

Chief Reporter
Punjab Vidhan Sabha
Chandigarh

S.P.

X

1952

vol. III Nos. 1-18

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES

20th October, 1952.

VOL III—No. 1.

OFFICIAL REPORT



Chief Reporter
Punjab Vidhan Sabha
Chandigarh

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Printed at the O. K. Printing Press, Simla.

Price : Re. 1-7-7

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Punjab Legislative Assembly Debates.

Monday, the 20th October, 1952.

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Simla, at 2 p. m. of the clock. Mr. Speaker (Dr. Satyapal) in the Chair.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

DACOITY CASES IN THE STATE.

***361. Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina:** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

(a) the number of dacoity cases in the State in the years 1938-39, 1946-48, 1948-49, 1949-50, 1950-51 and 1951-52 for the pre-partition years for the Districts now comprising Punjab (India) only ;

(b) the number of cases of high way robbery during the periods mentioned in part (a) above ;

(c) the average period of sentence awarded to each convict in the dacoity cases in the years mentioned above ;

(d) the number of cases of murder sent up by the lower Courts to the Sessions Courts for decision by the Police during the aforesaid period together with the number of death and life sentences awarded by the Sessions Courts ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar :

(a) to (d) : The required information is given below :—

(a)

* District.	The number of dacoity cases in the State in the years (for the pre-partition years, for the Districts now comprising Punjab India only).								
	1938	1939	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951.	1952 up to 31st May, 52.
Hissar	19	20	12	30	15	17	6	11	4
Rohtak	7	12	9	11	10	2	4	1	1
Gurgaon	5	11	10	99	16	5	5	3	2
Karnal	11	17	11	64	35	13	9	7	7
Ambala	record not available	record not available	1	36	19	20	10	14	Nil
Simla	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Kangra	1	...	2	5	1	3	...	1	...
Hoshiarpur	6	5	2	47	16	14	9	4	1
Jullundur	1	13	6	38	10	16	5	7	1
Ludhiana	6	22	3	31	17	12	13	9	2
Ferozepore	19	27	4	39	45	25	8	6	4
Amritsar	2	2	12	126	83	40	10	8	2
Gurdaspur	4	4	11	57	27	32	13	11	1
Total ...	81	133	83	575	294	199	92	82	25

(b)

District.	The number of cases of highway robbery during the years :								
	1938	1939	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952 upto 31-5-52.
Hissar. ...	68	68	44	62	70	51	54	52	11
Rohtak ...	26	51	68	91	89	88	67	34	14
Gurgaon ...	13	14	16	21	28	22	12	18	12
Karnal ...	76	76	62	103	97	71	55	51	4
Ambala ...	Record not available	...	20	30	41	17	11	16	9
Simla ...	1	...	1	2	1	1	...	...	...
Kangra ...	2	2	1	3	2	5	2	2	2
Hoshiarpur ...	9	7	9	27	22	25	25	24	14
Jullundur ...	33	40	29	100	62	45	26	27	10
Ludhiana ...	6	20	26	7	8	7	10	9	8
Ferozepore ...	92	122	73	80	82	57	55	61	19
Amritsar ...	59	53	29	77	76	119	70	21	10
Gurdaspur ...	17	21	27	28	66	29	20	34	8
Total ...	402	474	405	631	644	537	407	349	121

[Chief Minister]

District.	The average period of sentence awarded to each convict in the dacoity cases in the years.								
	1938	1939	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952 upto 31-5-52
Hissar	2 Yrs 4½ months	2 Yrs 8 months	3 Yrs 6 months	6 months	7½ months	1 Yr. 4½ months	1 Yr. 10½ months	6 Yrs. 6 months	Nil. ..
Rohtak	6 yrs	8 years 2 months	4 years	7 years	...	...	5 years	...	...
Gurgaon	3 years	2 years 7 months	2 years	5 years 7 months	2 years 5 months	4 year s 5 months	2 years 5 months	pend- ing	pend- ing
Karnal	4 years 6 months	5 years	6 years	3 years	6 years	3 years	7 years	9 years	...
Ambala ...	Record not available	Record not available	...	7 years	3 years 9 months	5 years 6 months	7 years	6 years 6 months	..
Simla ...	..	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...
Kangra ...	...	...	...	3 years	5 years	7 years	...	...	...
Hoshiarpur	14 years	5 years	5 years	...	4 years	2 years	3 years	...	...
Jullundur ..	not available	not available	..	7 years	5 years 2 months	3 years	7 years	...	...
Ludhiana ...	3 years 2 months	2 years 3 months	7 years	3 yearr 3 months	3 years 9 months	4 years 6 months	5 years 8 months	3 years	...
Ferozepore	3 years 4 months	5 years 5 months	7 years	5 years	3 years 6 months	6 years 7 months	3 years 6 months	6 years 2 months	7 years
Amritsar ...	7 years	2 years 3 months	14 years	2 years	4 years	6 years	5 years 6 months	...	...
Gurdaspur	Not available	Not available	...	1 death sen- tence 3 trans- porta- tion of life.	4 years 6 months	6 years 6 months	5 years	...	...

District.	1938			1939			1946			1947			1948			1949			1950			1951			1952		
	a	b	c	a	b	c	a	b	c	a	b	c	a	b	c	a	b	c	a	b	c	a	b	c			
Hisar ...	53	4	8	51	3	7	54	2	5	81	7	13	38	2	4	24	2	1	55	3	4	48	4	4	3		
Gurgaon ...	5	2	5	6	7	1	10	3	2	21	..	3	13	4	2	11	..	2	12	5	13	1	2	3			
Karnal ...	18	..	3	18	1	2	14	1	6	30	4	9	58	3	8	33	2	4	25	1	20	2	5	5			
Ambala ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	6	1	13	5	4	25	8	16	2	4	15	5	1	11	2	2	5
Simla ...	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kangra ...	2	1	2	2	..	..	7	1	..	3	2	..	12	3	1	11	3	4	7	..	7	4	4	2	
Hoshiarpur ...	8	2	..	6	2	6	8	3	2	17	2	4	27	6	19	18	8	11	21	6	10	5	5	5			
Jullundur ...	8	3	..	13	3	..	21	5	3	25	9	1	59	7	3	27	..	12	21	6	19	2	4	10			
Ludhiana ...	19	1	1	22	5	1	36	6	5	24	3	3	25	3	7	34	9	5	22	1	28	..	4	2			
Ferozepore ...	90	21	10	111	22	15	89	14	16	142	11	20	127	8	44	142	15	21	127	26	111	20	7	57			
Amritsar ...	64	13	31	45	19	6	60	14	10	138	10	14	100	6	11	93	16	16	96	27	72	8	18	13			
Gurdaspur ...	24	9	..	18	7	10	20	3	5	43	3	9	41	8	12	21	5	1	30	5	21	3	3	5			
Total ...	309	58	60	318	79	41	366	65	57	572	63	77	568	66	126	454	70	83	454	90	65	382	60	62	110		
		

Number of cases of murder sent up by the Lower Court to the Sessions Court.

Death sentences.

Life sentences.

Number of cases of murder sent up by the Lower Court to the Sessions Court.

Death sentences.

Life sentences.

Number of cases of murder sent up by the Lower Court to the Sessions Court.

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Death sentences.

Life sentences.

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Death sentences.

Life sentences.

Number of cases of murder sent up by the Lower Court to the Sessions Court.

Death sentences.

Life sentences.

MURDER OF TITTAR SINGH OF VILLAGE KALANWALI.

* 728. **Sardar Nidhan Singh** : Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :--

(a) whether he is aware of the fact that in the beginning of the year 1952, a report was lodged with the Police by one Ajit Singh of village Kalanwali, District Hissar regarding the murder of his brother Tittar Singh and the assault with intent to murder of another person ;

(b) whether he is further aware of the fact that allegations have been made by the said person that the S. H. O. did not record the report correctly ;

(c) the action, if any, taken by the Government in the matter ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar :

(a) Yes. (Case First Information Report No. 25 dated 14th February 1952 under Section 148/149/302/307 Indian Penal Code, Police Station Rori).

(b) No such allegations were made.

(c) Does not arise.

ARREST AND SUBSEQUENT RELEASE OF ISHER SINGH
OF VILLAGE RAHON.

* 729. **Sardar Nidhan Singh** : Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that a deputation from Rahon, District Jullundur in April, 1952, regarding the arrest of one Ishar Singh of Rahon earlier in the year for alleged dacoity, and subsequent release ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that he referred the case to the District Magistrate, Jullundur, for a detailed inquiry ; if so, the action, if any, taken on the findings of the inquiry ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar :

(a) Difficult to recollect.

(b) Does not arise. A departmental enquiry is, however, being held against Sub-Inspector Pritam Singh, for mishandling Ishar Singh. The Sub-Inspector has also been transferred from Rahon to the Police Lines, Jullundur.

GOVERNMENT SERVANTS AT SIMLA.

* 749. **Sardar Bachan Singh** : Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state the number of Government servants at Simla who have availed of privilege leave since partition on ground of ill health ; together with the number of those who have actually died since partition ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar :

Upto July 1952, 1044 Government servants at Simla availed of privilege leave on grounds of illhealth and 59 died.

TOURS BY MINISTERS.

* 906. **Shri Ranjit Singh Captain** : Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

(a) the names of the Ministers who visited Hissar District in the months of April, May and June 1952, together with the dates, mileage done and the expenditure incurred thereon including the cost of petrol, lubricants, depreciation of the cars, pay of drivers ;

(b) the travelling allowance paid to the staff which accompanied the said Ministers on those tours ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar :

A statement containing the available information is as below :—

Name of the Minister.	Date of visit to Hissar.	Mileage done.	Expenditure			Pay of Drivers.			T. A. to staff.		
			Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Shri Bhim Sen Sachar	23rd & 24th April, 1952.	600	125	0	0	80	0	0	2	14	0
Pt. Shri Ram Sharma	13th May, 1952	178 miles	39	0	0	80	0	0	9	10	0
Ch. Lehri Singh	6th to 9th May, 1952.	Travelled by rail.	...			...			63	12	0
S. Ujjal Singh	19th May, 1952 9th June, 1952	408 miles	78	12	0	6	14	0	14	11	0
S. Partap Singh Kairon	23rd April, 1952 8th May, 1952.	600 "	125	0	0	80	0	0	97	0	0
Shri Jagat Narain	23rd April, 1952.	300 "	65	0	0	80	0	0	1	13	0

CRIMINAL TRIBES ACT.

*947. **Shri Dev Raj Sethi** : Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

(a) the date after which the Criminal Tribes Act stands repealed in the state ;

(b) the names of Government institutions wound up as a result of the repeal of the said Act and the extent of economy thus effected ;

(c) the particulars of posts retrenched and the saving effected consequent on the repeal of the said Act ;

(d) the total number of people affected by the repeal of the said Act ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar :

The statement giving desired information is as follows :—

(a) The Criminal Tribes Act was repealed from 31st August 1952.

(b) The following Institutions were wound up as a result of the repeal of the C. T. Act.

(i) Reclamation Colony, Dhangu Road, Pathankot.

(ii) Reformatory Settlement Amritsar.	Temporarily closed till a sufficient number of Habitual Offenders becomes available.
--	--

(iii) P.T.C.O. Jullundur's Office.

(iv) C.T. Village Ganepaind District Jullundur,

(v) C.T. Village Rawat District Ludhiana.

(vi) C.T. Colony Ambala District Ambala.

(vii) C.T. Colony Mohindra District Ambala.

(viii) C.T. Colony Shahabad District Karnal.

(ix) C.T. Colony Chirao District Karnal.

(x) C.T. Agricultural Settlement, Bir Bidalwa District Karnal.

(xi) C.T. Agricultural Settlement Deputy Wala Bidalwa.

(xii) C.T. Village Mohdpur Rohi District Hissar.

(xiii) C.T. Village Jhalnian District Hissar.

(xiv) C.T. A/Settlement Bir Dhandari District Karnal.

(xv) C.T. Village Mehm District Rohiak.

(xvi) C.T. Village Bukainwala District Ferozepore.

(xvii) C.T. Village Jhotianwala District Ferozepore.

The saving of Rs. 13,930 P.M. was effected as a result of the closure of the above institutions.

(c) The following posts have been retrenched as a result of the repeal of the C. T. Act :—

<i>Clerical Staff</i>	<i>Permanent</i>	<i>Temporary</i>
Senior Clerk (C.O.)	1	...
Junior Clerks	7	...
<i>Executive Staff</i>		
P. C. T. O.	1	...
A. P. C. T. O.	2	...
Assistant Superintendent.	1	5
Supervisors and S.B.H.	2	1
<i>Technical Staff.</i>		
Overseer	1	...
<i>Class IV Government Servants.</i>		
Daftri	1	...
Jamadar	1	...
Peons	3	...
<i>Watch and Ward Staff.</i>		
Warders	4	3
<i>Teaching Staff.</i>		
Teachers	9	...

The saving effected as a result of the retrenchment of the above posts will amount to Rs. 4,346 P. M.

(d) 75044 people have been affected by the repeal of the C.T. Act.

ENFORCEMENT OF THE PUNJAB HABITUAL OFFENDERS ACT IN THE STATE.

*948. **Shri Dev Raj Sethi:** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

(a) the date on which the Punjab Habitual Offenders (Control and Reform) Act, 1952 came into force in the State ;

(b) the new institutions set up as a result thereof and the annual expenditure likely to be incurred thereon ;

(c) the new posts created as a result of the enforcement of the said Act together with the expenditure involved ;

(d) the total number of habitual offenders brought on the Registers or admitted to the institutions constituted under the said Act upto 1st October 1952 ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar :

(a) 31st August 1952.

(b) No separate new institutions have been set up. The former Criminal Tribes people will be living freely like other citizens although their welfare will be looked after by Government's special officers. The educational institutions meant for these people will be looked after specially by the Education Department. The present Reformatory Settlement established under the C. T. Act, which has been closed down temporarily, will be used for the reception of Habitual Offenders as and when a sufficient number of Habitual Offenders becomes available.

The annual expenditure on this institution for a strength of 100 detenues is estimated at Rs. 1,00,000 approximately. The actual expenditure will, however, depend on the number of detenues.

(c) No new post for the administration of this Act has been created. The reorganisation of the former Criminal Tribes Department has provided the necessary staff.

(d) 71 habitual offenders have been brought on the registers. None has so far been admitted to the Reformatory Settlement established under the said Act.

**SALE OF CONFISCATED PROPERTY OF S. BAKHSHISH SINGH
OF VILLAGE GALWALI, DISTRICT AMRITSAR.**

*962. **Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether any representation by Shrimati Gurbachan Kaur, daughter of Sardar Bakhshish Singh patriot of village Galwali, District Amritsar referred to in Starred Assembly Question No. 690 put by me during the Budget Session of 1952 (printed in the list of questions dated 17th July 1952) was received by the Chief Secretary to Government, Punjab on or about the 14th August, 1952 to reconsider the decision in the light of the assurance given on the floor of this House and pay the balance of Rs. 13,000 out of the sale proceeds of said patriot's confiscated property; if so, the action, if any, taken by the Government in the matter?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : No such representation was received.

GRANT OF TACCAVI LOANS FOR TRACTORS AND
TUBEWELLS.

***184. Sardar Chanan Singh:** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state :—

(a) the total amount given as taccavi loans for the purchase of tractors and the installation of tubewells in the State during the years 1950-51 and 1951-52 ;

(b) the total number of recipients of such taccavi loans ;

(c) the number of cases in which such taccavi loans were received by cultivators owning above 100 standard acres (or 200 ordinary acres) and by cultivators owning above 50 standard acres (or 100 ordinary acres) respectively ;

(d) the number of cases in which such taccavi loans were given to co-operative bodies of small holders owning ;

(i) under 25 acres each ;

(ii) under 10 acres each ;

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon :

(a), (b), (c), (d). A statement giving the desired information is given below :—

[Minister for Development]

	(a) Loans given for				(b) No. of Applicants for loan of Tractors & Tubewells during		(c) No. of cases of taccavi loan in respect of		(d) Co operative bodies owning	
	Tractors		Tubewells		1950-51	1951-52	Above 100 standard acres.	Above 50 standard acres.	Under 25 acres	Under 10 acres
	1950-51	1951-52	1950-51	1951-52						
1. Rehabilitation Department ..	5,59,200	26,42,000	3,55,000	...	..	..	..	..	..	..
2. Ludhiana ..	10,000	5,59,412	32,500	...	65	..	26	39	...	..
3. Karnal ..	1,20,000	14,18,000	60,000	...	344	..	96	63	1	..
4. Amritsar ..	30,000	40,000	10,000	...	9	..	5	..	4	..
5. Ambala ..	...	20,000	...	...	2	..	2	..	..	..
6. Gurdaspur ..	...	45,000	..	..	3	..	..	3	..	..
7. Jullundur ..	30,000	3,22,000	40,000	...	68	..	57	11	..	..
8. Gurgaon ..	...	50,000	...	...	5	..	3	2	..	..
9. Ferozepore ..	1,10,000	2,62,000	15,000	...	39	..	18	21	5	..
10. Hissar ..	1,10,000	88,000	47,500	...	25	..	22	3	..	..
11. Kangra ..	...	30,000	...	...	3	..	..	3	..	..
12. Rohtak ..	20,000	28,000	15,000	...	27	..	2	3	7	2
13. Hoshiarpur ..	30,000	2,34,000	45,000	...	35	..	14	21	..	..
Total ...	10,19,200	15,38,412	6,20,000	...	625	...	245	169	17	2

WESTERN JAMNA CANAL

***908 Shri Ranjit Singh Captain :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state :—

(a) the date on which each branch of the Western Jamna Canal ran with full supply and half supply, from the month of October, 1951, to June, 1952.

(b) the gauge reading of the tails of all the three branches during this period ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : The statement giving the required information is given below :—

[Minister for Irrigation]

Statement showing the daily Gauges of Delhi, Sirsa and

Date	Delhi Branch,		Sirsa Branch,		Hansi Branch,		Delhi Branch,		Sirsa Branch,	
	Indent	Actual	Indent	Actual	Indent	Actual	Indent	Actual	Indent	Actual
	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
October 1951						November 1951				
1	3.29	2.6	5.1	5.1	5.27	5.27	2.89	...	4.55	4.55
2	3.29	2.6	5.1	5.1	4.92	4.92	2.89	...	4.3	4.3
3	2.89	2.0	5.1	5.1	5.35	5.35	2.89	...	4.3	4.3
4	2.89	2.2	5.1	5.1	5.35	5.35	2.89	...	4.55	4.55
5	2.89	2.5	4.55	4.55	4.67	4.67	2.89	...	4.59	4.59
6	2.89	2.3	4.55	4.55	4.67	4.67	2.89	2.89	4.59	1.7
7	2.89	1.8	4.55	4.55	4.67	4.67	3.1	3.1	4.59	1.3
8	2.89	1.5	4.55	4.55	4.67	4.67	3.12	3.1	4.59	1.1
9	2.89	2.0	4.55	4.55	4.31	4.31	3.12	3.12	4.59	0.7
10	2.89	2.2	4.55	4.55	4.67	4.67	3.12	3.12	4.59	0.7
11	2.89	2.2	4.55	4.55	4.67	5.67	3.12	3.12	4.59	0.7
12	2.89	1.7	4.55	4.55	4.67	4.67	3.12	3.12	4.59	0.7
13	2.89	2.89	4.55	4.54	2.5	2.5	3.12	3.12	4.59	0.4
14	2.89	2.89	4.55	4.55	1.8	1.8	3.12	...	4.59	..
15	2.89	2.89	4.55	4.55	1.7	1.7	2.89	1.2	4.59	...
16	2.89	2.89	4.55	4.55	1.7	1.7	2.89	1.3	4.59	...
17	2.89	2.89	4.55	4.35	1.2	1.2	2.89	0.9	4.59	..
18	2.89	2.89	4.55	4.3	1.2	1.2	2.89	0.8	4.59	...
19	2.89	2.89	4.55	3.9	1.2	1.2	2.89	...	4.59	...
20	2.89	2.89	4.55	3.6	1.1	1.1	2.89	..	4.59	..
21	2.89	1.0	4.55	..	4.7	4.7	2.89	...	4.59	..
22	2.89	1.3	4.55	..	5.24	5.24	2.89	...	4.59	4.59
23	2.89	1.2	4.55	...	5.35	5.35	2.89	...	4.59	4.59
24	2.89	...	4.55	...	5.24	5.24	2.89	...	4.59	4.59
25	2.89	1.8	4.55	...	5.35	5.35	2.89	...	4.0	4.0
26	2.89	1.8	4.55	...	5.35	5.35	2.89	...	2.5	2.5
27	2.89	1.7	4.55	...	5.35	5.35	2.89	3.04	2.5	2.5
28	2.89	1.5	4.55	...	5.35	5.35	2.89	1.0	4.55	4.55
29	2.89	..	4.55	4.55	3.7	3.7	2.89	...	4.55	4.55
30	2.89	..	4.55	4.55	3.2	3.2	2.89	2.89	4.55	1.9
31	2.89	..	4.55	4.55	3.2	3.2	...	..	..	...

Dates 13, 14, 15, 16, 1-16 and 29-31
of full 17, 18, 19, 20
Supply
or above

1-12 and
21 to 29

6-13 and
27 and 30

1-5, 22-29

Dates of 1-6, 9-11 and 17-10
Half 13-20
Supply
or above

13-14 &
30-31

15-16

6 & 20

Hansi Branches from October 1951 to June 1952.

Hansi Branch Delhi Branch Sirsa Branch Hansi Branch Delhi Branch Sirsa Branch Hansi Branch

Inde- nt	Actu- al	Inde- nt	Actu- al	Inde- nt	Actu- al	Inde- nt	Actu- al	Inde- nt	Actu- al	Inde- nt	Actu- al	Inde- nt	Actu- al
Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25

December 1951

January 1952

4.67	2.9	2.89	2.89	4.55	2.0	4.67	L	2.89	L	4.5	...	4.67	2.0
4.67	2.9	2.89	2.89	4.55	1.5	4.67	..	2.89	...	4.5	...	4.67	4.3
4.67	2.9	2.89	2.89	4.55	1.3	4.67	..	2.89	...	4.5	..	4.67	4.25
4.67	2.95	2.89	2.89	4.55	1.0	4.67	..	2.89	1.5	4.5	...	4.67	4.67
4.67	2.59	2.88	2.89	4.55	0.9	4.67	...	2.89	...	4.5	...	4.67	4.6
4.67	...	2.89	2.89	4.55	0.7	4.67	...	2.89	...	4.5	...	4.67	4.6
4.67	...	2.89	2.89	4.55	0.7	4.67	...	2.89	...	4.5	...	4.67	4.6
4.67	...	2.89	L	4.55	...	4.67	3.4	2.89	...	4.5	...	4.67	1.5
4.67	...	2.89	.	4.55	...	4.67	4.67	2.89	...	4.5	4.5	4.67	3.9
4.67	...	2.89	...	4.55	.	4.67	4.67	2.89	...	4.5	4.5	4.67	3.0
4.67	...	2.89	..	4.55	...	4.67	4.67	2.89	...	4.5	4.5	4.67	1.8
4.67	...	2.89	...	4.55	...	4.67	4.67	2.89	...	4.59	4.5	4.67	1.7
4.67	...	2.89	...	4.55	...	4.67	4.67	2.89	...	4.59	4.59	4.67	1.2
4.67	3.7	2.89	...	4.55	...	4.67	4.67	2.89	...	4.45	4.45	4.67	1.3
4.67	4.67	2.89	...	4.55	...	4.67	2.7	2.89	...	4.45	4.45	4.67	1.2
4.67	4.67	2.89	..	4.55	4.55	4.67	...	2.89	...	4.45	4.45	4.67	...
4.67	4.67	2.89	...	4.55	4.55	4.67	...	2.89	2.89	4.45	...	4.67	...
4.67	4.67	2.89	...	4.55	4.55	4.67	...	2.89	2.89	4.45	..	4.67	...
4.67	4.67	2.89	...	4.55	4.55	4.67	...	2.89	2.8	4.45	.	4.67	...
4.67	4.67	2.89	...	4.5	4.5	4.67	...	2.89	2.8	4.45	...	4.67	...
4.67	4.67	2.89	...	4.5	4.5	4.67	.	2.89	2.85	4.45	...	4.67	...
4.67	3.0	2.89	...	4.5	4.5	4.67	...	2.89	2.89	4.45	...	4.67	...
4.67	L	2.89	...	4.5	4.5	4.67	...	2.89	2.89	4.45	...	4.67	...
4.67	1.1	2.89	2.7	4.5	...	4.67	...	2.89	2.8	4.45	...	4.67	...
4.67	2.2	2.89	2.72	4.5	.	4.67	...	2.89	...	4.45	...	4.67	2.0
4.67	3.7	2.89	2.72	4.5	...	4.67	...	2.89	...	4.45	...	4.67	4.4
4.67	4.91	2.89	2.7	4.5	...	4.67	..	2.89	...	4.45	...	4.67	4.3
4.67	4.67	2.89	2.7	4.5	..	4.67	...	2.89	...	4.45	...	4.67	4.3
4.67	3.3	2.89	2.89	4.5	...	4.67	...	2.89	...	4.45	...	4.67	4.25
4.67	L	2.89	2.77	4.5	...	4.67	..	2.89	...	4.45	...	4.67	4.25
...	...	2.89	2.65	4.5	...	4.67	...	2.89	...	4.45	...	4.67	4.2

15-21 and 27-28

1-7 and 24 to 29 and 30

16-23

9-1-2

17-18 and 19 to 22-23 and 24

9-16

4 8=5

1-4, 14, 22, 31 and 27

1-2

Nil ...

