tell us why he is putting up these schemes. He further said then—

So far as companies are concerned, I have no special sympathy for them and I am all for the small man with a lorry or two. In pursuance of that view if you read the rules you will find that instead of driving the small man out of the trade, every effort has been made to help him and in this respect the Punjab Rules surpass the rules passed or proposed so far anywhere else.

This was another vague declaration. What is the result? The small man is being pushed out. The Minister further said—

The interests of the small man are safe under the rules and if at any time we find that these rules hamper the growth of motor traffic, they will be amended suitably. We must give sufficient time for the rules to function. The results will be watched carefully and if any change is needed, Government will certainly consider the question.

Now instead of removing the difficulties of the small man, they are removing him altogether. He will be forced to sell his lorry and go home and sit quiet. The Government has promised to consider the question. But, what is it doing now? This is the time for the Government to consider according to the assurance given by it.

Again on 23rd April 1940, Volume XIII, pages 837-38, the Honourable Minister for Public Works while replying to the discussion stated—

They will also see that the interest of the small man for whom we all feel and rightly feel, is safeguarded.

Now is this the safeguarding of the interests of the poor people?

They will take into consideration the claims of all concerned; they will lay down a quota for those companies who cater to the passengers who travel long distance.

Now this is what they have evolved, the scheme that is before you, the scheme to which we are raising objection. The Honourable Minister continued :—

But we are not prepared to commit ourselves to the proposition that because a company owns more than two vehicles and has vested interests, therefore, it should be told to clear out, and not be allowed any place anywhere.

I am sorry they are now asking them to clear out lock, stock and barrel. That was the last assurance that was given. I see also that there are cut motions in the names of Sardar Sher Singh, Sardar Ajit Singh, Sardar Santokh Singh, Sardar Bahadur Sardar Gurbachan Singh and others on that side. What do they say? They want to 'request' the Government to drop this scheme. They can only request, but in their heart of hearts they are feeling for the poor man. If the assurance given by the Honourable Minister for Public Works on 22nd April 1940, on 23rd April 1940 and on 21st February 1940 has any meaning, if the notice given by so many honourable members to request the Government to drop the scheme has any meaning—they are men belonging to the Government party—Government should accept my amendment. If those members really feel for the poor man and are sincere in sending the notice of cut motion, they should vote with me. With these words I oppose the rationalisation and commend the cut motion for the acceptance of the House.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Demand under consideration, motion moved—

That the item of Rs. 1,10,640 on account of Inspection of Motor Vehicles be omitted.

Khan Muhammad Yusuf Khan (Rawalpindi Sadar, Muhammadian, Rural) (Urdu) : Sir, I rise to make a few observations in regard to the motion now before the House. My honourable friend Mian Muhammad Nurullah, the mover of this motion, gave expression to his thoughts vigorously. I am constrained to remark that by listening to his speech, the honourable members of this House have not come to any definite conclusion whether he is really opposing the demand under consideration of this House, or is in favour of it. So far as the party of my honourable friend Mian Sahib and that of my honourable friend Sardar Sohan Singh Josh is concerned, I wish to point out that they are all in favour of nationalisation of industries. It will not be out of place to mention here and I say it without any fear of contradiction that the programme and the policy of the Unionist Government is to nationalise the industries with a view to improve the hard lot of the poor. I really fail to understand why my honourable friends opposite are out to oppose this demand. I am sure that in the heart of their hearts they are also in favour of nationalisation of industries. I am really constrained to remark that my honourable friends opposite take pleasure in opposing such measures as are conducive to the amelioration of the condition of the poor. It is in the League manifesto recently published—not to speak of the communist group—that Industries should be nationalised. If the honourable members doubt the correctness of my statement, then may I ask my honourable friend Mian Sahib to clear his position and say that he and his party members are not in favour of nationalisation of industries?

Mian Muhammad Nurullah : What I want is this that Government should not resort to the mal-practice of nepotism.

Khan Muhammad Yusuf Khan : The honourable member has answered my question in a round about manner. He declares that as far as the principle of nationalisation of industries is concerned he is in favour of it. He further adds many qualifying clauses to it and as they are about details, therefore, we should not bother

[Khan Mohd. Yusuf Khan]

ourselves about them. At present we are concerned with the principle of nationalisation only and when the question of details is taken up, we will see to it.

I personally believe that the Government should take over the control of every big industry. For instance, the Rawalpindi Electric Supply Co. has earned fabulous amounts of money and if the Government acquires it nobody will have any grudge against it. It will never be considered injustice. At present Government is going to experiment with the Lahore local bus service. As far as the benefits to the poor are concerned I advise an immediate control. My honourable friends, Mian Muhammad Nurullah, Sardar Sohan Singh Josh and others too stand for nationalisation of industries. I will say that the Government should not take over transports only but every big industry must be acquired by the Government. *(Interruptions)*. I fully agree with Sayed Amjad Ali Shah that nationalisation should take place in every sphere of our industrial life, including agriculture. In our progressive schemes benefit of the poor should be the guiding principle. As I represent Rawalpindi, therefore, I will lay before the House the case of Rawalpindi Kashmir Bus, Ltd. Majority of people in this trade are very poor. It is only on account of war that they are making their both ends meet. We should not be unjust, their very means of living should not be snatched away from them in this way. Moreover, Rawalpindi is a barani area and the general economic condition is very bad. After very hard struggle they have developed this industry in their district after thirty years of toil and labour. They must be given full consideration and some such scheme must be drawn so as to safeguard their interests and benefit them most.

Sir, as far as the principle of state control is concerned I welcome it. We all have agreed on that, there is some difference only on details. We must take care of this thing that such arrangements should be made that the maximum number of people should make profit out of it and the minimum number of people should suffer. With these words, Sir, I resume my seat.

(At this stage Mr. Speaker resumed the chair)

Sardar Kapoor Singh (Ludhiana East, Sikh, Rural) (*Punjabi*): Sir, I am glad that Mr. Josh has been successful to some extent. Formerly whenever Mr. Josh used to talk of nationalisation of Industry, the Honourable Premier was always sarcastic. Today my learned friend from those benches is also demanding a sum of 15 lakhs for rationalisation. In fact the Government wants to bring this industry under its control under this pretext.

12 Noon.

My learned friend has interpreted nationalisation in a queer way. He says it is included in the manifesto of the Muslim League as well as of the party of Mr. Josh. Let me make it clear to the honourable member from Rawalpindi that nationalisation does not mean that the Government should provide bread for its supporters at the expense of the poor. Such nationalisation or rationalisation is quite unheard of. The Motor Drivers' Association which the Government intends to rationalise consists of 20 or 25 thousands operators, who are cleaners or drivers and who bought their own motors by selling everything they had. To dispossess them of their only means of livelihood is a mockery of rationalisation.

You will excuse me for a little plain speaking. The fact is that the Government wants to deprive these poor persons of their bread in order to fill the pockets of their own men. At the time when this motor bus service was going to be formed, some members tried to get its shares but were refused, because the drivers knew that if those persons were allowed a place inside they would oust the real owners with the influence of their money. Moreover they knew that in case such a thing happened and they approached the Government to get their grievances redressed the Government would tell them that it was their own doing and hence the Government did not intend to take any action. The persons who were thus refused a share, in order to get the same thing indirectly, approached and influenced the Government to take

this step. Otherwise, how could this Government which does not know even the A. B. C. of the Industry ever contemplate taking such a step in which the management of business worth lakhs is involved? Out of the total 26 thousand who are going to be adversely affected by this step of the Government at least 75 per cent are those who were formerly peasants. Starvation compelled them to sell their small holdings and to take to this profession. Even here they were living just from hand to mouth. The Government issued orders under the Defence of India Rules that petrol could not be granted to individual motor drivers but to the unions of the Motor drivers or Bus Associations only. That order compelled them to form this Association. It was very difficult for them to do that but they had to. Formerly they used to earn daily wages and get bread for their children and family, but now the dividend, if there is any, is divided amongst them after a year. The rationalisation of the Government means smuggling in big bellies so that the small ones may leave of their own accord. And it is said that the Government wants to infuse new blood in the Industry.

The attitude of some of the honourable members is quite pruzzling. When outside they agree as to the undesirability of such steps, when they enter the Chamber they begin to praise it, probably under the influence of others. I am glad that they are doing so under party discipline. But I ask who would be responsible for throwing 26,000 people out of work and making them destitute?

Mr. Speaker : Repetition.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : I, therefore, urge upon the honourable member that before they take a final decision in the matter they should think twice over it. I have received a lengthy telegram about this matter from the motor union concerned and I hope the Honourable Premier must have also received one. Let him consider this matter calmly and if he thinks fit, he may appoint an enquiry committee to go into it and afterwards he can come to any decision he likes. After all the Honourable Premier has a sufficient majority in the House and he can get this demand passed at any time he likes. For the last four years the Honourable Premier has been assuring the small motor owners, the poor lorry drivers and operators that he would not take any step against their best interests. He should stand by his assurances. I have in my hand a letter of the Honourable Minister for Public Works addressed to the motor-walas in which he has assured them that if any step is taken in regard to this matter it will be taken after consulting them. But is it not strange that in spite of these assurances the poor people were not consulted at all and they came to know of the decision of the Government in regard to this matter only when a demand was made in the Supplementary Estimates for the rationalisation of the motor transport. I put it to the Honourable Minister whether or not he has written this letter. If so, at least he should have honoured his own word and should have afforded the motor owners an opportunity to explain their point of view. Believe me the members of these motor unions are very responsible people and had the Honourable Minister consulted them they would surely have considered the point of view of Government carefully and if they had come to the conclusion that the position taken up by Government was right they would certainly have agreed to it. But this straightforward course has not been adopted. I regret to say that here schemes are not prepared for the good of the people. But as I have submitted pressure must have been brought to bear upon the Government by some unionist members in this connection and hence they have come out with a proposal for the rationalisation of the motor transport. That is not all. The initiation of this scheme has brought into being some lucrative posts which as usual will go to lingers on of the Government. A special technical adviser has already been appointed. He had to prove his necessity and hence this scheme has been put forward. What are his qualifications? He is the Manager of Walter Locke and Company. I have no grudge against the man. But imagine the farsightedness of Government. They have appointed a person who all through his life has been making triggers and other parts of firearms. He has

[S. Kapoor Singh]

been appointed as a part time technical adviser on Rs. 1,000 a month. He is doing work in that firm as well. These are his qualifications. I do not want to dilate on this matter. After all you know that it is through experience that one becomes expert. He will also become wise after experience at the expense of Government. My own impression is that by appointing such a person as technical adviser the Transport Department is insuring the failure of this scheme. Not only that. We have also had a taste of the direction in which his mind is working. As is well known gas plants are fitted outside the motor lorries. He has ordained that henceforward gas plants be fitted inside the lorries. What an idea? Do my friends know what the effect of this order will be? As a result of this) accommodation in lorries would be reduced from 25 seats to 19 seats only. How can he who gets his Rs. 1,000 from Government, every month know what loss lorrywalas will have to incur by the reduction of accommodation in the lorries? I think it is bad for this department that a person with such qualifications has been appointed as the technical adviser. The story does not end here. A gas plant Inspector has been appointed. He was interviewed by the same technical adviser and by another gentleman. The prospective candidate for the post of gas plant inspectorship appeared before them. To test the ability of the candidates a fuel pump and a distributor cap were placed there. When the candidate came up the technical adviser while pointing towards the distributor cap asked him what that was. The candidate replied that it was a fuel pump. The technical adviser asked him who had told him that it was a fuel pump. The candidate replied that some one outside had told him that there were only two things lying there, one was the fuel pump and the other was the distributor cap and that they were placed in that order. When the question was put to him he naturally concluded that it would be a fuel pump. All the same he was selected and appointed as gas plant inspector on the ground that he had told the truth. These are the qualifications of both these persons and I appeal to Government, if they cannot rectify these mistakes to at least act cautiously in future and not take any step without consulting the motorwalas. With these words I support the cut motion.

Premier (The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat) : Sir, I would first of all like to say that I did not want to intervene in this debate because it will be my honourable colleague, the Minister for Public Works) who will be winding up this debate; but as certain references were made by the honourable member from Lyallpur to the speeches made by me and the assurances given by me I think it is incumbent on me to explain that I stand by those very assurances and that the present policy is in pursuance of those very assurances (*Ministerial benches; hear hear*) I have not deviated an inch from them. I stood for the betterment of the, lorrywalas in the Punjab and I stand here again to endorse that policy. I shall presently explain why the honourable member had to take shelter behind my assurances. He has got that paper, which I would call waste paper, on which there are certain tit bits stolen from everywhere: I am referring to the League manifesto. It says that utility services and transport particularly shall be nationalised. He is up against that difficulty and that is why he has taken shelter behind the assurances given by me. May I turn that rotten paper against him? (*Mian Muhammad Nurullah* : I know it) I call the Muslim League a party of conflicts, because in the Centre they have adopted one thing and here they are adopting another. In the discussion today they are adopting a different policy. May I make it quite plain that Sir Jamal Khan and Khizar Hayat are not communists of the type of Sardar Sohan Singh Josh?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : They are " *jholi chuks* "

Mr. Speaker : Order, order.

Premier : Do not get uneasy. I put up with all that you say and you should bear with me.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : You are using strong language about the League manifesto.

Premier : If I used any objectionable word I voluntarily withdraw.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I also withdraw any such word.

Premier : They profess one thing in another place and a different thing here.

"*hathi ke dant, khane ke aur dikhane ke aur.* I am not using strong words at all. I stand by the same assurances that I gave here and I want to explain how they are in difficulties. I want to put this question to them whether they stand for nationalisation. (*Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan :* Yes, yes). Our own policy is to look after the interests of the poor man and if we find that the poor man is going to the wall and that if the whole thing is taken up by the State, his interests will be protected, we come to his rescue. Sardar Sohan Singh Josh in season and out of season demands nationalisation. We do not go to the length that he goes. For instance, in Irrigation there is state ownership and in regard to Electricity also we have state ownership, although one of our friends here had to bear a great loss because of this policy. I am referring to Rai Bahadur Sohan Lal. It was he who had to part with a very valuable right which is now with us. The State had no experience of transport and that is why this demand has been put to the House. It is for the House to decide whether they stand for such a provision or not.

My honourable friend referred to the manifesto. In their manifesto, they have stated that they stand for strengthening the Land Alienation Act and for the friendship of the zamindars. Only the other day Khawaja Ghulam Samad brought forward the Muslim Musawat Bill and my friends of the Muslim League had to vote with him. Even Dr. Gokal Chand was in favour of the Bill provided the word 'Muslim' was taken out of it. When I pointed out to them that they were falling into a trap, they withdrew the Bill. They are on the horns of a dilemma. When my friend over there gets up and says that he stands for nationalisation, his back benchers paint another picture. For our part, we always have to look to the interest of the poor man and carry on our work in such a way that he is not adversely affected. In my speech at Rawalpindi I made it clear that we did not intend to wipe out anybody, but would look to the interests of the small owners and would give them their due. Incidentally I may mention that the post advertised for Lahore will go to an Indian and not to a European—an Indian of a fairly dark complexion. (*Laughter*).

Mian Abdul Aziz : Has he been selected already ?

Premier : I said that he will be an Indian and of a fairly dark complexion.

Mian Abdul Aziz : Why not take me ? (*Laughter*).

Premier : A reference was made about the Rawalpindi Electric Supply Co. As far as I know it is an Indian company with 75 per cent Indian capital. (*Mian Muhammad Nurullah : Question*) (*Rana Nasrullah Khan :* 77 per cent European capital). As I have stated already, our policy is to make an experiment as we have had no previous experience in regard to transport and we want to know whether Government can run it. We will place a resolution before the House and have its verdict. Ordinarily in big cities, corporations run their own services but due to some flaw the Lahore Corporation cannot borrow money for the purpose and so the Government will take it over and run the service in the interest of the citizens. I want to make it clear that we ourselves stand for nationalisation but the difficulty is that Railways have come in and are pushing out small men. The railways have got into Pathankote, Rawalpindi and other places by offering more to the small lorrywalas. We cannot stop the Railways. (*Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan :* We can) No, we cannot.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : May I ask a question with your permission, Sir ? When did this inspiration of nationalisation come to the Premier, this month or the last month ? These companies were formed ; even their shares

[Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang]

have not yet been allotted ; certificates have not yet been issued and here comes this inspiration of nationalisation.

Premier These companies have been formed under the policy laid down by the Government of India. The Government of India have found that individual owners get into trouble ; they compete with one another.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : Did that inspiration come by post ?

Premier : The Railways are out to play their own game by getting into motor transport. This happens to be their policy and we are now resisting that policy. (*Mian Abdul Aziz* : That policy has been censured in the Central Assembly). It was the Government of India that insisted on the companies being formed. They have a hold because they alone could give buses under the lend-lease scheme and the Punjab Government carried out their desire. The trouble about this is another matter to which I shall come.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : Do you not take the Government of India's permission when you compel these companies to amalgamate and start a new company ?

Premier : I was saying that some time last year when this amalgamation of companies was going on, some trouble cropped up. I shall keep to the present discussion about Lahore and Rawalpindi, and not get on to another question. Then we realised that there was one great difficulty about these lend lease vehicles which cost something like Rs. 5,000 or Rs. 6,000. The annual income is tremendous. It means giving away a lump sum to some one. We said "if there is so much income let it come to the tax payer." I have said that we are experimenting with a view to see if the State could run the transport industry smoothly and I am most anxious to get the verdict of the House on the principle of state *versus* private ownership. If the House so desires, we will proceed with it. It is not a question of a particular party wanting to do anything. Government stand for nationalisation. I am not going the whole way. I will experiment because in the case of electricity and the hydro-electric scheme we are proceeding after experiment. We shall go on gradually. If we are successful we shall go on, otherwise we might revert to private ownership. There are about 26,000 operators concerned, and in all 4500 lorries and about a thousand goods carriers. I want to protect them from the Railway. I shall try to fight their case, but the point is, would a private employer give these men better treatment or the Government ? That is the issue. I want the House to decide. We are trying our level best to ensure that the driver is not put to inconvenience. He has certain hours of work. Previously he used to make extra trips. We are insisting that that should not be done. We are trying to give him every facility. This is an experiment. If you want the experiment, please say so. If you do not, please tell us not to go on with it. Some members have said it is sovietism. It is not. It is not sovietism if we have taken over the Lahore Electric Supply Co. It is not sovietism because we have launched the Mandi Hydro-Electric scheme. It is not sovietism when we are going to have the Bhakra Dam scheme. Why should we, in taking up this scheme, become sovietists charged with destroying private enterprise ? Why should we be charged with destroying private capital when we see that a company in Lahore or in Amritsar is doing the same thing ? Let us not mix it up with Europeanisation. We want to get our ex-soldiers. Our Indian soldiers will soon be returning and we have asked the Army to let us have Indian drivers as soon as possible and the non-Indians will not be there.

There are certain other interests. I would not say anything about them. My honourable friends there would probably know everything. I was not Minister at the time. My colleague will be able to tell you.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : May I ask a question ? The Honourable Premier just referred to the Railway, and he said he wanted to protect these lorry

owners from the Railway. Is he aware that these lorry owners and companies are prepared to come to an agreement with the Railway? As Sir Edward Benthall has pointed out he is prepared to come to some voluntary agreement with these companies and other lorry drivers. They are willing to come to an agreement with the railway.

Premier: I am very glad the honourable member has raised this point. This is exactly the point. What is happening is that the Railways have got a clear cut policy to buy out private enterprise in this business. I want to know who is likely to offer better terms to private owners—the Railways or the Provincial Government?

Everyone should realise that, with the Provincial Government in charge of transport industry, the benefits in respect of employment, etc., would be larger than otherwise. Railways are a central subject. If the Railways take over transport, the result will be that the private owner will disappear. It is his battles that I am fighting now. It is his battles that the Minister for Public Works fought in Delhi. We want you to give your verdict on it. We are taking over the transport in order also that we may be able to provide for the motor driver who returns after the war.

The point that I have been trying to make, and I hope will be able to make, clear is that we have to save the province from being denied all that the Government of India gives us under the 1935 Act. I do not want that the Government of India and other bodies should come along and run away with it. It will be neither to the interests of the Punjab nor to the vested interests of the lorry-walas. That is why I am opposing it.

I would like to say a word or two about a gentleman from Walter Locke's being employed as a technical adviser. I am speaking subject to correction, but this officer has I believe been working in the motor trade. He came along to help. He has been employed as an Adviser to the Transport Department and he is fully qualified, and he will be there irrespective of this demand. He is as good a man as we could get. As soon as our Indians are available, we will make the change, if necessary.

I want the verdict of the House whether they are for this scheme or not. It is not a question of party politics. If nationalisation comes, it is for the future Government to benefit. Government's intention is to save the poor man from going to the wall for want of funds and that is why we have taken recourse to state ownership. This is the beginning of a big policy in which we want to experiment before proceeding further. I am anxious to get the verdict of the House on the matter. If you take over these companies and improve the general motor trade, it will help my honourable friends who travel. Therefore I would appeal to them not to look at it in this way. If there are inspectors who are not qualified as Sardar Kapoor Singh has told us—I thought he knew more about law but I see that he knows about motor vehicles also—and if qualified men are available, we will take them. As regards the small man, he will continue. We want to employ the ex-soldiers. We do not want to help anybody because he is a relation of an honourable member on this side. But if an ex-soldier happens to be a relation of our friends and if he is of the right type and has served in the war, certainly the Transport Controller will take him. My friends have many times stood up to plead the cause of ex-service men. Raja Sahib was the loudest in pleading the cause of the ex-service men. He is for nationalisation also. That being so, I do not see why any criticism should come from that side. I do not know if they have one thing to say in the manifestos and another to adopt in this House. Then it is said that the poor man is being sent away. We have paid one crore to Rai Bahadur Sohan Lal, or whatever amount is going to be fixed. (*Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang*: That is not for nationalisation. You know it and we know). Indirectly it is nationalisation. Every vested interest will be given due compensation. If he happens to be a poor man we will help the man who wants to sell. (*Interruption*). I thought my honourable friends wanted a general discussion of the whole subject. I

[Premier]

want to have a clear verdict from the House, because we shall have an enormous expenditure on post war reconstruction. Here is a chance for the public to get some advantage out of it. Or are you prepared to pass it on to the Government of India ?

Mr. Speaker : The question is—

That the item of Rs. 1,10,640 on account of Inspection of Motor Vehicles be omitted.

The Assembly divided : Ayes 88, Noes 78.

AYES.

Abdul Aziz, Mian.	Muhammad Hasan, Chaudhri.
Abdul Hamid Khan, Sufi.	M h m m a d Nurullah, Mian.
Ajit Singh, Sardar.	Muhammad Raza Shah Jeelani, Makhdum-
Allah Yar Khan Daultana, Khan Bahadur	zada Haji Sayed.
Mian.	Muhammad Sarfraz Khan, Chaudhri.
Amar Nath Shah, Lala.	Muhammad Wilayat Hussain Jeelani, Ma-
Bhagat Ram Choda, Lala.	kh d u m z a d a Haji Sayed.
Bhagat Ram Sharma, Pandit.	Nas u l l a h Khan, Rama.
Duni Chand, Mrs.	Roshan Din, Khan Bahadur Chaudhri.
Ghazanfar Ali Mhan, Raja.	Sadiq Hassan, Sheikh.
Ghulam Samad, Khan Sahib Khawaja.	Sahib Dad Khan, Khan Sahib Chaudhri.
Gokul Chand Narang, Dr. Sir	Sahib Ram, Chaudhri.
Iftikhar Hussain Khan, Nawab.	Sampuran Singh, Sardar.
Kapoor Singh, Sardar.	Shaukat Hyat-Khan, Sirdar.
Karamat Ali, Khan Bahadur Shaikh.	Sita Ram, Lala.
Kartar Singh, Sardar.	Sohan Singh Josh, Sardar.
Mazhar Ali Azhar, Maulvi.	Teja Singh, Sardar.
Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan, Chau-	Ujjal Singh, Sardar Bahadur Sardar.
dhri.	

NOES.

Abdul Haye, The Honourable Mian.	Fateh Muhammad, Captain Mian.
Abdul Rab, Mian.	Fateh Sher Khan, Malik.
Abdul Rahim, Chaudhri (Gurgaon).	Fazal Din, Khan Sahib Chaudhri.
Ahmad Yar Khan, Khan Sahib Chaudhri.	Fazal Karim Bakhsh, Khan Sahib Mian.
Ali Akbar, Chaudhri.	Ghulam Qadir Khan, Khan Bahadur.
Allah Bakhsh Khan, Khan Bahadur	Ghulam Rasul, Chaudhri.
Nawab Malik Sir.	Gopal Singh (American), Sardar.
Amjad Ali Shah, Sayed.	Gurbachan Singh, Sardar Bahadur
Anant Ram, Rai Sahib Chaudhri.	Sardar.
Asghar Ali, Khan Sahib Chaudhri.	Habib Ullah Khan, Khan Bahadur Malik
Ashiq Hussain, The Honourable Nawab	Haibat Khan Daha, Khan Bahadur Khan
Major.	Hans Raj, Bhagat.
Badr Mohy-ud-Din Qadri, Khan Sahib	Hari Chand, Rai Bahadur Rai.
Sayed.	Harnam Das, Lala.
Baldev Singh, The Honourable Sardar.	Harnam Singh, Captain Sodhi.
Balwant Singh, Sardar.	Het Ram, Rai Bahadur Chaudhri.
Brijraj Saran, Kanwar.	Indar Singh, Sardar Bahadur Sardar.
Dasaundha Singh, Sardar.	Jafar Ali Khan, Chaudhri.
Faiz Muhammad, Khan Bahadur Shaikh.	Jagjit Singh Man, Sardar.
Faqir Chand, Chaudhri.	Jogindar Singh Man, Sardar.
Faqir Hussain Khan, Khan Bahadur	Jugal Kishore, Chaudhri.
Chaudhri.	Khizar Hayat, The Honourable Malik.
Farman Ali Khan, Subedar Major Raja.	Kishan Das, Seth.
Fateh Jang Singh, Captain Bhai.	Lal Singh, Sardar.
Fateh Khan, Khan Bahadur Raja.	Manohar Lal, The Honourable Dr. Sir.

Mohar Singh, Rao.	Muzaffar Khan, Khan Bahadur Captain Malik.
Mohi-ud-Din Lal Badshah, Sayad.	Nasir-ud-Din, Khan Bahadur Chaudhri.
Mubarik Ali Shah, Captain Sayed.	Nasir-ud-Din Shah, Khan Sahib Pir.
Muhammad Akram Khan, Khan Bahadur Raja.	Naunihal Singh Mann, Captain Sardar Pir Muhammad, Khan Sahib Chaudhri.
Muhammad Alam, Dr. Shaikh.	Prem Singh, Chaudhri.
Muhammad Azam Khan, Khan Sahib Sardar.	Prem Singh, Mahant.
Muhammad Hassan, Khan Bahadur Ma-khudum Sayed.	Pritam Singh Siddhu, Sardar Bahadur Sar-dar.
Muhammad Jamal Khan Leghari, The Honourable Khan Bahadur Nawab Sir.	Rallia Ram, Mr. K. L.
Muhammad Saadat Ali Khan, Khan Bahadur Khan.	Ram Sarup, Chaudhri.
Muhammad Shafi Ali Khan, Khan Bahadur Chaudhri.	Ranjat Singh, Chaudhri.
Muhammad Yasin Khan, Khan Sahib Chaudhri.	Riasat Ali Khan, Bahadur Chaudhri.
Muhammad Yusuf Khan, Khan.	Ripudaman Singh, Rai Bahadur Thakur.
Mula Singh, Sardar.	Sardar Khan Noon, Major Malik.
Muzaffar Ali Khan Qizilbash, Nawab Sardar.	Sultan Mahmood Hatiana, Mian.
	Sumer Singh, Rao Sahib Chaudhri.
	Suraj Mal, Rao Bahadur Chaudhri.
	Tara Singh, Sardar Sahib Sardar.
	Tikka Ram, The Honourable Chaudhri.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,67,070 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges, that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of charges on account of Motor Vehicles Acts and other Taxes and Duties.

The motion was carried.

The following demands were then put from the Chair and adopted :—

IRRIGATION WORKING EXPENSES

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 30,85,510 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Irrigation working expenses and Interest on works for which Capital accounts are kept.

IRRIGATION ESTABLISHMENT CHARGES

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 7,26,870 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Irrigation Establishment charges.

IRRIGATION, ETC.

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 34,77,170 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of construction of Irrigation, etc.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 22, 58,130 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of General Administration.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 2,88,740 be granted to the Governor to defray, the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Administration of Justice.

JAILS AND CONVICT SETTLEMENTS

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 7,08,62½ be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Jails and Convict Settlements.

POLICE

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 38,83,650 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Police.

EDUCATION (EUROPEAN AND ANGLO-INDIAN)

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 27,220 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Education (European and Anglo-Indian Education).

EDUCATION (EXCLUDING EUROPEAN AND ANGLO-INDIAN)

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 4,32,360 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Education (excluding European and Anglo-Indian Education).

MEDICAL

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 12,08,760 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Medical.

AGRICULTURE

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 6,31,830 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Agriculture.

VETERINARY

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,41,910 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Veterinary.

CO-OPERATION

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 65,110 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Co-operation.

CIVIL WORKS

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 55,06,500 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Civil Works.

ELECTRICITY SCHEMES—WORKING EXPENSES

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,07,700 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Electricity Schemes—Working Expenses.

ELECTRICITY SCHEMES

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 85,190 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945 in respect of other Revenue expenditure connected with Electricity Schemes.

FAMINE

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 6,30,640 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Famine.

STATIONERY AND PRINTING

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 2,88,000 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Stationery and Printing.

MISCELLANEOUS

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 2,98,59,020 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Miscellaneous.

PROVINCIAL WORKS

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 10,80,500 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Capital Accounts of other Provincial Works outside the Revenue Account.

SCHEME CONNECTED WITH WAR

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 58,14,000 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Capital Outlay on schemes connected with the War, 1939.

ADVANCES REPAYABLE

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 3,79,900 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945 in respect of Advances Repayable.

PUBLIC HEALTH

That a token sum not exceeding Rs. 10 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Public Health.

INDUSTRIES

That a token sum not exceeding Rs. 10 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Industries.

BUILDINGS AND ROADS ESTABLISHMENT CHARGES

That a token sum not exceeding Rs. 10 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Buildings and Roads Establishment Charges.

CIVIL WORKS

That a token sum not exceeding Rs. 10 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Capital Account of Civil Works outside the Revenue Account.

ELECTRICITY SCHEMES OUTSIDE REVENUE ACCOUNTS

That a token sum not exceeding Rs. 10 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Capital Outlay on Electricity Schemes outside the Revenue Account.

PRIVILEGE MOTION

ARREST OF LALA BHIM SEN SACHAR, M. L. A.

Mr. Speaker : I have received notice of the following privilege motion from Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma :—

"I hereby ask for leave to make a privilege motion, namely, the arrest of Lala Bhim Sen Sachar Leader of the Opposition, on account of his attending the session of the Punjab Legislative Assembly on 20th February 1945 and 1st March 1945."

[Mr. Speaker]

Now, I am going to give my ruling.....

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Without hearing anybody ?

Mr. Speaker : Yes, I will give my ruling straight-away even without hearing the mover.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : We want to submit before you what the case is.

Mr. Speaker : Order, order.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : On a point of order. Before giving your ruling, I want you to know what the case is and why this privilege motion has been brought forward. There will be no discussion. I submit that there is no charge against Lala Bhim Sen Sachar except—

Mr. Speaker : Order, order, I will not listen to any argument. If the honourable members are very keen, let them appoint one member and I will hear him for a couple of minutes. I invite your attention to my ruling which I gave last year and the same is my ruling in this case to-day.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : You were pleased to remark that you will hear one member appointed from this side.

Mr. Speaker : I will explain myself so that everyone may understand my interpretation.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : Without knowing the position of this side ?

Mr. Speaker : Order please. It is true that certain honourable members of this House have been either detained or their movements have been restricted and this is happening every day. Whether the Government is acting under any law or without law, is a matter which has never been taken to the highest court of law. It may be that there is no law and the Government is acting illegally, but you can get it declared and decided only by a court of law and not by me or anybody else here. We have no power to decide that point. That is what I held in 1944.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : You were pleased to promise that you would hear one of us for a few minutes.

Mr. Speaker : I cannot repeat that promise. Now the question is whether any privilege has been violated by the arrests of the members of this House or by the restraints that are placed on their movements. This question is not for me or anybody else here to decide.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : But you are the custodian of the rights and privileges of the House.

Mr. Speaker : Point out the law under which I can act. If there is any, I shall follow it at once.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Sir, the case of Lala Bhim Sen Sachar does not fall under the category of other M. L. As. The Government have got perfect right to detain any member they like, they can arrest any member they like and we have got no rule under which we can act or interfere with it. But Lala Bhim Sen Sachar is the only member who has now been arrested for one specific reason and that is for entering the premises of this august House.

Mr. Speaker : I cannot say that.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : The Government have admitted it.

Mr. Speaker : Has the honourable member got a copy of the order issued by the Government?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : He was arrested just because he entered this Assembly building.

Mr. Speaker : Had he been arrested in this hall then I would have held that Government had acted illegally. I understand that he was arrested outside this House.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : The point at issue is whether he was arrested for the mere fact that he attended this Assembly.

Mr. Speaker : That point namely whether he was arrested because he attended this Assembly is not before the House.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : The Premier admits it.

Mr. Speaker : Let him. The question is whether a member of this House can be dealt with according to law or not, if he commits an offence outside.

Sardar Sampuran Singh : The offence was committed here by the member coming and attending this Assembly.

Mr. Speaker : No, that is not the offence. Government might have given certain orders, and the honourable member might have violated them. In my humble opinion there is no question of privilege involved (*hear, hear*).

The Assembly then adjourned till 12 noon on Monday, 5th March 1945.

1911

1911年1月1日
1911年1月1日
1911年1月1日

1911年1月1日

1911年1月1日

1911年1月1日



1911年1月1日

1911年1月1日

1911

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

THIRTEENTH SESSION OF THE FIRST PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Monday, the 5th March 1945.

*The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber at 12 noon of the clock.
Mr. Speaker in the Chair.*

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

NOTES BY POLICE OF SPEECHES AT ZAMINDARA LEAGUE MEETINGS

***9734. Nawab Iftikhar Hussain Khan :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) whether it is a fact that the police are deputed to take notes of the speeches made at Muslim League meetings throughout the province; if so, whether this is being done under the instructions of the Government; if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the police take notes of speeches delivered at the meetings of the Zamindara League?

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Min): (a) *First part.*—Not at every meeting.

Second part.—Does not arise.

(b) No. It is not necessary for the police to report the proceedings of every meeting.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know which of the Muslim League meetings were covered by the police reporters?

Parliamentary Secretary : It does not arise out of this question.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Since the Parliamentary Secretary has said "Not at every meeting", may I know which of those meetings were covered by the police or C. I. D. reporters?

Parliamentary Secretary : It is entirely a new question and I require notice.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : May I know whether the speeches to be delivered at the Zamindara League are first approved by the Premier?

Mr. Speaker : That does not arise out of the question. Disallowed.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know which of the Zamindara League meetings were covered by the C. I. D. reporters?

Parliamentary Secretary : This again is a new question.

LALA SANT LAL

***9759. Sardar Sohan Singh Josh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) whether Lala Sant Lal, a resident of Okara, recently sentenced to 2 years' rigorous imprisonment and now lodged in the Lyallpur district jail has gone mad;

(b) whether the Government has received any information from the jail authorities in this connection;

(S. Sohan Singh Josh)—

(c) the treatment given to him in the jail to cure him of his disease ;

(d) whether the Government has considered the question of transferring him to the Mental Hospital ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) and (d) He is being removed to the Punjab Mental Hospital, Lahore, for treatment.

AVINASH CHANDRA SAIHGAL, M.A.

***9784. Sardar Sohan Singh Josh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) whether he is aware of the fact that Avinash Chandra Saihgale, M. A., is kept in solitary confinement in the Dera Ghazi Khan Jail ;

(b) the reasons for keeping him in Dera Ghazi Khan Jail and not nearer to his native town ;

(c) whether he is allowed to correspond with his parents ; if not, the reasons therefor ;

(d) whether any case is pending against him for breaking jail rules ;

(e) the date on which his case was scrutinised last and the result of that scrutiny ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) No.

(b) He will be removed shortly from that jail.

(c) Yes.

(d) Yes.

(e) December 1944. It was decided to continue detaining him.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : He is not in a solitary confinement at present ; may I know whether he was ever kept in a solitary confinement ?

Parliamentary Secretary : The original question is whether he is kept in a solitary confinement and my reply is 'No'. Now the honourable member puts a fresh question for which I require fresh notice.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know the nature of the case pending against him ?

Parliamentary Secretary : He might have violated some jail rule.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know what that particular rule is ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I cannot say that off-hand.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Is that case going to be tried and decided in the Dera Ghazi Khan Jail or in some other jail ?

Parliamentary Secretary : In the same jail.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Is he not being transferred from there ?

Parliamentary Secretary : He will be transferred as soon as that case is over. It is possible he might have been transferred already.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it a fact that he went on hungerstrike on account of his being kept in solitary confinement ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I am absolutely unaware of that.

SHRIMATI PARVATI DEVI OF KAMALIA

***9785. Sardar Sohan Singh Josh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) whether Shrimati Parvati Devi of Kamalia is kept alone in the Female Ward of the Central Jail, Lahore ;

(b) the period of detention undergone by her so far ;

(c) whether it is a fact that she is suffering from insomnia and getting occasional heart attacks ;

(d) the medical treatment given to her ;

(e) whether the Government has considered the question of her release ; if so, with what result ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : For the honourable member's information, Civil Disobedience detenue Parvati Devi has since been released.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Is it a fact that she has been re-arrested ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I cannot say anything about her re-arrest unless I have notice.

SARDAR HARJAB SINGH, M.L.A.

***9829. Chaudhri Sahib Ram :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) whether it is a fact that Sardar Harjab Singh, M.L.A., has been detained as a Security prisoner since June, 1940 ;

(b) the number of interviews Sardar Harjab Singh has had since his detention with the members of his family ;

(c) whether it is a fact that a family allowance of Rs. 30 p.m. has been given to his dependents ;

(d) whether it has been brought to his notice that due to Sardar Harjab Singh's continued detention and the insufficient allowance fixed for his family his only daughter could not prosecute her studies ;

(e) whether the question of allowing his other relatives to have interviews with him and of transferring him to some jail nearer his home district was considered recently ; if so, with what result ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Yes.

(b) The information asked for by the honourable member is not readily available. Interviews of security prisoners with their relatives and friends are governed by the Punjab Security Prisoners' Rules, 1944 ;

(c) Yes.

(d) No.

(e) *First part.*—No.

Second part.—Does not arise.

Lala Bhagat Ram Choda : Is the amount of Rs. 30 which is being given to his dependents considered sufficient by the Government ?

Mr. Speaker : Disallowed.

CLASSIFICATION OF CERTAIN "POLITICALS" AS "HABITUALS"

***9830. Chaudhri Sahib Ram :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it has been brought to the notice of the Government that many of the persons interned in their villages by the Government, have on defying these restrictions been classified as 'habituals' by the trying magistrates;

(b) if so, whether the Government have issued instructions to the magistrates not to classify 'politicals' as 'habituals';

(c) whether it is a fact that Messrs. Yogdheva of Shahpur, Chaman Ram of Bhera, Seth Daulat Ram of Palthi were recently classified as "habituals" when they were convicted for defying the restrictions imposed on their movements;

(d) whether it is a fact that after their conviction they were sent to New Central Jail, Multan, a jail for confirmed habituals and they were maltreated there?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad): (a) No. There have been a few such cases.

(b) Instructions are being issued.

(c) and (d) Persons named in the question are not confined in Punjab jails.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know the reason why the political opponents of the Unionist Government are thus maltreated?

Premier: Nobody is being maltreated.

SECURITY PRISONERS IN THE LYALLPUR JAIL

***9831. Chaudhri Sahib Ram :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the number of security prisoners confined in the Lyallpur jail during the period between 1st of August and the 30th of November 1944;

(b) the number of books submitted by them for censorship during this period;

(c) the number of books passed and the number of those rejected by the censor during this period;

(d) the number of books sent back without disposal either way by the censor;

(e) the number of books still awaiting disposal at the office of the censor;

(f) whether it is a fact that Malik Abdul Khaliq, one of the Security prisoners in Lyallpur Jail, got two copies of the Government publication 'Correspondence with Mr. Gandhi' by parcel post and these were sent up for censorship on 11th September 1944;

(g) the reasons for not disposing them of so far;

(h) whether it is a fact that Mr. Tara Chand Gupta sent 9 books for censorship on 24th August 1944, the books having been borrowed from the Dayal Singh Library, and that after one month on 20th September 1944 when their time limit had expired 6 of the books were sent back uncensored, if so, the reasons for delay by the censor in disposing of the books;

(i) whether it is a fact that the 3 of the books submitted by a relative of the said Mr. Tara Chand on 20th October 1944 still await disposal at the office of the censor if so, the reasons for delay in their disposal by the censor?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad): (a) 8.

(b) 59.

(c) 56 passed and 3 rejected.

(d) 6.

(e) Nil.

(f) Yes.

(g) They have been delivered to the security prisoner.

(h) 9 books were received by the censor, of which 3 were delivered to the security prisoner and 6 were sent back uncensored at the request of the detenu as he wanted to return them to his relatives.

(i) *First part.*—No.

Second part.—Does not arise.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh: May I know whether any educational qualifications are required for a person to become a censor?

Parliamentary Secretary: He should be able to read and write.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh: Is that the criterion on which the Unionist Government appoints censors? Can anybody who can read and write become a censor?

Parliamentary Secretary: He should be able to understand what he reads.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh: Can he censor books on politics without knowing politics?

Parliamentary Secretary: If he can understand what he is reading, certainly he can censor books on politics.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh: How many of you know politics? (*Laughter*).

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang: They know politics, otherwise they would not be there so long.

BURGLARY CASES IN GURGAON

***9842. Rao Sahib Chaudhri Sumer Singh**: Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the number of burglary cases registered at the Gurgaon police station during the last one year ending on the 31st January 1945;

(b) how many of these cases relate to Gurgaon cantonment;

(c) how many cases were challaned and how many cases remained untraced;

(d) how many burglaries took place during the day time; and what action, if any, does he intend to take to check the growing number of such cases?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad): (a) 35.

(b) 23.

(c) (i) Challaned—2.

(ii) Untraced.—32.

(d) 5. Besides other preventive measures which the district police is taking, a proposal for the creation of a police post in the city is under consideration.

BAN ON INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS

***9852. Sardar Kapoor Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state the names of towns in the province in which bans were imposed under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, in connection with the Independence Day celebration on 26th January, 1945, and the reasons for imposing the ban ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) :

Part 1.—all districts except Hissar, Simla, Gujrat, Jhelum, Attock, Mian wali, and Dera Ghazi Khan.

Part 2.—To prevent disturbance of public peace and tranquillity.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether it is wrong or illegal to read out the Independence Day pledge ?

Parliamentary Secretary : That is asking for my opinion.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know the reason why all or most of the district magistrates in the Punjab passed orders under section 352 prohibiting meetings ?

Parliamentary Secretary : So far as the reason is concerned it is to prevent a disturbance of the peace and tranquillity. Such disturbances were apprehended.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : What was the reason that during this week alone there was danger of the public peace being disturbed ? All these orders were passed for one week in almost all the districts in the Punjab. I would like to know why this week was specially selected for passing such orders by the magistrates.

Parliamentary Secretary : Orders were general. In districts in which there was no apprehension of any disturbance no action was taken.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know why the observance of the Independence Day is a red rag to the Unionist Government ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Not to the Unionist Government only. The disturbance of peace is a red rag to Governments all over the world.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Was there any likelihood at all of a disturbance on this day ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I say, Yes.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : On what report does the Parliamentary Secretary base his answer ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Official agency.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Did the Parliamentary Secretary receive any information from all the magistrates of the province to the effect that there was a likelihood of a breach of the peace ? Or was the information conveyed to the Parliamentary Secretary by private individuals from each of these districts that there was a likelihood of a breach of the peace ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I am not here to specify the sources of information.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is the Parliamentary Secretary aware of the specific instructions of Mahatma Gandhi to all Congressmen to celebrate the Independence Day in a very quiet and non-violent manner.

Parliamentary Secretary : It is unfortunate that in spite of such instructions some Congressmen do become violent, as past experience has shown.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Can you give any instance in the whole of the Punjab where in spite of Mahatma Gandhi's instructions any violence was created ?

Parliamentary Secretary : That is a very general question.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : How does the Parliamentary Secretary justify his statement that the orders were passed simply for the reason that Government was apprehending danger ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I hope my honourable friend will allow the Punjab to benefit by the experience of other provinces.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Can the Parliamentary Secretary give a single instance during the last year when there was any disturbance of the peace ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I can assure my honourable friend that it is due to the precautions that the Punjab Government is taking, as a result of the experiences in other provinces, that no serious disturbances have occurred here.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it a fact that all the district magistrates of the Punjab reported that there was no likelihood of a breach of the peace in any district ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I am afraid I cannot reply to this question.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Will the Parliamentary Secretary please state whether it was a general order of the Government that such orders must be passed by the district magistrates or whether the district magistrates of these districts reported to Government that there was a danger to the peace ?

Mr. Speaker : Disallowed.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : I would like to know from the Honourable Premier whether the orders passed by the district magistrates in the Punjab were the result of a direction from the Punjab Government or whether they were the result of the magistrates's individual discretion or individual opinion in view of the condition in each district.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : May I know whether the District Magistrate of Ludhiana passed this order on the instructions of the Punjab Government or on his own initiative ?

Premier : The general policy and directions are laid down by the Punjab Government. Each district magistrate acts according to his discretion vested in him. If he thinks there is need, he passes an order. If he thinks there is no need, he does not pass the order. I thought that the honourable member from Ludhiana knew that.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : I would like to know whether he issued any general instructions or not.

Premier : The Punjab Government issues general instructions for the guidance of its officers from time to time, whenever there is an apprehension of a breach of the peace.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Did the Government issue general instructions that the celebrations of the Independence Day be banned ?

Premier : Put a question and you will get an answer. I cannot answer any question under the sun off-hand.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : As a Premier of the Punjab in charge of law and order, did he issue any instructions to the district magistrates about the banning of meetings in celebration of the Independence Day ?

Premier : The district magistrates have instructions to preserve law and order.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Did the Honourable Premier issue the instructions during these days in regard to the celebration of the Independence Day or not ?

Premier : Whenever we feel that there is a possibility of a breach of law and order or any threat of that sort, the district magistrates are issued general instructions of policy from time to time.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Did the Government feel that there was any necessity of banning meetings during the Independence Day celebrations ?

Premier : I have already stated that Government has issued instructions that law and order should be preserved during that period, and wherever there might be any fear, the necessary action should be taken.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : May I know whether it came to the notice of the Honourable Premier that the President of the Congress Working Committee Mr. Yasin, had issued a notice that Independence Day should be celebrated very silently and quietly ?

Premier : How am I supposed to know those instructions ?

PRIVATE LANDS UNDER THE WATER OF NAMAL LAKE IN THE MIANWALI DISTRICT

***9850. Sayed Mohy-ud-Din Lal Badshah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that lands 1,160 feet above the sea level have been notified by the Government as area under the waters of lake Namal in the Mianwali district and that lands only within that level have been acquired by Government under a notification issued for the purpose ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the practice in the past has been that whenever water in the lake exceeds 1,160 feet above the sea level the Deputy Commissioner of Mianwali orders the discharge of surplus water from the embankment so that lands other than those acquired by Government do not come under water and the proprietors thereof are not deprived of their use ;

(c) whether it is a fact that this year water up to 1,170 feet above the sea level mark has been retained in lake Namal and no steps have been taken for the discharge of surplus water in spite of the repeated representations of the proprietors of the lands which have been submerged with the result that the zamindars have not been able to do any cultivation either for the Kharif crop or for the present Rabi crop ;

(d) whether it is a fact that the embankment recorded the water level mark of 1,166 feet above the sea level as recently as on the 21st day of January 1945 ;

(e) if the answers to (d) above be in the affirmative, the reasons for retaining water in the lake above the originally fixed sea level mark this year ;

(f) whether the Government intend granting compensation to those zamindars whose lands were submerged in the waters of the Namal lake this year ; if not, the reasons therefor ;

(g) whether the Government contemplate issuing definite and strict instructions to the district authorities against retention in the lake of water above the limit fixed in the Government notification mentioned in (a) above ; if not the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram : The owners of certain lands have brought suits against Government and the matter is *subjudice*. I regret that in these circumstances I cannot give the information asked for, but Government will examine the claims made in the civil suits.

LONG TERM PRISONERS CONFINED IN JAILS OF NORTH-WEST FRONTIER PROVINCE

***9288. Khan Muhammad Yusuf Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Finance be pleased to state —

(a) whether the new rules regarding the revision of sentences of long term prisoners confined in the jails of the North-West Frontier Province have come to the notice of the Punjab Government ;

(b) whether the endorsement made by the Inspector General of Prisons, Punjab, in this connection in his letter No. 1228-GI-85-24-4-15, dated the 9th February 1944, has come to the notice of the Government, if so, what action Government intend to take in this matter ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Rai Bahadur Thakur Ripudaman Singh) : (a) and (b) Yes, Government do not contemplate taking any action in the matter in view of the provisions already contained in paragraphs 516-A, 516-B, and 726-A, of the Punjab Jail Manual.

GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL IN BAGHBANPURA

***9507. Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din :** Will the Honourable Minister of Education be pleased to state —

(a) the population of Baghbanpura, Lahore ;

(b) whether there is any girls high School in Baghbanpura, if not, why not ?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : (a) The honourable member is referred to the last Census report.

(b) There is no recognised high school for girls in Baghbanpura. Government is, however, already considering the opening of such a school there during 1945-46, provided funds are voted and a suitable building is available.

GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL IN BAGHBANPURA

***9552. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad :** Will the Honourable Minister of Education be pleased to state —

(a) the population of Baghbanpura, Lahore ;

(b) whether there is any girls' high school in Baghbanpura ; if not, why not ?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : (a) The honourable member is referred to the last Census Report.

(b) There is no recognised high school for girls in Baghbanpura. Government is, however, already considering the opening of such a school there during 1945-46, provided funds are voted and a suitable building is available.

GOVERNMENT DISPENSARY FOR BAGHBANPURA

***9553. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the population of Baghbanpura, Lahore ;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is no Government dispensary at Baghbanpura, if not, why not ?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : I would refer the honourable member to the reply given to starred question 9484¹.

GOVERNMENT DISPENSARY AT BAGHBANPURA

***9608. Khan Sahib Chaudhri Sahib Dad Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister of Education be pleased to state —

(a) the population of Baghbanpura, Lahore ;

(b) whether there is any Government dispensary at Baghbanpura ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : I would refer the honourable member to the reply given to starred question 9484¹.

SUPERSESSION OF DR. MISS KHADIJA BEGUM BY MISS V. G. BHAN

***9704. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad :** Will the Honourable Minister of Education be pleased to state —

(a) the grounds of the supersession of Dr. Miss Khadija Begum by Miss V. G. Bhan, the Deputy Directress designate of Public Instruction.

(b) the class to which each of them belonged at the time of the supersession of Dr. Miss Khadija Begum in the Punjab Educational Service (Women's Branch) ;

(c) the pay which each of them drew at the time of the said supersession ;

(d) the academic qualifications of each of them ;

(e) the professional degrees which each of them possess ;

(f) whether it is a fact that the observance of Purdah according to Muslim Shariat stood in the way of Miss Khadija Begum for appointment as Deputy Directress ?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : (a) For this selectional post the question of supersession does not arise.

(b) P. E. S. (Class I) (Women's Branch).

(c) Miss K. B. Feroze-ud-din was drawing Rs. 700 *plus* a special pay of Rs. 100 per mensem and Miss V. G. Bhan was drawing Rs. 500 *plus* a compensatory allowance of Rs. 30 per mensem.

(d) Miss Ferozuddin is M.A., D. Litt., M.O.L. and Miss Bhan is B. A.

(e) Neither of them possess any professional degrees, but Miss Bhan is S. A.-V, which is a professional qualification equal in value to a B.T.

(f) No.

PURCHASING AGENCIES APPOINTED BY GOVERNMENT

***9294 Malik Barkat Ali :** Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state —

(a) the number and names of the Purchasing Agencies appointed by Government to purchase wheat and other staple articles of food ;

(b) the function of the agencies mentioned in (a) ;

(c) the terms on which the agencies mentioned in (a) have been appointed ;

(d) the total amount of commission earned by each agency annually since its appointment ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : (a) The names of the Purchasing Agents appointed in April 1945, for the purchase of Foodgrains are :—

(a) Messrs. Gopalsingh Hirasingsh, Amritsar.

(b) Messrs. Dhanpatmal Jawaladas & Co., Amritsar.

- (c) Messrs. the Central Purchasing Agency, Ambala Cantonment.
- (d) Messrs. the Northern India Zamindar Syndicate, Limited, Lahore.
- (e) Messrs. Mohammad Ismail, Maulabux & Co., Lahore.
- (f) Messrs. Mian Muhammad Allah Bux, Lahore.
(upto 30th September 1943 when their agreement was terminated).
- (g) Messrs. Owen Roberts & Co., Limited, Lahore.

The contracts of the first five agents were terminated in June, 1944, when the Official Purchasing Agency began to function.

(b) To purchase and despatch seven major foodgrains for deficit areas and for the Defence Services.

(c) The agency worked under the term of an agreement with the Punjab Government. For their services they were paid commission of 9.9 pies per maund, except in the case of Messrs. Owen Roberts & Co., who draw commission on a sliding scale fixed by the Government of India.

(d) The commission earned by each agency from 1st April, 1943, to 31st January, 1945, is approximately as under :—

Name	From 1st April 1943 to 31st March 1944	From 1st April 1944 to 31st January 1945	Total
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Messrs. Gopalsingh-Hira Singh, Amritsar ..	1,99,000	1,14,000	3,13,000
Messrs. Mohammad Ismail-Moula Bux, Lahore ..	1,78,000	1,09,000	2,87,000
Messrs. Dhanpatmal-Jawaladas, Amritsar ..	1,77,000	90,000	2,67,000
The Central Purchasing Agency, Ambala Cantonment ..	1,50,000	19,000	1,69,000
The Northern India Zamindara Syndicate, Lahore ..	1,05,000	10,000	1,15,000
*Mian Mohammad Allah Bux, Lahore ..	36,000	16,000	52,000

*(No purchase order was placed with them after 30th September 1943. From 20th June 1944 they were again appointed as Clearing Agents.)

NOTE—It is not possible to indicate accurately the commission earned by Messrs. Owen Roberts & Co., Lahore, on the purchases from the Punjab since they purchase foodgrains for Defence Services in a number of Provinces, i.e., Punjab, North-West Frontier Province, United Provinces, etc., and are paid their commission direct by the Government of India.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether any communal considerations were kept in view in appointing these agents ?

Minister : No.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : What were the criteria applied in appointing them ?

Minister : Trade experience.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Has it come to the notice of the Honourable Minister that some of these people who have been appointed have no trade experience at all ?

Minister : It is very difficult for me to reply off hand but according to the information of the Government every one of them has trade experience.

AGENTS FOR PURCHASE OF FOODGRAINS

***9502. Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din :** Will the Honourable Minister of Development be pleased to state :—

(a) the number of agents appointed by the Government to buy food-grains from the Punjab markets in 1942-43 ;

(b) whether it is a fact that purchases were made direct by the Government and passed on to agents ;

(c) if so, whether the distribution was equal among all the agents ; if not, why not ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : The honourable member is referred to the reply given by me to starred question No. 9483¹ asked by Chaudhri Muhammad Sarfraz Khan in the last session of the Assembly.

AGENTS FOR FOODGRAINS

***9544. Syed Mohammad Wilayat Hussain Jeelani :** Will the Honourable Minister of Development be pleased to state —

(a) the number of agents appointed by the Government in 1942-43 to buy food-grains from the Punjab Markets ;

(b) whether it is a fact that purchases were made direct by the Government and passed on to the agents ;

(c) if so, whether the distribution of food-grains was equal among all the agents ; if not, why not ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : The honourable member is referred to the reply given by me to starred question No. 9483¹ asked by Chaudhri Muhammad Sarfraz Khan in the last session of the Assembly.

AGENTS FOR THE PURCHASE OF FOODGRAINS

***9609. Khan Sahib Chaudhri Sahib Dad Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister of Development be pleased to state —

(a) the number of agents appointed by the Government in 1942-43 to buy foodgrains from the Punjab markets ;

(b) whether it is a fact that purchases were made direct by the Government and passed on to the agents ;

(c) if so, whether the distribution of foodgrains was equal among all the agents ; if not, why not ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : The honourable member is referred to the reply given by me to starred question No. 9483¹ asked by Chaudhri Muhammad Sarfraz Khan in the last session of the Assembly.

PERSIAN WHEELS

***9841. Sardar Sher Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state —

(a) how many persian wheels were indented from the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Montgomery, by the zamindars of the Montgomery district in the year 1944 ;

(b) How many persian wheels were supplied to the zamindars out of these indents ; if none has so far been supplied, the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : (a) 135.

(b) 125 persian wheels have been allotted for the Montgomery district out of which 12 have actually been supplied to the zamindars while the remaining are being manufactured by the foundries and will be released shortly.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether a quota of persian wheels has been fixed for each district ?

Minister : Yes.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Can the Honourable Minister give information district-wise ?

Minister : I have not got it here. But if the honourable member wants it he can get it from my office.

ALLOTMENT OF SEATS IN LYALLPUR AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE HOSTELS

***9843. Rao Sahib Chaudhri Sumer Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the criteria for allotting seats in the various hostels of Government Agricultural College, Lyallpur.

(b) the practice obtaining when the present Principal took over the charge of his post and the reasons for departing from the previous practices ;

(c) whether he is aware of the fact that the change in the previous practice has caused unrest among the students; if so, what action does he propose to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : (a) Hostel seats are allotted on the merit of boarders in the College and the University Examination results.

(b) No departure has been made from the rules by the Principal.

(d) Does not arise.

FEROZEPUR DISTRICT POLICE

***9308. Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Deputy Superintendents and inspectors of Police who supervised investigation of cases in various *Thanas* in the Ferozepur district from 1942 to March 1944 ;

(b) whether any special police staff was posted in the Ferozepur district to bring crime under control from 1942 to March 1944 ;

(c) whether the special police was posted in the Ferozepur district at the request of the Deputy Inspector-General, Jullundur Range, and Superintendent of Police, Ferozepur, from 1942 to March 1944 ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Man) : (a) The time and trouble involved in the collection of this detailed information is incommensurate with any possible result to be obtained.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it within the knowledge of the Parliamentary Secretary that the case was not examined by the Inspector-General when the request was made for the supply of special police staff to bring the crime under control ?

Premier : Crimes have been under control.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : My honourable friend has stated in connection with the supplementary demand that the crime was not under control.

Premier : It is a comparative term. It has been under control since.

Parliamentary Secretary : It was at the request of the Superintendent of Police and the Inspector-General that special police was posted.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : What is the reason for the abnormal increase in crime during this period for which special police was needed ?

Parliamentary Secretary : The crime is rather on the decrease.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : It has been stated that special police staff was posted on account of increase in crime.

Mr. Speaker : Cross-examination is not allowed.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : It has been stated that crime is on the increase.

Mr. Speaker : The honourable member is referring to past proceedings.

Premier : He must have something to say about it.

MR. JAGJIT SINGH

***5318. Sardar Teja Singh Swatantar :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) under what rule one Mr. Jagjit Singh of village Lahuri Mal, district Amritsar, is detained in the District Jail, Multan ;

(b) under what rule he was detained at the time of his arrest ;

(c) in which class he has been placed in the jail ;

(d) whether it is a fact that two other security prisoners kept with him are given B class treatment ; if so, the reasons for which Jagjit Singh has been refused B class treatment ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) He is no longer in detention.

(b) Under rule 129 of the Defence of India Rules.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

THAKAR HAZARA SINGH

***9320. Sardar Teja Singh Swatantar :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) the place at which one Thakar Hazara Singh, resident of Hamirpur, district Kangra, has been interned after his release from the Multan Central Jail ;

(b) whether the Government is aware that he has no means of livelihood at the place of his internment ;

(c) whether he has submitted any application for his transfer to a more suitable place to the Government ; if so, what action the Government intends taking in the matter ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) He was restricted to the limits of the Jullundur tahsil of which he was originally a resident. The place of his restriction was later changed to the municipal limits of Hoshiarpur, where he had found employment, at his own request. He is no longer a restrictee.

(b) and (c). Do not arise, as he is no longer restricted.

VICTORY FAIR AT LUDHIANA

***9326. Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) whether it is a fact that a second victory fair is going to be organised by the District authorities of Ludhiana in the month of May 1944 for the purpose of collecting money for the War Fund ;

(b) whether regular receipts to the subscribers to the above fund will be issued on a printed form ; if not, the steps that are contemplated to be taken to ensure that money thus collected through the police and tehsil authorities will not be misappropriated ;

(c) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that the money collected for the War Fund on the occasion of the first victory fair was embezzled and misused to a certain extent by some police officials of Ludhiana who were prosecuted for embezzling the money collected for the above fair ; if so, the names of the police officials prosecuted in the said connection and the result of the prosecutions ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) No such fair was held in May 1944.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There was no embezzlement. Two private complaints were instituted against a head constable, but both were found to be false and were dismissed.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it a fact that money was paid to the complainants and both cases were compromised ?

Parliamentary Secretary : The cases were found to be false.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it within the knowledge of the Honourable Premier that the cases were compromised ?

Premier : No.

Parliamentary Secretary : The cases were false and were dismissed.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : I have got copy of the judgment in my hand. What were the reasons given by the magistrate for finding these cases to be false ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have not got the judgment in my hand.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : How does he then say that the cases were found to be false ?

Parliamentary Secretary : They were tried and complaints were dismissed.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is the Parliamentary Secretary in possession of the order of dismissal passed by the magistrate in those cases ? How is he in a position to say that they were found to be false ?

Parliamentary Secretary : If my learned friend knows something more than myself, then it is unnecessary for him to put the question.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : How is it that the Parliamentary Secretary says that the cases were found to be false ? They might have been found to be false by the Parliamentary Secretary but they were not found to be false by the courts which tried the cases.

Parliamentary Secretary : Why ask a question then ?

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : The Parliamentary Secretary says that cases were found to be false. He should correct himself.

Parliamentary Secretary : I have not got the dismissal order with me.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Who supplied the information ?

Parliamentary Secretary : The official agency.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Which official agency ?

Mr. Speaker : The next question.

GOBIND RAM OF PALWAL

***9330. Sardar Teja Singh Swatantar :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) whether it is a fact that a Civil Disobedience detenu Gobind Ram of Palwal, was transferred from the Old Central Jail, Multan, to Lahore, for medical treatment by specialists in the Mayo Hospital in the first week of February 1944 ;

(b) whether the Government have received any report regarding the said detenu from the Mayo Hospital specialists if so, the nature of the ailments he is suffering from ;

(c) whether it is a fact that he is suffering from tuberculosis of the kidneys and epilepsy, besides other ailments ; if so, whether Government intend to release him on medical grounds or on parole ; if not, whether Government intend to send him to a sanatorium at a hill station ; if not, the reasons therefor ;

(d) his weight at the time of his arrest and his present weight ? .

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : For the honourable member's information, Civil Disobedience detenu Gobind Ram has since been released.

SARDAR PARTAP SINGH, M. L. A.

***9444. Mrs. Duni Chand :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) since when Sardar Partap Singh, M. L. A., has been under detention ;

(b) whether he had lately been reported to be ill ;

(c) the special reasons, if any, for not releasing him so far ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Since the 18th of August 1942.

(b) Yes, but he is reported to be doing well at present.

(c) Reasons connected with the public safety and the maintenance of public order.

RE-ARREST OF SARDAR CHANAN SINGH, M.L.A.

***9445. Mrs. Duni Chand :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) since when Sardar Chanan Singh, M.L.A., has been under detention ;

(b) whether he was released some time ago and re-arrested ; if so, the reasons for his re-arrest.

(c) whether it is a fact that he has been suffering from a malignant type of diabetes ;

(d) whether the Government intend to release him ; if not, why not ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) From the 5th of October 1942 to 26th of February, 1944 and from the 1st of March 1944 to 20th of April 1944.

(b) In February 1944 he was released on parole for two months on medical grounds, but his condition of health as shown by his actions after release did not justify his release and the unexpired period of his parole was therefore cancelled.

(c) Yes.

(d) Does not arise as he was released on the 20th of April 1944.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Did he violate any of the conditions on which he was allowed to remain on parole ?

Parliamentary Secretary : He was released on the ground that he was not feeling well. But after his release he started doing things which showed that he was hale and hearty, and, therefore, parole was cancelled.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : What was the particular thing which he did which justified his re-arrest ?

Parliamentary Secretary : He was released on parole on grounds of ill health and on coming out of the jail after some time he started doing things which showed that he was not ill, and, therefore, the parole was cancelled.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Is it not a fact that when he was released he came and put up in Shahidgunj Gurdwara where people were coming and going and that was the reason for the Government to re-arrest him ?

Parliamentary Secretary : For that my honourable friend should give notice.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Is it not a fact that he has been re-arrested on mere suspicion ?

Parliamentary Secretary : He was all right when he was re-arrested.

RESTRICTIONS ON M. L. AS. TO ATTEND THE SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY

*9446. **Mrs. Duni Chand :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) how many M. L. As. were restricted after their release and how many of them are still under various restrictions ;

(b) whether all the restricted M. L. As. are forbidden to attend the forthcoming session of the Assembly ; if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) how many M. L. As. of the Congress Party are free to attend the forthcoming session of the Assembly ;

(d) the special reasons, if any, for not allowing the restricted members to attend the forthcoming session of the Assembly ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Twelve under the orders of the Punjab Government and one under the orders of the Kapurthala Government. Twelve of them are still under restrictions.

(b) Yes. They cannot take part in political activities which are barred under the terms of their restriction orders.

(c) All who are neither restricted nor detained.

(d) The attention of the honourable member is invited to the answer given to part (b) above.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it within the knowledge of the Parliamentary Secretary that the only M. L. A. restricted under the orders of the Central Government has been released ? Does it go to the credit of this Government to restrict twelve members ? Is it within the knowledge of the Parliamentary Secretary ?

Parliamentary Secretary : No.

ARREST OF PANDIT BRAHMA NAND, MEMBER, NATIONAL WAR FRONT

*9513. **Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state — whether it is a fact that Pandit Brahma Nand, Member, National

[Pt. Bhagat Ram Sharma]

War Front, and member of the District War Committee, Kangra, was arrested on the 30th April 1944, under rule 129 Defence of India Rules, and was given annas 6 per diem as diet money ; if so, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad):

First part.—He was arrested on 30th March 1944.

Second part.—He was provided with the diet specified for "B" class convicts as he was treated as a class II Security prisoner.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Was he arrested for taking part in the prosecution of war ?

Parliamentary Secretary : He was arrested for doing something quite contrary to that.

SEARCH OF DISTRICT COMMUNIST PARTY (KANGRA) OFFICES

***9514. Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) whether it is a fact that the offices of District Communist Party, Kangra, were searched by the Kangra Police on 29th January 1943, and all office records and books were removed by them ;

(b) whether the books and other literature removed from these offices consisted of books which were not proscribed ;

(c) whether it is a fact that some books have not been returned by the police so far ;

(d) whether he is prepared to place a list of the books so with held on the table of the House ; if not, why not ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) (a) Yes.

(b) No. Some of them were either proscribed or prohibited publications or were objectionable and had been confiscated under the Defence of India Rules.

(c) Yes.

(d) A list is placed on the table.

List.

1. Agrarian Crisis in India, India Today Series No. 3, by Rajani Palme Dutt.
2. Modern Imperialism in India, India Today Series No. 2, by Rajani Palme Dutt.
3. Labour Movement in India, India Today Series No. 5, by Rajani Palme Dutt.
4. What is to be done ? by Lenin. Socialist Book Club, Allahabad.
5. India Today Series No. 4, History of the National Movement, by Rajani Palme Dutt.
6. Hamara Hindustan. Special 3. The Ordeal Begins." A Hamara Hindustan publication.
7. Progressive Publishers Series IV, Whither U. S. S. R. Bradlaugh Hall, Lahore.
8. Imperialism. Bradlaugh Hall, Lahore.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : By whose orders was this done ? Was it done under the orders of the local authorities or the Punjab Government ?

Parliamentary Secretary : When something is done, it is done in the name of the Government and the Government is responsible for it.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : With regard to part (b) may I ask whether the non-political literary books which were taken away have so far been returned or not ?

Parliamentary Secretary : With due respect I request the honourable member to be a little more relevant.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Have those books which were removed from the office been returned or not ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have already stated that some of these books were either proscribed or objectionable publications and had been confiscated under the Defence of India Rules.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Will he mention the name of a single book which was proscribed ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I cannot say off-hand. These books were considered to be objectionable by the Government and were confiscated under the Defence of India Rules.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Is he aware of the fact that the Government of India has removed the ban on communist books ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I am not aware of that.

SEARCH OF COMRADE DALIP SINGH'S HOUSE

***9515. Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) whether it is a fact that Comrade Dalip Singh, President, District Kisan Committee, Kangra, was arrested by the police on the 29th January 1943 ;

(b) whether his house was also searched and certain articles were removed from his house ; if so, the details of those articles ;

(c) the reasons for Comrade Dalip Singh's arrest and the period for which he was detained ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) He was arrested on 29th June 1943.

(b) *First part*—Yes.

Second part—A list is laid on the table.

(c) *First part*—It is not in the public interest to disclose the reasons for his arrest.

Second part—From 29th June 1943 to 12th August 1943.

Books recovered from Thakar Dalip Singh.

Leninism, volume one—Joseph Stalin.

Not for publication, Volume XVII, No. 6.

Empire Parliamentary Association. Report on Foreign Affairs for month of November and December 1936, containing introduction and reports on :—

League of Nations, International Committee on Non-Intervention in Spain, Europe, Near and Middle East, Far East, American and Principal Events (November and December)

From Imperialist War to Peoples War—Dona Torr, Karl Marx People's Publishing House, Bombay 4.

Lenin—The Genius of Revolution—Joseph Stalin and Others.

Stalin. A biographical sketch of the man who leads the U. S. S. R.—Ivor Montagu, People's Publishing House, Bombay 4.

Progressive Publishers Series IV.

Whither U. S. S. R. Bradlaugh Hall, Lahore.

Four copies of the Harijan "*Friendly Advice Differences very Real, Pertinent Questions*, The American Friends, Volumes 20, 21, 27 and 30, dated May 31, 1942, June 7, 1942, July, 1942, and August, 1942, respectively.

One copy of the People's War Nos. 47 and 48, dated June 6, 1943. Organ of Communist Party of India, Editor :—P. C. Joshi, Published in English, Marathi, Hindi, Gujarati and Urdu.

Congress and the War. Has the Congress ever offered active co-operation in the Prosecution of the War on any conditions. By Political correspondent.

Imperialism, Bradlaugh Hall, Lahore.

A Photograph, a group of Congress Volunteer Corps, Jawalajee, dated the 17th June 1940.

Five stamps (rubber inscriptions, as follows:—

Managing Agents.

Jagat Ram & Co.

Secretary.

The Kangra Industries Limited.

Managing Director.

Halafnama Satyagrah—One.

Ikrarnama Nebat Theka Tamir Mukanat ek Manzala.

A letter of Polit Board, dated 9th August 1942.

A letter dated 25th January 1942 in Urdu from Sohan Singh to Rulia Ram and Mehar Singh.

Ivkalabi Shararay—One copy.

Conditions (new) by Gandhi—One form.

History of Congress in Kangra district—20 pages.

Receipt Books of the Punjab Labour Committee, Lahore—Three.

Urdu "Sada-i-Dard"—One copy.

Circular No. 11, dated 1st September 1941 addressed to Paras Ram.

Circulars Nos. 5 and 6.

File Book of miscellaneous correspondence—247 pages.

War News Paper, dated 17th January 1943.

News Paper, dated 6th June 1943—One copy.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh: In connection with the details of the articles removed, may I know whether a *chhankna* (a toy) was also taken away? (*Laughter*).

Mian Abdul Aziz: Yes, for their babies. (*Laughter*).

PANDIT MUNI LAL KALIA, M. L. A.

***9520. Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan:** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) whether it is a fact that Pandit Muni Lal Kalia, M. L. A. applied to the District Magistrate, Ludhiana, on 13th November 1944 for permission to go to Lahore to attend the session of the Punjab Legislative Assembly beginning on the 4th December 1944; but his application was rejected; if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether it is a fact that Pandit Muni Lal Kalia is permitted to do his professional work only in his own district, if so, whether Government intend to withdraw the restrictions imposed on him in this respect;

(c) whether the Government is aware of the fact that the imposition of these restrictions interfere with his professional work, particularly the revenue work as appeals from the order of the Collector lie to the Commissioner, Jullundur Division;

(d) the circumstances under which restrictions imposed on some of the internees in the Punjab have been withdrawn;

(e) the names of all those internees in the Punjab restrictions in whose cases have been withdrawn together with their home districts and the places of their internment?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad): (a) Government have no information, but he cannot be allowed to take part in political activities which are barred under the terms of a restriction order.

(b) *First part*—Yes.

Second par.—Government's intention cannot be disclosed.

(c) This was alleged by him in his applications.

(d) Cases are reviewed periodically and are decided on their merits.

(e) Restrictions of 251 persons have been removed. Their names, etc., have appeared in the press from time to time.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it within the knowledge of the Government that Pandit Muni Lal Kalis has to attend cases in the court of the Commissioner Jullundur division, at Jullundur and his application for going to Jullundur, has been rejected by the District Magistrate, Ludhiana ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I would refer the honourable member to part (b) of the question and my reply thereto. It obviously means that he cannot go out of his own district.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Does the Government not interfere with his professional work by placing restrictions on him that he should not go out of Ludhiana to Jullundur in order to attend to his cases ? Does it not amount to placing restrictions on earning his livelihood ?

Parliamentary Secretary : He has been restricted to that particular place where he can carry on his work, and make a living without taking the trouble of going to Jullundur to appear in revision cases, appeals, etc.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Was it within the knowledge of the Government at the time when these restrictions were imposed that he has to attend to his professional work in the court of the Commissioner, Jullundur division at Jullundur ?

Premier : May I, for the information of the honourable questioner, say that at first he was restricted at Ludhiana and then he wanted to be allowed to practice in Ludhiana district and I met his wishes. If he wants to roam about other places, I cannot help him.

INSTRUCTIONS TO SUPERINTENDENTS OF JAILS REGARDING APPLICATIONS OF DETENUS

*9557. **Shrimati Raghbir Kaur :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government has issued instructions to the Superintendents of Jails to the effect (i) that a detenu or a political prisoner is entitled to make applications only once in respect of a demand or a grievance, (ii) that a Superintendent is not to forward a second application in respect of the same demand or grievance even though the grounds for application may have changed ; (iii) that in the absence of a reply by the Government the application may be considered to have been rejected, (iv) that representations are not to contain any references to applications made previously ;

(b) if the answer to (a) be in the affirmative, whether the Government is prepared to cancel these instructions in the interest of detenues or political prisoners ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) (1) Yes, if the grounds are the same. These instructions are intended to prevent repetition and waste of time. (ii) No. (iii) Yes. (iv) No.

(b) No.

PUNITIVE POLICE FORCE AT VILLAGE CHUHAR CHAK

*9558. **Shrimati Raghbir Kaur :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) whether it is a fact that for the last five years there has been stationed punitive police force at village Chuharchak, Thana Mehna, District Ferozepore, which costs the villagers a sum of Rs. 6,000 annually ;

[Sh. Raghbir Kaur]

(b) whether it is a fact that on the 14th June 1944, the Superintendent of Police, Ferozepore, promised to look into the matter of abolishing the police chowki since Bahadur, the notorious dacoit of the village had been killed, and there was no ground left for continuing the chowki ;

(c) what steps have been taken so far towards the removal of the chowki and whether the Government are prepared to take early steps to abolish it ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Man) :

(a) Yes.

(b) and (c) The matter was examined by the Superintendent of Police, Ferozepore. Unfortunately there has been little real improvement in the conduct of the inhabitants and Government, therefore, have regretfully decided that the post must continue.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether this post is being continued for checking crimes or the political activities of the people ?

Parliamentary Secretary : For checking crimes only.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Has the Government noticed that no criminal case has occurred there for the last 3 years ?

Parliamentary Secretary : The Government before deciding to continue this post considered whether it was essential to keep it or abolish it ?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : What merits were taken into consideration at the time of taking this decision ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Criminal tendency of the inhabitants.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether all the people of that village are criminally minded ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Not all but most of them must be.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether this allegation is against those people who have not committed or allowed to commit any criminal act ?

Premier : The Parliamentary Secretary was referring only to collective responsibility of the village. That does not mean that every body is criminally minded. But there are others who do not help the administration.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Is it not a fact that the police is kept there simply because it is the village of Sardar Rur Singh who is a political worker ?

Premier : How can Sardar Rur Singh's being an inhabitant of the village, make the village immune from the consequences of law ?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Are not the police reports, on which the Government acts, baseless and false ?

Premier : Besides police source, we have other sources as well. My honourable friend sometimes praises the police and sometimes condemns it. What am I to understand ?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether there has been any appreciable decrease in crime during the last year ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I want notice.

COMPLAINT AGAINST POLICE OF THANA KATHU NANGAL

*9565. **Shrimati Raghbir Kaur** : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) whether the Inspector-General of Police, Lahore, the Deputy Commissioner of Amritsar and the Superintendent of Police, Amritsar, have received representations, dated 22nd November 1948, from Sardar Teja Singh Swatantar, M. L. A., alleging that the Police of thana Kathu Nangal, district Amritsar, maltreated the entire population of village Talwandi Dasaundha Singh in connection with a murder case ;

(b) whether he is aware of the fact that even lambardars and military pensioners of the area concerned were not spared by the police in this respect ;

(c) whether any inquiry was held in this connection ; if so, whether the Government will place the findings of the inquiry on the table of the House ;

(d) the action taken against the policeman responsible for the said act ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Man) :

(a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) An enquiry was held in the matter by the Deputy Superintendent of Police, Amritsar. The allegations on verification were found to be baseless and engineered by local Kirti workers to undermine the influence and prestige of the local police.

(d) No action was called for.

Sardar Teja Singh Swatantar : Is the Parliamentary Secretary aware that a representation under my signature and those of the lambardars of the village, was handed over to the Superintendent of Police by me to make an enquiry in the matter ? Is it a fact or not ?

Parliamentary Secretary : The honourable member himself knows better. My information is that an enquiry was held and the allegation was found baseless.

Sardar Teja Singh Swatantar : But does he not take my statement as correct ?

Parliamentary Secretary : That is a different matter. My information on the point is that Government did depute an officer to enquire into the allegations which ultimately proved to be entirely unfounded.

Sardar Teja Singh Swatantar : The Superintendent of Police had held out an assurance to me that persons found guilty would be severely dealt with. Is the honourable member aware of it ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have no knowledge of it.

ADDRESS PRESENTED TO PREMIER IN JHANG

*9626. **Mian Mumtaz Muhammad Khan Daulatana** : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether it is a fact that an address on behalf of the Zamindara League was presented to him on the 30th October 1944 at Jhang in the presence of the Commissioner, Multan Division, the Deputy Commissioner and other officials of the Jhang district ; if so, the reason for allowing officials to be present at a meeting of a political organisation ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : This question was discussed in detail during the debate on an adjournment motion on the last day of the last session. The honourable member's attention is invited to that debate.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Have any officials been warned against attending the Muslim League meetings ?

Mr. Speaker : It does not arise.

BRADLAUGH AND LAJPAT RAI HALLS.

***9654. Lala Bhagat Ram Choda :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) how long the Government propose to keep the Bradlaugh Hall and Lajpat Rai Hall under Government custody ;

(b) whether he is aware of the fact that the entire shape and plan of the Lajpat Rai Hall has been changed by erecting new rooms and walls ; if so, who will compensate for the damage done to the property ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Lajpat Rai Hall has been occupied by the Indian Information Bureau and whether it is also a fact that they are shifting to New Delhi soon, if so, whether the Lajpat Rai Hall will be restored to its owners after it is vacated by the Indian Information Bureau, if not, why not ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) :

(a) So long as the buildings are likely to be used for purposes of unlawful associations.

(b) The shape and the plan of the building have not been changed at all. Minor alterations have, however, been made which do not call for compensation.

(c) *First part*—Office of the Principal Information Officer, Bureau of Public Information, Government of India is accommodated on the ground and first floor of the building.

Second part—Government have no information.

Third part—The attention of the honourable member is invited to the answer to part (a).

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Did the Government prosecute any persons who indulged in unlawful activities in these two halls ?

Parliamentary Secretary : This is a new question. I want notice for it.

RELEASE OF LALA CHANDI RAM VERMA ON PAROLE

***9655. Lala Bhagat Ram Choda :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) whether it has been brought to his notice that Mrs. Chandi Ram Verma, wife of Lala Chandi Ram Verma, Financial Secretary, P. P. C. C. at present a detainee in the Sialkot Jail, is lying seriously ill with T. B. ;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to release Lala Chandi Ram Verma ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) :

(a) Yes.

(b) He has been released.

CONGRESS M. L. AS.

***9674. Mian Muhammad Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) the names of the Congress M. A. Ls. whose place of residence is Lahore, but who on account of the orders of Government are not in a position to attend the meetings of the Punjab Assembly ;

[Mian Mohd. Nurullah]

(b) the name of the authority that has issued the orders ; restricting their movements and activities ;

(c) the reasons for not withdrawing the above orders ;

(d) the nature of the restrictions imposed on each M. L. A. so restricted ;

(e) whether Government intend to remove these restrictions ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) :

(a) The attention of the honourable member is invited to the answer given to question No. 9678.¹

(b) Punjab Government.

(c) In the interests of the public safety and the maintenance of public order.

(d) The restrictions have been communicated to the M. L. As. concerned from whom the honourable member can ascertain particulars.

(e) Government's intention cannot be disclosed.

M. L. AS. IN JAILS

***9675. Mian Muhammad Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether it is under the consideration of the Government to release the M. L. As. who are in jails ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : Their cases are reviewed periodically.

REPRESENTATIONS OF POLITICAL PRISONERS

***9684. Mian Muhammad Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether any representations have been made by political prisoners confined in various jails of the province during the year 1944 ; if so, the nature of their grievances and the action taken on the said representations respectively ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : Many representations were received which were considered on their merits. Unless the honourable member refers to a particular representation, the nature of the grievance and the action taken cannot be specified.

MR. JAI PARKASH NARAIN

***9701. Sardar Ajit Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) the present state of health of the State Prisoner Mr. Jai Parkash Narain, now detained in the Lahore Fort ;

(b) whether it is a fact that Mr. Jai Parkash has been detained in solitary confinement since his arrest in September 1943 ;

(c) whether it is a fact that Mr. Jai Parkash Narain has often been kept locked up for 24 hours in the day in a cell without any walk or open air exercise being allowed to him ;

(d) whether it is a fact that the above prisoner was given the option of having an hour's walk with handcuffs on escorted by a constable of the C. I. D. and that he declined to avail himself of the offer ;

(e) whether it is a fact that he was carried by guard constables on their shoulders forcibly and taken to and fro under the supervision of a C. I. D. Sub-Inspector to observe the formality of morning and evening walks allowed to him ;

[S. Ajit Singh]

(f) whether any non-official visitor or Minister of the Punjab Government has ever visited him or is permitted to do so ;

(g) whether he was allowed the use of an electric fan in his cell during the last summer ;

(h) whether the Government intend to transfer him from the Lahore Fort to some other place ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muahhammad) :

(a to h) Mr. Jai Parkash Narain is detained under the orders of the Government of India. Questions regarding him cannot be answered on the floor of this House and should be addressed to the Government of India.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it within the knowledge of the Parliamentary Secretary that his application for habeas corpus is pending in the High Court ?

Parliamentary Secretary : That is possible.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is he aware that his application was first withheld by the Superintendent of Police in charge of the Lahore Fort ?

Parliamentary Secretary : If the honourable member wants any information or confirmation of this fact he should give notice.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it a fact that Mr. Jai Parkash Narain is under the control of the Punjab Government now ?

Parliamentary Secretary : That is quite a different thing.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Are you acting as an agent of the Central Government and do you receive any pay from the Centre ?

LETTER OF CONDOLENCE WRITTEN BY MR. JAI PARKASH NARAIN TO MR. DEV DASS
GANDHI

***9702. Sardar Ajit Singh** : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) whether it is a fact that a letter written by prisoner Mr. Jai Parkash Narain to Mr. Dev Dass Gandhi offering condolence to the Gandhi family on the death of Mrs. Kasturbai Gandhi was withheld by the Punjab C. I. D. in March 1944 on the ground of certain objectionable expressions used therein ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the same letter was re-written by the said Mr. Jai Parkash Narain after eliminating the objectionable expressions used in the first letter but it was again withheld by the Government; if so, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muahhammad) :

(a) and (b) Mr. Jai Prakash Narain is detained under the orders of the Government of India. Questions regarding him cannot be answered on the floor of this House and should be addressed to the Government of India.

M. SULTAN MAHMOOD, READER TO MR. L. R. BHATIA, SENIOR SUB-JUDGE

***9719. Mian Mumtaz Muhammad Khan Daulatana** : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) whether it is a fact that M. Sultan Mahmood, Reader to Mr. L. R. Bhatia, Senior Sub-Judge, under training, was served by the Deputy Commissioner, with a notice to show cause why he should not be punished for attending Muslim League meetings "especially when the activities of the Muslim League in this province were directed against the present Ministry."

(b) the explanation given by the said M. Sultan Mahmood and the punishment awarded to him by the Deputy Commissioner?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad):

(a) He was called on to show cause why he should not be punished for a breach of rule 20 of the Government Servants' Conduct Rules, 1935.

(b) The Deputy Commissioner was not satisfied with his explanation, and has passed an order withholding his annual increments for two years.

M. Sultan Mahmud has preferred an appeal which has not yet been decided against the Deputy Commissioner's order.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: Will the Parliamentary Secretary be pleased to state whether mere attendance at the meetings of the Muslim League is an offence?

Parliamentary Secretary: I may point out that the course is laid down in the Government Servants Conduct Rules. The Deputy Commissioner thought that the way in which a particular gentleman had acted was against those rules, and therefore he took certain action and an appeal is lying with the Commissioner. I think it is in the interest of the gentleman that we should not discuss this question here until his appeal is disposed of.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: It is a question of general principle. May I ask the Parliamentary Secretary to state what was the offence committed by this gentleman?

Premier: Government servants are not supposed to take part in politics.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: I want to know from the Premier what particular offence was committed by this gentleman?

Premier: I have laid down the general principle. It is for the Deputy Commissioner to decide what particular offence is committed.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: Was there the right course laid down?

Premier: It will be decided on appeal whether or not he took part in politics. I am laying down the general principle that Government servants are not supposed to take part in politics.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: May I remind the Premier that he is making a speech for general discussion? I put a simple question: there is no question of policy or of general rules. I want to know the offence committed by this gentleman for which he has been punished.

Premier: The honourable member should have obtained a copy of the Deputy Commissioner's order and read it.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: I want to know from the Premier whether, when he received notice of this question, he got the file from the Deputy Commissioner or not?

Premier: There was no purpose in doing so. There is an appeal pending and he has got his remedy.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: The reply read by the Government is just a concoction by the Government officials in the Secretariat.

Premier: It points out the right path: if you do not understand it we cannot help you.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: You are on the wrong path; I am on the right path. We are discussing only the offence which this gentleman has committed. The fact is that he was passing on the Grand Trunk Road and there was a procession coming from the opposite direction of Qaid-i-Azam Jinnah, and this gentleman stood there for a few minutes. Now would you call this an offence?

Premier : I refuse to be drawn into the facts of the case. There is an appeal and I have laid down the general rule and that is the right course. Of course, if the honourable member has a different notion and considers right to be wrong he can do so because he has been all over India.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : We are not asking for any course. The question is a simple one, asking the Premier whether it is a fact that such a hard working official should have been punished simply because he happened to stop on the roadside for a few minutes to watch Mr. Jinnah's procession.

Premier : How can we know the facts? He has filed an appeal and I confined myself to the general rule that Government servants are not supposed to take part in politics. Then the honourable member wanted to know the right course. I know of one way of thinking, although the honourable member has wider experience.

Malik Barkat Ali : In view of the salutary rule laid down by the Premier to the effect that Government servants should not take part in politics, may I know if the Premier would be prepared to punish those Deputy Commissioners who have taken part in politics on the side of the Unionists?

Mr. Speaker : I disallow this question.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : You are impeding the war effort.

Malik Barkat Ali : I will be able to give instances of Deputy Commissioners who have gone out of their way to please the Unionist party and punished members who have crossed over.

Premier : That is no question.

Malik Barkat Ali : Make an enquiry.

Premier : How can I accept the allegations?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Many officials were punished.

Mr. Speaker : The Question Hour is over.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

SULTANKHANWALA CHANNEL

1873. Captain Sodhi Harnam Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state —

(a) the total area villagewise commanded by the Sultankhanwala channel (Grey Canals, Ferozepore);

(b) the total area irrigated villagewise by the same channel in 1940-41, 1941-42, 1942-43, 1943-44 and 1944-45?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tikka Ram :

(a) and (b) A separate record is not kept for each channel, and the information asked for is not available.

ILACHIWAH CHANNEL

1874. Captain Sodhi Harnam Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state —

(a) the total area villagewise commanded by the Ilachiwah Channel (Grey Canals, Ferozepore);

(b) the total area irrigated villagewise by the same channel in 1940-41, 1941-42, 1942-43, 1943-44 and 1944-45?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tikka Ram :

(a) and (b) A separate record is not kept for each channel, and the information asked for is not available.

COST OF LIVING.

1885. Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state —

(a) whether it has been brought to his notice that a large number of the poor population of the Punjab is at present practically starving ; if so, the reason therefor ;

(b) whether he is aware of the fact that there has been an abnormal rise in the prices of all the necessaries of life, more particularly of foodgrains ;

(c) whether there has been a marked reduction in the produce of food-grains in this Province during the last three years as compared with the preceding three years ;

(d) whether he is prepared to lay on the table of the House figures showing the annual produce of various foodgrains in the Province during the last six years along with the quantities exported from this Province to other Provinces in India, and outside India, during the same period ;

(e) whether he is also prepared to lay on the table of the House respective figures showing the approximate quantities of various foodgrains now lying with the Punjab Government, the professional traders and the zamindars of the Province ;

(f) whether Government has ever considered the situation arising out of the shortage of foodgrains and the abnormal rise in the cost of living in the province ; if so, the steps which have so far been taken by the Government in the matter ; if no effective steps have so far been taken, the action intended now to be taken in this respect ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh :

(a) It is correct that as a result of general rise in prices some sections of population are experiencing difficulties but no case of starvation has been reported.

(b) It is true that prices of all commodities including foodgrains have risen. Whether the rise is abnormal in respect of one commodity in relation to another or not is a matter of opinion.

(c) No. On the contrary, there has been an increase in foodgrains production in the last three years as compared with the preceding three years.

(d) A statement is laid on the table.

(e) The Punjab Government is holding in stock 38,879 tons of wheat. The stock position with the zamindars or professional traders is not accurately known. According to returns under the Foodgrains Control Order stocks of various foodgrains with licences under order were as follows at the end of December 1944 :—

				Tons
Wheat and Products	..	..	..	182,292
Gram	..	..	..	84,971
Barley	..	..	..	28,698
Maize	..	..	..	20,008
Rice	..	..	..	82,718
Paddy	..	..	..	78,935
Bajra	..	..	..	14,404
Jowar	..	..	..	4,094
Pulses	..	..	..	15,850

These figures do not include the stocks of Lahore and Multan districts, as their returns have not been received so far.

(f) There is no shortage of foodgrains so far as internal requirements are concerned. It is beyond the scope of an answer to this question to deal with problems created by a rise in the cost of living as affecting different sections of the population. The prices of the major foodgrains have been controlled, and there are a number of control orders calculated to check hoarding and profiteering tendencies.

PRODUCTION AND NET EXPORT OF THE MAJOR FOODGRAINS FROM THE PUNJAB

Year	WHEAT		GRAM		BARLEY		RICE		BAJRA AND JOWAR PRODUCTION				MAIZE	
	Production	Export of Wheat and Flour	Production	Export	Production	Export	Production	Export	Bajra	Jowar	Total Bajra and Jowar	Export(+) Import(-)	Production	Export
1938-39 ..	3,235	604	375	36	151	Not known	311	10	218	69	287	-39	384	Not known
1939-40 ..	3,761	688	499	43	260	Ditto	295	6	244	64	308	-28	405	Do.
1940-41 ..	3,339	646	700	72	210	Ditto	309	36	477	98	375	+46	448	Do.
1941-42 ..	3,873	383	649	72	227	Ditto	305	15	443	94	537	+59	463	Do.
1942-43 ..	4,175	865	1,096	150	281	41	400	113	711	113	824	+158	485	21
1943-44 ..	3,442	(a) 625	842	(a) 150	206	(a) 26	426	108	474	110	584	+53	504	29

NOTE:—

1. Trade figures cover only rail and river-borne traffic up to 1942-43; subsequent exports have been under the Basic Plan, and include road traffic also.
2. In case of Rabi foodgrains production and trade figures have been adjusted as the Rabi Crop of 1938-39 moves in 1939-40.
3. (a) indicates export targets under the Basic plan for 1944-45.

ADMISSIONS TO GOVERNMENT TRAINING INSTITUTIONS

1886. Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh: Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state the total number of candidates, community-wise, admitted into the B. T., S. A. V., S. V., and J. V. Classes of Government Training Institutions for Men and Women in the Punjab respectively, during the year 1944?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye :

	J. V.	S. V.	B. T.	J. V.	S. V.	B. T.
	For Men			For Women		
Muslims	246	30	76	100	21	17
Hindus	81	18	76	61	20	10
Sikhs	18	10	35	40	13	7
Christians	1	4	6	8	..	..
Scheduled Caste	9	2	..	..	..	..
Total	355	60	193	207	54	34

S. A.-V. Class for Men was abolished with effect from the 1944 session.

EXAMINERS IN THE VERNACULAR FINAL AND MIDDLE STANDARD EXAMINATION FOR GIRLS

1887. Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh: Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state the total number community-wise of Paper-setters and Head Examiners in the Vernacular Final and Middle Standard Examination for Girls for the year 1945 and also be pleased to give the number community-wise of sub-examiners and checkers allotted to each Head Examiner in both the above mentioned examinations?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : Paper-setters, some of whom also act as head examiners, are never appointed on a communal basis; nor is it considered advisable to maintain any fixed communal representations amongst them. Appointments of checkers are made on the recommendations of head examiners. As checkers have to work at the residences of head examiners and have to observe late hours, it is not considered advisable to make these appointments on a communal basis. Everything possible, however, is done to give due representation to all communities among the examiners taken as a whole.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY, PUNJAB COMMUNAL HARMONY MOVEMENT

1888. Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh: Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Secretary, Punjab Communal Harmony Movement and almost all the members of his office belong to one community and that there is not a single Sikh in the office; if so, the reasons therefor?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat : It is regretted that the answer to this question is not yet ready.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION BUREAU, PUNJAB

1889. Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh : With reference to the answer to unstarred question No. 1751¹, asked at the last session of the Punjab Assembly, will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) the number of vacancies against which substantive appointments have still to be made ;

(b) the name of the officer who was appointed to the post of the Director of Information Bureau, Punjab, before February 1939 ;

(c) the number of appointments made in the office of the Director of Information Bureau, Punjab, community-wise and grade-wise, to temporary posts and permanent posts, respectively, since the Government orders about recruitment to various services under the " Block System " were issued ;

(d) the number of permanent posts in the office of the Director of Information Bureau, Punjab, which were filled on officiating basis, community-wise and grade-wise, and how it is intended to fill these posts permanently ?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat :

(a) None.

(b) The attention of the honourable member is drawn to part (a) of the unstarred Assembly Question No. 1751¹.

(c) A statement is given below. All appointments are temporary. During the operation of block system five old temporary posts were made permanent and accordingly the incumbents were also confirmed.—

Number of posts	Grade	Number of vacancies filled	COMMUNITY-WISE			How filled
			Muslim	Hindu	Sikh	
	Rs.					
New Editor ..	200—15—350/20—450	2	..	2	..	Through Public Service Commission.
Article Writers ..	125—5—170/6—218—7—225	2	2	..	..	By direct appointment.
Assistant ..	90—7—163/8—225	1	1	..	..	By transfer.
Stenographer ..	80—4—120	1	1	..	..	By direct appointment.
Newspaper Clerk ..	80—4—120	1	1	..	..	Ditto.
Senior Clerk ..	60—4—80/4—120	1	..	1	..	By transfer.
Cartoonist ..	60 fixed	1	1	..	..	By direct appointment.
Junior Clerks ..	40—2½—75/2—85	29	11	8	10	Ditto.
Moharrir ..	25—1—35/1½—50/2—60	12	5	6	1	Ditto.
Restorers ..	30—1½—36/1½—45	9	4	3	2	Ditto.
Operators ..	70 fixed	4	2	1	1	Ditto.
Drivers ..	50 fixed	4	3	..	1	Ditto.
	Total ..	67	31	21	15	

(d) Three Muslims, i.e., Superintendent (Rs. 260—15—350), Senior Programme Assistant (Rs. 225 fixed) and Junior Programme Assistant (Rs. 150—10—250).

If and when a permanent vacancy occurs it will be filled according to rules.

CONTRIBUTION MADE TO VARIOUS FUNDS AND WAR LOANS

1890. Rai Bahadur Lala Sohan Lal : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) the total contributions made to the various funds and War loans community-wise in the Punjab :

(b) the contributions made in the said connection by public institution in the Punjab with the names of these institutions ?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat :

(a) Statistics of war funds and loans are not maintained community-wise.

(b) No information regarding contributions made by public institutions or their names is available.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE OF PANDIT MUNI LAL KALIA.

Mr. Speaker : I have received the following application from Pandit Muni Lal Kalia :—

I applied for leave to attend the Budget session of the Assembly, but the District Magistrate, Ludhiana, has refused permission. I am therefore unable to attend the Assembly session. My applications for attending the Assembly on previous occasions were similarly rejected. Kindly grant me leave of absence from the session.

1 p.m.

Question is—

That leave applied for be granted.

The motion was carried.

ADJOURNMENT MOTION.

ARREST OF LALA BHIM SEN SACHAR.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : I would like to move the motion of which I have given notice.

Mr. Speaker : I cannot allow the honourable member to do that.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : I think you cannot disallow my motion without giving me an opportunity to speak.

Mr. Speaker : I have already disallowed the motion of the honourable member. I ask him to resume his seat.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : I have not yet moved any motion, Sir. What have you disallowed ?

Mr. Speaker : I have received notice of the honourable member's motion and I rule that it is out of order.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : I would like to know the reasons.

Mr. Speaker : I decline to give any reasons. I am not bound to do so.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : When there is no motion before the House, how can you rule it out of order ?

Mr. Speaker : I once again request the honourable member to resume his seat. The other day I ruled this adjournment motion out of order and today also the honourable member came to my room and I told him that his motion was not in order. He again gets up and raises this matter. It is merely a waste of the time of the House.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : You were pleased to say, Sir, that the House has a right to move an adjournment motion.

Mr. Speaker : Order, order. If the honourable member still persists I shall have to ask him to withdraw from the Chamber.

Honourable Members : What are we discussing, Sir ? What is this motion ?

Mr. Speaker : The honourable member gave notice of an adjournment motion regarding the arrest of Lala Bhim Sen Sachar and I have disallowed it. Unless a motion is allowed by me it is not before the House.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : On a point of order.

Mr. Speaker : The honourable member should give notice of his point of order in writing.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Is that necessary ?

Mr. Speaker : Yes. Unless the point arises unexpectedly.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : How can a motion be declared out of order when it not before the House ?

Mr. Speaker : I have ruled the motion out of order and there the matter ends.

BUDGET—GENERAL DISCUSSION.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan (Ludhiana, Muhammadan, Urban) : Sir, I had no intention to take part in the general discussion of the Budget but the Honourable the Finance Minister has provoked me to challenge his statement that he has made in his speech referring to the good doings of the Unionist Ministry during the last 7 years. He has admitted in his speech by implication, though not explicitly, that the money that has been provided for the Beneficent Departments is only 5 lakhs. There are as many as thirty-five thousand villages in the Province and only 352 rural dispensaries exist at the time.

Khan Bahadur Captain Malik Muzaffar Khan : Ordinarily, Sir, during the general discussion only a few members are allowed to speak and the rest are not allowed to have their say for want of time. May I suggest that time limit should be fixed so that every member can have his say.

Mr. Speaker : I am going out just now, and shall consider the honourable member's point on my return.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I draw your attention, Sir, to the discourtesy of the Minister for Finance ? He has left the Chamber when the Leader of the Opposition is opening the general discussion of the Budget.

Minister for Development : He will be back in fifteen minutes time. I am taking notes for him.

(At this stage Mr. Speaker left the Chair and Mr. Deputy Speaker occupied it.)

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Mr. Deputy Speaker, I was submitting that there are 35,000 villages in the Punjab, and there are only 352 rural dispensaries, working at present, started during the last five years and they want to take credit and are very proud of their achievement. There is absolutely no room for expansion of medical relief to the rural areas. It is simply disgraceful for the Unionist Government or the party in power. Moreover, you will be pleased to find that there are so far only 108 subsidised dispensaries—103 for men and 5 for women—opened in pursuance of the policy to provide adequate and efficient medical aid to the rural population in connection with the scheme of settling subsidised medical practitioners in villages.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, you will be pleased to find that Sir Manohar Lal or the Punjab Government deserves no congratulations for producing a surplus budget in a province where stark poverty prevails, which is industrially backward, whose agriculture is primitive and feudal being dominated by big landlords piling up unearned income and parasitic estate—owners living at the cost of the tiller of soil. The labourers cry for food and clothing, the citizens clamour for good wheat and wheat flour, while many die every year of diseases in cities in insanitary and unhygienic conditions. The Honourable Minister for Development was pleased to say the other day that he will take action in regard to the complaints about rationing in Lahore, but he has taken no action at all so far, and he has been neglectful of the duties imposed on him by the public of the Punjab.

Minister for Development : Action is being taken every day.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : The Finance Minister and the Premier are happy that surplus has succeeded surplus with a regularity. This is nothing but nauseating. It was the late Mr. Gopal Krishna Gokhale—the great patriot—who in the old Legislative Council first raised his voice against the succession of surplus budgets which the then Finance Member presented. In a country such as India, with a margin of sustenance, he pointed out, that surplus budgets were no indication of prosperity but rather the reverse, as they indicated either that the level of taxation was unduly high or that money which should have been spent to ameliorate the condition of the people had not been so spent and had been allowed to swell the coffers of the Government. Even in the changed conditions of today, Mr. Gokhale's words are as applicable as they were at that time. Low expenditure to improve the amenities of life for the general population can, under the most adverse circumstances, be made to produce a surplus but such a surplus will be no criterion of the people's prosperity.

The principle which must be at the root of public finance is one of maximum social advantage of this principle. Dr. Dalton, the famous British Economist (perhaps Sir Manohar Lal believes in his fame and writing) lays down two strictly economic tests, which are the two chief conditions of an increase in the economic welfare of any country, improvements in the distribution of what is produced. A progressive state assumes higher functions than the one merely of increasing the pays of the police or curbing down civil liberties or joining hands with foreign reactionaries to stifle the movement of freedom. Judged in relation to these tests the budget is most disappointing.

I ask the Punjab Government as to what has been done so far as corruption in the province is concerned. I take the Enquiry Agency. May I ask in how many cases the Special Enquiry Agency has been able to trace and been able to bring offenders to book? There are very few of the gazetted officers who have been punished. My question is whether the Punjab Government is doing its duty, so far as the administration is concerned, properly and honestly. I have to say NO, for the simple reason that the Zamindara League funds are collected from the poor people and are used against the Congress and the Muslim League which is an abominable act of the Ministry. Further, it is admitted by the Parliamentary Secretary that there was an increase in crime in Jullundur Division consisting of five districts to which you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, also belong, and no action has been taken against the D. I. G. I understand that that D. I. G. is not removed for lack of supervision and control over the subordinate staff. It is a matter of which Government should be ashamed. Government must take action. (*An honourable member :* Against whom, against the D. I. G. or against the Superintendent of Police?) Against both. I do not mind these interruptions, but I would request the Government to redress the grievances of the public. Both the D. I. G. and the Superintendent of Police must be taken to task. Enquiries should be made into their conduct and reasons should be found why it is that proper action has not been taken during all these years.

[Ch. Mohd. Hasan.]

You will be pleased to find from the budget that a large amount of money has been misappropriated by the Police in this Budget and the reason given is that on account of increase in population the expenditure has increased. My learned friend must be in a position to know that during these years 20 per cent of the population has increased. If that is the rate at which expenditure is going to increase, the whole income of the province will be appropriated by that department alone. The reason why the police is being favoured is simple enough. The Unionist Party and the Ministers have to go on tours and the Police has to arrange for their processions and to arrange for public meetings. It is through the Police that they are able to arrange their public meetings, and to keep the police true to themselves, the Zamindara League Government has to favour the police. (*Interruptions.*)

So far as the Beneficent Departments are concerned, the Unionist Ministry during these seven years have done nothing to redress the grievances of the poor. What they have done is that they are unnecessarily taxing the zamindars and the non-zamindars in order to augment their funds which are to be used in the coming elections and for the party propaganda. You will be pleased to see, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that it is a state of affairs that every one should be ashamed of. Nepotism and communalism are rampant in this Province and under your very nose dishonesty and malpractices by Government servants are rife.

You will be pleased to find that sound budgets are desirable. It is good that expenditure and income be balanced. But the virtues of balanced budgets can be exaggerated. That is what the Unionists are doing every year when a surplus budget is produced.

In fact, surpluses have cropped up either due to under-estimates or over-estimates. It is bad arithmetic. It embodies erratic calculations by the financier of a dividend producing co-operation.

What does the Budget this time say ?

A revised surplus of Rs. 189 lakhs. for the current year, a prospective surplus of 192 lakhs for the next year and actual surplus of 436 lakhs for 1943-44. But the estimated surplus is hardly a correct indication of what the actual result of the financial working of the new year may turn out to be. It has been a regular feature of the Punjab budget for some years that the actuals bear no resemblance to the forecasts. The Unionist Government wants to show to the public that it is doing good and it is having surplus budgets. May I enquire why the unearned income of the big zamindars has not so far been taxed ? Does the Punjab Government believe in complete liquidation of the debts of the small zamindar ? Have they done anything in that direction ? You will find that they have done nothing so far during these 7 or 8 years.

As regards the Punjab irrigation schemes, most of them are a legacy the Unionist Government has inherited from the Government which preceded it. There have been no radical schemes of improvement in agricultural production, leaving aside what irrigation has done.

As regards the police, the villagers feel the pinch of the punitive police. Punitive Police has been located in Makhi Khurd where the Deputy Inspector-General and the Superintendent of Police do not feel any necessity for it. The reason is obvious. There are certain political workers there and that is why punitive police is kept there and punitive tax is collected. Then there are innumerable restriction and detention orders which are very indiscriminatory in their nature. The restriction orders passed on M. L. A.s are quite unreasonable, when they do not indulge in any unlawful or subversive activity. I do not know what the law officers of the Government are doing. If they have advised that unless those members are restricted or detained, this Government will come down or there will be

something subversive, then I say that they are not fit to be retained in service and those officers should be sent away somewhere to learn law and then come and give their opinion to the Government. You will be pleased to find that persons are detained in different districts of the Punjab and when we ask for the reason they say that it is not in the public interest to disclose the reason. This is a most disgraceful state of affairs which is going on in this province under the very nose of the Premier and the Honourable Minister of Development who I believe is not as bad as his other colleagues.

So far as industrialisation is concerned, nobody has tried to make any advance on what was done by the previous Government. Mr. J. J. Hazlett presiding over the annual general meeting of the Punjab Federation of Industries, Amritsar, said: "Political issues in the Province retard industrial progress and politics completely overshadow economic progress." The Punjab Government is without an industrial policy. There is shortage of coal supply and raw materials for industries. This is a thing which is talked of even in the bazar and my honourable friend the honourable Minister for Development nods his head. Heavy industries never started and facilities for large-scale industries are not utilised. We produce no tanks, not even motor lorries. It was an opportune time when the war started to develop such industries and facilities should have been given by the Punjab Government to the people to start industries in this province. Professor Shah was specially invited to suggest industrialisation, but his report is shelved and no action has so far been taken on it. If so, why was Rs. 6,000 wasted on him? Was it simply to be a propaganda to show to the public that they were for industrialisation of the province? No definite step has been taken to develop industrialisation and agriculture.

They take pride that the budget is a surplus budget. They say that so much has been transferred to special fund. But I do not know when it will be utilised and how it will be utilised and whether it is for the advancement or prosperity of the province or for any other purpose. Money is sanctioned without planning. There is one simple test of the achievements of the Government. Has a larger income per head of the population been secured by its policy? The answer is 'no'. Public finance after all involves transfer of purchasing power from one set of people to another. If this transfer fails to enrich the community in terms of this test, it is a failure. It is good that expenditure and income are balanced. But the virtues of balanced budgets are exaggerated.

(At this stage Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.)

In the 100 crores post-war schemes the benefit will mainly go to those tahsils which have taken major part in the war effort.

With regard to education, colleges have been started in Dera Ghazi Khan and other places where either the Ministers or their relatives live and they are going to transfer very soon the college from Bohtak to Ambala, the home district of my friend, the Minister for Development. The one started at Shahpur is going to be shifted to Sargodha, the home district of the Honourable the Premier. This is how they are going to develop colleges and middle schools at the cost of primary education which is the primary function of the Honourable Minister for Education. His Department is not doing anything worth the name although he continues to take credit for it. I have seen in papers as well as heard in lectures that the Education Department has done this and has done that for this province. If you examine the budget carefully you will find that they have not moved at all in the direction of advancement and prosperity of the people of the province. The only thing is that the Ministers look to their own prosperity.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan (Pind Dadan Khan, Muhammadan, Rural): Sir, if in these abnormal times one were to cast away the formalities and hypocracies which are common in parliamentary institutions, one cannot congratulate the Honourable Finance Minister on the budget which he has presented to this House. The

[Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan]

greatest compliment which can be paid to him is to repeat the words, which were published in a very well-known paper, that fortune has been favouring the Finance Minister of the Punjab and that is about all that can be said for him. I am very sorry to draw your attention to the fact that the Honourable Finance Minister left the House when the Honourable Leader of the Opposition opened the general discussion on the budget. I do not think there is any legislature in the world where the Finance Minister would show such discourtesy to the House and to the Opposition as the Honourable Sir Manohar Lal has shown to-day. He thinks that like a circus lion after having made his performance his responsibility is over. However, Sir, I want to congratulate him on one thing—on the fact that he has now started studying the administration in Indian States. I think he is now on the right path because any attempt on his part to compare this province with any advanced province in India or outside will be a mere folly. I hope he will find the comparison edifying. I am sure that so far as the General Administration in this province is concerned, it can well compare with a third rate Indian State which is under minority administration and where an officer of the Political Department is working as Administrator. The Honourable Finance Minister has produced a surplus budget like an old hen which lays a rotten egg. As a matter of fact he has been producing surplus budgets ever since he took charge as Finance Minister, but those of us who know the conditions of the poor villagers and the peasants and the labourers in this province, will surely realize that this surplus budget is just like the reckoning of a miserly man who has got two rupees in his pocket, who goes to his house, tells his wife not to cook food for the children for one evening and while going to bed says to himself, "Oh ! I have saved two rupees." This is exactly what the Punjab Government are doing. The people are starving. The Government have done no work whatsoever to give any relief to the poor people. They have done nothing for education, they have done nothing for medical relief, public health and roads and, as a matter of fact, they have not done anything so far in any direction and for them to come forward and boast of a surplus is, to say the least of it, a most disgraceful admission of their incapacity and their lack of foresight and imagination. The Honourable Finance Minister's policy has, no doubt, been consistent, but it has been a policy not of a Finance Minister who is required to take charge of the country's finances in these days of world-wide strife but like a bania, who just puts two plus two is equal to four. The Honourable Finance Minister has shown his mastery of arithmetic but not of statesmanship. Even this arithmetic could have been done by his clerks. I can assure you that even if there is no Finance Minister in charge of the finances, things will not be worse than they are to-day. (*An honourable member from the opposition benches* : Quite right.) May I ask the Honourable Finance Minister, although he is not in the House to tell us whether through his endeavours, through his planning, through his foresight, a single penny of the revenue of the province has increased ? Will the Honourable Finance Minister tell me what are the new taxations which he has devised ? If I remember aright what the Honourable Finance Minister did at the time of new taxation was to become indifferent, to sit quiet and walk away from the House when those Bills were passed. Therefore, so far as the increase in the income of the province is concerned, I dare say that if anybody takes the credit it is the tiller of the soil and the patwari and Revenue Assistant who go about collecting revenue. (*An honourable member* : The revenue is collected by the lambardars.) Even that little credit which I was giving to the administration, as my friend points out, does not remain there. The Honourable Finance Minister who, I am glad, has come back, will remember that so far as putting beautiful words and sentences is concerned, I always give him the credit. He is a great literary man but this time he has taken his literary attainments to the limits of absurdity. Let us forget the past for a moment and let us concern ourselves with the future because we are discussing the future budget. I will read out to you the words he has used wherever he has expressed his opinion about the effort which the Government are making to improve this province. I would

request you to turn to page 7 of the Budget Speech. We want to see the people happy, we want to see the villagers happy but what does he say? He says "An effort will be made to establish farmers' clubs all over the province." That is a good promise for the future. Then please see page 8. While dealing with Medical Relief in the Province, he says, "beginnings are to be made" and further on when he is talking about hospitals he says, "attention is being given to the important service of blood transfusion." He believes that the mere fact that 'attention is being given' is enough to save the patients while they are dying.

Mian Abdul Aziz : Mesmerism !

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Again please see page 9. He says, "The question of support to our numerous cottage industries is also engaging the attention of Government". They are just engaging the attention of the Government. They have engaged the attention of the Honourable Finance Minister for the last two years and may I remind him that there is not a single man connected with industries who does not condemn the policy followed by the Industries Department and particularly that of the Honourable Finance Minister who, I must say, has no love for the development of industries. (*An honourable member :* They have given 1 per cent of the income to the industries.) His policy with regard to industrial development has been one of narrow-mindedness and petty-mindedness. He cannot think of industrial development and we in the Punjab can enviously read in the newspapers that heavy machinery is coming out from America for key industries being established in all the provinces all over India. The Punjab Government have not moved a little finger. They have not asked the Government of India that some machinery should be sent to the Punjab Government so that industrial development may take place in this Province. But what he says is, "that does engage attention of the Government". If you now turn to page 13 you will find that Bhakra Dam is mentioned there. Here let me congratulate my friends from Ambala division that the Government is giving so much for Bhakra Dam. What does he say in his speech? "Arrangements have been made for starting work on an essential road to Bhakra". (*laughter.*) What an achievement! I think the Honourable Finance Minister thinks that he is talking to an Assembly of fools or he himself does not understand what he talks when he gets up with lot of airs around him and says that they are doing a good deal for the people because they are starting an essential road to Bhakra. People are starving and dying and this is the sympathy which he is displaying towards the poor masses. Again, please turn to page 14 of the same speech. He says, "I must not forget to notice that a detailed project has already been prepared". That is for my honourable friend the Deputy Speaker. He must now be very happy because the water in those wells will rise because the project is prepared. He says on the same page, "Orders are now being actually placed". Is that a thing worth mentioning in the Budget Speech, is that a thing you can feel proud of? Now, I come to page 15 where it is stated how much money has been collected in the Peasants' Welfare Fund. The only practical achievement which this Government boasts of is as mentioned by the Honourable Finance Minister. He says—

"Some plans—he is not definite of what plans—Some plans, such as those of scholarships, for expenditure under the scheme are already under way and several further schemes are under examination"

Is that a thing to be proud of? When did they start this fund? It was 3 years ago and the achievement which they have made during these 3 years is that those wretched files and papers are on their way coming from one office to another and I am sure this Government will be kicked out before those files reach the proper place and that proper place will be taken by a progressive party who will do something.

[Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan.]

Now, Sir, let us proceed further. On the last portion of page 17, he is talking about post-war reconstruction, a very important subject indeed, which is engaging the attention of all civilized governments. The Honourable Finance Minister is, unfortunately, under the wrong impression that the war is going on for another 20 years, because if he had believed, as other people with common sense believe, that the war may end in a year or two, he would not have mentioned in connection with post-war reconstruction thus :

"It is proposed to spend Rs. 19 crores on education and Rs. 12 crores on medical and public health. Schemes are not yet in their final form but a great deal of preliminary thinking has been done." (Laughter.)

Wonderful! This is what he is capable of doing. I must congratulate him and his colleagues on this great achievement. I do not blame them. They are busy with other things. Their entire attention is concentrated on one thing and that is how to remain in those offices, by fair means or foul, how to corrupt the services, to corrupt the members just to stick on those benches. What do they care for post-war reconstruction?

Again, Sir, on page 19, he says :

"In finance prudence must still be our guide."

It has been their guide for the last 12 years and what are the achievements to their credit? I will not take the time of the House by reading more from that learned speech. But let me tell the Honourable Finance Minister that those people who have the welfare of the Province at heart will not judge him by whether his budget is surplus or not, but they will judge him from what he has done to help this province on the way of progress. I can assure you that so far as beneficent departments are concerned, their achievements have been nil. The only department where the expenditure is increasing is the Police Department, because this is Police Raj. They are living and sitting there because of the Police. It is under the police protection that they can hold meetings and can get people on their side. Without police not even 20 decent Punjabis would listen to their harangue. Can we be surprised that the only item under which the expenditure has gone up 8 times as compared to 1940 is the Police Department? The only little good which this Government has done—and I must give them credit for doing that—is to respond to our demand for increasing the salaries of patwaris and police constables. I am glad that they have done it. That is what we have put down in our League Manifesto which was issued some time ago and which the Honourable Premier had the audacity to say that it was a collection of titbits taken from here and there, from the communist table or from the Congress table. Anyhow nothing is taken from his table because there is nothing there. (Laughter). May I remind you, Sir, that in 1937, the All-Indian Muslim League, at its annual session passed a resolution. I will not take the time of the House by reading out that resolution. But I submit that there is not a word in our manifesto which is not covered by that resolution. (Rai Bahadur Lala Sohan Lal: In spite of that you joined the Unionist Party). A human being is liable to make mistakes. But luckily I am not one of the those people, who, after realising their mistake, are still sitting there. It is never too late to realise your weakness. Show your strength and courage, which you do not possess, and come and sit on these benches. I am proud that I am not sitting on those benches. I know what they are and what they want to do. The reason why we are passing through these unhappy days is that this Government is playing ducks and drakes with us and that there is no democracy so far as the Punjab is concerned. As a matter of fact, it is fascism and not democracy. May I ask you, Sir, to tell me from your vast experience if there is any legislature or any democratic body in the world where you find a set of Ministers who do not owe allegiance to any political party in the country? Did the framers of the

Government of India Act of 1935 ever visualise that this Act will be at the mercy of those people, who are free lances and irresponsible people and who do not owe allegiance to any political party? Take the case of our Premier. He is a rebel and an expelled man from the Muslim League.

Mr. Speaker : The honourable member should not be personal.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I am talking about the Premier and not about Malik Khizar Hayat Khan. Now next to him comes the Honourable Finance Minister who, I am glad, has got an emergency promotion as a second lieutenant. He is in charge of the Jail Department. Political prisoners are rotting in jails and the most inhuman treatment is meted out to them. Those people are there without any offence but are not going to be released. If you ask the Honourable Finance Minister, he will say, 'I am helpless, I cannot do anything'. Well, nobody cares for him. The Home Secretary would not listen to him, the Chief Secretary would not care for him. What is the use of occupying those benches? Any Minister with self-respect will think it a disgrace to sit with this Government where the Chief Secretary, the Home Secretary and other I. C. S. Secretaries dominate and they do not care for the Government. Sir, what is the reason? The Honourable Finance Minister has an inherent weakness and he can never get rid of it. He is not owned by anybody, he does not belong to any party, neither to the Congress nor to the Hindu Mahasabha, and he does not owe allegiance to any body. Now, here is another friend, the great Minister for Education. (*Laughter*). He is also a free lance, a man whom no body owns and he does not owe allegiance to any body.

Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram : On a point of order. Is it permissible under the rules to make personal attacks?

Mr. Speaker : No, it is not permissible and I have warned the honourable member several times.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Next comes the Honourable Minister for Development. He takes pride in saying—and I do not blame him—"I do not owe allegiance either to the Akali Party, or the Khalsa Diwan or the Khalsa Nationalists." Now, is it not the height of misfortune that this province, this democracy and the Government of India Act is being worked by a set of individuals who do not owe responsibility to any political organisation, and are not responsible to any well-organised body, having no plans or programme, nothing of the kind, but simply because somehow or other they are able to keep a dozen stooges on their side. I am sorry I cannot congratulate the Finance Minister on his achievements.

Nawab Muzaffar Ali Khan Qizilbash (Lahore, Muhammadan, Rural) : **Mr. Speaker,** we have heard a great oration from Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan. Before I come to the Budget I would like to say one or two things about Raja Sahib. He seems to suffer the whole time from one thing and that is that he is no more on these benches where he would like to be. His speech gives an insight into his mind that he wants to come over here. Well, I am sure it will not be long before he would see the light of the day, cross the floor and join us again. There will be nothing new, he has done it so many times before, it will be the same Raja Sahib, sitting here and congratulating the Finance Minister as he has done for the last 7 years.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : When you cease to be traitors.

Nawab Muzaffar Ali Khan Qizilbash : We are waiting for that day when he will be with us. It will not be long before that will happen.

Now, coming to the Budget I must congratulate the Finance Minister; he has been congratulated many times on producing such a budget. The greatest satisfaction is to be able to feel that with such a Finance Minister we in the Punjab have nothing to fear; we are safe in his hands. We are passing through terrible days of war

[Nawab Muzaffar Ali Khan Qizilbash]

with the greatest confidence. I am here not to say what the Government have already done. There are a lot of things which the Government should do. I am here to present a constructive criticism of the Government and congratulate them for what they have done and tell them the other things to which they have not paid enough attention. I must congratulate them for increasing the pay of the policemen. They were badly paid, it was a disgrace to the Punjab. I am told that every time this question was taken up it was looked into and was turned down. Here we have a Finance Minister who has done it with one stroke of pen and to-day we have a happy police. We cannot run any Government without a happy police. I would also bring the lot of the patwaris to his notice. The lot of the patwari should also be gone into and he should be considered for an increase of pay for the simple reason that he has got great authority behind him and does not get a living wage. Patwari's pay I am told has been raised but the amount is not enough and if he is not paid well what does he do? It is we poor zamindars who have got to pay him in some form or other to make up for the money which the Government is saving. Somebody else is made to pay, therefore his pay should further be raised. The third thing to which the Government have not paid enough attention is the industrialisation of the Punjab. This, I would suggest, is the most important thing. Other provinces, I am told, have got their proposals ready for postwar reconstruction and industrialisation. I dare say that some plans have been made in this province, but that is not enough. I would draw the attention of the Government to the fact that this is the time when war is coming to an end; it will not be long before we have the happy news of victory. Then there will be a rush on the one hand of political parties for political power and all sort of other things will crop up. This is the time to prepare plans to industrialise the province. I dare say that here we have not got the money which other provinces have. They thought of industrialising their provinces long ago. Here the industrialists are few and far between. That is the reason why the Government should take it over. They have taken over the motor transport as an experiment in two or three places. I would suggest that the industry of motor transport should be nationalised and taken over. Why do I suggest that? It is for the simple reason that unfortunately here the motor transport has fallen in the hands of some people where nobody cares for the public; everybody is out to make the maximum amount of profit. That is why we have not gone any further and that is why our industries are killed in the beginning. Take the case of motor transport. I did not get an opportunity to speak in the debate the other day. There is one point I want to press for the consideration of the House, i.e., should the Government take or not take over the motor transport? I think the Government should take it over. For instance, I had the unfortunate experience of travelling by a motor lorry from Niaz Beg to Lahore, my car having broken down. What was the result? People were packed like sardines; you could hardly breathe. Why does that happen?—because the man owning the lorry wants to make the maximum amount of money without caring for the comfort of the public. Let us take the lorry I travelled on. It will be a disgrace to call it a lorry: it was worse than hell. There was no place where one could sit, except some wood. There was no question of cushions. Why?—because they wanted to make money without spending for the comfort of the people. Take the case of the driver. He was a most dangerous driver ever seen. He does what he wants to do as there is no check over him. The interests of the public are at stake. I dare say we have got to do something. I do not say that we should ignore the vested interests. The point is what should be done with these people. Pay them as well as you can afford to and buy them out. Criticism was levelled against the Unionist Government that they want opportunities to appoint Britishers and do nothing else.

2 p.m.

I say, Mr. Speaker, with all the emphasis that I can command that we stand as much for freedom and for doing everything for the good of the people as anybody else. If we are giving money towards the war

effort, if we are giving our men to fight, it is because we consider this war to be our own war. We have never for a single minute considered this war as the Britishers' war. We realize the danger that lies ahead in case Japan were allowed to have its way. We know full well what will be our position then. We shall have to go back a hundred years and shall lose all that we have gained during the last century. We have promises from the Britishers; we shall certainly have freedom. Unfortunately, for us we have ourselves not been able to work out a scheme. I would very much wish, Sir, that we worked out a scheme for our own province if we cannot decide on all-India basis. The Punjab has given a lead always, let us this time also give a lead to the rest of India. Let us come forward with a scheme for the benefit of the Muslims who are in a majority; let us come forward with a scheme for the benefit of the Sikhs, the brave people of our province and for the Hindus who have money and who have done a lot for the development of the province. Let us not fight over petty issues. Time has come when we should concentrate over bigger and broader issues and come to some sort of understanding.

Coming to the discussion of the Budget, Sir, I would draw the attention of the Government to industries. Important industries like textile and fertilizers should be taken up by the Government. There is not enough money for such big industries for private enterprise and Government should take it upon their shoulders to run these industries for the good of the people. There is another very important matter to which I would like to draw the attention of the Government and that is minerals. I am told that there are plenty of minerals which are lying unexplored in our province. That is a source which must be tapped by the Government and research made in that direction.

Another very important point to which I would refer and which vitally affects our province is with regard to cattle. On account of war there has been acute paucity of cattle. Inflation too is responsible for the very exorbitant prices of cattle. But apart from that fact this acuteness is due to the fact that armies have to be fed. Some scheme should be worked up in order to replace the cattle, otherwise I am afraid our agriculture which mainly depends upon the cattle will be adversely affected.

In regard to agriculture, I would say that our position is not as satisfactory as I would like it to be. Take, for instance, the case of Russia. The output per acre of Russia is far greater than ours. The reason is that they have got scientific methods and research. We too have got a department here and they are supplying us seeds, etc., but that is not enough. We should take far greater interest in that direction than we actually are doing at present and work our agriculture on scientific lines.

Education is another matter which requires much more attention than is being given at present by the Government. I was myself in one of the Education Committees. We found that the money required for the purpose was so enormous that the Government could not possibly afford. The expenditure per head in our province for education is nothing as compared to other countries. In France and England it is 40 to 50 times as much as we spend here. But we can make at least a beginning and do our best under the circumstances. We should not leave everything to the post-war reconstruction. In this connection I entirely agree with the criticism of Raja Sahib. We do hope and pray for a speedy victorious end of the war but supposing it does not come to an end soon? We are a popular Government and we cannot wait for very long so we must do something in this direction immediately.

Another very important matter to which I would like to make a reference is District Boards. Two years ago the Lahore District Board asked the Government for more grant as it was not possible to run the Board efficiently with the existing grant. We were told by the Government that unless we came forward and suggested

[Nawab Muzaaffar Ali Khan Qizilbash.]

some new scheme no money could be given to us. I may in this connection say, Sir, that on account of the high cost of everything it is impossible to carry on with the work. We cannot even take up the repairs of our existing buildings, let alone making new ones. For the last two years we are not having any repairs. The contractors quote such high figures that it is not possible for us to have repairs done. If this state of things continues our buildings will come down. I would most earnestly request the Government to do something in this direction, after all they have a surplus Budget.

Another matter that I would like to bring to your notice is the Government of India's decision to give money to all the provinces on the basis of population. This, I say, is very unfair. The standard should be the effort that a province has made in this war. What have they done? I am told that the provinces will get money immaterial of the fact what they have done for this war. The money which they are going to dole out is to be divided on a population basis. This House should protest against that and through you, Mr. Speaker, I want to say on the floor of this House that this decision of the Government of India is very wrong. We were expecting great results and this first instalment that we have got from the Government of India has hit us very badly.

The other thing that I wish to speak about is electricity. As the Government are trying to take over the transport of the province, I would like them to take up electricity all over the province. We have got a scheme to increase electricity and there are plenty of private concerns which could be taken over by the Government and I do make this suggestion.

Now coming to the Irrigation Department, I would like to say one word. This Government is not here to make money but for the good of the people. I have found that during the last ten or fifteen years there has been a tendency on the part of Government to take the canal water further and further so that they can get a better return, immaterial of the fact whether water is going to be enough for those to whom they are going to supply it. Previously people got enough water, but as now the area under irrigation has been increased, the result is that the man at the tail suffers and also the man up above who used to get enough water previously.

Sardar Bahadur Sardar Ujjal Singh (Western Towns (Sikh) Urban): Mr. Speaker, the Punjab has a legitimate cause to be proud of its finances. This province, I believe, is the solitary instance of producing surplus budgets during the last four or five years in war time. Our ordinary receipts have gone up by about 4 or 5 crores, but the reason is not far to seek. The increase in excise alone has gone up by about two crores and land revenue, irrigation and property and sales taxes have produced another one or two crores. But the point is whether the Government has utilized all that surplus of the additional income on improving the conditions of the people. If we look at the expenditure, we will find that during the last four or five years the expenditure on so-called law and order has gone up by 80 per cent. In 1940-41 it was 224 lakhs; in 1945-46 it stands at 411 lakhs. On the other hand, beneficent departments have got an additional expenditure to the extent of about 200 lakhs. The increase in expenditure on the beneficent departments of the five or six nation-building departments has been 07 per cent. On the other hand, the increase in expenditure on law and order alone is over 80 per cent. It was the duty of the Government to have spent almost all the additional income on these nation-building departments. Has the Government satisfied itself that the reasonable needs of the people, the amenities of the people have been met with? I think they are quite clear in their mind that a lot has to be done. My honourable friend the Finance Minister

himself referred to one matter, that is the wiping out of illiteracy in the Punjab. His words are :—

No less do I feel that the demands of education are urgent and imperative.

Then he goes on to say :

To me the highest task that lies before us is to wipe out the course of illiteracy in the shortest period possible because that alone can open up a vista of efficiency in every direction.

He realizes that the removal of ignorance is the first elementary duty of a responsible Government, but has the Government done anything in that direction ? I think they have not moved their little finger. The Compulsory Education Act was passed, the old Act has been amended and nothing so far has been done. But even those scholars who join schools voluntarily have not been asked to stay on till the fourth class knowing the fact that for every three scholars who join the primary schools only one completes the five years course. Only if that had been done, a tremendous stride in the advance of literacy would have been made and would have helped to stop the unnecessary waste of money. I would not deal with the subject further except state one fact more, that is, that in spite of the huge surplus a contemptuous sum of Rs. 20,000 provided for the encouragement of scriptural languages in the last budget has not been spent and that not a pie has been provided in the budget for 1945-46. Out of the sum of Rs. 20,000 provided last year only Rs. 4,000 was to be spent on the teaching of Punjabi, but in 1945-46 not a single penny has been provided for the encouragement of Punjabi. My friend the Education Minister has tagged on Arabic with Punjabi, as a language of this province to be encouraged in the same manner.

The other subject to which I would like to draw the attention of the Treasury benches is the state of public health in this province. As is known to some honourable members in the whole of India infant mortality is 162 per 1,000 and deaths from tuberculosis annually amount to 5,00,000 and 3,37,00,000 annually from fever. The state of health in this province on the average is the same, if not worse than the state of public health in the whole of India. In the town the state of cleanliness and sanitation is disgraceful. Look at the town of Lahore, the capital of the Punjab. Look at the state of affairs in this town. Wherever you go, you find nothing but filth and squalour. Nothing has been done in spite of the hue and cry of the public. The elected corporation has been suspended. If the Government cannot do anything, if their officers are unable to manage the affairs of the town let them revive the corporation. The members elected from the different localities will be better able to tackle their problems and to voice the feelings of the people and to redress the grievances of the people of that locality. There will be some improvement in the administration and sanitation of the town. How does it hinder war effort if the elections to Lahore Corporation are held ? Elections are being held all over the world. But in this city of Lahore elections are suspended for the reason that they will interfere with war effort ?

Another point I would hurriedly touch is with regard to the small towns. New colony towns are springing up. They should have been model towns in the Punjab. But on the other hand, the state of public health there is just as bad as anywhere in the old towns. The reason is that the Government takes away practically all the money collected from the sale proceeds of building sites, to which the Government is not entitled. What they are entitled to is only the value of the agricultural land. When the towns spring up the additional money should be spent on the provision of amenities for the people in those towns. I know that all these towns are suffering from bad finance. The Government sells the sites at very high prices and pockets all the money. It is most essential that all the money or at least 75 per cent of it should be spent on the improvement, on sanitation and roads of these towns. Either beg, borrow or steal, you must do something to remove the nuisance of dust and the curse of disease and unhealthy life in the towns.

[S. B. S. Ujjal Singh.]

The other 'point I would like to dwell on is the development of industry. The Government of India Reconstruction Committee's Report states, under modern conditions, a country without highly developed industries has no political future, as the present war has demonstrated." (*Hear, hear*). In spite of that and in spite of the fact that industry provides employment for the people and as my honourable friend, the Finance Minister, who is a great economist, must know much more about industrial development than anybody else, in spite of what my honourable friend, Raja Ghanfar Ali Khan might say, our economy is unbalanced, industrial development alone can provide a great source of employment to the people, still precious little has been done. Mere patch work will not put us on the road to industrialisation. In this province we have got all the resources as also the best market and hydro-electric power resources. There are great potentialities and still we have not planned industrialisation by encouraging industrial enterprises. On industrial research it was the duty of the Government to spend huge sums but it has spent very little. In American Universities I am informed, I have read in one of the books, that 93 crores annually are being spent on industrial research alone with the help of the Government. You will find that whatever industrial progress is made in India, that progress is concentrated in two provinces, Bengal and Bombay and there too, mostly in the cities of Calcutta, Ahmedabad and Bombay. If you study the figures carefully you will find that over fifty per cent of the available factory labour force in India is concentrated in the provinces of Bengal and Bombay. By looking at the tables showing consumption of units of electrical energy for industry we will find that Bombay consumes 21.6 units energy per head, Bengal 5.1; Madras 2; U. P. 2; Bihar 1.1; Sind 1.2 and Punjab only .8 unit. The Punjab is at the bottom of the list in spite of the fact that we have immense resources as compared to other provinces. If the Government were to encourage private enterprise, I am sure rapid industrial development will take place in this province also. I admit that the general tendency now is a greater control over industry. I do not grudge control by the state for the purpose of regulating wages or for the welfare of the wage-earners. But it is the private enterprise that is responsible all the world over, except in Russia, for industrial development. I would like to quote in this connection from the Report of the Reconstruction Committee with regard to state management or control. It states :

"The most usual form of state relationship with industries is that of state control". Generally speaking it may be laid down that except where national interests require it industries are at present best left to competitive capitalist enterprise, the state exercising such control as to see that they are operated for the public benefit, after providing a reasonable return on savings and enterprise. Where industries are left in private hands Government control should interfere as little as possible with actual management so as to provide free scope to efficiency.

It is generally admitted that private enterprise and management by private persons lead to efficiency and economy. Government-managed enterprises are always more costly and generally inefficient. We have had our own experience in the province. It is impossible for a monstrous bureaucratic machine to promote industry. It works cumbrously and leads to inefficiency and corruption. Government should be the last body, particularly a party Government returned by communal electorate to handle industry, either to own it or manage it. What the Government can do is to take up those industries which have a tendency to become monopolistic, like hydro-electric or irrigation or even railways or those industries which are required in national interest for which capital is not easily forthcoming. Fertilizer industry is most suitable for this province. There is market for it. That is the one industry which the State should take up. They can take up transport industry to a limited extent. The Government have its vaults full and they can spend as much money as they like on Hydro-Electric, Irrigation, fertilizers, coal tar and other things. In the case of other industries they should try to help private enterprise. A business conference was held in New York in November

last and delegates from 52 nations collected there. They came to an almost unanimous conclusion that private enterprise is the best means of bringing about effective prosperity and employment thereby assuring a higher standard of living for all people. I would leave this matter here.

Sayed Amjad Ali Shah : Was that opinion of the delegates from Russia ?

Sardar Bahadur Sardar Ujjal Singh : So far as Russia is concerned, their opinion is known to everybody. The last point that I would touch is the restrictions placed on M. L. As. who are released from jails. I cannot understand why the Government should feel shy of allowing them to attend the Assembly. Are they afraid of their votes or of their criticisms ? I think the Government ought to welcome their criticism. The Opposition is as much part of the Government as the Treasury benches. In fact the parliamentary system cannot be a success without a strong and healthy Opposition. The Government should welcome healthy criticism and I feel certain that the Honourable Premier, who has the reputation of acting in a straightforward and bold manner, will not keep those restrictions imposed on the M. L. As. and will allow them to attend the Assembly.

Khan Sahib Chaudhri Pir Muhammad (South East, Gujrat, Muhammadan, Rural) : Mr. Speaker, before I proceed with the discussion of the Budget I would like to say something about the statement which has just now been made by the honourable member on the opposite benches—I mean Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan—that none of the Ministers sitting on these benches belong to any political party.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Has the honourable member risen to defend them ?

Khan Sahib Chaudhri Pir Muhammad : I must remind him of the day when he joined the Unionist Party in this House in the time of the late Sir Sikander Hyat-Khan.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : It was an evil day.

Khan Sahib Chaudhri Pir Muhammad : I want to remind him that with a view to become a Parliamentary Secretary in the Unionist Party he said that in the whole of the Province Malik Barkat Ali and he were elected on the Muslim League ticket and as he was unable to form any party with Malik Sahib, therefore he would like to join the Unionist Party whose programme was the same as that of the Muslim League. On this declaration of his, he was taken into the fold of the Unionist Party and now he says that there is no political party to which the Honourable Premier or the other Ministers belong. Let me tell him that at least four—even five—of the Ministers sitting on these benches belong to the Unionist Party which is the most prominent political party in the Province. (*Hear, hear*). This party is firmly sitting in the saddle like a rock and the most violent political storm in the Province has not been able to shake it. (*Cheers*). Let me tell Raja Sahib that the party to which he belongs—I do not refer to the Muslim League but the party to which he belongs. (*Interruptions*). We Muhammadans sitting on this side have every respect for the Muslim League.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Have you ? Oh !

Khan Sahib Chaudhri Pir Muhammad : Yes.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Oh !

Khan Sahib Chaudhri Pir Muhammad : It was at the instance of the late Sir Sikander Hyat-Khan that we became Muslim Leaguers on the basis of Jinnah-Sikander Pact. I am sorry that nobody raised any objection to it while he was alive but after his death even his son went against it. Therefore, I must say that Raja Sahib was quite wrong in saying that the Premier and the Ministers sitting on this side did not belong to any political party. In the whole of India this is the only Ministry which

[K. S. Ch. Pir Muhammad.]

has not been shaken by any political intrigue or storm. All others have fallen. All the Muslim League ministers in the three provinces have the Damocles' sword hanging over their heads. They are being supported by Europeans and others. In the N. W. F. Province they are going to collapse the moment the Budget session commences.

Mian Abdul Aziz : Next is your turn.

Khan Bahadur Chaudhri Pir Muhammad : We will see that the Unionist Party always occupies these benches. Even though they on the Opposition benches are running about very much outside, but I must assure them that they have not been able to produce the least effect upon the public outside. They will not be able to get even a single vote at the next elections. (*Cheers*). Nobody denies the great ability of our Finance Minister and I think he is without equal in the whole of India so far as economists are concerned. It was a good fortune of the Unionist Ministry that he accepted the Finance Ministership of this Province. The work he has done during the last eight years as Finance Minister is so splendid that we cannot but congratulate him on the presentation of the Budget in this Assembly in the same manner as Raja Sahib did last year. He then congratulated him.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : On a point of personal explanation. I condemned him last year.

Khan Sahib Chaudhri Pir Muhammad : Raja Sahib has criticised the Budget on the basis of the speech delivered by the Honourable Finance Minister. And what were the objections? Objection has been taken on the inclusion of the words 'action is being taken' in the speech. Let me tell Raja Sahib that it is only the idea which moves the man. Nothing can be done without an idea. Nothing can be brought into existence in this world without an idea. An idea is to be conceived, you have then to think about it and you have to go on revolving this idea in your mind. It is only then that you can produce something very useful and not otherwise. During the last 8 years the Unionist Ministry has been in power, it has changed the province considerably for the better. It is carrying on its programme of uplifting the poor, specially the zamindar, so much so that had there been no Unionist Ministry there would have been no conciliation board and the liquidation of debts. Many big zamindars like you would never have been relieved of the burden of the *sahukar*. You were praising all these things yourself. There was a time when the zamindar was very much under debt and he had to go to the door of the *sahukar* every now and then. But now it is the time that the zamindar is not afraid of any *sahukar* at all. Whenever he wishes he sells his produce at his house or takes it to mandi. Now I must refer to one or two things concerning my own district. There is one thing to which I want to draw the attention of the Government and it is that in the Irrigation they have about 40 crores of rupees for post-war reconstruction. I will advise them to at least spend a major portion of it on the removal of water-logging which has spoiled the countryside population and on account of this water-logging their physique has considerably deteriorated and they cannot resist disease and their vitality has been undermined. The other thing is that a good portion of this amount should be spent on communications. I must bring it to the notice of the Government that the best industry of the country is agriculture and for improving agriculture good communications are necessary. Unless you make metalled roads, there can be no hope of improvement in agriculture, because otherwise the zamindar is not in a position to bring his commodities and produce to the mandis. I remained in charge of a colony during my service. I noticed that money and everything was spent by the Government on establishing mandis in those towns and whenever a mandi town is made, it is the Government which gives them sufficient agricultural land so that they draw necessary income from its produce.

Malik Barkat Ali (Eastern Towns, Muhammadan, Urban) : This year's budget, Mr. Speaker, marks no departure from the settled rule that the present Finance Minister has set unto himself from the day that he took up service with the Unionist Party and became on that account an occupant of the treasury benches, namely, that of grossly under-estimating receipts and over-estimating expenditure, so that at the close of the year he may be able to say that as a result of his careful and cautious handling of the finances of the province, he has been able to get a huge surplus. Before I discuss his figures, I should like the House to know that according to all canons of public finance, no Government has a right to take from the tax-payer more than its immediate needs and the service of the year. Revenue and expenditure chargeable to that revenue shall balance year by year, that is the golden rule, the corner stone of sound finance, and there are very good reasons why eminent authorities lay emphasis on this most cardinal principle which every Finance Minister must observe. This House knows that there are Finance Ministers all over. What is their practice? If you read through their budgets, you will find that they either begin with a small deficit so that at the end of the year they may by retrenchment achieve a balanced budget; or where they budget a surplus, they budget a small nominal surplus just to carry forward, like the till money in the shop of a private dealer. Let me here quote to you an authority which is recognised by the present Finance Minister himself as a very eminent authority on public finance. Hilton Young in his book "System of National Finance", latest edition, on page 198 writes as follows :—

"A Government has got no business to get more money out of the taxpayers than it needs for the immediate business of Government, or to keep funds lying idle for which it has no present use. Money is the manure of industry. It should be left to enrich that field, to keep it locked up in the Government's box is to impoverish the nation like any other house of business. The Government must keep a little to carry forward in the form of an Exchequer balance at the end of the year, and a tiny reserve in the Civil Contingency and Treasury Chest Funds. But it should not allow funds to accumulate in any other way and in fact, it does not. Therefore, if you take more money out of the tax-payer, you really imperil the industry of the nation. The second reason why this rule is emphasised is that if you examine further all its implications, you find that its violation may impede the future production of wealth."

I will quote to you another eminent writer, Mr. Robinson, on this part of the case. This is what he says on page 10 of his book "Public Finance :—

"And the point to emphasise is that when taxation transfers wealth from private individuals to the State the taxation must reduce the power of those taxed to spend or to save. Where the wealth absorbed in this way reduces their power to make expenditure necessary for efficiency, or to invest in productive industry, then taxation will reduce the future production of wealth."

The third reason why Finance Ministers recognise and follow this rule as the very A, B, C of public finance, is that the availability of money, if you budget huge surplus, is a standing invitation to the departments to enter on uneconomic or extravagant expenditure. Now, let us examine the figures in the light of these considerations. I cannot begin from 1937-38 because the time at my disposal is very limited. I will, however, begin from the year 1940-41.

In the year 1940-41 the Finance Minister budgeted a deficit of 28 lakhs, a nominal deficit in a revenue of about 16 or 17 crores. At the close of the year, for reasons the credit of which cannot go to him, e.g., gifts of nature and bounties of Providence, he found that the province gave him a surplus of 69 lakhs, and mind you this surplus came because in calculating the income for 1940-41, he had actually under-estimated it to the extent of 1 crore and 57 lakhs. The figures reveal an amazing story of himalayan mis-calculations on the side of receipts. In the year 1941-42 he budgeted a nominal surplus of 4 lakhs but actually at the close of the year found in his hands a surplus of 1 crore and 24 lakhs; he again miscalculated the receipts. What a Finance Minister, in matters of estimates and arithmetic his genius as a Finance

[Maanik Barchat Ali.]

Minister invariably fails him. The House will be surprised to hear that he underestimated the revenue receipts for this year to the extent of 1 crore and 59 lakhs. Now coming to the year 1942-43, he still followed to some extent the elementary lessons that he had learnt, viz., budgetting a small deficit or a nominal surplus and he accordingly budgetted a deficit of 10 lakhs, but at the close of the year got in his hands a surplus of 2 crores and 14 lakhs. The prospect of a huge surplus came into his sight at the time of the revised figures, but what does he do? He puts away 60 lakhs on the expenditure side as a present to the Peasants Welfare Fund and another 20 lakhs to the Special Development Fund, but it cannot occur to him that he has a duty to the taxpayer also. Further in the matter of under-estimating you will be surprised to hear from me that he under-estimated the receipts of this year to the extent of 2 crores and 92 lakhs. I come now to the year 1943-44. This year he started with a surplus of 50 lakhs and at the close of the year, I believe its accounts are closed,—he found in his hands a surplus to the extent of 5 crores and 51 lakhs. The House should not forget that these surpluses were not the result of his careful handling of the finances of the province but were a gift of nature. It never occurred to him, as it should have, the moment that he found these surpluses, that it was his first duty to the taxpayer to announce a remission of taxation. With this surplus of 5 crores and 51 lakhs of which he became almost certain at the time of the revised figures, he throws away 60 lakhs to the Peasants Welfare Fund—and this House knows nothing how it is spent—40 lakhs to the Special Development Fund and 15 lakhs to the Forest Reclamation Fund, a new fund which he started this year, with the result that ultimately he announced to the House a net surplus of 4 crores and 36 lakhs. The House will be surprised to hear that even for this year 1943-44, he under-estimated the receipts to the extent of 4 crores and 85 lakhs. I now come to the year 1944-45, the current year, he started with a surplus, not a nominal surplus, as all experienced and responsible Finance Ministers budget—but he budgetted a huge surplus of 8 crores and 86 lakhs without realising his duty to the tax-payer; in fact, it has never fallen to him to announce a remission in taxation during the years that he has been reaping the surpluses. The accounts of this year are not yet complete but according to the revised figures given by him he expects a surplus of 4 crores and 54 lakhs. As is his wont, he out of this surplus has by means of a supplementary budget taken away 2 crores for Post-war Reconstruction, 60 lakhs for the Peasants Welfare Fund, 40 lakhs for the Special Development Fund and 15 lakhs for the Forest Reclamation Fund, leaving thus a net surplus of 1 crore and 39 lakhs as if we have not got eyes to see that this is not the actual surplus, the surplus really being 4 crores and 54 lakhs. As for the receipts he again under-estimated the income, according to revised figures, by 2 crores and 85 lakhs. Next year, i.e., 1945-46 he is budgetting a surplus of 4 crores and 92 lakhs. What do these figures show? They show (i) that there have been from the very beginning terrible mis-calculations on the receipt side, (ii) that whenever surpluses were realised it never occurred to the Finance Minister to do his duty by the tax-payers, namely to announce a proportionate or some reduction in the taxes of the province (iii) that as soon as these surpluses rose in his sight, the availability of money acted as a standing temptation to him to further uneconomic or should I say extravagant expenditure and he invariably succumbed to it by putting away by a wave of his hand crores and lakhs to various Funds of his creation, e.g., the Peasants Welfare Fund, the Special Development Fund and the Forest Reclamation Fund, (iv) that by continuing to budget and reap huge surpluses he has been doing the greatest damage to the industry of the Province. Surpluses are really so much money withdrawn from the pockets of the nation and to that extent serious impediment to the progress of industry and finally (v) that throughout his career he has been violating the primary course of balanced budgets. I find that this aspect of the matter, viz., the importance of balanced budgets has not escaped his

attention and anticipating an objection to it if not here, at least outside the House, he has tried to give an explanation as to why he has been throwing behind his back this elementary principle of balanced budgets. This is what he says about balanced budgets at page 19—

"We must not be affected overmuch by the doctrine of budgetary balance. It is no simple teaching anyhow, and in provincial finance where emphasis lies on acquiring and gathering all possible strength within its exiguous limits, its application is of a very restricted nature. Most liberally interpreted, it cannot mean 'balance' in any single year, (the italics are mine) it can only signify a balance in a series of years—the balance to be secured not by cutting down revenues but by prudent and wise expansion of expenditure along urgent and desirable directions. We cannot introduce elasticity where none exists in order to secure rapid adjustment between income and outgo, we would in any such endeavour fail in the primary object and cause dislocation and disturbance and uncertainty generally. Elsewhere here and in countries outside India these questions of balance are now being regarded as *not single year issues*, and the present war has tended to their study mainly in connexion with problems of National Debt. In this view, I wholly welcome our surpluses and consider their transfer into our funds of the highest utility."

Divorced from all flourish and the rhodomontade of words in which our Finance Minister is accustomed to express his views the explanation that he has laboured to give is no explanation at all. It is opposed to all the teachings in Public Finance, and I have no hesitation in characterising it as sheer bunkum. In this connection, Mr. Speaker, I

will quote the same authority which the Minister for Finance himself quoted in reply to an objection of mine in the Public Accounts Committee, namely the authority of Hilton Young. At page 5 of the *System of National Finance* this is the latest edition of that book. This distinguished author says:

"That revenue and expenditure should balance year by year is the golden rule of economy. It is an absolute essential of solvency. Bankruptcy is the port towards which a state steers that allows its debt to accumulate. To obscure the fact that they are being allowed to accumulate by raising loans to pay them off temporarily can only prolong the journey. The converse form of accumulation, the accumulation of a balance of revenue from year to year is equally uneconomic. It needlessly deprives the nation of wealth for which profitable uses could be found and keeps it lying idle and sterile. These are elementary principles. They are—"

I invite the attention of our learned Finance Minister to these lines—

They are buried so deep at the root of our subject that they are apt to be forgotten altogether. To dig them up and have a look at them just once before we go on is not waste of time if it fixes in our minds the idea that the purpose of financial machinery is to secure in the first place full parliamentary control of incomes and outgoings; in the second place, that the one shall *yearly balance* the other; in the third that the taxpayer shall not be asked to find more money than is needed; and lastly, most important, and most difficult of attainment, that there shall be no waste in expenditure."

It appears to me, Mr. Speaker, that the Unionist Python, to the shining and golden tints of which the Finance Minister fell such an easy and willing prey—has so completely spread its suffocating coils round his political body that it has crushed out all the veins and springs of his economic thought and driven out of his head all the lessons which he must have learnt in the subject of Public Finance.

I will now turn to other distressing aspects of this Budget. The House will remember that I have year after year been drawing the attention of honourable members to the fact that the Honourable Finance Minister has been consuming the capital of the province to an extraordinary degree. I will take the figures from his own statements. He tells us that his distinguished predecessors—many of them were far more distinguished than he can ever hope to be—consumed the capital of the province during the 36 years from 1900—1936 to the extent of ten crores and nineteen lakhs. Now what has our present Finance Minister done? During the years 1937—40 he consumed the capital of the province to the extent of eleven crores of rupees and later during 1941—45 to the extent of eighteen crores and ninety-nine lakhs of rupees. Summing these figures, the amount of capital which the present Finance Minister has consumed during a period of eight years comes to twenty-nine crores and ninety-nine lakhs as against ten crores and nineteen lakhs consumed by his predecessors during a period of 36 years.

Mr. Speaker : Please wind up.

Malik Barkat Ali : I have much to say, Sir, but I will now take only a few minutes of the House in view of your orders. I have as a matter of fact, quite a lot to say regarding the misdeeds of the Unionist Government. But before I close, I should like however to refer to the silver lining to the dark clouds that have lain so thick and heavy over this province since this Government came to power. That silver lining, Mr. Speaker, is the emergence of the Muslim League Party as an independent party in this House (*Hear, hear* from the Muslim League benches), and the consequent ending of that planned fraud which had been so successfully carried on in this province during the last six or seven years. Let no one in the House misunderstand me. I have no quarrel with those friends, who believe in the tenets and the political doctrines of the Unionist Party. They are as much free to adhere to those opinions and accept those doctrines as I am free to believe in the doctrines of my party. But to be a Unionist and a Muslim Leaguer in the same breath could not be; it was a huge fraud. I am glad that the veil has been torn; the fraud has been exposed and that henceforth there will be clear-cut true political parties in this province. This, I regard, Sir, as a turning point in the political history of the province, heralding the dawn of a new era, an era—I believe, of greater freedom, greater happiness and greater prosperity for the province. (*Loud applause*).

Khan Bahadur Chaudhri Riasat Ali (Hafizabad, Muhammadan, Rural) : After the speech of the honourable member opposite I would like to contribute a few words to the debate on the general discussion of the Budget. It is no doubt the right of a member belonging to any party to criticise the Government and its policy but to challenge the ability of a particular Minister is something different. The honourable member opposite has challenged the ability of our Finance Minister. In my opinion, Sir, it is like spitting on the moon.

Khan Bahadur Captain Malik Muzaffar Khan : I suggested that a time limit should be fixed. Moreover I understand that some names have been given to you of those members who wish to speak. I request that my name should also be included in that list.

Mr. Speaker : I have a list containing the names of the members of the Opposition who are to take part in the discussion. I have fixed 20 minutes for a front bencher; 15 minutes for a member occupying the second row and 10 minutes each for the rest.

(*At this stage Mr. Speaker left the Chair and Mr. Deputy Speaker occupied it.*)

Khan Bahadur Chaudhri Riasat Ali : To quote book of authority on Finance to him would, I should say, be like carrying light to the sun, or carrying coal to New Castle, or carrying wisdom to Luqman or quoting scriptures before Paul. So far as budgeting is concerned, the Honourable Minister has had the distinction of being a head taller than the rest not only in this province but in the whole of India. His fame as Finance Minister and as an Economist has travelled beyond the limits of the province; that cannot be denied at all. Malik Sahib has taken exception to the way in which the Minister has prepared his budget year after year. He says that it is by the trick of over-estimating expenditure and under-estimating income at the time of the presentation of budget that a surplus is secured in the end. I do not agree that that is the reason. He may read between the lines, but just as he himself admitted during the course of his speech, it is on account of Nature smiling on the revenues of the province which in her benevolence gave more and more to the province, or some other things which he could not anticipate at the time when he himself was preparing the budget.

Another thing which has escaped the honourable member in this connection is that all the money which has flooded the Exchequer of the province during these years is the sale of your own *jaedad*. It is extraordinary revenues which have flooded the Exchequer of the province. (*An honourable member*: These surpluses have nothing to do with it.) Whatever the cause, whether I am right or whether he is right, of bringing these revenues to this high pitch under the head of Income, the fact stands that we are more prosperous today than we were when provincial autonomy was introduced in this province. I need not take the time of the House because it is very limited, but the broad fact stands that the province stands on a surer basis today so far as the budget is concerned and at a time when the extraordinary strains of war with the unprecedented rise of level of prices in the province, when the cost of living has jumped up in this country to at least 250 per cent when the revenues of the province are under a great strain on account of the grant of more pensions, more allowances or more dearness allowances, even at this time the finances of this province are more firm than we can find anywhere in the country. The honourable members should congratulate this Government and the Finance Minister himself—why, because in the last two or three years, without imposing a single pie by way of taxation, he has brought our income to such a high level, and this at a time when taxation—I was going to say—has bled white every tax-payer in other provinces. Look at the Government of India. What have they done? They have taxed the most important and most useful services arbitrarily and without any rhyme or reason to a pitch which people cannot afford to pay. They have taxed the telegraphs, they have taxed the telephone and they have taxed the post office and they are going to increase the duty on tobacco, a thing which was not taxed at the time when the Tobacco Venders Act was passed in this province, to such a high level that it is impossible for the grower or the cultivator in this country to make both ends meet after paying the tax. And it is at this time that your finances are so well handled and you have got a surplus. That is a matter for congratulating the person in charge and not to criticise him on this score.