1 to 3, 10-10 and 26-31=12

[Minister for Irrigation]

Statement showing the daily Gauges of Delhi, Sirsa and

Date	Delhi Branch,		Sirsa Branch,		Hansi Branch,		Delhi Branch,		Sirsa Branch,	
	Indent	Actual	Indent	Actual	Indent	Actual	Indent	Actual	Indent	Actual
	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
February 1952										
1	2.89	...	4.45	...	4.67	4.25	2.89	...	4.45	1.5
2	2.89	...	4.45	4.3	4.67	...	2.89	...	4.45	1.4
3	2.89	...	4.45	4.2	4.67	...	2.89	...	4.45	1.95
4	2.89	...	4.45	4.1	4.67	...	2.89	L	4.5	3.75
5	2.89	...	4.45	4.45	4.67	...	2.89	1.2	4.5	3.8
6	2.89	...	4.45	4.45	4.67	2.5	2.89	1.0	4.5	3.8
7	2.89	...	4.45	4.45	4.67	1.9	2.89	...	4.5	3.8
8	2.89	...	4.45	4.45	4.67	1.3	2.89	...	4.5	3.8
9	2.89	...	4.45	4.45	4.67	1.1	2.89	...	4.5	3.8
10	2.89	2.0	4.45	...	4.67	...	2.89	...	4.5	3.8
11	2.89	2.7	4.45	..	4.67	...	2.89	...	4.5	3.8
12	2.89	2.65	4.45	...	4.67	...	2.89	1.3	4.5	...
13	2.89	2.55	4.45	...	4.67	..	2.89	2.89	4.5	...
14	2.89	2.6	4.45	...	4.67	...	2.89	2.89	4.5	...
15	2.89	2.55	4.45	...	4.67	...	2.89	2.89	4.5	...
16	2.89	2.5	4.45	...	4.67	...	2.89	2.89	4.5	..
17	2.89	2.55	4.45	..	4.67	...	2.89	2.89	4.5	...
18	2.89	..	4.45	..	5.35	3.0	2.89	2.89	4.5	...
19	2.89	...	4.45	...	5.35	4.2	2.89	2.89	4.5	..
20	2.89	...	4.45	...	5.35	4.1	2.89	1.7	4.5	..
21	2.89	...	4.45	...	5.35	3.3	2.89	1.35	4.5	..
22	2.89	...	4.45	...	5.35	3.9	2.89	1.35	4.5	..
23	2.89	...	4.45	...	5.35	4.1	2.89	1.3	...	...
24	2.89	...	4.45	...	5.1	5.0	2.89	1.2	...	...
25	2.89	...	4.45	...	5.1	4.5	2.89	1.6	...	..
26	2.89	...	4.45	2.0	3.13	3.6	2.89	1.5	...	...
27	2.89	...	4.45	2.05	3.13	3.13	2.89	1.2	...	...
28	2.89	...	4.45	1.95	3.13	3.0	2.89	...	4.58	4.58
29	2.89	...	4.45	1.6	3.15	3.1	2.89	..	4.58	4.58
30	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.89	...	4.58	4.58
31	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.89	...	4.58	4.58

Dates 11 to 17
of full
supply
or above

2-9

21, 27 to 29

13-19

28-31

Dates of
half
supply
or above

10

26 to 28

1, 11-23,
25-26

...

4-11

Hansi Branches from October 1951 to June 1952.

Hansi Branch Delhi Branch Sirsa Branch Hansi Branch Delhi Branch Sirsa Branch Hansi Branch

Inde- nt	Actu- al	Inde- nt	Actu- al	Inde- nt	Actu- al	Inde- nt	Actu- al	Inde- nt	Actu- al	Inde- nt	Actu- al	Inde- nt	Actu- al
Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25

April 1952

May 1952

3.15	3.2	2.89	...	4.58	4.58	4.67	2.3	3.18	1.45	4.65	...	5.35	5.35
3.15	3.8	2.89	...	4.58	4.58	4.67	2.1	3.18	1.4	4.58	...	5.31	5.31
3.15	3.8	2.89	...	4.58	4.58	4.67	2.0	3.18	...	4.58	4.58	4.67	4.5
3.15	2.2	2.89	...	4.52	4.52	4.67	3.2	3.18	...	4.58	4.58	4.67	2.5
3.15	...	2.89	2.89	4.52	...	4.67	1.0	3.18	...	4.58	4.58	4.67	3.0
3.15	...	2.89	1.5	4.52	...	4.67	...	3.18	...	4.58	4.58	4.67	2.75
3.15	...	2.89	1.3	4.52	...	4.67	...	3.18	...	4.58	4.58	4.67	2.6
3.15	...	2.89	1.52	4.52	...	4.67	...	3.18	...	4.58	4.58	4.67	2.5
3.15	...	2.89	0.5	4.52	...	4.67	...	3.18	...	4.62	4.62	4.67	2.1
3.15	...	2.89	...	4.52	...	4.67	...	3.18	...	4.62	4.62	4.67	2.0
3.15	...	2.89	...	4.52	...	4.67	...	2.95	2.95	4.62	2.0	4.67	...
3.15	...	2.89	...	4.52	...	4.67	...	2.95	2.95	4.62	4.0	4.67	...
3.15	...	2.89	...	4.52	...	4.67	...	2.95	2.95	4.62	3.0	4.67	...
3.15	...	2.89	...	4.52	...	4.67	...	2.91	2.91	4.62	2.6	4.67	...
3.15	...	2.89	...	4.52	...	4.67	...	2.91	2.91	4.62	1.9	4.67	...
3.15	...	3.23	3.23	4.85	0.7	4.67	...	2.91	2.91	4.62	1.6	4.67	...
4.67	0.8	3.18	3.18	4.85	1.4	4.67	..	2.91	2.91	4.62	1.6	4.67	...
4.67	2.0	3.18	3.18	4.85	1.9	4.67	...	2.91	2.91	4.62	1.6	4.67	...
4.67	2.8	3.18	3.18	4.85	2.1	4.67	...	2.89	...	4.62	...	4.67	4.67
4.67	4.67	3.18	3.18	4.85	2.5	4.67	...	2.89	...	4.62	...	4.67	4.67
4.67	4.67	3.18	3.18	4.85	2.5	4.67	...	2.89	...	4.62	...	4.67	4.67
4.67	4.67	3.18	3.18	4.85	2.8	4.67	...	2.89	0.7	4.62	...	4.67	4.67
4.67	4.67	3.18	3.18	4.85	2.6	4.67	...	2.89	0.7	4.62	...	4.67	4.67
4.67	4.67	3.18	...	4.85	2.0	5.22	3.0	2.89	0.8	4.62	...	4.67	4.67
4.67	4.67	3.18	1.4	4.85	...	5.22	4.95	2.89	0.3	4.62	...	4.67	4.77
4.67	4.67	3.18	2.7	4.85	...	3.65	3.65	2.89	1.0	4.62	...	4.67	4.77
4.67	4.67	3.18	1.55	4.85	...	4.93	4.93	2.89	...	4.62	4.62	4.67	3.4
4.67	3.7	3.18	1.5	4.85	...	5.12	5.12	2.89	...	4.62	4.62	4.67	3.5
4.67	2.6	3.18	1.5	4.85	...	5.22	5.22	2.89	...	4.62	4.62	4.67	4.3
4.67	3.1	3.18	1.75	4.85	...	5.35	5.35	2.89	...	4.62	4.62	4.67	4.6
4.67	2.9	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.89	...	4.62	4.62	4.67	3.6

1-3 and
20-27

5, 16-23

1-4

26-30

11-18

3-10
27-31

1-2,
19-26

19, 28
30-31

26, 27 and 30

18-24

4, 24-25

...

12-14

3.5
27-31

[Minister for Irrigation]

Date.	Delhi Branch		Sirsa Branch		Hansi Branch	
	Indent	Actual	Indent	Actual	Indent	Actual
	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge	Gauge
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
June 1952.						
1	2.89	..	4.62	4.62	4.67	3.5
2	2.89	..	4.62	4.62	4.67	3.8
3	2.89	..	4.62	4.62	4.67	4.0
4	2.89	2.89	4.62	4.62	4.67	1.0
5	2.89	2.89	4.62	2.5	4.67	..
6	2.89	2.89	4.62	2.6	4.67	..
7	2.89	2.89	4.62	4.62	4.67	1.6
8	2.89	2.89	4.62	3.5	4.67	1.4
9	2.89	2.89	4.62	2.3	4.67	..
10	2.89	2.89	4.62	1.4	4.67	..
11	2.89	2.89	4.62	0.9	4.67	..
12	2.89	..	4.62	..	4.67	4.67
13	2.89	1.0	4.62	..	4.67	4.67
14	2.89	1.7	4.62	..	4.67	4.67
15	2.89	2.55	4.62	..	4.67	4.67
16	2.89	2.7	4.62	..	4.67	4.67
17	2.89	2.3	..	..	4.67	4.67
18	2.89	2.89	..	..	4.67	4.67
19	2.89	2.89	..	..	4.67	4.67
20	2.89	1.3	4.62	4.62	4.67	4.67
21	2.89	2.15	4.62	4.62	4.31	4.31
22	2.89	2.75	4.62	4.62	4.31	4.31
23	2.89	2.6	4.62	4.62	4.67	4.67
24	2.89	2.45	4.62	4.62	4.67	4.67
25	2.89	2.55	4.62	4.62	4.67	4.67
26	2.89	2.89	4.62	4.62	4.67	4.67
27	2.89	2.89	4.62	4.62	4.67	4.67
28	2.89	2.89	4.57	4.57	4.67	4.67
29	2.89	2.92	4.57	4.57	4.67	4.7
30	2.89	3.0	4.57	4.57	4.67	4.85
31	...	..	..	..	..	..

Dates of full
supply or
above.

4—11, 18—19,
26—29 and 30.

1—4, 7, and
20—30

12—30

Dates of half
supply or
above.

15—17, 21—25

8

1—3

Shrimati Sita Devi : Sir, through you, may I ask why so many questions are being postponed today ?

Chief Minister : With your permission, Sir, I would like to inform the House that as the Government offices remained closed during the last 3 days on account of Dewali festival, replies to most of the starred questions appearing on today's list could not be made available.

—————

**REPRESENTATIONS FROM DIFFERENT TEACHERS' ORGANISATIONS
AGAINST THE MERGER OF GRADES FOR
A. V. TEACHERS IN THE STATE.**

***992. Shri Rala Ram :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state :—

(a) the number of representations received from the different teachers organisations against the merger of grades for the A.V. teachers in the State ;

(b) the action Government proposes to take to meet the wishes of the teachers in this respect ;

(c) the amount of increased expense that these enhanced grades will entail in 1952-53 and 1953-54 ?

Shri Jagat Narain : (a) There is only one Union of A. V. teachers recognised by Government and that Union has represented against the conversion of the present three grades into a single time scale.

(b) It is open to each teacher to remain under the present graded system or to adopt the new time scale and each one of them has been asked to indicate his decision in the matter which will be final and duly adhered to.

(c) The last date for the receipt of these options is 31st October, 1952 and until the final options are known the expenditure involved cannot be determined.

—————

ROUTES FOR PLYING GOVERNMENT BUSES IN THE STATE.

***1012. Shrimati Sita Devi :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state :—

(a) the routes on which Government buses were plying during the years 1950-51, 1951-52 and 1952-53 in the State ;

(b) which of these routes are new ones, and which of these have been taken over by the Government from the private Companies ?

Shri Jagat Narain : The routes on which the Government buses were plying during the years 1950-51, 1951-52 and 1952-53 are given below :—

(1) 1950-51.

(a) *Jullundur Omnibus Service, Jullundur.*

1. City Railway Station to Basti Baba Khel.
2. City Railway Station to Cantt. Railway Station.
3. Saddar to Civil Secretariat.
4. Saddar to D. A. V. College.
5. City Railway Station to D. A. V. College.
6. City Railway Station to Basti Guzan.
7. City Railway Station to Kartarpur.
8. Adda Nakodar to Lambra.
9. Adda Nakodar to Nakodar.
10. City Railway Station to Model Town.
11. Adda Kapurthala to Kapurthala.
12. Amritsar to Jullundur.

(b) *Amritsar Omnibus Service, Amritsar.*

1. Hall Gate to Chheharta.
2. Railway Station to Chheharta.
3. Gandhi Gate to Verka.
4. Gandhi Gate to Jandiala.
5. Railway Station to Raja Sansi.
6. Hall Gate to Ajnala.
7. Hall Gate to Maha Border.
8. Gandhi Gate to Chabhal.
9. Gandhi Gate to Sur Singh.
10. Ram Bagh to Kapurthala.
11. Chatiwind Gate to Tarn Taran.
12. Tarn Taran to Naushehra.
13. Tarn Taran to Sirhali.
14. Tarn Taran to Chela Sahib.
15. Tarn Taran to Dera Sahib.
16. Ram Bagh to Majitha.
17. Amritsar to Jullundur.
18. Railway Station to Chhagaon.
19. Railway Station to Guru Ka Bagh.
20. Tarn Taran to Jandiala.

(c) *Ambala Roadways, Ambala City.*

1. City Tonga Stand to Cantt. Tonga Stand.
2. City Railway Station to Cantt Railway Station.
3. Jamna Nagar to Chhachrauli.
4. Thanesar to Karnal.
5. Ambala City to Karnal.
6. Ambala City to Jagadhari.
7. Ambala Cantt to Patiala.
8. Ambala Cantt to Kalka.
9. Ambala to Pahwa.
10. Kalka to Simla.

(2). 1951-52.

Besides 1 above, the following : --

1. Amritsar—Sur Singh—Bhikiwind.
2. Amritsar to Majha.
3. Tarn Taran to Patti.
4. Amritsar-Sirhali-Harike.
5. Simla to Thanedar.
- 6. Kalka to Sabathu.
7. Kalka to Chandigarh.

(3). 1952-53.

Besides 1 & (2) above, the following :

1. Jullundur-Alawalpur.
2. Jullundur-Beas Bridge.
3. Harike to Ferozepore.
4. Amritsar to Kahlara.
5. Ferozepore to Fazilka.
6. Karnal to Delhi.
7. Ambala to Rupar.
8. Delhi to Alwar.
9. Rupar to Sirhind.
10. Kalka to Rupar.
11. Rohtak to Delhi.
12. Delhi to Jhajjar.
13. Delhi to Badli.
14. Delhi to Kaithal.
15. Ambala to Chandigarh.
16. Simla to Kasauli.
17. Ambala to Sohana.

[Minister for Education]

(b) The routes taken over by the Government from the private operators are given below :—

1. Amritsar-Jullundur.
2. Ambala-Karnal.
3. Ambala-Jagadhri.
4. Ambala-Sohowa.

All remaining routes were either new or had some vacant permits which were utilized by Government.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Will the hon. Minister kindly tell us whether the Government paid any compensation to the private companies for the routes taken from them ?

Minister : As a matter of fact no routes have been taken from the private companies. It is only in respect of vacant permits that the Government has started its transport services.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Is it not a fact that private companies were plying their buses on some routes in Amritsar and Jullundur but as the Government has taken over those routes the buses of private companies have now stopped plying on them ?

Minister : The Government has started operating on only those routes for which the permits were lying vacant. Other arrangements have remained unaffected.

Shrimati Sita Devi : I want to know if the Government has paid any compensation to the private companies for the routes which it has taken over from them ?

Mr. Speaker : I am sorry, it does not arise.

Shri Ram Kishan : Has the Government given permits to those refugees from the West Punjab who were engaged in transport business there ?

Minister : This does not arise out of the main question, but I want to state that a uniform policy has been followed in the matter of distribution of permits. Where it was possible to give as many permits to a person as he had in the West Punjab, these were given to him, but where it was not possible, a smaller number of the same was given to him.

SHORTAGE OF DRINKING WATER SUPPLY IN KALKA.

***1013. Shrimati Sita Devi :** Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state whether he has received any representation from the inhabitants of Kalka regarding the scarcity of drinking water in the town ; if so, the steps Government intends taking to remove their grievance ?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma : Yes. The matter is under consideration of the Government, but undoubtedly shortage of water is felt in Kalka during summer. It may be stated that the residents pointed out a spot saying that if boring was done there, water would be found, but when we called for the report of the Superintending Engineer, he stated that no water would be found at that place. The Superintending Engineer has however prepared two schemes for the supply of water, one costing about two or two and a half lakh of rupees and the other about five lakhs. We have enquired from the Committee as to which scheme is acceptable to it. On receipt of the Committee's reply the Government will accord technical and administrative sanction to the scheme approved by it. At that time it will be seen as to what amount the Government can give in the form of a loan or a grant.

Shrimati Sita Devi : May I know as to when that scheme will be put into effect ?

Minister : The schemes prepared by the Superintending Engineer have been sent to the Committee for its opinion as to which scheme should be given effect to.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Has the hon. Minister fixed some time within which the Committee must send its reply ?

Minister : How can the Government think that the Committee is not anxious for some arrangement for the supply of water being made at the earliest ? The Committee will submit its report in a reasonable time. .

Shri Som Datta Bahri : Will it not be better if the Government obtain the opinion of its experts and send that scheme to the Committee which was adjudged to be the best one ?

Minister : In our opinion it is better to consult the Committee which has to execute the scheme. On receipt of the Committee's report, if the Government considers it necessary to give its advice, it would certainly do so.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Constituted as the Kalka Committee is, does the hon. Minister expect it to give its opinion at an early date ?

Mr. Speaker : There should be no reflection on the Committee, please.

AID TO DISTRICT BOARD FEROREPUR FOR CONSTRUCTION
OF ROADS.

***876. Sardar Bachan Singh :** Will the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state :—

(a) the amount of aid, if any, granted by the Government to the District Board, Ferozepur for the construction of roads during the years 1951-52 and 1952-53 ;

(b) whether the amount mentioned in part (a) above was granted for the construction of particular roads ; if so, the names of such roads ?

Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa :

(a) Grant-in-aid paid for construction of roads during—

• 1951-52Rs. 31,050/-.

1952-53 The amount of grant to be paid during this year will be decided in the next meeting of the Communication Board, Punjab, which is likely to be held in the month of August, 1952.

(b) The amount of Rs. 31,050 was paid for the following works :—

(1) Special Repairs to mile No .1 of Bagha Purana-Nihalsinghwal Road.

(2) Special Repairs to miles Nos. 4 to 6 of Moga-Badhni Road.

ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR MODEL TOWNS AT HOSHIARPUR,
JULLUNDUR AND LUDHIANA.

***993. Shri Rala Ram :** Will the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state :—

(a) the price per *marla* or per *kanal* at which the Government acquired land for the model towns at Hoshiarpur, Jullundur and Ludhiana ;

(b) the reasons, if any, for the difference in prices ?

Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa :

(a) The Government has acquired land for Model Towns at Hoshiarpur, Jullundur and Ludhiana at Rs. 206/-, Rs. 130/-, and Rs. 64/-per *kanal* respectively.

(b) The difference is due to the variation, location, quality and the prevailing market prices at each station.

Shri Ram Kishan : May I know if the Government has paid compensation either in cash or in some other form to those persons belonging to Jullundur or Hoshiarpur, whose lands have been acquired ?

Minister : It does not arise out of the main question.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

COMPLAINT OF KISANS OF VILLAGE JODHPUR REGARDING DECREASE IN THE SIZE OF WATER CHANNEL.

116. Sardar Darshan Singh : Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state :—

(a) whether he is aware of the complaint of the Kisans of village Jodhpur near Tarn Taran regarding a decrease in the size of the water channel which irrigates the lands of the village made to the Financial Commissioner on his recent visit to the village ;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, the action, Government has taken or propose to take in the matter ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh :

(a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

REPRESENTATION FROM CONSOLIDATION COMMITTEE OF VILLAGE PANJWARH, DISTRICT AMRITSAR.

117. Sardar Darshan Singh : Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state :—

(a) whether he is aware of the fact that a representation was made on 6th June, 1952, to the Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar and Revenue Assistant, Amritsar, by the Consolidation Committee of Village Panjwarh, Police

[Sardar Darshan Singh]

Station Jhubal, District Amritsar, against the revenue officials in connection with the land consolidation work in the village ; if so, the action taken in the matter ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the work of consolidation has been suspended in the village ; if so, the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon :

(a) Yes. The Patwari against whom a *prima facie* case was found, has been suspended and further action is being taken.

(b) First part—No.

Second part—Does not arise.

**RECRUITMENT OF ENGINEERING STAFF
FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES.**

132. **Shri Babu Dayal Sharma :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that some Members of the Punjab Public Service Commission were sent abroad to recruit some Engineering Staff for the Government, if so, the expenses incurred by the Government in this behalf ;

(b) the names of other officers of the Government who, too, were sent abroad for the purpose mentioned in part (a) above ;

(c) the names of the persons recruited together with the pays given to them and their other conditions of service ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh :

(a) Yes, the expenses incurred by the Government were Rs. 16,920/-.

(b) Sarv Shri Sarup Singh and K. S. Malhotra.

(c) Name of Officer	Period of contract	Scale of pay	Any other conditions of service.
(i) Mr. J. W. Nash	3 years extendable to 5 years	Rs. 1,700 P.M.	Free passage plus rent free quarters
(ii) Mr. M.E.F. Snelling	—do—	Rs 1,250 P.M.	—do—

**SUPPLY OF WATER TO GURGAON DISTRICT FROM
UPPER AGRA CANAL.**

133. Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht : Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state :—

(a) whether the Government is aware of steadily dwindling supply of canal water from Upper Agra Canal (U.P.) to certain parts of Gurgaon District ;

(b) whether it is a fact that some years back an Inter-State Conference reviewed the progress of mutual agreements in this connection ;

(c) if the answer to part (a) be in the affirmative, the action, the Punjab Government has taken or propose to take in this matter with the U.P. Government in the near future ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh :

(a) The irrigation done from Upper Agra Canal in certain parts of Gurgaon District is directly under the control of Uttar Pradesh Government. It is, therefore, not possible to say authoritatively about the dwindling supply of canal water from Upper Agra Canal.

(b) Punjab Government is not aware of any such Inter-State Conference.

(c) Does not arise.

**QUARTERING OF ADDITIONAL POLICE POST AT VILLAGE
MAKHI KALAN, DISTRICT AMRITSAR.**

134. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur : Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

(a) whether any additional police post was quartered under section 15 of the Police Act at village Makhi Kalan, Tehsil Patti, District Amritsar on or about 11th May 1950, for a period of one year ;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, a statement showing the following be laid on the Table ;

(i) the names of the police officers and the police constables who remained posted during the whole of the year ;

[Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur]

(ii) the date of posting and withdrawal of each of them ;

(iii) the amount drawn by each of them on account of pay, dearness allowance, temporary allowance, clothing allowance, conveyance allowance, respectively during his posting at this village police post ;

(c) (i) the total amount spent as contingency with details, house rent, bedding and boxes, pensionary charges, travelling allowances respectively during the year for the police force of this post ;

(ii) the initial charges with details ;

(d) (i) whether any of the police constables were detained at the District Headquarters in the contingency reserve out of the sanctioned strength of this post ; if so, their list for the whole of the year ;

(ii) the total amount paid to each of those during the year on account of pay, dearness allowance, temporary allowance, clothing allowance, contingency, bedding and boxes charges, T.A., pensionary charges and other miscellaneous charges, if any, during the year ;

(e) (i) whether the services of the police constables referred to in part (d) above were ever utilized in the interest of the village concerned ; if so, in what way ;

(ii) whether they were ever sent to the village police post ; if so, when and for what period ;

(iii) the nature of the duties performed by them during the year ;

(f) if the answer to part (e) (i) and (ii) above be in the negative, the reasons for including the charges of these constables in the total cost of the police post to be recovered from the inhabitants of the said village ;

(g) whether there is any difference between the total cost of the police post already assessed and the total cost calculated in the above manner ; if so, the reasons therefor ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar :

(a) Yes, but on 1st December 1949.

(b) (i),

(ii), A statement marked 'B' is given below.

(iii)

- (c) (i) A statement marked 'C' is placed below.
- (ii) Clothing and equipment for 1 Upper Subordinate and 5 Lower Subordinates at Rs. 300 and Rs. 50/- each respectively. Rs. 550
- (d) (i) Yes, one F.C. Baldev Raj was so detained at District Headquarters.
- (ii) Rs. 966/8/-.
- (e) (i) No.
- (ii) No.
- (iii) On general duty at Headquarters.
- (f) The charges on account of this constable are included in the total cost to be recovered from the inhabitants in accordance with the provisions of rule 2.22 (i) of the Punjab Police Rules.
- (g) Yes, the cost already assessed was on the basis of the estimated cost, but in fact actual expenditure will be realised from the inhabitants.

B
Statement showing names of Police Officers and Police Constables who remained posted at Police Post Makhi-Kalan, with their dates of posting and withdrawal, and amount drawn by them.

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Serial No.	Name with rank.	Date of posting.	Date of withdrawal.	Amount drawn				
				Pay.	Dearness Allowance	Temporary Allowance	Clothing Allowance	Conveyance Allowance
				Rs. as. ps.	Rs. as. ps.	Rs. as. ps.	Rs. as. ps.	Rs. as. ps.
1	Offg. A.S.I. Chuni Lal	1-12-1949	14-4-1950 A.N.	375 3 0	156 5 0	...	...	...
2	A.S.I. Hota Ram	15-4-1950	20-6-1950 A.N.	193 10 0	77 0 0	..	...	52 6 0
3	Offg. A.S.I. Jagdev Singh	21-6-1950	30-11-1950 A.N.	448 0 0	186 11 0	...	...	114 9 0
4	F.C. Jagjit Singh	1-12-1949	18-1-1950 A.N.	52 3 0	39 8 0	...	...	...
5	F.C. Harbans Lal	1-12-1949	6-9-1950 A.N.	312 13 0	230 0 0	..	..	..
6	F.C. Sarain Singh	1-12-1949	17-8-1950 A.N.	290 10 0	213 11 0	...	...	..
7	F.C. Partool Chand	4-12-1949	13-9-1950 A.N.	317 7 0	233 6 0	...	...	..
8	F.C. Chint Ram	8-8-1950	30-11-1950 A.N.	126 5 0	94 6 0	...	...	...
9	F.C. Udham Singh	18-8-1950	30-11-1950 A.N.	83 6 0	61 4 0	...	...	...
10	F.C. Versa Singh	28-9-1950	30-11-1950 A.N.	71 6 0	52 8 0	...	...	...
11	F.C. Narinjin Singh	5-10-1950	30-11-1950 A.N.	63 10 0	46 12 0	...	...	...
	Total			2,334 9 0	1,391 7 0	...	*650 0 0	166 15 0

*Clothing Allowance is drawn in lump-sum.

C

Details of contingencies charges in respect of Additional Police Post, Makhi Kalan.

	Amount			Remarks.
	Rs.	As.	Ps.	
1. Pay of sweeper from 7-12-1949 to 30-11-1950. ...	236	2	0	
2. Rent of building of Police post at Rs. 20 P.M. from 26-6-1950 to 30-11-1950. ...	108	5	0	
3. Annual clothing and equipment of 1 U/S. and 5 L/S's @ Rs. 31-11 and Rs. 12-8 P.A. each respectively in round figures. ...	100	0	0	
4. Cost of Beds and Boxes for 5 Lower Subordinates @ Rs. 15 each	75	0	0	
5. Pensionary charges. ...	323	6	5	This amount is calculated on the pay of
6. Travelling allowance. ...	...	...	...
Total	837	13	5	Establishment but it was not drawn.

CONTINGENCY AND INITIAL CHARGES OF MAKHI-KALAN, KACHA-PAKKA AND SUR-SINGH ADDITIONAL POLICE POSTS.

135. **Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to lay on the Table a statement showing the details of the contingency and initial charges of Makhi-Kalan, Kacha-Pakka and Sur-Singh Additional Police Posts in the Amritsar District posted during the years 1949-50 and 1950-51 ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : A statement giving the required information is given below : -

Police Post Makhi-Kalan. (From 1st December, 1949 to 30th November, 1950).

Contingency charges :				Initial charges :		Rs.	As.	Ps.
Pay of Class IV Government servants.	Rs.	As.	Ps.	1 A. S. I. @ Rs. 300		300	0	0
	236	2	0	5 Lower Subordinates @ Rs. 50 each.		250	0	0
Rent of building.	103	5	0	Total	...	550	0	0
Total	339	7	0					

[Chief Minister]

Police Post Kacha Pakka. (From 11th May 1950 to 10th May 1951).

Contingency charges :—			Initial charges :—		
	Rs.	s. Ps.		Rs.	As. Ps.
Pay of Class IV			1 S. I. @ Rs. 300	300	0 0
Government servants.	229	13 0			
Rent of building.	135	14 0	13 Lower Subordinates		
			@ Rs. 50 each.	650	0 0
Cost of stationery and Kerosene oil.	23	6 0			
	<hr/>		Total	950	0 0
Total	389	1 0			

Police Post Sur Singh. (From 1st November 1949 to 31st October 1950.)

Contingency charges :			Initial charges :		
	Rs	As. Ps.		Rs.	As. Ps.
Pay of Class IV			1 A. S. I. @ Rs. 300	300	0 0
Government servants.	240	0 0			
Rent of building.	120	0 0	10 Lower Subordinates		
			@ Rs. 50 each	500	0 0
	<hr/>		Total	800	0 0
Total	360	0 0			

**POLICE STRENGTH OF ADDITIONAL POLICE POST KACHA
PAKKA, DISTRICT AMRITSAR.**

136. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur : Will the Chief Minister be pleased to lay on the Table a statement showing :—

(a) (i) the names of the Police Officers, Head Constables and Constables who remained posted at the Additional Police Post Kacha-Pakka, District Amritsar from 11th May, 1950 to 10th May, 1951 ;

(ii) the amount drawn by each of them as pay, dearness allowance, temporary allowance, conveyance allowance, and clothing allowance and the total thereof during his posting at this Police Post ;

(b) the amount charged as house rent, contingency expenditure excluding house rent and beddings and boxes initial charges, pensionary charges, bedding and boxes charges excluding that of those detained at the District Headquarters as contingency reserve ;

(c) (i) the list of the Police Constables who were detained at Amritsar District Headquarters out of the sanctioned strength of this Police Post during the year ;

(ii) the total amount charged on account of the pay, dearness allowance, temporary allowance, clothing allowance, pensionary charges, travelling allowance, contingency expenditure, bedding and boxes initial charges, and other miscellaneous expenditure respectively, if any, in respect of those detained at Amritsar ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar :

- (a) (i), and (ii) A statement marked 'A' giving the desired information is given below.
- (b) A statement marked 'B' giving the required information is given below.
- (c) (i) One Foot Constable Karnail Singh was detained at District Headquarters.
- (ii) Rs. 966-8-0

List of Officers and men posted to Additional Police Post Kacha-Pakka, District Amritsar for the period shown against each.

Serial No.	Rank, name and No.	Period.	Pay.			Dearness allowance.			Conveyance allowance.			House rent allowance.	Temporary allowance.			Clothing charges.			Total.			
			Rs.	as.	ps.	Rs.	as.	ps.	Rs.	as.	ps.		Rs.	as.	ps.	Rs.	as.	ps.	Rs.	as.	ps.	
1	S.I. Karam Narain, J/154 ...	11-5-50 to 16-8-50	447	1	0	127	12	0	215	9	0	..	31	15	0	822	5	0
2	S.I. Chaman Lal, 140/J ...	17-8-50 to 17-4-51	1,086	13	0	322	1	0	543	7	0	..	80	8	0	2,032	13	0
3	A.S.I. Chuni Lal, 336 ...	18-4-51 to 10-5-51	65	0	0	26	8	0	28	6	0	..	119	14	0	239	12	0
4	H.C. Raj Singh, 898 ...	11-5-50 to 2-6-50	43	3	0	26	0	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	69	3	0
5	H.C. Darshan Singh, 186 ...	3-6-50 to 28-8-50	173	1	0	99	5	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	272	6	0
6	H.C. Surat Singh, 472 ...	29-8-50 to 10-12-50	239	5	0	119	11	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	359	0	0
7	H.C. Ram Nath, 115 ...	11-12-50 to 17-4-51	271	10	0	147	6	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	419	0	0
8	F.C. Harbans Lal, 1907 ...	11-5-50 to 10-2-51	307	3	0	225	14	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	533	1	0
9	F.C. Chanan Singh, 1863 ...	11-5-50 to 9-10-50	168	15	0	124	3	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	293	2	0
10	F.C. Pritam Das, 1098 ...	11-5-50 to 18-4-51	383	7	0	281	15	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	665	6	0
11	F.C. Jogindar Singh, 1443 ...	11-5-50 to 20-7-50	78	14	0	58	1	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	136	15	0
12	F.C. Didar Singh, 1539 ...	11-5-50 to 18-7-50	76	13	0	56	7	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	133	4	0
13	F.C. Mitar Singh, 1381 ...	11-5-50 to 3-6-50	26	7	0	19	7	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	45	14	0
14	F.C. Ram Parkash, 1795 ...	11-5-50 to 31-1-51	205	1	0	216	15	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	512	0	0
15	F.C. Sajan Singh, 828 ...	11-5-50 to 3-6-50	26	7	0	19	7	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	45	14	0
16	F.C. Gurmukh Singh, 368 ...	11-5-50 to 31-7-50	91	1	0	66	15	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	158	0	0
17	F.C. Charanji Lal, 462 ...	11-5-50 to 10-5-51	540	0	0	300	0	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	840	0	0
18	F.C. Mukhtar Singh, 1402 ...	3-7-50 to 12-10-50	116	5	0	83	1	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	199	6	0
19	F.C. Harbhajan Singh, 503 ...	31-7-50 to 7-11-50	111	1	0	81	10	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	192	11	0
20	F.C. Kesar Singh, 1247 ...	31-7-50 to 10-5-51	318	2	0	233	14	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	552	0	0
21	F.C. Kashmira Singh, 1149 ...	31-7-50 to 1-12-50	138	4	0	101	10	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	239	14	0
22	F.C. Arjan Das, 624 ...	27-7-50 to 10-5-51	346	0	0	237	2	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	583	2	0
23	F.C. Sohan Lal, 1617 ...	14-10-50 to 11-11-50	32	3	0	23	11	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	55	14	0
24	F.C. Gurdip Singh, 1655 ...	30-11-50 to 10-5-51	192	13	0	133	14	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	326	11	0
25	F.C. Darshan Singh, 1038 ...	2-2-51 to 10-5-51	111	1	0	82	3	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	193	4	0
26	Dharam Chand, 1984 ...	8-3-51 to 17-4-51	44	13	0	33	9	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	78	6	0
	Clothing charges in lump sum								1,146	12	0
	Grand Total ..	...	5,730	15	0	3,248	9	0	787	6	0	..	232	5	0	1,146	12	0	11,145	15	0

*The initial charges and annual charges are not drawn individually and these are drawn as lump sum.

B

Statement showing the following expenditure in respect of Additional Police Post Kacha-Pakka, excluding the cost of Contingency Reserve.

					Rs.	as.	ps.
House rent (rent of building)	..	..	..	..	135	14	0
Contingencies excluding house rent and beddings and boxes initial charges ..	..	..	..	..	1,480	10	0
Pensionary charges	..	..	..	..	798	0	0
Beds and boxes	..	..	..	..	180	0	0
					<hr/>		
			Total	..	2,594	8	0
					<hr/>		

ADDITIONAL POLICE POST AT VILLAGE SUR-SINGH,
DISTRICT AMRITSAR.

137. **Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur** : Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :--

(a) the monthly cost of the Additional Police Post quartered at village Sur Singh, Tehsil Patti during the year 1st December, 1949 to 30th November 1950 excluding the charges of the Contingency reserve detained at the District Headquarters under rule 2. 22 (1) of the Punjab Police Rules showing the pay, dearness allowance, temporary allowance, conveyance allowance, house rent, contingency expenditure, clothing allowance, boxes and beddings charges, travelling allowance, pensionary and other miscellaneous expenditure, if any, and the total under each item ;

(b) the total amount spent during each month from 1st December 1949 to 30th November 1951 on the reserve force detained at the District Headquarters under each of the different items referred to in part (a) above ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar :

(a) A statement marked A giving the required information is detailed below.

(b) A statement marked B giving the desired information is given below.

A

Statement showing month-wise cost of the additional Police Post quartered at village Sur Singh from 1st November 1949 to 31st October 1950 not from 1st December 1949 to 30th November 1950 excluding the charges of the Contingency Reserve, as the Post was quartered from 1st November 1949 to 31st October 1950.

Month,	1	2	3	4	5	6		7			8	9	10	11	12
	Pay.	Dearness allowance.	Temporary allowance.	Conveyance allowance.	House rent allowance.	Contingencies Expenditure.		Clothing allowance.			Beds and boxes.	Travelling allowance.	Pensionary charges.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
						Rent of building.	Pay of IV Class Government servants.	Initial.	Annual.						
	Rs.	Rs. as. ps.	Rs.	Rs. as. ps.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs. as. ps.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs. as. ps.	Rs.	Rs. as. ps.	Rs.	Rs. as. ps.
November, 1949	427	270 0 0	..	..	..	10	20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	727 0 0
December, 1949	433	270 0 0	..	..	..	10	20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	733 0 0
January, 1950 ..	428	270 0 0	..	..	..	10	20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	728 0 0
February, 1950...	421	10 0 0	..	..	..	10	20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	461 0 0
March, 1950 ...	434	530 0 0	..	..	..	10	20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	994 0 0
April, 1950 ...	433	270 0 0	..	..	..	10	20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	783 0 0
May, 1950 ...	435	270 0 0	..	37 8 0	..	10	20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	772 8 0
June, 1950 ...	436	270 0 0	..	25 0 0	..	10	20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	761 0 0
July, 1950 ..	420	270 0 0	..	50 0 0	..	10	20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	770 0 0
August, 1950 ...	422	270 0 0	..	25 0 0	..	10	20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	747 0 0
September, 1950	428	270 0 0	..	25 0 0	..	10	20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	753 0 0
October, 1950 ..	421	563 12 0	..	50 0 0	..	10	20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,064 12 0
November, 1949 to October, 1950.	...	...	..	..	..	..	...	750	187 8 0	135	..	573 4 9	..	..	1,645 12 9
Total ...	5,138	3,533 12 0	...	212 8 0	...	120	240	750	187 8 0	135	..	573 4 9	..	..	10,890 0 9

Note.—1. The charges against columns 7 and 8 are drawn in lump-sum and have, therefore, been shown as drawn during the year from November, 1949 to October, 1950.

2. Pensionary charges work out to Rs. 573-4-9 but these have not been drawn.

[Chief Minister]

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Statement showing the expenditure on Contingency Reserve Police Force of Police Post Sur Singh from 1st November 1949 to 31st October 1950, not from 1st December 1949 to 30th November 1950, as the Post was quartered from 1st November 1949 to 31st October 1950.

Month,	1	2	3	4	5	6		7			8	9	10	11	12		
	Pay.	Dearness allowance.	Temporary allowance.	Conveyance allowance.	House rent allowance.	Contingencies Expenditure.		Clothing allowance.			Beds and boxes.	Travelling allowance.	Pensionary charges.	Miscellaneous (Local allowance).	Total.		
						Rent of building.	Pay of Class IV Government servants.	Initial.	Annual.								
November, 1949.	Rs. 33	Rs. 25 0 0	Rs. . . .	Rs. . . .	Rs. . . .	Rs. . . .	Rs. . . .	Rs. . . .	Rs. . . .	Rs. . . .	Rs. . . .	Rs. . . .	Rs. . . .	Rs. 5	Rs. 63 0 0	Rs. . . .	Rs. . . .
December, 1949.	33	25 0 0	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	5	63 0 0	. . .	. . .
January, 1950.	33	25 0 0	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	5	63 0 0	. . .	. . .
February, 1950.	33	25 0 0	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	5	63 0 0	. . .	. . .
March, 1950.	33	25 0 0	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	5	63 0 0	. . .	. . .
April, 1950.	33	25 0 0	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	5	63 0 0	. . .	. . .
May, 1950.	33	25 0 0	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	5	63 0 0	. . .	. . .
June, 1950.	33	25 0 0	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	5	63 0 0	. . .	. . .
July, 1950.	33	25 0 0	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	5	63 0 0	. . .	. . .
August, 1950.	33	25 0 0	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	5	63 0 0	. . .	. . .
September, 1950.	33	25 0 0	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	5	63 0 0	. . .	. . .
October, 1950.	33	25 0 0	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	5	63 0 0	. . .	. . .
November, 1949 to October, 1950.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50	12 8 0	15	..	49 0 0	..	..	126 8 0	..	..
Total ...	396	300 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	50	12 8 0	15	..	49 0 0	..	60	882 8 0	..	..

- Note.—1. The charges against Col : 7 & 8 are drawn in lump-sum and have, therefore, been shown as drawn during the year from November, 1949 to October, 1950.
2. Pensionary charges work out to Rs. 49/- but these have not been drawn.

ALLOTMENT OF EVACUEE HOUSES AT VILLAGE DAUDPURA,
DISTRICT AMRITSAR.

88. **Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

(a) whether the allotment of the evacuee houses at village Daudpura, Tehsil Patti, District Amritsar has been completed ; if so, when and the list of allottees ;

(b) whether any of the allottees referred to in part (a) above had filed any review or revision petitions before the Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar against his allotment during 1950 or 1951 ; if so, their list ;

(c) (i) the number of cases referred to in part (b) above in which petitions were accepted by the Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar ;

(ii) the descriptions of the houses allotted to the applicants as a result of the petitions referred to in part (b) above ;

(d) (i) whether any of the applicants had filed any applications before the Naib Tehsildar, Patti, District Amritsar for the delivery of the possession of the houses referred to in part (c) (ii) above on 11th August 1952 ; if so ; their list ;

(ii) whether the possession of the houses referred to in part (c) (ii) above has been delivered to the applicants referred to in part (d) (i) above upto now ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) The allotment of evacuee houses at village Daudpura, Tehsil Patti was completed during the year 1949-50. The list of allottees is given below.

(b) Shri Inder Singh filed a review petition.

(c) (i) The only case referred to in part (b) was accepted.

(ii) As a result of the acceptance of his review application Shri Inder Singh has been allotted a *pacca* house having a vacant land measuring 1 Kanal 17 Marlas in its surrounding.

(d) Yes. The petitioner referred to in part (b) submitted an application for the delivery of possession of the house on 28th August 1952.

(ii) No. Action is being taken to deliver the possession with the help of Police as the present occupant has refused to vacate it.

List of allottees of Evacuee Houses in village Daudpura,
Tehsil Patti.

Serial No.	Names	Area allotted	
		SA	U
1	Inder Singh son of Dewar Singh	60	10½
2	Chanan Singh, Bahal Singh, sons of Lal Singh	80	0
3	Arur Singh, Tara Singh, Kartar Singh,	23	3½
4	Natha Singh, Bhagel Singh, sons of Khushal Singh	18	0
5	Sadha Singh, son of Tara Singh	36	½
6	Bagga Singh, Gurdip Singh, Gurmukh Singh, sons of Jhanda Singh	9	4½
7	Mst. Kishan Kaur, widow of Mangal Singh	5	14
8	Dula Singh, son of Jamel Singh	10	8½
9	Mula Singh, son of Mangal Singh, Harnam Singh, etc., son of Kesar Singh	16	3

LAND REVENUE OF EVACUEE LAND OF VILLAGE DAUDPURA,
DISTRICT AMRITSAR.

139. **Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur** : Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state :—

(a) the total land revenue including local rate and the rent of the evacuee land of village Daudpura, Tehsil Patti, District Amritsar due for the Rabi crop of 1952 ;

(b) whether he is aware that the village headman of the said village filed a petition on 15th July 1952 before the revenue authorities of Patti Tehsil for being given assistance to collect Government dues from the defaulters ; if so, the action taken in the matter by the Revenue Authorities and the total amount collected through their help ;

(c) whether the headman of the village referred to in part (b) above had put in a list of the defaulters on 31st July 1952 before the Revenue

[Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur]

Authorities of Amritsar ; if so, their list and the amount due from each of them ;

(d) (i) whether any warrants of attachment of properties for the recovery of the Government dues were issued by the Revenue Authorities of Patti Tehsil against the defaulters ; if so, their list and the amount due from each of them ;

(ii) whether the properties of any of the defaulters were attached in execution of these warrants ; if so, when and their list ;

(e) (i) whether any warrants for the arrests of the defaulters were also issued by the Revenue Authorities of Patti for the recovery of the Government dues ; if so, their list and the amount due from each of them ;

(ii) whether any defaulters were arrested in execution of these warrants ; if not, the reasons therefor ;

(f) (i) whether any complaint was made by the village headman of this village to the Naib-Tahsildar, Patti on 25th August 1952 to the effect that the Tehsil peons had refused to arrest certain defaulters against whom warrants had been issued and who were shown to the Tehsil peons by him ; if so, whether any inquiry made about this complaint.

(ii) the result of this inquiry and the action taken in the matter ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon :

(a) An amount of Rs. 360-15-9 was due for Rabi, 1952 as total Land Revenue including local rate and rent of evacuee land of village Daudpura, Tehsil Patti of this District.

(b) No such petition was received on 15th July, 1952 by the Revenue Authorities of Patti Tehsil. The question of taking action, therefore, does not arise.

(c) Yes. The list of defaulters is given below.

(d) (i) No.

(ii) No.

(e) (i) Yes. Only one warrant of arrest against Jathedar Chanan Singh, son of S. Lal Singh, defaulter, for the recovery of Rs. 578-14-6 was issued.

(ii) No. The amount was duly credited by the defaulter into the Treasury before the execution of the warrant.

(f) (i) No.

(ii) Does not arise.

**LIST OF DEFAULTERS OF VILLAGE DAUDPURA, TEHSIL PATTI,
FROM WHOM THE LAND REVENUE INCLUDING LOCAL
RATES AND RENT OF EVACUEE LAND WAS DUE.**

Serial No.	Name of defaulter.	Amount due.
1	Rur Singh, son of Dia Singh, Jat, c/o Labh Singh, son of Kala Singh	Rs. as. ps. ... 10 7 3
2	Tara Singh, son of Mangal Singh, Jat, c/o Labh Singh, son of Kala Singh	... 10 2 9
3	Labh Singh, son of Kala Singh, Jat	... 59 6 6
4	Fauja Singh, c/o Labh Singh, son of Kala Singh	... 14 3 6
5	Jagat Singh, son Kala Singh, Jat	... 44 10 3
6	Bugga Singh, son of Jhanda Singh, Jat	... 38 12 3
7	Gurdeep Singh, son of Jhanda Singh, Jat	... 9 10 9
8	Gurmakh Singh, son of Jhanda Singh, c/o Meja Singh, son of Bishu Singh Rangharia	... 9 2 3
9	Ghuggi, son of Labhu, caste Christain	... 11 10 6
10	Thakar Singh, c/o Bhaghel Singh, son of Khushal Singh, Jat	... 14 7 6
11	Jathedar Chanan Singh, son of Lal Singh	... 578 14 6
12	Piara Singh, son of Natha Singh, Jat	... 6 9 6

ELECTRICITY CONNECTIONS IN JULLUNDUR CITY

140. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur : Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state :—

(a) whether any citizens of Jullundur City applied for electricity power connections for domestic irrigation and industrial purposes during the period from 1st June 1951 to 31st March 1952 respectively ; if so, the number of applicants in each category.

(b) whether applications of persons referred to in part (a) above were approved ; if so, the number of applications sanctioned each month for each category ;

(c) whether there are any cases in which applications were rejected ; if so, their number in each category and the reasons for rejection ;

(d) whether there are any cases in which applications were accepted but no action was taken for more than 3 months, if so, their number and the reasons for taking no action.

[Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur]

(e) the number of the applications in which no action was taken and no connection sanctioned for more than 6 months.

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : (a) Yes. (i) Domestic. 1147 } These figures
(ii) Irrigation 8 } are from 16th
(iii) Industrial 126 } October 1951
 } (the date
 } when JESCO
 } was taken over
 } by Govern-
 } ment) to 31st
 } May 1952.

(b) Name of month	Number of applications sanctioned.		
	Domestic.	Irrigation.	Industrial.
October, 1951.	26	...	1
November, 1951.	165	...	12
December, 1951.	79	1	12
January, 1952.	103	2	5
February, 1952.	146	...	14
March, 1952.	234	1	11
April, 1952.	210	...	8
May, 1952	163	2	12
Total	1116	6	75

(c) Yes.

Category	No. of applications received.	Reasons.
Domestic	11	Financially un-justified.
Irrigation	Nil	Nil
Industrial	Nil	Nil

(d) Yes.