Another exception which the honourable member has taken is that it was his duty to announce a remission of taxation at the time of the presentation of the Budget. I agree that when Government has got actual surplus, it is the bounden duty of a civilised government to give relief to those who need it most. I agree, but the way in which that relief is to be given or the way in which it is to be increased should be left to the Government, and we must trust the Government in this respect.

I agree that the report of the Canal Committee and also the report of the Unemployment Committee and the report of the Abiana Committees are hanging fire. But it is easy for the opposition to single out a particular item and say that this should have been done and this should not have been done. The Government has to look at it as a whole. So let us leave the details to the Government and see whether in another year it is going to take some action or not. I assure you that the Government feels for these people who claim relief and relief will be given wherever it is needed. But I have again to repeat that the time and the manner should be left to the men in charge, men who handle the schemes. (*Malik Barkat Ali*: Just as the time and method of reforms are to be left to the Parliament). Another point mentioned is that the remission has not been announced. But what difference will it make? If the announcement is not made at the time of the presentation of the Budget, it does not take away its merit.

Now with regard to the speech made by Sardar Bahadur Ujjal Singh I am at one with him that as much money as is available should be spent on those local bodies

(K. B. Ch. Riasat Ali)

and those small towns which are lying outside district towns. So far as industries are concerned, I would endorse every word which he said. We are going beyond the Bombay plan for Government wants to handle each and every industry. It is quite all right just as he has said that such industries as canal or public utility services like hydro-electric can very safely and adequately be handled by the Government. But other industries if they cannot be started for want of capital should be managed by Government only for a temporary period till the financial difficulties are overcome and then they should be handed back to private management and should be run as private enterprise. I cannot over-emphasise the matter of industry because you have seen that in spite of the fact that in India in the year 1943-44 more than 10 million of acres were cultivated and more than 4 million tons of food grains were produced over and above the figure of the previous years we had to face famines like the one in Bengal. It has been proved that with our capital and our methods of cultivation, the zamindar is not able to produce as much wealth as is necessary. Production of wealth is more important than the distribution of wealth. For the production of wealth agriculture alone will not do. Agriculture may be able to feed double the province. But unless and until we take serious and active steps to build and construct or re-construct these industries, it is impossible for our province, for our Government, to provide two square meals a day, for any individual.

Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh (Batala, Sikh, Rural) (*Punjabi*): Sir, I am pleased to remark that the financial position of our province is very good and that the Honourable Finance Minister has presented a surplus Budget. Before I proceed with my speech I would like to point out that considerable amount of land revenue is paid by the Sikhs. To make it more clear I would say that 45 per cent of land revenue is paid by the Sikhs only. (*Interruptions*) If my honourable friends sitting opposite keep quiet they will understand what I am going to say. Let me point out first of all that the position of the Sikhs in the Punjab is the same as that of the Muslims in India. Notwithstanding the fact that 45 per cent of the whole land revenue is paid by the Sikhs, their rights are ignored almost in every department. For instance, they are under-represented in different services and particularly in the beneficent departments their rights have been totally ignored. My honourable friend Sardar Ujjal Singh has also brought this fact to the notice of the Government that very little amount has been spent for teaching Punjabi and Gurmukhi languages. I submit that the Government should spend adequate amount of money on teaching of these languages. Before I was interrupted. I was saying that the position of Sikhs in the Punjab is the same as that of the Muslims in India as a whole. The Muslims have resorted to the demand of Pakistan as a result of the reaction of their failure to get their proper rights. In this connection I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that if the rights of the Sikhs are not protected well by the Government it will result in a serious reaction and the Sikhs would resort to a bigger demand than that of Pakistan (*Honorable members*: *Khalistan*) (*Ironical Laughter*). My friends are taking my words lightly. They must remember that what to talk of Khalistan the Sikhs have a claim over the whole of the Punjab: I was submitting that the Sikhs are not only paying 45 per cent of the land revenue to the exchequer but they are also at the top so far as war services are concerned. Taken India as a whole the population of Sikhs may be one per cent. But so far as this province is concerned their percentage in population comes to more than 13 per cent. But still it is the Sikhs who are topping the list of war services. If you look at the figures it will be clear to you that in the army the Sikhs are second to none in representing their community. As the Sikh belongs to the martial race he has always been ahead of other communities. It is also a wellknown fact that the Sikhs have never lagged behind in patriotic activities as well. Take the Congress for instance. The part played by the Sikhs in the Congress

activities cannot be under-rated and I can say with full confidence that Sikhs have always been all rounders. And now when our kith and kin are holding the reigns of the province they have failed to give due share to the Sikhs in the services. (*Interruptions*) Sir, I was stressing upon the point that we are not given social equality. We cannot take things of our own choice in the Government institutions even, according to Sikander—Baldev Pact. (*Interruptions*). Some friends of mine have murmured the word beef. For their information I would like to add that pork is the equivalent of beef. When one talks about beef, others easily can talk about pork.

Begum Rashida Latif Baji : On a point of order, Sir. An honourable member is always at liberty to say anything that is to the motion. But, things like pork and beef should not be mentioned on the floor of the House.

Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh : Sir, I was talking about the inequality offered to the Sikhs. Our public meetings are stopped and subjected to restrictions. Our share in the Government services is said to be 20 per cent but I dare say that there is not a single department where this percentage is being maintained. Even 10 per cent is doubted. There is not a single department where the head of the department may be a Sikh.

Mian Abdul Rab : The honourable member is making wild allegations that the Sikhs are not getting their proper share. I request him to substantiate these allegations with facts and figures. The Sikhs are predominant in all the departments. They are getting more than their due share.

Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh : Sir, I will make every effort to satisfy my honourable friends. Out of thirty-two Deputy Commissioners there is not a single Sikh. Same is the case of the superintendents of these offices. (*Interruptions*).

Lot of the Sikhs in the cadres of the imperial and the provincial services is also very bad. They are not permitted to stay at a place for more than six months. (*Interruptions*). Sir, this tale of woes and sorrows does not end here. We are not permitted to hold public meetings even. Official interference in melas in connection with *gurpurbs* is an irrefutable instance of this unprecedented tyranny and injustice. But at the same time, Sir, a deputation of the Muslim League was permitted to hold public meetings and they said all sorts of things that they liked. The deputation included one gentleman, Badayoon by name, and he topped the list as far as undesirable utterances were concerned. Our Deputy Superintendent of Police forced our new Deputy Commissioner to promulgate section 144 on the occasion of the sacred celebrations in memory of the marriage of Guru Nanak Dev Ji. (*Interruptions*).

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I draw your attention to the fact that the honourable member has no business to attack an officer who is not present here to defend himself.

Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh : I was talking about the D. S. P. and his name has nothing to do here and I say nothing about that.

Before resuming my seat, Sir, I want to ask the Government that before they acquire the transport industry, they should take serious note of the bad condition of roads. They should not proceed any further as long as the condition of the roads remains as it is at present.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang (West Lahore Division, General Rural) : Sir it is not very easy to speak in this House in its present mood but I hope I shall have a few quiet minutes. As the time at my disposal is very short. I cannot touch many points connected either with the administration or with the Budget itself. I congratulate the province as much as the Honourable Finance Minister on having prosperous budgets. It is a matter of luck. In 1930 wheat was selling in this province at Rs. 1-4-0 or Rs. 1-8-0 per maund but to the luck of the Unionist Government prosperity came to this province about the same time as the Unionist Government came into power.

(Dr. Sir G. C. Narang)

The same wheat has been selling during the last few years from Rs. 10 to Rs. 13 or Rs. 14. Therefore, the Punjab has witnessed a prosperity which it had never witnessed before. At that time even the greatest wizard of finance could not cope with the financial stringency. There was a time when one of the Finance Ministers had to cut down expenses of every kind and a stark necessity was set up as the rule of appropriation of various grants. I remember, when incharge of Industries Department we wanted to print and publish a small pamphlet of a few leaves. When the matter went up before the Finance Department, the Finance Department refused to grant a couple of hundred rupees for printing and publication of that pamphlet. Then I had to direct the Director of Industries to approach a few leading merchants to get a few advertisements from them in order to enable us to have that pamphlet printed. There was that time in 1930 and here is this time in 1945 when the Punjab budget is showing so much surplus. The Honourable Finance Minister would admit that if there was a deficit, he would not have accepted blame for it and if there is a surplus, I am sure, he would be too modest to claim any particular credit for it. A wife has to do with the money that the husband places at her disposal for the management of domestic affairs. (Laughter). The accountant or the manager or the *munshi* of a firm or a factory has to do with the money that is placed at his disposal. His business, of course, is to keep proper accounts. So far as that is concerned, it is a matter of satisfaction that the staff of the Finance Department has discharged its duty in a competent and satisfactory manner. Surpluses themselves are no blessing. You will remember, Sir, that when our late friend, Sir Chhotu Ram, was trying to get 6 crores out of non-agriculturists and urban people of this province, we had to get up and ask him what that money was required for. We pointed out that before any new taxation could be imposed, it was incumbent on the Government to point out the heads of expenditure and the objects on which the money raised by taxation was to be expended and also to point out how much money was required under any particular head. And you will remember, Sir, that not a word was said with respect to the various objects on which that money was to be expended nor was it mentioned how much money was to be spent. Government was anxious to get as much money as they could out of urban people particularly the non-agriculturists. Now we find this surplus which shows that either income was under-valued and expenditure was over-valued and therefore a surplus was arrived at or that there are no proper and fit objects on which money of the province can be spent and therefore all this money, which has been raised by means of all sorts of oppressive measures, is lying idle and appears in the budget as surplus. Otherwise what do we find in this province? Has literacy made any considerable progress? The Honourable Minister of Finance has lamented over this backwardness of the Punjabees in matters of education and even in matters of literacy. He has admitted and it is a well-known fact that some Indian States are miles ahead of our province so far as literacy is concerned. Has industry improved? I do not know, I might be ignorant there may be something which is being done secretly, but it has not seen the light of the day. I do not know if any substantial progress has been made in the matter of industry. Where has this money been spent and where is this money going to be spent? Why has all this money been raised from the people who are mostly unable to pay? What has been the fate of those people who have had to pay this money? I do not mean that more or heavy taxation should have been imposed upon poor agriculturists. I have said scores of times that I have got a very tender corner for poor agriculturists. I have lived with them, I was brought up among them. But for them we would be nowhere. It is good that no burden has been placed on them. But at the same time no relief has been given to them. I also pointed out in one of my speeches that if this money is taken from us to give relief to the poor agriculturists, we would not grudge. But the Government has always withstood that. There is force in the Government's argument.

that remission of small amounts would not benefit the agriculturists to any great extent, but it would cause a great deal of loss to the provincial exchequer. Anyhow, that is not the matter which I would like to discuss at the present moment. My present object is simply to point out that where my honourable friend from Gujranwala was very exultant over the prosperity of this province he ignored one poor class of non-agriculturists who have been robbed by this Government right and left. All sorts of hardships have been imposed upon them and all sorts of difficulties have been put in the way of their business and in the way of trade and commerce. Their markets have been taken away from them. Ignorant people without any experience of business have been placed in charge of those markets. Even their industry has been handicapped and even the poor shopkeepers have been placed under great disabilities, so much so that even the Honourable Finance Minister, as I said once before, had to make a confession in public when speaking to a meeting of some traders that if he was himself a shopkeeper he would have found it impossible to carry on his business. This is the condition of those people. (*Interruptions*). Perhaps he is doing his best but he is helpless.

(*At this stage Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair*).

You will remember, Sir, that three years ago I took considerable time of the House in voicing the grievances of that particular class to which I have the honour or misfortune to belong in this province, inspite of the contributions that they have made to the prosperity of this province. I took about 4 hours of this House and pointed out how these non-agriculturists had been treated in every respect in this province and also pointed out that communalism had been rampant so far as various branches of administration were concerned. I hate communalism and I hate the very idea of it. Therefore, I would not go into details. But I cannot help noticing one tendency in the present Government, particularly in the Honourable Premier. I am sorry that he happens to be absent from the House at the present moment. Under stress of peculiar circumstances he has come to the conclusion that he must out-herod Herods sitting on this side—I do not mean any disrespect to Muslim Leaguers. He probably thinks that unless he was over-zealous in doing everything for his own community he would be blamed by the members of the League that he was not doing enough for them. But we people, who do not belong to that community feel that there is perhaps only a sort of Jang-i-Zargari between the two wings of this House; otherwise one is half a dozen and the other is six. There is not much to choose between the two. If these gentlemen are asking for a theoretical or utopian Pakistan, our Premier has converted the Punjab into Pakistan *de facto*. (*Voices: Question*). This is what he has done. The Premier and his lieutenants probably will quote my remarks when they hold meetings in connection with their election campaign next year or a year after as to the policy and activities of the Premier during the period when he was incharge as the Head of the Government of this province.

Whatever use gentlemen on this side or gentlemen on that side may make of my remarks, the fact stands that the Punjab has been converted into 'Pakistan' *de facto*.

Mian Abdul Aziz : You are mistaken.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : I am in this House simply voicing the feelings of thousands of members of my community and also of the Sikh community. When they look at the various departments of Government and find that all the heads of departments are muslims and all key posts are held by them they cannot help coming to the conclusion that this province has already been converted into 'Pakistan'.

Mian Abdul Aziz : Let there be an enquiry.

Pir Akbar Ali : What about the Development Department?

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : I am not giving way and I do not answer these questions. I was going to quote a verse of Hafiz but he will probably remember that verse.

Malik Barkat Ali : But your Press is supporting the Unionist Party.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : I have no Press : the Press can look after itself.

Khan Muhammad Yusuf Khan : May I ask one question ?

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : Send to me in writing. I do not want to go into details but I wish to touch on one or two points. This was a general remark which I had the temerity to make in spite of the consciousness that it would probably offend some over-zealous members of this House. The Premier again has not explained the charge so far as the removal of one Minister from the Cabinet is concerned. That matter has not yet been explained ; but that leads to another matter, and that also supports my theory of Pakistan *de facto*. The Premier in order to strengthen his position has again favoured his own community and has increased the strength of the representatives of his own community in the Cabinet. (*Ra'ia Gh zansgr Ali Khan :* What is the use). I do not know : it is for him to explain why one was turned out and two were taken in his place. I am sure he will redeem the pledge which he gave on the floor of the House and explain the position so far as that matter is concerned.

Before I sit down, as time is fleeting, I cannot resist the temptation of drawing the attention of this House to a matter which was discussed briefly on the day when the supplementary demands were considered ; the debate on that point was very short. We find that this matter is again referred to in this big volume of Budget Estimates I am referring to the bus transport. I would draw the attention of the Government or that part of the Government still sitting here to the speech of Sir Edward Benthall which he made only the other day and in which he pointed out that the only way of improving the transport in this province was that there should be proper co-ordination between the Central Government, the Provincial Government and the present operators. He said there would be competition and in that competition only that party would win which has got the bigger purse. No one can deny that the bigger purse is in the hands of the Central Government and not in the hands of the Provincial Government in spite of its large surpluses. He also pointed out that the Railways were prepared to come to some agreement with the present operators. The Premier talked about an evil lurking in that agreement and that evil was that if the matter was left to the Central Government and to the Railway Department they would take only the big wigs, only a few people of the capitalist class would join and would derive undue advantage. I am sorry that the Premier at the time forgot that already the Provincial Government had come to an agreement with the Railway Department so far as at least three or four bus routes in this province were concerned. So far as my information goes, in 1937 the Punjab Government arrived at some sort of agreement with the Railway with respect to Lyallpur-Jhang route. It also came to an agreement with the Central Government in 1940 so far as passenger traffic between Rawalpindi and Peshawar was concerned. Again in 1944 two goods fleet were made over to the Railway between Lahore and Nagrota. Before I sit down I would only say that Government, in order to prevent hardship on these people, should come to an agreement with the present operators, and should either employ them as directors or managers in the company or as operators so that those who have sunk their hard earned capital in this industry should not be ruined and particularly the present operators should not suffer in any way. They should take over the present rolling stock at a proper price by reference to arbitration and should employ as far as possible the present operators as managers, and those who have sunk

their capital in this industry should not be ruined. Co-ordination and alliance should be made with them so that no party may suffer.

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din (Sheikhpura, Muhammadan, Rural) (Urdu): Sir, the position of the Honourable Minister of Finance is really pitiable because not a single honourable member of the House has uttered a word of praise for him, and there is no reason why it should have been otherwise. His Budget indeed is a budget of dishonesty and is not based on fairness. Since 1941 he has been wasting away the assets of the province. In so doing he has gone to the extreme and his atrocities in this direction know no bounds. The Province is helpless against the ravages of the Unionist party. No experts of finance can tolerate the financial blunders of the present Finance Minister. There was absolutely no justification for squandering away the capital of the country so recklessly as he has done.

The first and foremost thing to note in this connection is that the Honourable Finance Minister is selling away the land which does not really belong to the Government. If at all it belongs to any one, it belongs to the people and not to the Government. Who is really the owner of the land? Whose property is it in reality? It is God's who is the real master and lord of all the lands and, then, on His behalf, the land belongs to the people who are the joint masters of it. The Government as such has no right to sell the land to the people who are already the masters of it. The poor agriculturists are starving while the Government is thriving and nourishing on their blood. This is the most inhuman act of the Unionist Government that it is out to sell even that land which belongs to the *kammins*. I am very sorry to use this expression of *kammins* at all. But this too is a curse of the present regime that human beings are still being called in the twentieth century as *kammins*. The caste system is the main stay of the Unionists. They divide the humanity into unnatural classes. Be that as it may, my point was that the Unionist Government was selling away the land belonging to the so-called *kammins*. All this means that capitalists among the zamindars and other classes are swallowing the poor people. The rich are becoming richer and the poor are being fleeced and rendered poorer still. (*Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan*: They are the coffin-stealers). (*Laughter*). The Unionists are taking credit for showing a surplus in the budget by selling the property of the poor agriculturists and labourers. Let them take credit for this ghastly and inhuman affair. I for one would not praise it, and no reasonable person can ever praise it. The fact is that the Government has during this year alone collected a sum of Rs. 47,10,00,000 by selling the land of the poor agriculturists to capitalists. I want to sound a note of warning to the Unionists in the form of a 'hemistitch':—

وہ خدا کا ہے زمین نہیں میری نہیں

My honourable friend Nawab Muzaffar Ali Khan wanted to compare our country to Russia. May I tell him what is happening in Russia? Mr. Wilkie has observed that whereas in 1917, only 2 per cent of Russians were educated, now there are 98 per cent literates in Russia. Even the remaining 2 per cent who are not literate, will be educated within a brief span of a year or so. This is the condition in a country where snow slows down and stops movements of action. But those who have the will to do things surmount the difficulties. Now what is the percentage of literacy here in this country? Can Nawab Muzaffar Ali Khan or the Minister take pride in this? There are hardly 5 per cent literates in this province. It cannot compare even with the backward Indian States, where 48 per cent of people are educated. (*Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan*: The Government should be ashamed of it).

After all what is it that the Unionist Government is doing? Where has it been spending money? Let me answer this important question. Since it took reins, the Unionists Ministry has trebled the expenditure on the police. It is in dire need of police to curb the progressive elements in the country. We have had a proof of it at Sharqpora and Pattoki when police was used to prevent people from attending the

(K. B. Ghulam Mohy-ud-Din)

meetings of the Muslim League. All sorts of wrong and foul means were adopted to mislead the public. People were told that no meeting of the Muslim League was to be held at these places. This is the use to which this Government puts the police. (Nawab Muzaffar Ali Khan : The people do not want to attend your meetings). (Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : They do not want to see you even).

Now I come to the question of Industry. This touches the Government most and it is here that the shoe pinches. The Ministerialists are not united on this point. They have no set policy. A holy verse aptly applies to their case of apparent unity and inner division, and it runs as under :—

تَعَسَّبَهُمْ - مِيعاً رَقَلُو بِهِمْ شَدّاً

Translated into English it means that the onlooker regards them united but in reality their hearts are not united. They are poles asunder. They are at variance with each other. Every one of them has a different industrial policy. If the Finance Minister wants nationalisation, the other Ministers want rationalisation of industry. In fact they are all in favour of capitalism. Before I resume my seat I would like to quote a verse which aptly describes the state of affairs.

تَنْ هَمَّ دَاغِ دَاغِ شَدِ پَنِيهِ كَجَا كَجَا نَهِيْمِ

Khan Bahadur Raja Fateh Khan (Rawalpindi East, Muhammadan, Rural) (Urdu) : Mr. Speaker, I offer my heartiest felicitations to the Honourable Minister for Finance for having produced a budget which has the distinction of being unique in the annals of the fiscal history of this land of five rivers. The budget gives a clear insight into the balanced economy of the province. But I would like to make a few observations in regard to an important matter and that is about the method of distribution of expenditure on the beneficent postwar reconstruction schemes which the Government wants to take up after the cessation of hostilities. I submit that money which is to be spent in this direction, should be so spent that every district gets its due share according to the proportion of recruits offered by it for the prosecution of war. I want the Government to keep this criterion in view while making allocations of grants for various districts in the province. Then Sir, every one here and outside this House would agree with me that the honour of bringing a nation to a firm footing in the comity of nations, goes to those who build its foundations with their very blood and marrow. (Hear, hear). This honour is being zealously won by our gallant soldiers who are fighting in far flung battle-fields successfully. They expect that their Government would not fall short of its duty in doing full justice to their home districts while launching postwar reconstruction schemes. I am therefore of the opinion that that district deserves greater attention and assistance on the part of the Government, which has made the greatest sacrifice by sending the flower of youth in largest numbers to the army. (Hear, hear). But I am constrained to remark in this connection that the Government of India have ignored this salutary criterion in their postwar schemes and they have decided to spend money on population basis. They are doing so simply to placate that very Congress which impeded the War effort and wanted to strike a bargain with them for offering help in the prosecution of war. May I ask, who offered unflinching and unconditional help at that dark hour when Britain was faced with disaster and Mr. Churchill, now popularly known as the "Conqueror Premier", offered to his countrymen nothing but blood, tears and toil ? It is this province which stood by the British Government and gave unconditional help. But unfortunately their agents, the Government of India, have not cared to recognise the sacrifices made by the Punjabi soldiers and have failed to give us our due share in the schemes of postwar reconstruction. Again, when the Sun

of victory is about to rise, the Big Powers have asked those countries, which had refrained from helping the Allies in the hour of dire need, to declare war against Germany. This is being done simply to enable them to participate in a conference which is to chalk out a scheme for the establishment of an international body which would nip aggression in the bud. But strange to say we, who offered unconditional help, come nowhere in the picture. However, what I want to drive at is that our own Government should not give a cold shoulder to those districts which have spared no pains in giving their manhood and all for the successful prosecution of the war. If such districts go unrewarded and do not receive benefits in proportion to their war services and the number of recruits offered by them, then it would be an act of sheer injustice, rather ingratitude, on the part of the Government. In this connection I may point out that the district of Rawalpindi stands head and shoulders high over other districts in the Punjab. It alone has supplied one lakh of recruits which comes to one tenth of the total number supplied by this province. This district has, therefore, a claim on the postwar reconstruction funds in the same proportion. In other words, rupees ten crores out of a fund of Rs. 100 crores, proposed by the Government to be spent on postwar-schemes, should be disbursed for the amelioration of the lot of the inhabitants of Rawalpindi district. I hope the Government would accept my suggestion since it is based on equity and justice. I again make an earnest appeal to them that they should not fail to safeguard the rights and interests of the soldiers of Rawalpindi District, who are shedding their blood in the battle-fields to protect the humanity from the onslaughts of a barbarous enemy. In this connection I have to make a suggestion and that is this. Government should forthwith arrange to establish a military college at Rawalpindi with a view to perpetuating the martial traditions of this district. I would not be asking too much if I say that a military college should be opened in every tehsil of this district. This would be the fittest method of recognising the war services of the soldiers of Rawalpindi district. May I sound a note of warning to the Government that if my district does not get the share in the postwar schemes in proportion to the sacrifices made by it, it would rise as one man to register its protest.

Now, Sir, I have to ventilate the grievances of a village named Nara in the Rawalpindi district. It has absolutely no pucca or tarred road. It badly stands in need of it. The building of such a road will bring prosperity to it because transport facilities would go a long way to better its economic conditions. I would request the Government to make speedy arrangements for the construction of a road there. Besides, the necessity of a middle school is being keenly felt there as no such school exists in that village. I would earnestly appeal to Government to open a middle school there and a high school in Matore village and thus earn the goodwill of the public there.

Sir, I wanted to say a lot of things but the time at my disposal is very short and under party discipline I must submit to the time limit fixed by you. However, I would like to refer to one thing before I resume my seat. My honourable friend from Tarn Taran made some wild allegations against the Ministry for its being too pro-Muslim. I may point out to him that we, the majority people in the province believe in the maxim 'to live and let live'. Where we want to see that the rights and traditions of the minority communities are properly and duly safeguarded, we also want to see that the Government, in their zeal to do so, should in no way perpetrate dire injustice to the majority community. My honourable friend should rest assured that our popular Ministry is fully alive to its sense of duty towards the minorities and our past experience of the working of the provincial autonomy shows that it has lived up to its reputation.

Sardar Moola Singh (Hoshiarpur West, General-Reserved Seat, Rural) (*Urdu*): Sir, I am extremely grateful to you for granting me an opportunity to make a speech. Today after three years I have risen to give expression to the difficulties experienced

(S. Moola Singh)

by that poor community whom I have the privilege to represent here. But before I proceed further, I may point out that I was elected to the Assembly on the Congress ticket and used to sit with the Opposition. The object of my joining hands with the opposition was to raise my voice for the protection of the rights of the scheduled classes from that quarter. But we, the representatives of the scheduled classes, were divided among ourselves. Some of us sided with the Ministerialists and some occupied opposite benches. Although the ultimate aim of both the groups was the same yet it was generally thought that since we could not compose our differences "it was impossible to effectively safeguard the interests of the scheduled classes as we could not offer united front to the Government. Now we have come to an agreement and as you are aware, we are occupying ministerial benches. But the pity of it is that inspite of our joining the party in power nothing has been done during the last three years for the uplift of achhuts, and the position becomes all the more pitiable when we find that a Hindu Minister controls the finances of the province and yet no satisfactory provision has been made by him for the amelioration of the sad plight of the achhuts, particularly in the matter of construction of wells for them and grant of scholarships to their children in the schools. It would not be out of place to mention here that during the Ministry of the late Sir Sikandar Hyat some amount was budgeted for digging wells in the villages for the use of achhuts as also for the purpose of awarding scholarships to the achhut children in the schools. My co-religionists are experiencing great difficulties due to want of wells in the rural areas as the zamindars refuse to allow them to draw water from their wells. Besides, those scholarships which were earmarked for scheduled caste children, were not granted to them because the orders conveying the sanction, by mistake contained the words 'scholarships for special classes' instead of the words 'for Scheduled Castes'. The result of this wrongly worded order was that all those scholarships went to the Muslims or other communities, and the poor achhut students remained without them. It is a pity that even up till now no scholarship has been awarded to any achhut student for the last three years and it is a matter of still greater surprise to see that the Government have not moved their little finger to amend that order and thus redress the grievances of the scheduled castes. I would request the Honourable Minister for Education to help us in this matter as my community has suffered great hardship as a result of this wrong order. Inspite of the fact that the scheduled caste population in the province is about six or seven per cent, the proportion of representation allowed to us is only 2½ per cent. The complaint of the achhuts is that they are under-represented. If we take the question of offering recruits, you will see that the achhuts in comparison to other communities in India in general, and in the Punjab in particular, have undoubtedly played a distinguished part in the successful prosecution of the war. I make bold to submit that according to the proportion of population of the Muslims, Sikhs and other communities, our community has offered large number of recruits for the successful prosecution of the War. The credit is due to our community for offering a large number of recruits.

Further, I wish to submit that it is really a pity that there is no Minister in the Cabinet representing our community. There is not even a Parliamentary Secretary from amongst our community. So far there is only one Assistant Parliamentary Secretary and one Additional Assistant Parliamentary Secretary. This is not all. The Punjab Government has not taken any E. A. C. or Tehsildar nor has it taken any gazetted officer in any other department. In this connection I would like to request the Honourable Premier that the eight achhut members of this House who co-operate with him unconditionally will not be satisfied unless he chalks out some satisfactory programme or in other words does some constructive work with a view to ameliorating the hard lot of the poor people belonging to scheduled castes.

There is one thing more to which I would like to draw your kind attention and that is concerning the Panchayats. Under the Panchayat Act we face many difficulties. It is a matter of great regret that none from amongst our community is taken in the Panchayats. In all the Panchayats of the province we are being ignored. Zamindars make complaints against us in the Panchayats on trifling matters and we have to pay the panchayat fines for no fault of ours. No effort whatsoever has been made to put an end to these corrupt practices. It is the first and the foremost duty of the present Government which claims to be a Zamindara Government to do some satisfactory constructive work for our amelioration. So far as the question of making appointments in the Police Department is concerned, I wish to point out that there is no sub-Inspector or Inspector in the Police Department from amongst our community. The present party came into power eight years ago. You will be surprised to hear that during this time no Inspector or Sub-Inspector from our community has been taken in the Police Department. This is not all. We are being ignored when gazetted appointments are made. Under the circumstances I would request the honourable members sitting on the Treasury Benches to complete the ratio of services in every department. If this is done I am sure our condition will improve to a great extent.

Now I come to industries. In this connection I wish to bring this point home to the honourable members sitting on the Treasury Benches that members of our community should be given industrial training. I am constrained to remark that forced labour has not yet been abolished and attention of the House in general and the Honourable Ministers in particular has so often been drawn to this matter. I would urge upon the Honourable Ministers to make the system of forced labour totally illegal. It is really a pity that no effort whatsoever has been made to abolish the system of forced labour which is prevalent in the province.

Lastly, I would like to draw the attention of the Honourable Premier to the fact that it is crystal clear from the surplus Budget that there is a huge surplus with the Government. Under the circumstances it is the bounden duty of the Government to spend generously on our education. It will not be out of place to mention here that I belong to Hoshiarpur District where in, Kandi Ilaga great inconvenience is being experienced by the residents for want of drinking water. There is scarcity of drinking water in the districts of Hissar and Karnal also. Government should sink wells in large numbers in these districts so that people belonging to scheduled castes may not feel any inconvenience for want of drinking water.

Mian Abdul Aziz (Outer Lahore, Muhammadan, Urban) (Urdu): Sir, at the very outset I would like to appeal to the Unionist Ministers in connection with an important matter, although I know that as usual it will fall on deaf ears. What I wish to point out is this that previously four days were allotted for the general discussion of the Budget. Now this period of four days has been reduced to two days. (*An honourable member*: Ultimately this period will be reduced to one day). It will be no wonder if this period allotted at present for the general discussion of the Budget, is reduced to one day. It is crystal clear from this that during these two days the Assembly would sit for nine hours. Out of these nine hours two hours are fixed for questions. It means that the Budget is to be discussed for the rest of the period that is for seven hours only. It will not be out of place to mention here that the strength of the House is 175. It is obviously impossible that this meagre time of seven hours would be sufficient for a large number of speeches to be made by the honourable members whose number is no less than 175. Half of the time would as usual be allotted for the honourable members sitting on the Ministerial Benches and the remaining time will have to be distributed among various parties occupying the opposite benches. There one more difficulty and that is this. There were about eighty Adjournment

(M. Abdul Aziz)

Motions and a few Resolutions about which you were pleased to give your ruling. You were also pleased to remark at that time that these adjournment motions and resolutions could be discussed at length during the Budget Session. If these adjournment motions and the resolutions were discussed in this House, then there would hardly be left any day for the discussion of the Budget. I wish to draw your attention to the fact that $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours are not sufficient for the honourable members of the opposition to voice the grievances of their constituencies or draw the attention of the Government to certain important matters which have come to their notice during the whole year.

There is one point more to which I wish to draw your kind attention and that is regarding the speeches made by certain Sikh members of this House. I am really constrained to remark that certain Sikh members of this House complained that Sikhs were under-represented in services. I do not wish to enter into any details whether or not they are justified in saying so. The honourable member belonging to scheduled castes also voiced the grievances of his community and he said in the course of his speech that achhuts are under-represented in services. My honourable friend Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang also made the same complaint so far as the Hindus were concerned.

At this stage the Assembly adjourned till 12 noon on Tuesday the 6th February 1945.

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

THIRTEENTH SESSION OF THE FIRST PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 6th March 1945

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber at 12 Noon of the clock. Mr. Speaker in the chair.

QUESTION HOUR

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : I beg to move—

That the question hour be dispensed with to-day.

Sufficient time was not allowed to my party yesterday for making speeches. I, therefore, feel that the Leader of the House will agree with me. I tried to consult him about this matter but could not meet him.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the question hour be dispensed with to-day.

Premier : As to the request of my honourable friend the Leader of the Opposition, I would like to make it plain that I would not like it to be formed as a precedent but in view of some misunderstanding about the distribution of time between various sections of the House, I have no objection to the suspension of the question hour. I am doing so to accommodate the members of the Opposition.

Mr. Speaker : The question is—

That the question hour be dispensed with to-day.

The motion was carried.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : On a point of order. Mian Abdul Aziz was in possession of the House when the House adjourned last evening. We did not know that the question hour would be dispensed with to-day. This motion has come all of a sudden. I, therefore, hope that you will allow him to resume his speech when he comes.

Mr. Speaker : Yes, I will consider this when he comes.

BUDGET—GENERAL DISCUSSION

Sardar Kapoor Singh (Ludhiana East, Sikh, Rural) (*Punjabi*): Sir, the Honourable Finance Member has been congratulated by his friends for this surplus budget. They have congratulated the Government for spending more money over the beneficent departments. I would like to submit, Sir, that their mammoth size budgets are in no way signs of prosperity. Every one knows that this money is collected by taxing the poor population of the province. You will be surprised to know, Sir, that in the current year these upholders of the zamindara cause intend to collect three crores of rupees from land revenue, six crores from water rate and three crores from excise duty on liquor. You must be remembering, Sir, that this very Govern-

[S. Kapoor Singh].

ment passed a resolution in this very august House about liquors and to-day, to our great surprise, they are busy in collecting money out of that very undesirable item. For these 'praiseworthy' methods, our Government is being congratulated. It is nothing but another disappointment.

Now I will take up expenditure. I will place before you the shameful state of affairs in the Medical Department. As far as the figure work is concerned, we find an increase of fifty lakhs of rupees in the usual expenditure under this head. But the prices of medicine have increased four times and the funds for it ought to have been increased four times. There are places where we can get medicine but there is no medical advice available and if the medical advice is available then there is no medicine. I want to draw the attention of the House to another item in the budget. It is on page 596, under the head expenditure on the allowances to the detenus and state prisoners, Rs. 5,000 has been earmarked under this head. His Excellency the Governor allotted Rs. 9,000 under this head in his budget for the year 1937-38. A comparative study of the facts tell us that at that time the number of such prisoners did not exceed 35 or 36. But the expenditure for the allowances was Rs. 9,000. After the August resolution thousands of patriots were sent behind the bars without any trial. To-day our 'popular government' needs Rs. 5,000 only for allowances to be given to the thousands of detenus while the bureaucratic rulers of the pre-autonomous days needed Rs. 9,000 for two scores of prisoners only. Our Government can easily find Rs. 40,000 for the addition of another Minister for maintaining their political solidarity, but the suffering of our patriots is of no importance to them. No charge is levelled against them but they continue to rot in the jails without being offered any facility. After 1942 jail rules have been made more rigid and the applications of the detenus for such allowances are not generally forwarded to the Government. I declare that the Government is highly intolerant in these matters. They pay no heed to the just grievances of these people.

Formerly, they made it a rule not to forward any application for maintenance allowance. Now they are prepared to forward such applications provided absolute necessity is proved. When the Government sent these people into jails it found out for itself the offence they had probably not committed, but now when the children or parents of such detenus apply for an allowance they are asked to prove that they are in absolute need of such an allowance. In spite of the fact that in most of the cases ample proof is given, the Government has not granted any allowance except in a very few cases. As a result of that the children and parents of these patriots, on account of whose sacrifices our Ministers are occupying their present position, have either starved to death or have fallen ill on account of under-nourishment and are on their death beds. This Government which claims to be a representative Government has earmarked only a sum of Rs. 5,000 for the parents and children of these patriots. Outside jails the Government is killing the children of these patriots by not providing for their maintenance, and inside jails it is killing them by giving them bad food and not providing medical relief for them. At present 75 per cent of these detenus are suffering from one disease or another. The Ministers may consult their own reports. Some of these died in jail because proper medical relief was not provided for them. Lala Ruti Ram of Rohtak died in the Borstal Jail. Sardar Man Singh, the President of the City Congress Committee, Karnal, died in jail, I will not say cursing the Government because we Congressmen never curse anybody, so let me say he died blessing it. M. Mata Din of Delhi died in Central Jail. Sardar Balwant Singh died in Gujrat Jail. His last letters are so the pathetic that it is impossible for anybody who reads them not to be moved to tears. These persons have been the victims of tyranny of this Government.

Then come those who fell ill in jail and were released only when no hope of their survival was left and that too because too many deaths had already occurred in jails.

and the Government was afraid of more scandal. Lala Satya Narain, who was suffering from tuberculosis was released only when his condition got hopeless and he died after a few days of his release from jail. Then come those persons whose parents and children had died because there was no one to look after them and the Government had refused to sanction them any maintenance allowance. They are Sardar Gurmukh Singh Musafar, Diwan Chaman Lal, Mr. Amar Nath, Dr. Kali Charan and Dr. Labha Singh. Some of them were released but after the deaths of their near relatives. They are Prithvi Chand Nayyar, Rajinder Nath, Mr. Dev Raj Sethi, Sardar Labh Singh, Mr. Jagat Ram and Sardar Waryam Singh.

Mr. Speaker : The honourable member's time is up.

Sardar Gopal Singh (Ludhiana and Ferozpur, General Reserved Seat, Rural) (*Punjabi*) : Sir, I am sorry that I cannot congratulate the Finance Minister on the present budget. The experience of the last seven years shows that this Government is in reality a Government of big men who care for big zamindars only. The poor man or *Achhut* occupies the same position in the present regime as was allotted to him by Manu thousands of years ago. I have been crying for the last seven years in and outside this House that steps be taken to stop *begar* but no steps have so far been taken. The police still gets work done from *Achhuts* forcibly and without paying them anything in return in almost all the districts of the province. Not only the police but the zamindars in villages also oppress this community and try to keep them under their control by different methods, and panchayats are one of them. At the time of election the panchayat officers take extraordinary care not to announce the date and place of election by the beat of drum, lest the *Achhuts* should elect a member of their own in the panchayat. Some of these panchayats have fined the poor men of this community to the extent of Rs. 450. That is how the members of this community are oppressed and intimidated to obedience.

When this Government came into power we were very pleased. We thought that it was a Muslim province, it was a province where the Sikhs wielded great influence, it was a province where Arya Samajists dominated and that here considerations of caste and creed will not debar any human being from rising to his height. But after seven years we find that so far as questions of caste and creed and untouchability are concerned, it is probably the worst of all the provinces. During these seven years not a single extra assistant commissioner has been recruited from among the *Achhuts*. Nay, it is the policy of the Government not to recruit any one from among the scheduled castes as an Extra Assistant Commissioner. I ask if, in a province like Madras where people even while walking keep at a safe distance from the *lehhuts*, honorary magistrates and extra assistant commissioners can be appointed from amongst them, why cannot similar treatment be meted out to them here in his province. What is more, so far this Government have never recommended the name of any scheduled caste candidate for the Indian Civil Service, so that these poor people may not occupy high places and sit as equals with the members of other communities. I think it is against the dignity and prestige of the province, it is against the tradition of the people of this province that in the year 1945 when progressive forces are making headway in the world these gentlemen are acting on ideas 6,000 years old and they are depriving the members of the scheduled castes of their just share in executive services of the province. The Punjab has become the stronghold of feudalism, tribalism and untouchability. I frankly tell them that all these reactionary institutions in the social and economic life of the people will crumble to pieces. Let them wake up before it is too late. I regret that at present the Honourable Premier is not in the House. He is a big landlord. He has his own canals. As against him belong to a community which has not got any well of its own and its members have to live at the mercy of other people for drawing water from common wells. Is it not a matter of shame for this Government? Our Premier has only canals but the great

[B. Gopal Singh]

Czars of Russia had big rivers like the Volga. But they availed them not. When the spirit of the people rose, the Czars disappeared from the surface of the world. Similar fate met the Kaiser. Hitler is nearing his doom and Mikado will see the same end. That has been the way of all tyrants. If anything cannot be crushed, it is the spirit of the surging oppressed multitudes. The voice of twelve crores of people cannot be suppressed and their spirit cannot be crushed. I warn my friends that by keeping twelve crores of people in bondage they cannot win independence for themselves. So long as they do not give elementary human rights to the scheduled caste people, Britishers will not give them independence at all. The Punjab Government can do justice to the *Achhuts* provided they have the will to do so. In this House representation has been given to different sections of the public according to their population strength. For instance, there are eight members who represent the Hindu Jats. We are glad that Government are doing justice to them. One Minister and one parliamentary secretary have been appointed from amongst them. We are also eight members in this House and our numerical strength is greater than that of the Hind Jats. We in fact deserve more than what has been given to them. But to our misfortune this Government have done injustice to us, so much so that not even one extra assistant commissioner has been nominated from amongst the scheduled castes. (*Hear, hear from the Opposition*). At the time of census we are counted as non-muslims but the Hindu and Sikh Ministers do not care for our interests. If we become converts to Islam we become "Shaikh Sahibs" overnight and these very Ministers who hate to touch our meals now will boast of having taken their meals or teas with "Shaikh Sahibs". After all what are they here for if they cannot see justice done to us? When they go out in the rural areas they boast of having extirpated the *Kamidandwalas* but they themselves are meting out similar treatment to the scheduled castes.

Then there is another grievance of the *Achhuts*. The money which is set apart every year for giving scholarships to them is not expended for that purpose. The reason for this is that the rules in force are such that somehow or other members of the scheduled castes are deprived of them. Sometimes these scholarships are given to depressed classes and sometimes to special weaver classes. I request the Honourable Minister for Education to provide this sum solely for giving scholarships to the scheduled castes and no one else.

Mr. Speaker : The honourable member's time is up.

Minister for Education (The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye) : Sir, it would be difficult for me to reply to all the points raised by the honourable members during this discussion because the time at my disposal is very short. I would, with your permission, only deal with two points raised by the honourable members in this House in the discussion that took place. The first point is the teaching of Gurmukhi as a second language. In this connection I want to draw the attention of the House to the report of the Syllabus Committee which was presented some time back. Sardar Ujjal Singh, who sat on that committee along with three other Hindu members, made a representation that Gurmukhi should be taught at the 4th class. The Committee made a different recommendation. The recommendation of the Committee was—

We very strongly feel that a second language should not be permitted at the 6th class stage as it would involve the learning of three languages at the same time, with two of them quite new. Besides this, even the option of starting a second vernacular at the 6th class stage would lead schools and their internal organisations into numerous administrative difficulties. The committee strongly recommend therefore that a second vernacular should be permitted at the 7th class stage and not earlier. Four members of the committee—Sardar Bahadur Sardar Ujjal Singh and Messrs. M. G. Singh, Suraj Bhan and K. L. Rallia Ram—put up for consideration the suggestion that the schools should be allowed the option of teaching a second vernacular at the primary school stage after the first three years of schooling.

Later on in 1942 certain negotiations were carried on between Sir Sikander Hyat and Sardar Baldev Singh.

Sardar Baldev Singh represented that Gurmukhi should be taught not only in the middle classes but also in the primary classes. Sir Sikander Hyat who had negotiations with him pointed out the various difficulties that lay in his path. He said that the first difficulty was that of finance, and the second difficulty was that suitable teachers in good numbers were not at the moment available. He, however, pointed out that by the acceptance of this suggestion there was no desire or intention to affect in any way the present position with regard to the medium of instruction and court language. Sir Sikander made it quite clear that any formula in this connection would of course apply to all communities. (*Interruptions.*) Sardar Bahadur Sardar Ujjal Singh raised the question of scriptural language and I am answering that criticism. Under the Sikander-Baldev Singh pact it was agreed to provide money for scriptural languages and there is the sum of Rs. 30,000 in this Budget (*Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang*: What an extravagance!) It is a mere experiment at the moment. The earlier part of the year was taken up in setting certain preliminary points, i.e., the selection of schools and the selection of teachers. That has been done and Gurmukhi, Hindi and Arabic are being taught in 525 schools in the Punjab. If this experiment succeeds, as I hope it will, we shall make further provisions for the scriptural languages.

The other point to which I would make a reference is about scholarships to the scheduled caste students which was raised by Sardar Gopal Singh. In this connection I may mention that a sum of Rs. 12,000 and odd was provided in 1940 for the children of the weaver class and of the special classes which include chamar, sweeper, Ramdasi, Dumna, Kohli, Sarera, Dhobi, Megh, Sansi, Bagria, Od, Mahtam, Kahar, Addharimi, Bawaria, Dagi, Koli, Marija (Marecha), Bangali, Barar, Bazigar, Bhanjra, Chanal, Dhanak, Gagra, Gandhila, Khatik, Kori, Nat, Pasi, Perna, Sapela and Sirkiband. I have got with me the names of the students to whom these scholarships were given. Out of the 19 students there were only four Muhammadans and 15 depressed class students and no less than Rs. nine thousand were given to the depressed class students.

In the year 1939, a representation was made to the late Sir Sikander Hyat-Khan to the effect that special provisions should be made for the scheduled caste students. In 1940 it was decided to provide another Rs. 20,000 for the purpose. I can assure my honourable friends that this sum is earmarked for the scheduled caste and depressed class students and to those only who profess the Hindu religion and no Mussalman gets any share out of this. But unfortunately, in this province, a sufficient number of scheduled caste candidates for this scholarship is not available. (*Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan*: *Lame excuse*). Now I will show how this amount of Rs. 20,000 is distributed. We have—

1. 29 Middle School scholarships of the value of Rs. 4 per mensem each ;
2. 29 High School scholarships of the value of Rs. 6 per mensem each ;
3. 18 Middle School scholarships for girls of the value of Rs. 4 per mensem each ;
4. 3 High Schools scholarships for girls of the value of Rs. 8 per mensem each ;
5. 7 College scholarships of the value of Rs. 20 per mensem tenable in the intermediate classes and two of the value of Rs. 20 per mensem tenable in the B.A. classes.

In this way, the total amount sanctioned for scholarships for the depressed classes comes to about Rs. 32,700. If the honourable member brings to my notice any special case of depressed class student who has passed the primary or the middle or high school examination and has not been given any scholarship, I shall consider that case sympathetically.

Begum Rashida Latif Baji (Inner Lahore, Muslim Women) (*Urdu*): Sir, in view of the extremely short time at my disposal, I leave out the introductory remarks and forthwith submit a few constructive suggestions before the House for the consideration of the Government and hope that these proposals will be carried into effect by the Government.

First of all I will take up the case of the Mayo Hospital which is the biggest hospital in the whole of the province. That is the institution where people can get themselves treated and cured after being admitted as indoor patients. But in view of the shortage of beds, very few patients are admitted as indoor patients. The maximum capacity of the hospital is 500 patients only. This is inadequate indeed. Whatever the number of beds was in 1914, that has continued till to-day in 1944 after a long period of 30 years. No addition or increase has been effected during this long interval while the population of Lahore has gone up to several lakhs during the same period. In addition to this, people come to Lahore for treatment from far off districts, but due to lack of accommodation, they are refused admission into the Hospital and have to return home disappointed. The Government ought to take immediate steps to relieve the public of this trouble. My own proposals in this respect are as follows. The King Edward Medical College should be shifted to some other open place and the new hospital attached to that college should be so arranged as to have 1,000 beds for indoor patients. The existing building of the College should be included into the Mayo Hospital and arrangements for additional 500 beds may be made there. If this scheme is accepted and acted upon, we will have sufficient arrangements to accommodate as many as 2,000 indoor patients at a time. Additional bungalows for doctors, rooms for the nurses and quarters for other officials and servants should also be constructed in the hospitals I have suggested.

With regard to the patients suffering from tuberculosis, my submission is that the few rooms reserved for them inside the Mayo Hospital are hardly sufficient for them. There are very few beds for woman patients in this ward. It is not at all proper to keep the patients suffering from tuberculosis in this hospital at all. There should be a separate hospital for tuberculosis and it should have at least 500 beds in it.

In 1944 the Government appointed a committee to go into the case of the Mayo Hospital and suggest suitable changes in this behalf. The committee has already drafted its proposals and the report has also reached the Government. It is probable that the committee too must have realised the lack of accommodation in the Mayo Hospital and must have drawn the attention of the Government to the necessity of increasing the number of beds in it. I would go even so far as to suggest that at least one half of the surplus in the budget should be earmarked for medical relief alone. That would be a highly suitable course of action, because it concerns the very life and death of people. The more we spend on this, the better it will be.

Furthermore, the present building of the Lady Aitchison Hospital is also inadequate and insufficient for the purpose and I have been constantly drawing the attention of the Government to this fact for the last three years during the time of discussion of the budget. My appeal has all along been this that the Government should now construct the new building which was already under contemplation of the Government.

Now, Sir, let us take heed of the fact that there is not a single medical college for women in the province. No doubt some girls are receiving education along with boys in the same medical college. But all girls cannot do the same. Even their parents would not allow them to read with boys in one and the same institution. I would, therefore, strongly appeal to the Government to open a medical college or women in Lahore like the Lady Hardinge Medical College of Delhi, so that a very large number of ladies may be able to become qualified doctors.

I will now pass on to the subject of industries. The Female Industrial School of Lahore still continues to be housed in a building which has been obtained on rent. Government should have its own building for this school, and a boarding house should also be there so that those girls who come from other places may be able to stay here in Lahore. Moreover, even Lahore itself has expanded and its population has spread over a large area extending to several miles. It has become very difficult for girls to come from far off places. Government should arrange for lorries which should be run free to carry female students to the schools and back. This point should be particularly noted that girls belonging to poor families join the industrial schools and they do not possess sufficient funds to meet the necessary expenditure of training. Most of the girls cannot afford to pay the expenses and, therefore, cannot join these schools. I, therefore, suggest that Government should provide gratis all the material required to formulate and carry out the industrial schemes in these schools. I am sure this will not involve any heavy expenditure to Government since the sale proceeds of the articles, manufactured in these institutions, will certainly meet this expenditure to a considerable extent, because these finished articles will fetch handsome prices in the market. But I am constrained to remark that the number of industrial schools, is very small in the province. I would appeal to Government to spread a network of such schools because handicraft can go a long way to provide means of livelihood to our countrymen and ameliorate their condition. Obviously industrial training and dissemination of the knowledge of handicrafts will prove very useful because we will be in a position to produce those articles in abundance which are in great demand in our home markets. This will not only open a vista of increased prosperity to the province but will also relieve us of our dependence upon other countries in connection with our requirements. But the pity of it is that whatever means for teaching handicrafts exist in the province, they exist in name only. Besides, there is another reason which prevents our young men from taking to handicrafts. Our skilled labour and handicraftsmen suffer from an inferiority complex because the upper strata of society looks down upon them as mean and coarse type of beings and the names by which they are called, do not sound well. For instance, a manufacturer of utensils is called *thathiar*; a person engaged in the profession of blacksmithy is known as *lohar*; a person doing woodwork is termed as *tarkhan*. Similarly, cobblers or menders of shoes and weavers of cloth are respectively called *mochis*, and *julahas*. In other words all these people employed in these professions are considered to be low class people. That is, any person who earns his living by handicraft does not command that esteem in the society which he so richly deserves as a useful adjunct of society. As you are aware, sir, in Europe the case is quite the reverse. There all those persons who have acquired mastery over any handicraft, are held in great respect by the people in general. Even the affluent people there, take great pride in doing and learning technical work in factories. You will be surprised to hear that even His Majesty the King spares some time to learn some handicraft as a hobby. In other words in western countries acquisition of mastery and skill in any profession, particularly handicrafts, is no longer considered a sin or a sign of degradation, but here in this country the very thought of learning a handicraft is an anathema to our moneyed people. They consider it below their dignity to do manual work. I would, therefore, appeal to Government that whenever they establish any educational institution, be it a middle school, a high school or even a degree college, they should make it compulsory for the scholars to get technical education also in one line or the other. This will considerably remove the inferiority complex which is almost ingrained in our young men. I feel that everybody in this country, irrespective of his affluence or indigence, should learn some handicraft. In this lies the secret of the betterment of our country. (Honourable Members: The lady member's

(Begum Rashida Latif Baji)

time is up). Mr. Speaker, I should be given more time since I am the only lady here who is representing the women of 28 districts. Well, sir, I was submitting that introduction of technical education in the Punjab will remove the scarcity of skilled labour and thus it will be possible to set up big factories in the province. If the Government had realised this earlier, our province would have been spared the hardships which they are experiencing now in obtaining long cloth, *malmal*, etc.

Mr. Speaker : Please wind up and be as brief as possible.

Begum Rashida Latif Baji : Sir, I am already keeping in view the golden principle of brevity of speech and conveyance of maximum meaning. That is why I am talking fast like a machine (*laughter*). Sir, I was saying that the acute scarcity of *latha* and *malmal* was worrying the people very much. Things have come to such a pass that no such cloth is available even for the purposes of wrapping the dead. I request that Government should make satisfactory arrangements for the procurement of these cloths and particularly redress the grievances of the urban people in this connection.

Next, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to an important matter and that is this. When unfortunately our womenfolk are involved in some litigation, they have to appear before magistrates who do not belong to their sex. The result is that due to inherent shyness, they are unable to make a full statement or tender evidence well. Modesty stands in their way to give expression to their grievances before the men magistrates. I would, therefore, suggest that Government should take steps to set up courts where women magistrates should try the cases of women. There is nothing new in this idea. Such courts do exist in the United Provinces. I see no reason why our Government should lag behind in this respect. I hope that Government would see their way to accept my suggestion and appoint women magistrates.

Now, sir, I would like to make a few observations with regard to rationing. Since its introduction in Lahore, people are getting wheat of an entirely inferior quality. My submission is that if Government are desirous of making the rationing system a success in Lahore, they should delegate powers to the Grain Syndicate to make their own arrangements for the purchase of wheat and thus make them accountable to the public for the bad supply of wheat. Besides, the number of members of the said Syndicate, which at present comprises of 7 Hindus, 6 Muslims and 3 Sikhs, should be increased. I think if all the communities are fairly represented on the Board of Directors of the Syndicate, there is no reason why the people of Lahore should get wheat which is at present damaged and absolutely unfit for human consumption. If my proposal is acted upon, supply of wheat of good quality will be ensured. But if in this way the Syndicate fails to discharge its duties properly, Government have yet large powers in their armoury to set it right. Now the situation is this. Since the Syndicate has no powers to arrange the purchase of wheat directly, it is forced to accept wheat of inferior quality purchased by Government agencies. Obviously it is bound to supply to the people the same undesirable stuff.

Mr. Speaker : Honourable member's time is up.

Sir William Roberts (European) : I congratulate the Finance Minister not so much on a surplus budget—that might easily happen to any incompetent Minister or to a lucky Minister, but I congratulate him on the fact that he has been courageous enough and sagacious enough to display commercial acumen in husbanding his resources. A survey of the economic conditions in India to-day ought to be enough warning against reckless expenditure on industrial development or any other development. I cannot understand the members of the Opposition being so keen on spending

the money. Surely they have no hope of turning out the Government, otherwise they would have endorsed the policy of husbanding surpluses for future development.

As regards the industrial development I will make some constructive suggestions. The greatest handicap we have in the Punjab is lack of coal. If our future is to depend on our importing coal from Bengal—a distance of 1,200 miles—as the basis of our industry, then we shall be building on very precarious, unsound and insecure foundations. The first thing we have to do is to survey all the power we have in this province, and there are only three sources of power the chief of which is hydro-electric development. It is necessary to subsidise such development heavily in order to supply cheap power for small industrialists. If that was done and the general revenues of the province used in that it would lead to a very big change in the industrial development of the country. (*An Honourable Member*: Does the honourable member know that the Government of India has increased the price of electricity by 25 per cent and you are asking for cheap electricity?) I was just saying what I think should be done with the surplus. If it needs criticism of Government it will come.

The next thing is oil. We have read in the newspapers that there is a possibility of a discovery of more oil in the province. I would like to ask Government to take more personal interest and invest money in the development of this resource and see that this province gets some local benefit from any oil discovery. It is not right that oil raised in the Punjab should be sold on an all-India price; we should have some concession in this province. Our coal resources are also deserving of more planned development than has been the case in the past. It is on the wise development of these resources that a fair foundation should be laid down for the development of the province.

One other point I would like to make is that it is necessary in this province to take more care in avoiding departmentalism. I have come to the conclusion that departmentalism is a tremendous handicap to a development. I will give one instance. This province is the most important cotton producing province in India. It produces about 25 per cent of the crop. There has been development of extraction of oil from cotton seed in recent years. The obvious place for expellers is ginning factories where they are close to their raw material. The Colony department however seem to consider sale of sites for oil expellers factories as their objective and will not allow expellers to be put in ginning factories. In other words you have to take your cotton seed about a quarter or half a mile away and put a new building, put a new engine and so on. But in a ginning factory you will be using the building which you have already. This matter has been represented many times but still this rule is in force. You must buy a new site and buy an expeller. Surely it is not a matter beyond the ingenuity of the Government to devise some means by which Government would get some revenue even if expellers are erected in ginning factories. Several other instances may be quoted. For example, the acquisition of land for industrial purposes is very cumbersome. An industrialist had better acquire private land than rely on the cumbersome red tape of Government acquisition.

Khan Sahib Chaudhri Ahmad Yar Khan (North-West Gujrat, Muhammadan Rural): Sir, Before I proceed with my speech I wish to offer my whole-hearted congratulations to the Honourable Finance Minister for introducing the surplus budget in the House. This surplus budget is a result of his ability and his vast experience. In fact this is also due to the statesmanship of the popular Premier who also deserves our praise.

Now I wish to make a few submissions about my constituency. I belong to a district which is very backward in education. There is neither a college nor even a high school there. I wish to draw the attention of the Honourable Premier to the

(K. S. Ch. Ahmad Yar Khan)

fact that we have started a school and the Honourable Minister for Education had promised to give a special grant to this school, but up to this time no such grant has been given. Moreover there is only one hospital in the whole of the tehsil. I would request the Minister-in-charge to open as many hospitals as possible immediately in the tehsil.

Further, I wish to draw the attention of the Honourable Minister of Revenue to the fact that the Agriculture Farm has been opened in a far off corner of the tahsil and the people of that place do not derive any benefit from it. The tahsil is situated on one side while the farm is situated on the other. In my opinion the Agriculture Farm ought to have been opened in the centre of the tahsil, so that every zamindar may be benefited by it.

There is one thing more to which I wish to draw the attention of the Honourable Minister of Education and that is this. He had promised to open one hospital in my village, but up till now that promise has not been fulfilled by him. I hope he will pay his attention to the fact that this year many deaths have taken place over there and it is in the fitness of things that a hospital is opened in my village this very year.

Now I have to say a few words about waterlogging, and I hope that the Honourable Minister of Revenue will pay his attention to these few words. Our land has been spoiled by waterlogging. He must come to the rescue of the poor zamindars and stop water-logging so that the land of the poor zamindars may not be ruined. Some streams have been constructed but the bridges over them are not being made at proper places. They should be constructed at suitable places.

My honourable friend Raja Fateh Khan said in the course of his speech that the district of Rawalpindi topped the list in the province in connection with the offering of recruits for the successful prosecution of the war. I wish to bring it home to the honourable members of the House in general and my honourable friend Raja Fateh Khan in particular that in connection with the production of crops, our tahsil has topped the list in the whole province. We have produced more crops and made them available to the army. Under the circumstances our tahsil should also receive a due share in the Post-War Reconstruction Scheme.

I would like to suggest that in the tahsil of Phalia, civil and veterinary hospitals should be immediately opened, so that the people of that place may not experience any difficulty. Moreover satisfactory arrangements should be made for their education. The House will agree with me that no community can prosper without education. In fact, rural reconstruction cannot be a success without education. The roads of our tahsil are in a very bad condition. Had there been good roads, the price of crop would also have gone up and the agriculturists would have been benefited by it. I am glad that the Honourable Minister for Education is now in his seat. I have already drawn his attention to the special grant for the school in our tahsil. It will not be out of place to mention here that Mr. Shah Muhammad has begged and collected donations for the school. I hope that grant-in-aid will be allotted to this school so that it may run independently. With these words, Sir, I resume my seat.

Rai Bahadur Lala Sohan Lal (North Punjab, Non-Union, Labour) (Urdu) : Sir, I had a mind to follow my previous practice and to make a few suggestions about the budget, but the speeches that have been made on the floor of the House by the Honourable Members sitting on the opposite benches in general and by my Honourable friend Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan in particular have compelled me to make a few observations before discussing the budget. Before I proceed with my speech, I would like to offer my heartiest felicitations to the Honourable Finance Minister for presenting such a huge surplus budget which is really a great achievement on his part. It

is really a matter for gratification that for the last 8 years every budget that he has been presenting has been an improvement upon the previous one and the present one has surpassed all past record.

So far as the budget itself is concerned, I wish to point out that practically no criticism has been made by my Honourable friends sitting on the opposite benches. My Honourable friend Malik Barkat Ali's criticism was that surplus budgets were no indication of prosperity but rather the reverse as they indicated that either the level of taxation was unduly high or that money which should have been spent to ameliorate the condition of the people had not been so spent and had been allowed to swell the coffers of the Government. As far as the principle is concerned, I agree with the honourable member, but in this particular case, how can this criterion be made applicable? My honourable friend Malik Sahib knows it full well that during these abnormal days we are passing through extraordinary times and it is not possible to make a correct estimate of one's income. For instance, let us take the profession of my honourable friend Malik Sahib. There has been an abnormal rise in his income and the honourable member will bear me out when I say that it is beyond one's power to make a correct estimate of his income. In the case of zamindars too, the receipts have gone extraordinarily high. Further, the Leader of the Opposition in the course of his speech criticised the Government on the policy of its propaganda and also for collection of funds for the Zamindara League.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Did the honourable member contribute to this fund?

Rai Bahadur Lala Sohan Lal : So far as I am concerned, let me make it clear to the honourable member and others that I am not a member of the Zamindara League and I have not contributed even a single pie to its fund. But I do not see any harm in the party in power doing its propaganda and collecting funds. The honourable member must be aware that similar is the practice in other democratic countries. The Leader of the Opposition further complained that the Congress and the Muslim League had not been able to collect more subscriptions.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : I never said that the Congress has not been able to collect subscriptions.

Rai Bahadur Lala Sohan Lal : I withdraw the remark if I have misunderstood. What I meant to say was this—that the Zamindara League is more popular in this province than the Congress and the Muslim League and this is borne out by the fact that the Zamindara League is not only able to collect more funds than the other two groups but also that its members constitute the majority in this House.

My honourable friend Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan was saying in his speech the other day that the Muslim League manifesto was not a collection of tit-bits taken from the manifestoes of various political parties but this golden creed and programme were embodied in the Muslim League manifesto of 1936 and interrupting him I inquired from him why he joined the Government and continued to sit on the Government benches for such a long time when he was aware of such a golden creed. He replied that it was his great mistake to sit on the Government benches and that the moment he realised his mistake, he crossed the floor. May I tell him that he was not sitting on these benches as an ordinary member, but as a Parliamentary Secretary who was supposed to be well aware of the policy of the Government. How funny then it is to say that he crossed the floor the moment he realised his mistake! I say if it was at all a mistake, it was never realised by him for years together. He has not been sitting on these benches for a few months but he has been here as a Parliamentary Secretary for full 8 and it never occurred to him all this time that he was making a mistake.

(R. B. Sohan Lal)

It is strange that the light was shown to an experienced Parliamentarian like him by the three members who have recently joined the Assembly, viz., Sardar Shaikat Hyat-Khan, son of the late lamented Sir Sikander Hyat-Khan, the Leader of the Unionist Party, Mr. Mumtaz Daulatana, son of the late Nawab Ahmad Yar Khan Daulatana, the late Chief Secretary of the Unionist Party and Nawab Iftikhar Hussain, son of the late Nawab of Mamdot whose house was the centre of Unionist Party's activities.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Why do you not realise your mistake ?

Raj Bahadur Lala Sohan Lal : My honourable friend Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan should not feel worried about me. I know my place pretty well and I can confidently say that I am occupying a correct place. Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan has taken a long period of 8 years in finding out his correct place, but I may tell him that so far as I am concerned I would take hardly a day in finding out the mistake. Then Raja Sahib said that here are the Ministers who belong to no organisation like the Muslim League, etc. True, I agree that they do not belong to any communal organisation. The party in power is admittedly a non-communal organisation which fact is well-known to every one and in this group are people of all communities working together.

Mr. Speaker : Honourable member's time is over.

Sardar Santokh Singh (Eastern Towns, Sikh, Urban) : Mr. Speaker, this budget has no distinctive feature. It reveals once again the old, old story of underestimating the revenue receipts and over-estimating the expenditure. Fortune has indeed smiled on our province but our complaint is that the surpluses so obtained have not been used to the best advantage. Special funds have been opened, it is true, but that to my mind would only lead to favouritism and nepotism. No good to the poor people will be done thereby. Some years ago Sir Gokul Chand Narang and I made an offer to the late lamented Sir Sikander Hyat-Khan that if he were to remit the revenue of all the poor zamindars who are paying land revenue and *abiana* up to ten rupees, we shall be quite at one with him and will even withdraw our opposition to the Sales Tax Bill and we shall accept that position. But that request of ours was refused because the Government does not really want to do what they profess. My complaint is that in a budget of 22 crores of rupees only 35 lakhs have been allotted to industries and out of that sum only two lakhs will be given, or at least has been provided, as State aid to industry. What can be done with two lakhs of rupees ? No research work worth the name is being done. Like this it will take us centuries to make any headway. Just imagine the budget is of 22 crores of rupees and only two lakhs out of it are being given as State aid to industries and even out of that sum some will be left unspent, as has been the case in former years. This is the position that we have arrived at and still we are loudly talking of industrialising the province. The Honourable Finance Minister outside this House laid great stress and rightly too on the advancement of industry but when it comes to facts, when it comes to doing something, there is the paltry sum of two lakhs of rupees in a budget of 22 crores in the form of State aid to industries. It is disgraceful. There has been constantly less expenditure than that budgeted for, for years. Let there be however no mistake about it. It is not as a result of Government vigilance or as a result of any reduction of expenditure that this result has been obtained, but it is due to the fact that certain works which were provided for and sanctioned, at the time of budget and allotment for which was made could not be executed during the year and it was found at the end that those works could not be carried out on account of want of material or on account of difficulties of transport. In budgetary language this is called saving or less expenditure. Instead of expressing regret over constant under-estimating of revenue receipts and over-estimating the expenditure, the Honourable Finance Minister takes needless pride and persists in repeating those mistakes. This point

has not been raised in this House for the first time. I raised it two or three times during the course of budget discussions. After all accurate budgeting is the very essence of a good Government. One need not feel any pride over incorrect budgeting and it goes without saying that our budget has all along been incorrect. Look at the figures of the previous year. Every year you find that the receipts are under-estimated and the expenditure is over-estimated. It has been already pointed out that no research work is being done in industries. At the present rate of progress it might take us centuries to go ahead in the matter of industries. The Honourable Finance Minister has laid great stress upon the fact that the expenditure on the beneficent departments has been doubled but have not the revenue receipts also doubled? I ask what has he done particularly? If the old bureaucratic Government could spend 17 lakhs of rupees in a budget of 11 crores, what is there to be proud of, in spending 35 lakhs of rupees in a budget of 22 crores? Has he gone any better? Certainly not. He is going in the same stereo-typed fashion of spending that much money as the irresponsible bureaucracy was doing in pre-autonomy days. If 17 lakhs were spent in the pre-provincial Autonomy days, 35 lakhs have been now budgeted and this because the revenue receipts have also doubled. We expected this so-called popular ministry to spend more money on the beneficent departments and not finish everything over the doles to police and on general administration. Favouritism is rampant in all departments. The Government seem to think that by refusing to answer questions on the floor of this House they are rooting out communalism. The position however is that even in educational institutions admissions of boys and girls are being made on communal basis. Boys and girls who have passed in the first division are being rejected and those who have passed in the third division are being taken in because they happen to belong to a particular community. I ask, is that fairness, is that reason, is that justice that even in educational institutions admissions should be on this basis? And when questions are put, the Ministers refuse to answer them on the floor of the House on the so-called plea that they savour of communalism. It is a well known fact that traders are being badly harassed. The Defence of India Rules were never made for the purpose for which they are being used. I may tell you Sir, that nobody is safe these days. People who are paying lakhs of rupees as income-tax, people who are very respectable in society, are being handcuffed and paraded in the streets like common criminals simply because of some technical offence. As was pointed out by my friend Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang, if the Honourable Finance Minister were a shopkeeper, he even would not know what are the regulations to be followed and what are the regulations not to be followed and in spite of that people are being taken in handcuffs and paraded in the streets and that too without any offence having been first proved against them.

I do not here advocate the cause of those people who create black markets. It is far from my intention. But nobody has a right to trouble and persecute them unless a conviction has been obtained in a court of law. I have known of cases where bail is granted by the judiciary but as soon as the man comes out, he is handcuffed again by the police, adding another section to his offence. I must say that there has been police *raj* at its worst in the time of this so-called popular Ministry. Our friends sitting on that side should do their best and set right these glaring wrongs. The Honourable Minister for Development, who does not happen to be here now, attends the conferences of *beoparis*. It is very good of him to do that, but when the matter is of giving them a fair deal, he becomes adamant and refuses to move. In the matter of Marketing Act, which was not a fiscal measure at all the late Sir Sikander had given me an assurance in writing that as soon as the situation improves, he would reduce the marketing fee. The present Ministry notwithstanding several requests that I have made and notwithstanding the fact that market committees have got very big surplus refuses however to reduce the marketing fee. This is then the situation. These gentlemen say something but really mean quite another. They

(S. Santokh Singh)

shed only crocodile tears and never do things straight. Sir William Roberts was pleased to say that more money should be spent on industry and that it should be helped. But does he know that only 2 lakhs have been provided for this purpose? What will be his reaction to that 2 lakhs in a budget of 22 crores of rupees? Is that the way to improve industries, is that the way that our friends go about saying that industries must be helped and that everything must be done to improve the same? I have said that these things will never be done unless the money is spent generously to the best advantage. I do not agree with my friend, Sir William Roberts that money should be hoarded and should not be spent even when there are large surpluses. What we do insist upon is that right use should be made of the surplus that fortune has given us. I do hope that this Ministry will have some regard for the feelings of the people and will do the province a good turn by spending large amounts to improve industries because it is on the industrialisation of the country that its future depends.

Khan Muhammad Yusuf Khan (Rawalpindi Sadar, Muhammadan, Rural):

Sir, I would like to say very little about the budget because it is what it is and we have no doubt that the Honourable Finance Minister has proved himself an able and adept financier. I would like to say more of the grievances of my constituency and the grievances of my own community. On the floor of the House there have been voices raised against the Government to the effect that the Government is communal minded and that the Muslims of the province are trying to take over the rights of other communities. My honourable friend, Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang, who holds a poisonous tongue always dubs the Government, whether they are Unionists or Muslim Leaguers, as rank communalists and the greatest charge levelled by him is that the Muslims are holding the key-posts in all departments.

(At this stage Mr. Speaker left the Chair and it was occupied by Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram of the Panel of Chairmen.)

May I ask him and the men who think like him, 'Are they prepared to give the key-posts to Muslims in the Central Provinces and in the United Province where they are in a majority and where there is Congress rule? We should hold the key-posts in this province because we are in a majority and we have this birth-right in this province. (Hear, hear).

Mr. Chairman (Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram): Order, order. Please note that the school master is in the Chair.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang: May I answer the question that he has put to me?

Mr. Chairman: Let him finish his speech.

Khan Muhammad Yusuf Khan: It should not be taken for granted that the position in the Punjab is exactly the same. It should not be considered that Muslims in this province are holding all the key-posts. If you see how the various departments are working, you will find that it is absolutely wrong and that it is a false charge against the Muslims that they are holding all the key-posts. Take the Co-operative Department. There is the Registrar who is a Hindu and is holding the key-post and all the deputy registrars are non-Muslims. Similarly, what is going on in the Forest Department, specially in the timber circle? I would call it a timber-Singh circle. But I do not grudge it. As a Muslim I appeal in the name of Quran and Islam to do justice to everybody. If the Muslims are in power, then they must remove the grievances of Hindus and Sikhs, if there are any. Give them as many posts as you can. That will show your broad-mindedness and the spirit of Quran and Islam. If you show any communalism, it will be anti-Islamic and anti-Quranic. You are bound to be broad-minded.

Now, I will turn to the conditions in my own district. I had a chance of touring in my constituency and I learnt there that the greatest demand that has been made by the inhabitants of that constituency is that they want colleges and schools. As we all know, Rawalpindi district is the foremost in supplying recruits for the war. But due to lack of education we have not been able to supply big officers, such as King Commissioned officers as we should have, because the standard of education for those services is very high. Supposing, God forbid, another war comes in, then perhaps we will not be able to supply so many recruits unless and until education is imparted to them and their standard is raised. Their grievance in this respect is quite just and legitimate when they say that they are not meant only to supply soldiers but also want to supply big officers, and that can only be done through education. I would specially invite the attention of the Honourable Minister for Education to the fact that particularly in the Pindi tahsil which is a proper and central place, there is a great demand for schools and colleges; Sagri, Bassali and Taxila are the central places most appropriate for high schools. If the schools are opened in these places I think the poor zamindars would benefit.

Another point which I would submit is that a dam should be constructed, as in America, under the post war plan. If a dam is constructed then [our irrigation system would work well.

Mr. Chairman : Honourable member's time is up.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang (West Lahore Division, General, Rural) : Sir, a question was put to me and with your permission I am going to answer that question. The question was whether we Hindus of the Punjab would like to be treated by the Muslim Government of this province in the same way as the Congress Government treated the Muslims of the United Provinces. My answer is an emphatic yes and absolutely in the affirmative. If the Muslim Government of this province treats the Hindus as the Congress treated the Muslims of that province we shall be quite content. I cannot go into details while answering a question.

Chaudhri Anant Ram (Karnal South, General, Rural) (Urdu) : Sir, since the general discussion on the budget started, both sides of the House have commented on it. Some of the honourable members have praised the budget and others have pointed out its defects. I think that the duty of a Finance Minister is to collect money and to keep its account. A surplus budget is no credit to any Finance Minister. On the other hand, it shows complete incompetency of a Government. (Cheers).

It appears from the budget speech of the Finance Minister that the police expenditure, which was Rs. 96 lakhs in 1941-42 has risen to the staggering amount of Rs. 2,82 lakhs in 1945-46. I have not been able to understand why this expenditure has been increased three times. The boundaries of this province are the same. Even the population has not much increased. Nor do I believe the contention that crime has increased in this ratio. On the other hand, the expenditure on education has been increased from Rs. 88 lakhs in 1921-22 to only Rs. 2,41 lakhs in 1945-46, which means that the expenditure on education has been increased in a far less ratio as compared with the expenditure on police. That is really strange. Everybody knows that not only is education more necessary than police; but that good education prevents crime and thus reduces the necessity of police. Moreover the teachers in the service of district boards are in very bad and miserable conditions on account of their low pays. The district boards should be given more grants so that something for the teachers may be done, and more schools may be opened in the villages. (Cheers).

Then, Sir, the foremost industry of this province is agriculture. But the ratio of expenditure on agriculture if we divide it on population basis is far less than the ratio of expenditure on police. This expenditure is only one crore and three lakhs. The expenditure on cattle which is the main wealth of the agriculturists is...

(Ch. Anant Ram)

This is our progress during all these years. Today the conditions are not the same as they were in 1920-21. Times have changed. The value of money has much decreased. The expenditure on co-operation in the current budget is only 40 lakhs, although this is the only department which is proving really useful for the zamindars. Especially the work of consolidation which is carried on by this department is of very great value to the zamindars. But even this department has been ignored in this budget. In my district, Karnal, there is a great need for this work. We have collected money even for that purpose but the Government has not sent any officials to begin and carry on work there. If there is shortage of men, in the department let the Government open more training centres, and train more men. Consolidation is a thing which every zamindar needs. I would request the Government to bring in a Bill in order to make consolidation compulsory. It is not sufficient simply to say that we are well-wishers of the zamindars, we must in our hearts feel for the zamindars and do something for them in practice. (Cheers).

Next I come to education. In the whole of the Ambala division there is only one intermediate college. (An honourable member : Degree college). Thank God, it is a degree college. During the recent visit of the Ministers to that place the public brought it to their notice in the addresses which were presented to them in public meetings as well as in private meetings that more colleges are needed in that division. (An honourable member : But did you pay anything towards the funds of the Zamindara League ?) I must tell my friend Raja Sahib that we may quarrel here, we may criticise the Government here, but we will always remain in the Zamindara League. We will bring our grievances to their notice by remaining within the party. (Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : And if they do not pay any heed ?) Similarly, the Hindu zamindars are not represented on the Senate of the Punjab University. I would like to request the Honourable Minister for Education that he should remember the interests of the Hindu zamindars at the time of nominating the members of the Senate. (Minister for Education : I do not nominate anybody.)

Shrimati Raghubir Kaur (Amritsar, Sikh Woman) (Punjabi) : Sir, I am grateful that you have afforded me an opportunity to make a few observations in regard to those persons who have made great sacrifices for the cause of the country and for raising the prestige and dignity of the province. At present those persons are rotting in jails. During their confinement their sons, daughters, fathers and mothers have passed away but this Government, the stone-hearted Government, has not thought fit to release them. This Government has always claimed itself to be a popular Government, but I say it is not a people's Government. Had it been so, it would never have meted out such inhuman treatment to the sons of the soil. Take the case of Lala Prithvi Chand. He has now been released. When he was in jail his wife was ailing. She and her other relatives requested the Government to release him so that he may arrange for better medical treatment for his wife and in that event there was the possibility of her recovery. But Government did not release him till she breathed her last. Similarly, there is Mr. Rajindar Nath. His mother was on her death bed and she expressed her wish to see her son whom she had brought up very dearly. She represented that her son be released, so that she may have a parting look at him, but this Government did not release him and she died in the vain hope of seeing her son for the last time. Then there is Mr. Dev Raj Sethi. He is an honourable member of this House. His father died but Government did not release him. Then comes Labh Singh. His children died. When he made a request to Government to be allowed to see them it was refused. How sad it is ! Again there is Pandit Jagat Ram of Amritsar. His father and mother died but he was not released till after they expired. The case of Dr. Sant Ram Sethi is well known to the House. Like my brothers over there he is also a member of this House. They are meting out inhuman treatment to him. A similar time can come for them as well, and at that time

they will also be meted out the same kind of treatment as they are meting out now to their adversaries. Anyway, his two daughters passed away during his absence. When they were ill his wife and other relatives requested the Government to release him. But this stone-hearted Government released him when the bodies of his daughters were being carried for cremation. Again there is Ram Chand of Patti. He also fared no better. His father died and it was after his death that he was released. Then comes Waryam Singh of Bhagowali. His father was ill. His relatives requested the Government to release him. But he was released after he died. Again there is Ram Kumar of Moga. His brother is ill. His relatives requested the Government that he be released so that he may have a look at his brother. But to far he has not been released. Then there is Gurmukh Singh Musafir. First his father died. Then his son passed away. A request was made to the Government to release him, so that he might look after his ailing father. But he was released after his father and son had died. Besides, Lehna Singh has not been released so far. These are those detenees who are rotting in jails and during their confinement their fathers, mothers sons or daughters have and though repeated requests were made to Government to release them, but they were not let out of jail or if at all they were released they were released after the deaths of their relatives.

Now I will say a few words about those detenees who are lying ill in jails. The Honourable Minister for Finance, who visits the jails so often, is aware of the treatment that is being meted out to these patriots. Many detenees are lying ill in the Lyallpur jail. Baba Gurmukh Singh who has been in jail for a long time in the past is still in jail. He is an old man and his detention in jail has adversely affected his health. But Government do not like to release him. Along with him there are other detenees, for instance, Sardar Udharn Singh, Sardar Ram Singh, Sardar Ganda Singh and Sardar Piara Singh. Besides there are other detenees who are rotting in jails.

I will refer to those who are restricted in villages. There is one Ram Chand. He has been detained and restricted in a small town Rahna, Nurpur tahsil, Kangra district. His movements have been restricted within one mile of the said small town. He has no means of earning his livelihood in that small town which is no better than a village. He used to live in cities like Lahore or Amritsar where he worked in some capacity or the other. Now he has been detained in a small town where neither any newspaper goes nor is there any college nor can he do any work to make his both ends meet. If he goes more than a mile out of that village, he will be arrested just as Bibi Parbati was arrested because she went to the Gulab Devi Hospital.

(At this stage Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.)

She was arrested simply because he had gone to the hospital. As a result of this, she was placed behind the bars. It is really very hard that detenees are not even told as to how many paces they can take this way or that way. If unfortunately a detenu's foot slips from the track into the forbidden area, he is taken into custody by the police for having violated the law. Thus he is sent to jail. Ram Chand was treated in this way. I fail to understand why he is not transferred to Lahore, so that he may be able to earn a living here. How can he earn his living in a village? He cannot feed his children there. How is it that these Honourable Ministers who draw fat salaries up to three or four thousand rupees every month, cannot pay any heed to the need of the children of the patriots? May I take it that no honesty of purpose, human sentiment or sympathy has been left in them? Baba Rur Singh, Master Hari Singh, Master Kabul Singh and Sardar Harjab Singh are honourable members of this august House. No arrangements have been made for the maintenance of their children. The Unionist Ministry does not pay any heed to the needs of the public. Our patriots are rotting in jails and their children are faced with starvation. The big landlords

(Shrimati Raghi Kaur)

and the wealthy persons are intoxicated by their riches and the capitalists are committing atrocities on the poor labourers. Previously Government used to grant squares of lands to the traitors of the country. Now perhaps the Unionist Government will only offer preserved carrots to their toadies. (*Laughter*).

In the end I would appeal to my honourable sister on the other said that whatever good proposals she has to make for promoting the cause of education, she should make them after coming over to this side of the House. The Unionist Ministry is not expected to take practical steps for promoting the cause of education and public health. She should come over to this side if she means business.

Mr. Speaker : The lady member's time is over.

Subedar Major Raja Farman Ali Khan (Gujar Khan, Muslim Rural), (Urdu): Sir, I congratulate the Hon'ble Minister of Finance for having presented a huge budget of 20 crores of rupees and for having shown in it a very large surplus. But it is a pity indeed that no provision has been made in this huge budget for the backward and poor district of Rawalpindi from which I come and which is inhabited by poor people. No arrangements exist for the education and health of the poor population of this district. I had taken an active part in the activities of the Chinese Army in 1900 but to-day I find that the members of my martial nation are driven from door to door as beggars. The chief reason of their poverty and beggary is that no arrangements exist for their health and education. The late Sir Fazli-Husain had promised in 1923-24 that an intermediate college would be opened at Gujar Khan. But up till now no college has been established at Gujar Khan, in spite of that promise and in spite of the fact that even the Director of Public Instruction, Punjab, has visited the spot in this connection. It is absolutely necessary that there should be a college in this area for the education of our martial people. Want of education and acute illiteracy among our soldiers has affected them adversely. As you are aware, Sir, with the change of time, the methods of warfare also change. So is the case with the present war. There is a world of difference between the tactics and weapons with which this war is being waged and those of the last Great War. As a matter of fact the present age is rightly and very appropriately called the age of machine. Obviously, it is most essential for every person in this age to be literate, otherwise he would miserably fail to give a good account of himself in the discharge of his duties. Hence it is all the more necessary for the soldiers to be literate enough to understand the right use of the intricate weapons of war, otherwise they will not be able to handle them satisfactorily. Now take the case of our soldiers fighting on different fronts. Majority of them are illiterate and that is why they have not been able to beat the Japanese effectively in spite of the dash and courage they possess. I can emphatically say that if our soldiers possessed even a little education, they would have acquitted themselves in the battlefield much better than they have done now. I am sure they would have defended their country with greater valiance than before. But the pity of it is that, being illiterate, they are incapable of taking a concerted action. Besides, their officers, who do not belong to martial races, refrain from freely mixing with them. Again, while the army of these soldiers goes ahead, these officers remain miles behind. The result is that success in the battle is not so outstanding as it should be. I would, therefore, appeal to the Government that with a view to liquidating illiteracy in my constituency and spreading there the light of education, they should open a network of schools there and also make a liberal provision in the budget for this purpose. I am not asking for the moon. It is only a just and reasonable request. My honourable friends over there, who are here enjoying all the amenities of life, cannot realise the hardships which a soldier has to suffer while trying to beat the enemy. I may tell them that it is because of the sacrifices made by him that we are moving about comfortably. They should not forget that while we enjoy

here sound sleep at night, our soldier, under exigencies of war, spends the night standing in the quagmire or wading through it with a view to encircle and annihilate the enemy. I, therefore, feel that it becomes incumbent on the Government that if they have so far failed to arrange for his education, they should at least make arrangements for the regular education of the coming generations. He would consider it a sufficient reward for his sacrifices.

Besides, I have to draw the attention of the Government to another important matter and that is this. No satisfactory arrangement for the provision of medical aid exists in our ilaqa. There is an acute scarcity of medicines, so much so that a quinine tablet is available for nothing less than three annas and that too with great difficulty. Consequently the people are in a sad plight. The fate of a patient is simply pitiable. He may live or die, the medicine is neither available in the market nor can it be procured from the hospital. I may point out in this connection that with a view to overcome the difficulty of non-availability of medicines, the people of my ilaqa collected a sum of Rs. 600 and medicines were purchased from Rawalpindi. But how long could this small stock of medicines meet the ever increasing requirements of the people? It was soon exhausted. What a pity! Then fever is causing great worry to the people since it is raging in my ilaqa. On the one hand, medicine is scarce and on the other if at all a quinine tablet is available, it can be had at an exorbitant price of three annas per tablet, which the poverty-stricken people of my ilaqa can ill-afford to pay. The thing is that the people are face to face with untold misery. I would appeal to the Honourable Minister for Education to redress the grievances of my constituents in this connection since Departments of Medicine and Education both fall in his portfolio.

Now, I have to make mention of another point. We have a leader in the person of an honourable member here. He is a Nawab but possesses a gentle heart and genial disposition. It causes great surprise to me that he makes little effort to enhance the respect and honour of the Rajput community.

Mr. Speaker : The Honourable member's time is up.

Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram (West Central Punjab, Indian Christian): Sir, you were pleased to divide the members yesterday into three classes, 1st, 2nd and 3rd and you left out one class and that is the intermediate class.

Mr. Speaker : I said 'classes' instead of 'benches' by mistake.

Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram : I take this opportunity to offer heartiest felicitations to my honourable friend, the Honourable Sir Manohar Lal on his great achievement. We have every reason, the Punjab has every reason, to be proud of him. (*Hear, hear*). He was already a man of great reputation and he has only added laurels. I think it is a singular piece of good luck for the province to have a man of his experience, integrity and scholarship at the head of the finances of this province. Posterity will remember him as one of the greatest benefactors that ever came to the Punjab. Such people do more work than politicians and platform speakers. We are on the threshold of a new era which has already dawned and we expect changes of a very momentous character to take place within a short time and a great deal depends upon the way in which these changes are received by the people of all classes. This is just the time when we should sink all differences and join together irrespective of caste and creed and weld ourselves into a nation. When we hear of these classes and divisions, Muslim League on one side, Mahasabha on the other, Pakistan on one side and Khalistan on the other (*An honourable member :* And Christianstan), we do not want any *Stan*, we take a larger view and larger interest of the country, we would rather merge into a nation than divide it even if we are in a small minority, we know how to take our own stand and stand on merit alone, we do not want any favour. This is just the time for us to unite, otherwise I am afraid India will not get those political advantages which she should get. There are many schemes we

(Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram)

are looking forward to. There is a silver lining on the horizon so far as issues relating to war are concerned and after the war perhaps we shall have to face many problems. India will be quite different from what she is at present, whether we like it or not. However, without any intelligent electorate on one side or without universal primary education all our schemes will be of very little avail. It is a great pity that after centuries' stay in India the British Government can boast of producing only 10 per cent of literacy. Ninety per cent of the people are still steeped in ignorance and poverty. We talk of education, we bring forward many schemes, but very little has been accomplished and it is a great pity that even the present Government has not put in the budget that amount which it should have. I think they should change the system as a whole. I would very strongly recommend in the first place that the portfolios of Education and Self-Government should be with one Minister. Out of 14 lakhs of students, 8 lakhs are to be found in the primary departments. Only 6 lakhs are in colleges and schools. This even has so far not worked smoothly because the Minister in charge of Local Self-Government will naturally think of roads more than of schools. Primary education is the very foundation. There cannot be any reform unless you improve the condition of our primary children. They are to form the coming generation and nothing would be gained if their conditions are not ameliorated. There are 40 thousand teachers who are in fact the makers of the nation. They have produced you (*Laughter*) but you do not consider them worth anything. But for the sacrifice of these poor village teachers, who are struggling for their existence, you would not have been worth what you are today. How can you expect any improvement in the country when in answer to a question of mine during the last session I was told that in two districts the salary of a poor teacher varies from Rs. 13 to Rs. 18? A teacher must keep his family, he must have books, he must have social status. Can he look to all these things with 15 to 18 rupees? The sweepers in Lahore are getting anything from Rs. 28 to Rs. 30. (*Mian Abdul Aziz*: Thirty rupees.) We must tackle this problem. We are hearing all these years that improvements are going to take place but the things remain where they are. Go to the City of Lahore, the metropolis of the province. The Corporation promised to convert it into a paradise. Go to some primary schools and see the lot of the children. Here I would blame the people as well because education is reflection of society, they both act and react on each other. There is no public opinion behind. Look at the wretched schools in summer. No amenities are given to the boys. No fans are provided. The children sit in dirty, dark, dingy rooms. Once the Minister of Education—not this present minister but his predecessor—and the Director of Public Instruction paid a surprise visit to a girls' school in the city. The house was small but it contained 120 girls. The staircase was so narrow that they could not get to the top. If a man of my size had gone I would have got stuck there! This is the way schools are being conducted in a place like Lahore, the metropolis of the province. You go to the Mall in the evening. What do you find there? There are restaurants where people make fools of themselves by spending money on wine. Go to the city and see poverty there. This is the tale of every place. There are many other questions I wish to refer to but I shall have to wait for another opportunity when these subjects come up before us. I express very great appreciation for the work which has been done but I will make one appeal and that is that I will join with those who have appealed to the Government to release those persons who have been detained without any trial. In my opinion this is opposed to the best traditions of the British Government.

Rao Mohar Singh (North-West Gurgaon, General, Rural) (*Urdu*): Sir, before I proceed with my speech I would like to offer my heartiest felicitations to the Honourable Minister of Finance for his great achievement. There is no doubt about it and it is an open secret that we are fortunate enough in having a man of his experience and calibre as the Minister-in-charge of the finances of this province. During these

abnormal times when prices have shot up to unconscionable level, he really deserves credit for making the financial position of the province quite secure and sound.

I am reminded of Ruskin, an English author and a great philosopher, who in one of his books "Sesame and Lilies" has repeatedly mentioned that the betterment of a State is dependent upon the capital and health of the subject and it is quite true. I am really constrained to remark that the health of the people of this province has deteriorated to a great extent. Child mortality is also increasing day by day. The average life of a human being inhabiting this province has come down to 27 years. The vitality of the people of this province is being sapped because of utter lack of proper and well-balanced diet. It will not be out of place to mention here that very recently Sir Jogendra Singh, Member of the Executive Council of the Governor-General, made a statement to the effect that in India only 34 per cent of the whole population gets adequate and balanced diet while the rest of the population is devoid of any balanced diet. In fact diet experts have also mentioned that besides vegetables, grain and milk, $1\frac{1}{2}$ tola of ghee is also very essential for the upkeep of human life. So far as this province is concerned, I would like to submit that a very meagre quantity of milk is produced, which is hardly sufficient for one-third of its population. We have to increase the production of milk by three hundred per cent, at least. Milk is one of the greatest necessities of life. There are sufficient cattles in the province but the trouble is that the quantity of milk has gone down. You will be surprised to know that 70 per cent of cows and buffaloes give now absolutely no milk, while 30 per cent give $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of milk instead of 5 lbs. In other countries for instance in America, Germany and Denmark every possible effort is made to increase the quantity of milk which has been practically doubled, but in our province nothing is being done in this direction yet. I, therefore, submit with all the force at my command that this is a matter which the Government should take in hand immediately. Since milk forms an important part of our diet, I am sure if the quantity of milk is increased the general health and prosperity of the people will also improve and thus the Government would earn a good name.

Now I would like to say a few words with regard to my ilaqa which I am representing here. Certain honourable members were pleased to remark that Rawalpindi is the district which has given recruits to the army more than any other district in the province. In this connection I make bold to say that tahsil Rewari in the district of Gurgaon is second best in India on the list of those places that have given the highest number of recruits to the army. When such a large contribution has been made to the army by the people of my tahsil, I have every hope that our claims would not be overlooked. I would, therefore, request the Punjab Government to urge upon the Government of India that instead of contributing grant for post-war reconstruction on the basis of population, it should make grant on the basis of military recruitment of the different provinces. This principle should also be followed by the Punjab Government in allotting the grant to different districts and tahsils of the province, so that the people fighting for the country may get their due share and justice may be done. Every consideration should be paid to our *ilaqa*, which is backward.

Khan Bahadur Chaudhri Muhammad Hussain (Gujranwala East, Muhammadan Rural) (*Urdu*): Sir, my surprise knew no bounds yesterday when I heard the speech of my honourable friend Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh representing Batala constituency. He said in the course of his speech that the Government is doing injustice to the Sikhs by not giving them their due share in the Government services. I can say without fear of contradiction that the present Government which comprises of Hindus, Sikhs and Muslims has left no room for such complaints. We are quite confident in saying that so long as Honourable Mali Khizar Hayat is the leader of the House, the rights of every community are protected and secure. (*Hear, hear*). My honourable friend Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh while making this insinuation against the Government

(Kh. B- Ch, Muhammad Hussain)

seemed to have forgotten certain bare facts regarding this matter. Before making such irresponsible remarks against the Government he should have made enquiries into various departments. Perhaps he meant the Agriculture Department. No doubt the Director of Agriculture is a Muslim, but we should not ignore the fact that due share has been given to the people of other communities working under him. If the head of a department happens to be a Mussalman, my honourable friend should not conclude that the rights of other communities are being ignored. It is not a desirable inference that if the head of a department is a Mussalman every other community will be deprived of its due share in the department. Let me refer to the Co-operative Department in which six or seven Deputy Registrars are working. None of them is Muslim. When such is the case how can my Sikh friends complain that due share is not being given to them? If they say like this, it will really surprise people like me who know fully well the true state of affairs. It is a fact, that the rights of minorities are being protected to such an extent that sometimes one begins to doubt that it is being done at the expense of the majority community. I, therefore, submit that such allegations are unjust and uncalled for.

Now a few words with regard to the present budget and I have done with. It is a matter of great pleasure that the Honourable Finance Minister has been presenting surplus budgets since 1936-37 with the exception of one or two years. It shows that the financial position of our province has always been very sound and satisfactory. Now it is clear from the present budget that enormous receipts from land revenue and other taxes have been swelling the coffers of the Government and that income is luckily on the increase. So far well and good. At the same time it pains me to remark that nothing substantial has been done by the Government for the good of the poor peasantry during the last 8 years, though promises were made by them to the effect that they would leave no stone unturned to improve the lot of the poor and down-trodden zamindars. It is a thousand pities that with the exception of a few indirect reliefs no direct relief has been given to the zamindars. No step whatsoever has been taken by the Government for the reduction of water rate. No remission has been given in land revenue. Things are as they were before. They have not improved a bit. I remember when provincial autonomy was introduced in this province, Government was sympathetic enough to take every possible step to ameliorate the condition of the poor peasantry, though it was not explicitly expressed by them. We, being in touch with the press and platform, are fully aware of the fact that they had really a sincere intention to do something substantial for the good of the zamindars. In this connection I would like to refer to the speeches of the late lamented Sir Chhotu Ram in which he used to say that it was a zamindara government and to relieve the zamindars from the burden of taxes imposed on them every possible effort would be made and he further used to say that zamindars would see for themselves that their old grievances were removed by the present Government. I am sorry to remark that the zamindars have got the same grouse which they used to have at the time when the present Government came into power. Their condition is as bad as it was years ago. Now the expenditure and income have reached new peaks, so much so that the receipts which used to be up to 11 crores have risen to 22 crores—practically double the previous amount. It is high time that Government provided every possible relief to the poor zamindar who is said to be the backbone and 'an data' of the Punjab. I, therefore, submit with all the force at my command that immediate steps should be taken for the uplift and betterment of the peasantry. I may also tell the House that cultivation creates courage and bravery in the hearts of the cultivator. It is this bravery and courage that people from rural areas have joined the Army not in thousands but in lakhs. It is, as I have said, because of this courage and bravery created by the hardships of cultivation that rural people have not refrained from volunteering for

active service. My submission is that if remission in land revenue is not possible at the moment, it is incumbent upon the Government to compensate them for war services at least by providing educational facilities to them. The present educational facilities being very nominal are very disappointing and I have every hope that this matter will receive the sympathetic consideration of Government. There is still much to be done in this direction. For instance, the conveyance of children should be free of charge. Education is free only up to the primary standard ; I submit that secondary education should also be absolutely free. If Government are not in a position to remit land revenue completely, they should chalk out a programme according to which, just to begin with, they must remit land revenue for, say five acres of land, then they may remit for 10 acres of land, so on and so forth. I am putting stress particularly on this point for the simple reason that by doing so the Government would go a long way to lighten the burden of the zamindar and thus by helping him and earning a good name they can achieve their aims. I firmly hold that if the zamindar is saved, Government is saved, and if the zamindar is not saved Government is not saved. As the zamindar is the backbone of the province, the prosperity and safety of Government and the zamindar depend on each other. Therefore it will be quite advisable for Government to please the zamindar by providing him facilities and relief in every respect.

Before I resume my seat I would like to say a word with regard to tenants and cultivators. It is a thousand pities that Government have not so far taken any step for improving their poor lot. This is a matter which they ought to have taken in hand.

Sardar Jagjit Singh Man (Central Punjab Landholders) : Sir, before I proceed, I must pay my warmest tribute to the Honourable Finance Minister for presenting a very sound and balanced budget. He is, in my opinion, the luckiest Finance Minister in the whole of India. He has presented nine budgets in this House, out of which seven have been surplus budgets. The expenditure on beneficent departments which in 1936-37 was about 188 lakhs, has now gone up to 495 lakhs, an increase of about 80 per cent. It is an achievement for which we must feel proud. Allotments to the peasants' welfare fund and the development fund have been very liberal. The roads of this province are best in India. Besides Co-operative Societies, Veterinary and irrigation facilities also top in India. They are far above other provinces. It is due to the Honourable Premier and his colleagues and I again congratulate them on this achievement.

Sir, the Honourable Finance Minister has said himself that we are backward in education. Literacy is only about 9 or 10 per cent. It is very unsatisfactory. I must tell that without education we cannot go much ahead. Unless we are educated we cannot improve our industries, agriculture and other things. I hope that Government will give more attention towards education. Now so much about the budget. I will say a word or two with regard to the remarks made by the honourable Leader of the Opposition yesterday. During the course of his speech he accused the police as a matter of fact he is always accusing the police, particularly the police of Ferozepore. I do not know the reason, but I presume that the conflict which he had with the Superintendent of Police, Mr. Sandhu Ram, always remains green in his memory. (*Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan* : He is in your good books).

Mr. Speaker : The honourable member should not be personal.

Sardar Jagjit Singh Man : I withdraw those remarks. He remarked yesterday that crime in Ferozepore is on the increase and therefore the Deputy Inspector-General and the Superintendent of Police both should be removed. I may tell him that these officers are men of great repute and experience and they are capable officers. I may state for the information of honourable members opposite that the facts are

[S. Jagjit Singh Man] .

otherwise. The crime in the Ferozepore district is rather on the decrease and I will quote figures. The following is a statement of crime in Ferozepore :—

Year				Reported crime	Murders	Dacoities	Burglaries
1942	..	..	..	3,559	124	55	782
1943	..	..	..	3,750	90	17	681
1944	..	..	..	3,676	59	7	604

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : May I ask one question? Is this statement correct or the one which you read out the other day?

Sardar Jagjit Singh Man : This is quite correct. The crime in Ferozepore is on the decrease. He also remarked yesterday about the additional police posts. I may tell him in this connection that they were 15 in 1942 with a strength of 2 inspectors, 8 sub-inspectors, 9 assistant sub-inspectors, 28 head constables and 222 foot constables. In 1945 there are 13 with a strength of 1 inspector, 5 sub-inspectors, 8 assistant sub-inspectors, 18 head constables and 150 foot constables. This means that the strength has been reduced by 1 inspector, 3 sub-inspectors, 1 assistant sub-inspector, 10 head constables and 72 foot constables. This shows how things are going on. I do not know why the honourable member is always after the police. He is always making sweeping remarks against the police and he totally ignores the fact that the police is a very useful institution for society. It protects the lives of men and women and keeps at arms length the *bandashes*. Many a time it exposes itself to grave dangers and faces personal risks and even then it sticks to its post of duty. I think the honourable member should also realize all these facts. Before I sit down I would like to point out one thing to Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan. He said that Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh has been making bad remarks yesterday during the course of his speech, that Sikhs were being ignored and were not getting their due share in services. He said that they were under a coalition Government in which Muslim, Hindu and Sikh Ministers and all work together with joint responsibility but unfortunately he also remarked that in the Co-operative and in the Agricultural Departments justice was not being done to the Muslims. I am sorry that in the same breath he blew hot and cold. On the one hand, he said that things were going right and on the other he said that they were not. I hope he did not mean what he said. With these remarks I close my speech.

Mian Sultan Mahmood Hotiana (Pakpattan, Muhammadan, Rural) : Sir, nothing pleases the zamindar more than to find that his lands which were lying barren for centuries were going to be provided with water through the Bakhra Dam and other projects. These irrigation projects will not only provide sufficient money and living for these people but they will be of great use to the future generations as well. These schemes are going to be started by the Finance Minister and I hope he will keep in his memory all lands. Still I congratulate him for these special schemes on my behalf and on behalf of the zamindar members as a whole.

There was one thing to which I would draw the attention of the House as well as of the Cabinet and which I think is the crying need of the hour and to which no attention has been paid so far. I would request the Premier to do what he can in the matter. That is about corruption. Corruption in our province has reached its climax and it cannot be ignored. It is rampant in all services. Take any department, Excise,

Police, the establishments in the districts. I take specially the police. I say it openly that it is very difficult to find an honest police officer. The special enquiry agency ought to have been spread throughout the province with its branches in every tahsil. That agency is only with respect to gazetted officers. What about sub-inspectors, tahsildars, girdawars and the clerks in Deputy Commissioners' offices? I make a most emphatic demand from the Government that it is the crying need of the hour and that they should establish a special department. I would welcome if the Government spend 10 lakhs on this department and try to find out the corrupt officials wherever they may be. I know of some sub-inspectors who make about a lakh in one year and nobody is to catch hold of these corrupt officers. They openly take bribes because they know that there is nobody to check them and take them to task. I would request the Government that if they want to keep this special enquiry agency they must spread it to every nook and corner of the province, so that everybody should know that there is some one to see if any wrong is done. I would request the Honourable Premier and the other Honourable Ministers to make a kind of *jehad* in this matter. They should openly declare that any officer accepting bribe will be severely punished. There should be an anti-corruption committee in every tahsil with an officer as its chairman so that the culprits are brought to book at once.

Another matter to which I would like to refer is the medical relief. In this connection I would draw the attention of the Honourable Minister of Education to the pay of doctors of subsidiary dispensaries that have been opened in the province. They have fixed only Rs. 50 a month as the salary of the doctor. It is a well known fact, Sir, that at the present time in view of the high prices that are prevailing it is not easy to get even a labourer, a coolie on two rupees a day and still the pay of the doctor is only Rs. 50 per mensem. I suggest that it should be raised to at least Rs. 100. As a matter of fact this low pay is the cause of there being many dispensaries without doctors.

The last point to which I would make a reference is the killing of dogs in rural areas. I drew the attention of the Hon'ble Premier and the Hon'ble Minister for Development to this matter. Formerly dogs used to be killed by administering Strichnine to them but now another method has been introduced and that is vaccination. The dogs are vaccinated by the veterinary surgeons. This method, I may point out, is a regular nuisance in the rural areas because it is not useful and does not serve the object. I would suggest that some more effective way should be adopted to kill dogs.

Chaudhri Ram Saroop (Rohtak Central General, Rural) (*Urdu*): Sir, I would first like to say a few things about what S. Gopal Singh said in his speech today. He challenged every body, the Government, the Hindus and the Muslims, though I must admit that I have not been able to understand his reasons for doing so. I admit that the scheduled castes have got certain grievances which are being redressed from time to time, but I must say that today's speech by the representative of the scheduled castes was uncalled for.

He said that the *Achhuts* have not been given any Ministry in spite of the fact that they are more in number than the Hindu Jats, who are only 8 and still a Minister has been appointed from amongst them. (*Interruptions.*) Well, Sir, if they do not like that I should answer him I will not, but I must inform him that the Jats have not been given a Ministry as a matter of charity. They have been given only what was their just right after the sacrifices they had put in for the party and the zamindars. Moreover we are not 8 in number but we are 14. Our leader, the late lamented Chaudhari Sir Chhotu Ram after being once appointed a Minister was not given any Ministry for 14 years and still he went on serving the Party as the Leader of the Opposition. Ministry is a reward for sacrifices. The Hindus said that Chhotu Ram was a Muslim because he was working in a party with the Muslim zamindars. But he did not care. He remained true to his principles and said always that he was the only

[Ch. Ram Saroop]

true Hindu. Now those very Hindus admit that Sir Chhotu Ram was right. This has reminded me of the case of our Premier here. Today the Muslims likewise say that he is furthering the interests of the non-Muslims, but I assure him that the time is not far off when his work will be appreciated and he will be regarded a true Muslim. So let him remain true to his principles like the late Sir Chhotu Ram. I must tell my friends of the Muslim League Party that in spite of what they say the fact is that the Hon'ble Premier is a better Muslim. (*Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan*: A good certificate from Grand Mufti.) I am thankful to Raja Sahib for calling me a Mufti. I admit that I serve my community 'muft', that is, without any reward and am not like him. (*Loud applause and laughter.*) What I want to stress upon is that if ever anybody gets any reward it is for his sacrifices. We may be small in number but we shall always be offered a Ministry, we shall not have to run after it or to beg for it, because we are not behind anybody in offering sacrifices for zamindars. It never pays to change one's political coat every now and then. It degrades one in the eyes of others. Consistency is a great virtue in politics. I must say to my friends the *Achhuts* that if they want anything let them take to the course of service and sacrifice first. To bring in religion every time is not proper.

Mr. Speaker : The honourable member's time is up.

Pir Akbar Ali (Fazilka, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*) : Sir, the fear of the Muslim League has compelled the Government to revise the rates of pay of certain services but I think that is not enough. Their salaries should have been increased by 50 per cent as the allowance of the honourable members has been increased from Rs. 200 to Rs. 300. But that has not been done. There are certain other services whose rates of pay should have been increased. For instance there is the Public Prosecutors Branch of the Police Department and the public prosecutors. They do not take any illegal gratification nor have they any such occasion to do so. They are hard hit and it is only fair that their rates of pay be revised. It is said that the public prosecutors are not Government employees, but at the time when 10 per cent cut was imposed it was also imposed on their pay. At one time this question was considered but since then no action has been taken on it. I hope Government will certainly take action in regard to this matter. Then Sir, horse allowance is sanctioned for Assistant Sub-Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors, Deputy Superintendents of Police and Superintendents of Police, but it is really strange that this allowance varies with the rank of the officer. I do not know why this difference is being made. Do Government think that a horse of an assistant sub-inspector casts less than the horse of a Superintendent of Police? It is really absurd that even in the matter of horse allowance differential treatment is meted out to senior officers. That is not all. Europeans even in junior ranks are treated better than senior Indian officers in the Police Department. For instance, a sergeant is allowed second class fare for journeys while an Indian inspector of police is not. I ask how long will this continue? Is it not high time that Government should stop this policy of meting out differential treatment to white people?

I may remind the Government that it is not due to the mounted police that dacoities have stopped in the Ferozepore district. The reason for that is the victory of the Allies in the West. If Government want to increase the police they should not establish new police posts every day. That will not solve the problem at all. To tell you the truth police posts are established in those villages where no dacoities have been committed. Where dacoities have actually been committed, there no police posts have been established. If there is really any need for more police, let Government increase the strength of the district police which up till now continues to comprise of 12 constables only. If they do so at present, they will be obviating the necessity of employing more police at the end of the war which they will certainly have to do. My friends at present do not realize it, because they are slow thinking and slow moving.

In spite of wasting so much money on establishing *rifayat* committees the communal situation has not improved at all. We have been witnessing since yesterday what amount of harmony is prevailing among the three major communities, Muslims, Hindus and Sikhs, of the province. It is that side from which communalism was first indulged in. I have strong reason to believe and I have received intimation to the effect that it was deliberately managed. This fire of communalism was fanned from those benches when a Sikh member spoke to strengthen the Sikh Minister and Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang who observed that the Muslim League Party has been formed in order to over-awe the Unionist party into favouring the Muslims. One wonders if at all the Unionist Party has done anything for the Muslims that Dr. Sahib thinks that now the fear of the Muslim League lion will compel the Unionist lamb into favouring the Muslims. Dr. Sahib's fancy has run riot. I wish I could expect of the Ministry to do even justice to the Muslims. The instance of Dr. Miss Khadija Begum is before us. She has been superseded by a junior Miss Bhan. Instead of admitting this mistake my friends had the audacity to say: "If non-Muslims are appointed the cry of 'Islam in danger' is raised". Let me tell them that by indulging in such remarks they are laughing at Islam. Their attitude is far from being commendable. Let them remember that Islam will never be in danger. It is they who will be in danger. Ministers may come and Ministers may go but Islam will go on for ever. Islam will live and live for ever. The mere blurting out of some one that Islam is in danger can never endanger Islam. I tell them that hypocrites do not succeed in this world. All the members sitting on these benches except the Parliamentary Secretaries and four or five other members admit that their condition is worse under this Government. But all the same they are sitting there. (*Chaudhri Fagir Hussain Khan*: Name any one of them). I can assure my friend that he is one of those four or five contented members (*Laughter*). Is he satisfied now? But I may tell them that it is not hypocrisy that succeeds in the world. It is sincerity which wins. If my friends are sincere they can succeed and if they are not they cannot. Hypocrisy can never lead to success at all. It is sincerity and the following of right principles that can ensure one's success. If my friends adopt right principles and sincerely live up to them; then they will certainly succeed, otherwise destruction and ruin shall be their fate to-morrow if not to-day.

Sardar Sampuran Singh (Lyallpur West, Sikh, Rural): Sir, there are certain reforms which are necessary to be introduced in this House, and like charity, reforms should also begin at home. In this House the question time takes about one-fourth of the time and it is a pity that that time is practically wasted every day, because the questions are put to elicit information but they are always so answered that so many other questions have to be put, and one question sometimes takes 25 minutes and some times half an hour, and we cannot get on with the questions which are on the agenda. Government has established a very bad convention of avoiding and dodging questions and not giving considered replies. Therefore to save so much public money and to save the time of this House it is absolutely necessary that the replies should be straight and to the point, so that the Government may in that way create confidence in the people, because those who read the newspapers think that Government is trying to evade questions and this does not add to their prestige; it rather brings them down in the eyes of the public.

The second thing is that the Ministers and the members of this House have certain rights. It is a different thing if some happen to be sitting on the Treasury benches and some happen to be on the Opposition, everybody has to take his turn. The turn may come after five years, after ten years or after twenty years, but we must establish very healthy conventions to run the House on right lines. The removal of one of the Ministers in this way was a very shabby affair and a lot of criticism has appeared both in this House and outside. But the Government so far has not given any satisfactory reply to the conduct which they showed at the time of dismissing one

[S. Sampuran Singh]

of their colleagues. The Leader of the Opposition gave it in writing and demanded that this case must be put before the House. Several months have elapsed and the Government has not moved their little finger to satisfy the members of this House about this affair. Therefore, if Government wants any honest convention established and wants to have any prestige in the country, then it is their duty to deal with this question in a more straightforward way and take this House into their confidence by putting the case before it.

Sir, the third matter is that Government is robbing the members of their right of joining in the deliberations of this House by putting a large number of them in jail and by restricting several of those who happen to be out of it. Put this matter before any layman, before any man with a little commonsense and he will say—and everybody is saying it—that Government is putting these restrictions because it is afraid that these members if they come to the House will form a majority and oust the present Ministry. Even if it were true and you were really afraid of losing your power by allowing them to attend this House, even then if you are brave, courageous people, honest, and straightforward people, you should not take shelter behind such acts. You allow them to come to the lobbies but you do not allow them to come to this chamber. What is it you are afraid of? Why is it that you feel so nervous? The other method which you use to keep yourselves in power is by gagging the press. I do not here refer to legislative measures enacted by the Central Government or the provincial Government, but I wish to mention that you have put so many editors of papers in jail. To mention only a few names, they are Mr. Yashpal, Mr. Virendra, Mr. Lekh Raj, Mr. Gopal Singh Qaumi, Mr. Yudi vir, though Mr. Deshbandhu Gupta, was recently released. In this way you cannot remain in power for long. When these people get out they will come with bitter memories and they will be able to do more effective work. So why take such measures? We call them in Punjabi *chhote hathiars*. These bring the prestige of the Government lower and lower before the public eye?

I want to say a few words about the Irrigation Department. Bombay has got large factories and industries. So have Pungal, Madras and other provinces. But this province has only land. It is our wealth. It is only the industry of agriculture in one form or another that the people have here. When I say that 90 per cent of the people are living on agriculture I do not mean those people only who own lands but I include also those people who are running the markets, people who are doing agricultural labour in one form or another. The land is steadily being spoiled by water-logging. Some years ago it was moving at the speed of half a mile a year. Now we find that it is doubling its speed and if by anti-water-logging methods we reclaim some land we lose ten times as much by *thar*. Government has not done much in this direction and it is very disappointing that even in this year's budget there is very little amount given for this purpose. There is no use developing more lands every year, when we are losing large areas of land by this process and the people are becoming homeless and villages once so green and flourishing are becoming desolate.

Reports of the Canal Committee and Remission Committee have not been acted upon. There is no use Government appointing such committees if no action is to be taken on their reports. It is said that whenever the Government appoints a committee, the intention is to shelve the question. I therefore submit that the Government should not keep these reports in their boxes but should read them and act upon the advice given by their own experts in those reports.

The war has brought another small industry into prominence in this country. Horses have started paying handsomely and people are breeding them. But it is a pity that the Remount Department has very few good stallions left. Some have died and others have become useless on account of old age. This industry is limited only to three districts in the province, namely, Montgomery, Shahpur and Lyallpur.

The rest of the Punjab is without any stallions. Though the budget is abundantly surplus, hardly any amount has been allotted for this purpose. If this industry is encouraged the agriculturist will be able to make a little more income by means of horse breeding.

With regard to industries in the Punjab, Government is very backward. I want to bring one point particularly to your notice and that is that there are so many people at this time in the province who want to start new industries and some of them have even applied to Government for permission to open new mills, textile mills, sugar-cane mills and so on. But in every case Government has replied that it is not its policy to allow new mills in the province. Government does not find its way to allow them to open new factories. People want to finance and develop industry in the province but Government is putting obstructions in their way. I think it is a very suicidal thing not to allow people to start these industries in the province.

I want to say a few words about agriculture. The knowledge of agriculture so far as its practical side in the farm is concerned, is exactly what it was some 15 years ago. The same 8-A wheat, the same sugar-cane, except one or two varieties lately introduced from Coimbatore, the same method of growing cotton in lines at certain distances, is being taught and propagated. These things were introduced 15 years ago and since then nothing new has been done. Very little research work is being done. (*Sardar Jagjit Singh Man*: What about L. S. S. cotton?) It was introduced about 15 years ago and the same thing is going on. The man who introduced it has retired long ago and has gone out of the department. So there is nothing new being done. (*Sayed Amjad Ali Shah*: The new thing is that the Government has imported two tractors).

Khan Bahadur Chaudhri Faqir Hussain Khan (Tarn Taran, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*): Sir, I offer my heartiest congratulations to the

3 p. m. Honourable Minister for Finance for having produced such a successful and a surplus budget. He deserves our thanks all the more as he has made ample provision in the budget for irrigation schemes. Well, Sir, this war has brought the food problem in the fore-front and it is an admitted fact that agricultural produce like other sinews of war plays an important part in the prosecution of a total war which is being waged now. The burning question of feeding the armies at the front and the people engaged in the factories behind, has assumed great importance and is receiving careful and constant attention of the Governments of all countries. In view of this it redounds to the credit of our Government for having earmarked large sums of money for irrigation purposes because I feel that every pie which will be spent on providing irrigation facilities to the agriculturists, will add to the prosperity and wealth of the province. The enhanced production of food grains will enrich the agriculturists since it will bring large returns to them. But at the same time it will ensure supplies not only to the consumers but also to the army. I would not be guilty of any exaggeration if I say that it is due to the beneficent activities of the Irrigation Department that the Punjab is in a position to take reasonable pride of being one of the foremost grain-producing and surplus provinces. I would, therefore, suggest that Government should provide more for this department than what they have been able to do up to now.

Objections have been raised by the opposition that Government have made handsome provision in the budget for the much-maligned police. The amelioration of policeman's condition was rather over-due. It is a pity that my honourable friends opposite, who vehemently criticised this provision, have failed to look at the other side of the picture. They must bear this fact in mind that a contented police means greater efficiency in the maintenance of law and order in the province and disappearance of corruption which is alleged to be rampant in that department. Hence enhancement of emoluments of the police personnel in the lower ranks is a step in the right direction and we should not deny the credit which the Government deserves. Again, I see no

[K. B. Faqir Hussain Khan]

reason why my honourable friends should grudge this increased expenditure being incurred on the police. It is simply incommensurate to confer wide powers on the police and yet pay them niggardly. No person with a grain of common sense will be able to reconcile investment of wide powers in the police and payment of such low salaries with which it is difficult to make both ends meet, particularly at a time when peak prices are prevailing in the market. The Government should certainly try to improve the standard of living of the police personnel in the lower rank by increasing their emoluments. I would suggest to the Honourable Minister for Finance to be liberal in making provision for the police. (Hear, hear). My honourable friends have made wild allegations against the police. They dubbed them as dishonest and corrupt. I agree with them to a certain extent, but my personal experience is that once in Amritsar certain police officers were suspected of foul play. The Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Lahore, lost no time in transferring some to other districts suspending others and starting an enquiry. The result is that corruption is now growing scarce in that district. If similar action is taken by other high officials, corruption is bound to decrease.

Then, Sir, it pained me to find my Honourable Muslim League friends over there hurling irresponsible accusations at the Government. They have said that the Unionist Government had failed to safeguard the rights of the Muslims. Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chaud has accused Government of not protecting the rights of the Hindu community. A rustic Sikh member on my side has stressed that the interests of the Sikh community are even not safe in the hands of the present Government. Now, Sir, if the interests of these three communities are not dear to Government, I do not understand which other community is benefited by this Government. Sir, it will be observed that the allegations from all the three sides are incorrect and baseless. Sir, I would assure the House that the Muslim members on this side were Muslims in the past, they are still Muslims and shall remain Muslims for all times to come. We cannot tolerate if the rights of the Muslim community are not respected. Similarly we cannot see that the rights of Hindu, Sikh and other minority communities are overlooked. Since we believe in doing justice to one and all, the question of the rights of any community being trampled under foot does not arise at all and God willing we hope to live up to our reputation.

Mian Abdul Aziz (Outer Lahore, Mohammadan, Urban) (Urdu): Sir, I have to offer an apology for coming five minutes late in the morning. In fact I had no knowledge that the question hour would be dispensed with and general discussion on the budget would be taken up straight-away. However, I stand amply punished for my late arrival in the House. Sir, yesterday when the House adjourned, I was drawing the attention of the Government to the absolute necessity of extending the period allotted for the general discussion of the budget. My submission is that two days' time is too short a period to enable all the honourable members to give full expression to their views on such matters concerning their constituencies, on which they intend to draw the pointed attention of the Government during the general debate on the budget. As a matter of fact, the honourable members keep such matters pending and wait for this opportunity. But the pity of it is that when this opportunity comes, they get very little time to do full justice to the cause they want to espouse. I, therefore, submit that in view of the urgency and importance of this opportunity, the period of general discussion should be extended to four days, especially when several other motions including adjournment motions were not allowed by the Honourable Speaker, remarking that these can be discussed during the time of general discussion. I hope the Government would be well advised to accept my suggestion.

Now, sir, I am constrained to refer to a matter which I had no intention to raise on the floor of this House. My honourable friend who just preceded me, was at pains to assure us that the rights of Muslims were being scrupulously safeguarded by

the Government, but I would shortly refer him to certain Government publications, *viz.*, the annual statement on these subjects which clearly indicate the way the wind blows. He would then realise that his statement was incorrect. But before dealing with this point, I must confess that I was surprised to hear my Sikh friends accusing the Government of their failure to protect the rights of the Sikh community in the matter of their representation in services. Sir Gokul Chand Narang also charged the Government with communalism for having trampled under foot the rights of Hindus of the Punjab in all spheres of governmental activity. I have no intention to go into these complaints as to how far they are correct. But I would challenge the statement of my honourable friend who glibly said that Muslims had nothing to complain since their rights were safe in the hands of the Unionist Government.

Let me first take up the department of the High Court. What is the position of the communal representation there in the superior posts? Out of 14 honourable judges only four gentlemen are Muslims; while there are 4 Europeans and 6 Hindus including one Sikh. In other words Muslims' share comes to about 29 per cent. I admit that the appointment of honourable Judges is not entirely in the powers of the Punjab Government, but none can gainsay the fact that they can do much at the time when they are consulted about the appointment of a judge. This is not the only instance which belies the assertion of my honourable friend over there. Here I may again point out that as I am above communalism, I had not the slightest intention to speak on this matter but my honourable friends over there have forced me to utter the blatant truth. Now I take up Advocate-General's office. Here there are five superior posts, namely, Advocate-General or the Acting Advocate-General, Assistant to the Advocate-General, Legal Remembrancer and two Assistant Legal Remembrancers. Out of these important posts only one and that too of an Assistant Legal Remembrancer, has gone to a Muslim. I may make it clear beyond any shadow of doubt, that by giving these details I am in no way attacking the ability or integrity of the incumbents belonging to other communities. I do not say that they are unfit to hold the job or that they are corrupt. Nothing of the kind. I am only giving plain facts as have been published by the Government in regard to the communal representation in the services. Hence in this department also the representation of Muslims comes to 20 per cent, so far as higher posts are concerned.

Similar is the case with the establishment of the office. Here also we find that the representation of Muslims is not more than 25 per cent. If my honourable friends sitting on the Treasury benches had regularly gone through the newspapers, they may be Muslim, Hindu or Sikh papers, they would have come to know of the exact position of different communities in the services, that is, which community had got more than its due share and which one was under-represented. They have never cared to look into this matter and the cry of that community whose rights have not been properly protected, remains a cry in the wilderness. Instances in this connection are not wanting. Let us take the Department of Agriculture. I have the facts and figures with me, but as the time at my disposal is very short, I do not intend to enter into any details. I am really constrained to remark that in this department except Muslim Muqadams, or such subordinate posts there is hardly a Muslim holding a big or responsible post. Similar is the case with the Co-operative Societies where Muslims are under-represented to an astonishing extent. I do not mean that the Muslims should receive a lion's share in the services at the expense of other communities. What I want is that even-handed justice should be administered to one and all. If my honourable friends sitting on the Treasury benches are honest and straightforward, then they can see for themselves as to which community has suffered for want of its due share in the services. I have no hesitation in saying that it is the Muslim community alone which has suffered most because of being under-represented in almost every department. If they doubt the correctness of my statement, then I would like to suggest that the committee representing all the communities, should be formed with a view to know the exact position of each

[M. Abdul Aziz]

community regarding services in every department. This committee should prepare a list and then report after making enquiries about the exact position. This is how the Honourable Ministers would be able to come to a definite conclusion as to which community has suffered for want of its due share in services. I am really constrained to remark that if a Hindu, Muslim, Sikh or a Harijan member asks a question from the Government about his or her community, its reply is evaded on the pretext that the question savours of communalism. In this connection I make bold to submit without any fear of contradiction that by giving these evasive replies they want to hide their evil deeds. They do not want that their bad deeds should be exposed to the public. If they had replied to such questions at the very outset honestly and in a straightforward manner, I am sure they would have escaped the avalanche of supplementaries which are asked to clarify the exact position.

One thing more to which I wish to draw your kind attention and that is this. So far about 40 members, mostly of Unionist Party, have taken part in the general discussion of the Budget and it is a matter of gratification that among these members only four honourable members have defended the Government. They have gone to the extent of praising the Government at the top of their voice. The remaining 86 members have condemned the Government openly and with all the emphasis at their command. It is crystal clear from this that these honourable members, whose number is no less than 86, have seen things in their true perspective and have expressed their honest opinions. In the circumstances I wish to point out that if my honourable friends sitting on the Treasury benches intend to run the administration of the province, then they must resort to honest and straightforward methods.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : But what would be the benefit accruing to them if they run the administration of the province honestly and in a straightforward manner ?

Mian Abdul Aziz : Sir, yesterday my honourable friend Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan picked holes in the Budget speech of the Honourable Finance Minister. I have no intention to do the same, because I have respect for his outstanding ability. Although I have not been able to persuade myself to pay him a glowing tribute for presenting the Budget, yet I cannot withhold my tribute which he deserves for his wide knowledge.

You will remember, Sir, the day before yesterday a cartoon under the caption of 'Cavalcade' was published in the *Tribune*. I have got a cutting with me and any honourable member can see it. The Cavalcade shows 'The Old Faithfuls', i.e., the Honourable Premier, the genial Chaudhri Tika Ram and the jovial Sardar Baldev Singh, riding on a horse representing the petty peasants. The Honourable Premier holds the reins of the horse like an alert jockey and the Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram is sitting behind him with a worried face and just behind him is seated my Honourable friend Sardar Baldev Singh with his back towards the latter and facing the tail and sleeping as not being on good terms with his corridor. This is how the trio are marching "on and on". But the strange thing is this. Another small horse which appears to be a cross-breed is being ridden by the Honourable Nawab Sir Jamal Khan Leghari with his head fixed on the saddle and legs moving in the air, the hands holding fast to the tail and an ear of that pony alleged to be representing the petty peasants. The reins of this horse are bound with the tail of the horse driven by the Honourable Premier. The cartoonist appears to show that the Honourable Minister of Public Works is blindly following his Unionist colleagues as an 'Old Faithful'. So this caricatured, although it presents a ludicrous sight, yet it gives an inkling into the state of affairs of the ministerial Party. (*Interruption*).

Mr. Speaker : Order, order : The honourable member should proceed with his speech.

Mian Abdul Aziz : Very well, sir, I shall proceed with my speech. Before I finish my speech I would like to draw your attention to two important points. The first point relates to the Lahore Improvement Trust. (*An honourable member :* The honourable member should refer to the Lahore Corporation also). I shall not forget that. I am just coming to that. However, I must thank the honourable member for this timely warning.

Minister for Development : The honourable member must be aware of the fact that reports found in the newspapers are not always correct.

Mian Abdul Aziz : The argument advanced by the Honourable Minister, I may be excused for saying so, is quite groundless.

Mr. Speaker : Will the honourable member please proceed with his speech ?

Mian Abdul Aziz : Very well, Sir, I shall obey your orders. I was referring to the Lahore Improvement Trust. I am constrained to remark that people, including poor people even, have been forced by the Trust to part with their 10 or 15 kanals of land which was the main source of their livelihood. These poor people have nothing to fall back upon. Very recently Muslim Musawat Bill was introduced in the House and at that time honourable members opposite pointed out that this Bill was contrary to the spirit of the Land Alienation Act. It really pains me to hear that the Improvement Trust has acquired good lands of the people with a view to build 60 or 70 feet wide roads, but has failed to give them the due price of their lands. As the time at my disposal is very short, I am afraid I may not be able to lay all the details of the great hardships which has been caused to those people whose lands have been acquired for widening the roads, etc. I am prepared to give all the detailed information to the Honourable Minister-in-charge privately, provided he takes some interest in this matter. I have no hesitation in saying that I bear no ill-will against the honourable members sitting on the Treasury benches, but what I want is that they should take to the right course : "Land of 6 or 7 villages Fatehgarh, etc., is being acquired for factory areas. This whole locality belongs to statutory agriculturists while the lands for the factory areas are surely to be taken up by non-agriculturists and big factory people who cannot be agriculturists. Is this not contrary to the spirit of the Land Alienation Act to deprive the agriculturists of their lands ? Why not shift the factory area further on or to some other localities where the Government has got lands ?

Next I wish to make a few submissions in regard to the Lahore Corporation which includes Baghbanpura and Bhogiwal. I would like to refer to a cartoon which is in my hand published in the *Tribune*, dated 15th February 1945. As the time at my disposal is very short, I do not intend entering into any further details as the cartoon shows the condition of sanitation, filth, pestilence, death and corruption. The present position of the Lahore Corporation is this that the Chief Officer or in other words the Chief Administrator who is at the head of the administration, works alone, since 65 Municipal Commissioners to be elected under the Corporation Act are not there to help him. Under the circumstances it is not possible for him to attend to each and every complaint personally. Moreover the foot-paths are conspicuous by their absence. The roads are in an awful condition, pits full of stinking water and filth and drains in dilapidated condition are found all over. As to sanitation I may point out that depression of various sizes are found everywhere on the roads and dirty water stinks from them. The Government is unable to understand as to which area of the Lahore Corporation needs early improvement. For instance, no steps have been taken to repair the Grand Trunk Road, particularly the portion starting from Railway Station to the Water Works. I know this piece of the road has been in a bad condition for the last four years and it has not been repaired so far by the Corporation. The condition of this piece of the road is deplorably bad and I think if one of the Ministers happens to pass that way he would have a good shaking by constant jerks and the axils of his car will break. When this is the condition of the Grand Trunk

[M. Abdul Aziz]

Road, what could be the state of other roads! Except the Mall and two or three other roads which are frequented by high officials, all others are in a deplorable condition.

Khan Bahadur Captain Malik Muzaffar Khan (Mianwali South, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*): Sir, I have been congratulating the Honourable Finance Minister for the last eight years on presenting well-balanced budgets in this House. Now again I rise to pay my warm tributes to him on presenting a budget showing two crores surplus. But so far as expenditure in the province is concerned, I find that my district, especially my poorest constituency, tahsil Bhakkar, has always been ignored. My tributes to the Honourable Finance Minister are, therefore, nothing but a formality. I, however, admit his ability.

As the time allotted is short, every demand is put forward hurriedly. I wish the Honourable Speaker could give me more time, so that I could state in detail the demands of my district and my constituency. It is a thousand pities that during the eight years this Government has been in power, not even a single demand made by the people of Mianwali district has been met. First of all, I refer to the Thal Project. 'After a long period of 60 years Thal Project was started and the headworks were constructed and we were very glad. Then the digging of the canal was started and the Honourable Premier and the late lamented Sir Chhotu Ram visited the district. They declared that at the end of 1945 or the beginning of 1946 Khizar Branch would be opened. But the present progress of the work shows that it will not be possible to open the Khizar Branch even till 1948-49. So far as I know, even a quarter of the work has not been completed, which is very disappointing. Sometimes it is said that labour is not forthcoming, sometimes that the land is hard, sometimes that the rates for the contractors are very low, sometimes that on account of the war coal is not obtainable. May I ask the Government whether there is any other tract in India or in the Punjab in which all such difficulties have been experienced? When other schemes are carried out in the province such excuses are never put forward. Why do these difficulties arise in the case of this project? Only poor zamindars are to benefit from this project, and even that will be in a very small measure because the project is now being executed on a smaller scale than originally contemplated. If the work is to go on at its present speed, it would be better to close it down and not to waste money. The number of supervisors, Sub-Divisional Officer's, Executive Engineer's, etc. is at present more than the number of labourers. Some real work should be taken out of them. They should be directed to have the work speedily completed. The zamindars of my constituency, tahsil Bhakkar, have fears that the canal will not go to Bhakkar, and I feel sorry for them. I would request the Honourable Minister in charge kindly to explain his position before the House and state when work on Bhakkar Branch will start, and whether Government do not want to construct it at all. I hope the Honorable Minister will answer this question.

Secondly, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the question of medical facilities. It has already been said by certain honourable members that medical aid is not available to the rural people. That is quite correct, and I have the same complaint to make before the Government in respect of my district. Under the pretext of war, medicines have disappeared from the rural dispensaries. There are certain dispensaries where there is either no doctor or no medicines. I know certain dispensaries which are being run by compounders only. I ask if certain patients under the treatment of these compounders die who will be responsible. The arrangement is very unsatisfactory. This is a matter which requires full consideration of the Government, and I request the Honourable Minister in charge kindly to make proper arrangements immediately.

Now skipping over to industry, I would say that in my district, as compared with other places in the province, nothing substantial has been done. Although many industries can be started in Mianwali district, no special assistance has been given. Salt-mining can be developed in the Salt Range, and woollen as well as cotton industries can be started in the Bhakkar tahsil. But Government has paid no attention to Mianwali district.

As regards education my district is very backward. What to speak of a degree college or an intermediate college we have not been provided with sufficient number of high and middle schools. Money allotted for education is meant for central districts, not for backward districts. But it should be remembered that "*Bakre ki man kab tak khair manaigi*". I want to make it clear that my district is one of the districts with distinguished record for recruiting and war contributions. More high schools should be opened in my district, and I earnestly request that the fees of the sons of soldiers should be remitted up to the tenth class. They are at present remitted up to the middle standard only.

I also want to mention something about patwaris. Considering the high price and increasing cost of living, the pay of patwaris is very small and they cannot make both ends meet. They have always been complaining about it. No doubt Government say that patwaris have been granted an increase of Rs. 6, but this is nothing. It will be better to make the patwari's scale of pay graded like clerks and make their posts pensionable. Rupees 6 is not even "*ate men namak*".

Finally I want to make an important submission. Two crores have been shown as surplus, and we are to receive 100 crores for post-war reconstruction. Besides meeting other demands of my district, if arrangements could be made to irrigate by lift irrigation or by electricity that area of land in the Mianwali tahsil of my district which cannot be irrigated by the Thal Project, but which is a very good area, the zamindars will become rich and Government can make crores of rupees. The people of Mianwali tahsil who consider themselves to have been the benefits of this Project would also be satisfied.

Mr. Speaker : Will the honourable member please wind up his speech ?

Khan Bahadur Captain Malik Muzaffar Khan : As I am now being directed to wind up my speech, Sir, I request Government that our genuine demands may be met.

Sardar Ajit Singh (South-West Punjab, Sikh Rural) (*Punjabi*) : Sir, I would not take much time of the House as I am going to say a few words with regard to motor transport. Since the Government wanted to rationalise motor transport in the province, the motor operators accepted this principle and formed themselves into limited companies, but now Government want to nationalise this motor transport. I smell a rat. It is being done for ulterior motives as the Government are laying hands on the transport companies for their own benefit. Nationalisation is a pretext. If this is nationalisation we would never allow the Government to introduce such nationalisation in the province. It is not only that, the Government have rather started laying hands on the public industries in the name of nationalisation. The Government seems to have decided to follow the principle of my honourable friend Sardar Sohan Singh Josh who wants to nationalise everything. But Sir, if he is satisfied with this type of nationalisation of industries, I am afraid he may say one day that even women be nationalised. That we can never allow. As a matter of fact the orders issued by the Provincial Transport Office have given a fatal blow to the motor transport industry regarding bodymaking. According to the orders it becomes incumbent upon the motor operators to fix gas plant inside the lorries and by doing so place for five seats is occupied by the gas plant. Thus the lorries permitted for 25 passengers can accommodate 20 passengers only, resulting in great inconvenience to the public on the one hand, and great monetary loss to the lorry owners on the other. It is, therefore, submitted

[S. Ajit Singh]

that orders should be given to fix the gas plant outside the lorries ; where it has been for the last 3 years without damaging the bodies of the lorries. I am sure that the Government would earn the goodwill of the public by thus removing their inconvenience.

One thing more and I have done. Yesterday when it was pointed out by my honourable friend Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh that Sikhs have not been given their due share in various government departments, certain honourable members felt upset over it and asked for facts and figures. Here are the figures with me and I would like to refer to them one by one so that those honourable members who asked for them may understand that our demand is not uncalled for but most genuine. By these figures it will be made clear to the House that the representation of the Sikhs has gone down as compared with that in 1937-38. Our position was comparatively more sound in the previous years so far as our representation in government departments was concerned. Now we are actually under-represented, as it is clear from these figures. For instance, our percentage in the Commissioners Offices of Ambala division is 6·2, in Jullundur it is 11·8, in Multan it is 7·5, in Lahore it is 16·3 and in Rawalpindi it is 9·7 per cent. In the Co-operative Department it is 17·3 per cent, and if the present Superintendent continues to remain in the office I am afraid the character rolls of all the Sikh incumbents will not be safe from his black remarks. The percentage of the Sikhs in the Forest Department is 9·1, in the Education Department it is 13·7, in the Industries Department it is 12·5, in the Jail Department it is 13·1, in the Land Revenue Department it is 10·2, in Panchayats it is 14·6, in Police it is 9·3, in Public Health it is 8·6, in Public Works Department it is 14·6, in Electricity it is 13·3, in Irrigation it is 14·1 and in Transport department it is 11·4 per cent. This department was created about a year or two ago, but even in this department the Sikhs are underrepresented and similar is the case with the Taxation Department.

Khan Bahadur Sardar Muhammad Hassan Khan Gurchani (D. G. Khan, South, Muhammadan Rural (*Urdu*) ; Sir, many honourable members of the house have preceded me in speaking for and against the motion. But, Sir, I take up this opportunity to voice the grievances of my backward district. At the outset I would congratulate the Honourable Finance Minister for presenting another surplus budget.

I would like to place before the House the very bad condition of my district. Dera Ghazi Khan is a city consisting of 39,000 inhabitants and it is the headquarters of the district. This came into being in 1910 after the first city had been destroyed by the river. In spite of the fact that about 35 years have elapsed since the construction of this city, ordinary civic amenities like water supply, metal roads and drainage system have not been provided to the people of this deserted land. The income of the municipality is so little that it is impossible for it to do anything in that direction. This city is a trade centre for the neighbouring places. Things were imported to Dera Ghazi Khan from Baluchistan by lorries and then they were distributed to the rest of India. The railway station of Ghazi Ghat was availed of for the purpose. But, owing to the extraordinary conditions created by the war the station of Ghazi Ghat has been abandoned which has resulted in dislocation of trade. I venture to say, that by re-establishing the railway link between Mahmud Kot and Ghazi Ghat and release of a few engines and some rolling stock would not hamper the war transport in any way, but would prove a blessing to the people of that place.

I cannot refrain from saying, that the condition of roads in our district is very bad. With the exception of one road up to Jampur, the district does not boast of any good road. I would request the Government with all the earnestness at my command that until the great project of road building in the province after the war is taken in hand, a metal road connecting Rajanpur with Jampur should be constructed immediately. Other roads in the interior of the district should be taken from the district board and should be handed over to the Public Works Department.

The second point that I want to place before the House is the question of inundated canals in our district. The Irrigation Department does not do its duty, and controls the water inefficiently, thus the zamindars fail to get water out of them in time. I request the Government to pay greater attention to the subject and should see that our zamindars do not suffer on this account. With these words I resume my seat.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad (Southern towns, Muhammadan, Urban) (Urdu): Sir, praises have been showered on the Honourable Finance Minister for his surplus budget. The government has been further congratulated for enormous expenditure on the beneficent departments. I will sum up my remarks in one sentence that this budget is nothing but a routine budget. If expenditure has been doubled it is no credit to the Government, because the income too has gone double. Greater income does not reflect prosperity of the country but it makes the burden of the taxes on the poor tax-payer clear. Thus, such incomes are not a matter of pride or credit for the Government.

Now I will take up the services. Dr. Narang during his speech as usual made reference to the share of Muslims in the services, and some of my Sikh friends too joined hands with the learned Doctor. As regards them it will suffice to say

چہ دلاور است در ذلے کہ بکف چراغ دارد

I must quote a few instances to show how the Muslims are being ignored in the regime of the Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat. Take the case of the High Court. Out of a total of 14 judges only 4 are Muslims. Three judges have been appointed in the time of the present Premier, and all the three are non-Muslims. A capable District and Session judge, who had a right has been totally ignored. The Muslim Press was clamouring for long about the post of Chief Engineer, but when the time came a Hindu was appointed ignoring the rights of two Muslim Superintending Engineers. Once during the course of conversation with the Honourable Premier I was complaining that the late Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram had done an injustice to the Muslims, the Honourable Premier said that it was he who had done all that.

ہر کس از دسہ غیر نالہ کزد سعدی از دست خویش در فریاد

Sir, out of the total 11 first grade engineers only two are Muslims. Similarly, there are only two Muslims among the second grade engineers whose total number is 7. Now we come to the Co-operative Department. The Registrar is a Hindu. Out of 5 Deputy Registrars, none is a Muslim. There was one Muslim Deputy Registrar, but now there is none. In the Veterinary Department the Director is an Englishman, but he is a mere figure-head. He signs every proposal of his Sikh Personal Assistant, who, with the collaboration of the Sikh Minister and his Secretary, is doing what he likes in that department. Now we come to the Agriculture Department. The Muslims are being deprived of their rights in this department in very subtle ways. Though the Director is a Muslim, a Sikh, who had no right whatsoever, was appointed an Assistant Director and almost all the powers have been transferred to him. When we relate here what the able colleagues of the Honourable Premier are doing in their departments we are called communal-minded. We merely talk communalism but they are really practising it. Let me remind the Honourable Premier that he is sitting here as Premier because he belongs to a certain community. If there had been no Communal Award probably he would not have been here.

Mr. Speaker: The honourable member's time is up.

Minister for Revenue (The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram) (Urdu): Sir, I must answer in the very beginning the point raised by my honourable friend Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan in the course of his speech yesterday. He asked as to which political party the Honourable Premier and the other Ministers belong. (Raja

[Revenue Minister]

Ghazanfar Ali Khan : All-India Political Party) whether they belong to the Muslim League or to the Congress or to the Hindu Maha Sabha. I would like to answer him in his own words, which he used in the course of a speech delivered by him on the 15th of February, 1937, in the first meeting of the Unionist Party after the last general elections, held at the residence of the late Sir Sikander Hyat-Khan (*Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan* : The late Sir Sikander and the late party (*Laughter*.) wherein it was decided to elect him as the leader of the Party in order to run the present constitution. The Raja Sahib in the course of his speech at that time said :—

"I found nothing in the programme of the Unionist Party which I could not reasonably object to. Had we succeeded in capturing a larger number of seats in the Assembly, even then we would have wished to join hands with the Unionists. All that I have learnt in my short political life is that the prosperity of a nation which has fallen on bad days, mainly depends on its unquestioning obedience to its leader. I have all along been a supporter of Hindu-Muslim unity and I am glad to say that the Unionist Party is a living example of that unity. Moreover I attach great importance to our serving the cause of agriculture in the province."

This is the political programme of the Unionist Party. This party has been following this very programme which had the blessings of Raja Sahib on that occasion. As Raja Sahib said at that time the Unionist Party is the living example of Hindu-Muslim unity. It has all along been true to this principle. It is a non-communal body. It is our belief that religion and politics are two different things. (*Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan* : Hear, hear.) To attain common objects the parties should be formed on economic basis. That is how other nations have progressed.

In 1924 the late Sir Fazl-i-Hussain and the late Sir Chhotu Ram laid the foundation of the Unionist Party. After it the late Sir Sikander was chosen the leader of this party. This party has done a lot for this province. It was praised by all and sundry for the work it did for the backward areas and classes of this province. Sir, I may tell Raja Sahib and his friends that sometimes on account of the compelling force of changing circumstances one has to give up one's cherished ideals and to adopt a different course. I do not blame him if he has done that. I rather sympathise with him that circumstances have compelled him to give up those principles and ideals which he loved and cherished in 1937, nay, up till 1944, and now has been forced to adopt a different course. It is a hard reality although it is a bit unpalatable. So far as the creed of the Unionist Party is concerned it has not undergone any change. It is the same as it was in 1937. It is Raja Sahib who has changed and not the party.

Then my honourable friend Raja Sahib was pleased to observe that the Honourable Finance Minister, who is adept in using flowery language in his budget speeches has this time surpassed all the previous years in exhibiting this literary attainments. He ridiculed certain phrases used by the Honourable Minister in regard to certain schemes, such as "the schemes are under way" or "attention is being given to them" or "they are under examination" in such a manner which was below the dignity of an experienced parliamentarian like the Raja Sahib. I can well understand how aptly the Honourable Minister had used those words in regard to those schemes and what reality they contained. He remarked that so far Government have been thinking over such schemes and they would continue to think and would not put any such scheme into practice. That is not the case. Let me remind Raja Sahib of some of the achievements of the Unionist Party. When Government first of all considered the proposal of undertaking the Haveli Project, some honourable members were of the opinion that it was only a pious wish and that it was very different to implement this scheme. But in spite of that the Unionist Government have completed that scheme. (*An honourable member* : Because we were there) (*Laughter*). Then the Thal Project was taken in hand and in spite of the fact that the prices of materials had gone up and labour became scarce, yet Government continued work on this project. During

the next year more than two crores of rupees will be expended to carry forward the work on this scheme. We want to complete this scheme as speedily as possible. In addition to this, Government have undertaken Western Jumna Canal Extensions scheme, which will supply water to Rohtak and Hissar districts. This scheme will be completed in this year; if not in this at least in the next year. Then there is the Bhakra Dam scheme to which reference has been made by many honourable members and in regard to which Raja Sahib has observed that Government was thinking of starting work on an essential road to Bhakra only. That is not the whole story. We are not only thinking of starting work on that essential road but actually money has been sanctioned for that purpose. As this road will pass through Patiala, Nabha and Bilaspur States, so the sanction of those Darbars will have to be obtained before starting work on that road. I am in a position to state that the sanction of these Darbars is being obtained as speedily as possible. (*An honourable member* : It will take 20 years.) Not at all. The work is already in progress. The construction of this road is essential for starting work on this project. Not only that. Government have taken a practical step in connection with the materialising of this scheme. Bhakra lies inside the Bilaspur State and terms on which the dam is to be constructed at the spot have been settled with His Highness the Raja of Bilaspur and now the sanction of the Crown Representative is being awaited. After the sanction of Government is obtained and the conditions of Raja of Bilaspur are fulfilled, there will remain only one hitch in the materializing of this project, that is the Punjab-Sindh dispute regarding the distribution of water of the River Indus. So far as that matter is concerned, it is at present with His Majesty's Government for orders. All the same negotiations are proceeding between two Governments and excepting one point all other terms have been virtually settled. I may inform my friends that we are making every effort that this point may also be settled amicably, so that work on this scheme may be started. In addition there is the Gurgaon Canal Scheme. For that land has been acquired and work will start on it in right earnest soon. So far as the dispute with the United Provinces and Delhi in regard to the waters of the Jumna is concerned, it is nearing settlement. From the schemes I have enumerated above, my friends will see that this Government has not only thought of such projects but it has taken practical steps to put them into effect.

Before I resume my seat, I would like to refer to one or two other points. Some of my honourable friends have observed that now when there is money in plenty, why no relief is being given to the zamindars in land revenue and why Government have not taken any practical steps in that behalf? I draw their attention to a resolution which was passed in this House in which it was urged that instead of giving relief to the zamindars who paid land revenue up to Rs. 20 or Rs. 25, some scheme should be started by which the purchasing power of the zamindars should be increased. It was with that end in view that the Peasant Welfare Fund was created. I regret to say that on account of the illness and subsequent death of the late Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram we have not been able to implement some of the schemes which he had in view for improving the conditions of the zamindars. I may tell my friends, however, that now we are not thinking over those schemes, but actually orders have been issued to give practical shape to some of them. My friends will soon learn that out of that fund Rs. 10 lakhs will be expended for giving scholarships to the children of the poor zamindars for military, vocational and technical education. Besides, the activities of the Co-operative Department will be accelerated and marketing facilities would be provided to the zamindars. What is more, Government have worked out a 5-year post-war reconstruction programme involving an expenditure of 100 crores of rupees for the welfare of the zamindars and other backward classes, particularly those who have taken prominent part in this war. Therefore, it is only a travesty of fact to say that the programme which the Unionist Party has placed before us is a show programme only. These are the projects which this party will certainly carry into effect, come what may.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : On a point of personal explanation. The Honourable Minister of Revenue read out an extract from my speech.

4 p.m. May I inform the Honourable House that at that meeting there were no reporters or stenographers and no proceedings were being recorded. Therefore, whatever extract has been read out should be taken as the summary of my speech noted down by some office-bearer of that so-called party. The second thing I want to say is that it is wrong to say that I joined the Unionist Party.

Premier : The honourable member is making a speech.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : No. It is a personal explanation. I am exercising my right. The Honourable Revenue Minister said that I joined the Unionist Party. Let me tell him that it is entirely wrong, because I never joined the Unionist Party for a single day. The third thing I wanted to tell him was that he was talking of 1937. The late Sir Sikander Hyat-Khan was not the same man in 1940 or 1941. He was a Muslim Leaguer then and he had joined the Muslim League. It is entirely wrong that the Unionist Party is a political party and an All-India party.

Premier (The Honourable Malik Khizar Hyat) : It is my pleasant duty once again to congratulate the Honourable Finance Minister (*cheers*) on the budget that he has presented to his House. It is a historic budget in many ways. It is historic because it is not only a record budget of this year but it is a record-breaking budget. We have had financial prosperity in this province for a series of years—a period during which he has been in charge of the finances—which is unique in the history of provincial autonomy in the province and I think the name of Sir Manohar Lal will go down in the history of Punjab finances. (*Cheers*). The present era of financial prosperity in the Punjab will be remembered as the Manohar Lal era. It is his ninth budget. I do not think it has fallen to the lot of any party in any other province in India to remain in power for eight long years nor has it fallen to the lot of any Finance Minister other than Sir Manohar Lal to deal with the budget for the ninth time. I have, therefore, every reason to congratulate him on this occasion. I have for a number of years been praising his work as Finance Minister and I have almost exhausted my adjectives and all I can say is that he is wonderful. Whenever we want funds they are there. We had our period of difficulty. We have had famine, we have had hailstorms and we had this War but the Punjab funds have borne the strain and we have gone on progressing with sound finances. We have worked provincial autonomy in this province and ours is not an ordinary record. I am sure that when future generations come to look at it, they will be grateful to the Honourable Finance Minister for the great work he has done for the Punjab. With these words I would like to revert to what has been said during the course of the general discussion.

I am sorry I was not present throughout the discussion. I shall first take some of the attacks that have been made on the budget. The budget is attack-proof and speaks for itself. It is customary with my honourable friends opposite to offer criticism and I will try to answer as much of it as I can.

It has been said that we are getting a lot of money through extraordinary receipts and that we are throwing money into funds. That is not the case at all. What is happening is that we have been conserving funds. We have been keeping money during the war in order to spend it on post-war reconstruction and that is the reason why money is being collected in funds and has not been frittered away. It is there for use on all the schemes which have been thought of. That criticism therefore is not valid. It has been said that relief has not been given to the tax-payer and we have been asked why this money has been collected and has not been spent. All I can say is that any prudent man, if he has not a huge expenditure to face, tries to conserve his finances and keeps reserves for future spending. They are kept for all the big schemes that are coming along. If we give concessions to the tax-payer the result will be that as soon as post-war reconstruction works start, we will have

no money in our coffers and we will have to resort to even heavier taxation. What is the use of giving relief to-day and asking for its return to-morrow? We have got this money for the schemes which are ready. We may have to impose new taxation if more money is wanted. We have not spent the money that we have collected during war because prices are high. It can, therefore, be spent to our greater advantage after the war. We have done what any prudent man would do and I can assure the House that it is in the best interests of the province as a whole.

There are many reasons why we have not gone ahead with our schemes. There is lack of machinery, there is the high cost of construction. Moreover, to avoid unemployment we want to employ ex-soldiers on their return. We want to engage ex-soldiers, instead of contractors' labour. We will form them into battalions and those battalions will take up the work of construction to which reference was made by the Honourable Minister of Revenue. In this way construction work will be expedited. I would like to say one word but I am sorry that Raja Sahib is not in his seat. He was very anxious that we should go ahead with the construction of the Bhakra Dam. It is not possible that he should be more anxious for the speedy construction of the Bhakra Dam than the Honourable Minister of Revenue. There is the common Punjabi saying :

Man nalon hejli phaphe kuttan

These schemes are going forward as speedily as possible. We will start the work as soon as machinery and men are available. Engineers have already gone to America and machinery has been purchased. (*Cheers*). Everyone should know that the Bhakra Scheme is about to materialise. Orders to the tune of 2½ crores have already been given. This is not a small amount. As soon as our soldiers are back, the work will be taken in hand—it is already on its way.

Another honourable member remarked that the Thal Project was being constructed slowly. The reason is that there are difficulties with coal and labour. Every effort is being made to expedite the work. An honourable member said. "Why not look to hydro-electric possibilities?" When I visited the area, I ordered the engineers to prepare a hydro-electric scheme and I am glad to say that the scheme has progressed. It will be possible to irrigate areas in the upper reaches by means of electric lift and pumping plant. That is as far as the schemes go. Similarly, a big hydro-electric scheme at Basul costing about seven crores, has been sanctioned and orders for machinery have been placed. As soon as we get energy, we hope to deal with the waterlogging connected with various canals in the Northern Administration. By pumping and by drainage we hope to deal with the waterlogging problem.

Some instances have been mentioned by the honourable members in which adequate allowances have not been given to certain classes of Government servants. We are grateful to those members and I assure them that those cases, when represented, will receive sympathetic consideration. Up to the present time, dearness allowance amounting to 4 crores has been given to various employes of the Government and this is a record of which we can be proud. I may say that no other province in India has given so much dearness allowance to their employees as we have done. (*Hear, hear.*)

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : Are you giving anything to pensioners?

Premier : Yes. The salary bill has been doubled, I am told.

Exception has been taken to the expenditure on the police and it has been asked why we have increased this expenditure and not spent more on beneficent activities. I have explained that where we can spend we are spending. As a matter of fact, expenditure on beneficent activities has been doubled during recent years. As to why we have not been able to do more the fault does not lie with Government. Bricks are not available because coal is not available. If coal is available then labour is not available and if labour is available, steel is not to be had. That is why all industrial

[Premier.]

works, all education work and all these big projects are either not being taken up or are progressing slowly. We have collected these large funds for nation-building activities and they will be spent as soon as circumstances permit. But on the police we have to spend. The police are in an entirely different category. Some honourable members called this a police budget. I have no hesitation in saying that a State or anybody who is to administer a big province will be wise to have an adequate and well-paid police force during a period of war. On this side my honourable friend from Montgomery was rightly anxious about corruption. What can we do to eradicate corruption? If you are not giving the policemen a living wage, how can you do it effectively? If you wish to be strict, first give them a living wage; that you have not done. But the Government has done it on its own initiative and that has added to police expenditure. Police expenditure has also increased on account of other factors. As I have said, because of the war we have had to keep a large police force so that there should be no disturbance. Now there is tremendous prosperity all over the province. It is a sort of insurance premium against disturbance. Other provinces have had disturbances. Troublesome times are ahead. I think it is a wise policy to have an adequate police force. If the post-war period starts peacefully it can be reduced, but we cannot run the risk during the period of the war. Look what has happened elsewhere. What would have been said if there had been chaos in the Punjab? We would have been charged with mal-administration due to lack of police. Crude methods of investigation have been given up and now we have to go in for scientific methods of investigation and scientific methods require larger and more efficient staff. Over and above this, there is the question of towns and colonies. These are the factors which made it necessary to add to the strength of the police. When you analyse the situation and take into consideration the prosperity of the province, you will not be able to say that, during these difficult times when expenditure on the police has risen, it has been unwise expenditure or that public money has been wasted.

It was said that corruption is increasing. I admit that corruption has increased because the cost of living has gone up. Apparently a corrupt man wants a bigger bribe than he used to demand before to meet the increased cost of living. But every possible step is being taken to eradicate corruption. We have a special enquiry agency, we have issued instructions to Superintendents of Police and the Deputy Inspector Generals and instead of two ranges we have five ranges now and they are all looking into this matter. But still there is corruption. I do not say that there are no black sheep in the police force. My regret is that, while criticism is levelled, no constructive suggestions to eradicate corruption have been put forward. There are two things which hamper our fight against corruption. One is communalism, the other is factionalism. If a corrupt man is touched, somebody from his own community backs him up saying 'what about the poor fellow, he has so many children and so on' and deputations are sent and communal considerations are raised. The result is that no evidence is forthcoming against that corrupt man. Then there is factionalism. If a sub-inspector is touched and a higher officer wants to take action against him, he finds one man speaking against the man and another speaking for him, and the question of factionalism is brought in. In these circumstances what can the officer judge? This is the trouble which hinders our eradicating corruption; but everything possible is being done. After all, a man has got to be proved to be corrupt; there is the machinery of law to save him if there is no evidence or proof. If you want me to deal with corruption, I appeal for your co-operation and ask that you should give me more extensive powers. But I do not think the House would like to give such powers to an elected representative. If they are prepared to do it, I would certainly eradicate corruption once and for all. As a matter of fact, the difficulty is how to deal with a corrupt man without proof. One thing more. Who are those people who are corrupt? They are not recruited from Australia or New Zealand or from any foreign country. They have the same social standard as

we have. If the bribe-giver improves his morality, the bribe-taker will not demand a bribe. If bribe-givers do that, I see no reason why bribery should not be eradicated or greatly curtailed. For that you will have to give us drastic powers which I for one will not shirk. But I will not ask for them.

As regards communal situation it is a very difficult proposition. The germs of communalism have also come across to these benches from the other side, some of my friends here have got the infection and I have had to apply germicide. Not only that but throat trouble has also come across to these benches. What do I find to-day? The Honourable Finance Minister has got that infection from the Raja Sahib and he cannot speak to-day. I am also suffering from a bad throat. I hope that the buffer there will keep them out.

Now, I submit that in the best interest of the administration we do not want to see the dark clouds of communal disturbance and that is another reason why we hesitate to reduce the police force. I do not want to face a situation where communal trouble may break out and I may not have an adequate police force.

Next I would refer to the speech of my friend, Sardar Gopal Singh about the scheduled castes. I am full of sympathy for the difficulties under which the scheduled castes labour. I can assure him that this Government has done what it could and will go on doing what it can. We have set apart land for them in colonies. We have also done what we could to eradicate *begar* and if there are still any complaints, I will issue reminders to everyone concerned that strict action should be taken against any offender who takes *begar*. Then, he talked about the provision for wells for his class and also said something about my canal. He can bathe in it and drink as much water as he can. He can dine with me, he can drink with me. There is no Achhut problem with us. It is in the eastern districts that orthodoxy exists. We have been making provision for their wells every year. I am sorry that no such provision has been made during the last two years. This is not due to any neglect on the part of Government, but bricks and coal were not available. Still much is due to the scheduled castes. Three years ago we gave 30 thousand and this year we have put down 60 thousand for scheduled castes for wells and 40 thousand for scholarships. We will give you enough money but you will have difficulty in finding applicants for wells and in finding candidates for scholarships. I will do what I can for you (*hear, hear*).

My honourable friend Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang called this Government one established by Pakistan. Apparently he wanted to charge me with communalism. Well, sir, he is a person who himself believes in communalism. There are his neighbours who are also believers in communalism.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : I am not.

Premier : I am glad to hear that.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : I am prepared to make any sacrifice if communalism is eliminated from the Indian constitution.

Premier : My request is that he should not get the infection; he should keep away from his neighbours. Regarding Raja Sahib I say that the Raja & Co. have left us because we are not sufficiently communal. Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang also charges me with communalism. Therefore, my conscience tells me that I am following the middle course which is a just and honest course in the interest of the Punjab province. I am steering in mid-stream: I see one bank on one side and the other bank on the other side. I go in the middle.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : Do not be afraid of the League. They will drive you to communalism.

Premier : I am only afraid of the Lord Almighty to whom I am answerable for everything. Another honourable member from Ferozepore brought in Islam. I am sorry he is not in his seat. He is a man who deserves my sympathy. He is one

[Premier]

of the oldest Unionists. Why is he across there? He was a Muslim when he was a Unionist. The day he left the Unionists, the other group would not have him. What a pitiable situation! He is the legal adviser to the Nawab of Mamdot. If circumstances have been too strong for him it is not my fault. I sympathise with him. They would not have him and he is on the Independent benches.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : Make him your legal adviser.

Premier : He lives in Ferozepore and I have no legal advisership to offer.

Something was said about communalism. I am afraid this then should not have cropped up in the general discussion. But as it was mentioned I would only like to say this (as time is very short), that if there is preponderance of one community in any department there is no remedy; they are Government servants and they are protected by the service rules. Since I have been here I see that every community gets its due share in the new recruitment according to the formula laid down. I have gone further, as the House should know, and a pamphlet is being published on the bloc system which will be made available to the honourable members. I have specially appointed an I.C.S. Officer, Mr. Gell, so that if honourable members have got any complaint they should go and see him. He will see that the formula is rigidly adhered to. If there are any inequalities it will take time to set them right. We are working surely and soundly so that all communities in this land may have due representation in the service of the country.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : Even in the police?

Premier : I would not like to go into that, but if the honourable member raises a definite question I will be able to reply.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : What about detainees' family allowances?

Premier : The honourable member has raised the detenu question. I have a lot to say on it, but as time is short and there are various things on which I have to speak, I only say that they have the August resolution in their way: throw it out and they can come out.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : What about their family allowances?

Premier : Our policy is that if a person has got adequate means we do not give any allowance, but if there are persons deserving of allowances we consider the cases on their merits.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Do you not know that every one's family is suffering from starvation? Can you give one instance of a detenu who is self-supporting? Do you think they are Birlas or Dalmias?

Premier : Now let me say something about the budget before I conclude. First about debt. Our debt at present stands at 27 crores and against that we have 58 crores (*hear hear*). These are facts which should be borne in mind by everybody. Whatever money is to be spent it is spent out of the receipts, instead of borrowing, on Capital Works, so that the province will be made safe from famine when there is a failure of the monsoon.

I would like to say something about transport mentioned by Sardar Ajit Singh. I made it clear the other day and I make it clear today that we are not for nationalisation of the sort which he mentioned and which he was attributing to Sardar Sohan Singh Josh. We are for building up a social state where state ownership is essential, otherwise we stand for private enterprise and private property. There is no question of Sovietisation. When we see the Railways coming to take a lion's share we have to protect the interests of the Punjab. According to the Act of 1935, which established provincial autonomy, the provincial government have been made responsible for motor transport. We have to safeguard ourselves against intrusion. I would like to make it

clear that this is a big subject and I cannot deal with it in a few minutes. I shall discuss it on some other occasion if I have a chance.

One word about party affiliation which was also attacked. As far as Malik Barkat Ali is concerned I can understand him, although I do not say that his argument is correct. He can attack us because he has been a Muslim Leaguer throughout and therefore I grant him his right to criticise; but as to other honourable members—they are on a different footing. They have been members of the Unionist party until recently. They are old Unionists. They were Muslims then and they are Muslims to-day. How can they say that we are doing wrong to any community? They are good old Unionists, ex-Unionists. If they are not Unionists, may I say that they are the sons of great, grand and revered Unionists? That party cannot criticise me today for our party affiliation. I would say that we stand where we stood before and that we shall follow the right course in the interests of the province and in the interests of the great community which we have the honour to serve (*Applause*)

The Assembly then adjourned till 12 noon on Thursday, 8th March 1945.

1911

1911年1月1日 星期日
1911年1月2日 星期一
1911年1月3日 星期二

1911年1月4日 星期三

1911年1月5日 星期四

1911年1月6日 星期五



1911年1月7日 星期六

1911年1月8日 星期日

1911

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

THIRTEENTH SESSION OF THE FIRST PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Thursday, 8th March 1945

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber at 12 noon of the clock. Mr. Speaker in the Chair.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

SUBSCRIPTIONS RAISED FOR THE ZAMINDARA LEAGUE BY GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

***9720. Mian Mumtaz Muhammad Khan Daultana :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that subscriptions for the Zamindara League Funds have been, and are being realised by the Deputy Commissioner, Multan, through the Revenue Staff, Civil Supply Officers and other officials of the district ; if so, the amount realised through this agency ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Commissioner and other officials of the Multan district are taking an active part in organising the Zamindara League in the said district ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Commissioner and other officials were present at a meeting held at Multan where an address on behalf of the Zamindara League was presented to the Premier ; if so, the reasons for allowing the officials to attend the meeting of the Zamindara League ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) No.

(b) No.

(c) The meeting was a National War Front meeting at which officers were naturally present.

RAID BY EXCISE INSPECTOR, KASUR

***9722. Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh :** Will the Honourable Finance Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that an Excise raiding party consisting of the Excise Inspector, Kasur, Excise Sub-Inspector, Kasur, two Sub-Inspectors of Police Station Waltoha along with about 50 constables raided village Wehgal on 1st October 1944 at 4 a.m. ;

(b) the name and designation of the officer in-charge of the party ;

(c) the names of the Excise Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors and the names of Sub-Inspectors of Police who raided village Wehgal ;

(d) whether all the members of the party except 2 or 3 Sikhs were Mohamadans ;

(e) whether it is a fact that the above party put up in the village gurdawara, took liquor, halal meat and smoked cigarettes within the Gurdwara building ;

(f) whether it is a fact that it was a *puranmashi* day and the above party did not allow any women or men to say their prayers in the gurdwara ;

(g) how many houses were searched by the party and whether any incriminating articles were recovered from these houses ;

(h) whether it is a fact that the police disgraced and assaulted many women including one Mst. Khemi who was medically examined ;

[S. Gurbakhsh Singh.]

(i) whether it is a fact that police took away about 100 fowls from the village and destroyed the utensils of nearly every house that it visited ;

(j) whether the Government has received any representation from the said villagers regarding the high handedness of the police in question; if so, the action taken thereon ;

(k) whether Government intend to hold any enquiry into the matter and punish the officials who may be found guilty ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Rai Bahadur Thakur Ripudaman Singh) : (a) Village Vehgal was raided at 5-30 a. m. on the 1st October, 1944, by a party of 2 Excise and 3 Police officers, 25 constables and 45 private persons.

(b) and (c) It is not in the public interest to give the names of officers concerned in the raid.

(d) No. More than 20 of the party were Sikhs, and there were also a number of Hindus.

(e) No. Only some Sikh and Hindu members of the party slept the following night in an open space attached to the gurdwara.

(f) No one interfered with those who came to the gurdwara to say their prayers.

(g) Approximately 50 houses were searched and incriminating articles such as illicit liquor, *lahan*, stolen clothes and unlicensed spears were recovered.

(h) No.

(i) No.

(j) The complaints received proved to be unfounded.

(k) Does not arise.

Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh : Did any non-Sikh also spend the night inside the gurdwara ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have already stated that some Sikh and Hindu members of the party slept the following night in an open space attached to the gurdwara.

Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh : Did they take their meals inside the gurdwara ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I cannot say offhand.

Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh : Did they take *halal* meat there inside the Gurdwara ?

Parliamentary Secretary : No.

PANDIT GIAN CHAND

*9809. **Sardar Ajit Singh** : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Pandit Gian Chand of the Punjab Provincial Congress Committee office is detained in Sub-Jail, Gujrat ;

(b) whether it is a fact that Pandit Gian Chand has been suffering from *Sangrahni* for the last two years ;

(c) his weight at the time of arrest and at present ;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Civil Surgeon of Gujrat has recommended his release on medical grounds ; if so, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) His weight at the time of arrest is not known. His present weight is 124 lbs.

(d) No.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : From what ailment was he suffering ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have already replied to that part of the question in the negative.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : You have said that he was not suffering from *Sangrahni* which means one particular disease.

Parliamentary Secretary : That particular disease was the one about which an enquiry was made.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Was he suffering from any other disease ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I require notice for that as it is a separate question.

SARDAR SARDUL SINGH CAVEESHER AND MAULANA HABIB-UL-RAHMAN

*9816. **Lala Bhagat Ram Choda :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Punjab Government have decided to transfer all the security prisoners to Sub-Jail, Gujrat ;

(b) whether it is a fact that Sardar Sardul Singh Caveesher and Maulana Habib-ul-Rahman, the well-known Ahrar Leader, are the only two Security prisoners who are detained in Sub-Jail, Dharamsala ;

(c) whether the Government intend to transfer them to Sub-Jail, Gujrat if not, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) No.

(b) Yes.

(c) The intentions of Government cannot be disclosed.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Is the Parliamentary Secretary aware of the policy of the Government that all civil detenues are kept in Sialkot jail while the security prisoners are detained in Gujrat Jail ? If so, may I know the reason why Sardar Sardul Singh Caveesher has not been transferred to the Gujrat jail ?

Parliamentary Secretary : In the first place the question is a hypothetical one. Secondly, I am not aware of any such policy and in the third place, the honourable member should know that matters of policy cannot be dealt with in answer to a question.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Is the honourable member aware of the fact that all civil detenues have been kept in the Sialkot jail ?

Parliamentary Secretary : If the honourable member has got that information, it is quite possible ; I can not say anything offhand.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Is the Parliamentary Secretary aware of the fact that all security prisoners are being detained in the Gujrat jail ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I am not aware of that.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : God bless you, if you do not know that much.

Parliamentary Secretary : I have said I do not know of it officially.

MR. SHIV RAJ

***9832. Chaudhri Sahib Ram :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Shiv Raj who was sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment for resorting to hunger strike in the Gujrat Special Jail is now lying ill in the Lyallpur jail ; and is running a low temperature ;

(b) whether it is a fact that he had this trouble in the Gujrat Jail also but his health showed further deterioration as a result of the hunger strike and being put on C class diet ;

(c) whether it is a fact that recently his blood was examined and X-ray photograph of his lungs was taken ; if so, the opinion expressed by the doctors, regarding his health ;

(d) what action the Government propose to take in the matter, if no action is intended, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Security prisoner Shiv Raj Kapur is at present detained in the New Sub-Jail, Gujrat. He is neither ill nor running any temperature.

(b) He had a slight evening rise of temperature when he was first admitted in the New Sub-Jail, Gujrat, on the 17th March 1944.

(c) Yes. No active lesion was found in the lungs.

(d) His general health is good at present and no action is necessary.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : What does the Parliamentary Secretary mean by 'slight' temperature ? Mr. Shiv Raj's temperature went up to 104 ; is that slight temperature ?

Parliamentary Secretary : My information is that his temperature went up slightly. But I am not aware that his temperature went up to 104, which no doubt is not slight temperature.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Is the honourable member aware that his temperature went up to 104 ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I am not aware of that.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Will he try to find that out from the jail authorities ?

Mr. Speaker : The honourable member may give notice for that.

MR. TARA CHAND GUPTA

***9833. Chaudhri Sahib Ram :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Tara Chand Gupta, M.A., a security prisoner in Gujrat Special Jail had been ill from October 1943 to May 1944 ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that he was in the Jail Hospital from December 1943 to May 1944 ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Civil Surgeon, Gujrat, recommended to the Government the transfer of Mr. Gupta to Mayo Hospital, Lahore, for better pathological study of his case ;

(d) whether it is a fact that Government wrote to the Civil Surgeon at the end of March that he might operate upon Mr. Gupta in the Civil Hospital, Gujrat ;

(e) whether the operation was performed, if not, the reasons therefor ;

(f) whether it is a fact that after a few days Mr. Gupta was prosecuted for assaulting Dr. Jai Gopal Behl;

(g) whether it is a fact that the trial took place in the jail hospital owing to Mr. Gupta's illness and continued for two months at the end of which Mr. Gupta was sentenced to one year's rigorous imprisonment;

(h) whether it is a fact that Mr. Gupta was given 'C' class and transferred to Lyallpur Jail in fetters;

(i) whether it is a fact that Mr. Gupta lost another six pounds in weight before he reached Lyallpur;

(j) whether it is a fact that his medical treatment was stopped at Lyallpur and he was given hard labour from the very first day?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad): (a) and (b) He was an indoor patient in the jail hospital from 1st December 1948 to 31st May 1944 for orchitis.

(c) Yes.

(d) Yes.

(e) The operation was not performed as Mr. Gupta did not agree to it.

(f) Yes.

(g) Yes.

(h) Yes.

(i) He lost 4 lbs. before reaching Lyallpur.

(j) 1st part.—No. He received treatment as an outdoor patient.

2nd part.—As he was declared by the medical officer to be in good health and fit for labour he was put on to spinning cotton.

MR. SHIV RAJ KAPUR

*9834. **Chaudhri Sahib Ram**: Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Shiv Raj Kapur, a security prisoner, applied for maintenance allowance for his mother in April 1944;

(b) whether it has been brought to his notice that the mother of the said Mr. Shiv Raj Kapur has nothing to fall back upon on account of his own imprisonment, the internment of his elder brother, Mr. Arjan Dev in Banga, incarceration of his younger brother, Mr. Sachdev Kapur, in the Ferozepore jail, and the eldest brother having severed all connections with the family;

(c) whether it is a fact that failing to receive any reply from Government the said Mr. Shiv Raj Kapur intimated to Government his intention of resorting to hunger-strike after 15 days in the event of his claim of a maintenance allowance for his mother not being accepted and that he actually began hunger-strike from the 24th of May, 1944;

(d) whether it is a fact that on the sixth day of the hunger-strike, the Jail officials removed drinking water from his cell;

(e) whether it is a fact that he was prosecuted for refusing to take food and sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment on the 8th of June, 1944 and transferred to the Lyallpur jail in fetters in a very weak state of health;

(f) whether it is a fact that soon after the hunger-strike he was given C class diet in the Lyallpur jail and he suffered from Dyspepsia;

[Ch. Sahib Ram]

(g) whether it is a fact that his weight decreased by 20 pounds when he reached Lyallpur, but the doctor incharge of the jail and the Civil Surgeon of Lyallpur declared him fit for hard labour ;

(h) whether it is a fact that Dr. Faqir Chand, the doctor incharge of the jail dispensary, is himself an old victim of paralysis ; if so, the reasons for retaining him in Government service ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : I regret that the answer to this question is not yet ready.

DIET MONEY ALLOWED TO CONGRESS DETENUS

*9853. **Sardar Kapoor Singh** : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the present scale of Re. 1-4-0 per day allowed to Congress detenues as diet money was sanctioned more than 18 months ago ;

(b) whether the fact has been brought to the notice of the Government that prices of food stuffs especially ghee, milk and vegetables have risen during this period ;

(c) whether Government contemplate raising the amount of the diet money ; if so, from which dates, if not, the reasons for the same ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Yes.

(b) No such complaint has been made by any C. D. detenues.

(c) Not at present. If and when prices rise to such a level as to make an increase necessary, Government will consider the matter.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Is the Parliamentary Secretary aware that prices of foodgrains and other commodities have gone up ?

Parliamentary Secretary : The present scale has been fixed with due regard to the prices current.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know if any representation was received asking for an increase in the allowance on account of the dearness of foodgrains, and in view of that fact is he prepared to increase the diet allowance of these detenues ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I am afraid I do not know whether any representation was received, and, secondly, I have stated that the allowance was fixed with due regard to the prices prevalent now.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : In view of the fact that the dearness allowance has been given to all Government servants on account of the rise in prices, what is the reason that the diet allowance of these prisoners is not being increased, in spite of the fact that the honourable members have to pay for all the things 25 per cent more owing to a contract being given to some outside agency ?

Mr. Speaker : That is a speech and not a question.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know the reasons why the Government is not increasing the diet allowance of these detenues ?

Premier : It has been stated that the allowance was fixed some time back. The present scale is, in the opinion of Government, sufficient. The matter is being constantly considered, and if a case is made out, I can assure my honourable friend that an increase will be made.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Is the Parliamentary Secretary aware that the Assistant Director of Prisons went over to the Gujrat and the Sialkot jails and that this fact was brought to his notice ?

Parliamentary Secretary : My friend expects too much from me. How do I know that an officer visited any particular jail on any particular day ? There is nothing in the original question to suggest that this question would be raised, otherwise I would have collected the information.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Will he find out whether this matter was brought to his notice by the detenus ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I would be delighted to find out if the honourable member gives proper notice.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether during this period Government received any representations from the security prisoners in Gujrat to the effect that their food allowance be increased ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I am sorry I cannot give an answer off-hand.

FACILITIES DEMANDED BY DETENUS IN SIALKOT JAIL

***9854. Sardar Kapoor Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that it was represented to the Assistant Inspector-General of Prisons when he visited the Sialkot jail in November 1944, that certain changes be made in the rules regarding the facilities provided to the Congress detenus if so, the nature of the facilities demanded by the detenus ;

(b) the action, if any, which has been taken in the matter so far ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Not so far as Government is aware.

(b) Does not arise.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Did the Government try to find out from the Assistant Inspector-General of Prisons whether he visited the Sialkot jail in November 1944 and whether certain detenus asked him for certain facilities and among those one was for the increase of diet allowance ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I can assure my honourable friend that no such report has been received by the Government from the Assistant Inspector-General.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : But may I know whether Government, when I gave notice, tried to find out from the Assistant Inspector-General of Prisons whether some representation was made to him or not when he went there ? The original question is quite clear.

Parliamentary Secretary : My honourable friend must know that when any such requests are made to the Inspector-General, he sends a report. No such report has been received.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : But the question is not as to the report. What I want to know is whether it is a fact or not that the prisoners with several detenus made a representation to the Assistant Inspector-General or not. I want to know whether it is a fact or not. I do not want to know whether he made a report or not.

Parliamentary Secretary : When I say that no report to this effect has been received, how can I say whether it is a fact that a representation was made to the Inspector-General of Prisons ?

Sardar Kapoor Singh : I want to know whether the Government enquired from him whether he went to that place and whether the detenus made a representation or not.

Mr. Speaker : The next question.

GIRDHARI LAL

***9857. Sardar Kapoor Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that one Girdhari Lal interned in Okara applied to the Government for permission to go to Arifwala in December 1944 to attend upon his ailing mother ;

(b) whether it is a fact that his mother died without seeing her son, as the necessary permission was not granted to him in time to see his mother ; if so, the reasons for not according the permission applied for ;

(c) the steps Government propose to take to avoid such happenings in the future ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) No. He applied to the District Magistrate, Montgomery, on 2nd December 1944 for permission to leave Okara for 12 days with effect from 20th December 1944, but made no mention of the illness of his mother in that application. As he gave no reasons for the request and did not specify the place he intended to visit, the application was rejected.

(b) Government have no information.

(c) Does not arise.

FURTHER DETENTION NOTICES SERVED ON CERTAIN DETENUS IN GUJRAT SUB-JAIL

***9865. Sardar Sohan Singh Josh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the last date on which notices of further detentions were served on the following persons now detained in the new Sub-Jail, Gujrat—

(i) Mr. Dhanwantri, (ii) Mr. Tikka Ram Sukhan, (iii) Tehal Singh Bhangali, (iv) Mr. Yog Raj, (v) Master Gajjan Singh ;

(b) the present condition of their health and whether any one of them is in the jail hospital now ;

(c) whether any representation was made by these prisoners expressing their views vis-a-vis the Japanese aggression and German Fascism ;

(d) whether the Government has considered the question of their release ; if so, with what result ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) In November and December, 1944.

(b) *First part.*—Good.

Second part.—None.

(c) Yes.

(d) *First part.*—Yes.

Second part.—Their continued detention was considered necessary.

MASTER GAJJAN SINGH

***9866. Sardar Sohan Singh Josh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the date on which Master Gajjan Singh now detained in the New Sub-Jail Gujrat, was first arrested during the agitation of the Lahore Kisan Morcha ;

(b) the period of sentence which he underwent in connection with the Lahore Kisan Morcha ;

(c) the date on which he was rearrested and detained after he had undergone the sentence in connection with the Lahore Kisan Morcha ;

(d) the period of detention undergone by him after the expiry of sentence in connection with the Lahore Kisan Morcha ;

(e) whether the question of his release has been considered, if so, with what result ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) 31st March 1939, but he was actually convicted on 28th August 1939.

(b) He was sentenced to one year's rigorous imprisonment but actually underwent imprisonment for 10 months and 6 days.

(c) 4th July 1940.

(d) Four years and about seven and-a-half months.

(e) *First part.*—Yes.

Second part.—His continued detention was considered necessary.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know why he was convicted five months after his arrest ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Evidently the trial continued during that period.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Why was the trial dragged on for such a long time ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Sometimes witnesses might not have been forthcoming, there might have been so many other causes.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Does the Parliamentary Secretary know that he was arrested before the war began ?

Parliamentary Secretary : May be.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : If so, why is he kept in prison inas much as he has expressed no opinion on war effort.

Parliamentary Secretary : In the public interest.

PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA

*9868. **Sardar Sohan Singh Josh** : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state : whether the Punjab Government has been in communication with the Government of India with regard to the Punjab Provincial Committee of the Communist Party of India ; if so, the nature of this correspondence ; and whether he would be pleased to place this correspondence on the table of the House ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : It is not in the public interest to answer this question.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : The answer implies that the Government accepts the statement contained in the question, that is, that it has sent in a representation. If so, may I know whether a case has been made in that document to arrest communist party leaders ?

Premier : How does the honourable member infer this from the simple answer that is given to his question ? It is not in the public interest to disclose the correspondence between two Governments. The honourable member knows that the Punjab Government always gives due consideration to all parties.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Can the Honourable Premier deny the fact that the document referred to contains more than 100 pages and it has been sent to the Government of India for taking action against Communist Leaders in the Punjab ?

Premier : Because he is troubled about his pro-Government leanings perhaps he puts this interpretation on the answer. We cannot disclose anything in public interest.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : If he has written that Communists are pro-Government, why he is afraid of placing the document on the table of the House ?

Premier : I do not say that Communists are pro-Government. All I say is, how can you infer anything ?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Does the Government feel that the Communists are too hot for it ?

Premier : Not at all. In spite of Josh we are quite cool here.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know why the Government is perturbed over the growing strength of the Communist party as against the Zamindara League ?

Premier : There is no perturbation here. But there seems to be some perturbation in that quarter.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Why has the Government written against the Communists in spite of the fact that they are not hindering war effort ?

Sardar Lal Singh : Is it a fact that the Communist party is said to be in a position to negotiate directly with the Central Government over the head of the Punjab Government about certain matters ?

Premier : How can I be expected to answer a question like this ? The honourable member is across there. Only he can answer this question. I know nothing.

Sardar Lal Singh : Is it not a fact that there is a rumour that the Communist party in India held out promises to support war effort and to suppress subversive activities during the war ?

Premier : How can I reply to rumours ? But I believe and my friends opposite would bear me out that the Communist party has stood for a total war effort.

Sardar Lal Singh : Is it a fact that the Communist party is publishing three first class papers printed on first class paper in which not only matters relating to war effort but other political propaganda is carried on in English, Urdu and Punjabi ?

Premier : Those papers must be available to the members of this House.

Sardar Lal Singh : Is the Honourable Premier in a position to tell us whether the Central Government or the Punjab Government subsidises these papers in any form ?

Premier : I can say that the Punjab Government does not subsidise them.

Sardar Lal Singh : Is the Honourable Premier in a position to give an assurance to this House that the laws regarding the printing of newspapers, the distribution of quota and so forth are obeyed by the Communist party ?

Premier : As far as the Punjab Government is concerned, we treat all alike. As to the other matters relating to the Government of India, the Paper Controller of that Government should be addressed.

Sardar Lal Singh : Is it a fact that so many Communist absconders were not proceeded against for the reason that the Communist party would be helping in the war effort and that the Punjab Government knows about it ?

Premier : Many people have been let off either under one category or another.

Sardar Lal Singh : Does the Honourable Premier know that there is increasing feeling in this province that the irreligious propaganda carried on by the Communist means of this press is influencing very badly the youth of this province?

Premier : I am not aware of it but I believe there are religious bodies extant in the Punjab and they can very well look after religion.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Akalis are on the run.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Has there been any communication at all between the Punjab Government and the Government of India about the Communist Party or not?

Premier : The Parliamentary Secretary has stated clearly that it is not in public interest to give the information.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : My question is simple enough. Was there any communication or not between the Government of India and the Punjab Government about the Communist Party? I do not ask for the nature of the correspondence; did the correspondence take place?

Premier : I do not think I am in a position to enlighten the honourable member. The reply is simple enough.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether Jang-i-Azadi has been proscribed and two thousand rupees have been demanded as security from the Communist paper Jang-i-Azadi?

Premier : Who has done it?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Is it a fact or not that the Punjab Government has demanded security of two thousand rupees from the Dosh Bhagat Press and the communist paper Jang-i-Azadi?

Premier : I do not remember.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : May I know whether the mere fact that there was communication between the Punjab Government and the Government of India regarding the Communist Party is a matter protected by any law whatsoever? The Honourable Premier has simply to say this much whether there was any communication; not the nature but the simple fact whether there was some communication or not. Is it covered by any protection?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether the Jang-i-Azadi communist paper applied for more quota of paper and it has been refused twice by the Punjab Government?

Parliamentary Secretary : How on earth does it arise out of the answer given?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : From the question put by Sardar Lal Singh. May I know how much quota has been increased in the case of Ajit because of Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh being there and why the request for larger quota for Jang-i-Azadi has been refused?

Mr. Speaker : I disallow the question.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : As a member of the Communist party I have a personal explanation to make here. Every member has a right to ask questions.

Sardar Ajit Singh : I have a question to ask and my question is in public interest.

Premier : There seems to be some confusion about the last question. The allotment of newsprint quota is a matter for the Government of India and not for the Punjab Government. How can we therefore reply?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Why is the Communist Party a thorn in the side of my friends over there ?

Premier : I do not know about thorns—for me they are all flowers ! (*Laughter*) As to Sardar Lal Singh, he will answer himself.

Sardar Ajit Singh : Will the Honourable Premier kindly state how much the Punjab Provincial Committee of the Communist Party gets from the Government of India through the Punjab Government ?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Only one more supplementary question . May I know whether it is not a fact that it is a lie spread by interested persons that the Government of India is supplying money to the Communist Party ? Is the Honourable Premier aware if any money is being received by the Communist Party from the Government of India ?

Premier : The Punjab Government is not giving any money. How can I deny or affirm anything about the Government of India ?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : These lies cannot go on like this.

WATERLOGGING

***9398. Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the total area water-logged during the year 1941-42 and 1942-43 ;

(b) the area which has been reclaimed during this period ?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram : (a) In 1941-42 records of areas classified as sem were maintained in 2,404 estates and in them the area was 24,215 acres. In these estates in the following year the sem area was 27,747 acres. In 1942-43, however, records were maintained in 3,503 estates altogether and the total sem area in all these estates was 28,988 acres.

(b) The area of sem restored to cultivation in the year 1942-43 was 2,841 acres.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Will the Honourable Minister of Revenue be pleased to state whether there is any machinery by which the Government ascertains the extent of area waterlogged in other parts of the province besides these estates ?

Minister : Girdawri is held in which the exact area affected by sem is known every year.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : The area which is waterlogged every year in these estates is about 20 thousand acres as revealed by the Honourable Minister and the area reclaimed is only 2 thousand acres, that is, 26 thousand acres are waterlogged,

Minister : The honourable member is right.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Do the Government realise the seriousness of the situation in the province and has any machinery been devised to find out how this menace can be stopped ?

Minister : We are aware of the danger and everything which is humanly possible is being done.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Will the Honourable Minister let me know what is being done ?

Minister : There is a scheme called the Rasul Hydro-Electric Tube-well Scheme which will cost about 8 crores. This is being undertaken with a view to check this evil.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Will the Honourable Minister be pleased to state whether the engineers have given him advice that practically all the irrigated area in the province will, in due course, become waterlogged ?

Minister : No.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know how much land has been reclaimed in Sangla tahsil ?

Minister : Kindly give notice and I will reply.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know if the Government knows how much area has been waterlogged in Sangla tahsil ?

Minister : I require notice.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : Will the Honourable Minister be pleased to state whether any measures have been adopted to arrest further waterlogging in Sangla colony ?

Minister : I think they have been, but I cannot give the answer off hand. If my honourable friend gives notice, I will collect the information.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : Can he state any measures so far adopted in any other part of the province ?

Minister : In all these affected areas schemes have been undertaken. In some places drains have been dug out and in other areas reclamation work has been taken in hand and schemes are under consideration with regard to several areas by which these activities will be accelerated.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : The Honourable Minister is saying something offhand without reference to anything specific. So far as I know nothing is being done in Sheikhpura district.

Minister : Reclamation work is being done there.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Will the Honourable Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that in view of the widespread damage the Government have under consideration the publication of a complete report in the form of a pamphlet giving an idea as to how much area has been waterlogged in the last five years and how much has been reclaimed ?

Minister : That is a request for action but I will consider the point.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Have the Government under consideration the issue of any such pamphlet ?

Minister : The whole thing will be considered very sympathetically.

Sardar Bahadur Sardar Gurbachan Singh : The Honourable Minister has said that they are putting a battery of tube-wells worked by Hydro-electric to reclaim that land. May I know whether it is a fact that certain gentlemen have been refused permission to sink tube-wells in that area because the sub-soil water contains salt which produces *thur* ?

Minister : I want notice.

Sardar Bahadur Sardar Gurbachan Singh : This question arises out of the answer given by the Honourable Minister.

Sayed Amjad Ali Shah : Is it not a fact that Government is considering this question and has already a scheme under consideration by which extensive drainage will be undertaken, tube-wells will be sunk so as to pump out sub-soil water, and lining of canals will be done ?

Minister : Yes, this is so.

Mr. Speaker : The next question.

DAMAGE TO CROPS IN SARGODHA DISTRICT

***9399. Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) how much area came under water in the Sargodha District during the last monsoon season and what is the number of the owners whose land came under water ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the water from the area round about Jharain was drained to the neighbouring fields by digging channels, etc., if so, whether it is a fact that the crops in those lands were considerably damaged ;

(c) whether the Government intend to pay any compensation to those people whose lands were damaged owing to this action of the Irrigation Department, if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram : (a) The area flooded was 150,000 acres in 85,000 acres of which the crops were damaged. The labour involved in finding the number of owners affected is not commensurate with the advantage that would be obtained from the information.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

Sardar Ajit Singh : May I know if the cotton crop has been damaged due to excessive rains in the Nili Bar Colony and Multan District ? Will any remissions be granted to the zamindars ?

Minister : This does not arise out of the main question.

Sardar Ajit Singh : Has the Commissioner, Multan, recommended general remissions ? If so, what has the Government decided ?

PIND DADAN KHAN INUNDATION CANAL

***9400. Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) for how many days during the summer months of 1942, 1943 and 1944, the Pind Dadan Khan Inundation Canal ran to its full capacity and what is the area irrigated during these three years ;

(b) the total area of land which this canal was intended to irrigate and if the area actually irrigated is much smaller than the area which should have been irrigated, the reasons thereof ?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram : This canal has, it is feared, been a failure. During low river periods it has not been found practicable to maintain supplies in it and when supplies were available owing to local rain and flooding there has been no demand for water. Under these circumstances the local cultivators have not been willing to construct and maintain the water courses necessary for the irrigation of the area.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is the Honourable Minister aware that the money spent on this canal was sent by the Government of India to the Punjab Government ?

Minister : I am not in a position to answer that question.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Will he be pleased to state whether it is a fact that annually during rains *bunds* are damaged and the department do not do anything to repair them until the month of April when no labour is available ?

Minister : It is a question of opinion.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I know whether he is aware of the fact that the late Revenue Minister, Sir Chhotu Ram, had ordered an enquiry into the scandal relating to this canal ?

Minister : I am not aware of it but I will make enquiries.

GOVERNMENT BOYS' AND GIRLS' PRIMARY, MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLS.

***9750. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Government Boys' and Girls' Primary, Middle and High Schools in the Western part of the Phalia Tahsil and the Eastern part of the Bhullowal Tehsil in the Gujrat District ;

(b) whether any special educational facilities are afforded to the Gondal Jats of the said ilaqa who belong to a backward community, if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : (a) There is a Phalia Tahsil in the Gujrat District, but there is no Tahsil of the name of Bhullowal in that district. Government maintains one high school for boys at Phalia. Government is also considering the proposal of opening a girls' middle school there. Government does not maintain any primary schools for boys and girls, or any middle schools for boys, as this is the primary concern of local bodies.

(b) The declared policy of Government is to pay particular attention to backward communities and backward areas, and this policy is kept in view when educational facilities are extended. No special educational facilities are afforded to the Gondal Jats of the said ilaqa, as all backward communities are treated alike in the matter of grant of educational facilities.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Will the Honourable Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Anglo-Vernacular Middle school at Wara Alam Shah has been raised to high standard this year ?

Minister : I am not aware of it.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Will he be pleased to state that in view of the backwardness of that area and large contributions which they have made in the form of revenue, he will be prepared to help that school by raising it to the standard of a high school ?

Minister : I shall gladly do what I can in this connection.

CLOSURE OF DISTRICT BOARD PRIMARY GOVERNMENT SCHOOL, WARA ALAM SHAH

***9751. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the District Board Primary Girls School opened in Wara Alam Shah, District Gujrat, 2½ years back has now been closed down ;

(b) the number of girls students in that school at the time of its closure ; and the reason of its closure ;

(c) whether his attention has been invited to the representations made by the public of that ilaqa to the Inspector of Schools and District Inspector of Schools concerned protesting against the closure of that school ; if so, the action he has taken or proposes to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : (a) Yes.

(b) There were 29 girls reading in the school at the time of its closure. The school was closed because no teacher was available to work at Wara Alam Shah.

(c) An application from one M. Mohammad Mirza Khan, Pleader, protesting against the closure of the school was received by the District Inspectress of Schools.

[Minister for Education]

He was informed that the school would be re-opened as soon as a mistress was available. The school has since been revived.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : May I know the special reasons for no more teachers working there ?

Minister : I do not know any special reason.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : May I know whether he has enquired from the District Inspector of Schools why this thing has taken place ?

Minister : As the teachers have agreed to work, the school has been revived.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I know whether he is aware of the fact that within a radius of about 12 miles from this school there is not even a primary girls school in that area ?

Minister : I have said that this school has been revived now.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Does he give us the promise that he will see that it is not closed again ?

Minister : Unless the mistress is willing to go and teach there, I cannot give the promise. I cannot force a girl to go there.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : May I know what steps have been taken so far to find out a mistress for that school ?

Minister : The mistress has been found.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Then why is this school not working ?

Minister : I have already said that it has been revived.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Why are the mistresses out of control of the Education Department ? Can they go out when they like ?

SUGAR, GUR AND OTHER DEPOTS AT KAITHAL

***9235. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether he is aware of the fact that sugar, gur, salt, kerosene oil and matches are sold only at depots situated in the mandi beyond the municipal limits of Kaithal ;

(b) whether the Government have received any representation from the muslims of Kaithal explaining the difficulties which they have to encounter in securing the articles mentioned in (a) above ; if so the action the Government proposes to take in matter ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

A committee consisting of Hindus and Muslims has been formed at Kaithal to reach a solution acceptable to all communities.

BATALA-SIRI HARGOBINDPUR ROAD AND BATALA-DERA BABA NANAK ROAD

***9814. Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the katcha road from Batala to Siri-Hargobindpur has been acquired by the Public Works Department ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the katcha-cum-pucca road from Batala to Dera Baba Nanak is also under the management of the Public Works Department ;

(c) whether it is a fact that both these roads are at present being repaired by putting some fresh earth on them ;

(d) whether it is a fact that the earth used for this purpose is dug from the neighbouring fields irrespective of the fact that wheat is sown in them ;

(e) whether it is a fact that earth was removed from these fields without giving previous notice to the land owners and that this has resulted in heavy damage to the wheat growing in these fields ;

(f) the number of acres of land grown with wheat which have been spoiled in this way ;

(g) whether any compensation has been given so far or is proposed to be given to the land owners concerned ;

(h) whether the Government intends to compensate the farmers ; if so, in what manner ; and if not, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Fais Muhammad) :

(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) The bulk of earth was dug before the wheat sowing season.

(e) No. Due notice was given to the Zamindars through the local civil authorities.

(f) Negligible.

(g) and (h) The matter is already under consideration of the local civil authorities.

Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh : Is the Parliamentary Secretary aware that ditches are still being dug there and earth is being removed with the result that wheat could not be sown ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I said that bulk of earth was taken out before sowing season started and I presume that some more earth must have been taken out from sown area. I have also stated that Government is considering the question of compensation

SHOP AREA AT BATALA MANDI CHAUK

***9815. Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the shop area situated on and near the Public Works Department road from Amritsar to Pathankote at Batala Mandi Chauk is under the management of the Public Works Department ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the said area is leased out by the Government every year for one year only ;

(c) whether it is a fact that only the land is leased out by the Government and the lease-holders have to build their own temporary structures every year and the outgoing lease-holders have to pull down their temporary structures every year ;

(d) the estimate of the money which has been thus wasted during the last five years and the action Government intend to take to check this waste in future ;

(e) whether it is a fact that the Rent Restriction Act applies to the Batala Town ; if so, since when ;

(S. Gurbakhsh Singh)

(f) whether the Rent Restriction Act applies to the lease-holders also ; if not the reasons therefor ;

(g) whether Government intend to increase the period of lease ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Sir Muhammad Jamal Khan Leghari : I regret that the answer to this Assembly Question is not ready.

CHAUDHRI RANBIR SINGH

***9331. Sardar Teja Singh Swatantar :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the release on parole of Chaudhri Ranbir Singh, B. A., a Civil Disobedience Detenu of Rohtak District was recommended by the Deputy Commissioner, Rohtak, with a view to enabling him to attend on his aged mother who was ailing seriously as certified by Civil Surgeon, Rohtak ; if so, the reasons for not releasing him ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) :—

(i) No.

(ii) Does not arise.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know whether it is a fact that Ranbir Singh was released some time back and he has been again arrested 8 days back ?

Parliamentary Secretary : He might have done something wrong again and might have been arrested.. So far as part (i) of the question is concerned the reply is in the negative and part (ii) does not arise.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Is the Parliamentary Secretary aware that he has been arrested again for the simple reason that he was finding out a candidate in Chaudhri Chhotu Ram's constituency ?

Parliamentary Secretary : It is hardly a question ; it is an unseemly insinuation which I strongly repudiate.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Is he aware that there is a letter about it which I have received only yesterday ?

Parliamentary Secretary : You are receiving so many letters ; of course I cannot guarantee their accuracy.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Will the Parliamentary Secretary try to find out the reasons for his arrest again ?

Parliamentary Secretary : That is a request for action ; it is not a question.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Will he try to find out the reasons for his arrest again ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Put a question on the paper and I will try to find out.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : In view of the fact that this most serious charge has been levelled against the Government by a responsible member of the Opposition Party, will the Parliamentary Secretary please find out whether there is any truth in the allegation ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have already suggested to the honourable member to put a question on the paper I will then try to find out.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is not this question a notice for you to find out the reason ?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Is it a fact that Manga Ram has been detained there and his detention is not being removed because he is contesting that seat ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have already answered that question.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is he a Jat by caste ?

REASONS FOR NOT ALLOWING LALA DUNI CHAND, M. L. A., TO ATTEND THE
ASSEMBLY SESSION

***9447. Mrs. Duni Chand** : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) whether Lala Duni Chand, M. L. A. of Lahore, is not allowed to attend the forthcoming session of the Assembly while he is free otherwise to go to any part of Lahore ;

(b) whether there are any special reasons for this action ; if so, what are they ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) :

(a) He is not allowed to attend this session of the Assembly.

(b) He cannot take part in political activities which are barred under the terms of his restriction order.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is the Parliamentary Secretary aware that his age is above 70 and he cannot take part in unlawful activities or in any activity of any sort ?

Parliamentary Secretary : How does the honourable member presume that a man of 70 years or even 80 cannot take part in unlawful activities ?

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Can he give one instance in the whole of India where a man of 80 has taken part in unlawful activities ?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Will the Parliamentary Secretary be pleased to state whether voting against the Unionist Party is unlawful activity ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Certainly not.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : May I know whether the proceedings of this House are considered as political activities ?

Parliamentary Secretary : It is a question of opinion.

Premier : They are the proceedings of this House.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : What an enlightenment !

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : May I know whether under the restrictions referred to this gentleman is at liberty to come to this House or to the Assembly library ?

Parliamentary Secretary : The terms of the restrictions have been communicated to the person concerned, and I think my friend would be well advised to go to him and ask him what they are.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : I only want to know whether under the terms he is at liberty to come to the Assembly hall or to the Assembly lobby or library ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Everything is laid down in those restrictions which are communicated to the member.

PANDIT MUNI LAL KALIA, M. L. A.

***9448. Mrs. Duni Chand** : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state with reference to his promise to collect information on the subject during the discussion on a privilege motion on the 7th March 1944—

(a) whether it is a fact that Pandit Muni Lal Kalia, M. L. A. of Ludhiana was permitted by the District Magistrate of Ludhiana to attend the Budget session of the Assembly and that he actually came to Lahore to attend it ;

(Mrs. Duni Chand)

(b) who cancelled the permission in question and the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) :

(a) Yes.

(b) The District Magistrate, Ludhiana. His attendance at an Assembly Session was considered to be taking part in a political movement from which Pandit Muni Lal Kalia is prohibited under the terms of his restriction order.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : May I know on what ground the original permission was cancelled later on by the District Magistrate Ludhiana ? Was it on his own initiative or on the initiative of the Premier ?

Parliamentary Secretary : So far as this question is concerned I have nothing to add to what I have already stated.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it a fact that Pandit Muni Lal Kalia, when he was about to enter the Assembly Chamber was served with a notice that he could not attend the session because the District Magistrate, Ludhiana, had cancelled his order ?

Parliamentary Secretary : This is the same question which has already been discussed on the floor of the House and, if I may say so, it is unnecessary waste of time of the House to put this question.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : May I know whether Pandit Muni Lal Kalia was served with a notice by the Punjab Government that the order given by the District Magistrate of Ludhiana that he could attend the Assembly session, had been cancelled ?

Parliamentary Secretary : This does not arise out of the answer given.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know if there is any member of this House who has got such restrictions but who is allowed to attend the session ?

Mr. Speaker : Question hour is over.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : This question will be continued on the next day.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

REGISTRAR OF DEPARTMENTAL EXAMINATIONS

1891. Sardar Sher Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state :—

(a) the date since which the present Registrar of Departmental Examinations has been holding this post ;

(b) the total amount of remuneration paid to him for setting, marking and translating question papers of the Departmental examinations and for conducting other Central Government Examinations during the years 1941-42 and 1943-44, respectively ;

(c) whether it is a fact that in the case of the present Registrar a special pay of Rs. 100 per mensem in addition to his own pay has been sanctioned while no such allowance was allowed to his predecessors ; if so, the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : (a) The present incumbent of the post of Registrar, Departmental Examinations, was appointed to this post in an officiating capacity from 3rd July, 1936 when this was a P. E. S. (Class I) post. He was permanently appointed as Registrar from 1st March, 1937, from which date this post was reduced to P. E. S. (Class II). He is still holding this post.

(b) 1941-42, Rs. 165-12-0.

1943-44, Rs. 140.

(c) Yes. The predecessors of the present Registrar were either in P. E. S. (Class I) or in I. E. S. A special pay of Rs. 100 per mensem was attached to the present P. E. S. (Class II) post of Registrar from 28th April, 1937, in view of the extra ordinarily onerous duties demanded of the Registrar and in order to make the post sufficiently attractive for senior officers.

SUPPLY OF NECESSARIES OF LIFE TO LOW-PAID GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES AT REDUCED RATES

1892. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : With reference to the reply given to starred question No. 9231, printed on page 758 of the Punjab Legislative Assembly debates, Volume XXII, will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state the conclusions arrived at regarding the scheme of supplying the necessities of life to low-paid Government employees at reduced rates ?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat : The scheme of supplying foodgrains to low paid Government employees at concessional rates was dropped as it was considered impracticable for application throughout the province. Instead relief was granted in the form of temporary allowance.

VETERINARY HOSPITALS

1893. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state the number of veterinary hospitals in each district of the province and also the number and names of officers incharge of these hospitals community-wise ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : I regret that the answer to this question is not yet ready.

MUSLIMS' SHARE IN PUNJAB GOVERNMENT SERVICES.

1894. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Will the Honourable Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) the total amount of the salary budget of the Gazetted and Subordinate Government Servants employed in various Departments of the Punjab Government ;

(b) the total amount of salary drawn in each department by the Muslims ?

The Honourable Sir Manohar Lal : (a) According to the budget estimates 1945-46 the total amount of salary bill of Government Servants in the various departments of the Punjab Government is Rs. 6,97,89,240.

(b) The time and labour involved in collecting the information would not be commensurate with the benefit to be derived therefrom.

MUSLIM REPRESENTATION IN THE CO-OPERATIVE DEPARTMENT

1895. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : (a) With reference to the reply to unstarred question No. 1726 printed on page 718 of the Punjab Legislative Assembly Debates, dated the 20th March 1944 (volume XXII) will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Muslims are under-represented in the Co-operative Department ; if so, the steps the Government has taken since the above reply was given to give adequate representation to the Muslims in the Co-operative Department in the Ambala Division ;

(b) whether any Muslim has been appointed in the cadre of Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors in the Simla district ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : (a) Recruitment in the Co-operative Department is made according to the block system on a provincial basis and not by divisions or districts. Muslims in the department as a whole are not under-represented.

(b) There is only one post of Inspector sanctioned for the Simla district and it is held by a Muslim. No Muslim is, however, working as a Sub-Inspector in that district.

PROVINCIAL CIVIL SERVICE OFFICERS COMMUNITY-WISE IN THE JUDICIAL
AND EXECUTIVE SERVICES

1896. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) the number of Provincial Civil Service officers, community-wise, in the judicial and executive cadres of services under the Punjab Government ;

(b) the action the government intends to take to give its due share to the under-represented community in the above-mentioned cadres ?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hyat : I regret that the answer to this question is not yet ready.

CLERICAL POSTS IN THE OFFICES OF ASSISTANT REGISTRARS, CO-OPERATIVE
SOCIETIES, AMBALA DIVISION

1897. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state :—

(a) the number of district-wise clerical posts including those of the Head Clerks in the offices of Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies in the Ambala Division, and the number of Muslims occupying those posts ;

(b) if the number of muslims in these offices is very small the action Government intend to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : (a)

Name of District	Number of clerical posts including Head Clerks of Assistant Registrar's Offices.	Number of Muslims occupying those posts
1	2	3
Hissar	11	3
Rohtak	9	2
Gurgaon	12	5
Karnal]	8	..
Ambala	26	6
Simla	1	1
Total	67	17

(b) Recruitment in the Co-operative Department is made according to the block system on a Provincial basis and not by divisions or districts. In the clerical establishment of the department as a whole, Muslims are adequately represented.

SUBSIDIES UNDER THE STATE AID TO INDUSTRIES ACT

1898. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Will the Honourable Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

(a) the names of persons who received Government subsidies in 1943 and 1944 under the State Aid to Industries Act noting against each the amount granted and the purpose for which the subsidy was asked for ;

(b) whether the persons who were granted subsidies have spent the subsidies on the work for which they were granted, if not the action taken against persons who did not use the subsidies on the work for which they had been granted ;

(c) the total number of persons who applied for subsidies and the number of those whose applications for subsidies were rejected ?

The Honourable Sir Manohar Lal : (a) A statement is placed on the table.

(b) The information required is not readily available nor is it possible to collect it in a short time. Grantees are, however, given 3 years' time to utilize the subsidies granted to them, and no action can be taken against them during this period.

(c) 85 applications were received out of which 46 were rejected.

Statement showing the names of persons to whom subsidies were granted under the Punjab State Aid to Industries Act, 1935, during 1942-43 and 1943-44.

Serial No.	Name of grantee	Industry assisted	Amount sanctioned
1942-43			Rs.
1	Lala Roshan Lal Chopra, Proprietor, Chopra Plaster Works, Sham Nagar, Lahore.	Manufacture of toys, adells, etc. ..	3,000
2	Mr. Balbir Singh, Proprietor, Om Textile Mills, Hoshiarpur.	Manufacture of dobby known as "Jack in box" dobby.	3,900
3	Chaudhri Baldev Singh, village Dabra, tahsil and district Hissar.	Wool spinning and weaving ..	1,200
4	M. Fazal Rab, Nia Mohalla, Jhelum ..	Manufacture of Suede leather ..	2,000
5	Lala Dewan Chand, Proprietor, Messrs. Nihal Chand Dewan Chand, Kamoke, district Gujranwala.	Oil milling ..	3,000
6	Lala Parma Nand, Proprietor, Shyam Manufacturing Works, Chaurji, Multan Road, Lahore.	Manufacture of latbes and cuku ..	4,000
7	M. Wazir Mohd. c/o Rupal Stores, Ferozepore Road, Lahore.	Manufacture of thread balls ..	2,000
8	M. Mohd, Yusuf Ali, Proprietor, M.A. C. & Sons, Railway Road, Jullundur.	Manufacture of hinges, safety hasps, etc.	2,000
9	M. Mohd. Subhan, Proprietor, Kashmir Pottery Works, Sialkot.	Pottery	1,000
10	M. A. Majid Qureishy, Proprietor, Qureishi Bee & Scientific Industries, 10-A, The Mall, Lahore.	Manufacture of bee keeping appliances.	4,000
11	Sardar Wasawa Singh, village Achalke, tahsil Chunian, district Lahore.	Rope and tat manufacture. ..	1,500

Serial No.	Name of grantee	Industry assisted	Amount sanctioned
1942-43— <i>conold.</i>			Rs.
12	Sardar Girdhara Singh, Proprietor, Native Calico Printing Works, village Mann, district Gujranwala, (2nd subsidy).	Calico Printing and Dying ..	1,800
13	M. H. Qurishy, Proprietor, the Punjab Wood Carving Works, Shishmahal Road, Lahore.	Manufacture of wood boards, jars, etc.	500
14	M. Inayat Ullagh, Proprietor, Inayat Weaving Factory, Village and P. O. Gandiwind Dhattal, tehsil Tarn Taran, district Amritsar.	Handloom weaving. ..	500
15	Malik Allah Bakhsh, Proprietor, Naunarian Metal Polish Works, village Sanda Kalan, Lahore.	Manufacture of buff polishes ..	5,000
16	Messrs. Aero Stationery Works, Gujranwala.	Stationery	3,500
17	M. Faiz Muhammad, Proprietor, F. M. Siraj and Company, outside Yakkhi Gate, Lahor	Manufacture of electric accessories ..	8,000
18	Messrs. Ghulam Hussain & Company, Ltd., McLeod Road, Lahore (2nd subsidy).	Piston and other motor parts ..	3,000
19	Mistri Hari Ram, village Varapind, tehsil Phillaur, district Jullundur.	Manufacture of sewing machine needles.	2,500
20	M. Abdul Haq, Kotwal, Buildings, Jaura Pipal, Amritsar.	Manufacture of cycle parts ..	10,000
1943-44.			
21	Ch. Nanha Ram, village and P. O. Silani, tehsil Jhsjar, district Rohtak.	Manufacture of ban and tat ..	1,500
22	Hans Raj Sehdeora, Proprietor, Sehdeora Weaving Factory, Kartarpur, district Jullundur.	Handloom weaving ..	2,500
23	M. C. Jolly, Proprietor, the Excellsior Science Apparatus Workshop, Ambala Cantonment.	Manufacture of scientific glass apparatus.	1,640
24	Lala Nand Lal, Weaver, village Haiderabad, tehsil Bhakkar, district Mianwali.	Handloom weaving ..	1,700
25	M. Ghaznie Khan, village Naushahra, tehsil Khushab, district Shahpur.	Tanning	1,000
26	M. Inayat Hussain, c/o London Boot House, Ambala Cantonment.	Tanning	1,000
27	M. Fazal-ul-Haq, Proprietor, Arts Works, Khushab, district Shahpur.	Manufacture of Grinding Wheels and crucibles.	800
28	Sharif Ahmad, Proprietor, Chiefs Textile Printers, McLeod Road, Lahore. (2nd subsidy).	Calico Printing	1,000
29	M. Ghulam Akbar, Proprietor, Talagaang Tannery, Talagaang, district Attock.	Tanning	1,500

Serial No.	Name of grantee	Industry assisted	Amount sanctioned
			Rs.
1943-44— <i>contd.</i>			
30	Haji Allah Ditta, Proprietor, The Modern Screw Manufactures, outside Yakki Gate, Lahore.	Manufacture of screw ..	3,000
31	Lala Mohan Lal, Proprietor, Scientific Engineering Works, Lytton Road, Lahore.	Manufacture of scientific glass apparatus.	4,000
32	M. Iqbal Hussain, Weaver, Pind Dadan Khan, district Jhelum.	Handloom weaving ..	2,000
33	M. S. Ulvie, managing Proprietor, M. S. Ulvie, and Company, Beadon Road, Lahore.	Manufacture of date stamping machine.	2,500
34	Messrs. Royal Plate Works, Ravi Road, Lahore.	Manufacture of Electric torches ..	10,000
35	The Principal, Khalsa College, Amritsar ..	Manufacture of chemicals ..	7,500
36	H. M. Ishaq, Siddiqi, Proprietor, Siddiqi penholders and Pencils Factory, village Boot, district Jullundur.	Manufacture of penholders and pencils.	3,000
37	Lala Mohan Lal, Aggarwal, Proprietor, Mohan Brothers, Civil Lines, Gurgaon, Punjab.	Manufacture of brushes and artists colours.	2,000
38	M/s The Grinding Wheel Works, Amritsar	Manufacture of Grinding wheels ..	10,000
39	M. Ali Bakhsh, village Kanjala, tehsil Rupar, district Ambala	Manufacture of thread balls and reels	2,500

POLICE OFFICERS IN LUDHIANA DISTRICT RECOMMENDED FOR PROMOTION OR REWARDED

1899. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) the number of Police Officers in the Ludhiana District recommended for promotion, promoted, or rewarded during the tenure of office of the present Superintendent, Police, Ludhiana, with the names, ranks and reasons for promotion of such officers ;

(b) the number, names and ranks of Police officers in the Ludhiana district dismissed, suspended, degraded or punished since the present Superintendent, Police, took over charge of his post ?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat : (a)

(i) Recommended for promotion (i.e., those promotions which are required to be made by officers above the rank of Superintendent of Police .. 27

(ii) Lower Subordinates promoted .. 130

(iii) Rewarded in different ways .. 746

It is not in the public interest to give names of officers promoted but it may be stated that 32 were Hindus, 78 Muhammadans and 20 Sikhs.

(b) Number of Police Officers dismissed .. 7

Number of Police Officers suspended because they were charged judicially for one offence or other .. 20

[Premier]

Number of officiating head constables reverted as a result of departmental enquiry ..	6
Number of officiating head constables reverted to their substantive rank who had not passed the Lower School Course and were given temporary promotion due to the war emergency ..	9
Number of officers censured or confined to the Quarter Guard for wilful absence or other departmental irregularities ..	74
Number of officers reverted or reduced from Selection Grade to Time Scale ..	12

POLICE OFFICERS IN THE LUDHIANA DISTRICT RECOMMENDED OR REWARDED

1900. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) the number communitywise of Police officers in the Ludhiana district recommended for promotion, promoted or rewarded by the present Superintendent, Police ;

(b) the number community-wise of Police Officers suspended dismissed, degraded or punished by the present Superintendent, Police, Ludhiana ?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat :

	Hindus	Muslims	Sikhs	Indian Christians
<i>Part (a)</i>				
(i) Number of Police officers recommended for promotion.	8	13	6	..
(ii) Number of Officers promoted excluding (i) above.	32	78	20	..
(iii) Number of officers rewarded ..	124	470	150	2
<i>Part (b)</i>				
Number of officers dismissed ..	3	1	3	..
Number of officers suspended ..	4	12	4	..
Number of officers reverted ..	1	11	3	..
Number of officers censured or confined to Quarter Guard.	11	50	13	..
Number of officers reverted or reduced from Selection Grade to Time Scale.	1	8	3	..

DISTRICT BOARD SERVANTS IN AMBALA DIVISION

1901. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Will the Honourable Minister for Public Works be pleased to state the numerical strength of all communities separately among the District Board servants in all the Districts of Ambala Division excluding Simla ?

The Honourable Sir Muhammad Jamal Khan Leghari : The necessary information is given below :—

Name of District Board	Number of Muslims	Number of Sikhs	Hindus and Others	Total
Hissar	145	36	640 (Including 4 Christians).	821
Rohtak	125	2	1,028 (Including 1 Christian)	1,155
Karnal	269	13	757 (Including 5 Christians).	1,039
Gurgaon	297	6	630 (Including 13 Christians).	933
Ambala	180	119	385	684

MUSLIM SUPERINTENDENTS IN THE CIVIL SECRETARIAT

1902. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : With reference to the statement supplied in reply to the unstarred question No. 1688 printed on page 21 of the Punjab Legislative Assembly Debates, dated the 2nd November 1943 (Volume XXII) will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state what steps, if any have been taken by him to increase the number of Muslim Superintendents in the Civil Secretariat after 2nd November 1943 ?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat : No special step would have been appropriate and none were taken. The number of Muslim Superintendents has in fact increased since November 1943 from five to seven.

MUSLIM GAZETTED OFFICERS IN THE AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT, AMBALA DIVISION

1903. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : With reference to the statement in reply to my unstarred question No. 1700 printed on page 27 of Punjab Legislative Assembly debates of 2nd November 1943 (Volume XXII) showing that there is not a single Muslim gazetted officer of the Agricultural Department posted in Ambala Division, will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state the position of the Muslims now in the cadre mentioned above ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : I did not state that there was no Muslim gazetted officer of the Agriculture Department working in the Ambala division in November, 1943. I mentioned that the post of Fodder Specialist, Sirsa, was held by a Muslim.

Out of nine gazetted officers now working in that division, three are muslims.

BELIEF GRANTED TO CERTAIN VILLAGES IN KARNAL DISTRICT

1904. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : With reference to the reply to part (c) of starred question No. 7998¹ dated the 9th February 1942, will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state the nature of relief which has been afforded to the residents of the villages mentioned in the above question ?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram : Relief to the villages mentioned in part (c) of Assembly question No. 7998¹ starred is being afforded in the form of suspensions and remissions of land revenue.

PLYING OF MOTOR VEHICLES IN THE PROVINCE

1905. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Will the Honourable Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether Government are contemplating to revise the scheme with respect to the plying of motor vehicles, etc., in the province and putting all the motor vehicle companies under the Railway Administration; if so, whether he would be pleased to place all relevant papers regarding the proposals on the table of the House?

The Honourable Sir Muhammad Jamal Khan Leghari : I do not understand to what scheme the honourable member refers, but there is no intention whatever on the part of this Government to place all motor vehicle companies under railway administration. In fact this Government is opposed to the association of the railways with road motor transport except to a very limited extent.

CONSOLIDATION OF HOLDINGS IN AMBALA DIVISION

1906. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state the number of Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors deputed community-wise and district-wise to the Ambala Division for consolidation of holdings work?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh :

District	INSPECTORS				SUB-INSPECTORS			
	Muslims	Hindus	Sikhs	Total	Muslims	Hindus	Sikhs	Total
1. Karnal	1	1	1	3	3	11	1	15
2. Ambala	3	1	3	7	13	15	13	41

In no other district of the Ambala division is the staff of the Co-operative Department employed on consolidation of holdings work.

SUB-ASSISTANT SURGEONS IN CHARGE OF CIVIL, MUNICIPAL BOARD AND DISTRICT BOARD HOSPITALS IN AMBALA DIVISION

1907. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state the number of Sub-Assistant Surgeons in charge of Civil, Municipal Boards, and District Board hospitals in the Ambala Division community-wise and district-wise?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : The time and trouble involved in collecting this information would not be commensurate with the benefit to be obtained therefrom.

STUDENTS ADMITTED INTO MEDICAL COLLEGE AT LAHORE AND AMRITSAR

1908. Sardar Sher Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the number of students, community-wise, admitted into the Medical Colleges at Lahore and Amritsar, during the years 1943 and 1944 ;

(b) if the number of Sikh students in the above-named colleges is below their fixed percentages, what action do the Government intend to take to make up the deficiency ?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : (a) A statement is enclosed.

(b) Admissions to these two medical colleges (excluding nominations from the Frontier, Delhi and the Punjab States) are made in the proportion Muslims 50 per cent, Sikhs 20 per cent and others 30 per cent. It will be seen from the statement that the Sikhs obtained their percentage of admissions under this formula.

A statement showing the number of students communitywise admitted to the King Edward Medical College, Lahore, and the Glancy Medical College, Amritsar, during the year 1943 and 1945.

Community	NUMBER OF STUDENTS ADMITTED IN THE GLANCY MEDICAL COLLEGE, AMRITSAR		NUMBER OF STUDENTS ADMITTED IN THE KING EDWARD MEDICAL COLLEGE, LAHORE	
	1943	1944	1943	1944
Muslims	26	25	36	37
Hindus	17	14	21	24
Sikhs	10	10	14	16
Indian Christian .. .. .	..	..	1	..
Total	53	49	72	77

OFFICERS EMPLOYED IN MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

1909. Sardar Sher Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state the number of officers employed in the Medical Department in the under mentioned capacities and the proportion of Sikhs among them :—

- (1) Civil Surgeons, I. M. S. and P. C. M. S. ;
- (2) Staff of the King Edward Medical College, Lahore ;
- (3) Staff of the Medical College, Amritsar ;
- (4) Staff of the Lady Wellingdon Maternity Hospital, Lahore ;
- (5) Special Imperial appointments ;
- (6) Clinical Assistants to Professors in the Medical Colleges of Lahore and Amritsar ;
- (7) Assistant Surgeons ?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : A statement is laid on the table.

Statement

1. *Civil Surgeons—*

I. M. S.	..	..	..	1	(Re employed).
P. C. M. S.	..	..	..	27	
No. of Sikhs	..	..	..	4	

2. *Staff of the King Edward Medical College, Lahore—*

(1) Professors	..	..	..	10	
No. of Sikhs among them	..	..	..	1	
(2) Assistant Professors	..	..	..	4	
No. of Sikhs among them	..	..	..	1	
(3) Demonstrators	..	..	..	11	(Excluding one post vacant.)
No. of Sikhs among them	..	..	..	1	
(4) Anaesthetist	..	..	..	1	(non-Sikh)
(5) Assistant Demonstrators	..	..	..	7	(excluding one post vacant.)
No. of Sikhs among them	..	..	..	1	

3. *Glancy Medical College, Amritsar—*

(1) (Principal & Lecturer of Medicine)	..	..	..	1	(non-Sikh).
(2) Assistant Professors	..	..	..	2	of whom one is a Sikh.
(3) Demonstrators	..	..	..	5	
No. of Sikhs among them	..	..	..	1	
(4) Lecturers	..	..	..	7	
No. of Sikhs among them	..	..	..	1	
(5) Anaesthetist	..	..	..	1	(non-Sikh)
(6) Assistant Demonstrators	..	..	..	5	
No. of Sikhs among them	..	..	..	1	

4. *Lady Willingdon Hospital, Lahore—*

(1) Medical Superintendent a member of the I.M.S.					
(2) Deputy Medical Superintendent	..	..	..	1	(non-Sikh.)
One Assistant Surgeon under-study	..	..	..	1	(non-Sikh).

(5) *Special Imperial Appointments—*

It is not understood what is meant by this term.

(6) (i) Clinical Assistants to Professors in the King Edward Medical College, Lahore.	7	
No. of Sikhs among them	..	1

(ii) Clinical Assistants in the Medical College, Amritsar.	..	
--	----	--

7. Assistant Surgeons in the Punjab	..	..	128*
No. of Sikhs among them	..	..	32

*This figure excludes Demonstrators, Assistant Professors, and Lecturers employed in the Medical College, Lahore, and Medical College, Amritsar.

Information regarding Assistant Demonstrators employed in the Glancy Medical College, Amritsar, is given below :—

- | | | |
|---|---|-----------|
| 1. No. of graduate Sub-Assistant Surgeons employed as Demonstrators .. | 5 | 1 Sikh |
| 2. No. of Licentiates Sub-Assistant Surgeons employed as Demonstrators .. | 1 | Sikh Nil. |
| 3. Temporary Assistant Demonstrators (Graduates) | 5 | Sikhs 2 |

2. As regards the Lady Willingdon Hospital, one Sub-Assistant Surgeon is employed there as an Anaesthetist and he is a Muslim.

SUB-DIVISIONAL OFFICER IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

1910. Chaudhri Ram Sarup : Will the Honourable Minister for Public Works be pleased to place on the table of the House a list of overseers community-wise now officiating as Sub-Divisional Officers in the Public Works Department showing the number of agriculturists and non-agriculturists among them ?

The Honourable Nawab Sir Muhammad Jamal Khan Leghari : The attention of the honourable member is invited to the reply to paragraph (a) of Assembly Question No. 1812¹ by Chaudhri Sahib Ram.

PROVINCIAL SERVICE OF ENGINEERING CLASS II

1911. Chaudhri Ram Sarup : Will the Honourable Minister of Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a Provincial Service of Engineers, Class II will be created in the near future.

(b) How many vacancies in this service will be filled (i) by direct recruitment and (ii) by promotion ;

(c) how many of these vacancies will be allotted to the Hindu agriculturist of the province ?

The Honourable Nawab Sir Muhammad Jamal Khan Leghari : (a) Yes—for the Buildings and Roads Branch.

(b) No decision has been made yet.

(c) Appointments by promotion will be made on merit but some account will be taken of communal proportions. As the number of vacancies to be filled by direct appointment is not known at present, it is not possible to state the number of vacancies to be allotted to Hindu agriculturists.

PROMOTIONS TO CLASS I IN VETERINARY DEPARTMENT

1912. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state the number of officers, community-wise, promoted since he has taken charge of the portfolio so far to class I in the Veterinary Department ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : No permanent promotion has been made since the 26th June 1942. Three Class II officers have been promoted in officiating capacity. Two of them are Muslims and one is a Sikh.

TAXATION OFFICERS

1913. Lala Harnam Das : Will the Honourable Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of District Taxation Officers, Assistant District Taxation Officers, Taxation Inspectors and Taxation Sub-Inspectors in the province ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the representation of Scheduled castes falls short of the share fixed for them in the above mentioned department; if so, the steps Government propose to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Sir Manohar Lal : (a)

(i) District Taxation Officers	..	17
(ii) Assistant District Taxation Officers	..	5
(iii) Taxation Inspectors	..	18
(iv) Taxation Sub-Inspectors	..	120

(b) (1) Appointments to the posts of District Taxation Officer and Assistant District Taxation Officer have been by promotion from the lower ranks of the service, by transfer from other departments or by re-employment of retired officers. Communal considerations receive consideration, but as merit must be the guiding factor in such selections no rigid proportions can be laid down for the different communities.

(2) Initial appointments are made to the posts of Inspector and Sub-Inspector according to a fixed block system. One post in the Inspectors' cadre which was due to ' Others ' has been filled by an Indian Christian.

(3) The information regarding Taxation Sub-Inspectors is not readily available as they are appointed by Commissioners. Instructions have already been issued that in making initial appointments the communal proportions prescribed for ministerial appointments in the division concerned should be kept in view.

SCHEDULED CASTES

1914. Lala Harnam Das : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the number of women teachers, community-wise, to whom special senior vernacular certificates have been awarded in the Punjab during the last seven years ;

(b) whether it is a fact that no such special senior vernacular certificate has ever been awarded to any woman belonging to the scheduled castes so far during this period of seven years ;

(c) whether there are strict instructions of the Government to the effect that members of scheduled castes should be given preference to all the other communities in all public offices and Government departments in general and in the education department in particular ; if so, what steps are proposed to be taken in the matter ?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : (a) A statement is laid on the table.

(b) Yes. But certificates are not issued on the basis of castes and creeds.

(c) No. According to the orders of Government, 2½ per cent of the appointment in the Subordinate Educational Service are given to members of scheduled castes provided qualified candidates belonging to these castes are available.

Number of women teachers community-wise to whom special Senior Vernacular Certificates have been awarded in the Punjab during the last 7 years.

Circle	1944				1945				1946				1947				1948			
	Hindu	Muslim	Sikh	Christian	Scheduled Caste	Hindu	Muslim	Sikh	Christian	Scheduled Caste	Hindu	Muslim	Sikh	Christian	Scheduled Caste	Hindu	Muslim	Sikh	Christian	Scheduled Caste
1. Ambala Circle.	..	2	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
2. Lahore Circle.	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3. Multan Circle	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4. Rawalpindi Circle.	1	1	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..

INQUIRY INTO THE CONDUCT OF A TEACHER OF THE DISTRICT BOARD HIGH SCHOOL,
CHAK JHUMRA

1916. Lala Bhagat Ram Choda : With reference to the answer to starred question No. 9209¹ asked at the last session of the Punjab Legislative Assembly, will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government have arrived at any decision regarding the report of the inquiry held against the teacher concerned ;

(b) the action Government have taken or intend to take in the matter ; if no action is intended, the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : In view of the findings of the Enquiry Officer, no action is indicated against M. Barkat Ali, late teacher, District Board High School, Chak Jhumra. He has, however, been transferred from Chak Jhumra.

MR. DILAWAR SINGH, B. A.

1917. Lala Bhagat Ram Choda : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a warning calling upon him to desist from taking part in underground activities otherwise he would be detained again has been conveyed to Mr. Dilawar Singh, B. A., a political internee within the Municipal limits of Sonapat, Rohtak district ;

(b) whether Government have ascertained the correctness of the allegation on the basis of which the warning has been issued, by some impartial authority as suggested by Mr. Dilawar Singh in his letter, dated 8th February 1945, to the Deputy Inspector-General, Criminal Investigation Department, Punjab, if not, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether Mr. Dilawar Singh has been complaining for the last eight months or so to the Deputy Commissioner and the Superintendent of Police, Rohtak, against the hostile attitude of Chaudhry Daryao Singh, officer incharge of Security staff, Rohtak, towards him, if so, the action taken by the officers concerned in the matter and if no action has been taken, the reasons therefor ;

(d) whether it is a fact that Mr. Dilawar Singh made a request to the Government that the restrictions imposed upon him be relaxed so as to enable him to join the Law College, Delhi, and to attend to his landed property at Jhajjar (his home town) and that his request was recently turned down by the Government ; if so, the reasons therefor and the steps Government intend to take in the matter of safeguarding the future career of this internee ?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat : (a) Yes.

(b) Government are satisfied that the allegations are correct.

(c) On the complaint of Dilawar Singh enquiries were made by the Deputy Commissioner and the Superintendent of Police, Rohtak, but the allegation was not substantiated.

(d) *Part I*—Yes.

Part II—It is not the policy of Government to allow reestrictedees to visit other provinces, except for reasons of health.

Part III—He has been allowed reasonable facilities to visit Jhajjar.

Part IV—Cases of all reestrictedees are reviewed periodically.

SLIDING SCALE SYSTEM

1918. Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state the names of the districts in the province in which the Government intends to introduce the sliding scale system of revenue?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tikka Ram : The question of the system of assessment to be introduced in a district is considered at the time of its reassessment. Since reassessment operations are not at present in progress in any of the districts of the province, it is not possible to say whether the sliding scale system of assessment will be introduced into any district.

WHEAT EXPORTS

1919. Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the quota of grain that the Punjab Government has undertaken to supply to the Government of India ;

(b) how many tons of wheat have so far been exported from the Punjab to the deficit provinces ;

(c) how many tons of wheat the Government have stocked in the Punjab for the purpose of adequate supply to the public in connexion with the rationing scheme ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : I regret that the answer to the question is not yet ready.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Minister for Finance (The Honourable Sir Manohar Lal) : I move—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,54,04,000 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of General Administration.

2 p.m.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,54,04,000 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of General Administration.

General Policy of Government

Mian Muhammad Nurullah (Lyallpur, Muhammadan, Rural) : Sir as our motion No. 47 is a comprehensive one on which the debate on general administration can be initiated, I am moving this cut motion.

Sardar Ajit Singh : On a point of order, Sir. There are quite a number of cut motions preceding the one which is proposed to be moved by the honourable member. Why should they not be allowed to be moved first ?

Mian Muhammad Nurullah : My honourable friend has not understood me correctly. This is a comprehensive motion on which every one will be able to speak. There are other cut motions that stand in my name and without making a speech, I shall just refer to them. Cut motion No. 26 condemns the action of the Government in not allowing the use of Minto Park for the session of the All-India Muslim League to be held in Lahore. *An honourable member* (Shame). Cut motion No. 29 censures the non-payment of allowances to M.L.As. who are detained for no fault of theirs ; No. 32 criticises Government's failure to frame such election rules which would vouchsafe secrecy of ballot at the time of election. No. 46 condemns the action of the

[Md. Nurullah.]

Government in terrorising through the police and other officials Muslim League workers and even M. L. As. by threatening to open history sheets and start confidential enquiries against them and by harassing them in various other ways. No. 47 is to raise discussion on the policy of Government and No. 48 is to condemn the method of realisation of various funds along with land revenue without getting the previous approval of the Legislature. Before I sit down I just want to say a word about the number of days that have been given to us for general discussion of the budget and for discussion of demands for grants. To begin with in 1937 three days were given for the general discussion and 10 for the discussion of demands for grants. Later on only two days for the general discussion and 6 for demands for grants were allowed and that is being done this year in spite of the representation made by the Secretary of the Congress Party and the Secretary of the Muslim League Party. After making that submission, Sir, I formally move—

That the demand be reduced by Rs. 100.

Mr. Speaker : Demand under consideration, motion moved is—

That the demand be reduced by Rs. 100.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh (Amritsar North, Sikh, Rural) (*Punjabi*): Sir, I have a lot of subjects up my sleeves which I want to discuss on the floor of the House. Since the time at my disposal is very short, I would deal with them briefly.

So far as the surplus budget is concerned, I wish to point out that surplus budgets are no indication of prosperity but rather the reverse, as they indicate that either the level of taxation has been unduly high or that money which should have been spent to ameliorate the condition of the poor people has not been so spent and has allowed to swell the coffers of the Government. Now-a-days budgets are being presented to the legislatures where legislatures are functioning. Very recently the budget has been presented to the Central Legislative Assembly. Now we have to see as to who prepares the budget. I do not intend entering into any details about the budgets of other provinces and that of the Central Government. So far as our province is concerned, I make bold to submit that it is the henchmen of the bureaucracy who take so much pains in preparing the so-called budget. It is these honourable members sitting on the Treasury benches who are no less than the henchmen of the bureaucracy who have prepared this budget. It will not be out of place to mention here that these henchmen of bureaucracy, i.e., the members of the Unionist Cabinet, are responsible for creating chaos and confusion worse confounded in the province. Instances are not wanting in this connection. All-out efforts are being made by the Unionist Government to create confusion and disorder in the Congress and the Muslim League. In fact the Unionist Government has made it a point to create obstacles in the way of any settlement between the two parties, namely, the Muslim League and the Congress. I really fail to understand the mentality of my honourable friends sitting on the Unionist benches who at a time when the Muslim League members sitting to my left were occupying the Unionist benches, supported and praised the Muslim League. The honourable members sitting on the Treasury benches created confusion amongst their party members with the result that the Muslim League members now occupying these opposition benches got tired of their divide-and-rule policy and crossed the floor of the House. Now the Unionist Government wants to crush the Congress and the Muslim League of the province with a view to safeguarding their own interests. This is why the party in power, i.e., the Unionist Party is trying its level best to create discord and friction between the Congress and the Muslim League so that they may not come to any mutual agreement. They have not left any stone unturned in weakening the strength of the Congress. Almost all the Congress leaders have been kept behind the bars. They do not want to release the Congress M.L.As. because they are sure that as soon as they are released they would be faced

with a large opposition. If these M.L.As. are once released they would arrive at an agreement with the Muslim League and thus throw them over-board. It is because of this fact that they are pursuing a repressive policy of imprisoning the Congressmen in general and the Congress M. L. As. in particular, with a view to avoid Congress-League settlement in the province. I have no hesitation in saying that it is an open secret that the Unionist Government has tried to cripple by resorting to repression the very Congress leaders who are born to serve their country in the true sense of the word.

It is crystal clear from the surplus budget which was presented by the Honourable Finance Minister the other day, that the Unionist Government want to enslave the people of the province. No efforts whatsoever have ever been made by the Unionist Government to lift the poor men of this province from poverty to security, from ill health to vigour and from ignorance to welfare. Under the circumstances my honourable friends should not be proud of the surplus budget. It has not been presented in the interests of the poor people of the province. As a matter of fact the budgets presented at present in provinces in general and in the Central Legislature in particular, cannot be called budgets for the benefit of the people in the true sense of the word, because they do not happen to be the budgets of the people, for the people and by the people. It is clear from this that we cannot call the budget of the Central Government as the budget of the National Government. The budget has not been presented by men like Jawahar Lal Nehru or Mr. Jinnah. It is the honourable members sitting on the Treasury benches who are the henchmen of bureaucracy in the true sense of the word who by following the policy of 'divide and rule' want to continue their hold on the Treasury benches. They have detained the Congress leaders in jails so that it may not be possible for the Congress to arrive at an agreement with the Muslim League. They are under the impression that as soon as the Congress leaders are out, they will come to terms with the Muslim League Party which would mean a death blow to the Unionist Party. It will not be out of place to mention here that in the Unionist Cabinet there are certain orphan Ministers as well. (*Laughter*). As far as my honourable friend Sardar Baldev Singh is concerned, I can say without any hesitation that he can leave the Unionist Cabinet any time he likes and my honourable friends would be surprised to see him sitting some day on these Opposition benches. Let me bring this point home to them that their party is not aware of all the developments that are taking place from time to time. Are they aware of the fact that very recently he has met all the big officials in Delhi? I would emphatically say that by breaking with the Muslim League the Honourable Premier has spoiled his future. My words may be pricking the Premier and his colleagues but I feel, I must speak the truth on the floor of this august House. I see some honourable members belonging to the Hindu Sabha smiling. I may also tell them that they have also no future for them. I may bring this fact home to the Hindu Sabha leaders sitting over there that as soon as Congress decide to form coalition ministries they will have no place to stand upon. (*Hear, hear*). Let me also tell the Honourable Premier that sincere and genuine attempts are being made to bring about a settlement and compromise between the two political parties in India. Such attempts to achieve the goal of liberty are not being made in India only. Even in the whole of Europe people are becoming powerful and are demanding freedom of speech, freedom of conscience and other freedoms. Now Imperialism is on its decay and my honourable friend the Premier of this province should realise that the powers of Imperialism are weakening day by day by the anti-imperialistic demands of the public at large. My honourable friends sitting opposite should also be aware of the fact that the entire world is changing and the Punjab cannot remain unaffected by the revolution which is taking place everywhere in the world. People of India are looking forward to the Congress-League understanding and I would say that there is every possibility of their arriving at a reasonable compromise as Mr. Liaquat Ali and Mr. Balabhai Desai are putting in every effort to bring about a settlement between the

[S. Sohan Singh Josh.]

two biggest political organisations in India. The spade work is over. It is true that this understanding may not bring something big for the country. But it will certainly do one thing, that is, the Muslim League and the Congress will come on one platform to fight their battles as a combined force. As a matter of fact this understanding between the two political parties will prove a death-knell to the Unionist Government which is quite insignificant outside the province. How long will this Unionist Government which does not command any respect or importance in the rest of India hold the reins of this province by putting the patriotic Congressmen behind the bars and by abusing the Muslim Leaguers? This repression is to die very soon and I would submit with all the force at my command that nature and history have issued the death warrants for the Unionist Government. (*Cheers*). Now we are waiting for the time when they are served on them.

Begum Rashida Latif Baji : On a point of order, Sir. May I know which party the honourable member is representing? The Muslim League is a Muslim organisation and, therefore, the honourable member can never represent it. He should mind his own business without poking his nose into the affairs of other people.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Quite true, the Muslim League is a Muslim organisation. But we consider Muslims our brethren. They are our colleagues. We both are fighting against the reactionary forces, the repression, the Imperialism. Our problems are the same. Therefore, I may tell the honourable lady member that it is only the Muslim League and the Congress party which can remove the political deadlock from the country. There is no other party serious enough to find out a solution for the political deadlock.

Begum Rashida Latif Baji : I am afraid you are not competent enough to advocate the cause of the Muslims.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : I am an Indian first and as a true Indian it is my duty to protect the rights of my brethren. I feel I am strong enough to fight for the rights of my brethren as well. I may bring this fact home to the honourable lady member who is interrupting me every now and then that there is no political party in India except the Congress, the Muslim League and the Communists parties which make sincere and genuine efforts for the removal of political deadlock from the country, while the Unionist Government is sleeping over this matter. Now let us see what the Unionist Government is doing? They are doing their best, in their own interests, to keep intact the bureaucratic structure of administration under the garb of a popular Ministry. They are doing it in order to save their own skin because they know full well that out of the Punjab province they are considered of no significance whatsoever. It is most lamentable to remark that while Congress, Muslim League and the Communists parties are taking pains in finding out a solution of political deadlock the Unionist Government are standing in their way. Not only that. They are putting every possible obstacle in the way of nationalising the country. How long will they continue this malpractice? Their days are numbered. Their fate is sealed. I am sure that the Government can no longer carry on their malpractices in the province by throwing dust in the eyes of the people who are now wide awake to understand their exact position. Repression has no legs to stand upon for a long time and I am sure that the day is not far when the present Ministry would be shaken. Let the wind of liberty blow and then see how the filth of repression and violence is swept away from the country. The day is not far away when the Honourable Premier with all his camp followers will have to vacate for us the seats they are now occupying and then we would form our own Ministry, more humane, more stable, more popular and more sympathetic. (*Hear, hear*).

Now, Sir, so far as the general administration of this Government is concerned, I would like to draw your attention to a very important matter and that is with regard to the small saving scheme. It is most regrettable to remark that contributions to the small saving scheme are made under compulsion. People are forced to purchase small saving certificates and Mr. Deputy Speaker, as you are representing Jullundur constituency, you may be aware of certain cases where war funds have been collected forcibly by the Government authorities. The small saving scheme has been recently started and an honourable member of this House was appointed on it. A thousand rupees or so is paid to him for this job. But the way in which small saving certificates are sold to the people is most undesirable for the Government. These certificates are not sold by persuading the people. But they are being sold by repression and if any one refuses to pay he is put to trouble. Over and above that people are put to confusion. They are not clearly told by the Government authorities as to what sort of contribution it is, whether this is a war fund or security fund or war loan. People do not know nor are they told. In this connection I would like to place before you certain cases where people have been forced to pay war fund. You will be surprised to know that even lambardars are instructed not to receive land revenue without war fund. There are several cases where money orders sent by the village headmen to the revenue authorities were returned because they said that the land revenue must be accompanied by contributions to the war fund or small saving. When questions are put with respect to this repressive attitude of the Government we are told, "No, this is all incorrect. There is no repression in the province". Our surprise knows no bounds when we see that such evasive and wrong replies are given in this august House just to deceive people and to keep them in dark. May I challenge if the Government has the hardihood to go with us to rural areas and say these things which are said in this House by them? They would then know their exact position. There is a lot of difference between fair play and a foul game. Making speeches under the point of bayonet is not fair play.

Now I will place before the House some very important instances to support my case. I will take my friends to Kalka, a little bit further than the home of Sardar Baldev Singh. North-Western Railway's foreman put up a notice on the board and I have got that very notice with me. The notice stated that on the following day Tehsildar's Nazir was to address the workers there on the subject of the small savings scheme and those people who did not fill the certificates could not draw their rations. This is not a single instance of the Government's evil practice. I will place before the House another instance of unprecedented highhandedness. Atkilianpore, Thana Dasonda, District Ludhiana, Head Constable of Dasonda collected people of the village and gave them beating and things of the sort just to collect money for the war loans. It took place on 22nd February 1945. I have got a complaint bearing the thumb impressions of the entire village and in spite of many complaints to the proper authorities so far no action has been taken. Women were insulted and many other hardships were inflicted on them indiscriminately. Sir, this treatment has been inflicted on those gallant villagers who have sent their brave sons to the army to fight for the cause of the war. I ask, is it police raj in the province or the Unionist administration?

Now I will draw the attention of the House to the misappropriation of funds. We had been placing before the House complaints but our efforts have gone waste. I have got a written complaint from the village Jonna and it is signed by the entire panchayat of the village. My honourable friend from Ludhiana who takes delight in calling the Communists irreligious and every sort of thing that he likes, is now sitting silent and does not say anything about the subject. Those times of ignorance are gone now and the officers of the State cannot be permitted to misappropriate money like this. I am pained to say, Sir, that the entire panchayat had been making complaints to this effect off and on but so far no action has been taken by the Government in this direction. At Amritsar entries have been made in the books of the patwaris showing

[S. Sohan Singh Josh]

war fund at one place and the small savings at the other. Police interference in such matters is now a common thing and the Government intentionally ignores these things. In reality the funds are collected in this poor manner and the Government takes great pride in declaring that the Punjab is leading all the other provinces and it stands first in the world in the field of these collections. They ought to be ashamed of these undignified and dishonourable things.

To this unending tale of tyranny I would like to add another incident. A contribution in the small savings was demanded from the village. We have formed a co-operative society and they have made the contributions on behalf of the village collectively on previous occasions. The society was prepared to pay two hundred rupees more than its previous payment but the authorities wanted to collect money individually. Two villagers Mula Singh and Kala Singh were told to contribute a fixed amount and as they were not in a position to make the payment, the Tahsildar gave them beating and all sorts of such maltreatment. One Jagat Singh, son of Sunder Singh of Chak 98-G.B., District Lyallpur, went to pay his land revenue which amounted to Rs. 105-11-0 and he was asked to pay Rs. 20 more by way of subscription, which he refused. As a result, the amount of land revenue was not accepted from him. Coming back he sent that amount by money order but even that was refused and he was forced to pay Rs. 20 by way of subscription. Naranjan Singh, son of Khem Singh of Chak 101, was also similarly treated. An application was sent to the Tahsildar of Jaranwala in which all these facts were stated and he was asked to remove that difficulty of zamindars but no action was taken. And our Ministers sitting here comfortably say that the public are quite happy and only a few persons are making this propaganda.

Now I come to the Zamindara League. We have been protesting in this House that subscriptions for the Zamindara League are being forcibly taken, but the Government finishes the whole matter by quoting that recently learnt expression 'not within the knowledge of the Government.' Here is the signed statement of one Ibrahim, son of Sondhi Lohar, of Kot Khara. He says that the Zaildar told him that he would be provided with the canal water for his fields in case he becomes member of the Zamindara League and thus he was misled to become a member of that organisation. (Laughter). You laugh because he is a blacksmith. All right, here is another signed statement of a Jat, viz., Chaudhri Nizam Din of Rasoolpur Khurd. He was also similarly misled. In spite of the honourable member sitting opposite, I can bring before you as many persons as you may like who will state that they have been misled to become members of the Zamindara League. Now I come to Sialkot. Mr. Nakul Sen, the Deputy Commissioner, with the help of his subordinates Sardar Diljit Singh and Mr. Ghoolam Hussain, Inspector, Civil Supplies, collected Rs. 1 lakh for the Zamindara League forcibly from the public. Let them make enquiries but after first transferring those persons from that district. In Baddo Malli, a village, in the same district, a money lender was arrested without any cause and was released when he paid Rs. 10,000 to the funds of the Zamindara League. Let us go to Montgomery now. The inhabitants of Chak 74, 5-R Montgomery, were asked to pay Rs. 5 per square of land and when they refused to pay they were told that no sugar or kerosene oil would be supplied to them. They were further informed that those of them who would work in Kisan Committees would especially be deprived of these things. Then in village Bangali pur, Tahsil Dasoocha, District Hoshiarpur, Re. 1-4-0 four per head were collected with the land revenue. I challenge the Honourable Premier to go there and see with his own eyes.

Here is another incident. A Naib-tahsildar went on tour to Kotla and sent for all the people of the neighbouring villages including those of village Bahlpur.

When they came they were asked to pay to the Zamindara League fund. The people of Bahlpur refused to do so because, they said, they were poor 'kisans' and not zamindars. On that they were told to go away. After that they were ordered to be present some day at one place and the other day at another and were later on fined for being absent from Kotla, although they were asked by the Naib himself to go away.

Now I relate another very sad and strange incident. Such ruthlessness was not shown for the collection of war fund in the early days of war even. On 22nd February, 1945, a sub-inspector with mounted police went to a village Kokry Kalan, in district Ferozepore and got it announced that all persons should collect. The next day those who had gone to work in the fields or on their wells were maltreated and brought back to the village. Then they were asked to give subscriptions and none was allowed to leave unless he paid. Those who had no money with them were abused and maltreated and were allowed to leave only when the lambardar went to their houses and brought money from there, and receipts of Malwa 'dangal' were given in return.

Now I pass on to another matter, that is, *thur* and waterlogging. Even to-day this matter formed the subject matter of a question in regard to which some supplementaries were also asked but Government did not give any satisfactory replies. I may tell my friends that I have visited Sangla in the Sialkote zail and to my utter amazement I found that those kisans who previously had 5 or 6 arable fields now have one or one and a half fields only. I drew the attention of Government to the miserable plight of the kisans of this ilaqa on a previous occasion but to no effect. In fact *kalar* is spreading and is eating away village after village. My friends will be surprised to learn that this nuisance has increased to such an extent that when kisans sleep in their houses their hearts beat within themselves that the roofs may not come down on them while sleeping. To safeguard against such an eventuality every one of them provides stays for supporting the walls of his house. Now here are the names of villages which have suffered enormously because of *thur*, *kalar* and waterlogging, so much so that their produce has been reduced to nought. They are, Titranwala, Charwind, Marbalochan, Muhammadwali, Panj Chakditian, Gil, Ghulebajway, Badomali, Jheurkotli, Chahur, Bhihur 118, Lahr, Hambly, Dhugri, Pandaurian, Slanwali, Bhaler, Bhaler Chak 119, Dera, Chak 120, Chathe, both the Kotlas, Marar Chak 42 and Hemrajpura. All this ilaqa comprises of 15 square miles which is becoming *thur*-stricken and waterlogged. It has been stated on behalf of Government that pumps have been installed in order to drain away the sub-soil water. True, that some pumps have been installed. But that has not in any way alleviated the distress of the zamindars. The reason for this was that the number of pumps was very small. Secondly, the ditches dug up were not deep, with the result that when rains came they overflowed and damage was done to good lands as well. In this way at least 1,000 families have been deprived of their lands, the means of their subsistence. If we take on average five members of a family, at least 5,000 persons have been thrown out of work. If my friends visit that ilaqa to-day they would find that disease and hunger is stalking the land. In the presence of this plight of the kisans my friends boast here that they have a surplus budget meaning thereby that the Punjab is a prosperous province. Is this the prosperity of the province? The reason for this ilaqa being *thur*-stricken and waterlogged is that it is low lying and the drainage system is very defective, with the result that the whole of this area has become waterlogged. If we take Rs. 50,000 as the price of one square of land my friends can well imagine what would be the loss for 15 square miles. When I was at school I knew something of arithmetic and now I have forgotten even that much but my friends can judge for themselves what would be the total loss incurred by the inhabitants of these areas. The matters have gone to such an extent that when people go to bury their dead they have to put layers of sand in the graves before they can place dead bodies in them. There is not a single place in that ilaqa where if you dig one and a half feet you do not meet water. The kisans are dying of hunger and this Government is boasting of introducing surplus budgets. In

[S. Sohan Singh Josh

the wake of thur and waterlogging diseases have come to add to the miseries of the people of this ilaqa. Because of waterlogging a kind of mosquito breeds in this ilaqa which is so very poisonous that when it bites it causes a wound which increases day by day with the result that on account of its harmful effects zamindars are suffering untold miseries. That is not the end of their troubles. The indifference of Government to their woes is troubling them all the more. There has been correspondence between the Health Officer, not the Public Health Officer, but the Health Officer of the Sangla Municipal Committee and the Chief Engineer, Drainage, in regard to that matter. In that correspondence the Health Officer asked for some arrangement to be made to do away with that nuisance. But it has been stated on behalf of Government that it would entail large expenditure and money cannot be spared at a time like this and that the matter would be looked into after the termination of the war. This correspondence is lying with the Secretary of the Sangla Municipal Committee and any one who wants to satisfy his curiosity can do so. This is what the Government have done in regard to waterlogging and thur.

Now I draw the attention of the House to another case which pertains to the Amritsar district. Cloth worth two lakhs of rupees was given to one Bashir Ahmad Bhakhtiar for distribution and sale through hawkers. But so far only two per cent of that cloth has been given to them, whereas the whole of the cloth should have been given to them as was intended. But that has not been done. It was also promised that 10 per cent profit would be given to the hawkers, but not a pie has been given to them. Now out of 270 hawkers unions 268 are demanding that cloth be given to them because it is their only means of livelihood. But the A. D. M., and the police officers have told them openly that as the communists have organised them therefore, they would not get any cloth. They will get it only if they sever their connection with the communists, otherwise not. These things are being said by officers openly. I do not know why all this is being done and why cloth is not being given to the hawkers when they are asking for it. They made a complaint to the Honourable Minister but to no effect. For the last two weeks no cloth has been given to them and it is being sold in other districts and through the black market, which has enabled certain persons to make lakhs of rupees. That is not all. Even threats are being held out to them that if they did not keep quiet they would be arrested under the Defence of India Rules. These things are happening but nobody takes any notice of them. Previously sugar was being distributed through the kisan committees. But then, this method was discontinued and Government began distributing sugar through their own officers. What is happening now is well known to the people. In fact people are not getting any sugar at all. Go to any village and this will be the story on the lips of every one. It is happening in all the districts excepting one and that is the Sargodha district, the Premier's own district. It is only that district from which we have received good news and not from any other.

Before I sit down there are one or two other points to which I want to refer. So far as the communist party is concerned there are certain interests and dishonest liars who are making this propaganda against it that it has taken money from the Government. I may tell these dishonest liars that the communist party does not even spit at the money of the Central or the Punjab Government. Communist party is the people's own party and it is the people who are contributing funds to it. I challenge any one to come along with me and see how we can gather together thousands of rupees by making appeals to the people. The people know that it is their own party and therefore they freely contribute towards its funds. (An honourable member: What do you think of Roy?) He is a traitor. So far as Roy or the Radical Democratic Party is concerned they are traitors and the communist party has nothing to do with him or that party. He has been turned out of the communist party. I do not know if he has ever been a member of the communist party of India. When

he was in Europe he was a member of that party but he was turned out of it. It is only some interested and dishonest section of the press which wants to befool the people. But I may tell them that now people cannot be befooled. They have come to know the truth. The communist party is so to say the people's own party. I know why some people are restive. They are perturbed because now this party has become popular in Europe and these people are afraid that it may not become popular here as well. That is the reason why the vested interests are feeling restless that now the time is fast approaching when they would be deprived of their lands and factories. And that is the reason why they have formed a united front against the communist party. But Soviet Russia is the standard-bearer of liberty and democracy, and is not afraid of any unholy combination of capitalism, imperialism and feudalism. The day is not far off when freedom and liberty will prevail and sweep away the existing regimes and orders of imperialism and slavery. The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat should read the writing on the wall and take a leaf out of the book of others. All strongholds of slavery are tottering before the march of freedom and liberty. No Churchills, Amerys and Roosevelts will be able to help him in holding the gaddi of Premiership when the Indian National Congress and the all-India Muslim League combine against the tactics of imperialism. The Congress-League compromise is in sight and it will prove the death of the Unionist Government. I am the greatest enemy of the Unionist Government because I am in favour of Congress-League alliance. That is why the Punjab Government had sent a report of some 100 pages to the Government of India against the communist party of the Punjab. The Punjab Government is conspiring against us. But let me openly declare that I am against the Unionist Government because it is the most reactionary, most retrograde and the most bureaucratic government. It is a complete lie that the communist party is in the pay of the Government of India or the Unionist Government. Our paper has given a surety of Rs. 2,000. Does it show favouritism? Again the printing press where it used to be printed previously has been confiscated. Even the quota of paper is insufficient for the newspaper. We have several times applied for the increase of quota of paper but our applications have been rejected. I challenge the honourable member opposite to prove if any weekly paper is getting less than the quota allotted to our paper. The communist party stands for the uplift of the poor, downtrodden and backward classes of labourers and kisans and their views and grievances are ventilated in our weekly "Jang-i-Azadi". A strong wave of freedom and liberty has been started and it is expected to prevail throughout the Punjab. The Unionists will be swept away before this wave of liberty, freedom and democracy.

Premier (The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat): I welcome this opportunity of laying before the House the circumstances which led to the dismissal of Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan from the position as a Minister of the Punjab Government. Originally I hesitated to make public all the details of the serious case of injustice to which reference was made in the *communiqué* on Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan's dismissal, and more details which have come to light regarding other transactions in which the ex-Minister was involved and about which unpleasant rumours were current at the time of his dismissal. I hesitated not out of regard for the ex-Minister himself, since I consider that by his conduct he had forfeited all claim to my regard and to the respect of every decent man, but because of my respect for the memory of his father and because of my regard for his family. Had it been in my power to do so, I would have spared his family the pain which must be caused to them by the revelations that I am now constrained to make, but I have no option in the matter. My original reluctance to make public the sordid details of Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan's dealings has been interpreted by some as an admission that his dismissal was unjustified. Moreover, when during the last session the honourable members of the Opposition tried to raise this question through an adjournment motion, my objections to this inadmissible procedure were

[Premier]

interpreted as reluctance to discuss the subject. Nothing could be further from the truth. I was then ready to discuss the subject and as my motives in hesitating to do so have been misinterpreted, I am now anxious to discuss the dismissal as promised. Naturally, I was not prepared to discuss it except at the proper time. That time has now come and I shall give the House as full an account as possible, consistent with the public interest, and have no doubt of my ability to satisfy all reasonable men that Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan's dismissal was fully justified.

Before I proceed to discuss the serious case of injustice to which reference was made in the *communiqué* on Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan's dismissal, I must preface by explaining to the House that even before this case came to my notice, serious allegations had been made about Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan's abuse of his powers as Minister and I had reasonable grounds for believing that there was considerable justification for these allegations. Subsequent enquiries have, I regret to state, confirmed the reasonableness of these grounds and I think the House will agree with me that when there are reasonable grounds for believing allegations about the abuse of power by a Minister and when, on top of this, there is proved a serious case of flagrant misuse of these powers, some serious action is called for. I shall, if the House so desires, state at greater length the facts giving rise to these allegations. At present I wish to emphasise that such grounds alone, that is, lack of reputation, have been considered sufficient to ask for the resignation of a Minister and when in addition a flagrant case of abuse of powers is proved, it would be a scandal not to dismiss such a Minister.

I pass on now to discuss the case of the dismissal of Mrs. Durga Parshad an employee of the Lahore Corporation. Before I deal with the facts of this case I must explain the position in regard to the material which can be laid before the House. From my correspondence with the ex-Minister and from various questions which have been put down, it is clear that he wishes to defend his action by reference to the noting of certain officers. Now, Sir, it is an established rule that the opinions expressed by Government officers on official files are strictly confidential. In no circumstances can they be divulged. The necessity for this rule is obvious—it is unfair to expect any Government officer to give his opinions without fear or favour if they are to be broadcast to the world and made the subject of political dispute. On this point, namely that Government officers must be kept clear of politics in the interests of efficient administration, I assume that members on both sides of the House are in agreement. This view has been dinned into our ears day after day by the honourable member's opposite, and it is not open to them to disagree with this principle.

The need for keeping Government servants clear of politics justifies me in refusing to make public the opinions of Secretariat officers on this case. I am the more ready to do so because, for a proper understanding of the case and for a proper assessment of the outrageous conduct of Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan,

2 p.m. it is unnecessary to refer to their opinions. It is a healthy and well-established convention of all parliamentary Governments that no Minister may take shelter behind his subordinates. Whatever opinions they may express, whatever advice they may give the Minister, it is he and he alone who is responsible for making decisions. It is he and he alone who is responsible to his colleagues, to the legislature and to the electorate. I do not propose, therefore, to refer to the opinions expressed by any officer other than the officer who conducted the enquiry into the conduct of Mrs. Durga Parshad and whose report is a public document. In this case, as I hope presently to prove, the Minister alone was responsible for whatever was done. He inspired the proceedings and from the outset he was determined that, whatever the evidence might show, he would order the unfortunate woman's dismissal.

I do not propose myself to discuss in detail the charges against Mrs. Durga Parshad and the evidence in support of those charges. That will be done later by another spokesman on behalf of Government, but, for the proper understanding of the case, I must outline briefly the course of events. In March 1948 Mrs. Durga Parshad was Lady Superintendent of the Lahore Municipal Girls Schools, a position which she had occupied since 1934. As Lady Superintendent she had to take and recommend disciplinary action against many school mistresses of all communities and it appears that some of these had some special influence with the Minister. No complaint was made to the Chief Officer of the Corporation, under whom Mrs. Durga Parshad was working but in March 1948 three Urdu petitions were presented by the petitioners at the Secretariat. Sardar Shankat Hyat Khan at once ordered that all three should be sent for inquiry to the Special Inquiry Agency. He also ordered that it was unnecessary to inform the Chief Officer of the Corporation of the action taken. Now the Special Inquiry Agency is an agency staffed by police officers which is meant to conduct enquiries against Government servants and Government has laid down a rule that references to the Agency shall be made only with the knowledge and consent of the Head of the Department in which the official concerned is serving. I shall comment later at more length on this point, but here I wish only to draw the attention of the House to the Minister's extraordinary departure from the normal procedure.

It so happened that at the time when the Special Inquiry Agency began its investigations, Mrs. Durga Parshad was about to conduct an enquiry into the conduct of a teacher named Ruqiyah Begum, who had been suspended by the Chief Officer of the Lahore Corporation for defying the orders of her transfer from Mochi Gate to Sanda Kalan. Mrs. Durga Parshad had fixed April 9th, 1948, for beginning this inquiry. One of the persons who had complained to the Minister was the husband of Ruqiyah Begum and on April 6th, 1948, the Minister ordered Mrs. Durga Parshad's suspension. He was most anxious that the order for her suspension should be communicated in time to save Ruqiyah Begum and, therefore, it was sent with special promptitude to the Chief Officer, by whom it was communicated to Mrs. Durga Parshad on April 8th. I might mention that the order did not give any reasons for Mrs. Durga Parshad's suspension. In this way Ruqiyah Begum was saved from the enquiry which was to begin one day later. I need hardly add that Mrs. Durga Parshad's suspension was ordered by the Minister without consulting the Chief Officer. The first intimation that Mr. Taylor had that any enquiry was being made, was his receipt of the order for her suspension.

The Special Inquiry Agency completed its enquiries in June. The Minister was anxious to dismiss Mrs. Durga Parshad as soon as possible and was, indeed, inclined to dismiss her forthwith on the basis of the report of the Special Inquiry Agency. But the necessity for preserving at least a semblance of fair dealing, induced him to agree, reluctantly, that, before she was dismissed, Mrs. Durga Parshad must be allowed to defend herself. He was afraid that if any one other than himself were to pass orders, Mrs. Durga Parshad might escape, and so, while agreeing that the Chief Officer of the Lahore Corporation should conduct the enquiry, he refused to allow him to pass orders and reserved to himself the right to decide the case. At the same time as he reserved for himself the position of a judge in a case the hearing of which had not yet begun, he made it clear that he had prejudged the case and without hearing the woman he pronounced her guilty. His attitude is quite clear from his own order dated June 30th, 1948, passed before the enquiry from which I can quote the actual words if the House so desires.

I shall not dwell in detail on the progress of the enquiry before the Chief Officer—at least one honourable member of the Opposition needs no enlightenment, for he defended the woman. I need only say that on December 31st, 1942, the Chief Officer of Corporation, who was then Mr. Kennedy, wrote a detailed report in which, after

[Premier]

carefully considering the evidence, he came to the conclusion that not one of the charges had been established. As I have said, the Minister had determined that no one but himself should decide this case. The report was, therefore, submitted to him for his orders. He received it, and with it the bulky record of evidence, on January the 22nd. On the very same day he passed an order that Mrs. Durga Parshad was not fit for her employment. Once more I can, if the House so desires, quote his actual words. In reaching his conclusion, the Minister expressed some regret which was very belated, for the conclusion was foregone. He had remained throughout in close touch with the proceedings, had sent for the file in November 1943 and even had in his possession a copy of the written arguments addressed to the Chief Officer on behalf of the prosecution. It would seem that he did not consider it necessary to obtain the defence arguments before judging the case.

In accordance with Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan's orders Mrs. Durga Parshad was dismissed. She filed an appeal to the Commissioner, who pointed out that he was unable to intervene, since she had been dismissed by the orders of Government. Her only remedy was a petition to His Excellency the Governor and this she addressed to him. The case was brought to my notice by His Excellency. We agreed that it should be taken in Council on April 26th, and this was done. Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan was given ample opportunity to justify his extraordinary proceedings but he was unable to produce any justification whatsoever, and his colleagues unanimously agreed that his conduct was quite indefensible and quite unworthy of the office which he held. His Excellency then dismissed him. On May 2nd orders issued for the reinstatement of Mrs. Durga Parshad.

I have not commented on Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan's conduct, because I did not wish to confuse my narrative of the course of events. Now that I have laid the facts before honourable members, many will feel that they speak so strongly for themselves that there is no need for me to comment on the gross impropriety of the Minister's conduct throughout, but I feel that I must make my attitude clear if I am to give a full explanation of the reasons which have led my colleagues and myself to regard his dismissal as fully justified.

I have had the honour to be a Minister of the Punjab Government for a period of eight years and before that I was associated with the administration in various capacities. As the House is aware, I previously held the portfolio later allotted to Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan. I have, therefore, considerable experience of establishment cases, and I can say without hesitation that never have I seen or heard of, and never do I expect to see or hear of, so determined and outrageous a case of injustice. I cannot profess to know the motives which prompted the Minister to act in such an extraordinary manner. I do know, however, that Mrs. Durga Pershad had begged Mr. Taylor, the Chief Officer not to entrust her with the conduct of the enquiry against Ruqiyah Begum as this would certainly lead to trouble for her. Perhaps she feared that the lady had special influence with the Minister. However this may be, every reasonable man must think that such an extraordinary course of injustice could only proceed from some improper motive. Of one thing there can be no doubt. Had the Minister really desired to make use of his powers in the public interest, had he been unbiassed and determined to do justice, it would not have been necessary for him to depart so completely from the normal procedure. Apparently he was aware that Mrs. Durga Parshad enjoyed the confidence of her employer, the Chief Officer of the Corporation, and so he sought at first to keep the Chief Officer from knowledge of what was happening. When that was no longer possible, he was determined that the Chief Officer should not have the power to save Mrs. Durga Parshad. This explains why the Minister decided to take action under section 890 of the Lahore Corporation Act, although it was never intended to use that section while the city of Lahore was being administered by a Government officer.

I promised to comment in some more detail on the position of the Special Inquiry Agency and Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan's use of it. As I have said this Agency is really meant to enquire into the conduct of Government officers. I know of no other case in which a Minister of this Government has, when ordering an investigation by the Agency, not only failed to consult the officer under whom the suspect was serving, but gone so far as to order that no information should be sent to that officer. The agency is staffed by police officers. To call upon it to conduct an investigation is, by itself, a serious step and heads of departments are rightly reluctant to expose their subordinates to such an investigation which must necessarily leave some stain behind it even if the suspect is exonerated. For this reason, heads of departments do not usually call in the agency until they have reason to believe that there is some basis of truth in the allegations that have been made against the suspect. In this case, the petitions themselves contained matter which would have caused any reasonable man to mistrust them, but the Minister nevertheless referred them straightaway to the Special Inquiry Agency. He was not interested in arriving at the truth of the matter. All he wanted was a pretext to dismiss and ruin Mrs. Durga Parshad.

Having once departed from the straight course of normal procedure, Sardar Shaukat Hyat could not easily return to it. It seems that he had to save Ruqiyah Begum and so, as soon as he had some pretext for acting, he ordered the suspension of Mrs. Durga Parshad—once more without consulting the Chief Officer. Here, again, I know of no case in which an official has been suspended without his superior officer having been consulted. Obviously, Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan could not consult the Chief Officer, for he knew that the Chief Officer would have opposed Mrs. Durga Parshad's suspension.

The Minister continued to run true to form. I do not profess to be a lawyer, but I do not need to be to realise the gross injustice of the Minister's order on the report of the Special Inquiry Agency. Let me repeat that the normal course would have been to instruct the Chief Officer of the Lahore Corporation to conduct an enquiry and to pass final orders. Not only did the Minister depart from this course, but when he appointed himself judge, he also pronounced his finding before the hearing of the case had begun. There are many eminent lawyers sitting on the opposite benches. I challenge them to say whether, if Mrs. Durga Parshad had been their client, they would not at once have demanded that the case be removed from Sardar Shaukat Hyat's jurisdiction, if they had known that he had already decided that she was guilty. Once more, it is easy to understand why the Minister acted as he did. He was afraid that the Chief Officer would pass an order in accordance with the true facts and that would, of course, have meant acquittal of Mrs. Durga Parshad. And even if the Chief Officer came to the conclusion that she should be dismissed, she would have the right of appeal to the Commissioner and he might reinstate her. By adopting the course which he did, the Minister undoubtedly thought that he had successfully prevented Mrs. Durga Parshad from having any remedy at all.

I need hardly repeat, what every honourable member must have realised, that Mrs. Durga Parshad was doomed before she ever entered on her defence, but I must draw attention to the closeness with which the Minister followed the proceedings. He could not wait until the enquiry was finished. He had to obtain the file and satisfy himself that it was in progress. He, the Judge, had to keep so closely in touch with the prosecution as to obtain a copy of their written arguments. He did not apparently consider it necessary to study the defence arguments, nor was it necessary for his purpose that he should do so. I would invite the attention of honourable members to the "care" with which he considered the long record of evidence and the detailed report of the Inquiring Officer before pronouncing sentence against Mrs. Durga Parshad. He received the report and the record on January 22nd, on the same date he passed an order that he had carefully considered the evidence and reached a finding. He made no

[Premier]

further reference to the evidence or to the facts and thought that to record the dismissal and ruin of a woman who had never wronged him, it was enough to write a few lines. At that time apparently he did not have the face to say outright that she had been proved guilty of corruption, but shortly afterwards he did commit himself to this most unjustified opinion when he had to decide whether Mrs. Durga Parshad should receive the whole of her provident fund and allowed it to her as though it were an act of special grace on his part. He then stated that she had been proved guilty of corruption.

I think the House will now agree with me that the Minister cannot shield himself behind his subordinates even if it were not anyhow most improper that he should attempt to do so. It is abundantly clear that from the beginning the Minister was himself the motive force behind all the proceedings against Mrs. Durga Parshad and that he was careful to reserve in his hands from the first to the last the power of deciding the case. His orders express clearly his own opinions. They show that in defiance of all canons of justice he was prepared to accept as conclusive the *ex parte* investigations of the Special Inquiry Agency. They also show that when Mrs. Durga Parshad had been allowed a chance to defend herself and had cleared herself in the opinion of a competent, impartial and experienced officer, Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan was prepared lightly to brush aside all the volume of evidence and all the arguments advanced by the officer who had conducted the enquiry. He was ready to condemn Mrs. Durga Parshad in a brief order passed so soon after he had received the record that he could not have considered it with the care that he professed to have devoted to it, unless, indeed, he knew the prosecution case so well before it was put into court that he did not need to read the evidence. It is futile to argue as some have tried to do that Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan acted in good faith and that if he made a mistake it was because he was misled and ill-advised. There can be no doubt that his order was wrong, but he passed it deliberately and with his eyes open.

I have now commented on the conduct and action of Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan. I leave it to the House to determine whether the extraordinary procedure, suspending the employee who was to enquire into the conduct of another employee without giving any information to the Head of the Department or to the employee concerned of the nature of the charges against her, prejudging her case without hearing her defence and accepting the most frivolous evidence as true (as I trust will be shown when the details of the case against Mrs. Durga Parshad are put before the House)—whether all these unwarranted and groundless proceedings could proceed otherwise than from improper motives and whether Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan was fit to remain a Minister after having so acted.

I have already stated that when considering the dismissal of Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan there were certain other matters which I could not exclude from my mind. They referred to his alleged purchase of land valued at many thousands of rupees. It was stated that the funds for the purchases had been obtained in the most improper manner. I knew very well that Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan was not a wealthy man. His expenses on his election had been heavy and I knew from him that he was in financial difficulties. I feared that my ministry might be involved in an ugly scandal and I could not keep out of my mind my knowledge of these allegations when considering Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan's dismissal, although I must make it clear that I considered then and still consider that his attempt to dismiss and to ruin the innocent Mrs. Durga Parshad merited nothing short of dismissal. These facts I propose, as far as possible, to place before the House, so that honourable member's may judge whether my fears were not correct and form their own opinion of the fitness of Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan to occupy the post of Minister.

Very briefly, the allegations which I am now going to lay before the House are that Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan used his position as Minister in charge of the Improvement Trust, Lahore, to induce the villagers of Devisabad to sell various plots of land to

him by causing them to believe that the land was about to be acquired for the Improvement Trust at very low prices. He was unable to pay for these land purchases without assistance and he obtained money from two prominent Lahore businessmen who are brothers. They provided him, in all, with funds to the extent of more than one lakh of rupees and in return for this he misused his position as Minister in charge of Transport to try to obtain for them a large share in the operation of Lahore's local bus services.

To take the land transfers first. In November 1943 the Minister requested the Chairman of the Lahore Improvement Trust to choose a plot of land for him, preferably near the civil station and close to the canal bank, which he wanted to buy for a family residence. The proceedings thus begun ended in three purchases of land in village Devisabad, locally known as Jiwanana, lying between Garden Town and Model Town on the Ferozepore Road. The dates and other particulars of these purchases are as follows :—

(i) Purchase of 107 kanals at Rs. 550 per kanal from Feroze Din and others, sons of Ali Bakhsh, on 28th December 1943. The sale deed was registered on 4th January 1944 and the purchase price, amounting to Rs. 58,850 was paid on 8th January 1944.

(ii) Purchase of 9 kanals 12 marlas from Khuda Bakhsh and three others, sons of Budha, on 10th January 1944 at Rs. 565 per kanal. The sale deed was registered on 10th January 1944 and the purchase price, amounting to Rs. 5,438 was paid on the same day.

(iii) Purchase of 20 kanals 7 marlas of land from Mian Din Mohammad, Zaildar of Ichhra, at Rs. 800 per kanal. The sale deed was written on 4th March 1944 and was registered on 16th March 1944 on which date the sale price, Rs. 16,280 was paid.

Two officials appear to have played the principal parts in this lucrative drama. The first, whom I will call "Z", was a Naib-Tahsildar employed by the Improvement Trust on the revenue side. The second, whom I will call "H", was the patwari of the halqa in which the village of Davisabad is situated. Perhaps they were encouraged by the fact that the Chairman of the Trust had been with the Minister when he inspected the site and had helped him to select it. Indeed, there is reason to believe that Z was present when the site was selected. On or about 24th November 1943, Z appeared in village Davisabad accompanied by some of the staff of the Trust carrying flags and surveying instruments. They made a show of surveying the land. It is absolutely certain that no orders had been given by the Trust for any such survey. If orders had been given, it was not for Z to perform this survey; the survey would have been performed by the surveying staff to which Z did not belong. His object was to arouse interest and fear in the minds of the owners of land in Davisabad and to induce them to make enquiries. He thought, correctly, that they were bound to do so as soon as it appeared to them that their land was being surveyed with a view to acquisition by the Trust. His success was immediate. The villagers collected and all of them were told by Z and by H that the Trust was going to acquire their lands and all that they were going to get would be about Rs. 1 or 2 per kanal for kallar land and Rs. 150 per kanal for cultivated land. All the villagers whose lands lay at no great distance from the Ferozepore Road and between the well-developed abadis of Model Town and Garden Town were intensely alarmed on hearing these figures. They had expected to get a very high price for their land even if it was banjar or *toa tibba*. As is usual, their first reaction was to seek information and advice from the nearest officials. These were Z and H. Z and H both advised that as the Trust would act quickly the villagers could only hope to realise something approaching the price they had expected to get, if they would at once sell to some prominent person. The villagers asked for help in securing such a purchaser and both Z and H suggested the name of

[Premier]

Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan. Picture to yourself the position of these poor villagers. They had kept these lands, which were admittedly unproductive, in the hope of selling them at high prices for building purposes. Their hopes were now in one instant dashed to the ground—who would not in these circumstances clutch at such an expedient as was offered?

First, Feroze Din and his brothers, the sons of Ali Bakhsh consented to sell. Feroze Din went to the Minister's house accompanied by the patwari and there the patwari carried the negotiations through without the vendors and vendee exchanging a single word directly. After some bargaining a price of Rs. 550 per kanal was arranged and a deed was soon written.

The next four victims were Khuda Bakhsh and his brothers who owned land adjoining the land that was bought from Feroze Din and his brothers. The area of land to be bought from them was very much smaller and in their case a visit to the Minister's house was not considered necessary. Obviously, the patwari's strength had been shown when he took the first set of vendors to the house of so important a person as the Minister and carried through a transaction to which they were reluctant parties. Other small zamindars could not hope to stand out, so the patwari took Khuda Bakhsh and his brothers straight to a deed writer and got a deed written, executed and registered without the sellers and the purchaser ever coming into direct contact.

The part played by these officials was already very considerable, but they were so sure of themselves and the Minister was so sure of himself, that they went even further. The person who represented the Minister before the Sub-Registrar on the occasion of the first sale was the Naib-Tahsildar Z and it was he who handed over to the vendors the cheque for Rs. 58,850. Nor did his functions end here. He took the vendors to the bank and there he identified them before the officers of the bank when the cheque was cashed.

In the third transaction, the vendor was a zaildar, as honourable members will have noticed. A patwari could not hope to impose upon him and even the Naib-Tahsildar was not likely to carry much weight. His land was acquired to round off the Minister's purchases. We do not know the details of the negotiations but presumably the Minister negotiated with him direct and he obtained a price of Rs. 800 per kanal for his land which was considerably more than had been obtained by the poorer Muslim zamindars.

It is quite clear that the Minister used his position as Minister in charge of the portfolio in which the administration of the Improvement Trust was included, to buy land which might be acquired by the Trust, and he made his purchases through an officer of the Trust and a patwari who were naturally under his influence. Naturally these officials expected some reward for their services. We do not know what reward Z got for his services, but about H we have some information. On his behalf, a letter of recommendation was written to the Revenue Assistant, Lahore, by the Minister's Personal Assistant suggesting his promotion. Thus everyone benefited from the transactions except, apparently, the poor Muslim zamindars whose interests Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan professes to have so much at heart.

Flagrant misuse of official power in the acquisition of land is obvious, but I shall not comment further on this at present, as I wish to lay before the House a complete picture of the transactions and their finance before I comment at length.

The House will have observed that the Minister had purchased land for more than Rs. 80,000. The question naturally arises—where and how did he procure the money for these extensive transactions? It was this aspect of the case which did much to rouse my misgivings because, as I have said, I knew that Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan was in financial difficulties. Further enquiries have shown how justified

were my fears. I shall show the House that the Minister obtained all the money he required to purchase this land, and other money besides, from two Hindu brothers who are prominent businessmen in Lahore and to whom I shall refer as "the Q brothers."

It is possible, Sir, that some members of this House may question my assertion that Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan's financial position was such that he could not have bought this land without assistance. I have referred to my personal knowledge that this was so, but I am fortunately able to provide corroborative evidence. On December 6th, 1943, the Minister wished to borrow Rs. 20,000 from a bank in Lahore in order to purchase shares in a company recently floated in Calcutta called Punjab Minerals. He was introduced to the Manager of the bank by his friend Mr. BQ, the younger of the Q brothers, but the Manager of the bank made it clear that he was not prepared to lend money to Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan on no better security than his signature. The Minister had no acceptable security to offer, and it appeared that he was not going to get the loan which he desired, when Mr. BQ conveniently offered to sign a pro note jointly with the Minister. Now Mr. BQ and his brother have a very flourishing printing business in Lahore and his signature was excellent security. Without hesitation the bank lent the money. I think this incident will show what was the view of Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan's financial position that was taken by a bank or business institution. I would also ask the House to bear this transaction in mind as it marks the commencement of Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan's dealings with the brothers from whom he eventually obtained more than one lakh of rupees.

Now, Sir, I propose to lay before the House, without comment, certain facts which I think will show beyond all reasonable doubt that Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan's land purchases were financed by the Q brothers.

Firstly—As I have said, Feroze Din and his brothers sold their land in Devisabad to the Minister on 28th December 1943 for Rs. 58,850. On that very day Mr. AQ, the elder of the brothers, issued a cheque for Rs. 60,000 in favour of the Manager of the bank in Lahore where the Minister had his account. At the same time AQ wrote to the Manager directing him to credit this amount to Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan's account which was not sufficiently in credit to meet so large a charge as Rs. 58,850 since the amount at his credit was only Rs. 1,812-13-5.

Secondly—The purchase from Khuda Bakhsh and his brothers for Rs. 5,438 was completed on 10th January 1944. On that date the sum at the Minister's credit in his bank account was nil—in fact, he had overdrawn his account to the extent of Rs. 2,359-0-7. His cheque for a larger amount would not ordinarily have been honoured but nevertheless he issued a cheque for Rs. 5,400 for the payment of the vendors. On 11th January 1944, the very next day, Mr. BQ issued a cheque in favour of the bank which had the honour of holding the Minister's account. The amount of this cheque was Rs. 5,800 and once more the Manager was instructed to credit this sum to the account of the Minister.

Finally, the third purchase, that for Rs. 16,280 from Mian Din Mohammad, was effected on 4th March 1944, but the purchase price was not paid till 16th March 1944. On that date the balance at the Minister's credit was Rs. 10,797-8-5. On 16th March 1944, however, Mr. BQ issued a cheque for Rs. 16,300 in favour of the Minister and on the same date this sum was credited to the Minister's account. He was, therefore, able to draw a cheque for Rs. 16,280 in favour of himself and with the proceeds to pay for the land he had bought from Mian Din Mohammad.

I have given these facts without any comment. I think that every reasonable man will agree that the coincidence of dates and amounts is such that only one inference can be drawn from them, namely, that the Minister's purchases were financed by the Q brothers.

[Premier]

There is one interesting aspect of these financial transactions to which I will invite the attention of the House. That is the progressive change of the form in which the Minister obtained money from the Q brothers. They were perhaps great friends of his but on 6th December 1943 they were not inclined to lend him money directly. They were only willing to carry their friendship so far as to act as sureties in relation to a third party creditor. On 28th December 1943 and 11th January 1944 their relationship with the Minister seems to be closer but confidence was not yet complete. We know that the reason why they adopted the peculiar method of making out cheques in favour of the Manager of X bank, with which the Minister banked, and then instructing him to credit the amount of these cheques to the Minister's account, was that they wished to create collateral evidence of the advance of these loans to the Minister. By 16th March 1944, however, relations between the brothers and the Minister had progressed to a stage where they did not consider any collateral evidence was necessary. They advanced the sum of Rs. 16,900 direct to the Minister.

No doubt, honourable members are already asking themselves why these shrewd businessmen should lend Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan about Rs. 82,000 and should stand surety for him for a further sum of Rs. 20,000. Obviously his financial position was not secure. It does not appear that he gave any security to the Q brothers. What then was the explanation of their readiness to accept liabilities amounting to over one lakh of rupees? From the information available it appears that the Q brothers regarded this sum as an investment. It was intended to secure the Minister's goodwill and to ensure that he would use his position to obtain for them an adequate return for their money. Indeed, it would appear that the Q brothers regarded this as a most profitable investment. Fortunately, I can give the House some details which show what return the Q brothers expected to get.

About the end of 1943 Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan began to take a very lively interest in the transport arrangements of Lahore, a subject in which he had previously not shown any great interest. At that time, the Lahore local passenger services were operated by the Nanda Bus Company and the Green Bus Company. Honourable members will appreciate that with a large and rapidly growing population scattered over a considerable area, transport in Lahore, if conducted on proper lines, can be a source of very great profit. The consideration which the Minister offered to the Q brothers in return for their financial assistance, and which he did his best to obtain for them was a controlling share in the managing agency of a company which they were to float and to which would be entrusted the sole operation of the passenger transport services of Lahore. This was, indeed, a splendid return for the investment of so small a sum as one lakh of rupees.

Some time in January 1944, Mr. Nanda went to see Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan about matters connected with motor transport. When he entered the Minister's office, he found Mr. BQ present. He was not permitted to say anything about the subjects he had come to discuss, but it was immediately put to him that he must join with the Q brothers in the formation of a Lahore local bus company. He protested that he was already negotiating with the Green Bus Company for an amalgamation. He was informed at once that the Green Bus Co. must sell out to the new company or it would have its permits cancelled. Faced with this threat, Mr. Nanda conducted some tentative negotiations with the Q brothers, but they fell through, and, shortly after, with the approval of the Regional Transport Authority of Lahore, the Nanda Bus Co. and the Green Bus Co. decided to amalgamate and did so. I should explain here that under the Motor Vehicles Act the Regional Transport Authority of Lahore, with the Commissioner as Chairman, was responsible for the supervision of Lahore's passenger transport.

The amalgamation of the Nanda Bus Co. and the Green Bus Co. did not suit the Minister or the Q brothers. The Minister continued his activities on behalf of the Q brothers, and on February 25th a meeting was held at which Mr. BQ and six other private persons were present with Mr. Nanda and the members of the Transport Authority. It was suggested by the Chairman of the Authority, who had had discussions with the Minister, that a company should be formed in which all communities should have a share and in which the Lahore Improvement Trust, the Model Town Society and the Lahore Corporation would also take shares. The Q brothers, who were complete new-comers to the motor trade, were to have part of the shares allotted to the Hindu community. Much to everyone's surprise, this proposal had no sooner been placed before the meeting, than Mr. BQ rose from his seat and informed his prospective partners that he had already drawn up a Memorandum and Articles of Association for the proposed company. Naturally, there was considerable protest, but this incident revealed that the moving spirit behind these proposals was Mr. BQ and his patron.

Later, it was discovered that the proceedings of this meeting were *ultra vires*, for the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939, does not sanction such objectionable forms of company promotion. The Regional Transport Authority then proceeded to invite applications for the grant of permits for the operation of Lahore's local passenger services. These applications were to be put in by March 19th. Meanwhile, negotiations continued feverishly. All the interested parties attended a meeting on March 4th at which the attitude of the Q brothers was so dictatorial that Mr. Nanda left the meeting as a protest. Obviously, the negotiations were not proceeding satisfactorily and so the Minister again took a direct hand. On March 12th, 1944, Mr. Nanda was called to the Minister's house in the morning and was informed that he must join with the Q brothers failing which his permits would be cancelled. He was also told that if he would oblige the Minister in this matter, the Minister would see that he got a *quid pro quo* in the form of permits for other services. When Mr. Nanda protested that he was quite prepared to form such a responsible company as was desirable, but saw no reason why the Q brothers should be given a prominent part in it, he was informed by the Minister that he was committed to the Q brothers and that room must be made for them. Mr. AQ was sent for by the Minister and negotiations continued throughout the day. In the evening, at the Minister's house, under pressure of the Minister's threats, Mr. Nanda came to an agreement by which the Nanda Bus Co. and the Green Bus Co. were to obtain a 40 per cent share in the managing agency of the proposed transport company, leaving the remaining 60 per cent for the Q brothers and their friends. It was via this Managing Agency that the lion's share of the profits in the Transport Company were to go to the Q brothers. Two days later he signed an application for the grant of permits to this new company. But for various reasons this tentative agreement fell through and Mr. Nanda also signed an application at the same time for permits in the name of the Lahore Local Bus Co., which had been formed by him and the Green Bus Co.

The Transport Authority considered the applications for permits on April 19th and rejected all except those of the Lahore Local Bus Co., the Lahore Passenger Transport, Limited (which was the company formed by the Q brothers) and a third party. These three parties were instructed to come to an agreement between themselves and to form a consolidated company. A final decision was to be reached on April 21st.

Matters were now reaching a crisis and it was time for the Minister to intervene again. On April 21st he called Mr. Nanda to his office in the Secretariat and upbraided him for backing out of the tentative agreement reached on March 12th. He insisted that some agreement should be reached, and, because he insisted, Mr. Nanda fetched Lala Mulkh Raj Aggarwal of the Green Bus Co. while the Minister sent for the Q brothers. There was present also Raja Mohammad Afzal, the Officer on Special Duty

[Premier]

in the Transport Department. By threats and promises Mr. Nanda and Lala Mulh Raj Aggarwal were compelled to come to an arrangement with the Q brothers. It was finally decided that the Nanda-Green Bus combination should have a 49 per cent share in the managing agency of the proposed company, the Q brothers 45 per cent and an independent third party 6 per cent. The Minister lost no time in ringing up the Chairman of the Regional Transport Authority and telling him that Raja Mohammad Afzal would inform him of the decisions reached. The Minister also announced that the permits at that time held by Nandas and the Green Bus would be cancelled without payment of compensation but was finally made to see that this could not be done and thereupon arranged a settlement unwelcome to the permit holders. Later in the day, a meeting of the Regional Transport Authority was held at which the agreement reached was substantially adhered to but instead of the independent third party, a 10 per cent share was allotted to another company, while the Nanda-Green Bus combination got 47 per cent and the Q brothers and their friends 43 per cent. This decision was recorded in the minutes of the Transport Authority but was never given effect to, as the Minister was dismissed a few days later. His dismissal saved the Punjab from a grave scandal.

I am sure the House will agree with me that the events which I have narrated must cause amazement and disgust. Thanks to the intervention of the Minister, the Q brothers who were new-comers to the passenger transport business, had finally secured a promise of a 43 per cent interest in the managing agency of a company to operate in the largest town of the province where profits were expected to be very large. The negotiations give a clear picture of the activities of the Minister without which this favourable result could not have been obtained. Had the Minister intervened on behalf of persons to whom he was under no obligation, he might have been able to plead good faith. But the House will have observed that the period during which the Minister was so active in the organisation of Lahore's local transport, coincides with the period during which he incurred obligations to the Q brothers which amounted to over a lakh of rupees. Members will perhaps have noticed that the sudden outburst of renewed activity of the Minister early in March coincides with the period during which he entered into his last land transaction. It is a peculiar feature of this transaction that though the sale deed was executed on March 4th, payment was not made for the land purchased from the zaildar of Ichhra until March 16th. Now on March 4th there had been an unsuccessful meeting between Nandas, the Green Bus Co. and the Q brothers. A deadlock had been reached which continued until it was resolved by the Minister's personal action on March 12th. On March 14th Mr. Nanda signed an application for permits on behalf of the Q brothers company. On March 16th the Minister obtained from the Q brothers money which enabled him to pay for the land that he had purchased. It seems to me that there is some connection between the delay in payment for this last piece of land and the Minister's renewed activity in the matter of the negotiations for the formation of a Lahore local transport company. Perhaps the apparently successful result of these negotiations on March 12th was not without effect in inducing the Q brothers to advance a further sum of Rs. 16,300 to the Minister on March 16th. And this time the cheque was issued in the Minister's name. Apparently the Q brothers were satisfied that the Minister had made an adequate return for their help and no longer wished to create collateral evidence of loans advanced to him.

I do not think it is really necessary for me to comment at any length on the impropriety of the Minister's conduct. The gross abuse by Sardar Shankat Hyat Khan of his position as a Minister is obvious at every stage of the proceedings. It begins when a Naib-Tahsildar goes to Devisabad to make a farzi survey and so induce the villagers to sell their land to him. It continues when the Naib-Tahsildar and the patwari act as brokers between the Minister and the villagers. In regard to the

land purchases, it reaches its climax when the Naib-Tahsildar appears as the Minister's agent in the first and largest purchase. There can be no doubt that it was grossly improper so to use Government servants and I must confess that I am amazed at the bare-faced way in which use was made of them and practically of the whole machinery of the Improvement Trust.

But improper as the Minister's conduct was in the actual purchase of land, it pales into insignificance before his proceedings in regard to the organisation of Lahore local transport. I do not say that it was improper of Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan to obtain money from the Q brothers. I do, however, emphatically declare that his conduct in using his position to help these printers and publishers to intrude into the motor transport business where they previously had no footing was so outrageously improper as to defy all description. Once more I can only express my amazement that any self-respecting man who made any pretence to honesty should have so conducted himself.

Throughout this statement I have concentrated on one aspect of Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan's conduct—his misuse of his official position as a Minister in order to acquire land and to reward his creditors. It must have been obvious to honourable members that the events which I have narrated in regard to the land purchases and their finance could perhaps be regarded in another light and might come before a court. Before I conclude, I must inform them that in fact soon after Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan's dismissal, some of the vendors of the Devisabad land made a report to the police in which they alleged that they had been cheated into selling their land at a price far below its market value. Their allegations are still under investigation. I have been careful to express no opinion on the merits of these allegations and to say nothing which might prejudice the course of justice, but it seemed to be impossible in the public interest to keep back any longer the explanation of Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan's dismissal. If anything I have stated tends to reflect on the conduct of Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan as a Minister and may possibly tend to prejudice any case or cases which may be brought against him subsequently, the responsibility lies on those of his supporters who, by wild assertions and groundless accusations, have forced me to enter into this explanation of why my colleagues and I concurred in his dismissal by His Excellency.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan (Pind Dadan Khan, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*): Sir, whenever the question of dismissal of Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan from the Punjab Ministry is raised in this House it invariably reminds me of the tragedy of the Pearl Harbour. At a time when negotiations were proceeding between the American and the Japanese Governments. The Japanese without any declaration of war and without any previous warning attacked and bombarded the Pearl Harbour and destroyed the American fleet stationed there. Similarly the Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat Khan following the example set by the treacherous Japanese misled the Governor and succeeded in getting Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan dismissed at a critical time when negotiations were being held between the Qaid-i-Azam and the Malik in regard to the position of the Muslim League Party in the Assembly. I am glad that to-day the Honourable Malik Khizar Hyat Khan has taken courage in both of his hands to make an absurd and foolish statement on the subject which, I am sure, if he had made as a judge in regard to any case, would have ensured his dismissal. We have been asking for the last eight months that a day be allotted to discuss the matter which has created a veritable storm in the province. But till now the Honourable Premier had been hesitating to accommodate us. During the last session this demand was made more than once from these benches but the Premier had not the guts to allot a day for the discussion of the dismissal of Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan from the Punjab Ministry. So far as I remember, the Leader of the Congress Party made it clear in his letter to the Honourable Premier that the issue was so very important that it could not be dealt

[Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan]

with satisfactorily at the time of the general discussion of the Budget, and therefore he requested the Premier to allot a separate day for it. But I regret that instead of allotting a separate day for it the Premier has thought fit to raise discussion on it during the debate on the General Administration, by reading a lengthy statement probably written by one of his secretaries and we are being asked to discuss this important matter at so short a notice. We could never expect of him anything better than this. The reason why he hesitated to face this issue boldly on the floor of the House was that he had absolutely no justification to offer for the unfair, unjustified, bare-faced and unconstitutional act of the Governor. He knew it perfectly well that if he brought that matter before the members, the elected representatives of the people, they would, if they have some honesty left in them, if they have some respect for the constitution; if they have some love for democracy, throw this Cabinet out which manipulated to get one of their colleagues dismissed in such an arbitrary way. We have listened to the statement of the Premier with patience although every one of us felt like challenging every word of it. But we kept quiet out of sheer respect for the dignity of the House so that our friends opposite may not think that we are unnecessarily getting impatient. Now if the Government cannot keep their members under check the responsibility for that lies on them. This is a serious matter. This is not a matter to be laughed at as some of the over-zealous supporters of the Government are doing. I can assure them that there are many amongst them who are shedding tears of blood over it. (*Honourable members* : No, no). I am not talking of the Hindu and Sikh members. I am referring to the Muslim members only. Before proceeding to discuss this most important constitutional issue my friends at least should have the courage to ask the Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat Khan under what circumstances Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan was dismissed from the Ministry. But they have failed in that respect. We all know that before Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan entered this Assembly he was serving in the army. It was after the death of his illustrious father, the late Sir Sikandar Hyat-Khan, that he was brought here. The Governor entered his name in the list of voters under his special powers. Before Shaukat was appointed a Minister the Premier consulted all the members of the party. Here I may tell my friends that of all the Ministers the appointment of Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan was made according to the true spirit of the Government of India Act, whereas the appointment of Malik Khizar Hayat Khan as Premier was unconstitutional and a flagrant violation of the Government of India Act. The late Sir Sikandar Hyat Khan was the leader of the Unionist Party and after his death instead of the Party electing its leader whom the Governor should have called upon to form a Ministry the Governor appointed Khizar Hayat as the Premier whose position was no better than that of any other member of the Unionist Party. (*Chaudhri Ahmad Yar Khan* : It is a wrong statement). Is this statement incorrect? Let him keep these ideas of fidelity to himself. Truth is always bitter. Why be restive? Be patient. He shall have to listen to these bitter truths for full two days. Anyway the Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat Khan was appointed Premier under circumstances which the framers of Government of India Act never conceived and which any constitutional Governor, any democratic Governor would never dare to create. Somehow or other His Excellency Sir Bertrand Glancy took it into his head that the Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat Khan enjoyed the confidence of the Party. (*Captain Naurihal Singh Mann* : Subsequent events have proved that.) There are such members who even do not know that in this case the Governor has acted unconstitutionally. They want to tell me that the Governor like a Prophet read the minds of all the members of the Unionist Party while sitting in the Government House and hence he appointed the Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat Khan as the Premier. (*An Honourable member* : Before he was appointed as Premier a meeting of the Unionist Party was held in which all the members pledged unstinted support to Malik Khizar Hayat Khan.) No. The fact is that the Governor knew that in this unfortunate province whoever is

appointed as Premier regardless of the fact to which community or to which party he belongs, members would be only too glad to support his action. Anyhow the Governor acting under his special powers appointed the Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat Khan as the Premier of the province. When the appointment of Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan as Minister was under contemplation the Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat Khan sent for all the members of the Party in batches of twos and threes and fours in his bungalow and asked them turn by turn, separately as to who should be appointed as Minister. At the time almost all the members said with one voice that it would give them the greatest pleasure if Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan was appointed as Minister. Sir, is it not amazing that when the appointment of Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan was under consideration every member was individually asked to express his opinion in regard to that matter but when the question of his dismissal came up the Governor sent for his subservient and servile Ministers and in a brief meeting lasting five minutes dismissed him from Ministership. Nobody cared to consult the members, the representatives of the people, at whose request Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan was appointed Minister. At least they should have been consulted whether he still enjoyed their confidence or had lost it. These were the circumstances under which he was dismissed. In this connection I will have to refer briefly how the Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat Khan has, by his treacherous behaviour, lost the confidence of the Muslims. At the time of his election Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan applied for the ticket of the Muslim League. His application came before the Parliamentary Board of the Muslim League and the said Board gave him the Muslim League ticket. It was on that ticket that he was returned from his constituency as a member of this House. Now Sardar Shaukat

Hyat Khan was a young man who had recently returned from the battle ground where he had gone to fight for democracy and freedom. He had risked his very life for the sake of his country and was taken a prisoner by the enemy. Being a brave soldier and a young man of straightforward nature, he was no match for the cunning and crooked Premier who after having given a pledge of loyalty to Mr. Jinnah, had started intrigues and machinations against the Muslim League. But the brave and honest young man had no hesitation in following the dictates of his own conscience and the wishes of the Muslim League who had helped him in election. No wonder, therefore, that he began making speeches in support of the Muslim League. He was the only Minister who was loyal and steadfast to the Qaid-i-Azam. He openly expressed his loyalty to the Muslim League in various public meetings. In this connection his speech at Karnal especially disturbed the Premier who expressed only lip-sympathy with the League and had no real regard for its welfare. The Premier was startled and taken aback. The speeches at Karnal almost took the very breath out of the honourable Malik Sahib. The foundation of the Unionist Ministry was shaken and the Premier felt very disturbed and uneasy. An urgent telegram was sent to Sardar Shaukat Hyat requiring his presence at Simla and the immediate cancellation of his tour programme. The Premier as well as the late Minister of Revenue all rushed to Simla. Through the instrumentality of the Governor, Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan was rebuked and intimidated and asked not to repeat his loyalty to the League. This was done at the instigation of the Premier who only a short time prior to this had assured Mr. Jinnah at Delhi that he would reorganise the Muslim League party in the Punjab. Under the threat of party discipline, Shaukat had to adjust himself to the circumstances. But he made bold to say that he would remain loyal to the Muslim League and would be prepared on that issue to resign from the Cabinet. His friends prevailed upon him not to resign just then and the crisis was averted. The Premier knew how the matters stood. It was on this account that the trouble started. The promises given to the Qaid-i-Azam were not kept by the Premier and therefore, when Mr. Jinnah came to Lahore, he wanted the issues to be clarified. He asked for unalloyed loyalty to the League. The Premier was asked to redeem his pledge given at Delhi to Mr. Jinnah at the meeting of the Council of the all-India Muslim League. Mr. Jinnah asked him to properly reorganise the Muslim League in the Punjab and open

[Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan]

branches in all parts of the province. But the Premier wanted to confuse and postpone the issue. Several meetings took place between the Qaid-i-Azam and the Premier and it was made clear to the latter that the All-India Muslim League stood for the rights of the ten crores of Muslims and that the Punjab Premier would not be allowed to hoodwink the whole nation. The sole representative body of the entire Muslim India asked the Punjab Premier to come into line with the rest of the Muslims of India by loyally following the directions of the only representative organisation of the Muslim nation. But Malik Sahib wanted to evade the issue. The protracted meetings went on for about 12 days and every day the sitting lasted for two or three hours. During this period Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan had made it perfectly clear to the Premier that if the latter did not remain with the Muslim League on the terms of the Qaid-i-Azam, the former would resign from Ministership. Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan was not prepared to betray the Muslim nation for the sake of Ministership unlike the Honourable Malik Sahib who was bent on sticking to his Premiership at any cost. It is my firm belief that Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan had written his resignation in the Premier's room and at the Premier's desk. I am prepared to say even this that the words of the resignation were copied from the resignation of the Honourable Minister of Finance which was also lying on that very desk. Why was this token resignation of the Finance Minister obtained? It had been obtained by the Premier to tell Mr. Jinnah that if he joined the Muslim League, the Premier's non-Muslim colleagues would leave his Cabinet, and the result would be that section 93 of the Government of India Act would be enforced. It is clear from this that whereas the non-Muslim Ministers were prepared to stand for their own communities, the Muslim Ministers stuck only to their own selfish interests at the cost of ten crore Muslims of India. The Premier cunningly obtained the resignations of non-Muslim Ministers to overawe the Qaid-i-Azam that Governor's rule under section 93 would be promulgated. I may point out that Qaid-i-Azam knew that the present regime was worse than Governor's rule under section 93 of the Government of India Act. I, too, on behalf of my party declare on the floor of this House that we prefer the Punjab being governed under section 93 to the continuance of this farcical, retrograde, and reactionary Unionist Government. Now the sole object of the Qaid-i-Azam in demanding of the Honourable Premier to remain loyal to the Muslim League policy, was that he wanted to strengthen the organisation which had to conform to League's broad-based policy which had been formulated for the political emancipation of the Muslims. But the sincere efforts of the Qaid-i-Azam proved of no avail. The Honourable Premier played into the hands of the so-called Unionist friends and marked time by unnecessarily prolonging negotiations with Mr. Jinnah. However, Qaid-i-Azam made it clear to him that he, being a man of principle, could not change the policy of the League simply to keep my honourable friend installed in the Premier's *gadi*. He again and again told the Premier bluntly that he could ill-afford to throw overboard his cherished principles or sacrifice the interests of 10 crores of Muslims for his sake. Perhaps the Honourable Premier remembers that Sardar Shaukat Hyat also gave him to understand the opposition. Sardar Shaukat Hyat, who has been made the scapegoat of the machinations of my honourable friends, told him in unmistakable terms that if he decided to break with Mr. Jinnah, he would find him out of the Cabinet and he actually wrote out the resignation and handed it over to him (Hear, hear). The Honourable Premier finding himself in a predicament made last minute efforts to placate the Qaid-i-Azam. All endeavours to bring about an amicable settlement between the parties failed. It is a thousand pities that the deep rooted prejudices and personal ambitions among some Muslims who had usurped power in the Punjab, the nucleus of Pakistan, stood in the way and the negotiations ended in smoke. However, I make bold to say that but for these differences in the ranks of Muslims, there would have been a League Ministry in this province. As to the alleged threats of non-Muslim Ministers tendering their resignations in the event of the Honourable Premier's acceptance of the creed of the League, I think it was a big hoax.

In fact the Premier had no guts and he fell into the traps of the so-called Unionists. I never attach any importance to these threats. (*Laughter*). I know their real worth. Such threats of resignation were held out on certain previous occasions also. What I want to drive at is that if the negotiations fell through, it was purely due to the schism created by the intrigues of traitors in the Muslim ranks.

Then, Sir, accusations are hurled at us that we are guilty of deserting the same Unionist party which was led by no less a person than the late Sir Sikander Hyat-Khan. We don't deny that we had the privilege of being the trusted lieutenants of the late Sir Sikander but what they fail to remember is that our late lamented Chief wholeheartedly subscribed to the creed of the Muslim League, which they have disowned now. He was a true Mussalman and a Muslim Leaguer to the core. He had to face many trials and tribulations. But he remained steadfast. He was never found wanting in his staunch faith that the Muslim League was the sole representative organisation of the Muslims of India. It is of eternal credit and glory to him that he never went against the mandate of the League. But the pity of it is that his successor falls miserably short of his magnificent stature. The present Premier lacks the courage to face the issues boldly. The memory of that momentous event, when the late Sir Sikander resigned his membership of the Defence Council, will ever remain fresh in the minds of the Muslim nation. May I just relate how Sir Sikander rose to the duty of obeying the behest of the Muslim League? As you are aware, Mr. Speaker, Sir Sikander adhered sedulously to the policy of unconditional support to the British Government in this titanic war from its very beginning. It is no exaggeration to say that war effort had become an obsession with him. He gave proof of his statesmanship at a time when the war had entered into an extremely dangerous phase. France had fallen. Britain was in a sad plight of being left alone to face the might of a formidable adversary and Germany had overrun the whole of Europe. In that dark hour, when my honourable friends, who are now talking glibly of their share in the war effort, trembled and shuddered in their shoes and hesitated to contribute liberally to the war fund or to supply recruits for the army, that gallant knight worked indefatigably for the intensification of the war effort. Now when the sun of victory is about to shine, my honourable friends have begun to indulge in tall talks of the little part which they have taken in the prosecution of war. And they claim to be considered to be in company of the proverbial five sawars. (*Laughter*). As a matter of fact I too am a staunch supporter of the war effort and the stupendous work done by my constituency in this connection amply bears out my statement. Well, Sir, I was going to relate the story about the appointment of the late Sir Sikander to the membership of the Defence Council and his subsequent resignation from it. His Excellency the Viceroy in consultation with the Secretary of State for India nominated him to be a member of the Defence Council. But the Working Committee of the Muslim League did not approve of his appointment as it was against its policy. Now the eyes of the whole world were rivetted on Sir Sikander as to how he would acquit himself in this difficult position. That is, whether he would obey the ukase of the Qaid-i-Azam and resign his membership of the Defence Council or would quit the League. My honourable friends now sitting opposite counselled him to sever his connection with the League and continue to be the member of the Defence Council. They assured him that they would set up Jat Sabhas and Zamindara Leagues to make his position as solid and secure as a rock. They also frightened him that his resignation from the Defence Council would be discountenanced by his non-Muslim Ministers and they might withdraw their support. But this counsel of despair did not appeal to that farsighted statesman (May God bless his soul) and he refused to act up to their advice. He was not afraid of anybody. He said that he had been returned to the Assembly under separate electorates and therefore he was above all accountable to the Muslims. He would not betray them and would refrain from besmearing the fair name of the Muslim League. He did not like to be dubbed as a traitor to his community by clinging

[Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan]

to the Defence Council. He said that he considered the wishes of that premier representative body of 10 crore Muslims above everything. (*Cheers*). What was the result? When he attended the Working Committee meeting of the Muslim League at Bombay, he was asked by the Qaid-i-Azam to explain his position *vis-a-vis* the policy of the League with regard to the Defence Council. I can bear personal testimony to his historical reply, as I was also present there. His reply would serve as a beacon light for all true Muslims who believe in the creed of the Muslim League. With a smiling face and without making any speech he uttered the words *سر تسلیم خم* جو مزاج *بار میں آئے* (*Loud cheers*). Qaid-i-Azam asked him to resign from the Defence Council and he did forthwith without any fear or demur. Ah! I am ashamed to hear my friends remark that Sir Sikander was not a Muslim Leaguer. I can say that it is nothing but a tissue of lies. He was a true Muslim Leaguer and was prepared even to lay down his life for its cause. He was never actuated by selfish motives like my honourable friends and it was inconceivable for him to barter away the honour of Muslim nation for a mess of pottage. (*Cheers*). No comparison can ever be made between the late Sir Sikander and the present Premier. He owes the position to his late Chief but how has he treated the son of that illustrious leader? He has stabbed him in the back. (*Cries of shame*). He made lame excuses whenever he went to see Mr. Jinnah. I wish better senses would prevail upon the Honourable Premier and his colleagues so that they may be able to give a cool consideration to the matter. I am constrained to remark that democracy is a great curse in their case as they utterly failed to conform to the principles of justice and equity. My honourable friends sitting on the Treasury Benches hold the view that the dismissal of my honourable friend Sardar Shaukat Hyat was manouvred with a view to maintaining party discipline. I can say without any hesitation that this argument holds no water. They talk of party discipline in order to shield their uncalled for actions. It is really unbecoming on their part to think of so-called party discipline over the unjust dismissal of Sardar Shaukat Hyat. After all, what was the motive underlying his dismissal? It is not clear to us from the statement which the Premier has made. I would request him to place a copy of his statement on the table of the House, so that it may be possible to criticise it and the eminent lawyer members may make a thorough examination.

Premier : Let me inform the honourable member that a copy of it will be made available to him.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : So far as the judgment pronounced in the case of Mrs. Durga Parshad, which is described as one of the causes of the removal of Sardar Shaukat Hyat from the Unionist Cabinet, is concerned, may I ask my honourable friends if there is a single case where the appellate authority has set aside the orders of a lower officer and dismissed him for having decided the case in the way which the appellate authority considered to be wrong? Should we expect that in future the sessions judges or the magistrates whose judgments are upset by the High Court would be dismissed? Should we understand that if a sessions judge orders execution of any person in a case and the accused is subsequently declared to be innocent by the High Court, he should also be executed for giving a wrong judgment? I will request the shining stars of the Unionist Party to give a cool consideration to what I am saying. May I ask my honourable friends whether they have not heard of thousands of cases where commissioners have reinstated persons who in their opinion were efficient but were dismissed by the deputy commissioners on the charge of inefficiency? Should we say that these deputy commissioners should also be dismissed? It is a thing which is really unheard of. The House will agree with me that during the twentieth century it is impossible to find such an example in the history of the whole world. May I ask the Unionist Government as to why this young man who has made such a great sacrifice for the sake of his community is being stabbed in the back for political ends? I wish to bring this point home to

my honourable friends sitting on the Treasury Benches who are working under the Government of India Act, 1935, that the decision of His Excellency the Governor in dismissing my honourable friend Shaukat Hyat is most unconstitutional. May I ask them to refer to any rule under which they would justify the dismissal of Shaukat Hyat? It will not be out of place to mention here that there is a provision in the Government of India Act that a Governor is empowered to dissolve a Cabinet if the leader of the party-in-power, or in other words the Premier ceases to enjoy his confidence. So far as the dismissal of an individual minister is concerned, it can be done through other constitutional and legal methods. I still fail to understand why His Excellency the Governor was misled to believe that under the constitution he could take such a step. I may assure the House that it is the ministers who pressed the Governor for reasons of their own and compelled him to issue orders for Shaukat Hyat's dismissal. I can say without hesitation that His Majesty's representative—the Governor has acted in a most unconstitutional manner. In fact His Excellency the Governor has thrown overboard the very constitution under which the Cabinet is functioning. I may, however, make one thing clear to the Unionist Government that except God Almighty we are not afraid of anybody, howsoever great he may be. If necessary, we shall lay all the facts before a court of law and seek a remedy for this wrong. May I know from the honourable members opposite under what section His Excellency the Governor dismissed Sardar Shaukat Hyat? So far as I am aware, under the Government of India Act a Governor can interfere in any of the three cases. I have not been able to find out any section under which a Governor can dismiss a minister. When provincial autonomy was about to be introduced, I was a member of the Council of State, and speaking on a resolution in connection with provincial autonomy I remarked that under provincial autonomy dictatorship of the Governor and not democracy would result in those provinces where the Governor was strong willed and the Premiers weak, without courage. I was saying that there are three ways and three ways only in which His Excellency the Governor could interfere. One is for safeguarding the rights of Crown services. Now so far as the services under the Corporation and municipalities are concerned, these are not considered as Crown services.