Category.	No. of applications received.	Reasons.
Domestic.	30	Consumers were not ready to take supply.
Irrigation.	2	Jullundur Grid Substation being heavily over-loaded day and night supply cannot be given. The consumers willing to have supply for night working only (11 p.m. to 8 a.m.) have been asked to complete formalities.
Industrial.	51	

(e) Nil.

ACQUIRING OF LAND FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF CANALS
IN DISTRICT FEROREPORE.

141. **Shri Ram Kishan :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state :—

(a) whether any area has been acquired or is proposed to be acquired for the construction of the canals to be taken out from Harike (District Amritsar) Head works, from the land owners of village Virpal, Tehsil Zera, District Ferozepore, if so, the total of such areas in acres.

(b) whether any lands of the village referred to in part (a) above were occupied some months ago and the owners deprived of their use by the canal authorities, if so, since when ;

(c) whether any rent or compensation has been paid or is proposed to be paid to the land owners, if so, at what rate ;

(d) whether rent for the last 12 months is intended to be paid, if not, the reasons therefor.

Chaudhri Lahri Singh :

(a) An area of 42.37 acres was acquired. Now according to revised alignment total area acquired or to be acquired would be 38.85 acres.

(b) The possession of 42.37 acres of land was taken on the 28th December 1951 but the zamindars have been cultivating their land even after the formal transfer of possession.

(c) No rent or compensation has so far been paid to the land owners. Rent of land will be paid only on the area which zamindars could not cultivate and which is proposed to be given back to the zamindars. The rate of rent has not been fixed yet. No rent of land will be paid on the area permanently acquired and for this zamindars will be paid compensation assessed by the Collector plus 15 per cent for compulsory acquisition and plus another 6 per cent interest for the period the land remained in possession of Government prior to the date of award and payment.

(d) Paras (b) and (c) above cover this point also.

CONSTRUCTION OF HARIKE SARHALI ROAD.

142. Shri Ram Kishan : Will the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state :—

(a) whether any lands of villages Harike and Jaunke, Tehsil Patti, District Amritsar were taken into possession by the Government for the construction of Harike Sarhali Road ; if so, when ;

(b) whether any compensation has been paid to the owners of these lands ; if so, at what rate, if not, the reasons for delay ;

(c) whether the construction of this road has been completed ; if so, since when ?

Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa : (a) The possession of land for constructing Sirhali Harike Road belonging to villages Harike and Jaunke, Tehsil Patti, District Amritsar was taken at the time of commencement of the earth work on the road in April, 1948.

(b) No compensation to the owners of the land has been paid, because the award has not yet been declared by the Land Acquisition Collector.

(c) The construction of the road has been completed since September, 1951.

CANAL OUTLETS IN DISTRICT AMRITSAR.

143. Shri Ram Kishan : Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state :—

(a) the R.D. numbers of the Canal Outlets which irrigate the lands of village Saidpur, Tehsil Patti, District Amritsar ;

(b) (i) whether any of the outlets referred to in part (a) above was damaged between 15th August, 1947 and 31st December, 1948 ; if so, which and when ;

(ii) the nature of the damage done ;

(c) (i) whether any Tawan was imposed on the cultivators of this village for having damaged the outlet ; if so, when ;

(ii) the total amount of the Tawan imposed ;

(d) the date when the report about the damage to the canal outlet referred to in part (b) (i) above was made to the canal authorities ;

(e) whether any order for the repairs of canal outlet referred to in part (b) above was issued by the Executive Engineer, Jandiala Division of the Upper Bari Doab Canal, Amritsar ; if so, when ;

(f) (i) the total cost of the repairs borne by the Government ;

(ii) the date when the cost of the repairs was approved by the canal authorities ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh :

(a) The outlets at R.D. 119932 L. R D. 119975R, and R.D. 122495R of Patti distributary irrigate the land of village Saidpur.

(b) Yes.

(i) Outlets at R.D. 119975R and R.D. 122495R were damaged between the 15th August, 1947 and the 31st December, 1948.

Outlet at R.D. 119975 was damaged during the disturbances. The exact date is not known. Outlet R.D. 122495R was damaged on the 17th December, 1947.

(ii) The top Bund of a Gullet outlet R.D. 119975R was damaged.

6½" pipe of outlet R.D. 122495R was replaced by 8"×8" iron orifice followed by masonry barrel.

(c) (i) Yes. Special charges were levied on the zamindars of outlet R.D. 122495R on the 17th December, 1948.

(ii) Rs. 1,792/14/0.

(d) Reports about R.D. 119975R were received on the 7th October, 1947 and that of outlet 122495R on the 31st December, 1947.

(e) Yes. Order for repairs to outlet R.D. 119975R was issued in November 1947 and that for outlet R.D. 122495R on the 3rd January, 1948.

(f) (i) Rs. 65 approximately.

(ii) Immediately after detection.

CANAL OUTLETS.

144. **Shri Ram Kishan :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state :—

(a) the number and other particulars i.e., R.D. numbers of the canal outlets which irrigate the lands for village Saidpur, Tehsil Patti, District, Amritsar ;

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(b) the particulars of the fields (Khasra numbers) which are under the command of each of these canal outlets ;

(c) the description of the Khasra numbers for which tawan was proposed and realized for the damage done to one of these canal outlets between 15th August, 1947 and 31st December, 1948.

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : (a) There are three outlets at R.D. 119932L, 119975R and 122405R Patti Distributary which irrigate the lands of village Saidpur.

(b) & (c) Statement giving the required information is given below.

S. No.	Name of village	Name of Disty :	R. D.	Detailed of field numbers in chaks	Description of Khasra numbers and Tawan levied during 15th August, 1947 to 31st December, 1948.
1. 2.	Saidpur do	Patti do	119932-L 119975-R	501 to 511 = 11 1 to 460 = 460 915 to 920-923 = 6 930 to 1021 = 92 71 974 974 = 3 — — — — — 1 1 2	No tawan levied. do
3.	do	do	122405 R	461 to 500 = 40 512 to 914 = 403 921-922 = 2 924 to 929 = 6 643 = 714 — — — — — = 2 1 1 713/1 — 727/1 = 2 730/1 — 732/1 = 2	Details of field Nos. levied special charges. 451, 452, 454, 456 to 459, 462 to 468, 470, 475, 479 to 481, 493 to 498, 500 to 506, 509, 510, 513 to 515, 518—520, 524 to 526, 530 to 537, 539 to 542, 549 to 553, 556 to 563, 567, 569, 570, 621, 622, 624, 625, 627, 639, 645, 646, 649, 650, 652, 661, 664, 665, 666, 692, 694, 695, 701, 703 to 706, 709 to 712, 718 to 723, 728, 729, 733, 736, 737, 739, 740, 743 to 746, 748, 787, 791, 803, 804, 808. Total area levied special charge = 71 acres. Wheat Toria Ravan Sanji 61 1 1 8=71

ALLOTMENT OF LAND AT VILLAGE PAKKI TABBI, DISTRICT FEROZEPURE.

145. **Shri Ram Kishan :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

(a) (i) whether any area was available for allotment to the displaced persons after meeting the demands of the temporary allottees of village Pakki Tabbi, Tehsil Fazilka, District Ferozepore, during the quasi-permanent allotment ; if so, the total of such area ;

(ii) the list of the persons to whom this area was allotted and the area allotted to each of them ;

(b) (i) whether any persons referred to in part (a) (ii) above were ousted from the village and allotted mortgaged evacuee lands in Patti Town, District Amritsar, during the quasi-permanent allotment ; if so, their list ;

(ii) whether the allotments referred to in part (b) (i) above were cancelled afterwards under orders of the Government ; if so, the reasons therefor ;

(iii) whether the persons referred to in part (a) (ii) above approached the rehabilitation authorities for being restored to the village referred to in part (a) (i) above and appeared before the Director Rehabilitation (Rural), Jullundur on 28th January, 1952 and got their statement recorded ; if so, whether they have been restored to the village of their original allotment ; if not, the reasons therefor ;

(iv) whether they have been allotted land at Patti during 1952 ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : Reply to this question is not yet ready. It will be supplied to the Member when ready.

CRAFTSMEN.

146. Shri Ram Kishan : Will the Minister for Labour be pleased to state :—

(a) the number of the Craftsmen, non-Matriculates, Matriculates and Graduates respectively who registered their names at the District Employment Exchange Offices of the State during the years 1948, 1949, 1950 and 1951 ;

(b) the number of each category who were given employment through them during each of the aforesaid years ?

Chaudhri Sundar Singh : (a) and (b) A statement giving the requisite information is given below :

Serial No.	Year.	REGISTRATIONS		Matricu- lates	Gradu- ates	PLACINGS		Matricu- lates	Gradu- ates
		Crafts- men	Non- Matricu- lates			Crafts- men	Non- Matricu- lates		
1	1948	16,088	55,566	17,874	1,716	4,658	25,303	2,718	237
2	1949	13,267	37,970	16,064	1,359	3,407	14,676	2,186	189
3	1950	12,911	27,792	16,538	1,346	2,209	8,518	1,391	120
4	1951	14,687	31,995	17,358	1,714	3,779	12,172	1,943	199

SIDHWAN BRANCH CANAL

147. **Shri Ram Kishan :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state :—

(a) the total length of the Sidhwan Branch Canal which is under construction together with the length which has been constructed in which water has been allowed to flow ;

(b) the total area to be irrigated by this canal ;

(c) (i) the total expenditure incurred by the Government on the construction of this Branch upto 30th June, 1952 ;

(ii) the total amount proposed to be spent for the completion of this canal ;

(d) whether this canal will be perennial or half yearly ;

(e) (i) the list of the villages of police station Makhu of Tehsil Zira, District Ferozepore, which will be irrigated by this canal ;

(ii) the date when the construction of this canal is expected to be completed ;

(iii) by what date the villages referred to in part (e) (i) above will receive canal water from this Branch ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh :

(a) Total length of Sidhwan Branch and its channels under construction, including remodelling of channels ... 547 miles

The length of channels which have been constructed in which water has been allowed to flow ... 239 miles

(b) 4,79,868 acres.

(c) (i) Rs. 64,68,564.

(ii) Rs. 167,32,000.

(d) Kharif channel.

(e) (i) A list of the villages is given below.

(ii) By March 1954.

(iii) By May 1954.

**NAMES OF VILLAGES TO BE IRRIGATED FROM SIDHWAN
BRANCH IN MAKHU THANA.**

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Nizam Din Wala. | 31. Phime Wala. |
| 2. Wattu Bhati. | 32. Waris Wala. |
| 3. Padhri. | 33. Makhu. |
| 4. Sarhali. | 34. Rasulpuri. |
| 5. Wilayat Shah Wala. | 35. Sudan. |
| 6. Jattan Wali. | 36. Labra. |
| 7. Mithe. | 37. Chanle. |
| 8. Jhamke. | 38. Malhewala. |
| 9. Ghuddu Wala. | 39. Masie Wala. |
| 10. Killi Bodli. | 40. Pir Mohd. |
| 11. Chak Mahrana. | 41. Waris Wala. |
| 12. Chak Ghangar. | 42. Nangal. |
| 13. Sadarwala. | 43. Amin Wala. |
| 14. Waryah. | 44. Manj Wala. |
| 15. Winjoke. | 45. Chakian. |
| 16. Boieke. | 46. Jogewala. |
| 17. Talwandi Nepalana. | 47. Amir Singh Wala. |
| 18. Manj Garh. | 48. Gurali. |
| 19. Boh Araian. | 49. Malang Shah Wala. |
| 20. Bhedan Wala. | 50. Mobare Wala. |
| 21. Charian. | 51. Bor Gujran. |
| 22. Sudhya. | 52. Lalle. |
| 23. 2nd Portion Kot Kam Shah. | 53. Burj Mohd Shah Wala. |
| 24. Changian. | 54. Bal. |
| 25. Moham Wala. | 55. Mundi Churi Maran. |
| 26. Kutab Pur. | 56. Dile Wala. |
| 27. Khadur. | 57. Haydat Allah Wala. |
| 28. Muse Wala. | 58. Mohd Shah Wala. |
| 29. Shihanpari. | 59. Sharf Ali Shah Wala. |
| 30. Tibbi Araian. | 60. Jhanda Bagga. |

REVENUE RECORDS.

148. Shri Ram Kishan : Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

(a) whether the Revenue Records of sub-urban lands in the vicinity of Okara town, District Montgomery and Kasur City, District Lahore have been received from the Pakistan Government ; if so, since when ;

(b) (i) the list of the villages which are shown as situated in the vicinity of the Okara Municipal Committee and the area which has been declared sub-urban for allotment to persons from there by the Rehabilitation Department ;

[Shri Ram Kishan]

(ii) whether Chak No. 52/2L is included in this list : if so, the list of owners of Chak No. 52/2L, Tehsil Okara, who are entitled to get sub-urban area in Punjab (India) ;

(iii) the serial number of squares as recorded in revenue papers of Chak No. 52/2L. referred to above, which have been included in this list of sub-urban areas for allotment purposes ;

(iv) the list of land owners of Chak No. 52/2L, who have been selected for the allotment in sub urban areas in the State ;

(v) the distance of each of the squares from Nos. 40 to 51 of Chak No. 52/2L from the Municipal Boundry of Okara ;

(c) (i) the list of the villages around Kasur town the owners of which are eligible for allotment of sub-urban area in the Punjab (India) ;

(ii) whether the name of village Khara is included in this list ; if so, the area declared as sub-urban for allotment purposes ;

(iii) the list of the land owners of village Khara who will be entitled to sub-urban lands in the State and the sub-urban area to which each of them is entitled ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) Sub-urban maps of Okara town have not so far been received. Only few maps of Kasur town were received from Pakistan Government on 19th May 1952 ;

(b) (i) In the absence of sub-urban maps of Okara Town verification was made on the basis of the instructions contained in R-13. Chapter VII. A list (Annexure "A") giving the required information is given below ;

(ii) On the verification made in accordance with the instruction R-13, this Chak is declared partially sub-urban. A list (Annexure B) showing the names of the persons who are entitled to sub-urban allotment is given below ;

(iii) A list (Annexure B) drawn on the basis of instruction R-13, is given below ;

(iv) A list (Annexure B) is given below ;

(v) Squares Nos. 41 and 47 are on the basis of verification under instruction R-13, within one mile from the Municipal limits of Okara and the rest are outside one mile distance ;

(c) (i) In the absence of all the maps, it is not possible to give the list of villages falling within the sub-urban belt of Kasur town. However, following villages have been declared as sub-urban in accordance with the principles contained in R-13 :—

- (i) Burgi,
- (ii) Piruwala,
- (iii) Kesargarh,
- (iv) Bhalla,
- (v) Bangla Kamboan,
- (vi) Khara,
- (vii) Sheikh Bhagoo,
- (viii) Kasur,
- (ix) Kot Murad Khan.

(ii) Yes, 2652 Standard Acres and 15 Units gross.

(iii) A list (Annexure D) is given below.

ANNEXURE 'A'

List of villages in vicinity of Okara Municipal Committee which have been declared as sub-urban.

S. No.	Name of village	Area declared without cut.	
		SA.	U.
1	Chak No. 52/2L.	573	6½
2	Chak No. 53/2L.	913	13
3	Chak No. 54/2L.	524	9
4	Chak No. 55/2L.	58	9
5	Chak No. 1/4L.	21	6
6	Chak No. 5/4L.	112	4
Total		2,203	15½

[Minister for Finance]

ANNEXURE 'B'

List of Sub-urban Claimants of Chak No. 52—2L in Okara Town

S. No.	Name of sub-urban claimant with parentage.	Area declared sub urban (without cut.)		No. of square declared sub- urban.
		S. A.	U.	
1	Assa Singh, son of Bhagwan Singh	26	1	16
2	Charan Singh, son of Hukam Singh	7	3	25
3	Dial Singh, son of Hari Singh	51	0	3 and 4
4	Diwan Chand, son of Shankar Das	12	14	13
5	Gurbachan Singh, son of Amar Singh	12	11	17
6	Gurbachan Singh, son of Bahadur Singh	25	11	36 and 37
7	Gurpal Singh, son of Udham Singh	6	7	5
8	Hakam Singh, son of Attar Singh	18	1	25
9	Harbans Singh, son of Karam Singh	26	7	29
10	Hira Singh, son of Chanda Singh	51	7	38 and 39
11	Jiwand Singh, son of Chogatta Singh	90	1	14, 19, 35 and 41
12	Mall Singh, son of Kahan Singh	25	14	7
13	Santa Singh, son of Hakim Singh	25	15	47
14	Sewa Singh, son of Prem Singh	38	5	17, 20 and 21
15	Shankar Das, son of Ram Chand	25	12	12
16	Sunder Singh, son of Wazir Singh	51	14	6 and 11
17	Udham Singh, son of Hazara Singh	26	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	30
18	Chanehal Singh, son of Assa Singh	26	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	10
19	Mohinder Singh, son of Narian Singh	13	$\frac{1}{4}$	1
20	Gurjit Singh, son of Narian Singh	13	$\frac{1}{4}$	1
	Total	573	6$\frac{1}{2}$	

ANNEXURE D

List of claimants declared suburban under Instruction R—13 in village
Khara, Kasur Town.

S. No.	Name of suburban claimant with parentage.	Area declared sub-urban				Remarks
		Within one mile		Within two miles		
		S. A.	U.	S. A.	U.	
1	Anoop Singh, son of Bishan Singh	...	...	15	15	Without cut
2	Arjan Singh, son of Budha Singh	...	...	281	4	..
3	Amar Singh, son of Sohel Singh	...	...	29	3	..
4	Assa Singh, son of Jawahar Singh	22	11	..	...	..
5	Attar Kaur, wife of Bhagat Singh	138	1	...	...	..
6	Baga Singh, son of Lal Singh	...	...	89	12	..
7	Bagga Singh, son of Tehal Singh	..	...	9	7	..
8	Baghel Singh, son of Kesar Singh	...	...	110	15	..
9	Bahal Singh, son of Jawala Singh	...	...	17	3	..
10	Behal Singh, son of Sunder Singh	..	...	10	2	..
11	Behal Singh, son of Uttam Singh	...	...	4	11	..
12	Banta Singh, son of Rupa Singh	...	...	23	15	..
13	Banta Singh, son of Saudagar Singh	...	...	17	14	..
14	Bhagat Singh, son of Mangal Singh alias Lal Singh	...	...	89	12	..
15	Budha Singh, son of Uttam Singh	...	..	4	12	..
16	Chanan Singh, son of Sunder Singh	...	...	89	12	..
17	Chet Singh, son of Jawahar Singh	20	12	...	...	..
18	Shah Beg Singh, son of Budha Singh	...	...	8	15	..
19	Changa Singh, son of Kesar Singh	...	...	70	7	..

[Minister for Finance]

S. No.	Name of suburban claimant with psrentage.	Area declared sub-urban				Remarks
		Within one mile		Within two miles		
		S. A.	U.	S. A.	U.	
20	Darbara Singh, son of Bishan Singh	...	...	15	15	Without cut
21	Dhara Singh, son of Sawan Singh	...	...	37	9	"
22	Dhara Singh, son of Chet Singh	...	...	11	8	"
23	Dida Singh, son of Phula Singh	...	...	5	10	"
24	Fauja Singh, son of Saudagar Singh	..	...	17	11	"
25	Gurbakhshish Singh, son of Ajaib Singh	...	...	7	7	"
26	Gurdial Singh, son of Malok Singh	...	...	8	14	"
27	Gurdip Singh, son of Chandan Singh	8	7	..	...	"
28	Hakim Singh, son of Mewa Singh	...	...	15	1	"
29	Hari Singh, son of Dewa Singh	...	...	104	1	"
30	Harnam Singh, son of Partap Singh	...	...	26	1	"
31	Hukam Chand, son of Bhago Mal	...	...	2	1	"
32	Hukam Singh, son of Mahna Singh	...	...	30	2	"
33	Hukam Singh, son of Rai Singh	...	...	14	2	"
34	Inder Singh, son of Budha Singh	...	...	8	15	"
35	Inder Singh, son of Rai Singh	14	7	...	...	"
36	Jagtar Singh, son of Amar Singh	...	...	5	15	"
37	Jagtar Singh, son of Malok Singh	...	..	8	14	"
38	Jiwan Singh, son of Tara Singh	...	...	8	11	"
39	Kapur Singh, son of Gulab Singh	...	...	53	7	"

S. No.	Name of suburban claimant with percentage.	Area declared sub-urban				Remarks
		Within one mile		Within two miles		
		S. A.	U.	S. A.	U.	
40	Karam Singh, son of Gurdit Singh	9	8	...	...	Without cut
41	Karnail Singh, son of Uttam Singh	4	11	...	...	"
42	Kehar Singh, son of Kesar Singh	...	...	84	4	"
43	Labh Singh, son of Kesar Singh	...	...	84	4	"
44	Lal Singh, son of Bhago Mal	...	...	2	...	"
45	Lal Singh, son of Jaimal Singh	17	3	...	...	"
46	Lehna Singh, son of Ishar Singh	...	..	11	7	"
47	Makhan Singh, son of Jawhar Singh	..	...	27	8	"
48	Mangal Singh, son of Kesar Singh	...	...	87	4	"
49	Mangal Singh, son of Sardara Singh	..	..	22	4	"
50	Mengha Singh, son of Narain Singh,	55	10	...	...	"
51	Mengha Singh, son of Chanda Singh	7	6	...	...	"
52	Mukhtar Singh, son of Amar Singh	...	..	6	13	"
53	Mukhtar Singh, son of Hazara Singh	...	...	8	11	"
54	Narain Singh, son of Arjan Singh	...	...	30	9	"
55	Naranjan Singh, son of Chanda Singh	7	6	...	...	"
56	Natha Singh, son of Ishar Singh	...	...	11	8	"
57	Phaga Singh, adopted son of Dasaundha Singh	...	...	8	10	"
58	Balbir Singh, son of Harnam Singh	...	...	43	5	"
59	Rajkanwar Singh, son of Harnam Singh	...	..	43	5	"

[Minister for Finance]

S. No.	Name of suburban claimant with parentage.	Area declared sub-urban				Remarks
		Within one mile		Within two miles		
		S. A.	U.	S. A.	U.	
60	Raj Singh, son of Chet Singh	1	9	...	..	Without cut
61	Rajsarjit Singh, son of Harnam Singh	...	...	43	5	"
62	Ram Singh, son of Santokh Singh	...	...	62	12	"
63	Santa Singh, son of Tehal Singh	...	..	9	1	"
64	Santa Singh, son of Ujager Singh	..	..	23	15	"
65	Sarain Singh, son of Arjan Singh	...	..	30	9	"
66	Sardul Singh, son of Saudagar Singh	...	...	17	11	"
67	Sarup Singh, son of Bishan Singh	...	...	15	15	"
68	Saudager Singh, son of Mahna Singh	...	...	32	4	"
69	Sham Kaur, wife of Sohel Singh	...	...	70	7	"
70	Sohan Singh, son of Basanta Singh	...	...	17	15	"
71	Sohan Singh, son of Tehal Singh	...	..	9	2	"
72	Suba Singh, son of Malok Singh	...	...	8	15	"
73	Sucha Singh, son of Ajaib Singh	...	...	7	7	"
74	Makhan Singh, son of Baga Singh	22	11	...	...	"
75	Sunder Singh, son of Jaimal Singh	..	...	5	1	"
76	Sunder Singh, son of Jawala Singh	..	..	46	4	"
77	Teja Singh, son of Sardar Singh	21	13	.	...	"
78	Thakar Singh, son of Mewa Singh	..	..	15	1	"
79	Thakar Singh, son of Surain Singh	..	..	8	2	"

S. No.	Name of suburban claimant with parentage.	Area declared sub-urban				Remarks
		Within one mile		Within two miles		
		S. A.	U.	S. A.	U.	
80	Talok Singh, son of Mewa Singh	..	..	15	1	Without cut
81	Vir Singh, son of Ishar Singh	.	...	11	8	..
82	Udham Singh, son of Jaimal Singh	...	...	46	7	..
83	Bachan Kaur, widow of Baga Singh	..	...	30	12	..
84	Jit Singh, son of Kartar Singh	3	3	...	...	..
85	Wadhawa Singh, son of Chet Singh	37	9	...	...	..
86	Angop Singh, son of Chet Singh	1	9	..	...	..
87	Gajan Singh, son of Chet Singh	1	9	...	...	..
88	Chanchel Singh, alias Tehal Singh, son of Chet Singh	1	9	..	...	..
	Total	397	10	2255	5	G. Total 2652 15 Gross

Statement No. 2

Serial No.	Name of village and R.D. of village	Permissible area	Average irrigation before partition	AREA IRRIGATED AFTER PARTITION				Average irrigation after partition	Remarks.
				1948-49	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52		
1	Manake 119384-T	894	506	578	507	580	543	552	Average irrigation is more than that before partition and is improving.
2	Mianwala 38450-L	202	110	49	41	124	190	101	Average irrigation is less but irrigation in the year 1951-52 has improved considerably so that it is 190 acres against 110 average before partition.
3	Mianwala 26829-R	709	803	708	631	718	750	714	No deficiency.
4	Mehdipur 16988-L	402	583	564	529	594	529	554	—do—
5	Mehdipur 16988-R	222	358	317	475	338	325	364	—do—
6	Mehdipur 20248-L	568	676	601	588	739	655	646	Average irrigation is slightly less but irrigation during 1950-51 and 1951-52 was considerably more than permissible.
7	Mehdipur 20248-R	464	587	665	715	602	610	648	No deficiency.