As regards the protection of the rights of minorities let us examine whether His Excellency the Governor could interfere in Mrs. Durga Parshad's case. If the interpretation of the Governor is correct I am afraid we are not being governed by the Government of India Act of 1935 but we are living in the distant past. Does this action conform to reason that a Minister should be dismissed by the Governor if in his opinion a person belonging to a minority community has been unjustly dealt with by the former? My contention is that interference by the Governor on this account is possible only if an order passed by the Minister results in a serious injury to the rights of a minority community as a whole. But if the Minister dismisses some person belonging to a minority community this does not adversely affect the rights of that community. Therefore I see no justification for the Governor to step in and not only redress the wrong but dismiss the Honourable Minister as well. If this were the correct interpretation of Governor's special powers then it would be almost impossible to run the administration and every Minister will have to think twice before touching any servant belonging to a minority community. Such interpretation will turn the Government of India Act, 1935, into a farce. Now let me ask the Honourable Premier why, if there was no provision in the Government of India Act by applying which Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan's services could be dispensed with, was His Excellency the Governor made an instrument to achieve this object? If the Honourable Premier Khizar Hayat thought that Sardar Shaukat Hyat had lost his confidence, he could have asked him in a straightforward manner, to resign from the Cabinet. I ask the Premier whether Shaukat Hyat was at any time called upon by him to resign from the Cabinet on the ground that the Leader of the Party had no confidence in him and whether Shaukat Hyat had refused to resign. If Shaukat Hyat had refused to

[Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan]

resign then according to the parliamentary convention and the rules of the constitution the only course open to Premier was to dissolve the Cabinet and form a new one excluding Shaukat Hyat. It is very painful to notice that such a simple and clear course was not adopted by the Premier because of his fear of a split in his party. Otherwise, as I stated before the constitution demanded that under the circumstances new Ministry should have been formed. But as the Governor and the Premier wanted to keep intact the bureaucratic structure of administration under the garb of a popular Ministry they never cared to satisfy the provisions of the constitution. The Honourable Premier misguided the Governor in throwing overboard the constitutional procedure and the Governor reduced provincial autonomy to a complete farce and acted quite contrary to the spirit of the Government of India Act of 1935. The real issue involved in this party strife had nothing to do with the war effort as some people have subsequently tried to show, but the question was as to whether Sardar Shaukat Hyat could remain in the Cabinet as well as in the Muslim League. I assert that it was to terrorise the Muslim Leaguers that when peace negotiations were still in progress Shaukat Hyat was unceremoniously dismissed. By the unconstitutional dismissal of Shaukat Hyat, it was apparent to every one in the province that the constitutional Government had ceased to function and its place had been taken by most reactionary regime.

I would now ask why questions relating to purchases of lands by Sardar Shaukat Hyat and the bus service transaction had been kept secret for so long a time. When a charge of a serious case of injustice was brought against him why was not a *communiqué* containing all the allegations against him issued by the Director of Information Bureau who is in the habit of issuing long *communiqués* even on small matters? That was the opportune time to publish a complete charge sheet. Not to speak of a detailed *communiqué*, even a line was not put in referring to the Minister's conduct. The truth is that the Honourable Premier was extremely perplexed and upset at that time as Qaid-i-Azam had insisted upon him to let him know his final decision. The time and date was fixed and the Honourable Premier was doing his best to get the matter indefinitely postponed. But the Qaid-i-Azam demanded that the final decision must be made before sunset. Being over perplexed, he rushed to the Governor and asked His Excellency the Governor to come to his rescue by dismissing Sardar Shaukat Hyat who had threatened to resign if negotiations between the Premier and Mr. Jinnah failed. A few days before his dismissal, Sardar Shaukat Hyat was told that he could be allowed to remain in the Unionist Party Cabinet provided he was prepared to break with the Muslim League. The moment he realised his position he tendered his resignation. But the Premier did not want to accept his resignation on the issue of Muslim League and above all he thought that if he was allowed to resign on League issue Shaukat would be considered a national hero and the people of the province would honour him. So he rushed to the Government House and after placing all the facts before the Governor requested him to dismiss Sardar Shaukat Hyat immediately. Since his dismissal on this ground would have hopelessly discredited the Government the Governor asked the Premier to provide him some better excuse for the dismissal. Hence this intrigue. Next day the Governor entered the Cabinet meeting with a file under his arm. The file pertained to the case of Mrs. Durga Parshad. You will be surprised to learn, Sir, that no agenda was issued for the Cabinet meeting on that day and the show was over in less than five minutes. The fate of the Minister was sealed. (An honourable member: He is irrelevant). I submit that the Governor pointed out to the Ministers that he thought that he should dismiss Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan on account of his giving a wrong decision in the case of Mrs. Durga Parshad. They all agreed with him without going into the merits of the case. The Cabinet did not consider the gravity of the action that they were taking in agreeing to the dismissal of a colleague of theirs for such a flimsy reason. On hearing some passages read by the Governor from Shaukat Hyat's orders dismissing Mrs. Durga Parshad they

came to the conclusion that grave injustice had taken place and the dismissal of the Minister was the only suitable punishment.

The Honourable Premier has laid great stress on the matter of the borrowing of money. I am pained to say, Sir, that the Premier cannot understand the extent to which a friend can go to a friend. He has forgotten that a friend in need is a friend indeed. Malik Sahib being devoid of this sense, cannot imagine the depth of relationship that can exist between two real friends. My friends from Hissar cannot feel it, because there is always famine there and therefore, they can hardly afford to lend money to a friend. In this very House we find people who will be prepared to offer their precious lives for the sake of a friend. If the Honourable Premier had pleaded this case in some court of law in the very manner in which he has done here, the court would have considered it an entirely bogus one. (Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam: And you would have been a judge there. And you would have appeared as a witness.) (Laughter). Sir, the honourable leader of the House has not mentioned any names, but has referred to them as Q. brothers, etc. I say where was the need of being so reticent and mysterious? Surely he could have been more frank and mentioned the names openly. He tries to establish a case of corruption and bribery against Shaukat Hyat. But can any one in the House believe that a person would accept bribe in the form of a crossed cheque? Nobody would commit such a folly. It is so very foolish on the part of the Government to have concocted such a story. You boast of Islam and declare yourself a true Muslim and indulge in such frauds. Come out with the truth. Do you think that in this fashion you can throw mud on a gentleman? Shaukat Hyat will soon rise in his seat and declare all these allegations baseless and false. He is a brave soldier and is not afraid of such baseless concoctions. If you have the courage, take the case to a court of law. Thank God that in this province we have got an independent judiciary and an independent High Court to protect us from the highhandedness of the executive. The Honourable Leader of the House has failed to give any documentary proof in the course of his very lengthy charge sheet. I ask the Honourable Premier what happened to the colourisation of vegetable ghee. If we were to take action on mere suspicion, then several members sitting over there will have to be dismissed. What about all that hue and cry which was raised in connection with the colourisation of vegetable ghee in the party meetings? Has all the fuss created by our honourable friends ended in smoke? They passed a measure for the colourisation of ghee and the manufacturers claimed that they could purchase persons concerned from A to Z. The big manufacturers had been moving in Lahore carrying bags full of money in their motor-cars. They went round in cars with bags of money paying visits to different quarters in Lahore and said in so many words that they could fore-tell that the Government would not dare to pass the Punjab Colourisation of Ghee Bill. (Interruption). Wait, please, I shall lay bare all the facts and this honourable House itself will judge which Minister soiled the reputation of this province and brought shame on it. I am glad that you began this story. Now you will have to listen to it to the end. Well, Sir, the Colourisation of Vegetable Ghee Bill was introduced. It was openly alleged in the party meeting that such and such gentleman had taken lakhs of rupees and had promised that the Bill would not be further proceeded with in the House. (Interruption). Let them remember, Sir, that we shall go to extreme limits in order to defend Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan against the unjust and baseless charges framed against him. As I was saying, open allegations were made in the party meeting. Sir Sikandar was greatly perturbed. He thought perhaps ghee was being applied to grease some one's palm. So he got that Bill passed within two days. The zamindar members gave an ultimatum to Sir Sikandar that it was a question of life and death to them and lakhs of rupees had been spent in order to prevent that Bill from becoming an Act. Let me ask that brave young man from Haryana, what has become of that bravery, independence of opinion and

[Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan]

independence of thought now? Coming to the story again, Sir Sikandar ordered and the Bill was passed within two days. It so happened that about the same time I met a man who was connected with this trade. I said, "have you seen how honest we are? We have passed that Bill". He said, "What a strange man you are! The Bill is passed but I assure you that it is not going to be acted upon". Well, Sir, after passing that Bill, the next stage was of choosing the colour. What a Government! Living in glass houses, they throw stones at others. After waiting for six long months a letter was received from a laboratory assistant, inviting us to see the colour in the party room. We all went there. Most of the gentlemen sitting on those benches were there. We all approved of that colour. Now the ghee was to be coloured, but how could those who had already got their palms greased allow it? In the time of the present Government bribery has been elevated to the height of an art. From chaprasis to the highest officers, except a few very honest and noble persons, all indulge in it. Well, the colour in question was a beautiful one and we all, as I have already said, approved of it. Now we expected the vegetable ghee to be coloured. But alas, we had hoped in vain. Four months passed, six months passed and yet no orders to that effect were issued. Naturally we asked the cause for that delay. We were told that the colour was not available in the market. The colour disappeared from the market as it has now disappeared from the faces of the members opposite. (Laughter). Now I leave it to this honourable House to judge for itself. I challenge the Government to come forward and say, if they have anything to say. What was the cause of shelving an Act, under which even the rules had been framed? Those big industrialists bought all the colour and new colour was not being imported. Now they are waiting for the time when the war is over, and the colouring factories of Germany again begin producing that colour. Then that colour shall be imported into India. It shall be used to colour the vegetable ghee. Those factory-owners were informed that such and such colour was approved and were advised to buy it if they could. They bought all the colour available at that time. They gained both ways. They sold the colour later for very high prices and made huge profits and the vegetable ghee was also saved from being coloured. And my honourable friend from Gurgaon remained as he was.

دھیان جوائی لے گئے تے بہواں لے گئیں پوت

کہے منوہر جانیلی تم : اے گئے اوت کے اوت

(Laughter). Sir, he was the author of that Bill. It was he who took great pains over it. He spent months and months for that purpose. He repeatedly asked the late Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram to get it passed quickly. He went to Sayed Afzal Ali Hasni. And what is the result? The sellers are selling the ghee as they used to, and he is happy that he is a Unionist! Well, Sir, if we begin to dismiss Ministers on mere circumstantial evidence, then there will be no end to such dismissals. But I say that no crime can be greater than this.

Now I come to the second point, viz., transport company. I say it here on the floor of this House and I do not take the protection of the walls of this House. I shall say it anywhere if need be, that it was Mr. King who handled that scheme. The

whole case was prepared by him and the fault of Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan was that he happened to be the Minister in charge

and that is all. Now I am told that the Honourable Premier has transferred Raja Muhammad Afzal Khan because he was not willing to give false evidence against Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan. That young man is now suffering for this, and that is being done on the report of that dangerous Criminal Investigation Department Officer to whom the High Court has given such a certificate that after that, his retention in service and giving of any reward to him or if any reward had been given to him their not being immediately taken back is due to obstinacy of the Government. He is the person who has been let loose on Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan in order to involve him in any cases he can fabricate. He runs after people to secure false evidence. The

people are harassed and tortured and are compelled to give evidence against Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan. But thank God that even at a time like this there are some self-respecting and honest young men in our services, though I regret to say that their number is very small, who, instead of joining hands with Government in ruining an innocent young man, are prepared to resign if compelled to participate in the dirty business. There are some I. C. S. and other responsible officers who have the courage to tell the truth and who do not play into the hands of Government; otherwise there is nothing so low to which this Government would not have stooped. Anyway the charge against Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan is that he sent for Raja Muhammad Afzal, an officer of the Transport Department and the representatives of the Green and Nanda Bus services and the Q brothers to settle amicably between themselves the question of shares in the control of Lahore Local Bus Co. To-day the Honourable Premier is full of praises for the Nanda Bus. If to-morrow another Governor is appointed in place of the present one and he dismisses him at a time when I happen to be the Premier and if while stating the circumstances leading to his dismissal I bring this charge against him that Malik Khizar Hayat Khan had been dismissed because at one time he praised Nanda Bus in this House which showed that he had taken money from the firm, will he consider it fair and just? What an absurd and foolish argument! I regret very much that the Honourable Premier had thought fit to level this charge against Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan. If he has not sufficient intelligence which should always stand him in good stead let him seek advice from some one else. If any one does not possess a light he borrows from his neighbour. The Premier should also have done that. But it is regretted that to-day he is surrounded by such advisers who are deliberately goading him on the wrong path. They are not his true well-wishers; otherwise they could never have advised him to make a statement on the basis of concocted and fabricated evidence. If at all he wanted to tell the House the incident regarding Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan he should have merely given the details of the case of serious injustice which was mentioned in the *communiqué* issued on the day of Shaukat's dismissal. If he has not any experience of parliamentary procedure at least he knows much about the registration of F. I. Rs. Does he not know that if any charge is not mentioned in a F. I. R. it cannot be reasonably included against the accused at a much later stage? But fancy the Ministry bringing new cases against him! This statement is worthy of being thrown in the waste paper basket rather than be read out in the Assembly. It has really disgraced the name of the Ministry. Anyway I ask, what was the harm if Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan called in Raja Muhammad Afzal, and asked him to persuade the representatives of Green and Nanda Bus services and the Q brothers to come to an agreement between themselves? What is more, Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan was not present in that meeting at all. Even if he had been there what harm would that have done? Let the Honourable Premier go and see the working of the Supply Department of the Government of India, not the Supply Department of the Punjab whose history sheet we will lay bare in this House on some other occasion, and he will find that every day millionaires like my friend Sayed Amjad Ali Shah come and discuss important business matters with Government officers and thus transactions worth lakhs of rupees are settled. What does he know of such matters? He has no experience of transport matters. Simply on hearing that the representatives of Green and Nanda Bus services, Raja Muhammad Afzal Khan and Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan were present in the latter's office he thought that bags of money may have been distributed there. Then he remarked that he did not know how the son of his late Leader—that very leader who made him a Minister and but for whose help he would never have been the Premier as he is to-day—obtained money to purchase land in Lahore for building a bungalow for his family. There should be some limit to vindictiveness. There should be some limit to jealousy. Have my friends ever witnessed such a thing? If the Honourable Premier had given us a day's notice with regard to this matter we would have supplied the House facts and figures to show that in the same vicinity where Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan had purchased land Sir Chhotu

[Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan]

Ram bought land for the Jat Sabha at a price lower than that paid by the former. If the sale deeds registered by the Sub-Registrar are examined and this fact is not established it is only then that a suspicion might be cast on Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan that he paid lower prices to the zamindars.

Premier : The honourable member has referred to a deceased colleague of mine. I may inform him that the late Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram did not buy any land in his name.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I am sorry to say that the Honourable Premier is always in the habit of making an appeal to one's sentiments. I also respect the late Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram for some of his good deeds. I have not made any allegation against him. What I said is that in the same vicinity he had purchased lands for the Jat Sabha or the Jat Boarding House at prices which compare favourably with those paid by Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan. I have made no allegation against him. But just see, how the Honourable Premier gets up and interrupts me saying "may I" in order to influence the members of his party as if he has something very important to say. What I am saying is that Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram purchased land for the Jat Sabha or the Zamindara College in the same vicinity at a price lower than that paid by Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan. He paid probably Rs. 10 or 12 per kanal less, I am speaking subject to correction, than Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan. That is what I want to bring home to him. The time of purchasing the land was the same and the locality was the same but Sir Chhotu Ram paid less than Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan. As I have already said, the Honourable Premier has suddenly raised discussion on this important issue of Shaukat Hyat's dismissal and at present I cannot put forward accurately all the relevant figures. But so far as I remember at the time of the last settlement land revenue assessed on lands purchased by Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram was 40 times more than what was assessed on lands bought by Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan. Now just compare the situation of the land purchased by Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan and that purchased by Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram. The land purchased by the former is situated far away from the road and contains pits. Besides there is an old brick kiln in it. As compared to that the land purchased by Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram is level and situated on the main road.

Premier : May I, again, inform my honourable friend that some people in the name of the Jat Sabha bought some land through the same officials, and investigations are proceeding in that connection also?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Sir, I am not referring to any official at all. The restlessness of the Honourable Premier shows only his guilty conscience. I am not saying that any officials were asked to secure that land at low rates. What I am urging is that if we look at the price lists of the last two or three years of the lands sold in that ilaqa we would find that the price paid by Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan was more than the average. If I am not wrong he paid Rs. 84,000 for an area of 59 kanals and the land purchased was duly registered. Now I ask what was the harm if Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan purchased land in that ilaqa on the prevailing current prices? How has he misused his powers as a Minister? Sir Chhotu Ram also purchased land in that ilaqa and at a lower price than that paid by Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan, although the difference between the two is not very great. The only difference is that the land purchased by the former is nearer the road than the one bought by Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan. Another difference is that the value of the land bought by Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan as assessed at settlement is inferior to that bought by the late Chaudhri because the plots bought by Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan are full of depressions. Thus its normal price should have been much less than that paid by Sir Chhotu Ram. But the difference in prices is not very much. Rather it appears that Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan has paid a higher price than the other purchaser.

As to the argument of the Premier that red flags and other material of survey were used to frighten the zamindars of the Ichhra suburb of Lahore, let me emphatically point out that it is not the far flung tehsil of Bhalwal in Shahpur, Premier's native place, the residents of which are so backward and so ignorant of their rights that the landlords can successfully cheat them by threatening them on account of their influence through the patwaris and get their lands mutated in their own names. Ichhra, Sir, is a part of Lahore City where people are generally well informed and vigilant about their rights. They care nothing for the petty officials like patwaris. They are not afraid of nab-tahsildars and cannot be so easily misled or befooled by the show of red flags. Such foolish tactics might be successful in the backward area of the Premier's home where one could fleece the village folks of their lands. Here in Lahore who does not know the way to the various pleaders like Dr. Alam's bungalows? (*Laughter*). Moreover, the price of that land which comes under the Improvement Trust Scheme is always enhanced. To tell a zamindar that his agricultural land is coming under the Lahore Improvement Trust amounts to hinting him that he should demand a bigger price for the land. So from whatever point of view the case of purchasing land is examined the charge of the Premier falls to the ground.

With regard to the case of Mrs. Durga Parshad, the Premier has mentioned the name of a Muslim lady with a sense of horror and contempt. Yes, he cannot tolerate even the name of a Muslim official being mentioned. The names like Ruqiyah Begum and Miss Feroz Khadija Begum terrify him. He is upset when he hears these names. The very name of Islam is perhaps unpleasant to him. It is a pure insinuation to say that the transfer of Ruqiyah Begum was the cause of Shaukat's dismissing Mrs. Durga Parshad. There is no connection between the two cases. But even if we assume for the sake of argument that it was an error of judgment on the part of the Minister to dismiss Mrs. Durga Parshad, the Governor could ask the Minister to revise his order. I can quote several instances in which the Ministers have been revising their previous orders. I go a step further and say that here was no appeal of Mrs. Durga Parshad against Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan's order pending before the Governor at that time; the memorial of Mrs. Durga Parshad was specially sent for through the telephonic message of the Governor's Secretary. Such were the improper methods employed to throw mud on the Minister.

I would appeal to the honourable members of the House to consider all the facts dispassionately. Cool thinking is required and an unbiassed view has got to be taken. The unconstitutional act of the Governor has reduced democracy to a farce in the Punjab and he has certainly acted against the spirit of an Act of Parliament. The Punjab Governor has reduced the constitution to a children's toy. But not so easily shall the torch of democracy be extinguished, and not so easily shall the constitution be allowed to be violated. Our young men are not offering their blood in vain. Thousands and lakhs of our kith and kin have gone to the battle front for saving democracy. If this is the democracy for which we are laying down our lives and sacrificing our sons in their thousands, then we would have to revise our views and say that this democracy is not worth even the sacrifice of a goat. (*Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar*: Then why give your kith and kin for this war?) Our hope is that true democracy is different from what we are seeing in the Punjab. (*Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar*: The conditions in other countries is even worse.) What is it that the honourable *Maulvi Sahib* says? He says that the Governments of other countries are even worse than the Government of Malik Khizar Hayat Khan. In other words, he says, that the Government of Malik Khizar Hyat Khan is the best of all the Governments of the rest of the world (*Laughter*). When did the honourable member make this discovery? What a somersault! I had thought differently of the honourable member. But he has descended from the sublime to the ridiculous. He seems to have had a fall, and what a frightful fall! A persian saying aptly applies to his case:—

یا بہ آن سوراخوری یا با این ے نمکی

[Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan]

It is really a wonder that this most reactionary and retrograde regime has captured the heart of this lover of freedom! I was submitting, Sir, that His Excellency Sir Bertrand Glancy has reduced democracy in the Punjab to a force by adopting an unconstitutional method of dismissing Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan from the Cabinet. Personally I have great regard and respect for His Excellency and I have the privilege of knowing him for the last 15 years. I have great respect for him. But the unconstitutional and improper ways adopted by him in dismissing Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan cannot be overlooked. He has sadly disappointed us about his conception of democracy and in the Punjab he has ushered in an era of unconstitutional acts. The I. C. S. and the P. C. S. officers who were generally above party politics have taken a hint from this unconstitutional act and some of them have started dancing to the tune of the Unionist Party. Flood gates of tyranny have been thrown open upon the Muslims of the Punjab. Some officers I agree have not caught the infection. They are honest to the core. But unfortunately many others have fallen an easy prey to the propaganda of the Unionist Party. Their line of thinking is that the Governor is determined to back the Unionist Party and is opposed to the Muslim League. Untold tyrannies and miseries have descended upon the Muslims of the province in spite of their active help in the War. But I would appeal to them not to lose heart. These dark clouds will disappear one day and the deputy commissioners will cease harassing the Muslims. We must remain calm and patient. The dismissal of Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan was the beginning of our woes. The end is not known as yet. The malpractices of deputy commissioners and their various other improper activities are the direct result of the Governor's unconstitutional dismissal of Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan. They have been led to think that not only the Premier but the Governor also is against the Muslim League party. The members of this House are being constantly harassed by the deputy commissioners in one way or the other. The Government have issued special instructions to them to use every means to embarrass M. L. As., with a view to coercing them to continue their allegiance to the Unionist Party. This is a most disgraceful act on the part of the Government. I understand that Honourable Premier while replying to the debate on general discussion of the budget dubbed me and Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang as rank communalists. I thank him for this certificate. But if to make endeavours to safeguard the rights of a backward and helpless community and to protect it from the repression of an aggressive Government like the present one, is called communalism, then I am really proud of it. So far as Dr. Narang's communalism is concerned, it is of a different type. It is like the bewailings of a person who is scared at the prospect of the majority community taking its rightful place in the body politic. In this connection I am reminded of a story which indicates the true position of Dr. Narang. Once an altercation took place between a fat bania and a physically weak jat. The former gave the latter a sound thrashing and sat on his chest. The passersby were astonished to see that while the jat, lying prostrate under the crushing weight of his adversary, was silent, the bania was weeping bitterly in spite of the advantage he had gained. The people seeing this strange situation asked him why he was crying and bewailing himself. He said that he was weeping at the thought that when the jat would wriggle out, he would beat him back black and blue. (*Loud laughter*). Dr. Narang's communalism can be compared to the lamentation of that bania.

Then there is another matter for which this Government deserves censure. It is making life difficult for those officers who are suspected of having sympathies with the creed of the Muslim League. Their promotions are stopped and they are made a target of vindictiveness by the Government. If an officer happens to invite a Muslim Leaguer to tea or *vice versa*, at once come the orders of his transfer. Again, if by chance a Government servant comes across a procession of the Muslim League and stops on the road-side to have a view of it, drastic action is taken against him.

by the Government officers. I tell those officers, who have in their hearts some sympathy for the Muslim League, that we are fully alive to their difficulties. They should continue to discharge their duties honestly and impartially. The time is not far off when this repressive era would come to an end and their forbearance would not go unrewarded. But at the same time I would sound a note of warning to those non-Muslim officers, who in their zeal to win the goodwill of the Government, consider the committal of atrocities on Muslims **هم خرما دهم اواب** (killing two birds with one stroke). They would be well advised to desist from their nefarious activities.

There is typical instance of repression which blackens the face of the Government. My honourable friend, Khan Bahadur Roshan Din, M. L. A., who had the courage to cross the floor and join the Muslim League Assembly Party, has been suspended from the zaildarship of his ilaqa. He has served the Government for 40 years faithfully and conscientiously. He has a spotless record, so far as his service to Government is concerned. But no sooner did he declare his allegiance to the true representative body of the Muslim nation, than the Unionist Government victimised him. He has been second to none in the matter of making contributions to the war effort and supply of recruits for the successful prosecution of war, yet all his record of unbroken meritorious service has been jettisoned. He has been penalised by the deputy commissioner under orders of the Government, because he boldly decided to shed off the farce of Unionism of my honourable friends opposite. This is sheer injustice on the part of the Government who are never tired of proclaiming to the world that they administer even-handed justice to one and all. What an observance of the canons of justice and equity!

Premier : What consistent reasoning!

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : My honourable friend need not be restive. All his reasoning will be set right. What I wanted to drive at is that Government cannot escape the charge of victimising honest people. My zaildar friend would have merited suspension only if he had been guilty of contravening any law in the discharge of his duties.

Now, I would like to draw your attention to the height of unfairness and impropriety on the part of the Honourable Premier in introducing the subject of Sardar Shaukat Hyat's dismissal without notice to the Opposition. Only two days have been fixed for the discussion of an important demand like the General Administration. But the Honourable Premier has brought in a matter which required a separate day for thorough discussion. He ought to have given notice of this matter to enable us to come prepared to answer the indictment with facts and figures. We feel greatly handicapped now.

Premier : This arrangement was made between the Leader of the Opposition and myself.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : I requested the Honourable Leader of the House in the last session as well as in this session to allot a special day for the discussion of this matter but he did not agree.

Premier : When the Leader of the Opposition and the Nawab of Mamdot, the then Leader of that party, asked me to allot a day, I said that the proper occasion would be when the demand for General Administration was being discussed and that I would then say what I had to say. Accordingly I have taken this opportunity to make a statement. I could not agree for a separate day.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Obviously the discussion on the demand for General Administration has been incidental. However, the theme of my subject will remain the unfair and unwarranted dismissal of Sardar Shaukat Hyat.

[Raza Ghazanfar Ali Khan]

Now, let me just unravel the methods by which contributions are being raised by the deputy commissioners for the purposes of the Zamindara League. In a certain district, I need not name it, the deputy commissioner announced that anybody could get a permit for sugar provided he paid rupees twenty per bag as contribution to the Zamindara League. (*An honourable member*: Name the district). If my honourable friends so desire, I am prepared to disclose the name of that district. It is the district of Jhang. (*Hear, hear*). Since there was no bar or restriction in obtaining sugar permits, the people freely availed of this opportunity. The deputy commissioner was thus able to raise a handsome amount but at the same time the sugar went into the black market and even found its way to Lyallpur market. Besides, a notable thing to be remembered in this connection is that the action of the deputy commissioner in issuing unrestricted number of sugar permits for the ulterior motive of raising funds for the Zamindara League, resulted in his putting a stop to the issue of any further sugar permits for a month as the quota was exhausted. Obviously the public at large was put to great hardship for want of sugar, while on the one hand the Deputy Commissioner collected funds and on the other the interested parties reaped large profits from the sale of extra sugar. But my honourable friends opposite, who raise funds by using coercion and unfair means, may rest assured that this money will be used for burying the coffin of the Zamindara League. Their repressive policy will recoil on them like a boomerang and will bring their downfall soon. I can quote innumerable instances where people have been coerced by the I. C. S. and the P. C. S., officers to contribute towards the Zamindara League fund.

Now I come to another point. Instead of admitting openly that the presence of Sardar Shaukat Hyat in the Cabinet was unpalatable to them because of his leanings towards the Muslim League, they have taken shelter behind the Governor in bringing about his removal.

At this stage the Assembly adjourned till 10 a. m. on Friday, 9th March 1945.

- PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

THIRTEENTH SESSION OF THE FIRST PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Friday, 9th March 1945

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber at 10 a.m. of the clock. The Secretary informed the Assembly of the unavoidable absence of Mr. Speaker due to illness. Thereupon Mr. Deputy Speaker took the chair.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED UPON LALA DUNI CHAND, M.L.A.

***9449. Mrs. Duni Chand :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Lala Duni Chand, M.L.A., of Ambala has not been keeping good health and is suffering from chronic physical disorders, and is over 70 years of age, if so, whether the Government intend to remove the restrictions imposed upon him; if not, why not?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) :

First part—Yes.

Second part—Government's intentions cannot be disclosed.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : May I know whether Lala Duni Chand was examined while he was detained in jail by some medical expert who reported that he was not fit to remain in jail any longer?

Parliamentary Secretary : He was not suffering from any disease; so there was no necessity to have him examined.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : May I know whether the Government called for the report from the medical officer of the jail where he was detained previous to his release?

Parliamentary Secretary : Reports are received from time to time, but so far as this particular gentleman is concerned, there is no cause for anxiety.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : May I know whether he is in a position to lay on the table the report of the medical officer of the jail in which he was detained before his release?

Parliamentary Secretary : I am sorry I have not got that report with me just now.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Then, how is the Parliamentary Secretary in a position to answer this question that the gentleman was not suffering from any disease? On what authority does he say so?

Parliamentary Secretary : On the basis of information supplied to me.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : May I know whether the information supplied to him is the report of the medical officer of that jail or not?

Parliamentary Secretary : It is very difficult for me to say that, but my honourable friend may rest assured that we have got other reliable sources as well.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is the Parliamentary Secretary relying on the opinion of a non-medical man when he says that Lala Duni Chand was in good health at the time of his release?

Parliamentary Secretary : It is very difficult for me to say whether it was the opinion of a non-medical man or a medical expert, but I can assure him that Lala Duni Chand is quite all right now.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know whether the Parliamentary Secretary believes the statement of the honourable lady member who is a better judge of Lala Duni Chand's illness than the medical examiner?

Parliamentary Secretary : I did not know that the lady member was a doctor or better judge of a person's health.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether Lala Duni Chand ever applied or made a representation for treatment in Lahore or Delhi?

Parliamentary Secretary : That is an entirely new question and I would like to have notice for it.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : May I know why he is not allowed to come to the Assembly?

Premier : I may mention a recent event if my honourable friends want to know. He wanted to go to Rupar for reasons of health and I allowed him to do so.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether he was threatened by the police when he was allowed to come here and stay in Lahore, that he should leave this place, otherwise he would be arrested?

Premier : He has been at Ambala throughout. He sent a letter to me saying that he wanted to go to Rupar and to stay there for some time. I have allowed him to do so.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether he ever came to Lahore for treatment?

Premier : Yes, a number of times.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know when he was allowed to come here, whether the police asked him to go out of Lahore at once, otherwise he would be arrested?

Premier : That is an old question which has been replied to a number of times. He came here for treatment and after that he was bound to go back.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether the local authorities recommended his stay here for a longer period, but the Government refused to allow him to stay here?

Premier : It is an old question. If a new question is put, my honourable friend will get the reply.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether the Government is aware of the fact that he is a true follower of Mahatma Gandhi and therefore he was against starting civil disobedience here?

Premier : I think Mahatma Gandhi was not against the civil disobedience movement. He was the author of this movement.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Is the Premier not aware that he has declared in so many words that civil disobedience will not be started during the period of war?

Premier : I cannot answer as to what the position is with regard to civil disobedience movement and Mahatma Gandhi. My honourable friend cannot even find a place in the Congress. If they do not want him, that is not my fault.

**KANWAR LAL SINGH, PRESIDENT, DISTRICT KISAN COMMITTEE,
SHEIKHUPURA**

***9458. Sardar Teja Singh Swatantar :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the state of health of Kanwar Lal Singh, President, District Kisan Committee, Sheikhupura, at present detained in the District Jail, Mianwali;

(b) whether he would be pleased to place on the table of the House a copy of the charge sheet sent to the above detenu and his answer thereto;

(c) the reasons for his continued detention?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad): For the honourable member's information, civil disobedience detenu Kanwar Lal Singh has since been released.

MR. SHAM SUNDAR OF SARGODHA

***9459. Sardar Teja Singh Swatantar :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Sham Sundar of Sargodha, at present detained in the District Jail, Mianwali, was released from Multan jail in 1948;

(b) if so, why he was re-arrested after a few days;

(c) why he was not tried in a court of law when he was re-arrested;

(d) his present state of health;

(e) whether Government intend to release him, if not, why not?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad): (a) Yes.

(b) He was re-arrested under rule 129 of the Defence of India Rules as it was reasonably suspected that he was about to act in a manner prejudicial to the public safety and the maintenance of public order.

(c) The section of the law under which he was re-arrested does not enjoin prosecution in court.

(d) and (e) He was released on 1st January 1945.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether the Parliamentary Secretary is aware of the fact that Mr. Sham Sundar was called by the Superintendent of Police of that place and then asked to put off his Gandhi cap?

Parliamentary Secretary : It is entirely a new question and I am sorry I cannot answer it off-hand.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether he is aware of the fact that it was on account of his refusal to put off the Gandhi cap that he was re-arrested and maltreated in the Superintendent's office?

Parliamentary Secretary : I am afraid I do not find any reference to Gandhi cap in the original question. If the honourable member is very keen about it he should put a fresh question.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : May I know whether the Parliamentary Secretary is in a position to give the date of the release of Mr. Sham Sundar and the date of his re-arrest?

Parliamentary Secretary : I cannot give the dates without notice.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it not a fact that he was re-arrested within two days of his release?

Parliamentary Secretary : I cannot say with certainty whether it is a fact or not.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is the Parliamentary Secretary prepared to lay on the table the report of the Superintendent of Police or any other local authority about the activities of this gentleman after release ?

Parliamentary Secretary : It is very difficult for me to place on the table the report of the police officer because I have not got it here.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it a fact that he was re-arrested under section 129, simply because there was no material against him for the purpose of interrogation ?

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Disallowed.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether it is a fact or not that when he refused to put off his cap in the Superintendent's office, he was told that he was under arrest ?

Parliamentary Secretary : It is an inference.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether it is a fact that he was maltreated and abused and his cap was forcibly removed from his head ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I am unaware of all that the honourable member is saying.

COMRADE PARAS RAM, B.A.

***9516. Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Comrade Paras Ram, B.A., Secretary, District Communist Party, Kangra, was arrested on the 29th June, 1943 ; if so, the reason for his arrest and the period for which he was kept under detention ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) :

First part—Yes.

Second part—It is not in the public interest to give the reasons for his arrest. He was detained from 29th June 1943 to 12th August 1943.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know who ordered his arrest, Punjab Government or the local authorities ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Arrests are made under the orders of a competent authority and whatever that authority may be, it will be treated as subordinate to Punjab Government.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether it is a fact that he was arrested so that he may not hold or attend the peasants' conference there ?

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Disallowed.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : May I know the reasons, if any, for his arrest ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have already said that it is not in the public interest to give the reasons.

ARREST OF COMRADE JAGAT RAM AND SEARCH OF DISTRICT KISAN COMMITTEE (KANGRA) OFFICE

***9517. Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Comrade Jagat Ram, treasurer, District Kisan Committee, Kangra, was arrested by the Kangra Police on the 29th June 1943 and his house was searched and articles worth several hundreds of rupees including uniforms

belonging to the District Kisan Committee were removed by the police, if so, the reasons therefor ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the uniforms are still withheld by the police and they have not been returned to the District Kisan Committee ;

(c) if the answer to (b) above be in the affirmative, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) *First part*.—Yes : 12 books and a map were taken into possession on 29th June 1948, and some articles of uniforms valued at Rs. 175 on 4th July 1948.

Second part.—The search was carried out, as enquiries had established that important workers of the District Kisan Committee, Kangra, including Jagat Ram, were in possession of objectionable articles.

(b) and (c) The articles of uniform have been returned.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know wheher the map taken away from him was an ordinary map of the Punjab ?

Parliamentary Secretary : May have been.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Then why was the map made much of ? Was some secret map there or something else ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I am not in a position to answer offhand, but some places may have been marked in the map and that may have been considered objectionable.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : When were the uniforms returned ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I cannot give the exact date. I may state for the information of the honourable member that he was sent for by the police to take away the uniforms but he did not turn up. Later it was given to Dalip Singh or some such person who is a member of the Kisan Committee.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether uniforms are included amongst objectionable articles ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Well, it is not possible to say what things are objectionable.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : May I know why the uniforms were taken into possession by the Government ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I cannot give correct reasons, but probably because it is not permissible to wear uniforms and on that account the uniforms were taken.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether the *turrahs* are also included in the uniforms ?

Premier : *Turrahs*, beards and turbans are not included in uniforms.

MAULANA HABIB-UL-RAHMAN

*9519. **Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma** : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Maulana Habib-ul-Rahman recently applied to the Government for permission to secure legal advice before sending his representation to the Government under section 7 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1944 ; if so, what action has been taken on that application ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : Yes. Legal advice was not considered necessary.

Chaudhri Muhamad Hasan : Was the representation of Maulana Habib-ul-Rahaman gone into by the Punjab Government or by any legal adviser of theirs ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I can assure my honourable friend that an answer to a question is prepared after the matter has been considered by the proper authority.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : What points were mentioned by Maulana Habib-ul-Rahman in his representation for which it was not considered necessary to have legal advice ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have not got the particulars and it is not possible to give just now the points mentioned, but I can assure my friend that all the points were considered.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Who was the officer who examined his representation ?

Parliamentary Secretary : The officer was the officer entrusted with this kind of work.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : May I know whether the representation was examined by you or by the Premier ?

Parliamentary Secretary : It is neither my function nor that of the Premier to examine these petitions. The petitions are examined by officers entrusted with this work. Their report is received by us along with the petition and we are satisfied with their opinion.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it a fact that his petition was examined and it was considered to be a fit case in which legal advice should be given ?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether he is being given no advice simply because he is anti-Unionist ?

Premier : That is an old story.

Parliamentary Secretary : I can assure my friend that when Maulana Habib-ul-Rahman comes out of jail, he will not be a Communist.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : May I know whether his representation was sent to the Legal Remembrancer or to the Advocate-General for opinion ?

Parliamentary Secretary : It was sent to the person who deals with the question. His opinion was obtained and it was that legal advice was not necessary.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : The Parliamentary Secretary has said that the opinion was that no legal advice was necessary. I want to know whether the case was referred to the Legal Remembrancer or the Advocate-General and what was their opinion ?

Parliamentary Secretary : There was no need to send it to the Legal Remembrancer. The petition was considered and no legal advice was considered necessary.

INTERNEED M. L. AS.

*9521. **Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in almost all provinces where the Assemblies are in session interned M. L. As. are permitted to take part in the Assembly proceedings ;

(b) the reasons for not allowing interned M. L. As. in the Punjab to attend Assembly sessions ;

(c) whether it is a fact that restrictions on the M. L. As. are imposed under the advice of the Punjab police ; if not, the name of the authority that is responsible

for the imposition of restrictions on the M. L. As., whose movements have been restricted ;

(d) whether the Government periodically reviews the case of each interned M.L.A. for the purpose of considering the question of the withdrawal of the restrictions imposed on him, if not, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Government have no information.

(b) They cannot take part in political activities which are barred under the terms of their restriction orders.

(c) Restrictions are imposed under the orders of the Punjab Government.

(d) Yes ; does not arise.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Will you please refer to part (c)? I want to know whether the restrictions on the M.L.As. were imposed under the advice of the Punjab police.

Parliamentary Secretary : Restrictions were imposed under the orders of the Punjab Government.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : I want to know whether the Punjab police was also consulted in the matter or not ?

Parliamentary Secretary : It will not make any difference from whom the proposal emanated when the Punjab Government is responsible for the restrictions.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : I do not want the Parliamentary Secretary to give me all the resources. Kindly refer to part (c) of the question. I want to know only whether the police was or was not consulted in the matter ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I fail to see how it will help my friend and what difference it will make to know whether the Punjab Government acted on the advice of the police or other sources.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : It will make much difference because my contention is that you do not act on your own initiative but under the advice of the police.

Parliamentary Secretary : That may be your opinion.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : You refuse to answer the question whether it is a fact that the Punjab police was consulted in the matter of imposing restrictions on the M.L.As. The question is quite clear.

Parliamentary Secretary : I have already stated that the Government ordered these restrictions to be imposed, it is immaterial whether the Government issued that order on the information received from the police or from so many other sources which the Government has at its disposal.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether it was done simply to satisfy the ultra-democrats ?

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Disallowed.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : In reply to part (b) it was stated that they were prohibited to join meetings considered to be political. May I know whether taking part in the Assembly proceedings is considered by the Government to be a political matter ?

Parliamentary Secretary : This very question has been asked and answered on the floor of the House dozens of times. Moreover, it is a matter of opinion and matters of opinion, I am afraid, cannot be dealt with on the floor of the House in answer to a question.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know whether the Government invited the opinion of the Advocate-General on this point ?

Parliamentary Secretary : This question too has little originality about it.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : It has not been answered. I want to know whether it is a fact that the opinion of the Advocate-General was obtained on this point.

Premier : The restrictions are in clear language and anybody can understand them. The question of taking the opinion of the Advocate-General does not therefore arise.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : May I know the reasons for not allowing the interned M.L.As. to attend the Assembly session ? I am not concerned with the political meetings. I want to know the reasons for prohibiting the interned M.L.As. from coming to the Assembly session ?

Mr. Deputy Speaker : It is the same question.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : I beg your pardon, sir. It is not the same question. I do not want to know whether they consider the Assembly session to be a political meeting or not, nor do I want to know the opinion of their Advocate-General. What I want to know is the reasons for not allowing the interned M.L.As. to attend the Assembly session.

Premier : The terms of the restrictions conveyed to the members are in very clear language and anybody who tries to understand them can understand them.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : This is no answer to my question.

Premier : I have given an answer according to my light.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Everybody can see that there is a game in evading answers to such questions.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : The question was with respect to reasons and not with respect to the nature of restrictions. The Honourable Premier has replied that the restrictions imposed are in clear language. We want to know what the reasons are for those restrictions.

Premier : That is not a supplementary question.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : What is your reply to part (b) ?

Premier : They cannot take part in political activities which are barred under the terms of their restriction order.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : Is taking part in the Assembly proceedings on par with taking part in political agitation or political activity outside the Assembly Chamber ?

Premier : The honourable member is welcome to hold any opinion he likes.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : You have no opinion.

Mian Abdul Aziz : May I know whether it is not a statutory right of an elected member to represent his constituency and attend the Assembly ?

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Disallowed.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know the reasons for the arrest of Lala Bhim Sen Sachar, the Leader of the Opposition ? Is it a fact that he was arrested merely on account of his coming to the Assembly ?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is it a fact that the Premier in answer to a supplementary question announced on the floor of the House that attending the Assembly session by the interned M. L. A. was an offence ?

Premier : I do not remember having stated that. What I must have stated was that a breach of the conditions of the restriction order was an offence.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I definitely remember his having said that he was of the opinion that attending the Assembly meeting was tantamount to breach of restrictions.

Premier : The honourable member may please refer me to that question. I am of the opinion that any breach of restrictions is an offence.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Does the Honourable Premier realise that by saying so he is prejudicing the courts of law against these M.L.As. ?

Premier : Why drag me into such questions ? I may, however, tell the honourable member that law courts are not guided by me ; they are independent.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Then why give such replies ?

Premier : I have always tried to keep out of this controversy.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Is the Honourable Premier prepared to send up the case of Lala Bhim Sen Sachar to the High Court and have the point decided there ?

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : Is the Government prepared to consider the advisability of exempting the attendance of the Assembly by these M.L.As. from the terms of restrictions with respect to political activities ?

Premier : Government considers the advisability of various things from time to time.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : May I know whether the Premier was consulted when such restrictions were placed on the M.L.As. ?

Mr. Deputy Speaker : The next question.

WAR FUND

***9527. Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state the number of occasions on which war fund was collected by the Superintendent of Police, Ferozepore ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Man) : Eleven occasions since the outbreak of war.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : May I know the amount collected by the Superintendent, Police, Ferozepore, as war fund ?

Parliamentary Secretary : The question refers to the number of occasions on which war fund was collected and I have given a reply.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : I want to know the amount.

Parliamentary Secretary : I require notice for that.

PROSECUTING AGENCY IN FEROZEPORE DISTRICT

***9528. Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) the number of members of the prosecuting agency in the Ferozepore district along with the educational qualifications, length of service and period of posting of each of them in the said district ;

(b) the number of courts in the district which the members of the prosecuting staff are required to attend ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Man) : (a) A statement is laid on the table.

(b) 15.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it a fact that the work in the courts is too heavy for the Prosecuting Inspectors and the Prosecuting Sub-Inspectors? Is the Honourable Premier prepared to increase the number of Prosecuting Inspectors and Prosecuting Sub-Inspectors?

Premier : The present strength is considered to be sufficient.

Statement of the members of the Prosecuting Agency in the Ferozepore District, along with their educational qualifications, length of service and period of the posting in this district

1	2	3	4	5	6
Serial No.	Rank	Educational qualifications	Length of service on 1-12-44	Period of posting on 1-12-44	REMARKS
			Y. M. D.	Y. M. D.	
1	Prosecuting Deputy Superintendent of Police.	B. A. ..	24 10 29	0 8 22	
2	Prosecuting Inspector ..	B. A., B.A. (Hons.)	20 2 19	0 3 20	
3	Ditto ..	B.A., LL.B. ..	20 10 29	0 3 22	
4	Ditto ..	B.A., LL. B. ..	15 10 2	2 2 25	
5	Prosecuting Sub-Inspectors..	B. A., LL. B. ..	9 6 18	1 0 1	
6	Ditto ..	B.A., LL.B. ..	5 6 16	2 3 11	
7	Ditto ..	B.A., LL.B. ..	5 6 16	2 5 9	
8	Ditto ..	B.A., LL.B. ..	3 6 16	3 6 16	
9	Ditto ..	B.A., LL. B. ..	3 6 15	3 6 15	
10	Ditto ..	B.A., LL. B. ..	2 4 0	2 4 0	
11	Ditto ..	B.A., LL.B. ..	2 3 27	2 3 27	
12	Ditto ..	B.A., LL. B. ..	1 8 0	1 8 0	
13	Ditto ..	B.A., LL. B. ..	0 6 6	0 6 6	

REPRESENTATION FROM VILLAGERS OF CHAUDHRIWALA

***9566. Shrimati Raghbir Kaur :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether the D. I. G. Police, the Superintendent of Police, Amritsar and the Deputy Commissioner of Amritsar, have received any representation dated 5th July 1944, from the villagers of Chaudhriwala, P. O. Noshera Punwan, District Amritsar against the conduct of the police officials of Thana Sarhali;

(b) whether any inquiry has been held in this connection; if so, whether he will be pleased to place the result of the inquiry on the table of the House;

(c) the action, if any, taken in this respect?

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Man): I regret that the answer to this question is not yet ready.

SARDAR HAERNAM SINGH OF MALHI

***9657. Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the date of the arrest of Sardar Harnam Singh of Malhi, district Amritsar, now a detenu in Special Jail, Gujrat ;

(b) the date of his transfer from Central Jail, Alipore (Calcutta) to the Special Jail, Gujrat ;

(c) whether he is suffering from asthma ;

(d) the general state of his health ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) 18th March 1942.

(b) 7th September 1944.

(c) He gets occasional asthmatic attacks.

(d) Satisfactory.

KHAWAJA ZAHUR DIN OF AMRITSAR

***9658. Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) the weight at present of Khawaja Zahur Din of Amritsar, a detenu, confined in Special Jail, Gujrat ;

(b) the loss, if any, in his weight in comparison with his weight when he was arrested ;

(c) the date from which an allowance was sanctioned for his family and the amount of the allowance ;

(d) whether Government have been approached on behalf of the family of the Khawaja for the enhancement of the allowance ; if so, with what result ;

(e) whether he is suffering from piles and chronic chill ; if so, since when and the name of the physician who is treating him ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) :

(a) and (b) He is maintaining his original weight and no loss has been reported.

(c) Rs. 15 per mensem from 1st September 1943.

(d) Yes. It was rejected.

(e) He was operated upon for Anal Fissure and piles in the Civil Hospital, Gujrat. He complains of occasional headache, sneezing and running of the nose. He is getting treatment for these complaints. His general health is satisfactory.

Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh : When was he operated upon ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I cannot give the exact date when the operation was performed.

Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh : Is his general health still satisfactory ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Yes. For the information of my honourable friend, I may state that the weight of this gentl man on 19th January 1945 was 145 lbs. and to-day his weight is 151 lbs.

COMRADE KHUDA DAD

***9692. Shrimati Raghbir Kaur :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state —

(a) whether it is a fact that Comrade Khuda Dad, son of Hukam Dad has been interned in his village, Jujja, near Sukhu, District Rawalpindi ;

[Shri Raghbir Kaur.]

(b) whether it is a fact that he has made two representations to the Government to the effect that his restriction orders may either be withdrawn or he may be interned in his own village ; if so, the action taken thereon ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the public of Rawalpindi has been agitating to get his restriction orders withdrawn ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad): (a) Yes.

(b) He submitted two applications requesting for the withdrawal of his restriction order or his restriction to Rawalpindi to enable him to earn his living ; this was rejected as Government was satisfied that he had means of livelihood in his village.

(c) Government has no information.

CONSTABLE OF THE TRAFFIC POLICE

***9708. Mian Muhammad Nurallah :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the number of hours for which a constable of the Traffic police has to serve each day in the summer and in winter at the Charing Cross, Lahore ;

(b) the special hours during which he is on duty ;

(c) the steps, if any, Government propose to take to relieve the constables posted at the Charing Cross, Lahore and other places of the same type of hardship involved in long hours of duty ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Man): (a) *Winter*—6½ or 7 hours per constable in two shifts.

Summer—5 or 6 hours per constable in two shifts.

(b) Hours of duty in two shifts are as follows:—

Winter—From 8-30 a.m. to 11-30 a.m.

From 11-30 a.m. to 2-30 p.m.

From 2-30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

From 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Summer—From 7 to 10 a.m.

From 10 to 12 noon.

From 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

From 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

(c) Does not arise.

SARDAR AVTAR SINGH SIRHA

***9721. Sardar Gurbakhsh Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state:—

(a) whether he is aware of the fact that Sardar Avtar Singh Sirha of village Chhidan, police station Lopoke, district Amritsar, previously kept as a detenu in the Gujrat Special Jail was released from the said jail in October, 1944 as he was suffering from piles ;

(b) whether it is a fact that he has since been interned in his village Chhidan on the condition that he shall have to report himself at the Lopoke Police Station every Sunday at 11 a.m. ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Police Station Lopoke is situated at a distance of about 15 miles from Chhidan ;

(d) whether it is a fact that Police Station Gharinda in the Lahore district is only half a mile from village Chhiddan ;

(e) whether it is a fact that Sardar Avtar Singh applied to the Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar, and also to the Home Secretary to the Punjab Government, that he may be allowed to report to Police Station Gharinda instead of Police Station Lopoke ; if so, the action taken in the matter ; and if no action has been taken the reasons therefor ;

(f) whether he is aware of the fact that Sardar Avtar Singh's wife has been suffering from certain ailments for the last 4 years ;

(g) whether Sardar Avtar Singh has appealed to the Home Secretary to the Punjab Government that the restrictions imposed on him may be removed so that he may be able to take his wife to Ludhiana for treatment ; if so, the action taken or intended to be taken on that application ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Avtar Singh Sirha was released in October, 1944, as a result of a review of his case.

(b), (c), (d) and (e). He has been permitted to report to P. S. Gharinda in the Amritsar district instead of P. S. Lopoke.

(f) Government has no information about her illness ;

(g) *First part*—Yes ;

Second part—The application was forwarded to the District Magistrate, Amritsar, who is empowered to relax the restrictions if he considers fit.

HORSE ALLOWANCE FOR SUB-INSPECTORS AND ASSISTANT SUB-INSPECTORS OF POLICE

*3727. **Mian Muhammad Nurullah** : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) whether the nature of duties entrusted to an Assistant Sub-Inspector and Sub-Inspector of Police is the same ;

(b) whether he is aware of the fact that horse allowance admissible to an Assistant Sub-Inspector is Rs. 20 per mensem and for Sub-Inspector Rs. 37-8-0 ;

(c) the reasons for this difference and the action Government intend to take in the matter ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Man) : (a) No.

(b) The horse allowance and pony allowance of Sub-Inspectors and Assistant Sub-Inspectors have been increased from Rs. 37-8-0 to Rs. 45 per mensem and from Rs. 20 to Rs. 25 per mensem respectively with effect from 1st December 1944.

(c) Assistant Sub-Inspectors are not mounted police officers and are, therefore, not required to maintain a horse of a standard height. They are, however, permitted to keep a pony and those that do are granted a conveyance allowance of Rs. 25 per mensem.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Is it within the knowledge of the Parliamentary Secretary that a pony eats as much as a horse ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Not always. The horse eats more than the pony. Of course it depends upon the size of the animal.

PONY ALLOWANCE PAID TO AN ASSISTANT SUB-INSPECTOR

***9728. Mian Muhammad Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that the pony allowance paid to an Assistant Sub-Inspector used to be Rs. 15 per month before the War ;

(b) whether it is a fact that it has been raised to Rs. 20 per month since ;

(c) the date from which this increased allowance was given effect to ;

(d) the percentage of increase in the prices of fodder and gram in 1939 and the date mentioned in (c) above ;

(e) if the prices of fodder and gram have risen out of all proportion to the value of the pony allowance now granted to Assistant Sub-Inspectors, the action Government intend to take in the matter ; if no action is intended, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Man) : (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). It was raised to Rs. 20 per mensem with effect from the 1st November 1943 and to Rs. 25 per mensem with effect from the 1st December 1944.

(d) It is regretted that this information is not available.

(e) Government has only recently increased the allowance to Rs. 25 per mensem which it considers adequate.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : May I know whether the Assistant Sub-Inspectors are required to keep ponies only under the orders of Government ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Yes.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : If one keeps a horse, will he be brought to book ?

Mr. Deputy Speaker : The next question.

DISMISSAL OF SARDAR SHAUKAT HYAT KHAN

***9761. Mian Mumtaz Muhammad Khan Daulatana :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that Secretaries of various departments keep in touch with His Excellency the Governor, and the Honourable Premier, to keep them informed of important developments and orders passed in their departments ;

(b) whether the Secretary to the Local Self-Government Department had any interview with the Governor after the passing of the order by the Minister concerned in the case of the Lady Superintendent of Schools of the Lahore Corporation, Mrs. Durga Prashad ;

(c) whether the said Secretary brought this case to the notice of the Governor, if so, when and what action was taken thereon by the Government ;

(d) whether he had himself studied this case and the order of the Minister concerned before the case was taken up at the Cabinet meeting at which Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan was dismissed ;

(e) whether any of the Ministers, and if so, which of them, studied this case and the order of the Minister concerned before it was taken up at the Cabinet meetings ;

(f) whether this case was placed on the agenda of the Cabinet meeting at which it was discussed, if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat : (a) The Secretaries of various departments do not keep in touch with the Premier who expects to get information from his colleagues. They keep in touch with His Excellency the Governor in so far as his special responsibilities are concerned.

(b) to (f). The matters raised in the remainder of the question are privileged.

DISMISSAL OF SARDAR SHAUKAT HYAT KHAN

***9762. Mian Mumtaz Muhammad Khan Daulatana :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) whether he gave previous notice to Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan before his dismissal that he did not agree with his order and that he wanted to take serious action which might involve his dismissal, if not, the reasons therefor ;

(b) whether the case was taken up for the first time at this Cabinet meeting ?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat : These matters are privileged. Such information as can be given has been given.

DISMISSAL OF SARDAR SHAUKAT HYAT KHAN.

***9763. Mian Mumtaz Muhammad Khan Daulatana :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) whether any charges were framed against Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan and given to him in writing before the dismissal case of Mrs. Durga Prashad, Lady Superintendent of Schools, Lahore Corporation, was suddenly taken up at the Cabinet meeting which involved Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan's dismissal ;

(b) the opinions of the various I. C. S. Secretaries to whom the case of Mrs. Durga Prashad, Lady Superintendent of Schools, Lahore Corporation, was referred ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the then Deputy Secretary, Local Self-Government Department, recommended the dismissal of Mrs. Durga Prashad, on the merits of the case ;

(d) whether it is open to a Minister to disagree with any of his officers and Secretaries, if he does so, whether it involves his dismissal ?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat : (a), (b) and (c). These matters are privileged.

(d) It is open to a Minister to disagree with any of his officers and Secretaries; If he does so, it does not involve his dismissal.

MR. ZAFAR, SECURITY PRISONER SUB-JAIL GUJRAT

***9810. Sardar Ajit Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Zafar, a security prisoner in Sub-Jail Gujrat, applied for permission to appear in the M.A. Examination of the Punjab University last year ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the required permission was granted by the Government but the University of the Punjab did not agree to it, if so, the reasons for the same ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. Under the Punjab University Regulations he could not appear in the M.A. examination as a private student without attending a course of lectures.

Sardar Ajit Singh : May I ask whether the application of this gentleman for permission to appear in the M.A. examination was forwarded by the Superintendent of Jail to the Punjab University through the Punjab Government ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have stated that no one could be permitted to sit in the examination without going through a course of lectures. He has been under detention, so he has not gone through the course. What was the purpose of sending up his application to the University when he has not taken the course of lectures ?

Sardar Ajit Singh : Could not the University exempt him from that condition? Is not the University empowered to exempt students from the condition imposed on examinees that they must attend so many lectures?

Parliamentary Secretary : It is difficult for me to say whether the University has the power to exempt or not, but so far as I am aware the University has not the power.

Sardar Ajit Singh : Why was the application of this gentleman not forwarded by the Punjab Government to the University to know their views on that point? Why was the application withheld?

Parliamentary Secretary : I cannot say off-hand whether there is any such power vested in the University. So far as I know this power does not exist.

Sardar Ajit Singh : Why was the application withheld?

Parliamentary Secretary : I am informed that under the University Regulations, no one can take the M.A. examination without going through a course of lectures.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Has the Government suggested to the University that such of the students as would like to sit in the examination should be exempted from attendance?

Parliamentary Secretary : The action suggested does not seem to be called for.

MR. SHASHI BHUSHAN OF GWALIOR

***9811. Sardar Ajit Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Shashi Bhushan of Gwalior is detained in Sub-Jail, Gujrat, if so, since when, and his age at the time of his arrest ;

(b) whether it is a fact that Mr. Shashi Bhushan applied to the Government last year to sit for Proficiency in Hindi Examination of the Punjab University, if so, with what result ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Yes, since 28rd November 1944. His present age is about 18 years.

(b) Yes. His application was rejected.

MUNSHI AHMAD DIN AND MR. PREM BHASIN

***9812. Sardar Ajit Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that Munshi Ahmad Din and Mr. Prem Bhasin, two well known Congress Socialist leaders, are detained in Sub-Jail, Gujrat, if so, since when ;

(b) the weight of each one of them at the time of his arrest and at present ;

(c) their general state of health ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Yes. Munshi Ahmad Din and Prem Raj Bhasin are detained in the Sub-Jail, Gujrat, since 20th November 1944 and 30th January 1942, respectively.

lbs.

(b) Weight on admission of Munshi Ahmad Din	..	160
Present weight of Munshi Ahmad Din	..	160
Weight on admission of Prem Raj Bhasin	..	126
Present weight of Prem Raj Bhasin	..	122

(c) Satisfactory.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Did it come to the notice of the Government that Munshi Ahmad Din was suffering from eye trouble for a very long time and there was no medical expert in the jail to look after him ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I cannot say off-hand. I can only say that his general condition is satisfactory.

BHAJ SHER SINGH

***9817. Lala Bhagat Ram Choda :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that Bhaj Sher Singh who was arrested on Indo-China border about two years ago is detained in Sub-Jail Gujrat ;

(b) whether it is a fact that at the time of his arrest one cycle and Rs. 500 in cash were recovered from his possession ;

(c) whether it is a fact that Bhaj Sher Singh wrote to the Government requesting the return of his belongings to him, if so, with what result ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : This prisoner is detained under the orders of the Central Government. Questions about him cannot be asked on the floor of this House and should be addressed to the Government of India.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know whether the money and cycle taken from his possession are with the Punjab Government or with the Government of India ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have already stated that the man is under detention under the orders of the Government of India and all questions therefore regarding him should be addressed to that Government.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Are the funds for the maintenance of this prisoner in the Punjab jail provided by the Central Government ?

Parliamentary Secretary : All questions regarding this prisoner should be addressed to the Government of India.

BAKHSHI RAM

***9818. Lala Bhagat Ram Choda :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether it is a fact that security prisoner Bakhshi Ram at present confined in Sub-Jail, Gujrat, has written several times to the Government that he may be transferred to Lahore for dental treatment, if so ; with what result ; and the reasons for not acceding to his request ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : Security prisoner Bakhshi Ram represented once in May last for transfer to Lahore but it was rejected as there was a qualified Dental Surgeon at Gujrat to attend to his dental troubles.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know whether it is the Government that pays the doctor or the detainees or the security prisoners themselves ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Ordinary cases are treated at Government expense but if any prisoner wants any special treatment he pays for it.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I enquire if the detainees or security prisoners who are required to get themselves treated by the local doctor in Gujrat and Sialkot are required to pay from their own pockets ?

Parliamentary Secretary : As I said, ordinary cases are treated at Government expense. But if somebody wants new dentures, he pays for them.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

OLD ANARKALI POLICE STATION AND NEW ANARKALI POLICE POST,
LAHORE

1915. Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state:—

(a) whether it has been the practice in the past to post a Hindu Inspector at the Old Anarkali Police Station and a Muhammadan Sub-Inspector at the New Anarkali Police Post, Lahore ;

(b) whether it is a fact that a Hindu Sub-Inspector has recently been posted at the New Anarkali Police Post ;

(c) if the answers to the above parts be in the affirmative the reasons for this departure from the previous practice and the action that the Government intend to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Malik (Khizar Hayat : (a) No. Postings are not made on communal grounds but in the interests of efficiency.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

OUTLETS FOR VILLAGE KHOSA KOTLA

1920. Captain Sodhi Harnam Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state:—

(a) whether it is a fact that the outlets for villages Khosa Kotla (Ilachiwah, Grey Canals Ferozepore) were remodelled when Mr. G. C. S. Nakai was the Superintendent of the Grey Canals ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the irrigators of the said village preferred an appeal to the Commissioner of the Jullundur Division against this remodelling of the outlets ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the appeal mentioned in (b) was rejected by the commissioner ;

(d) whether it is a fact that punitive police was posted near the village Khosa Kotla ; if so, the reasons therefor ;

(e) whether it was the Grey Canals Department or the irrigators of the village mentioned in (a) who had to bear the expenses for the maintenance of the police post mentioned in (d) above ;

(f) whether it is a fact that the present Superintendent of the Grey Canals has allowed the irrigators of the village to have more outlets for the irrigation of their lands ; if so, the reasons for the same ?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram : (a) There is no such village as Khosa Kotla on Ilachiwah, Grey Canals. A village of this name exists on the Ilahi-wah canal. No remodelling based on proper Chakbandis and allotment of shares for different outlets and shareholders has taken place on this canal. The outlets, which according to the previous Superintendent were drawing excessive supplies and flooding lands of other villages were reduced.

(b) Some of the irrigators of village Khosa Kotla which lies on Ilahi-wah Canal preferred an appeal to the Commissioner, Jullundur division, against shortage which was effected in the supply of their outlets.

(c) Yes.

(d) A force of District Police consisting of 2 head constables and 8 constables was detailed on the Ithiwah canal during the flow-season of 1941. The force was necessary as people of Khosa-Kotla were notorious for making cuts and taking illegal supplies.

(e) The Grey Canals Department.

(f) The present Superintendent has so far not sanctioned any additional permanent outlets for this village.

DEMAND FOR GRANT GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

11 a. m. **Mr. Deputy Speaker :** Before the House resumes discussion on the General Administration Grant I wish to acquaint the House that the time taken up for discussion of this Demand yesterday was as follows :—

Mian Muhammad Nurullah—5 minutes.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh—50 minutes.

Honourable Premier—55 minutes.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan—1 hour and 40 minutes.

The total time taken by the Opposition was 2 hours and 35 minutes as against 55 minutes taken by the Ministerial Party. Although there is no time limit for individual speeches, I request the House to co-operate with the Chair and allow discussion to be so conducted that both sides may have equal share in the debate.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : On a point of order. Is it open to you or anybody else in this House to fix time for different parties in the House ?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : There is no power.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : I have made an appeal to the House and have sought their co-operation for conducting a fair debate.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : On a point of order. A question was put to you whether it was in your power to regulate the time and you were pleased to say that it was only an appeal and that you had no power, but I ask you whether it is not open to the Chair to see that the opportunity given to a member is not abused and that the right of debate is not abused in any way and others are not deprived of the right of participation.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : It is only on this ground that I have appealed to the House to co-operate with me.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : You have the power also to enforce it.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : No, Sir.

Mian Abdul Aziz : Once Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang spoke for the whole day.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : That was with permission.

Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan : I have to give a personal explanation. Mr. Deputy Speaker, I wish I were free to make a full and detailed statement of the facts within my knowledge in reply to the statement read by the Honourable Premier yesterday on the floor of the House, but as the Honourable Premier's statement contained a threat of prosecution, my lips must remain sealed until the moment comes when I have to vindicate my honour in a court of law. (*Hear, hear*). At this stage I will only say that the whole statement against my honour and my reputation is but a tissue of lies, falsehoods and the wildest insinuations. (*Shame, shame*.) I deny the accusations with all the emphasis at my command dubbing them as not only utterly unfounded but inspired by black malice and unworthy motives. (*Hear, hear*).

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan (Pind Dadan Khan, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*) : Sir, I submit that the statement made by the Honourable Premier about the

[Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan.]

dismissal of Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan is based on presumptions and surmises.

Sardar Lal Singh : On a point of order. Is it in order for a member to resume his speech after its interruption by adjournment and after another member has spoken?

Mr. Deputy Speaker : The honourable member may proceed with his speech.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Well, Sir, I was submitting that the charges which the Honourable Premier had levelled against Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan were based on wild conjectures and therefore the arguments which would be advanced by this side to refute those allegations must of necessity be also based on conjectures. Now, the most important actor in this drama is His Excellency the Governor. I can say with the fullest confidence that this unfortunate episode was the result of a conspiracy hatched by a few members of the Cabinet. Those Ministers are wrong when they say that they had no previous knowledge of the dismissal of Shaukat Hyat. I aver that he was removed from Ministership by the Governor as a result of their conspiracy.

Premier : May I, on a point of order, request you to ask the honourable member not to make any reference to His Excellency the Governor?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Sir, so far as my knowledge of constitution goes, I can say without the slightest hesitation that any action of the Governor in his capacity as a Governor, can be made a subject of discussion in this House. The Honourable Premier should no longer think that we, as simple-minded zamindars, would be scared away at the very mention of the word 'Governor'. (Laughter). He should better consult his colleague, the Minister for Finance, who will tell him that under the constitution though the personal private acts of the Governor cannot be discussed, a discussion can be raised on any matter with which the Governor is concerned in his capacity as a Governor. I may go a step further and say that even a substantive motion can be moved in this House against the Governor.

Premier : That is against the Ministry under the Government of India Act.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : The Honourable Premier is only betraying his ignorance on the subject. I said that His Excellency the Governor had dismissed Shaukat Hyat and the Honourable Premier himself stated that this dismissal was brought about by the Governor in the exercise of his special powers. I have only repeated his remarks but my honourable friend would not let me do it. What a pity :

نہ توہینے کی اجازت ہے نہ فریاد کی ہے
گہمت کے سر جازیں یہ مرمی میرے صیاد کی ہے

Premier : You could refer to the conspiracy.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Well, what I wanted to say was that His Excellency the Governor has been misled by his Cabinet to be a party to this injustice. In fact he has been duped by the Council of Ministers and has been led to act in a manner contrary to the well established principles of law and equity. His action in dismissing Shaukat Hyat should be disapproved by all sane persons and even by the highest authority in England, the British Parliament.

Sayed Amjad Ali Shah : Democracy.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : My honourable friend should know that this is not the way to qualify for the post of a Minister. (Laughter). I will place all the facts relating to the Ministry and the Governor with regard to the dismissal of Sardar Shaukat Hyat on the 25th April before the House. Now, let me state what happened a day earlier to his removal from office. I went to the bungalow of the Honourable Premier on that night with a view to helping him in arriving at an amicable settlement with the Muslim League, and on reaching there I found the Honourable Mian Abdul

Haye, Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh and the late Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram closetted together with the Premier in a room, probably hatching a conspiracy to get rid of Shaukat Hyat.

Minister for Development : The honourable member's statement is incorrect. The people know that he is in the habit of spinning yarns.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : The Honourable Minister need not be perturbed. The public knows him well too. I regret it is my painful duty to unearth the facts of this conspiracy. But before proceeding further I may remove one misunderstanding which has been created as a result of reports published in the press, to the effect that yesterday during my speech I accused an Honourable Minister of corruption in connection with a certain Bill. I contradict this statement categorically. I never mentioned the name of any Minister. I had no intention of accusing any body. But I confess that I was compelled to state facts as they were. I have no intention to attack any Minister but facts are facts. My honourable friends sitting on the Treasury Benches who have been instrumental in bringing about the dismissal of my honourable friend Sardar Shaukat Hyat should bear this fact in mind that we have unanimously elected him as Leader of the Muslim League Assembly Party. (Cheers). Since they are making all-out efforts to defame my honourable friend, I am also constrained to expose their misdeeds on the floor of the House. Resuming the story I submit that I was present in the 'Kothi' of the Honourable Premier. He was most anxious to get the dispute between him and Mr. Jinnah settled at the earliest. It was half-past nine in the evening and the Honourable Premier was looking very uneasy. I was sitting in an adjoining room and was busy conversing with a certain member who is at present sitting on the Unionist Benches. He will bear me out that the Honourable Premier was looking very much upset. He was most anxious and repeatedly said that the dispute between him and Mr. Jinnah must be decided that very night. Then he asked my friend Sayed Amjad Ali to approach Mr. Jinnah on his behalf and deliver a message. He did not approve of it and told him that it was a matter directly concerning him (Premier) and Mr. Jinnah and that he did not think it worthwhile to convey messages to Mr. Jinnah. I assured the Honourable Premier that Qaid-i-Azam Mr. Jinnah held him in great esteem and he continued to have the same old regard for him. Then the Honourable Premier repeatedly said that unless a settlement was arrived at this night it will be too late.

Mian Abdul Aziz : It was اچ کی رات

Premier : As I am referred to, I must deny all that the honourable member is saying such as اچ کی رات. Of course, I had to say to any member who came to my house in those days that I was negotiating with Mr. Jinnah. I wished that there should be a settlement honourable to my non-Muslim friends and there was nothing beyond that. Why should the honourable member bring me in and quote me wrongly?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I notice that some of my honourable friends opposite are feeling uneasy and very much worried. On hearing more details from me my friends will come to know that these events form an item of a drama. If the honourable members give a patient hearing to my submissions, they will find that the story of the dismissal of my honourable friend Shaukat Hyat Khan is a grievous tragedy. I was submitting that the Honourable Premier was feeling uneasy, and repeatedly went on saying اچ کی رات.

Premier : I never said اچ کی رات. I take a long range view of things.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I and the Honourable Premier were sitting in the porch. On seeing him very uneasy I could not help asking the Premier as to why he was so upset and whether he had betrayed his own community.

Premier : Sir, it is a lie. Would I allow the honourable member to use the word 'betrayal' in my own house ?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : It is likely that the Honourable Premier will become more uneasy after hearing me and he may even start using strong language.

Premier : I may assure the honourable member that I will not get uneasy.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I was submitting that the Honourable Premier was feeling very much perturbed that night. At about 10 or 11 in the night I believe he had a talk with His Excellency the Governor on the 'phone.

Premier : Again on a point of personal explanation, Sir. It is a lie.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I do not give way. You are a liar.

Premier : I withdraw the word 'lie'. I say that it is an entirely incorrect and baseless statement.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I also withdraw and say that you are entirely an incorrect person. (*Laughter*). The Honourable Premier should control the agitation of his mind. I am afraid, he will feel, more upset on hearing the detailed facts of the case. I was submitting that the Honourable Premier and His Excellency the Governor arrived at a decision on the 'phone. Next day at 12 noon I went to the Civil Secretariat, where I came to know that a meeting of the Cabinet was being held. I do not intend entering into any details as to what happened there. Soon after I met a press reporter who broke to me the news of Sardar Shaukat Hyat's dismissal. I was taken aback and inquired from him the source of his information. He said that the Home Secretary had conveyed the news to the press on 'phone. A *communiqué* was also issued by the Home Secretary in which the news regarding the dismissal of Shaukat Hyat was given. After about five minutes the words "a serious case of grave injustice" were added to the above-mentioned *communiqué*.

Premier : What did the honourable member say to the press when he came out from the Council meeting ?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : What I said was that throughout my life I had never heard of such a shameful act. Immediately after this *communiqué* I issued a statement to the press condemning the action of His Excellency the Governor.

Premier : I am referring to the statement of Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan which he gave to the press after the Cabinet meeting and which was published by all the press.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Let me assure the honourable member that it is not so.

Premier : You were not dismissed. It was he who was dismissed and he gave a statement.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : This is how the dismissal of Sardar Shaukat Hyat was brought about in a hurry. In the first *communiqué* bare news regarding the dismissal of Shaukat Hyat was mentioned and the words "a serious case of injustice" were added later on. All this was done in a haphazard way. The *communiqué* issued in connection with the dismissal of Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan is of great constitutional importance. It is an unparalleled case in the constitutional history of the world. I am sorry to notice that due importance has not been attached to this case of dismissal by eminent Constitutional lawyers of India. In fact it was their bounden duty to study this case minutely and contribute articles to the various papers

condemning the decision of His Excellency the Governor of the Punjab. The dismissal of Sardar Shaukat Hyat is a great insult to the people inhabiting this province. It is an infringement of the very laws of provincial autonomy under which the present Ministry is functioning. Let me bring this point home to the honourable members of this House in general and the Unionist Cabinet in particular, that the Muslim League was justified in not saying a word on the dismissal of Mr. Fazl-ul-Haq, the Premier of Bengal, and Mr. Allah Bux, Premier of Sind. My contention is this that there is a great difference between the dismissal of Sardar Shaukat Hyat and the dismissal of the two Premiers of Bengal and Sind. The Premiers of Bengal and Sind were dismissed at a time when they had ceased to enjoy the confidence of their community. It will not be out of place to mention here that a Governor can dismiss any leader of the party-in-power, when he ceases to enjoy the confidence of his community, but he is not authorised to dismiss a Minister who enjoys the confidence of a great political party. A democratic Premier is one who enjoys the full confidence of the people. Instances in this connection are not wanting. His Excellency the Governor of Bombay could not dare dismiss the Congress Premier of Bombay who was backed only by a majority of one vote in the House. He was not dismissed because a great political party was behind him. It is crystal clear from this that a Governor has no power to dismiss a Premier who enjoys the confidence of the majority of the people in the true sense of the word. My point is that there was no political organisation at the back of Maulvi Fazl-ul-Haq. He was dismissed by the Governor of Bengal when the former's candidates could not be elected in six consecutive by-elections. When the Governor of Bengal came to know that only those members were at the back of Fazl-ul-Haq whom he had promised to grant titles or to provide their relatives with good employments or to grant them rewards he at once asked him to resign. I do not think it will be wrong to say that Malik Khizar Hayat has become the Fazl-ul-Haq of the Punjab. (*Laughter*). He must know that the day a Governor who does not identify himself with the policy of the Premier takes over charge of the province, the latter will have to vacate the seat which he is occupying now. Now, Sir, as to the dismissal of Allah Bux I may also point out that he was also dismissed under the stress of circumstances. He seemed to have an aeroplane at his disposal in which he used to fly from one place to another, one day at Wardha and the next day talking to the Qaid-i-Azam. He had no stable ground to stand upon. Sometimes he joined hands with the Congress and sometimes he was opposed to it. It was not only that. He went so far as to form false and bogus parties which were found not solid enough to face the situation at its worst. Similarly; the Honourable Premier, Khizar Hyat, has formed a bogus party to support him.

Premier : Do not worry about me.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Why ? Are you being reminded of your evil days ? (*Laughter*). Just like you the late Allah Bakhsh belonged neither to the Congress Party nor to the Muslim League. But he wanted to win popularity by adopting back door methods. The poor fellow formed bogus parties as you have formed one—the Unionist Party—and are feeling proud of its so-called solidarity. But, Sir, the Honourable Premier does not seem to know that his party which he is now counting upon will never be able to face the music. He must remember, the day is not far off when all the facts will be exposed by themselves to the Governor who would lose no time in asking him to resign. Now, so far as the dismissal of Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan is concerned it is a writing on the wall and it is no gainsaying the fact that the Mussalmans of the Punjab are at his back. (*Hear, hear*). Not only the Mussalmans of the Punjab but he has now the backing of an All-India Muslim organisation which is being honoured not only in India or in England but in the whole world and which is ruling in the four provinces of India.

Sayed Amjad Ali Shah : And how ?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Not by the help of cut-throats. I assure my honourable friend Sayed Amjad Ali Shah that I would not hesitate in saying that a Government, be it a Congress or a Muslim League Government, is not fit to be called a popular Government if they can carry on by keeping the members of the Opposition behind the bars. It can never be justifiable for any democratic government worth the name though it may be justifiable for a bogus party like the Unionist. It does not become any political party to adopt such repressive policy as the Honourable Premier has adopted in this province. The day is not very far when the present Ministry would be shaken on account of their evil doings. However, what I want to drive at is that the dismissal of Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan was brought about through the sheer weak-mindedness and yes-man policy of the Honourable Premier. Now what happens after the Cabinet meeting comes to an end? The Ministers come out with grave faces. I approached the Honourable Minister for Education and asked him the reasons for the dismissal of Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan. Do you know what was the reply given by Mian Abdul Haye? He said "By Jove! Shaukat Hyat has shown childishness. His Excellency has read out an extract to us from the file concerning the dismissal of Mrs. Durga Parshad in which Shaukat Hyat has written 'I need not go into the merits and demerits of the case but I dismiss her'". Having heard this I was really flabbergasted. I could not believe, on the one hand that Shaukat Hyat could have written such order and on the other hand, I could not disbelieve the words of the Honourable Minister for Education. I do not know whether he intentionally mis-stated the facts regarding the extract read out by the Governor. But, at least, so much I can understand that as he once had the privilege to belong to an independent party and was a staunch follower of Qaid-i-Azam in the Central Assembly, his conscience might have reproached him on witnessing such a drama enacted by His Excellency the Governor. He might have concealed the facts for reasons best known to him. But at that time I thought, he being after all a well educated person, could not misunderstand the extract read out by the Governor. I took his words to be correct. Then I rushed to the room of Sardar Shaukat Hyat and said, "Look here, brother, why you have been dismissed will be discussed later on, but tell me one thing. What was this silly note by you on the file of Mrs. Durga Parshad saying 'I need not go into the merits and demerits of the case but I dismiss her'? Now let me tell you, Sir, what he said to me. He said, "I swear by my God it is all a lie. I have thoroughly gone into the merits of the case and my marginal notes are there on the file. How can they deny this?". I am sorry that I could not have the opportunity to read the statement which was read out by the Honourable Premier in this House, yesterday, as there was only one copy of the statement and I did not know where it had disappeared. But I have an impression in my mind that it was said by the Premier that the orders of Shaukat Hyat were on the file pertaining to the case of Mrs. Durga Parshad. But Mian Sahib said that an extract was read out from the same file in which Shaukat Hyat had written: 'I need not go into the merits and demerits of the case and I dismiss her'. At least now, when the cat is out of the bag we are not prepared to believe the words of Mian Abdul Haye. (*Interruptions*). On my asking him further questions about the extract he tried to argue that His Excellency the Governor could never have read out a wrong extract. But it was a pity that Mian Sahib himself did not understand what was being read out by the Governor. He did not care to know what was that serious case of injustice for which one of his colleagues was being sacked. And to crown it all no *communiqué* was issued by the Director of Information Bureau who is in the habit of issuing long and endless *communiqués* on a small matter like the grant of a takavi loans. Is this not a serious case of injustice?

Premier : May I draw your attention to the fact that the honourable member has been on his legs for two hours yesterday and again to-day? He should now close his speech to give time to the Government benches.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : I would request the honourable member to bring his speech to a close and not to wilfully obstruct the business of the House by misusing his right of speech.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I am stating certain facts. If there is any irrelevancy or repetition in my speech, please stop me. May I say in this connection that the Premier is himself responsible for the situation in which we find ourselves today. He had no earthly justification to bring before this House the question of Mr. Shaukat Hyat's dismissal on a day when we were discussing the General Administration.

Sir, I was saying that the Honourable Premier read something out of his red book under the impression that the people will believe him. He says that Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan was corrupt. As far as Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan is concerned I declare with all the emphasis at my command that he is quite innocent and there is no truth in that allegation. Qaid-i-Azam Jinnah in his speech at Sialkot declared that the Governor was not fit for the responsible office he holds and he ought to be recalled. When a constitutionalist like Mr. Jinnah declared this act of the Government unconstitutional, then it became necessary for the Government to add something more to their previous charge-sheet in order to make it graver and, therefore, they invited the aid of their police officers in the matter and the result of their idiotic inquiries is here before us.

Now I will take Mrs. Durga Parshad's case. It was started under Mr. Taylor and later on Mr. Abdul Hameed examined a few witnesses. He forwarded the case to the Deputy Secretary, who too, in his judgment considered her guilty of the said charges. It will not be out of place if I may mention here that the Deputy Secretary was an officer of the I.C.S. with a long judicial and executive experience to his credit. Previously Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan had sent the case to the special enquiry agency and they too reported that some charges were proved beyond doubt. The report was sent to the administrator. The Deputy Secretary again noted that those charges were proved against the said lady and on the strength of these reports Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan ordered her dismissal. The notes of these officers are considered by the Premier as the privileged documents and are not placed before the House. It is further alleged that all this took place at the instance of the Honourable Minister himself who himself initiated the proceedings. But, Sir, if we may go into the merits of the case then no justice-loving person in the world can think dismissal of the Minister in these circumstances just.

Now I will take up the matter of purchase of land in Ichra. The average price calculated by the Revenue Department is Rs. 342 per kanal whereas Shaukat Hyat-Khan has paid Rs. 650 per kanal. Did he pay a lower price than the actual price?

Now sir, I come to the matter of the Lahore Transport Company and of Sardar Shaukat Hyat's taking loans. As was stated here yesterday he borrowed that money in the form of a crossed cheque. Even a fool will not take bribe in that form. And taking loans is no offence. I can cite examples where people have loaned to their friends to the extent of four to five lakhs without a pro-note even. If it is beyond the honourable members there to help their friends like that, that does not mean that such faithful friends have disappeared from the face of this earth. If I prove that that "Mr. Q" was an old bosom friend of Sardar Shaukat Hyat, they are as close friends as are, for example, Malik Khizar Hayat and Malik Allah Bakhsh, no I should not have said that because I am not sure whether these gentlemen have each other's confidence or not (*laughter*), then it will be quite clear that there was nothing objectionable in his lending money to Sardar Shaukat Hyat through a crossed cheque. Sir, friendships cannot be proved. They exist in the hearts of friends. Still for the satisfaction of these gentlemen who judge things from appearances, I must narrate a few

[**Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan.**]

facts. The friendship between Sardar Shaukat Hyat and Mr. Q. is 12 years old. At the time of the marriage of Sardar Shaukat Hyat, two years ago, this Mr. "Q" was his best-man though he belonged to a different community. Mr. Deputy Speaker, you yourself come of a very respectable and noble family. You know that there had been such friendships between two persons belonging to different communities in the past, exist at present and shall continue in future. There shall remain such ideal relations between the gentlemen belonging to different communities in spite of my friend Dr. Sir Gokul Chand (*laughter*). Well, as I was saying, this Mr. Q was the best-man of Sardar Shaukat Hyat at the time of his marriage. He went to Amritsar in the same car in which the bridegroom and his father were sitting. He travelled back from Amritsar in the car with the bridegroom and the bride. Now, I ask the House to judge for itself whether it was objectionable on the part of a friend who had such close relations with Sardar Shaukat Hyat to lend him some money at the time of need. These people who do not know what love is, who have disgraced the very word 'love' by their treacherous acts, laugh. Such things are beyond their comprehension. They are incapable of thinking except in terms of *jagirs*, squares of land and permits. Sincerity and love are things they know nothing of. But I must tell them that real and sincere friends can go far beyond that even. I ask Sir William : is there no person in the country who borrows money from a bank or a friend to invest it in business? Suppose I think that if I buy some land to-day and sell it after a year or so after building flats on it I can earn profits and I borrow money from a friend to invest in such a scheme, will it be something very strange?

Premier : On a point of order, Sir.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I am not going to give way.

Premier : Sir, I refer to rule 68.2 (7), which is as follows :—

A member while speaking shall not use his right of speech for the purpose of wilfully and persistently obstructing the business of the Assembly.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : I have already pointed out to the honourable member this very thing and I will again appeal to him to wind up his speech.

Premier : Otherwise I shall have to move a closure motion.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I must state all the facts of the case. If you throttle me I shall leave it to the public to judge. (*Interruptions*). Now, sir, I cannot stop this unhealthy competition between Nawab Muzaffar Ali Khan and Sayed Amjad Ali for ministership. Sardar Shaukat Hyat borrowed two sums, one of Rs. 60,000 and the other of Rs. 20,000. The former sum was borrowed on a date when there was no talk of any bus service, and the latter sum had been borrowed long before the former sum. You can see the dates. Dr. Gokul Chand Narang will bear me out that no businessman will be prepared to give one lakh of rupees as bribe unless he is sure of making Rs. 2 lakhs by doing it. (*Dr Sir Gokul Chand Narang : I know nothing of these things*). I referred to Dr. Sahib only because he belongs to a class of shrewd businessmen, otherwise I know he is an honest gentleman and never indulges in such things. (*Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : Thank you very much.*) I ask my friend Sir Manohar Lal and that businessman Sayed Amjad Ali whether any businessman would be prepared to pay one lakh of rupees as bribe for something which will not yield him even Rs. 60,000 during coming 15 years. What an absurd and baseless allegation! I ask my friend Sardar Baldev Singh whether he does not issue permits worth lakhs every day. Suppose he makes some transactions at a time when a permit has been issued by him to a businessman, who earns lakhs—will it follow from that that the Honourable Minister accepted bribe from that businessman? (*Interruptions*) Kindly try to follow what I say. I am not laying any charges against you. Now, what can I do? I say, "I do not lay charges against you" and they say, "Why

do you not " ? Perhaps they think that now that they are in that Party, such allegations against them cannot degrade them any further? They say: we are considered as traitors (*Qaum froshes*) and what do we care for public opinion.

Minister for Development : I rise on a point of order. My honourable friend Raja Sahib has remarked that we are *qaum frosh* and that we have absolutely no respect for public opinion. He suggests that we are traitors and sellers of our nation. I repudiate the suggestion and strongly object to his remarks.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : So far as *qaum frosh* is concerned my reference is only to the Muslim Ministers and not to the other non-Muslim Ministers. He has, rather, dug deep the roofs of his community.

Minister for Development : He has said that I and my other colleagues sitting here are *qaum froshes*, traitors and sellers of our nation. I strongly object to these remarks.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I am sorry the Honourable Minister is worried over nothing. I have not referred to him as a *qaum frosh*. He in fact has strengthened the position of his community. He has purchased my community. He is not at all a *qaum frosh*. He has done so much for his community that his deeds are on the lips of everybody. Had I been a member of his community I would have held him in great esteem. My reference of course is to Malik Khizar Hayat Khan who refused to come to a settlement with Qaid-i-Azam because it would not be acceptable to Sir Chhotu Ram and Sir Manohar Lal. He is a Muslim and my reference is to him.

Premier : Sir, if the honourable member continues in this way, I will have to move for closure.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : I do not propose to accept the closure motion at this stage as it would bring the discussion of the demand to a close. But I appeal to the honourable member to finish his speech ; otherwise I will have to call upon the honourable member to resume his seat as he is wilfully obstructing the business of the House.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : This is a very important matter and I do not see any reason why the Honourable Premier should not allot another day to discuss it at length. If he is very anxious about it, let him give one day more for it. I was submitting that the Honourable Premier has done a most objectionable thing inasmuch as he has expressed his opinion in regard to a serious case or cases which he has threatened to start against Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan. I will read out his words. He has put forward two theories. One is that it is the colleagues of Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan who had forced him to make this statement and the second is in regard to the threat of starting cases against him. He says :—

"If anything I have stated tends to reflect on the conduct of Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan as a Minister and may possibly prejudice any case or cases which may be brought against him subsequently"

The Honourable Premier says that serious cases would be instituted against him. Let me remind him that a similar blunder was committed by the Congress Premier of the Central Provinces Mr. Shukla. It is a famous case. In a certain village communal riots broke out. An adjournment motion was moved in the Central Provinces Legislative Assembly and Mr. Shukla, the Premier, during his speech on the motion expressed his opinion on the merits of the case. The case was challaned and some persons were convicted. An appeal was filed in the Nagpur High Court. The said court took strong objection to the expression of opinion by the Premier in the Legislative Assembly and remarked that it was most objectionable on the part of the Premier to have expressed his opinion in regard to a case which was likely to be *sub-judice*, or was under police enquiries. If the Honourable Premier is harbouring an evil intention of dragging innocent Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan to law courts and wants

[Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan.]

to involve him in a case or cases in order to harass him, let him remember that he has already prejudiced his case by making a statement of about 26 pages against him. Such parallel cannot be found in any other democracy of the world. His statement has appeared in the press and subordinate courts must have read it, and it may influence their judgments. The Premier has in fact played the role of a prosecuting sub-inspector. Where a Premier plays the role of a prosecuting sub-inspector, what reliance can be placed on the subordinate courts? Sir, when the judgment of the Nagpur High Court was brought to the notice of Mahatma Gandhi, he wrote a famous article about it in which he condemned the action of Mr. Shukla. I regret that the same blunder has been committed by the Honourable Premier. Malik Khizar Hayat Khan should now forget his old habits when because of personal enmities and jealousies he used to bring false suits and secure false evidences against his adversaries. The position of the Premier is much above these things. Now these tactics will not help him. Let him forget those incidents when he took deputation after deputation to Commissioner so that a particular gentleman of his district may not be appointed as an honorary magistrate. (Premier: At the time the honourable member was also Secretary of the District Board). He is the Premier now and he should forget these things. Let him rise a little above them. It is our misfortune that such persons are at the helm of affairs in the Punjab. I have learnt through a very reliable source that the Honourable Premier and some of the Ministers, I do not say all, have decided between themselves not to give quarter to any opponent of the Unionist Party irrespective of their personal relations. That is the policy in pursuance of which this step has been taken. God only knows what they intend to do in future. I know of Ministers who are sitting on those benches, I do not want to mention their names, who used to say that Sir Sikander Hyat-Khan had one very bad habit that even though he might have had a dual with Sir Gokul Chand Narang in the House he embraced him as soon as he approached his car and even if Lala Duni Chand Ambalvi, Dr. Gopi Chand Bhargava or other Congress members had used strong language against him in the Assembly still he talked and laughed with them as soon as he went out in the lobby. An Honourable Minister once complained to me that Sir Sikander Hyat-Khan was a strange fellow in that he would embrace men like Dr. Gokul Chand Narang outside the Chamber even though they had hurled abuses on him in the Chamber. He never bore a grudge on the basis of adverse opinions expressed against him during the course of debates in the Assembly Chamber. In fact he fully appreciated the position of his political adversaries who opposed him in the House. So far as his personal relations were concerned he had absolutely no malice or enmity against those whose political views were against his Government.

12 Noon.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Honourable member has taken enough time. I would request him to resume his seat.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : As long as you are sitting in that Chair I have the greatest respect for you and for the Chair. I shall obey at once every order given by you, but may I most humbly place before you that here we have certain rules of procedure which have to be followed and you will be pleased to observe that so far as this demand is concerned there is no time limit. The Premier has read out a rule that the moment a member starts abusing his powers, abusing his right of speech, then the Speaker can intervene. Now, may I submit to you that throughout my speech for one hour there has not been a single occasion where you pulled me up for repetition or for irrelevancy. I now submit to you that the abuse of right means to indulge in irrelevancy or to indulge in repetition. As long as a member is speaking to the point, he is relevant, I may assure you that for the Speaker to presume that he

is abusing his right of speech at the request of the Premier will reveal only this much that the Premier's word is law. As long as you are sitting in that Chair I would request you kindly to follow the rules strictly. You have appealed to me and I am very grateful to you for that appeal. I may assure you that I have no intention of taking a minute more than is absolutely necessary. I promise that I shall not repeat any of my arguments. I give an undertaking that I will not be irrelevant and if in spite of that you order me that I should not proceed further, it is for you—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Before the Honourable Premier pointed out that rule to me, I had already made an appeal to the honourable member under that very rule. How long does the honourable member wish to speak?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: In deference to your wishes I will close up in half an hour but I can assure you that that will mean that I will not have my complete say in the matter.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I would appeal to Raja Sahib to finish his speech in 15 minutes.

Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram: On a point of order. I think it is not fair to our party. Reputation of a lady is concerned and, therefore, we should be given time to speak.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: I am beholden to you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, for having given me this opportunity to speak. But I have yet to complete my case. According to rules of procedure of the House you cannot stop me so long as I do not abuse my right of speech. I am neither repeating anything nor indulging in irrelevancy.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I again appeal to the honourable member not to take too much time of the House.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: I would also appeal, through you, Sir, to the Honourable Premier to allow us a separate day for discussing the question of Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan's dismissal from Ministership. I hope the Chair would convey this respectful appeal to the Premier even as the appeal of the Premier is being conveyed to me through the Chair. (Premier: The honourable member may not collapse like the one who recently collapsed in the Central Assembly). I cannot help recalling to my memory the days of childhood of the Honourable Premier when during the last Great War he used to sing in the company of other lads, the following line:—

جرمن کی توپوں میں کترے پڑیں

But he should realise now that words cut no bones. He should refrain from expressing his bad wishes.

I would like to submit for the consideration of the Premier as well as other Ministers that to-day General Administration is under consideration and the question of the dismissal of Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan has been discussed just by the way. This incident was the beginning of an era of lawlessness and unconstitutionality in the Punjab. We used to feel great pride in the permanent services for their impartial discharge of duties. But to-day in the Punjab even some of the officers belonging to the I. C. S. and the P. C. S. have departed from their customary impartiality. It is a pity indeed that even the permanent services have come under the influence of the temporary ministry of the Unionists. This Ministry has undermined our faith in the permanent services by corrupting them. Muslim lambardars and zaildars are being suspended or dismissed for their pro-League inclinations. Why do the I. C. S. or P. C. S. officers behave like this? Because the Premier personally behaves in this manner. The Premier sits over the recommendations of Deputy Commissioners and Commissioners for nominating zamindars to various posts when he finds that the nominees of the local officers happen to be those with whom he does not have good personal relations or who have some regard for the Muslim League. I know a case of nomination to a district board which the

[**Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan**]

Premier is keeping pending for the last four years. Under these circumstances the permanent officers are compelled to act according to the suggestions of the Ministry. When the Premier begins to behave like this, the administration is likely to be become corrupt throughout the province. A Persian couplet aptly applies to this case and it runs as under :—

چوں کفر از کعبه بر خیزد کعبه ماند مسلمانى

Adverting to the charge of the Premier against Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan, I may point out that if it is a crime to grant a licence or contract to a person after calling him to the residence of a Minister, then every one of the Ministers must be treated as a culprit. You can inquire from the Honourable Minister of Finance how rumours were set afloat against him when he was Minister of Education with regard to the text books and the royalty granted for their printing. People often give expression to baseless charges on flimsy grounds. But responsible persons do not own them and do not take drastic action on the basis of unwarranted charges and allegations. My honourable friend, the Minister for Finance, should not forget those old days when he was Minister of Education when wild allegations of corruption were made against him. The House will agree with me that it is well nigh impossible to find a person who can claim to have led an untainted life. To err is human. Everybody has one weakness or another. But the manner in which Sardar Shaukat Hyat has been dismissed, shows that all notions of civilisation and morality have been thrown to the wind by those who are at the helm of affairs of the province. I think it would have been meet and proper for the Honourable Premier if he had got up and boldly stated that Shaukat Hyat had been removed because he being an out and out Muslim Leaguer, did not subscribe to the creed of the Unionist Party. But to use unscrupulous means to throw mud on a promising youth and then throw him out of the Cabinet, is the depth of degradation to which only my honourable friends opposite can stoop. However, I would draw the attention of the Honourable Premier to the wholesome and sound advice contained in the *rubai* of the celebrated Umar Khyam :—

باز آ باز از آنچه هستى باز آ گر کانر دگور بت پرستى باز آ
اين درگه ناميدى سنت صد بار اگر کعبه شکستى باز آ

I pray, may the light dawn upon the Honourable Premier and he should see reason that it is an unpardonable sin to be a traitor to one's own community. He should refrain from riding rough shod over the mandate of the people who have conferred on him the highest office in the province. It would not do well for him to raise the standard of revolt against the wishes of the Muslim nation.

Premier : When did the honourable member take upon himself the duties of the champion of his community ?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : It is the All-India Muslim League which truly champions the cause of the Muslims of India. None, high or low, can dare to disobey its mandate. The results of flouting its orders are writ large on the wall.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : But we are for Punjab for Punjabis.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : 'Punjab for Punjabis' true, but Doctor Sahib, are you happy now ?

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : No, but I shall be more unhappy if you are in power. There is no room for communalists here.

Premier : The Punjab will be as it is.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : But the difficulty is that the actions of my honourable friends belie their professions. Their imagination rises to strange heights. A resolution is moved by the honourable member Sayed Amjad Ali Shah that the British Government be requested to allot a colony out of the conquered territory of

Japan with a view to enabling the Government to reward their demobilised soldiers by giving them lands there. What a funny idea of getting Japanese territory for the benefit of the ex-soldiers! I think it would be better if the Premier demands for the colony of the Andamans as it would be the best and most suitable place for him and his yes-men. (*Laughter*).

Premier : But what is wrong in it? If we can defend the British commonwealth, why cannot we share it?

Captain Naunihal Singh Mann : We demand it on the strength of our share in the war effort.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : My honourable friend is talking of his share in the war effort. He should remember that by merely donning the uniform of a Captain, colonies are not conquered. (*Laughter*). As to war effort, my constituency stands at the top of the whole of the province. It has supplied the largest number of recruits, so much so that no major boy is to be found in the *ilaga*. All have gone to the army.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : Is it not against the policy of the Muslim League?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : No. The Muslim League is not opposed to the war effort. It is an insinuation. It is a mischief and an intrigue if one says so. Well, I was saying that my honourable friends were keen to have a colony beyond the high seas for the colonization of their ex-soldiers. But what is the object behind this demand? They want to keep away all these enlightened young officers who would return to this land after liberating the countries from the clutches of the enemy. As you are aware, Sir, these soldiers have breathed free air. Their outlook has widened. Their views have broadened as a result of contact with the people of Europe who have enjoyed freedom. When they return, do you think, Sir, they would allow their countrymen to be governed by such slavish-minded persons like my honourable friends opposite? When the people would elect them to the legislatures, they would either occupy Congress or Muslim League benches. (*Cheers*). I may, therefore, tell my honourable friends that in this way they would not succeed in their intention to keep the Punjab under bondage or slavery.

Premier : Would you support special representation for ex-soldiers?

Mr. Deputy Speaker : The honourable member's 15 minutes are over.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : If you order me, I shall sit down. You will be responsible for what you do.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : The honourable member has been using his right of speech wilfully to interrupt the business of this House. Is it the pleasure of the House that I should stop him now? (*Honourable members :* Yes, yes.)

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Sir, all the time you have been here and you never pulled him up for irrelevancy or for repetition. It is a great injustice that you are doing.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Order order. I would request the honourable member to resume his seat according to the wishes of the House.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Am I to understand from your orders that you will not give me 15 minutes more to wind up my speech?

Mr. Deputy Speaker : I have made so many appeals to you and I have already given you 15 minutes to wind up your speech.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I thank you very much and I resume my seat. I am sorry that the Rules have not helped me. But I strongly protest against the domination of the treacherous friends on the Treasury benches because their will is to prevail.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam (Rawalpindi Division Towns, Muhammadan, Rural) (Urdu): Sir, we find in this House certain honourable members, who, being a queer hotch potch of heterogenous elements, are disgustingly vociferous. Before coming here, they make rehearsals.

Mrs. Duni Chand: On a point of order. Sir, I would request you to be a little considerate to the lady members and allow them to defend the rights of women. I sent you my point of order in writing.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: But I hold that it is no point of order.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam: Sir, I was saying that certain honourable members before coming to this House, make rehearsals at their own homes in connection with what they have to blurt out here. First, they place before them a mirror and

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad: And also they keep a 'lota' before them. (Laughter).

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam: But, may I tell my honourable friends why the memory of 'lota' remains ever fresh with them? It is because the women-folk better understand the structure of its nozzle and the golden principles underlying it, since they have to handle it daily while scrubbing it. Well, Sir, I was submitting that certain honourable members of this House make rehearsals of their speeches in their homes. They seat themselves before a looking glass. Then they gesticulate, utter words like 'toady', 'traitor', etc., and practice the use of all sorts of abusive language. After this they come here and repeat those speeches *ad nauseum*. Mr. Deputy Speaker, their conduct calls for an advice from you, viz.—

— شیخ گفناؤ تو شریفانہ چاہئے

Lala Bhagat Ram Choda: On a point of order, Sir. May I know whether the word "lota" with regard to a member of the House, is parliamentary or unparliamentary?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, order.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam: Sir, since it is the habit of the honourable members opposite to shout and cry, I would request you to ignore all that they say. The honourable members opposite have become dreamers when they come over here. They have undergone a strange mental change to such an extent that they do not say what they mean and do not mean what they say. In fact they have lost their valid reasoning. At present they dream two things. The first dream is about the pact between the Congress and the League. It will not be out of place to mention here that those who wish to bring about the Congress-League settlement, are highly impatient. I think the day will be a bad day for the Congress when she comes to terms with the Muslim League.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh: These words are being uttered by an honourable member who proved a traitor to the Congress some time back.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam: What I wish to submit is this that the Muslim League has made it a point to come to a settlement with the Congress. I am reminded of a story in this connection. Once a person asked the daughter of a weaver whether she was married. The girl replied that she was only half-married. The questioner could not understand as to what she meant by saying that she was half-married. He thereupon asked her to let him know as to why she was only half-married. The girl replied that she had agreed to marry a certain person and now the rest depended upon him. In the same way the Muslim League is prepared to come to terms with the Congress and now it is for the Congress to do the rest. In fact it is the devout wish of the Muslim League to patch up the quarrel with the Congress some way or the other. But I can say without any hesitation that when these crippled Muslim League members

are roped in by the Congress, they would be asked to cease to co-operate with the Government. But I wonder whether they will be able to part with their high sounding titles of Nawabs and Khan Bahadurs. So far as the Muslim League members are concerned, I wish to submit that they have amongst them such title holders as Nawab of Mamdot, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohy-ud Din and Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali (*Interruption*). My honourable friend, Mian Abdul Aziz is feeling uneasy and has felt this remark sting perhaps because he is not a Nawab or a Khan Bahadur himself. I really fail to understand the mentality of the honourable members opposite who are no less than the professional platform-speakers, and who declare at the top of their houses that they are one with the Congress. So far as the Congress is concerned I wish to point out that it is the only organisation of honest and patriotic persons and its goal is quite different from that of the Muslim League. (*Uproar*).

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Is that why you left the Congress ?

Rana Nasrullah Khan : That is why you left the congress and attained the title of Be painde ka lota.

← پندے کا لٹا

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Here is a nincompoop who is out to support Mr. Jinnah. My honourable friend Sardar Sohan Singh Josh should know that I am with the Congress if it changes its war policy. It is really unbecoming on the part of the honourable members supporting Mr. Jinnah, to bring forward such baseless and unconvincing interruptions. So far as the present war is concerned, we find two kinds of people. One section actually fights in the battlefield and the other, which is termed as the sympathiser of the war is busy making contributions with a view to grinding its own axes. This section is also busy in carrying on the propaganda work for reading news in "Nawaye Wakat" and the "Zamindar". The latter function is carried on by the Muslim League members in connection with the war. What I wish to point out is this that the Muslim League members do not do anything practical but offer lip sympathies in connection with the prosecution of the war. The House will also remember that Qaid-i-Azam Jinnah had some time back made the following remarks about the August Resolution of the Congress : "It is a pistol at the Muslims' throat". Sir, I am really surprised to see the Muslim League members making speeches on the floor of the House about the Congress detainees. They are showing this lip sympathy with the Congress detainees with a view to keep the Congress in good humour. It will not be out of place to mention here that the Congress knows it full well that the Muslim League is the worst communal organisation. The Muslim League members of this House want to please the Congress by asking questions and making lengthy speeches about the detainees.

I would like to bring this point home to the honourable members of the House in general and the Muslim League members in particular that the chief principle of the late Sir Chhotu Ram was to keep politics away from religion. He was always of the view that religion and politics should remain aloof from each other. This very principle is undoubtedly the watchword of the Congress.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : What about the Rajaji formula ?

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Sir, the Muslim League members have dreamt that the Congress-League rapprochement is imminent. But the Congress has made it a condition precedent to any settlement that religion must be kept at arms length from politics. Now, Sir, how will this be possible when my Muslim League friends always keep religion before every thing ?

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Has the honourable member any religion ?

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Sir, I wish to bring this point home to the honourable members opposite that they should abandon this idea. The Congress-League settlement will never become a reality. If ever Congress coalesces with the Muslim League, it will lose its national character there and then.

I wish to make a few submissions in regard to the Budget. I do not intend to enter into any details. I wish to be brief.

Government has not spent an adequate amount to root out communalism from the province. The first and the foremost duty of the Government should be to spend enough money for eradicating communalism in the province. If they want that there should be communal harmony in the province, then they must take suitable steps to put an end to communalism. Communalism is looked upon with contempt by every one in the world. It is a sin against God and crime against the State to indulge in communalism. It is a sin against God and man and that is why the whole world is averse to it. Muslim League is a body which in itself is steeped in communalism and is trying to spread it among the public.

I am surprised how those people who are themselves communalists to the core have the hardihood to get up and make long speeches saying nothing substantial except hurling abuses on the Ministers. They take pleasure in this dirty game in order to have cheap notoriety in the gutter press, so that the public may know that they have made a common cause with the Congress in criticising the Government. I may submit that so far as the Unionist Party, Muslim League and the Khalsa League are concerned their aims and objects are almost the same. More or less they have the same goal as the Congress has. Now if we have any difference with the Congress Party it is due to its policy and on the question of policy many people have left the Congress. (*Honourable Members :* Why did you leave it ?) I also left the Congress Party for having differences with its policy. But my honourable friends should know, once a Congressman always a Congressman. We had differences with its war policy and agrarian policy. As the House is aware of the fact that weakness with the Congress in the Punjab came when they opposed the agrarian Bills. If to-day the Congress changes its war policy I can say with full confidence that a majority of the Punjab province will join the Congress. However, I may tell my honourable friends sitting opposite who are simple enough to bank on the possibility of a Congress-League understanding that they are living in a fool's paradise. This is practically impossible. The Congress with its ideal of unalloyed nationalism, can never make common cause with the Muslim League which is reactionary, communal and thoroughly demoralised. The present attitude of the Muslim League Assembly Party has reminded me of an interesting anecdote which you must have heard. Once a number of fairies were kidnapped by giants and everybody got frightened. Even she-frogs hid themselves. Somebody asked them why they hid themselves. They replied "After all, we are also of the female sex." Similar is the case with my honourable friends sitting opposite. I would like to ask them, while every sort of hardship is borne by the Congressmen who do not hesitate going even to jails for the sake of their mother-country and who also make sacrifices for the achievement of freedom, with what face does the Muslim League come forward to claim credit for all these sacrifices ? I ask, does the Muslim League deserve any credit for these sacrifices made for the freedom of India ? Not at all. The record of the Muslim League is hopeless. It has made no sacrifice worth the name nor has it undergone any hardship at the hands of the British. Its name is besmeared with rank communalism. I, therefore, wonder how the members belonging to this communal party while throwing mud on other parties and practising abusive language for the Government do not feel a bit ashamed over it.

Now, sir, let me say a few words with regard to their second dream which is agitating their minds. It is the glamour of Treasury benches which has dazzled their eyes into blindness. It has reminded me of a couplet which says ;

نہ پرچہ نسخہ مرہم جراحت دل
کہ اس میں (بڑا) الماس جز و اعظم ہے

My honourable friends may discuss the proceedings of the House, they may have their say on matters placed before the House, they may come out with their objections and complaints, we do not mind. But we are greatly astonished to see our friends stooping so low as to use abusive and insulting language against the Treasury benches. However they are helpless in this matter, as the second dream of occupying the Treasury benches has made them uneasy in their present seats. The idea of capturing the Ministry is worrying them all the time. Then, Sir, who knows that it is not these very friends who counselled Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan to purchase lands and make bus transactions and become wealthy overnight? I am afraid Sardar Shaukat Hyat is not counting upon real friends because even now they want to make him a scapegoat and are saying to him " *Ja bacha charh ja sulī par*". I think you are well aware of the fact that it is the honourable members sitting opposite who have been forcing the Honourable Premier to give a detailed and consolidated statement regarding the dismissal of Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan, in this august House. The Honourable Premier had no mind to disclose the reasons leading to Shaukat Hyat's dismissal but as I have stated he was goaded by my honourable friends to make a categorical statement on the floor of this House. Now when he has done it and opened his lips they are stunned and feeling restive. Sir, the last night has proved very useful to my honourable friend Raja Ghazanfar Ali who has to-day completely packed his speech with mis-statements and absurdities left over by him yesterday. To-day he has made allegations which he could not make yesterday. Blessed be this night which has come to his help! It was stated by him yesterday that talks were going on at the residence of the Honourable Premier while the Minister for Education and the Minister for Development were also present. May I ask whether at that time Raja Sahib was sitting at the door? (*Interruptions*). I was submitting, Sir, that it is these friends of Sardar Shaukat Hyat who have ruined him. Even now they do not seem to be pleased with this present ruin and I am afraid they will bring the poor fellow to a complete ruin. Now, Mr. Deputy Speaker, it will be very interesting to know how the remarks of Raja Sahib have become contradictory overnight. Look to his bravery. Yesterday he tried to have flings at the Governor and today he seems to have realised his folly. This is one of the miracles wrought over night. Being frightened of what he said yesterday he has now tried to atone for it by saying that personally he has great respect for the Governor and he is his great admirer.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : On a point of personal explanation. I never said I am his great admirer.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : My friends, as I have stated, are helpless. Their eyes are dazzled by the glitter of the Treasury benches, which are shining like "almas". It is interesting to remark that this morning when Raja Sahib picked up the newspaper, had a glance at the report of his bitter remarks with regard to His Excellency the Governor's attitude in connection with the dismissal of Shaukat Hyat, he thought it fit to atone for it by saying that personally he has great respect for the Governor. It was also during the last night that an idea of changing his words came into his mind. I ask, how can such men as these claim to be leaders of any progressive party? Now see their pranks. There is no denying the fact that it is the Congressmen who go to jails. It is the Congressman who die for their country. It is the Congressmen who make sacrifices for the freedom of India. But at the time of reward these people who have not got the courage to face the music have the cheek to come out for their own share. I wonder why these people do not feel ashamed

(Dr. Sh. Md. Alam)

of it. Not even that. I would say, these people are not strong enough to face even a single threat, as it was said by Ghalib :—

دھمکی میں مر گیا جو نہ باب نبرد تھا
عشق نبرد پیشہ طلبگار مرد تھا

Sir, it is all the more interesting that they complain as to why C.I.D. reporters go to report the Muslim League meetings and not the Zamindara meetings. My brave friends are not strong enough to stand this interference and are making much hue and cry over it. As you are aware, Sir, yesterday Raja Sahib said, " If the Premier has got facts with him, why does he not start a case against Shaukat Hyat ? " Last night he reviewed his remarks and to-day he comes with his mind changed. This time he decided to say certain things in the House which could easily prejudice the mind of a magistrate. To illustrate the change that has taken place in his remarks overnight I may point out that he was clever enough to refer to a case put before the High Court in regard to Pandit Shukla. He has unnecessarily dragged this matter into the discussion. This is also one of the miracles worked over last night. In fact the threat of prosecution seems to have nonplussed Raja Sahib and his other friends sitting on the opposite benches, and that is why Raja Sahib is now trying to find out a defence for the sacked Minister.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Are you going to be one of the advocates in this prosecution ?

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : If ever a tribunal is appointed in this connection I shall choke the Muslim League to death.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Is this justice ?

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Yes, for communists this is the only action. These communists happen to be a strange sort of people. They shift ground so soon. To-day they are working in accordance with a mandate issued from their headquarters, Russia. To-morrow come orders from M. N. Roy and they make common cause with the Muslim League.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Who is M. N. Roy ? He is also a traitor like you

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Sir, I want to know why Raja Sahib is now sitting wonderstruck and perplexed. A little while ago he was advising the Honourable Premier not to be perplexed and now he himself is feeling likewise. I assure him that at present there is no need for that. He has wasted no time and has prepared the defence even in this one night. I would advise him and his party that at the time of trial they should request the Government that this case should be tried somewhere outside the province of the Punjab. Sind and the Frontier will be very suitable for this purpose. In Sind the affairs are more or less settled now and in the Frontier Province too, they are awaiting their fate and it is now a matter of days only. In Bengal they are running the government with the aid of 22 European members and that province for such heroic trial will not be very bad. Their dream of the formation of a national government will remain an unfulfilled dream for ever. If the Congress forms a national government with their collaboration, then, it will be signing its death warrant. I was saying that they dreamt two things and one was the formation of a national government and that is now shattered for ever and it will remain so.

Now, I will take up the matter of Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan's dismissal. Sir, you may judge it for yourself that when a constable or a patwari accepts an insignificant sum as a bribe, great hue and cry is raised against him and questions for his trial as well as dismissal are put. But it is a strange thing that when an important person accepts two or three lakhs of rupees unlawfully he is ignored. If we want to establish an independent administration in our province, then we must set examples of the big persons, so that ordinary people may learn a lesson. Three things have been said in

this connection. First, an act of grave injustice, secondly, his transactions in Ichhra lands and thirdly, his connection with the League. They argue that it is just possible that he might have committed a mistake in exercising his powers in the case of Mrs. Durga Pasrhad and for it he should have been pardoned. According to them dismissal for that was not necessary. Then they say that he borrowed money from his friend which was not a bribe. They say that he would not have accepted bribe in the form of a crossed cheque. In the heat of argument they forget that in this matter there were two parties. It was the tactfulness of the other that they paid in the form of a crossed cheque and the other party could not detect it.

Appointment of the Honourable Premier has been declared unconstitutional. They must be remembering that we all assembled at Mamdot House to elect our leader. Although I pointed out that the notice was very insufficient, yet they proceeded with the election, because they thought that it was not possible to assemble more members than those who were present there. He was elected unanimously our leader. Can there be a better way of electing a party leader than this one? They consider it unconstitutional. We know that lambardari is conferred upon the people in succession but we never heard that ministership may also be conferred this way. The Governor appointed Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan by his special powers and later on he was obliged to dismiss that young man and correct his previous mistake by that act.

In the end, I will submit that unwise friends of this young man are doing him a great wrong. They had been the cause of his ruin and still they do not seem to be tired of that. They are still advising him, and God knows where they will lead him.

Khan Sahib Raja Fateh Khan (Rawalpindi East, Muslim, Rural) (*Urdu*): Sir, it has been alleged by the Muslim League Party here that we have been responsible for breaking the solidarity of the Muslim ranks here and degrading them in the eyes of others. I must make it clear at the very beginning that not we but they themselves are responsible for this state of affairs. But to be fair there are two types of men in that party. There are some who have joined that party for their personal gains. There are some others who have joined that party because they sincerely believe that Muslim interests demand that. So far as the latter gentlemen are concerned, I have great respect for them. Theirs is only an error of judgment. But as regards those who have joined that party for the sake of ministries and other personal gains, I must say to them that they are bringing disunity among us for personal gains and they should be ashamed of that. They say:—

ہمارے نہ اٹھنے ہم پولیٹیکل انٹریگ سے
اور کچھ نہ ہو سکا تو نوٹ جائینگے لہج سے

We are Muslims. We want the Muslims to prosper. But at the same time we want to be fair to all the communities. Islam teaches us that. It is the order of Allah that we should be fair and just to all.

Raja Sahib in his speech yesterday referred to the late lamented Sir Sikander Hyat-Khan. He was our late chief and a very popular and beloved Premier of this province. But I must remind Raja Sahib that the policy of the late Sir Sikander was to remain with the Muslim League in All-India matters, but so far as this province was concerned his policy was the same as is being followed by us today, viz., the policy of being fair and just to all the communities of this province. That was the Sikander-Jinnah Pact. If the Muslim League had remained true to that Pact, it would not have interfered in matters of this province as it did. Raja Sahib was pleased to describe at length yesterday how the late Sir Sikander had resigned from the membership of the Defence Council at the order of the League President. If fairmindedness, justice and truth have not quite disappeared from the face of this earth, I will inform Raja Sahib that when the late Sir Sikander sent for all the members of his party before going to see Mr. Jinnah and asked their opinion, it was Raja Sahib himself who had

(K. S. Raja Fateh Khan)

suggested to him that he should take with him the resignations from the Muslim League of all the 80 members here and use them as a threat, and he himself gave his resignation in the hands of the late Sir Sikander. Mr. Jinnah asked the late Sir Sikander whether he was a member of the Defence Council in the capacity of the Premier of the Punjab or in the capacity of the representative of the Muslims of India. Sir Sikander said that he was member of the Defence Council in the capacity of the Punjab Premier. At that Mr. Jinnah showed him the letter of the Governor of Bombay in which it was clearly stated that he was a member of the Defence Council in his capacity of being a representative of the Muslims and not in his capacity of the Punjab Premier. After that the late Sir Sikander resigned from the Defence Council. Coming back when he told his party that he had resigned for such and such reasons, we all congratulated him that he had not caused disruption among the Muslims by disobeying the orders of the Muslim League President. In Islam contracts are very greatly respected. When we Muslims enter into any contract with anybody we do our best to abide by the conditions of that contract. That is what Sir Sikander did, and that is what we are still doing. But my friends there have denied the very existence of the Sikander-Jinnah Pact. Raja Sahib in his very eloquent speech yesterday tried to appeal to our sentiments in the name of the late Sir Sikander. I say, if regard to Sir Sikander is what they are doing, then it is better for us to remain alone, but if the regard to him means that we should be true to the policy laid down by him then we have more regard for him than that party. They may say anything they like, but history will show that we were not traitors to our nation.

In the end I appeal to that party in the name of Islam not to break the solidarity of the Muslims of this province and degrade them in the eyes of the people outside. Let them come over to this side and join hands with the Muslim majority so that we all may be able to do something for the economic uplift of our Muslim brethren. Islam has laid down such beautiful principles for the economic betterment of its followers that if we act upon them on the right lines we can bring prosperity to our nation. Suppose we organise 'zakat' all over the province. Will it not be a great step forward by us? So, let them come here and join hands with us to serve Islam and the Muslims. Let them take a page out of the history of Imam Hussain that he stopped war and withdrew because he found Muslims on both sides. Let them also come to these benches for the sake of Muslim unity.

Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram (West Central Punjab, Indian Christian): I hope you will allow me to stand in the passage on the edge of my seat as the ground there is very slippery. (*Honourable Members from Opposition benches:*

1 p. m. Question be now put.) It is very painful for me to speak on this subject because of the great regard I have cherished and I still cherish for the family of late Sir Sikander Hyat-Khan and I do not wish to say anything which might injure Sardar Shaukat-Hyat Khan's susceptibility. I do not wish to say anything offensive to him, but the sense of public duty impels me that I should place before this House a few details in connection with this case as there was a gross piece of injustice or travesty of justice done by Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan, possibly because he was misled by his friends. The real actors in this case were outside the arena of the Government. The genesis of the case is to be traced to the Lahore Corporation or the Lahore Municipality. As I have got little time at my disposal, I will shorten my speech and will not refer to all the matters in detail. Suffice it to say that in 1941 a lady teacher was dismissed for very good reasons. I am not going to name her here although I know the details. I do not think it is good on my part if I name the daughters and sisters of other people and drag them here unnecessarily. I mention this much that she was dismissed for very good reasons. She appealed against her dismissal to the Commissioner. The appeal was rejected and then she appealed to the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government and at that time the

Honourable Premier happened to occupy that seat and after going through the case upheld the previous decision. However, it should be mentioned that that female teacher had some relatives who were very influential and they tried their best to influence the authorities.

Rana Nasrullah Khan : Have you read in Hindu Heaven about her ?

Mian Abdul Aziz : Masterji was the chief canvasser.

Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram : There is evidence on record that great pressure was brought upon Mrs. Durga Prashad at that time to hush up the case. However, she stuck to her guns with the result that she incurred the displeasure of the lady teacher and her supporters and they were on the lookout for an opportunity to injure Mrs. Durga Prashad. Now I go to the case of Mrs. Durga Prashad herself. The people do not know the details. As Mian Sahib has referred to me as being the chief canvasser, I say that I was responsible for bringing Mrs. Durga Prashad and it is perfectly right. Mian Sahib knows that I was a member of the Committee for about fifteen years and took very active part in expanding the education of Lahore and he will remember that when he was Senior Vice President, it was on my resolution that the primary and free education system was laid down in Lahore. It is true that in 1980 some lady teachers were sent by the Government on deputation. We did not find them very satisfactory. After trying two or three Indian Christian ladies, whose work was also not up to the mark, we advertised in 1934 and seven or eight applications were received and after going through the merits of individual candidates Mrs. Durga Prashad was selected because she was M. A. of the Punjab University and held a Diploma of Training from England. She possessed the same qualifications as are possessed by the inspectresses of schools who are drawing seven to eight hundred rupees. On that Committee we had the advantage of the services of our esteemed sister, who is not here, Begum Shah Nawaz. She took great interest in the working of the Education Department in the Municipal Committee. From the day she was appointed, Mrs. Durga Prashad carried on her duties with devotion and enthusiasm with the result that during the nine years' time she was there, the number of schools rose from 22 to 50, the number of teachers rose from 70 to 220 and the number of girl students rose from three thousand to eight thousand. That is not easy for any one to do. You can well understand that the work of a Superintendent, whether she be a lady or a gentleman, is not an easy one. She had to administer punishments sometimes. There were 220 lady teachers. Mian Sahib will remember that when I was on the Committee, I was put on investigation of one or two cases and I conducted the investigation, if I remember aright, along with Begum Shah Nawaz and Mrs. Shave, who were also members of the Committee. We had knowledge of the inner working of the Education Department of this body and I know what problems Mrs. Durga Prashad, the Lady Superintendent had to face in order to carry on the work efficiently. (*Honourable members :* Question be now put). You want time limit for me and not for anybody else. I will speak for four hours if I am given time. Be fair to every one. (*An honourable member :* Teach the fifth class). It is not a fifth class but a fourth class.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : On a point of order. The honourable member says that it is not the fifth class but the fourth class.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Naran g : I wish I were in the fourth class.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Please ask the honourable member to withdraw his remarks.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : The point of order is that the honourable member called the other honourable members as of fourth class.

Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram : One member said, "Teach the fifth class". I said, "It is the fourth class". If he is angry I withdraw the remark. I say it is the sixth, eighth, ninth and tenth class! Ruqiya Begum's case has been referred to. She was

(Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram)

working in a Mochi Gate school and was under order of transfer to another school. She had made a request herself that she could not get on well with the Headmistress and there was some kind of misunderstanding and estrangement between the two. The Headmistress and Ruquia Begum were not on good terms. But I do not want to go into the details as to what her treatment was, nor have I time to do so. Anyhow I will connect them with each other. Now, Sir, I want to place before the House some facts. It was very unfortunate that Mr. Taylor appointed a man named Sarup Singh, as the Superintendent of Education. He was not the kind of man who should have been put in that place. I am the President of the Headmasters' Association and we agreed that this man should not be allowed to go to girls' schools and should not be kept in that post for even five minutes. I had received complaints of a very serious nature that he would go and inspect those girls' schools, which he had no right to do, on the plea of finding fault with the building and so on.

Sardar Sampuran Singh : Sir, that is all irrelevant.

Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram : I am quite relevant, Sir. Please listen to me. People have reason to believe that those persons had combined together and made a plot. Of course, the conduct of that Superintendent was brought to the notice of Mr. Taylor. He sent for him. I have got all those papers here with me. I have also got the report of Mr. Taylor. But I have no time to place them before the House. All those people had combined together. Mr. Taylor sent for the man and gave orders not to visit any girls' school in future and naturally this order of Mr. Taylor was against his wishes. Then all those forces were combined together and with the help of people, whom I do not want to name here and who are exercising great influence and holding important positions in the administration, rang up this man. Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan was a new man, a young man and kind-hearted fellow, and is now the Leader of the Muslim League in the Punjab. I do not know what will be the condition of minorities if, God forbid, they come into power. They saw Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan. Many Christians came to me and told me that this was the treatment meted out to them. I said to them in reply :

ابتدائی عشق ہے روتا ہے کیا
آگے آئے دیکھتے ہوتا ہے کیا

Honourable members should not take it that I am speaking in this manner because she is an Indian Christian. I would have spoken in the same breath had she been a Hindu or Sikh, because my spirit is against any injustice. People took advantage of Shaukat Hyat-Khan who did not know the situation. (*Hear, hear from the Muslim League benches*). He was misled by those people. I do not know how they approached him. That is not for me to say. Either a deputation went to his house or some representations were sent to him, I do not know what is the actual position. I have no authority here on which I can rely. Anyhow, as the rumour goes, representations were made to him and when he received those representations his feelings were aroused and he passed orders at once. A Minister is not a thanedar nor his house a thana. Complaints are received every day and what is the best place for them? As everybody knows, the Government have established a system here under which all complaints are dealt with. I do not know what they told him. But my impression is that it aroused his feelings. 'Oh, there is a Christian lady who is harsh on a poor Muslim teacher'. Yet she has done more for Muslims than any Muslim has done. During her time the number of schools had gone up, and here is the reward which she got afterwards that she was treated like this. It seems that at the time when he sent the order for investigation to the C. I. D. officer, who was interested in it, everything was already arranged and the plot was already engineered. He wrote back saying that unless she was suspended no enquiry could be made. The Government has appointed an anti-corruption department, but I suggest that another committee

should be appointed to watch the working of that anti-corruption department. Honourable members know the procedure that whenever anything is said or allegations are made against a person, the case should be ready before hand. It seems that they tried first to concoct the story, a very interesting tale, after she had been suspended. (*Interruptions*). Mr. Taylor wanted her to make the enquiry into the case of Ruqiya Begum, but she told him, 'please do not send me there as the mistress is very influential and I may be put to trouble'. He told her that he would be responsible if anything happens and that she should go and make the enquiry. But she did not attend the first enquiry committee and evaded it by submitting a medical certificate. Now-a-days it is very easy to get a medical certificate. Pay eight annas and a medical certificate will be granted by some doctors. I do not mean any disrespect to any doctor, if there is any here. The next day for the enquiry was fixed for 9th April. Again all the helpers of that Muslim lady joined together and she was very anxious that Mrs. Durga Prashad should not hold this enquiry. I have got letters written by that lady teacher in which she gave out openly that Mrs. Durga Prashad would be suspended before the enquiry was made.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : On a point of order, Sir. The discussion on this topic has been going on for the last two days. Now it is time that the honourable member should wind up, so that my honourable friend, Mian Muhammad Nurullah may exercise his right of reply (*Interruptions*).

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Order, order.

Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram : On 6th April, that is three days before the date of enquiry, a complaint was made to the police and on the 8th April she received orders for her suspension which were given by Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan direct to Mr. Taylor. It was a very novel procedure. As everybody knows, any order from the Government goes first to the Commissioner and then to the Deputy Commissioner and then to the Administrator. At any rate, it is true that before the orders for her suspension were issued, everything was prearranged that Mrs. Durga Prashad should not hold the enquiry. That is what happened. There was no case against her but she was suspended. At that time police went here and there and concocted the case.

Mrs. Durga Prashad was getting a salary of Rs. 350 a month and her husband who was a doctorate was getting about Rs. 600 and her other relatives were holding honourable posts. Do you think that a person of that standing would stoop so low as to take a bribe of Rs.10 or so? About the charges against her I am not going to say anything because the Commissioner's order is quite explicit. He has dealt with the facts of the case. We were very anxious at that time and asked Mr. Singha to approach Mr. Shaukat Hyat in order to bring this case to his notice. My honest belief is that Mr. Shaukat Hyat, who is the son of very great father, should not have acted in that way, being aware of the intrigue behind. I did not have the privilege of knowing him so intimately as I had the privilege to know his illustrious father. Mr. Singha knew him. He gave an assurance that he would bear in mind all that he had been told and that before finally deciding the case he would send for him and discuss the matter. However when we heard of the dismissal order Mr. Singha and I went to him. He was very polite and kind, for which we are thankful to him. He told us that there were three cases against her. One was that she had taken four eggs from someone and gave promotion. The other was that she had taken a 'pandan', and the third was that of globes. With regard to globes there was a case of embezzlement against somebody who was responsible (*Interruptions*). Well, when he told me this I came back and told Mrs. Durga Prashad; 'I am very sorry Mrs. Durga Prashad we cannot do anything for you, Mr. Shaukat Hyat says these are the cases against you, you should have been more careful'. She assured me all the time that the cases were false.

[Mr. K. L. Ralla Ram]

I was not convinced in any way that the lady, as I knew her, would take four eggs—then it was one anna per egg, now it is two annas per egg—worth 8 annas and would give promotion. It is quite possible that some people when they go to their officers take small presents and fruits. I have seen it in so many cases with my own eyes. It is not called bribe. Then there was the case of a 'pandan'. She eats 'pan', and she could well afford to buy a 'pandan' worth only Rs. 9. Do you think that a person of her standing would take a 'pandan' worth Rs. 9 as bribe? Briefly, these were the cases against her. They have been put up by an I. C. S. officer after going through the file. Whether it was inspired or not it is not for me to say. But I would rather say that this shows lack of intelligence of a person, however well-placed, to bring against Mrs. Durga Prashad these three cases which would not stand scrutiny for a single minute before a court of law. It was very regrettable. As to what happened afterwards and what were the circumstances which led to Mr. Shaikat Hyat's dismissal I have nothing to say. I know nothing about the allegations made against him. There is an exhaustive statement by the Premier. I feel very sorry as I honestly believe that he was misled, although the responsibility rests upon him when he was placed in that exalted office. He should have exercised more vigilance and more discrimination. The worse thing about a communal government is that a man is always surrounded by such people and his mind is poisoned. My old friend Mian Abdul Aziz is quite a different man now from what he was when he was President of the Lahore Municipality. He even wants to have communal representation in the High Court which is a tribunal of justice. When he was President of the Lahore Municipality he enjoyed our confidence and he was above communalism. We all loved him. He was one of the best Presidents that the Lahore Municipality ever had. He was always accommodating. Mian Abdul Aziz by going to the Opposition benches has grown a communalist.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Order, order, the honourable member's time is up.

The question is—

That the demand be reduced by Rs. 100.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : The question is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,54,04,000 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of General Administration.

The motion was carried.

The Assembly then adjourned till 12 noon on Monday, the 12th March, 1945.

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

THIRTEENTH SESSION OF THE FIRST PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Monday, 12th March 1945

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber at 12 noon of the clock. Mr. Speaker in the chair.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

SARDAR HARJAB SINGH, M.L.A.

*9819. **Lala Bhagat Ram Choda** : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Sardar Harjab Singh, M. L. A., at present detained in Sub-Jail, Gujrat, has since his arrest in June 1940 written several times to the Punjab Government that necessary arrangements may be made for his dental treatment in Lahore;

(b) whether it is a fact that Sardar Harjab Singh made an offer to the Government that if he is taken to Lahore or any other place where proper arrangements for dental treatment exist he would pay the cost from his own pocket; if so, the reasons for not acceding to his request?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. His request was refused as there was a qualified dental surgeon at Gujrat.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : How many representations were made by this gentleman to be brought to Lahore for dental treatment?

Parliamentary Secretary : Representations were made by this gentleman, but a qualified dental surgeon was available at Gujrat.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : What were the orders of the Government on the various representations made by Sardar Harjab Singh?

Parliamentary Secretary : I cannot say offhand.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : What was the name of the dentist who was made available to him in the jail?

Parliamentary Secretary : I am sure a qualified dental surgeon was made available.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : What were his qualifications?

Parliamentary Secretary : That too I cannot say offhand.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : May I take it that he did not possess any qualifications?

Parliamentary Secretary : He possessed such qualifications as are necessary for a dental surgeon.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Who reported that there was a qualified dental surgeon at Gujrat?

Parliamentary Secretary : Government makes enquiries from their regular sources.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : May I know if the medical officer of the jail reported that there was no qualified dental surgeon available and that Sardar Harjab Singh should be removed to Lahore ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have no knowledge of any such report.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Is it a fact that many of the security prisoners have been sent to Lahore for dental and other treatments ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Prisoners have from time to time been sent to Lahore but I cannot say whether any of them have been sent for dental treatment especially from places where dental medical aid is available.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know the name of the dental surgeon who was made available to Sardar Harjab Singh ?

MR. HAKUMAT SINGH LAMBA.

*9836. **Chaudhri Sahib Ram :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Hakumat Singh Lamba, who was recently released from the Gujrat Special Jail was again arrested under the Defence of India Rules and sentenced to one year's rigorous imprisonment and taken to Lyallpur Jail in fetters and handcuffs ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the iron fetters caused deep wounds in his legs which have not yet been healed ;

(c) whether it is a fact that he is being treated as an ordinary C class prisoner in jail ; if so, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) Yes. He is being treated as ordinary ' C ' class prisoner as he has been classified as such, by the convicting magistrate.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : It is stated that Mr. Hakumat Singh was taken in fetters. May I know whether there was any likelihood of his escaping while being escorted to Lyallpur ?

Parliamentary Secretary : There is likelihood of an escape in every cases. Some very highly educated people have escaped and nobody knows where they are at present.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Is the Government aware of the social status of this respectable gentleman ?

Mr. Speaker : Disallowed.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : Was he actually escorted in fetters ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have replied to that question in the affirmative.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Is it a fact that when he was a security prisoner in the Gujrat jail, he was placed in ' A ' class ?

Mr. Speaker : That does not arise out of this question.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : It does arise, Sir, out of part (a) of the question. May I know why on his re-arrest he was placed in ' C ' class, while originally he was in ' A ' class ?

Mr. Speaker : This does not arise out of the answer to part (a) of the question.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : May I know whether he was medically examined after the Government had received notice of this question to know whether wounds were actually caused by the fetters to Mr. Hakumat Singh Lamba ?

Parliamentary Secretary : The answer is in the negative because no examination was considered necessary.

**TREATMENT OF PERSONS CONVICTED FOR VIOLATING INTERNMENT RESTRICTIONS
AS CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE PRISONERS**

***937. Chaudhri Sahib Ram :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the following persons were incarcerated for long periods in connection with the 1942 movement, and on their release they were interned within the limit of their respective villages, and later on they were convicted for violating the internment restrictions and placed in C class :—

- (1) Mahashe Yog Dhyam, Shahpur City ;
- (2) Mr. Chanan Ram, Bhera ;
- (3) Mr. Jagdish Chandra, Hoshiarpur ;
- (4) Sardar Ram Singh Chakwalia, Sialkot ;
- (5) Mr. Hakam Singh Lamba, Gujrat ;
- (6) Comrade Sant Lal, Montgomery ;
- (7) Comrade Dost Ram, Montgomery ;

if so ; the reasons for not treating them as civil disobedience prisoners ;

(b) whether it is a fact that Swami Basant Nath and Mr. Vidya Sagar who were convicted for breaking the internment order, were placed in the same class as civil disobedience prisoners ; if so, the reasons for this discrimination between prisoners convicted of the same offence ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) *First part.*—Yes, except as regards Mr. Hakam Singh Lamba of Gujrat and Comrade Dost Ram of Montgomery. No persons with these names have ever been imprisoned in the Punjab.

Second part.—They were classified as C class prisoners by the magistrates who convicted them.

(b) *First part.*—Yes.

Second part.—They were classified as civil disobedience prisoners by the magistrates who convicted them.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it a fact that the lambardars of the villages concerned reported to the Government that if these people were not interned in their villages, Government would lose hold on other villagers as well ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I am not aware of any such report.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is the Government prepared to lay on the table the report on the basis of which these people were interned in different villages ?

Parliamentary Secretary : It is not in the public interest to lay such reports on the table of the House.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Were any instructions issued to the effect that if those persons violated the internment restrictions they would be placed in class ' C ' ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I am not aware of any such instructions ; they probably exist in my honourable friend's imagination.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know the reason why they were placed in class 'C'?

Parliamentary Secretary : It was for the convicting magistrate to decide.

SECURITY PRISONERS IN THE LYALLPUR JAIL

***9838. Chaudhri Sahib Ram :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that no electric lighting arrangement exists in the Lyallpur Jail in the cells of security prisoners ;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating the provision of good lamps for the above mentioned prisoners till their cells are electrified ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Civil Surgeon of Lyallpur recommended the supply of lamps to security prisoners ; if so, whether his recommendation was given effect to ; if not, the reason therefor ;

(d) the number of security prisoners in the Lyallpur Jail, and the games which they are allowed to play and for which adequate arrangements exist ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. Estimates are being framed for installing electric lighting.

(c) Yes. They are provided with hurricane lanterns.

(d) Nine. In addition to indoor games, they play badminton for which adequate arrangements exist.

GRANT OF FAMILY ALLOWANCE TO CONGRESS DETENUS

***9859. Sardar Kapoor Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government sent out a circular in January 1945 inviting Congress detenues to apply for family allowances ;

(b) whether it is a fact that Lala Achint Ram, Syt. Devraj Sethi, M.A., M.L.A., and others applied for allowances in response to the circular ; if so, the action taken by the Government in this behalf so far in each case ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) No. Government stated that it was prepared to consider applications.

(b) Applications have so far been received from four detenues, including the two mentioned. The applications are under consideration.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know if it is a fact that in that circular letter Government has stated that only in the case of absolute and true necessity maintenance allowance shall be given ?

Parliamentary Secretary : That is a new question. I cannot answer it off hand. I want notice.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Can I expect from Government that the applications of these persons will be expedited ?

Parliamentary Secretary : They are under consideration.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know why Lala Dev Raj Sethi has not been given any allowance so far ?

Parliamentary Secretary : It does not arise out of the answer given. Only four applications have been received and they are being considered.

DIET MONEY ALLOWED TO CONGRESS DETENUS IN THE SIALKOT JAIL

***9860. Sardar Kapoor Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Congress detenues in the Sialkot Jail have applied to Government to raise their diet money from Rs. 1-4-0 to Rs. 2-0-0 per diem in view of the excessive rise in prices of foodstuffs especially ghee, fuel, milk and vegetables; if so, the action taken by the Government in the matter?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : No such application has been received.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know when the Parliamentary Secretary got the report that no application had been received?

Parliamentary Secretary : When a question is received from an honourable member, it is sent down to the department concerned for collection of information. As soon as this question was received, it was sent down and the reply was that no such application had been received.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Has the Parliamentary Secretary tried to find out whether any application had been received during the last twenty days, asking for an increase in the diet money?

Parliamentary Secretary : If the honourable member thinks that his question has become very old, he can table a fresh question.

BRAHMA NAND OF OKARA

***9861. Sardar Kapoor Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that one Brahma Nand of Okara, has since his release been interned in the Mianwali district;

(b) whether Government have received any representations from him or from his friends or relatives about the hardships to which he has been subjected, e.g., lack of means of livelihood in that distant place; if so, the action taken by the Government in the matter?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Brahma Nand is restricted to Isakhel in the Mianwali district to which place he originally belongs.

(b) Yes, this was alleged by Brahma Nand and his father, but enquiries showed that he could earn his living at Isakhel.

POLICE POST STATIONED AT PHULLOWANA

***9871. Shrimati Raghubir Kaur :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the date on which a police post was stationed at Phullowana (Sultanpura, Rahmanpura), thana Munawan, district Lahore, and the reasons for doing so;

(b) whether any criminal cases were registered during the period that the police post has been in existence in that area;

(c) whether the Government has considered the question of removing the police post; if so, with what result?

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Man) : (a) A police post consisting of one assistant sub-inspector and four constables was temporarily posted to village Phullowana in the Lahore district, on the 26th of August, 1942, to keep the peace, as there was acute friction between the tenants of Kashmir State property

(Sardar Jagjit Singh Man)

and the lessees to whom the property had been leased by the State for 25 years. The lessees wanted to dispossess the tenants while the latter were resisting as they wished to become occupancy tenants. This dispute had resulted in several fights and no less than 18 registered cases.

(b) Yes. Twenty-two.

(c) Does not arise as the police post has already been withdrawn.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh: Will the Parliamentary Secretary please state whether the police was set up there at the request of the zamindars of that place?

Parliamentary Secretary: As crime was on the increase, it was considered necessary to put a police post there.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh: What was the crime? Parliamentary Secretary has not stated that. All that he says is that the tenants there wanted some rights and in order to save the zamindars the police post was set up there.

Parliamentary Secretary: I have stated that there was an acute friction between the tenants of Kashmir State property and the lessees which justified the posting of police post there.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh: I want to know whether the police was posted there at the request of the lessees.

Parliamentary Secretary: I cannot say. I suppose it was the circumstances that justified the posting.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh: A little quarrel between the lessees and the tenants made Government set up a police post there. Is that enough justification?

MODIFICATION IN THE RULES FOR USING BALLAST STONES FOR CONSTRUCTION OF HOUSES

*9401. **Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan:** Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state whether the rules issued by the Government prohibiting people from using ordinary ballast stones found in the lands owned by them for the construction of houses have been modified; if so, will he be pleased to lay a copy of the latest rules on the subject on the table of the House?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram: It is not necessary for a landowner to apply for a permit under the Minor Minerals Rules published with Financial Commissioners' notification No. 4845-R, dated the 23rd December 1933, as amended from time to time, for quarrying stone or other minor minerals proved to belong to him (rule 8). If the mineral does not belong to him a landowner can get a permit to quarry free of cost a mineral required for his own personal, agricultural or domestic purposes (rules 5 and 6).

The rules appear at pages 16-22 of the Land Revenue Rules (Land Administration Acts, Volume II) of which a copy will be found in the Assembly Library.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: Will the Honourable Minister be pleased to state who issues the permits?

Minister: I have said that it is not necessary to obtain a permit.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: The Honourable Minister has said that the owner can obtain a permit free of cost. That is part of the answer given. I want to know who issues that permit.

Minister: I will find out, if desired.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Will the Honourable Minister please promise to change the rule, if he finds from enquiry that it causes a lot of inconvenience to poor samindars to go a long distance and spend a lot of money to obtain the permits?

Minister : I will look into the matter.

CREATION OF SPECIAL IRRIGATION CIRCLE

***9409. Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state briefly—

- (a) the aims and objects for which a special Irrigation Circle has been created ;
- (b) the total strength of the new department and its monthly expenditure on (i) Salaries, (ii) Travelling Allowances and (iii) Contingencies ;
- (c) whether the Chief Engineer for this Special Circle submitted any preliminary report on the work of this Department to the Honourable Minister for Revenue; if so, will he be pleased to lay the same on the table of the House ;
- (d) the schemes which this department has under consideration about the areas which can be irrigated in the Jhelum district ?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram : (a) The Project Circle was constituted for the investigation of all new projects pertaining to Post War Reconstruction, as well as those which could be undertaken right away.

(b) The strength of the Project Circle consists of 1 Superintending Engineer 4 Executive Engineers and 15 Sub-Divisional Officers with necessary subordinates and menial staff. Monthly expenditure is—

	Rs.
(i) Salary of staff	26,196
Dearness and other allowances, etc... ..	5,886
(ii) Travelling Allowance about	10,000
(iii) Contingencies about	4,000

NOTE—The above figures have been worked out on the basis of establishment actually sanctioned up to date.

(c) No cut and dried scheme could be submitted in advance of the actual investigations.

(d) The schemes under investigation with the Project Circle about the areas which can be irrigated in the Jhelum district are—

- (i) Dhiangarh Dam Storage and Hydro-Electric Project ;
- (ii) the Jalalpur Canal Project ;
- (iii) Storage Projects at Rohtas and Pindswike.

(iv) Investigation in the possibility of doing tubewell irrigation in certain parts of the district.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know how long this proposal of construction of a thokar has been under consideration ?

Minister : I cannot give you the time offhand. Kindly give notice.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether it is still receiving consideration or whether it has already been rejected ?

Minister : It is still receiving consideration.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know what was the report made by the Irrigation Department on this point ?

Minister : It is difficult to say offhand. Kindly give notice.

RAJBAB PULL, MAJITHIA DIVISION

***9575. Sardar Sohan Singh Josh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether any outlets have been remodelled on the Rajbah Pull, Majithia Division, Amritsar, during the last six months ;

(b) whether the Government has received any representations against the above remodelling of the outlets ; if so, the names of the villages from which such representations have been received and the action taken thereon ;

(c) whether the construction of a thokar is under the consideration of the Irrigation Department at the source of the said Rajbah ; and if so, by when the construction in question will be taken in hand ?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram : (a) Yes, two outlets were adjusted on Pull distributary during the last six months.

(b) Yes, representations were received after the outlets had been adjusted, although notices were served on the villages concerned prior to adjusting the outlets. The names of villages are :—

Dugaich,

Attoki,

Awan,

Bhasin,

and Wagarian.

On receiving representations from these villages, the Executive Engineer, Majithia Division checked the outlets in the presence of the zemindars, and the outlets were found to be drawing correct discharges.

(c) A proposal for constructing a meter flume at head of the Pull distributary is under consideration. It is not known at this stage when the construction of the proposed meter flume will be taken in hand.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether the villages which are just situated on the Thokar are getting less water than they were getting before ?

Minister : I want notice for that.

LAND REVENUE

***9567. Sardar Sohan Singh Josh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has received any representation from some villages in the Amritsar district during the last six months requesting the postponement of the collection of land revenue increased according to the sliding scale system till the end of this war ; if so, the number and names of those villages which have represented in this respect ;

(b) whether the question of the postponement of the land revenue collection has been considered by Government, if so, with what result ?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram : (a) Yes. 53 representations were received from 48 villages of the names of which a list is laid on the table.

(b) Government are not aware of any sufficient reason for the further postponement of the revenue demand sanctioned in Mr. MacFarquhar's settlement.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know the reasons which the villagers have advanced in support of their request for postponement of the collection of the increased land revenue ?

Minister : This is a new question.

Names of villages which have made representations for the postponement of collection of Land Revenue in the Amritsar District.

Name							Tahsil
1.	Douburji	..	..	..	..	..	Tarn Taran.
2.	Danial	..	..	..	..	..	Amritsar.
3.	Bababakala	..	..	..	..	..	Do.
4.	Jallpore Khara	..	..	..	..	..	Do.
5.	Gagarbhana	..	..	..	..	..	Do.
6.	Pheroman	..	..	..	..	..	Do.
7.	Man	..	..	..	..	..	Do.
8.	Ropowall	..	..	..	..	..	Do.
9.	Jethuwal	..	..	..	..	..	Do.
10.	Masadi Khurd	..	..	..	..	..	Do.
11.	Varian Jadid	..	..	..	..	..	Tarn Taran.
12.	Varian Kadima	..	..	..	..	..	Do.
13.	Harsa Cheena	..	..	..	..	..	Ajnala.
14.	Bundala	..	..	..	..	..	Amritsar.
15.	Janian	..	..	..	..	..	Do.
16.	Nawan Kot	..	..	..	..	..	Do.
17.	Meharbanpur	..	..	..	..	..	Do.
18.	Nijjarpore	..	..	..	..	..	Do.
19.	Bagga	..	..	..	..	..	Ajnala.
20.	Kirian	..	..	..	..	..	Amritsar.
21.	Bhorchi Brahman	..	..	..	..	..	Do.
22.	Thata	..	..	..	..	..	Tarn Taran.
23.	Ibrahimipore	..	..	..	..	..	Do.
24.	Dhotian	..	..	..	..	..	Do.
25.	Gandiwind	..	..	..	..	..	Amritsar.
26.	Jeneke	..	..	..	..	..	Tarn Taran.
27.	Vain Pain	..	..	..	..	..	Do.
28.	Chohla Sahab	..	..	..	..	..	Do.
29.	Chappel	..	..	..	..	..	Do.
30.	Bhitewad	..	..	..	..	..	Ajnala.
31.	Nagoke	..	..	..	..	..	Tarn Taran.
32.	Wastir Bhullar	..	..	..	..	..	Amritsar.

Name.	Tahsil.
33. Chabba	Amritsar.
34. Tapiala	Ajnala.
35. Bal Khurd	Do.
36. Kamalpur	Do.
37. Pandori Ram Singh	Amritsar.
38. Nanoke	Ajnala.
39. Malowal	Do.
40. Sadhar	Do.
41. Jassar	Do.
42. Urdhan	Do.
43. Mattenangal	Do.
44. Lonogmahal	Do.
45. Aboseed	Do.
46. Kot Dharam Chand	Tarn Taran.
47. Padri Khurd	Ajnala.

RE MODELLING SCHEME FOR OUTLETS IN THE AMRITSAR DISTRICT

***9869. Sardar Sohan Singh Josh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government has started any remodelling scheme for outlets in the Amritsar district ; if so, the purpose, nature and extent of this scheme ;

(b) the total water volume to be reduced through this scheme and the acreage of the new area that will be irrigated by the water thus saved ;

(c) whether any outlets have been closed in the villages affected by the scheme ; if so, the names of the ' Mogas ' so closed ;

(d) the action the Government intends to take with regard to the ' Mogas ' so closed ?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram : (a) No remodelling scheme for outlets in Amritsar district has been started. But it is proposed to adjust from time to time a few outlets which are drawing more than their legitimate share, in the interests of equitable distribution of supplies.

(b) It is impossible at this stage to state the number of outlets to be so adjusted and consequently the supply to be redistributed. The reduction, however, carried out on all outlets adjusted in Amritsar district at the beginning of last *rabi* was only 4.6 cusecs.

(c) At present there is one outlet in Amritsar district which has been closed by the irrigators. This outlet is at R. D. 95,243 R. Chabal distributary. There is another outlet at R. D. 11,993 L, Patti distributary serving area of Amritsar and Lahore districts, which has also been closed by the irrigators.

(d) The outlets have been closed by the irrigators. The Government is at all times prepared to see that the outlets in question get their authorized full supply discharge.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether in all the places where re-modelling has taken place, the quantity of water has been reduced ?

Minister : I cannot say that offhand.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether water outlets have been closed by the villagers as a protest ?

Minister : I invite honourable member's attention to the answer to part (c) of the question.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Who are going to be favoured with surplus water ?

Minister : Nobody is going to be favoured. The outlets are being adjusted in the interests of equitable distribution of supplies.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Were they not getting their due share before ?

Minister : Some of them were getting more than their due share. It has, therefore, been necessary to adjust the supplies of water.

SANITARY ARRANGEMENTS IN JAILS

***9412. Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether any improvement has been made by him since he took over the charge of the Jail Department for providing better sanitary arrangements (i) in district jails and (ii) in judicial lock-ups ;

(b) whether he is aware of the fact that no sanitary arrangement exists in the judicial lock-ups of the province and the under-trial prisoners have no privacy to answer the call of nature, if so, the action Government propose to take in the matter ;

(c) whether he is also aware of the fact that a large number of political workers arrested after August, 1942, remained in the judicial lock-ups of the province for a number of days and no special sanitary arrangements were made for them irrespective of their status and social position ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Rai Bahadur Thakur Ripudaman Singh) : (a) Proper sanitary arrangements exist in all jails and judicial lock-ups. Old types of latrines have been made fly-proof and where necessary have been replaced by those of improved pattern.

(b) Proper sanitary arrangements exist in all the judicial lock-ups.

(c) No complaints about absence of proper sanitary arrangements were received by Government.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Will the Parliamentary Secretary please explain what he means by ' proper sanitary arrangements '.

Parliamentary Secretary : Proper sanitary arrangements mean proper sanitary arrangements.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Are there any lavatories provided in the judicial lock-ups ?

Premier : Should he repeat his answer ?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : There is still a chance of you and I being taken to the judicial lock-ups. Let there be proper sanitary arrangements. (Laughter).

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I know whether there are any lavatories or W. Cs. attached to the judicial lock-ups ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have already stated that proper sanitary arrangements exist in all the judicial lock-ups.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I draw the Parliamentary Secretary's attention to part (c) of my question ? Is it a fact that a large number of political workers remained in the judicial lock-ups in 1942 and after and no sanitary arrangements were made for them ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I may for the information of the honourable member say that no complaints about absence of proper sanitary arrangements were received by the Government.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Will the Honourable Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether he has visited any judicial lock-up ?

Minister for Finance : Yes.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Has he noticed that there are no lavatories or W. Cs. ?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Does the Honourable Minister not know that a judicial lock-up consists of one barrack ? Is it that he does not care to know whether there is any lavatory ?

Minister : The honourable member can draw any inference he likes.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : What was the purpose of the Honourable Minister's visit to the judicial lock-ups ?

Minister : Not to examine lavatories (*Laughter*).

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Evidently the Minister considers it below his dignity to find out whether there are any lavatories or W. Cs. attached to the judicial lock-ups where political prisoners of very high position are detained. May I ask the Minister for Finance whether he realises that if there is no lavatory attached to a judicial lock-up it causes great inconvenience to the persons there ?

Minister : I readily agree to that.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Does he know that very respectable persons were made to clean up the muck in the judicial lock-ups ?

Mr. Speaker : That does not arise out of the answer to any part of the question.

SHORTAGE OF FIREWOOD

***9237. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state whether he is aware of the fact that there is an acute shortage of firewood throughout the province; if so, what action the Government propose to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : Yes. The following measures have been taken to increase supplies and to decrease consumption :—

(i) Export of firewood from the Punjab has been prohibited except under a permit. Supplies to Delhi have been stopped.

(ii) Military authorities in the Punjab have been permitted to purchase during 1944-45 a total quantity of about 22 lakh maunds of firewood including out-standings from 1943-44 from specified districts. It has been suggested to them that they should obtain the balance (i.e. 21 lakh maunds) of their requirements from the Punjab States and Sind.

(iii) Use of firewood in factories and kilns has been prohibited except with the permission of the District Magistrate concerned.

(iv) Use of firewood in Government offices has been prohibited except in certain specified places and localities.

(v) District Magistrates have imposed bans on the export of firewood and charcoal from the areas mentioned in the enclosed list.

(vi) Control over the firewood prices has been removed to stimulate increased supplies from private sources.

(vii) Public Works Department (Irrigation and Buildings and Roads Branches) local bodies and Deputy Commissioner have been instructed to make heavier fellings from areas and trees under their charges.

(viii) The Punjab Firewood Control (Licensing of Dealers) Order, 1944 has been promulgated to ascertain available stocks in the province and to regulate supplies.

(ix) The Punjab Firewood Control (Restrictions on Railway Booking) Order, 1944 has been promulgated with a view to regulating transport of firewood and charcoal from surplus to deficit areas.

(x) Steps are being taken to raise the firewood potential of the province by undertaking fresh schemes for planting trees.

Statement showing the areas from which export of firewood and charcoal has been prohibited

Areas	Commodity or commodities which have been prohibited to be exported
1	2
1. Hissar District	Firewood and Charcoal
2. Rohtak District	Firewood.
3. Hoshiarpur District	Firewood and Charcoal
4. Jullundur District	Firewood.
5. Ludhiana District	Do.
6. Attock District	Do.
7. Jhang District	Do.
8. Lyallpur District	Do.
9. Mianwali District	Firewood and Charcoal.
10. Leiah Tehsil in Muzaffargarh District	Ditto.
11. Dhak, Khushab, Hadali and Gunjial Railway stations in Shahpur District.	Ditto.
12. Jhelum municipal committee and cantonment area	Ditto.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan: Did the Honourable Minister of Development receive any complaints from different districts and did he institute any inquiries to find out the causes of acute shortage of firewood?

Minister: The causes of acute shortage are due to increased consumption by the army.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether the Honourable Minister has taken any measures to prevent the shortage of firewood in future ?

Minister : I wish the honourable member had listened to what I stated. I said that we have taken steps.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Who made the inquiries to find out the causes of acute shortage of firewood ?

Minister : The department concerned.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Has the Honourable Minister represented to the North-Western Railway and the Railway Board for the supply of more wagons ?

Minister : Yes.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Did the Director of Civil Supplies make the inquiries ?

Minister : The Director of Civil Supplies does not deal with the subject.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Then who made the inquiries ?

Minister : The Additional Financial Commissioner.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Is the Honourable Minister aware of the fact that all the measures taken by the Government have proved fruitless and unsuccessful ?

Minister : They have proved successful.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Has the Honourable Minister received any complaint from any area of the Punjab with regard to these measures ?

Minister : There might be some complaints.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Has the Honourable Minister of Development taken any action on the complaints received by him however few in number they may be ?

Minister : Action was taken wherever it was considered necessary.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Is it not a fact that the measures taken by the Government have so far proved detrimental to the interests of beoparis of various districts of the Punjab ?

Minister : That may be the honourable member's opinion.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Does the Honourable Minister know that the system of authorising the Deputy Commissioners to issue permits or to recommend for priority of orders has proved quite unsuccessful ?

Minister : Not to my knowledge.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : The Deputy Commissioner recommends the beoparis of his own district for priority and he does not recommend other beoparis of other districts who invest crores of rupees in this business.