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[Minister for Finance]

Punjab Legislative Assembly

[20th October, 1952]

**ALLOTMENT OF HOUSES AND LAND AT VILLAGE POHUWIND
DISTRICT AMRITSAR.**

150. Shri Ram Kishan : Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

(a) whether any pucca house belonging to Ch. Mohammad Saeed and his other evacuee co-sharers at village Pohuwind, Tehsil Patti, District Amritsar, was allotted to any allottee ; if so, when and to whom ;

(b) the total area of land allotted to the persons referred to in part (a) above during the quasi-permanent allotment at village Pohuwind ;

(c) whether the house referred to in part (a) was valued before its allotment; if so, the value so fixed ;

(d) whether the persons referred to in part (b) above were replaced by certain other persons as a result of review application and the land referred to in part (b) above was allotted to the latter ; if so, the names of the out-going allottees and the list of the incoming allottees :

(e) the area allotted to each of the incoming allottees referred to in part (b) above ;

(f) whether the house or houses under reference have been allotted to the new comers; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh :

(a) No

(b) Does not arise in view of the answer to para (a) above.

(c) Yes. At Rs. 60,000. It has not been allotted.

(d) and (e) Do not arise in view of the answer to part (b) above. }

(f) As the value of the house is more than Rs. 20,000 it was excluded from allotment treating it as an urban property under Inter-Dominion Agreement.

**SUPPLY OF CANAL WATER TO VILLAGES KALS, MASTGARH
AND NURWALA, DISTRICT AMRITSAR.**

151. Shri Ram Kishan : Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state :—

(a) whether any lands of villages Kala, Mastgarh and Nurwala of Tehsil Patti, District Amritsar, were being irrigated by a canal distributory now passing through the Pakistan territory before 15th August, 1947 ; if so, the total area of such land in each of the villages referred to above ;

(b) whether the irrigation by the distributory referred to in part (a) above has been stopped since partition ; if so, the steps, if any, taken by the Government to irrigate the area under reference upto now ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh :

- (a) Yes. Some lands of Villages Kala, Mastgarh and Nurwala were being irrigated by Themal distributory before partition. This channel has entirely gone to Pakistan along with the record. The record of the areas of these villages which were irrigated from Themal distributory is, therefore, not available.
- (b) Yes. Irrigation of these villages has been stopped since partition. The proposal for extending Basarke distributory along the Pakistan border for the irrigation of these villages has been examined. This proposal has been found unfeasible.

**SUPPLY OF CANAL WATER TO VILLAGES MAHDIPUR MIANWALA
AND MAHNEKE, DISTRICT AMRITSAR.**

152. Shri Ram Kishan : Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state :—

(a) the total area of land under the command of each canal outlet in village Madhipur, Mianwala and Mahneke, Tehsil Patti, District Amritsar,

(b) the area actually irrigated during each Rabi and Kharif crop of each of these villages since Rabi, 1925 upto Rabi, 1951;

(c) (i) whether there has been any deficiency in the irrigated area in each of these villages since partition; if so, to what extent;

(ii) the reasons for this deficiency;

(d) the steps, if any, Government proposes to take to make up this deficiency and bring the irrigation to the level of prepartition days ?

Chaudri Lahri Singh :

- (a) & (b) The required information is given in the statement given below.
- (c) (i) There is no deficiency except in village Mianwala as compared with average irrigation before partition as per statement No. 2 given below.
- (c) (ii) The slight deficiency in irrigation is due to the fact that land allotted to displaced persons was not wholly brought under plough.
- (d) The irrigation of evacuee villages is improving automatically with the improvements in arrangements for cultivation of the evacuee land.

**STATEMENTS SHOWING IRRIGATION FIGURES OF VILLAGES MEHDIPUR, MIANWALA
MANEKE BY OUTLETS.**

SI. No.	Name of Village	R. D. & side of outlet	Name of channel	C. C. A. P. A.		1924-25		1925-26		1926-27		1927-28		1928-29		1929-30		1930-31		1931-32	
				K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R
1	a	b	c	d	e	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8								
1.	Maneke.	110384-L	Resalpur L.	993	894.	243	229	244	121	282	225	349	272	403	344	378	365	328	329	299	219
					Total	472		365		507		621		747		743		657		509	
2.	Mianwala	88462-L	Khem Karan Disty.	238	202	65	62	52	69	60	65	26	72	62	48	56	76	59	74	55	58
					Total	127		121		125		98		110		132		133		113	
	do	26624-L	Machiki Minor	834	709	267	399	246	394	283	350	247	378	333	301	335	493	333	408	329	496
					Total	666		640		633		625		634		828		741		825	
3.	Medhipur	16983-L	do	473	402	239	288	265	325	162	282	214	373	246	296	263	312	223	343	238	317
					Total	527		590		444		587		542		575		666		555	
	do	16988-L	do	261	222	102	190	107	185	110	195	103	187	135	181	127	185	116	180	112	178
					Total	292		292		305		290		316		312		296		290	
	do	1943-L	do	668	568	245	360	665	330	259	337	230	340	260	335	254	333	237	302	320	381
					Total	603		995		596		570		495		587		539		701	
	do	8004-L	do	546	464	257	309	272	315	246	335	89	307	301	288	324	418	315	371	235	303
					Total	566		587		581		396		589		742		687		538	

Unstarred Questions and Answers

STATEMENTS SHOWING IRRIGATION FIGURES OF VILLAGES MEHDIPUR, MIANWALA
MANEKE BY OUTLETS—Contd.

SI. No.	Name of Village	R. D. & side of outlet	Name of channel	C. C. A. P. A.		1932-33		1933-34		1934-35		1935-36		1936-37		1937-38		1938-39		1939-40		1940-41		1941-42	
						K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R
1	a	b	c	d	e	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18										
1.	Maneke.	110384-L	Resalpur L.	993	894.	267	216	285	351	300	175	290	149	265	170	309	341	362	265	341	245	279	231	257	279
					Total	483	636	475	439	435	650	627	586	510	536										
2.	Mianwala	88462-L	Khem Karan Disty.	238	202	48	59	61	123	50	116	51	112	57	57	61	62	62	58	68	62	57	61	60	64
					Total	107	184	166	163	114	123	120	130	118	124										
	do	26624-L	Machiki Minor	834	709	223	260	346	470	349	349	366	359	358	402	362	254	468	325	381	243	370	281	398	430
					Total	483	816	698	729	760	616	734	624	651	828										
3.	Medhipur	16983-L	do	473	402	208	152	142	334	138	128	247	244	296	265	280	147	220	212	285	224	278	220	266	260
					Total	360	476	266	491	561	427	482	509	498	526										
	do	16988-L	do	261	222	105	264	249	179	247	279	150	114	144	153	143	252	202	188	161	197	138	97	140	129
					Total	369	428	526	269	297	395	390	358	235	269										
	do	1943-L	do	668	568	172	230	369	404	323	285	329	230	327	279	271	163	252	155	254	152	248	145	240	243
					Total	402	773	608	559	606	434	407	406	393	683										
	do	8004-L	do	546	464	244	295	288	313	243	193	245	151	265	198	372	242	255	228	347	215	339	203	329	305
					Total	535	601	436	402	463	614	483	562	542	634										

**STATEMENTS SHOWING IRRIGATION FIGURES OF VILLAGES MEHDIPUR, MIANWALA
MANEKE BY OUTLETS—Concl'd.**

S I. No.	Name of Village	R. D. & side of outlet	Name of channel	C. C. A. P. A.		1942-43		1943-44		1944-45		1945-46		1946-47		1947-48		1948-49		1949-50		1950-51		1951-52	
				K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R
1	a	b	c	d	e	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28										
1.	Maneke.	110384-L	Resalpur L.	993	894.	361	315	235	187	313	246	320	304	294	124	172	119	311	267	320	187	317	263	260	283
				Total	676	422	559	624	418	291	578	507	580	543											
2.	Mianwala	88462-L	Khem Karan Disty.	238	202	48	63	49	54	50	52	53	56	58	68	51	2	11	38	22	19	55	69	84	106
				Total	111	103	102	109	126	53	49	41	124	190											
	do	26624-L	Machiki Minor	834	709	330	430	337	334	367	381	424	515	392	461	305	178	313	395	366	315	294	424	338	412
				Total	760	671	748	939	853	483	708	681	718	750											
3.	Medhipur	16983-L	do	473	402	296	287	284	242	284	256	314	331	295	325	109	193	250	314	255	274	292	302	229	300
				Total	583	526	540	645	620	302	564	529	594	529											
	do	16988-L	do	261	222	139	150	125	102	131	138	139	177	295	325	188	77	127	190	330	145	168	170	152	173
				Total	289	227	269	316	620	265	317	475	338	325											
	do	1943-L	do	668	568	360	315	333	239	372	309	439	457	292	263	106	109	206	395	349	239	355	384	314	341
				Total	675	572	681	896	555	215	601	588	739	655											
	do	8004-L	do	546	464	234	235	245	164	268	236	293	315	414	415	255	276	392	273	349	366	302	300	269	341
				Total	469	409	504	608	829	531	665	715	602	610											

Unstarred Questions and Answers

NAZOO LAND IN THE STATE.

153. **Shri Ram Kishan :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state :—

(a) the total area of cultivable nazool land, kindwise, in each district of the State ;

(b) the total rent realised in each district for these lands during the years 1949-50 and 1950-51 respectively;

(c) the total area of uncultivable nazool lands in each district of the State ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : The required information is given below in the form of a statement :—

Serial No.	Name of District.	Total area of nazool land kindwise.	Total rent realised.		Total area of uncultivable nazool land.
			1949-50	1950-51	
1.	Simla.	10 acres. The whole area is classed as Lariawala.	Rs. 3	8/8/-	1306 acres.
2.	Hoshiarpur.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	16 kanals and 15 marlas.
3.	Gurdaspur.	Nahri 89 Kanals, Barani 495 Kanals 7 Marlas Banjar 17 Kanals. Total 601 Kanals 7 Marlas.	Rs. 206	335	4751 kanals,
4.	Amritsar.	Chahi 98.19 acres. Abi 7.75 acres Nehri 134.53 Barani 10.21 Total 250.68	Rs. 1,314	4,845	2778.97 acres.
5.	Jullundur.	Barani 226 Kanals 12 Marlas Banjar Qadim 2 Kanals 17 Marlas. Total 229 Kanals 9 Marlas	Rs. 490	525	2 kanals 17 marlas.
6.	Kangra.	Irrigated 7 acres. Barani 39 acres Total 46 acres.	Rs. 1,327	1,388	1927 acres.
7.	Ludhiana.	Chahi 50 acres. Nehri 3 acres. Rosli 198 acres Bhud 43 acres Bet Barani 23 acres. Total 317 acres.	Rs. 5,010	14,070	195 acres.

Serial No.	Name of District.	Total area of nazool land kindwise.	Total rent realised. 1949-50/1950-51	Total area of uncultivable nazool land.
8.	Gurgaon.	Chahi 51 acres. Magda 44 acres. Bhud 9 acres. Total 104 acres.	Rs. 2,277/8/- 2,475	135 acres.
9.	Karnal.	Nehri 10 acres. Barani 13.55 acres. Chahi 2.77 acres. Total 26.32 acres.	Rs. 185 257/5/6	253.48 acres.
10.	Ferozepore	Chahi land 72 kanals 4 marlas Chahi Nahri 376 Kanals Nahri 72 kanals. Barani 29 kanals 6 marlas. Total 549 kanals 10 Marlas.	Rs. 245/5/6 245/5/6	800 aknals 11 amrlas
11.	Ambala.	Nil.	Nil.	122 acres.
12.	Hissar.	Barani 239.21 acres Nehri 75.38 acres Total 314.59 acres.	Rs. 5,893 8,258	3677.4 acres.
13.	Rohtak.	Nehri 3 acres. Barani 1.79 acres. Total 4.79 acres.	Rs. 21 25	Nil.

CONSTRUCTION OF SHED FOR THE OMNIBUS SERVICE PASSENGERS AT BHIKIWIND BUS STAND.

154. **Shri Ram Kishan** : Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state :—

(a) whether the Amritsar Omni Bus Service and the Amritsar Majha Frontier Transport Co-operative Society run buses between Amritsar and Bhikiwind ; if so, since when ;

(b) whether the Amritsar Majha Transport Co-operative Society has built a shed for the passengers at Bhikiwind Bus Stand; if so, since when ;

(c) whether there is any shed for the Amritsar Omni Bus Service passengers at Bhikiwind Bus Stand; if not, what other arrangements have been made for the shelter of passengers from rain, cold and sun ;

(d) whether the Amritsar Omnibus Service authorities propose to construct a shed for their passengers at Bhikiwind Bus Stand; if so, when, if not the reasons therefor ?

Shri Jagat Narain :

- (a) Amritsar Omni Bus Service is operating services between Amritsar and Bhikiwind since the 6th July 1951. The Amritsar Majha Frontier Transport Co-operative Society was operating services between these places prior to the partition. After the partition also the society continued to operate services on this route until the beginning of 1950, when as a result of a representation received from the society the permits were allotted on Amritsar-Khem Karan, Amritsar-Harike and Khalra-Harike *via* Patti, routes. Since then the society is operating on Amritsar-Khem Karan *via* Bhikiwind and Amritsar-Harike *via* Bhikiwind.
- (b) Yes. Since the last five or six years. The stand of the society at Bhikiwind consists of a cemented floor room and a verandah.
- (c) No shed has so far been provided at the said stand. However, a room hired by the Amritsar Omni Bus Service is there which can be used by the passengers for the said purpose during the day time.
- (d) It is proposed to provide an out station bus station with a waiting room at Bhikiwind Bus Stand of Amritsar Omni Bus Service during the current financial year.

JUDICIAL LOCK-UP AT PATTI.

155. **Shri Ram Kishan :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state the decision, if any, arrived at by the Government for providing a Judicial lock-up at Patti, District Amritsar referred to in Unstarred Question No. 264 put by Sardar Sajjan Singh during 1949 ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : Government have since decided to construct a Judicial lock-up at Patti. Administrative approval has also been accorded recently to the execution of this work.

TAIL OUTLETS OF THE TATLA MINOR.

156. **Shri Ram Kishan :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state :—

- (a) (i) the names of the villages of Tehsil Patti, District Amritsar, which are irrigated by the Tail outlets of Tatla Minor ;
- (ii) the total area under the command of each of these outlets ;

(b) the total area actually irrigated by each of the outlets referred to in part (a) above during each Rabi and Kharif crops respectively from Rabi 1925 to Rabi 1951 ;

(c) whether there has been any deficiency in the irrigated area after partition ; if so, to what extent ;

(d) whether the canal authorities have received any representations from the landowners of the villages referred to in part (a) above since 1st July 1948 complaining about the deficiency in the irrigated area ; if so, the steps that have been taken or are proposed to be taken to make up this deficiency in the irrigated area and bring the same to the level of the prepartition days ;

(e) the authorised discharge of each of the canal outlets referred to in part (a) above ;

(f) the actual discharge of each of these canal outlets at the time of last inspection by the Sub-Divisional Officer or the Overseer;

(g) (i) whether these outlets were ever inspected and their discharge taken by the Sub-Divisional Officer since partition ; if so, when ; if not, reasons therefor ;

(ii) any other steps which were taken by the canal authorities to make up the deficiency of the tail outlets and check the additional illegal discharge of other outlets referred to in part (f) above ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh :

(a) (i) Farandipur and Balair,

(ii) 220 and 246 acres respectively.

(b) The information is given in the statement given below.

(c) As per (b) above.

(d) Yes, complaints were received from the Zamindars from time to time and steps were taken to remove the deficiency by silt clearing the channel frequently. The channel is very small and gets silted up very soon.

(e) The authorised discharge of the outlets is as below :—

Outlet R. D. 15023 T. L. (village Balair)	0.69 Cs.
---	----------

Outlet R. D. 15023-T. F. (village Farandipur)	0.61 Cs.
---	----------

(f) The actual discharge of each of the these canal outlets at the time

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of last inspection by the Sub-Divisional Officer is as under :—

Outlet R. D. 15023 T. L. (Balair)	0.56 Cs.
Outlet R. D. 1503 T. L. (Farandipur)	0.49 Cs.

(g) (i) These outlets are at the tail of the minor which are inspected by the Sub-Divisional Officer at least once in a month. During the current year these were inspected as below :—

R. D. and side of outlet.	Date	Actual discharge observed.	Authorised discharge.
15023-TL (Balair)	28-2-1952	0.96	0.69
	16-3-1952	0.69	„
	29-4-1952	0.65	„
	15-5-1952	0.82	„
	4-7-1952	0.82	„
	14-8-1952	0.82	„
	18-9-1952	0.56	„
15023-T.F. (Farandipur)	28-2-1952	0.85	0.61
	16-3-1952	0.61	„
	29-4-1952	0.57	„
	15-5-1952	0.73	„
	4-7-1952	0.73	„
	19-8-1952	0.73	„
	18-9-1952	0.49	„

The discharge shown under (f) was observed by the Sub-Divisional Officer on 18th September 1952.

(ii) Whenever shortage is felt at the tail of the minor, it is got silt cleared. Hydraulic data of the channel is being observed and investigations are being carried out with a view to remove the defects permanently.

All the upper outlets were checked a number of times and no defect found.

— — — — —

**STATEMENT SHOWING THE IRRIGATION FIGURES FROM 1925 TO 1951 OF THE TAIL OUTLETS ON
TATLA MINOR**

SI. No.	Name of channel	R. D. of outlet	Name of Village	C. C. A.	P. A.	1924-25		1925-26		1926-27		1927-28		1928-29		1929-30		1930 31		1931-32	
						K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R
1	a	b	c	d	e	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8								
1	Tatla Minor	15023-TL	Balair	246	184	..	..	..	5	5	22	91	19	21	16	51	26	22	39	63	17
						Total	..	...	5	27	110	37	77	61	80						
2	do	15023-TL	Farandi Pur	220	165	..	..	...	11	3	36	68	14	22	27	45	17	26	45	56	35
						Total	...	11	39	82	49	62	71	91							

Unstarred Questions and Answers.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE IRRIGATION FIGURES FROM 1925 TO 1951 OF THE TAIL OUTLETS ON
TATLA MINOR—(Contd.)

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SI. No.	Name of channel	R. D. of outlet	Name of Village	C. C A.	P. A.	1932-33		1933-34		1934-35		1935-36		1936-37		1937-38		1938-39		1939-40		1940-41		1941-42	
						K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R
1	a	b	c	d	e	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18										
1	Tatla Minor	15023-TL	Balair	246	184	44	83	112	104	54	79	65	92	84	71	90	93	97	75	35	82	83	75	69	57
					Total	127	216	133	157	155	183	172	117	158	126										
2	do	15023-TL	Farandi Pur	220	165	44	51	64	53	52	52	61	52	59	47	57	49	60	53	63	56	51	60	58	49
					Total	95	117	104	113	106	106	113	119	111	107										

STATEMENT SHOWING THE IRRIGATION FIGURES FROM 1925 TO 1951 OF THE TAIL OUTLETS ON
TATLA MINOR—(Concl.)

SI. No.	Name of channel	R. D. of outlet	Name of Village	C. C. A.	P. A.	1942-43		1943-44		1944-45		1945-46		1946-47		1947-48		1948-49		1949-50		1950-51		1951-52	
						K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R
1	a	b	c	d	e	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28										
1	Tatla Minor	15023-TL	Balair	246	184	69	97	116	117	122	102	74	45	75	69	86	1	123	61	43	61	76	35	75	76
						Total		166	233	224	119	144	87	184	104	111	151								
2	do	15023-TL	Farandi Pur	220	165	50	55	87	57	70	56	59	68	60	58	62	3	70	54	44	46	57	40	67	46
						Total		105	144	126	127	118	65	124	90	97	113								

Unstarred Questions and Answers

TEMPORARY SHOOTS IN DISTRICT AMRITSAR.

157. Shri Ram Kishan : Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state :—

(a) whether any temporary shoots were sanctioned by the canal authorities of the Upper Bari Doab Canal Circle in the villages of Margindpura and Dialpur, Tehsil Patti, District Amritsar during 1952 ; if so, when ;

(b) the last date fixed by the canal authorities for stopping them ;

(c) (i) whether any representation under registered post by Sardar Ganda Singh and other cultivators of the villages referred to in part (a) above was received by the Minister for Irrigation on or about 11th September 1952 in giving the date when it was intended to stop the temporary shoots; if so, the reasons that were put forward by the applicants ;

(ii) the action, if any, taken by the Government in the matter ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh :

(a) Two temporary shoots were sanctioned for the villagers in April 1952.

(b) 30th September.

(c) Yes. The applicant requested for extending the date of closing the temporary shoots on the grounds of shortage of rain.

(ii) The date was extended upto the 15th October 1952.

COMPLAINTS REGARDING THE DIGGING OF EARTH FROM
THE FIELDS ADJACENT TO CANAL DISTRIBUTORIES IN
DISTRICT AMRITSAR.

158. Shri Ram Kishan : Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state :—

(a) whether any complaint by Sardar Ganda Singh and other cultivators of village Margindpura, Tehsil Patti, District Amritsar was received by the Minister for Irrigation on or about 10th September 1952 under registered post regarding the digging of earth from the fields adjacent to the Canal Distributories; if so, the nature of the complaints so made ;

(b) whether any enquiry was made by the Government in the matter ; if so, the nature of the action taken thereon ;

(c) whether Government proposes to acquire lands adjacent to the Canal Distributories and minors for digging the earth to strengthen the canal banks as is being done in the case of P. W. D. roads ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh :

- (a) Yes. A complaint was received from cultivators of village Margindpura, Tehsil Patti. It relates to the digging of earth from the fields adjacent to the Canal Distributories.
- (b) The petition is under investigation. The existing practice of I. B. is that borrow pits are made in the zamindari land which are ploughed and levelled after use, so that the land can be used again. The land of the complainant would also be ploughed and levelled after the work has been measured.
- (c) No. The Acquisition will cover huge areas entailing heavy expenditure which would be wasteful.

**TRANSFER OF REVENUE PATWARIS FROM AMRITSAR
DISTRICT TO FEROZEPUR DISTRICT.**

159. Shri Amir Chand Gupta : Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state :—

(a) (i) whether any Revenue Patwaris of Patti Tehsil District Amritsar were transferred to Ferozepore District between 1st April 1951 and 30th June 1951 ; if so, their list ;

(ii) the dates when each of them took charge in Ferozepore District ;

(iii) the names of the Patwar Circles of which they took charge ;

(b) (i) whether any of the Patwaris referred to in part (a) above was retransferred to Patti Tehsil during June, 1951; if so, their list ;

(ii) the period for which each of the Patwaris referred to in part (b) (i) above remained posted in Ferozepore District ;

(c) whether the Patwaris referred to in part (b) (i) above have been paid their salaries and travelling allowances up to 15th September 1952 for the period referred to in part (b) (ii) above ; if not, the reasons therefor ;

(d) whether any action was taken on letter No. 1201, dated 28th October 1951 from S. Sajjan Singh Ex-M. L. A. , to the Commissioner,, Jullundur Division and was acknowledged by him *vide* his office No. 2328/T. A., dated 26th November 1951 regarding the non-payment of salaries and

[Shri Amir Chand Gupta]

travelling allowances to the persons referred to in part (b) (ii) above ; if so, the nature thereof :

(e) (i) if the answer to part (c) above be in the negative and part (d) above be in the affirmative, whether any enquiry has been instituted as to the reasons for delay ;

(ii) whether the Government proposes to take action against the person or persons responsible for this delay ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon :

(a) (i) Yes. A list giving the requisite information is given below.

(ii) Given in the list.

(iii) do

(b) (i) Yes. One Shri Ram Singh was retransferred.

(ii) He remained posted in Ferozepore from 23rd April 1951 to 30th June 1951.

(c) Shri Ram Singh has not been paid his pay for the period 23rd April 1951 to 31st May 1951 as his last pay certificate was not received from Amritsar district. No Travelling Allowance has been claimed by him.

(d) The matter has been referred to Deputy Commissioner, Ferozepore, by the Commissioner, Jullundur Division.