Minister : That is the general principle.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Is the Honourable Minister aware of the fact that the Fuel Controller recommends every month for 200 or 500 wagons for the purpose of exporting fuel from one place to another but the railway authorities do not care to supply even 100 wagons ?

Minister : The honourable member should realise that there is acute shortage of wagons and it is not within my power to provide transport facilities.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Did the Honourable Minister ever recommend to the Government of India or the railway authorities to supply more wagons to fuel merchants ?

Minister : I have already replied to this question that the Punjab Government has represented to the Government of India to supply more wagons.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : What reply did the Honourable Minister of Development receive ?

Minister : The response from the Government of India has been quite satisfactory.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Is he not aware of the fact that there is hue and cry against this arrangement ?

Minister : May be.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Then the Honourable Minister of Development has no sympathy for the Punjabis who are carrying on this business ?

Sardar Santokh Singh : Is the Government aware of the fact that some oil mills are closing down on account of want of firewood ?

Minister : This matter was brought to the Government's notice and we are looking into it.

Sardar Santokh Singh : Has anything been done to set matters right ?

Minister : I think the question was raised in one of our Civil Supply Board meetings.

Chandhri Sumer Singh : Is the Honourable Minister aware of the fact that there is fuel shortage in Gurgaon district ?

Minister : There is shortage all over the Punjab.

Chandhri Sumer Singh : Is he aware that the Fuel Controller, Punjab, issued two permits of 6 thousand maunds and 4 thousand maunds without consulting the Deputy Commissioner, Gurgaon ?

Minister : Not to my knowledge.

Mr. Speaker : The next question.

CONTROL PRICES OF WHEAT AND OTHER FOODGRAINS

***9238. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the prices of wheat and other foodgrains will be controlled after the Rabi harvest is marketed ;

(b) the probable prices of wheat and other foodgrains if and when they are controlled ;

(c) whether the prices of all commodities commonly used by agriculturists will be controlled along with the prices of wheat and other foodgrains ;

(d) the basis on which the prices of wheat and other foodgrains are likely to be controlled ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : (a) The statutory maximum wholesale prices of wheat, gram, barley, rice of jhona variety, paddy, bajra, jowar and their products have been fixed. The maximum retail margins which can be charged have also been fixed.

[Development Minister]

(b) The maximum wholesale price in the principal assembling basic markets for each of the foodgrains is given below. Differentials above these prices have been allowed for other places :—

			Rs.	A.	P.	
(1) Wheat, fair average quality	..	..	9	8	0	per maund.
(2) Gram	..	..	7	10	0	Ditto.
(3) Barley	..	..	6	10	0	Ditto.
(4) Rice, coarse	..	..	13	8	0	Ditto.
(5) Paddy (Jhona variety)..	..	..	8	8	0	Ditto.
(6) Bajra	..	..	7	8	0	Ditto.
(7) Jowar	..	..	7	0	0	Ditto.

(c) The prices of some of the commodities commonly used by the agriculturists have been controlled. Others are covered by the Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance. The Central Government have given assurances from time to time that they will use every possible endeavour to make available in sufficient quantities consumers goods and lower their prices. The Punjab Government have in the past been making representations in this connection and will continue to make them till sufficient supplies of commodities commonly used by the agriculturists are made available at a reasonable price.

(d) The basis on which prices of wheat and other foodgrains have been controlled is given in the Punjab Government *communiqué*, dated the 13th December 1943 and the Honourable Premier's statement of the same date which were published widely in the press and of which copies are laid down on the table. There is a frequent consultation between the Central and Provincial Governments.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : The Honourable Minister says that some concession has been given to the agriculturists in all commodities generally used by them. May I know the details of those commodities in which concession has been allowed to the agriculturists ?

Premier : Agriculturists are getting facilities, but not on the basis of 'your *masawaat*'.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : My *masawaat* is different from yours. My *masawaat* is according to Islam and the Commands of the Holy Prophet. What is your *masawaat* ?

Premier : My *masawaat* is based on Muhammadan Law.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : No, Sir. That is not the case.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I ask what is the Premier's *masawaat* ?

Mr. Speaker : No questions with regard to *masawaat* please.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Sir, there was no question of bringing in *masawaat* in reply to my question. I wanted to know the details of the commodities used by the agriculturists in which concession has been allowed to them.

Premier : I was only referring to the definition of agriculturists which differs from the honourable members' definitions of agriculturists.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : There is no question of agriculturists or non-agriculturists.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know whether the Honourable Minister for Development is aware of the fact that the price of gram in these days is higher than the controlled price ?

Minister : It has been brought to the notice of the Government that the price of gram is higher and we have taken steps to bring it to the controlled level.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : May I know whether it is a fact that gram is not available in the market ? It may be available in the black market.

Minister : There is shortage of gram, but it is not so very acute.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : When there is shortage, may I know what was the reason of issuing permits to persons to export gram from the Punjab ?

Minister : The honourable member should know that we had at one time a huge surplus of 150 thousand tons of gram in this province and as a result of our representation, the Government of India allowed us to issue permits for this quantity. But when the permits were issued for forty thousand tons, we found that the surplus was working itself out. So no further permits were issued.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : May I know whether along with the concession allowed to the agriculturists, the Honourable Minister has made any arrangement to supply fodder for the cattle of agriculturists in the districts where there is a shortage ?

Minister : I am afraid it does not arise out of this question.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Is not fodder used by the agriculturists ?

Chaudhri Sumer Singh : Are these commodities available in the market at controlled prices ?

Minister : That is exactly the complaint that we have been making to the Government of India. There is shortage of consumers' goods and we have brought it to the notice of the Government of India that sufficient goods should be made available to the growers of the province.

Chaudhri Sumer Singh : Is gram available in the Gurgaon district at the controlled price ?

Minister : I have already said that now there is a shortage of gram in the whole of the province.

PUNJAB GOVERNMENT COMMUNIQUE

The Punjab Government have given prolonged attention to the question of India's food Supplies. They have done their best to assist in securing the supplies required for the Defence Services and for the Deficit Provinces; statistics published from time to time will, it is hoped, have shown beyond doubt the very great measure of success that has been achieved. The object of the Punjab Government throughout has been to make grain available to the consumer at a reasonable price and at the same time to ensure a fair return to the grower. One question that has on various occasions been considered not only in the Punjab but throughout India is whether the imposition of maximum prices on the sale of foodgrains is or is not advisable. As is well known to the public, the Punjab Government have hitherto consistently opposed the policy of prescribing maximum prices, and they have stated plainly their reasons for preferring the adoption of other methods in order to attain the results desired. They have tried to urge with full force the point of view endorsed almost unanimously by the Punjab Assembly. But their arguments have not prevailed. Recently the Punjab Ministry have had the benefit of personal discussion with His Excellency the Governor General who informed them that in the opinion of his advisors one single co-ordinated policy throughout the country was essential in view of War conditions and the present food crisis unhappily obtaining in Bengal and some other parts of India. He also informed them that the Government of India have definitely reached the conclusion that the most effective method of righting the present position lay in the direction of price control. In the view of the Government of India the high traditions of service and sacrifice which the Punjab has always sought to maintain can best be preserved by conforming to this line of policy. The Punjab Government accordingly eager as they have always been to co-operate in promoting the successful prosecution of the war and the interests of India in general, have felt constrained to act in pursuance of this advice, though their views of the administrative and economic difficulties in the Province remain unchanged. Now so far as lies in their power they will do their best to make the policy of the Central Government a success and they look to all classes to assist them in this behalf. It will still be their object to secure as far as possible a fair price both for the consumer and the grower, though it can obviously not be expected that all conflicting interests will be completely satisfied. Government hope that all classes will endeavour to reconcile themselves to the decision which has been reached in conformity with what is considered by the Central authorities.

to be essential in the interests of India as a whole. The intention is that the maximum price not only of wheat but of all principal foodgrains shall be prescribed in all the Provinces of India. In the case of wheat and other Rabi produce the price will take effect from the time when the next Rabi harvest comes on to the market. The intention of the Central Government is that the Punjab grower shall not be placed in an unfavourable position in the matter of grain prices as compared with growers in other parts of the country. The Central Government have also given their assurance that they will use every possible endeavour to make available in sufficient quantity consumer's goods and to lower simultaneously, if not earlier, the level of their prices; in this matter the Punjab will not fail to make such further representations as they in their view become necessary. The maximum prices to be laid down will be announced as soon as it is possible to arrive at detailed decisions in consultation with the Central Government and with other provinces.

Punjab Government have also decided to adopt the policy of rationing in the principal cities of the province as soon as satisfactory arrangements can be made. They trust that all concerned will co-operate to the best of their power in making this a success.

The Honourable the Premier's statement

In connection with the *communiqué* issued to-day on behalf of the Punjab Government about control on the prices of foodgrains and rationing, I should like to make my own position and that of my colleagues clear.

2. The Punjab Ministry has been hitherto consistently opposed to rationing as well as statutory control on the prices of foodgrains. Our opposition to rationing in a surplus area was mainly on the grounds of practical administrative difficulties and unnecessary inconvenience and expense to the population of the towns concerned. There was, however, an additional and more fundamental reason for our opposition to statutory control on the prices of foodgrains. It was that such central unaccompanied by a general and suitable reduction in the prices of the grower's requirements involved discrimination against a section of the population, and this we considered wrong in principle and undesirable on practical grounds.

3. We are confirmed in this view by the lessons of the last attempt at price control which resulted in an unfair distribution of the economic burden among various sections of the population. High prices of consumers' goods were allowed to prevail, while an attempt was made to keep down the prices of foodgrains with the result that the grower suffered both as a producer of foodgrains and as a consumer of manufactured articles. Complaints were made, and they were not easy to resist, that low prices of foodgrains and high prices of manufactured goods were in keeping with the policy of the Government of India, since the former helped them to keep down their payments for purchases as well as wages, and the latter brought in additional receipts to Central revenues.

4. Our own attitude towards this question was that, while we were not opposed to control on the prices of foodgrains under all conditions and circumstances, we considered it unjust and inequitable so long as the prices of the grower's requirements were not reduced in a reasonable proportion and their supplies were not available in sufficient quantities. I made this position quite clear in my speech in the Punjab Legislative Assembly on November 4th 1943, when I said:—

"Our position is clear; if every article is controlled there should be no objection to the control of prices of food-stuffs. The silent villager is not so greedy as to stand against anything fair and proper. But we are not prepared to accept control of prices of food-stuffs if the prices of other commodities are not similarly controlled. We cannot allow one class of people to be victimized while others escape. That is where the Punjab stands. We want only fair play."

5. During our recent discussions with the Governor-General and the representatives of the Government of India we suggested an alternative method for handling the present food situation, better suited, in our opinion to the existing circumstances of the country. We proposed a system of advance purchase at a fair economic price to be mutually agreed upon for each harvest or, in the alternative, we suggested the following formula, namely, that prices should be fixed:—

(a) on the basis of the average established by the free play of the forces of demand and supply during the current year when supplies in the Punjab markets have been throughout ample;

(b) subject to such adjustments or variation as may be found necessary on account of—

(i) changes in the conditions of supply, that is, of the crop;

(ii) variations in demand because of possible changes in various circumstances; and

(c) subject to changes in the currency factor or what may be called the general level of prices.

6. I regret that these proposals did not prove acceptable to the Government of India, though they realized the force of our principal objection to statutory price control and tried to meet our point of view. We, for our part, remain unshaken in our view that our proposals offered better chances of a just and effective solution of the food problem. Without surrendering this view, we have, however, decided to follow the Government of India's plan and give it a fair trial except that we have made it quite clear that we cannot accept as part of our contemplated programme of procurement any scheme of requisitioning of stocks from growers' homes. The execution of such a scheme of requisitioning will, we feel, bring in its train many difficulties besides producing a most undesirable psychological effect on the families and dependents of those who are to-day freely shedding their blood on the battle-fields in the cause of freedom and democracy.

7. The reasons for our decision to co-operate with the other parts of the Government of India's plan, namely statutory control on the prices of food-grains and rationing, may be briefly stated:—

(i) the Government of India and practically all other Provincial Governments regarded this scheme as the best solution of the present food problem and we did not wish the Punjab to incur the charge of being the only Province to stand in the way of an All-India co-ordination.

(ii) The Government of India and in fact, all Allied Nations are understood to hold the view that rationing and control on the prices of foodgrains are indispensable for winning the war, shortening the war. Our refusal to co-operate with the scheme was liable to be misinterpreted in Allied circles not only as based on a desire to make profits out of the suffering and starvation in deficit areas, but also as inconsistent with the Punjab's initial assurance of full and whole-hearted co-operation in the war effort. Assurance by which we stand as firmly to-day as we have done in the past. This possible misinterpretation of the Punjab peasant's attitude would have involved a most unjust slur on his traditions of service and sacrifice.

(iii) In order to meet our point of view, the Government of India have agreed to introduce statutory control on the price of wheat and other foodgrains till the next harvest and have further undertaken to secure a simultaneous, if not earlier, lowering of the prices of the grower's requirements to a reasonable level and to make their supplies available in sufficient quantities.

8. It is true that past experience may give rise to misgivings as to the prospect of a real and genuine reduction in the prices of consumers' goods as contemplated by the Government of India. But there are now some indications that their endeavours in this direction may meet with a greater measure of success. We have accordingly done our best to meet the Government of India's wishes consistently with our duty to the people of the Punjab. It is now for the Government of India to make good their assurance that the growers in the Punjab will not be placed at a disadvantage. The results of whatever efforts the Government of India may make to implement this assurance will become apparent during the next three or four months for the public to judge. Needless to add that all such efforts will have our whole-hearted support and co-operation. In the meantime we leave our present decision to the judgment of our constituents in the light of the circumstances explained above. If it does not meet with their wishes we shall be ready to carry out whatever mandate they may give us.

CIVIL SUPPLY OFFICERS

***9242. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state whether it is a fact that non-officials are being appointed as Civil Supply officers in the Punjab in place of officials, if so, the reasons therefor?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : Non-officials are not being appointed to replace any officials. A whole time Civil Supplies Officer has been appointed in most of the districts and, since it is not possible to find sufficient number of officers from the Provincial Civil Service, a certain number of posts have been filled up by selection both from non-officials and retired officers.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know how many of these posts have gone to the Unionists?

Mr. Speaker : Disallowed.

Khan Sahib Chaudhri Sahib Dad Khan : Is it a fact that a person belonging to the Hindu Mahasabha has also been appointed as a Civil Supply Officer?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I ask whether the Honourable Minister has made any recommendation for the appointment of certain persons to this post?

Minister : All the appointments were made by me.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Did he receive any recommendation from the Premier regarding the appointment of a certain officer?

Minister : This question does not arise. I have already said that all the appointments were made by me.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I know whether the Premier made any recommendation in this connection?

Minister : It is just possible that even the honourable member opposite made some recommendations!

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Certainly, I have, but I want to know whether the Premier has made certain recommendations to the Honourable Minister?

Minister : Not to my knowledge

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Does he mean that the Honourable Premier did not make any recommendation?

Minister : I have already said that all those appointments were made by me.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Did he receive any recommendation by the Premier ?

Minister : No recommendation from anybody.

Mr. Speaker : The next question.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : May I know the total number of non-official Civil Supply Officers appointed by the Minister ?

Mr. Speaker : Order, order.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : I am entitled to put questions.

Mr. Speaker : I am entitled to disallow them. *(Laughter)*.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Certainly not under the rules.

Mr. Speaker : The next question.

REFUSAL OF EXTENSION OF STAY AT LAHORE TO LALA DUNI CHAND, M.L.A.

*9450. **Mrs. Duni Chand :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether Lala Duni Chand, M. L. A. of Ambala was at the last time of his permitted visit to Lahore, refused extension of his stay for a few days there for medical treatment and he was ordered to go back to Ambala at the risk of being arrested and prosecuted ;

(b) whether he represented the matter in the first instance to the Chief Secretary and then to the Honourable Premier that he may be allowed a few days stay for medical treatment at Lahore and both of them refused his request ;

(c) whether it is a fact that according to his representation it was necessary for him to have himself examined periodically by medical experts and that he had not been allowed necessary facilities for this purpose ;

(d) whether it is a fact that since his last visit to Lahore in last April or thereabout he has not visited Lahore ;

(e) whether it is a fact that his requests to see his sons at Indore and at Delhi, except the last request for medical treatment by his son at Delhi, have been refused ;

(f) whether the Government have any special reasons for the action taken by them as mentioned in (a), (b), (d) and (e) above, if so, what those reasons are ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) No.

(b) and (c) No representation was made to the Chief Secretary or to the Premier ;

(d) No. He stayed at Lahore from the 23rd to 29th of January, 1945.

(e) He was not allowed to go to Indore as it was not necessary for his health that he should do so. But he has been allowed to go to Lahore, Delhi and Kasauli and has been given all facilities necessary for medical treatment.

(f) Reasons connected with the public safety and the maintenance of public order.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : May I know whether Lala Duni Chand made any representation to the District Magistrate, Ambala, that his stay in Lahore might be extended because he wanted medical treatment here ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I am not aware of any such representation. So far as the Chief Secretary and the Honourable Premier are concerned, no such representation has been received by them.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : When an application is made by an internee to the district magistrate, is the Government consulted by the district magistrate with regard to it or not ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I do not know what the honourable member is trying to drive at.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it within the knowledge of the Government that in all cases of internees, when applications are made by them, they are brought to the notice of the Government by the district magistrates ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I think it is so. If any such representation is received by a district magistrate, it is forwarded to the Government. Since no representation has been sent to the Government in this case, naturally the conclusion is that none was made.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know what reasons stood in the way of the honourable member refusing Lala Duni Chand to visit Indore ?

Parliamentary Secretary : It was not considered necessary for the purpose of treatment.

LALA BHIM SAIN SACHAR, M.L.A.

*9451. **Mrs. Duni Chand :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the period for which Lala Bhim Sain Sachar, M. L.A., was under detention ;

(b) whether any restrictions were imposed upon him after his release, if so, the nature of these restrictions and the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) From the 9th of August, 1942, to 15th of February, 1944.

(b) Yes. He was served with an order restricting him to the limits of Lahore Corporation and prohibiting him from (i) joining or taking part in any procession or meeting of five or more persons other than a purely religious procession or meeting, (ii) taking part either openly or secretly, by speech or writing in any political or subversive movement, (iii) making any speeches in public and (iv) making any communication to any newspaper. The restrictions were imposed upon him with a view to preventing him from acting in any manner prejudicial to the public safety and the maintenance of public order.

DR. GOPI CHAND BHARGAVA

*9452. **Mrs. Duni Chand :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the period for which Dr. Gopi Chand Bhargava ex-leader of the opposition was under detention ;

(b) whether any restrictions were imposed upon him after his release, if so, the nature of these restrictions and the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) From 16th August, 1942 to 7th November, 1948.

(b) After his release he was served with an order restricting him to Hissar City and prohibiting him from (i) joining or taking part in any procession or meeting of five or more persons other than a purely religious procession or meeting, (ii) taking part either openly or secretly, by speech or writing, in any political or subversive movement, (iii) making any speeches in public and (iv) making any communication

[K. B. Sh. Faiz Muhammad]

to any newspaper. In view of his illness, he was however permitted to stay on in Lahore till the 12th of January, 1944, when a revised order restricting him to the limits of Lahore Corporation was served on him. The restrictions were imposed upon him with a view to preventing him from acting in any manner prejudicial to the public safety and the maintenance of public order.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Is the Parliamentary Secretary aware that Dr. Gopi Chand was released on the ground of serious illness?

Parliamentary Secretary : Yes.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know if these restrictions tend to improve or deteriorate his health?

Mr. Speaker : It is a question of opinion. Disallowed.

MR. MOHINDER KUMAR.

*9460. **Sardar Teja Singh Swatantar :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Kahendra Kumar, a 2nd year student of the D. A.V. College, Lahore, belonging to the Patiala State, has been externed from British India;

(b) whether he is aware of the fact that his studies are suffering considerably as a result of this order;

(c) whether the Government intends to permit him to stay in Lahore to prosecute his studies, if not, why not?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad): (a) Mohinder Kumar and not Kahendra Kumar has been externed.

(b) This is alleged by him in his application.

(c) Mohinder Kumar is restricted to Khara Manakpur in the Patiala State under the orders of the Patiala Government. He has been informed that if the Patiala Darbar agree to cancel his restriction order, he should apply to the Punjab Government for permission to join a College at Lahore and his application will be considered.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know who put the restrictions on him on his release from the Gujrat Jail?

Parliamentary Secretary : He is at present under the restriction order issued by the Patiala Government.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Did the Punjab Government make any recommendation to the Patiala Durbar that he wanted to continue his studies at Lahore and so he should be allowed to come to Lahore?

Parliamentary Secretary : The Punjab Government is not concerned with the doings of the Patiala Government.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Did Mr. Mohinder Kumar make an application to the Punjab Government?

Premier : The Parliamentary Secretary cannot enlighten you any further.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether the Parliamentary Secretary can deny the fact that he was externed from British India altogether?

Parliamentary Secretary : Possibly may have been; why should I deny it?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Then how does he say that it is the Patiala Government that has restricted him?

Parliamentary Secretary : So far as the Punjab Government is concerned he was released. He must have gone to Patiala, which is probably his home and there the Patiala Government dealt with him.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether he is aware of the fact that he was not allowed to stay in Deccan even ?

Premier : That is a matter with which His Exalted Highness the Nizam's Government is concerned.

BABA SOHAN LAL OF LAHORE

***9461. Sardar Teja Singh Swatantar :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the present state of health of Baba Sohan Lal of Lahore, at present detained in the old Central Jail, Multan ;

(b) the charges, if any, against him ;

(c) whether Government intend to release him, if not, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : For the honourable member's information, Civil Disobedience detenu Baba Sohan Lal has since been released.

MR. JAGAT RAM JOSHI OF AMRITSAR

***9462. Sardar Teja Singh Swatantar :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it has been brought to his notice that the wife of Mr. Jagat Ram Joshi of Amritsar, who is at present detained in the jail, is seriously ill and that the father and mother of the said Mr. Jagat Ram Joshi have died during his absence while in detention ;

(b) whether it is a fact that recently a number of representations have been made by the citizens of Amritsar to the Government asking for Mr. Jagat Ram Joshi's release, who is at present detained in jail ;

(c) whether the Government intend to release Mr. Jagat Ram Joshi on parole ; if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Yes.

(b) Only a telegram was received from the wife of Jagat Ram.

(c) He was released on the 14th of November, 1944.

MURDERS AND DACOITIERS COMMITTED IN THE FEROZEPUR DISTRICT

***9529. Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the state of crime in the Ferozepur district during the current year as compared with the last year ;

(b) the number of cases under section 457, I. P. C. and cattle lifting cases which took place in the said district during the current year ;

(c) the number of murders and dacoities committed in the Ferozepur district from January, 1944, to 1st November, 1944 ;

(d) the number of inspections of the said district made by the Deputy Inspector-General, Jullundur Range, during the current year ;

(e) the number of Superintendents of Police, Deputy Superintendents and Inspectors posted to the Ferozepur district during the current year ;

[Ch. Md. Hasan]

(f) the names of police stations in the Ferozepore district which are under the direct control of the Superintendent of Police (senior) as a circle officer ;

(g) the names and qualifications of each of the Sub-Inspectors posted to the various thanas in the Ferozepore district ;

(h) the number of police officials if any in the Ferozepore district dismissed for corruption or censured for dereliction of duty along with the particulars of neglect of duty in each case during the current year ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Mann) : (a) Satisfactory ; there is a decrease of 100 cases compared with last year.

(b) 527 cases under Section 457, I. P. C. and 111 cases of cattle lifting.

(c) 63 murders and 6 dacoities.

(d) Deputy Inspector-General, Jullundur Range, is inspecting the Ferozepore district formally in the 1st week of December, 1944.

(e) Three Superintendents, 4 Deputy Superintendents and 10 Inspectors.

(f) All police stations in the district are in the charge of the Senior Superintendent of Police.

(g) 23 Sub-Inspectors are posted to various police stations. They have the necessary qualifications required for a station house officer.

(h) Three police officers were dismissed for corruption and 120 police officers were punished for neglect or dereliction of duty. The collection of particulars of neglect of duty in each case will involve an expenditure of labour and stationery incommensurate with any benefits to be obtained.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Was the charge of corruption also included in the charges of dereliction of duty ?

Mr. Speaker : The question hour is over.

REFERENCES TO THE LATE RAJA NARENDRA NATH

Premier (The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat) : Sir, I rise to make a reference to the sad death of Raja Narendra Nath on the 10th March 1945. Raja Sahib,

1 p. m.

I am told, was in his usual health. He went out for a walk and on his return he had a sudden heart attack and died soon after. In him the province has lost a great Panjabi and a grand old man. He was born in 1864 and died at the ripe age of 81. Raja Sahib had made a great mark in life ; he was a brilliant student, a learned scholar and a great administrator. He joined the service in 1884 in what was then called the Statutory Civil Service and rose to the highest rank then open to an Indian. He was first a Deputy Commissioner and then a Commissioner and retired in 1916. After his retirement, he was very active in politics. He was a member of the last Legislative Council from 1921 to 1936 and was again returned in 1937 from the non-Muslim land holders' constituency. He was for a while, before your election, Sir, the President of this House. He continued to be a member of this House till 1938 when owing to differences on the agrarian legislation, he resigned his seat. He was a member of a number of Round Table Conferences. He was a great supporter of communal harmony and not only preached communal harmony but practised it. He had as large a number of friends among Muslims and other communities as he had in his own community. I remember having received from him as many recommendations for employment for Muslims as for the members of other communities. He was a link between the past and the present and was a personification of the definition of a gentleman. He was a real embodiment of the best culture of the Punjab. He was always interested in the betterment and welfare of the poor. As for my personal friendship

with this grant man of our province, he was once Deputy Commissioner in charge of my late father's estate when it was under the court of wards. He knew our family very well and I have always cherished his friendship. He was a member of the Aitchison College Council on which I have the honour to work. He was very friendly with many members of this House and I am sure that we all join in mourning the loss which we have suffered by the death of so great a Punjabi. I was anxious, Sir, before asking you to convey our condolences to the bereaved family, to move the adjournment of the House for the day as a mark of respect to his memory. But the members of the Opposition did not agree to that. I, therefore, request you to convey the sympathies and condolences of this House to the members of the bereaved family.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan (Ludhiana, Muhammadan, Rural): Sir, I associate myself with the remarks of the Premier which he has made about the late Raja Narendra Nath. Raja Sahib was a great leader and a grand old man of the Punjab. He was a seasoned politician and a great scholar. He was very popular among all the communities of this province. I had the honour of corresponding with him recently and I am in a position to say that he was one of the best well-wishers of the zamindars. Not only the Punjab has lost in him a great leader, but the whole country mourns his loss. A very able and a great guide of a political organisation, he was responsible for communal unity and communal harmony in the country. With these words, Sir, I offer my condolences to the members of the bereaved family particularly to his son, Diwan Anand Kumar.

Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan (Attock, North Muhammadan, Rural): It is very painful for me to have to rise to make a reference to the death of Raja Narendra Nath. The association of Raja Narendra Nath with my family dates from the time of my great-grand-father and after his death the late Raja Sahib was kind enough to continue his friendship with the sons of his parted friend. However great the loss for the Punjab may be, it is indeed a stunning blow to my family and myself. In Raja Sahib we have lost a great cultured gentleman. My sympathies and those of the members of my party go towards the Hindu nation who have lost in Raja Sahib a great leader and a great friend.

I do not, at this moment, wish to dilate upon the great qualities of head and heart which were possessed by the late Raja Sahib. I associate with the Leader of the House in conveying our feelings of sympathy to the bereaved family.

Both as a friend of the late Raja Sahib and a leader of my party, I wish the Premier had agreed to adjourn the House as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased gentleman and give another day for the discussion of the demand for grant *re* Education. If he is not prepared to respect the memory of such a great son of the Punjab, I move that the House should adjourn for half an hour and a message of sympathy and condolences be conveyed to the members of the bereaved family.

Begum Rashida Latif Baji (Inner Lahore, Muslim Women, Urban) (*Urdu*): Sir, Raja Narendra Nath possessed an incomparable and unique personality. He was indeed the very embodiment of character and courtesy. He evinced keen interest in matters connected with education, morality and culture. He was a great scholar and excelled in Persian literature. His unbounded catholicity endeared him to one and all. Besides, he was always ready to help indigent students without any distinction of caste, creed or community. He was also a patriot to the core. With these words I express my deep sympathy with the bereaved family of the illustrious deceased. I still cherish the memory of that day when in 1937 he adorned this House as its first Speaker. I am of the opinion that it would be in the fitness of things if the House is adjourned as a mark of respect to the memory of that great man.

Sardar Santokh Singh (Eastern Towns, Sikh, Urban): I associate myself with all that has been said regarding the various qualities of head and heart of Raja

[S. Santokh Singh]

Narendra Nath. Raja Sahib was the greatest Indian of his time in the province. He was a most conscientious worker and was universally respected. Even at this advanced age he took very keen interest in all movements that were inaugurated for the good of the province. The void that his death has created cannot really be filled and the Punjab is distinctly the poorer by the passing away of this gentleman. I wish the question of the adjournment should not have been made the bone of contention in this House on the death of such a valued citizen. Personally and on behalf of my party I would wish that as a mark of respect to Raja Sahib the House should adjourn for the day.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang (West Lahore Division, General, Rural) : In the death of Raja Narendra Nath, I have lost a personal friend and a leader and *buzurg* who commanded my highest respect. I first saw him in 1897, about 48 years ago. I was then a student when he was the Deputy Commissioner of our district, that is the Gujranwala district. He was known for his ability, for his nobility, for his impartiality, so much so that he was more than fair to the members of other communities and on some occasions the Hindus complained against him that he was not so kind to them. That shows that he went out of his way to keep every community pleased. He was Deputy Commissioner for a long time and he officiated as a Commissioner for three months. When he was not confirmed his self-respect did not permit him to continue in his office. There are very few people, except his personal friends, who know that he retired before his time, that he resigned his exalted office simply because he was not confirmed, and the reason as he understood and we at the time understood why he was not confirmed was that he was an Indian. In those days even the job of Commissioner was considered to be too high for Indians, and even a man of his ability, his antecedents and his experience was not allowed to function for a longer period as Commissioner than three months. After his retirement, rather his resignation, he devoted himself heart and soul to the service of his people.

As has been rightly pointed out, he was an impartial man. He never entertained any malice or grudge against anybody. I remember his favourite verse which he often recited to me and on a particular occasion he recited it with great emphasis :

کفر است در طریقست مایکده داشتن
آئین ماست سینه چو آئینه داشتن

and he lived up to it. I was his humble colleague for the last 27 years and I had innumerable opportunities of studying him at close quarters and I can say without the slightest exaggeration that he never entertained the slightest malice against any one. Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs and others, they were all equal in his eyes. When he joined the Hindu Mahasabha, he did not join it because he was a bigoted man, but because he felt that the Hindus had fallen on evil days and they required the help of a man like him, of his learning, his prestige and his experience. He was patriotic to the core. He was a nationalist to the core and he hated all sorts of communalism and the chief grievance of his life which he felt most bitterly was that communal virus had been introduced into the political constitution of India and I have not the slightest doubt that he would have made any sacrifice to purify the Indian constitution of this poison of communalism. He did all that he could. He went to London. He participated in various committees and various functions here in order to help the cause of India forward, but unfortunately his resources were limited and the powers ranged against him were too strong for him. He continued to do his level best for the amelioration of his country in general and for the Hindus in particular. He was once elected as president of the All-India Hindu Mahasabha and for many years he was President of the Punjab Provincial Hindu Sabha and even at the time of his death he was President of the Punjab Hindu Maha Sabha, and also a member of the Hindu Vigilance Board. In him the Hindus have lost their

best leader, a leader who had no self-interest and whose service to the cause was absolutely selfless and disinterested. From morning to evening, barring the meal time and other necessities of life, he was always at the service of his people and he was most accessible to all from the highest to the lowest, of his people. Anybody, even students of ordinary position could come to him and could rely upon his help. The poorest people, irrespective of caste or creed or race could come to him and whenever he could not help, he felt really grieved and felt the sort of pain which Kalidas in his immortal work has described as the pain from which great men suffer when they do not find themselves in a position to administer the relief which they would like to administer.

Raja Sahib was a gentleman of the highest character, free from pettiness and malice and was an excellent specimen of a mixture of Hindu and Muslim culture. He was a scholar of Persian and knew some Arabic and had also some knowledge of Sanskrit, and was highly proficient in Politics, History and Economics. Even as a student he translated one of Mill's books and from his early childhood he had given proof of his greatness. He lived nobly, he lived in prosperity, he lived a life of usefulness, and even his death was enviable, and I personally cannot wish for a better death than his. He lived happily in the midst of his family. He has passed away in the hands of his family without suffering any bereavement, without suffering any shock. What better life and what better death can a man aspire to than the life and the death that was given to this noble son of the Punjab? With these words I associate myself with the suggestion that the Honourable Premier has made.

Sir William Roberts (European): I feel it a great honour to associate myself as a member of the European community with the remarks made by the honourable members who have preceded me. Raja Narendra Nath held a great position in the social life of the Punjab. He was full of life and was gifted with full use of the faculties right up to the end. He was one of those men whom one had a great pleasure in meeting. It is some times a burden to meet certain people, but he was one of those persons one always felt a little bit more cheerful and more happy for it.

I was glad to hear the Honourable Premier paying tribute to him as a friend of his family. I was also glad to hear the son of the late Premier paying a similar tribute. In both cases Raja Narendra Nath was a personal friend of the two Premiers. This is a great sign that the man was above communalism; and yet did any one doubt his loyalty to his own community? We all join in paying tribute to such a noble soul and convey our sympathies to the members of the bereaved family.

Rai Bahadur Lala Gopal Das (Kangra North, General, Rural): I rise to pay my humble tribute to the memory of the late Raja Narendra Nath and I wish to associate myself whole heartedly with what has been said by the Honourable Premier and the honourable members sitting here. The late lamented Raja Sahib was our highly respected and accredited leader. He was an ideal Punjabi. He was a selfless worker and he had at heart the interests of all communities. He was on the best of terms with them. His sincerity was proverbial. I dare say he had no enemies at all. It is a very great credit to a person living in this mortal world to have such association and to create no enemies at all. He commanded the respect of every one of us, but I am sorry to say that the understanding arrived at between the Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition that we shall adjourn after making references to the memory of the late Raja Sahib is now being upset. I do not know what has happened that the previous understanding is being upset. It is only to honour the memory of a great Punjabi, the grand old man, the greatest statesman that the Punjab has produced, a respected member of this House who retired because he thought that he would not be contributing to the interests of his community if he remained here any longer, that we want the House to be adjourned for the rest of the day. I still request the honourable members on this side as well as on the other to show respect to the late Raja Sahib by adjourning the House for the day.

Premier : I may point out that I was agreeable to the adjournment before and I am agreeable even now. To-morrow's time may be divided half and half between the two sides of the House. If so desired the question hour may be dispensed with and that will give us an additional hour for the discussion of the demand.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : We cannot adjourn for the rest of the day unless another day is given for the discussion of the demand.

K. L. Rallia Ram (West Central Punjab, Indian Christian): I rise to associate myself wholeheartedly with the sentiments of sorrow and bereavement which have been expressed and the many tributes which have been paid to the memory of the revered and departed friend. He belonged to that class of people who represented the old culture, that saintliness of character, that sincerity, that truthfulness, that large-heartedness and we regret to find that that section of the people is now dwindling very fast. He was no doubt a true Hindu, but had a great breadth of mind. His life was a living example that a man by being true to his religion can also win the confidence of others. He was an embodiment of three cultures, Muslim, Hindu and the western culture. He was a source of great joy and inspiration for every one who knew him. Every time I met him he had a kind word to say. He always had a smile on his face and the halo of saintliness around him. I may be permitted to say that it was my proud privilege for some years past to live in his neighbourhood, and almost every second or third morning I used to meet him when I had to go to the city for my work and he was returning from his walk in the garden. Each time he would stop me for a minute or so and say some kind words. I used to wonder what a good man he was. I think the Lahore society will miss that venerable figure we had till now in our midst. He would associate himself with every good cause and he was willing to help any one who approached him. His was a life spent in the service of mankind, in doing what was good for the country. It was a life full of blessing. May God grant that his soul may rest in peace. We also offer our condolences to the members of the bereaved family. It was a close of a beautiful life.

Mian Abdul Aziz (Outer Lahore, Muhammadan, Urban) (*Urdu*): Sir, I wholeheartedly associate myself with what has already been said in the House about the sad demise of Dewan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath. No words are sufficient to express our admiration of the outstanding ability and gentlemanly behaviour of the late Dewan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath. He was undoubtedly a great personality who commanded respect not only from the people of Lahore, but also from people of all communities belonging to this province. He was held in great esteem by all irrespective of any caste, creed or colour. He was indeed a great personality who tried his level best to settle the differences amongst various communities and his house was always a centre where conferences of this kind were often held. He was always at the beck and call of those who sought his help. I had the good fortune of seeing Raja Sahib at the end of the last century. His ancestral residential house was situated in the city and my own house was also situated in its neighbourhood. In those days, when there was hardly any Indian Deputy Commissioner, Raja Sahib was appointed as a Deputy Commissioner by the Government. When he used to pass through Delhi Gate, people would look at him admiringly and feel proud that an Indian had risen to such a high post. He was so self-respecting and conscientious, as has already been stated by my honourable friend Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang that being the senior most Deputy Commissioner, he was made a Commissioner, and when subsequently he was not confirmed as Commissioner, he resigned his post and came out of office. This he did in order to maintain his integrity and self-respect. I had many chances to wait upon him in connection with the proceedings of the last session of the Legislature. When I placed the proceedings of the last session of the Assembly before him for his perusal, he remarked "Why these unhealthy communal disputes on insignificant issues such as beating of the drums before mosques or temples or the question of

'Jhatka' and 'Halal'? These are petty problems which can be settled very easily". He also said that the people want to break heads of one another on useless matters like that of language. He was never in favour of Urdu Hindi controversy as he himself was a great scholar of Urdu and Persian. Thousands of Persian and Urdu verses were known to him. Even Arabic verses were also known to him for he had a respectable knowledge of Arabic too. In connection with radio language controversy he used to say that the language as it is now spoken on the mike is quite understandable and it was absolutely unnecessary to replace it with Punjabi or Hindi which most of us were unable to understand even on our radio sets. He was always at a loss to understand the logic of the people who wanted to introduce Hindi or Punjabi on the radio mike. He used to say that such controversies on immaterial things would rather bring this country to ruin. The late Raja Narendra Nath was peace-loving and law abiding. He used to express most difficult matters so nicely that even great conversationalists were surprised over it. Towards life his was an excellent principle that is, live and let live. Really death has snatched a great man from us. I feel that not only the Punjab but whole of India stands poorer by his death. It is, therefore, most necessary that to-day the House should stand adjourned as a mark of respect to the late Raja Sahib. If the Government are reluctant to adjourn the House to-day I may bring this fact to their kind notice that when Mr. Gupta passed away the Central Assembly was in session. It was the Budget Session, but still the Assembly was adjourned for that day. The Government may extend the session by one day. It does not matter much. After all, education is under discussion and we can have another day for it. Otherwise, I think, it would be very indecent on the part of the Government, if the House does not stand adjourned for today as a mark of respect in memory of a great man who was respected by everyone of us. Now the honourable members of this House are paid, therefore the extension of the session by one day does not mean extra expenditure to the Government. I would, therefore, request the Honourable Premier to show respect to the late Raja Sahib by adjourning the House for one day. And if he is not willing to do so for some reason or other I would like to support the proposal made by my honourable friend sitting on my right that the House should stand adjourned for at least half an hour as a mark of respect to the memory of a great man of the Punjab province.

Premier: Sir, I am sorry I cannot agree with my honourable friend who has made a proposal for the adjournment of the House for one day as the allotted time for the Budget cannot in any case be changed. If he wants the House to stand adjourned for half an hour or so I do not object.

Captain Sardar Naunihal Singh Man (Sheikhupura West, Sikh, Rural): I fully associate myself with what has been said by the honourable members of this House. Raja Sahib was a great nationalist who did not live for his community alone but for his country. He was a man who was, as Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang said, easily accessible to every body from the rich to the poor and who had a very soft corner for the people who went to him and he was always willing to do good to them if he possibly could. I had the privilege of knowing him through my ancestors. In fact he was a Deputy Commissioner of our district—I mean Gujranwala—for a long time and I heard lot of things from my grand-father and my father about him. He was, in fact, the only Indian, as some honourable members have said, who occupied the post of Deputy Commissioner which was very rare for Indians in those days and he carried out the work most creditably. Sir, in him we have lost a great personality, a great nationalist leader, and the Punjab is poorer to-day by his loss. I remember having met him while I was a student and in those days he narrated good old stories of the days when he was a Deputy Commissioner and about my late grandfather. When I met him in 1937 in this august House as one of his colleagues, I remember having complained to him one day that when we people came prepared in the House we were not given any opportunity by you and that once or twice I stood and I did

[Capt. Nannihel Singh]

not get the opportunity of having my say. I talked about this matter to Raja Sahib and he very humorously told me that while starting with my speech I should narrate this verse which I still remember. He told me to narrate this verse while addressing the honourable Speaker :—

یہ دہلیز زبان بزدلی ہے کیسا تیری محفل میں
 یہاں تو بات کہنے کو ترستی ہے زبان تیری

He was a very great man, a great scholar, a man who know Persian and Urdu verses and in him we have lost a great personality. With these words I join with other honourable members of this House and request you to send a condolence message to his bereaved family.

Mr. Speaker : I associate myself with the remarks made by the honourable members. I had the honour and pleasure of forming the acquaintance of the late Dewan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath about fifty years ago. I always found him a first class gentleman. In practical politics he was a leader of leaders. He tried his best to solve the problem of communalism but he did not succeed. I think he was one of the best men I have come across and I do feel his death a great loss to me and to the whole of the province. Let us now pass the motion of condolence standing.

(All the honourable members, at this stage, rose in their seats.)

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the House may stand adjourned for one hour as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

The motion was carried.

The Assembly accordingly adjourned and reassembled at 2-40 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS

SECURITY PRISONERS, NEW SUB-JAIL, GUJRAT

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh: I beg to ask for leave to make a motion for the adjournment of the business of the House to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the grave situation in the New Sub-Jail, Gujrat, resulting from the general resentment among the security prisoners on account of insulting and abusive language used by Mr. Bhagat Ram, Deputy Superintendent of Jail towards one of the security prisoners, Mr. Puri and the provocative threat last week-end by the authorities to open fire on the security prisoners.

Mr. Speaker : The motion of the honourable member is out of order.

RESTRICTIONS ON LALA DESH BANDHU GUPTA, M. L. A.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Sir, I beg to ask for leave to make a motion for the adjournment of the business of the House to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the restrictions placed by the Punjab Government on Mr. Deshbandhu Gupta, M. L. A.

I submit—

Mr. Speaker : No speech.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : If you consider that the matter is not definite.—

Mr. Speaker : Such restrictions have been placed on various persons in the past and they have been discussed in this House. Therefore, I do not consider it at all in order.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : My submission is that the subject matter of my motion is that certain restrictions have been placed on Lala Deshbandhu Gupta. It is not a general question of M. L. As'.

Mr. Speaker : I do not consider it to be in order.

SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE AUTHENTICATED BY THE GOVERNOR

Minister for Finance (The Honourable Sir Manohar Lal): Sir, as required by section 81 of the Government of India Act, 1935, I lay on the table the supplementary statement of expenditure (Second instalment) for the year 1944-45 authenticated by His Excellency the Governor.

As required by section 81 of the Government of India Act, 1935, I hereby authenticate the following supplementary statement of expenditure for the financial year 1944-45, which specifies :—

(a) the supplementary grants (second instalment) made by the Punjab Legislative Assembly in its Session held in March, 1945, and

(b) the sum required to meet the expenditure charged on the revenues of the Province.

Supplementary Statement.

Grant No.	Major head of account	Supplementary grants made by the Punjab Legislative Assembly	Sums required to meet expenditure charged on the revenues of the Province	Total
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1	7—Land Revenue	4,30,990	..	4,30,990
2	8—Provincial Excise	2,17,730	..	2,17,730
3	9—Stamps	26,400	..	26,400
4	10—Forests	29,01,240	10,090	29,11,330
5	11—Registration	10,500	..	10,500
6	12—Charges on account of Motor Vehicles Acts.	1,21,870	..	1,21,870
6	13—Other Taxes and Duties ..	45,200	..	45,200
7	XVII—Irrigation, Working expenses and 18—Other Revenue Expenditure financed from Ordinary Revenues.	30,85,510	..	30,85,510
	17—Interest on works for which Capital Accounts are kept.	..	58,800	58,800
8	Irrigation Establishment Charges ..	7,26,870	1,800	7,28,670
9	68—Construction of Irrigation Works ..	34,77,170	..	34,77,170
10	25—General Administration ..	22,58,130	1,44,820	24,02,950
11	27—Administration of Justice ..	2,88,740	43,750	3,32,490
12	28—Jails and Convict Settlements ..	7,08,620	..	7,08,620
13	29—Police	38,83,650	..	38,83,650
15	37—Education (European and Anglo-Indian).	27,220	550	27,770
16	37—Education (excluding European and Anglo-Indian).	4,32,360	..	4,32,360
17	38—Medical	12,08,760	..	12,08,760

Grant No.	Major head of account	Supplementary grants made by the Punjab Legislative Assembly	Sums required to meet expenditure charged on the revenues of the Province	Total
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
19	40—Agriculture	6,31,830	34,260	6,66,090
20	41—Veterinary	1,41,910	790	1,42,700
21	42—Co-operation	65,110	..	65,110
23	50—Civil Works	55,06,600	..	55,06,600
25	XLI—Electricity Schemes Working Expenses.	1,07,700	..	1,07,700
26	52-A—Other Revenue Expenditure connected with Electricity Schemes.	85,190	..	85,190
29	54—Famine	6,30,540	..	6,30,540
31	56—Stationery and Printing ..	2,96,990	..	2,96,990
32	57—Miscellaneous	2,98,69,020	1,980	2,98,61,000
	63—Extraordinary Charges .. ..	..	..	..
	82—Capital Accounts of other Provincial Works outside the revenue Account.	10,80,500	..	10,80,500
	85-A—Capital Outlay on schemes connected with the war 1939.	58,14,000	..	58,14,000
33	Advances Re-payable	3,78,900	..	3,78,900
18	39—Public Health	10	5,380	5,390
22	43—Industries	10	..	10
24	Buildings and Roads Establishment Charges.	10	..	10
27	81—Capital Account of Civil Works outside the Revenue Account.	10	..	10
28	81-A—Capital Outlay on Electricity Schemes outside the Revenue Account.	10	..	10
	GRAND TOTAL	6,44,49,200	3,02,220	6,47,51,420

LAHORE :

The 15th March, 1944.

B. J. GLANCY,

Governor of the Punjab.

DEMAND FOR GRANT

EDUCATION

Minister for Finance (The Honourable Sir Manohar Lal) : Sir, I beg to move—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,39,88,600 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of Education (Excluding European and Anglo-Indian).

Mr. Speaker : The demand moved is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,39,88,400 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of Education (Excluding European and Anglo-Indian).

Education Policy

Shahid Sadiq Hasan (Amritsar City, Muhammadan, Urban) (Urdu) : Sir, I beg to move—

That the demand be reduced by Rs. 100.

Before I proceed with my speech I may point out that as I have moved this cut motion at the instance of the Muslim League Assembly Party, I think it necessary to read out our manifesto with regard to Education which is as follows:—

The Muslim League attaches prime importance to the full development of the culture and education of the people by all possible means, not only as an end in itself, but also to arm the people more effectively in our fight for national emancipation. We believe that mass education is the basis of all progress and a solution of most of our ills. In their own interests our masters have always fought shy of it and have created all conceivable obstacles in its way. The Muslim League, however, will firmly fight for free compulsory primary education for all and demand its accomplishment within the shortest possible time.

In addition it will demand the maximum facilities for adult literacy and post literacy reading. To that end it regards the development of central, district and village libraries and the organisation of travelling exhibitions, libraries and educative films as a prime care of the State.

The Government must also take steps to provide cheap text books, writing material, etc., for the use of students. Above all, text books must be expurgated of anti-national, demoralising and slavish matter. They must be re-written to give our children a pride in their own nationality and history, a confidence in their future and a love of mankind in general.

We demand that all statistics of Government and State reports and documents should be made available to the public, unless it is detrimental to public safety. An educated public must know and follow the basis on which its Government acts.

The Muslim League advocates a radical change in the existing system of higher education with its exclusive insistence on academic degree and is dismayed at the present position when every educated youth is a beggar at the door of the bureaucrat. It suggests a very considerable extension in functional and technical education co-ordinated with a programme of future industrialisation, without which we cannot hope to keep pace with the other civilized nations of the world.

The Muslim League shall champion that the spirit of brotherhood and selfless service inculcated by the Holy Quran have been sacrificed at the altar of the present system of education, which has destroyed our national morality and established an ethical system based on worldly greed, selfishness and cowardice.

We reject a slavish imitation of the West which is the ideal of our present day education and demand that the Muslims must be trained in the spirit of Islamic brotherhood and in the traditions of their religion so as to re-create a moral basis for their conduct. To this end we wish to make Quranic religious education a compulsory subject for all Muslims in the primary and secondary school standards and a study of Islamic history and culture a compulsory subject for all Muslims in secondary and higher education. We demand that a Chair of Islamic History and Culture be created in the Punjab University at once.

The Provincial Muslim League notes with the deepest concern the apathy of the present government, which has resulted in a callous disregard of the rights of the majority nation in the sphere of men's and women's education. As an essential step towards redressing the balance, the Muslim League demands an amendment in the Punjab University Act, which would secure for the Muslims adequate representation in proportion to their population in the Text-Book Committee, the Senate and Syndicate of the Punjab University. We shall also secure for the Muslims their due share in the Educational Services and demand that the main consideration in giving grants-in-aid to educational institutions must be the relative population strength of the community served.

The Muslim League lays particular stress on the advancement of girls' and women's education which has so far been pathetically neglected, and in this sphere would like special emphasis to be placed on religious instruction, particularly for Muslims. The moral regeneration of our people must start at the cradle with the spiritual influence of the mother.

After reading this manifesto I want to add a few words more. National progress depends upon the spread of education only. If the English are superior to us in any way they are simply better educated than we. Once I told the Home Secretary that if all the Indian armies join hands even then we will not be able to oppose them for long as they would be manufacturing tanks and aeroplanes by thousands and we cannot make even one. This superiority is only due to their better education and nothing else.

[Sh. Sadiq Hassan]

Punjab Government is spending 240 lakhs of rupees on education this year and it comes to one rupee a year per head. We want compulsory primary education but the Unionists feel afraid of it. In the education of science we are very backward and immediate attention in this direction must be paid. If we spend one crore for the teaching of science, it will easily bring 100 crores of rupees in return, because we can manufacture many things and the exports of our manufactured goods will increase tremendously. Our zamindars purchase motor cars for 500 maunds of wheat and if we improve our own conditions, then our national wealth will not be wasted like this. Miracles of science cannot be denied. With more education of science our graduates will not have to run after petty jobs. Unlimited number of businesses will be open to us and our youth will be at liberty to join any business.

Another thing that I want to place before the House is that Muslims are getting less grant-in-aid in proportion to their population.

I am not pleading the case of Muslim only. I say that facilities of education should be provided for all the backward people like the Sikhs, Achhuts, etc. Our Achhut brethren are in a still worse condition. They are in slavery since thousands of years. They too must have been in better conditions some time, but as they were deprived of education and were kept ignorant of their old traditions, they became degraded to such a position that now they cannot make use of their wisdom. Today they eat the crumbs from the tables of others with pleasure. It is the duty of the Minister of Education to educate them so that these people may understand that they are as respectable as are others.

So far as I know the oriental institutions are not getting any grants from the Government at present. Such institutions must be provided with grants. Those schools which have come into existence after 1932 must also be provided with grants. I must draw the attention of the Government to the poor condition of the teachers. They are getting very small salaries. Even the dearness allowance granted to them is not adequate. Moreover at the time of giving grants to schools, the Government should be careful to give more grants to the schools of the Muslims and backward communities as compared with the schools of advanced and well-to-do communities. For example, the districts of Ambala and Mianwali need more attention as compared with the other districts of the province. There is a very great economic inequality in the province on account of the war. Some have earned crores and crores and the others, if their income has increased one and a half times, their expenses have increased four times. Therefore the Government should change its present system of grants. It should give more grants to the schools of the poor as compared with those of the rich. With these few words, Sir, I resume my seat.

Mr. Speaker : Demand under consideration, motion moved—

That the demand be reduced by Rs. 100.

Sardar Kartar Singh (Lyallpur East, Sikh, Rural) (*Punjabi*) : Sir, during the last seven years practically no work in connection with education has been done in this province. We hoped that after the bureaucratic Government the representatives of the public will change the system of education in order to make it really useful for the people and will spread it to the farthest village in the province, so that the Punjab will be nearer to the other civilised countries of the world, if not quite on the same footing with them. But during these 9 years no work to achieve that object has been done. The Minister and his department have proved themselves utterly useless and have done nothing to further the educational progress of the province. The syllabus of studies has not been so made as to satisfy the needs of the people. The present system produces clerks only.

Minister for Education : The report of the Syllabus Committee was produced in 1938 but has not been introduced because paper is not available.

Sardar Kartar Singh : No doubt a Syllabus Committee was appointed, which submitted its report also but the Government did not make any effort worth the name to act upon the suggestions of that Committee, on the other hand they are taking protection behind the false excuse that paper is not available.

Minister for Education : It is not a false excuse.

Sardar Kartar Singh : The pays of the teachers have not been increased adequately. The Government should give more money to the local bodies and the district boards so that the conditions of these nation-builders without whom our Ministers would not have been able to occupy those seats, may be improved. They are getting Rs. 20 per month even today. Instead of thinking about teaching they are always worrying as to how to get two square meals for themselves and their children. They are starving. They must be given financial security. Then and only then they will be able to work satisfactorily. These are the two demands, that the syllabus be changed according to the present needs of the people and that the teachers be paid enough for their livelihood. In some of the districts the teachers have gone on strike and in others they are thinking of taking that step. Nobody is paying any heed to the fact that the income of the teachers is not sufficient. This defect must be removed and some adequate step must be taken to encourage the teachers.

Now I come to the Punjab University. An Enquiry Committee was set up before the regime of the present Ministry to look into the University matters. It did submit its report. But to this day no action has been taken on that report. Even today there is the large majority of nominated members in the Syndicate and the Senate.

(At this stage Mr. Speaker left the Chair and Mr. Deputy Speaker occupied it).

Now when the constitution of our province has undergone a great change so much so that there is not a single nominated member in the House, I see no reason why the constitution of the University should not be modified. But it is regretted that so far no step has been taken in this direction. My friend from Amritsar who has opened the debate to-day, quoted a passage from the manifesto of the Muslim League in which it is stated that the Muslims should be given adequate representation in proportion to their population strength in the University. So far as the Muslims are concerned their complaint may or may not be justified but in regard to the Sikhs I can definitely assert that their complaint is only too true. In the entire body of 84 members of the University Senate there are only 7 or 8 Sikhs. I do not think more injustice can be done to them than this. *(An honourable member:* It is a question of ability and academic qualifications). My friend has told me it is because of their academic qualifications that members are appointed on the Senate of the University. That is not the case at all. Those who are members of the Senate or the Syndicate have not been appointed on the basis of their qualifications only but they are there because they had influence with the Minister, the Vice-Chancellor or with other higher authorities. Majority of these members are nominated. Under the circumstances I think there is a great need for amending the University Act at an early date so that the grievances of the Muslim, Sikh and Hindu Jats be removed. If that is not done I do not think any community would be satisfied with the working of the University.

Then there is another matter to which I want to draw the attention of the Honourable Minister for Education. And that is that so far efforts have not been made to promote the teaching of Gurmukhi in the province and the Sikhs are rightly grieved over it. On a previous occasion some money was provided for the teaching of Gurmukhi but that has not been expended as yet. I think there is no use of providing any sum for it if it is not to be expended at all. In this

[S. Kartar Singh]

year's budget no provision has been made for Gurmukhi at all and the money that was set apart last year would be utilized for the purpose. I think this is a step-motherly treatment to the Gurmukhi language. What is more, provision that has been made for Arabic, Hindi and Gurmukhi would be expended on the teaching of these languages in the ratio of 50, 80 and 20 per cent, respectively. It is not at all proper that the money should be utilized in accordance with the same formula that has been devised for making recruitment to services. If the money to be spent on teaching of different languages is to be divided in communal percentages then in my opinion 50 per cent of this money should be spent on the teaching of Persian, Arabic and Urdu and 80 per cent on Hindi and Sanskrit and 20 per cent on the Punjabi language. The present method of distribution of money, that is, 50 per cent for Arabic, 80 per cent for Hindi and 20 per cent for Gurmukhi is defective. It is proper for the Government to have provided money for the teaching of these languages in view of the needs of the different communities. But the present proportion that has been fixed is not at all justified.

Besides, this year Government have done a great favour to the Scheduled Castes inasmuch as they have promised to set apart a sum of Rs. 40,000 for them. I think that what is spent on the amelioration of the condition of these classes will be money well spent. But in addition to the Scheduled Castes there is one other backward section, i.e., the Mazhai Sikhs and the Ramdasias Sikhs who deserve help from Government. These people have greatly helped in the war effort by providing recruits from amongst them. If my friends on the opposite benches have any real appreciation of the war efforts as they loudly profess it, let them give positive proof of it as well. The Mazhabi Sikhs who have done so much for war are in no way less entitled to assistance from Government than the Scheduled Castes. I think that in the matter of education Ramdasias and Mazhabies must be treated on a par with the Scheduled Castes.

My last submission is in regard to services. I think it will be sheer waste of the valuable time of the House if I take up separate branches of this or that department and deal with individual cases where injustice has been done to the Sikhs. So I will take up the question as a whole. Under the present formula of recruitment 20 per cent share has been fixed for the Sikhs but in fact they are getting only 10 or 11 per cent. This disparity cannot be made good unless the same formula is observed not only in the case of fresh recruitment but in promotions as well. So long as the Government does not agree to give to each community the share fixed under the communal formula, i.e., 50, 80, and 20 per cent to Muslims, Hindus and Sikhs, respectively, in every grade and so long as it does not undertake to make up the deficiency of every community within 5 years, the complaints will continue in this behalf. As I have stated, I think it will be simply waste of the time of the House if I take up individual cases and discuss injustices done to the Sikhs in regard to them. Moreover, this will exacerbate communal feelings in the House. Government should accept the principle that every community be given its proper share in a fixed time regardless of the fact whether it is advantageous or disadvantageous to any other community. As a matter of fact what we want is that services should not be distributed on communal basis but on merit. But if services are to be distributed on communal basis then I would submit that every community be given its due and proper share in every branch, in every department and in every grade. (Hear, hear). There is no middle course. One of these two principles must be accepted. I do not think that it is in any way reasonable that the appointments to higher posts and promotions should be left in the hands of the Minister, so that he, under the pretext that in the matter of promotions communal considerations are not given any weight, may continue to indulge in communalism. (Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: Government will not agree to any one of the suggestions). My friend says that Government will not agree to any one of the suggestions, because the Ministers want to keep some of the posts in their hands so as to oblige their own

friends. I think the complaints of different communities in regard to this matter can be removed only if the services are distributed on communal basis or if that is not practicable the communal formula be done away with and appointments be made in every department on the basis of merit. If merit is not to be considered the sole criterion of appointments, in that case every community should be given its due and fixed share in fresh recruitment as well in the matter of promotions. Besides a reasonable time limit be fixed by which the deficiency of each community must be made good. So long as that is not done the complaints of different communities cannot be removed at all. So far as the Department of Education is concerned justice has not been done to the Sikhs. During the last 3 or 4 months a few posts have been given to the Sikhs in this department. Since this department has been under the charge of Minister for Education, Mian Abdul Haye, the rights of the Sikhs have been continuously ignored and injustice has been done to them. I think that even though I am a member of the Congress Party, still it devolves on me to see that injustice is not done to the Sikhs and not only to the Sikh but to all other communities. There is only one method of doing that and it is that the share of every community fixed under the communal formula be given to them not only in fresh recruitment but in promotions also. With these words I resume my seat.

Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram (West Central Punjab, Indian Christian) : Sir, I need hardly say that this is the most important subject under discussion to-day and the future of the province, as has been rightly said by the speakers, depends largely on having a very sound system of education and education alone. It is also a very happy augury of the times that people have begun to take greater interest in the subject of education. It is only by constructive criticism that we can effect reforms and make some headway. The empty benches on that side show the amount of interest that they have got in the subject of education. (*An honourable member* : See the benches on your side.) I will modify my statement that the empty benches on all sides of the House show the amount of interest people have in the subject of education. (*Interruptions*) I am not used to this kind of noise. I wish the honourable members at fault had been in my class room ! I want to remove many misapprehensions before I come to the subject itself which I will divide into several parts. It is a very common practice for honourable members in this House to stand up and always criticise the Government and the Ministers. What can they do ? They have not formulated this system, they are not the originators of education here. Education has been handed over to us by the British Government. It started in 1849. I have been in this line for the last 30 or 40 years and I must say that so far as reforms are concerned, Punjab has made a very rapid progress. (*Interruptions*). It is a pity that you do not listen to me. Why do you jump from one thing to another ? I wonder what kind of education you have had. I pity the college where you were instructed. (*Interruptions*). I am coming to the percentage. Please do not be impatient.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : The honourable member will please proceed with his speech.

Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram : They interrupt me and I want your protection. I remember very well what the state of education was in the Punjab. (*An honourable member* : When you were a student ?) I have been Headmaster since 1905 when you were not perhaps born even and I have been watching the progress of education ever since that time. I can say without fear of contradiction that under the reforms education has made a very rapid progress in the Punjab and that fills one with very great hope as regards the future of the country. (*Hear, hear*). We must remember what a poor Minister can do with his limitations. He must progress within limitations and they have to chalk out their educational programme under the limitations imposed upon them. The expenditure on education is now less than what it was about ten years ago while our income has gone up. (*Interruptions*). There was a time when they used to spend 15 per cent of the income, but now, with increase in their income, they have decreased their

[Mr. Rullia Ram]
 expenditure on education. (*Shame, shame, from opposition benches*). You may call "shame-shame" but I am narrating the real facts. (*Cheers from Opposition benches*). I will be fair to every one. I wish the Honourable Finance Minister, who is not in the House at this moment, had given more for education. I believe that hoarding under the Defence of India Rules is a crime. If it is a crime for us, it should be a greater crime for the Government to keep the huge surplus without spending it on subjects like education. Education costs money and without money it is useless for honourable members to talk of reforms. (*Mian Abdul Aziz: We agree with you.*) At the same time it must be remembered that the Minister of Education has not got a magic wand in his hand to enable him to change the whole system in a minute. (*Interruptions*). There are no doubt some glaring defects in the present system of education. So far as the present Ministry is concerned, I think they have done their very best. (*Voices of "Oh, oh" from Opposition benches*). As soon as the present Minister of Education came into power, he appointed a committee for the purpose of overhauling the system of education and he was good enough to appoint me as one of the members on that committee. (*Hear, hear, from Opposition benches*). I was in Simla along with other members of the committee and while those honourable members were enjoying, we were at work to put before the country a very comprehensive scheme. But nobody has got control over circumstances which were brought about by the war. For want of paper, which is scarce due to war, the whole scheme has been postponed for the time being. The new scheme requires new text-books. Text-books were even written up and were in the press (*Oh, oh, from Opposition benches*). I also brought out a few text books. My text books also could not be printed due to shortage of paper and they are lying where they were at that time. Now that there is surplus, that scheme will be put into operation as soon as conditions permit. Let me tell the honourable members that a new scheme, known as Dr. Sargent's Scheme of National Education, is coming into force as soon as circumstances permit. It is a huge scheme under which every boy and girl in India will receive basic education. The Central Government is going to pay for it. The Central Government is making a very large contribution to the Punjab and I understand that they are placing very shortly a sum of 9 crores of rupees at the disposal of the Punjab Government for the expansion of education. It will take about 20 years for the completion of that scheme. The chief characteristic of that scheme is that everybody must have education—although it will take a long time—about 5 crores of children will be brought under instruction and they will require about 18 lakhs of teachers to carry out that scheme and a large number of buildings will be required. It is a huge scheme of education and it requires the co-operation of both the Government as well as the people. We cannot expect that only the Government will be able to carry out that scheme. There must be co-operation of everybody.

Now, I will start with primary education which is the most crying need of the day and without which no fabric of education can be built. It has been in the hands of the people and not in the hands of Government. They have given large sums of money to district boards and municipalities. Most of my honourable friends are connected with district boards and municipalities. What have they done? They never pay any attention to it themselves. They come here and begin to accuse the Government for having done nothing in this respect. There are district boards and municipalities. You yourself do nothing. (*An honourable member: What about grants?*) You must remember that grants are given in a lump sum to all the local bodies. The Government is spending crores of rupees over these grants. District Boards and municipalities are very indifferent. I must say, to the primary education which is under their direct control. I was a member of the Lahore Municipality for many years and I can give you many examples

of indifference of the Lahore Municipality, although at the same time there were members like Mian Abdul Aziz, who took very great interest, no doubt—I wish there were more members like him. In order to give an idea of wastage in the primary education, I will read out the report of Sir John Simon of the Indian Statutory Commission, and this is a very appropriate paragraph with regard to wastage. On page 48 it says—

The wastage is thus, as we have said, enormous, and it involves an immense waste of money and effort. Reference has been made to it in Mr. Arthur Mayhew's recent book on the Education of India; and the Royal Commission on Agriculture expressed the view that under present conditions expenditure on primary education is largely wasted. If the annual cost of a primary school pupil is put at Rs. 8, then in 1922-23, Rs. 2.91 crores were spent on pupils who did not proceed to Class II; in 1923-24, Rs. 0.40 crores were spent on pupils who did not proceed from Class II to Class III; in 1924-25, Rs. 0.29 crores were spent on pupils who did not proceed from Class III to Class IV. The total amount of this ill-directed expenditure was Rs. 3.60 crores. The total loss for the four years amounts approximately to Rs. 14.4 crores, or to 60 per cent of total expenditure on primary schools between 1922-23 and 1925-26.

These were the conditions in 1929 and the conditions never improved very much except in the Punjab. This is all due to the efforts of the department concerned. They brought the fact of wastage to the notice of district boards and municipalities and as a result the wastage is far less to-day than it was about 20 or 25 years ago. Things are improving very much now. There are three factors which can improve primary education, e.g., teachers, curriculum and equipment, organisation, building and apparatus. These are the three factors of primary education without which you cannot have any sound system of education. Look at the teachers. The poor teacher, in the first place, is not qualified. He is a middle pass with little training of a normal school for one year. He does not know how to behave and deal with small children and he does not come in touch with modern system of education. Education is a changing commodity. It changes every year according to the environments and surroundings of the country. As I said the other day, it is a just reflection of society. It is a mirror to see what kind of society you have. They act and re-act on each other. If you condemn education, you condemn yourself. If you show such a kind of negligence, indifference and lukewarmness towards your children, then I am afraid, they will not be placed very high in society. (An honourable member: Condemn the Government.) I condemn you because you are yourself responsible for it. Should the Honourable Minister go and teach your children? He is not a teacher. He can lay down a policy, he can give money and he can give his help. It is your local bodies which are connected with primary education. I think there are 8 to 10 lakh students under instruction in these primary schools. But what is the salary of a poor teacher? I have dealt enough with this subject. The honourable members should not refer to the strikes which are taking place in Jullundur and other places. Were the teachers of Anjuman Himayat-i-Islam not on strike for a week for not getting dearness allowances and their wages? (An honourable member: They have got it.) Yes, you have given them now and I am very glad that better counsels have now prevailed. I was submitting that the poor teacher has been very hard hit and if his status is not raised by giving him more salary, the primary education in this province will not improve. Give them better salary so that you may be able to have better teachers who can impart better education to the children. I think the Government should pass a law that they should not have any one below matric. There must be good grounding in vernacular. It is very unfortunate that we are having this controversy about languages. That they may settle amongst themselves. We must impart good education. Now there is a scheme under contemplation and it is going to be enforced very soon. It is based on very sound lines. That is to say, everybody will receive basic education in 4 or 5 years. Then there will be bifurcation. The difficulty of the present system is that we are trying to force our system on every one. It is true that some essentials are very important, such as the three R's. But every boy has a great potentiality in him. It has got to be found out and developed from the very beginning. Experiments have been made in this line and they show how intelligent and clever the boys become if they are properly encouraged and brought up. If we give them proper facilities from the beginning, they become geniuses.

[Mr. Rullia Ram]

They are the boys who will make very good men and who will be a pride to the whole country. Unless you have got better class of people, people who are free from this taint of communalism which is eating into the very vitals of the nation, there is no salvation. Here every one tries to put forward the claims of his own community. That is all right so far as it goes since our electorates are based on that principle. My honourable friend has read a very nice article. Does it mean that only Muslims have got a right to be educated? If he had stated that he wanted a system by which every one is to be educated, Hindus, Sikhs, Muslims and so on according to the culture of each community, that would be something. But these words are omitted. They try to make a narrow world for themselves. My friend, the Sikh gentleman over there, has brought forward the claims of the Sikh community. I think the Sikhs are doing very well in education. No community has done to improve the cause of education more than our Sikh brethren. It does not mean that the Government should open schools only for the Sikhs. Let us stand for national schools. Let us stand and speak for the whole country.

I now come to the second point. I have just stated that teachers are very ill-paid. I think legislation should be brought to improve their lot. The Hartog Committee has stated that no teacher should get less than Rs. 30 a month to start with. I must mention one thing here. Honourable members opposite criticise the Punjab Government. But the Government of India itself has said that the Punjab is leading in many ways. (An honourable member: That is wrong). I am speaking to you a fact. I have heard this from the honourable Sir Jogendra Singh himself. They hold this opinion of the Punjab for good reasons.

Now I come to curriculum. I do not wish to say much. A scheme was prepared under the inspiration and guidance of the Honourable Minister, but that could not be given effect to. That was a very great improvement on the present system. If it had been given effect to it would have changed things very rationally. Circumstances have not permitted its being brought into operation at once. But as soon as the war is over it will be put into effect. I understand that they want to put it into effect, whether the war is over or not, soon. There is already a silver lining on the horizon and the war is practically won. So you will soon have a different system of education altogether. One thing is overlooked in this connection. Now there are two kinds of education, the conscious education and the sub-conscious education. There is the active education and the passive education. Our education unfortunately is passive education. It is conscious education. The child's mind is pliable and receives constant impressions which cannot be taught and which cannot be expressed. All the same they have their effect on the child's mind and when it grows old it will remember them. After all, what is education? It does not mean teaching of A. B. C. only or some mathematical figures. That is only one part of the education. The education is intended to develop the mind of the child and to open his eyes and learn things about him. In England, another civilised country, a vast amount of money is being spent on what they call research work. They have clinics for children. There are magazines for children. Every day we have a new system of education, with new ideas. We are having the project method, the problem method, the Montessori method and so on. We have to teach them many things as well as lay great stress on the beautification of school buildings. There must be good pictures. They are part of the education. We want model schools. I see that the Government has started a school near the Central Model School. The only regret is that it is not open to every one of us. Good education means more money. They talk of free and compulsory education. I am keen on education being compulsory but I am not keen about its being free. I tell you the reason for it. Take the case of Lahore. There are about 200 schools. We have not got really free education, we have it only in name. They say they have no money. It costs every guardian two rupees or more

a month on tuition. Some of these schools are very bad. There are no gardens attached to them, no play fields. These poor children are huddled in those schools. There is no sufficient room for them. The municipality has got 7 or 8 buildings of its own. The rest are all rented and they are paying Rs. 80 or 90 or 100 per month as rent. There is exploitation. I give you one example. In Lahore, my friend will bear me out, they built near Hiramandi a very good market for the convenience of the people. Somehow are other the market did not flourish. It was suggested that it might be converted into a school because it was a very big building with well ventilated and spacious rooms. But what happened? There was a school in the neighbourhood in a rented house which belonged to a member, for which he was getting a rent of Rs. 100. He was afraid that if the market was converted into a school he would lose his rent. So he moved that the market be demolished. I do not want to give the name, but there it is. I am not saying this to cast any reflection but that is the state of affairs. I can give you any number of instances. We want self-government and this is what happens in municipalities and district boards. I have laid sufficient emphasis on the fact that we should have better school buildings. I would request and enjoin upon the Government that they should not give money to the district boards and municipalities unless they fulfil the condition that they should have proper buildings for schools and properly qualified staff. There are many restrictions imposed on secondary education, but so far as primary education is concerned their rules are very lax. Crores of rupees are given but so much money is being wasted out of these huge sums. As I said the other day there is dualism in education which will not do. Under that dualism Mrs. Durga Parshad was dismissed. The Minister has got indirect connection with it. There is dualism in the district boards. The Inspector is under the Deputy Commissioner and the district board is also under the Education Department. Sometimes there is a clash between the two.

Khan Bahadar Shaikh Karamat Ali : The honourable member was pleased to make an observation that Mrs. Durga Parshad had an indirect connection with the Minister. We have not been able to follow and it is likely to give rise to other interpretations. We request that he may be good enough to make it clear.

Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram : I shall do it afterwards. I want to show that local government is under the other Minister. (*Interruptions*).

Mr. Deputy Speaker : I cannot allow this irrelevant talk. I would ask the honourable member to proceed with his speech.

Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram : They are very anxious. I wish that you too show that anxiety. I was talking about primary education. Now coming to the secondary education, this is very much more important than the primary education because the character of the boy is formed at this stage (*hear, hear*). In the primary stage the boy is quiet and when he reaches the age of discretion a little he begins to discriminate between good and evil and that is the time when his habits are formed. We who are in the education line can easily predict what the boy is going to be after watching his character. Many a time our predictions have come out true. I will give an example. When Sardar Teja Singh the High Court Judge was my pupil long long ago I predicted that one day he was going to be a great man though I did not say that he would be the Judge of the High Court. He possessed those qualities which go to make a great man. He was very intelligent and very honest. I feel proud that my prediction has come out true. I can give other examples. Sometimes they turn out to be bad. The future of the boy largely depends upon secondary education. Just as in England, the best men are made in schools. The Duke of Wellington said that the battle of Waterloo was won in the fields of Eden. He was not far from truth, because there the secondary education is placed on very sound footing. I am sorry that the whole of our secondary education is directed to one thing, that is, the admission to the University. The whole of our system is dominated by our examinations. We are not

[Mr. Ballia Ram]

paying any attention to their character and to their physical health, although I must say that comparatively speaking things are better now: we have what are called extramural activities in our schools: yet they are far from that ideal. This year about 45 thousand boys have gone for the Matriculation out of which I do not think 30 thousand would pass and only 5 or 6 thousand would go for higher education. What about the remaining 24 thousand boys? If you take figures for the last 30 years you will find that hardly 10 per cent have gone for higher education. The rest neither get the opportunity nor have the desire. All of them cannot be absorbed in Government service. We want to create baboos and clerks. If you study figures you will find that only half a per cent can be absorbed in services and when I speak of services I mean from the Governor to the peon. What about the remaining 99½ per cent? The rest, who go in for education, seek service where minimum qualifications are required. The result has been that unemployment has been on the increase year after year. It was only good fortune that the war came which absorbed a very large number of educated men: people who were matriculates and under-matriculates joined the army. That was a kind of blessing, otherwise it would have been a very great menace. It is a warning to everyone: do not look to the Government. The Government is composed of the people. It is democracy. It does not matter which people are sitting on those benches and which on these benches. After 10 years, people sitting on the Opposition may occupy Government benches. It is government of the people, by the people and for the people. Such is the fundamental principle of democracy.

Therefore we should give more importance to our secondary education. It is a great pity that under the reforms some kind of cleavage has come into existence between private and Government institutions.

4 p.m.

They say that they cannot go on catering for private institutions as their number is increasing because of the limited amount at their disposal. Now we want complete change in the secondary education. The Sargent scheme is a very important thing. It solves many problems which have been before the country for a long time and for which no solution has been found up to this time. Now there is another difficulty. Private enterprise takes a very large responsibility which should have been borne by the Government. In fact most of our good students have come from private institutions. If I may say so, the Honourable Minister for Education himself is a product of a mission school and mission college. Like him there are many who are products of private institutions. The country owes a lot to them. What would have been the condition of the Punjab without Lala Hans Raj, without Dr. Ewing and without Maulvi Muhammad Did? They have all come from private institutions. They have borne your responsibility on their shoulders. Therefore it is your duty to encourage them. There was a time I remember before the reforms when the Directors of Public Instruction whenever they came out for inspection looked upon private institutions as if they belonged to the Government. They helped them. I do not think there is any acrimony on the part of the present Directors. We are very glad to see that our present Director of Public Instruction is very sympathetic and we are very glad that he is at the head of the affairs of our province and I am looking forward with pleasure to the time when he is made the permanent Director of Public Instruction. He is popular with all classes of people and enjoys the confidence of all. Another point is that they do not give any money for buildings. That is another misfortune. They cannot entirely depend upon private charity. Government should help them. Without that help education cannot thrive in this country. As for changing the curriculum, it is a big change. Then there is another difficulty. The secondary education is under the University as well as under the Education Department. Matriculation is the biggest examination which is under the University. The rest of the high school education is under the Education Department. It is a dualism. We would like to see a board of secondary education

formed in the Punjab as in the other provinces like the United Provinces. Take it away from the University. The University should devote its time and energy and money to the pursuit of higher education and also technical education in the highest form. The school should be able to devote more attention to build up the character of the child rather than only enable the boy to pass his examinations. Examinations have no doubt a place in the school education. But they are not all. There is character building. Then there is another glaring defect. No attention is paid to the development of personality. God has created every soul with a plan. The surroundings of the child must be such as would develop his own personality, his own character. It has been very well put by Sir Iqbal in his poem 'Asrari-Khundie'

چوں حیات عالم ال ازور خودست -- پس به قدرے استواری زندگی است

(As the universe derives its power from the self, life is in proportion to its strength) And again—

(When the drop of water learns the lesson of self by heart, it turns its worthless existence into a pearl).

قطره چون حرف خودی از بر کند
سرمایه بے هست را گوهر کند

You might have produced a few giants like Sir Manohar Lal and the Leader of the Opposition and others. But what about the rest? We want that our schools should give more time to science because war has revealed the fact that the progress of the country depends on science. Industry has very close relation with science. Therefore the teaching of science should be emphasised. At present what does a boy learn? He has to take five subjects at the Matriculation—English, Mathematics, General Knowledge and two others. Where does this lead him especially if he is not going to prosecute his studies further? What good is it his learning three languages and all of them very imperfectly? English and the languages are very poorly taught. What is the result? Our boys cannot express themselves. Only self-expression will create self-reliance. It is only by self-expression that nations express themselves. It is only through self-expression that individuals come to the forefront. Just as Sir Iqbal has said :

جس سے دل دریا متلاطم نہیں ہوتا
اے قطره نیاں وہ صدف کیا وہ گوهر کیا

It is a tyranny on the system of education that we are not making any arrangements for the development of the soul. We have made arrangements for the intellectual progress, we have made arrangements for the physical welfare to a certain extent, but what about the soul? For *verendi causea* he has to look to somewhere else. That is the tyranny of education.

Now I come to the University education. I find that here too the conditions are far from satisfactory. In the first place there should be age limit for passing the Matriculation examination. How can you expect a boy of 12 or 13 to pass the examination? Of course some may pass by cramming a few things. But that is not the end of education or the purpose of education. It must be something better.

(At this stage Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair).

Education is something much better and higher than that. Why should a boy pass his Matriculation examination at the age of 12 or 13? We are governed by physical conditions. A boy is not able to grasp and apprehend those things at that immature age. And what is the result? He goes to the college from one form of discipline and control to the other all at once. In school they are under control. The headmaster's word especially is a law to him. Each word of his is non-appealable. I will just give an instance. There was once a controversy between a raja and a teacher

[Mr. Rallia Dam]

called 'Pandah' about their authority, respectively. The raja naturally maintained that his authority was higher, while Pandah protested that his orders were carried out by his pupils more promptly than those of the raja's by his subjects or officers. To test this Pandah suggested that the raja might take out his sardars in the maidan and he would bring his pupils in order to show who had the greater authority. He suggested, however, that a big bowl of liquid ink be placed in the middle. He asked the sardars to blacken their faces with the ink. It was obeyed by some of the sardars but some of them refused to blacken their faces even when they knew that they might be punished. Then the teacher said to his boys in Punjabi: *Mundyo munh kala karo* (blacken your faces) and in an instant the whole pail was empty. The moral is that the teacher has far more influence with boys than any temporal power.

So, as I pointed out in connection with the system of University education, children of tender age, I mean those below 15 should not be allowed to take their examination. After all, as I have said, the object of education is not only to enable boys to pass but to form their character, to brighten their minds, to illumine their minds and to make them useful and patriotic citizens of the country. That cannot be achieved if the children go to college at a very young age. What is the result when they go there? The system is such there that they get out of control.

Mr. Speaker : I know I cannot compel the honourable member to resume his seat, but I would request him to finish his speech as soon as possible.

Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram : I will not take long. As I have said, there is a very sad commentary on the Punjab that our students do not behave properly. The reason is not far to seek. They go to college at a very young age. That is a very serious condition.

The Sargent scheme aims at the University education taking three years instead of four and giving one more year at the school stage, so that the schools may be more self-contained and self-sufficient, so that when a boy leaves his school he may have firmer foundation for his life to come. That objective of the school is to create an aptitude for learning. Our idea is to create a healthy atmosphere, create an aptitude for learning and a sure foundation for character.

The Punjab University is becoming very unwieldy. 45,000 students have appeared this time in the Matriculation examination. I admire the organisation of the Registrar, how he has been able to manage those big centres where 60,000 students have appeared or will appear for various examinations. But after all every man's capacity for work is limited. The Punjab should have three or four universities instead of just one. We have been looking forward to the time when our Khalsa brethren will have a university in Amritsar. Let them have a Sikh University. Let every college have its own University. In the United Provinces there are five or six universities, while in the Punjab there is only one, with the result that there is corruption. Not that the officers are corrupt, but there is corruption in connection with the marking of examination papers and people pay money. *An honourable member :* May I know whether the honourable member knows of any instances or is he saying this from hearsay? If the honourable member wants any facts and figures I shall let him have them. I am not saying this on hearsay, I am speaking on authority. My objection is not against any individual, my objection is against the system. Any system which becomes so unwieldy is liable to corruption. It is time that leaders representing various groups of people should get together and consider the question. Education is the one subject which should be outside the pale of politics. I hope we all agree on that point. If there are defects we should try to remove them. After all having a good system of education means less crime. Education is a very good investment. It is true that you do not get the results all at once. If you invest

money on canals, you get a return from them very soon; but if you invest money on education you do not get a quick return. It improves the morale of the whole country. Therefore we should not grudge spending money on education. On the other hand it should be spent very willingly. That is a subject on which all parties should agree.

Now I will say something about girl's education and I will try to be brief. In this connection I would like to quote to you from the Report of the Punjab University Enquiry Committee, 1932-33. On page 215 of that Report they quote from the Hartog Committee—

The importance of the education of girls and women in India at the present moment cannot be overruled. It affects vitally the range and efficiency of all education. The education of the girl is the education of the mother, and through her of her children. The middle and high classes of India have long suffered from the dualism of an educated manhood and an ignorant womanhood; a dualism that lowers the whole level of the home and domestic life and has its reaction on personal and national character.....

The education of women, especially in the higher stages, will make available to the country a wealth of capacity that is now largely wasted through lack of opportunity. It is only through education that Indian women will be able to contribute in increasing measure to the culture, ideals and activities of the country.

It is a source of great gratification to me that more attention is now being paid to girls' education. The Honourable Minister of Education has got very comprehensive scheme in this respect. He may take a little time to put it into force. Things cannot be changed all at once. At present girls' education is more unsatisfactory than boys' education. There are 19 girls' high schools housed in rented houses. It is time that girls' education is given the same facilities as are given to boys' education. The status and the salary of women teachers should be raised. They are the makers of the nation and without their help we cannot progress.

I wish I were able to speak for some time more. But as other members are anxious to have their say I will wind up. I appeal to the House that we have at present reached a stage in the history of our country where we are face to face with very great problems. The future of India depends upon us. The war is over. This is now the time when we should all meet together and infuse a spirit of give and take. After all we are born in this country. We have to die here. We are all Punjabis. It makes no difference whether one happens to be Muslim or a Hindu or a Sikh or a Christian. It is a matter of accident. Everybody has a right to worship God in his own way. But we have many things in common and everything depends upon a sound system of education. It is very unfortunate that there is trouble in this respect. Communalism is introduced by educated people and not by uneducated people. You go to a village and you will find that all classes are living amicably. They all belong to all communities. It is only in cities where we have got educated people that there is communalism. It is there that we find these cleavages and these differences. But there are exceptions. There are men who have made large contributions towards the progress of education, and who take great interest in education. We want that India should take her place in the comity of nations. We are face to face with serious problems. The earlier you realise the importance of education and do your best, the better. We want the co-operation of everybody in this matter. I want to see a time when every Punjabi is educated. We want better homes, more enlightened homes, more domestic happiness, more brotherhood of men so that we may turn into a great nation and take the same place as other countries in the world. This may not happen in my lifetime. But I do wish for a time when India will be the conqueror and not a conquered country and when she will be able to bring down England under her subjugation. It is only a good and sound system of education that can help her in this. We should therefore put our system of education on a satisfactory basis. Every one of us should give his attention to this important subject, wherever he is.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali (Nankana Sahib, Muhammadan, Rural)
 (Urdu): Sir, after listening to the speech of my friend the Master Sahib, I think, it will interest you if I begin my speech with a verse which runs as follows—

موش میر و سگ روز و پشہ درباری کند
 این چنین از کون دولت خا و ویرانی کند

It is really unfortunate that the Honourable Minister for Education has such supporters and councillors. It is on account of them that he has not been able to do anything for the spread of education in this province, otherwise I am confident that left to himself he would certainly have done some good work. The purport of Masterji's speech, which Mr. Speaker, you have not listened to but we have heard, is that there is no need for the Education Department and that people can best look after their educational needs themselves. In that connection he mentioned the names of certain educationists who have done much useful work for spreading education in the province. When such absurd suggestions are made I do not think that the Honourable Minister for Education would do well in accepting them at all. But what is the poor Education Minister to do? He has been let down by his own colleague, the Finance Minister. If he reflects for a moment he would find that the Honourable Minister for Finance has insulted him in his Budget speech inasmuch as he has admitted that in the matter of literacy, the Punjab is far behind other provinces and even India States. After comparing literacy figures in the Punjab with those of other places and even of Indian States he has observed that the Punjab is far behind them in the matter of education.

At this stage the Assembly adjourned till 12 noon on Tuesday, 13th March 1945.

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

THIRTEENTH SESSION OF THE FIRST PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 13th March 1945

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber at 12 noon of the clock. Mr. Speaker in the chair.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

MURDERS AND DACOITIES COMMITTED IN THE FEROZEPORE DISTRICT

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : With reference to the answer to starred question No. 9529¹ asked yesterday, will the Parliamentary Secretary please state which thanas in Ferozepore district are in charge of the Senior Superintendent of Police as Circle Officer?

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagit Singh Man) : The Senior Superintendent of Police, as Circle Officer, is in charge of all the police stations in the Ferozepore district.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it a fact that neglect of duty included charge of corruption only?

Parliamentary Secretary : It is a question of opinion.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : It is not a question of opinion. What is the Parliamentary Secretary's information? I have sought this information in part (b) of the question. Will it be possible for the Parliamentary Secretary to state as to whether neglect of duty included the charge of corruption also?

Parliamentary Secretary : I cannot say.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Will he be in a position to give the number of registered cases under Section 457, I. P. C., during the current year?

Premier : In Ferozepore district?

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : I am not asking about Sargodha, I am asking about Ferozepore.

Premier : I wish the honourable member had concentrated his attention on his own district.

Parliamentary Secretary : The number of cases registered under Section 457 I. P. C., during the current year in Ferozepore district is 527.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it within the knowledge of the Parliamentary Secretary that the number is twice as much as it was during the last year?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have not got the figures of last year with me.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is the Parliamentary Secretary then in a position to say that the crime has decreased?

Premier : He meant real crime.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is there such a thing as unreal crime?

Premier : It depends on full report of a crime being made.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether all these police chaukis in the Ferozepore district are set up for unreal crime ?

Premier : Sometimes a crime is not fully reported. Mounting up of figures is not a real indication of the state of crime.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : Is that a satisfactory state of affairs ?

Premier : We want every crime to be reported. Sometimes people come forward to report and sometimes they do not.

VICTORY FAIR AT LUDHIANA

***9577. Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state:—

(a) the total sum raised for war effort in the Ludhiana District in the years 1942-43 and 44 on different occasions through the official agency ;

(b) the amount collected for holding the Victory Fair through the official agency ;

(c) the sum spent in arranging for dances and singing by dancing girls in the said fair ;

(d) the name of each of the dancing girl who attended the Victory fair on the invitation of the police ;

(e) whether it is a fact that the idea of inviting the dancing girls to the Victory fair originated with the then City Inspector of Police ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Man) : (a) No separate record is kept of contributions received by officials whether in their personal or public capacity ;

(b) the total sum collected from all sources in aid of the War Purposes Fund for the Victory Fair was Rs. 2,13,479-8-0, and of this amount Rs. 2,09,952-8-0 were presented for the War Purposes Fund to Mr. Bennett, Inspector-General of Police, Punjab, who presided over the function ;

(c) A sum of Rs. 1,869-8-0 was paid to different artistes who gave performances during the show ;

(d) The police did not invite any artistes. The entertainment was run by certain public-spirited men who had formed a regular committee for the purpose. Five or six local and outside artistes gave performances including Miss Manorma, Miss Tamancha Jan and Inayat Bai of Bherowali ;

(e) No. This is not a fact. Members of the Executive Committee of the Victory Fair, after discussion among themselves, decided upon the idea of holding a concert in aid of the War Purposes Fund, and the proposal to invite artistes originated with them.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Did the Government approve of the idea of inviting these dancing girls to the Victory Fair ?

Parliamentary Secretary It is a question of public entertainment.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : Is it not a reflection on the morals of the people of the Punjab that you get dancing girls on such occasions ?

Parliamentary Secretary : To hear songs is not a sin.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it a fact that the proposal of inviting dancing girls was approved by the Honourable Premier and the Inspector-General of Police ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I am not aware of it.

Premier : It was the concern of the local people. We had nothing to do with it.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : Does the Government receive income through all these means?

Premier : That is a source of income which might be known to my honourable friend across. My entertainment is confined to this House and I had nothing to do with that arrangement.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether any of those dancing girls had pro-Zamindara League sympathies?

Premier : I thought that was a commodity reserved for my communist friend over there. *(Laughter)*.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it a fact that the Inspector-General of Police and the Honourable Minister of Education were photographed with these dancing girls?

Minister of Education : Not I.

Khan Muhammad Yusaf Khan : Does the word 'artiste' mean a prostitute so far as the Government dictionary is concerned? *(Laughter)*.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : The honourable member should repeat his question.

Mr. Speaker : The next question.

SECURITY PRISONERS

***9736. Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state:—

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the security prisoners in the Dharmasala Jail in the Kangra district have made a complaint to the Superintendent of Jail that the police officer who conducts their interviews does not allow them full one hour for the interview as required under the rules;

(b) whether it is a fact that the brother and mother of Mr. Yudh Vir interviewed him in the said jail in February last and the police officer stopped the interview ten minutes before one hour and when this fact was brought to his notice he retorted "Bakwas mat karo" (Shut up) and that he would stick to his own time and was not bound by any rules;

(c) whether it is a fact that according to entries made in the jail Gate Book, the police officer entered the time of the interview with Mr. Yudh Vir as arrived at 1-35 p.m. left the jail at 2-25 p.m.;

(d) whether it is a fact that the matter referred to in paragraph (c) above was brought to the notice of the jail authorities; if so, what action, if any, was taken on the matter?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat : (a) Only one such complaint was made.

(b) No.

(c) No. The interview started before 1-35 p.m. and the one hour had terminated by 2-25 p.m.

(d) A complaint was made by the detenu and its truth was denied by the police officer. There was no evidence either way and so the matter was dropped.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : With reference to part (c) of the question, may I know from the Honourable Premier what was the time when the interview began?

Premier : I thought the question and reply were quite clear. According to the watch of the officer, it started before 1-35 p.m.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : What was the time when it began ?

Premier : The honourable member can calculate it for himself. It had terminated by 2-25 p.m.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : Does he deny the fact that it began at 1-35 p.m. ?

Premier : I have stated that it started before that.

Mr. Speaker : The next question.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : What does the jail book show ?

Premier : The information I have given.

SECURITY PRISONERS

***9737. Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that security prisoners in the Dharmasala Sub-Jail have complained to the authorities that their relatives who come for interview and servants who come to supply them with their requirements are harassed by the police ;

(b) whether it is a fact that a man named Bisheshwar who brought fruits and other articles for one of the security prisoners in the second week of March 1944 was shadowed and searched by the police ; if so, under what law or authority was this search made ;

(c) whether it is a fact that though the persons referred to in (b) above applied to jail authorities for permission to deliver the articles on the 7th of March 1944 actual delivery of the things was made on the 11th March, and some of the fruits and other articles brought for the security prisoners became unfit for human consumption or perished altogether ;

(d) whether it is a fact that it was due to the obstructions put by the police that the jail authorities did not take delivery of these articles ; if so, what was the nature of the objection and the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat : (a) There was one complaint that a servant had to remain at Dharmasala for four days. The police were instructed that such delay must not occur in future.

(b) He was not searched.

(c) The application was made on the 8th of March. On the 9th of March the sub-Inspector Police went to the jail but could not find the man who had brought the fruits, etc. The articles were delivered on the 11th.

(d) The police are required to see the articles before they are delivered to the security prisoners. The delay in this case occurred as arrangements could not be made earlier by the police for examination. Such articles are examined without delay now.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : May I know whether the Honourable Premier is in a position to tell us that it is primarily the duty of the jail authorities to examine the articles which are being delivered to the security prisoners ?

Premier : I have already stated that the police are required to see the articles before they are delivered to the security prisoners.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : May I know whether it is not primarily the duty of the jail authorities ? Why did the police intervene in this particular case ?

Premier : It is we who lay down as to whose duty it is and not the honourable questioner.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : Is he aware that there are rules in the Jail Manual which regulate the procedure? Why is there a departure from the rules in this case?

Premier : Other questions on the subject are coming up later. The Honourable member will find from the answers thereto that Government have issued such instructions.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : It is laid down in the Jail Manual that it is the duty of the Superintendents of Jails. Why is there a departure in this particular case? Why have all these powers been transferred to the police?

Mr. Speaker : The next question.

SECURITY PRISONERS

***9738. Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether it is a fact that according to jail rules it is the responsibility of the jail authorities to pass all articles of food intended for security prisoners but contrary to this the police officials at Dharmasala insist on examining the articles sent for the security prisoners over the head of the jail authorities; if so under whose directions the police officials are allowed to do so, and what action, if any, Government intend to take in the matter?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat : The police authorities examine the articles under instructions from Government.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether the police examined these articles outside the jail gate or inside the jail gate?

Premier : Whether they examined these articles outside or inside the jail gate, whether they examined them in the shade or the sun or at what hour, I do not know.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Is there any demarcation of responsibility between the police officers and the jail authorities or not?

Premier : If my honourable friend wants further information he should put a fresh question.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether it is a fact that inside the jail, it is the jail authorities who are to do whatever they like and not the police officers?

Mr. Speaker : Disallowed.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether the police can interfere inside the jail also?

Premier : It is not interference at all, but it is a question of further precaution.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether the jail authorities cannot take necessary precautions in this connection?

Mr. Speaker : Disallowed.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state if the Honourable Finance Minister is still in charge of jails or the portfolio has been taken away from him?

Premier : It is a joint responsibility and all Ministers are in charge of jails.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : They are all booked for jail for some future date. (Interruptions.) They are all jailors.

Premier : Yes, but those jailors let out the communist friends. (An honourable member : Because they apologised to the Government).₃

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : It is a lie that we apologised to the Government. Let anybody come and prove this.

Premier : I would say *chor ki*—

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : May I know whether the jail rules have since been amended?

Premier : There is no question of amendment of jail rules. Government has issued instructions and the police are examining those articles.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : Will he refer us to the law under which Government has issued such instructions?

Premier : There are instructions of Government on this point.

LATHI CHARGE ON POLITICAL PRISONERS IN MULTAN CENTRAL JAIL

***9741. Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state:—

(a) whether it is a fact that in December 1942 political prisoners in the Multan Central Jail were subjected to a lathi charge;

(b) whether it is a fact that certain articles belonging to the said prisoners were forcibly taken possession of by the jail authorities which have not yet been restored to the owners?

Parliamentary Private Secretary (Sayed Amjad Ali Shah) : (a) No.

(b) Not so far as Government are aware.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it not a fact that it appeared in the press that security prisoners in the Multan jail were subjected to a lathi charge?

Parliamentary Private Secretary : No, Sir.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : May I know whether Mian Iftikhar-ud-Din, President of the National Congress in the Punjab, was in jail during this scuffle?

Parliamentary Private Secretary : Not that I know of.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is there anything that you know of? (*Laughter*).

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know how many people were admitted to hospital?

Parliamentary Private Secretary : I have already answered part (a) of the question in the negative.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Was Mr. Barkat Ram injured in the Multan jail during the year 1942?

Parliamentary Private Secretary : I have already informed the honourable member that as far as the Government is aware, no lathi charge was made.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : I want to know whether Mr. Barkat Ram was injured in the year 1942?

Parliamentary Private Secretary : That question does not arise.

Mr. Speaker : Next question.

DISMISSAL OF SARDAR SHAUKAT HYAT KHAN

***9760. Mian Mumtaz Muhammad Khan Daulatana :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state:—

(a) the date on which Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan passed orders regarding the removal of the Lady Superintendent of Schools of the Lahore Corporation, the case which later involved his own dismissal;

(b) the date on which this order was first brought to the notice of the Honourable Premier ;

(c) the date on which this order was first brought to the notice of the Governor ;

(d) whether Premier discussed this case with the Minister concerned before the meeting of the Cabinet at which it was taken up resulting in Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan's dismissal, if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat : (a) January 22nd, 1944.

(b), (c) and (d). These matters are privileged. I have already given as much information as can be given consistently with the public interest.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : After his statement, does the Honourable Premier still believe that these documents are confidential and privileged ?

Mr. Speaker : Disallowed.

Raja Ghazanfar Alit Khan : Will he please lay on the table the list of those documents which are privileged in connection with this case ?

Mr. Speaker : Next question.

GIANI RAM SINGH JOHAR OF HOSHIARPUR

***9813. Sardat Aji Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—whether it is a fact that Giani Ram Singh Johar of Hoshiarpur who is detained in Sub-Jail, Gujrat, recently applied for a maintenance allowance for his blind father ; if so, with what result ?

Parliamentary Private Secretary (Sayed Amjad Ali Shah) : An application was received from this prisoner in September, 1944, which was rejected on the basis of enquiries made into a similar claim previously.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether the enquiry made revealed that he had a blind father at all or not ?

Premier : His father is a person who is earning his own livelihood as a priest in a temple.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know on what ground that application was rejected ?

Parliamentary Private Secretary : I have already given the reasons for rejecting his application. A similar application was made previously and enquiries made by the Government revealed that the dependents of this gentleman could earn their livelihood.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I take it that the Government do not reconsider any matter at all ?

Mr. Speaker : Disallowed.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : What grounds did he give for the grant of maintenance allowance by the Government ?

Parliamentary Private Secretary : I have not got the application here and I am afraid I cannot enlighten my honourable friend.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know what is the annual income of the family ?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know what recommendations were made by the police officer who was sent to make enquiries in this connection ?

Mr. Speaker : Next question.

MR. RAM PRAKASH CHADHA

***9820. Lala Bhagat Ram Choda :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Ram Prakash Chadha is detained in Sub-Jail, Gujrat, under Military Ordinance IV since his exchange with Enemy country two years back ;

(b) whether the Government is aware of the fact that while he was in the Enemy country his bank balance about 18 lakhs was seized by the said Enemy Government after declaration of War on it by the Allies ;

(c) whether any offence was committed by Mr. Chadha after exchange in India, if so, what ;

(d) whether he made a request to Government for his release on certain conditions, if so, with what result ;

(e) his weight at the time of arrest and at present ;

(f) whether he is suffering from abdominal trouble at the present time ?

Parliamentary Private Secretary (Sayed Amjad Ali Shah) : The question may be raised in the Central Assembly as it relates to a prisoner of the Central Government who has since been released.

MESSRS. JAMNA DAS, RAM SARUP SEHGAL, RAM PRAKASH CHADHA AND SUJAN SINGH SMART

***9821. Lala Bhagat Ram Choda :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Messrs. Jamna Das, Ram Sarup Sehgal, Ram Prakash Chadha and Sujan Singh Smart are detained in Sub-Jail, Gujrat, as security prisoners ; if so, under what law and under whose orders they are being detained and how long the Government intends to keep them in jail ?

Parliamentary Private Secretary (Sayed Amjad Ali Shah) : The question may be raised in the Central Assembly as it relates to prisoners of the Central Government, who have since been released.

SYT. YASH PAL, B.A.

***9844. Lala Bhagat Ram Choda :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Syt. Yash Pal, B.A., a detenu in the Sialkot district jail applied in January 1945 for permission to appear in the M.A. examination of the Punjab University ; if so, the action taken by the Government on this application ?

Parliamentary Private Secretary (Sayed Amjad Ali Shah) : Yes. It was rejected.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether M.A., examination can be taken without attending any classes whatsoever ?

Parliamentary Private Secretary : Not that I am aware of. My friend should address this question to the Punjab University.

Premier : This is a matter which concerns the Punjab University.

OBSCENE ADVERTISEMENTS PUBLISHED IN THE VERNACULAR PRESS

***9862. Sardar Kapoor Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the numerous obscene advertisements published from time to time in the Punjab Vernacular Press and the growing resentment of the public against it ;

(b) the action taken or intended to be taken by the Government to stop this nuisance?

Parliamentary Private Secretary (Sayed Amjad Ali Shah) : (a) Yes.

(b) During 1942, 1943 and 1944, 15 warnings were administered. During the same period 8 prosecutions were launched under section 292, I. P. C.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether any cases have been started by the Government in connection with obscene literature?

Premier : As far as Government policy is concerned I may state that we want to stop this evil as much as we can.

EDIBLE DYES

***9863. Sardar Kapoor Singh** : Will the Honourable Minister of War Planning be pleased to state :—

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that suitable edible dyes have been discovered by the scientists of the Bangalore Institute of Scientific research;

(b) if so, whether the Government intend to enforce the colourization of vegetable ghee in the province now that edible dyes are available, if so, from which date, if not, why not?

The Honourable Major Ashiq Hussain :

(a) No.

(b) Enquiry will, however, now be made and I shall be glad to let the honourable member know the result.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know the reasons for not colouring the vegetable ghee when the dyes are available?

Minister : I cannot answer this question just now.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I take it that the allegations made by my friends here are correct?

Minister for Education : They are all baseless.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know if the Government is so careless as not to find out even whether the edible dye has been prepared in Bangalore or not?

Minister for War Planning : A letter has been written.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : When?

Minister : I cannot give the date off hand. I want notice.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Was it after notice of this question was given?

Minister : Long before.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know whether the Government has received any reply to that letter?

Minister : Not so far.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Has Government sent any reminder?

Mr. Speaker : Disallowed.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : These allegations should be corroborated if the Government is neglecting in the matter. The position should be made clear.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a demonstration was given in one of the committee rooms about the colourization?

Minister for Education : Yes.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is it a fact that a particular colour was approved by the Government?

Minister : It was approved by the Government.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is it a fact that the Government later on said that that colour was not available in the market?

Minister : Government said that the colour was not available in the market.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is it a fact that the colour leaked before it was approved?

Minister : No.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is it a fact that the colour was bought by interested persons after the Government decided to adopt that colour?

Minister : No.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Then, what is baseless?

Minister : The allegations of corruption which you made against the Government are baseless. You said that the manufacturers said they could purchase from A to Z. You said that all the officers from the highest to the lowest are corrupt. These are baseless allegations.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I remind the Honourable Minister that I never said that all were corrupt? I simply said 'there are corrupt people'. Now may I know who brought the charge against the Government at that time?

Minister : I have this information. At one of the party meetings Sir Sikander-Hyat came and said that a particular member said something outside the House and called upon him to repeat what he had said. The honourable member was not prepared to state but when pressed by Sir Sikander he said there was a rumour that a certain Minister had been paid bribe.

An honourable member : Which Minister?

Minister : It was I. Then Sir Sikander asked him who had paid the bribe. He said he was not aware. Then Sir Sikander asked what bribe had been paid. He said he was not aware. Then Sir Sikander asked as to what was the source of his information. He said he could not name a single individual who gave him the information. Thereupon I told the Honourable Premier I would take this case to the court to vindicate my reputation and my honour. Thereupon Sir Sikander said 'you should not take it very seriously; the honourable member had mentioned my name, that is Sir Sikander's name, outside, and today when asked he has substituted your name'.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I am very sorry that in the course of questions and answers it is difficult to get the question cleared up; but may I ask whether it is a fact that Sir Sikander gave orders that this Bill should be passed within two days because there were so many scandals?

Minister : No such order was given by the Premier; it was the party which decided it.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Will the Honourable Minister please state the reasons why in spite of the party's anxiety this scheme was not carried out?

Minister : It was because after the colour was approved, the manufacturers put in an application that the colour was not available; and further they put in another application that the approved colour was not suitable. I may also add for the information of the honourable member that there were six cases of manufacturers and dealers offering for sale uncoloured artificial ghee. The Government made elaborate enquiries from the chemists in the province and even outside including Sir Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar. The Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health, London, was also consulted in the matter. They were all unanimously of the opinion

that if the artificial ghee was heated it would decompose and the decomposed substances were likely to be toxins. I laid the entire case before the late Sir Sikander Hyat Khan and it was he who ordered that the notification regarding the colourisation of ghee should be withdrawn for the time being.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I know whether before that colour was approved the Government made any enquiries from the chemists ?

Minister : We did make enquiries from the Punjab chemists.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : What was their opinion then ?

Minister : They were of the opinion that the colour was innocuous.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : The Chemists changed their opinion afterwards ?

Minister : Yes.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Does the Honourable Minister think that there is still a chance of the opinion of the chemists being changed ? They might again recommend the colour.

Minister : The colour itself is not available in the market.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : If the colour is available, will the Government colourise the Ghee ?

Minister : The Government will then very carefully go into the whole question.

SHAHZADA AZAD

***9885. Shrimati Raghbir Kaur :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) the date on which Shahzada Azad was detained in his village Sambrial, District Sialkot ;

(b) whether he has been ordered to report himself every Sunday at the Police station ;

(c) whether an inquiry was made with regard to his financial position ;

(d) whether the question of the removal of the restrictions imposed on him was ever considered by Government ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Private Secretary (Sayed Amjad Ali Shah) : (a) He was restricted to the limits of Small Town Committee, Sambrial, on 16th February 1944, but the area of his restriction was later extended to the limits of Police Station Sambrial in April 1944.

(b) No. He is not required to report himself every Sunday at the Police Station.

(c) Yes.

(d) His case has been once reviewed by Government.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Is the Government aware of the means of his livelihood ?

Parliamentary Private Secretary : I have no information on that point.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : With reference to the answer to part (c), may I know what his monthly income was reported to be ?

Parliamentary Private Secretary : I have not got these details with me here.

SARDAR SHER SINGH, SECURITY PRISONER

***9888. Shrimati Raghbir Kaur :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) whether Sardar Sher Singh, a security prisoner, now detained in the new Sub Jail, Gujrat, has recently been placed in Class II ; if so, the reasons for transferring him from class I to Class II ;

(b) whether any more detenus are also to be transferred from Class I to Class II in the said jail and other jails in the province ;

(c) the total number of political prisoners in the province classified as Class II prisoners ?

Parliamentary Private Secretary (Sayed Amjad Ali Shah) : (a) He is detained under an order of the Central Government and the Punjab Government has no concern with him.

(b) No change is contemplated at present so far as the Punjab Government is concerned.

(c) 20.

MR. TILAK RAJ SURI

***9890. Chaudhri Sahib Ram :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Tilak Raj Suri, an internee of Rawalpindi City, applied to D. M., Rawalpindi, on 21st May 1944 along with a medical certificate for permission to go to Murree for one month and sent him a reminder on 22nd June 1944 ; if so, with what result ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the above-mentioned internee submitted an application for leave to the Home Secretary on 9th October 1944 and another on 22nd October 1944 for permission to leave Rawalpindi, if so, with what result ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the internee again applied to the D.M., Rawalpindi on 12th December 1944 for permission to go to Lahore for 5 days, if so, with what result ;

(d) whether it is a fact that he met the Deputy Superintendent, C.I.D., and handed over his application to him personally on 2nd January 1945 for permission to go to Murree on account of the illness of his father Lala Maya Dass ex-chairman, Beopar Mandal, if so, with what result ?

Parliamentary Private Secretary (Sayed Amjad Ali Shah) : (a) An application dated 21st May 1944 was submitted by Tilak Raj Suri requesting for permission to go to Murree for the summer on grounds of ill-health, but no medical certificate was enclosed. He was asked to have himself examined by the Civil Surgeon, but he declined to do so and gave up the idea of going to Murree.

(b) An application dated 9th October 1944 and a reminder dated 26th October 1944 (not 22nd October 1944) were received from Tilak Raj Suri for the removal of his restrictions. His case was reviewed and Government decided not to relax his restrictions.

(c) Part I.—Yes.

Part II.—The application was rejected as the request was not genuine.

(d) No.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it a fact that when applying for permission to go to Murree, Mr. Tilak Raj said that he was prepared to submit a medical certificate of the doctor who was attending on him ?

Parliamentary Private Secretary : I have stated that no medical certificate was submitted.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it a fact that he was prepared to submit one from the doctor who was treating him?

Parliamentary Private Secretary : I am not aware of that.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know the source of livelihood of this internee? Does the Government know that?

INSTRUCTIONS RE GRANT OF PERMISSION TO INTERNEES TO LEAVE PLACES OF THEIR
INTERMENT

***9891. Chaudhri Sahib Ram :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether any definite rules have been framed or any instructions have been issued to District Magistrates on the subject of granting permission to internees to leave the places of their internment in certain circumstances, if so, whether he is prepared to place them on the table of the House; if not, the reasons therefor?

Parliamentary Private Secretary (Sayed Amjad Ali Shah) : It is not in the public interest to answer this question.

CASES OF RESTRICTED PERSONS

***9892. Chaudhri Sahib Ram :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether it is a fact that (a) the cases of restricted persons are examined every six months, (b) fresh orders are served upon them every six months, (c) the previous orders lapse after six months if no fresh notice is served?

Parliamentary Private Secretary (Sayed Amjad Ali Shah) : (a) Cases of restrictees are to be reviewed yearly.

In practice, however, reviews have been more frequent.

(b) No.

(c) No. The restriction orders do not lapse until cancelled.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it a fact that complaints were made by the public that the executive officers were not in a position to review the cases properly and that the cases should be reviewed by judicial officers?

Premier : How can that be done? The files are with the executive officers.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know the names of the gentlemen who reviewed the cases last time?

Premier : I cannot give them offhand. I would like the honourable member to learn the habit of putting down questions in a proper way.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : I would like the Premier to answer the question in a proper way. May I know whether all the cases are reviewed by the district magistrates?

Premier : We have been asked by the Speaker not to reply to irrelevant questions.

ARREST MADE IN CONNECTION WITH THE INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS

***9898. Sardar Sohan Singh Josh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of arrests made in connection with the last Independence Day celebrations;

[S. Sohan Singh Josh]

(b) the number of persons who have been let off so far after being arrested in connection with the last Independence Day celebrations ;

(c) the number of persons still detained after being arrested in connection with the celebrations of the Independence Day ;

(d) the number and names of persons arrested at Batala, district Gurdaspur on the Independence Day with the reasons for arrest in each case ?

Parliamentary Private Secretary (Sayed Amjad Ali Shah) : (a) 20.

(b) 19.

(c) 1.

(d) *Part I.*—8. It is not in the public interest to give names.

Part II.—To prevent them from acting in any manner prejudicial to the public safety and the maintenance of public order.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know the number of persons arrested at Batala on the Independence Day celebrations ?

Parliamentary Private Secretary : The honourable member's question referred to the total number of arrests and I have stated it to be 20. If my honourable friend is interested to know about a particular place, he may give notice.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether the eight persons arrested at Batala are included in the total of twenty ?

Parliamentary Private Secretary : If my honourable friend persists in asking the same question, I would persist in saying that I require notice.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know the attitude of the Unionist Government with regard to the celebration of Independence Day ?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether there is any difference of opinion between the Unionist Government and the Unionist Party in this connection ?

Mr. Speaker : Disallowed.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know the attitude of the Zamindara League having independence as its object ?

Mr. Speaker : Disallowed.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is the Parliamentary Private Secretary in a position to say what was that particular activity which in the opinion of Government was likely to interfere with public order and safety ?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether the crushing of the spirit of independence is the policy of the Zamindara League ?

Mr. Speaker : Disallowed.

Premier : Not the borrowed spirit from somewhere else, not his master's voice.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : What does the Premier mean by borrowing from elsewhere ?

Mr. Speaker : I have disallowed the question.

Premier : I meant across the Himalayas through the Khyber Pass.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : You are ridiculing that power which has saved the British Empire.

Premier : According to me the British Empire has saved itself.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether the Honourable Premier knows what his master Churchill has said ?

Mr. Speaker : Order, order. The next question.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know whether complete independence is the goal of the Zamindara League or not ?

Mr. Speaker : Disallowed.

COMRADE MANGE RAM VATS

***9902. Sardar Sohan Singh Josh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether Comrade Mange Ram Vats, an internee in village Mandauthi, district Rohtak, applied on 18th October 1944 for permission to go to Lahore or Delhi for purposes of medical advice ;

(b) whether the Government has made any enquiries in this connection ; if so, with what result and the action, the Government intends to take in the matter ?

Parliamentary Private Secretary (Sayed Amjad Ali Shah) : (a) Yes.

(b) By the time the case reached Government it was reported that the restrictee had recovered and so no action was taken on the leave application.

PROPRIETARY RIGHTS TO ZAMINDARS HOLDING LANDS ON MULE-BREEDING CONDITIONS

***9015. Mian Muhammad Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that proprietary rights have been given to zamindars holding squares of land in different colonies on mule-breeding conditions ;

(b) the total area throughout the Punjab of which proprietary rights have been given and the price realized so far on the sale of the proprietary rights in question ;

(c) the conditions on which these proprietary rights were granted ;

(d) whether it is a fact that a number of zamindars hold lands on mule-breeding conditions in the district of Lyallpur, Sheikhpura and Montgomery ; if so, the total area so held by them and whether it is intended to grant proprietary rights to them as well ?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram : The attention of the honourable member is invited to the reply given during the last session of the Punjab Legislative Assembly to his starred question no. 8816, a copy of which is laid on the table—*vide* below.

PROPRIETARY RIGHTS TO ZAMINDARS HOLDING LAND ON MULE-BREEDING CONDITIONS

***8816. Mian Muhammad Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that proprietary rights have been given to zamindars holding squares of land in different colonies on mule-breeding conditions ;

(b) the total area throughout the Punjab of which proprietary rights have been given and the price realized so far on the sale of the proprietary rights in question ;

(c) the conditions on which these proprietary rights were granted ;

(d) whether it is a fact that a number of zamindars hold lands on mule-breeding conditions in the districts of Lyallpur, Sheikhpura and Montgomery ; if so, the total area so held by them and whether it is intended to grant proprietary rights to them as well ?

The Honourable Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram : (a) No.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) *First part.*—Yes, but in the Montgomery district only two-year leases are granted.

Second part.—The requisite information is not readily available. Its collection would require an amount of time and labour out of all proportion to the results obtainable. I, therefore, regret that Government do not feel justified in calling for it.

Third part.—No.

SUPPLY OF WATER TO GARDENS

***9034. Mian Muhammad Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the amount of water allowed for gardens by the Canal authorities up to 1920 was $8/3$ times in Lyallpur and $10/3$ times in Montgomery and 4 times in Multan as compared with the water supplied for ordinary crops and double the amount of water permissible at present if so, the reasons for reducing the supply of water for gardens ;

(b) whether the Government intends to increase the supply of water for gardens to the old level ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram : (a) The amounts of water allowed for garden areas specified by the honourable member were allowed under the orders of 1921 and not before the year 1920. The gardens in the Multan district in the Lower Bari Doab used to get three times the ordinary supply and not four times.

(b) Government has since increased the supply to gardens to the level of 1921.

Mian Muhammad Nurullah : Is the Honourable Minister aware that the supply now given to gardens is much less than the supply before 1920 ?

Minister : I do not agree.

SHORT WATER SUPPLY AT TAIL 9-RAKH BRANCH

***9327. Mian Muhammad Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state :—

(a) whether he is aware of the fact that the supply of water at the tail of 9 Rakh Branch is always short and that Chak No. 13 in the Lyallpur district does not get its permissible water-supply ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the zamindars living on the head-reaches of the Rakh Branch meddle with the outlets and draw more water than their permissible supply ;

(c) the type of the outlets in the upper reaches of the said Branch ;

(d) whether it is intended to change the above type so that the zamindars living on the tail might get their proper share of water supply ;

(e) whether Government are aware of the fact that the crops in the tail chaks of 9 Rakh Branch have been badly affected due to the shortage of water, if so, the action Government intend to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram : (a) There is no village bearing No. 9 and 13 on Rakh Branch in the Lyallpur district. There is, however, a village bearing No. 218 on the Rakh Branch near the tail.

Similarly, instead of No. 9 there is a village bearing No. 209 on the Lakhuana Distributary of Rakh Branch.

There is no shortage at the tail of Rakh Branch.

(b) (i) There is no illegal interference by the zamindars in the upper reaches of Rakh Branch.

(ii) On Lakhuana Distributary, the outlets for village No. 209 are in the middle reach of the distributary.

(c) Both the outlets for village No. 216 on Rakh Branch are A. P. Ms. The three outlets on Lakhuana Distributary for village No. 209 are all A. P. Ms.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Does not arise, there being no shortage of supply.

RAILWAY STATION AHMADGARH

*9329. **Sardar Kapoor Singh** : Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether he is aware of the fact that the residents of village Bahadurgarh, in the Ludhiana district, applied to the Revenue authorities about two months ago for the demarcation of the site of Railway Station Ahmadgarh, on the Ludhiana-Jakhal Line;

(b) whether the Revenue authorities have taken any step so far in this direction; if not, the reasons therefor and the action Government intend to take in the matter?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

WATER-LEVEL OF WELLS IN DOABA

*9569. **Shrimati Raghbir Kaur** : Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether he is aware of the fact that the water-level of the wells in the Doaba (District Jullundur) is falling every year; if so, how much it has fallen during the current year;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Government had certain schemes under consideration for raising the water-level in this district; if so, what expenditure the Government has incurred so far in this respect and in case the scheme has been dropped, reasons for it?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram : (a) Yes. The water table of the Jullundur district fell by 0.6 inch during the year 1944.

(b) The various measures to combat the depletion of water table in the Jullundur district were detailed in the Press *communiqué* published by Government in 1939, a copy of which is placed on the table of the House.

The project for the Bist Doab Canal has since been prepared from the contour plans. This project is at present under the consideration of Government.

Two projects for damming the Sirsa and Sohan torrents have also been prepared and will be considered along with the Bist Doab Canal Project.

The Canal Project scheme has not been dropped.

Afforestation in the Sivaliks has also been carried out steadily. Since 1939-40 Government have incurred an expenditure of Rs. 4,64,535 in this connection. Extensive works have been started since 1934, but figures before 1939-40 are not readily available.

Sardar Sehan Singh Josh : May I know how long this project will take to materialise?

Minister : I cannot tell exactly.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Is he aware of the fact that people are suffering terribly in the Doaba due to lack of water ?

Minister : I am aware.

Sardar Bahadur Sardar Gurbachan Singh : Was there a scheme to bring out a canal from the Beas river and pass it through the Doaba ?

Minister : I cannot say.

Press Communiqué

Government has been vigorously tackling the problem of the fall in the water-table of the Bist Doab. The causes of the trouble and its possible remedies were discussed in great detail by a Conference of officials and non-officials and Government accepted the recommendations of the Conference, and at once put in force machinery to implement them.

A systematic record of rain gauges was started from the monsoon of 1938. Gauges of rivers were read to find out whether a Canal from the Beas or the Sutlej could command that portion of the Doab where the sub-soil water level was 30' or more below the natural surface.

These observations have shown that a Canal from the Sutlej taking off above the Rupar Weir can command that portion of the Doab in the Nawan Shehr, Phillaur, Nakodar and Jullundur Tehsils where the serious fall in the sub-soil water level has taken place.

Such a Canal would only take water during periods in the months of July—August—September when water in the rivers was surplus to the requirements of the existing Canals.

A scheme for a Canal cannot, however, be worked out without contour plans and as none existed for this Doab, Government arranged with the Government of India Survey Department for a contoured survey of the Doab. The field work of the survey was commenced early in last winter and completed in last April. Plans are now under preparation, which are likely to be received by the Punjab Government early in August. As soon as the plans are received, the preparation of the scheme will be vigorously pushed forward.

The most important remedy, however, is afforestation of the Siwaliks and work in this direction is being carried out steadily though the results of this work cannot be apparent to the public for a number of years, until the denuded hills get sufficiently planted up.

Another important remedy is the damming of drainages in order to hold up water to let it soak into the soil and raise the sub-soil water level. This will also be examined when contour plans are received.

Government assures the residents of the Bist Doab that its very anxious to remove the trouble in the Doab and every effort is being made to put on the necessary schemes which require careful investigation before they could be undertaken.

ZAILDARS AND SUFEDPOSHEES SUSPENDED BY THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF JHANG

***9620. Mian Mumtaz Muhammad Khan Daulatana :** Will the Honourable Minister of Revenue be pleased to lay on the table of the House a list of the zaildars and sufedposhees suspended by the Deputy Commissioner of Jhang during the months of July and August 1944 and the reasons for suspension in each case; and state against their names (i) the number of recruits enlisted through them, (ii) the amount of money contributed by them in various War Funds, (iii) the amount of War Loan given by them ?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram : The Collector, Jhang, suspended five zaildars and seven sufedposhees for their failure to give active assistance in the war effort. I regret that the information about recruits, etc., for which the honourable member asks is not available. The Collector's action is based on the failure of the zaildars and sufedposhees to perform their duties including support to the war effort.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is it a fact that the sole reason for suspension of the zaildars and sufedposhees was that they refused to attend the Zamindara League ?

Minister : That is not so.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I ask whether the Deputy Commissioner knows that these people have contributed more than Rs. 50,000 each to the war loans ?

Minister : May be.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I know whether it is a fact that the maildars and safedposhes who were suspended have supplied a large number of recruits ?

Minister : I cannot say.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I know whether the Deputy Commissioner has now been confirmed because of these suspensions ?

Mr. Speaker : That is irrelevant.

Premier : I must refute that insinuation strongly.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : My question is whether he has been confirmed or not.

Premier : The honourable member can consult the Civil List, or he can put a new question.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Has Sardar Dasaundha Singh of Ludhiana been suspended because his son happens to be a member of the Congress Party ?

Premier : The question referred to Jhang, and now this supplementary question refers to some one in Ludhiana. It beats me that even a lawyer can put such questions.

EXACTIONS BY LANDLORDS

***9632. Chaudhri Jugal Kishore :** Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state whether any enquiries have been made so far during his term of office as to whether any landlords are exacting undue share of produce from their poor and illiterate tenants in several parts of the Punjab, if so, with what result ?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram : No. The honourable member's attention is, however, invited to the reply given to question No. 9878 (starred).¹

RELIEF FOR DAMAGE TO COTTON CROP

***9647. Mian Mumtaz Muhammad Khan Daulatana :** Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that owing to excessive rainfall the yield of cotton in Mailsi and Vihari tahsils in the Multan district has not been more than one maund per acre on the average ;

(b) if so, whether any relief has been given or is proposed to be given to the peasants affected by excessive rainfall in tahsils mentioned in (a), if so, the nature and extent thereof ; if not, why not ?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram : (a) The crop was not a good one, but generally yields were in excess of those assumed at settlement.

(b) The matter is still under consideration.

Mian Muhammad Nurullah : What was the assessment at the settlement time ? How many maunds per acre ?

Minister : I cannot give the information offhand.

TAWAN ON THE VILLAGERS OF JAGATPURA

***9900. Sardar Sohan Singh Josh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state whether a *tawan* (collective fine) of Rs. 2,000 has been levied on the villagers of Jagatpura, thana Jhabhal, district Amritsar, in connection with a canal cut; if so, the details of the offence committed by the villagers?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram : No *tawan* or collective fine has been levied on the villagers of Jagatpura, thana Chahhal, district Amritsar in connection with a canal cut within the last several years.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether there has been any *tawan* most recently?

Minister : No.

KHAN BAHADUR CHAUDHRI ROSHAN DIN, M.L.A.

***9903. Malik Barkat Ali :** Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Khan Bahadur Chaudhri Roshan Din, M.L.A., who has been a zaildar since 1901 has been suspended from his office of zaildar by the Deputy Commissioner of Sheikhupura; if so, the date of the said suspension, and the reasons for the action taken against Khan Bahadur Chaudhri Roshan Din;

(b) whether he is prepared to read out the order of suspension on the floor of the House or lay it on the table; if not, the reasons therefor?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram : Government do not consider that it is in the public interest to supply information of the kind required by the honourable member. A certified copy of the Collector's order can be obtained on payment of the prescribed fee by the aggrieved person, who has his usual remedies by appeal and revision.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Will the Honourable Revenue Minister be pleased to state whether he has seen the orders of suspension?

Minister : No, I have not seen.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I know the reason why he has not cared to look into the orders?

Minister : The gentleman has got a right of appeal and the appellate court will look into the matter.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Will the Honourable Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the gentleman has given 127 recruits?

Minister : I cannot say.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is the Honourable Minister aware that he has been working as zaildar for the last 40 years?

Minister : May be.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I know whether during these 40 years he has obtained about 500 certificates from police for good conduct?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is it because that the gentlemen joined the Muslim League Party that he has been suspended by a biased and narrow-minded deputy commissioner?

Premier : I take strong exception to the language used by the honourable member.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I repeat my question whether the action has been taken by a biased and narrow-minded deputy commissioner because the member joined the Muslim League party ?

Premier : I can use the same language with respect to the questioner and say that he sees ghosts and sees everything yellow with his jaundiced eyes.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I know whether the entire district is disgusted with the action of the deputy commissioner in suspending this man ?

Premier : Many of us are disgusted here with the attitude of the honourable member on the floor of the House.

LOCK-UPS VISITED BY HONOURABLE MINISTER FOR FINANCE.

***9413. Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Finance be pleased to state how many judicial lock-ups have been visited by him since this portfolio was placed under his charge, and what improvements if any, he has so far made as a result of his inspection ?

The Honourable Sir Manohar Lal : I remember visiting a few judicial lock-ups some years ago, but my concern with them is mainly on the financial side. They are in the administrative charge of the sessions judges and the position is generally explained in the High Court Rules and Orders, Volume III, Chapter 27. It is for the sessions judges and the High Court to suggest improvements where necessary and bring their necessity to the notice of Government.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it not the duty of the Honourable Minister, Finance, to look to the sanitation and other matters connected with these lock-ups ?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I enquire whether the control of judicial lock-ups is not under his charge ?

Minister : There is a definite rule to that effect. I shall read it.

District Magistrates should see that all Lock-ups within their districts are efficiently managed, that prisoners confined therein are properly cared for; and that these rules are duly observed. It should be regarded as an important part of the Sessions Judge's duty to inspect judicial lock-ups on all convenient occasions; and a brief report of the result of every such inspection should be communicated both to the Inspector-General of Prisons and to the High Court.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I ask the Honourable Finance Minister whether he realises that this rule lays down the duty on the district magistrates ?

Minister : The district magistrates should see that all lock-ups are efficiently managed, but it is an important part of the session judge's duty to inspect judicial lock-ups. Now the question relates to the inspection of these lock-ups.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Has the Honourable Minister also inspected any of these judicial lock-ups during the last 4 or 5 years ?

Minister : No, I have not.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Not since he has taken over charge of the department ?

Minister : If the honourable member had listened to the answer he would find that I stated that I had occasion some years ago to visit some of the judicial lock-ups.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I know what was the object of his visit to those judicial lock-ups ?

Minister : The object was to see the judicial lock-ups.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Or to go into the judicial lock-ups?

Minister : The honourable member is perfectly welcome to that view if that affords him any satisfaction.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : If he goes to see a judicial lock-up, is it not with a view to find out whether any improvement can be made?

Minister : I do not go when I visit these judicial lock-ups for inspection as the honourable member seems to understand the word 'inspection'.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : What is the object of his inspection?

Mr. Speaker : Disallowed.

LITERACY CERTIFICATES ISSUED TO PRISONERS IN DIFFERENT JAILS

***9628. Chaudhri Jugal Kishore :** Will the Honourable Finance Minister be pleased to state the number of literacy certificates issued during each of the last two financial years in Urdu, Hindi and Punjabi to prisoners in different jails of the Punjab?

The Honourable Sir Manohar Lal : The number of literacy certificates issued during the last two financial years to the prisoners in the Punjab jails is as under :—

			Urdu	Hindi	Punjabi
1942-43	..	..	1,539	410	726
1943-44	..	..	1,154	358	654

EXCISE CONTRACTS

***9805. Sardar Ajit Singh :** Will the Honourable Finance Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the total income of the Punjab Government from excise contracts of opium and wine separately, during the years 1935-36, 1936-37, 1937-38, 1938-39, 1939-40, 1940-41, 1941-42, 1942-43, 1943-44 and 1944-45 ;

(b) the total expense incurred annually by the Government on the Punjab Excise department for the years mentioned in (a) ;

(c) whether Government have received any representations during the last six months from the excise contractors particularly the wine contractors in the Punjab to the effect that due to abnormal increase in the prices of wine and spirits they are suffering heavy losses ;

(d) whether Government is experiencing any difficulty in getting payment of contract money from the wine sellers ;

(e) if the replies to parts (c) and (d) be in the affirmative whether Government intend to provide any relief to the wine contractors in the province ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Rai Bahadur Thakur Ripudaman Singh) : (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the table.

(c) Yes.

(d) No.

(e) Substantial relief has been given by the reduction of still-head duty on country liquor with effect from the 15th September 1944, and no further relief is required.

Statement

Year				Country spirit	Opium
				Rs.	Rs.
(a)	1935-36	..	..	16,82,632	9,66,663
	1936-37	..	..	16,68,307	9,90,505
	1937-38	..	..	17,81,606	10,60,340
	1938-39	..	..	17,49,276	11,09,039
	1939-40	..	..	16,70,863	11,69,277
	1940-41	..	..	17,94,025	11,81,167
	1941-42	..	..	19,60,778	11,96,301
	1942-43	..	..	28,74,362	19,49,147
	1943-44	..	..	66,04,991	43,92,870
	1944-45 (probable income)	..	..	1,14,98,525	70,88,815
(b)	1935-36	..	..	11,00,521	
	1936-37	..	..	10,71,653	
	1937-38	..	..	11,60,896	
	1938-39	..	..	11,96,499	
	1939-40	..	..	11,47,765	
	1940-41	..	..	10,54,625	
	1941-42	..	..	11,96,589	
	1942-43	..	..	12,66,285	
	1943-44	..	..	12,35,103	
	1944-45	..	..	(Not available)	

QUESTIONNAIRE OF EDUCATION SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE ALL-INDIA
MUSLIM LEAGUE

*9411. **Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan:** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Director of Public Instruction, Punjab, was addressed officially by the Secretary of the Education Sub-Committee set up by the All-India Muslim League, and the Director declined to reply the questionnaire; if so, whether he declined to reply under the instructions of the Punjab Government, if not, the reasons for his refusal to reply?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye: Yes. A questionnaire from the Education Sub-Committee of the All-India Muslim League has been received.

The statistical information required is being collected and will be forwarded as soon as ready.

BHUCHAL HIGH SCHOOL

***9414. Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a deputation waited on him in or about April last requesting him to convert the Bhuchal High School, Jhelum District, into a Government High School ; if so, what action if any, has been taken so far by Government in the matter ?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : Yes. The matter has been considered and it is proposed to take up the question of the provincialization of schools in connection with the postwar development plans of the Education Department. The claims of Buchal Kalan will receive careful consideration at the appropriate time.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I enquire whether it is not possible for the Minister to provincialise this important school before he considers the post-war development plans ?

Minister : I shall examine the question of provincialisation of this school before the post-war development plans are put into action.

ADJOURNMENT MOTION

TREATMENT OF SECURITY PRISONERS, SPECIAL JAIL, GUJRAT

Sardar Kapoor Singh : I beg leave to make a motion for the adjournment of the business of the House to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the most serious and alarming situation in Special Jail, Gujrat, created by the Jail authorities by their recent harassing and humiliating treatment of security prisoners and by their threat of opening of fire upon them.

Mr. Speaker : Is official information available ?

Premier : No, Sir. I have not heard anything about the matter that the Honourable member is putting before the House.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : I would not mind if the Honourable Premier makes inquiries as to this matter and informs this House to-morrow. A short notice question on the subject has already been put and it has been admitted this morning. I can assure you and through you the Honourable Premier that I have received information from four sources and I have received certain letters too in which it is mentioned that the situation is most serious and alarming.

Premier : I will endeavour to find out the facts as soon as possible.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : I may tell you that Sardar Kapoor Singh has got the news from independent sources. There is threat of fire being opened and three M. L. As. are involved.

Mr. Speaker : The House will now resume discussion on the demand for grant for Education (excluding European and Anglo-Indian Education). I call upon Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali to resume his speech.

DEMAND FOR GRANT

EDUCATION

Educational Policy

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali (Nankana Sahib, Muhammadan, Rural) (Urdu) : Sir, yesterday while referring to the speech of Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram I was saying that in the presence of such friends the Honourable Minister does not need any foes. In his speech he tried to prove that the responsibility for spreading education in the province lies on the people and not on the Honourable Minister for Education. Therefore he wants that the carrying out of the educational policy should not be entrusted to the Honourable Minister because there is absolutely no need for it. If he had remarked that he was against the Department of Education being

entrusted to a Minister like the one in charge at present, I and my party would surely have agreed with him. But if on the other hand he means to say that there is absolutely no need for the Education Minister I think the ignorant teachers like him should not be allowed to remain in our schools. It is on account of the ignorance of such teachers that the defects in the system of education do not get removed. A poet has well said :

پر تملق ہائے دونوں تکیہ مہزون الہی است
پائے بوس سبیل از پا انگند دیوار را

The poet says that big people have always certain friends who by way of flattery say things which are contrary to facts. Then he gives a simile that just as when water strikes against the walls of houses situated on the river banks it appears as if the water kisses them but in reality it corrodes away their foundations, similarly such flatterers who say things contrary to facts instead of doing good to their friends do them harm. This is the role which my friend played yesterday. He had the audacity to say that during the tenure of office of the present Minister, education has made 'rapid progress'. These were the words which he used. By using these flattering words he has not only played the part of a foolish friend but he has tried to go against the statement of the Honourable the Finance Minister. The Honourable Minister for Finance has literally wept over the backwardness of our province in the matter of literacy. His speech is in my hands and this is what he says in regard to education which Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram has construed to mean as "rapid progress". He says :

We are still limping between 10 and 11 per cent.

I do not know whether the Honourable Minister for Finance in spite of being a great scholar of the English language used these words by mistake or that my friend has not been able to understand them that he went to the length of saying that the Punjab has made "rapid progress" in education. In fact the Minister of Finance has put this fact before us in most expressive terms. He says :

We are still limping between 10 and 11 per cent.

In other words he means that in the matter of education our progress has been that of a limping person. This is what has been termed "rapid progress". By using these words he has proved that he has paid no attention to find out the defects in our education and I can assert with confidence that it is because of such teachers that the Punjab is not making any headway in the matter of education. This is not his fault alone. It is the fault of all of us that we allow such teachers to be appointed in our schools in the presence of whom no progress can be made in the educational field. Even now the educational policy of the Punjab Government is the same as has hitherto been followed by bureaucracy before the inauguration of provincial autonomy. But there is one difference. The objects of bureaucrats and my friends are quite different. A bureaucrat wants that the hold of his Government should not become lax and the subjected people should not in any way become politically, economically and morally awake. Rather he wants that the person he has enslaved, who works with him and who cannot go against his orders, should not be permitted to raise his head. But as against the bureaucrat the objectives of the Honourable Minister of Education and for the matter of that this Government are quite different. The bureaucrat does not want that the people should shake of their slavery, and become economically and politically awake and be capable of raising their heads against him knowing their rights, whereas the Minister for Education and for the matter of that the Punjab Government's objectives are laziness, indolence, sloth, ignorance, shirking of duty and lack of any definite programme. I can confidently assert that the Unionist Government have absolutely no educational programme before them. And how can they have one? If one were just to look at the complexion of the Ministry one would find that all the Ministers are free lancers. How can we expect them to have any programme before them as advanced, civilized and free nations do? Had they belonged

[K. B. Sb, Karamat Ali]

to any community with a programme and a creed, they would certainly have put forward before us political, economic and educational programmes. But they have only one concern and that is to get their salaries and nothing more; programme, they have none.

Now let us see what this Government has done during the last 8 years. The Honourable Minister for Education has been in office for the last eight years and now see what progress has been made in education. I have facts and figures to show that the Punjab Government has retrogressed instead of making any progress in the field of education.

(At this stage Mr. Speaker left the chair and Mr. Deputy Speaker occupied it).

The following statement will show the annual expenditure on Education since 1936-37 onwards:—

Year					Rs.
1936-37	..	..	..	..	1,75,93,000
1937-38	..	..	..	..	1,54,52,000
1938-39	..	..	..	..	1,50,81,000
1939-40	..	..	..	..	1,59,00,000
1940-41	..	..	..	..	1,60,00,000
1941-42	..	..	..	..	1,61,82,000
1942-43	..	..	..	..	1,61,14,000
1943-44	..	..	..	..	1,70,41,000
1944-45	..	..	..	..	2,17,23,000
1945-46	..	..	..	..	2,40,91,000

Now these figures speak for themselves. They reveal that the percentage of expenditure on education has decreased rather than increased since 1936. As compared with the total income and expenditure of the Punjab Government, the expenditure on education in 1936-37 was 14.2 per cent while in 1945-46 it has decreased to 12.5 per cent of the total expenditure. Instead of progress, there has been retrogression and deterioration. This is not a matter on which I can congratulate the Minister of Education. The House will surely agree with me, on the other hand, that the Honourable Minister of Education deserves a severe censure. The Honourable Minister of Finance has been very cruel indeed to his colleague. In fact his cruelty to his brother reminds me of the cruelty to animals which are not supposed to defend themselves. But the Minister of Education could have very well resisted the cruel onslaught from his own colleague. It may not be out of place to mention here that not only funds were refused to him by the Finance Minister but the latter also stalked him in the back while delivering his budget speech. Now in this speech the Honourable Minister of Finance had gone out of his way to cast aspersion on the Minister of Education by comparing the percentage of literacy in the Punjab with the literacy in the States which are otherwise usually backward. The Minister of Finance was in a way holding him to ridicule when he made this uncalled for comparison in his budget speech. He remarked that the percentage of literacy in a certain State was 35 and in another State 45, while in the Punjab it was only 10 or 11. I say, what was the necessity of this unfavourable comparison? The obvious intention was to defame the Minister in charge of Education in the Punjab. It is no friendship. This is enmity. But the Minister of Education has hardly any sense of discrimination left to distinguish between a friend and a foe. He has been hit below the belt and yet he does not realise. He is

helpless indeed. The Minister of Finance has recited an elegy on the Education Minister in his presence. Let us try to know the reasons for his apathy towards his duties. May be he is otherwise busy and cannot spare any time to attend to his duties as Minister of Education. When he was appointed to hold the portfolio of Education, it was generally believed that he would prove a success. He was a leading lawyer at that time and I felt some pride in his promotion because it meant an honour to the profession of law. But just as it is essential that before a child goes to school his natural inclinations and proclivities should be thoroughly studied, similarly it is essential that before a person is appointed to the post of Education Minister his psychology should be fully known to the authorities that be. All the inclinations, feelings, sentiments and hobbies of the person should be studied beforehand. We must know what type of man he is and what are his general interests. Is he interested in high ideals or is he a man of lust? In fact we require a full psycho-analysis of the man. Before students are allowed to pursue a special line of studies, their mental state and natural aptitudes are studied generally. Similarly at the time of appointing a Minister for Education, the authorities ought to hold a detailed enquiry about the mental equipment and likes and dislikes of the candidate. Now if the teacher is bad, his pupils cannot be expected to be good. They say in vernacular جس اچھا ہے اس کے شاگرد اچھے ہوتے ہیں The rulers' conduct is reflected in the conduct of his subjects. Similarly the teachers and the officers of education influence the lives of the pupils. Now the tendencies of the Minister of Education should also have been studied with some care. He is to influence the entire department of education. Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am at a great disadvantage in making this speech because I cannot mention plainly the facts about the sentiments and feelings of the Minister of Education. I am, therefore, compelled to have recourse only to some suggestive hints. I was saying that just as it is essential to study the mentality of the student before allotting him a special task of scientific, technical or other professional study, it is likewise essential to know the personality of the Minister of Education. His mental attitude and the various activities he indulges in, ought to form the subject matter of enquiry by the appointing authorities. Let me now say that our Education Minister can be compared to a sun which has to illuminate the whole department of Education. But unfortunately this sun is eclipsed and instead of brightening the Education Department is itself darkened and tarnished through eclipse. His selection as Minister was a Himalayan blunder because a person who himself is on the wrong path cannot set others on the right way. Only a luminary body can illuminate others. A darkened one cannot brighten others. Does the House know what are his own tendencies and activities? What is his own character and psychology? What kind of activities and refreshments and recreations he indulges in and what are the things that keep him busy day and night? The defects of teachers are bound to be reflected in the students and similarly the students place before themselves the model of the Minister of Education. The Minister of Education ought to be a model for the teachers and the taught. In the formation of their character, the boys and girls take a cue from the conduct of the teachers. The moral life of the teachers and the Minister and their whole conduct and character are copied by the students. It is, therefore, relevant to see what kind of man has been put in charge of Education in the province.

So far as the Minister-in-charge of Education is concerned, I wish to submit that he is a man of letters beyond doubt. Moreover he was once well up in his legal profession. But that education is not worth the name if it is not based on morality I am really constrained to remark that we had the good fortune of having a learned man as Minister of Education, but as it is, his learning is of no use. It is hidden under the blanket of those undesirable things which are so much prized by him day and night. (Laughter).

[K. B. Sh. Karamat Ali]

My honourable friend, Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram, in the course of his speech yesterday said that as soon as the present Minister for Education came into power, he appointed a committee for the purpose of overhauling the system of education and that the Minister was good enough to appoint him as one of the members of the committee. He further remarked that he was in Simla along with other members of the committee and that while the honourable members on this side of the House, were enjoying the cool breeze of Simla Hills, the Honourable Minister for Education was at work to put before the committee a very comprehensive educational scheme. I take this opportunity to give a detailed account of what actually happened in Simla. Once I had the misfortune of going to Simla in connection with the session of the Assembly. I wish to narrate an incident which took place in the Taj Muslim Hotel, Simla. My honourable friend, Raja Farman Ali Khan, who is a very respectable old man, will bear me out in this connection. I can say without any hesitation that he seldom tells lies. He knows all the facts regarding this incident. The proprietor of the Taj Muslim Hotel told me that a Minister frequented his hotel. He enquired from me as to what the Minister was doing. I told him that as a Minister, he was doing the work of وزارت. He said I want to know the port-folio under him, I knew already that the Minister must be doing the work of وزارت. On his persistent enquiries I told him that he was the Minister for the Education of children. It will not be out of place to mention here that the proprietor of the hotel is an educated man and my honourable friend, Raja Farman Ali Khan, knows him full well. As soon as I gave him the bit of information already quoted above, he burst in a Persian verse which runs as follows :—

مگر ہمیں مکتب و ملا ہے
کار طفلان تمام خواہد شد

Thereupon I enquired from the proprietor whether he was wronged by the Minister in any way. I also told him that it was not possible for the present Minister to cause harm to anybody because he was so delicate and harmless that when he would tread over the earth the very ground under his feet was incapable of realising that somebody walked over it. I enquired from the proprietor whether his day-to-day business was affected by him. I was pained to hear his reply to the effect that the Minister, and that of Education, would often walk into one of the rooms of his hotel, bolt the door from inside and put out the lights.

Minister for Education : This is wrong.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Please do not be personal.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : Sir, I am discussing the educational policy. I was simply amazed to hear what he said. (Noise) I would request the honourable members on the Unionist benches to give me a patient hearing because whatever I am going to say is very interesting and also full of useful information. Mr. Deputy Speaker, I wish to bring this point home to you that I am not going to indulge in any irrelevancy.

Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram : On a point of order, Sir. The insinuations made by Shaikh Karamat Ali transgress all canons of decency and are not worthy of this House, and I appeal to you to protect the honour of the members of the House.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : Sir, I would request you to kindly give a cool consideration to what I say. So far as my honourable friend, Mr. Rallia Ram, is concerned he has undoubtedly a stentorian voice, a bulging belly and a good height. But the pity is that his reasoning capacity appears to have deteriorated to a large measure. (Laughter). I would request the honourable member to be patient for a few minutes till I come to his point of order, which he so emphatically raised in the House. If the honourable member were to acquaint himself with the weaknesses

of the Minister of Education, he would himself realise the undesirable effect that he is likely to produce upon the educational development of our school going children. My honourable friend fails to grasp the significance of these lapses and weaknesses. The point of order has no meaning because it has been raised by a man who is fettered by the contemptible chains of slavery. Anyway, Sir, I was submitting that I was taken aback on hearing the remarks of the proprietor of the hotel. He told me that the lights of education are never put out. He was surprised to see that a Minister instead of relaxing in the evening after a day's hard work and instead of refreshing himself with tea or some game, particularly when he has to bring his cool judgment to bear upon important matters, especially those pertaining to the portfolio that he holds, should indulge in recreations which ~~disturb~~ ^{disturb} mind and morals. Naturally such a person cannot be expected to do anything for the province excepting the example that he sets by going the way of all flesh and neglecting the things with which he is officially and directly concerned. When a Minister's evenings are thus whiled away in pleasure seeking and he has no time for thinking about the department in his charge, how can it be possible to lay any constructive schemes for the advancement of education before this House? In the event of such a person being at the helm of educational affairs in our province, it is but natural that education should be at its lowest ebb. I dare say the information supplied to me by the proprietor of the hotel was new to me and I was not aware of these matters before. If what I have stated is not believed, I am sure, my honourable friend who hails from Rawalpindi, and who like a true soldier is in the habit of speaking the truth, will bear me out to this effect. He also knocked the door bolted from inside repeatedly. (Laughter). May I ask him to state if it is not a fact? He is nodding his head in the affirmative. (Laughter). The Education Minister happens to be the Minister in charge of the education of both boys and girls. My honourable friend Mr. Rallia Ram remarked in the course of his speech that the cursed Mrs. Durga Parshad was made the target of oppression by the then Minister, Sardar Shaukat Hyat. So far as the so-called injustice meted out to Mrs. Durga Parshad, who is mainly responsible for the removal of Sardar Shaukat Hyat from the Unionist Cabinet, is concerned, I make bold to submit that this very lady was made to play 'Holi' with the blood of Sardar Shaukat Hyat. The House will agree with me that my honourable friend Sardar Shaukat Hyat, who is sitting on this side of the House, is a young man of simple habits. He is an honest and true soldier. I can say without any hesitation that it is sheer injustice and a sin to remove Shaukat Hyat from the Unionist Cabinet for no fault of his.

I am reminded of a book called "Hindu Heaven". The author of this book was an American gentleman. Instead of calling this book "Hindu Heaven"—it should have been called "India Heaven". In this book are to be found various kinds of photographs of Mrs. Durga Parshad. Mr. Deputy Speaker, if you happen to go through this book, you will shudder and abhor the very sight of it.

Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram : On a point of order, Sir. The honourable member is making a wrong statement. If he has got the courage—

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : I do not give way. If the honourable member were to go through this book, then he will know for himself that what I speak is correct.

Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram : On a point of order, Sir.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : Please do not be a village school master, be a city school master. Anyway, I have started speaking in a language which is destined to be the official language of Pakistan. What I wish to point out is this that Mr. Wylie who was a professor in the F. C. College, Lahore, has written in this book that in 1928 Mr. and Mrs. Durga Parshad—

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : Sir, may I intervene on a point of order? It may not be a point of order but it deserves your attention. The convention of

[Dr. Sir G. C. Narang]

this House has always been that no defamatory remark should be made against a person who is not present and has no means to defend himself. The book to which the honourable member was referring was a dirty and a nasty book which was proscribed and all the copies of which, I understand, were purchased by the missionaries and consumed to flames. That was the book. It was written by a cur from America and it deserved the fate which was meted out to it. It was a book which was awfully bad for this country and which was feeding his dirty soul. No reliance should be placed on that book.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : I assure you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that I have not the slightest intention to defame or cast aspersions on anybody. I am talking of the educational policy of the Honourable Minister. Well, sir, that clever and notorious woman, whom I will refer to no further, failed to attract the attention of my honourable friend even when grave allegations had been made against her by the officers. My point is that when he was aware of the doubtful character of that woman and also knew that in view of the charges of corruption against her, the matter was being investigated by the Special Enquiry Agency, he should himself have thoroughly gone into the case and given his decision about the action to be taken against her, instead of leaving the matter to be dealt with by Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan or the special Enquiry Agency. My honourable friend, Mr. Rallia Ram, was at pains yesterday to show that the Honourable Minister for Education could not interfere in the matter. He had only indirect connection with her. (Laughter). I would elucidate my point a little further lest the expression "indirect connections" should cause any misunderstanding. What I mean is that as, according to Master Sahib, she was in the employ of the Corporation, the Honourable Minister was not directly concerned with her. He could not touch her since she received her salary from a local body and not from the Government. I, therefore, did not use that expression in any bad sense. But what I wanted to drive at is that since the education of the province is his charge, his policy must prevail throughout the Punjab and where there is any departure being made, he should take steps to set things right. Now, sir, the report of the Enquiry Agency against her should have been enough to make him take the matter into his own hands. After all, the lady was concerned with educational institutions and in matters pertaining to education he is the proper authority to interfere. I can, therefore, emphatically say that in not handling this case the Honourable Minister utterly failed to discharge his duty properly. He ought to have sternly dealt with the case of that lady who ruined Shaukat Hyat, and brought about his dismissal.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : The dismissal of Sardar Shaukat Hyat is not under consideration.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : You cannot dissociate a Minister from all these things. They are knit together. Well, I regret to find that the educational policy of the Punjab Government is rotten to the core and the irony of fate is that the Minister in charge is in no way disposed to take any interest in the educational advancement of the province. In fact, he has no time to formulate schemes to bring this province into line with those States which are educationally far advanced. Strictly speaking, so far as the question of elevation of standards of morality, character and conduct of the people is concerned, it falls outside the purview of the educational policy of the present Government. Where teachers of the ilk of that lady are in charge of the education of our children, God help the province.

Again when the Honourable Premier was reading out his statement regarding the dismissal of Shaukat Hyat, some of the Honourable Ministers including the Minister for Education stared at the ex-Minister to find out if there was a change in his complexion. That is whether it changed death-pale due to guilty conscience or it remained normal. I may tell them that they may look at his face twenty times, but there will be no change in his facial phenomena. And why should it change? Shaukat is a man of principle

and an upright gentleman who abhors corrupt life. He is not the least sorry for the treatment meted out to him by my honourable friends and instead of feeling humiliated, he feels glorified. I am reminded of a verse in this connection. It is like this.

تو چہا چہا کے لئے رکہ اسے تو آئینہ ہے وہ آئینہ
جو شکستہ ہو تو عزیز تر ہے نگاہ آئینہ ساز میں

But, I cannot help expressing my regret at the indifference and inertia exhibited by my honourable friend the Minister for Education in not moving his little finger in the case of that corrupt lady teacher. It never occurred to him to take any action till things came to such a pass when that decision to remove Shaukat Hyat from the Ministry was irrevocably taken. As I have already stated, the hands of the Honourable Minister are so full with some extraneous matters that he has little time left at his disposal to attend to matters connected with the education of the people of the provinces.

Then, Sir, I would like to make mention of the purchases of land made by the Honourable Minister for Education.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : That is not under discussion.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali By making a reference to those transactions, I just want to show his standard of honesty. I would state facts and say things absolutely correct. Well, Sir, as regards purchases of land, I think, it would be rather appropriate to call the Honourable Minister **سوداگر** (laughing). He has bought lands on a large scale in different villages like Amarsidhu, Mian Mir, Pakki Thati, etc. Only recently he purchased 43 kanals of land for 76 thousands rupees. But just to see his honesty, he managed to get the price entered into the papers as 85 thousand rupees. He informed the Deputy Commissioner, Lahore, that he had bought that land for building a bungalow there. But shortly after he came to know that the price of that land had risen. So his avarice to make more money out of this land prompted him to devise means to achieve this object. He submitted an application to the Deputy Commissioner for permission to sell that land to a non-agriculturist who offered him a fabulous price for it. The reason that he stated for this alienation of land, was frivolous. He said that since on digging a well, the water had been found to be saltish, the land was utterly useless for building purposes. So he sought permission to sell away that land. This was sheer dishonesty on his part as I would show immediately.

Minister for Education : The honourable member has used the word 'dishonest' with reference to me.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : Yes, I do not deny it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : I would request the honourable member to please withdraw that remark.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : Do you want me to withdraw the word *bad dikanat* (dishonest),? I think, I am perfectly within my rights to discuss the dishonesty of a particular person. It is not unparliamentary.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : The honourable member should not discuss personal matters here. He can discuss the policy underlying this demand.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : I just want to know one thing, Sir. I am not concerned whether the honourable member is speaking against one particular person or another. I want your ruling on principle. Supposing a Minister is dishonest. Are the members of this House precluded from saying that he is dishonest? I am asking hypothetically.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : So long as a member is relevant and impersonal, he is within his rights to discuss that.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : So, it is not unparliamentary.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : No.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : I am really grateful to my honourable friend, Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang, for getting the difficulty solved for our future guidance. Now, Sir, this matter had not been finished yet. The Honourable Minister purchased another piece of land which was adjacent to the previous one which he wanted to dispose of. Now he made a bargain at cheaper rates, namely, Rs. 750 per kanal less than the price at which he sold his land. On the one hand it was mentioned in the application submitted by him that as water was saltish in the land he wanted to dispose it of and on the other he struck another bargain for a piece of land adjacent to the previous one. May I take it that now the same water tasted sweet to the Honourable Minister because of cheaper rates or was it that as a considerable portion of land was going to pass into his hands for a few thousands, the saltishness disappeared altogether? Now, Sir, he feared that a case of pre-emption might not be started by some one. In order to get rid of this fear Jamal-ud-Din, Lambardar of Paki Tathi, was summoned by him and the Honourable Minister for Education who is now adorning the Ministerial Benches opposite made high promises to favour him if a few marlas of land were gifted by him in his name, so that there might not be any possibility of a case of pre-emption. Thus Jamal-ud-Din, lambardar, was prevailed upon by the Minister himself. May I ask if it was not done by the Honourable Minister for grinding his own axe? Will he tell me in what capacity he influenced the lambardar? Was he not prevailed upon to acquiesce in his assurances of benefiting him and his generations succeeding? Is this not an undue advantage which he took of his position as a Minister, as Jamal-ud-Din was not related to him by ties of friendship or bonds of tribal community? I wish today Jamal-ud-Din were present somewhere in the visitors' galleries and I would have presented him here as a witness.

Now taking all these things in view I would like to ask him to tell me whether unfair dealings were made on that side or on this side of the House. It is not only this, Sir. The Honourable Minister for Education has also purchased land from a person whose name I would not like to disclose in this House. I would call him Mr. X. Fortunately or unfortunately the business which Mr. X is doing comes directly and exclusively under his Department. So Mr. X was also influenced to alienate a piece of land in his favour.

Minister for Education : It is all incorrect.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : Do not worry. Time will come when truth will prevail. Now by giving certain facts to you, Sir, I have made indirect references to the personality of the Honourable Minister for Education. Again I would say with all the force at my command that so long as he does not shed off dishonesty he cannot prove to be a useful Education Minister of an outstanding ability since that bad trait will always overshadow his qualities if any. It is now clear that I have three things in view regarding his personality; first his morals, secondly his character and thirdly his honesty. Then, Sir, it has been said with great force by my learned friend Mr. Rallia Ram that people belonging to different communities do not seem to be satisfied with what Government is doing for them. Hindu members are complaining that nothing is being done for their interests. Similarly, complaints are being made by the Sikhs, Muslims and Christians. Then he spoke much about one nationality. May I point out in this connection that the community he is representing in this House has a nominal percentage in the whole province. So he cannot think in terms of communities; but does the Honourable Minister seriously believe that coalition ministries cannot successfully function in this Province if we do not succeed in establishing a national government? I do not think it will be at all difficult for the Government to form a coalition Ministry in this province. After all we have instances of coalition Ministries working successfully in several other provinces. Why not form

one in the Punjab and let the Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs join together and rule so that there may not be any chance for them to make complaints against Government as selfish. Moreover, we get up as Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs to make demands as the present Government is more on the model of a bureaucratic Government than a national one. They care more for the white skinned. Now it pains us the most that the Honourable Minister for Education does not ever feel grateful to his community with whose support and backing he was able to occupy the Ministerial benches. It is a thousand pities that he has never acknowledged his own community which has made him what he is at present. To clarify it further I may point out that the community which has suffered a great deal by the educational policy of the Minister in charge, is the community of Muslims. At the expense of the Muslims he has been trying to please others under the impression that his safety lies in their hands. If he thinks that his existence and safety are dependent not on the sweet will of the Muslims but on the sweet will of other communities he is labouring under a serious misapprehension and I would say that it does not speak well of his farsightedness and strict honesty.

Now, Sir, a word with regard to his literacy campaign which he is so proud of I really pity him because the Finance Minister while preparing his budget speech had to lay his hands on none of the Ministers but the Minister for Education. The Finance Minister has not waxed eloquent on the abilities and the merits of the Education Minister nor has he expressed his good opinion which would be remembered by the coming generations. But whatever he said about him helped to paint a black picture of his already bad record. While referring to certain states and saying that in such and such State the literacy percentage has gone up to 40 per cent and in another it has risen to 34 per cent he remarked that it was really a pity that in the Punjab it was limping. From 10 per cent it has gone up to 11 per cent while at the very start it was 7 or 8 per cent. in the province. May I ask if the Honourable Minister for Education is counting upon such friends as the Finance Minister who has spared no pains to bring him to disrepute by openly declaring that Punjab is still limping in the field of education. The Honourable Minister for Education may not take it as an insulting or disreputing remark. However, I may tell him that the company he is keeping, is sure to let him down one day or the other and that he must take it for granted that people like the Honourable Finance Minister are not going to stand by him and one day he has to fall back upon the mercy of those with whose backing and support he has been able to occupy his present seat. Even now if he repents for what he has been doing for his community I am sure that people will be large-hearted enough to condone his misdeeds. I was submitting that since his appointment as Minister for Education the community that has suffered most is the Muslim community whose rights have been ruthlessly trampled under foot. I may point out for the information of the House that he is not only anti-Muslim but he is also anti-Indian. I remember we were extremely glad on his appointment as Minister of Education because at that time we were aware of his high qualities and we knew that as a man and as a lawyer he was par excellence. He had also been an active member of the Central Assembly. We thanked God that Mian Abdul Haye was appointed Minister for Education. We expected that God had given him an opportunity to serve his community. We expected much of him. But it pains me to remark that it was not before long that all our hopes were dashed to the ground and all our dreams remained unrealised. We have seen him in "action" during the last eight years, but it is regrettable to say that he has not come up to the expectations of his co-religionists. Now we wish that he had not been installed in the Ministerial gaddi. (*Interruption*). When Muslim Leaguers say that he is anything but a "Muslim" in his policy they are not incorrect in saying it. It is crystal clear from his policy that whenever a matter concerning an Englishman comes before him, his strength of character fails him to take appropriate action. Sir, it is no gainsaying the fact that where the interests of Indians as against British officers are concerned, he has been

(K. B. Sh. Karamat Ali)

pursuing a weak-kneed policy during the last eight years. It pains me to find that all his courage and fortitude which he used to display during his membership in the Central Assembly have become defunct and a thing of the past. For instance when Colonel S. N. Hayes of the Medical College, Lahore, suddenly passed away on account of heart failure—

Minister for Education : May I point out, Sir, that medicine or Medical College is not under discussion?

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Medical College is not under discussion.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : This is a very interesting point showing the policy. I am talking of the Minister as one in charge of Colleges. I am not talking of medicines or surgery.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : He is probably quoting it as an illustration.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : Colonel Hayes died and in his place Dr. Siddiqi ought to have been appointed being the senior most man, but to our great surprise we find Dr. Fry occupying the Principal's chair.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : I may remind the honourable member that the Medical College is not under consideration.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : I am thankful to Dr. Narang for his suggestion. I am citing it as an instance.

Minister for Education : Let the honourable member proceed.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : I was asking you, Sir, to look at the administration of this Minister who is known to be the friend of the Muslims. At this point I would like to declare, with your permission, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that no Muslim Leaguer desires to usurp the rights of another person or wants to exceed his own legitimate limits. But the present Government has adopted the policy of robbing Peter to pay Paul. The late lamented Raja Narendra Nath, a self-respecting Hindu, a man of whose calibre will never be seen again, declared at the time of his resignation from the membership of this House that the Government was snatching away the legitimate rights and privileges of one community and was offering it to the other. It was the duty of the Government to see that Dr. Siddiqi was appointed. Mr. Deputy Speaker, every day we see that the senior-most man succeeds to a vacancy and officiates as long as a new man is not appointed. Dr. Siddiqi being the senior-most man ought to have been appointed. Dr. Siddiqi was appointed and brought here by him and it is just possible that for arguments sake he might say that, Dr. Siddiqi being his great friend, he could not do injustice to him. He passed orders of appointment but for fifteen days they were not given effect to. He was again approached and he asked Dr. Siddiqi to make a representation. On that representation he wrote that so far nobody had been appointed. If he had appointed nobody then I ask him, Sir, how is Dr. Fry working as the Principal. Is it not a fact that he passed orders and nobody took any heed of them? Now they say that there must be a man from the I. M. S. cadre of 1928. Again they say that the posts of the Principal and the Superintendent should be amalgamated, the teaching work separated and the administrative work be left to the Principal. Under this arrangement Major Malik of Amritsar considered himself as the most senior man. I must tell him that it is anything but Islamic. It is simply impossible for this Minister to meet the reasonable demands of his community. He is helpless. The poor fellow is in need of some strong tonic pill or rather injection. My second point is that he is 'Muslim Kush' (anti-Muslim) and not 'Muslim Nawaz' (pro-Muslim). He does not enjoy the confidence of his community. He will not be able to find a single person in the whole of his community who has confidence in him, though he may search all round with

the lamp of his face. Not only outside but in this House as well, and not only on this side of the House but on that side as well, those who are honest among them know that no good can be expected from him.

Let us come to that incident of Miss Khadija and Miss Bhan. That is the direct result of the educational policy of the present Minister. And what was the fault of Miss Khadija Begum? Only that she wears *burqa* and observes *purdah*. This thing disturbed him very much and his mental equilibrium was shaken. A lady, educated and learned but Muslim unfortunately—when the time came to appoint her to the post which she deserved by right, this Muslim Minister did not do that. He remained true to his traditions. The Honourable Minister's relations with the Christians are very cordial and old. That is why Mr. Rallia Ram started speaking on education before anybody else spoke. The strange thing about it is that in spite of his very lengthy speech, he said nothing new or even useful.

Sir, I would like to relate through you another story to the House. People say that influence was brought to bear upon him by the Governor and the Lord Bishop of Lahore and the poor fellow could not refuse them. I do not want to be scandalous, Sir, but facts must be stated. However, I shall try my best to state these facts in a very guarded language. Mrs. Mall, the younger sister of this very Miss Bhan, now in the W. A. C., was formerly a teacher in some Government school at Multan. At that time many complaints of corruption were received by the department against her. I do not want to go into the nature of those complaints because that will not look decent. After that hint from Dr. Sir Gokul Chand I cannot say anything too openly. Coming to the story, so many complaints were received against her that the Honourable Minister himself went there to make inquiries. Mrs. Mall was one in a thousand and was known all over the place. My information may not be correct but what I am told is that the Honourable Minister himself went there and got that case put before him. Then the enquiry began by a series of hugging and cuddling performances. The Honourable Minister came back after staying there for some time and no action was taken against the lady then. Later on she was transferred to Mianwali. Now one who is not good at Lahore cannot be good in London. She was put in charge of the school and hostel there. The poor innocent girls who had been brought up in an atmosphere of chastity and purity were put under the charge of such a woman. The girls had never even seen the faces of such women. There have been such defects in the policy of this Minister that the proper thing would be to banish him to a land where he may not see the face of any man or woman. (Laughter). This Mrs. Mall was keeping a young man in her house at Mianwali. May be he was her friend or servant but he was a handsome young man and used to live with her in her house. People thought he was her husband. Why should they bother about others' affairs? But woman possesses a special instinct in such matters. It is her doubt. And that is the thing which protects her. Women, especially educated ones, hesitate to probe into others' affairs. But there is no such code for a woman. She is guided by her instinct and comes to the right conclusion. Moreover, after some time Mrs. Mall received a telegram that Mr. Mall was dead; she left for Lahore. The public at Mianwali felt very much grieved over the fact that Mrs. Mall's young husband had died; but some time after the young friend of Mrs. Mall appeared there. This aroused suspicion and the people at Mianwali started complaining against Mrs. Mall. But the Honourable Minister was not perturbed. Why was he not moved? Where was his self-respect at that time? Why did he not realise at that time that innocent and young girls should not remain in charge of such a harridon? Why did he not take proper action against her? Here again she was only transferred and that too after repeated complaints against her. This Miss Bhan was her real sister. In fact the Ministers personal relations with Miss Bhan's family were an incentive to give her the job of Deputy Director over the head of Dr. Miss Khadija Begum. On the other hand Miss Khadija

(K. B. Sh. Karamat Ali)

Begum observed purdah and considered it a disgrace to move about without a veil. She was not afraid of anybody, Indian or European, and was not used to pay visits to them. And this Muslim Minister, his self-respect never allowed him to appoint that lady to that post, where it was her right to be appointed. In a house where Miss Bhan and Mrs. Mall were present, Miss Khadija Begum carried no weight with the Minister. The method adopted by him to have his own way was to write in document about Miss Khadija Begum that she observes purdah and so she is not competent to hold this job. These are the words which he used. My friend is asking why the Muslim League, Dr. Sir Gokal Chand Narang and Sardar Kartar Singh talk of the inadequate representation of Muslims, Hindus and Sikhs respectively in services. Why should they not do so when he is giving everything to the Christians and the white people? Even now he is pursuing a weak-kneed policy where the interests of Indians as against British officers are concerned. It is men like him who want to keep India in chains and who are cutting at the very root of independence of India. One may ask why he did not select a Muslim lady when she happened to be also senior to all? Because a veiled lady, who does not want her face to be seen by anybody, who even covers her hands with gloves, cannot offer what certain Christians so liberally do. That is why he said about the Muslim lady that as she observed purdah she was not entitled to be appointed as the Deputy Directress of Education. Is this his policy and is this the way in which he is favouring the Muslims? After all what is he here for? He is here a Minister because of his being a Muslim. But his acts are a disgrace to the community. They cannot tolerate such offensive and indecent overtures made over the rights of their co-religionists. Christianity cannot offer better civilisation and traditions than Islam, of which the Muslims are rightly proud. Anyway the second case I have quoted is of Miss Khadija Begum where injustice had been done to a Muslim lady. She is an M.A., M. O. L., and Doctor of Literature. She knows eleven languages and is holding a high position in the Education Department. But she has been superseded because she did not possess that witchcraft which the Christian ladies mentioned above possessed.

Now just look at the system of education prevalent in the Punjab. It is so very defective and still of the primitive type. There is absolutely no programme in it. Let alone that, strange things are happening under this department but nobody cares about them. For instance there is the Textbook Committee. Nepotism and jobbery are rampant in it. The Honourable Minister for Finance has just left the House. I wanted to say something about him as well. I was not able to do so before he left. I wanted to say these things to his face. Anyway what he did in the past is done at present by the Honourable Minister for Education. They have much in common. His past is connected with his present. I have submitted this thing in order to understand the 'present' of the Minister of Education. Mr. G. C. Chatterji wrote a book in the preface of which he said: "This is meant for Intermediate students of the Punjab University." I think my honourable friend Mr. Rallia Ram has understood my point. If not, I will try to hammer it into his head. Anyway Mr. G. C. Chatterji, Principal, Central Training College, wrote that book. In its preface he pointed out that he had compiled it for the Intermediate students of the Punjab University. That book was published by Atma Ram & Sons. It was a collection of poems meant for the F.A. students. Another book was published by Uttar Chand Kapoor and that was meant for the B. A. students. It will interest my friends to see what control has been exercised by the Minister for Education and what knowledge he has got about educational matters. A tussle was going on between the two traders. Uttar Chand Kapoor thought that they had published the book for the B.A. students and its sale would not be considerable as the number of students in B. A. classes is small as compared with those studying in F.A. The tussle went on. Now just see what the Honourable Minister did. The world stood aghast when it was decided in the Textbook Committee that the book

primarily compiled for the F. A. students was prescribed for the B. A. students and that written for the B. A. students was prescribed for the F. A. students.

بین تفاوت را از کجا است تا به کجا

What was most astonishing was that the author of the book made it clear that he had written that book exclusively for the F. A. students, but look, it was prescribed for the B. A. students and the book written for the B. A. students was prescribed for the F. A. students.

Minister for Education : May I point out to the honourable member that books for F. A. and B. A. are not prescribed by me or by the Education Department? It is the function of the University.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : The Honourable Minister is responsible for all this.

Minister : No.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : He may not have any direct connection with it but the University as a branch of the Education Department is under the Minister of Education.

Minister : It is autonomous.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : But his interference is there.

Minister : There are regulations.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : The Honourable Minister appoints the Syndicate and the fellows.

Minister : No.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : I have given this as an instance as to what is happening in the Education Department of the Punjab. There is another instance of the same kind. Mr. Singha, the Registrar of the Punjab University, has now stepped into the House and it will interest him to hear it. The second instance of omission and veritable ignorance is that there is one Mr. R. R. Sethi, an Assistant Reader in the Punjab University. It is an interesting story and it will show my friend what is actually happening under the Department of Education. I will tell them how Mr. Sethi became an Assistant Reader in the Punjab University. Some time ago he wrote a series of articles on "the Sikh Rule in India" in the *Civil and Military Gazette*. Those articles were really very well written. Their number went up to 103. Those articles were so very well written that many papers commented on them and paid great tribute to the writer, so much so that his fame reached even the Government of India. For his great research work he was awarded a scholarship for foreign studies. He went to England and after completing his studies he came back to the Punjab. My friends are aware that there are people who have the knack of sifting the grain from the chaff and who can bring things from darkness into light. They were after him. They were wondering as to where this great brain had been lying hidden. It was beyond their comprehension to think that a brain which could not shine in the days of school or college had suddenly been illuminated which had produced such beautiful articles. Unfortunately for Mr. R. R. Sethi one of such persons was Mr. Hassan, S. S. J., and to the utter amazement of the people he unearthed a book written by an Englishman from where Mr. Sethi had jotted down those articles *verbatim*. He made a complaint against him but the result was that he was debarred from being appointed as an Examiner for two years only. It will interest my friends to learn that at that time the Honourable Minister for Finance was the Minister of Education. When this matter came to his notice he said: He is an impostor. He is a scoundrel. He ought to be prosecuted. He is a cheat. The Finance Minister is not present in the House. He has gone out; probably he does not want to hear it. Well, the people thought that when

(K. B. Sh. Karamat Ali)

the thief had been found out and the Honourable Minister of Education to whom the matter related had condemned his action so loudly, it would be much better to entrust this matter to him for inquiry and punishment. But do they know what punishment he awarded to that impostor, scoundrel and cheat? He was only debarred from being appointed as an Examiner only for two years. They say

بیش تفاوت راه از کجا است تا به کجا

The Chief when found out should have been awarded punishment commensurate with his acts. But after a thorough inquiry into the case and after finding the man guilty of plagiarism, what was the punishment inflicted upon him? The House will be sorry to learn that the mountain of labour produced the proverbial mouse and the culprit was only debarred from becoming an Examiner as referred to already. A much more drastic action was needed in this case of serious dishonesty and cheating. That was no punishment at all. But the Education Minister has now appointed the same person as Assistant Reader to the University. It is a big post and has been given as a reward for cheating. Strange are the ways of the rulers. Sometimes they punish their loyal supporters and sometimes they reward their offenders. A Persian saying aptly applies to this case and it runs as under:—

گاه به سلام بز نچند و گاه به دشنامی خلعت دهد

It was expected that the Honourable Minister of Education would introduce far reaching reforms in the system of education. But all our hopes have been dashed to the ground. It is said in Persian, *khud ghalat bud anchi ma pindashtem*. Our hopes were thoroughly misplaced in this Minister. He has completely disappointed us. Our expectations and estimates about his capacity to prove a successful Minister of Education have been wholly falsified by his subsequent actions.

Let us examine for a moment the system of primary education of the Punjab. Is it not the old system which was in vogue at the time of the rule of East India Company? It has not been changed a whit. It is exactly the same. The same old and out of date system prevails in our primary education schools. It is the same method of teaching

ب ب ب
The same cramming continues in the University. What has our Honourable Minister of Education Mian Abdul Haye been doing all these eight long years? Why has he not revolutionised the whole system of education in this sufficiently long period? He does not seem to have studied the new methods employed in other countries for teaching their girls and boys. What a paltry sum is being still paid to the teachers! In most of the municipal boards and district boards, teachers get between 15 and 20 rupees per month. Is it not a shame that while employing a labourer for the construction of his latrine the Minister should pay Rs. 2½ per day but to the nation builders he should offer only annas ten or so a day? Let him remember that teachers are the builders of the nation. They educate and train the coming generations. They ought to be highly paid persons. The fact of the matter is that our Minister of Education has not honestly addressed himself to the task that lay before him. He has not earnestly attended to his duties. It is here where the whole trouble lies. When the foundation stone of a building is wrong, the whole building goes wrong as it is said in Persian:—

دشت اول چون نهد معمار کج - تا ثریا سے رود دیوار کج

Our Minister in charge of education has not demanded from his officers of the Education department that they should improve the education of the province. All he has been interested in his tours was that the Education department should collect large funds for the Zamindara League. In his various tours he has not delivered lectures on education. How many times has he gone out to inspire new hopes in the minds of the people for better educational system and

for literacy? How many times has he delivered discourses on education? (*Minister of Education: Hundreds*). Sir, he has shown gross negligence towards his duties as a Minister of Education. Instead of spreading literacy in the Punjab, he has spread illiteracy. Ignorance has been added on to the ignorance of the masses. No reform worth mentioning has been made during his regime. His own helplessness is before him. Let him say why he did not demand or why he was not given sufficient funds for improving the province educationally. His heart was never there. He has been absorbed in his other nefarious activities. He never pressed for more funds. The surpluses were there and every time the expenditure on police went on increasing. Education which was the most pressing need of the Punjab remained unattended to because of the lack of interest of the Minister. After all what are the reforms introduced by him? How many model schools has he opened in the province with the exception of a few model schools at Gakhhar and other places? If there are any industrial schools at all, they are not in full working order. In some the *charkha* or the spinning wheel is not working and in some the *chakki* or the flour mill is out of order. We find everything amiss in his department. There are no industrial schools, no model schools, no training colleges and no good roads. No reforms have been introduced in the educational sphere of the province during the stewardship of the present Minister of Education. I am really constrained to remark that my honourable friends sitting on the Treasury Benches in general and the Minister of Education in particular are out to encourage the officers to resort to dishonest and corrupt practices. This is not all. Whenever they come across any member of the National Congress or the Muslim League, a very bad and inhuman treatment is being accorded to him. They have created a very bad effect upon the people of the province. In fact it is they who are responsible for standing in the way of our social, political and economic development. They have never made any effort whatsoever to lift the poor people of the province from poverty to security, from ill-health to vigour and from ignorance to welfare.

Now I wish to say a few words about the present model schools. The present model schools are in name only. In this connection I would urge upon the Government to open such model schools as would be instrumental in imparting education in the true sense of the word.

The next thing to which I wish to draw your kind attention is regarding the inspectors of schools. Mr. Deputy Speaker, being learned and experienced, you are also a great admirer of men of letters. You will be surprised to hear that corruption is the order of the day amongst the staff of these Inspectors. Poor village school masters who are already hard hit during these abnormal days, have to look to the comforts of the inspectors who often pay visits to schools in their jurisdiction. Very recently I went to a village. I came across a school master of this village and I enquired from him as to how much pay he was drawing. He replied that this pay was کتر کم دس روپے (ten rupees minus the cost of one fowl per month). He made this point clear by saying that he had to provide the inspector with one fowl monthly and that he had to look to all his comforts whenever the inspector used to pay a visit to his school. I was really pained to hear his remarks. I asked him if there was any other source of his livelihood, excepting these ten rupees minus the cost of one fowl. (*Laughter*). He said that small boys reading in his school would some time bring some *lasi* for him and that he could not expect anything more from them. He further complained that it was not possible for the village school masters to make both ends meet. These inspectors do not think for a moment how it would be possible for the poor village school teachers to provide them with each and every comfort. Perhaps they are under the impression that like those corrupt police and other civil executive officers, who are always out to exact homage from the people, they should also expect the same comforts from the poor village school teachers. (*At this stage Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair*). Mr. Speaker, we become immensely pleased to see you adorning the Chair. So far as the staff of the

(K. B. Sh. Karamat Ali)

Inspectors is concerned, I wish to suggest that it should be reshuffled with a view to raise its standard and put an end to corrupt practices. They should try to form contacts with the public and prepare comprehensive schemes for improving the present system of education in the province. They should not make only schemes but investigate into those vital factors which would bring about the intended improvement. Acquiring of B. A. or M. A. degrees does not signify the completion of education, what we have to see is this, whether the real significance of education is fully grasped by the pupils or not. I wish to submit with all the emphasis at my command that the Honourable Minister has not taken the pains of noticing what these inspectors are doing. I am really constrained to remark that in a big district there is an inspector of schools drawing about Rs. 800 per month as his salary. He requires to be directed by two men about the exact place where he has to affix his signatures on the official papers. (*Cries of shame*). A weak sighted man verging on blindness has been installed as the inspector of schools. Such indiscrimination in official appointments can only be due to the lack of supervision on the part of the Minister of Education. May I know from the Minister in charge whether it has been brought to his notice that a person whose hands are fastened on the paper for affixing his signature, is retained in service?

Minister for Education : There is no blind inspector in the department.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : I shall show.

Minister : Name him.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : The Inspector of Lahore Division.

Minister : He is not blind.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : He is absolutely blind. He is practically blind.

Now let me narrate the instance of the Government College, Lahore. There is a professor of Physics department in this institution who tumbles over desks and chairs when he glides into his lecture room. In spite of this physical infirmity he continues to be in service. These are the clear instances which vividly prove the lack of supervision on the part of the Honourable Minister for Education.

Further I wish to submit that the Muslims of this province have been deprived of their proper rights in the regime of the Honourable Minister. I wish to bring this point home to the Honourable Minister in particular and the Unionist Cabinet in general that this grievance can never be washed off from our hearts and that it will remain always afresh with us for all time to come.

As regards women's education, we have already raised hue and cry about the case of Miss Khadija Begum. I dare say that in Class II there are 22 ladies and not one amongst them is a Muslim. In spite of all this, the Honourable Minister does not abandon his lassitude. He should know that he is occupying his seat on the Treasury Benches on account of our support. If he fails to give them their proper due then he is betraying his community. It is really a lame excuse on the part of the Honourable Minister to say that suitably trained Muslim women are not available. May I ask him if he has ever cared to think coolly on the case of Miss Khadija Begum? I make bold to submit that he has been exceptionally cruel towards the Muslims. There are only 34 per cent of Muslim women in the subordinate services. But according to the proportion they are entitled to higher rate of percentage. It is really a pity that our rights are not properly safeguarded.

Now I wish to throw some light upon the system of allotting grants-in-aid to the educational institutions. It is regrettable that the Muslim institutions are being given only 25 per cent out of the amount apportioned for grant-in-aid. Under the circumstances, the Unionist Cabinet in general and the Honourable Minister for

Education in particular are not justified in claiming that they are the real well-wishers of the Muslims inhabiting this province. Here we have been pleading the cause of the Muslims of the province who cry and weep that their due rights are not properly safeguarded. Muslims are not given any share according to their proportion. Yesterday, my honourable friend Giani Kartar Singh in the course of his speech urged upon the Government to give due share to each and every community according to its proportion. Lame excuses will not do, so far as the proper representation in services is concerned. It should be the first and the foremost duty of the honourable members sitting on the Treasury Benches to create confidence in the hearts of the people whom they represent in this House. Now I would like to make a few observations with regard to the children of school-going age. I would adduce figures to prove my contention, of course they are subject to correction. My information goes that there are 35 lakhs of children in the province who have attained the school-going age, but out of them only 10 lakhs are receiving education in the schools. In other words 25 lakhs of children remain illiterate and idle away their time at home. This is really a deplorable state of affairs. It means that the Honourable Minister for Education has signally failed to contact the masses with a view to know the real educational position of the people in the country. It is a thousand pities that in his obsession to make propaganda and collect funds for the Zamindara League, he would traverse the country from end to end but he cannot set apart any time during his tours to find out the exact educational requirements of the masses. Does it redound to the credit of the Ministry that during their eight years regime, they have miserably failed to liquidate illiteracy from the province? Do they feel comfortable to find two and a half million children of school-going age rotting in their homes and steeped in illiteracy on account of lack of arrangements to impart instruction to them?

Minister for Education : I may tell the honourable member that the number of children of school-going age is not 35 lakhs but 18 lakhs and 46 thousand.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : But out of them how many are receiving education?

Minister : Forty-one per cent.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : The percentage calculated on the basis of my figures does not differ very much from his percentage. But may I know the actual number of children of school-going age reading in the schools according to his information?

Minister : 758,364 ; that is, 41 per cent of them are attending schools.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : Well, Sir, since the time at my disposal is short, I leave this matter here and pass on to the next point. I have already mentioned the step-motherly treatment that has been meted out to the Muslim women officers in the P. E. S. cadre. Now I take up the percentage of Muslims in the men's section of that cadre. The total number of officers in the P. E. S. Class I, is 28, but out of them only 11 are Muslim gentlemen. Similarly in class II of this cadre, the total number of posts is 108 but out of them only 44 posts have gone to the Muslims. It will appear how the Honourable Minister has been guilty of gross negligence in the matter of giving due representation to the Muslim community in his department. How does he account for the under-representation of Muslims in the Education Department? Then, Sir, the teachers in rural areas raised a great hue and cry for the enhancement of their emoluments which are at present too meagre to enable them to make both ends meet. They made representations to the Honourable Minister but their cry proved a cry in the wilderness. Besides, responsible deputations from municipal and district boards waited on the Honourable Minister to plead the cause of these teachers. Even a fairly large number of public bodies passed resolutions requesting the Honourable Minister to increase the pay of the teachers employed in the village

(K. B. Sh. Karamat Ali)

schools. But all these entreaties fell on deaf ears. The Honourable Minister cleverly put them off and the salaries of these poor teachers could not be raised from 16 to 18 rupees even. In this connection I am reminded of a couplet which aptly describes the situation.

میں عشاق تیرے رعدہ فرما لیکر
اب انہیں ڈھونڈ چراغِ رخ زیبا لیکر

I, therefore, maintain that this is the class of teachers which deserves favourable consideration at the hands of the Honourable Minister.

Then, Sir, my honourable friend, Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram, remarked that the municipalities and district boards misappropriated the grants made by the Government for educational purposes. I may tell him that he is talking of the past which is buried and dead. He was probably talking of the times of the defunct Lahore Municipality of which he himself, Mian Abdul Aziz and the Honourable Speaker had been members. He might be relating his experience in that local body but his charge that the present municipalities and district boards do not make proper use of the money granted by the Government for purposes of propagation of education, is entirely baseless and incorrect. The reason for things going amiss now is the utter lack of interest which the Government takes in the working of the local bodies. When the Government make grants, it becomes their foremost duty to see that the local bodies do not misuse it. They should set into motion the machinery of their Inspectorate and Audit department to thoroughly check the expenditure of this money. If any one is found guilty of wilful negligence or misappropriation of the grant, the Government should take drastic action against it and if necessary suspend it. This sort of check would always keep the local bodies on their guard and they would not swerve from the right path. Thus a proper use of the money will be ensured. I am, therefore, of the opinion that it is the lack of interest on the part of the Honourable Minister, which is responsible for this sorry state of affairs in the realm of education of the province. If he had cared to devote even one-tenth of his time which he spares for the pursuit of less important things, illiteracy would have been wiped out of the province to a considerable extent. However, coming to the request of the teachers, I would ask him to be considerate towards them. They should be given a living wage at least. They are considered to be the builders of our nation but the remuneration paid to them is absolutely incommensurate with their duties as well as the present conditions when dearness has become very acute. I feel they are the people who really deserve to be helped.

Now I come to another important matter. It is the unhappy state of affairs in the Punjab University. It is stated that since it is an autonomous body, no interference can be made by the Government in its working. My contention is that it cannot make any departure from the general policy of education laid down by the Government. It cannot be and should not be allowed to have a free hand in its working and Government must exercise some sort of control or supervision over it. May I ask if it is possible for such a body to control and conduct the examination of fifty thousand examinees, without any corruption or mismanagement entering into its arrangements? I am of the opinion that there is every likelihood of corruption getting the upper hand into its affairs. It is a pity that our University has been allowed to develop into the shop of a bania whose sole object is to make money. Since our University is functioning only as an examining body, it has no other object except to make money, by charging admission fees to the extent of Rs. 25, Rs. 30 and even Rs. 35 per examinee. May I know if ever any attention has been paid by my honourable friends to the devising of ways and means by which efficient working of the University could be ensured? I think, with a view to reducing the pressure on it, the best method would be to set up three or four Universities in the Punjab in addition to the existing one. The object of the University should not merely be to conduct

examinations but to impart liberal education to our boys. Then, Sir, no laboratory worth the name has been established in the province to carry our research work for the benefit of the people. But the difficulty is that such things of vital importance would never occur to the Honourable Minister. I cannot help saying that if any shred of respect for him is left in my mind, it is due to the past memories when my honourable friend used to be a front rank lawyer and a pride of the legal profession. I fail to understand why my erudite friend has thrown away all those qualities of head and heart with which he could enrich the province and bring about the educational advancement of the masses. I hope he will pay due attention to the necessity of establishing four or more universities in the Punjab. Then I have to make a mention of the system of cramming which is encouraged by the Punjab University. I assert that the method of examination adopted by it is no standard for testing the ability of our boys. In fact this matter requires total overhauling of our system of education. This cramming system in the studies should be eliminated. It is proving very detrimental to our children, some of whom commit suicide when they fail to pass an examination. May I know who is responsible for the shedding of this innocent blood?

Mr. Speaker : The honourable member will please wind up.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : Very well, Sir, I close my speech in the hope that the Honourable Minister will give his active consideration to the observations made by me. I also expect that he will give up his present pre-occupations and devote his time, energy and capabilities in placing the province on the high road to greater prosperity.

Nawab Muzaffar Ali Khan Qizilbash (Lahore, Muhammadan, Rural) : Mr. Speaker, before I discuss the demand under consideration, I must make one appeal to honourable members of this House. Unfortunately I find that the bitterness in this House is increasing day by day and we are getting to a stage when we are saying things at each other which no decent House in the world would like to see. What is going to be the result? I will not be surprised if in future we will be abusing each other, unless there is a change, by taking our fathers' and mothers' names and will be using the language of Mochi gate and Bhati gate. I can also foresee a day when such allegations are made against each other that some gentleman in the House will come to a stage when he will be able to show part of the anatomy to the whole House. Is this what we should try to do? Is this the tradition that we are going to lay down? It is a matter of shame for all of us. I do not name any one. But I appeal to all, to every member in this House and not to this side or that side, to cry halt to such things and to realise whether in the present atmosphere we are laying down a tradition of which our posterity will be proud. Let us realise what the posterity will think of us when they read the proceedings of our Assembly and what we are capable of saying on the floor of the House. After saying this, I shall get down to the demand under consideration.

Education in the Punjab, I dare say, is not what it should be. But then we have got to look at our budget. We have got to see what amount of money is allotted to this department. Progress is slow.

Rai Bahadur Lala Gopal Das : When you have a surplus budget why not have the surplus money for education?

Nawab Muzaffar Ali Khan Qizilbash : I quite agree. Look at the budgets for the last 8 or 9 years. I quite agree that the money allotted to the Education department has not been in keeping with the increase in our income. We are going further back. I quite agree. But the reply given to us is that we are offering you this money when instead of putting one school now you will be able to put 10 schools for the same amount. After all we must remember that the Punjab is a very poor province. We have not so much money as other countries in the world have so that we might compete with them. (Mian Abdul Aziz: Poor Punjab is considered to be

(Nawab Muzaffar Ali Khan Qizilbash)

most advanced.) I would appeal to the Premier and to the Government that they should at least double the amount under education. We are very backward in education and it is not the fault of the department that it cannot give the figure that other countries are able to give. It must have money. What has it been able to do so far? I think the department deserves our congratulations. What the Government of India has now adopted as part of the post-war reconstruction, our Education department has already done in 1941. I draw your attention to Mr. Sargent's Report where emphasis is laid on two points. The first is that primary education should be made compulsory and free. Now this has been admitted by our Government also and they intend starting it as soon as post-war reconstruction plan starts. That is going to cost us at least Rs. 4-9-0 *per capita* where the present expenditure is only Re. 0-9-6. That is to say, it will increase by more than seven times. The other thing on which Mr. Sargent laid stress is the pay of the teachers. I am glad to say that in this respect also the Punjab Government has done a lot to ameliorate the hard lot of the teachers. What have they done? The figures are as follows. In 1941 the scale of pay of the teacher was revised from Rs. 45 to a minimum of Rs. 80, that is nearly double. Again from 80 they went further up. It was a time scale of Rs. 80 to Rs. 150 and from Rs. 150 it went to Rs. 250. This was done in 1941—what the Government of India is suggesting to us to be done after the war. Now let me come to the vernacular teacher. The vernacular teacher was getting Rs. 30. From Rs. 30 the minimum was raised to Rs. 40 and from Rs. 40 they go to a time scale up to Rs. 105. After Rs. 105 there are special grades which take them up to Rs. 190. I quite agree that this is not enough. We should go much further. Otherwise we cannot compete with any other civilised country. But then we are very backward and Government cannot perform miracles over-night. Money has got to be found and as soon as it is found things have got to be done. I would say that the Government has been a bit slow in its policy. Saving money just to use it in a better way is a laudable course. But still education is a thing which should be taken up immediately and not left over to the post-war reconstruction plans.

There is another thing and it is this. Every country worth its name should have its tradition behind it. How do we get tradition? By being told what my country is proud of, by being told what my ancestors have done and by giving a true perspective and not giving wrong facts and figures. I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that we are on the path of freedom, it would not be long before we would be free. It is just a question of getting together and that day will come. That being so, let us produce a generation which will be fit to take over the reins of Government. The only way in which we can attain this aim is through the medium of our schools and colleges. They are the fellows who will constitute the coming generation and they are the people who will have to run the administration of India. I would suggest that the entire educational curriculum should be changed. I am glad to see that this suggestion has been made by the Revision of Syllabus Committee. Under the heading 'Civics' the Committee feel that the chief objects should be the cultivation of sense of patriotism on a broad basis, the improvement of the environments of the people, imparting of elementary knowledge of what constitutes a good citizen and to develop self-respect. I will lay more stress on self-respect because this is the greatest thing that we need and we should be taught what is self-respect from morning till evening. When we are free we are going to be self-respecting citizens and that would be the time when we can call ourselves really self-respecting people. It is common knowledge that instead of getting together, we are getting apart. Communalism is getting worse and worse and it is the present day belief that to become a leader one should be a stark naked communalist, otherwise one has no chance of being returned to this Assembly. (*Oh, oh! from Opposition benches*). I wonder if Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan forgets when he

told me, "You must remember, you have got to be returned again to this Assembly, you are yet young."

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : When was that ?

Nawab Muzaffar Ali Khan Qizilbash : He further said that the only way was by taking a communal ticket. This happened just when the break was coming. I would much rather not like to be returned than to return by kindling a fire which is already burning India. Personal motives are making matters worse. There cannot be a Punjab which can be ruled only by the Muslims, there cannot be a Punjab which will be ruled by Sikhs or Hindus but there will be a Punjab and there can be a Punjab where all communities will sit together (*Hear, hear*). Mr. Speaker, it is our mother country. How can we, while working on communal lines, bring Sardar Sampuran Singh, Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang and others together? The more communalism they talk of, the more we are going away from them. No single community in the Punjab can take control of the Punjab. Another point that they forget is that there is the fourth power and that is the Britisher, they are not going to leave (*Interruptions*). I am speaking on the subject of development of the youngsters through education, so that they may be able to take possession of their mother country. All that comes under education.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is my friend in favour of communal electorates or opposed to it ?

Sardar Lal Singh : The question is irrelevant.

Nawab Muzaffar Ali Khan Qizilbash : That is a very pertinent question. His question is whether I am in favour of separate electorates or not. To be honest I am not, but as things stand to-day in India, there is no other alternative but to have separate electorates. (*Hear, hear from Opposition benches*). But let me assure you that the time is coming when we will see that the only way of getting the foreigner out and having our own rule is—(*An honourable member from Opposition benches : Through the Zamindara League.*)—One thing that worries my friend over there is the Zamindara League. There was a time when he stood for it.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Never.

Rana Nasrullah Khan : It is a bogus Zamindara League.

Nawab Muzaffar Ali Khan Qizilbash : Coming back to the subject which I was dealing with, I say that one of the main items of the Punjab Government's programme should be greater amount of education. They should start with compulsory primary adult education. If they have not got money now, let them raise the money (*hear, hear*) for education. Those days have gone when the schools were meant to create *babus*. I may assure you time is now coming when we do not require a good *babu* but a healthy citizen who will respect the rights of others and who will have self-respect. For that we require money.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Then you will not be there, you will be here.

Nawab Muzaffar Ali Khan Qizilbash : For that we require money and nothing else. The Government should cut their other expenditure (*Hear, hear*).

Mian Abdul Aziz : That is right.

Nawab Muzaffar Ali Khan Qizilbash : My friend the Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh said that police has to be increased. With people like my honourable friends opposite, they have got to be looked after. If we are getting to a stage when the respect of members is not safe under your very nose, what will happen to them outside ?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : You started it. (*Interruptions*).

Rana Nasrullah Khan : Your 'lota' started it.

Mr. Speaker : The use of the word 'lota' is unparliamentary.

Rana Nasrullah Khan : I withdraw it if it is unparliamentary.

Mian Abdul Aziz : That has been used since the Assembly session began.

Mr. Speaker : I hold it to be unparliamentary.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : There was another member who said 'boka'.

Mr. Speaker : Please resume your seat. I appeal to your good sense. This noise, this heat, and such words and expressions are unparliamentary.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : The objectionable word has been withdrawn.

Rana Nasrullah Khan : To whom does it concern ?

Nawab Muzaffar Ali Khan Qizilbash : That is the spirit behind the whole thing. My honourable friend says 'to whom does it concern ?' That is what we are getting to. We are getting proud of the fact that honourable members are getting up and calling names and saying anything they like. We do not mind it. But is this going to lead us anywhere ? For God's sake let us stop here and lay down traditions that may serve as an example to our future generations.

Now, Sir, coming to the question of girls' education, I am glad to say that the Government has done something on that line too. They have opened up many schools. The honourable lady member, Mrs. Duni Chand, pointed out that nothing has been done for girls' education. I will just give you facts and figures to show what has been done for the last so many years. Now, let us take the primary education of girls. The number of schools in 1936-37 was 1,880. To-day the number of schools stands at 2,287, an increase of 407 schools. As I have said before, it is not what it should be, but there is something. Give the devil its due. They have done something. The number of girls was 108,431 and that has gone up to 141,726. (*An honourable member*: Is it so ?) It is quite true. I wanted to open up a girls' school in my own estate, but I found it difficult. We are very conservative people. People would not be easily prepared to send their daughters to schools. This is one of the difficulties with girls' education. There are so many things that a father would require before he is satisfied and sends his daughter to a school. I remember the Deputy Commissioner of Lahore telling me, when petrol scheme came along, that everybody rushed to him and asked him to give so much petrol. One of the reasons given was that their daughters go to schools and colleges and they could not send them in a tonga or on cycles. To-day petrol is not available and I am glad to see Indian womanhood in hundreds going on cycles. Time is coming when this spirit of conservatism should be wiped off, and we will have to put an end to all these conditions before we are willing to educate our ladies. That will be the first and the foremost thing. Time is coming when, I am sure, you will realise that the first and foremost thing is to educate your womanhood. Without educated womanhood, no nation can be complete and that is one drawback for Indians. It is our womanhood that is backward. Let us all join on this one issue and that is the education of men and women. Let there be no leadership in this connection. This is one of the main cries of the day.

Another thing was that every speaker on the opposite benches stood up and offered criticism to the Honourable Finance Minister's speech and said, 'Look at him, he is comparing the education of the Punjab with the States'. Every member pointed out to those couple of lines which appeared there. I am proud of those lines. This is what we are. We are an honest Government. Whatever we have done, we have put in front of you. We want to do more, but we are handicapped. We have not got the money and this is the difficulty in our way. Instead of being proud of it, they criticised the Honourable Finance Minister and said, 'Look here, he says that States are better in education than the Punjab'. Yes, it is so. It brings shame to you and the Punjab. In order to get better education we want more money. It is creating way to get more taxes.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : On a point of order, Sir. He has been impertinent to the Chair and said that it brings shame to you.

Nawab Muzaffar Ali Khan Qizilbash : It is very far from my heart. I am always very thankful to the Raja Sahib's interruptions, which we all very much enjoy. As I have said, they have made capital out of those two sentences. I have been watching the debate during the last two weeks and there has not been a single member who has not uttered those sentences. Each one of them mentioned that fact. The more I heard it, the more glad I was. I say, here is our honest Finance Minister and here is our honest Government. (*Interruptions*). They say: 'Yes, the States stand better in the matter of education'. Education is a very expensive matter. We want money by means of more taxes. We want more teachers, more pay and more schools especially for the backward agricultural classes. To-day the difficulty with the boys is that they have to walk 6 or 8 miles to attend a middle school. The other day I put an application for 3 middle schools in my Lahore estate. Every time I was asked that I must produce 30 thousand rupees before a school can be opened. We are poor people and we have got no money. (*An honourable member :* Oh, oh, Question.) The money has got to come from somewhere. (*An honourable member :* Budget is surplus.) Like a thrifty *bania* we have got to think of to-morrow and not like a zamindar who does not want to leave anything behind even for one day. This Government should think of to-morrow so that if the future generation takes over the reins of the Government, it may take it over with solvency and healthy traditions of a good Government. As I said before 30 thousand rupees were asked from me for opening one school. I got very much worried. Then I went through the figures with the District Inspector of Schools and I found that the expense was much more than was demanded from me. Initially they wanted at least 30 thousand rupees and then the Government would take responsibility of meeting recurring expenses and keeping up the building. Altogether it amounted to a very big sum. Our cry of the day is money, money and money. (*An honourable member :* Tax people more.) That is the suggestion which I am making to the Government. Give us education, make us a fit nation to take over the control of our own affairs and run our own Government. With these words I resume my seat.

Khan Muhammad Yusuf Khan (Rawalpindi Sadar, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*) : Sir, to-day my honourable friend Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali made a long speech in which he appealed to the sentiments of the Muslims and flung indecent charges against the Honourable Minister and the officials of the Education Department. I am not going to make a word for word rebuttal of his speech. It is the duty of the Honourable Minister and he will thoroughly answer his charges. I would like to submit that so far as learning or the attainment of learning is concerned, from the earliest times up till now in no country and in no place, any community has ever denied its necessity. We would be entirely mistaken if we think that the British established their hold on this country by the sheer weight of their power or due to the treachery of some of our own people. No doubt their own power and the traitors must have assisted them to some extent but the main thing which helped them to carve out the Indian Empire for themselves was their superiority in learning. When we on account of our follies gave up learning the West was making rapid progress because of its great advance in learning of sciences with the result that when the British came here they swept everything before them. So, we cannot blame the traitors only for helping the British to establish themselves in India. Their power and the traitors must have helped them to some extent but it was mainly their superiority in learning which assisted them to get a foothold here. They knew that learning was one thing which had given them superiority over Indians, so they tried to destroy root and branch whatever learning was left in this country in order to stamp out the very thing which can enable any people to resist the invaders. I have historical evidence in support of

(Khan Mohd. Yusuf Khan)

my contention. For 70 long years the British Government by issuing orders and circulars tried to stamp out every trace of learning from among the Muslims. They tried their level best not to leave any *madrassa* or *maktab* in which the Muslims could educate themselves. They continued this policy of discouraging the Muslims from learning, as I have stated, for full 70 years. The reason why they discouraged the Muslims from learning was that they knew that education was one thing which would rekindle the dormant spirit of independence in them and so they tried to discourage them. Let me tell you that education has such force in it that whoever is deprived of it should instead of sitting among men should seek the company of animals. Therefore, Sir, instead of blaming the Punjab Government for our backwardness in education we should try to find out its real cause. Some of my friends have observed that we are backward in education, the percentage of literacy is very small and there are fewer colleges and fewer schools in this province. I may tell them that the responsibility for all this does not lie on this Government alone. All of them have been partners in the conspiracy. So long as the present system of education is not uprooted and a new system is not introduced they can never expect better results than this irrespective of whoever may be in charge of the Department of Education. I therefore do not see any reason, any justification, why the Honourable Minister for Education should alone be condemned for all this.

تن ہمہ داغدار شد پندہ کجا کجا نہم

Let me tell my friends that these schools and colleges are not educational institutions, they are, so to say, shops. This is the result of the system of education which is in force not in the Punjab alone but in the whole of India. Look at what is happening in our schools. A student goes to a teacher and the teacher thinking that the strings of the purse of his father are a bit long suggests to him to keep a tutor as it would enable him to secure good marks in the examination. The boy runs home and tells his father to get a tutor for him who would coach him so that he may get a good place in the examination. The poor parent naturally agrees and gets a tutor appointed for his son. This is one way in which teachers are looting the parents. Besides our students read books approved by the Text Book Committee. Every year new books are recommended instead of old ones. A book is recommended in one year and it is replaced say after two years. What is more the text of such books generally remains the same and only minor alterations are made. For instance, if in one book cow is described in another the same subject is discussed and no new matter is introduced. I do not know any justification for changing these books year after year. This is ostensibly done in order to benefit the authors of such books and nothing more. As I have submitted these schools are not educational institutions, they are shops and a means of livelihood for certain people. Education is not given for education's sake. In fact we do not know what real education is and what is the object of education. With the change of education even hearts are changed.

دل بدل جائے ہیں تعالیم بدل جائے سے

If to-day our imagination has changed that is due to the defective system of education. We cannot blame any one Minister for it. I can confidently assert that even if any other person is put in charge of the Department of Education it will not make any difference at all. If at all there will be any difference it will be very insignificant. Anyway whoever is appointed as Minister he will not be able to do what my friends want him to do. My friend Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali has observed that the Unionist Government has absolutely no programme before it for spreading education in the province. I ask him, what programme has been put forward before us by the great organisation of Muslims that he has dared to accuse us of having none? What has that organisation done for the spread of education among the Muslims who are most backward in that respect? The present system of education has been in force for the last 250 years and we all are agreed that it is very defective. How in fairness, I ask, can we blame the Minister for that? Come along and let us put our heads

together and evolve a system of education which will fulfil our needs. How can we do so when they have created a rift amidst the ranks of Muslims? If they come here we will all try to find out where the mistake has been committed and how that can be set right. If the Muslims, Hindus and Sikhs want their education to bear fruit let them unite and find out a system of education which will fulfil all their respective needs. I know that the Congress has made an effort to evolve a system of education, e.g., the Wardha Scheme and it has tried to enforce it as well. Let the honourable members also make some effort to chalk out a programme of education in accordance with their needs. Even the great political organisation of the Muslims of India has not so far been able to formulate a definite educational programme. The problem is not so simple as the honourable members take it to be. It is a very intricate and complicated problem. I might remind the House of a famous saying, "As you sow, so shall you reap". Macaulay sowed the seed of the present system of education in India. The harvest could not be different from what it is. We are the fruits of the tree that was planted in India some 200 years ago. We cannot help being different from what we are. We are what the rulers wanted us to be. In future if we want to produce different results, let us join our hands together and evolve a new system of education best suited to our requirements.

Adverting to what my honourable friend Nawab Muzaffar Ali said, I may be permitted to submit that we must maintain the standard of decorum and decency of speech in the House. The old traditions of parliamentary etiquette ought to be kept up in spite of some differences among ourselves.

Sir, now I want to say a few words about my own district. It goes without saying that the district of Rawalpindi has a splendid record of war service. Indeed I can say without fear of contradiction that my district stands out first in its war effort throughout the province. I may go a step further and say that in the whole of India no other province can beat our district. Not only that. Even the whole world cannot show any country or province which beats the district of Rawalpindi in this respect. Now it is the bounden duty of the Government to see to the needs of this district. The first and foremost need of this district is education. When this district has produced splendid soldiers, it can, by the parity of reasoning, be expected also to produce the best military officers. But good military officers cannot be produced without education. Hence even from the military point of view this district deserves the best educational facilities. That will be no favour to the people of the district. But we are prepared to take it as a special favour if the Government takes serious steps to educate this district on a large scale. We need a Degree College at Rawalpindi. There should also be a Medical college at Rawalpindi so that the inhabitants of the district may learn the art of keeping good health. Again, a college for women should also be opened there to educate the women who in turn will go a long way to educate their sons. Rawalpindi should be made a great educational centre of the Northern Punjab.

As the time at my disposal is too short to develop my points in detail, I am compelled to close my speech with these brief remarks and constructive suggestions which I hope will receive the best attention of the Government.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang (West Lahore Division, General, Rural): Sir, this debate is rather unfortunate for people who are not interested in the controversy between the members of the Muslim League Party on the one side and the Government benches on the other. Those members of the House who are not interested in the controversy have practically been shunted out. I just want to say a few things and I may make it clear that I will not say a word about the controversy.

The first point I would like to refer to is about primary education. In my opinion it is not sufficient to have compulsory primary education, it must be free as well. Unless it is free, no headway can be made particularly among the rural classes who cannot afford to pay much for their education.

Minister for Education : Wherever it is compulsory, it is also free.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : I want it to be compulsory everywhere and also free everywhere. Unless this is done no progress can be made. The question naturally arises, where are the funds to come from? In this connection I would make a suggestion and I am sure that my suggestion will meet with the approval of all sides of the House including that of the Government. It is this. A measure can be put before this House for the levy of a cess called the special education cess. (*Hear, hear*) (*Honourable members :* We all agree; it is a very good suggestion). I need not, Sir, speak on the benefits of education. Even a little child knows that. It may be taken for granted that education is absolutely necessary and has to be provided for anyhow. (*An honourable member:* Tax the big landlord very heavily). Before bringing forward a measure to levy the suggested cess, the Government can consult and take the advice of their Law Department. One difficulty has to be overcome and that is with regard to teachers. Where are the teachers to come from? I know in many places difficulty has been felt due to lack of teachers. I have a friend staying with me who is connected with an Indian University. He has made a very good suggestion and that suggestion is being explored by one of the Indian Universities. I will put that very suggestion to the Minister of Education. It can be arranged with the University to have teaching as one of the subjects in the B. A. classes like Mathematics, Science and other subjects. It may not be necessary for a person to join the training college or a normal school after passing his B. A. or matriculation. It is not a novel idea. In Cambridge a person can have his degree and can have law as one of the subjects. In the same way teaching can be introduced in all the degree colleges in this province, and I have no doubt that the trustees of those colleges will rise to the occasion and will raise no objection and will provide fund for this subject also. In a few years you will have a very large number of teachers to teach in secondary schools. You can have a similar subject for the Matriculation examination because for junior vernacular schools you require junior teachers with certificates in teaching and for all primary school matriculates are quite sufficient and one of the subject in the Matriculation also can be teaching. So that when a boy passes the Matriculation he gets a certificate in teaching also. There are 45,000 youngmen who have gone up for the Matriculation examination and I have no doubt that as they know that higher employments are not available to every one and Government wants a large number of teachers, at least 30,000 of them will be taking to teaching. So, in one year alone you will have 30,000 teachers and in a few years lakhs of them. As education expands, the number of teachers will also increase, so that there will be no difficulty on this point.

While on this point, I would also suggest that the scale of teachers' pay should be revised. That is a great grievance. I have a letter from a teacher. It is very pathetic in its tone. I shall only read a few lines from it—

”چیمبر ہوس میں سیونگ دار گدیوں پر بیٹھنے والے آئرلینڈ ممبر غریبوں بے کدوں کے خون پسینہ کی کمالی پر عیش و عشرت سے وقت گزارنے والو۔ بھلی کے پنکھوں میں آرام اور مٹھی نیند کے خزانے لینے والو۔ بدولت کی اُمید کرتی ہوئی ندی میں غوطہ کاتے والو۔ کبھی آپ کے دل میں یہ خیال بھی گذرا کہ جن افراد کے بدولت آج آپ اس قابل ہوئے ہیں کہ ملک کے رہبر بن سکیں۔ قوم کے ہیرو کہلا سکیں۔ روحانی (وزرِ عملی) نھرو نما

پائیں۔ بلند پایہ ہستیاں شمار ہوں۔ آج اس قوم کے افراد تنگدستی۔ مفلسی۔ غربت۔ سیاہ بختی میں اپنی زندگی بسر کر رہے ہیں۔

صوبہ پنجاب کے تقریباً ہر ضلع میں دسویں اپنی مغلوک اعلیٰ کر وجہ سے جنگ جنگ کر آسمان سر پر اُٹھا رہے ہیں۔ فاقہ کشی کے دردناک منظر حسرت اور دہشت پیدا کر رہے ہیں۔ مگر آپ ہیں کہ ان کی حالت سے بے خبر ہیں۔ کیا 17/20 روپے کا مدرس اس زمانہ میں عیالدار کے بارگراں کا متحمل ہو سکتا ہے۔ گرانٹے اشیائے ان بھاروں کا چھوڑ نکال دیا ہے۔ کیا آپ چاہتے ہیں کہ قوم بنائے والے معمار دنیا سے نابود ہو جائیں۔ آئے والی نسلیں میدانِ ارقی میں بے علمی کی وجہ سے نگ و دونہ کر سکیں۔ اور پیارا ہندو تان تہذیب اور شاگشتگی میں پیچھے رہے۔ مدرسین کی آنکھوں میں ضروریات زندگی کی گرانی اور قلیل تنخواہ نے اندھیرا پیدا کر دیا ہے۔ اب انکا خیال در اور در چار روٹیوں کی طرف ہے۔

گورنمنٹ ٹیچر گورنمنٹ کی نئی سکیم سے کچھ فیضیاب ہو گئے ہیں۔ مگر دسترکٹ بورڈ کے مدرسین سے سوتیلی اس کا سا سلوک کیا گیا ہے۔

I do not wish to read the whole of it, as I have no doubt that other members have also received a copy of that letter. The scale of pay should be revised and I draw particularly the attention of the Honourable Minister to this. Something has been done so far as the salaries of the teachers in Government service are concerned. But so far as this letter goes, it appears that the salaries of teachers in district board and municipal schools have not been revised. I want their scales of pay also to be revised.

Then another point to which I would draw the Honourable Minister's attention is the medium of instruction. Effort should be made that all subjects up to the Matriculation should be taught in the vernacular and English should be taught only as one of the subjects. It will save a lot of time. It will increase the efficiency of teaching and it will lighten the burden on the brains and also on the bodies of the students. A sub-committee should be appointed to go into this question. The medium of instruction should be vernacular whatever a pupil may choose. This would of course lead to the introduction of alternative vernaculars, whether it is Urdu in Persian characters or whether it is Hindi in Devnagri characters or whether it is Punjabi. That should be done. There has been a great deal of agitation on this matter and there was even a Bill to be moved but owing to those internecine rankling no time has been allotted to the mover of this Bill so far as Hindi and Gurmukhi as medium are concerned. It is understood that only Rs. 30,000 have been provided for Hindi and scriptural languages, Arabic being added to them. I wish the Honourable Minister to study the policy of the Governments of the United Provinces and Bihar when they had their own Governments. What they did for Urdu should be done for Hindi and Gurmukhi

(Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang)

in this province. Why cannot this Government follow the example of the Governments of those provinces and mete out a fair and just treatment to those who want to adopt Hindi or Gurmukhi as the medium of instruction? After all not very long ago in the whole of the Ambala division Hindi was the script in which all the records were recorded. If the Honourable Minister did not ask for more money, it is his fault. If he asked and the Finance Department did not give more money, then it is the fault of the Finance Minister. But the fault is there. It is a contemptible sum of Rs. 30,000 for 1,10,00,000 of people who are anxious to learn Hindi or Gurmukhi.

This is all I wanted to say in this short time.

Minister for Education (The Honourable Mian Adbul Haye) (Urdu): Sir, I am really very thankful to my learned friend Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang for his very constructive suggestions.

Rao Sahib Chaudhri Sumer Singh: On a point of order, Sir. Kindly permit me to speak. As a member of this august House, I have also a right to express my views on the demand now before the House.

Mr. Speaker: Those who wish to claim that right or privilege so openly in the House are not entitled to have it and I will not call the honourable member.

Minister: Sir, I was expressing my gratitude to my learned friend Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang, for making some constructive suggestions in connection with the demand under consideration. I may assure him that they will be thoroughly examined in the light of proper data.

As regards teaching of Hindi and Gurmukhi, a provision of rupees thirty thousand has already been made in the Budget. I have also the pleasure to announce on behalf of the Honourable Premier that a lakh more will be spent on the propagation of scriptural languages in anticipation of the vote of the House, thus bringing the total amount to one hundred and thirty thousand rupees. (Cheers).

Sir, I wish to draw your attention to the fact that in your absence I felt as if I was in the 'Mochi Gate' instead of in this august House.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan: On a point of order, Sir. Is it proper for the Honourable Minister to call this Assembly 'Mochi Gate'? May I request him to kindly withdraw these words?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: Does he not consider it most undignified to call this august House 'Mochi Gate'?

Minister: No.

Mr. Speaker: The Honourable Minister may proceed with his speech.

Minister: Sir I may tell you that in your absence my honourable friend Shail Karamat Ali made a most indecent attack on me. I was simply surprised at the low standard of his speech. All the spiteful allegations made by him are unfounded and baseless. He has been prompted by sheer vindictiveness and I categorically deny what he has said. I never went to Multan to conduct any enquiry against Mrs. Ma

I never met her and Miss Bhan in a private house in Lahore and also never held out any promise of promotion to Miss Bhan. The enquiry against Mrs. Mall was in fact conducted by Mr. Hashmi, an officer on the staff of the D.P.I., her appeal was dismissed and final order was passed by the D.P.I. as she belonged to the subordinate service. She was suitably punished and is no longer in service. I can also say without fear of contradiction that I never visited the Muslim Taj Hotel at Simla or stayed in that Hotel. His remarks about this incident are the invention of his fertile brain. It is a pity that the honourable member is now absent from the House, otherwise I had a mind to make certain significant disclosures with regard to the challenge that he threw out to me. These disclosures would have shown his skin deep morality and tall talks about character. I leave this subject here since I have no intention to dilate upon it in his absence.

Next, he vehemently criticised my purchasing land. The remarks that he made in this connection, were most uncharitable, unwarranted and uncalled for. He has been actuated by sheer malice and a revengeful spirit. I think this is a reaction on the Honourable Premier's statement on the dismissal of Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan and that has made him lose his balance and equilibrium of mind. I admit having bought certain lands; but why do my friends opposite feel perturbed over these transactions? What objections have they against these purchases?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Why has objection been taken to the lands purchased by Shaukat Hyat?

Minister for Education : My honourable friend should not overlook the difference between my transactions and those of Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan. While an F.I.R. exists on the records of the police about the latter's purchases, there is no objectionable thing in my case because I have not hoodwinked anybody. I have not threatened any party and I have not abused my official position in making these purchases.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : What did you pay for your land?

Minister : Rs. 21,000 a just and reasonable price.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Shaukat Hyat paid Rs. 80,000.

Minister : No. Then Sir, Shaikh Karamat Ali had the temerity to accuse me of being afraid of Englishmen. I categorically contradict this remark. It is naked lie.

Mr. Speaker : The word 'lie' is unparliamentary.

Minister : My honourable friend used the word 'dishonesty'.

Mr. Speaker : 'Lie or dishonesty', both are unparliamentary.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : The word 'dishonesty' was used in respect of discharge of his duty. Mr. Deputy Speaker held it to be in order.

Minister : No. He called me dishonest in connection with my purchases of land.

Nawab Muzaffar Ali Khan Qizilbash : May I draw your attention to the fact that when you were not in the chair my friend Shaikh Karamat Ali used the word 'dishonesty'?

Mr. Speaker : That was unparliamentary.

Nawab Muzaffar Ali Khan Qizilbash : At that time my honourable friend, the Minister of Education pointed out that the word was unparliamentary and should be withdrawn. At first, Mr. Deputy Speaker, who was in the chair, did not

(Nawab Muzaffar Ali Khan)

give any ruling but asked my honourable friend over there to proceed with his speech. Then my honourable friend Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang stood up and asked for a ruling from the chair for future guidance whether the word 'dishonest' was unparliamentary or not. He said, 'if the Minister is dishonest, can that word be used?' Now that you are in the chair we want a ruling on that point and if you consider that word unparliamentary it should be withdrawn.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : I put a hypothetical case and asked whether if a Minister was dishonest, the word should not be used.

Mr. Speaker : No, except when his honesty is discussed on a substantive motion.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I ask you to give a ruling on the point whether when the Premier started the case against Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan it was on a substantive motion?

Mr. Speaker : My remark applies both to that discussion as well as to the present one.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I request you to ask the Honourable Minister to withdraw the word 'jhoot'.

Mr. Speaker : It should be withdrawn.

Sayed Amjad Ali Shah : The honorable member Shaikh Karamat Ali while speaking used the words *bad dianat*. Are they parliamentary?

Mr. Speaker : No; they are not. The Honourable Minister of Education had said that Shaikh Karamat Ali has spoken a lie. The form in which this expression is used is unparliamentary.

Minister for Education : Sir, I withdraw the word "lie" and say that the statement of my honourable friend was entirely incorrect. I, therefore, assure my honourable friends that so far as purchases of land by me are concerned, they have been made with clean hands and a clear conscience. There has been absolutely no dishonesty in those transactions. Well Sir, I would not pursue this matter any further and drop it here after quoting a couplet from Hafiz—

بدم گفتی و خور سدم عفاک الله نگو گفتی

جواب تلخ می زبید لب لعل شکر خارا

Then my learned friend Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali said in the course

of his speech that I had not been able to promote the interests

of the Mussalmans and in this connection he referred to the case

of Dr. Siddiqi who has not been appointed Principal of King Edward Medical College,

Lahore, in place of late Col. Hayes. He also said that Colonel Fry has been appointed in

place of the late Col. Hayes. I say it is all incorrect. I have not passed any orders

for permanent or temporary appointment of the Principal of the Medical College in

place of the late Col. S. N. Hayes. (*Honourable members :* Why?) The reason is this.

Under regulations made by the Secretary of State for India an I.M.S. belonging to

the category of 1928 has first to be considered for this appointment. Their rights

are protected for this post. May I further add for the information of the House that

a reference has been made to the Government of India for obtaining an I. M. S. officer

of the said category and a reminder has also been sent to them to expedite matters?

(*Interruptions*). If my honourable friends sitting opposite are patient enough to listen

to my speech it would be a good thing for them. What I want to tell the House is

that during my tenure of office covering full eight years there has not been a single

appointment in the departments under me which was occupied by a European officer

in 1937 and which has not passed into the hands of an Indian. For instance, Col.

Jolly, Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, Punjab, was succeeded by Col. Bharucha. In the Public Health Department Col. Nicol was succeeded by Khan Bahadur Dr. Butt as Director of Public Health and in the Department of Education when lately Mr. Armstrong proceeded on three months' leave Mr. S. M. Sharif was appointed Director of Public Instruction. This was in spite of the Secretary of State's regulations that failing an I. E. S. officer in the province, an officer of that service should be imported from an other province and failing that an officer of the I.C.S., I.M.S., I.F.S. should be appointed, and last of all a P.E.S. Class I officer might be considered. Not only the post of D. P. I. has gone to an Indian, but many other key-posts in the Education and Medical Departments previously held by Europeans have now been filled by Indians. In this connection I would like to refer to the appointment of an Indian officer as Principal of the Government College, Lahore. In 1937 Mr. Dunncliffe was the Principal of the Government College and before him too all the Principals were European officers. But now this post is being held by Mr. G. D. Sondhi for the last 3 years and a half. There is, however, one exception and that is in the Government College, Lahore. I mean the post held by Professor Dickinson who is Professor of English Literature.

Then Sir, much has been said about Miss Khadija Feroze-ud-Din and I have already made it clear by giving replies to the questions frequently asked by the Opposition that first of all she is not the senior most lady belonging to the P.E.S. Class I who is eligible for consideration as there are also three other ladies senior to her. Since the post of Deputy Directress Public Instruction (Women) is a selection post, seniority is not the sole test. Let me also point out that she has not been superseded by any lady; she is drawing the same pay. I wish to tell the honourable members sitting opposite that not only Miss Feroze-ud-Din has not been considered suitable for this post, but there are other three officers senior to her who have been ignored. (*Interruptions*). We are obliged to utilise an officer of high academic qualifications and scholarship for a professorial appointment rather than for a purely administrative post. For further illustration I would like to quote a few instances where ladies with high academic qualifications were not accepted for an administrative appointment when Miss Stratford, Deputy Directress of Public Instruction retired, Miss Thomas was selected to succeed her in preference to six ladies senior to Miss Thomas as they were considered to be more fitted for a teaching career. On the same analogy Miss Bhan who happened to be the seniormost Inspectress of Schools at the moment has been appointed Deputy Directress Public Instruction (Women). For all administrative appointments in the department the uniform rule has been suitability and not mere seniority. Sir George Anderson was imported from another province as Director of Public Instruction though three persons belonging to I.E.S. were present in the province, I mean Mr. Hemmy, Mr. Wathen and Mr. White. They were of high academic qualifications but had always been teaching in College. Then came Mr. Parkinson. Although he was not the senior-most man, as Mr. Garrett was senior to him, yet in view of the long established practice he was considered the most suitable man for the said post. And when in 1936 Mr. Armstrong was appointed as Director of Public Instruction two persons were senior to him. When Mr. Raynol was appointed Assistant Director of Public Instruction, the claims based on seniority of not less than nine officers senior to him were overlooked. In the recent case of Mr. S. M. Sharif several senior officers above him had to be ignored as he was thought to be the most suitable officer. Suffice it to say that to appoint Indians to the posts previously held by Europeans has been my policy and I have not erred when I appointed Miss Bhan as Deputy Directress, Public Instruction and decided to keep Miss Khadija Feroze-ud-Din in the teaching post for which she is most suited. I have done my best to raise the status of the teaching profession and to improve the curriculum regarding which I have received the Report of the Syllabus Committee.

(Education Minister)

After taking over the charge, I set before myself the following objectives, which I have consistently pursued :—

- (i) To raise the status of the teaching profession.
- (ii) To improve the content of curriculum.
- (iii) To encourage the backward classes and communities.
- (iv) To encourage the development of talent by a generous system of scholarships.
- (v) To extend primary education and to promote adult literacy.
- (vi) To promote girls' education.
- (vii) To extend higher education, especially the teaching of science.

These are in brief the important features of my regime as Education Minister. If anybody cares to go over the report of the department he will find how I have endeavoured all these eight years to accomplish the above objectives. It is said that I as a representative of Muslims am not doing my duty towards the Muslim community. It is further said that the Muslims have not got adequate representation in the P.E.S. Class I (Men's Branch). Out of a total cadre of 28 posts in this class the percentage for the various communities is—

Muslims	..	..	..	..	46.4
Hindus	..	..	..	..	25
Sikhs	..	..	..	..	14.2
Europeans	..	..	..	..	7.1
Others	..	..	..	..	7.1

There are 46 Muslims in P. E. S. Class II out of the total of 106 (*Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan* : Less than 50 per cent).

Shaikh Karamat Ali has said that there is not a single Muslim lady in the P. E. S. class 2. I would like to tell him, Sir, that in 1937 there was no Muslim lady in class I. Four Muslim ladies have since been promoted to class I. Therefore the number of Muslims in class II has fallen down accordingly.

A contented teaching profession, respected and adequately paid, is the corner stone of a sound educational edifice. I was distressed to find that persons with high educational attainments were being employed in schools and colleges on Rs. 45 and 65 a month. I am glad to point out that I have been able to raise their grades considerably and give them an honourable wage to maintain their position as members of a respectable profession.

Prior to the revision of the S. E. S. the following grades existed—

Anglo-Vernacular—

				Rs.
				200—10—250
Class I	..	..	..	150—8—190 (revised)
				140—10—190
" II	..	..	..	105—7—140 (revised)
				110—5—135
" III	..	..	..	80—4—100 (revised)
				80—4—100
" IV	..	..	..	65—3—80 (revised)
				55—3—70
" V	..	..	..	45—2—55 (revised)

Classical and Vernacular Section—

				Rs.
				140—10—190
Class I	..	..	..	105—7—140 (revised)
				110—5—185
„ II	..	..	..	80—4—100 (revised)
				80—4—100
„ III	..	..	..	65—8—80 (revised)
				55—8—70
„ IV	..	..	..	45—2—55 (revised)
				85—8—50
„ V	..	..	..	80—2—40 (revised)

2. In 1942, the Service was re-organised and the following scales were introduced—

Anglo-Vernacular—

				Rs.
Class I	..	..	..	200—10—250
Class II	..	..	..	150—8—190
Class III	..	..	..	80—4—100/5—150

Classical and Vernacular Section—

Class I	140—10—190
Class II	..	..	..	105—7—140
Class III	..	..	..	40—8—70 pause for two years— 8—85 pause for 1 year —4—105

3. The re-organisation effected the following improvements :—

(i) The minimum salary of the teachers was raised in the case of the anglo-vernacular teachers from Rs. 45 to Rs. 80 and in the case of vernacular and classical teachers from Rs. 80 to Rs. 40. Besides this they are all getting dearness allowance.

(ii) A time scale was introduced in place of the old grade system ensuring the teachers at any rate for the first 15 or 20 years annual increments.

To illustrate, an anglo-vernacular teacher in the grade of Rs. 45—2—55 had to wait for 10 or 15 years before crossing into the next grade of Rs. 65—8—80. Similarly, a teacher in the grade of Rs. 65—8—80 had to wait for several years at Rs. 80 before crossing into the next grade. In the revised scheme teachers have been given annual increments until they reach Rs. 150 on the anglo-vernacular side and Rs. 105 on the vernacular side.

4 A further revision has now been introduced and the number of posts in the higher grades has been increased with the result that promotion from the lower grades to the higher grades has been accelerated. This further re-organisation has been

(Education Minister)

sanctioned by the Assembly and will come into being with effect from 1st April, 1945. In accordance with this further re-organisation the position is as follows:—

Anglo-Vernacular Section—

Rs.	Number of posts
200—10—250	173
150—8—190	405
80—4—100/5—150	578
<i>Classical and Vernacular Section—</i>	
Rs.	
140—10—190	50
105—7—140	101
40—3—70 pause for 2 years 3—85 pause for 1 year —4—105	859

I will now say a few words about the improvement in the content of curriculum. I was aware of the fact that there was considerable discontent with the system of education, the methods of teaching, and the product of the schools. Accordingly, a committee was appointed in 1938 to consider this question. The Committee was charged with the duty of suggesting and defining broad principles for the curricula of the primary and middle departments. The committee met in Simla and the recommendations of the committee which were accepted by Government, were published in 1938. Subsequently the committee worked through a number of sub-committees and prepared detailed syllabuses in accordance with the recommendations of the main committee. The detailed syllabuses were also issued in due course. Unfortunately, the introduction of the scheme has been postponed, owing to the scarcity of paper, due to the conditions created by the war. The importance of the report lies in the fact that the aims of instruction in the primary and secondary stages have been clearly defined. Again, some new important subjects have been introduced in the curriculum, e.g. Everyday Science, Civics, Sanitation, Arts and Crafts. Also great emphasis has been laid in this report on giving education a practical bias.

I also pressed forward schemes for further assistance to the various communities for the maintenance of their schools. I felt that the backward communities were not receiving adequate share of the grant-in-aid. It would have been wrong to deprive the communities of their existing grants, and the only way to help the backward communities was to obtain further financial assistance. Here again, more pressing needs of Government delayed the acceptance of my proposals. However, I am happy to be able to state that during the last 2 or 3 years funds have been placed at my disposal generously, with the result that the Department has been able to assist the backward communities freely. For instance, the grant of Rs. 7,000 given to Muslims in 1936-37 rose to Rs. 56,000 in 1943-44, and it would be nearly Rs. 1,00,000 this year. Next year this amount would further increase considerably. In addition, maintenance grants have been given to new colleges, such as the M.A.O. College, Amritsar and the Zamindara College, Gujrat, and it is proposed to raise the grant of the Islamia College for Women from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 15,000 a year, and of the Zamindara College, Gujrat, from Rs. 5,000 to 25,000. Again, special building grants have also been given to them, and I may mention the building grant of Rs. 78,000 to the Zamindara College, Gujrat, in 1939-40, of Rs. 65,000 to the Islamia College for Women, Lahore, during 1942-43, and of Rs. 40,000 for the Islamia College, Jullundur. I have mentioned the cases of Muslim institutions as they are backward technically and, therefore, deserving of special assistance. I may, however, add that assistance has been given to other communities also.

There has been very severe criticism that the percentage of literacy is very low in this province, and it has also been mentioned that the percentage of literacy in some of the Indian States is considerably higher. This criticism is apt to be superficial. The progress of literacy in a country depends on many factors, among which the more important are the size and growth of population, the existing level of literacy, the effort made specially in terms of expenditure incurred by the State and the general attitude of the public towards this vital subject. It is not fair to compare one province with another without taking into consideration these factors. If a compact State with a small territory and more or less homogenous population embarked upon literacy years ago and has been steadily investing effort and expense in its progress, the results would naturally be good. The proper way of judging the progress of literacy in any area would be the measure and degree of advance over the previous position in the same area. This can be best done by calculating the percentage of increase in literacy for a given period and it is this percentage of increase that can form a correct basis for the results achieved in different places and areas. Judging from this point of view the Punjab has made remarkable progress. According to the census returns the number of literate males and females in the Punjab in 1941 rose to approximately 23,00,000 and 7,40,000, respectively, against 11,00,000 and 1,50,000 in 1931. This gives an increase of 110 per cent for males and 390 per cent for females, and 140 per cent for males and females combined, over the position in 1931. Now let me compare this percentage of increase with other provinces. For India taken as a whole, this increase is 70 per cent over 1931, covering 60 per cent increase for males and 150 per cent for females. Among the individual provinces and States this percentage of increase over the position in 1931 is 80 per cent for United Provinces, 100 per cent for Bombay, 16 per cent for Bengal and 49 per cent for Travancore. Obviously, the Punjab occupies a leading position in the country in speeding up the pace of literacy in the decade under reference.

Mr. Yeatts, Census Commissioner, with the Government of India, while discussing the progress of literacy in India in his Census Report of 1941 has made the following observations on page 81—

The general tale is of pronounced increase, amounting in the case of India as a whole to 70 per cent over 1931, for the whole population. Of this the male increase is 60 and the female 150. There was of course an enormous field for improvement of female literacy. For the provinces the increase is 80 and for the States 70, with the sex components more or less the same. The most remarkable figures are returned by the Punjab which professes a 140 per cent increase to the present literacy of 13. This figure covers 110 increase for males and no less than 390 per cent for females.

Sir, I give now a comparative statement showing the total population of the Punjab, Travancore, Baroda and Cochin educationally progressive states—and the number and percentage of literate persons there, both males and females from the year 1901 to the year 1941. This will show that literacy increased from 8.8 per cent in 1901 to 4.0 per cent in 1921 and 6.3 per cent in 1931 and 13.0 per cent in 1941. The increase from 4 per cent to 6.3 per cent during 1921—31 was the result of the efforts of the late Mian Sir Fazl-i-Hussain and Sir Manohar Lal, who were Education Ministers during this period. The biggest increase—13 per cent, has, however, been during the years 1931—41 of which the present Government can, I think, be rightly proud of. The results for the last four years, i.e. from 1941 to 1945 have not so far been calculated, but I am sure they will show a great further improvement on the last figures. Here is the statement—

(Education Minister)

Provinces or States	1901			1921			1931			1941		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Travancore (7,662 Sq. miles)	1,490,165	1,461,992	2,952,157	2,032,553	1,973,509	4,006,062	2,555,073	2,530,900	5,085,973	3,045,102	3,024,916	6,070,018
	21.5	3.1	12.4	*	*	*	40.8	18.8	28.9	55.0	34.0	45.0
Baroda (3,236 Sq. miles)	1,011,473	946,972	1,958,445	1,103,118	1,028,597	2,131,755	1,260,461	1,187,822	2,448,283	1,472,909	1,382,101	2,855,010
	15.9	.5	9.5	21.0	4.0	12.3	33.1	7.9	20.9	*	*	*
Cochin (1,493 Sq. miles)	405,200	406,825	812,025	482,959	496,121	979,080	589,813	615,203	1,205,016	696,889	725,986	1,422,876
	22.4	4.5	13.4	*	*	*	46.0	22.0	33.7	56.0	34.0	45.0
Punjab (99,689 Sq. miles)	10,734,532	9,208,183	19,942,715	11,306,507	9,378,971	20,685,478	12,880,517	10,700,347	23,580,864	15,383,656	13,035,163	28,418,819
	6.7	.4	3.8	6.7	.8	4.0	10.0	1.7	6.3	21.0	8.33	13.0

*Information not available.

I have shown that the progress made by this province in the sphere of literacy is substantial and certainly higher than that made by any other province or State in India. The problem of literacy, as it is popularly understood, is, however, not strictly within the sphere of the Education Department, except to the extent to which direct attempts have been made by this Department to eradicate illiteracy. In 1939 the department embarked upon a 5-year programme with a recurring grant of Rs. 30,000. As a result of this campaign no less than 840,000 illiterates in this province were made literate. To save these literates from relapsing into illiteracy a scheme of travelling libraries was introduced, according to which 20 libraries were set up in each district and 5 were attached to each of the 5 normal schools in the province. These libraries have so far received 85,000 books. In addition to this nearly 500,000 copies of adult primers and 241,000 copies of follow-up literature have been purchased by the Department for free distribution among the adults. Moreover, the literate adults have been encouraged to read books from village libraries, which are about 300 in number attached to vernacular schools in the province.

In the short time available I have endeavoured to reply to the criticism, just and unjust, of honourable members and place before the House as briefly as time permitted our achievements in the domain of education.

Mr. Speaker : The question is—

That the demand be reduced by Rs. 100.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : The question is—

That the sum not exceeding Rs. 2,39,88,600 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of Education (excluding European and Anglo-Indian).

The motion was carried.

The Assembly then adjourned till 12 noon on Thursday, 15th March, 1945.

1911

1911年1月1日
1911年1月1日
1911年1月1日

1911年1月1日

1911年1月1日

1911年1月1日



1911年1月1日

1911年1月1日

1911

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

THIRTEENTH SESSION OF THE FIRST PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Thursday, 15th March 1945

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber at 12 noon of the clock. Mr. Speaker in the chair.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

PLAY-GROUNDS FOR CHILDREN

*9629. **Chaudhri Jugal Kishore** : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the number of municipalities in the districts of Rohtak, Karnal and Ambala which owned or rented play-grounds for the children of their Primary Schools during the last two financial years ;

(b) whether there are any municipalities among those above-mentioned municipalities which receive any grant-in-aid out of provincial Funds for providing play-grounds for the children of their Primary Schools ;

(c) if the number of such municipalities be nil, whether the Government propose to take any action in the case of those of the above-mentioned municipalities which receive the grant in question and do not utilise it for the purpose for which it is sanctioned ?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : (a)

(a) Rohtak and Ambala	..	..	..	..	Nil
Karnal	..	..	..	..	2

(b) No.

(c) No municipality amongst the above-mentioned municipalities receives any grant for the purpose of maintaining playing fields, and therefore the question of Government taking any action in the case of those municipalities which receive such grant and do not utilise it for the purpose does not arise.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is the Honourable Minister in a position to state whether the Punjab Government provides proper education for the children in primary schools and whether that proper education includes physical education also ?

Minister : It does.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Has the Honourable Minister taken any action against those municipalities which have not provided any play-grounds for the children so far ?

Minister : Action is being taken.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : May I know the names of the municipalities against which action is being taken ?

Minister : The honourable member gave notice regarding Rohtak, Karnal and Ambala. If he wants information regarding any other place he may give notice.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : May I know which of these municipalities is being proceeded against for not providing play-grounds for children ?

Minister : Action is being taken against all these municipalities.

HEAD MISTRESSES AND DISTRICT INSPECTRESSES OF SCHOOLS

***9729. Sardar Ajit Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of B.A., B.T., head mistresses of Government High Schools and District Inspectresses of Schools in the Education Department are employed at present in a grade lower than Rs. 140—10—190 ;

(b) whether it is a fact that certain Assistant Mistresses in Government High Schools in the province are employed in the grades of Rs. 140—10—190 and Rs. 200—10—250 ;

(c) the reasons for the difference in the grades of the employees mentioned in (a) and (b) respectively ;

(d) the steps Government intend to take to redress the grievances of the employees mentioned in (a) ; if no action is intended in the matter, the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) It is a peculiarity in this department that the same type of post should be filled by officers in various grades. The head mistresses are selected on grounds of special suitability, while promotions are made largely on seniority and record, and this will explain why sometimes head mistresses are found in a lower grade and assistant mistresses in higher grades. Due regard, however, is paid to the work of the head mistresses when promotions are considered.

(d) As far as possible the head mistresses are selected from the higher grades of the service, and when they are selected from the lower grades regard is paid to their work when considering their promotions. Government considers existing arrangements satisfactory in that they allow of selection of administrative officers, both on grounds of seniority as well as of merit.

AGENTS APPOINTED FOR BUYING FOODGRAINS

***9539. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad :** Will the Honourable Minister of Development be pleased to state—

(a) the number of agents appointed by the Government to buy foodgrains from the Punjab markets in 1942-48 ;

(b) whether it is a fact that purchases were made direct by the Government and passed on to agents ;

(c) if so, whether the distribution was equal among all the agents ; if not, why not ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : The honourable member is referred to the reply given by me to starred question No. 9483¹ asked by Chaudhri Muhammad Sarfraz Khan in the last session of the Assembly.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : May I know whether the number of agents has since been increased ? The question relates to the years 1942-48; I want to know the number now.

Minister : This does not arise out of the answer that I have given.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : The reply is there and my question does arise out of it. I want to know the number of agents now.

Minister : The number has been increased but I cannot give the figure as it does not arise out of the answer that I have given.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : May I know if any honourable member of this House is also a food grain agent?

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know whether the purchases were being made through the Co-operative Department in 1942-43?

Minister : I think so.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know whether that system was changed and some firms were appointed as purchasing agents?

Minister : Yes.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Was the first system considered to be unsatisfactory?

Minister : A new system was adopted and agents were appointed. It does not mean that the previous system was unsatisfactory.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know the reasons for changing that system? Were there any complaints against the Co-operative Department?

Minister : The Co-operative Department was buying on a very small scale as it was not their main function. That was why the Government thought fit to appoint agents.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Is the Honourable Minister aware of the fact that out of the purchases made by the Co-operative Department, the Punjab Government made a profit of Rs. 33 lakhs?

Minister : My honourable friend has given notice of a question on this very subject and when that question is put I will give full details.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know whether the Syndicate was being run by one of the honourable members of this House?

Minister : May be.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether any publicity was given to the names of the agents who were appointed?

Minister : I have already stated that there is a question by Sardar Kapoor Singh on this very subject and the honourable members will know all the details from me when I reply to that.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know if the scheme of buying through these agents has succeeded to the satisfaction of the Government?

Minister : I think so.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Has no complaint been received?

Minister : There can be no scheme without complaints.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : What were the reasons for introducing another scheme of clearing agents?

Minister : I shall give all these details in reply to another question to be put by the honourable member.

BAN ON EXPORT OF MILCH CATTLE

*9703. **Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad :** Will the Honourable Minister of Development be pleased to state—

(a) the date on which the ban on the export of milch cattle was imposed in the province;

(K. S. Kh. Ghulam Samad)

(b) whether the dealers in such cattle sent memorials to Government requesting either to remove the ban or to allow them adequate time to dispose of the animals in hand;

(c) whether any time was allowed to them as requested; if not, why not?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : (a) 30th June 1944.

(b) Yes.

(c) No, as it was likely to defeat the very object of the ban which was designed solely to conserve the cattle wealth of the province and prevent the slaughter of milch cattle and cattle fit for breeding.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : What has been the result of this ban?

Minister : The result has been that the price of cattle has come down?

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : If that is so, may I know whether it has been detrimental to the interests of the zamindars who have been deprived of selling their cattle at high prices?

Minister : On the contrary, if the price goes down it is in the interest of the zamindars.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Is the Honourable Minister aware that the price of a buffalo is Rs. 800 to Rs. 1,000 and that of a cow is Rs. 400 to Rs. 500 now-a-days? Can anybody slaughter such valuable cattle?

Mr. Speaker : Disallowed.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Is the Honourable Minister aware that the income of Government in the form of income-tax, sales tax, octroi, etc. has also been affected by the imposition of the ban on the export of milch cattle?

Minister : According to the information available with Government, I can only say that the ban has resulted for the good of the zamindar.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Is the Honourable Minister of Development aware that the zamindars do now find it difficult to properly maintain their cattle owing to the high prices of fodder, etc.? Is he also aware that several thousands have gone out of employment by this ban?

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know whether the ban on the export of cows would result in an increase of milk in the Punjab?

Mr. Speaker : The next question.

SUBSIDIES UNDER PUNJAB STATE AID TO INDUSTRIES ACT

*9746. **Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state the names of persons to whom subsidies have been paid under the Punjab State Aid to Industries Act during the year 1944-45 up to date and the amount paid in each case?

The Honourable Sir Manohar Lal : The undermentioned parties have been paid subsidies so far during the year 1944-45 :—

<i>Name and address</i>	<i>Amount Rs.</i>
(1) Mr. J. N. Kapoor, Proprietor, the Universal Trading Company, Lahore	2,000
(2) Pandit Dina Nath Bhardwaj, Kulu	1,000
(3) M. Ghulam Nabi Saqib, Proprietor, International Calico Printing Works, Lahore	1,500
(4) M. Shrif Ahmed, Proprietor, Chief Textile Printers, Lahore	3,000
(5) Lala Walaiti Lall, Sabharwal of Shahdara	1,000

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is the Honourable Minister in a position to say whether any subsidy was granted to any factory owner or any individual who carries on cloth printing business ?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know what considerations weighed with Government in granting these subsidies ?

Minister : It is in the Act.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Will the Honourable Minister please state whether the Kalsi Hosiery Manufacturing Company of Ludhiana was recommended for a subsidy ?

Minister : I do not know.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know whether he has gone through the list of the firms which were recommended for subsidies ?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know how many applications were received ?

Minister : Please give notice.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : If the Honourable Minister has gone through the list, he will find that No. 16 on that list has been sanctioned Rs. 1,000 as a subsidy to pottery work in Sialkot. May I ask whether the sum granted is considered to be sufficient for such an important and ancient industry ?

Minister : That is a question of opinion. The honourable member wanted to know to whom subsidy was paid, and that information I have given. There are many more to whom subsidies were sanctioned, but who have not been paid so far.

ELECTION OF SENIOR VICE-PRESIDENT, SIALKOT DISTRICT BOARD

***9897. Malik Barkat Ali :** Will the Honourable Minister for Public Works be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that at a meeting of the District Board, Sialkot, held on 6th January 1945, a resolution was moved and passed condemning the adjournment motion moved by Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan, M. L. A., in this House for discussing the conduct of the Deputy Commissioner, Sialkot (Mr. Nakul Sen, I. C. S.) in interfering with the election to the office of the Senior Vice-President of the Board in favour of Chaudhri Ghulam Rasul, M. L. A., and against Chaudhri Sarfraz Khan, M. L. A.

(b) whether it is a fact that no mention was made of this resolution in the agenda of the District Board meeting and that the resolution was moved with the special permission of the Deputy Commissioner who presided over the meeting ; if so, the action Government intend to take in the matter ;

(c) whether he is prepared to read out the resolution in question on the floor of the House and give the name of the mover ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Sir Muhammad Jamal Khan Leghari : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. The resolution was, however, allowed to be moved in accordance with the regulations of the Board which provide that the Chairman may, at the request of a member and with the consent of the majority of members present, bring before the meeting any matter not included in the agenda.

(c) The resolution was moved by Lala Gulzar Chand. It is placed on the table.

Copy of resolution No. 9 passed at a meeting of the District Board, Sialkot, held on the 6th January 1945

9. The following proposal made on 6th January, 1945, by Lala Gulzar Chand, Member, District Board and seconded by Lala Amar Nath, Member, is laid before the Board, as approved by the Chairman—

"I, Gulzar Chand, a member of the District Board, Sialkot, deprecate the adjournment motion moved, in the last session of the Punjab Legislative Assembly, by Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan, member of the Assembly, against our present Deputy Commissioner, in connection with the election of the Senior Vice-Chairman, which was incorrect and unfounded and propose that the Board may also express its opinion in the matter and may if it considers fit, convey that opinion to the said member because this matter relates to our district and involves an unfair and unfounded attack upon our Deputy Commissioner.

Except Chaudhry Sarfraz Khan, all the other members present unanimously resolve and declare that no pressure of any type was brought to bear on them by the Deputy Commissioner in the last election of the Vice-Chairman. The adjournment motion about it in the last session of the Assembly was ill-conceived and wrong. Baseless and wrong information was given to Raja Ghazanfar Ali, Khan M.L.A., who moved the adjournment motion. A copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Honourable Premier, Minister of Public Works, Sir Jamal Khan, the Chief Secretary and Raja Ghazanfar Ali, Khan M. L. A.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is the Honourable Minister in a position to say whether the District Board has not committed an act of impertinence in sitting in judgment over an honourable member of this House?

Minister : They expressed their opinion.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Was the District Board competent to censure the conduct of an honourable member of this House?

Minister : The question of censure does not arise. I think they have only stated facts.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Is it a fact that the whole thing was planned by the Deputy Commissioner in collusion with certain members there?

Minister : Certainly not.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Does the Government intend to take action against those members who moved the resolution and sat in judgment on an honourable member who was discharging his duty?

Minister : He has committed no irregularity. Government is not prepared to take any action.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is this the Honourable Minister's own opinion or did he consult legal opinion?

Minister : I have not consulted any lawyer. There was no legal case here.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether he is aware of the fact that the Deputy Commissioner himself convassed for bringing forward this resolution?

Minister : No.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Has the Honourable Minister considered the mischief that will ensue if a district board condemns the action of the Ministry also?

Mr. Speaker : Disallowed.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it not a direct interference with the rights and privileges of the members of this House to pass such judgment in the District Board ?

Premier : A district board has every right to express its opinion about a particular matter.

Chaudhri Muhammad Haasan : Can they sit in judgment over the actions of your Government ?

Premier : If the matter concerns them, the District Board can criticise our action and there is no power which can stop their doing so.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it a fact that Government has the power to rescind that resolution passed by the District Board ? Does Government not consider it grave that a district board should pass a resolution against the doings of the highest body in the province ?

Premier : The District Board had every right to express its opinion against aspersions cast on the actions of members of that District Board.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it a fact that the conduct of the Deputy Commissioner who presided over that meeting came under review in this Assembly ?

Premier : The elected members of the District Board had every right to express their views against aspersions cast on them here.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : The Premier has side-tracked my question. Will the Minister in charge please say whether in the debate that took place in the Assembly the conduct of the Deputy Commissioner who presided over this particular meeting of the District Board was discussed ?

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it within the knowledge of the Honourable Premier that in 14 district boards in the Punjab a resolution condemning the action of the Ministry was disallowed by the official chairman ?

Premier : I am not aware of it.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Will the Premier be pleased to say whether it is a fact that the Deputy Commissioner whose conduct was the subject of an adjournment motion abused his powers ?

Premier : No Deputy Commissioner's conduct was under enquiry.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I remind the Honourable Premier that the words of the adjournment motion were to discuss the conduct of the Deputy Commissioner of Sialkot in interfering with the elections of the District Board ?

Premier : He was not being discussed. The honourable members were trying to explain away the defeat of one of the candidates.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : My point is that the words of the adjournment motion were to discuss the conduct of the Deputy Commissioner of Sialkot in influencing the members to vote for a particular candidate. Was this motion discussed in this House or not ?

Premier : As I said, the members were trying to explain away the defeat of a particular candidate by casting aspersions on the Deputy Commissioner.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : Is it in the power of the Deputy Commissioner as Chairman of the District Board to prevent any member from moving a resolution ?

Premier : No.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is it a fact that the same Deputy Commissioner whose conduct was discussed here gave special permission and exercised special powers

(Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan)

to allow a resolution to be discussed in the District Board which was not on the agenda ?

Premier : It only establishes the incorrectness of the aspersions made in this House and shows that the District Board has resented them.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : Will not the members have resented if the Deputy Commissioner had interfered with that resolution ?

Premier : They would certainly have resented his interference.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : Is it not the rule that even if a motion is not on the agenda, if a member wants to move it and if nobody raises any objection it goes through ?

Premier : Yes.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is the Government aware of the fact that objection was raised in that meeting ?

Premier : No.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Is the Honourable Premier aware that the Deputy Commissioner has overruled so many resolutions put forward in that District Board ?

Premier : Why not leave the matter to Chaudhri Ghulam Rasul to fight again in the district board ?

Mian Muhammad Nurullah : Is the Government aware that it is setting a bad example for its successors ?

Premier : It is a very good and wholesome example.

ZAMINDARA LEAGUE

***9481. Sardar Teja Singh Swatantar :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Zamindara League is the creation of the Punjab Government itself, if not, under whose orders the Government officials, e. g., Tehsildars, Collectors, Police Officials and other collect funds for the Zamindara League through Lambardars, Sufedposhes and Zaildars ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the land owners in Montgomery district are required to pay rupees five per square of land for the Zamindara League, if so, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : The attention of the honourable member is invited to the answer given to Assembly Question No. 9387¹ on 4th December 1944.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : May I know whether it is a fact that the Zamindara League was started in different parts of the province at the instance of the Honourable Premier ?

Parliamentary Secretary : The Zamindara League existed long before this Assembly came into being.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it a fact that all the funds of the Zamindara League have been collected during these 8 years when the Unionist Government has been in power ?

Premier : The Zamindara League has always had funds. This time we wanted to re-organise it and so made a wider appeal.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it a fact that the Zamindara League had only 14 annas as its funds before the Unionist Party came into power ?

Premier : How can the honourable member know? The funds now are certainly greater than before, but that is due to the fact that I made an appeal to the masses and the response was good. If that worries the honourable members, I cannot help it.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : How much has Sardar Baldev Singh contributed to the funds of the Zamindara League?

Premier : How much contribution is the honourable member getting from Russia and Moscow?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : The Government of India and the Punjab Government know that it is a lie to say that I am getting money from Moscow or Russia.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : On a point of order. Under the provisions of the Government of India Act and in accordance with the rules of this House, no member can make any reference to or criticise the conduct of any foreign Government, particularly when that Government happens to be an ally of the British Government. The Honourable Premier has in a most contemptuous way referred to Moscow and Russia.

Premier : Certainly not.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : He has said that the honourable member Sardar Sohan Singh Josh, is getting money from Russia and Moscow.

Mr. Speaker : He has asked a question.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : On a point of personal explanation.

Mr. Speaker : I can not allow the honourable member to make a personal explanation when none is needed.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : But it is a reflection upon the conduct of Sardar Sohan Singh Josh.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : It is a damnable lie if anybody says that I or my party get money from Russia or Moscow.

Mr. Speaker : The words 'damnable lie' are unparliamentary. So, I ask the honourable member to withdraw the words.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : I am not withdrawing.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : The Honourable Premier sets the ball rolling by making insinuations.

Mr. Speaker : The ball was set rolling when the Zamindara League was brought in. (*Laughter*).

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : We were within our right to discuss that.

Mr. Speaker : I request Sardar Sohan Singh Josh to withdraw the words 'damnable lie' and if he refuses to withdraw, I shall have to ask him to withdraw from the Chamber.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : When he has not used the words 'damnable lie' against a particular honourable member of this House, would it be proper for the chair to ask him to withdraw from the Chamber? He has not named anybody.

Mr. Speaker : Order please. I think everybody has sufficient commonsense to understand things.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : This charge comes from the Premier himself and I am not going to withdraw the words. I can withdraw from the Chamber but I am not going to withdraw those words because they are a damnable lie.

Mr. Speaker : Please do not repeat those words, but leave the Chamber.

(At this stage Sardar Sohan Singh Josh left the Chamber and Sardar Naunihal Singh Man shouted "Shame, shame".)

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know from the Honourable Premier whether it is his guess only or he has got some proof that Sardar Sohan Singh Josh gets money from Russia or Moscow ?

Mr. Speaker : I am not going to allow any more supplementary questions on that matter.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : We protest because some one on that side shouted "shame, shame" on Sardar Sohan Singh Josh as he was going out.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Mr. Speaker, we are being forced to wonder whether it is any use of our sitting in this House. We have made it clear that it is a reflection upon an honourable member if the Honourable Premier says that he gets money from a foreign country. If the Honourable Premier does not withdraw his remarks, how can you ask anybody else to withdraw ?

Nawab Muzaffar Ali Khan Qizilbash : What is the debate about ?

Mr. Speaker : The honourable member made certain insinuations regarding the Zamindara League Fund and he asked whether he was taking money from Russia or not ? That also was an insinuation.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : Are these two issues identical ? We were discussing the question of Zamindara League and the Premier brings in the question of Russia and Moscow. Are they both identical ?

Mr. Speaker : That is a question of opinion. One insinuation was made about a subject concerning India while another was made about a matter concerning Russia.

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Karamat Ali : There is definite difference. If it is proved that somebody is receiving money from Moscow or any other foreign country for business that he has got to do for them, where is—

Mr. Speaker : The next question.

SARDAR RUR SINGH, M. L. A.

***9508. Mrs. Duni Chand :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

- (a) the age of Sardar Rur Singh, M.L.A., who is at present detained in Jail ;
- (b) the present state of his health ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaik Faiz Muhammad) : (a) 70 years.
(b) Excellent.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it a fact that Sardar Rur Singh has been suffering from eye trouble for the last six months ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I am not aware of it.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is he aware of the fact that the Medical Officer in charge wrote to the Government that he should be removed to a better place where treatment for eyes could be available ?

Parliamentary Secretary : That is a new question. The original question was about his present state of health and I have replied that his present state of health is excellent.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it within the knowledge of the Parliamentary Secretary that the Medical Officer of the jail in which Sardar Rur Singh was detained, represented to the Punjab Government that Sardar Rur Singh should be removed to a place where treatment for his eye was available ?

Parliamentary Secretary : The honourable member must realise that the gentleman is seventy years old and when a man of that age.—(*Interruption*).

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Was he suffering from eye trouble and was the Medical Officer of that jail of opinion that he should be removed to Lahore where expert eye treatment was available?

Parliamentary Secretary : If my honourable friend is very particular about his eye trouble, then I would request him to table another question and I will find out the details.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : The Parliamentary Secretary has stated that Sardar Rur Singh is an old man and he might be suffering from such diseases. Is it, I ask, necessary for the Government to keep such persons in jail for life?

Parliamentary Secretary : I can assure my honourable friend that it does not give the Government any pleasure to keep these people in jails.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Is the Parliamentary Secretary aware that persons like Sardar Sohan Singh Josh and Sardar Teja Singh Swatantar have been released and this gentleman is still rotting in jail?

Parliamentary Secretary : The very fact that they are out means that they have ceased to be cause of anxiety for the Government.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Did the Government consider the various reports of medical officers of jails in which it was mentioned that Sardar Rur Singh could not bear hardships of jail life?

Parliamentary Secretary : He is keeping excellent health.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Will the Parliamentary Secretary please lay on the table the answer given in reply to the charge-sheet by Sardar Rur Singh and the answers given to the charge-sheet by Sardars Sohan Singh Josh and Teja Singh Swatantar?

Parliamentary Secretary : It does not arise out of the answer given.

Mr. Speaker : The next question.

MAULANA HABIB-UR-REHMAN OF LUDHIANA

***9510. Mrs. Duni Chand :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the period for which Maulana Habib-ur-Rehamn of Ludhiana has been in detention and the reasons for his detention;

(b) whether it is a fact that the said Maulana has been suffering from partial paralysis of his body and has been otherwise keeping bad health;

(c) whether the Government intend to release him, if not, the reasons therefor?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) :
(a) Maulana Habib-ur-Rehman has been under detention since 17th December 1940. He was detained with a view to preventing him from acting in any manner prejudicial to the public safety and the maintenance of public order.

(b) No. He had a mild attack of malaria with dysentery but has got over it.

(c) The intentions of Government cannot be disclosed.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it within the knowledge of the Government that this gentleman has got strained relations with one of the members of this House and that is one of the reasons why he is detained?

Mr. Speaker : Disallowed.

MAULVI ABDUL GHANI OF LUDHIANA

***9511. Mrs. Duni Chand :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether Maulvi Abdul Ghani of Ludhiana has been recently released from jail on the ground of ill-health and restricted within the limits of Ludhiana town ;

(b) whether he has made representation to the Government to the effect that since his wife is suffering from tuberculosis and his own condition of health requires special treatment not available at Ludhiana, the orders of restriction imposed upon him may be withdrawn, if so, what action has been taken thereon ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. He has been informed that relaxation would be considered if he could show conclusively that he and his wife could not obtain adequate medical attention locally.

COMRADE DHANWANTRI, PRESIDENT, LAHORE CITY CONGRESS COMMITTEE

***9522. Sardar Teja Singh Swatantar :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Comrade Dhanwantri, President, Lahore City Congress Committee, now detained in the District Jail, Ludhiana, had several attacks of lumbago and has been seriously ill for some time past and his pulse beat became as low as 54 beats per minute ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Medical Officer of the Ludhiana jail recommended his transfer to Lahore for expert medical treatment ; if so, the reasons for not transferring him to Lahore for medical treatment ;

(c) whether it is a fact that he was released after his long incarceration of 7 years just before the war and was again arrested in May 1940 ;

(d) whether the Government intends to release him now, if not, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) No. While confined in the District Jail, Ludhiana, he was reported to have had attacks of giddiness, weakness and depression of spirit for which he was successfully treated. He has since been transferred to the New Sub-Jail, Gujrat.

(b) Yes. It was not considered necessary to transfer him to Lahore. Dr. B. N. Suri, M. R. C. P., Physician, Daya Nand Hospital, Ludhiana, was specially called in to examine him.

(c) Yes. He was re-arrested in June 1940.

(d) No. The circumstances in which he was arrested still exist.

BIBI RAGHBIR KAUR, M.L.A.

***9570. Sardar Teja Singh Swatantar :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the reasons for issuing the orders prohibiting Bibi Raghbir Kaur, M. L. A., from making public utterances and speeches ;

(b) whether Government now intend to cancel the said order ; if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad): (a) To prevent her from acting in any manner prejudicial to the efficient prosecution of the war.

(b) *First part*—Not at present.

Second part—The circumstances which necessitated the action taken against her still exist.

Sardar Kapoor Singh: May I know whether acting in a manner prejudicial to the prosecution of war is one of the reasons for not allowing the member to attend this Assembly also?

Parliamentary Secretary: How does it arise out of the original question?

Sardar Kapoor Singh: Because the honourable lady member belongs to my party.

SECURITY PRISONERS

***9739. Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma**: Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that under the jail rules it is the duty of the superintendent of jail first to open the letters meant for security prisoners and then pass them on to the police for censorship;

(b) whether it is a fact that the police officials at Dharmsala recently wrote to the jail authorities that jail authorities could not be trusted in the matter and consequently the letters were sent by the jail superintendent unopened to the police and it was only after orders from the Deputy Commissioner were received that requirements of the rules on the subject were allowed to be fulfilled;

(c) the time usually taken up in censoring the letters in question by the police and the Superintendent of Jail at Dharmsala and the action, if any Government intend to take in the matter?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad): (a) Yes.

(b) No. The superintendent jail always opens the letters before forwarding them to the police.

(c) The letters are usually censored within 24 hours. No action is called for.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma: May I know whether the Parliamentary Secretary is aware that letters are censored at the post office and not in the jail? My question is whether the police interfered in the matter of opening letters by jail authorities?

Parliamentary Secretary: The information with regard to part (b) of the question that I have given to the honourable member is "No. The superintendent jail always opens the letters before forwarding them to the police."

MAULANA HABIB-UR-RAHMAN

***9740. Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma**: Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that at one of his interviews with his son, Maulana Habib-ur-Rahman, one of the security prisoners at Dharmsala, asked his son to instruct his legal adviser to file a petition in the Lahore High Court under section 491, Cr. P. C., but he was stopped from giving instruction by the police officer conducting the interview who remarked that no such instructions could be given;

(Pt. Bhagat Ram Sharma),

(b) whether the police officer acted in accordance with Government instructions ; if so, who gave these instructions ;

(c) whether Maulana Habib-ur-Rahman has made any representation to the Government in this respect ;

(d) what action, if any, has been taken by the Government in the matter ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Yes.

(b) The police officer supervising the interview stopped the conversation through an error of judgment.

(c) Yes.

(d) Necessary instructions were issued to the Superintendent of Police Kangra, for the future guidance of the police officers supervising interviews who have been told to allow such instructions to be given.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : May I know whether Maulana Habib-ur-Rahman gave instructions to his friends in the presence of the police officer that an application under section 491 should be made in the High Court and whether those instructions could have been withheld or stopped by the police officers or not ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have replied that the officer concerned took the action as a result of error of judgment ; instructions have since been issued to the Superintendent Jail and the police officer concerned that they should not stop such instructions given by a person to his friends in future.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is any action intended to be taken against this police officer who deprived Maulana Habib-ur-Rahman of his fundamental right of justice ?

Parliamentary Secretary : It is not intended to take any action against this officer because he only committed a *bona fide* mistake.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Was any explanation called for from that officer by the Government ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Yes, an explanation was called for and he replied that he did this thing because he thought he had a right to do it. But now, the Government has informed him that he has no right to do such a thing in future and that such instructions should not be stopped.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Has the Government cared to know whether this police officer is efficient ? If not, why should he not be removed ?

Parliamentary Secretary : He is an efficient police officer and he is to be kept there.

DR. KALI CHARAN SHARMA'S APPLICATION FOR RELEASE ON PAROLE

*9742. **Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan** : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Dr. Kali Charan Sharma a detenu applied to be released on parole to look after his ailing daughter ;

(b) that the daughter of the said Dr. Kali Charan Sharma suffering from tuberculosis died without seeing her father ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Dr. Kali Charan Sharma is a convict and not a detenu. No application was received from him.

(b) Government have no information.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Did the Government receive representations from several inhabitants of Ludhiana that Dr. Kali Charan should be released because his daughter was suffering from tuberculosis ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I cannot answer that question. It is a new question.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : My object is to enquire whether any application was submitted by anybody for release on parole of Dr. Kali Charan on account of his daughter's illness. How is it a new question ?

Parliamentary Secretary : It does not arise either out of the original question or the answer I have given.

JAWALAMUKHI NAVRATRA FAIR IN KANGRA DISTRICT

***9779. Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma :** Will the Honourable Minister for War Planning be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Jawalamukhi Navratra fair in the Kangra district was banned by the Deputy Commissioner of Kangra on 6th September 1944, if so, the reasons therefor ;

(b) whether he is aware of the fact that the Jawalamukhi Navratra fair is purely a religious fair ;

(c) whether it is a fact that Section 144, C. P. C., was promulgated in the Jawalaji town and this order remained in force from 18th September 1944 to 27th September 1944 ;

(d) whether it is a fact that even people from the Kangra district were not allowed to visit the Temple at Jawalaji ;

(e) whether it is a fact that the Navratra fair which was held at Kangra from 18th September 1944 to 27th September 1944 at the Kangra temple was not banned ; if so, the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Major Nawab Ashiq Hussain : (a) The order was made by the District Magistrate on the 2nd September to prevent the importation into Kangra district by pilgrims of cholera which at the time was raging throughout the Punjab and also in the United Provinces.

(b) Yes.

(c) The District Magistrate made a second order on the 9th September prohibiting all persons living outside Jawalamukhi from entering the village during the fair period 18th to 27th September.

(d) Yes unless they were residents of Jawalamukhi.

(e) This is correct. It was not necessary to ban the Navratra fair at Kangra because the gathering at that fair normally consists almost entirely of pilgrims returning from Jawalamukhi and in view of the orders under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, passed with regard to Jawalamukhi there were no such pilgrims.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : With reference to part (e) may I know from the Honourable Minister whether he is aware of the fact that the fair was actually held at Kangra in spite of the fact that cholera epidemic was prevailing there ?

Minister : Shall I make further enquiries about it ?

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : The notice is there.

Minister : You will have to wait till I get a reply.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : May I know whether the Minister thinks it advisable that religious fairs should be banned by the executive authorities ?

Minister : Yes.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : May I know whether the Minister knows that all over the country religious fairs are not banned but that certain restrictions on hygienic grounds are placed ?

Minister : Such restrictions were placed.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : Not the least. There was no such arrangement.

BLOCK SYSTEM OF RECRUITMENT IN POLICE DEPARTMENT

***9793. Captain Sardar Jogindar Singh Mann :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether the 'Block System' of recruitment introduced by the Government for recruitment of members of various communities to Government services applies to the Police Department as well; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Man) : As this question savours of communalism, I regret that I must decline to answer it on the floor of the House.

'BLOCK SYSTEM' OF RECRUITMENT IN C. I. D. AND C. I. A.

***9794. Captain Sardar Jogindar Singh Mann :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the 'block system' of recruitment introduced by the Government for recruitment of members of various communities to Government services applies to the Criminal Investigation Department and the C. I. A. ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Man) : As this question savours of communalism, I regret that I must decline to answer it on the floor of the House.

ENROLMENT OF WAR FUND BY LUDHIANA POLICE

***9796. Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Ludhiana Police embezzled War Fund collected by them under coercion ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Man) : A Victory Fair was organised with the help of the Ludhiana Police on the 14th of February 1943, in aid of the War Purposes Fund. Every anna of the money collected was carefully checked and accounted for. Some three and a half thousand rupees were spent on entertainment provided for the enormous number of spectators. Regular accounts were maintained and have been properly audited. There is absolutely no foundation for the unjustifiable suggestion that there was any criminal breach of trust.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it within the knowledge of the Parliamentary Secretary that there were half a dozen complaints against the police officer for embezzlement of war fund ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I am not aware of it.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it a fact that the Parliamentary Secretary in this very session admitted that these complaints were found to be baseless ? Will he refresh his memory by referring to that question ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I am not aware of it, but if there were any, as my friend says, these were baseless.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Will he refresh his memory about embezzlement? There were several complaints. He now says there were no complaints.

Parliamentary Secretary : I do not remember.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Will the Finance Minister be pleased to state whether he considers it legitimate to spend Rs. 9,500 on entertainment at a military *mela* while the war is still going on?

YOGI RAM NATH

***9845. Lala Bhagat Ram Choda :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Yogi Ram Nath of Rawalpindi, a detenu in the Sialkot district jail applied to the Government, that in view of his being a Sannyasi and having no other worldly relation he may be allowed to interview his fellow disciple Yogi Vidya Nath as a permanent arrangement;

(b) whether it is a fact that this application was rejected; if so, the reasons for the same?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : (a) Yes.

(b) Under the Punjab Security Prisoners Rules, 1944, the names of only near relatives of detenus can be brought on the approved list of interviewers.

DETENUS IN THE SIALKOT JAIL

***9846. Lala Bhagat Ram Choda :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the detenus in the Sialkot jail applied for a pocket-money allowance of Rs. 20 per mensem, the same as is being allowed to the security prisoners since January 1945; if so, what action has been taken by the Government in the matter?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : Government has decided that allowances should be granted to civil disobedience detenus in cases of absolute and proved necessity. Each individual case will be considered on its merits.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know from the Parliamentary Secretary what is the definition of "absolute and proved necessity"?

Parliamentary Secretary : It means that if after enquiry it is established that the detenu concerned is in need of pecuniary help Government will give him that help.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Is he aware that none of the families of these detenus who are being kept in jail is in a position to maintain itself and none of the families is getting more than Rs. 50?

Parliamentary Secretary : It is a very general statement and I assure my friend that I am not aware of it.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Will he please lay on the table the reports made by the officers on the applications for maintenance allowance and also about their annual incomes?

Parliamentary Secretary : No.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I ask the Parliamentary Secretary to give me a single case where the report was made that the family had an annual income of more than hundred rupees?

Parliamentary Secretary : I cannot say offhand, but I can assure my honourable friend that such reports are received.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know whether he considers Rs. 10 a month as sufficient income ?

Mr. Speaker : Disallowed : it is a question of opinion.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know from the reports which he has received whether it is not the policy of the Government to starve the families of the detenus ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Matters of policy cannot be dealt with when answering questions.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know whether he is prepared to lay on the table those reports ? How are we to judge that the reports by the officers were made after finding out the real income of the persons who made applications ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Why take the trouble of judging ? Why not take my words ?

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Will the Government be prepared to have a report made by the Congress Committee as to their annual income ?

Parliamentary Secretary : This is a request for action.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know whether 10 or 12 days back he received applications from certain detenus that family allowance should be given to them ? Will he please lay on the table the reports on those applications ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I thank the honourable member for giving me that information.

ADJOURNMENT MOTION

SECURITY PRISONERS, GUJRAT JAIL

Sardar Kapoor Singh : On a previous occasion, Sir, when I moved an adjournment motion, the Premier was pleased to remark that he would
 1 p. m. make enquiries from the Gujrat jail. The matter is very serious as I have to-day received a report from that jail—

Mr. Speaker : The honourable member can discuss this matter with the Premier. He cannot raise it on the floor of the House.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : I have given notice of a short notice question on the subject. The situation in Gujrat jail is most serious and if the Government does not move in the matter immediately, it will be responsible for the results.

Mr. Speaker : I cannot allow the honourable member to make a speech.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : I am highly agitated over this matter, Sir, as it is most serious, but the Government has done nothing so far in this direction.

Premier : The honourable member is getting agitated over nothing. I have accepted the honourable member's question as a short notice question and have already instituted enquiries. As soon as I hear anything I shall pass on the information to the honourable member. Further, I promise that I shall reply his question before the present session concludes.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Send your Minister there to see things for himself.

ALL-INDIA MUSLIM LEAGUE PRESIDENTIAL PROCESSION

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Sir, I ask for leave to make a motion for the adjournment of the business of the House to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance namely, the banning of the President of the All-India Muslim League's procession to be taken out by the Muslim League organisation on the occasion of the next session of All-India Muslim League to be held at Lahore.

Mr. Speaker: Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan asks for leave to make a motion for the adjournment of the business of the House to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the banning of the President of the All-India Muslim League's procession to be taken out by the Muslim League organisation on the occasion of the next session of All-India Muslim League to be held at Lahore.

What is the Government's position?

Premier: The position is that the Punjab Government have issued an order under rule 56 (1) of the Defence of India Rules banning processions within the boundaries of various municipalities, cantonments, small towns and notified areas including Lahore. The order does not apply to any procession in respect of which a licence is issued under subsection (3) of section 30 of the Police Act 1861. This is not a new policy.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: Do I understand that the Leader of the House is going to make a speech on this motion?

Mr. Speaker: I have asked him to let the House know what the Government's position is in this respect.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: The rules do not allow him to say a word at this stage.

Mr. Speaker: He can. He has been called upon to do so.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: Kindly consider if it is not highly unconstitutional.

Mr. Speaker: It is in accordance with the constitution.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: Will you kindly allow me also to have my say?

Mr. Speaker: Wait, I shall see.

Premier: The first notification banning processions was issued on 29th July 1940 and with it was issued a press *communiqué* explaining why the prohibition had been issued. The *communiqué* referred to an earlier notification prohibiting the carrying of arms in procession. It went on to say—

"It has been represented to Government that this is not sufficient, and that even when arms are not carried processions organised by communal or sectarian bodies have in some places contributed materially to the embitterment of communal feeling and have on occasions led directly or indirectly to the disturbances of the public tranquillity. These results are particularly unfortunate at a time of national emergency when it is particularly important that causes of internal friction should be removed and that the maintenance of law and order should be in no way imperilled. It is widely felt, therefore, that further limitation on processions is imperative. . . . There will be no interference with customary religious processions unless with due regard to the interests of the public tranquillity, the District Magistrate finds such interference necessary. Other processions will not ordinarily be allowed."

The original notification was for a period of six months only, but it has been extended from time to time and the last notification issued on 27th January 1944 does not mention any time limit.

I may also mention, Sir, that since the Khaksar troubles there has not been any procession in Lahore. In October 1944 we refused to allow the procession of the President of the All-India Akali Conference. Of course, we allowed the procession of the Qaid-i-Azam at Sialkot. The banning of processions has been the consistent policy of the Government for a long time now. So the matter is neither recent nor is it urgent. Moreover, Sir, the date on which this session of the Muslim League is going to be held is not yet certain.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: I would draw your attention, Sir, to the rule re adjournment motions. Rule 41 is—

A motion for an adjournment of the business of the Assembly for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance may be made with the consent of the Speaker.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan]

Rule 42 lays down—

A member asking for leave must, not less than half an hour before the commencement of the sitting of the day, hand to the Speaker a written statement of the matter proposed to be discussed.

Rule 43 goes on—

Leave to make a motion for an adjournment of the business of the Assembly for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance must be asked for after questions and before the list of business of the day is entered upon.

And I would draw your attention to this important Rule 44 :—

If the Speaker is of the opinion that the matter proposed to be discussed is in order he shall read the statement to the Assembly and ask whether the member has the leave to move the adjournment. If objection is taken the Speaker shall request those members who are in favour of leave being granted to rise in their places and if not less than thirty-five members rise accordingly the Speaker shall intimate that leave is granted. . . .

I would most earnestly appeal to you to see if there is any mention—

Mr. Speaker : I do not want any further arguments. The motion appears to be in order.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : As the rules of this House have been violated, inasmuch as the Leader of the House has been given an opportunity to make a speech on the merits of my adjournment motion and to prejudice the views of the members on this question, I do not propose to press for leave to move the adjournment motion if I am not to be allowed to reply to the Honourable Premier's speech.

Mr. Speaker : The honourable member can have his say.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan (Urdu) : Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Premier has read out certain rules which have nothing to do with the motion now before the House. Rather I should say there is a provision in the rules just quoted by him under which licence can be granted for the taking out of a procession. We submitted an application under rules to the District Magistrate that permission be granted to take out a procession. The District Magistrate instead of dealing with the application himself forwarded it to Government. Government have issued orders refusing permission for the taking out of a procession. It is sheer highhandedness on the part of Government to do so. I may tell the Honourable Premier that on several occasions District Magistrates have permitted the taking out of processions. I give him an undertaking that whatever conditions are imposed we will obey them. If he wants that volunteers should not wear uniforms or carry *lathis* or that slogans should not be raised we will certainly comply with those conditions. We, in fact, will obey any restrictions which Government think fit to impose. But I request him that the licence for taking out a procession be granted. It is not a question of prejudice, it is a question of taking out the procession of Qaid-i-Azam Mr. Muhammad Ali Jinnah. If the taking out of his procession is banned it will be a great stigma on the Muslims of the Punjab, for which we would have to hang our heads in shame. I hope the honourable members would compel the Government to accord necessary sanction.

Mr. Speaker : Is there any objection to leave being given to move the adjournment motion ?

Premier : I object.

Mr. Speaker : Those who are in favour of leave being given may rise in their places.

(As the requisite number of members did not stand up, leave to move the motion was refused). //

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Minister of Education (The Honourable Mian Abdul Haya): On a point of personal explanation. On Tuesday last while replying to a supplementary question asked by Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan regarding the Ghee Colourisation Act, I used the word 'coward' with respect to an honourable member. I withdraw that word. I wanted to do this on that day itself but as the time was short I absolutely forgot about it.

POINT OF ORDER

PRESENTATION OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS IN THE ABSENCE OF MEMBERS

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma: Sir, before you proceed to the next item of business I want to raise a point of order. According to article 171 (2), page 54, of the Punjab Constitutional Manual, Volume II, the demands for grants have to be put before the Legislative Assembly. Now nearly one-eighth of the members of this Assembly are either in prison or are debarred from attending this Assembly without any trial whatsoever. I, therefore, think that the demands for grants are not properly presented to the Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Speaker: Assembly means at least one-sixth of the members of the House.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1944-45

Minister of Finance (The Honourable Sir Manohar Lal): I beg to present Supplementary Estimates, third instalment, for the year 1944-45. The demands made therein are made on the recommendation of the Governor.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS

MISCELLANEOUS AND EXTRAORDINARY CHARGES

Minister of Finance (The Honourable Sir Manohar Lal): I beg to move—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 61,40,500 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1946, in respect of Miscellaneous and Extraordinary Charges.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 61,40,500 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1946, in respect of Miscellaneous and Extraordinary Charges.

Mian Muhammad Nurullah: Sir, I rise to a point of order. My point of order relates to a notice issued by the Secretary of the Punjab Legislative Assembly, dated the 2nd March 1945, in which he says:

The following Demands for Grants have been selected for discussion during the current session:—

1. Demand No. 10—General Administration.
2. Demand No. 16—Education.
3. Demand No. 32—Miscellaneous and Extraordinary Charges—(To discuss Post-War Reconstruction).

The remaining Demands will be taken up and voted upon in the order in which they appear in the Budget.

This notice has misled the honourable members of this House, because by this notice we are restricted to discuss the Post-War Reconstruction only. On page 606 of the Budget you will find that there is not a penny being allotted for Post-War Reconstruction for the year 1945-46 to which the Budget relates. In the previous years two crores

[Mian Muhammad Nurullah]

were set apart, but not a penny for the coming year. Therefore this notice has been misleading and I think the mistake should be rectified if we are to be allowed to discuss all the items under Demand No. 32. Another day should be allotted for the discussion of Post-War Reconstruction.

Minister of Finance (The Honourable Sir Manohar Lal): The idea was that no provision had been made during the year for Post-War Reconstruction except in such measure as the fund which has been created as a special fund might be used for this object, and this lack of provision would be a "grievance", on the part of members and this could be the subject of discussion under the present head.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan (Pind Dadan Khan, Muhammadan, (Rural)): We are called upon to discuss Post-War Reconstruction. In the Budget there is no provision for Post-War Reconstruction; not a penny has been provided for it. Supposing we carry the cut motion on the subject. What will be the effect of it? I submit that the House has been deliberately misled by the Government who have persuaded one of their party members to move a cut motion on a matter which is not mentioned in the Budget and which under the ordinary rules cannot be discussed. The Finance Minister says that the House can discuss why money has not been provided. He is a great constitutional lawyer. Does he think that it will stand the test of the rules and regulations if we start discussing why money has not been provided? If Government wants to know the views of the House, it should allot a separate day for the purpose. How can they call upon the House to discuss a matter which is nowhere provided for under the Rules? We do not shirk it, we shall discuss it, but we leave it to the Honourable Minister and the Leader of the House to see whether the world outside will not laugh at the absurdity of our discussing something which is not in existence.

Premier As the Honourable members are aware, the practice in this House has been for the Opposition and the Government to select one demand each for discussion and one grant selected by mutual consultation. I consulted my friend the Leader of the Opposition who took the other groups into his confidence and we finally fixed on this demand No. 32.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang (West Lahore Division, General, Rural): The Honourable Minister has moved demand No. 32. It reads:

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 61,40,500 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1946, in respect of Miscellaneous and Extraordinary Charges.

There is no mention of Post-War Reconstruction in this, we are now seised of this demand only. There is no other question. These points of order were also out of order. We are going to discuss the demand as I have read it out before the House. The Honourable Minister probably forgot that a notice of a different kind had been issued.

Secretary: It was issued under his instructions.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang: I did not say that it was not issued under his instructions. I only said that he had probably forgotten. Otherwise he would have hesitated to make the motion which he has made. He would have got up and would have taken the House into his confidence and explained what had happened behind the curtain, and the result of the discussion which had taken place between certain members of Government and certain members of the various parties in the House. Having forgotten everything he comes forward and puts before the House his demand No. 32, and therefore it is only this demand which is before the House and we must proceed to discuss it. All these objections this side and that do not now arise and we have to proceed with the discussion of demand No. 32. You will now please call upon the member in whose name the cut motion stands.

There is a cut motion to raise general discussion on the failure of the Punjab Government to provide funds for the Post-War Reconstruction. That matter is not before the House. That item of 2 crores is certainly not included within 61 lakhs. The greater may contain the smaller, but the smaller cannot contain the greater. Sixty-one lakhs cannot contain two crores. There is no mention of 2 crores in this Budget which has been put before us. This sum was mentioned in the Second Instalment of Supplementary Demands and the House has done with the Second Supplementary Demands. They were guillotined and the amount of 2 crores has already been sanctioned by this House to be spent on Post-War Reconstruction. That is the end of it. That is the legal position. Whether the House was in a position to express its opinion or not, that is not their fault nor is that the fault of Government. One day was allotted by the Governor and whatever was discussed was discussed, what ever remained was guillotined under the rules. Therefore the item of 2 crores does not now figure in the expenditure which we have to sanction for 1945-46, and the proposition now before the House is demand No. 32. I have already stated that there is no mention in this demand No. 32 of two crores of rupees. (*Interruption*). If my honourable friend had been listening, what I said was that in the Second Instalment of Supplementary Demands this item was mentioned. If he would refer to page 163 of Supplementary Estimates 1944-45 (Second Instalment), he would find the item "Transfer to the Post-War Reconstruction Fund Rs. 2,00,00,000 (Non-recurring)." All that I have to say is that we have to address ourselves to the discussion of Demand No. 32. It consists of a large number of items minus this item of 2 crores. As I have said, this item of 2 crores would not be contained within the demand of 61 lakhs which has been put before this House and, therefore, if by courtesy and under your discretion that matter is to be discussed, that may be discussed after the other items on which any member of this House wants to speak, have been discussed. That is the position. The Honourable Minister should have no objection to this. I may also point out that under the rules framed by the Governor as well as by this House no business can be discussed other than the demands on the Budget days. I need not point that out because this very matter was discussed on another day when some other question, viz., an adjournment motion was before the House. If you like I can refresh your memory with that rule.

Mr. Speaker : Do not bother.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : All right. I am very anxious that this matter of 2 crores should be discussed because I have put forward a cut motion of my own and I want 50 lakhs out of this money to be reserved for the uplift and relief of my brethren scheduled castes and I am, therefore, anxious that that matter should come up. We should discuss other items if honourable members want to discuss and then we may discuss that matter. That is the proper procedure and if Sardar Ajit Singh is not going to move his cut motions then I would beg your leave to move my cut motion.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Under the rules you cannot.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : I am referring to my cut motion on Demand No. 32. My honourable friends do not follow. They should show courtesy to me at least. I do not interfere with them.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : We do so because sometimes you have the courtesy and sometimes not!

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : I am always right and I am afraid you are always wrong.

Premier : I was interrupted and I made way for my honourable friend Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang. I was explaining that these six days were allotted by mutual consent and there was nothing behind the curtain. It is a convention established by

[Premier] :

this House for many years past, and a very good convention too, that we allow the Opposition to select the demands for discussion. General Administration was selected by the Congress Party and Education was selected by the Muslim League Party and the Leader of the Opposition. The third demand was left to me.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : That is why you made the mistake.

Premier : There is no mistake. Lack of provision can also be discussed and I would appeal to members on both sides of the House not to look at the issue from a narrow party point of view. The other day when this resolution came up, there was not sufficient time and we could not deal adequately with it. Government is preparing a programme which will cost hundreds of crores of rupees. We do not want to proceed with that programme of post-war reconstruction without knowing your criticism. We want your constructive criticism, we want to put the scheme before you and we shall welcome your suggestions. Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang is entitled during the course of his speech to draw attention of the House to the particular matter in which he is interested. We might take up one demand and he might have his say plus what the cut stands for. I am anxious that this day should be devoted to the advantage of the province. We will plan the schemes after getting the views of the House.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : I do not mind. We are giving him the benefit of doubt and release him !

Premier : It is a matter of convention, an honourable convention of this House.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : Let me move cut motion No. 4 and I can speak on both.

Mr. Speaker : There are two aspects of the matter about which I am not quite clear. One aspect is that this House cannot increase or decrease the amount of the demand.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : We can decrease.

Mr. Speaker : Quite right. But if any amount is saved from the total amount involved in this demand, this House cannot say that this should be applied to reconstruction. I quite agree that that is being done throughout the world that when people demand some money to be spent, they propose a decrease because they cannot propose an increase. The object of the decrease is simply to discuss the matter and ultimately they want the increase but they do not say so.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : It is nothing but a suitable, convenient and agreed camouflage, not in a bad sense, but it is nothing but a camouflage. The amount has already been sanctioned, it is already there. As there was no discussion, some people want to ventilate their views as to how that amount should be spent. That is how I understand the spirit underlying this arrangement, otherwise it is only a made up affair not in order from technical point of view. From a technical point of view, as I have already submitted, this question cannot be discussed. That has already been discussed and, therefore, the proper procedure is that this Demand as such should be discussed and with your permission honourable members of this House may also express their views as to the post-war reconstruction and as to the way in which two crores of rupees should be spent, but the principal thing is the demand itself which has been put before this House by the Honourable Finance Minister. That is the legal position and anything else would be entirely incorrect. With your courtesy members can speak as to how the two crores of rupees should be spent. The first place is to be given to the Demand as put by the Honourable Finance Minister. A very irregular course has been adopted and we should not commit ourselves to further irregularities. You can permit

any honourable member to speak on the other part of the agenda which has been put before the House.

Mr. Speaker : I call upon the honourable member (Rao Sahib Chaudhri Sumer Singh) to move his cut motion No. 7.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : Before you order motion No. 7 to be moved, I may be permitted to say just one word. Just see what this motion is. It is 'to raise general discussion on the failure of the Punjab Government to provide funds for post-war reconstruction.' It is entirely spurious. The Government has already provided the fund. They do not intend to provide anything further in the budget.

Post-War Reconstruction

Rao Sahib Chaudhri Sumer Singh (South-East Gurgaon, General, Rural (Urdu) : Sir, I beg to move—

That the demand be reduced by Rs. 1,000.

The object of moving this cut motion is to point out that whenever we make constructive suggestions to Government for the uplift of the masses, we are told that the same will be taken into consideration along with the post-war reconstruction schemes. But I am constrained to find that no provision has been made in the budget for this purpose which is undoubtedly of vital importance for all of us. As you are aware, Sir, the Punjab has sent a million of her brave youngmen in the war for the liberation of countries under the yoke of barbarous enemy. My submission is that when they would return to this province after the successful conclusion of war, we would be caught napping if by that time we failed to chalk out ways and means for offering employment to them. In this connection I would first draw the attention of the Government to their announcement, namely, the award of squares of land to the soldiers after the termination of war. But it is a pity that their actions belie their professions. They are no longer conserving the land for the purpose of distributing it among the poor soldiers. Every year we find the Government selling land and making money out of it. I would request the Government to stop further sale of land and cease to deplete these potential resources in the best interests of the war scarred soldiers. My point is that at present as a result of these sales, the land is passing into the hands of the capitalists and big zamindars, while our object is to ameliorate the lot of the poor zamindars who are fighting as soldiers in the army.

Then, Sir, we often hear the Government proclaiming from house tops that they are out to help the backward and poor classes in urban and rural areas of the province, without any discrimination. A mention to this effect has also been made in the speech of the Honourable Finance Minister. He said that it was the desire of the Government to embark on a policy of treating urban and rural people alike. We welcome this decision but I must draw the pointed attention of the Government to the differential treatment meted out to the rural people in the matter of provision of amenities of life. As a matter of fact, the activities of the Government's beneficent departments are more or less centred round the urban rather than the rural areas. The result is that the urban people enjoy all facilities in the matter of education, sanitation, health, roads etc., while their brethren in the villages badly suffer from lack of such amenities. There is no gainsaying the fact that if Government have established excellent hospitals, educational or vocational institutions and built up fine roads, it is all in the cities, while the poor people in the villages go without these amenities unless of course they come to the cities. In fact in every sphere of life, the Government have provided facilities to the urban people at the cost of ruralities. My submission is that the Government will be able to achieve their object of eliminating discrimination only if the same amenities of life which are available in the cities, are made available in the villages. For instance, Government should freely establish

[Bao Sahib Ch. Sumer Singh]

hospitals in the rural areas to provide expert medical aid to the rural people and open colleges and schools in every district and tahsil headquarters respectively and thus save them the botheration of sending their children to cities for education at a very high expense. But what do we find in actual practice? Every year we hear of Government opening schools in the cities, while we, the representatives of the poor ruralites, complain of lack of arrangements for imparting instruction to our boys. The cities have a large number of schools for girls in addition to those for boys. Even this year the Government have announced that three high schools would be opened for girls. By making a reference to the girls' schools I do not mean to express my opposition to the education of girls. What I want to drive at is that what to speak of educational facilities for our girls in the villages, we have not enough schools for our boys even. We will certainly be happy if this differential treatment to villagers is done away with. In this connection I would like to draw the attention of the Government to their policy of opening a high school at every tehsil headquarter. May I know if they have acted upon their policy or has it remained a pious wish? I may, therefore, make it clear that until even-handed justice is administered by the Government to the urban as well as rural people, the feelings of discriminatory treatment being meted out to the ruralites will not disappear. I am in favour of provision of the same and equal amount of amenities of life for all alike. It means proper expenditure of government money at places where it is needed most. This principle will go a long way to remove this class discrimination. Then in cities elaborate arrangements exist for the safety of the people but that is not the case with the villages. We often hear of dacoities, murders, cattle lifting, etc., in the villages, it is all due to lack of satisfactory police arrangements. Besides this, the roads in rural areas are in a deplorable condition. When a person reaches a village after plodding his way through dusty and kacha roads, he is covered with practically a blanket of dust, so much so that one is unable to recognise him. But things are quite the reverse in the cities so far as the building of roads is concerned. Transport facilities would be available in abundance where the roads are in a better condition. I would, therefore, request the Government that a comprehensive scheme for spreading a network of roads in the rural areas be taken in hand. If the villages are linked with commercial towns by means of roads, prosperity is bound to result to the people.

Now I take up the question of education. I find in the budget that separate provisions exist for the European as well as Indian education. I fail to understand why in this age of provincial Autonomy this differentiation between the European and Indian education is being maintained by our very kith and kin who are running the administration of the province. I strongly oppose this racial discrimination shown by the Government in the matter of education. I would, therefore, request the Government to abandon this policy and treat all communities, European or otherwise, on equal basis.

Now, Sir, I would like to make a few submissions with regard to the Post-war Reconstruction also. I think, this is the opportune time for the Government to do the spade work in right earnest. The Government claim themselves to be the well-wishers of the zamindars and since we believe in their bonafides, therefore they should start the post-war reconstruction work now instead of starting it five years later. I am confident that by doing it now the Government will earn the good will of the people. But I do not understand, when the goal of freedom would be achieved by the people at the termination of the war and materials would not be available then, what would be the use of post-war reconstruction and freedom under such untoward circumstances. I, therefore, again submit that the spade work should be started now as the war is coming to an end.

My next point is with regard to education imparted by the district boards. I was surprised to hear the speech of my learned friend Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram during which he was pleased to remark that no further grant should be given to the district boards. I beg to differ from him because I am at one with those who wish that cent per cent grant should be given to the district boards so that they may successfully run the primary schools under them. I may point out that this is nothing but cleverness of the Government that the primary education has been put under the charge of district boards which have proved inefficient to impart mass education to the children. I firmly believe that district boards are unable to impart mass education. The reason is lack of funds. Since local rates are not high it is very difficult for the district boards with limited income to cope with the expenditure of primary schools. I, therefore, submit that the Government should either take the charge of primary schools in their own hands or should give them sufficient grants to meet the expense of primary education. Here I feel it necessary to point out that the financial position of district boards is very poor. In such cases how can the Government expect them to cope with the expenses of the primary schools? My contention is that to such district boards whose financial position is not good, cent per cent grants should be given by the Government so that they may be able to impart primary education in a satisfactory manner. In this connection it may be said by the Government that district boards have every right to raise local rates in an area where they feel it necessary to do so. But I would again say that it is very clever on the part of the Government to do so because it is nothing but an eye wash. When the present Government came into power in 1937 assurances were held out by them to the effect that every possible relief would be given to the poor peasantry. But it is really regrettable that very little direct relief has been given to the zamindars. No relief can be given to the peasantry if it is said that the Government have vested rights with the district boards to raise local rates for increasing their income. This is a round about way of avoiding relief and I would say that the Government, being well aware of the fact that the financial position of rural people is not satisfactory, are knowingly closing their eyes on the matter of relief. What I want to submit is that the Government should not impart higher education. Higher education should be imparted by public themselves while Government should see that preliminary education is imparted to everybody. As Post-War Reconstruction is about to be carried out, I submit with all the force at my command that the Government should see that none of the Punjabis is left illiterate in the province. If illiteracy is wiped out I think the Government will have done something very brilliant in connection with the Post-War Reconstruction.

Now my next point to which I want to draw the attention of the Government is with regard to glass industry. As you are aware, Sir, this being one of the important industries of the province needs every sympathetic consideration of the Government and I can emphatically say that if ways and means to improve this industry are not found out now by the Government it would be very difficult for them to face the situation at the termination of the war. The slump and depression, after the war, would be terrible and, therefore, now the Government should take every care to see that the agricultural produce does not decrease. I submit that the Government should find out devices for increasing the agricultural produce in the province. The zamindars, in fact, stand in need of so many things which can be made available to them only through the help of the Government. For instance, the scattered pieces of lands should be consolidated into one large piece. To cultivate this piece of land good manure and good seeds are needed. I, therefore, submit that while formulating the Post-War Scheme the Government should make special arrangements for the supply of seeds to the agriculturists and pay particular attention to the establishment of the fertiliser industry for the benefit of zamindars. And closely knitted with this industry is Agriculture which cannot make any headway in the absence of

[Rao Sahib Ch. Sumer Singh]

good manure and seeds. My submission is that every possible arrangement should be made for the supply of good seeds to the zamindars. A staff should also be appointed by the Government to tell the zamindars as to what kind of manure will be suitable for their crops and to give them information about the chemical fertilizers which are absolutely necessary for growing good crops. For instance, they may tell them whether their lands are lacking in phosphorous or nitrates etc., so that by putting them in the fields they may increase their agricultural produce. I may further submit that model farms should also be established in the rural areas. But they must be more scientific than the present ones. I want that improved model farms be established.

The Government should establish model farms for the development of agriculture. When I propose model farms I do not propose farms of the present type but an improved type which may prove a model in the real sense. Government should send a deputation of experts to America and other agricultural countries for the study of improved methods of agriculture. Those improvements should be introduced in our own country.

Another problem is the problem of cattle. Their number is gradually decreasing. Government should pay immediate attention to it. For their preservation, pastures should be provided in every village where the cattle may graze. In olden days there existed such grazing grounds in every village and this factor considerably helped the maintenance of the cattle. I would like to tell the Government that as long as they do not take special steps in this direction the situation will continue to be grave. No progress can be made in the agricultural field and the conditions will continue to be embarrassing as long as the Government does not take definite steps in the direction of the upkeep of the cattle. We cannot ignore the value of this portion of our national wealth.

Now I will take up the question of our national activities in the industrial fields. Every one in the House will agree with me that no progress can be made as long as we do not pay serious attention towards the establishment of the key industries. The Government should waste no time and the necessary factories for the purpose should be established in the province. In it lies the key to the development of the Punjab. Our Government intends to nationalise the transport industry but it has made no provision for motor-building in the province. Such nationalisation cannot prove of any avail. We should make it a point that those industries which we intend to nationalise, should be set up in our own country. We can easily nationalise transport but we will have to depend upon the foreign manufacturers for everything. We cannot produce spare parts even. Such steps are not necessary for one trade only but every section of our industrial life needs immediate steps. Tractors and other such things must be manufactured for the improvement of our trades. Committees consisting of M. L. As. and experts should be sent in different directions of the province and they should think of the possibilities and scopes of the different industries of the province at different places. Necessary steps must be taken for the establishment of industries and necessary facilities for their establishment should be afforded. As far as the scope of their success is concerned Government should grant them protection. Government should see that the raw materials are not exported out of the Punjab so that the development of our industries may proceed.

(At this stage Mr. Speaker left the Chair and Mr. Deputy Speaker occupied it)

Sir, I propose that the post-war reconstruction should start just now in the most backward districts. Gurgaon and Muzaffargarh are the most suitable places for such experiments. In this way the Government will be in a position to make experiment with its schemes and after the war when mass reconstruction is started,

all will be tried schemes and there will be no difficulty in their working. With these words, Sir, I resume my seat.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Demand under consideration, motion moved—

That the demand be reduced by Rs. 1,000.

Sayed Amjad Ali Shah (Parliamentary Private Secretary) : Let me at the outset say that planning, as is correctly understood, can only be complete if all the activities of a nation are planned. This total planning is only possible in a system which is followed by the Russians. In all other systems planning is only partial, in some more partial, in others less complete. I shall be opening my mouth too wide if I suggested the planning of Punjab on the Russian system. Before I pass on to the post-war planning according to the conception of Government, I would like to draw attention to just one fact. The richness of India and the poverty of India lie in its enormous population. If these lakhs and lakhs of peoples are without productive work, as they are now, the country cannot be anything else but poor. On the other hand, if these millions and millions are mobilised and made to produce not for individual gain but for gain of all, then this country can be as powerful and rich as any other in the world. That day will come, may not be during my life time but certainly before the end of this century, when India will be the richest and the most powerful country in Asia.

Post-War Planning as is being visualised by Government is improvements in the various departments of the Government. I am using these words not in the narrow sense of the word but in the wider sense. This will be clear as I go on with my speech.

The first and most important head of planning is to provide sufficient nutritious food to the people of this province. The Bombay Plan gives us the minimum balanced diet required for an Indian and I shall content myself with accepting this minimum laid down by them. According to them this balanced diet worked at pre-war prices would cost Rs. 65 per annum for an adult and less for a growing child. I shall take this as an all round figure because the rich spend more on their diet and therefore I will not be much wrong if I take this Rs. 65 to be the average. The population of the Punjab, vide the 1941 Census, was 28,418,019. The percentage increase every year is two,—vide the population of 1931—41, in other words nearly 570,000 increase of population every year. This means that the population now would be over three crores. I will, however, calculate at this round figure of three crores. Now according to the cost of balanced diet required per annum at Rs. 65 the total cost of food per annum for this population would be Rs. 195 crores. Now the production of food-grains in the Punjab in the year 1938-39 were as follows :—

			Rs.
Wheat ..	..	3,760,000 tons at Rs. 3 per maund	.. 31,48,40,000
Rice ..	..	287,000 "	
Jowar ..	..	64,000 "	
Maize ..	..	400,000 "	
Barley ..	..	260,000 "	
Raw Sugar	..	318,000 "	.. 3,85,20,000
Total			.. 44,53,60,000

The total value of food crops produced including cereals, pulses and sugar was ..

The cost of food for three crores as stated above will be— .. Rs. 44,53,60,000

195 crores

Out of this one-third will be the cost of cereals, pulses and sugar, which comes to 65 crores of rupees. Therefore, we must increase our production of these three items

[Sayed Amjid Ali Shah]

to the tune of 20 crores so that a balanced diet is available to everyone. 120 crores worth of vegetables, fruits, fats, oils, milk, meat, fish and eggs should be available in the Punjab. There are no statistics available from which it can be seen how much of these items are at present produced in the Punjab. The only correct guess which can be made is, that the present production is far below the above figure.

Having given the required production so as to satisfy the needs of the people the more complex question of production planning arises. This although difficult yet can be overcome if the Agriculture Department draws a comprehensive crop plan of the Punjab distributing the various crops according to the fertility of the soil, availability of water, etc. The making of this plan, as already stated, though difficult, is yet not impossible. But the introduction of this plan into practice by the land owners bristles with difficulties. There are only two ways to induce the cultivators to grow according to the plan. The first is the price factor and the second is by legislation. Let us examine these two in detail. If the cultivator is assured of a good price for the crops which he is made to grow in comparison to crops he would like to grow then he will grow them without much inducement. This, however, might mean that the prices of food stuffs go beyond the figure set above and thus deprive the poorer population from a balanced diet. On the other hand, if he is asked to grow crops which do not fetch him the same price as he would get if he was left free the choice of growing crops—here no amount of inducement will prevail. The only way then left is to resort to legislation. This will naturally be resented because it will place restrictions on the freedom of cultivators as far as their agricultural business is concerned. These problems bristle with difficulties when the basis of production is no other but for profit. So, we are faced with this fact whether to control on production, whether it be agricultural or industrial production or leave the individual to produce for gain as he is doing now. In course of time circumstances will leave no other choice to the Government of the day but to eliminate the personal gain factor. But the question is how this problem should be solved now. To my mind we can only tinker with this problem by having an agricultural plan for the province and by persuasion of cultivators to fall in line with this plan. If the Department fails to persuade the cultivators then we come to a dead end. I may make it clear that this agricultural plan in addition to food crops would also deal with vegetables, fruits, fodder, oil, seeds and cotton. The Agriculture Department should also be charged with a plan in conjunction with the advantage for sheep, goats, milk, animals, draught animals, horses and poultry. Since their crop plan will include fodder and grazing, therefore only this department is capable of drawing another plan. Government will have to give certain concessions so as to induce people to rear the animals. I have not the time at my disposal to go further in this question and I will leave it here after throwing these broad suggestions.

After food the next important item is clothing. According to the Bombay plan the average requirement of an individual is placed at 30 yards of textiles per annum. In the Punjab we shall have to either supplement these 30 yards with a certain yardage of woollen textile or reduce the quantity of thirty yards so as to include a yardage of woollen. Let me, however, work, on the thirty yards cotton textile. Bearing in mind that the majority of people of this province wear a head dress of cotton textiles, I shall not be far wrong if I take thirty yards as the minimum required. Taking the figure of three crores again in this case we require 90 crores of yards of cotton textiles or in other words $22\frac{1}{2}$ crores lbs. of cloth or roughly 25 crores lbs. of cotton. In the year 1938-39 our production of cotton in the Punjab was 1,017,000 bales of 400 lbs. each bale or 406,800,000 lbs. We, therefore, not only grow enough cotton to clothe the entire population of the Punjab with thirty yards of cloth per *capita* but also grow a surplus of nearly 15 crores for export purposes. As to how we

should produce this required yardage of cloth, I shall discuss under the head of industries.

Before I pass on to another subject I should like to point out another difficulty which arises in partial planning. If we achieve the target figure of production as regards food and cloth the most important question of buying capacity of the population still remains unsolved. We have, therefore, to raise the income of the Punjabi so that he can spend 65 Rs. annually on food and Rs. 6-9-0 per year on clothing besides warm clothing during winter. This raising of income I shall deal under a separate head.

Now I take up the third important requisite of man. The minimum requirement of house room per person according to the Bombay plan should be 100 square feet. If we were introducing a total plan on the Russian system there would not be much difficulty in getting this housing accommodation for our three crores of Punjabis. We have the necessary timber in our forests and we have the necessary labour in our large population. These two factors with some cement and iron can easily provide what we want. The problem becomes very difficult when we have to solve it under the present system. The individual in the Punjab cannot afford to put up a house with the minimum requirements laid above. A partial success can be achieved in this respect if the landlords of the Punjab are made to build houses according to the above minimum requirements for their tenants. Furthermore, the poor in the cities should be housed by the municipalities and corporations by building accommodation for them and the employers of these poor employees should be made to pay the rent. The factory labourers should be a liability of the factory owners who must provide the requisite accommodation. Here again this is not possible unless legislation is resorted to and whether the Government can face the hue and cry from the landlords, merchants, business-houses and industrialists is a matter for Government to consider. Short of this any other attempt for providing the requisite housing to my mind is not feasible.

With this improved housing the percentage of mortality is bound to reduce because over-congestion, lack of ventilation are responsible for diseases. If the housing problem is adequate the sanitation would very naturally also vastly improve and this will further improve the public health of the population. I need not waste time of the House by quoting figures of the mortality in India. These figures have been given here on many occasions. I will merely say this that preventive measures, water supply, medical facilities should be in abundance so that people need not die for want of proper medicines or treatment as they are dying now. Quoting the Bombay plan again there should be a dispensary in a village with a doctor and two qualified nurses, one of whom should be a trained midwife. If it is not possible to have a doctor in every village of the province (it would mean 35,269 doctors), there should be a compounder and one midwife in each village and a hospital within ten miles of every village, staffed by a qualified doctor. The number of beds should not be in any case less than forty for every ten thousand persons. In addition to general hospital, as stated above, there should be a maternity hospital in every tahsil.

I should like to say here a few words about the Provincial hospital in Lahore. The present Mayo Hospital was built to cater for the population of Lahore and the serious cases from the whole of the Punjab. This present hospital is no longer sufficient for the large population of Lahore; what to talk of the province. Patients come from the districts and cannot gain admission for want of beds, some of them perish some of them get into the hands of quacks, some of them return home without any treatment. This state of affairs is appalling. I beg to suggest that a provincial hospital should be built in the vicinity of Lahore, preferably near the suburbs on a large acreage of ground accommodating the King Edward Medical College, the hospital grounds, etc. This hospital should have at least 2,000 beds with ten operation

[Sayed Amjad Ali Shah]

theatres. Besides the general hospital, the dental hospital, the ear, nose, throat hospital and a children hospital should also form parts of the main hospital. The present Mayo Hospital should be left as it is with added beds in the buildings now occupied by the King Edward Medical College for the use of the inhabitants of Lahore.

I was glad to listen to the debate of the last two days with the exception of a speech or two where vulgar and obscene language was used, which, I hope everyone will agree, does not bring any credit to the individual member, using that language or to the House. Last year whilst speaking on the Education Department I had said that it was a great day for the Punjab that from every side of the House members voiced their concern in regard to inadequate facilities provided for education. I am very happy to say that this concern was emphasised again this year.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I am very sorry to intervene but may I invite your attention to the fact that no member is entitled to read a speech in this House. The Parliamentary Secretary has been reading his speech for some time past and doing nothing else.

Sayed Amjad Ali Shah : I had stated that this was a very important speech.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I ask you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, whether under the rules, there is any provision which entitles a member to read out a written speech and particularly when that speech is so lengthy ?

Mr. Deputy Speaker : The honourable member should only refer to his notes.

Sayed Amjad Ali Shah : Does he know how much money is to be spent on post-war reconstruction ? I am very sorry that the honourable member has not understood what post-war planning means and if he will only listen to my speech, even though it is written, he might get some useful information as to post-war planning.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I am caring for the rules.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Please proceed with your speech.

Pir Akbar Ali : He is reading his speech.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : Is it his own speech or is it somebody, else's speech ?

Sayed Amjad Ali Shah : It is a very good augury for the province. When the elected representatives of the people unanimously demand anything, no Government worth its name can remain deaf to such a demand for long. In this case the Government itself has taken note of the lack of education facilities in the Punjab. I am referring to the Finance Minister's Budget Speech. I am almost jubilant at the Finance Minister's concern for education for if the Finance Minister himself shows concern the remedy is shortly forthcoming. Very naturally most Finance Ministers are reluctant to spend money on departments which do not bring back anything to the Exchequer. Education is one head of expenditure which does not bring any financial return immediately, though it is paid back over and over again. The increase in education is bound to raise the standard of living of people and that in turn raises the figures of provincial budget. I would, therefore, impress upon the Finance Minister for providing adequate funds to education since he has been pleased to take notice of the poor state of affairs in this province. Before I move to the general question of education I would like to take this opportunity of repeating what I said last year in connection with the backward position of Muslims in the higher classes. The disparity between the numbers of Muslim students and those of other communities becomes more and more as they move up to higher classes. I gave some figures in my speech last year which proves without doubt that this serious state of affairs

does exist. This disparity is more pronounced in the higher class of sciences which is a very grave matter. If Muslim students are not qualified in sciences we can neither find Muslim doctors, engineers, chemists, industrial chemists nor physioists. How can we then have our full share in Government services if Muslim candidates are not available? This happened four years ago when engineers were recruited to the Public Works Department and the full Muslim quota could not be filled in spite of the increase in age limit as Muslim candidates with engineering qualifications were not available. Similarly a year or two ago the same thing happened with the recruitment of doctors. I need not dilate on the paucity of Muslim scientists in the field of research and industry. This fact is staring us hard in our face. I had brought to the notice of Government last year this disparity and humbly submitted that they should take stock of this unhappy situation. I pointed out that the main cause was lack of funds on the part of Muslim students. This is amply borne out from the figures quoted by me. As education becomes more expensive in the higher classes, fewer Muslim students prosecute their studies. Now, Sir, since last year when I spoke in this House on this subject I have consulted eminent educationists and lawyers, the former with regard to the ways and means to reduce this disparity and the latter in regard to any legal bar which existed in bringing in legislation. I am glad to say that with their advice and help I have been able to draft a bill which is being examined. I am glad to hear the demand made by Sir Gokul Chand the other day for imposing an educational cess. I support this demand very strongly. If Government accept which I hope they will do, then I will urge upon them to utilize this cess for providing means to good students for higher studies which some of them do not possess now.

I was very glad to hear from the Education Minister that his department is already thinking of giving free primary compulsory education to the entire province. I hope this great step will materialise in the shortest possible time. I know it is going to cost money but as I have already stated, this money will be repaid with compound interest. Secondary Education Bill have to keep pace with free Primary Compulsory Education and the number of high schools will also increase. Vocational training at the middle standard is also visualised and I hope it will be introduced as in other countries. The numbers of engineers and doctors required in the post-war period will necessitate the increase in the number of these colleges. I beg to press that a medical college in Rawalpindi is very necessary. This will give us four colleges immediately after the war and later another medical college can be set up at Ambala if these are inadequate. As regards engineering colleges these are most important. There should be one engineering and technological college in every division. At the same time arrangements should be made for teaching all sciences up to the B.Sc. class in every degree college of the province. I should like to take this opportunity of paying my tribute to the great educationist Dr. Sergeant who has done very great service to India by putting the problem of education before the country. It will probably take some time before the goal laid down by him is achieved. But we know now what we have to achieve. In this connection I would like to say that the centre should have no more than an advisory capacity leaving the control of education to the province as it is today. I would quote here the words of Sir Meverel Stratham :—

"There are many indications in the report that Provincial Autonomy, in the sphere of Education is going to be interfered with at the several stages of Education. However beneficial" financial and otherwise, control from the centre may be, I do not agree to going back on the constitutional advancement already made in India and interfering in any way with Provincial autonomy".

I agree with every word of this note by Sir Meverel Stratham.

Before I pass on to the next subject I will just say one or two words with regard to technical education. I wish the Government would take the earliest opportunity of opening technological institutions in the Punjab, preferably one in each division.

[Syed Amjid Ali Shah]

Another important aspect of the life of a nation is transport.

Before I speak about transport I would like to say a word or so about roads. At present in the Punjab though we have the best roads in India yet they are not enough. We want more roads in this Province. Our road system should be such that every village of 1,000 persons should not be more than half a mile or the most a mile from a pacca road. The village roads leading to this pacca road should be improved. I dare say that the department of Buildings and Roads of various provinces in India are already engaged on the research of the improvement of roads. I would beg to suggest that if necessary an engineer from the province should proceed to America, where I am told they have gone far ahead in building roads.

Provision of money in the Second Instalment of Supplementary Expenditure for purchase of vehicles to be run by Government has created a furore in the Province. There were many cut motions of which a few were discussed and I see again more cut motions to discuss this transport policy of Government. It is very natural that vested interests should raise this hue and cry because some of them will be displaced immediately and the other will have the fear of being displaced if Government successfully ran their transport concern. I may here point out that the general rule of private enterprise is personal gain. No transport company or owner would like to run transport if they were not assured of their profits. It is not because the people want transport that they would provide transport but because profit accrues from it that they undertake this business. Therefore, from the passengers' point of view a company can only come into existence if the company makes a profit and not because the passenger is in need of transport. Having said this I congratulate the Government on this small undertaking of theirs of running a line or two by themselves. I have some knowledge of transport companies and I can say without fear of contradiction that unless a company possesses thirty units of lorries it is not possible to have a good management and an up-to-date workshop as the overhead, otherwise would be too high. It is possible to run even one lorry but it will be something moving on wheels without the necessary comfort and safety to the passengers. The individuals involved in the transport industry of this province, I am talking of owners, could not be more than a few hundreds at the most. On the other hand, the number of passengers or owners of goods runs into lakhs. The Government should naturally concern themselves more with the majority rather than with a few individuals. I maintain that if Government undertake, as they should, the transport of the Punjab they will be earning the gratitude of the millions who have no other mode of transport but these lorries. I should also here emphasise that there is no reason why Government cannot run this road transport system successfully when state governments in India have first class road transport. The entire road system if run by government would mean a large central workshop, half a dozen divisional workshops and many district workshops. All these would be equipped with necessary machinery and handled by technicians who would be demobilised after the war. I only leave to the House to judge the benefits which would accrue from these mechanical workshops which would not only absorb some of the demobilised technicians and drivers but also provide a good training ground for the youth of this country who have a mechanical bent of mind.