(e) (i) The question does not arise.

(ii) do.

A List of the Patwaries transferred from Patti Tehsil, Amritsar to Ferozepore District.

S. No.	Name of the Patwari	Date of taking over charge.	Circle of posting.
1.	Shri Munshi Ram.	4-5-1951.	Midda, Tehsil Fazilka.
2.	Shri Jaswant Singh.	3-5-1951,	Patwari (R) Ferozepore.
3.	Shri Inder Singh.	25-4-1951.	Nokerian Tehsil Fazilka.
4.	Shri Angrez Singh.	20-4-1951.	Malka Tehsil Moga.
5.	Shri Mohindar Singh.	20-4-1951.	Daulat Pura Tehsil Moga,
6.	Shri Ram Singh.	23-4-1951.	Bekh Khas, Tehsil Fazilka.
7.	Shri Tota Singh.	1-7-1951.	Gadriwala Tehsil Zira.

STOPPAGE OF CYCLE ALLOWANCE OF GAUGE READERS IN
CANAL DEPARTMENT.

160. **Shri Amir Chand Gupta** : Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state :—

(a) whether the cycle allowance of the gauge readers in the Canal Department in the Upper Bari Doab Canal Circle was stopped during 1950 ; if so, when, together with the reasons for the stopping thereof ;

(b) whether any representation by S. Sajjan Singh Margindpuri, Ex. M. L. A. was received by the Chief Engineer Irrigation Works, Punjab Simla *vide* his letter No. 692, dated 24th May, 1951 (Registered A. D.); if so, the date when it was received in his office ;

(c) whether Sardar Sajjan Singh referred to in part (b) above was informed by the Chief Engineer referred to in part (b) above *vide* his letter No. 2214/Z/107/51 dated 13th August, 1951 that the payment of this allowance was not made due to some misunderstanding on the part of the Superintending Engineer's office, if so, the nature of of this misunderstanding ?

(d) (i) if the answers to parts (b) and (c) above be in the affirmative, the action, if any, taken by the canal authorities in the matter ;

(ii) whether the arrears of cycle allowance due have been paid to the gauge readers upto now; if so, when, if not, the reasons for delay ;

(e) whether any action has been taken by the Government against the employees of Superintending Engineer's office, Upper Bari Doab Canal Circle for stopping the cycle allowance due; if so, what ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh :

(a) Orders were issued by the Chief Engineer, Irrigation Works, Punjab to the Superintending Engineer, Upper Bari Doab Canal Circle on the 18th April, 1950, that the payment of cycle allowance to the gauge readers should not be made beyond the 28th February 1950 until the proposals for making such payments were approved with the concurrence of the Finance Department after the budget for 1950-51 had been passed by the Legislative Assembly.

(b) A representation by S. Sajjan Singh. Ex-M. L. A. was received in the office of the Chief Engineer on the 29th May, 1951.

(c) Yes. The misunderstanding on the part of the Superintending Engineer's office consisted in assuming that the payment of cycle

[Minister for Irrigation]

allowance to gauge readers after the 28th February, 1950 had been stopped by the Chief Engineer, whereas the intention of the Chief Engineer was that the payments on account of cycle allowance were to be withheld temporarily until after the requisite provision in the budget for the year 1950-51 had been approved.

(d) (i) Orders were issued by the Chief Engineer on the 25th April, 1951 to the Superintending Engineer, Upper Bari Doab Canal Circle directing immediate payment of the arrears of the allowance to the gauge readers.

(ii) All arrears of cycle allowance due to gauge readers have since been paid with the exception of a few in Raya Sub-division, Jandiala Division, for which the bill for payment is under pre-audit by the Accountant General, Punjab, Simla.

(e) Action is being taken by the Chief Engineer to deal suitably with the officials responsible for the causes which led to the delay in payments of the cycle allowance to gauge readers.

DISMISSAL OF TEHSIL PEONS OF PATTI, DISTRICT AMRITSAR.

161. **Shri Amir Chand Gupta :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state :—

(a) (i) whether any Tehsil peons of Patti Tehsil, District Amritsar were dismissed in the month of December, 1951; if so, their list ;

(ii) the reasons for dismissal in each case ;

(b) (i) whether any of them had filed appeals with the Commissioner, Jullundur against the orders of their dismissal; if so, when ;

(ii) whether the appeals referred to in part (b) above have been disposed of ; if so, with what results ; if not, the reasons for delay ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon :

(a) Yes, only one Sardar Hazara Singh Tehsil peon Patti Tehsil was dismissed in December, 1951 due to misconduct.

(b) (i) Yes, in March, 1952.

(ii) Yes, rejected,

CANAL REST HOUSES.

162. **Shri Amir Chand Gupta :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state :—

(a) the total number of the canal Rest Houses in the Upper Bari Doab and Sirhind Canal Circles respectively along with their lists ;

(b) whether any of them have been let out to the canal officers ; if so, their list and the monthly rent fixed in each case ;

(c) whether any part of the Rest Houses referred to in part (b) above has been reserved for office work and exempted from the payment of rent ; if not, what part of each rest house has been reserved where the public can meet the canal officers to put their grievances before them ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh :

(a) The total number of rest houses in Upper Bari Doab Circle is 42 as per list attached and that in the Sirhind Canal Circle is 89 as per list attached.

(b) & (c) Yes, part of the rest houses at Punjgrain and Jaura on Upper Bari Doab Circle are let out to the Sub-Divisional Officers Jandiala and Tarn Taran Sub-Divisions respectively for use of their residences. One set of rooms in each of these rest houses has been reserved for touring officers. Rent for the accommodation used by the Sub-Divisional Officers as their residences is recovered at 10% of the occupants' pay.

Punjgrain Rest House ... Rs. 27-8-0 p. m.

Jandiala Rest House ... Rs. 33-8-0 p. m.

No part of the rest houses in Upper Bari Doab Circle has been reserved for office use as there is not enough accommodation and as such the question of exemption does not arise. The Sub-Divisional Officers do their work in one of the rooms of the subordinate Rest Houses attached to the main Rest House where public meets them and put up their grievances.

On Sirhind Canal Circle part of the Rest Houses at Chamkaur, Gill, Bul, Bhatinda and Muktsar have been let out to Canal Officers for use as their residences. One room in all the five rest houses mentioned above is reserved for office work where the public meets them and put up their grievances. This room is exempted from rent.

[Minister for Irrigation]

Rent charged from the canal officers for portions of the rest houses used as residences is as below :—

Chamkaur	Rs. 32-4-0	
Gil	Rs. 20-0-0	
Bul	...	No rent is charged as the officer is working on Bhakra Nangal Project and is exempted from rent.
Muktsar	Rs. 20-0-0	

WARA BANDI.

163. Shri Amir Chand Gupta : Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state :—

(a) whether any of the shareholders of canal outlet irrigating the area of village Theh Brahmana, Tehsil Patti, District Amritsar, applied to the Executive Engineer, Jandiala Division of the Upper Bari Doab Canal, Amritsar, for Warabandi under Section 68 of the Canal Act ; if so, when ;

(b) whether the Warabandi of the outlet referred to in para (a) above has been sanctioned upto now ; if not, the reasons for the delay ;

(c) the steps Government proposes to take for the early disposal of this case ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh :

(a) Yes. An application for Warabandi under Section 68 of the Canal Act was received by the Executive Engineer, Jandiala Division, on the 30th April 1952 from Santmal Singh of village Theh Brahmana.

(b) The warabandi is still under preparation with the Ziliadar of the section and delay is due to comparison of ownership with the civil records.

(c) The Executive Engineer has been ordered to expedite the matter.

RESIDENTIAL BUNGALOWS OF MINISTERS.

164. Shri Amir Chand Gupta : Will the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state :—

(a) the gardening water and electricity charges respectively of the residential bungalows of each of the State Ministers in the month of March, 1951 ;

(b) whether the charges referred to in part (a) above were paid by the State Government ?

Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa :

(a) The information is not available with Government as the charges in question were paid direct by the Ministers concerned.

(b) These charges were not paid by the State Government.

—————
GRANT OF TACCAVI LOANS TO DISPLACED PERSONS IN
THE STATE.

165. **Shri Amir Chand Gupta :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

(a) the total amount of taccavi loans given by the State Government to the displaced persons between 15th August 1947 and 31st August 1952 ;

(b) the total amount of the loans referred to in part (a) above received back upto 31st August 1952 ;

(c) the total amount received as interest on this loan upto 31st August 1952 ;

(d) the total amount of loan which could not be recovered upto 31st August 1952 ;

(e) the total amount of interest due.....but not recovered upto 31st August 1952 ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh :

(a) Rs. 4,44,12,715.

(b) Rs. 60,02,560.

(c) Rs. 8,92,770.

(d) Rs. 99,55,353.

(e) Rs. 16,06,421.

—————
TRANSIT CAMPS IN BORDER DISTRICTS OF THE STATE.

166. **Sardar Uttam Singh :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

(a) whether the payment of compensation for lands occupied by Government for transit camps in border Districts of the State in the year 1948 has since been made to all owners of lands so occupied; if not, how the matter stands at present ;

[Sardar Uttam Singh]

(b) whether the compensation for land occupied for Sri Hargobind Pur transit camp has been paid ; if not, the amount that still remains unpaid and when it would be paid ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh :

(a) Payment of compensation for lands occupied by Government for Transit Camps in the year 1948 has since been made to all the land owners except in respect of Tanda and Mukerian Camps (District Hoshiarpur) and Siri Hargobind Pur (District Gurdaspur). In the case of Tanda and Mukerian Camps sanction has since been accorded and steps are being taken to disburse the amount to the payees immediately.

As regards Siri Hargobind Pur payment has been made to all the land owners except S. Uttam Singh whose case is under the consideration of Government.

(b) As stated in (a) above no compensation has yet been paid to S. Uttam Singh. The amount payable to him amounts to Rs. 699-8-0 (Rs. 90-8-0 on account of compensation of land plus Rs. 609 on account of compensation for a tank dug out by the P.W.D). The payment will be made as soon as a final decision in the matter of compensation for the tank is taken by Government.

KAHNUWAN SHAH NAHAR.

167. Sardar Uttam Singh : Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state :—

(a) whether he is aware of the fact that Kahnuwan Shah Nahar was taken over by the Government from the District Board, Gurdaspur and bridge over it at Kotli and Nanowali are not passable by wheeled, cattle and human traffic ;

(b) the total number of cattle and human lives lost during the floods since this channel was taken over from the District Board, Gurdaspur, together with the action intended to be taken to prevent loss of life in future ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh :

(a) There is no such Nahar which has been taken over by the Government from the District Board.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Sri Chand : On a point of order, Sir. I have received neither a copy of the Bill nor the list of business for today's meeting. When I enquired from the office, I was told that these papers were sent to me day before yesterday. As I left my place on that day, I did not receive those papers.

Mr. Speaker : If the hon. Member desires more time will be allowed to him for giving notice of amendments. If he sends an amendment even now, it will be admitted.

—————
RESIGNATION OF SARDAR SWARAN SINGH FROM THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Mr. Speaker : In pursuance of the proviso to Rule 42 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Punjab Legislative Assembly, I have to inform the House that Sardar Swaran Singh, a Member of this House, resigned with effect from the 11th October, 1952, his seat in this Assembly, during the inter-session period.

PANEL OF CHAIRMAN.

Mr. Speaker : Under Rule 11 (1) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Punjab Legislative Assembly, I have nominated the following four Members to form the Panel of Chairmen :

1. Shrimati Parkash Kaur.
2. Sardar Harbhajan Singh.
3. Sardar Ajmer Singh.
4. Dewan Jagdish Chandra.

Now the next item on the agenda will be taken up.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Sir, with your permission, I have to point out that I have not received a copy of the agenda of today's meeting. I left for Simla on the 18th but till 17th instant no agenda of any kind had reached me.

Mr. Speaker : I may inform the hon. Members that a copy of the agenda was posted to the hon. Members by this office on the 17th October and a copy of the Bill had already been circulated earlier. However, if the hon. Members feel inconvenienced for not having received the agenda in time then I am prepared to remove their difficulty. If the hon. Members so desire, I would permit them to give notices of amendments even now.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Sir, we have not been able to study the Bill thoroughly and are, therefore, not in a position to give notices of amendments.

Mr. Speaker : Since the Bill has already been placed on today's agenda, all I can do is that the notices of amendments given today will be considered to be in order. I shall see that no inconvenience is caused to the hon. Members on this account.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : On a point of order, Sir. I would suggest that a general discussion may be made on this Bill today.

Mr. Speaker : This is no point of order.

Minister for Development (Sardar Partap Singh Kairon (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to introduce the Punjab Occupancy Tenants (Vesting of Proprietary Rights) Bill.

THE PUNJAB TENANTS (VESTING OF PROPBIETARY RIGHTS) BILL.

Minister for Development : Sir, I beg to move :

That the Punjab Occupancy Tenants (Vesting of Proprietary Rights) Bill be taken into consideration at once

There are some minor printing mistakes in the statement of Objects and Reasons. In para 2 on page 9, after the words "occupancy tenants" occurring in lines 4—5, there should be a full stop and that for the word "On" the word "The" should be substituted. In line 6 of the same para, for the words "as may" the word "will" should be substituted.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Punjab Occupancy Tenants (Vesting of Proprietary Rights) Bill be taken into consideration at once.

Sardar Wazir Singh (Delhon) (Punjabi) : Sir, my hon. Friend Sardar Chanan Singh has already raised an objection with regard to the way in which this Bill has been brought up before the House. I think that every Member of the Opposition has a genuine complaint to make on this account as none of them has received a copy of the agenda of today's meeting. It has been stated that a copies of the agenda were posted by the Legislature Secretariat to the hon. Members on the 17th October. I started from Ludhiana on the 18th October at mid-night. If the agenda had been posted on the 17th then it must have reached me yesterday but I did not receive it by the time I left that place. Anyhow, my feeling is that this Bill is of vital importance to the *zamindars* and as it has to affect thousands of *zamindars* I would suggest that it should not be rushed through with undue haste. Those hon. Members who wish to express their views on this Bill, should have ample time to peruse it so that they may be able to suggest suitable amendments to the President's Act which is already in force. There is need for careful consideration of this measure which is bound to hav a far-reaching effect upon the landlords and the tenants.

As this measure would make the occupancy tenants the proprietors of land it would, therefore, be necessary to determine the compensation to be paid to the landlords for the land taken from them. I would suggest that this Bill, when enacted should also be made applicable to the property of urbanites including the factory owners. But this is our experience that whenever any voice is raised against the urbanites or the capitalists then an attempt is made by the Government to stifle that voice. My second objection with regard to this Bill is that while extinguishing their rights of ownership the landlords are not being paid suitable compensation for their land. It is clearly laid down in the Constitution of India that no property-movable or immovable shall be taken possession of or acquired under the law without payment of full compensation. This Bill, therefore, obviously goes counter to the provisions of the said Constitution. We find that the amount of compensation, proposed to be paid to the landlords under this Bill is hardly 50 per cent of the value of the land. I am of the view that our Government is jeopardising the interests of the landlords. My hon. Friend the Minister for Development would perhaps say that by transferring the rights of ownership from the big *zamindars* to the occupancy tenants, the Government is evincing great sympathy for the poor. But to my mind, it is sheer injustice to deprive the small landlords of their small holdings extending to five or seven *bighas* of land. It is wrong to say that the Government is helping the poor people by taking away lands from the big landlords.

In my opinion, the zamindars are being hit hard in the regime of this Government. Another restriction, namely, reducing the permissible limit to thirty acres is also proposed to be imposed in this very Session upon those very people who are being deprived of their proprietary rights through this Bill. When the permissible limit is reduced to thirty acres, the *zamindars* will not be able to eject tenants from land in excess of that limit. On the other hand, the urbanites may be the owners of any number of houses and shops, nobody can question their right of ownership or possession. I fail to understand the cause of this discrimination between the urbanites and the ruralites. We lodge a strong protest with the Government against this discrimination. Why should the ruralites alone be made the victim of this policy of nationalization? Let all land in the State be nationalized. We shall welcome such a measure provided properties other than land are also nationalized.

It is a pity that the poor ruralites have neither a press nor a platform to voice their grievances and bring them to the notice of the Government but

[Sardar Wazir Singh]

I may sound a note of warning that if they once decide to forge a united front the position of this Ministry will surely become shaky. The Government will not be able to suppress these people for long. When they find it difficult to lead honourable lives in this State, they will consider no sacrifice too great to throw out this Government. Some hon. Ministers have been saying publicly that the Opposition had only 26 members as against a solid majority of the Congress Party and that they were the real representatives of the people. May I, Sir, tell you how popular these Ministers are in my District. On second thought, I feel that it will serve no useful purpose as all the hon. Members must have read about it in the papers. If the policies of this Government do not change, I am afraid, no Minister would be able to address a public meeting or convene a conference anywhere in the rural areas of this State. I do not think many *zamindars* own property worth more than rupees fifteen thousand,.....

Minister for Development : This is all imaginary. He is talking about things which do not exist in the Bill under discussion.

Mr. Speaker : Yes ; he himself said a few minutes back that he never read the Bill. Naturally, you cannot expect him to talk about it.

Sardar Wazir Singh : May I tell the hon. Minister through you, Sir, that I have studied all the Acts on the subject and possess more information about it than he does.

Mr. Speaker : You yourself said a short while ago that you had not gone through the Bill.

Sardar Wazir Singh : I never said this. What I said was that we were not given proper intimation about this Bill. Being a lawyer, I have gone through the President's Act as also the other Acts on the subject. Truth is always bitter.

In the end, I reiterate that whenever the Government decides to embark upon a policy of nationalization it directs itself against the *zamindars*, if it has to augment its revenues, it again turns towards the same milch cow. Let this Government know that if it does not change its attitude and policy, the people living in villages who have mainly voted it to power and have been following the Congress blindly will be forced to throw it overboard.

Mr. Speaker : Sardar Wazir Singh has said that he did not get the notice of this Bill in time. This is not correct. My Secretariat had sent him the necessary intimation in time. If he had not read the Bill, he should

not have delivered a speech on it and if he has read it then it cannot be true that he did not get intimation about it in time.

Shri Sri Chand (Bahadurgarh) (Hindi) : Sir, I have gone through this Bill but after reaching this place. Believe me Sir, when I say that neither the list of business fixed for today nor any copy of this Bill was received by me before coming to this place. It is a plain fact ; if it were not so, I would not have said it. Now may I submit to the hon. Minister for Development that if a Bill is fully scrutinized and given careful thought before being brought before the House, it would not be necessary to bring forward its amendments time and again. Had this principle been kept in view during the last session it would not have been necessary to bring before the House amendments to the same Bills in this Session. We learn that in respect of the Acts passed in the last Session a good many amendments are being brought forward in this Session. Had not the Government turned a deaf ear to us in the last session and had it credited us with the ability to make sensible suggestions, the need for bringing these amendments before the House again would have been obviated.

Then, Sir, may I say that it passes one's comprehension why the need for a score of measures under 'tenancy legislation' is felt. Today we have a Bill on this subject before us ; a few days hence another Bill on this subject is coming before the House. Instead of enacting piecemeal legislation to deal with the tenancy problems in the State, why should not the Government bring forward a comprehensive measure ? To me it appears as though our Ministers are very fond of sponsoring the maximum number of measures probably regarding it as a royal road to immortality (*laughter*).

Then, Sir, the Government proposes to bring forth in this very Session the Gram Panchayat Bill in which there is a provision to vest the ownership of the village *shamilat* in the village community. In their speeches too the Ministers have been declaring from time to time that it was the policy of the Government to grant a share to the Harijans and other non-proprietors in the *shamilat*. I do not understand how this policy is consistent with the provision made in this Bill enabling the occupancy tenants to acquire proprietary rights in the *shamilat* lands also.

Sir, I have heard a remark made by one of my hon. Friends on the Treasury Benches that this is irrelevant. I cannot say whether the hon. Minister is right or not, but he says that it was the decision of the Cabinet. I cannot understand the necessity for it. My view is that the present Government is not a friend of the *zamindars* or the occupancy tenants. As

[Shri Sri Chand]

a matter of fact it does not do anything for the common man. It enacts such laws as prove to be of no use at all. It appears that it is bent upon making a mockery of this Assembly. When anything is pointed out by us, it is dubbed as irrelevant. My submission is that there is no need for enacting so many laws on the tenancy problem; only one comprehensive legislation would do. We are at a loss to understand the manner in which landlords are proposed to be compensated under this Bill. The Government should act wisely and should not treat our suggestions as irrelevant on all matters. Sir, if you would just refer to Art. 31 of the Indian Constitution you will find that no man can be deprived of his property without the payment of an adequate compensation. The provision is that land can be acquired for a public purpose only. Now, in the *shamilat deh* the occupancy tenant has no right. To rob Peter and give the land to Paul is not a public purpose at all. In Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh or any other State of India nowhere do we find a person being robbed of his land for the purpose of its being given to another person. The Constitution of India does not permits this. Article 31 of the Constitution lays down :

“Government can acquire land for public purpose on paying compensation.”

Is it a public purpose to deprive A of his land for the purpose of handing it over to B? The Constitution certainly does not permit this. I know that the Government is in a position to get this Bill passed, but what I wish to point out is that it will be doing so in contravention of the provisions of the Constitution. Sir, it has been remarked that this House is empowered to do anything it likes. It can make a man a woman and *vice versa*. Well, Sir, I do not wish to make any comment on this. The Government may do whatever it likes. But I wish to make it quite clear that we cannot do anything contravening the Constitution itself. My submission is that this Bill is *ultra vires*. If the Government wants to do anything for the tenants why does it not make the required provisions in the Tenancy Act itself?

There is another thing. I wish to point out a lacuna in this Bill and it is this. Clause (3) (c) lays down.

“The occupancy tenant shall pay direct to the Government the land revenue accruing due in respect of the land.”

This is right. But who will pay the local rates and other cesses? This thing has not been made clear anywhere in this Bill. In my opinion

this Bill has not been prepared after careful study and due consideration of the subject. It appears that the Government instead of bringing in one comprehensive measure on the subject is trying to enact ten different laws to achieve its object. In this way the precious time of the House is being wasted. So I beg to submit that this Bill should be referred to a Select Committee and it should not be rushed through.

Sardar Mohan Singh Jathedar (Tarn Taran) (Punjabi) : Sir, I rise to support this Bill. I feel that there was a dire need for such a measure. One of my hon. Friends is of the view that sufficient notice regarding this Bill had not been given. But what we find is that this measure in the form of the President's Act has actually been in force since 15th June 1951. It has received wide publicity through various newspapers in the State. In this connection a Committee was also appointed which toured various parts of the State and prepared this Bill.

Sardar Sarup Singh : On a point of order, Sir, what connection has that Act, to which the hon. Member is referring, got with the Bill under discussion ?

Minister for Development : This Bill is based on that Act.

Sardar Mohan Singh Jathedar : This Committee fully considered the views of the people at large. I can say on the floor of this House with the fullest confidence that a major part of the population residing in the rural areas is in favour of this measure because it benefits them. I fail to understand why it has not found favour with certain people. Of course, I do understand one thing and that is that the class of people which stands to gain by the litigation of zamindars, would never like this Bill to be passed.

Mr. Speaker : No aspersions, please.

Sardar Mohan Singh Jathedar : Sir, my submission is that this measure will put an end to most of the conflicts in our rural areas. The demand which this Bill seeks to meet is quite a just one and it was vigorously put forward in two conferences of the zamindars held recently at Baba Bakala and Khadur Sahib. In my opinion the Government has done well in bringing forward this Bill.

Then, Sir, one of the hon. Friends has stated that the inclusion of *shamilats* in this provisions of this Bill is not proper. I am of the view that the *shamilat* goes with the ownership of land. Those who own lands have a share in the *shamilat*. Of course, I admit that there are certain provisions in this Bill which need to be amended. But this much is quite

[Sardar Mohan Singh]

clear that the intention of the framers of this Bill is to benefit the common man. One hon. Member has remarked that the Government is working only for the good of the people living in the rural areas and that it is ignoring the urbanites. My view is that Government should administer even handed justice to all the people whether living in urban or rural areas. But this does not mean that the progress intended to be made in rural economy through this measure should in any way be retarded. I, therefore, think that this Bill is a step in the right direction and it should be brought on the Statute Book without the least possible delay or objection.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Sir, there is no doubt in what some of my hon. Friends have remarked that the Ministers are very anxious to get the Bills passed.

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Member is also very desirous of opposing them.

Sardar Chanan Singh : Sir, our past experience shows that the Government brings in too many Bills on the same subject and then wants to rush them through. As a matter of fact what is required is that it should sponsor very few Bills, each comprehensive and complete in itself. This would certainly facilitate matters.

Well, Mr. Speaker, whenever a dispute breaks out between the occupancy tenants and the landlords the latter always are in a position to engage able lawyers and win the cases. Thus, in fact the class in whose name the Bills are introduced, is actually not benefited. On the other hand it is compelled to spend money on expensive litigation.

Sir, personally I am in favour of transferring the rights of land to the occupancy tenants. But this Bill affords only a nominal relief to the tenants. In my opinion Government is not helping them by asking them to pay compensation to the landlords. On the one hand it is stated that the tenants are the real masters of the land and on the other a measure is being put forward according to which they shall have to pay the compensation to the landlords. I fail to reconcile the position of the Government. I feel that the provision for the payment of compensation will land the occupancy tenants into still greater difficulties because they have no money.

Mr. Speaker, I want that this measure should be passed in such form that it really benefits these very people for whom it is intended. I consider that the Government should take away land from big *zimindars* who possess thousands of *bighas* and give it to the tenants without asking them to pay

any compensation to these *jagirdars*. But it pains me to find that our Government wants compensation to be paid to the *jagirdars* so that they may grow stronger and suck even more blood of the poor people.

The next point to which I want to draw the attention of the Government is this. The procedure of realising the amount of compensation has been made similar to that of land revenue. This is absolutely a wrong procedure and it means that in place of being given lands the poor tenants will be sent to jails. I would, therefore, suggest that the compensation should not be realised on that basis.

Then Sir, these compensations are to be fixed by the Collector. We are well aware of the way in which decisions are taken by the Collectors. In the majority of cases these officers are relatives and friends of the landlords and more often than not they decide things in their favour. So the tenants may or may not get lands but one thing is quite evident and that is that they will always remain at the mercy of the lawyers if this Bill is enacted.

Then, Mr. Speaker, the evacuee property has been left out of the purview of this Bill on the pretext that no decision has so far been arrived at in this behalf between Pakistan and India. I think that no decision is needed in this connection with Pakistan. We have got the revenue records about these lands and there is no justification for the evacuee lands to remain entrusted to the Custodian. The tillers of such land have got the same rights as the other tenants. I, therefore, see no reason why this privilege should not be given to these people and I request that these lands should also be brought within the scope of this Bill.

Mr. Speaker, I have had a talk with many tenants about the President's Act on this subject which has been in force since 1951. I find that it is only now that they have come to know that they are required to give one third of the total yield to the landlords and are entitled to the remaining two third. They even do not know what their rights are. Our Government has established the Department of Publicity which does not care to tell the people what their rights are.

Now, Sir, I want to say something about the *shamilat* land. An owner in a village has no right on this land and, therefore, the question of compensation in respect of the *shamilat* land does not arise. The principle of assessing the amount of compensation equal to five times the land revenue is incorrect.

[Sarder Chanan Singh Dhut]

In the end, Sir, I want to say that if this Bill really intends to ameliorate the lot of the tenants then the land should be given to them without asking them to pay any compensation. Otherwise it seems that this measure is not being passed to help them but to make them fall out with landlords and *jagirdars*.

Shri Mool Chand Jain (Sambhalka) (Hindi): Mr. Speaker, I am surprised to hear the speeches made by my hon. Friends on this Bill. The burden of their speeches, which we have often heard in the public meetings as also in this august House during the last Session, has been that the Congress Party, since the time it came into power, is doing things in its own arbitrary way. They have referred to other legislation besides the Bill now before the House. I would ask them to ponder with a calm mind over what is intended to be done under this measure. Out of 24 to 25 thousand big landlords, about 15 to 16 thousand are likely to be affected by it. Their number is quite insignificant as compared with the 23 lakhs labourers in the State. These *zamindars* are not even one per cent of the strength of the labourers.

Then, Sir, an hon. Member mentioned during the course of his speech that an hon. Minister was not allowed to speak in a public meeting by the public at a certain place. I want to inform the hon. Members of this House that I have been touring my constituency during the last four days.....

Minister for Development: Does the hon. Member take them seriously ?

Shri Mool Chand Jain: They mean to say that the Congress Party does not enjoy confidence of the public. I want to point out that these 23,80,000 petty *zamindars* of the State have full faith in the Congress and when this Bill is passed no one would be able to instead them against the Congress except perhaps those few who in ignorance voted for the Opposition. I can safely say that these hon. Members are pleading the cause of those 15 to 16 thousand *zamindars*. The number of 24,000 given by them is incorrect. Well, they are not justified in dubbing this legislation as useless. Perhaps they are not aware that the Punjab Occupancy Tenants (Vesting of Proprietary Rights) Act, enacted in 1951 by the President of India had to be re-enacted by this Legislature within a year's time. It has now been slightly modified. In the President's Act the occupancy tenants had not been allowed to acquire proprietary rights in the *shamilat* lands. Perhaps my hon. Friend of the Communist Party is not conversant with law. I ask him to

see the revenue records which are maintained by the *patwaries*. In such cases, the share of the *shamilat* is distinctly mentioned as "*ba hissa shamilat*". Therefore, it becomes obligatory to make a provision in respect of the share in the *shamilat*. The land cannot be acquired without paying compensation. I request them to go through Article 31 of the Constitution. It is clearly laid down there that the land cannot be acquired even for public purposes without paying compensation to its owner. In this case even the question of public purposes does not arise. Therefore, their objection on this account is quite meaningless. It indicates that they want to safe-guard the interests of the big landlords and *Jagirdars*.

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Member should not impute motives.

Shri Mool Chand Jain : The third thing which I want to place before the House is that these hon. Friends have taken this compensation to be a great burden. Perhaps they have not cared to follow the principles of compensation as laid down in the Bill. If they possess some knowledge of the law relating to occupancy tenants, they will find that this compensation as provided in this Bill hardly comes to two annas per *bigha*. Do they consider it a heavy burden for the tenant? I think an occupancy tenant will be too glad to pay compensation at this rate if he can acquire right of ownership over the land by such petty payment. Therefore, I request them not to oppose this legislation on this ground.

Then, Sir, I quite agree with them on one issue. I am of the opinion that the evacuee property does not come under the purview of this legislation as there are some lands which are owned by the Muslims but the occupancy tenants are Hindus and there are others which are owned by Hindus but their occupancy tenants were Muslims. In both cases these lands will be exempted from the provisions of this Act.

Minister for irrigation : Will the hon. Member, please repeat it?

Shri Mool Chand Jain : Sir, My point is that the evacuee lands will be immune from the applicability of the provisions of this Bill in both the cases, namely, where the owners of such lands were Muslims but their occupancy tenants are Hindus and where the owners are Hindus but the occupancy tenants were Muslims.

Minister for Irrigation : Sir, with your permission, I may make it clear to my hon. Friend that those lands whose owners are Hindus and Sikhs but the occupancy tenants were Muslims, have been allotted to the refugees who have come from the other side of the border.

Shri Mool Chand Jain : I beg to submit Sir, that so far no occupancy rights have been conferred in respect of such lands. Nothing in this Bill shall apply to evacuee property, if clause 9 of the Bill is allowed to stand as it is. I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister to omit it from the Bill.

However, I feel that this is a very useful piece of legislation and must be adopted by this House. With these words I resume my seat.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (Punjabi) : Mr. Speaker, it has been stated in the statement of objects and reasons that this Bill has been drafted in order to afford facilities to the occupancy tenants to diminish the tension prevailing between them and their landlords and ultimately to extinguish the rights of ownership of the latter to these lands. It is further stated therein that the object of vesting proprietary rights in the occupancy tenants is to make them work more enthusiastically and develop the land to its utmost. But, Sir, a study of the clauses of this Bill would reveal that the whole object of this Bill has been lost.

Sir, as a matter of fact, it involves a question of principle. An hon. Member has just now stated that the landlords will get only a nominal sum of an anna or two per *bigha* as compensation, but that is not the real position. I thought that the hon. Minister for Development was well conversant with mathematics but he has disappointed me because according to the principle accepted by the Government, the compensation, when calculated, come out to be twenty-five times the annual rent plus the fixed fraction of the annual land revenue of a particular land. I find that an equation of Algebra has been solved in the illustration appended to clause 5 of the Bill. The compensation is proposed to be calculated by multiplying "50 plus an anna or two of the land revenue" with.....

Development Minister : With what ?

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : This is not merely the question of multiplication. The question is that of principle. What I wish to say is that the Government should not lose sight of the measure that it contemplates to bring forth in connection with the tenants problem. It should adopt a uniform policy. Once, when it has fixed 25 as a target, notwithstanding the acreage of land, the annual rent plus an anna or two of the land revenue will have to be multiplied by 25 in order to determine the amount of compensation.

Then, Sir, the Bill seeks to restrict 'Occupancy Tenants' only to such tenants who have been recorded as 'Occupancy Tenants' in the revenue records. Further, the Government is of the opinion that the vesting of proprietary rights in an occupancy tenant will create in him the zeal for taking more interest in his land and step up production. But, Sir, may I just submit that this measure in no way brings about any change in the present relations between a landlord and a tenant. The change is only one of form and is superficial. It only shifts the responsibility of collecting land revenue from the landlords to the Government. Another thing which I have noticed in this Bill is that whatever be the condition of the crop, the land revenue is to be collected as heretofore. The tenants and peasants have a bitter experience of the system in which the said land revenue is assessed and collected. I feel no hesitation in saying that the hon. Ministers appear to have got some knowledge of such happenings from the conditions obtaining in Hissar and Fazilka and, perhaps, it is in view of these acts of high handedness perpetrated on the poor tenants that they have thought it necessary to introduce this Bill which provides that the tenants who heretofore used to pay land revenue to their respective landlords should hereafter deposit it direct in the Government treasury.

No doubt, it is proposed to vest proprietary rights in the Occupancy Tenants but the condition imposing the payment of compensation would render them helpless and create a feeling as if they have been handcuffed. Sir, I am not concerned with the amount of compensation but I am expressing my opinion with regard to the very principle of this Bill. I am fully convinced that it will have an adverse effect on the tenants and that is why I am against it. The adoption of this principle will not dissolve the present system of landlordism and the tenants. Its only effect will be that the Government will assure to itself the title of landlords. In this way the tenants are being mis-informed nay, the Government is not only deceiving the tenants but is also deceiving itself. These things will not help solve the problem of the tenants but may prove the cause of further deterioration in their relations. The Government should not ignore the other aspects either. Here I do not wish to quote the examples of Russia or China because I fear the hon. Ministers may not like to follow them but I cannot help inviting their attention towards Italy. I request them to study how the Government in that country got possession of the lands and put them under the plough. Our Government should also try to copy these methods so that the masses might feel that it really means their welfare.

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The other question is that of the evacuee property. By eliminating this type of property from the scope of this Bill, the Government have ignored the interests of the Occupancy Tenants. The owners of lands in Jalalabad have given a proof of it where a good many Skirmishes took place between the tenants and the landlords. Why did this happen? It may be stated that it was only on account of the wrong policy of the State Rehabilitation Department which made the allotments of these lands to the landlords with the result that on the one hand the landlords insisted on ejecting the tenants and on the other hand the tenants would not leave their lands. In the circumstances, Sir, I may inform the Government that this measure would not yield the desired results. It is misleading and is discriminatory of different classes of occupancy tenants.

Minister For Irrigation (Chaudhri Lahri Singh) (*Hindi*) : Sir, the Bill which is under consideration today is a very simple one. There can hardly be a simpler measure than the present one. However, I would like to make a few observations in connection with some of its provisions.

First of all, it has been provided that the Occupancy Tenants would become almost the proprietors of their lands. Neither their landlords can eject them nor can they charge land revenue beyond certain fixed proportion. Sir, if you first peruse the figures, you will find that 75 per cent of the tenants enjoy the rights of ownership. Moreover, this Bill has been designed to liquidate the disputes existing between the landlords and the tenants and also to diminish the tension at present prevailing between them. Even in accordance with the provision made in Section 5 of the Old Act of 1887, a tenant who had been cultivating his land for the last twenty years prior to the commencement of that Act acquired almost all the rights of ownership. However the term 'Occupancy Tenant' in the Bill seeks to mean a tenant who had been ploughing the fields for the last so many generations in succession. Sir, if you go through the statistics in this connection, you will find that there are a good many tenants with whom their respective landlords have been in continuous conflict notwithstanding the fact that they had regularly been paying land revenue and local rates. This Bill, therefore, aims at putting an end to such disputes, and affording facilities to the tenants so that they may not feel worried but think that they have been made full fledged proprietors of their tenancies. My hon. Friends are labouring under a misapprehension that this Bill, when enacted into law, will not prove beneficial to the interests of the tenants.

Again, Sir, there are certain landlords who do not cultivate their lands themselves. Their tenants have been cultivating these lands for the last so many years and have regularly been paying the land revenue. This measure has simply been brought with a view to ending their day-to-day disputes. At the same time it has also been considered necessary not to rob any one of his rights. Therefore, in view of this principle, a provision has been made in this Bill with regard to the payment of compensation to the landlords.

Then comes the question of *shamilat* lands. Why should a peasant who had been cultivating such land for the last so many years be not vested with its proprietary rights? Mr. Speaker, I would like to inform the House that there are so many examples in many districts of the Punjab where it has been observed that there is hardly a landlord amongst all the inhabitants of a particular area but, in spite of the fact, that the *shamilats* within that area are cultivated by the Occupancy Tenants, the proprietary rights still vest in that landlord. Therefore, a provision has been made to transfer the proprietary rights of such *shamilats* to the occupancy tenants. The provision of this Bill will apply to all the *shamilats* in our State irrespective of the fact whether they are culturable or unculturable.

Then, Sir, "*shamilat*" of both kinds will be shared proportionately according to the area of the cultivated land. Will my hon. Friends tell me that when cultivated land goes to a tenant who else can get the share in the "*shamilat*"? Obviously that also must go to him. In the Punjab the *shamilat* is shared according to *Khewat*. Whenever a part of the cultivated land is taken away from the *zamindar* and given to the tenant, the proportionate share in the *shamilat* will also go to the latter.

Another point that has been raised is that if the *shamilat* is going to be distributed, why should it be mentioned in the Bill in its present form? My answer is that in a way the *shamilat* occupies a vital position in this Bill. It may have been referred to differently in different Acts and we want to make the whole position absolutely clear in every respect.

At the same time we have put in a proviso which says :—

Provided that occupancy tenant shall have the option not to acquire the share in the *shamilat* by giving a notice in writing to the Collector within six months of the publication of this Act or from the date of obtaining occupancy rights, whichever is later.

We do not want any compulsion in this matter. If some one does not want to avail of his share in the *shamilat* he has the option not to do so. If

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he is wavering due to uncertainty about the future let him take advantage of this option.

Then objection has been taken to the exemption of evacuee property from the application of this Bill. The reason for this exemption is quite obvious. The matter relating to evacuee property is still under negotiation with Pakistan and so long as a final decision is not reached this Bill cannot be made applicable to such properties

The third question was about rates and cesses. Some hon. Members wanted to know as to who will have to pay them. According to rules they are to be paid by the persons who will get the lands. If I acquire a land I shall have to pay all rates and cesses.

The position about land revenue has also been made absolutely clear so that the *lambardars* may not have to run after this man or that and it may be clear to them from whom they have to collect it.

Thus there is no confusion or uncertainty about this measure. Every thing is crystal clear. The tenants are very happy over this Bill. They are praying for a long lease of life of this Government because that will mean the advancement of the welfare of the country and its poor tenants. (*Cheers*).

Shri Parbodh Chandra :—Sir, I move—

That the question be now put.

Mr. Speaker. I will make an exception in the case of Shri Wadhawa Ram.

Shri Wadhawa Ram (Fazilka) (*Punjabi*): Mr. Speaker, a clever trick has been played in this Bill which has been published under the grandiose title "Punjab Occupancy Tenants (Vesting of Proprietary Rights) Bill. If my Friends want to benefit the *jagirdars* they should have come forward and openly declared in the Bill that those *zamindars* whose lands are cultivated by occupancy tenants have nothing to fear; the Government will extort money equal to 25 years' land revenue or more from the tenants and pay it to the *zamindars*. It has been said that the tenants are overjoyed and extremely happy over this measure. Let us examine this claim. What have you given to them? This Assembly has to last only for four years now but you have obliged the *zamindars* by securing for them 25 years' income of their lands. The tenants, on the other hand, find that they do

not get any benefit from this measure. At present some tenants do not have to pay anything. But this Government which claims to be the friend and protector of the poor is anxious to make them pay 25 years' land revenue and something more to the *jagirdars*. It virtually says to the proprietors, "Look here, friends you need not worry. The Government is your agent. You just sit tight and enjoy yourselves. The Government will collect for you the land revenue, *batai*, etc. and send it to your places even though it may have to take away the utensils and household effects of the tenants in this connection." I ask the Government, why do you try to conceal the truth? Take courage in both hands and say that you are out to help the *jagirdars* because you are the custodians of their rights.

Then, evacuee properties have been exempted from the application of the measure. One example will suffice to prove the absurdity of this exemption. It is common knowledge that the Nawab of Mamdot owned a vast area of landed property and that through his influence he had evaded the necessary entries about his tenants being made in Government records. There are certain tenants who have been tilling those lands for the last 50 years but no provision has been made in the Bill to safeguard their interests. You should, at least, give to Hindu and Sikh cultivators the lands left by the Muslim tenants who have migrated to Pakistan.

Then you have foisted the allottees on old tenants of long standing.....

Mr. Speaker : Order, order ; the hon. Member's time is up.

Question is—

That the question be now put.

The motion was carried.

Minister for Development (Sardar Partap Singh Kairon) (Punjabi) : Mr. Speaker, this small Bill has been brought forward to give to the tenants the right of ownership over the land tilled by them. As a matter of fact, it aims at giving those rights and facilities to the tenants which are due to them. I fail to understand why my hon. Friends opposite, who claim to be the well-wishers of the tenants and progressive have expressed a different view. In my opinion there cannot be a better Bill than this and the tenants cannot be made proprietors of land on payment of an amount less than that proposed in it. I can understand the views of my Akali Friends because they own properties and.....

Sardar Wazir Singh : By referring to the Members as Akalis and Communists the hon. Minister is imputing motives. Either we should

[Sardar Wazir Singh]

also be permitted to speak in that manner or the hon. Minister should not use such words.

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Member has himself acted like that on several occasions.

Minister for Development : I actually wanted to refer to my hon. Friend when I used the word 'Akali'. Well, I shall not refer to him in that manner but will describe him as hon. Member representing Dehlon Constituency. I did not know that he would feel offended if I referred to him as a Member belonging to the Akali Party. What can those say who have been returned on a communal ticket? I would only say that those who live in houses of glass should not throw stones at others otherwise they know the consequences that would follow. Well, Sir, by this Bill those rights are being given to the occupancy tenants to which they are entitled. At first a Committee known as the Land Reforms Committee was appointed to go into this matter. In fact this step was taken at the instance of the Punjab State Congress and that Committee consisted of very able persons. After touring all the places the Committee came to certain conclusions on the basis of which the State Congress Chief got a Bill drafted. I am proud to say that the present Bill surpasses even that Bill in several respects. It does not aim at creating disputes between the landlords and the tenants. It is perhaps the job or the profession of my so-called progressive friends to create such disputes. They are in favour of class-war which, in fact, is their slogan. If there is a class-war, these gentlemen feel pleased. We want to put an end to this class conflict subsisting between the tenants and the landlords. That is why we want to make occupancy tenants the owners of land.

I wish that my hon. Friend over there also knew something of accounting like myself. He referred to the figure of Rs. 1,500. My hon. Friend representing Dehlon Constituency is a lawyer and he should know that the tenants under Section 5 have to pay one anna per *bigha* as *malikana*. In Shri Mool Chand Jain's *ilaga* the rate of *malikana* is one pice or two pice per *bigha* but in Districts of the Central Punjab the tenants falling under Section 5 have to pay at the rate of one anna per *bigha*. For the purpose of calculation, I am going to take into account the maximum rate. If the *malikana* for a piece of land is one anna, the land revenue payable with respect to it varies from twelve annas to one rupee and eight annas. For purposes of accounting let us take it to be one rupee. To one

anna on account of *malikana* add another anna corresponding to the land revenue of one rupee. This will come to two annas. When this sum is multiplied by twentyfive, it will amount to three rupees and two annas. It means that for becoming the owner of one *bigha* of land the occupancy tenants will have to pay Rs. 3-2-0 as compensation. A tenant under Section 8 has to pay two annas per *bigha* as *malikana*. If one anna on account of the land revenue is added to it, it would amount to three annas. If this amount is multiplied by twentyfive, it would come to Rs. 4-11-0. Therefore, in order to become the proprietor of one *bigha* of land a tenant under Section 8 will have to pay Rs. 4-11-0. If someone were to say that this amount is too large and that the tenants are being ruined, I would like to add that I am prepared to bring hundreds of persons who would be prepared to get land at this rate. I make bold to say that we have not fixed the compensation at a high rate.

Then, Sir, despite the fact that the occupancy tenants have been tilling the land since long, they are not permitted even to cut the trees from the land tilled by them, but after the passage of this Bill they will be in a position to realise the amount to be paid by them as compensation by selling those trees. Keeping all these things in view it has been provided in this Bill that an occupancy tenant should be able to become the owner of land on payment of Rs. 3-2-0 or Rs. 4-11-0 per *bigha*. Those hon. Friends who say that instead of multiplying by twentyfive the land should be given for twentyfive years, do not seem to have understood the provisions of this Bill.

Sardar Achhar Singh : This is a question of principle.

Minister for Development : Yes, for us too this is a question of principle. An occupancy tenant has got to pay compensation for becoming the owner of land. We have, however, to see that the rate of compensation is not put at a high figure. I say that we have fixed the compensation at a very low rate. My hon. Friend representing Dehlon Constituency also referred to the figure of Rs. 1,500. He failed to calculate the area of land to which that figure could relate. If he considers the whole matter dispassionately he will come to know of the real position. My hon. Friend representing Tanda Constituency referred to those tenants who till the land under the *Batai* system. I admit that these people are in great difficulty. In their case we have provided that they should pay one-fourth of the price of land as compensation.

[Minister for Development]

So we have throughly considered every aspect of the Bill. The Government has already done much for the welfare of the tenants but I think that due to lack of publicity all the measures which are passed by the Government are not being made known to the people for whose benefit they are made. There is a great need for acquainting the public with such measures as are passed by the Government from time to time. There are many hon. Members who got votes in the last elections by raising a communal bogey. If these people now do not find anything to malign the Government, they bring forth a plea that the Government has not done anything to ameliorate the economic conditions of the people. I may tell them that the Government is passing this measure for the welfare of the tenants and has also passed many similar measures in the past for their betterment. It is absolutely wrong to say that the Government has forgotten the people after getting their votes in the last elections. I may also say for the information of those hon. Members who allege that the Government has failed to do anything for the tenants of Jalalabad and Nawab Mamdot Estate, that the Government is making every endeavour to help these tenants by making all such measures applicable to them as were designed for the welfare of the tenants. I am constrained to remark that such hon. Members are merely trying to create misunderstanding in the minds of the public. As regards the state of affairs in Jalalabad my hon. Friends should know that as the land belongs to the Nawab of Mamdot (as is indicated by the revenue records) the blame for this could not be attributed to the Government. This Bill will vest the right of ownership in the occupancy tenants and they will really feel rejoiced at the passing of this Bill. They will now be able to lead honourable, independent and respectable lives. Beside this I may point out that the Government also propose to bring a comprehensive tenancy legislation shortly.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Punjab Occupancy Tenants (Vesting of Proprietary Rights) Bill, 1952, be taken into consideration at once.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Before we proceed further I have to mention a very peculiar situation that has arisen in the precincts of the House. A gentleman, named Dawarka Das hailing from Karnal, is sitting on *Dharna* here. He has also very queer demands to make. For instance, he says that criminal cases should be settled within three months and that transfers of certain officers should be made from certain places and so on.

Sardar Wazir Singh : He wants speedy justice. (*Laughter*).

Mr. Speaker : But speedy justice is very unfavourable to the lawyers. (*Renewed laughter*). Well we have tried to persuade him to give up his 'Dharna' but our efforts are of no avail. Now according to Parliamentary Practice any disorderly conduct within the precincts of the House, while the legislature is in Session, is considered to be a gross contempt of the House. So before taking any action, I have decided to take the hon. Members into my confidence. Since we have nothing to do with the demands put forward by the gentleman who is not prepared to listen to reason, I hope that the hon. Members will concur with me that any action that I may be compelled to take in order to remove that gentleman from the precincts of the Assembly Chamber, will have the pleasure of the House. Now the House will proceed with the Bill clause by clause.

CLAUSE 1.

SUB-CLAUSES 2 AND 3.

Mr. Speaker : Question is :

That Sub-clauses 2 and 3 of clause 1 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 2.

Mr. Speaker : There is an amendment to Clause 2, standing in the names of Dewan Jagdish Chandra and Shri Som Datt Bahri. I call upon Dewan Jagdish Chandra to move his amendment.