A Committee was appointed by the Government in the year 1943 comprising of the Honourable Finance Minister, members of this House, prominent industrialists and scientists. This Committee has met nearly a dozen times and has gone into the question of industrial development of the Punjab. Before I say further I should like here to voice my feelings about the step-motherly treatment meted out by the Central Government to the Punjab.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : It is due to the incompetence of the Government.

Sayed Amjad Ali Shah : No, but it is due to the other Governments not parting with machinery.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : What was the Punjab Government doing?

Sayed Amjad Ali Shah : The Punjab Government had no hand in the matter.

Due to the needs of war, scores of plants for the manufacture of various articles required by the army have been imported in India by the Central Government. As far as I am aware only one plant was allocated to the Punjab, namely the *Nut and Bolt plant*. I do not know if this has arrived because there was some talk of its cancellation. Whether it is in the field of machinery such as Biscuit Manufacturing plant or in the field of chemicals such as sulphuric acid and caustic soda plants, whether in the field of machinery such as screw and nut bolts plants none of these have been given to the Punjab. Where I have complained of the attitude of the Central Government I would also like here to say that our own Government has been sleeping over it. I cannot believe that if the Punjab Government had really stressed they would not have got their due share of these plants. We have thus lost another great opportunity of industrialising the province and we are now even further back than we were when the war broke out. This war has placed the industrial development of this province in a very precarious position. Those provinces which enjoy industry at present have been placed in a very strong position by this war. The huge reserves accumulated by the industrial concerns of these provinces put them on very advantageous footing. These provinces had the advantage of capital previously and now with these added reserves their capital position is very much better. They cannot only recondition their plants from these reserves but also start new industries without having to look for capital as we have to do in the Punjab. The Punjabi industrialists had to compete with industrialists of every province before the war and now he shall compete on more unequal ground. Therefore the future of the Punjabi industrialists is not so bright as one might think.

Coming back to this committee of which I have made mention, although a lot of exploratory ground was covered yet no decisions of any description were taken. Firstly the policy of the Government has not been defined as regards industrialisation of this province. It is not known whether Government intends to put up state industries or not. If they intend having state industries then the industrialist should know the industry government is earmarking for themselves. This delay in policy decision is again obviously affecting the industrial development of the Punjab. Government neither decides to put up its own industry nor lets other people put up industry. This is frankly the position at present whilst industrialists of other provinces who have neither to look for money nor for support from their government which is already there, are placing their orders of machinery and sending their representatives to see that this machinery is taken in hand at the earliest opportunity and we here are sitting with folded hands looking up to Government for permission which is not forthcoming. I would, therefore, very humbly urge upon the Government to decide this question immediately and not to place the industrialists of this province in a further adverse position. I will give a few industries which in my opinion should be established in this province.

Wheat and cotton are the two most important crops of the province. Wheat is necessary for feeding the population and except for a biscuit factory there is very little scope of producing anything else from this cereal. It will be a waste to produce starch from it when we have inferior cereals like maize to produce starch.

The other main crop is cotton. We have only two up-to-date textile mills in the province and their production cannot be more than two crore lbs. of cloth per annum and the offtake of cotton 22,000,000 pounds of cotton. According to this figure there is room for six more textile mills in the province of 40,000 spindles and

Syed Amjid Ali Shah]

1,000 looms. As cloth is bound to come from other mills outside the Punjab, consequently the 30 yards per capita figure is not likely to materialise for a number of years at present. Three more textile mills should be erected. I and a few friends have applied for permission to erect a textile mill but if Government would like to under take this industry as state industry I shall be only too glad to let Government start it. I would, however, urge upon Government to make this decision forthwith because not only we are being left behind but also we cannot undertake other commitments elsewhere hoping that the Government might allow us to start this mill. If Government wants the textile industry to be a State industry I shall very gladly withdraw my application, but I would urge upon the Government to decide this question as soon as they can because it puts the prospective industrialists in an awkward position.

(At this stage Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.)

This is probably the position of other prospective industrialists as well. In addition to three textile mills there is room for another woollen mill in the province.

Gypsum.—The Punjab has vast resources of gypsum in the Jhelum district. This mineral is an essential ingredient of ammonium fertilizers. The soil of Punjab due to constant cultivation is deteriorating in yield and unless early steps are taken to manure these soils with deficient chemicals the yield is bound to decrease further. The Government of India invited fertilizer experts from abroad and here again although with these rich deposits of gypsum the Punjab has been left severely alone. The Government of India factory is going to be located in Bihar. I think Government should immediately undertake the erection of ammonium fertilizer plant in the Jhelum district and this industry should be coupled with the hydro-electric scheme of Rasool so as to provide energy on one hand for the fertilizer factory and consumption of energy on the other hand for the Hydro-electric project. This is an industry which must be a state industry as the use of it is going to be made by millions of agriculturists in this province and if a success has to be made of this fertilizer then it is government alone which can afford to sell it at very low rate of profit to the agriculturists. I would, therefore, suggest that Government should at once send a promising chemist, a chemical engineer and a mechanical engineer abroad for training in plant producing ammonium fertilizers. By the time Government's factory is erected, these experts will return with the necessary knowledge and training to work this plant. The Agriculture Department wants to carry out experiments on fertilizers and requires a lakh of rupees to find the reactions of various fertilizers on various crops. I would request Government to kindly grant this sum forthwith so that they may undertake these experiments.

Distillation of coal.—Punjab has deposits of coal in the districts of Jhelum and Mianwali but the coal of both these places is not fit for fuel purposes owing to the high content of sulphur. This coal can, however, be very well utilized for carbonisation and distilling industry if a distillation plant is set up to produce coal tar. I would not like to dilate on the various allied industries which would materialise out of this scheme. I will only name a few products :—

Coal-gas.

Tar and Tar Products, including dyes.

Disinfectants.

Naphthalene.

Phenol, etc.

Government should undertake this industry, because it will provide an economic use of our coal deposits and open the door of many industries which otherwise will not come into being.

Wood Pulp—As far as I am aware no factory in India is producing wood pulp. All the wood pulp required for the paper industry is imported from abroad. It is true that the price of imported wood pulp is low and therefore industrialists are hesitant to produce this commodity in India. A beginning will have to be made some day if the paper industry in India is going to thrive. We have forest resources specially in the Kangra Valley which can be used for the manufacture of this wood pulp. I am alive to the fact that it will not be an economic proposition in the beginning but in course of time I am certain that this industry will pay. I will, therefore, recommend that Government should undertake this industry and make good use of the saplings of forests, which before the war hardly gave any return to the Forest Department.

There are many other industries which could be taken up by Government, but I will not at this stage go any further. The Government has the choice of the textile industries if they like to undertake these but they must establish the last three industries mentioned namely : (1) Ammonium fertilizers, (ii) Coal carbonisation and distillation industry and (iii) wood pulp industry. I have already stated that Government should send promising students for training abroad for the sulphur fertiliser industry. I would ask them to send these promising students for the coal and wood pulp industry as well. I would now very briefly mention some other industries which should be set up in the Punjab either by Government or preferably by private enterprise. These are as follows :—

1. Wood distillation.
2. Essential oil industry.
3. Cellulose.
4. Plastic industry.
5. Caustic soda.
6. Nut, bolts and screw manufacture.
7. Sulphuric Acid by the contact process.

Before I pass on to the other subject I should like to say just one word on the Plastic Industry. This is a growing industry and some people even go so far as to say that today is the age of plastics. The main raw material of this industry is available in the Punjab such as cotton, cotton seeds and gram. We should send at least half a dozen promising students to different parts of the world to study the manufacture of plastics from materials available in the Punjab. The money spent on them will be well worth.

About Caustic Soda, there is ample raw material in the district of my friend, the Raja Sahib.

Another industry to which I would like to refer and which I would request the Government to take interest in is the manufacture of bolts, nails and screws. Unfortunately, we are far away from iron mines and coal mines, so that we can only take to the manufacture of nails and screws which require a small quantity of iron.

There is yet another very important heavy chemical industry, namely, the manufacture of Sulphuric Acid. Although we are manufacturing this chemical in our province but if the Government starts this industry it can be of great advantage to the province because Sulphuric Acid is used in various industries.

I have given the House some of the major industries which can be established in the Province, some of these to be state industries and others left to private enterprise. These industries when established will increase the wealth of the Province will provide labour for the Punjabis and give something to the Provincial Exchequer

[Sayed Amjad Ali Shah]

These would also increase *per capita* income of the Province but not to a very large degree. We have to supplement these large scale industries by cottage industries. Here again if the State plays its role then these cottage industries can prosper much. I will only cite a few examples to support my contention. The blanket industry in the South-East is a very prosperous one during the war, so is the cutlery industry of Wazirabad and Sialkot. If Government undertook these industries providing raw material, tools, implements and machines and taking the finished goods from the workers and sold them through their co-operative shops then the worker would get a decent wage for his labour. Before the war these poor workers were left with hardly a living wage by the employer. Similarly if the State set up a bicycle factory, most of the parts could be manufactured as a cottage industry and assembled in the central workshops as happens in Japan. Cottage industries cannot flourish unless the Government provides the raw material and takes on the distribution as well. According to the Unemployment Committee of 1938, 432 adults out of 1,000 living in villages were unemployed. These unemployed must be employed if the standard of living of the people is to be improved. Here again it would have been easy to find them work if we were undertaking total planning. But as we are not doing that therefore the only way left to us is to see that there is a substantial decrease in the unemployment figures. With these new large-scale industries and new State cottage industries it is hoped that some of the unemployed would find work.

Now, Sir, let me say a few words on the economy of this Province. It is apparent to anyone who knows figures that the economy of Punjab is based mainly on agriculture. The prosperity of the province and its Exchequer is dependent on agricultural prices. With increase of population, decrease in agricultural yield and few industries what is the future of this Province any fortune teller can forecast. We must set this right by balancing this economy with industries and cottage industries.

Another factor which plays an important part in the increase in income is higher yields of agricultural produce. In spite of our increase of acreage under irrigation, I am told on good authority that the figure of total agricultural produce is today the same as that in 1917. We should therefore aim at stopping erosion, reclaiming of water logged areas, using of fertilizers, and thus obtain higher yields.

In this connection I beg to throw a suggestion, which I hope the Government will accept. We will be receiving large number of demobilised soldiers, who are neither technicians nor can be utilised as semi-skilled labourers. These persons can be only utilised as pioneer labourers in construction work undertaken by Government after the war or be settled on land. Those who are settled on land, should be colonised in this way. Government should instead of giving land as they did after the last war to individuals should have collective farms. These demobilised soldiers should be settled on these farms. The unit of a farm in terms of acres and the maximum number of soldiers settled on each farm should be carefully worked out so that it is economic. The Government should provide all the machinery, implements, animals and seeds to each farm. The Government after collecting its dues of land revenues, water rate, seed and interest on its capital invested in machinery, animals, etc., should leave the rest of the produce to the collective farmers to be divided amongst themselves in proportion to the hours of work put in by each. After keeping what they require for their need the rest of the produce is to be sold by the collective farm and with the money obtained, purchases of cloth and other necessities are made and distributed amongst the farmers. Along with cultivation of crops they grow their own vegetables and fruit, have their own herd of milch cattle, raise their own animals and poultry for food. In the off season they work in the village workshop producing articles for their use such as clothes, shoes, potteries, etc. We should not be hesitant to have these collective farms because I am sure that the number of soldiers who are settled on these

whether they be 1,000 or 5,000 would be the most prosperous group of individuals in Punjab.

Coming back to the increase in income the solution suggested by me only partly meets the case. If the population of the Punjab was a crore there would not have been much difficulty to keep every grown-up at work under the present system. The vast multitude of human beings is an asset under socialistic system but a liability under this system of ours.

The Provincial Exchequer has a very limited scope. It has not the flexible taxation powers of the centre such as custom duty, taxation on incomes, Post and Telegram, Railways. Neither it can create money to meet its emergent expenditure and yet it has to meet the increased expenditure in the post-war period. The first duty of Government is to look to its present expenditure. Owing to the war there may be a few crores of rupees expenditure which cannot be curtailed at present but as soon as the war is over, Government should resurrect that long-forgotten book the Report on Retrenchment and Resources Committee. A fearless but judicious use of the axe will give Government a few crores per annum for post-war beneficent activities.

The second point in this connection is contribution from the centre. I beg to submit that if the Government of India is thinking of allocating post-war funds to Provinces according to their population then I say that this procedure is most unfair to the Punjab. It is not that I am unaware of the standard of living of the higher populated provinces and that I have no sympathy with them, but I would invite the attention of the Government of India to an important aspect of this question. We are pressing for the grant on another equitable basis because we will have to face much greater expenditure than any other Province in the matter of resettlement of our demobilised soldiers. Sir, this responsibility of resettlement of soldiers is shared jointly by the Provinces and the Centre and therefore the Government of India should evolve a formula taking into consideration the important factor of numbers of soldiers to be resettled in each Province and the allotment should reflect this number and not the population only.

The further sum required cannot come from general land revenue nor from non-agriculturist classes because both of these are taxed to the hilt. It can only come from the rich and only those rich people who are under the Provincial sphere because the centre has taken very good care of those so called rich now who are under their sphere.

From each one according to his capacity and to each one according to his need.

With these remarks, Sir, I resume my seat. (*Cheers*).

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang (West Lahore Division, General, Rural): I am very much obliged to my honourable friend Sayed Amjad Ali Shah, for winding up his speech after an hour (*laughter*) and for the very useful and valuable suggestions that he has made. (*An honourable member* : They are not his own). Wherever he got them from, we must be grateful to him for the labour he has spent in collecting all that information. His speech was devoted to a great many details so much so that he has even recommended as to how many beds there should be in a room in a hospital. I will not go into details and would touch only fundamental principles which should be kept in view for the Post-War Reconstruction Scheme.

In the first place, Sir, I would suggest that the Government should appoint a committee of experts—the Government might include some members of this House also to serve on that committee who might be able to assist the Committee and place some useful information before them. I would advise the Government to pay freely and generously and have the best experts available in this country to advise them on the lines on which post-war reconstruction should be carried out. There are some experts in our own province and some can be obtained from Bombay, Bengal and

[Dr. Sir Gokal Chand Narang]

Mysore and other places. If more experts are required, the Government should spend more money and get them from other countries. When the War is over experts from America, Germany, Japan and England would be available and if the Government want they would be able to import those experts and all that money would be very well spent.

The other thing to which I would like to draw the attention of the Government is whether we have to depend upon foreign assistance for all time to come in the matter of expert advice. What I suggest is that we should set aside a large sum of money and send our selected young men abroad to qualify themselves in technical and industrial subjects so that they should have first-hand knowledge of the big industries in those countries and should be able to organise those industries and set up and work factories here. Without that it would be impossible to set up and develop industries independently in this country.

The third suggestion that I want to make is this. I hope the Government has by now realised that some sort of power—may it be coal power or electric power—is absolutely necessary for the development of industries in the province. As was rightly pointed out by Sayed Amjad Ali, coal is not available in this province. What the Government should do is to have a survey made in this province—if that has not already been done—to explore the possibility of having hydro-electric power. So far as my knowledge goes there are many places in this province where electricity can be produced by water. The Hydro-electric plant set up at Jogindernagar is loaded up, the Finance Minister knows it probably better than I do, and there is no room to produce more energy.

A scheme which was recommended to the Government but was not accepted by the Government at that time for reasons into which I need not go at this stage was the Subera scheme. The Honourable Premier looks at me quite surprised. It seems that he has never heard of it. Subera scheme, that is the scheme by which electricity was suggested to be produced from the rivers of the Punjab by a combination of the waters of the Sutlej, the Beas and the Ravi, and it was pointed out that the scheme could be started at Madhopur. (Premier: Do you mean the Madhopur scheme?) You may call it the Madhopur scheme. That is how the confusion arose. The Subera scheme was ordinarily known as the Madhopur scheme. I have been to that place and motored from the headworks to the road which leads to Pathankot, and I personally confirmed what had been suggested by the propounders of that scheme that so many falls occurred between that road and the headworks at Madhopur and those falls were capable of producing a large amount of voltage from the water of the Ravi. It was also pointed out by the propounders of that scheme that the cost would be only a fraction of the cost which this white elephant of Uhl River scheme has cost the Punjab Government and which is even now not being run at a profit and probably is still being run at a loss on account of the heavy interest which the Punjab Government has to pay on the large capital expended on it. I just referred to this matter in passing some time ago that owing to the paucity of electric power in this province and in order to make up the loss caused by the Uhl scheme, the Punjab Government was forced to raise the price of electricity by something like 28 per cent. That is not conducive to the encouragement of industry in this province. Hydro-electric power should be made as cheap as possible, considering the number of schemes which can be floated and more voltage placed at the disposal of this province it would be possible for electricity to be sold, say at two pies per unit. In the Pykara scheme in Madras, if I remember rightly, electricity was supplied and is probably even now being supplied at one pie per unit. Where electricity can be had at one pie per unit, certainly there is a great encouragement to industry and great scope for the development of industry. I would therefore appeal to the Punjab Government to pay attention to this matter. They need not wait till the termination of the war. If surveys

are necessary, they should be undertaken at once. They should start off at once because there is no source of power in this province.

For the development of industry expert knowledge is necessary, power is necessary, raw material is necessary. So far as iron is concerned, we have not got it here. (Mian Abdul Aziz: We have.) I know probably Mian Sahib is thinking of the iron mines somewhere in the Mandi State. In fact His Highness the Maharaja of Mandi was kind enough to place at my disposal the whole file relating to the iron mines in his State, and an expert was sent to inspect the spot. Unfortunately, although the Mandi ore is very good, so far as the ferrous contents of the ore are concerned, the ore is at a very considerable distance and the place is inaccessible. It requires heaps of expenditure to build either a railway or a tramline to bring the ore to a place where it can be worked. But in any case whatever can be done, we have to do with the resources that are at our disposal.

Now the fourth thing which is necessary for the development of industry is finance. Monetary resources are scanty. There may be some few people, like my friend Sayed Amjad Ali, who can throw away lakhs or millions in industry and even if there is loss they would not mind as there is always loss in the beginning, but it is on this point that the attention of Government is absolutely necessary. Honourable members probably know, some of them might not know, that the Punjab Government passed an Act called the State Aid to Industries Act about eight or nine years ago. So far as I am aware not much use of that has been made. That Act should be more freely used and various methods which are laid down in that Act should be adopted in order to render aid to industry. I need hardly explain that private individuals cannot run risks in experimenting with new industries. It is the Government that should be prepared to share the risk and even if there is loss it means that the loss is divided. Poor individuals, howsoever resourceful they may be, cannot bear the whole loss. There are certain conditions laid down on which help can be rendered to industry. The first step that Government should take is to protect private enterprise against any risks in the beginning. When Government is satisfied after taking expert opinion as to the prospects of a particular industry, it should guarantee a minimum dividend on the capital subscribed for the starting of that industry. I hope the Honourable Minister in charge follows me so far as this matter is concerned. So many industries have been suggested by Mr. Amjad Ali. Take one of them, say the ceramic industry. It is here that Government help is necessary because no individual will take up this new industry on a large scale and unless it is worked on a large scale it will not be of any use to the province. If Government is satisfied that such an industry has good prospects, then it should call some industrialists who may be interested in the matter and ask them if they are prepared to undertake the industry. If they can find some industrialists, one, two, five or ten, who are prepared to undertake it, Government should ask them to raise the capital and should guarantee 5 per cent or 4 per cent on the capital to all the share-holders. Ordinarily capital is very shy. With such a guarantee people will be willing to subscribe to such an industry and necessary capital would be readily raised. They would know that for five years they would get at least 4 or 5 per cent which is more than they would get from the Imperial Bank or any other safe bank. They would not be shy in investing their capital. If an industry has thus been floated, in five years it must get firmly established and there would be no danger of any loss after that. A condition may be made that after five years when an industry is on a firm footing and is in a position to declare a dividend, it should return back the money to the Government which it might have given to the shareholders during the five years. Thus in the end Government may not be losing even a penny. This is the most effective and safest way of helping industry.

As regards what industry should be chosen and what should not be chosen, it requires a long time to discuss. So many industries have been suggested. I would

[Dr. Sir Gokal Chand Narang]

not suggest any because I consider it fundamentally important that the matter should be referred to a committee of experts who should, considering all the resources of the province, natural as well as monetary and also power resources, make their recommendations. They should suggest what industries should be taken up.

Then again industry is not the only thing to which our efforts, so far as the post-war reconstruction is concerned, should be directed. This is only one of the things. There are various aspects of our social life and our economic life and production is only one of them. This covers industry. It will also cover agriculture. I entirely agree with my honourable friends who have suggested that steps should be taken for the improvement and extension of agriculture. Luckily for the Punjab it has had its canal systems and has not passed through the throes of starvation as our brothers and sisters of Bengal have had to pass. Still if we are self-sufficient we should try to be in a position to help others. Therefore, I am for the extension and improvement of agriculture. Our agriculture is being carried on in a most primitive manner. Adam probably delved with the same kind of plough as our friends in the country are now using to plough their lands. There has hardly been any improvement. The plough shares are just of the same size and they dig the soil only to a depth of 3 or 4 inches, while I have seen in England a plough going 12 or 14 inches deep with the help of their sturdy horses. You can very well imagine what difference there will be in production between those advanced countries and this country. We were once comparing notes in a big conference held in Simla where the ministers of the various provinces gave their figures. It was found that in the matter of sugarcane, Java could produce more than twice as much sugar per acre as our country, the reason being that their cultivation was most scientific. I do not know how it is now. Their cultivation was more efficient, their factories were more efficient than ours. In the Punjab we are producing only 8.5 per cent of sugar, while Java was found to produce 14 per cent. United Province and Bihar were producing 9 or 10 per cent and even 11 per cent. But they have reached that figure after a great deal of effort and a great deal of sacrifice. This is a matter which should be looked into.

Then comes the question of distribution. Distribution involves improvement of markets, improvement of roads, introduction of cheap transport and so on. If the villagers who produce wheat cannot take it to the market except on very rough and muddy roads, they cannot get a good price. I am not sure but I believe it was in Germany that voluntary effort was set up and the head of the Government—I need not name him—issued orders, rather he made an appeal, to the young men that during their vacation they should see that every village was connected with the main roads. Villages lie sometimes 10 or 15 miles from the main roads and those young people voluntarily gave their help in the construction of the roads without taking any remuneration from the villagers, so that the whole country is made into one homogeneous whole so far as roads and transport are concerned. Just visualise how the Punjab would look if all the villages were connected with main roads by good feeder roads so that lorries could run from main roads to every village and bring the produce to the markets! The produce would not then rot in the villages. This is one aspect of the question of distribution.

Then comes the question of enjoyment, of feeding ourselves, and of clothing ourselves. This brings us to the question of sanitation and public health. You go to the villages. I am a villager myself. I know something about villagers just as the Honourable Premier himself knows. What is their condition? A belt of filth all round. Men, women and children get up in the morning and every one makes his or her contribution to the sanitation of the village! I need not use any other word. (Laughter). A belt of filth is produced all round the village. In every street you find manure heaps which the biggest zamindar of the mohalla has stored there, rotting there

for months, until the time comes for ploughing when he goes to the potters of the villages and borrows donkeys for transporting it to his farms. Till that time arrives, half the manure would be scattered into the neighbouring houses and lanes. This is the sanitation which contributes to the enjoyment of life of the villagers. I have been to English villages. You can go and lie down anywhere without even staining your clothes in any way. No heaps of dung are visible in the streets or in the fields. I need not dwell on this point at any length. Before I leave this subject of post-war reconstruction I must draw the attention of the Government to the case of scheduled castes. I entirely agree with those of my friends who stand up for the backward classes. As they say the strength of the chain depends upon the strength of its weakest link. If any link of the chain is weak it means that the whole chain is weak. If any section of our community is weak and backward, to that extent our community is weak. I have particularly to appeal to this Government to look to the uplift of the depressed classes. The other day my honourable friend, Sardar Gopal Singh Khalsa made a very fervent and powerful speech and I sympathise with him. I have often spoken to my friends, particularly the Hindus. I tell them, 'Look here, you complain that you are treated like untouchables in South Africa, in America, in Australia and other places, you complain that you are not allowed to live in the same quarters with the white people, you grumble that you are not allowed to travel in the same cars, in the same carriages in trains with the white men, even your best men, like Mahatma Gandhi, are kicked out from trains even when holding first class tickets. Your complaints are real and this matter was raised forcibly in the Central Legislative Assembly over the South African Pegging Act and "so on and so on".'

Very eloquent speeches were made but if I were there, I would have caught hold of Brahmins from Madras, Central Provinces and United Provinces and I would have said to them, "What right have you got to complain against the treatment meted out to you in South Africa and in America and elsewhere when you treat your own brethren in your own country as if they were all *pariahs*? Your complaints are groundless and you ought to be ashamed of treating your own people in the way you have been treating them for such a long time." This is what I would have told them and I have told this from many a platform to my people. Sardar Gopal Singh rightly made a great grievance of this treatment and I just want to give him my view on this matter. When I have spoken to the Hindus, I have told them, "Hurry up, compose your differences, give up your bad treatment of the depressed classes and do not wait because waiting is dangerous for you, waiting is inhuman". I have told them so and when I have been speaking to my friends of scheduled castes, I have been telling them not to be impatient and just see whether there has been any difference in their status or not. Supposing one had fever of 105 degrees. If it has gone down to 104, then it has gone down to 103 and 102, there is hope that it will come down to normal. The question is whether actually this fever has gone down or not. Sixty years ago I was a little boy of six. One day I was playing with my little playmates on the playground of my village. A big log of wood was lying there. I sat on one end of it. As soon as I sat on it, some Hindu boys who were there began to shout '*bhit gaya, bhit gaya*', i. e. I was contaminated. I was surprised how I was *bhit gaya* because I had not touched anybody. When I asked how I was *bhit gaya*, they told me that on the other end of the log of wood was sitting a sweeper boy. I had not seen him and he was sitting on the other end. This is my personal experience. This was 60 years ago.

Minister for Education : May I tell the honourable member that my information is that there are certain schools both for boys and girls where depressed classes are not allowed to enter the kitchen or the dining room?

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : It may be. I am only telling you whether the fever has gone down or not. That was the case. I was taken hold of. It was winter and it was evening time. I was made to bathe. My clothes were taken off

[Dr. Sir Gokal Chand Narang]

and had to be washed and I had to pass through that ordeal simply because I had sat on one end of the log of wood while a sweeper boy was sitting on the other. In 1930 or earlier I was present at a big lunch which was attended by five hundred Hindus, Khattris, Brahmans, and other castes. It was served by sweepers and others. The lunch was cooked by sweeper women and all five hundred of us partook of it with the greatest pleasure and not a protest was raised. That was not the only one. Since then I have partaken of many such lunches and dinners which have been shared by hundreds of people. The Honourable Premier, addressing Sardar Gopal Singh Khalsa on that day pointed out that he was prepared to dine with Sardar Gopal Singh or anybody else. I am not only prepared but I have actually dined scores of times with them. I have dined with chumars, I have dined with bharwals and sweepers and I have partaken of food prepared by them and I have not the slightest hesitation in doing so again. Many years ago I was presiding at a meeting and a chumar boy came to the platform and recited some verses from the Vedas. I was so impressed that I took hold of him and embraced him and said, "Has anybody from the audience of thousands got the courage to come forward and excommunicate me because I have embraced this chumar boy?" Not one individual came forward. That shows the difference that has come about in society so far as their attitude towards scheduled castes is concerned. The fever has gone down very much and I give my full assurance to my friends that time will come when this untouchability will be a thing of the past and our sons and grandsons will laugh at their fathers and grandfathers and will wonder how there was a time when among the Hindus there were some people who did not like to touch Hindus, who did not like to interdine with them. The Honourable Minister for Education has been pleased to point out that there are still some schools where there is this difference. Let me point out to him that there are some very great men of India, great on account of their position—Brahmans—who will not take a glass of water from me and not only from me, they would not take a glass of water from a Brahman who does not belong to their own tribe and their own caste. There is no end to ignorance, there is no end to prejudice; it still exists in certain quarters but the point I am making is this, has a difference come about or not? And even the blind cannot deny that there has been a tremendous difference so far as the treatment of the Hindus towards their own brethren of the scheduled castes is concerned. They have realised that their strength lies with them, that their future lies with them, that there cannot be a united India unless they embrace them and make them one with them. I am sorry that Sardar Gopal Singh Khalsa is not here but I hope my message will be conveyed to him that so far as we are concerned, our hearts are open to them, our arms are open to embrace them and so far as our social contact with them is concerned, there shall be no bar so far as we are concerned and they are concerned. On this point there should have been no anxiety. The question now is what is the Government going to do for them. I have been to sweepers' houses here. I have seen that their houses are situated on the drains, on the banks of the dirty sewer that flows around certain parts of Lahore. I have seen their houses stinking. Why should the Government not give them healthy and sanitary quarters? I wish that fifty lakhs of rupees, out of two crores which have already been sanctioned, should be provided for their relief. As no provision has been made in the Budget for 1945-46 a further amount should be set aside for the relief of my brethren of the depressed classes by means of a supplementary demand. Quarters should be provided for those who are living in towns. When I see a poor sweeper woman or a little girl sweeping with her broom which makes her bend, I feel that I should take the broom and do the thing myself in order to afford a little relief to the poor creature. Why cannot you provide some kind of brooms which sweepers in England have? Even Englishmen work as sweepers but they have not got to bend like our sweepers, they are provided with brooms with long handles. It is most disgusting the way the sweepers

carry the filth here. Why cannot the Government compel the Municipal Committee to provide them with better means of conveyance of this filth? They pass with night-soil baskets and buckets through the streets and throw away a part of what they carry in the streets and people have to dodge this way and that in order to escape the filth. Why cannot something be done for them? This is what I want to be done for the depressed classes living in the towns. Coming to those who are living in villages, what is the treatment meted out to them? I ask the zamindars who are sitting here. I beg their pardon when I say that they are not according to them the treatment which ought to be accorded to one's countrymen.

(*An honourable member*: It is an economic question). Yes, there are economic factors. A zamindar is a zamindar. He is the lord of the village and these poor scheduled castes are looked down upon by him as *kamins*. They are treated as *achhuts*. I have great regret in saying that the proud Rajputs of Kangra, even though they are the members of the same community, are not meting out human treatment to their poor brethren in that beautiful valley. The same is the case elsewhere. Scheduled castes are not allowed to own even one marla of land in a village. Further, Sir, under some sort of the village *riwaj* or customary law or *wajib-ul-arz*, none of the village *kamins* or a member of the scheduled castes is allowed to sell his own *kotha*, even if his ancestors have been living in that *kotha* for hundreds of years. If he is not obedient enough, if he is not subservient enough, he is threatened and the zamindar says, 'You can remove your *malba*, but leave the land which belongs to us'. I ask my zamindar friends, is that human treatment? (*An honourable member*: Same is with Brahmins). If so it is all the worse. (*An honourable member*: Same is with *baniyas*). If the same is with *baniyas*, then again so much the worse. But I would say that you can treat a Brahman as you like because he has some other resources, you can treat a *bania* as you like because he has also some other resources and he can go elsewhere and settle there. He has got some education and he can earn his living in some other way and make himself live. But if you treat a poor sweeper or a poor *chamar* or a poor *fulaha* in this way, then where has he to go? They are all treated as *kamins* and they have no place to go to. Therefore you can treat a Brahman or a *bania* in any way you like, but treat these depressed classes in the better and less inhuman way. A chit has been handed over to me by an honourable member. I do not know what it is, but I shall read it out to you. It says, 'Half a square of land was set apart in some village for the houses of *kumhars*, *lohars*, *tiarkhans*, etc., but the Government is now going to auction it'. If this is a fact, then it is most regrettable. I pass it on to the honourable Minister concerned. He can make an enquiry into it and if it is possible for him to right the wrong, I hope he will do his best to prevent this hardship, which is bound to be caused to these people. Here all the members of the Government always get up and talk about the relief to backward classes. Who are more backward? They are the people living in their villages, who have been treated as *kamins* and who are not allowed to sit on a *charpoi* when the zamindar is sitting on it. He is not allowed to smoke, while the zamindar is smoking, he is not allowed to ride a horse in some places because it is detrimental to the zamindars' prestige. (*An honourable member*: What about Hindus?) I am not talking from a communal point of view. I am talking from an economic and human point of view. If Hindus do this, they will suffer. It is said that they should do it. But this complaint is general. The difference between a zamindar and a *kamin* of the village is general and unfortunately it exists among the members of all communities, so much worse and so much more regrettable. I ask you now that you should turn your attention to the revision of *wajib-ul-arz* and *riwaj-i-am* provisions. The late Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram did so much and unsettled the settled facts and destroyed the established vested interests. Why cannot these vested interests also be destroyed now?

Minister for Post-War Planning: We have done it.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : You have not done it. You were not in the cabinet at that time. Those vested interests have been destroyed. Why cannot these vested interests also either be destroyed or suitably modified to give much needed relief to my poor brethren in the villages? That is all what I want.

Minister for Post-War Planning : That is what we want also.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : I am sure he can hold his own. He will get up, and would recognise the soundness and fairness of my remarks and will do what is necessary to redress the long standing grievances of those people.

Now, Sir, I would make a few observations with respect to their education. What is their education? Not one out of a thousand of these depressed classes is educated. Some Reforms Societies have started a number of schools where they are freely admitted and special scholarships are given to them. My honourable friends would be interested to know that the Principal of a big degree Hindu college in Hoshiarpur district was a member of the depressed classes and he was worshipped, revered and highly respected by Brahmans and *Chhatris* alike. He was at the head of the institution. (Minister for Education. : I have met him). The Honourable Minister has met him. He is just now retiring and his grateful students are going to present him with a purse in token of their gratitude to him. They were proud of sitting at his feet. I want my friends of the depressed classes to know that we are prepared to respect them, to worship them, to sit at their feet and learn from them.

Now, Sir, in the villages there is another grievance. In the towns there are arrangements for water.

Begum Rashida Latif Baji : According to Islam we treat everybody alike.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : The honourable lady member is proud of the community to which she belongs and I am happy that she is so proud. May I ask her, if she would permit me, how many among you here in this House are *mochis* or *musallis* or *julahas* or *kamins*? Is there any? Point out one. They are all big zamindars. Have you say that if they become '*kalma-go*' they have equal rights. May I ask, what have you done for them? Have you opened one school for them, have you given any grants of land or any scholarships to them? You simply want them to become *kalma-go*. Any one can say *La-Ilaha-Ilallah*. I believe that God is one. Here there are eight Hindu members of the depressed classes sitting on these benches. Is anyone of you prepared to vacate his seat for a *musalli* or for a *mochi*? I think that would be enough for the honourable lady member not only for to-day but for the whole year.

Now, Sir, I was coming to the question of the arrangements of water in the villages. There are several districts in the Punjab where drinking water is very scarce. There are few wells and some proud zamindars are not prepared to allow the depressed classes to draw water from those wells. I know personally that a case occurred in Jawali. (Captain Sardar Naunihal Singh Man : We have done it in Mannanwala.) Yes, I went to attend a meeting of the depressed classes in Mannanwala 15 years ago and I was very glad to find that the Sardars of that place had thrown open their wells to the use of depressed classes. (Hear, hear.) But there are some people who are not prepared to do that and until these backward people are awakened to their sense of duty, I would call upon the Government to make arrangements for supplying clean drinking water to those poor people in the villages. That is so far as my honourable friends of the depressed classes are concerned. I had placed before you a cut motion on this subject and I wanted 50 lakhs out of 2 crores set aside for post-war reconstruction to be utilised for relief to the scheduled castes under these 3 or 4 heads: give them sanitary quarters in the cities, give them education and give them drinking water in villages.

So far I was speaking for what is not placed before the House as a demand, but rather an absence of demand. Now I come to the demand itself. This demand

as a miscellaneous one and is a very big one and it contains many headings but I shall confine myself only to one of them, i.e. Transport. It has already been discussed to a certain extent. What I am going to discuss just now is not what has already been discussed. I am not going back to the supplementary demands which were sanctioned by the House. I am sorry that the Honourable Minister for Finance has disappeared from the House. He is probably more directly concerned with the framing of the Budget. I regret to say that so far as this part of the Budget is concerned it has been prepared with the utmost carelessness. I am very sorry to cast any reflection upon the staff of the Finance Department. They are as a rule very careful, very efficient and very sound, but it seems that this demand was thrust upon them at a moment's notice and they did not have sufficient time to whet it and to go into various details. This is as I feel, otherwise I cannot understand why so many items of expenditure should have been omitted from this statement of income and expenditure. You will see on page 6 of the big book: there is mention of the receipts. The income is shown as Rs. 12,60,580. The expenditure mentioned at page 681 and other pages is Rs. 6,36,900 and the net profit shown there comes to Rs. 5,96,680 or roughly Rs. 6,00,000. How this profit has been shown I do not know. Either there has been a miscalculation and very serious carelessness in framing this part of the budget, or may be with some other object to secure the support of this House. But unfortunately the items of expenditure which have been provided in the budget are only 6, and their amount comes to Rs. 6,36,900 as pointed out by the learned Secretary. Now those who are experts in these matters and who have been engaged in this industry of transport for the last 11 years or so have provided me with a statement of expenditure, which according to their experience is the minimum, and according to that the expenditure comes to much more than what has been estimated by the Government. The important items which have been omitted are these. The Government has provided for the staff only Rs. 1,71,900. They will find to their cost that the staff will not cost less than Rs. 2,25,780. There is a difference, therefore, of Rs. 58,000. Then there is a very important item which has been omitted and that shows their lack of experience and lack of practical knowledge of this industry, that is road toll. On the present quota of petrol it will enable them to cover 3,442 return trips in a year. For each trip the road toll being Rs. 53 the total comes to Rs. 1,82,426. And what the Punjab Government does not know is an important fact that the government of Jammu and Kashmir State has doubled the toll from the 1st of Baisakh 2002. This toll which the buses will have to pay to the Jammu and Kashmir State will be doubled after another 90 days and they will have to pay Rs. 90. In addition to this is the toll which the Punjab Government charges at two places before the bus can enter Kohala Bridge. Then they have not provided depreciation on 68 vehicles which they have provided for the Jhelum Valley Transport. These vehicles have to be insured and the insurance amount will come to Rs. 84,000 and this probably does not cover the third party risk. If you are going to run over a person you have to pay something for him and unless you are insured you will be made bankrupt. In addition to this there are tyres and tubes which during the year have to be renewed and 560 tyres and tubes have to be used to run 68 buses; and the cost will come to more than a lakh. Then they have also ignored the coupon tax to be paid in the Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir State. The Jammu and Kashmir State charge Rs. 100 per annum per vehicle and they have totally ignored this. Then they have not made any provision for printing and stationery which will cost a thousand rupees a month or Rs. 12,000 per year. They have no practical experience and they do not know that after every trip the driver and cleaner are given a tip of Rs. 10 each, otherwise they will make some mischief with the bus. From their experience they know that the amount for 68 buses will come to Rs. 34,420. They have not provided for oils and lubricants, 2,000 gallons for the journey of 1,400,000 miles which these buses will do in the course of a year and the cost will be Rs. 12,000 a year. The depreciation on workshop tools, plants and machinery at an initial cost of Rs. 1 lakh at 15 per cent.

[Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang]

will come to Rs. 15,000. They have also made no provision for rents of premises and workshops at Pindi, Murree, Kohala, Domail, Uri, Baramula, Srinagar and Gulm arg which will cost at least Rs. 18,000. Then they should have known that if the buses are to run to Kashmir during the whole year they have to make arrangements for heating in winter and for lighting and fans in summer for the convenience of passengers who may be waiting there. It will cost a good bit. They have made no provision for publicity and advertisement. They think that when buses would be run by government no publicity and advertisements would be required. They do not know that there are other buses also running and they will capture the whole business if government does not do any publicity.

They have not provided for postage, telephone, telegrams and trunk calls which would at least amount to Rs. 5,000. Then there will be travelling expenses for the General Manager amounting to Rs. 5,000; audit expenses, Rs. 2,000; depreciation on furniture and fixtures, Rs. 1,000. Another important item will be commission to be given to buying, clearing and forwarding agents at Rawalpindi and Srinagar which may come to Rs. 15,000 or even more. If no commission is paid to the clearing agents, they may say that they will send their load by another bus. (*Mian Muhammad Nurullah*: They will be challaned). No. That is not bribery, but is commission. That is charged by the *akhratis* at Rawalpindi and Srinagar.

Then there will be other miscellaneous expenses, for instance claims on account of theft, pilferage, leakage, breakage, shortage, etc., not being covered by insurance which may amount Rs. 15,000. Then the drivers have to be provided with uniforms which will also be required for the cleaners. For 68 drivers and 68 cleaners the amount that will be required for their uniforms for summer and winter would cost Rs. 15,000. Articles for workshop such as rags, kerosene oil, diesel oil, brake oil, grease, nails, iron, timber for bodies, gas for welding, iron sheets and angles iron for body work, electricity, water charges, etc., would come to Rs. 10,000. Paints, cushions and upholstery would cost Rs. 15,000. In this way, Sir, the total amount that has not been provided would come to Rs. 8,98,772. Consequently, the Government would be incurring a net loss of about Rs. 8 lakhs a year in this transport.

I would, therefore, ask the Government that before they proceed with this nationalisation or rationalisation, as they call it, of motor transport they should take into consideration all these points that I have brought to their notice and then decide whether or not to take up the scheme.

Now I come to the Lahore Local Bus Service. The Government has provided for an expenditure of Rs. 4,47,960 and according to their estimates the receipts will be Rs. 11,52,720. They have thus anticipated a net profit of Rs. 7,04,760. I will show how these receipts are inflated and exaggerated. The average income of the Bombay and Delhi local services is less than 12 annas a mile and I would request the House to keep in mind that petrol in Bombay and perhaps in Delhi also is cheaper than it is in Lahore. I will not worry the House with the detailed calculations. The total receipts calculated at annas 12 per mile come to Rs. 9,41,000 as against the estimated receipts of Rs. 11,52,720 anticipated by the Government. On the expenditure side many items have not been provided. I will not quote the actual figures but will lay before the House the items that have been omitted. There is certain staff that has not been included. No provision has been made for depreciation insurance, tyres and tubes, printing and stationery, oils and lubricants, rents of workshop, depots, offices, heating, lighting and fans, postage, telegrams, telephones, etc., uniforms, articles for workshop, paints, cushions, up-holstery and so on. This comes to Rs. 5,14,000.

So this is the position, Sir. In view of these facts, I would ask the Government to wait and postpone the scheme. There is no hurry. I would suggest to them to

appoint a sub-committee consisting of some members of this House in whom they have confidence and of the representatives of the industries who have been running this industry for the last 10 or 11 years to go into the question. The Government can as well have the whole thing examined by their experts to know whether those items which have been omitted are absolutely essential. The sub-committee and the experts can then reconsider the whole question carefully. The Government should not hurry to commit the province to a project which is bound to end in a loss. Instead of taking away the whole industry which effects more than 20,000 people, I would like the Government to take the advice of Sir Edward Benthall and take shares in those companies as the Railways have done. They can join the Railways. They can have 80 per cent for themselves, give 80 per cent to the Railways and the rest to the private enterprise. In that case there cannot be any hanky-panky so far as the control is concerned. The Government control will be there.

Minister for Development : We are saving the industry from going into the hands of the Railways.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : I thank you for the great consideration. I am reminded of the story of a poor lamb. A lamb was grazing about when a wolf appeared on the scene. A hunter happened to pass by. He shot the wolf; took the lamb home, slaughtered it and served himself with it at his table. This is the way you want to save this industry from the Railways and swallow it yourself. The Railways have acquired a number of shares, but they have not ousted those who have been in the trade for the last 10 or 20 years. There is still time to reconsider the whole subject. The Government can have a sufficient number of shares and an effective voice in the management and leave the actual management to those people who are in it.

It is a very important matter which effects the livelihood of thousands of people and which effects the finances of the province. You should not hurry. Appoint a committee, as I have said, and then abide by the decision of that committee.

I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity for having my say.

Sardar Jagjit Singh Man (Central Punjab Landholders) : Mr. Speaker, the bloody war which has been raging furiously for the last five years is now going to end. Governments all over are concentrating upon post-war planning, and our Government is also anxious to take a lead in the matter and has prepared a big programme. My friends must have heard about the various post-war plans, for example, People's Plan, Bombay Plan, Gandhian Plan which have been sponsored by public spirited men. They all are anxious to increase the output of agriculture, increase industry and provide facilities for transport and also medical relief to the average man. They wish to raise the standard of people in future.

Our Government, as I have said already, has made a huge programme and I wish that Government should publish that programme in the form of a booklet, so that the public might know it and make healthy criticism. In this connection I would give the example of the Central Government which appointed two committees in this connection and their reports have been published and have evoked a keen interest. The question is why our Government—although we have made a great progress in various spheres, e.g. in co-operation and also in other matters—still lags behind other civilised countries. The question is, are we to remain backward, dependent and poor in the post-war world? Are our masses going to roll in illiteracy, poverty and filth? That is the point which should have our attention and also the attention of our Government.

Then there is another big problem of the demolished soldiers who will come back, when the war is over, with broadened vision and high standard of living. We

[S. Jagjit Singh Mann]

have to accommodate them. These are the matters which should receive very serious consideration of Government.

I would like to lay one or two concrete proposals with regard to the industrial development. The industrial survey of the province is nearing completion. Geological survey has not yet started. When both the surveys are completed, it will be time for planning the industries of our province. I venture to suggest that there should be a museum at Lahore for displaying the out-put of industries and that of cottage industry. (*An honourable member*: There is a Museum in Lahore): I mean an industrial museum. Then our province, as you know, is the sword arm of India, and we should push forward with regard to military equipment and defence industry.

I would like to say a few words with regard to agriculture. Before I say what I want to, I would like to invite the attention of Government towards the miserable conditions of the lands. They are fast deteriorating. Thur and water-logging are increasing by leaps and bounds. I am afraid if this state of affairs continues for some more years, the whole province will be plunged in water. I hear that from 1931 to 1944 an area amounting to about 12 lakhs of acres has been thrown out of cultivation. This is a fact which throws discredit on the Government and they should come forward with some concrete proposals to eradicate this evil. The present reclamation is absolutely unsatisfactory and it has given no relief to the people. I am staggered when my attention is drawn to the persons whose lands have been all spoilt. Those who were rich and well-to-do yesterday are absolutely destitute to-day. They are unable to feed themselves and even feed their animals. I do not know how long Government will wait and for what it is waiting. I must say with all the emphasis at my command that Government should try its level best to find out some permanent and effective solution to stop this evil.

Then I would say something about the Agricultural Department. I am sorry to say that the Agricultural Department has made no headway. Things are there where they were several years ago. There has been no improvement whatsoever. (*An honourable member*: You are condemning the Unionists). Why should I not, when they are in the wrong? When Government is in the wrong, I must say it is in the wrong. (*Another honourable member*: It is constructive criticism.) I would say that Agriculture has not improved, and we are not getting increased products from the fields, and the average has not increased. I can tell from my own experience that I find very rarely the agricultural staff visiting my part of the world. I do not know what is happening elsewhere. It is their business to come and guide and advise the people as to crop planning and also to procure for them pure seeds, but they are not doing that at all. I wish that the Department realises its duties and gives effective service to the people. I wish that, as far as possible, pure seeds should be distributed in the whole area in the province, so that the crops are of good quality. I would also say that there should be a dairy expert appointed by Government who should give dairy advice to the people who are anxious to instal dairies. This would not only enrich the countryside, but also solve a great problem of the urbanites who are crying for pure butter and pure milk.

With these words I conclude my speech.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma (Kangra West, General Rural) (*Urdu*): Sir the question of post-war reconstruction has been discussed from many points of view. I would like to submit that Industrialisation is the most important thing in the field of post-war reconstruction. As far as the reconstruction policy of our Government is concerned, Sir, I would like to quote one or two illustrations from their past deeds. This Government came into being in 1937 and at that time they promised to establish a survey committee to examine the scope of the establishment of different industries.

The Committee was expected to tour in the province and to examine the places and the conditions for the establishment of various industries. To-day more than seven years have passed and so far no step has been taken in that direction. My honourable friend Sayed Amjad Ali Shah has said in his speech that six industries will be established in the country. But I declare without any hesitation that there is not the least political sincerity behind this declaration. This Government has not done anything so far and there is no proof to believe that they will not behave similarly in the future.

If we may study the industrial history of any advanced country, we find the thing. The Government of those countries supplied the entire capital in the initial stage and covered the entire risks for the first five or six years as long as the industry did not work properly. When the factories thus created began to work properly and the risks of losses were eliminated they were transferred to the public. England, America, Russia and other countries did like this. If we do anything in this direction, Sir I am sure that the lot of the 50 per cent of our country men will be improved. But for the last seven years the Government has not done anything in this direction and nobody knows how long they will continue to sleep over this subject.

Now I will take up the question of nationalisation of transport industry. It is easy to nationalise it but the condition of this trade is very pathetic. We cannot manufacture small spare parts even. We have to depend upon the foreign imports in every respect. If we are so keen about nationalisation, then we must take account of the other items of the trade as well. As long as the manufacturing plants are not built up in our own country, no steps towards nationalisation can prove of any avail.

At this stage the Assembly adjourned till 10 a. m. on Friday, 16th March, 1945.

1911

1911年1月1日
1911年1月1日
1911年1月1日

1911年1月1日

1911年1月1日

1911年1月1日



1911年1月1日

1911年1月1日

1911

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

THIRTEENTH SESSION OF THE FIRST PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Friday, 16th March 1945

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber at 10 a. m. of the clock. Mr. Speaker in the chair.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

LAJPAT RAI BHAWAN

*9847. **Lala Bhagat Ram Choda** : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Lajpat Rai Bhawan situated on the Court Street, Lahore, is no longer a notified building, the notification having been withdrawn about a year ago ;

(b) whether a police post is still stationed there and that the members of the police post permanently reside within the premises ;

(c) whether Government is aware of the fact that this is causing great hardship to the residents of the Bhawan ;

(d) when the Government intends to withdraw the police post from Lajpat Rai Bhawan ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Man) : (a) Yes.

(b) A police guard is posted for the protection of the books lying in the Dwarka Dass library and resides within the requisitioned portion of the building.

(c) Government have received no complaint.

(d) The guard will be withdrawn when the Dwarka Dass library is restored to the Servants of the People Society.

LALA BEHARI SHAH AGGARWAL AND LALA TILAK RAJ SURI

*9893. **Chaudhri Sahib Ram** : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether restriction orders have been renewed in the cases of (1) Lala Behari Shah Aggarwal of Lahore ; and (2) Lala Tilak Raj Suri of Rawalpindi and whether they are still required to report personally at police stations every week ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : Yes.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : What is the purpose in asking these gentlemen to go every week to the police to report themselves ?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether the purpose of calling these political workers is to humiliate them so that they may look small before petty officers ?

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : What was the material on which restrictions were reimposed upon these gentlemen ?

LALA BEHARI SHAH AGGARWAL

*9894. **Chaudhri Sahib Ram** : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state the number of times Lala Behari Shah Aggarwal of Lahore could not report himself personally at the City Kotwali on account of his illness and when a police officer had to go to his house ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Khan Bahadur Shaikh Faiz Muhammad) : Lala Behari Shah Aggarwal could not report himself in person at police station City Kotwali, Lahore, on 16 Sundays owing to illness.

MR. TILAK RAJ SURI

***9895. Chaudhri Sahib Ram :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in October or November 1944 the restrictions placed on Mr. Tilak Raj Suri of Rawalpindi were relaxed to the extent that he was not to report himself every week at the Rawalpindi Police Station ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the restriction order was renewed and served on Mr. Tilak Raj Suri of Rawalpindi on the 25th November, 1944, requiring him to report at the Rawalpindi Police Station every week, if so, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Man) : (a) No.

(b) A revised restriction order was served on Tialk Raj Suri on 5th December 1944 and not 25th November 1944. He was already required to report at the City Kotwali, Rawalpindi, every Sunday.

NUMBER OF MUTATIONS DECIDED BY REVENUE OFFICER OF EACH TAHSIL IN
LUDHIANA DISTRICT

***9291. Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of mutations decided by the Revenue Officer of each Tehsil in the Ludhiana District from January 1943 to January 1944 ;

(b) the mutations yet pending in each tehsil ;

(c) contested mutations forwarded by the tahsildars of each tahsil in the Ludhiana District from 1st January 1943 to 1st January 1944 and decided by the Revenue Assistant during the same period ;

(d) the number of revenue appeals decided by the Collector and the Revenue Assistant during the abovementioned period?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram : A statement is laid on the table.

Mutations decided by the Revenue Officers of each tahsil in the Ludhiana District

Tahsil	Number of mutations decided by Revenue Officers from 1st January 1943 to 31st December 1943	Number of mutations pending at the end of February 1944	Number of mutations attested by the Revenue Assistant during this period	NUMBER OF REVENUE APPEALS DECIDED BY THE REVENUE ASSISTANT AND THE COLLECTOR DURING THIS PERIOD			
				Revenue Assistant		Collector	
				Miscellaneous Revenue appeals	Judicial Revenue appeals	Miscellaneous Revenue appeals	Judicial Revenue appeals
Samrala ..	12,358	1,925	448	156	33	34	12
Jagraon ..	13,044	22,495					
Ludhiana ..	20,677	17,145					
Total ..	46,079	41,565					

PEASANT GRANTEES IN HAVELI PROJECT

***9586. Mian Muhammad Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to lay on the table a list of peasant grantees who were given lands in the Haveli Project during the years 1942-43 and 1943-44 giving the following information :—

- (i) name of the area where land was granted ;
- (ii) the name, religion and address of each grantee ?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram : A list¹ of peasant grantees giving the requisite information is laid on the table. The grants have been allotted in the Makhdum Rashid area of the Haveli Project.

Mian Abdul Aziz : Will the Honourable Minister kindly look at items Nos. 37 and 38 of the list. No. 37 is Chaudhri Chhotu Ram. Does it refer to the late Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram ?

Minister : Chaudhri Chhotu Ram is the Editor, *Jat Gazette*, Rohtak.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : How many of the grantees belong to Sampla, the birthplace of Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram ?

Minister : Only one person.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : I refer to item No. 22. Is it not a fact that Hardhan Singh, who is a dismissed patwari, was also recommended one square of land for him ?

Minister : I do not know.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : See item No. 22.

Minister : Hardhan Singh is the only man belonging to Sampla.

Mian Muhammad Nurullah : Was he the Munshi of Chaudhri Sahib ?

Minister : Yes.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : What special services did the Editor of *Jat Gazette* perform during the last eight years ?

Minister : I require notice for that question.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it a fact that simply because he did propaganda work for the late lamented Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram that he was recommended for the grant of land ?

Premier : He got land for war services rendered.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether the name of Hardhan Singh, a dismissed patwari, was recommended by any of the higher officers, that is, the Deputy Commissioner or somebody else ?

Minister of Revenue : I cannot give that information because it is all confidential.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : For what services was Kaloo Singh given a square of land ?

Premier : For services in connection with the war. Only those people against whom there is no objection from the local officers are awarded grants of land.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : I refer to item No. 18 in the list relating to grantees from scheduled castes. Is it a fact that Sudhan, son of Dulia, sweeper, Ghari, Sampla, tahsil Rohtak, was the sweeper of late Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram ?

Premier : Does the honourable member know how many persons his family has sent to the army ?

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Yes, I know, none.

Premier : The honourable member is wrong.

¹ Kept in the Assembly Library.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is the Honourable Premier in a position to deny the fact that he has not given even one recruit ?

Premier : I remember the case. He had done lot of war work.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : He had supplied no recruit. I am prepared to challenge the statement of the Honourable Premier ; this man has not supplied even a single recruit.

Premier : I cannot say off-hand about the number of recruits supplied by him. The honourable member may give notice of this question and we will find out.

Mian Muhammad Nurullah : Is it not a fact that certain of these grantees were never recommended by the Deputy Commissioner or the Commissioner of the ilaqa ?

Premier : That is wrong. All of them were recommended by local officers.

Mian Muhammad Nurullah : All of them ?

Premier : Yes.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether the Government stands by the statement made by Sir Sikander Hyat-Khan that squares of land will be given only to those people who go and serve in the army ?

Premier : There are two categories of grants of land. There are lands meant specifically for ex-soldiers. They are reserved for them and will go to ex-soldiers. There is another category of grant of land. These grants are made to people for services rendered here to help the war effort. That has to go to people who are eligible for it.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Will the Honourable Premier state why Jullundur Division has been eliminated ? Is it because of the slackness or idleness of members coming from that constituency or because of the fact that they have rendered no war services ?

Premier : All districts, all divisions and all communities cannot come in one grant. A record is kept and we have to pick the best men so far as war work is concerned.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : The question is not of communities. The question is of the Jullundur division as a whole. Why has it been eliminated ?

Premier : The Honourable Minister has said that the matter is under consideration.

Khan Sahib Chaudhri Sahib Dad Khan : Is it a fact that the late Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram granted a share to his own financier ?

Minister for Revenue : I repudiate it.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether the late Sir Sinkander made an announcement on the floor of this House that he would look to it that every soldier who had gone to the front and had done good work there should be given at least half a square of land ?

Premier : I am not aware of that declaration nor can I think that such a declaration has been made because the number of ex-soldiers would be such that the whole land would be exhausted.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : If I show that statement in the debates to him, will he follow it ?

Premier : My following it depends on whether it is practicable or not. But I would like to see that statement.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is he in a position to state whether the Punjab Government have decided or not that not an inch of colony land will be given to anybody except to the ex-soldiers who have actually fought on the front ?

Premier : I have already placed facts before the honourable questioner. Beyond that the question is hypothetical and I cannot answer it. If he shows that statement to me, then I may be in a position to give more facts.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is it not a fact that giving of grants of lands to persons who pose as having helped in the war effort is actually cutting the throat of those soldiers who are fighting on the front ?

Premier : No, Sir.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Is the Honourable Premier aware that Ludhiana is the district with best military recruitment record ?

Premier : No.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Is it a not fact that the Honourable Premier in his statement has declared that Ludhiana comes second in the Punjab in the matter of recruits ?

Premier : I did not say anything of the kind. All I said was that it was a district with a good war record. It is the Rawalpindi district which leads in this respect.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it within the knowledge of the Honourable Premier that the Ludhiana district has been eliminated or neglected for the simple reason that the zamindars on more than one occasion declared that they have no faith in the Unionist Government ?

Mr. Speaker : Disallowed.

LAND REVENUE REALISED UNDER THE SLIDING SCALE SYSTEM IN LYALLPUR

***9587. Mian Muhammad Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the total land revenue realised in the year preceding the introduction of the sliding scale system of Land Revenue in the district of Lyallpur ;

(b) the maximum land revenue realised in each year since the introduction of the sliding scale system in the said district ?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram : The required statement is laid on the table.

Statement showing the total land revenue realised in the Lyallpur district before and after the introduction of the sliding scale system of land revenue.

LAND REVENUE RECEIPTS

Before the introduction of sliding scale system	Amount	After the introduction of sliding scale system	Amount	Lakhs
	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.
1935-36	81,55,798 (81½ lakhs).	1936-37 ..	51,91,353	52
		1937-38 ..	56,57,711	56½
		1938-39 ..	43,94,195	44
		1939-40 ..	54,20,491	54
		1940-41 ..	56,81,362	57
		1941-42 ..	64,88,188	65
		1942-33 ..	92,25,868	92
		1943-44 ..	97,91,798	98

**REALISATION OF ABIANA UNDER THE SLIDING SCALE SYSTEM OF LAND REVENUE.
IN LYALLPUR**

***9588. Mian Muhammad Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state the total amount of abiana realised in the District of Lyallpur in the year preceding the introduction of the sliding scale system and the same in each year after that ?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram : The sliding scale system of land revenue in the Lyallpur district was introduced in the year 1936-37 and the figures of abiana realized in the Lyallpur district for the year 1935-36 to 1943-44 are as below :—

	Rs.				
1935-36	66,37,591
1936-37	66,67,107
1937-38	65,80,623
1938-39	66,33,119
1939-40	63,77,483
1940-41	65,59,296
1941-42	64,84,864
1942-43	68,26,781
1943-44	73,64,237

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know why there is a rise in abiana during this period ?

Minister : Because there has been more irrigation.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether water rates have been increased or the volume of water has been increased ?

Mr. Speaker : Next question.

PAY OF PATWARIS

***9730. Shrimati Raghbir Kaur :** Will the Honourable Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the pay of a patwari in the Punjab ;

(b) whether the patwaris after holding a meeting at Lyallpur on the 17th and 18th July, 1944, made a representation to the authorities to the effect that their pay may be increased ; if so, the nature of their demand in regard to their pay and the action taken by the Government on their above-mentioned representation ?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram : (a) The different grades of pay of revenue patwaris in the Punjab are as follows :—

	Rs.				
1st grade	26 per mensem.
2nd grade	23 Ditto.
3rd grade	20 Ditto.

An assistant patwari gets a fixed pay of Rs. 15 per mensem.

Patwaris are also in receipt of a dearness allowance of Rs. 11 per mensem.

(b) There is no information with Government to show that any meeting of the revenue patwaris was held at Lyallpur on the 17th and 18th July, 1944. However, the question of the enhancement of the pay of patwaris has been decided and their pay has been enhanced.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : When did it occur to the Honourable Minister that the patwaris are low paid Government servants ?

Premier : They are not Government servants.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : When did it occur to the Honourable Minister or to the Punjab Government that the pay of patwaris should be raised because they are low paid persons ?

Minister : The question has been under consideration for some time.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : When was it taken into consideration for the first time ?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know how much enhancement has been made in the pay of patwaris ?

Minister : The total enhancement is 20 lakhs of rupees per year.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : How much pay has been increased monthly in the case of each patwari ?

Minister : The revised scales are—

				Rs.
1st grade	..	..	..	..80—1—45
2nd grade	..	..	..	.. 25—1—35
3rd grade	..	..	..	.. 22—1—30

The grade of an assistant patwari is Rs. 20—1—25.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the agitation made by these patwaris at several meetings ?

Minister : Their pay has been increased.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Was any representation made by them that their pay should be enhanced ?

Minister : I cannot reply off hand.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : In view of the statement made by the Honourable Premier a few days ago that one cannot expect a low-paid servant not to be corrupt, does he think that this increase in their pay is sufficient not to make them corrupt ?

Mr. Speaker : That is a question of opinion. Disallowed.

CAPITAL OUTLAY ON IRRIGATION WORKS

***9377. Shrimati Raghbir Kaur :** Will the Honourable Minister of Revenue be pleased to state whether the total capital outlay on irrigation works in the Punjab has been recovered ; if so, what are the reasons for charges under Major Head 17th (interest on works for which capital accounts are kept) in the estimate of expenditure for the year 1944-45 ?

The Honourable Chaudhri Tika Ram : In the P. W. D. system of accounts amortization of capital is not permitted by the rules. Under these circumstances the question whether the total capital outlay on irrigation works in the Punjab, has been recovered, does not arise. Interest has, therefore, to be charged annually on the capital expenditure to date on each canal.

PUNJAB GOVERNMENT PRINTING PRESS WORKERS' UNION

***9889. Shrimati Raghbir Kaur :** Will the Honourable Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Punjab Government Printing Press Workers' Union Registered, Lahore, is a recognised Union, if so, the date on which the certificate of recognition was granted to the Union ;

[Sh. Raghbir Kaur]

(b) whether it is a fact that representation was made by the Union to the Superintendent, Punjab Government Printing Press, on the 17th March, 1944, asking for the redress of certain grievances; if so, whether the Government is prepared to place the reply made thereto on the table of the House;

(c) whether a request was made to the Superintendent, Government, Printing Press Punjab by the Union in a letter dated the 20th November, 1944 requesting him to meet a deputation of the workers;

(d) whether it is a fact that this request was rejected; if so, the reasons therefor?

The Honourable Sir Manohar Lal : (a) Yes. It was recognised on the 2nd October 1944.

(b) Yes. Since the Union was not a recognised body at the time no reply to the Union as such was given.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

SMALL SAVINGS SCHEME

*9899. **Sardar Sohan Singh Josh :** Will the Honourable Finance Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the money collected so far under the Small Savings Scheme, in the province;

(b) whether Government are aware that coercive methods are being employed in this connection;

(c) whether it is a fact that money is being collected forcibly under the scheme along with and in proportion to the land revenue?

The Honourable Sir Manohar Lal : (a) Rs. 3,13,36,170 up to 31st January 1945.

(b) Government are not aware of any such method being employed.

(c) Collections are not being made forcibly. In some districts local non-official committees have themselves suggested using the land revenue as a standard of comparison for voluntary contribution. The method of collection is under-local arrangements and authorised agents have been appointed under the Small Savings Scheme for this particular purpose.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : With reference to part (b), may I know whether the Premier has received several representations from the Lyallpur district with regard to the coercive methods used for collecting small savings funds?

Premier : To the best of my recollection I have not received any representation, but if there are some representations in the bundle I cannot say. May I say that the Small Savings Scheme is a sort of compulsory insurance, as against voluntary insurance, and if persuasion is used where is the harm?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Were persuasive methods or coercive methods adopted for collecting this fund?

Premier : Persuasive methods. The honourable member, who is a Communist, stands for compulsory insurance of labourers. Where is the harm if persuasion is used for the Small Savings Scheme, so that a man has something to fall back upon in rainy days?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know from which source he has come to the conclusion that compulsory methods are used and not persuasive methods in employing labour anywhere except in the Punjab ?

Premier : There are compulsory schemes in many countries of which we hear so many things.

Mian Muhammad Nurullah : May I know whether the Premier is aware that the Sub-Registrar of Amritsar is realising one per cent of the total value in all transactions ?

Premier : I am not aware of it. We do not stand for coercion but for persuasion to invest under the Small Savings Scheme, the success of which is greatly to be desired.

Mian Muhammad Nurullah : Will he make enquiries to find out if the Sub-Registrar is doing that with the connivance of the Deputy Commissioner ?

Premier : I want notice for that. He is not doing so with the Deputy Commissioner's connivance, nor is he using coercive methods but simple persuasion.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know if the Premier is aware of the fact that many people sent their land revenue by money order which was refused on the ground that unless they paid something towards that fund it could not be taken ?

Premier : That is news to me. I do not know. It may be that somebody said that along with land revenue something might be sent for investment under the Small Savings Scheme.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Do I understand that the Premier approves of the policy of forcing people to pay money ?

Premier : I said persuasion. I do approve of persuasive methods.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I know whether he thinks that one of those methods is to ask the lambardars to send money along with land revenue ?

Premier : I did not say anything of that kind. If Raja Sahib, who is a lambardar, persuades the people, when collecting land revenue, to make an investment under the Small Savings Scheme, where is the harm ?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : But if he says, 'No, I am sorry I cannot afford to pay', then should the land revenue be refused ?

Premier : No, the land revenue will not be refused, but it will be proper to ask him to invest under that scheme.

DR. KHADIJA BEGUM

***9415. Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Dr. Khadija Begum, B.A., Ph.D., M.O.L., M.F. (Punjab), Principal, Stratford College for Women, Amritsar, was the senior most lady eligible to be appointed as Deputy Directress of Education, if so, whether it is also a fact that she has been superseded by one who is junior to her as regards the length of service and inferior to her as regards her educational qualifications ;

(b) if the answer to the above be in the affirmative, the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

INSTRUCTIONS TO STUDENTS OF GOVERNMENT COLLEGE TO ABSTAIN FROM
TAKING PART IN POLITICS.

***9584. Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that an undertaking in writing is obtained from every student who joins the Government College, Lahore, that he will not take part in politics ; if so, when these instructions were issued and whether the Government intend to withdraw them ;

(b) whether it is left on to the discretion of the Principal of the said College to decide what is meant by taking part in politics and whether the Government have issued any instructions in this respect also ?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : (a) Yes, but the undertaking is " not to take part in political action of any kind whilst a student ". Government is aware of this fact but there are no standing instructions on the subject.

(b) Yes, but no instructions have been issued by Government.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I ask the Minister to state whether he is aware of the fact that these orders were issued at the time of Martial Law ?

Minister : I am not aware of it.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it a fact that several students take part in favour of the Unionist Propaganda ?

Minister : No.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : May I know whether it is politics or not to take part in propaganda in favour of the Unionist party ?

Minister : It will be a hypothetical question.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Will the Minister be pleased to state whether to join the Students' Federation is equivalent to taking part in politics ?

Minister : I cannot enter into that question. My own impression is that students must also be students of politics but should take no action in politics.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I ask the Minister to tell me whether he thinks membership of the Students Federation, of which he must be aware, is equivalent to taking part in politics ?

Mr. Speaker : That is a question of opinion.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I know whether it is a fact that under the orders as they exist students are not allowed to become members of the Students Federation in Government colleges ?

Minister : I am not aware ; I undertake to make enquiries.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether this Company days' anachronism is to be stopped or is to continue ?

PREMIER'S VISIT TO JHANG

***9624. Mian Mumtaz Muhammad Khan Daulatana :** Will the Honourable Minister of Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that all the district board teachers of Jhang district were ordered by the Deputy Commissioner or the District Inspector of Schools, Jhang, to assemble at Jhang on the occasion of the Premier's visit to Jhang during November, 1944, if so, the number of days they had to stay in Jhang along with their strength ;

(b) whether the schools remained closed on those days, and whether the teachers were paid any travelling allowances for this journey ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the teachers had to pay all the expenses of their journey, etc., from their own pockets, if so, the action Government intend to take in the matter of compensating them for the loss so suffered; if not, why not?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : (a) The district board teachers did assemble at Jhang, but for quite a different purpose. Khan Bahadur Malik Nur Muhammad Khan, Chairman, National Service Labour Tribunal, Punjab and North-West Frontier Province, Lahore, was expected to visit Jhang. He did not come and in his place the teachers' meeting was presided over by the Divisional Inspector of Schools, Multan. Some of the teachers, mostly belonging to the neighbouring schools, visited Jhang and stayed for two days. They came on the 29th evening. 30th October was the last working day which is always spent by the teachers in the centre schools for the preparation of monthly statistics. 31st October was a Gazetted holiday and they returned on that day, or earlier.

(b) Answer to (a) above will show that the schools did not remain closed on any of these days. No travelling allowance was paid, for none is paid for such journeys.

(c) The teachers who came, were from the neighbouring places and hence had not to incur any expenditure.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is the Minister in a position to state the purpose for which the teachers were collected by the Divisional Inspector?

Minister : It was a meeting to be presided over by the Divisional Inspector.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : What was the purpose?

Minister : I have no agenda of the meeting before me.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Will he please state what he means by the words used in the course of his answer to part (a) that it was "for quite a different purpose"? Does he know what that purpose was?

Minister : They had collected to attend a meeting of the technical training scheme.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I know whether he is aware of the fact that a large number of students were made to stand on both sides of the road at the time of the Premier's visit?

Minister : No, it is wrong.

Premier : May I point out that I have always said that when I go to such places I do not want students? These teachers had come to attend a meeting in connection with their duties under the technical training scheme.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : The Honourable Premier did not want it but the teachers went there just to please him.

Premier : When they came to attend that meeting I was not on tour there.

PREMIER'S VISIT TO JHANG AND HARDSHIP SUFFERED BY THE SCHOOL CHILDREN

*9625. **Mian Mumtaz Muhammad Khan Daulatana :** Will the Honourable Minister of Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the children reading in Government schools of Jhang were made to stand on both sides of the road on the 29th October, 1944, to go through a rehearsal which was conducted by the Deputy Commissioner of the district prior to the visit of the Honourable Premier in November, 1944; if so, the reason for subjecting the children to this hardship?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : No; it is not a fact. There is no Government School for boys at Jhang or Maghiana Town.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : May I know if the Honourable Minister for Education was present when the Honourable Premier visited Jhang?

Minister : The question is about the Government School, Jhang, and the reply is that there is no Government School at Jhang or Mghiana.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I ask the Honourable Minister to give an undertaking on the floor of the House that in future students will not be required to be present to receive a Minister or any other official ?

Minister : I never require any student to be present to receive me, but if the students themselves like to be present I cannot have any objection.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Will the Honourable Minister please state if in view of the joint responsibility every one of the Ministers is an Education Minister ?

Premier : We do not order anybody to be present. But suppose a Minister goes to a particular place or my honourable friend the Raja Sahib goes there, and there is a crowd and a *tamasha* and some students turn up—we cannot prevent them.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Will the Honourable Minister please state whether he is prepared to issue strict instructions to all the schools that students should not stand on the roadside to receive a Minister :

Mr. Speaker : That is a request for action. Disallowed.

INSPECTION OF BUILDINGS OWNED OR RENTED BY GOVERNMENT IN THE DISTRICTS OF ROHTAK, KARNAL AND AMBALA MUNICIPALITIES

***9630. Chaudhri Jugal Kishore :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state whether School buildings owned or rented by Government and municipalities in the districts of Rohtak, Karnal and Ambala were duly inspected during the last two financial years by the officers of the Public Health Department ; if so, their report in this connection and whether any steps have so far been taken to have the defects, if any mentioned in the report, removed ?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : None of the buildings of the educational institutions maintained by Government or municipalities in the Ambala, Rohtak and Karnal districts (except Karnal municipality and the rented buildings of the Government Girls' Middle School, Rupar) were inspected by the officers of the Public Health Department during the past two years. No defects were pointed out in the buildings owned by the Karnal Municipality. The defects in the rented building of the Government Girls' School at Rupar, have been brought to the notice of the owner of the building.

PATRONAGE OF HINDI

***9631. Chaudhri Jugal Kishore :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the amount of income which accrued to the University of the Punjab during the last financial year by conducting various Hindi Examinations ;

(b) the amount of expenditure incurred by the University during this period for—

(i) the teaching of Hindi ;

(ii) patronage of Hindi in other respects ?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : (a) Rs. 76,992-0-0.

(b) (i) and (ii) The University has employed a lecturer in Hindi at the Oriental College, whose main business is to do research work himself and to guide research work in Hindi language and literature. He delivered three public lectures for the

advancement of Hindi language and literature during the last financial year. In addition to this he gave occasional public lectures for this purpose.

The pay of the lecturer is Rs. 400 per mensem *plus* Provident Fund Rs. contribution 5,280

The University awards prizes by way of encouragement to the writers of Hindi books. Last year a prize of Rs. 500 was awarded to Mr. Raghunandan, M.A., M.O.L., Shastri.

In addition to the above the University incurs heavy expenditure on the conduct of examinations in Hindi.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : In view of the fact that the University gets Rs. 76,992 and spends only about Rs. 6,000 thus making a large amount of money, will the Government give more grant for the teaching of Hindi ?

Minister : Under what rule does the honourable member want the Government to issue directions to the University to this effect? The University is an autonomous body.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Is the Government prepared to amend the University Act ?

Premier : It will be considered.

DEPUTY DIRECTRESS OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

***9725. Mian Mumtaz Muhammad Khan Daulatana :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether any decision has been arrived at in the matter of appointment to the post of the Deputy Directress of Public Instruction, Punjab, when the present incumbent retires ;

(b) if so, (i) the names of the candidates under consideration for the posts (ii) the name of the candidate in case any one of those mentioned in (i) has been selected for the post and (iii) the basis for the selection made, namely, academic qualifications, seniority and all round experience ;

(c) whether it is a fact that one of the candidates among those mentioned in (i) has been ruled out simply because she observes purdah, if not, the grounds on which she has been rejected ?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : (a) Yess.

(b) All the ladies in the P. E. S. (Class I) (Women's Branch) were considered and Miss V. G. Bhan who was considered to be the most suitable was selected.

(c) No. Another lady has been selected as most suitable. There is no supersession involved in the filling of this selectional post.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Will the Honourable Minister please state whether in view of the united demand of the Muslim community of the province, he is reconsidering the question ?

Minister : I am not prepared to reconsider it.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I have asked whether you are considering it. I have not suggested it.

Minister : No. I am not considering it.

FUTURE PROSPECTS OF THE CIVILIAN SUB-ASSISTANT SURGEONS SERVING UNDER THE MILITARY RECRUITING ORGANIZATION

***9806. Sardar Joginder Singh Mann :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the future prospects of the Civilian Sub-Assistant Surgeons serving under the Military Recruiting Organization, when they revert to their civil posts in the Punjab after the war ;

[S. Joginder Singh Mann]

(b) whether the said service of the Sub-Assistant Surgeons will be counted as military service and will have any effect on their promotion, pension, etc., if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : (a) and (b) The Sub-Assistant Surgeons in question understood when they volunteered for the recruiting organisation that they would be serving in a civilian capacity. Where they hold a permanent civil post they retain a lien on it and their service in the recruiting organisation will count for pension. They will not, however, be eligible for the concessions in regard to their subsequent civil service which have been approved for sub-assistant surgeons volunteering for general military service. I would add that the sub-assistant surgeons in question receive an allowance of Rs. 75 per mensem in addition to their civil rates of pay ; also that it is open to them to volunteer for general service in the I. A. M. C. and that several have, and have been accepted.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Has the Honourable Minister ever considered that their war service will be rewarded after they return from military duty ?

Minister : They are serving in a civil capacity.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : They have volunteered for military duty. Will the Honourable Minister reward them when they return from military duty ?

Minister : It is a request for action.

POSTPONEMENT OF GURDWARA ELECTIONS

*9864. **Sardar Sohan Singh Josh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether any correspondence has passed between the Punjab Government and the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee, Amritsar, with regard to the postponement of the Gurdwara elections ; if so, whether he would be pleased to place it on the table of the House ;

(b) the reasons for the postponement of the Gurdwara elections from year to year ;

(c) whether the Government has considered the question of holding these elections in the near future ; if so, with what results ?

The Honourable Mian Abdul Haye : (a) The reply to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. It is regretted that the correspondence cannot be placed on the table of the House.

(b) In view of the war, elections to all the local bodies, Provincial and Central Legislatures have been held in abeyance. Gurdwara elections were for the same reason postponed.

(c) The question of holding these elections will be considered in July 1945.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know how the elections to the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee are at par with the elections to local bodies ?

Minister : That is why we are reconsidering the whole situation in July 1945.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether it is not an undue interference in the exercise of democratic rights of the Sikhs ?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know why the Government is denying this privilege to the Sikhs ?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know why this question has been postponed to July and is not being considered now ?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether the Unionist Government is inviting the disapprobation of other people by not allowing them to hold their own elections?

Sardar Lal Singh : Can the Honourable Minister enlighten this House whether he has received any representation from any Sikh body except the Communists to hold elections?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether the honourable member's attention has been drawn to the resolution passed by the Shirmondi Gurdwara Par-bandhak Committee that they are also in favour of holding elections?

FOODGRAINS FOR EXPORT FROM THE PROVINCE

9295. Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of tons of foodgrains handled by the six trading firms appointed by the Punjab Government for buying for the purposes of export from the province from April, 1943, to March 1944;

(b) the total number of tons of foodgrains stored for consumption in the province;

(c) the quantity of foodgrains sent to other provinces, giving monthly details?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : (a) The total quantity of various foodgrains purchased by the six trading firms appointed by the Punjab Government for buying for the purposes of export from the province from April, 1943, to March, 1944 was 697,918 tons.

(b) It is not quite clear what is meant by this part of the question, or to what period it relates. The rationing Syndicates in rationed towns are required to store reserves of wheat for consumption; these are usually equivalent to about two months supplies. In the current wheat year Government have bought and stored 42,851 tons of wheat as a provincial reserve.

(c) A statement, showing the monthly exports of foodgrains to other provinces during the period mentioned in part (a) is laid on the table.

Months	Wheat	Gram	Barley	Rice	Millet	Maize	Total
April 1943	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
May 1943	12,365	869	..	2,573	320	..	16,127
June 1943	37,829	7,839	..	8,979	4,944	447	60,038
July 1943	46,778	15,394	101	975	6,410	503	70,161
August 1943	45,634	16,361	..	6,165	9,914	84	77,561
September 1943	25,031	8,197	472	4,524	4,986	..	43,210
October 1943	14,926	8,608	114	5,987	5,084	..	34,719
November 1943	37,734	7,727	..	8,912	3,081	..	57,454
December 1943	29,278	3,474	..	9,579	1,621	434	44,386
January 1944	30,371	4,574	501	17,133	6,458	4,603	63,640
February 1944	18,093	3,132	..	10,487	5,407	4,333	41,452
March 1944	23,475	397	..	7,680	6,817	6,516	44,885
Total	320,914	76,575	1,188	82,994	55,042	16,920	53,633

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : The Honourable Minister says in reply to part (b) that it is not clear to what period the question refers. It is the same period as that referred to in part (a). It is quite clear from the question.

Minister : If the honourable member is anxious to have any information I shall collect it for him.

WHEAT PRICE IN RATIONED AREAS

***9359. Sardar Kapoor Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister of Development be pleased to state—

(a) the quantity of wheat supplied or sold by the Punjab Government from their provincial reserves of 1942-43, 1943-44 and 1944-45 to the rationing areas of Rawalpindi, Lahore and Amritsar ;

(b) the averages sale price per maund for the whole stock thus supplied to these areas ;

(c) the average cost price of wheat per maund thus supplied from the stocks of these years separately ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : It is presumed that the question refers only to wheat supplied for the purposes of rationing in the three areas named ; and not to stocks issued to the public before the introduction of rationing. The information asked for is as follows :—

(a) and (b) (i) No wheat from the provincial reserve of 1942-43 was supplied or sold for rationing.

(ii) From the reserve of 1943-44, the following quantities were supplied to retail depôts for rationing :—

Rationed towns	Quantities issued in tons	Sale price per maund ex-godown
		Rs. A. P.
Rawalpindi ..	200	9 8 6
Amritsar	1,912	9 6 6
Lahore ..	..	..

(iii) From the reserve of 1944-45 the following quantities of wheat were issued up to 17th February 1945 :—

Rationed towns	Quantities issued in tons	Sale price per maund ex-godown
Lahore ..	1,499.6	Rs. 9.4.3 to 9.8.3
Amritsar	182.7	Rs. 9.3.6 to 9.4.6

(iv) The average sale price for the whole quantity of 3,794 tons thus issued is Rs. 9-6-8.6 per maund.

(c) The average cost price of wheat in the 1943-44 reserve was Rs. 10-0-3 ; it was bought before the re-introduction of price control.

The average cost price of wheat in the 1944-45 reserve is approximately Rs. 8-11-0 per maund. These figures do not include mandi charges or the other incidental charges incurred on purchasing, bagging, storing, transporting and issuing the grain.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : What is the average cost price of 1942-43 stock ?

Minister : I have not got the figure at present.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : What is the reason ?

Minister : If the honourable member waits till I answer the next question, he will get the reply.

GRAMS PURCHASED BY GOVERNMENT

***9361. Sardar Kapoor Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister of Development be pleased to state—

(a) the total stock of grams purchased by the Punjab Government for the Punjab Government reserves during the years 1942-43, 1943-44 and 1944-45 ;

(b) the total amount of expenses including cost price, commission, etc., incurred on the above-mentioned stock in respect of each year ;

(c) the total amount of commission paid to the commission agents in this respect ;

(d) the total amount received from the sale of stocks for these years separately ;

(e) the stock sold from each year's reserve respectively ;

(f) the total stock of grams at present with the Punjab Government ;

(g) the quantity of grams sold in the months of October and November, 1944, with its average sale price ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : (a) The quantity of gram purchased by the Punjab Government for the provincial reserve in each of the years named is given below :—

Year	Quantity
1942-43	415,653 mds.
1943-44	344,198 mds.
1944-45	Nil

(b) The total expenditure (including cost price, commission, etc.), incurred on these stocks for each year is given below :—

Year	Total expenditure Rs.
1942-43	24,10,440
1943-44	33,09,664
1944-45	Nil

(c) The total amount of commission paid to the commission agents in respect of these purchases is as follows :—

Year	Amount of commission Rs.
1942-43	12,229
1943-44	15,703
1944-45	Nil

(d) The total sum received from the sale of stocks of 1942-43 reserve was Rs. 31,76,869.

[Minister for Development]

From the sale of stocks of 1943-44 reserve an income of approximately Rs. 30,16,365 is expected, including sums that are still to be realised.

The question does not arise for 1944-45.

(e) The quantity sold in 1942-43 was 411,442 maunds.

The quantity sold in 1943-44 is approximately 322,195 maunds; the exact weight will not be known until the deliveries against all sales are completed.

For 1944-45 the question does not arise.

(f) No stock of gram remains with the Punjab Government out of 1942-43 reserve and there was none in 1944-45. There is no stock of unsold gram from the 1943-44 reserve (except for petty residues in a few godowns). Delivery is being given to buyers of certain stocks recently sold, and approximately 11,726 maunds remain to be delivered against these sales.

(g) The quantities of gram sold in the months of October and November, 1944, and the average sale rates are given below :—

Month	Quantity sold	Value	Average sale rate
October 1944	36,075 Maunds	Rs. 2,73,818	Rs. 7-9-5.3 per Md.
November 1944	*1,657 ..	9,434	Rs. 5-11-1.14 ..

*Represents damaged and weevil-infested stuff sold in the open market.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : The Honourable Minister has not supplied the statement in spite of the fact that it was so lengthy; I was expecting from the length of his statement that he would supply me a copy of his reply.

Mr. Speaker : May I know why the Honourable Minister did not supply a copy of the statement?

Minister : I do not know, but in the reply I have read out there is no statement attached to the answer.

Premier : The statement was not laid on the table. He has read out his reply. When a reply is read out, no question of statement being placed on the table arises.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : The question asks for more than one hundred figures dealing in lakhs, but the Honourable Minister has not had the courtesy to put the statement on the table.

Mr. Speaker : The question is whether the statement which the honourable member now says should have been placed on the table, has been read out or not.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Yes.

Mr. Speaker : No further argument is necessary. Had he not read it, then he should have supplied it beforehand.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : In reply to part (c) the Honourable Minister has said that the Government paid Rs. 12,000 as commission for the purchases in 1942-43. Is the Honourable Minister aware that this item of commission paid is very much smaller than the amount Government paid for the purchases in 1943-44 and 1944-45?

Minister : The amount of commission paid depends on the purchases made.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Considering the purchases made in 1943-44 and 1944-45, does the Honourable Minister consider that the amount of commission paid in 1942-43 is far less than the amount paid in 1943-44 and 1944-45?

Minister : Yes, it is true. The purchases in 1943-44 were much less than the purchases in 1942-43.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : He will concede that the commission paid per maund in that year was less than the commission paid in 1943-44 and 1944-45.

Minister : Yes, it is clear.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know the reasons for changing that arrangement which was made in 1942-43 when the Government had to pay less commission ?

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : Did Government make any profit out of these transactions ?

Minister : I have said that Government did make a profit on the provincial reserve 1942-43.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : It is admitted that the commission paid in 1942-43 was less, and at the same time it was stated previously that in 1942-43 purchases were made through the Co-operative Department. May I know the reasons for not buying all these foodgrains through the Co-operative Department ?

Minister : I have replied that the Co-operative Department could not cope with the extra work. That is why we had to create another department.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Could the Government not have increased the staff in the Co-operative Department ?

Minister : Government considered the creation of another department a better arrangement.

Sardar Santokh Singh : Is the Honourable Minister aware that commission was paid by the Co-operative Department also on the purchases made by them ?

Minister : I am not sure.

Sardar Santokh Singh : Is the Honourable Minister aware that there was no increase in the rate of commission either per maund or per hundred rupees in the year 1943-44 ?

Sardar Santokh Singh : Is he aware that the purchases by the Co-operative Department were not made through the six firms of buying agents but through various local *arhtis* ?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Did Government take any steps to increase the staff in the Co-operative Department so that they may be able to cope with the work ?

Minister : It was not necessary to increase the staff as we had started a new department to make the purchases.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is it a fact that Government have now under consideration the desirability of going back to the purchase system through the Co-operative Department ?

Minister : No.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Is it a fact that some of the officials of the Supply Department are more interested in the scheme of buying through agents than buying through the Co-operative Department ?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Was the question discussed in the Cabinet that buying through the Co-operative Department was better than buying through the Supply Department ?

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Does the Honourable Minister consider it more economical to buy through the Co-operative Department than buying through agents ?

Mr. Speaker : The question hour is now over.

UNSTARRED QUESTION AND ANSWER

INDIAN CHRISTIANS

1923. Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state whether he is aware of the fact that in the consolidated list published by the Government showing the proportions of all communities in various services there is a paucity of Indian Christians in many departments; if so, the steps Government intend to take to make up their deficiency wherever it exists?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat : Yes. It is also a fact that Indian Christians are over-represented in certain services. Government have already declared their policy that recruitment to all Government services should be made in the following proportions :—

					Per cent.
Muslims	..	..	..	..	50
Hindus	..	..	..	..	25
Sikhs	..	..	..	..	20
Scheduled Castes	..	..	..	..	2½
Other communities	..	..	..	..	2½

As the number of Anglo-Indians, Parsees, Buddhists, etc., in the province is very small the majority of posts reserved for 'other communities' must go to Indian Christians. Government, in introducing these ratios for recruitment to Government service about five years ago, rejected the expedient of immediately redressing existing inequalities in the various services and made it their policy to achieve fair representation of all communities gradually by steady and balanced recruitment in these ratios. Government still adhere to this policy and are at present actively reviewing the experience of the last five years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. Speaker : I call upon Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma to speak.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Before you ask Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma, I rise to offer a word of personal explanation.

11 a. m.

Mr. Speaker : I decline to allow the honourable member to make any personal explanation about yesterday's proceedings. I have seen a copy of the honourable member's version. It is full of unparliamentary, defamatory and improper accusations. I, therefore, cannot allow any personal explanation.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : There is one point.

Mr. Speaker : No arguments, please.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : On a point of order.

Mr. Speaker : There is no point of order, and I do not want to hear any. If the point of order relates to the point which the honourable member knew beforehand he should have given me notice.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : It is a very important one. My submission is that the remarks which you have made about his statement may be expunged because—

Mr. Speaker : Order, please.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : What will be put in the proceedings? No statement from him but straightaway remarks from the Speaker that his statement is full of defamatory accusations will be put in the proceedings.

Mr. Speaker : Order, please. There should be no criticism of my order or ruling.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : On a point of order. Will you not allow a member to withdraw his remarks which you thought were defamatory and as a result of which you ordered him to withdraw? Can he not withdraw them?

Mr. Speaker : That question is not before the House.

Captain Sardar Naunihal Singh Mann : On a point of order. We have only one hour for making speeches and there are several members who wish to speak today. I would, therefore, request you to fix a time limit for speeches.

Mr. Speaker : I call upon Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma to speak.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : I want to draw your attention to one thing only.

Mr. Speaker : I cannot allow the honourable member to speak.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS

MISCELLANEOUS AND EXTRAORDINARY CHARGES

Post-War Reconstruction

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : (Kangra, West-General, Rural) (Urdu): Sir, I was submitting yesterday that the Government has not been able to make the preliminary survey in the course of the last seven years. I am pained to say that our Government is nothing but a régime of landlords. They devote all the time to their own affairs and have no time to think over the problems of the people. The Honourable Premier has made reference in his speech to the post-war programme of the Government. They have earmarked a few crores of rupees for the purpose. They know that they can keep themselves in power by offering squares of land and by the distribution of such other benevolence to their own party men. In these circumstances they have allotted eight crores of rupees for post-war reconstruction. I would like, however, to submit that this amount is not sufficient for one key industry even. They can do no good either in the educational field or in the field of agriculture. Similar is the case in respect of all the other industries or fields of progress.

State ownership in the beginning of an industry is very essential. Along with capital and other things protective tariffs are highly necessary. As long as Government does not adopt such measures none of its efforts can bear any fruit at all. Government should not waste the time of the House and public money by these eye-washes, but far more comprehensive programmes in the field of national reconstruction should be adopted.

In the last seven years Government has completely disappointed us. They have not taken any steps to facilitate industrial development in the country and about the future we are very doubtful. I do not know whether they will be able to run these industries successfully or not. Their past policy of inactivity does not lend any support to their present boasts. If the Government had not enough money for all the post-war schemes, it could have borrowed it from the capitalists in the province. But for the present Government that too is impossible. The people have lost all confidence in this Government, because of its past deeds. This Government never extended any help to the industrialists at the time they were establishing those industries. But when those industries began to pay, Government came forward and got possession of those industries in the name of nationalisation or rationalisation. That is what they have done with the motor transport quite recently. People are afraid that if they will establish any industry, Malik Khizar Hayat and his party will get it under their control. And because these persons do not enjoy the confidence of the public, the people do not show any interest in industry.

I shall lay before the House certain facts about what is called rationalisation and nationalisation of motor transport of which there is mention in the present budget. Let me explain what it ultimately comes to. So far as the manufacture of motor cars is concerned, Government has got nothing in its power. It cannot produce motor spirits or the various parts of motors. Then what are they going to nationalise?

[Pt. Bhagat Ram Sharma]

have collected a few facts which will give you some idea of this so-called nationalisation. These days the income stated by the motor operators is roughly estimated as twelve annas per mile per vehicle. The price of motor car, its tyres and tubes cost six annas; petrol, gas and oil four annas; and one anna goes towards depreciation. So that out of these 12 annas only one anna is left. From this one anna the staff is paid and the owner gets something. Are they going to nationalise this one anna and thus deprive the poor drivers, the clerks and the owners, who have perhaps bought motors after selling their whole property?

Let us look at it from another point of view. We were told yesterday that the Premier wanted to save the transporter from the railway. I would like to place certain facts before the House in this connection. This matter was brought in the Central Assembly by means of an adjournment motion, which runs as follows:—

That the House now be adjourned to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, to discuss the transport policy of the Government of India as disclosed by the Railway Board's letter No. 9083-TX., dated 17th April 1944, which in practice amounts to the ousting of the public individual or company operators who are solely responsible for the development of this industry in India from the road and obtain a monopoly of this field as exemplified by the recent project of N.-W. Railway to run competitive petrol-driven goods services between Lahore—Pathankot—Nagrota as against private gas plant driven services.

In reply to the above motion, Sir Edward Benthall said: "In pursuance of the policy in the Punjab, we consulted with the Punjab Government....." That shows that all that was done with the approval of the Punjab Government; and still it was said here yesterday that the Punjab Government wanted to save the motor transport from the railway. The Central Government has acquired for N.-W. Railway more than 50 per cent of the total shares of Kulu Valley Bus Co. after consulting the Punjab Government.

Now I shall say a few words about the industrial development of this province. As I have already said this Government with its past record does not inspire confidence in the public. That is why nobody is prepared to come forward to give them financial help in order to take up big industries. As a result of that the Government has not been able to make any development in the industry of the province.

The next factor in the industrial development is labour. For labour it is necessary that the country should be free. The Government should be national and there should not be any hold of a foreign agent there. The Government of Punjab today is under the influence of the foreign agent and is not free to act in its own way. Now I come to transport and roads. The condition of the roads in the province is so bad that if I begin to give examples, the whole day may pass. There are many such places in this province which are at distances of thirty to thirty-five miles from a road. So far as my district is concerned, I can point out thousands of places where no road exists within a radius of 30 miles. In that district a key industry, i.e., woollen mills can be started. If tomorrow Government think of starting this industry in that district how will they be able to do it in the absence of transport facilities? There are hundreds of places in that district where a human being cannot reach easily even on horseback. So, the first thing which Government should have done during the eight years of their régime was that the road and transport system should have been developed to such an extent that no place should have been left in the province which could not be approached easily. As I have already pointed out there are many places in my district which cannot be approached at all. So far no approach roads have been constructed and no bridges have been built to connect those places with other highways. Thousands of soldiers from my district are serving on the front. When they come on leave sometimes they have to wait for days together before they can get to the other side of the river. Bridges can easily be built at such places like Dera, Nadaun and Sujampur, where soldiers for lack of bridges have to wait for days and days before they can cross the river when the river is in flood.

Mr. Speaker : The honourable member may now wind up his speech.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : I have to say many things in regard to the post-war reconstruction. I have stated that Government can do three things. They can start key industries, light industries and manufacture machinery for agricultural industries. I have already submitted that Government have not the necessary funds to start key and heavy industries, nor do they command sufficient confidence of the people to get funds from them for the purpose. Therefore only light industries can be started in the province by individual capitalists. But individual industries cannot be started so long as there is no national Government which should command the confidence of the people. So long as Government do not get the confidence of the people, individual capitalists cannot be persuaded to start industries in the provinces. This is the thing which they should create in the people. Let the honourable members realize their responsibility. To-day the Government is in their hands. They have been elected by the people. So a great responsibility rests on them. Their deeds are being written. Let them remember that if they continue the policy they are pursuing at pre ent, the posterity will condemn them. They would be amazed that their forefathers had been committing such mistakes. Do they not like their deeds to be written in gold ?

Mr. Speaker : The honourable member may now wind up. I have already requested him to do so.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : I was submitting that the members of the Cabinet should realise their responsibility and they should not do anything which is considered to be against the best interests of the people of this province. I will finish my speech after referring to one other matter. What was the principle on which the Ministry was formed ? It was the democratic principle on which this Government came into power. But what have they done to keep up the traditions of a democratic government ? Everybody thought that now when the representatives of the people are ruling the province, unfair and unjust treatment would not be meted out to the people. But it is a sad commentary on the working of this Government that no less than 21 members of this House have been either kept behind the bars or restricted in their respective towns or villages for the last three or four years ; some of them are still rotting in jails. It does not become the dignity of this Government to keep them in jails and to impose restrictions on them. Let my friends pause and consider whether posterity will not condemn their action.

Mr. Speaker : I request the honourable member to resume his seat.

Minister for Public Works (The Honourable Nawab Sir Muhammad Jamal Khan Leghari) (Urdu) : Sir, the speeches of my honourable friends Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang and Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma have surprised me to some extent. You will very kindly recall that the transport policy of the Government was discussed for full one day in the House and every member was provided ample opportunity to have his say in regard to that matter. All the same my friends have thought it fit to waste the time of the House by discussing that matter once again yesterday as well as to-day. So far as I have been able to understand their speeches there was nothing in them except that the policy of Government was criticised. My friend Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang gave an instance in which he likened the Punjab Government to a hunter and the Government of India to a wolf and said that the wolf wanted to devour the lamb and the hunter wanted to feli the wolf and then take the lamb for himself. He is pleased to entertain whatever idea he likes. So far as the position of the Government is concerned, it has amply been made clear by the Honourable Premier when the question of motor transport was discussed in the House.

The second objection has been raised against the provision made by Government in the budget for the taking over of two motor transport companies. So far as that is concerned, a full day has already been wasted in discussing that matter and the objec-

[Minister for Public Works]

tions raised then were amply met by Government. I do not see any justification to enter into those details once again.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : The Honourable Minister says that we wasted a day. Will he withdraw the word 'zaia'? We did not waste the day. We discussed this matter.

Nawab Muzaffar Ali Khan Qizilbash : It is a question of opinion.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : I strongly protest against the remark.

Minister for Public Works : If the honourable members had contented themselves with the discussion of the matter on that day, I would not have said that the day was wasted. As it is, the discussion on that day seems to have made no effect on my friends and I cannot but say that that day was simply wasted.

Mr. Speaker : That expression is not unparliamentary.

Minister of Public Works : I was submitting, Sir, that it amounted to wasting the time of the House to discuss a subject which had already been discussed the other day in this House. I did not mean any disrespect to the honourable members of the House. I only wanted to point out that this very subject had been considered by us already and there was no use repeating the same discussion today.

So far as the policy of Government with regard to the post-war planning is concerned, the Honourable Premier has fully explained it and I need not go into that question over again. I strongly support the remarks of the Premier and I hope that the whole House will appreciate the salutary policy of the Punjab Government.

At present some 106 companies are operating and the Government is quite mindful of the various reforms that can be introduced. There was a good deal of anomaly in the rates of fares as well as about the timings of the lorries. Some companies charged more and others charged less. The passengers did not know where they stood. Again, there was no regularity and punctuality of time in the running of the lorries. Under these circumstances the Government has decided to start two companies by way of experiment. If the experiment works well, the scheme will be expanded, otherwise not. I hope there can be no serious objection to an experiment of this kind.

My honourable friend, Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang, has tried to raise some objections against the budget. But I wonder how a learned man of the calibre of Dr. Narang, who has been Minister himself, could raise such flimsy objections. These objections do not stand the test of reasoning at all. What is it that he says after all? He says that no details have been given about the expenditure of various items. Does the honourable member expect the budget to include the minutest details about the prices of tyres, oil, wires and other such articles? If such minute details are to be included in the budget, it would become too bulky to be presentable at all. We will need a cart to load the budget in for carrying it into this House. Such a thing is not desirable. Big and broad details can be given and they have all been given in the budget. The budget of the Government could not be like the budget of a trading company or a business concern. Probably the learned doctor has seen the budget of a trading company and wants to compare our budget with that. He is sadly mistaken. I would make bold to say that there is no defect in our budget. It is absolutely correct and as sound and detailed as it should have been. The various items like motor oil, tubes, tyres and wires were not so essential as to require mention in the budget, and if need be we will include them as well. The next objection raised by the Honourable member was that we had not mentioned the tax to be paid. Let me make it clear that whereas private companies have to pay a tax to the Government, the companies of the Government will not have to pay that tax. This is an ordinary matter of commonsense but has not been fully appreciated by the learned critic of the Government. The budgets of trading companies are different from the budgets of the Government.

As regards oil, I may point out that it had been mentioned in the column of petrol. I wonder if the learned critic had himself read the budget carefully before levelling the charge of incompleteness of the budget against the Government. Even the matter of insurance does not very much concern us because in private concerns people indulge in too many unnecessary things, in order to shirk their responsibility. Government is fully responsible for the loss of lives or material. However, if it is essential that insurance charges are to be mentioned we will see what can be done in this respect.

As the time at my disposal is very short and the Honourable Premier wants to wind up the discussion, I resume my seat.

(The Honourable Premier being called upon to speak).

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : Sir, you have not given one minute to the Muslim League Party during these two days to take part in the discussion of this very important subject of Post-War Reconstruction. This party has been deprived of an opportunity for expressing their views on this question. The Government has taken twice the time given to the members of the Opposition.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I ask one question from the Minister for Public Works ?

Mr. Speaker : Order, order. I have called upon the Premier to speak. The honourable member can send his question to me.

Premier (The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat) : I am entitled to reply to some of the suggestions made on the statement.

Honourable Member : He cannot.

Premier : Nobody has spoken from Government side except the Minister for Public Works. *(Interruptions).*

Mr. Speaker : Let the Honourable Premier proceed. The honourable members know very well that under no rule can the Premier be deprived of having his say whenever he gets up.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : On a point of order, Sir.

Mr. Speaker : No point of order.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : It is a very important point of order.

Mr. Speaker : I cannot allow the honourable member to interrupt.

(At this stage the Muslim League members left the Chamber).

Premier : I have got up at this moment, when there are only 20 minutes left just to explain the policy of Government. If my honourable friends the Muslim Leaguers wanted to take part in the discussion they could have done so. They did not get up earlier. They are a party of contradictions. They say one thing in their manifesto and they do another thing on the floor of the House. That is why they are running away. I cannot help it. Let them go. The public can judge for themselves. They do not seem to be willing to listen to another man's point of view. That is perhaps why they have gone out.

As far as the post-war reconstruction is concerned, this Government as usual took the lead in the summer of 1942. We appointed a committee with Sir Manohar Lal as chairman, soon after I had taken over, and also various sub-committees, to take up the question of post-war reconstruction. Various honourable members presided over those committees and the honourable members of this House will remember that there were a number of meetings held at Simla. As a result of those discussions and taking the benefit of the advice of the members of this House, various departments worked out schemes costing in all about 200 crores of rupees. As these were schemes that we might not have been able to put through in a reasonable space of time and as it is desirable all over the world to lay down a time limit in which a particular,

[Premier]

scheme or schemes should be carried out, we also decided to curtail our scheme of post-war planning to a period of five years. We have laid down a target of expenditure and that target is one hundred crores of rupees. The proposals on a provincial basis were described by the Minister for Post War Planning the other day when he was speaking on a resolution. He did not go into the detailed schemes. Those detailed schemes will be put before the House. A book on post-war planning is under preparation. As soon as it is ready, it will be sent to the honourable members who can then give us the benefit of their criticism in the light of the specific proposals. Today we wanted to get general ideas. I may say that with the exception of Sir Gokul Chand Narang and Sayed Amjad Ali no one seems to have put forward any constructive criticism. My friends of the Congress have not, I think, given the matter the consideration that it deserved.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : I beg your pardon. Honourable Premier has not heard Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma.

Premier : He said something totally irrelevant to post-war reconstruction. If that is the scheme of the Congress, I am sorry for it. The other party of contradictory manifestoes have already left. The League Party, according to its manifestoes, stood for the Land Alienation Act but in the House had sponsored and supported Khawaja Ghulam Samad's Musawat Bill as to which I shall have more to say later. The Muslim League Party have left, and so I do not want to say anything further on that subject.

I may say that though a five-year plan may be put before the House, it is not going to take five years and I hope, God willing, that we shall be able to put it into execution and complete it earlier. If we get the chance to execute it, it will result in a much better and happier Punjab. Our engineers are already in America. Plant is on its way. Forty crores out of 100 crores will be spent on irrigation and hydro-electric work. In this connection I may mention that Government has decided to employ the Civil Pioneer Corps for the building of dams and roads and for carrying out the big schemes. I want the reactions of this House to this proposal as a whole. At present various works are carried out through contractors who make money and they are efficient in their work. When these ex-soldiers come back to their country, they will at once be supplied with some work. We shall use them for building roads and dams. No doubt they will cost us more than the contractors did, but this arrangement will be of great advantage as it will give our ex-soldiers employment. This will be an experiment, and if it works well we will be able to give employment to the ex-soldiers and the benefit will come to the State and the nation-building five-year programme will go ahead.

As I have said before, we believe in gradual socialisation and not socialisation out and out.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Socialism seems to frighten the renegades.

Premier : Every one knows who is the renegade.

Mr. Speaker : Order, order.

Premier : These interruptions are only meant to keep the House in good humour. He was a toady of the Khalsa Panth or a toady of His Master's Voice across the Himalayas.

Then I was referring to the plans put forward by the various departments. I shall in this connection first of all take up the industry about which certain very useful suggestions were made by Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang. They will receive the very careful consideration of the Minister for Post-War Planning. I shall refer to some of them.

An honourable member : Let the Minister in charge speak.

Premier : I am Minister in charge of every department when I am on my legs.

Dr. Narang said that the Mandi scheme was over-loaded. That is not a fact. As far as primary power is concerned, the Mandi station is over-loaded, but there is still great scope for supplying more power from the Mandi Power Station. I believe that the future of the Punjab depends on its electrification, which, once done, will help not only in industrialisation but also in improving our canal irrigation. I am in favour of supplying electricity as cheaply as possible. We have big rivers and wide falls. Schemes are ready and when we find industrialists who are willing to take the load, we can increase the supply. Hydro-electric power will be generated under the following projects when completed. The Bhakra Dam Project will give us 200,000 K. W., the Rasul Hydro-Electric scheme will give us 22,000 K.W., the Kishan Dam Project will give us 90,000 K. W. and Dhyangarh Dam Project and Marhu Tunnel will give 250,000 K.W. As to the Bhakra Dam and the Rasul Project the position is a happy one as the House was informed by the Honourable Minister of Revenue, but as to the last two of these projects, that is the Kishan Dam Project and the Dhyangarh Dam and Marhu Tunnel Project, I am not in a position to hold out any hope as to when they will be taken up. But the three projects already mentioned by me are sufficient to cope with any demand for power that can be made by the industries in the Punjab. (*Sardar Bahadur Sardar Gurbachan Singh*: What about the rate? Will it be lowered?) I believe in the electrification of the Punjab and the creation of a net work other than the net work of watercourses and I also believe in cheap electricity. Unless electricity is cheap industries will not flourish. But the difficulty is that you cannot create power as easily as you can make water courses. There is a limit to transformation from high voltage to low voltage. Every endeavour will be made to make electricity cheap and available not only to towns but in every corner and every village of the Punjab (*Hear, hear*).

It was said that we are not planning for industry and we have not had any expert committee. As I have already said, a committee of industrialists, over which my honourable friend, the Finance Minister, is presiding, has been in existence for the last two years and if anybody applies to it he will get a lot of valuable information. But the Government of India has taken upon itself industrial planning and they have a committee of experts at present. As soon as its recommendations are made available, we will be able to select those industries that can thrive in the Punjab. I am a believer in expert committees and we should get knowledge from wherever it is available. We can get experts from abroad on short term contracts if necessary and as soon as Indians fit to take their places can be found, they will be appointed. (*Interruption*). From whatever source wisdom may come, we have to take it.

Sir Gokul Chand Narang went on to say that the state should indirectly subsidise industries by paying dividends. That is a very thorny problem and I may plainly tell the House that we are not in favour of this suggestion. It is dangerous to pledge the tax-payer's money to pay for somebody's mistake. But we can help industries in other ways. He said that the State Aid to Industries Act is not fully utilised. As you will see from the budget the provision under this head has been increased from Rs.75,000 to 2 lakhs. We are prepared to help by taking over those industries where there is a danger of the loss of capital, but we cannot be responsible for paying dividends to other people. We do not want to give indirect or hidden subsidies to industry. We want to give subsidies openly and to those industries that can stand competition after the war. That is our policy. We will give subsidies to industries and help industrialists. We are planning on these lines.

Then there is the question of State *versus* private ownership. The policy of the Punjab Government is to help private enterprise throughout the industrial field, barring fertilisers and certain other basic industries, where we believe that eventually

[Premier]

they will have to be subsidised heavily. On the question of nationalisation of transport I have nothing to say. Motor transport is public utility enterprise, it has already been discussed and my views have been known and have been supplemented today by my honourable colleague, the Minister for Public Works.

The trouble is that whatever we may do, we cannot get plants. For instance, we tried to get plants from the Government of India and we have not been treated fairly. I am lodging a protest with the Government of India. We tried to have a biscuit factory in the Punjab which is an important wheat growing province but that has been given to some other province. We had a scheme for having a factory for artificial fertilisers as we have plenty of raw material but the factory has been taken away by Bihar. I am trying to get that industry back for the Punjab.

Mention was made of sending students abroad for training. Now 500 students are to be sent by the Government of India and the Punjab's quota should be about 60. They are being selected and they are going for training. We are not going to be content with 60. (*Sardar Sohan Singh Josh*: What is the procedure for selection?) A board will be appointed. It is a minor matter. We are not leaving things there. We want to send more students on scholarships. I have not the time to enter into details.

My honourable friend mentioned Scheduled Castes. You may not find separate provision here for them. It will be under the various heads. But in the aggregate they will get a very big amount. I announced something here the other day with regard to scholarships and the sinking of wells for these depressed classes. I intend, with the approval of this House, to set apart a fund for the Scheduled Castes, so that they may take advantage of the various schemes which they cannot otherwise do. (*Applause*). We certainly want to remove the stigma of inferiority from a section of God's creatures and in this effort I hope Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang will help us by action and not merely by speeches. We have very big schemes and I have not the time at my disposal to expatiate on them.

I want to refer to one other matter before I sit down. We are going to get help from the Government of India for post-war reconstruction. So far the criterion laid down is that this help will be on the basis of population. In the Punjab, we have to undertake responsibility for receiving about a million soldiers and providing for them. It will be very unfair treatment if help is given on a population basis because those provinces which have not provided any soldiers need not incur much expenditure on this account. What I want is that there should be a fair formula evolved so that the provinces should be paid on the basis of the expenditure they are going to incur on provision for ex-soldiers.

These ideas are the basis of our planning. We hope to have Punjab better and happier than other provinces. With God's help the caravan will go on.

Mr. Speaker : question is—

That the demand be reduced by Rs. 1,600.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is :—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 61,40,500 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of Miscellaneous and Extraordinary charges.

The motion was carried.

The following demands were then put from the Chair and adopted :—

LAND REVENUE

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 62,24,300 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of Land Revenue.

PROVINCIAL EXCISE

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 13,66,500 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1946, in respect of Provincial Excise.

STAMPS

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,93,500 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of Stamps.

FORESTS

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 70,62,900 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of Forests.

REGISTRATION

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,45,900 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of Registration.

MOTOR VEHICLES ACTS AND OTHER TAXES AND DUTIES

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 14,40,800 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of charges on account of Motor Vehicles Acts and Other Taxes and Duties.

IRRIGATION WORKS

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,41,26,600 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of Irrigation (Works).

IRRIGATION ESTABLISHMENT CHARGES

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,63,95,500 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of Irrigation Establishment Charges.

IRRIGATION (CAPITAL)

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,01,17,000 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of Irrigation (Capital).

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 45,04,300 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of Administration of Justice.

JAILS AND CONVICT SETTLEMENTS

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 63,97,100 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of Jails and Convict Settlements.

POLICE

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,72,33,000 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946 in respect of Police.

SCIENTIFIC AND MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,11,600 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments.

EDUCATION (EUROPEAN AND ANGLO-INDIAN)

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,74,700 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of Education (European and Anglo-Indian).

MEDICAL

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 68,68,800 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of Medical.

PUBLIC HEALTH

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 37,79,900 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of Public Health.

AGRICULTURE

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,20,84,600 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of Agriculture.

VETERINARY

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 23,50,200 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of Veterinary.

CO-OPERATION

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 39,41,300 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of Co-operation.

INDUSTRIES

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 35,17,500 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of Industries.

CIVIL WORKS

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,00,88,200 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of Civil Works.

BUILDINGS AND ROADS ESTABLISHMENT CHARGES

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 22,69,800 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of Buildings and Roads Establishment Charges.

ELECTRICITY SCHEMES—WORKING EXPENSES

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 17,07,500 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of Electricity Schemes—Working Expenses.

REVENUE EXPENDITURE CONNECTED WITH ELECTRICITY SCHEMES

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 20,29,900 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of Other Revenue Expenditure connected with Electricity Schemes.

CIVIL WORKS (CAPITAL)

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,79,400 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of Civil Works (Capital).

ELECTRICITY SCHEMES (CAPITAL EXPENDITURE)

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 9,67,800 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1946, in respect of Electricity Schemes (Capital expenditure).

FAMINE

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,00,000 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of Famine.

SUPERANNUATION ALLOWANCES AND PENSIONS

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 67,09,600 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of Superannuation Allowances and Pensions.

STATIONERY AND PRINTING

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 21,24,240 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of Stationery and Printing.

CAPITAL ACCOUNT OF OTHER PROVINCIAL WORKS—OUTSIDE REVENUE ACCOUNTS

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 7,00,000 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of Capital Account of other Provincial Works—Outside the Revenue Account.

ADVANCES NOT BEARING INTEREST

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,38,200 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of Advances not bearing interest.

LOANS AND ADVANCES BEARING INTEREST

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 21,46,500 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1946, in respect of Loans and Advances bearing interest.

The Assembly then adjourned till 12 noon on Monday, 19th March 1945

1911

1911年1月1日 星期日
1911年1月2日 星期一
1911年1月3日 星期二

1911年1月4日 星期三

1911年1月5日 星期四

1911年1月6日 星期五



1911年1月7日 星期六

1911年1月8日 星期日

1911

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

THIRTEENTH SESSION OF THE FIRST PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Monday, 19th March 1945.

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber at 12 noon of the clock. Mr. Speaker in the Chair.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Sardar Santokh Singh: With reference to the answer to question No. 9861¹ asked on 16th March last, will the Honourable Minister be pleased to state whether the quantity that is stated in reply to part (a) of the question, includes the quantity requisitioned by the Government?

Minister: It is very difficult for me to give this information off-hand.

Sardar Santokh Singh: Does it include the quantity of purchases that were made?

Minister: Yes.

Sardar Santokh Singh: May I know how much it is?

Minister: I am sorry I cannot give the figures off-hand.

Sardar Santokh Singh: May I know whether any such quantity was requisitioned or not?

ABOLITION OF DEBT CONCILIATION BOARD, JHELUM.

***9402. Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan:** Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the number of applications which were pending before the Debt Conciliation Board, Jhelum, at the time the Board was abolished;

(b) the total money involved in the pending suits;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Commissioner, Jhelum and the Commissioner, Rawalpindi Division, recommended an extension of six months for the said Board beginning from June, 1944, if so, the reasons for overlooking the recommendation of these officers and abolishing the Board;

(d) whether he has ever received any complaints against the working of the Debt Conciliation Board, Jhelum, if so, whether he would be pleased to place those complaints on the table of the House;

(e) whether it is a fact that the Honourable Minister before abolishing the Board consulted the Honourable Premier on this subject?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: (a) Number of applications under section 9 of the Punjab Relief of Indebtedness Act, 1940...148.

Number of applications under section 23 of the Punjab Relief of Indebtedness Act, 1940...50.

(b) Rs. 2,55,872.

(Development Minister)

(c) and (e) The recommendations of individual officers and further correspondence or discussions in connection with them are treated as confidential and it is not in the public interest to disclose them.

(d) Yes. It is not in the public interest to place these complaints on the table of the House.

IRON FOR MANUFACTURE OF PERSIAN WHEELS.

***9476. Sardar Ajit Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) how much iron and steel has been entrusted to the Agricultural Engineer to the Punjab Government by the Punjab Government for the manufacture of persian wheels and when was it entrusted to him ;

(b) how many persian wheels has he got manufactured and wherefrom ;

(c) how many persian wheels has he supplied to the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Multan, out of the lots he has got manufactured ;

(d) if the answer to (c) be nil the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : (a) The Government of India allotted to this Government a quota of 1,062 tons of iron for the third quarter of 1944 (July, August and September, 1944), and 1,458 tons for the fourth quarter of 1944 (October, November and December, 1944) not for the manufacture of persian wheels only but for all big agricultural implements, such as persian wheels, cane crushers, and fodder cutters, etc. All this iron has been distributed to the various foundries selected for manufacturing big agricultural implements.

(b) Out of the quota of third quarter of 1944 an order for 750 persian wheels complete with buckets and chains for the whole province was placed with the following firms :—

(1) Messrs. Abdul Qayum-Fazal Mohammad, Jullundur City	..	300
(2) Messrs. Prabh Dial-Dewan Chand, Jullundur City ..	..	50
(8) Messrs. United Iron Works, Jullundur City ..	..	50
(4) Messrs. Gurn Nanak Iron and Steel Co., Jullundur City	..	50
(5) Messrs. Ali Mohammad-Ghulam Mohammad, Jullundur City ..	..	50
(6) Messrs. Amir Bux Allah Bux and Sons, Gujranwala	..	50
(7) Messrs. Sada Ram-Hari Ram, Gujranwala ..	..	50
(8) Messrs. Sundar Singh-Deswanda Singh, Gujranwala ..	..	50
(9) Minerva Manufacturing Co., Gujranwala ..	..	50
(10) Messrs. Abdur Rahman, Raht Merchant, Gujrat ..	..	50
Total ..	..	750

Out of the quota of fourth quarter of 1944 an order for 1,115 persian wheels for the whole province was placed with the following firms :—

(1) Messrs. Kishore Bros. Engineering Workshop, Karnal	..	25
(2) Messrs. Ravi Verma Steel Works, Ambala Cantt.	..	30
(3) Messrs. Chief Director Rural Supply Co., Ludhiana	..	100
(4) Messrs. Persian Wheel Syndicate, Jullundur ..	..	90
(5) Messrs. Abdul Qayyum Fazal Mohd., Jullundur	..	200

(6) Messrs. Khem Chand-Raj Kumar, Jullundur	50
(7) Messrs. Amin Chand-Bola Nath, Jullundur	50
(8) Messrs. Amin Chand-Payare Lal, Jullundur	50
(9) Messrs. United Iron Works, Jullundur	40
(10) Messrs. Guru Nanak Iron & Steel Manufacturing Co., Jullundur	40
(11) Messrs. Kisan Iron Industries, Jullundur	40
(12) Messrs. Standard Iron Works, Jullundur City	30
(13) Messrs. Modern Foundry Works, Jullundur	25
(14) Messrs. Banta Singh-Shamir Singh, Jullundur	25
(15) Messrs. Rana Bros, Persian wheel maker, Hoshiarpur ..	15
(16) Messrs. Sewa Singh & Bros, Moga	25
(17) Messrs. Prem Singh-Khem Singh, Moga	25
(18) Messrs. Iron Syndicate, Montgomery	25
(19) Messrs. Fazal Mohd.Din-Ghulam Mohd., Sharakpur ..	15
(20) Messrs. The Sharma Engineering Co., Amritsar ..	15
(21) Messrs. Puran Singh, Contractor, village Sarja, Dhulka, Amritsar ..	15
(22) Messrs. Amir Bux-Allah Bux, Gujranwala	25
(23) Messrs. Sada Ram-Hari Ram, Gujranwala	25
(24) Messrs. Shuddo Bros., Gujranwala	25
(25) Messrs. Muhammad Hussain & Sons, Gujranwala	15
(26) Messrs. Sada Ram-Hari Ram, Kamoki	25
(27) Messrs. Sundar Singh-Daswand Singh, Daska	25
(28) Messrs. Thakar Das & Son, Daska (Sialkot)	15
(29) Messrs. Muhammad Shafi-Maula Bux, Wadala Sandhuan ..	15
(30) Messrs. Hardit Singh-Gurdial Singh, Talwara, S. Kot ..	15
Total	1,115

Out of 1,865 persian wheels for which orders have been placed, 589 only have been manufactured so far, out of which 477 have since been sold to the cultivators.

(c) 20 and 15 persian wheels have been allotted to the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Multan, out of the quotas of third and fourth quarters, respectively, against his demand of 17 for the third quarter and 18 for the fourth quarter. These are, however, still being manufactured by Messrs. Abdul Qayum-Fazal Mohammad, Jullundur City.

(d) The supply to the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Multan, has been delayed for want of specifications (design and requirements) suitable for the tract. These have since been obtained and supplied to the firm who are now expected to deliver the persian wheels shortly.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Has it come to the notice of the Government that there is shortage of iron for making the implements for agriculture in this province?

Minister : Yes.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Has the Honourable Minister ever considered the desirability of recommending to the Government of India that more iron should be given to the Punjab as its quota?

Minister : Whatever iron we now have is the result of our representation to the Government of India.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Has another recommendation been made to the effect that the wants of Punjabees cannot be complete unless more iron is supplied to them ?

Minister : The Punjab Government has always impressed upon the Government of India the urgency of supplying more iron to the Punjab.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : When did the Honourable Minister last recommend the case of the Punjab for supply of more iron ?

Minister : I have not got the definite date here, but I can assure the honourable member that we are pressing the Government of India for supplying more iron.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know to what extent the non-supply of persian wheels stood in the way of 'grow more food' campaign started by the Punjab Government ?

Minister : It is very difficult to give this information off-hand.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Will he tell us whether the agricultural implements are distributed by the Agriculture Department or by private manufacturers ?

Minister : They are distributed on the recommendations of the Agriculture Department.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Is he aware that in such cases there are many complaints made to the department that these implements are being sold at a higher price than fixed by the department ?

Minister : Not to my knowledge, but if my honourable friend mentions any specific case, I will look into it.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Is it not a fact that persian wheels are most essentially required in intensifying the 'grow more food' campaign started by the Government ?

Minister : Yes.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know what the Government has done with regard to supplying these persian wheels to the peasantry at large ?

Minister : I have already said in reply to the question that we have been able to get some iron from the Government of India and the manufacture of persian wheels has been taken up and the persian wheels which have been manufactured by different firms have been supplied.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether it is a fact that many districts are complaining that they are not getting any persian wheels at all ?

Minister : Not within my knowledge. All the districts stand in need of persian wheels and I think they are getting their quota.

Sardar Ajit Singh : Is he aware that only 75 buckets are ordered by the Deputy Director of Agriculture for one persian wheel in Multan, while the requirement there is of 100 buckets ?

Minister : I have already said that on the recommendations of Deputy Director of Agriculture, Multan, an order has been placed for 20 and 15 persian wheels.

Sardar Ajit Singh : Where will they get these 25 remaining buckets from ?

Minister : If the honourable member will let me know what the complaint is, we will be able to supply more buckets ; there will be no difficulty.

CORRUGATED IRON SHEETS FOR REPAIR OF BUCKETS AND PERSIAN WHEELS

***9477. Sardar Ajit Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state how many corrugated iron sheets were indented from the Agricultural Engineer to Punjab Government by the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Multan, for the repairs of buckets of old persian wheels, which were needed by the zamindars of his circle, and how many have been supplied by the Agricultural Engineer to the Punjab Government to the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Multan, if none have been supplied, the reasons therefor?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Multan, did not ask for any corrugated iron sheets for the repairs of buckets of the old persian wheels in his circle and consequently none were supplied. In fact the corrugated iron sheets are not suitable and are never used for the repairs of buckets of persian wheels.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether Government has supplied any other iron plates in order to make these buckets?

Minister : We have received plain galvanised sheets for the manufacture of buckets.

FIREWOOD AND FUEL DEALERS.

***9549. Chaudhri Jugal Kishore :** Will the Honourable Minister of Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether small dealers in firewood and fuel are required to take licences;

(b) whether the licence-holders are required to keep a regular register to be filled up daily and to submit their fortnightly returns to the district authorities;

(c) whether he is aware of the fact that the majority of such dealers are illiterate and of small means and are, therefore, unable to keep correct and regular accounts of their stocks of firewood;

(d) whether the Government has recently received any representations from the dealers in firewood representing their grievances, if so, the action taken thereon; and if no action has been taken, the reasons therefor?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : (a) Presumably, by "fuel" the honourable member means charcoal, if so, the reply both as regards firewood and charcoal is in the affirmative;

(b) Yes; but a distinction is drawn between dealers who despatch firewood from one station to another, wholesalers, their agents or representatives and commission agents on the one hand and retailers or petty shopkeepers in towns on the other. It is essential for the former to maintain records and registers as enjoined in the conditions of the licence granted under the Punjab Firewood Control (Licensing of Dealers) Order, 1944. It is not necessary for the retailers and petty shopkeepers in towns to maintain accounts of sales necessary for the wholesalers, etc. The retailers and petty shopkeepers in towns are advised to keep an account of daily receipts and sales *in totals only in any script* they wish to—that they can submit fortnightly returns asked for under condition 2 (4) of the Licence, but the maintenance of registers is not insisted upon. As long as such retailers furnish the information regarding—

(i) total receipts,

(ii) total sales,

(iii) sales, if any, to army contractors, factories and kilns, and

[Development Minister]

(iv) balances every fortnight.

No registers need be maintained by them.

(c) Yes. That is why the retailers and petty shopkeepers are treated on a different footing.

(d) Yes. The grievances of the firewood dealers were removed and necessary amendments to the Punjab Firewood Control (Licencing of Dealers) Order were made, *vide* Punjab Government, Revenue Department, notification No. 2987-FC-44/2618, dated the 14th September 1944, and the District Firewood Controllers were instructed that no prosecutions except under clause 8 of the Punjab Firewood Control (Licencing of Dealers) Order and under conditions 2(1) and 2(4) of the conditions of the Licence be launched without prior consultation with the Provincial Firewood Controller.

VETERINARY SUPERINTENDENT OF LAHORE DIVISION

***9747. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the educational and professional qualifications of the present Veterinary Superintendent of the Lahore Division ;

(b) his length of service ;

(c) whether he has superseded any of his seniors on account of his present appointment ; if so, the reasons therefor ;

(d) the names of the officers superseded by him?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : Selection for the post of Superintendent, Civil Veterinary Department, Lahore Division, is under the consideration of Government. For the present, its duties are being carried on by the Personal Assistant to Director of Veterinary Services, Punjab, in addition to his own.

Parts (a), (b), (c) and (d) do not arise.

DEPOT HOLDERS OF GURDASPUR DISTRICT.

***9748. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the number and names of the wholesale and retail depot-holders of the Gurdaspur district who have been challaned and punished for black-marketing ;

(b) whether any one of the above depot-holders was punished for taking part in the agitation against General Sales Tax Act, if so, the names of such persons ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : (a) The following three wholesale sugar depot-holders of Gurdapur district were challaned for black-marketing:—

(1) Trilok Nath of Dorangla.

(2) Messrs. Lachhman Dass-Bishan Dass of Gurdaspur.

(3) Messrs. Amar Nath Kohli & Sons.

Cases against them are still pending in courts.

(b) I regret that the answer to part (b) of the Assembly question is not ready.

SARDAR DILBIR SINGH, ASSISTANT ENTOMOLOGIST, AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, LYALLPUR.

***9752. Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the educational qualifications of Sardar Dalbir Singh, Assistant Entomologist, Agricultural College, Lyallpur ;

(b) the qualifications required for the post of Assistant Entomologist to the Punjab Government ;

(c) if the said Sardar Dilbir Singh does not possess the necessary qualifications, the reasons for the appointment to the post in question ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : (a) (i) B. Sc. (Agriculture).

(ii) M. Sc. (Agriculture) but the Punjab University subsequently quashed his result.

(iii) Since 1934 he has been in the Punjab Agricultural Department doing research on insect pests of sugarcane.

(b) (i) Degree in Agriculture from a recognised University with Agricultural Zoology including Entomology as one of the major subjects.

(ii) Post-graduate training in Entomology in general and sugarcane Entomology in particular.

(iii) Research experience in sugarcane Entomology.

(c) As his M.Sc. result was quashed by the Punjab University, the Punjab Government decided to remove him from the post and requested the P. S. C. to advertise the post. The Commission have been unable to recommend any suitable person and steps are being taken to find out one.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Have you arrived at any conclusion about the appointment of any Muslim ?

Minister : I have already stated that the matter was referred to the Public Services Commission but they have not been able to find a suitable candidate for the job.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : Is there any Muslim of the same qualifications in the department or not ?

Minister : I have already stated that the matter rests with the Public Service Commission and the Government has nothing to do with it.

Khan Sahib Khawaja Ghulam Samad : What is the report of the Public Services Commission ?

RATIONING

***9855. Sardar Kapoor Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the dates on which the towns in which and the articles in regard to which rationing has been introduced in the Punjab ;

(b) the total amount spent by the Government up to 31st December 1944 in this connection ;

(c) the nature of the difficulties experienced by the public as evidenced by the complaints addressed to the local authorities or to the Government in this behalf ;

(d) whether Government intend to extend the rationing of necessaries of life as well as to the other parts of the province ; if so, when and to which districts of the province ?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh : (a) The rationing of wheat, wheat atta and sugar has been introduced in the three towns of Lahore, Amritsar and Rawalpindi.

Rationing commenced at Rawalpindi on May 28, 1944, at Amritsar on June 18, 1944, and at Lahore on July, 2, 1944, in respect of sugar, and July 10, 1944, in respect of wheat and wheat atta.

[Development Minister]

Besides these schemes of regular rationing, in almost all urban areas of the province some system of controlled distribution exists in respect of sugar and in some cases of other necessities. These systems vary considerably from place to place and are initiated by local officers. In this respect the attention of the honourable member is drawn to the statement laid on the table in connection with the reply given to Assembly question No. 9233 (starred) during the last session of the Assembly.

(b) Rs. 5,80,000 approximately.

(c) Complaints in respect of the three rationed areas under Government control have been received from different quarters.

(d) It is not quite clear what is meant by the term "necessaries of life". Government has decided to introduce the rationing of wheat, wheat-atta, and sugar at Simla. No decision has yet been made as to whether it is to be extended to other towns as well.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Will the Minister be pleased to inform the House whether complaints about supply of bad wheat in Lahore areas were made to the Government?

Minister : I have already stated that complaints were made.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Is the Minister aware that in spite of the admission by the rationing authorities that the wheat supplied was not good nothing has been done by the Government?

Minister : We are taking whatever steps are possible to improve the quality of wheat.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Is the Minister aware that nearly six months back this matter was brought to the notice of the Government but the Government has not taken any action so far?

Minister : The complaints made to the Government were enquired into and wherever possible, suitable amends have been made.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know what action Government has taken so far to supply good wheat? Is it not a fact that the same quality of wheat is being supplied these days?

Minister : Government has taken several steps. For instance, we have now asked the Syndicate to clean the wheat before it is issued to the public.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know the reasons why in spite of best efforts even these days bad wheat is being supplied in Lahore?

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : How many complaints were received from Lahore *ūlaqa* during the three months?

Minister : It is very difficult to give the number of complaints but I think more than a dozen complaints were made.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Was any enquiry made to find out whether those allegations were correct or not?

Minister : Enquiries were made but the complainants refused to come forward.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : If the Honourable Minister is convinced that the allegations are well founded, would he consider the desirability of taking suitable action against the person or persons concerned?

Minister : I have already stated that action against the depot-holders was taken.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Was any action taken against the person in charge of rationing or is any action intended to be taken against him?

Minister : The person in charge of rationing is not directly concerned ; it is the depot-holders who are responsible for the supply of wheat.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Was it not due to lack of proper supervision on his part ? Does the Honourable Minister deny that ?

Minister : In a way the entire rationing staff is concerned with that.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Has the Government found out as to who is responsible for the supply of bad wheat ? The Syndicate or the Supervising staff ?

Rai Bahadur Mukand Lal Puri : Is the Government aware that the price of wheat charged in rationing areas is higher than the market price ?

Minister : The price of wheat in rationing areas was slightly higher than the market price some time back, but at present it is lower than the market price.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Is the Government aware that suggestions from various quarters were made for undertaking the supply of wheat of a much better quality at a lower price ?

Minister : I have seen such statements in the Press but no definite proposal has come to me.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Is the Honourable Minister prepared to ask the public to give definite suggestions and at the same time to consider those suggestions and to order his staff to comply with those suggestions if they are proper ?

Mr. Speaker : That is a request for a particular action. Disallowed.

Rai Bahadur Lala Gopal Das : The Honourable Minister has said that the price of wheat in rationing areas is lower than the market price whereas it was higher formerly. May I know whether it is due to the deterioration of the quality of wheat supplied in the rationing areas ?

Mr. Speaker : That is an insinuation.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Has the Government themselves allowed the Syndicate to deteriorate the quality of wheat ?

Mr. Speaker : Disallowed.

QUININE TABLETS.

***9615. Sardar Ajit Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister of War Planning be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of Government quinine tablets which were issued by the District Medical Officer of Health, Multan, to his own dispensary at Multan, in the months of October, November and December, 1942 :

(b) how these tablets were disposed of ?

The Honourable Major Nawab Ashiq Hussain : (a) There is no dispensary at Multan under the charge of the District Medical Officer of Health, nor was there in 1942.

(b) Does not arise.

MR. BASHESHA LAL OF PUTLIGHAR, AMRITSAR.

***9571. Sardar Teja Singh Swatantar :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether Mr. Bashesharlal of Putlighar, Amritsar, has been restricted within the limits of the Amritsar Municipal Committee, if so, the reasons therefor and the date on which restriction was imposed upon him ;

(b) the date on which he was last released from jail and the grounds on which he was sent there ;

[8. Teja Singh Swatantar]

(c) whether the Government intends to remove the restrictions imposed on him ; if so, when ; and if not, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary ((Sardar Jagjit Singh Mann) : (a) *First part.*—Yes.

Second part.—With a view to preventing him from acting in any manner prejudicial to the public safety and the maintenance of public order.

Third part.—20th of November 1944.

(b) In October 1944. He was convicted under rule 98 of the Defence of India Rules and under section 17 of the Criminal Law Amendment Act for delivering an objectionable speech.

(c) Government's intentions cannot be disclosed.

PROVINCIAL RIFAQAT COMMITTEE.

***9572. Sardar Teja Singh Swatantar :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the names of the present office bearers of the Provincial Rifaqat Committee set up by the Punjab Government for promoting communal harmony in the province ;

(b) the amount of money spent up to date by the said Committee since its inception ;

(c) the nature of the activities of the Committee during this period ;

(d) the names of the districts and tahsils in the province where its branches have been opened ;

(e) the arrangements, if any, for auditing the accounts of the Committee in public interest ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Mann) : (a) There is no "Provincial Rifaqat Committee". A list of members of the Punjab Communal Harmony Advisory Board is laid on the table.

(b) Nil. The Communal Harmony Board is purely advisory.

(c) The Board has advised on matters brought to its notice.

(d) Communal Harmony Committees have been established in the Lahore and Amritsar districts and their tahsils.

(e) The Board is not entrusted with the expenditure of any funds and so it has no accounts to be audited.

List of members of the Punjab Communal Harmony Board.

1. Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan, M. L. A. (Punjab).
2. Sheikh Sadiq Hasan, M. L. A. (Punjab).
3. Khan Bahadur Nawab Muzaffar Khan, C.I.E., M. L. A. (Punjab).
4. Khan Bahadur Maulvi Ghulam Mohyuddin Qauri, M. L. A. (Punjab).
5. Maulvi Ghulam Murshid, Imam of Shahi Mosque, Lahore.
6. The Honourable Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram, Revenue Minister, Punjab.
7. Dewan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath.
8. Rai Bahadur Dewan Badri Dass, Advocate, High Court, Punjab
9. Dewan Bahadur Dewan Krishen Kishore.
10. Rai Bahadur Dr. Maharaj Krishen Kapur.
11. The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh, Minister of Development, Punjab.
12. Sardar Bahadur Sardar Jodh Singh, Principal, Khalsa College, Amritsar.
13. Sardar Bahadur Sardar Mohan Singh, Member, Punjab Public Service Commission.

14. **Sardar Sir Datar Singh.**
15. **Dewan Bahadur S. P. Singha, M. L. A. (Punjab).**
16. **Mr. Rallia Ram, Headmaster, Mission High School, Lahore.**
17. **Mr. Gopal Singh, Khalsa, M. L. A. (Punjab).**
18. **Sheikh Sir Abdul Qadir, Chief Justice, Bahawalpur.**
19. **Khan Bahadur Abdul Aziz, Prime Minister, Kapurthala.**
20. **W. H. F. Armstrong, Esquire, Director of Public Instruction, Punjab.**
21. **Syed Nur Ahmad, Director, Information Bureau, Punjab.**
22. **J. C. W. Eustace, Esquire, I. C. S., Organiser, National War Front, Punjab.**

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan: May I know if the membership of that Committee or Board is confined to the municipal limits of Lahore and the municipal limits of Amritsar?

Parliamentary Secretary: I have said, Lahore and Amritsar districts and their tahsils.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh: Is it a fact that rabidly communal minded persons are serving in the Rifaqat Committee?

Parliamentary Secretary: No.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh: Is Master Tara Singh a member of the District Rifaqat Committee, Amritsar?

Rai Bahadur Mukand Lal Puri: Master Tara Singh is a very nice gentleman.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh: Will the honourable member please state the names of the members of the Committee?

Premier: A copy of the statement has already been laid on the table.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh: May I know if any past antecedents, communal or other, of a person are considered when enlisting his name on the Committee?

Premier: No such criterion is laid down. If an honest person is prepared to come forward and work for the Rifaqat Committee, we presume that he will work for the furtherance of communal harmony.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan: Who recommends the names of the persons for membership of the Rifaqat Committee to the Government?

Premier: The local Rifaqat Committee is different from the Provincial Board. The honourable member is confusing the issue.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan: Who recommends the names for the membership of both the local Rifaqat Committee and the Provincial Board?

Premier: The Board was formed by the late Sir Sikander Hyat-Khan. He took all those prominent persons in the Board who, in his opinion, would give valuable advice for the furtherance of communal harmony.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan: The Honourable Premier has said 'that prominent persons' were taken on the Board. Were they considered to be prominent on account of their financial position or from any other point of view?

Premier: They were the people whom Sir Sikander thought would be useful to the Board for the furtherance of communal harmony.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan: The Honourable Premier has said 'prominent'. Prominent in what respect? Was their financial position the only consideration?

Premier: The honourable member should know that the Board was meant for the furtherance of communal harmony in the province and was neither an industrial concern nor a Bank, so the financial position does not come into the picture so prominently as the Leader of the Opposition would like to suggest.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : May I know the number of gentlemen who have helped in this communal harmony movement ?

Premier : The honourable member should give notice.

Sardar Teja Singh Swatantar : Has this Board been of any use to the province or has it simply been consuming sugar ?

Premier : I do not know whether the members of the Rifaqat Committee consume more sugar or the gentleman who talks so loud. There is a tussle between various interests. The gentlemen on these committees give advice and the movement is going on. There is no measure by which I can judge whether the communal situation is better. All I can say is that it is not so bad as it was before. Thank God.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Have these committees been set up by the Government in view of the future elections ?

Mr. Speaker : Disallowed.

Premier : If I mention some other country, my honourable friend gets cross.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Are all the 22 members Government servants or M. L. As. of the Ministerial Benches ?

Premier : I note the honourable member's wishes and I shall welcome his co-operation. (*Laughter*).

GURU, A DETENU.

***9580. Sardar Teja Singh Swatantar :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) the weight of Guru, a detenu at present confined in the District Jail, Multan at the time of his arrest and now ;

(b) whether it is a fact that he has not been keeping good health for some time ; if so, the action Government intend to take in the matter ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Mann) : For the honourable member's information, security prisoner Guru Das has since been released.

DR. LEHNA SINGH SARGODH.

***9787. Mrs. Duni Chand :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that Dr. Lehna Singh Sargodh was refused release on parole to attend upon his only child, a girl, in her illness ;

(b) whether she died soon after his request for release on parole was refused

(c) the name of the authority that refused his release on parole ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Mann) : (a), (b) and (c). Two telegrams dated 7-6-1944 requesting the release of Dr. Lehna Singh on parole were received by Government from his wife. In one of these telegrams she mentioned the illness of his daughter and in the other the death of the child. Government thus received at the same time information regarding the illness of the child and information regarding her death. As the girl was already dead, it was considered that there was no point in releasing Dr. Lehna Singh on parole because there were other relatives who could attend to her funeral.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether Government at the time considered the question of releasing him on parole for performing the religious ceremonies after her death ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have answered that there were other relatives who could attend to her funeral.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Did the Government consider the question of releasing him on parole, so that he might go out and console his wife in her bereavement ?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether the doctor himself applied for parole ?

SHRIMATI PARVATI DEVI OF KAMALIA.

***9801. Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Shrimati Parvati Devi of Kamalia elder sister of Dharam Chand Narang, Proprietor of Hindi Bhawan, Lahore, was arrested in September, 1942 ;

(b) whether it is a fact that she is an aged lady about 60 years old ;

(c) whether it is a fact that she is confined in the Female Jail, Lahore, where she is all alone and is keeping indifferent health,

(d) whether it is a fact that she is not provided with any female warder to look after her and to help her in case of need ; if so, the reasons for the same ;

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Mann) : For the honourable member's information, C. D. detenu Parvati Devi has since been released.

MESSRS. DHARAM CHAND NARANG, AND DEV CHAND NARANG.

***9802. Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state:—

(a) whether it is a fact that Messrs. Dharam Chand Narang and Dev Chand Narang, proprietors of Hindi Bhawan, Lahore, were arrested in April 1948 ; if so, the reasons for their arrest and the law under which they were arrested and are detained at present ;

(b) whether the Government intend to try them in a regular court of Law ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Mann) : (a) (i) Yes.

(ii) For reasons connected with the public safety and the maintenance of public order.

(iii) They were arrested under rule 129 of the Defence of India Rules and subsequently detained under rule 26 of the Defence of India Rules, [Section 3 (1)b of the Restriction and Detention Ordinance.

(b) (i) No.

(ii) The section of the law under which they were arrested does not enjoin Prosecution in court.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : Is it a fact that Mr. Dev Chand Narang and Mr. Dharam Chand Narang never participated in any political activities ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Had they not taken any part they would never have been proceeded against.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Is it a fact that they are under arrest on account of suspicion by Government ?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether it is a fact that in the case of Messrs. Dharam Chand Narang and Dev Chand Narang Rule 129 of the Defence of India Rules is inapplicable ?

Parliamentary Secretary : That is your opinion.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Is it a fact that there was not sufficient material for prosecuting these men in a court of Law, so they were detained under Rule 26 of the Defence of India Rules ?

Parliamentary Secretary : No.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : What are the reasons for not prosecuting them ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I have given the reason in my reply. They are arrested under Rule 129 of the Defence of India Rules and subsequently detained under Rule 26 of the Defence of India Rules, section 8 (1) b of the Restriction and Detention Ordinance.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : The question is why it was thought proper to detain them under Rule 26 or Rule 129 and not to prosecute them in a court of Law ?

Parliamentary Secretary : The step that Government took was considered to be most appropriate.

MESSRS. DHARAM CHAND NARANG AND DEV CHAND NARANG.

***9803. Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Messrs. Dharam Chand Narang and Dev Chand Narang are at present detained in the old Central Jail, Multan ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the climate of Multan has not suited the above-named detainees ;

(c) whether it is a fact that Mr. Dharam Chand Narang is suffering from piles and his weight has been considerably reduced ;

(d) whether it is a fact that Mr. Dev Chand is suffering from Malaria and has eye trouble ;

(e) whether it is a fact that several representations have been made by them and their relatives for their transfer to Lahore or some other place nearer their home to facilitate interviews and medical treatment ; if so, what action, if any, has been taken on those representations ;

(f) the reasons for not transferring them to the Central Jail, Lahore, to facilitate their treatment ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Mann) : (a) No. They have since been transferred to the District Jail, Sialkot.

(b) No. The health of both of them throughout their stay in the old Central Jail, Multan, was quite satisfactory.

(c) Civil Disobedience detenu Dharam Chand Narang is only suffering from very mild piles and this complaint is not giving him any trouble at present. His present weight is 126 lbs. which is 5 lbs. above the standard weight.

(d) Civil Disobedience detenu Dev Chand Narang is not suffering from malaria at present. He was suffering from slight vision trouble for which suitable glasses were provided. Now there is no such trouble. His present weight is 21 lbs. above the standard weight.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

TILAK NATIONAL LIBRARY, RAWALPINDI.

***9848. Lala Bhagat Ram Choda :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state:—

(a) the date on which the Tilak National Library Rawalpindi, was declared notified building and taken possession of by the Police ;

(b) the number of books in the Library at the time when the police took possession of it ;

(c) whether the Government intend to hand over the Library to its Trustees ; if so, when ; if not, why not ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Mann) : (a) Part I, 14th August, 1942.

Part II. 18th August, 1942.

(b) 772.

(c) Government's intentions cannot be disclosed.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Has the Honourable Minister's attention been drawn to the fact that great inconvenience is being caused to the library—attending public in Rawalpindi ?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether any of the books are missing ?

Parliamentary Secretary : No.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : What was the reason for taking these books away from the Library ? Was it proscribed literature ?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Have any protests been sent to Government for keeping this library in Government control ?

Parliamentary Secretary : Government has not received any protest in connection with these books.

DETENUES OR INTERNEES.

*9849. **Lala Bhagat Ram Choda** : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the number of detenus or internees who applied for permission to appear in the various University Examinations of the Punjab University ;

(b) the number of such persons who have been refused the necessary permission and the reasons for the same ;

(c) whether Government is aware that permission under similar conditions is given every year by the Bengal and other Governments ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Mann) : (a) and (b) It is regretted that the information asked for by the honourable member cannot be supplied as its collection would involve the expenditure of an amount of labour and time incommensurate with any benefits to be obtained.

(c) Government has no information.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether the Government has considered the question of encouraging or discouraging this practice of permitting the detenus to appear in the various University examinations ?

Parliamentary Secretary : I do not think any supplementaries arise out of the reply I have given.

PANDIT PREM PRAKASH DAVESHAR.

*9851. **Lala Bhagat Ram Choda** : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that Pandit Prem Prakash Daveskar, General Secretary, Dharam Bakhshak Mandal, Durgiana Temple, Amritsar, was arrested on the 27th July, 1944 ; if so, the place where he was lodged after the arrest ;

[Laa Bh agat Ram Chada]

(b) whether it is a fact that he was confined in a 10 square feet cell in the Govindgarh fort and that he was obliged to take food and ease himself in the same cell ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that during his incarceration he was not allowed to meet anybody and that the door of his cell was kept locked throughout day and night ;

(d) whether pressure was exerted on him to crave pardon ;

(e) whether it is a fact that he addressed an application to the Deputy Commissioner of the Amritsar District which was withheld by the fort authorities ;

(f) whether it is a fact that after two months time he was sent to the Sub-jail, Amritsar, wherefrom he was transferred to the Multan Jail, if so, the 'Class' in which he was placed as a prisoner ;

(g) whether it is a fact that that prior to this he was always treated as a special class or B class prisoner ;

(h) whether he was supplied any religious book for study in Jail ;

(i) the cause of his arrest and the offence with which he was charged ;

(j) whether it is a fact that he has since been released and interned within the limits of the Amritsar city ;

(k) whether it is a fact that he himself and eight Hindu religious associations of Amritsar have applied to the Deputy Commissioner that he may be allowed to recite Gita in the capacity of a learned Brahman , if so, whether it is a fact that this request has been turned down ;

(l) whether it has been brought to the notice of the Government that Gita is a religious book of the Hindus, if so, the reasons for not allowing Pandit Prem Prakash Daveskar to deliver lectures on it in a temple ;

(m) whether Government is prepared to allow him to lecture in Gita in the Durgiana Temple ; if not, the reasons therefor ;

(n) whether government is also prepared to order an inquiry into the allegations of torture made by him, if not, the reasons therefor ?

Parliamentary Secretary (Sardar Jagjit Singh Mann) : (a) *Part I.*—Yes.

Part II.—He was detained in the Gobindgarh Fort, Amritsar, after his arrest.

(b) *First Part.*—No. There is no cell in the Govindgarh Fort having an area of less than 290 square feet.

Second part.—The arrangements usually made for persons confined in Govindgarh Fort were made in this case.

(c) *Part I.*—None of his relatives applied for an interview with him there.

Part II.—The cells in the Fort are kept locked for the safe custody of the prisoners.

(d) No.

(e) No.

(f) *Part I.*—Yes.

Part II.—He was treated as a security prisoner class II.

(g) Government have no information.

(h) Yes. He was supplied four religious books for study in jail.

(i) *Part I.*—His activities were prejudicial to the public safety and the maintenance of public order.

Part II.—He was arrested under rule 129, Defence of India Rules.

(j) Yes.

(k) Only Prem Prakash Daveswar, and not any Hindu religious association, applied to the Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar for permission to recite Katha or Gita on every Sunday. Permission was refused as Prem Parkash is debarred under the terms of his restriction order from making any speeches in public.

(l) *Part I.*—Yes.

Part II.—The attention of the Honourable member is invited to the answer to part (k).

(m) This is under consideration.

(n) No allegations of torture have been made by Prem Prakash Daveswar.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : With reference to part (d) of the question may I know whether it is a fact that he was not allowed to go out of the cell to ease himself and to take food and whether he was asked to do both the things in the cell itself?

Parliamentary Secretary : There was no exception made in his case. He was treated like others.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : May I know whether it is the same treatment that is meted out to the other detenus?

Premier : The honourable member is not fair in making inferences and implications. The Parliamentary Secretary has given a very clear reply that the usual arrangements were in existence.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma : What are those arrangements?

Premier : The usual arrangements.

Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang : One day's confinement in the cell may show the Honourable Premier. He may ask his colleague, the Finance Minister, what it is.

Premier : Who knows we may not be there.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

SECURITY PRISONERS IN SPECIAL JAIL, GUJRAT.

*10087. **Sardar Kapoor Singh :** Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) whether he has received any complaint from the security prisoners confined in the Special Jail, Gujrat, against the harassing and humiliating treatment meted out to them by the jail authorities;

(b) whether he is aware of the fact that the jail authorities of Gujrat Jail threatened to open fire upon the security prisoners; if so, the reasons therefor?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat : (a) No.

(b) The jail authorities of Gujrat did not threaten to open fire on the security prisoners.

SECURITY PRISONERS IN NEW SUB-JAIL, GUJRAT.

*10089. **Sardar Sohan Singh Josh** : Will the Honourable Premier be pleased to state :—

(a) whether he is aware of the fact that Mr. Bhagat Ram, Deputy Superintendent of the new Sub-Jail, Gujrat, recently used insulting and abusive language towards a representative of the Security Prisoners, Mr. Puri, at the jail gate ;

(b) whether the security prisoners have indicated their intention to go on hunger strike as a protest against this incident ;

(c) whether the jail authorities threatened to open fire on the security prisoners ; if so, the reasons therefor and the action Government have taken to ease the situation that has arisen in the jail ?

The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat : (a) There is no Deputy Superintendent of the new Sub-Jail Gujrat. The Assistant Superintendent has not used insulting and abusive language to any security prisoner.

(b) Not so far as Government is aware.

(c) The jail authorities did not threaten to open fire on the security prisoners. I might also add the following :—

In view of the allegations made in regard to the new Sub-Jail, Gujrat, the Inspector-General of Prisons was asked to pay a special visit to the sub-jail and has done so. His report shows that there is no substance in the allegations made. No complaint was made to him by Messrs. Harjab Singh, Kultar Singh, Gajjan Singh, Pran Nath Puri or Munshi Ahmad Din. The jail officers denied having maltreated, abused or insulted these or any other prisoners, and I see no reason for disbelieving them.

2. The honourable members who have given notice of adjournment motions and questions have perhaps heard garbled version of a minor incident which occurred on March 3rd. Two security prisoners, Pran Nath Puri and Som Parkash Shaida, came to the main gate of the jail at about 6 p.m. and Pran Nath Puri asked for it to be opened, as he wished to see the Assistant Superintendent. The warder on duty was passing out of the jail a party of masons and P. W. D. workmen and the prisoners had to wait until he had finished doing so. They were annoyed by the delay and when he opened the gate for them, they abused the warder filthily in the presence of the Assistant Superintendent. The warder lost his temper and abused the prisoners. The Assistant Superintendent made a full report of the incident to the Superintendent, who enquired into the matter and passed orders on 10th March 1945. The warder was sentenced to 14 days' confinement in barracks and the two security prisoners to 14 days' confinement in cells and to the loss for two months of the privilege of writing and receiving letters.

3. I am unable to understand how the rumour started that the jail authorities had threatened to open fire on the prisoners. No such threat was made, nor was there any reason whatsoever to make it, nor has any of the prisoners mentioned such a threat either to Government or to the Inspector-General of Prisons who paid a visit quite recently.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Does the Honourable Premier know that in the report of the Inspector-General also there is mention of the protest raised by these prisoners against the high-handedness of the jail authorities ?

Premier : I had taken pains to make complete inquiries into the matter as soon as the honourable members opposite raised it and I have given them the gist of my information. I understand that no complaint was made to him by Messrs. Harjab Singh, Kultar Singhi, Gajjan Singh, Pran Nath Puri and Munshi Ahmad Din.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Does the Honourable Premier know that Munshi Ahmad Din made a report on 12th March 1945 about this incident and he asked the jail authorities to send that complaint to the Government ?

Premier : I have given the official reply. An altercation took place and hot words were exchanged between one jailor and two security prisoners.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : When the Inspector-General went there to make inquiries under the orders of the Honourable Premier, did he—I mean the Inspector-General—take the trouble of making inquiry from the gentleman concerned ?

Premier : I have given the very clear reply that no such complaint was made.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether Sardars Harjab Singh and Kultar Singh were turned out of the *deorhi* and insulted when they went there to have a talk with the tailor who was sewing their clothes ?

Premier : This new incident was never mentioned nor am I aware of it. If desired, further inquiries can be made in regard to this matter.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Were any statements recorded with regard to these incidents and if so is the Honourable Premier prepared to lay those statements on the table for the information of the House ?

Premier : It was not at all necessary for the Inspector-General to do so. He went there at my instance. He made all necessary inquiries and he has given me the information which I have put before the House. If he had recorded statements I would have refused to place them before the House because that is not the procedure.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Was it oral inquiry or was the inquiry in writing ?

Premier : No elaborate statements were recorded when the Inspector-General made his inquiries.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether this information was conveyed to the Inspector-General of Prisons or not ?

دیٹی : سپرنٹنڈنٹ نے کہا کہ وارڈر نے یہی لکھا ہے کہ تمہارا منہ توڑ ہونگا۔ اس نے تمہارا منہ تو نہیں توڑ دیا۔

Did all this, which I have read in Urdu, come before the Inspector-General ?

Premier : The security prisoner first used filthy language and then the warder also did so. It was none of the job of the warder to reply in kind to the abusive language of the prisoner. He has also been punished for using that kind of language.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Is the Honourable Premier aware of the fact that Sardar Harjab Singh's statement was recorded and he has definitely stated that he was maltreated by the darwan and when this happened the Assistant Superintendent of the jail was smiling ?

Premier : Is there any rule which lays down that an officer should be punished for smiling ?

Sardar Kapoor Singh : The Assistant Superintendent was smiling while Sardar Harjab Singh was being abused. Does the Honourable Premier know that ?

Premier : The warder who used bad language towards two security prisoners has been punished.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Was he punished just after the notice of adjournment motion was given ?

Premier : The order was passed on 10th March 1945.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Is it not a fact that when the security prisoners protested the Assistant Superintendent said, *kaunsa tumhara band toot gaya*.

Premier : He punished both because of the altercation. I do not know whether these words were used.

Mian Abdul Aziz : Is it not shameful language ?

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Were not complaints about newspapers being handed over to these prisoners in tatters placed before the Inspector General, Prisons ?

Premier : I do not understand this question.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : Was it brought to his notice that books are being sent back to Lahore for censorship because the Superintendent, Jail, Gujrat, says that he is not going to become blind by reading all the books ?

Premier : As I have stated, barring this incident no specific complaint was made. The truth is now coming out that there was no substance in the previous allegation. It is for this reason that supplementaries are being asked on the subject of supply of books, etc.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Is the Honourable Premier aware that Kultar Singh, son of Sardar Kishan Singh, a member of this House, was sent for by the Superintendent and Deputy Superintendent, Jail, to the *deorhi* and the very darwan asked him the reason for his going to the *deorhi* and when Kultar Singh said that he was called, the darwan said, *bakwas mat karo* ?

Premier : One warder used this language and he has been punished. He could not be hanged for using these words.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : For once in your life tell the truth.

Premier : Not once but always. If my friends over there would lend me genuine ears, they would hear the truth. My information is that the prisoners have been trying to form themselves into a committee. That committee wants to run the jail and the jail authorities are naturally not in a position to recognise the committee. That is how the trouble began. Otherwise, barring this incident, there is nothing else.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Is the Honourable Premier aware that the committee was not formed to run the jail but was formed to put the grievances of the security prisoners before the jail authorities ? The statement made by the Superintendent or the Assistant Superintendent is wrong.

Premier : I am glad that the cat has come out of the bag. Sardar Kapoor Singh admits that there was a committee which wanted to take into its own hands the running of the show and wanted to overawe the officers. That committee cannot be recognised. Otherwise the relations were happy and will continue to be so.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : May I know whether the Superintendent and the Police Sub-Inspector there are commissioned to bring about the conditions by which they can lathi charge the prisoners ?

Premier : This is an insinuation which I cannot reply to. The honourable member gets a lot from across the mountains.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : I have got all the things written from inside the jails.

Premier : That shows that there is leakage. How else does he get information from the jails ?

UNSTARRED QUESTION AND ANSWER.

DEARNESS ALLOWANCE TO GOVERNMENT PENSIONERS.

1924. Khan Sahib Chaudhri Fazal Din : Will the Honourable Minister of Finance be pleased to state—

(a) the rate of dearness allowance granted to Government servants in the Punjab ;

(b) whether Government pensioners are allowed dearness allowance at the same rate or on the same basis as Government servants ; if not, the reasons therefor, and the action Government intend to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Sir Manohar Lal : (a) The attention of the honourable member is invited to paragraph 7(a) of Finance Secretary's Memorandum on the Budget for 1945-46 ;

(b) Government pensioners are not given dearness allowance at the same rate as Government servants. The reason for this differentiation is that consideration of public interests, i.e., the efficiency of the public service do not have the same force in respect of pensioners as of persons in the active service of Government.

REFERENCE TO LATE KHAN BAHADUR SARDAR MUHAMMAD HASSAN KHAN GURCHANI

Premier (The Honourable Malik Khizar Hayat) : Sir, I rise to make a reference to the sad death of Khan Bahadur Sardar Muhammad Hassan Khan Gurchani, who died on Saturday last due to heart failure.

1 p.m.

As honourable members will remember, he was amongst us during the budget session. While attending the meetings here, he fell ill and he was admitted into the Mayo Hospital for treatment where his death took place. He was an important member of this House right from 1937. He was also a member of the old Legislative Council. He was an honorary magistrate, 1st class, in his ilaqa and before assuming the Sarbarah Tumandari of the Gurchanis, he was an Inspector of Police. He gave up this job to serve his people and became a Sarbrah and an honorary magistrate, 1st class. He was a member of the District Board of Dera Ghazi Khan and also a member of the Chief Jirga where his work was always appreciated. He took pride in serving the people. He was a strong and vigorous personality and had the cause of the poor always at heart. In this House he always said something useful for his district and for his constituency. He belonged to the old school of thought and therefore was a very useful member of this House and a great personality in his district, whom we shall greatly miss. Now, I wish to ask that, as a token of respect for the deceased, the condolence and sympathy of this House be conveyed to the members of the bereaved family, and to his son, who is a Government servant at present serving in the Muzaffargarh district. I have to suggest with the concurrence of the Honourable Leader of the Opposition, with whom I have discussed the matter, that the House may adjourn for one hour.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : Sir, I join in the expression of condolence and sympathy made by the Honourable Leader of the House, on the sad demise of Khan Bahadur Sardar Muhammad Hassan Gurchani, who was seen by us in this House only a few days ago advancing the grievances against the Unionist Government and hoping for justice at the hands of the Government. I hope that the Government, now because they have their best sympathy for the deceased, would care to know those grievances that he enumerated the other day and which must have come to the notice of the Honourable Ministers of Development, Education and the Honourable Premier. I associate myself with the Honourable Premier and wish that you may kindly convey our sympathy and condolence to the members of the bereaved family.

Begum Rashida Latif Baji [Inner Lahore, Muslim Women, Urban] (*Urdu*) : Sir, I rise to express my grief at the sad demise of Khan Bahadur Sardar Muhammad Hassan Khan Gurchani. He was a noble soul. The interest of his constituents was constantly in his thoughts. You will be pleased to recall that during the discussion of the budget his speech was interrupted by the Opposition on every step, so much so that he was unable to represent the grievances of his people. He requested me afterwards as he could not have his say owing to the repeated interruptions, to bring the grievances of his ilaqa to the notice of the Government when I caught the Honourable Speaker's eye. He wanted me particularly to urge the need for a middle and a high school for girls in his ilaqa. He intended to make this request personally to the Government when the demand for grant in respect of Education was being considered by the House, but as he could not get an opportunity to speak at that time he entrusted his mission to me. He also told me that he was a keen supporter of girls' education and wanted the Government to establish middle and high schools for girls in Dera Ghazi Khan. In view of the fact that it was his last wish I would urge the Government with all the emphasis at my command that this wish of his be fulfilled and the school be named after him to stand as a lasting monument to his tireless efforts in the cause of female education in his ilaqa. With these words I concur with the sentiments expressed in the condolence resolution and wish to convey my heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved family.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan (Pind Dadan Khan, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*) : Sir, I express my deep sorrow on the sad demise of Khan Bahadur Sardar Muhammad Hassan Khan Gurchani. He was a man of amiable disposition and was one of those honourable members who regularly attended the Assembly sessions and remained present throughout the sitting of the Assembly. He was fully aware of the difficulties and requirements of his constituents and did his best to get their grievances redressed. On behalf of the Muslim League Party, I support the suggestion of the Honourable Premier that a condolence message be conveyed to the bereaved family and that this House may adjourn for an hour as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

Sardar Santokh Singh : Sir, I associate myself with what has been said regarding the sad death of one of our worthy colleagues. He was a perfect gentleman and an honest worker. Our loss is very great indeed.

Mr. Speaker : I associate myself with the Honourable Premier and other members. I knew the deceased very closely. One thing which I specially noticed in him as a member was, that, though a man of old type and old education, whenever he wanted to speak, he expressed himself thoroughly and I have a very high opinion for his speeches. The question is—

That the condolence and sympathy of this House be conveyed to the members of the bereaved family.

The motion was carried all members standing.

Mr. Speaker : The next question is—

That the House do adjourn for one hour as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

The motion was carried.

The Assembly then adjourned for one hour.

The Assembly reassembled at 2-10 of the clock. Mr. Speaker in the chair.

ADJOURNMENT

Minister of Finance (The Honourable Sir Manohar Lal) : Sir, I move the formal motion—

That the Assembly at its rising to-day shall stand adjourned *sine die*.

The motion was carried.

SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURE, 1945-46 AUTHENTICATED BY THE GOVERNOR

Minister for Finance (The Honourable Sir Manohar Lal) : Sir, as required by section 80 (2) of the Government of India Act, 1935, I lay on the table the schedule of expenditure for the year 1945-46 authenticated by His Excellency the Governor.

As required by subsection (1) of section 80 of the Government of India Act, 1935, I hereby authenticate the following schedule in respect of the financial year 1945-46 which specifies—

(a) the grants made by the Punjab Legislative Assembly, and

(b) the sums required to meet the expenditure charged on the revenues of the province :—

SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURE

Grant No.	Major Heads of Account	Grants made by the Punjab Legislative Assembly	Sums required to meet expenditure charged on the revenues of the Province	Total
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1	7—Land Revenue	62,24,300	79,900	63,04,200
2	8—Provincial Excise	13,66,500	..	13,66,500
3	9—Stamps	2,93,500	..	2,93,500
4	10—Forests	70,62,900	3,62,600	74,25,500
5	11—Registration	1,45,900	..	1,45,900
6	12—Charges on account of Motor Vehicles Acts ..	14,40,800	29,600	14,70,400
	13—Other Taxes and Duties			
	XVII—Irrigation—Working Expenses ..			
7	17—Interest on Irrigation Works for which Capital Accounts are kept.	1,41,26,600	1,69,72,400	3,10,99,000
	18—Other Irrigation Expenditure financed from Ordinary Revenues			

SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURE 1945-46 AUTHENTICATED BY THE GOVERNOR

Grant No.	Major Heads of Account	Grants made by the Punjab Legislative Assembly	Sums required to meet expenditure charged on the revenues of the Province	Total
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
8	Irrigation—Establishment Charges	1,63,95,500	15,40,800	1,79,36,300
9	19—Construction of Irrigation Works financed from Ordinary Revenues.	3,01,17,000	..	3,01,17,000
	68—Construction of Irrigation Works (Capital Expenditure).			
	22—Interest on Debt and Other Obligations ..	..	—70,90,400	—70,90,400
	23—Appropriation for Reduction or Avoidance of Debt.			
10	25—General Administration	1,54,04,000	26,57,400	1,80,61,400
11	27—Administration of Justice	45,04,300	20,06,600	65,10,900
12	28—Jails and Convicts Settlements	63,97,100	32,300	64,29,400
13	29—Police	2,72,33,000	9,71,000	2,82,04,000
14	36—Scientific Departments	8,11,600	700	8,12,300
	47—Miscellaneous Departments			
	62—Miscellaneous adjustments between the Central and Provincial Governments			
15	37—Education (European and Anglo-Indian Education).	6,74,700	8,600	6,83,300
16	37—Education (excluding European and Anglo-Indian Education).	2,39,88,600	1,02,300	2,40,90,900
17	38—Medical	68,68,800	1,72,100	70,40,900
18	39—Public Health	37,79,900	59,100	38,39,000
19	40—Agriculture	1,02,84,600	80,100	1,03,64,700
20	41—Veterinary	23,50,200	55,400	24,05,600
21	42—Co-operation	39,41,300	45,000	39,86,300
22	43—Industries	35,17,500	700	35,18,200
23	50—Civil Works	2,00,88,200	1,52,800	2,02,41,000
24	Buildings and Roads—Establishment Charges ..	22,69,800	1,83,200	24,53,000
25	52—Interest on Capital Outlay on Electricity Schemes.	17,07,500	29,56,000	46,63,500
	XLI—Electricity Schemes—Working Expenses...			
26	52-A—Other Revenue Expenditure connected with Electricity Schemes.	20,29,900	..	20,29,900

Grant No.	Major heads of Account	Grants made by the Punjab Legislative Assembly	Sums required to meet expenditure charged on the revenues of the Province	Total
27	50-A—Capital Outlay on Civil Works met out of Extraordinary Receipts	3,79,400	..	3,79,400
	81—Capital Account of Civil Works outside the Revenue Account.			
28	53—Capital Outlay on Electricity Schemes met out of Revenue.	9,67,800	..	9,67,800
	81-A—Capital Outlay on Electricity Schemes (outside the Revenue Account).			
29	54—Famine	3,00,000	..	3,00,000
30	55—Superannuation Allowances and Pensions ..	67,09,600	30,52,700	97,62,300
	55-A—Commutation of pension financed from Ordinary Revenues.	—2,94,400	2,17,700	—76,700
	83—Payments of Commuted Value of Pensions (Capital Expenditure).			
31	56—Stationery and Printing	21,24,240	..	21,24,240
32	57—Miscellaneous	61,40,500	20,900	61,61,400
	63—Extraordinary Charges			
33	82—Capital Account of Other Provincial Works—Outside the Revenue Account.	7,00,000	..	7,00,000
	85-A—Capital Outlay on Schemes connected with the War, 1939.	—40,83,500	..	—40,83,500
34	Advances not bearing interest—			
	Advance Repayable	4,38,200	..	4,38,200
	Loans and Advances bearing interest—			
35	Loans to Municipalities, Advances to Cultivators, etc.	21,46,500	..	21,46,500
	Loans to Government Servants			
	GRAND TOTAL	22,85,52,340	2,46,69,500	25,32,21,840

LAHORE,

The 18th March 1945.

B. J. GLANCY,
Governor of the Punjab.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS

LAND REVENUE

Minister of Finance (The Honourable Sir Manohar Lal), Sir, I beg to move—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 400 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Land Revenue.

The motion was carried.

PROVINCIAL EXCISE

Minister of Finance : Sir, I beg to move—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 40 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Provincial Excise.

The motion was carried.

FORESTS

Minister of Finance : Sir, I beg to move—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 120 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Forests.

The motion was carried.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Minister of Finance : Sir, I beg to move—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 52,310 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of General Administration.

Mr. Speaker : The motion moved is—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 52,310 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of General Administration.

War allowances

Sardar Kapoor Singh (Ludhiana East, Sikh, Rural) (*Punjabi*) : I beg to move—

That the item of Rs. 18,000 on account of (i) C—Secretariat and Headquarters Establishment—Civil Secretariat—War Allowances be omitted.

Sir, I do not understand the object for which this large amount of Rs. 18,000 is being demanded by the Government. So far as Civil Secretariat War Allowances are concerned I would say that last year and this year too dearness allowance has been given to the Secretariat establishment. Apart from that, officers in charge of war duties have also been given special allowance. Now why is this amount of Rs. 18,000 being given to the Civil Secretariat? The object does not seem to be clear and moreover I do not see any necessity for it. It may be that when the war was in full swing and danger was imminent the Government thought that in case the war came so near our homes as to make it necessary for the Secretaries to remain in the Secretariat and this allowance would do them some good. But as a matter of fact the danger of war was imminent neither last year nor this year.

Minister of Development : I think the honourable member is out of order.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : I am not out of order. The Speaker is vigilant enough to rule me out of order if I am irrelevant. Sir, I was submitting that the object of this amount of Rs. 18,000 may be what I have pointed out. But as I have already stated that the danger of war was imminent neither last year nor this year. I do not see any necessity for it. Under these circumstances when the present war is not being fought for our sake but is being fought for the sake of imperialism and foreign domination I would submit with all the force at my command that this war allowance should not be given at all.

Minister of Development : Do you not think it is *jang-e-azadi*?

Sardar Kapoor Singh : I emphatically say, No, this is not *jang-e-azadi*. So far as the Congress Party and its aims are concerned we would never say that this war is being fought for the sake of India's freedom.

Mr. Speaker : The honourable member is irrelevant.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : I say that this war allowance should not be given because it is not India's war : this is a war for British Imperialism. I say there is no need and this item should not be given.

Mr. Speaker : The honourable member is not relevant.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : I am saying, Sir, that this item should be wiped out. This 18,000 rupees can be spent in many other ways. War has created many new items over which money can be spent.

Mr. Speaker : That is a repetition.

Sardar Kapoor Singh : Sir, the honourable members interrupt me and I have to reply to them. Our Government which seems to be so much anxious about the dearness allowances, is paying only Re. 1-4-0 a day to the detenus. Can they pull on in the existing circumstances with the amount given by the Government? The Government is totally indifferent in the matter of these patriots. War is not now as near to us as it used to be and obviously there is no reason why these allowances should be sanctioned. In view of these circumstances I request the House not to pass this amount.

Mr. Speaker : Demand under consideration, motion moved is—

That the item of Rs. 18,000 on account of (i) C—Secretariat and Head quarters Establishment—Civil Secretariat—War Allowances be omitted.

Minister of Finance (The Honourable Sir Manohar Lal) : Sir, the matter is perfectly simple. In the Budget for the year 1944-45, a provision was made under the head 'War Allowance'. That provision has been found to be inadequate by Rs. 18,000 and therefore it is that we have come up with this supplementary demand. If honourable members will turn to page 8 of the Supplementary Estimates, they will find—

A further excess of Rs. 18,000 is now anticipated under this primary unit in order to meet the War Allowances of officers of the Punjab Civil Secretariat. Accordingly a supplementary demand of this amount is presented.

This is the position. We are not making any new demand. The demand has already been accepted by the House and because it has been found to be insufficient this further demand is being made. If honourable members want a more elaborate statement on this subject I will refer them to the Memorandum of the Budget for the year 1945-46, page 21 and the following pages. I do not think it is necessary for me to read all that detailed account. (*Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan :* Please read a portion of it at least). For the information of honourable members I shall read a short paragraph which relates to War Allowance. It reads—

The question of granting some relief to Government servants in receipt of pay above the present limit of dearness allowance engaged the attention of Government of India in the summer of 1944. In consultation with the Provincial Governments, War Allowance at the following rates was sanctioned with the approval of the Secretary of State with effect from the 1st July 1944, for officers of All-India Services.

I do not think anything further is necessary for me to state because it is a supplementary demand which can be attacked only within its own narrow limits.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the item of Rs. 18,000 on account of (i) C—Secretariat and Head quarters Establishment—Civil Secretariat—War Allowances be omitted.

The motion was lost.

Reward to Informers—Supply Department

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan (Pind Dadan Khan, Muhammadan, Rural) (Urdu): Sir, I beg to move—

That the item of Rs. 29,000 on account of rewards to informers be reduced by Rs. 2,899.

Sir, I beg to submit that this department has earned the worst possible reputation in all the Government departments. They have broken all the previous records of mal-administration and corruption. Millions of rupees are daily being smuggled away and nobody takes notice of it. In the presence of war they are adding to the miseries of the people instead of lightening the burden. I am sorry to say that you will never find such mal-practices in any other department. The main reason is that the Government is making use of this department to strengthen the Zamindara League and the Unionist Party. The permits, the depots and the permissions to start new business are granted to those only who can help to strengthen the Unionist Party. If you go to villages you will find the people there complaining loudly against the Supply Department. Sugar is given only to those who contribute to the funds of the Zamindara League and then they are allowed to sell it in the black market also. They are told that they are free to make money in any way they like, provided they pay a certain commission from that loot and robbery to the Zamindara League also. These informers are being appointed only to inform the Government about those depot holders, who mix with the Muslim League or the Congress men. It is their duty to report to the Government the case of any depot-holder who goes out for a walk with any communist friend of his. That is why this is the most notorious of all the departments in the province.

I am not one of those who bring in the communal question every now and then, but still I cannot help saying that so far as Muslims are concerned this department has crushed them especially the Muslim traders, most ruthlessly. Not only that. Those of the backward zamindars who wanted to start some business or trade were not only not encouraged, but were refused permission point blank.

Mr. Speaker : The honourable member is irrelevant.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I am just putting before you that informers should not be appointed.

Mr. Speaker : The honourable member should remember that we are at this stage discussing an item and not the whole demand.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I am discussing this item only. I am just drawing the attention of the House to the inefficiency of these informers. Corruption is rampant in this department. Therefore there is no cause why this sum be granted to the Governor. The House should refuse this sum.

This Government professes to be the well-wisher of zamindars. But what is the condition of zamindars now a days? In villages they cannot get kerosene oil enough to light lamps in their houses. And these Ministers, when they go on tour tell the villagers that they are going to provide electricity for them. How funny! The persons in charge of this department are selling kerosene oil in black market, but the informers do not inform the Government. I have seen the women of zamindars in hundreds—those women whose husbands and sons are fighting the battles in various battle-fields—complaining that kerosene oil is not available to them. But it is being sold in the black market. Why do their informers not inform the Government about that? And still the Government is sanctioning more money for them. And sugar—the children of the zamindars of those places, where there are no hospitals at the time of malarial fever.....

Mr. Speaker : The honourable member is irrelevant. He is discussing the whole demand and not the particular item now before the House.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : I am discussing this particular item, Sir. I am discussing the informers.

Mr. Speaker : May I ask the Honourable Minister whether the payment of the salary to informers was included in the last budget ?

Minister of Finance : So far as I can say it is a new item.

Mr. Speaker : The honourable member will then please confine his discussion to this item only.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : May I invite your attention to page 8 of the Supplementary Estimates, where it is written :

It is also due to the grant of rewards to the informers with a view to check black market in cloth.

My submission is that informers should not be appointed for cloth only. To appoint them for cloth and not to appoint them for sugar or kerosene oil is something quite unintelligible. Therefore I propose that this sum be refused. (*Minister of Development :* The honourable member wants that more informers be appointed.) So that he may have more agents for the Zamindara League ? No, Sir, I do not want that. As Subedar Major Raja Farman Ali says, if there is any fifth column in India it is the Medical Department—the department of the Honourable Minister for Education. After the Medical Department, the Supply Department is also doing the work of the fifth column. With the grace of God now we are heading for victory and there is no danger of any attack now ; but at the time of danger, I, as the Leader of the National War Front in my district used to say that if there would be any trouble in this province it would be due to the Supply Department. Neither sugar, nor kerosene oil, nor cloth is being supplied to the public. It is a pity that the Government is appointing informers and is going to give salaries and allowances to them while corruption is rampant in this department. All this is being done at the instance of the Government and is within its knowledge. The Civil Supply Officers—if not from Lahore—from Lyallpur, Sialkot, etc., have collected thousands for the Zamindara League from the *bantias* who cannot have any sympathy with the zamindars. How have they collected those huge sums ? Simply by saying to the cloth merchants that they are free to sell cloth in the black market provided they give a certain sum for the Zamindara League and of course a share of the 'loot' to them. Call a meeting of the deputy commissioners of all the districts and ask their opinion about this department. Each one of them will tell you that 99 per cent persons in this department are corrupt. It is so because at the time of the appointment of these persons, nobody cared for their education or experience. The only point considered at that time was whether by the appointment of a certain person at least 80 or 90 of the 180 M. L. A.'s could be pleased or not

ٹا جی کی فاتحہ (در حوائج کی مدد)

What does it matter to them ? It is the money of the public which is being wasted and it is the people, the labourers and the kisans, whether urbanites or ruralites, who have to suffer all these hardships and inconveniences. My friends are happy that they are firmly seated on those benches. Why should they worry for anything else ? The interests of Muslims have been entirely ignored in this department. It is a complaint of the Muslims of Lahore that at the time of classification of traders step-motherly treatment was meted out to them. But it is very much regretted that the Honourable Minister does not seem to realize what injustice has been done to the Muslims. We do not say that he should not benefit any particular community. We would rather be glad if he benefits any backward community or the Sikhs. But he should remember that if he helps say a dozen people to amass 1 or 1½ lakhs of rupees neither Muslims, nor Hindus nor Sikhs would ever be pleased with him. I say nothing can be more harmful than that a Minister should allow his fair judgment to be coloured by his

[Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan]

communal bias while appointing distributors of the necessities of life. What is still more astonishing is that whenever the Supply Department controls the price of any article it disappears from the market. For instance, if any notification controlling the price of any article is issued to-day that very article disappears from the market a day earlier. Presumably the Supply Department informs the traders that the price of such and such an article is going to be controlled so that they may hide and hoard it. The same thing happened when the price of eggs was controlled. For three or four days eggs were not available in the market at all. (*Lala Bhagat Ram Choda*: Does my friend want that Government should begin laying eggs?) (*Laughter*). This is what your informers are doing. In fact these informers are maintained to inform the traders beforehand about the control orders.

Then there is another evil from which this department is suffering. It is an old disease and that is that an I. C. S. is considered to be an expert in all branches of administration. He is considered to be an all rounder and he does not require the advice of anybody whether the matter may concern the intricacies of trade or strengthening the position of the Zamindara League. In fact in every branch of Government only I. C. S. people are consulted and every department is entrusted to them. This policy of appointing the I. C. S. people everywhere has resulted in some very queer things. For instance, if in any district the price of any article is fixed at Rs. 2-12-0 the deputy commissioner of the adjacent district fixes the price of the same article at Rs. 4. This is what is happening in this department. If the Honourable Minister does not take steps to put a stop to such irregularities to-day things will go from bad to worse. If he wants to appoint informers with a view to check black markets in cloth let him do so. We are prepared to sanction money for that. But can he with clear conscience say that corruption is not rampant in his department and that his department is not encouraging black markets? Corruption is rampant to such an extent in the Supply Department that some of the officers have made five lakhs of rupees each within the space of one month.

Mr. Speaker: That is a repetition.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: My submission is that the Honourable Minister should kindly pay some attention to his department. I appeal to him not to make this department a tool for carrying on political and party propaganda. Let him not use it as a weapon against his political opponents. This is a department which has a direct concern with the masses. If he goes to the villages he would find that people are not getting sugar and kerosene oil at all. I have myself attended 60 to 70 meetings in 12 or 14 districts and everywhere people have complained that sugar and kerosene oil are finding their way into the black market and that they are being deprived of them. This is all due to the dishonesty of the officials of the Supply Department. Before the arrival of the Honourable Premier at Jhang the Deputy Commissioner issued an order to the effect that whoever contributed Rs. 20 towards the Zamindara League fund would get one bag of sugar irrespective of the party to which he belonged. The people came, contributed Rs. 20 per bag of sugar towards the Zamindara League fund and got bags of sugar. And these bags of sugar were ultimately sold in Lyallpur. When the Deputy Controller of the Supply Department went to check the record he was told that the papers had been destroyed. Is it not strange that the record was not maintained even for three months? Daily such things are happening. Excess quotas are exhausted by officers in favouring their own relatives. For instance, if the marriage of any relative of any Supply Officer is celebrated he gets sugar and kerosene oil from the district where a Supply Officer who is his relative happens to be posted. I ask, where are the informers and why do they not inform the Government about these matters? The Honourable Minister wants to appoint more informers. May I ask how many cases have been instituted on the basis of information supplied

by informers already in employ? If the informers already appointed for eradication of black markets in sugar and kerosene oil have done nothing let him not appoint these informers for checking black markets in cloth. These informers become agents of the corrupt officers. Being the Minister in charge of this department he should try to sympathise with the poor people and try to meet their necessities. Let him for a moment put himself in the position of a poor villager and think what would be his condition if he cannot get even a small quantity of sugar in order to administer unani medicine to his ailing child. This is the result of the control—people are not getting sugar at all. This is true in the case of all such articles whose prices have been controlled. But all of them are available in the black market. There is not anything which cannot be had from the black market by paying excessive prices. If you are prepared to pay black market prices you will certainly get them. I am at a loss to understand why when the police officials unearth thefts of small articles like diamonds and bring to book the culprits, the Supply Department cannot find out black marketters. We daily hear that 20,000 bags of wheat have been concealed and sent to the black market. After all, tell me who can conceal 20,000 bags of wheat. That is not the case at all. The fact is that my friends are living and thriving on the black markets. Their very existence depends on black markets. It is the black markets by means of which they are securing the votes of members. There is yet time for my friends to put a stop to such state of affairs. The war is very near its end. If black marketing is not checked during the war the situation will worsen after its termination. Let them take the major trading communities and public organisations into confidence and consult them at the time of the imposition of control and give representations to them on the control committees and then do the work honestly. (*Minister of Development*: That is the correct solution).

Then, my second suggestion is that if the purchasing of food grains through the co-operative banks has resulted in large profits accruing to Government, the Honourable Minister should not give agencies for the purchase of foodstuffs to his friends for benefiting them only. Let the Co-operative department be entrusted with the purchase of food grains. I do not for a moment think that the Honourable Minister is favouring these people in order to get something for himself. That I am not prepared to believe at all. But I may tell him that conniving at corrupt officers is worse than being corrupt. An officer who connives at the malpractices of the corrupt officers is worse than a corrupt official. By doing so the Honourable Minister is acting as the greatest patron of the black market. I appeal to the Unionist Ministers that they should not use this department as a weapon for achieving their personal and selfish ends. This department has direct concern with the poor people. In every district where my friend's "own" Deputy Commissioners are working, there corruption and black markets are rampant. The Honourable Minister has himself issued an order the object of which is merely to deprive a certain community from taking to business. By issuing such orders he wants trade to remain in the hands of those communities who know its ins and outs too well and who for generations past have been engaged in black marketing and offering illegal gratification to Government officers. (*Minister of Development*: Who are they?) The Honourable Minister knows them full well because he is their patron. He has already issued an order that if anybody asked for a licence for starting business in food grains he would not get it unless he has been engaged in that business for the last three years. By issuing this order he has undone the efforts of the late Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram in persuading the zamindars to take to business.

Sir, under the healthy influence of the Muslim League, the Muslims were beginning to take an active interest in trade and commerce, but the order of the Minister deprives the Muslims of the benefit of trade. The condition that only those persons can get licences who had been carrying on trade for three years in the past, is a dagger pointed at the throats of the Muslims. This condition smells of communalism and

[Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan]

should be withdrawn forthwith. When the demand is greater than the supply, the clear duty of the Civil Supplies Department is to ensure equal distribution of supplies among all the people irrespective of caste, colour and creed. That is the only way to solve the intricate problem. At present the state of affairs is this. If an Extra Assistant Commissioner wants cloth he can purchase *thans* of muslin and *lathka* by going to Amritsar. But if I want a piece of cloth for my own trousers and shirts—I am refused supplies. That is the whole trouble. The needs of the masses are sacrificed but the unnecessary wants of Extra Assistant Commissioners and other officers are more than met. This is corruption and inefficiency of the department concerned. There are only two possible reasons. Either the department of Civil Supplies is unaware of what is actually happening in the province, or it is deliberately shutting its eyes to the corruption that is going on all around. If the former is the real reason, the department of Civil Supplies including the Minister is inefficient and incompetent. But if the Department and the Minister are aware of the actual state of affairs, they are guilty of actually abetting the crime of corruption. In either case the department and the Minister cannot divest themselves of their responsibility. The urgent and immediate need of the hour is that the department should rise above communalism and nepotism. There should be no favour but all should be treated equally and every one should be given a fair deal. No fear and no favour should prevail. No regard should be paid to the fact whether a person is related to an M.L.A., belonging to the Unionist Party or not. At present special care is taken at the time of recruitment so that candidates related to Unionist M.L.As. should be selected irrespective of their merits and demerits. This policy should be dropped at once. I would appeal to the Honourable Minister in charge of Civil Supplies to disregard even the recommendations of the Premier in this connection. All such matters should be left to the discretion of the permanent officers. (*Mian Sultan Mahmud Hotiana*: How can the Ministry be run in that case?) Here is my honourable friend who thinks that the Ministry cannot remain in office if such things are to stop forthwith. If this Ministry cannot remain in office without indulging in such tactics, the sooner it goes, the better. There are five rivers in the Punjab for the Ministry to drown itself. But if the Ministers have any sense of honour and self-respect, they would find a few drops of water sufficient for the purpose. (*Laughter*). How long will this Ministry last by adopting such unfair means? If this is their outlook, I would appeal to the House to refuse the whole item concerning the informers. If informers are to be kept, they will have to report all the real cases of corruption. At present big officers who take lakhs of rupees as bribes are not reported. But if an otherwise honest man commits the mistake of a few annas, he is proceeded against. That sort of attitude ought to be abandoned. (*Minister of Development*: Will the honourable member kindly inform me of those officers who accept illegal gratifications? I will certainly take them to task.) The Honourable Minister knows them fully well. Let him ponder over this point himself and take necessary action. Black market is openly going on in the province. It should be eradicated and the Minister should rise above party spirit. Under him only those people can get sugar or cloth who pay contribution towards the Zamindara League. This is intolerable. I would once again appeal to him that he should gird up his loins to weed out corruption from his department and should not care whether a corrupt person is a Hindu, Sikh, Muslim or Schedule caste. Both at the time of selection and dismissal, party considerations should not weigh with him. Then and then alone will his department be purged of corruption.

With these few words, Sir, I commend this cut motion to the House for its acceptance.

Mr. Speaker : Demand under consideration, motion moved is—

That the item of Rs. 2,900 on account of rewards to informers, be reduced by Rs. 2,899.

Captain Sardar Naunihal Singh Mann (Sheikhupura West, Sikh, Rural): I have very carefully listened to certain allegations made today by my honourable friend on the opposite benches. Eminent speaker as he is, I was looking forward to hear from him some very constructive criticism with a view to help the administration in running the Supply Department in a better manner than is the case at present.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh: He has run it down.

Captain Sardar Naunihal Singh Mann: The chief difficulties are the shortage of supplies and the Supply Department has been created with a view to relieve the general public of the difficulties which are coming in their way. The chief commodities which are short in these days are cloth, sugar and kerosene oil. For this purpose the Government took the entire stocks in their hands, distributed these commodities through the districts, formed committees of public representatives in each district and asked them to distribute the stuff which was given to each district according to the district's population. If I mistake not, I think they have got such committees in Jhelum district as well as in others and these committees are of a representative character. My honourable friend Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan, who was for a pretty long time the Leader of the National War Front, must have been associated with such committees in his own district. The appointment of informers, so far as I can see, are perfectly justified. Without them it would be very difficult to detect the people who are selling these goods in the black market. I wish I had heard from Raja Sahib to-day that he, as a representative of the public, or some other members of his party were able to get so many cases registered under the Defence of India Rules against those who were selling cloth, sugar or kerosene in the black market, but to my surprise, although he went on criticising the Government for a long time, he was unable to give even one instance in which he himself or any of his friends were able to detect a person who, they could say, was selling these things in the black market. It is for this reason that the Government want to appoint such informers to detect those people and bring them to book but without the co-operation of the honourable members and the leading gentlemen of the community it would be impossible to believe that such an evil could be eradicated.

So far as the communal question is concerned, I was surprised to hear from Raja Sahib that the Honourable Minister of Development has been communal. The other day Raja Sahib, while speaking, gave him very good chits that the Honourable Minister of Development was the only Minister who was running the show most successfully.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: I said that he was serving his own community tactfully.

Captain Sardar Naunihal Singh Mann: The honourable member did not say that he was serving his own community but he said that the Honourable Minister of Development was protecting the rights of other communities as well. My honourable friend knows that it has been the policy of this Government that each community shall get its rights according to the population basis and I see no reason why he should have any objection now against those things which were agreed upon in his own presence when he was a member of the Government himself. That formula is still there.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: We still stand by that formula.

Captain Sardar Naunihal Singh Mann: I am glad to hear that.

The chief complaint, as the Honourable Minister for Development says, is about permits. I know that these permits are to be given to one individual or to the other. I do not know whether they will be given on communal basis and whether it would be possible. My

(Capt. Naunihal Singh)

honourable friend has again levelled allegations against the Government that with a view to deprive certain community from coming into trade, the Honourable Minister for Development has issued instructions that the licences ought to be issued only to those who were more than the years ago practically doing the business and running the shops or business of that kind. But he should not forget that in reply to certain questions which were raised on the floor of the House, the Minister made it clear that it was only for the reason that this condition was applied so that people who had no experience in trade should not at this time plunge into it and that it would be difficult for them to run these organisations which might be placed into their hands due to inexperience. He, however, at the same time, said that there is no hard and fast rule about it and even in this case where a district magistrate finds out that certain individuals are capable of running a certain kind of distribution of commodities, they would be permitted to have licences.

Raja Chazanfar Ali Khan : Have the orders been issued to the district magistrates ?

Captain Sardar Naunihal Singh Mann : I think the Honourable Minister himself will be able to tell this thing. I was just saying that this question was raised on the floor of the House and the reply given by the Honourable Minister was that there was no hard and fast rule about the condition of three years and that the district magistrates have the option to give licences to anyone they thought fit to run that business. I think this item is a necessity and should be passed. With these words I oppose the cut motion.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan (Ludhiana, Muhammadan, Rural) (Urdu) : Sir, I rise to make a few submissions in regard to the cut motion now before the House. I am reminded of an urdu verse which runs as follows :—

روئے سخن کسی کی طرف ہو تو (و سیاہ

سودا نہیں جڑوں نہیں و ہشت نہیں مجھ

I would like to draw the attention of the Honourable Minister of Development to the fact that the so-called informers, for whom the money is being asked, are employed not for the purpose of finding out black markets and giving information to the Government, but for strengthening the cracking throne (*dolla singhasan*) of the Unionist Government.

Minister of Development : But is not your throne getting already shaky ?

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : No. It is yours. It is cracking due to your misdeeds. I am really constrained to remark that there is hardly any district in the province where people are not multiplying their wealth by selling things at abnormal rates in the black market. The essential commodities of life are not made available to the poor people inhabiting this province at the controlled rates fixed by the Government. May I know from the Honourable Minister of Development whether it is not a fact that there is corruption all over the province and that people are groaning under the curse of corruption and black-marketing ? I dare say that no efforts whatsoever have been made to check corruption and black-marketing in the province. In spite of the employment of sufficient staff to assist in putting an end to the evil of black marketing, people continue to suffer inconveniences for want of commodities at controlled rates. It will not be out of place to mention here that while making appointments preference is being given to those persons who are related to the members of the Unionist Party. My honourable friends sitting on the Treasury Benches in general and the Honourable Minister of Development in particular do not even consider the applications of those persons who happen to have some connection with the Congress or any other party similar to it. They are of the opinion that any person connected with the members of the Unionist Party is an honest person while those connected with any member belonging to a party other than the Unionist Party is absolutely dishonest.

To me it appears that my honourable friends sitting on the Treasury Benches bring forward these demands in the House with a view to continuing their hold on the Treasury Benches. I may, however, assure them that they will never succeed by employing such methods which are detrimental to the interests of the people of the province. I wish to bring this point home to them that the public knows their position full well. The conditions created by them have adversely affected the life of the people. I am really constrained to remark that such persons have been employed in the department who are most incapable of handling the situation and they are not discharging their duties honestly. It has been remarked by the honourable members sitting on the Unionist Benches that the matter concerning the permits is the source of all trouble. What I wish to point out is this that my honourable friends sitting on the Treasury Benches in general and the Honourable Minister of Development in particular have never thought of teaching the Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs and other communities inhabiting this province, to be honest in every walk of life. In fact they have taught them to resort to dishonest methods. This is how they influence people who are always at their beck and call. These people are not afraid of anybody, who-soever he may be, and at their instigation they are out to resort to such malpractices as are detrimental to the interests of the people. I can say without any hesitation and without any fear of contradiction that the Punjab public feels aggrieved and dissatisfied on account of their misbehaviour.

I wish to draw the attention of the Honourable Minister of Development to the fact that throughout the length and breadth of the province, people belonging to all communities are raising hue and cry against the black marketing evil which exists in almost every city, town and village. It is high time that the honourable members of the House in general and those sitting on the Unionist Benches in particular, should ventilate their grievances on the floor of the House. I know it for certain that some of the Unionist members opposite are very impatient to have their say on the subject now before the House, but they are under the thumb of the Honourable Minister of Development. Their lips are sealed and they cannot do anything except feeling in the heart of their hearts that work is not being done properly and honestly and that corruption is rampant in the Supply Department. They have not the courage to get up and give expression to their thoughts because they fear that if they do so, they will incur the displeasure of the Honourable Minister and that they will be deprived of those benefits which they are having every now and then. I would strongly appeal to the honourable members in general and the Unionist members in particular, who represent their respective constituencies in the House, to discharge their duty in the true sense of the word. Let them place their grievances before the Honourable Minister of Development, whose bounden duty it is to remove them. It appears to me that no efforts have ever been made by the Honourable Minister of Development to eradicate the evil of black marketing in the province. On the one hand corruption is rampant in the Supply Department, while on the other people are multiplying their wealth by indulging in black market. I do not say that all the officers working at present in the Supply Department are corrupt and dishonest. There are certain officers who are above it and these good officers discharge their duties honestly. It is really high time that the Honourable Minister of Development should take stock of the situation and take special measures to check corruption.

The item of Rs. 2,990 on account of rewards to informers in the Supply Department is nothing but a mere eye-wash. They have made many efforts to bring forward similar demands with a view to strengthening their hold on the Treasury Benches, but all of them have proved useless. They feel in the heart of their hearts that their machinery has utterly failed. If this is really so, then I would suggest to them that they should devise other ways and means to run the administration of the province smoothly and efficiently. With these words, Sir, I support the out motion, now before the House.

Captain Bhai Fatehjang Singh (South-East, Sikh, Rural): Mr. Speaker, there can be no two opinions about the fact that black markets should be abolished and in my opinion the course that the Government is taking to abolish black markets is, although not very adequate, yet more or less coming on to the point. But no country can succeed in reducing its black markets to nil unless we have public spirit behind. I have been listening to the speeches which are aimed at stopping the black markets. But if you go deep into their meaning, you will find that those speeches will not only not stop black markets, but will encourage them. For instance, some members pointed out that the quota of cloth, quota of sugar and quota of permits and this and that, should be on communitywise basis, that is to say, if the Punjab have a big majority of Muslims, the Muslims should get more quota for cloth, more quota for sugar and should get more permits to do it. Will this satisfy the people? I am not of that opinion.

I am of the opinion that we should not follow a narrow-minded policy of Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs being divided, but we should work whole-heartedly and follow a joint policy of getting the black markets out of the province by all of us putting our heads together. Political bodies like the Congress and the Muslim League, who say so much of themselves, who say they are in touch with the people and who say that they are the true representatives of the people, should voluntarily take upon their shoulders the duty of going from door to door, from village to village, from street to street and from shop to shop and get hold of such shopkeepers, take them to public places and put them to shame. If there are officials and informers at fault bring them out. On the other hand it is our brethren who go to these black markets. (*Interruptions*). Bring them out. It is mostly you who go to them. Do not please go on these lines, that Government is not trying to stop black markets. People who blame Government are themselves at fault. I have seen with my own eyes big *bania* shopkeepers all over the country, and if a well dressed man goes and says, I want an ounce of sugar, he will at once produce it, but if a poor man or a sweeper, who holds a permit, goes, he will not produce it. Government is not to blame for that.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh: Then who is to blame?

Captain Bhai Fatehjang Singh: It is that big man who goes to him. My honourable friend does not know this, he lives in a higher sphere. Then I come to the officials. My honourable friend would make speeches on communal lines. The officials should be kept above board. (*Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan*: Not all of us). You want that the permits should be issued on communal lines. You want officials to be appointed on communal lines. (*Interruption*). I shall make clear what I am saying. If a small body of officials get into their heads that they are holding particular jobs given to them because of their community that position can be very much exploited to the detriment of the whole province. I am as a matter of fact against the communal electorates for this Assembly. That is where the evil lies. My honourable friends would stand up and say this is not being done for this community and this is not being done for that community. In their heart of hearts they believe that it is not so. This evil exists in our legislatures, but why should we try to spread it in places where it should not be spread? Our officials should be above board. Give them a backing if they behave in a manner which is not communal, and we should not ask the Government to issue permits or appoint inspectors and informers on communal lines.

Coming to kerosene oil and sugar, the supply is short at the moment. Then about cloth control, this control, as far as I know, is done by the Central Government. The Central Government fixes quotas for different provinces. I fear that the quota for the Punjab is going to be still lowered down. Whenever you go to a cloth shop you will find that the people who are selected to deal in standard cloth will only supply standard cloth to people who have influence and who they think will be able to take

action against them. It is these people, specially of the Opposition and members of that community, who go from place to place and talk to the shopkeepers.

In the end I would say that much has been said on this subject. I would appeal to members of the Opposition as well as of the Government to make a solemn affirmation in this House that they will not buy anything from the black market and that they will not advise their friends to go to the black markets to get their needs. That is the only way in which we will be able to get rid of the black market. Government can take action against the offenders by enforcing penal measure but cannot stop the black market. I therefore appeal that if we are in earnest to stop the black market, all of us should take an oath that we will not buy anything from the black market and will not suffer anybody buying from the black market. (*Hear, hear*).

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh (Amritsar North, Sikh, Rural) (*Punjabi*): Sir, I would like to make a few observations in regard to the cut motion now before the House. I may point out that the enforcement of the control order regarding cotton yarn has not served any useful purpose, as the Supply Department has utterly failed to check the yarn going into the black market. The result is that the cotton yarn has become scarce and a critical situation has arisen for the weavers. In Amritsar district alone no less than thirty thousand weavers are face to face with stark starvation as they have been deprived of their livelihood owing to the non-availability of cotton yarn. Now either this yarn has been purchased by the mill-owners in the cities or it has found its way into the black market where the poor weavers can ill-afford to pay exorbitant prices. Whatever the reason may be, the fact remains that the weavers working on hand looms, have been hit hard for want of cotton yarn. Hence it becomes the bounden duty of the Government to see that the distribution of yarn is regulated in such a manner that these poor weavers get their due share and are thus enabled to eke out their living. But the pity of it is that the Unionist Government which has arrogated to itself powers for giving and depriving the people of their livelihood, does not feel disposed to move its little finger to ease the situation. The persons at the helm of affairs of the Supply Department know full well that corruption is rampant in their department and things are going into the black market, yet they take no effective steps to eradicate these evils. It would not be out of place to mention here that since issuing of permits of certain commodities and even of cloth is in the gift of the Government, it can and does confer favours on its "yes men" who make fabulous profits out of the transactions done under permits. I am of the opinion that Government cannot be exonerated from the charge of favouritism. I would like to make mention of an incident which would clearly show how the Government is abusing its immense patronage which it has got in its hands. The other day I went to Amritsar in connection with some business and while passing through the district courts, I came across certain persons who were endeavouring to obtain permits of cloth. They asked me if I could help them in the matter. I told them that I could not be of any use to them because I was always at logger-heads with the Government (*laughter*) and it would be better if they got hold of some member of the Unionist Government. He would certainly prove useful because Government was out to oblige the members of their party due to the fear of losing their allegiance. (*Hear, hear*). But I asked those gentlemen as to why they were so keen to get permits of cloth when it was very difficult to procure the same. They replied that a bale of cloth containing 100 *thans* meant a net return of Rs. 2,000 in the black market. They said that a *than* of muslin required to be sold at the controlled price of Rs. 7-8-0 fetched rupees 27-8-0 in the black market. Obviously, those who can manage to get permits in collusion with the officers of the Supply Department, have made lakhs of rupees by black marketing the controlled cloth. I, therefore, say that corruption in that department and existence of back market, in spite of the so-called machinery for eradicating these

[19TH MARCH 1945]

[S. Sohan Singh Josh]

evils, are matters which require the active and careful consideration of the Government.

As I have already stated, if one bale of cloth fetches a profit of two thousand rupees in the black market, you will see that if a person gets a permit for 100 bales he can amass wealth to the tune of one and a quarter lakhs of rupees in no time and what is it all due to? It is due to the favouritism which the Unionist Government exercises in the case of those persons whom it wants to favour. On the one hand, the Government shows such favouritism and on the other it allows people to die of starvation. This is no justice I would say. I can give you names of those persons who being favourites of the Government have amassed wealth in no time. Hence my submission is that the Government should give up this "rob Peter to pay Paul" policy at once, otherwise the situation would be worse and it would be very difficult for the Government to eradicate the black market. Is it not possible to eradicate it? I say it is possible provided serious efforts are made to take the corrupt persons to task. The trouble is that certain black sheep being connected with the Unionists can easily approach the Government and for this reason the roots of corruption have gone deep even to the subordinate staff. I, therefore, hold Government responsible for the black market which has deprived certain people of their livelihood. For instance, as I have already stated, in the Amritsar district the cotton yarn has become conspicuous by its absence with the result that no less than thirty thousand weavers are face to face with stark starvation. They formed unions and made much hue and cry but all in vain. Resolutions were also moved by different bodies to urge upon the Government to take active action for the help of the weavers.

I would once again submit that special arrangement should be made for the supply of cotton yarn to the weavers who have been deprived of their livelihood owing to the non-availability of cotton yarn which has been purchased either by the mill-owners or, as I have already pointed out, has found its way into the black market where the poor weavers cannot afford to pay exorbitant prices.

Chaudhri Faqir Chand : On a point of order. Does the honourable member know that cotton yarn used to come from Japan?

Mr. Speaker : That is obstruction and not a point of order.

Sardar Sohan Singh Josh : I do not mind if a sufficient quantity of cotton is being given to power-looms. But what I want to submit is that due share should also be given to the starving weavers so that they may be able to keep their body and soul together.

Minister of Development (The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh) (Punjab) : Sir, I had no mind to speak on the matter under discussion. But being provoked by the remarks made by my honourable friends sitting opposite I want to make a few observations in this House. First of all I was surprised to hear the speech of my learned friend Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan who never said a word relating to the item under discussion but most of the time he spent in criticising us and making charges against the Civil Supplies Department. I do not mind his criticisms and those of his friends sitting beside him. I am glad to say that an opportunity has been provided to me to clarify my position. I quite agree with the remarks of my honourable friend Raja Ghazanfar Ali that while running the Civil Supply Department we should not be carried away by communal consideration. I am perfectly one with him and make no secret of the fact that I am opposed to the introduction of the principle of communalism in the matter of civil supplies. In the course of his speech he complained of under-representation of the Muslim community in this department. May I tell him that he is entirely misinformed? I may also point out that in spite of my personal opinion I have acted according to the rule in force and I can say without fear of contradiction

that no injustice has been done to any community so far as the Civil Supplies Department is concerned. If the Muslim community is under-represented, as stated by him, I am ready to take the responsibility on my shoulders. As you are aware, Sir, there are 29 districts in the province and every district has got one Civil Supply Officer. Of the 29 Civil Supply officers, 11 are non-officials and 18 have been promoted from among officials and all communities are fully adequately represented. If my honourable friend just peruses the list of these officers he will find that every community has got its due share in the services of Civil Supplies Department. In this connection I may point out that in these days of communalism it is well-nigh impossible to ignore the rights of any community. We have formulated a clear-cut policy to meet the demand of communalism in Government services and we are strictly adhering to it. I, therefore, assure the House that so far as the Civil Supplies Department is concerned we have acted upon that policy in every respect while making recruitment of officers. Again my honourable friend Khawaja Ghulam Samad accused me of giving more appointments to the Sikhs than was due to them. May I tell him that while it is my duty to see that the Sikhs get their due share, I also take care to be sure always that no injustice is done to other communities as well. As you are aware 50 per cent of the representation in the services has been fixed for the Muslims and I have always taken every care to see that the Muslims do not get even one per cent less than what is their due. If there is any discrepancy I am prepared to rectify it. But I assure them that the Muslims have got their full share.

Then my honourable friends Raja Sahib and Sardar Sohan Singh Josh levelled some charges against the Civil Supply Department and the gravest charge levelled against it was corruption. I have admitted that corruption exists in certain cases. But I may tell you that the Government with all its resources is not able to wipe it out altogether. No Government, howsoever efficient it may be, can succeed in eradicating corruption altogether. I remember when rationing was under discussion in this House I told the honourable members that corruption might creep in and that it would be very difficult for the Government to wipe out this evil without their co-operation. I also told them that I was prepared to work according to their suggestions. But it is regrettable that public men like Raja Ghazanfar Ali do not help us in eradicating the evil. They ought to come forward with constructive suggestions and I would be only too glad to give them my best consideration.

Then, Sir, another allegation has been made by Raja Sahib that certain officers are making five lakhs of rupees a month. He has not named the officers. I would request Raja Sahib to give me the names and if he will do so I would be the first man to bring them to book.

Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan : You know them already.

Nawab Muzaffar Ali Khan Qizilbash : They are in your imagination.

Minister of Development : I have already taken action against certain officers about whom I knew and I assure Raja Sahib that if I know the other names I would take immediate action against them.

Chaudhri Muhammad Hasan : I have got eighty complaints against the Rationing Controller.

Minister of Development : This is the first time that the honourable member has brought this thing to my notice and I would certainly be glad to have an opportunity of looking into them.

I will now take up the distribution of sugar and kerosene oil. I would like to make some points clear in this connection. In the first place I would request the honourable members to understand the difficulties that have arisen in the way of the supply of these things. As far as kerosene oil is concerned we get only 40 per cent of the pre-war supply. The war has created conditions that its supply cannot be

[Development Minister]

increased. We have to depend on the existing supply and distribute it in the best way possible. We distribute it on the district wise basis and the local district magistrates distribute the quota of their districts on the tahsil wise basis. Sugar too is divided similarly. At this stage I would also like to make it clear that it is a central subject and we cannot increase the provincial quota of our own accord. We now get 130,000 tons of sugar and it comes to one chhatak per head per month for the province. Now my honourable friends will have a clear idea about the supply of sugar and the difficulties in our way. I personally believe that formerly only well-to-do people used to take sugar freely. *Shakar* and such other things were the fashion among the poor classes. If we can adopt a system under which we will be able to give sugar to fewer people, then we can easily destroy the black market. But if such an alternative cannot be found then I confess that there can be no end to the existing black market. This proposal of mine was turned down by my honourable friend Sardar Sohan Singh Josh on the grounds of social equality. I would like to add that our Socialist friends oppose all these workable schemes on the pretence of "Social equality". Their arguments look very nice as arguments but are of no use in the practical field. We must take serious account of the situation and should try to adopt some workable schemes; otherwise we cannot destroy the existing evils of the black market.

Another point raised by my honourable friend is the collection of funds for the Zamindara League. It is just possible that some officers may be guilty of ugly practices that have been mentioned, but as far as the department as a whole is concerned, I declare with all the emphasis at my command that it is free from such evils. Those officers who do things of the sort complained against, do so in their personal capacity and the department had got nothing to do with it. The whole department should not therefore be condemned for the misdeeds of an odd officer who will be dealt with suitably, if found out.

Another point raised is about favouritism to particular communities in the field of contracts. I avail this opportunity to declare that in these transactions the Government pays no consideration to communalism and that maximum of efficiency is the main guiding principle. In making business contracts the Government does not take into account the interests of a particular community. We make contracts with people who are fit for the purpose.

As far as the working of the three year rule is concerned, I want to inform the House that in many cases it was relaxed. As far as the distribution of cloth is concerned, we are helpless. It is a central subject and we have no hand in the formation of rules and regulations. We asked the Central Government to fix December 1944 instead of 1942 so that the people who were in this trade in December 1944 could also get licences, but the Central Government did not agree. In these circumstances we should not be condemned for something over which we have no control.

As for the amount of Rs. 1,800 for informers, it is very small. We cannot reward the informers in any other way and if the House grants this amount we will be able to offer suitable rewards to those who help us. I thought nobody would object to such a petty sum.

Raja Sahib says that we support the black market and are encouraging it for our own ends. I am surprised to hear a responsible member accusing the Government thus. (Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan: I am accusing you and not the Government.) He says that he is accusing me and not the Government. When Raja Sahib makes a speech we all listen to him without interrupting him in the least. He should also show the same courtesy to others. He says that as I have not been able to eradicate corruption from the Supply Department therefore I should tender my resignation. I was waiting for an opportunity, and I am glad that my honourable friend has provided

me one. I now declare that if any one is in fact obstructing the progress of the province or the smooth working of any department, it is Raja Sahib and his party. Since he has gone to those benches, he is thinking of nothing else except the resignation of the Ministry and is waiting for the time when we resign so that he may occupy these benches. (*Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan* : I entirely agree with him on this point. It is my heart's desire). He says that it is his heart's desire. (*Raja Ghazanfar Ali Khan* : And I am putting in my efforts too.) Let Raja Sahib and his friends know once for all that their hopes will never be realised.

Sir, I admit there are many defects in the Civil Supplies Department such as corruption and that black market exists. But my contention is that Government alone cannot do everything to remove these evils. It is to some extent the duty of my friends who criticise us here, to extend a helping hand. When we ask them the names of corrupt persons in the department, their only answer is, "You already know them." I have said, we do not. We have taken strong action against those whom we knew to be corrupt and I declare here before this House that in future too we shall always take such strong action against those persons whose corruption is brought to our knowledge.

Mr. Speaker : The question is—

That the item of Rs. 2,900 on account of Rewards to informers be reduced by Rs. 2,898.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : The question is—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 52,310 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of General Administration.

The motion was carried.

The following demands were then put from the chair and adopted.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 8,640 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Administration of Justice.

EDUCATION (EUROPEAN AND ANGLO-INDIAN)

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 800 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Education (European and Anglo-Indian Education).

EDUCATION (EXCLUDING EUROPEAN AND ANGLO INDIAN)

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,380 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Education (excluding European and Anglo-Indian Education).

MEDICAL

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 16,760 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Medical.

CIVIL WORKS

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 11,800 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Civil Works.

SUPERANNUATION ALLOWANCES AND PENSIONS

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 2,11,570 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Superannuation Allowances and Pensions.

STATIONERY AND PRINTING

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,260 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of Stationery and Printing.

REVENUE EXPENDITURE

That a token sum not exceeding Rs. 10 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1945, in respect of other Revenue Expenditure financed from ordinary Revenues.

The Assembly then adjourned sine die.

INDEX

Vol. XXIV.

PAGES

PAGES

A

ABDUL AZIZ—	210
Question re detenu, ..	
ABDUL AZIZ, COMRADE—	87
Question re— ..	
ABDUL AZIZ, MIAN—	
Adjournment motions, disallowance of, during Budget session ..	52
Bill, Ba'ishahi Mosque Fund Cess, consideration ..	69
Bill, consolidation of holdings (amendment)—motion for circulation ..	60—3
Bill, District Boards—membership of Boards ..	187—89
Bill, sale of Holy Quran. Restricting—reference to Sile t Committee ..	79
Budget, general discussion ..	329-30, 360—64
ABDUL GHAFAR KHAN, KHAN SAHIB—	
Question re—	
Municipal Commissioner, Gurdaspur, removal of, ..	36
Municipal Commissioner, Gurdaspur, suppression by, of civil decree against Chiragh Din ..	40
Narendra Nath, Raja, reference to late ..	516-17
ABDUL GHANI, HAKIM—	
Question re ..	87
ABDUL GHANI MAULVI—	
Question re ..	608
ABDUL HAYE, THE HON'BLE MIAN—	
Budget, general discussion ..	334-35
Budget motion re educational policy of Government ..	586—95
Personal explanation ..	617
ABDULLAH KHAN—	
Question re, arrest of, by security staff, Ferozepore ..	18
ABIANA—	
Question re realization of, under the all India scale system of land revenue in Lyallpur ..	654
ABNASH CHANDRA, SEHGAL, MR.—	
Question re, ..	231
ADDRESS—	
Question re, presented to Premier in Jhang ..	289
ADJOURNMENT—	
Of Assembly ..	180, 703
Of the Assembly for one hour as a mark of respect to late Khan Bahadur Sardar Mohammad Hassan Khan Gurdani ..	703
ADJOURNMENT MOTION (s)—	
All-India Muslim League Presidential Procession ..	614—16
Bhim Sen Sachar, Lala, arrest of, ..	299-300
Disallowance of, during Budget session ..	50—52
Discussion of, on the last day allotted for supplementary demands ..	246—49
Restrictions on Lala Deshbandhu Gupta ..	518
Security Prisoners, Gujrat Jail ..	518, 558, 614

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE—

Demand for grant ..	677
Supplementary demand for grant ..	261, 721

ADMISSIONS—

Question re, to Government Training Institutions ..	297
---	-----

ADVANCES NOT BEARING INTEREST—

Demand for grant ..	679
---------------------	-----

ADVANCES REPAYABLE—

Supplementary demand ..	263
-------------------------	-----

ADVERTISEMENTS

Question re, obscene, published in Vernacular press ..	542
--	-----

AGENTS—

Question re, for purchase of food-grains ..	278, 598
Of absentee landlords ..	47

AGRICULTURE—

Demand for grant ..	678
Supplementary demand for grant ..	262

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE HOSTELS—

Question re allotment of seats in Lyallpur, ..	279
--	-----

AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT—

Question re—	
Muslim gazetted officers in the Ambala division ..	403
Personnel ..	39

AHMAD DIN, MUNSHI—

Question re, ..	462
-----------------	-----

AHMADGARH—

Question re railway station ..	551
--------------------------------	-----

AHMED NUR, RAI—

Question re removal of, from the Platoon Commandership of Civic Guards ..	215, 227
---	----------

AHMAD YAR KHAN, KHAN SAHIB, CHAUDHRI—

Budget, general discussion ..	339-40
-------------------------------	--------

AJIT SINGH, SARDAR—

Budget, general discussion, ..	365-66
--------------------------------	--------

AJIT SINGH, BHUSA—

Question re, ..	93
-----------------	----

AKBAR ALI, PIR—

Bill, District Boards,—Membership of boards ..	182—84
--	--------

Budget, general discussion ..

	356-57
--	--------

ALI AKBAR, CHAUDHRI—

Bill, consolidation of holdings (Amendment) motion for circulation ..	66-7
---	------

Bill, District Boards—membership of boards ..

	191-92
--	--------

ALL-INDIA MUSLIM LEAGUE—

Question re questionnaire of education sub-committee of the, ..	557
---	-----

AMJAD ALI SHAH, SAYED—

Budget motion re post-war reconstruction ..	625—35
---	--------

Resolution re post-war development ..

	152
--	-----

ANANT RAM, CHAUDHRI—

Budget, general discussion ..	345-46
-------------------------------	--------

ANTI-SEMI MEASURES—

Question re, in tahsils Phalia and Bhalawal, district Gujrat ..	164
---	-----

PAGES	PAGES
ARREST—	BHIM SEN SACHAR, LALA—
Question re—	Adjournment motion re arrest of, .. 299-300
Of Kisan conference (Hamirpur)	Privilege motion re arrest of, .. 263-65
workers .. 207	Question re, .. 509
Made in connection with Independence	Reference to late Chaudhri Sir Chhotu
day celebrations .. 547	Ram .. 3-4
ASHIQ HUSSAIN, THE HONOURABLE MAJOR—	BHUCHAL HIGH SCHOOL—
Resolution re post-war development .. 142,	Question re, .. 558
143-46.	BILL—
ASSISTANT REGISTRARS, CO-OPERATIVE SO-	<i>See—</i>
CITIES—	Badshahi Mosque Fund Cess Bill ..
Question re, clerical posts in the offices	Consolidation of Holdings (Amend-
of, Ambala division .. 398	ment) Bill ..
AVINASH CHANDRA, SEGHAL—	Fixation of Minimum Rates of Wages
Question re, .. 268	Bill ..
AVTAR SINGH SIRHA, SARDAR—	Land Revenue (Amendment) Bill ..
Question re, .. 458	Legislative Assembly Powers and
B	Privileges Bill ..
BADSHAHI MOSQUE FUND CESS BILL—	Muslim Musawat Bill ..
Introduction .. 68	Prohibition of Malba Bill ..
Consideration .. 68-72	Publication and Sale of Holy Books
Passage .. 72	Restricting Bill ..
BAKHSHI RAM, PANDIT—	Punjab Children Bill ..
Question re, of Wachhowali .. 236	Sale of Holy Quran Restricting Bill
BALDEV SINGH, THE HONOURABLE	Tenancy (Amendment) Bill ..
SARDAR—	BLOCK SYSTEM—
Bill, consolidation of holdings (amend-	Question re—
ment)—	For recruitment to various ser-
Introduction .. 53	vices .. 164
Motive for consideration .. 53	Of recruitment in Police Depart-
Budget motion re—	ment .. 612
Reward to informers, Supply De-	Of recruitment in C. I. D. and C. I. A. .. 612
partment .. 718-21	BOARDING HOUSE—
BALLAST STONES—	Question re, of Government High
Question re modification in the rules	School, Palwal .. 105
for using, for construction of houses .. 494	BRADLAUGH HALL—
BAN—	Question re, .. 290
Question re—	BRAMA NAND—
On export of milch cattle .. 179, 599	Question re, of Okara .. 493
On independence day celebrations .. 272	BRAMA NAND, PANDIT
BABKAT ALI, MALIK—	Question re, arrest of, member, National
Budget, general discussion .. 315-18	War Front .. 28
BASHESWAR LAL, MR.—	BRICK KILN OWNERS—
Question re, of Putlighar, Amritsar .. 689	Question re Co 1 for Hindu and Mus-
BATALA-SIRI HARGOBINDPUR ROAD—	lim, at Sargodha .. 43
Question re, .. 392	BUCKETS—
BEHARI SHAH, AGGARWAL LALA—	Question re corrugated iron sheets for
Question re .. 649	repair of, and Persian wheels .. 686
BEOPARI—	BUDGET—
Question re, challaned under foodgrains	General discussion, limitation of time
control order .. 170	for speeches .. 300, 318
BHAGAT RAM CHODA, LALA—	Presentation .. 216-23
Bill, consolidation of holdings (amend-	BUDGET MOTION—
ments)—motion for circulation .. 64-68	Post-war reconstruction .. 621-47,
BHAGAT RAM SHARMA, PANDIT—	669-76
Budget motion re post-war reconstruc-	Reward to informers, Supply Department
tion .. 646-47,	War allowances .. 708-21
669-71	706-7
Point of order re presentation of demands	BUILDINGS—
for grants in the absence of certain	Question re inspection of, owned or
members .. 617	rented by Government in the districts
Privilege motion for discussion .. 246	of Rohtak, Karnal and Ambala Mu-
BHAGWAN SINGH, SARDAR—	nicipalities .. 660
Question re removal of restrictions on, .. 235	BUILDINGS AND ROADS BRANCH—
BHAINI LANDS—	Question re communal representation
Question re irrigation of .. 164	amongst the officials of, .. 245
BHAKHSI RAM—	BUILDINGS AND ROADS ESTABLISHMENT
Question re, .. 463	CHARGES—
BHAN, Miss V. G.—	Demand for grant .. 678
Question re supersession of Dr. Miss Kha-	BURGLARY CASES—
dija Begum by, .. 27	Question re, in Gurgaon .. 276

C

	PAGES
CAPITAL ACCOUNT OF OTHER PROVINCIAL WORKS—OUTSIDE REVENUE ACCOUNTS	
Demand for grant ..	679
CAPITAL OUTLAY—	
Question re, on Irrigation works ..	655
CASES—	
Question re—	
Number of, decided by each magistrate in Ludhiana district ..	13
Of restricted persons ..	547
CASHIERS—	
Question re corrupt treasury and sub-treasury, in the districts of Ambala and Rohtak ..	48
CATTLE—	
Question re export of certain kinds of, ..	122
CHARAN SINGH, SARDAR—	
Question re arrest of—M. L. A. ..	282
CHAUBURJI GARDENS ESTATE—	
Question re, Government quarters in, ..	171, 172
CH. UKIDARS—	
Question re, challaned under section 176, Indian Penal Code, in the district of Montgomery ..	163
CHHOTU RAM, CHAUDHRI SIE—	
Reference to late, ..	2—8, 124
CHIEF ENGINEER, ELECTRICITY BRANCH—	
Question re—	
Secretary to, ..	36
Staff of the office of, ..	104
CIVIC GUARDS—	
Question re removal of Sheikh Muhammad Said and Rai Ahmad Nur from the platoon commandership of, ..	215, 227
CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE PRISONERS—	
Question re treatment of persons convicted for violating internment restrictions as, ..	491
CIVILIAN SUB-ASSISTANT SURGEON—	
Question re future prospects of, serving under the military recruiting organisation ..	661
CIVIL SECRETARIAT—	
Question re Muslim Superintendents in the ..	403
CIVIL SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT—	
Question re personnel ..	28
CIVIL SUPPLY OFFICERS—	
Question re ..	507
CIVIL WORKS—	
Demand for grant ..	678
Supplementary demand for grant, ..	262, 263, 721
CIVIL WORKS (CAPITAL)—	
Demand for grant, ..	678
CLASSIFICATION—	
Question re, of certain "politicals" as habituals ..	270
CLERICAL POSTS—	
Question re, in the offices of Assistant Registrars, Co-operative Societies, Ambala division ..	398
CLOSURE—	
Question re, of district board primary school, at Wara Alam Shah ..	391
COGNIZABLE CASES—	
Question re untraced, in Ferozepore district ..	176
COLLECTIONS—	
Question re, Zamindara League Fund in Jhang ..	229
COMMUNAL HARMONY MOVEMENT—	
Question re office of the, Secretary ..	297

COMMUNAL REPRESENTATION—	
Question re—	
Amongst the officials of the Buildings and Roads Branch ..	245
COMMUNIST PARTY—	
Question re Provincial Committee of the, of India ..	385
COMMUNIST PARTY OFFICES—	
Question re search of district, Kangra ..	284
CONCILIATION BOARDS—	
Question re, in Jhang district ..	115
CONGRESS DETENUS—	
Question re, ..	88, 89
Diet money allowed to, ..	382
Grant of family allowances to, ..	492, 493
CONGRESS M.L.As.—	
Question re, ..	290
CONGRESS PARTY	
Question re members of Punjab Assembly, in jail ..	104
CONSOLIDATION OF HOLDINGS—	
Question re in Ambala division ..	404
CONSOLIDATION OF HOLDINGS (AMENDMENT) BILL—	
Introduced, considered and passed ..	53—68
CONSPIRACY CASE—	
Question re Mr. Gaya Prashad, Lahore prisoner, ..	98
CONTROL PRICES—	
Question re, of wheat and other food-grains ..	503
CO-OPERATION	
Demand for grant ..	678
Supplementary demand for grant ..	262
CO-OPERATIVE DEPARTMENT—	
Cus in re Muslim representation in the, ..	397
CORRUGATED IRON—	
Question re, sheets for repair of buckets and Persian wheels ..	685
CORRUPTION—	
Question re cases of, against police officials of Ferozepore district ..	177
CORRUPT OFFICIALS—	
Action against, statement re ..	53
COST OF LIVING—	
Question re, ..	295
COTTON CROP—	
Question re relief for damage to, ..	553
CRIMES—	
Question re, in Ferozepore district ..	174
CROPS—	
Question re damage to, in Sargodha district ..	390

D

DACOITIES —	
Question re, committed in Ferozepore district ..	511, 525
Question re, committed in Hissar district ..	161
DALIP SINGH, COMRADE—	
Question re search of house of, ..	286
DAMAGE—	
Question re, to crops in Sargodha district ..	390
DEARNESS ALLOWANCE—	
Question re, to Government Pensioners ..	701
DEBATE—	
Time limit for speeches during general discussion of budget ..	300, 318
DEBT CONCILIATION BOARD—	
Question re abolition of, Jhelum ..	681

PAGES	PAGES
DEFENCE OF INDIA RULES—	DETENTION NOTICES—
Question re—	Question re, served on certain detenus
Detenus belonging to Delhi Province	in Gujrat Sub-Jail .. 384
Persons interned in or externed from	DETENUS—
the Punjab under the, .. 109	Question re—
DEMANDS FOR GRANT (S)—	Congress, .. 88, 89, 153
Administration of justice .. 677	Defence of India Rules, belonging to
Advances not bearing interest .. 679	Delhi Province .. 9
Agriculture .. 678	Facilities demanded by, in Sialkot
Buildings and Roads Establishment	Jail .. 383, 384
charges .. 678	In Sialkot Jail .. 613
Capital account of other Provincial Works	Instructions to Superintendents of
—outside revenue accounts .. 679	Jails regarding applications of, .. 287
Civil works .. 678	Or internees .. 695
Civil works (capital) .. 678	DEV CHAND NARANG—
Co-operation .. 678	Question re .. 693, 694
Education .. 520—34,	DEV DAS GANDEI, MR.—
558—95.	Question re letter of condolence written
Education (European and Anglo-Indian)	by Mr. Jai Parkash Narain to, .. 292
Electricity schemes (capital expenditure)	DEV RAJ SETHI, MR.—
Electricity schemes—working expenses	Question re, .. 108
Famine .. 679	DHANWANTI, COMRADE—
Forests .. 677	Question re, President, Lahore City
General administration .. 411—48,	Congress Committee .. 608
485—88.	DHARM CHAND NARANG—
Industries .. 678	Question re .. 693, 94
Irrigation (capital) .. 677	DIST MONEY—
Irrigation establishment charges .. 677	Question re—
Irrigation works .. 677	Allowed to Congress detenus .. 382
Jails and convict settlements .. 677	Allowed to Congress detenus in
Land Revenue .. 676	Sialkot Jail .. 493
Loans and advances bearing interest .. 679	DILBER SINGH, SARDAR—
Medical .. 678	Question re, Assistant Entomologist,
Miscellaneous and Extraordinary charges	Agricultural College, Lyallpur .. 686
Post-war Reconstruction .. 617—47,	DILAWAR SINGH, B.A., MR.—
669—76.	Question re, .. 410
Motor Vehicles Acts and other Taxes	DINA NATH, MAJOR—
and Duties .. 677	Leave of absence .. 246
Police .. 677	DIN MUHAMMAD—
Provincial Excise .. 677	Question re, President, Municipal Com-
Public Health .. 678	mittee, Gurdaspur .. 35
Registration .. 677	DIRECTOR, INFORMATION BUREAU—
Revenue Expenditure connected with	Question re—
Electricity Schemes .. 678	Office of, Punjab
Scientific and Miscellaneous Depart-	Permanent vacancies filled up
ments .. 677	by, .. 41
Stamps .. 677	DIRECTOR OF LAND RECORDS—
Stationery and Printing .. 679	Question re, .. 36
Superannuation Allowances and	Sikh .. 50
Pensions .. 679	DISPENSARY—
Veterinary .. 678	Question re, in Baghbanpura .. 167
DEPOT(S)—	DISTRICT BOARDS—
Question re sugar, gur and other, at	Question re, educational grants to
Kaithal .. 392	certain, .. 119
DEPOT HOLDERS—	DISTRICT BOARDS BILL—
Question re, in the Province .. 39	Consideration .. 180—201
Question re—	DISTRICT BOARD SERVANTS—
Of Gurdaspur district .. 686	Question re, in Ambala division .. 402
Of Sugar, Kerosene oil and cloth in	DISTRICT INSPECTRESSES—
Gurdaspur district .. 39	Question re, of schools .. 598
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER—	DISTRICT NAZIR—
Question re travelling allowance drawn	Question re maltreatment of Sikh stack-
by, Jhang .. 114	holder by, of Lyallpur .. 49
DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRU-	DISTRICT TAXATION OFFICERS—
CTION—	Question re, .. 29
Question re, .. 661	DOABA—
DERA BABA NANAK ROAD—	Question re, water level of wells in, .. 551
Question re .. 392	DRAINS—
DESH BANDHU GUPTA, LALA—	Question re insanitary, in the districts
Adjournment motion re, restrictions on	of Rohtak, Karnal and Ambala .. 47
Question re .. 203	

	PAGES		PAGES
DUNI CHAND, LALA, M.L.A.—		FAMILY ALLOWANCE—	
Question re—		Question re grant of, to Congress	492
Reasons for not allowing, to attend	395	detenus ..	
the Assembly Session ..		FAMINE—	
Refusal of extension of stay at Lahore	508	Demand for grant ..	679
to, ..		Supplementary demand for grant ..	262
Restrictions imposed upon, ..	447	FAQIR HUSSAIN KHAN, K.B., CHAUDHRI—	
E		Budget, general discussion ..	350-60
EXTRA ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERS—		FARMAN ALI KHAN, SUBEDAR MAJOR	
Question re Muslim, ..	41	RAJA—	
EDIBLE DYES—		Bill, Sale of Holy Quran Restricting—	
Question re, ..	543	Reference to Select Committee ..	77-88
EDUCATION—		Budget, general discussion ..	348-49
Demand for grant ..	520—34,	FATEHJIANG SINGH, CAPTAIN BHAI—	
558—95.		Budget motion re—	
EDUCATION (EUROPEAN AND ANGLO-INDIAN)—		Reward to informers ..	716-17
Demand for grant ..	678	FATEH KHAN, KHAN SAHIB RAJA—	
Supplementary demand for grant ..	262, 721	Budget, general discussion ..	326-27
EDUCATION (EXCLUDING EUROPEAN AND ANGLO-INDIAN)—		Budget motion re—	
Supplementary demand for grant ..	262, 721	General policy of Government ..	493-84
EDUCATIONAL GRANTS—		FEEs—	
Question re, to certain District Boards ..	119	Question re, collected by marketing	
EDUCATION SUB-COMMITTEE—		committees of Gojra, Toba Tek Singh,	
Question re questionnaire of, of the All-		Lyallpur and Jhang Maghiana ..	111
India Muslim League ..	557	FEMALE TEACHERS—	
ELECTRICITY SCHEMES (CAPITAL EXPENDITURE)—		Question re grant of Senior Vernacular	
Demand for grant ..	679	and Junior Vernacular special certi-	
ELECTRICITY SCHEMES OUTSIDE		ficates to, ..	120
REVENUE—		FIREWOOD—	
Supplementary demand for grant ..	263	Question re—	
ELECTRICITY SCHEMES WORKING EXPENSES—		And fuel dealers ..	635
Demand for grant ..	678	Shortage of, ..	500
ELECTRICITY SCHEMES WORKING		FIXATION OF MINIMUM RATES OF WAGES	
CHARGES—		BILL—	
Supplementary demand for grant ..	262	Introduction, leave for ..	128-29
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS—		FOODGRAINS—	
Question re, in the province ..	119	Question re—	
EMBEZZLEMENT—		Agents for purchase of, ..	273,
Question re, of War Fund by Ludhiana		598	
Police ..	612	Control prices of wheat and, ..	503
EXACTIONS—		For export from the Province ..	663
Question re, by landlords ..	553	FOODGRAINS CONTROL ORDER—	
EXAMINERS—		Question re, beoparis-challaned under,	170
Question re, in the Vernacular Final		FORESTS—	
and Middle Standard Examination,		Demand for grant ..	677
for girls ..	297	Supplementary demand for grant ..	249, 706
EXCISE CONTRACTS—		FUEL DEALERS—	
Question re, ..	556	Question re, Firewood and, ..	685
EXCISE INSPECTORS—		FUNDS—	
Question re raid by, Kasur ..	377	Question re, contribution made to various,	
EXECUTIVE ENGINEERS—		and war loans ..	299
Question re, promoted to class I of		G.	
Indian Service of Engineers ..	28	GAJJAN SINGH, MASTER—	
EXPENDITURE—		Question re, ..	384
Schedule of, 1945-46, authenticated by		GARDENS	
Governor, Laid on the Table ..	703—05	Question re supply of water to, ..	560
EXPORT—		GAYA PRASAD, MR.—	
Question re—		Question re, Lahore conspiracy case	
ban on, of milch cattle ..	179, 590	Prisoner ..	98
Food grains for, from the province ..	663	GAZETTED OFFICERS—	
Of certain kinds of cattle ..	122	Question re, warning to for taking part	
EXTENSION—		in activities of various organisations..	19
Question re refusal of, of stay at Lahore		GENERAL ADMINISTRATION—	
to Lala Duni Chand, M.L.A. ..	508	Demand for grant ..	411—46,
F		465—88	
FACILITIES—		Supplementary demand for grant ..	261, 706—
Question re, demanded by detenus in			21
Siakot Jail ..	38 3		

PAGES

GENERAL SALES TAX RULES—		GOKUL CHAND NARANG DR. SIR,—conced	CS
Rules for determination of turnover as defined in, laid on the table ..	53	Budget motion re :—	
GHAZANFAR ALI KHAN RAJA—		Educational policy of Government ..	583-86
Adjournment motion—		Post-war reconstruction ..	635-45
All-India Muslim League Presidential procession ..	614, 615-16	Narendra Nath, Raja, reference to late, ..	514-15
Disallowance of, during Budget session ..	51, 52	Point of order—	
Restrictions on Lala Dashbandhu Gupta ..	518	Re, discussion on an item of expenditure not provided for in the Budget ..	618-19, 620-21
Bill, Badahahi Mosque Fund Cess—consideration ..	70	Whether members of the House are precluded from calling a Minister dishonest ' if he is dishonest ..	565
Bill, Muslim Musawat—		Privilege motion—	
Introduction, leave for ..	132, 133, 134	Leave for discussion ..	247-48, 249
Bill, Sale of Holy Quran Restricting—		GOPAL DAS, RAI BAHADUR LALA—	
Reference to Select Committee ..	75-7, 79, 81	Chhotu Ram, Chaudhri Sir, reference to late, ..	5
Budget, general discussion ..	303-07	Narendra Nath, Raja, reference to late, ..	515
Budget motion re—		GOPAL SINGH, SARDAR—	
General policy of Government ..	431-46, 465-77	Budget, general discussion ..	333-34
Reward to informers, Supply Department ..	708-12	GOPI CHAND BHARGAVA, DE.—	
Hours of sitting, ..	1	Question re, ..	10, 179, 509
Point of order—		GOVERNMENT BOYS' SCHOOLS—	
Re, discussion on an item of expenditure not provided for in the Budget ..	618	Question re, and Girls' Primary, Middle and High Schools ..	391
Re, reading of a speech by a member ..	628	GOVERNMENT DISPENSARY—	
Privilege motion—		Question re, for Baghbanpura ..	275, 76
Leave for discussion ..	247, 248, 249	GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES—	
Reference to late Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram ..	8	Question re, supply of necessities of life to low-paid, at reduced rates ..	397
Reference to late Khan Bahadur Sardar Muhammad Hassan Khan Gurhani ..	702	GOVERNMENT GIRLS' SCHOOLS—	
Resolution re, post-war development ..	138-39, 141, 146, 148	Question re Government Boys' and, Primary, Middle and High Schools ..	391
Shaukat Hyat-Khan, Sardar —		GOVERNMENT HIGH SCHOOL—	
Dismissal of ..	431-46, 465-77	Question re Boarding House of, Palwal ..	105
GHULAM MOHY-UD-DIN, KHAN BAHADUR MAULVI—		GOVERNMENT QUARTERS—	
Budget, general discussion ..	325-26	Question re, in Chauburji Gardens Estate ..	171-72
GHULAM SAMAD, KHAN SAMIE KHAWAJA—		GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS—	
Bill, Badshahi Mosque Fund Cess—		Question re Boys' and Girls' Primary, Middle and High, ..	391
Consideration ..	71	GOVERNMENT SERVICES—	
Bill, Consolidation of holdings (Amendment)—		Question re, Muslims' share in Punjab ..	397
Motion for circulation ..	62-3	GOVERNMENT TRAINING INSTITUTIONS—	
Bill, Muslim Musawat—		Question re admissions to, ..	297
Introduction, leave for ..	131-33	GRAINS—	
Bill, Publication and sale of Holy Books Restricting—		Question re, purchased by Government ..	665
Introduction, leave for ..	127	GRANTEES—	
Budget, general discussion ..	367	Question re peasants in Haveli Project ..	651
AN CHAND, PANDIT—		GRIEVANCES—	
Question re, ..	378	Question re, of residents of Hearne Road ..	173
GIRDHARI LAL —		GUN LICENCES—	
Question re ..	384	Question re ..	113
GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL—		GURBACHAN SINGH, SARDAR BAHADUR SARDAR—	
Question re at Baghbanpura ..	169, 275	Bill, District Boards—	
GOBIND RAM—		Membership of boards ..	194
Question re of Palwal ..	282	Reference to late Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram ..	8
GOKUL CHAND NARANG, DR. SIR—		GURBAKESH SINGH, SARDAR—	
Bill Muslim Musawat—		Budget, general discussion ..	320-21
Introduction, leave for ..	132, 134	GURCHARAN SINGH RANDEHAWA, SARDAR—	
Budget, general discussion ..	321-25, 345	Question re ..	178
		GURDWARA ELECTIONS—	
		Question re postponement of, ..	662
		GURMUKHI—	
		Question re arrangements for teaching, ..	32
		Question re—	
		Teaching of Hindi or, in the Government Schools ..	110

	PAGES		PAGES
GURMUKH SINGH, BABA—		INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS—	
Question re Kamageta Maru case	98	Question re—	
GURU—		Arrests, made in connection with a ..	547
Question re, a detenu	692	Ban on, ..	272
		INDIAN CHRISTIANS—	
H		Question re ..	668
HABIB-UL-RAHMAN, MAULANA—		INDIAN PENAL CODE—	
Question re—	379, 451	Question re lambaridars and chaukidars	
HABIB-UR-RAHMAN, MAULANA OF		challaned under section 176, in the	
LUDHIANA—		district of Montgomery. ..	163
Question re ..	607, 609	INDIAN SERVICE OF ENGINEERS—	
HAKUMAT SINGH, LAMBRA, MR.—		Question re Executive Engineers pro-	
Question re—	490	motred to class I of, ..	28
HARI SINGH, SARDAR, M.L.A.—		INDUSTRIES—	
Leave of absence ..	246	Demand for grant ..	678
Question re ..	33, 208	Supplementary demand for grant ..	263
HARJAB SINGH, SARDAR—		INQUIRY—	
Question re ..	91, 269, 489	Question re, into the conduct of a teacher	
HARNAM DAS, LALA—		of the District Board High School,	
Bill, Distr et Boards—		Chak Jhumra ..	410
Membership of boards ..	193-94	INSPECTION—	
HARNAM SINGH, SARDAR—		Question re of Buildings owned or	
Question re of Malhi ..	457	rented by Government in the	
HARNAM SINGH, MATHI, SARDAR—		districts of Rohtak, Karnal and	
Question re ..	93	Ambala Municipalities ..	660
HAZARA SINGH THAKUR—		INTERRED M. L. AS.—	
Question re ..	290	Question re ..	452
HEAD MISTRESS		INTERNEES—	
Question re, of schools ..	598	Question re Detenus or, ..	695
HEARNE ROAD—		Instructions re grant of permission	
Question re—		to, to leave places of their internment	547
Grievances of residents of,	173	INTERNMENT RESTRICTIONS—	
Side drains for, in Lahore ..	172	Question re treatment of persons con-	
HIGH SCHOOL—		victed for violating, as Civil dis-	
Question re, Bhachal ..	558	obedience prisoners ..	491
Question re—		INUNDATION CANAL —	
Boarding house of Government,		Question re, Pind Dadan Khan ..	390
Palwal ..	105	IRON—	
HINDI—		Question re, for manufacture of Persian	
Question re—		wheels ..	682
Patronage of ..	660	IRRIGATION—	
Teaching of, or Gurmukhi in Govern-		Question re— of Bhaini Lands ..	164
ment Schools ..	110	Supplementary demand for grant ..	261
HIRA SINGH DARD, GYANI—		IRRIGATION BRANCH PERSONNEL—	
Question re ..	178	Question re Public Works department	165
HOLIDAY—		IRRIGATION (CAPITAL)—	
Question re, for Jor Mela in Sheikhu-		Demand for grant ..	877
pura district ..	162	IRRIGATION CIRCLE—	
HORSE ALLOWANCE—		Question re, creation of special, ..	495
Question re, for Sub-Inspectors and		IRRIGATION ESTABLISHMENT CHARGES—	
Assistant Sub-Inspectors of Police ..	459	Demand for grant ..	677
HOSPITALS—		Supplementary demand for grant ..	261
Question re, sub-assistant surgeons in		IRRIGATION WORKING EXPENSES—	
charge of Civil, Municipal Board and		Supplementary demand for grant ..	261
District Board, in Ambala Division ..	404	IRRIGATION WORKS—	
HOURS OF SITTING—		Demand for grant ..	677
Motion re, ..	1-2	Question re Capital outlay on ..	655
		I	
I		JAGAT RAM, COMRADE—	
ILACHIWAH CHANNEL—		Question re artist of, ..	450
Question re ..	294	JAGAT RAM JOSHI, MR.—	
INAYAT ULLAH KHAN—		Question re, of Amritsar ..	511
Question re, widow of, ..	15	JAGIES—	
INDAR PARKASH, ANAND, MR.—		Question re, special, ..	116
Question re ..	110, 156, 243, 244	JAGJIT SINGH, MAN, SARDAR—	
		Bill, consolidation of holdings (amend-	
		ment)—	
		Motion for circulation ..	63-4
		Budget, general discussion ..	353-54

PAGES

PAGES

JAGJIT SINGH MAN SARDAR—concl'd.

Budget motion—
Re, Post-war Reconstruction .. 645-46

JAGJIT SINGH, MR.—
Question re .. 280

JAIL—
Question re members of Punjab Assembly Congress Party in, .. 102

JAILS AND CONVICT SETTLEMENT—
Demand for grant .. 677
Supplementary demand for grant .. 262

JAI PARKASH NARAIN, MR.—
Question re .. 291, 292

JAMNA DAS, MR.—
Question re .. 542

JAWALA MUKHI NAWRATA FAIR—
Question re in Kangra District .. 611

JHATEA MEAT—
Question re .. 104

Question re, and Sikh Students of Rasool Engineering School .. 27

JHATEA MEAT SHOPS—
Question re, in the province .. 32

JOR MELA—
Question re Holiday for, in Sheikhupura District .. 162

K.

KABUL SINGH MASTER, M.L.A.—
Question re .. 85

KALI CHARAN SHARMA DE.—
Question re application for release on parole .. 610

KAMAGATA MARU CASE—
Question re Baba Gurmukh Singh of, .. 98

KAPOOR SINGH, SARDAR—
Adjournment motion re—

Bhim Sen Sachar, Lala, arrest of, .. 290, 300

Re security prisoners, treatment of, in Special Jail, Gujrat .. 558

Bill, Fixation of Minimum Rates of Wages—

Introduction, leave for .. 128, 129

Budget, general discussion .. 331-33

Budget motion re—

Rationalization of Motor transport .. 254-56

War allowances .. 708-07

KARANAT ALI, KHAN BAHADUR SHEIKH—

Bill District Boards—Membership of boards .. 194-97

Budget motion re, educational policy of Government .. 534, 558-77

KARTAR SINGH, CHAUDHRI, M.L.A.—

Leave of absence .. 124

Question re, .. 206

KARTAR SINGH, SARDAR—

Budget motion re, educational policy of Government .. 522-25

KESAR SINGH—

Question re State of Health of, .. 16

KHADILJA BEGUM, DR. MISS—

Question re .. 167, 657

Question re supersession of, by Miss V. G. Bhan .. 276

KHAKSAR PRISONERS

Question re, .. 160

KHIZAR HAYAT, THE HONOURABLE MALIK—

Adjournment of Assembly, motion re .. 180

Adjournment motion—

All-India Muslim League Presidential procession .. 615

Security prisoners treatment of, in Special Jail, Gujrat .. 553

Bill—

Badahahi Mosque Fund Cess—

Consideration .. 68-69, 70-1

Introduction .. 68

Passage .. 72

District Boards—membership of

Boards .. 198-201

Legislative Assembly Powers and Privileges—Introduction, leave for, .. 129-30

Sale of Holy Quran Restricting, reference to select committee .. 74, 76-80

Budget, general discussion .. 370-75

Budget motion re—

General policy of Government .. 419-31

Post War Reconstruction .. 673-76

Rationalisation of motor transport .. 256-60

Hours of sitting, .. 1, 2

Chhotu Ram, Chaudhri Sir, reference to late, .. 2-3

Muhamma't Hassan Khan, Gurohani, Khan Bahadur Sardar, reference to late, .. 701

Narendra Nath, Raja, reference to late, .. 512-13

Point of order, re discussion on an item of expenditure not provided for in the Budget .. 618, 619-20

Question hour, suspension of .. 331

Question re, districts visited by, .. 210

Resolution re post-war development .. 146

Shaukat Hyat-Khan, Sardar, dismissal of, .. 419-31

KHUDA DAD, COMRADE—

Question re .. 457

KING EDWARD MEDICAL COLLEGE—

Question re, students admitted to the Pharmacy classes of the, Lahore. .. 29

KIRPAN—

Question re, carrying of, inside Reserve Bank of India .. 233

KISAN CONFERENCE WORKERS—

Question re, arrest of (Hamirpur) .. 207

L.

LAHORE SYNDICATE—

Question re, Wheat flour, supplied by, to public of Lahore .. 169

LAFAT RAI BHAWAN—

Question re .. 649

LAFAT RAI HALL—

Question re .. 290

LAL SINGH JANDIALA—

Question re state of health of, .. 16

LAL SINGH KANWAR—

Question re .. 178

Question re, President, District Kisan Committee, Sheikhupura .. 449

Bill, consolidation of holdings (amendment), motion for circulation .. 59, 60

LAMBARDARS—

Question re—

And Chaukidars challaned under Section 176, Indian Penal Code, in the district of Montgomery .. 163

	PAGES		PAGES
LAMBARDARS—concd.		MANOHAR LAL, THE HONOURABLE SIR—concd.	
Remuneration allowed to Zaildars and ..		Budget motion re, war allowances ..	707
LANDLORDS—		Point of order—re discussion on an item of expenditure not provided for, in the Budget ..	618
Question re—		Public Accounts Committee's Report—presentation ..	180
Agents of absentee, ..	47	Rules for determination of turnover as defined in—General Sales Tax Rules, 1943, laid on the table ..	53
Exactions by, ..	553	Supplementary Estimates (Second Instalment), 1944-45, presentation of, Supplementary Statement of Expenditure ..	180
LANDS—			519
Question re proprietary rights to zamindars holding, on mule-breeding conditions ..		MARKETING COMMITTEES—	
LAND REVENUE—		Question re fees collected by the, of Gojra, Toba Tek Singh, Lyalpur and Jhang Maghiana ..	111
Demand for grant ..	676	MATTALBI, SYED—	
Question re, ..	496	Question re ..	91
Realisation of, arrears of, in Jhang district ..	111	MEDICAL—	
Supplementary demand for grant ..	249	Demand for grant ..	678
LAND REVENUE (AMENDMENT) BILL—		Supplementary demand for grant ..	262, 721
Introduction, leave for ..	126-27	MEDICAL COLLEGE—	
LATHI CHARGE—		Question re, students admitted into, at Lahore and Amritsar ..	405
Question re, on political prisoners in Multan Central Jail ..	540	MEDICAL DEPARTMENT—	
LEAVE OF ABSENCE—		Question re officers employed in, ..	405
Dina Nath, Major ..	246	MEHMAN SINGH, SARDAR—	
Hari Singh, Sardar ..	246	Question re ..	11
Kartar Singh, Chaudhri ..	124	MIDDLE STANDARD EXAMINATION—	
Muni Lal Kalia, Pandit ..	299	Question re, Examiners in the Vernacular Final and, for girls ..	297
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY POWERS AND PRIVILEGES BILL—		MILCH CATTLE—	
Introduction, leave for ..	129-31	Question re ban on export of, ..	179, 599
LEHNA SINGH SARGODHI, DR.—		MILITARY RECRUITING ORGANISATION—	
Question re, ..	692	Question re future prospects of Civil Sub-Assistant Surgeons serving under ..	661
LICENCES—		MINISTERS—	
Question re, Gun, ..	113	Question re portfolios entrusted to Honourable, ..	96
LOANS AND ADVANCES BEARING INTEREST—		MISCELLANEOUS—	
Demand for grant ..	679	Supplementary demand for grant ..	263
LOCK-UPS—		MISCELLANEOUS AND EXTRAORDINARY CHARGES—	
Question re visited by Honourable Minister for Finance ..	555	Demands for grants ..	617-47
LONG TERM PRISONERS—			669-76
Question re, confined in jails of North-West Frontier Province ..	275	M. L. As.—	
LOW-PAID GOVERNMENT SERVANTS—		Question re—	
Question re supply of necessaries of life to at reduced rates ..	397	Employed as Assistant Recruiting Officers ..	95
M		Congress, ..	290, 291
MAHABIR SINGH—		Maintenance allowance for the families of certain, ..	25
Question re ..	106	Restrictions on, to attend the Sessions of the Assembly ..	283
MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE—		Still in jail ..	239
Question re,—		MOHAN SINGH, SARDAR—	
For families of certain M.L.As. ..	25	Question re, ..	12
For families of Congress detenus, Security prisoners and convicts ..	102	MOHAR SINGH, RAO—	
For family of Sodhi Pindi Das, Security prisoner ..	97	Budget, general discussion, ..	350-51
MANGE RAM VATS, COMRADE—		MOHINDER KUMAR, MR.—	
Question re, ..	90, 549	Question re ..	510
MANOHAR LAL, THE HONOURABLE SIR—		MOOLA SINGH, SARDAR—	
Bill,—		Budget, general discussion ..	327-29
Fixation of Minimum Rates of Wages, introduction, leave for ..	128	MOTOR TRANSPORT—	
Legislative Assembly Powers and Privileges—introduction, leave for ..	129	Budget motion re rationalisation of, ..	250-61
Budget, presentation ..	216-26	MOTOR VEHICLES—	
		Question re Plying of, in the province	404

	PAGES		PAGES
MOTOR VEHICLES ACTS AND OTHER TAXES AND DUTIES—		MULE-BREEDING—	
Demand for grant ..	677	Question re proprietary rights to zamindars holding lands on, conditions ..	549
Supplementary demand for grant ..	249	MULTAN CENTRAL JAIL—	
MOTOR VEHICLES RULES—		Question re lathi charge on political prisoners in, ..	540
Amendments to, laid on the table ..	53	MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONER—	
MUHAMMAD AKRAM KHAN, KHAN		Question re removal of Khan Sahib Abdul Ghafoor Khan, Gurdaspur ..	36
BAHADUR RAJA—		MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE—	
Resolution re post-war development ..	138,	Question re Din Muhammad, President, Gurdaspur ..	35
	139—42	MUNICIPALITIES—	
MUHAMMAD ALAM, DR. SHEIKH—		Question re inspection of Buildings owned or rented by Government in the Districts of Rohatk, Karnal and Ambala, ..	660
Budget motion re general policy of Government ..	478—83	MUNICIPAL URINALS—	
Chhatu Ram Chaudhri Sir, reference to late, ..	6—8	Question re ..	48
MUHAMMAD HASAN, CHAUDHRI—		MUNI LAL KALIA, PANDIT M.L.A.,—	
Adjournment motions, disallowance of, during Budget session ..	52	Leave of absence ..	299
Bill—		Question re, ..	286, 395
Consolidation of holdings (Amendment), motion for consideration ..	53-54	MURDERS—	
District Boards, membership of boards ..	192-93	Question re—	
Budget, general discussion ..	300—03	Committed in Ferozepore district ..	511, 535
Budget motion re, reward to informers, supply department ..	14-15	Committed in the Lyallpur and Jhang districts ..	114
Muhammad Hassar Khan Gurehani, Khan Bahadur Sardar, reference to late ..	702	MOSLIM GAZETTED OFFICERS—	
Narendra Nath, Raja, reference to late, ..	513	Question re, in the Agriculture Department, Ambala division ..	403
Question hour, suspension of, ..	331	MUSLIM LEAGUE—	
MUHAMMAD HASSAN KHAN GUREHANI, KHAN BAHADUR SARDAR—		Adjournment motion re All-India—Presidential procession ..	614—16
Adjournment of the Assembly for an hour as a mark of respect to late, ..	703	Question re reporting of proceedings, of, by a police reporter ..	213
Budget, general discussion, ..	386-67	MUSLIM LEAGUE PARTY—	
References to late, ..	701-02	Withdrawal of, from the Chamber ..	673
MUHAMMAD HUSSAIN, KHAN BAHADUR CHAUDHRI—		MUSLIM MUSAWAT BILL—	
Bid, consolidation of holdings (Amendment), motion for circulation ..	56-57	Introduction, leave for, ..	131—36
Budget, general discussion ..	351-55	MUSLIM REPRESENTATION—	
MUHAMMAD JAMAL KHAN LEGHARI, THE HONOURABLE NAWAB SIR—		Question re, in the Co-operative department ..	397
Bill, District Boards, membership of boards ..	181-82	MUSLIM SUPERINTENDENTS—	
Budget motion re Post-War reconstruction ..	671—73	Question re, in the Civil Secretariat ..	403
MUHAMMAD NURULLAH, MIAN—		MUTATIONS—	
Adjournment motions, disallowance of, during Budget Session ..	51	Question re number of, decided by Revenue Officer of each Tehsil in Ludhiana district ..	659
Bill—		MUZAFFAR ALI KHAN QIZILBASH, NAWAB—	
Badshahi Mosque Fund Cess, consideration ..	69-70	Bill, ..	
Consolidation of holdings (amendment), motion for circulation ..	51—56	Muslim Masawat—introduction, leave for ..	131, 133-34
District Boards—membership of boards ..	181, 187	Sale of Holy Quran Restricting—reference to Select Committee ..	74-75
Budget motion re—		Budget, general discussion ..	307—10
General policy of Government ..	411-12	Budget motion re—educational policy of Government ..	577—81
Rationalisation of motor transport ..	251—53	MUZAFFAR KHAN, KHAN BAHADUR CAPTAIN MALIK—	
Point of order—re discussion on an item of expenditure not provided for, in the Budget ..	617-18	Budget, general discussion ..	307—10, 364-65
MUHAMMAD SAID, SHEIKH—		N.	
Question re removal of, from the Platoon Commandership of Civic Guards ..	215, 227	NAMAL LAKE—	
MUHAMMAD YUSUF KHAN, KHAN—		Question re private lands under the water of, in the Mianwali district ..	274
Bill, sale of Holy Quran Restricting—reference to Select Committee ..	72-73, 80—82	NARENDRA NATH, RAJA—	
Budget, general discussion ..	344-45	References to late ..	512—18
Budget motion re—			
Educational policy of Government ..	581-83		
Rationalisation of motor transport ..	253-54		

	PAGES		PAGES
NAUNihal SINGH MANN, CAPTAIN, SARDAR—		PETROL DEPOSITS—	
Budget motion re reward to infor-		Question re, discovery of, ..	108
mers—supply deaprtment ..	713-14	PHARMACY CLASSES—	
Chh. tu Ram, Chandhri Sir, reference to		Question re students admitted to the,	
late ..	5	King Edward Medical College,	29
Narendra Nath, Raja, reference to		Lahore ..	
late, ..	617-18	PIND DADAN KHAN INUNDATION CANAL—	
NECESSARIES OF LIFE—		Question re, ..	390
Question re—		PINDI DASS JOSHI—	
Shortage of, in Urban areas ..	109	Ques ion re ..	15
Supply of, to low-paid Government		Question re maintenance allowance for	
employees at reduced rates ..	397	family of, Security Prisoner ..	97
NEKI RAM SHARMA, PANDIT—		PIND NowsHEER—	
Question re, ..	93, 94	Question re punitive police at, ..	13
NEW ANARKALI POLICE POST—		PIR MUHAMMAD, KHAN SAHIB CHAUDHRI,—	
Question re, ..	464	Budget, general discussion ..	313-14
NEWSPAPERS—		PLACES OF INTERNMENT—	
Question re—		Question re instructions re grant of per-	
Security demanded from, ..	86,	mission to internees to leave, ..	547
	93, 97	PLATOON COMMANDERSHIP—	
Question re subscription to specially		Question re removal of Shaikh Mu-	
designed weekly war editions		hammad Said and Rai Ahmad Nur	
of, ..	14, 15	from the, of Civic Guards ..	215, 227
O.		PLAY GROUNDS—	
OFFICE—		Question re, for children ..	597
Question re, of the Director, Informa-		POINT OF ORDER—	
tion Bureau, Punjab ..	298	Re—	
OLD ANARKALI POLICE STATION—		Discussion on an item of expenditure	
Question re, ..	464	not provided for in the Budget ..	617—21
OUTLETS—		Presentation of demands for grants	
Question re, for village Khosa Kotla		in the absence of members ..	617
Remodelling of, in Amritsar district		Reading of a speech by a member ..	628
	30-31,	Whether members of the House are	
	498	precluded from calling a Minister	
OYSESEERS—		'dishonest', if he is such ..	565
Question re, in Public Works De-		POLICE—	
partment ..	42	Demand for grant ..	677
P.		Question re—	
PARAS RAM, COMRADE—		Cases of corruption against, officials	
Question re, ..	450	of Ferozepore district ..	177
PAROLE—		Complaint against, of Thana Kathu-	
Question re Dr. Kali Charan Sharma's		Nangal ..	289
application for release on ..	619	Ferozepore district, ..	279
PARTAP SINGH SARDAR, M.L.A.—		Gurgaon, personnel ..	105
Question re, ..	282	Officers in Ludhiana district recom-	
PARVATI DEVI, SHRIMATI—		mended for promotion or reward-	
Question re, of Kavnalia ..	269,	ed ..	401, 492
	693	Punitive ..	98, 100
PATWABIS—		Supplementary demand ..	262
Question re pay of, ..	654	POLICE DEPARTMENT—	
PRASANT GRANTEES—		Question re block system of recruit-	
Question re, in Haveli Project ..	651	ment in, ..	612
PENSIONERS—		POLICE POST—	
Question re Dearness Allowance to		Question re, stationed at Phulwara ..	493
Government, ..	701	POLICE REPORTER—	
PEONS—		Question re reporting of proceedings of	
Question re, in Government Departments		Muslim League, by a, ..	213
PERMISSION—		POLITICAL PRISONERS—	
Question re instructions re grant of, to		Question re—	
internees to leave places of their		Classification of certain, as habituals	
internment, ..	547	Lathi charge on, in Multan Central	
PERSIAN WHEELS—		Jail ..	540
Question re, ..	278,	Representations of, ..	291
	682,	Restrictions on released, ..	235
	685	POLITICS—	
PERSONAL EXPLANATION—		Question re instructions to students	
— by Sardar Sohan Singh Josh ..	668-69	of Government College to abstain	
— by the Honourable Mian Abdul Haye	617	from taking part in, ..	658
		PONY ALLOWANCE—	
		Question re, paid to assistant Sub-inspec-	
		tor ..	460

PAGE	PAGES
PORTFOLIOS—	
Question re, entrusted to Honourable Ministers ..	96
POST-GRADUATE TRAINING—	
Question re, in the Veterinary Department ..	44
POST-WAR DEVELOPMENT—	
Resolution re, ..	138—52
POST-WAR RECONSTRUCTION—	
Budget motion re, ..	621—47, 699—76
PREM BHASIN, MR.—	
Question re Munshi Ahmad Din and, ..	462
PREMIER, THE HONOURABLE—	
Question re—	
Address presented to, in Jhang ..	289
Districts visited by, ..	210
PREMIER'S VISIT—	
Question re, to Jhang and hardship suffered by school children ..	658—60
PREM PRAKASH DAVESHEAR, PANDIT—	
Question re, ..	695
PRIMARY GIRLS' SCHOOL—	
Question re closure of District Board, Wara Alam Shah ..	391
PRITAM SINGH, SIDHU, S. B. S.—	
Question re Mahabir Singh ..	106
PRIVATE LANDS—	
Question re, under the water of Namal Lake in the Mianwali district ..	274
PRIVATE TUITION—	
Question re teachers of Government Schools, Ambala division, and, ..	45
PRIVILEGE MOTION—	
Question re Arrest of Lala Bhim Sen Sachar ..	263—65
Leave for discussion ..	246—49
PROCESSION—	
Adjournment motion re All-India Muslim League Presidential— ..	614—16
PROHIBITION OF MALWA BILL—	
Introduction, leave for ..	136—37
PROPRIETARY RIGHTS—	
Question re, to zamindars holding lands on mule-breeding conditions ..	549
PROTECTING AGENCY—	
Question re, in Ferozepore district ..	455
PROVINCIAL CIVIL SERVICE OFFICERS—	
Question re—	
Community-wise in Judicial and Executive Branches ..	109, 398
Inquiries against, ..	27
PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE—	
Question re, of the Communist party of India ..	385
PROVINCIAL EXCISE—	
Demand for grant ..	677
Supplementary demands ..	249, 706
PROVINCIALIZATION—	
Question re, of Jhang-Chiniot katcha road ..	118
PROVINCIAL PUBLIC ANALYSTS—	
Question re appointment of a Sikh to one of the posts of, ..	50
PROVINCIAL SERVICE OF ENGINEERING, CLASS II—	
Question re, ..	407
PROVINCIAL WORKS—	
Supplementary demand for grant ..	263
PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE—	
Presentation of Report ..	180
PUBLICATION AND SALE OF HOLY BOOKS RESTRICTING BILL—	
Introduction, leave for ..	127
PUBLIC HEALTH—	
Demand for grant ..	678
Supplementary demand ..	263
PUBLIC WELLS—	
Question re resolutions passed by local bodies throwing open, in Ambala district to all classes of people ..	49
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT—	
Question re—	
Irrigation Branch personnel ..	165
Overseers in, ..	42
Sub-Divisional Officers in the, ..	407
PUNITIVE POLICE—	
Question re, ..	13, 98, 100, 287
PUNJAB ASSEMBLY CONGRESS PARTY—	
Question re members of, in jail ..	102
PUNJAB CHILDREN BILL—	
Introduction, leave for ..	138
PUNJAB CIVIL SERVICES (PUNISHMENT AND APPEAL) RULES—	
Question re, ..	160
PUNJAB GOVERNMENT PRINTING PRESS	
WORKERS' UNION—	
Question re, ..	655
PUNJAB STATE AID TO INDUSTRIES ACT—	
Question re subsidies under, ..	600
PUNJAB ZAMINDARA LEAGUE—	
Question re, ..	18
PURCHASING AGENTS—	
Question re, appointed by Government..	276
Q.	
QUESTION HOUR—	
Suspension of, motion re ..	83, 331
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—	
ABDUL RAB, MIAN—	
Question re Government quarters in Chauburji Gardens Estate ..	171, 172
AJIT SINGH, SARDAR—	
Question re —	
Corrugated iron sheets for repair of buckets and Persian wheels ..	685
Excise contracts ..	556
Gian Chand, Pandit ..	378
Giani Ram Singh Johar, of Hoshiarpur ..	541
Headmistresses and District Inspectresses of Schools ..	598
Linder Prakash Anand, Mr. ..	156, 243, 244
Iron for manufacture of Persian wheels ..	682
Jai Parkash Narain, Mr. ..	291
Letter of condolence written by Mr. Jai Parkash Narain to Mr. Dev Das Gandhi ..	292

PAGE

PAGES

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—CONTD.

AJIT SINGH, SARDAR—*concl'd*—

Question re—

Munshi Ahmad Din and Mr. Prem Bhasin ..	462
Quinine tablets ..	689
Sant Parkash, Mr. ..	17
Security prisoners ..	157, 244
Shashi Bhushan, Mr., of Gwalior ..	462
Zafar, Mr., Security prisoner, Sub-Jail, Gujrat ..	461

AMIN-UD-DIN, KHAN BAHADUR, MIAN—

Question re—

Civil Supplies Department personnel ..	28
Executive Engineers promoted to Class I of Indian Service of Engineers ..	28
Students admitted to the Pharmacy Classes of the King Edward Medical College, Lahore ..	29

BARKAT ALI, MALIK—

Question re—

Arrest of Abdullah Khan, and others by Security Staff, Ferozepore ..	18
Election of Senior Vice-President, Sialkot District Board. ..	601
Purchasing agencies appointed by Government ..	276
Roshan Din, Khan Bahadur Chaudhri, M.L.A. ..	554
Subscription to specially designed weekly war editions of newspapers ..	14, 15

BHAGAT RAM CHODA, LALA—

Question re—

Bakhshi Ram ..	3
Bradlaugh and Lajpat Rai Halls ..	460
Congress detenus ..	293
Detenus in the Sialkot Jail ..	153
Detenus or internees ..	615
Dilawar Singh, Mr. B.A. ..	69, 41
Harjab Singh Sardar, M.L.A. ..	489
Inquiry into conduct of a teacher of the District Board High School, Sak Jhumra ..	410
Jamna De Ram Sarup Sehgal, Ram Parkash Chadah and Sujjan Singh Sarat, Messrs. ..	542
Lajpat Rai Bhawan ..	649
Maintenance allowance for families of Congress detenus, security prisoners and convicts ..	102
Members of Punjab Assembly Congress Party in jails ..	102
From Prakash Daveskar, Pandit ..	695
Ram Nath, Yogi ..	613
Ram Prakash Chadha, Mr. ..	542
Release of Pandit Ram Sarup Sharma on parole ..	234
Removal of restrictions on Sardar Bhagwan Singh ..	235
Restrictions on released political prisoners ..	235
Sardul Singh Caveeshar, Sardar, and Maulana Habib-ul-Rahman ..	379
Sher Singh, Bhai ..	463
Tilak National Library, Rawalpindi ..	694
Yash Pal, Syt., B.A. ..	542

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—CONTD.

BHAGAT RAM SHARMA, PANDIT—

Question re—

Arrest of Comrade Jagat Ram and search of the office of District Kisan Committee (Kangra) ..	450
Arrest of the Kisan Conference (Hamirpur) workers ..	207
Arrest of Pandit Brahma Nand, member, National War Front ..	283
Conciliation Boards in the Jhang district ..	115
Defence of India Rules detenus, belonging to Delhi Province ..	9
Dharam Chand Narang and Dev Chand Narang, Messrs. ..	693, 94
Fees collected by the Marketing Committees of Gojra, Toba Tek Singh, Lyallpur and Jhang Maghiana ..	111
Gopi Chand Bhargava, Dr. ..	10, 179
Gunlicences ..	113
Habib-ur-Rahman, Maulana ..	451, 607, 609
Indar Prakash Anand, Mr. ..	110
Jawalumukhi Nacota Fair in Kangra district ..	611
Murders committed in Lyallpur and Jhang districts ..	114
Paras Ram, Comrade, B.A. ..	450
Parvati Devi, Shrimati, of Kamalia Provincial Civil Service Officers ..	693
Provincialization of Jhang-Chiniot katcha road ..	109
Narain Rai, Lala ..	118
Realisation of land revenue arrears in the Jhang district ..	119
Rivaz Gardens ..	111
Search of Comrade Dalip Singh's house ..	173
Search of the offices of District Communist Party (Kangra) ..	285
Security prisoners ..	284
Shortage of necessities of life in urban areas ..	11, 537, 538, 539, 609
Special Jagirs ..	109
Teaching of Hindi or Gurmukhi in the Government schools ..	116
Thefts in the Jhang district ..	110
Travelling allowance drawn by the Deputy Commissioner and Superintendent of Police, Jhang ..	115
Urban Immoveable Property Tax ..	114

DUNI CHAND, MRS.—

Question re—

Abdul Ghani, Maulvi, of Ludhiana ..	608
Arrest of Sardar Chanan Singh, M.L.A. ..	282
Bhim Sain Sachar, Lala, M. L. A. ..	509
Deshbandha Gupta, Mr. M.L.A. ..	203
Gopi Chand Bhargava, Dr. ..	509
Habib-ul-Rahman, Maulana, of Ludhiana ..	607, 609
Hari Singh, Sardar, M.L.A. ..	83
Kabul Singh, Master, M.L.A. ..	85
Kartar Singh, Chaudhri, M.L.A. ..	86
Lehna Singh, Dr., of Sar ..	692
Maintenance allowance for the families of certain M. L. As. ..	2
Muni Lal Kalia, Pandit, M.L.A. ..	393

PAGE

PAGE

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—CONTD.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—CONTD.

DUNI CHAND, MRS.—*concl'd.*

Question re—

Partap Singh, Sardar, M.L.A. ..	282
Reasons for not allowing Lala Duni Chand, M. L. A., to attend the Assembly Session ..	395
Refusal of extension of stay at Lahore to Lala Duni Chand, M.L.A. ..	508
Restrictions imposed upon Lala Duni Chand M.L.A. ..	447
Restrictions on M. L. As. to attend the session of the Assembly ..	283
Rur Singh, Sardar, M. L. A. ..	606
Sri Ram Sharma, Pandit, M.L.A. ..	205
Vedie and Unani practitioners ..	44
Vernaular Middle School, Khizarabad ..	44

FAZAL DIN, KHAN SAKIB, CHAUDHRI—

Question re—

Dearness allowance to Government pensioners ..	701
Remuneration allowed to zaildars and lambardars ..	106

GHAZANFAR ALI KHAN, RAJA—

Question re.

Abolition of Debt Conciliation Board, Jhelum ..	681
Bhuchal High School ..	558
Creation of special irrigation circle ..	495
Damage to crops in Sargodha district ..	390
Dismissal of Captain Shaukat Hyat-Khan ..	22, 24
Districts visited by Honourable Premier ..	210
Instructions to students of Government College to abstain from taking part in politics ..	658
Khadija Begum, Dr. Miss ..	657
Lock-ups visited by Honourable Minister for Finance ..	555
Modification in the rules for using ballast stones for construction of houses ..	494
Pind Dadan Khan Inundation Canal ..	390
Questionnaire of Education Sub-Committee of the All-India Muslim League ..	557
Removal of Shaikh Muhammad Said and Rai Ahmad Nur, from the Platoon Commandership of Civic Guards ..	227
Reporting of proceedings of Muslim League by a Police reporter ..	213
Sanitary arrangements in jails ..	499
Waterlogging ..	388
Warning to gazetted officers for taking part in the activities of various organisations ..	19
Zamindara League Fund ..	241

GHULAM MOHY-UD-DIN, KHAN BAHADUR MAULVI—

Question re—

Agents for purchase of foodgrains ..	278
Dispensary in Baghbanpura ..	167
Girls' High School in Baghbanpura ..	275
Khadija Begum, Dr. Miss ..	167

GHULAM MOHY-UD-DIN KHAN BAHADUR MAULVI—*cont'd.*

Question re—

Security demanded from newspapers ..	86
GHULAM SAMAD, KHAN SAHIB KHAWAJA—	
Question re.—	
Agents appointed for buying food grains ..	598
Agricultural Department personnel ..	39
Anti-son measures in tahsils Phalia and Bhallowal, district Gujrat ..	164
Ban on export of milch cattle ..	599
Civil Supply officers ..	507
Clerical posts in the offices of Assistant Registrars, Co-operative Societies, Ambala division ..	398
Closure of District Board Primary School, Wara Alam Shah ..	391
Consolidation of holdings in Ambala division ..	404
Control price of wheat and other foodgrains ..	503
Depot holders of Gurdaspur district ..	686
Depot holders of sugar, kerosene oil and cloth in Gurdaspur district ..	39
Depot holders in the province ..	39
Dilbir Singh Sardar, Assistant Entomologist, Agricultural College, Lyallpur ..	656
District Board servants in Ambala division ..	402
Girls' High School in Baghbanpura ..	275
Government boys' and girls' primary, middle and high schools ..	391
Government dispensary in Baghbanpura ..	275, 276
Muslim gazetted officers in the Agriculture Department, Ambala division ..	403
Muslim representation in the Co-operative department ..	397
Muslim's share in Punjab Government services ..	397
Muslim Superintendents in the Civil Secretariat ..	403
Police officers in Ludhiana district recommended for promotion or rewarded ..	401, 402
Post-graduate training in Veterinary department ..	44
Promotions to Class I in Veterinary department ..	407
Promotions made by Superintendent, Veterinary to Class II ..	39
Provincial Civil Service officers community-wise in the Judicial and Executive Services ..	398
Plying of motor vehicles in the Province ..	404
Public Works Department, Irrigation Branch personnel ..	165
Relief granted to certain villages in Karnal district ..	403
Securities demanded from newspapers ..	93
Shortage of firewood ..	500

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—CONTD.	PAGE
GHULAM SAMAD, KHAN SAHIB, KHAWAJA— <i>concl'd.</i>	
Question re.—	
Sub-assistant surgeons in charge of Civil, Municipal Board and District Board Hospitals in Ambala division ..	404
Subsidies under State Aid to Industries Act ..	399, 600
Sugar, gur and other depots at Kaithal ..	392
Supercession of Dr. Miss Khadija Begum by Miss V. G. Bhan ..	276
Supply of necessaries of life to low paid Government employees at reduced rates ..	397
Veterinary hospitals ..	397
Veterinary Superintendent, Lahore division ..	38, 686
GURBACHAN SINGH, SARDAR BAHADUR, SARDAR—	
Question re.—	
Maltreatment of Sikh stall holder by District Nazir of Lyallpur ..	49
Punjab Civil Services (Punishment and Appeal) Rules ..	160
Superintendents of Commissioners' Offices ..	41
GURBAKSH SINGH, SARDAR—	
Admissions to Government training institutions ..	297
Ajit Singh Bhussa, Sardar ..	93
Avatar Singh Sirha, Sardar ..	458
Bakshi Ram, Pandit, of Wachhohali ..	236
Batala-Siri Hargobindpur Road and Batala-Dera Baba Nanak Road ..	392
Carrying of kirpan inside Reserve Bank of India ..	233
Examiners in the Vernacular Final and Middle Standard Examination for Girls ..	297
Harjab Singh, Sardar, M.L.A. ..	91
Harnam Singh Mathi, Sardar ..	93
Harnam Singh, Sardar, of Malhi ..	93, 457
Inquiries against Provincial Civil Service officers ..	27
Office of Director of Information Bureau, Punjab ..	298
Office of Secretary, Punjab Communal Harmony Movement ..	297
Raid by Excise Inspector, Kasur ..	377
Sajjan Singh Marjindpur, Sardar ..	233
Shop area at Batala Mandi Chank ..	393
Sikh representation among superintendents of Commissioners' and Deputy Commissioners' offices ..	49
Special Inquiry Agency ..	27
Zahur Din, Khawaja, of Amritsar ..	457
HARNAM DASS, LALA—	
Question re.—	
Scheduled castes ..	408
Taxation officers ..	408
HARNAM SINGH, CAPTAIN SODHI—	
Question re.—	
Educational grants to certain district boards ..	119
Elementary schools in the province ..	119

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—CONTD.	PAGE
HARNAM SINGH, CAPTAIN, SODHI—concl'd	
Question re.—	
Export of certain kinds of cattle ..	122
Grant of S. V. and J. V. Special Certificates to female teachers ..	120
Hachiwah Channel ..	294
Outlets for village Khosa Kotla ..	464
Slaughter of certain kinds of cattle ..	121
Sultankhanwala Channel ..	294
IFTIKHAR HUSSAIN KHAN, NAWAB—	
Question re.—	
Subscriptions raised by Deputy Commissioners for the Zamindara League ..	158, 159
Subscriptions raised by officials for the Zamindara League ..	159
Notes by police of speeches at Zamindara League meetings ..	267
JOQINDAR SINGH MANN, CAPTAIN SARDAR—	
Question re.—	
Block system of recruitment in C. I. D. and C. I. A. ..	612
Block system of recruitment in Police Department ..	612
Communal representation amongst officials of Buildings and Roads Branch ..	245
Future prospects of the Civilian Sub-Assistant Surgeon serving under the Military Recruiting Organisation ..	661
JUGAL KISHORE, CHAUDHRI—	
Question re.—	
Agents of absentee landlords ..	47
Corrupt treasury and sub-treasury cashiers in the districts of Ambala and Rohtak ..	48
Exactions by landlords ..	553
Firewood and fuel dealers ..	685
In sanitary drains in the districts of Rohtak, Karnal and Ambala ..	47
Inspection of buildings owned or rented by Government in the districts of Rohtak, Karnal and Ambala municipalities ..	660
Municipal urinals ..	48
Patronage of Hindi ..	660
Playgrounds for children ..	597
Resolutions passed by local bodies throwing open public wells in Ambala district for the use of all classes of people ..	49
Teachers of Government schools, Ambala division and private tuition ..	45
KAPOOR SINGH, SARDAR—	
Question re.—	
Abnash Chandra, Sehgal, Mr. ..	231
Ban on Independence Day celebrations ..	272
Brahma Nand of Okara ..	493
Congress detenus ..	88, 89
Des Raj Sethi, Mr., M.L.A. ..	108
Diet money allowed to Congress detenus ..	382, 493
Discovery of petrol deposits ..	108
Edible dyes ..	543
Facilities demanded by detenus in Sialkot Jail ..	383

AND ANSWERS—CONTD.

PAGES

PAGES

KAPOOR SINGH, SARDAR—concl'd.

Question re—	
Girdhari Lal ..	384
ma purchased by Government ..	665
n t of family allowance to Congress	
detenus ..	492
Obscene advertisements published in	
the Vernacular Press ..	542
Persons interned in or externed from	
the Punjab under the Defence of	
India Rules ..	109
Railway Station, Ahmadgarh ..	551
Rationing ..	687
Rattan Dev Bhandari, Mr. ..	230
Restrictions on the slaughter of cer-	
tain kinds of cattle ..	107
Security prisoners in sp-ail,	
Gujrat ..	697
Wheat price in rationed areas ..	664

KARAMAT ALI, KHAN BAHADUR SHERKH—
Question re. Old Anarkali Police Station
and New Anarkali Police post ..

464

LAL SINGH, SARDAR—

Question re—	
Block system for recruitment to	
various services ..	164
Communal representation among	
Superintendents of Deputy Com-	
missioners' offices ..	23
Din Muhammad, President, Municip-	
al Committee, Gurdaspur ..	35
Director of Land Records ..	36
Holiday for Jor Mela in Sheikh-	
pura district ..	162
Jhatka meat and Sikh students of	
Rasul Engineering School ..	27
Permanent vacancies filled up by	
Director, Information Bureau ..	41
Removal of Khan Sahib Abdul	
Ghaffur Khan, Municipal Commis-	
sioner, Gurdaspur ..	36
Secretary to Chief Engineer (Elec-	
tricity Branch) ..	36
Sikh Director of Land Records ..	50
Suppression of civil decree against	
Chiragh Din by Khan Sahib Abdul	
Ghaffur Khan, Municipal Commis-	
sioner ..	40

MOKY-UD-DIN LAL BADSHAH, SAYED—

Question re private lands under the	
water of Narmal Lake in Mianwali	
district ..	274

MUHAMMAD HASSAN, CHAUDHRI—

Question re—	
Cases of corruption against Police	
officials of Ferozepore district ..	177
Cost of living ..	295
Crime in Ferozepore district ..	174
Embezzlement of War Fund by	
Ludhiana Police ..	612
Ferozepore district police ..	279
Interned M.L.As. ..	452
Kali Charan Sharma, Dr. applica-	
tion for release on parole ..	610
Lathi charge on political prisoners	
in Multan Central Jail ..	540
Mehman Singh, Sardar ..	11
Muni Lal Kalra, Pandit, M.L.A. ..	286
Murders and dacoities committed in	
Ferozepore district ..	511, 535

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—CONTD.

MUHAMMAD HASSAN, CHAUDHRI—concl'd.

Question re—	
Number of cases decided by each	
Magistrate in Ludhiana district ..	13
Number of mutations decided by	
Revenue Officer of each tahsil in	
Ludhiana district ..	650
Prosecuting agency in Ferozepore	
district ..	455
Udham Singh, Sardar ..	12
Untraced cognizable cases in Feroze-	
pore district ..	176
Victory fair at Ludhiana ..	281, 536
War fund ..	453

MUHAMMAD NURULLAH, MIAN—

Question re—	
Congress M.L.As. ..	290
Constable of Traffic police ..	458
District Taxation Officers ..	29
Horse allowance for sub-inspectors	
and Assistant sub-inspectors of	
police ..	459
M.L.A.'s employed as Assistant Re-	
cruiting Officers ..	95
M.L.As. in jails ..	239, 291
Peasant grantees in Haveli Project	
Pony allowance paid to an assistant	
sub-inspector ..	460
Portfolios entrusted to Honourable	
Ministers ..	96
Proprietary rights to zamindars	
holding lands on mule-breeding	
conditions ..	549
Realisation of abiana under the	
sliding scale system of land reve-	
nue in Lyallpur ..	654
Representations of political prisoners	
Short water supply at Tail 9-	
Rakh Branch ..	550
Small Savings Schemes ..	238
Supply of water to gardens ..	550
War Fund ..	155
War Loans ..	236

MUHAMMAD WILAYAT HUSSAIN JEELANI,
SAYED—

Question re—	
Agents for foodgrains ..	278
Girls High School at Baghbanpura ..	169
Government dispensary at Baghban-	
pura ..	169

MUHAMMAD YUSUF KHAN, KHAN—

Question re—	
Long term prisoners confined in jails	
of North-West Frontier Province	
Peons in Government departments	
Punitive police at Pindi Nowsheri	
Rural programme from Lahore	
Radio Station ..	95

MUKUND LAL PURI, RAI BAHADUR—

Question re—	
Grievances of residents of Hearne	
Road ..	173
Side drains for Hearne Road, Lahore	
..	172

MUMTAZ MUHAMMAD KHAN DAULTANA,
MIAN—

Question re—	
Address presented to premier in	
Jhang ..	289
Ban on the export of milch cattle	
..	179

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—CONTD.

PAGES

MUMTAZ MUHAMMAD KHAN DAULTANA, MIAN— could	
Question re—	
Collections for Zamindara League Fund in Jhang ..	229
Deputy Directors of Public Instruction ..	661
Dismissal of Sardar Shaukat Hyat-Khan ..	460, 461, 540
Gaya Prasad, Mr., Bahore Conspiracy Case Prisoner ..	98
Gurmukh Singh, Baba, Kamagata Maru Case Prisoner ..	98
Maintenance allowance for family of Sodhi Pindi Das, security prisoner ..	97
Premier's visit to Jhang ..	658-659
Relief for damage to cotton crop ..	553
Removal of Sheikh Muhammad Said and Rai Ahmad Nur from the Platoon Commandership of Civic Guards ..	215
Subscriptions raised for the Zamindara League by Government officials ..	377
Sultan Mahmood, Mr., Reader to Mr. L. R. Bhatia, Senior Sub-Judge ..	292
Taj Din Bhai Qasim, traders of Jhang ..	230
Zaidars and sudeposhes suspended by the Deputy Commissioners of Jhang ..	552
NAURHAL SINGH, MANN, SARDAR—	
Question re Superintendent of Industries ..	245
RAGHIB KAUR, SHRIMATI—	
Question re—	
Abdul Aziz, detenu ..	210
Abdul Ghani, Hakim and Comrade Abdul Aziz ..	87
Capital Outlay on Irrigation Works ..	655
Complaint against police of Thana Kathu Nangal ..	289
Hari Singh, Master, M.L.A. ..	208
Instructions to Superintendents of Jails regarding applications of detenus ..	287
Khuda Dad, Comrade ..	457
Mange Ram, Comrade ..	90
Mattalbi Syed ..	91
Naina Singh, Sardar ..	209
Pay of patwaris ..	654
Police post stationed at Phulowana ..	493
Punitive police force at village Chuhar Chak ..	287
Punjab Government Printing Press Workers' Union ..	655
Representation from villagers of Chaudhriwala ..	456
Shahzada Azad ..	545
Sher Singh, Sardar, security prisoner ..	546
Water levels of wells in Doaba ..	551
RALIA RAM, MR. K. L.—	
Question re Indian Christians ..	668
RAM SARUP, CHAUDHRI—	
Question re—	
Provincial Service of Engineering, Class II ..	407
Sub-Divisional Officer in the Public Works Department ..	407

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—CONTD.

PAGES

SADIQ HASSAN, SHAIKH—	
Question re—	
Coal for Hindu and Muslim Brick-kiln owners at Sargodha ..	43
Khaksar prisoners ..	160
SAHIB DAD KHAN, KHAN SAHIB, CHAUDHRI—	
Question re—	
Agents for the purchase of food-grains ..	278
Girls' High School at Baghbanpura ..	189
Government dispensary at Baghbanpura ..	276
Muslim Extra Assistant Commissioners ..	41
Securities demanded from newspapers ..	97, 98
Widow of Inayat Ullah Khan ..	15
SAHIB RAM, CHAUDHRI—	
Question re—	
Behari Shah Aggarwal, Lala ..	649
Cases of restricted persons ..	547
Classification of certain "politicals" as habituals ..	270
Dacoities committed in Hissar district ..	161
Hakumat Singh Lamba, Mr. ..	499
Harjab Singh, Sardar, M.L.A. ..	269
Instructions re grant of permission to internees to leave places of their internment ..	547
Overseers in Public Works Department ..	42
Sat Narain Saraf, Mr., Pleader, Hissar ..	160
Security prisoners in Lyallpur Jail ..	270, 492
Shiv Raj, Mr. ..	380
Shiv Raj Kapur, Mr. ..	381
Tara Chand Gupta, Mr. ..	380
Tilak Raj Suri, Mr. ..	546, 650
Treatment of persons convicted for violating internment restrictions as civil disobedience prisoners ..	491
Zafar Ali, Mr. ..	162
SHER SINGH, SARDAR—	
Question re—	
Beoparis challaned under foodgrains control order ..	170
Jhatka meat ..	104
Lambardars and Chaukidars challaned under section 176, Indian Penal Code, in district of Montgomery ..	163
Officers employed in Medical department ..	405
Persian wheels ..	278
Registrar of Departmental Examinations ..	396
Staff of the office of the Chief Engineer (Electricity Branch) ..	104
Student admitted into Medical College, Lahore and Amritsar ..	405
Wheat flour supplied by Lahore syndicate to public of Lahore ..	169
SOHAN LAL, RAI BAHADUR, LALA—	
Question re contribution made to various funds and war loans ..	299
SOHAN SINGH JOSHI, SARDAR—	
Question re—	
Amritsar Chetanpur and Dara Baba Nanak Road ..	106

PAGES

PAGES

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—CONTD.

SOHAN SINGH JOSHI SARDAR—concl'd.

Question re—

Arrangements for teaching Gur-mukhi ..	32
Arrest made in connection with the Independence Day celebrations ..	547
Avinash Chandra Saigal, M. A. ..	268
Foodgrains for export from the province ..	668
Further detention notices served on certain detenus in Gujrat Sub-Jail ..	384
Gajjan Singh, Master ..	384
Jhatka meat shops in the province ..	32
Land revenue ..	496
Manga Ram Vats Comrade ..	549
Neki Ram Sharma, Pandit ..	93-4
Outlets of village Padri Kalan in the Amritsar district ..	30
Pervati Devi Shrimati of Kamalia ..	269
Postponement of Gurdwara elections ..	662
Provincial committee of the Communist Party of India ..	385
Punjab Zamindara League ..	18
Rajbah Pull, Majithia division ..	496
Remodelling outlets in Amritsar district ..	30, 498
Sant Lal, Lala ..	267
Security prisoners in New Sub-Jail, Gujrat ..	698
Sliding scale system ..	411
Small Savings Scheme ..	656
Tawan on the villagers of Jagatpura ..	554
Wheat exports ..	411

SUMER SINGH, RAO SAHIB, CHAUDHRI—

Question re—

Allotment of seats in Lyallpur Agricultural College, hostels ..	279
Boarding-house of Government High School, Palwal ..	106
Burglary cases in Gurgaon ..	271
Gurgaon police personnel ..	106

TARA SINGH, SARDAR—

Question re—

Appointment of a Sikh to one of the posts of Provincial Public Analysts ..	50
Irrigation of Bhaini lands ..	164
Punitive police ..	98, 100

TEJA SINGH SWATANTAR, SARDAR—

Question re—

Baaheshar Lal, Mr. of Puthlighar, Amritsar ..	689
Dhanwantari, Comrade, President, Lahore City Congress Committee ..	608
Gobind Ram of Palwal ..	282
Gurcharan Singh Randhawa, Sardar ..	178
Guru, a detenu ..	692
Hazara Singh Thakar ..	280
Hira Singh Dard, Gyani and Lal Singh Kanwar ..	178
Jagat Singh Joshi, Mr. of Amritsar ..	511
Jagjit Singh, Mr. ..	280
Lal Singh Kanwar, President, District Kisan Committee, Sheikhpura ..	449
Mohinder Kumar, Mr. ..	510
Pindi Dasa Sodhi ..	15
Provincial Rifayat Committee ..	690
Ragbir Kaur Bibi, M.L.A. ..	608

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—CONCLD.

TEJA SINGH SWATANTAR, SARDAR—concl'd.

Question re—

Ranbir Singh, Chaudhri ..	394
Ram Nath, Master ..	17
Security prisoners ..	178
Sham Sundar, Mr. of Sargodha ..	449
Sohan Lal, Baba, of Lahore ..	511
State of health of Rur Singh, M.L.A. and others ..	16
Zamindara League ..	604

QUININE TABLETS—

Question re, ..	689
-----------------	-----

R

RADIO—

Question re rural programme from Lahore, Station ..	95
---	----

RAGBIR KAUR, SHRIMATI, M.L.A.—

Bill, Legislative Assembly Powers and Privileges—introduction leave for, ..	129
Budget, general discussion ..	346-48
Question re, ..	608

RAID—

Question re, by Excise Inspector, Kasur ..	377
--	-----

RAILWAY STATION—

Question re, Ahmadgarh ..	551
---------------------------	-----

RAJBAH PULL—

Question re Majithia division ..	496
----------------------------------	-----

RASHIDA LATIF BAJI, BEGUM—

Bill, District Boards—Membership of boards ..	184-85
Bill, Sale of Holy Quran Restricting—Reference to Select Committee ..	75, 77
Budget, general discussion ..	336-38
Chhotu Ram, Chaudhri, Sir, reference to late, ..	5

Muhammad Hassan Khan Gurchani, Khan Bahadur Sardar, reference to late, ..

Narendra Nath, Raja, reference to late, ..	702
Narendra Nath, Raja, reference to late, ..	513

RALLIA RAM, MR. K. L.—

Bill, District Boards—Membership of boards ..	185-87
---	--------

Bill, Punjab Children—Introduction, leave for ..

Budget, general discussion, ..	138
Budget motion re educational policy of Government ..	349-50
Chhotu Ram, Chaudhri Sir, reference to late, ..	525-33
Narendra Nath, Raja, reference to late, ..	6
Shaukat Hyat-Khan, Sardar, dismissal of, ..	516
Shaukat Hyat-Khan, Sardar, dismissal of, ..	484-88

RAM NATH, MASTER—

Question re, ..	17
-----------------	----

RAM NATH YOGI—

Question re, ..	613
-----------------	-----

RAM PRAKASH, CHADHA, MR.—

Question re, ..	542
-----------------	-----

RAM RUP SHARMA, PANDIT—

Question re release of, on parole ..	234
--------------------------------------	-----

RAM SARUP, CHAUDHRI—

Bill, District Boards—Membership of boards ..	197-98
Budget, general discussion ..	355-56

RAM SARUP SENGAL, MR.—

Question re, ..	542
-----------------	-----

RAM SINGH JOHAR, GYANI—

Question re of Hoshiarpur ..	541
------------------------------	-----

RANBIR SINGH, CHAUDHRI—

Question re, ..	394
-----------------	-----

PAGES	PAGES
RASUL ENGINEERING SCHOOL—	ROAD—
Question re, Jhatka meat and Sikh students of, .. 27	Question re—
RATIONED AREA—	Amritsar Chetanpur and Dera Beha Nanak, .. 108
Question re wheat price in, .. 664	Provincialization of Jhang-Chiniot Katcha .. 118
RATIONING—	ROBERTS, SIR WILLIAM—
Question re, .. 687	Budget, general discussion .. 338-39
RATTAN DEY BHANDARI, MR.—	Chhotu Ram, Ch. Sir, reference to late, .. 515
Question re, .. 230	Narendra Nath, Raja, reference to late
RECRUITING OFFICERS—	ROSHAN DIN, K. B. CH., M. L. A.—
Question re M. L. A.'s employed as Assistant, .. 95	Question re, .. 554
RECRUITMENT—	RULES—
Question re Block system for, to various services .. 164	For determination of turnover as defined in General Sales Tax Rules, laid on the table .. 53
REFERENCE(S)—	RULING(S)—
To late Chaudhri Sir Chhotu Ram To late Khan Bahadur Sardar Muhammad Hassan Khan Gurohani To late Raja Narendra Nath .. 2-8, 124 701-02 512-18	Acts, members not to attack, passed by the House .. 183
REGISTRAR OF DEPARTMENTAL EXAMINATIONS—	Adjournment motions—
Question re, .. 396	Chair's power to throw out, on the ground that they are postponable .. 52
REGISTRATION—	Not taken up during budget session .. 51
Demand for grant .. 677	Debate—
Supplementary demand for grant .. 249	Member should only refer to his notes while making a speech (Deputy Speaker) .. 628
RELIEF—	Minister can read out his speech, but not a private member .. 143
Question re—	Wrong facts stated by a member can be corrected immediately or at the end of his speech .. 137
For damage to cotton crop .. 553	Miscellaneous, Assembly means at least one-sixth of the members of the House .. 617
Granted to certain villages in Karnal district .. 403	Privilege, the question whether any, has been violated by the arrest or restraint on the movements of a member, is not one for the House to decide .. 264
RE-MODELLING SCHEME—	Questions, it is open to Government to answer some parts of a question and refuse to answer other parts; chair has no power to interfere .. 104
Question re, for outlets in the Amritsar district .. 498	Questions, relating to a State cannot be asked .. 209
REPRESENTATION—	Resolutions, not fair to hold as inadmissible a resolution, after it is ballotted, on the ground that it is not intelligently worded .. 189
Question re, from villagers of Chaudhriwala .. 456	Speaker, Mr., questions not to be put to, .. 21
RESERVE BANK OF INDIA—	Unparliamentary language—
Question re carrying of kirpan inside, .. 233	"Damnable lie", unparliamentary .. 605
RESOLUTION(S)—	"False" unparliamentary .. 19
Question re, passed by local bodies throwing open public wells in Ambala district for the use of all classes of people .. 49	"Hound", use of, in reference to a member, unparliamentary .. 215
Re Post-war development .. 138-52	"Lie" and "dishonesty" unparliamentary .. 587
RESTRICTED PERSONS—	"Lota" unparliamentary .. 579
Question re cases of, .. 547	"Waste" unparliamentary when used to describe a day's proceedings of the Assembly .. 672
RESTRICTION(S)—	Use of "dishonest" against a member, how far parliamentary .. 565, 538
Question re—	RURAL PROGRAMME—
On M. L. As. to attend the session of the Assembly .. 283	Question re, from Lahore Radio Station .. 95
On the slaughter of certain kinds of cattle .. 107, 121	RUR-SINGH, SARDAR, M. L. A.—
REVENUE EXPENDITURE—	Question re, state of health of, .. 16, 606
Supplementary demand for grant .. 722	
REVENUE EXPENDITURE CONNECTED WITH ELECTRICITY SCHEMES—	
Demand for grant .. 678	
REVENUE OFFICER—	
Question re number of mutations decided by, of each tahsil in Ludhiana district .. 650	
REWARD TO INFORMERS—SUPPLY DEPARTMENT—	
Budget motion re, .. 708-21	
RIASAT ALI KHAN BAHADUR CHAUDHRI—	
Budget, general discussion .. 318-20	
RIFAQAT COMMITTEE—	
Question re Provincial, .. 690	
RIVAZ GARDENS—	
Question re, .. 173	

	PAGES		PAGES
S.		SECURITY PRISONERS—<i>concl'd.</i>	
SADIQ HASSAN, SHAIR—		Question re—	
Bill, Sale of Holy Quran Restricting, reference to Select Committee ..	73-4, 79	Sher Singh, Sardar ..	546
Budget motion re educational policy of Government ..	521-22	Zafar Ali, Mr., Sub-Jail, Gujrat ..	461
Resolution re post-war development ..	150-52	SECURITY STAFF—	
SAJJAN SINGH MARGANDFURI, SARDAR—		Question re arrest of Abdullah Khan and others by, Ferozepore ..	18
Question re, ..	233	SENIOR VICE-PRESIDENT—	
SALE OF HOLY QURAN RESTRICTING BILL—		Question re, election of, Sialkot District Board ..	601
Reference to Select Committee ..	72-82	SHAHZADA AZAD—	
SAMPURAN SINGH, SARDAR—		Question re, ..	545
Bill, Land Revenue (Amendment)—		SHAM SUNDAR, MR.—	
Introduction, leave for ..	126-27	Question re, of Sargodha ..	449
Bill, Prohibition of Malba—		SHASHI BHUSHAN, MR.—	
Introduction, leave for ..	136, 137	Question re, of Gwalior ..	462
Budget, general discussion ..	357-59	SHAUKAT HYAT-KHAN, SARDAR—	
SAHAM RAI, LALA—		Bill, Badshahi Mosque Fund Cess-consideration ..	69
Question re, ..	119	Chhotu Ram, Chaudhri Sir, reference to late ..	4
SANITARY ARRANGEMENTS—		Dismissal of, discussion re, ..	419-46, 465-88.
Question re, in jails ..	499	Hours of sitting, ..	1
SANT LALL, LALA—		Narendra Nath, Raja, reference to late, ..	513
Question re, ..	267	Personal explanation re his dismissal ..	465
SANTOKH SINGH, SARDAR—		Question re, dismissal of, ..	22, 24, 460, 461, 540.
Bill, District Board, membership of boards ..	194	SHER SINGH, BHAI—	
Budget, general discussion ..	342-44	Question re, ..	463
Chhotu Ram, Chaudhri Sir, reference to late ..	4-5	SHIV RAJ KAPUR, MR.—	
Muhammad Hassan Khan Gurchani, Khan Bahadur Sardar, reference to late ..	702	Question re, ..	390, 391
Narendar Nath, Raja, reference to late ..	513-14	SHOP AREA—	
SANT PARKASH, MR.—		Question re, at Batala Mandi Chank ..	393
Question re, ..	17	SHORTAGE—	
SARDUL SINGH CAVAESHER, SARDAR—		Question re, of necessities of life in urban areas ..	109
Question re, and Maulana Habib-ul-Rahman ..	379	SHER RAM SHARMA, PANDIT—	
SAT NARAIN SARAF, MR.—		Question re, M. L. A. ..	205
Question re, pleader, Hissar ..	160	SIDE DRAINS—	
SCHEDULED CASTES—		Question re, for Hearne Road in Lahore ..	172
Question re, ..	40	SIRSI REPRESENTATION—	
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURE, 1945-46—		Question re, among Superintendents of Commissioners' and Deputy Commissioners' Offices ..	49
AUTHENTICATED BY THE GOVERNOR—		SIRSI STALL HOLDER—	
Laid on the table ..	703-05	Question re, maltreatment of, by District Nazir of Lyallpur ..	49
SCHEMES CONNECTED WITH WAR—		SLAUGHTER—	
Supplementary demand ..	263	Question re, restrictions on the, of certain kinds of cattle ..	107, 121
SCHOOL CHILDREN—		SLIDING SCALE SYSTEM—	
Premier's visit to Jhang and hardship suffered by the, ..	659	Question re, ..	411
SCHOOLS—		Question re, Realisation of Abiana under the, of land revenue in Lyallpur ..	654
Question re Elementary, in the Province ..	119	SMALL SAVING SCHEME—	
SCIENTIFIC AND MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS—		Question re, ..	258, 656
Demand for grant ..	677	SOHAN LAL, BABA—	
SECURITIES—		Question re, of Lahore ..	511
Question re, demanded from newspapers ..	86, 93, 97	SOHAN LAL, RAI BAHADUR, LALA—	
SECURITY PRISONERS—		Budget, general discussion, ..	340-42
Adjournment motion re — in Gujrat Jail ..	518, 558, 614	SOHAN SINGH JOSHI, SARDAR—	
Question re, ..	11, 157, 173, 244, 537, 538, 539, 609.	Adjournment motions, disallowance of, during Budget session ..	50
Question re—		Adjournment motion—	
In Lyallpur Jail ..	270, 492	Re security prisoners, New Sub-Jail, Gujrat ..	518
In New Sub-Jail, Gujrat ..	698	Re treatment of security prisoners in Special Jail, Gujrat ..	5
In Special Jail, Gujrat ..	697		

PAGES

PAGES

JOHAN SINGH JOSHI, SARDAR—*contd.*

Bill, Consolidation of holdings (Amendment) ..	58-9, 67
Bill, District Board, membership of boards ..	193, 194
Bill, Sale of Holy Quran Restricting, reference to Select Committee ..	78
Bill, Tenancy (Amendment), introduction, leave for ..	124-25
Budget motion re—	
General policy of Government ..	412-19
Reward to informers, Supply Department ..	717-18
Personal explanation by, ..	668-69
Resolution re post-war development ..	146-48
Withdrawal of, from the Chamber ..	606

SPEAKER, MR.—

A Minister can read out his speech but not a private member ..	143
Budget motion, propriety of a out motion to suggest an increase in the budget provision or to suggest provision for an item not already provided for ..	620
Chhotu Ram, Chaudhri Sir, reference to late, ..	124
Muhammad Hassan Khan Guruhani, Khan Bahadur Sardar, reference to late, ..	702
Narendra Nath, Raja, reference to late, ..	518

SPECIAL INQUIRY AGENCY—

Question re, ..	27
-----------------	----

SPECIAL JAGIES—

Question re, ..	116
-----------------	-----

SPEECH(ES)—

Point of order re reading of a, by a member ..	628
Question re notes by police of, at Zamindara League ..	267
Time limit for, during general discussion of the budget ..	300, 318

STAFF—

Question re, of the office of the Chief Engineer (Electricity Branch) ..	104
--	-----

STAMPS—

Demand for grant ..	677
Supplementary demand ..	249

STATE AID TO INDUSTRIES ACT—

Question re subsidies under the, ..	399
-------------------------------------	-----

STATEMENT—

Action against corrupt officials ..	53
-------------------------------------	----

STATIONERY AND PRINTING—

Demand for grant ..	679
Supplementary demand ..	263, 722

STUDENTS—

Question re, Instructions to, of Government College to abstain from taking part in politics ..	658
--	-----

SUB-ASSISTANT SURGEONS—

Question re, in charge of Civil, Municipal Board and District Board hospitals in Ambala division ..	404
---	-----

SUB-DIVISIONAL OFFICER—

Question re, in the Public Works Department ..	407
--	-----

SUBSCRIPTIONS—

Question re—	
Raised by officials for the Zamindara League ..	187, 277
Realised by the Deputy Commissioner, Gujrat, for the Zamindara League ..	168, 169
To specially designed weekly war editions of newspapers ..	14, 15

SUBSIDIES—

Question re, under Punjab State Aid to Industries Act ..	399, 600
--	----------

SUFEDPOSHES—

Question re zaidara and, suspended by the Deputy Commissioner of Jhang ..	552
---	-----

SUGAR DEPOT—

Question re, gur and other depots at Kaithal ..	392
---	-----

SUJAN SINGH SMART, SARDAR—

Question re Messrs Jamna Das, Ram Sarup Sehgal, Ram Prakash Chadha and, ..	542
--	-----

SULTAN KHANWALA CHANNEL—

Question re, ..	294
-----------------	-----

SULTAN MAHMOOD HOTIANA, MIAN—

Budget, general discussion ..	354-55
-------------------------------	--------

SULTAN MAHMOOD, MR.—

Question re, Reader to Mr. L. B. Bhatia, Senior Sub-Judge ..	292
--	-----

SUMER SINGH, RAO SAHIB, CHAWDHRI—

Bill, District Boards, membership of boards ..	187
Budget motion re post-war reconstruction ..	621-25

SUNDER SINGH MAHNSUSPUR—

Question re state of health of, ..	16
------------------------------------	----

SUPERANNUATION ALLOWANCES AND PENSIONS—

Demand for grant ..	679
Supplementary demand ..	722

SUPERINTENDENTS—

Question re—	
Commissioners' Offices ..	41

Communal representation among, of Deputy Commissioners' Offices ..	28
--	----

Instructions to, of Jails regarding applications of detenus ..	287
--	-----

Of Industries ..	245
------------------	-----

Promotion made by, Veterinary to Class II ..	39
--	----

Sikh representation among, of Commissioners' and Deputy Commissioners' Offices ..	49
---	----

Travelling allowance drawn by the Deputy Commissioner and, of Police, Jhang ..	714
--	-----

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS—

Administration of Justice ..	261, 721
------------------------------	----------

Advances Repayable ..	263
-----------------------	-----

Agriculture ..	262
----------------	-----

Building and Roads Establishment ..	263
-------------------------------------	-----

Charges ..	262, 263, 721
------------	---------------

Civil Works ..	262
----------------	-----

Co-operation ..	263
-----------------	-----

Scheme connected with War ..	262
------------------------------	-----

Education (European and Anglo-Indian) ..	262
--	-----

Education (excluding European and Anglo-Indian) ..	262, 721
--	----------

MENTARY DEMANDS—concl	PAGES	PAGES
Electricity Schemes ..	262	
Electricity Schemes—		
Outside Revenue Accounts ..	263	
Working Expenses ..	262	
Famine ..	262	
Forests ..	249, 706	
General Administration ..	261, 706—	
	21.	
Industries ..	263	
Irrigation, etc. ..	261	
Irrigation—		
Establishment Charges ..	261	
Working Expenses ..	261	
Jails and Convict Settlements ..	262	
Land Revenue ..	249, 705	
Medical ..	262, 721	
Miscellaneous ..	263	
Motor Vehicles Acts and other Taxes		
and Duties ..	240—61	
Police ..	262	
Provincial Excise ..	249, 706	
Provincial works ..	263	
Public Health ..	263	
Registration ..	249	
Revenue Expenditure ..	722	
Superannuation Allowances and		
Pensions ..	722	
Stamps ..	249	
Stationery and Printing ..	263, 722	
Veterinary ..	262	
SUPPLEMENTARY OF ESTIMATES (SECOND		
INSTALMENT), 1944-45—		
Presentation of, ..	180	
SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1944-45		
THIRD INSTALMENT—		
Presentation of— ..	617	
SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENT OF Ex-		
PENDITURE—		
Laid on the table ..	519-20	
SURAJ MAL, RAO BAHADUR CHAU-		
DHRI—		
Resolution re post-war develop-		
ment ..	148—50	
SENIOR VERNACULAR AND JUNIOR		
VERNACULAR SPECIAL CERTIFI-		
CATES—		
Question re grant of, to female		
teachers ..	120	
SYT. YASH PAL, B. A.—		
Question re, ..	542	
T		
TAIL 9-RAH BRANCH—		
Question re short water supply at, ..	550	
TAJ DIN BHAI QASIM—		
Question re, traders of Jhang ..	230	
TARA CHAND GUPTA, MR.—		
Question re, ..	380	
TAWAN—		
Question re, on the villagers of		
Jagatpura ..	554	
TAXATION OFFICERS—		
Question re, ..	408	
TEACHER(S)—		
Question re—		
Government Schools, Ambala		
division and private tuition ..	45	
Inquiry into the conduct of a,		
of the District Board High		
School, Chak Jhumra ..	410	
TEJA SINGH SWATANTAR, SARDAR—		
Bill, District Boards, membership		
of boards ..	189—91	
TENANCY (AMENDMENT) BILL—		
Introduction, leave for ..	124—26	
THEFTS—		
Question re, in Jhang district ..	115	
TIKKA RAM, THE HONOURABLE		
CHAUDHRI—		
Bill, Land Revenue (Amendment),		
introduction, leave for ..	126, 127	
Bill, Prohibition of Malha, intro-		
duction, leave for ..	136-37	
Bill, Tenancy (Amendment), in-		
troduction, leave for ..	124, 125	
Budget, general discussion ..	367—70	
TILAK NATIONAL LIBRARY—		
Question re, Rawalpindi ..	694	
TILAK RAJ SURI, MR.—		
Question re, ..	546, 650	
TRAFFIC POLICE—		
Question re constables of, ..	458	
TRAVELLING ALLOWANCE—		
Question re drawn by the Deputy		
Commissioner and Superintendent		
of Police, Jhang ..	114	
U		
UJJAL SINGH, SARDAR BAHADUR		
SARDAR—		
Bill, District Boards, membership of		
boards ..	191	
Budget, general discussion ..	310—13	
UNANI—		
Vedic and, practitioners ..	44	
UNPARLIAMENTARY EXPRESSION—See		
rulings.		
URBAN AREAS—		
Question re shortage of neces-		
saries of life in, ..	109	
URBAN IMMOVABLE PROPERTY TAX—		
Question re, ..	113	
URINALS—		
Question re, Municipal, ..	48	
V		
VEDIC PRACTITIONERS—		
Question re, ..	44	
VERNACULAR FINAL EXAMINATION—		
Question re examiners in the; and		
Middle Standard Examination for		
girls ..	297	
VERNACULAR MIDDLE SCHOOL—		
Question re, Khizarabad ..	44	
VERNACULAR PRESS—		
Question re obscene advertisements		
published in, ..	642	
VETERINARY—		
Demand for grant ..	678	
Supplementary demand for grant ..	262	
VETERINARY DEPARTMENT—		
Question re—		
Post-graduate training in the, ..	44	
Promotions to class I in, ..	407	
VETERINARY HOSPITALS—		
Question re, ..	397	
VETERINARY SUPERINTENDENT—		
Question re, of Lahore division ..	38, 686	
VETERINARY FAIR—		
Question re, at Ludhiana, ..	281, 585	

PAGES

PAGES

W

WITHDRAWAL—
Of Muslim League Party from the
Chamber ..

673

Z

ZAFAR ALI, MR.—

Question re, Security prisoner, Sub-
jail, Gujrat ..

162, 461

ZAHUR DIN, KHAWAJA—

Question re, of Amritsar ..

457

ZAILDARS—

Question re, and *sufedposhes* suspended
by the Deputy Commissioner of
Jhang ..

552

Question re, remuneration allowed to,
and lambardars ..

106

ZAMINDARS—

Question re proprietary rights to,
holding lands on mule-breeding con-
ditions ..

549

ZAMINDARA LEAGUE—

Question re, ..

604

Question re—

Collections for, fund in Jhang ..

229

Fund ..

241

Notes by police of speeches at,
meetings ..

267

Subscriptions raised for the, by
Government officials ..

157, 377

Subscriptions realised by the Deputy
Commissioner, Gujrat, for the, ..

158

WAR ALLOWANCES—

Budget motion re, ..

706-07

WAR EDITIONS—

Question re subscription to specially
designed weekly. of newspapers..

14, 15

WAR FUND—

Question re, ..

155, 453

Question re embezzlement of, by
Ludhiana police ..

612

WAR LOANS—

Question re, ..

236

Question re contribution made to
various funds and, ..

299

WARNING—

Question re, to gazetted officers for
taking part in the activities of
various organisations ..

19

WATER—

Question re supply of, to gardens ..

550

WATER LEVEL—

Question re, of wells in Doaba ..

551

WATERLOGGING—

Question re, ..

388

WATER SUPPLY—

Question re short, at Tail 9-Rakh
Branch ..

550

WHEAT—

Control prices of, and other food-
grains ..

503

Question re—

Exports ..

411

Flour supplied by Lahore Syndicate
to public of Lahore ..

169

Price in rationed areas ..

664