Dewan Jagdish Chandra (Ludhiana City, North), (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move :

That at the end of part (e) of Clause 2, the following words be added :—

“and shall for the purposes of Section 4 include the mortgagee”.

Sir, under Section 4 of the proposed Act, a landlord can apply for compensation but there is no provision in this Bill to safeguard against the contingency arising as a result of a landlord not applying for compensation, being not interested because of his having already mortgaged his rights. To safeguard the rights of the mortgagee in such cases it is essential that the term 'mortgagee' should also be included for purposes of Section 4 in the definition of landlord given in Section 2 (e.) It is with this object in view that I have moved this amendment.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That at the end of part (e) of Clause 2, the following words be added :—

“and shall for the purposes of Section 4 include the mortgagee”.

Minister for Development (Sardar Partap Singh Kairon) : Sir, I accept the amendment.

Sardar Wazir Singh (Delhon) (Punjabi) : Sir, in my opinion this amendment has been moved under some misunderstanding. A mortgagee may be in relation to a landlord or a tenant. Since Sardar Partap Singh has not studied law, he is probably not well aware of the difference between the tenant covered by section 5 and the tenant covered by section 8. If through this amendment it is proposed to protect the rights of the mortgagee of the landlord, well and good, but if it is intended to include the mortgagee of the tenant in the term in question, I would urge that this amendment should not be passed. It is not fair to allow the tenant to mortgage his rights on land on the one hand and to reap the benefit of compensation on the other.

Shri Rizaq Ram (Rai) (Hindi) : Sir, I want to say something about the amendment that my able friend over there has just moved. This is not such a radical amendment as may arouse opposition from any quarter. It is clearly provided in the definition of “landlord” given in clause 2(e) that this term includes his ‘predecessors in interest’. Now, successors can be of two types, those by inheritance and those by the transference of the rights of ownership through mortgage or permanent lease. Every person conversant with law knows that ‘successors in interest’ include mortgagees and transferees. So in my opinion this amendment is redundant.

Secondly, this amendment will give rise to confusion. The purport of this amendment is to include the mortgagee in the definition of landlord for purposes of section 4 only. Will not this, *i.e.*, the non-inclusion of mortgagee in the definition of landlord for purposes of other sections lead to an anomalous or conflicting position? For instance, let us take section 7. Does the Government want to give the right of appeal against the decision of the Collector to the landlord only and not the mortgagee? If this amendment is accepted, will the mortgagee have the right of appeal or not? This is a very important matter and should not be left vague. I, therefore, feel that this amendment requires more thought and deliberation before it is passed.

Then, I am of the opinion that in view of the provision made in sub-clause 3 of clause 4, namely ;

'Where there is any dispute as to the person or persons who are entitled to compensation, the Collector shall decide such dispute and if the Collector finds that more than one person is entitled to compensation, he shall apportion the amount thereof amongst such persons'.

This amendment is absolutely unnecessary. Under this sub-clause the land-lord as well as the mortgagee can apply for compensation and it is for the Collector to apportion the share of each claimant. So, the whole position is quite clear even without the amendment moved by my hon. friend just now.

Minister for irrigation (Chaudhri Lahri Singh) (Hindi) : Sir, I do not find much weight in the suggestion put forth by the hon. Member that there is no need of making any amendment in part (e) of clause 2. We do not want to let any lacuna remain in the Bill on account of which the mortgagee of a landlord may not be able to apply for compensation under the proposed section 4. We have to foresee and provide for the eventuality of a landlord not applying for compensation owing to some enmity with the mortgagee. We do not want that any mortgagee should be deprived of his right to receive compensation owing to the wilful negligence of the landlord to apply for the same. It is, therefore, very necessary that mortgagee should also be included in the definition of landlord for purposes of section 4.

Then, Sir, in the Bill itself they are included in the term landlord. One of my hon. Friends has stated that the word 'mortgagee' should be added. But there is also the contrary view. If we read the definition of the word landlord in clause 2 (e) we find that the word landlord includes the mortgagee. It is written therein ;

"landlord" means a person under whom an occupancy tenant holds land and to whom the occupancy tenant is, or but for a special contract would be, liable to pay rent for that land, and includes the predecessors and successors in interest of a landlord ;

Therefore, my view is that this amendment is quite unnecessary. But if this House considers it necessary, it will make no difference at all, and the Government is prepared to accept it.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That at the end of part (e) of Clause 2, the following words be added :—

"and shall for the purposes of Section 4 include the mortgagee".

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 2, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 3.

Mr. Speaker : There is an amendment in the name of Dewan Jagdish Chandra. I call upon him to move it.

Dewan Jagdish Chandra (Ludhiana City North) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in part (a), line 4, between the words 'force' and 'including', the word 'and' be inserted.

Sir, I do not want to make any long speech. This amendment is of a consequential nature and has been necessitated just to correct the language of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in part (a), line 4, between the word 'force' and 'including', the word 'and' be inserted.

Shri Sri Chand (Bahadurgarh) (Hindi) : Sir, I am not moving any amendment, but I wish to bring one thing to the notice of the Government so that the Government, if so inclined, may take advantage of my suggestion and act accordingly. Such a position regarding *shamilat* has not arisen anywhere else and in fact it should not arise. This provision is clearly against the Constitution. The Government may admit it or not, it depends upon its sweet will. But I may point out that such a position as envisaged under this sub-clause has not arisen anywhere else, because it is definitely against the Constitution. Article 31 clearly lays down that nobody's property can be taken away like this. So far no law has been framed by which anyone who has no connection with the land can become its owner. How can this be possible? The occupancy tenant cultivates the land, tills it and makes it cultivable, but he is not the owner of such land. So the occupancy tenant has no interest in the *shamilat*. If he has been given a share in the *shamilat*, well and good. I do not oppose it. But what I wish to bring to the notice of the Government is the fact that such a person has nothing to do with the *shamilat*.

Minister for Development : But he uses the *shamilat* just like the others.

Shri Sri Chand : Yes, but even the non-proprietors can also use it. The Harijans also make use of it, but that does not mean that they have any

interest in the *shamilat*. In fact, only the proprietors have a real interest in the *shamilat*. For instance, when I sell some land, the buyer gets interest in the *shamilat* only when I sell it along with the land, not otherwise. If I do not sell my interest in the *shamilat* I retain my share in it. I am aware of the fact that the Government is all powerful and does not listen to any advice from us. But still I maintain that this thing is against the provisions of the Constitution. I feel it my duty to bring this point to the notice of this House. It is upto the Government to accept this advice or not. But the fact remains that the Government is duty bound to see whether it is acting constitutionally or not.

Minister for Development : We have seen and consulted our experts in this matter.

Shri Sri Chand : But the difficulty is that your experts always give wrong advice. As a matter of fact they try to find out what the hon. Minister wants and they give the advice accordingly. Sir, I say in all seriousness that this Bill goes counter to the Constitution. Moreover, what the Government intends to do is not strictly acquisition of land. In fact the Government cannot do it because it is against the provisions of the Indian Constitution. In this connection, I will quote Article 31-A of the Constitution of India which reads as follows :—

“Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing provisions of this part, no law providing for the acquisition by the State of any estate or of any rights therein or for the extinguishment or modifications of any such rights shall be deemed to be void on the ground that it is inconsistent with, or takes away or abridges any of the rights conferred by any provisions of this part.”

The State Government is, of course, empowered to acquire any estate or property. But under the present Bill, the Government is robbing the property of one person and handing it over to another.

Shri Mool Chand Jain : This is an enabling section.

Shri Sri Chand : As I have already pointed out above, the State can acquire any property but there is no law under which it can rob one's property and give it to another.

Sir, thus the Government would give one man's property to the other. I, therefore, want to bring it to your notice that this provision is not in accordance with the Constitution. The compensation of *banjar shamilat*

[Shri Sri Chand]

land would not come even to two pice a *bigha*. Moreover, the party which wants to acquire the land has to make an application. Anyhow, if the Government considers that it is justified to adopt these oppressive policies it may go on using them.

Sardar Wazir Singh (Delhon) (*Punjabi*): Mr. Speaker, there appears to be some misunderstanding in this House regarding the meaning of the term *shamilat*. Sir, there are two types of *shamilat* land. First type is the *shamilat deh* which is situated far from the *ababi* and land revenue is charged on it. The second type is the *shamilat abadi* which is situated near the *abadi* and no land revenue is charged on it. The price of the *shamilat* land is so small that the question of five times compensation for it does not arise.

Mr. Speaker, the second point is this. Many of my hon. Friends on my left have asked for the sanction behind the compensation that is being provided for in this Bill. Under Article 31-A a State can acquire land or property but the question of compensation has already been settled and the amount is to be paid in accordance with it. Under Article 31-A a person who has to acquire land will have to apply for it. Now Government acquires land for colleges, schools and hospitals and in that case price is fixed after finding out the average value of the land during the last 15 years. I, therefore, say that this provision contained in this clause is inconsistent with Article 31 of the Constitution.

Chaudhri Lahri Singh (Minister for Irrigation) (*Hindi*): Mr. Speaker, before arriving at the decision of giving compensation to the landlords, we had consulted the Advocate General in this connection. I may further state, Sir, that when *zamindari* was abolished in U. P., there also the principle of giving compensation was adopted. I think I need not go into the details here. However, I must say that this is not a new measure which is going to be placed on the Statute Book. A measure of a similar nature has already been passed by one of our neighbouring States. I want to assure the House that we have fully considered all aspects of this problem. Let the hon. Members think for a moment what will be the fate of a man who is dispossessed of his 10 acres of land. Where will his cattle graze if he does not own a share in the *shamilat* land? We have introduced this Bill after giving the fullest consideration to the matter. I think that all its provisions are in order. I, therefore, hope that my Friends will agree with me and give their full support for its enactment.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajanala) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That proviso to part (a) be deleted.

That sub-clause (d) be deleted.

Mr. Speaker, Clause 3 of this Bill deals with the vesting of proprietary rights in the occupancy tenants and extinguishment of the corresponding rights of the landlords. It is possible that the landlords may prevail upon the occupancy tenants somehow or other and ask them not to acquire the *shamilat* land. As this clause does not afford any relief to the tenants, I am of the opinion that it should be deleted.

Then, Sir, it has been remarked that 25 times of one anna does not make a large amount. The question is not of money but of principle. As the maxim goes.

महाल पहे दा है, महे दा नहीं।

सवाल पहे दा है सहे दा नहीं

Otherwise, later on it will be asserted by the Government that a precedent has been established and a departure cannot be made from it. We, therefore, want to make this point clear just now. I think that the compensation should not be allowed to the *jagirdars* and landlords.

Mr. Speaker : Motions moved—

That proviso to part (a) be deleted.

That sub-clause (d) be deleted.

Shri Wadhawa Ram (Fazilka) (Punjabi) : Sir, proviso to part (a) of Clause 3 of this Bill lays down :

Provided that the occupancy tenants shall have the option not to acquire the share in the *shamilat* by giving a notice in writing to the Collector within six months of the publication of this Act or from the date of his obtaining occupancy rights whichever is later.

Mr. Speaker, there will not be a single occupancy tenant who does not require the *shamilat* land. (*Interruptions from the Treasury Benches*). I would request the Members sitting on the Treasury Benches to bear with me and not get restive. Outwardly they claim to be the sympathisers of the occupancy tenants but as a matter of fact by introducing such measures they want to harm them. If the piece of *shamilat* land happens to be situated in a jungle the tenants would utilise the trees growing there for the construction of their houses. If it is near the village they can

[Shri Wadhawa Ram]

construct their houses on it. But in the light of this provision the landlords will intimidate them and not let them acquire such land.

Mr. Speaker, it has been stated that the Government is going to vest the proprietary rights in occupancy tenants at a very cheap rate. I do not see eye to eye with this statement. I feel that if the Government had not brought forward this Bill it would not have been able to satisfy the landlords. Through this Bill it wants to assure the *jagirdars* of their rights at least for 25 years. Further the Government will see that they enjoy these rights. I say if it really wants to help the occupancy tenants, the provision for the payment of compensation to the *jagirdars* should be done away with. As a matter of fact they do not deserve any compensation. The poor tenants have reclaimed the lands after clearing off the jungles and the *jagirdars* on the other hand have been sucking their blood up to this day. Mr. Speaker, in the end I again say that no compensation should be given to them.

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That in part (a) line 4, between the words "force" and "including" the word "and" be inserted.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That proviso to part (a) be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That sub-clause (d) be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 3, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Sardar Wazir Singh (Delhon) (Punjabi) : Mr. Speaker, it has been stated by my hon. Friend Jathedar Mohan Singh in this House that most of the litigation in the State will stop as a result of the enactment of this Bill and the poor tenants will be saved from the exploitation to which they are being put by the lawyers. But I may tell him that his desire would never be realised so

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long as Clause 4 remains part of the Bill. This clause would encourage litigation among the tenants and the landlords. If you would just persue it, Sir, you will find that it lays down that the landlord whose rights have been extinguished will apply to the collector for the determination of the amount of compensation payable to him by the occupancy tenant. It would be no exaggeration to say that sometimes a tenant may even be compelled to spend thousands of rupees as soon as the landlord applies for compensation. Moreover, most of the tenants are not paying anything to the landlords for the lands in their possession for the last five to ten years. The landlord is quiet over it but the Congress Government, by laying stress on the payment of compensation in its party manifesto and programme, is goading him to move in the matter and put the occupancy tenant to trouble.

Now this is a fact that the occupancy tenants are not paying any compensation to the landlords though the entries relating to ownership in the revenue records may be quite different. Under these circumstances, Sir, I want to impress upon the Government that if it is anxious to help the occupancy tenants, it should arrange to settle the amount of compensation to be paid by a tenant as soon as the proprietary rights are vested in him. I fear that in case this is not done, the tenants will be involved in litigation and made to spend a lot for this purpose as they will have to meet the demands of the petty Court officials and lawyers. Therefore, I appeal to the hon. Ministers that they should avoid this complicated procedure if they are the well-wishers of both the tenants and the landlords. They should not only express lip sympathy for them but translate their professions into actions by deciding the amounts of compensation to be paid by the tenants to the landlords at the time of transference of proprietary rights. I feel that they will be failing in their sincerity of purpose if they do not act as I have suggested. The hon. Members are fully aware of the ways in which the landlords are troubling the tenants and how they will be in a position to do so after the enactment of this Bill. Now what will happen? The landlords will manage, with their influence, to get their cases fixed when the collector might be on tour in their *ilagas*. Thus the tenants will be harassed in so many ways. Therefore, I approach the Government with the request that it should arrange to decide the compensation at once through a summary procedure.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in Clause 4 after the words 'any landlord' the words 'who owns land less than ten acres' be added.

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Member cannot be allowed to move an amendment of which no notice has been given by him.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Sir, I have drafted this amendment but could not give notice of it. If you permit me to submit it now, I can do it. Moreover, you will perhaps remember that you were pleased to say that you will accept the notice of an amendment even during the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker : It is too late. I, however, allow the hon. Member to speak on the clause as a whole.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : I want to point out that through this piece of legislation the landlords are being provided with an opportunity to realise compensation from the tenants. I do not see eye to eye with my hon. Friend, on my right, in what he has said. The real problem before us is not the fixation of the amount of compensation, but the land on which it will be assessed. Now the rate of one or two annas per *bigha* is not of much importance. The real thing that matters at this moment is the annual rent (*malikana*) for 25 years which is intended to be paid to the landlord in one year through this measure and that, too, to that landlord who is an absentee landlord. The real proprietor of the land is the tenant who tills it and is in possession of it. It may be stated that the original proprietor is no longer receiving any return from that land.

So it is a thousand pities that a landlord who, at one time in the past, was owner of the land but afterwards ceased to have any interest in it, should, under the provisions of this Bill, be empowered to receive compensation for that land for twenty-five years which may amount to hundreds of rupees. I, submit, Sir, that landlords are the people who got lands from the Britishers in lieu of the services rendered by them in perpetuating their regime in India. In other words, if I may be permitted to say, so, our Government wishes the compensation to be paid to those people who were the agents of the British and, therefore, I feel that such a Government has no right to be called a 'National Government.'

The next point which I wish to discuss relates to the amount of compensation. Now the compensation to be paid will not only cover twenty five years but will also be determined by multiplying the amount of the annual rent of the land and an anna or two per rupee of the land revenue by twenty-five. In fact, this land revenue is charged at Rs 2/-, Rs. 3/-, and sometimes at Rs. 6/- at certain places in my district.

Minister for Development : Is this amount charged per "*bigha*" ?

Sardar Chanan Singh : No, Sir, I am talking in terms of "Ghumao" घुमां (*interruptions*) If the hon. Minister feels reluctant to believe me, then he can have the facts verified through an official agency. Anyhow, Sir, my point is why a tenant who has already been paying the land revenue, be subjected to the payment of an amount equal to twenty-five times the annual rent plus a portion of the land revenue? Why should a landlord, who never shared the payment of the land revenue with the occupancy tenant get the compensation? Yet the pity of it is that this Bill lays down that besides the annual rent, a certain portion of the land revenue will be multiplied by twenty-five in order to calculate the amount of compensation, Sir, I am strongly of the view that no landlord has got any claim to such compensation. Only those people have the right to claim ownership who actually cultivate the land. A landlord who neither pays land revenue nor ploughs the land has no right to receive compensation. However, if the Government is determined that the compensation should be paid, then it may be given only to those whose land does not exceed ten acres in area and not to those who own more than that limit. Besides, I would like to remark that the proviso to this clause is also uncalled for.

Now I advert to the question of *shamilats*. I feel Government is not acting rightly in regard to their disposal. I think it is the job of the Panchayats to decide the compensation and the disposal of *shamilats*. May I ask when there already exist Panchayats in the villages, why are they being ignored? When the Government intends to introduce the Gram Panchayat Bill for the purpose of spreading a net work of Panchayats in the State then where lies the necessity of delegating the authority of calculating the amount of compensation to the Collectors? Panchayats can bring about settlement of the disputes amongst the tenants and landlords more efficiently and amicably than the collectors. But it is a matter of deep regret that the present Government is out to safeguard the interests of the agents of the Britishers and the big *zamindars* at the cost of the poor tenants.

Dewan Jagdish Chandra : Sir, I move—

That the question be now put.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the question be now put.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 4 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 5.

Mr. Speaker. Now we proceed with Clause No. 5. Sardar Gurdial Singh Delhon has given notice of an amendment. He may move it.

Dewan Jagdish Chandra : Sir, he has authorised me to move the amendment on his behalf.

Mr. Speaker. I am sorry the hon. Member cannot do so. He may move his own amendment.

Dewan Jagdish Chandra (Ludhiana City, North) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move :

That at the end of part (a) (i), for the word "twenty-five" the word "twenty" be substituted.

Mr. Speaker, this clause has been framed in order to determine the amount of compensation. In the first instance, this compensation was proposed to be calculated by multiplying "annual rent plus an anna or two of every rupee of land revenue" by twenty-five. But the amendment tabled by me intends to substitute "twenty" in place of "twenty-five". Thus this amendment aims at reducing to some extent the amount of compensation payable by the tenants to the landlords concerned.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That at the end of part (a) (i) for the word "twenty-five" the word "twenty" be substituted.

Shri Sri Chand (Bahadurgarh) (Hindi) : Mr. Speaker, I would also like to say a few words in connection with the clause to which my hon. Friend has moved his amendment. Sir, my feeling is that to ask those people, who have regularly been paying land revenue for the last hundred years, to pay compensation for that land tantamounts to an act of downright injustice. According to the provisions of this bill, the compensation in respect of the *shamlats* will also be five times their annual rent. So far as the question of amount is concerned, I do not bother about it may it be an anna or four, but what I wish to say is that the Government should follow a uniform policy. In the circumstances, I wish to say that the amount of compensation to be paid in respect of *shamlats* should not be "five times" their annual rent.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That at the end of part (a) (i) for the word "twenty-five" the word "twenty" be substituted.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That Clause No. 5, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker. Before we proceed further, I would like to inform the House that all the speeches delivered on a particular day will be made available to the hon. Members the next working day in the language in which the speeches were delivered. I hope the House will appreciate the efficiency of our Secretariat (*Loud Applause*).

CLAUSE 6.

Mr. Speaker. Dewan Jagdish Chandra has given notice of an amendment to Clause 6. He may move it.

Dewan Jagdish Chandra (Ludhiana City, North) (*Hindi*): Sir, I bsg to move.

That in sub-clause (1), lines 1-2, between the words "this" and "shall" the word "Act" be inserted.

Sir, this amendment has been moved to rectify a mistake in printing. The word "Act" has been omitted by mistake and now it is sought to insert it in this sub-clause.

Mr. Speaker. Motion moved—

That in sub-clause (1) lines 1-2 between words "this" and "shall" the word "Act" be inserted.

Sardar Wazir Singh (Delhon) (*Punjabi*); Sir, the Minister and some other hon. Members have stated in the House that since great injustice was being done to the tenants who were being deprived of their just rights, this Bill has been brought forward in order to safeguard their interests. It has also been asserted that if the Publicity Department were to propagate and explain the various merits of this measure in the countryside it would become impossible for the Members of the Opposition to face the people and open their lips anywhere. But I assure you Sir, that if that is done, we will be saved a lot of trouble and botheration. My friends over there will be crushed under the heavy weight of their own misdeeds (*kartoots*)

Mr. Speaker : I do not think the word "*kartoot*" is parliamentary. ✓

Sardar Wazir Singh : Then I withdraw it, Sir. Now this clause lays down the procedure for the recovery of the amount of compensation in case of default. May I ask whether they could not think of any other method of recovery? The lawyer members know how dangerous and troublesome the method of recovery as arrears of land revenue can prove. This can result in imprisonment of the tenant, attachment of his belongings and so many other things. It will be an unequal fight between the poor tenant on the one side and the landlord assisted by the police on the other. Even for a paltry sum of two rupees the landlord will obtain a decree and then harass and insult the tenant. My friends should have pondered over the matter and realised how great a power they were giving to the police and landlords. The landlord has to realise Rs. 2-3-0 or Rs. 3-2-0 per *bigha* and for that amount he can harass and disgrace the tenant at his sweet will. Does this position really appeal to my friends? I submit that this power should be withdrawn.

Sardar Chanan Singh (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Sir, as has been explained by my hon. Friend Sardar Wazir Singh, this method of recovery namely, recovery as arrears of land revenue is most undesirable. By means of this provision the Government is placing a very dangerous weapon in the hands of the landlords. All the tenants will not be in a position to pay at the appointed time. Of course, some of them will be able to pay in time but others will have to face a great deal of hardship and trouble while arranging for the payment. I hear some of my hon. Friends say that the payment will have to be made in six years. But I say that nobody will care the least for these niceties after the measure has been placed on the Statute Book.

Some occupancy tenants are not paying anything at present. Therefore, even those landlords who were not getting anything from such tenants till now will file suits against them declaring that the payments from these tenants are really in arrears. On this pretext they will obtain decrees and orders of ejection against those tenants if they refuse or are unable to pay. These poor people will not be in a position to pay the compensation awarded to landlords and this provision for recovery as arrears of land revenue will spell their complete ruin. I am constrained to say that Government is arming with a dangerous weapon even those landlords who are not in receipt of even a single pie at present.

Minister For Irrigation (Chaudhri Lahri Singh) (Hindi) : Sir, the language as well as the purport of the clause are abundantly clear.

If you go through the land records, you will find that in certain cases no land revenue is paid by the tenants. Obviously, no question of compensation will arise in those cases. Then some tenants are paying only nominal land revenue and, consequently, they will have to pay very small amounts by way of compensation. For others a great concession has been made in the Bill. They can pay it by instalments in six years. This is a fairly long period. The whole world can change in six years.

For the recovery of the amount of compensation, too, the best possible method has been adopted. Once the amount of compensation has been fixed there will be no difficulty for anybody. For all kinds of calculations a host of officials like *Tehsildars*, *Patwaris*, *Girdawars*, and even the Deputy Commissioners will be there to render free service. They will calculate the amounts to be paid and the *Lambardars* will collect them. These people will get lands worth lakhs of rupees almost for a song; they will be entitled to sell the trees on those lands and from mere tenants they will become full-fledged proprietors. They will certainly get all assistance from the *Tehsildars* and other officers in the matter of calculations, etc. Despite all this, my friends say that injustice is being done to occupancy tenants. Where is the injustice or hardship? Why should anybody fear that the tenants would be entangled in avoidable litigation involving so much trouble in the courts and payments to lawyers and others? The method of recovery as arrears of land revenue is certainly the easiest method.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That in sub clause (1), lines 1-2, between the words "this" and "shall" the word "Act" be inserted.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That Clause No. 6, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 7.

Mr. Speaker: Again there is an amendment in the name of Dewan Jagdish Chandra. He may move it.

Dewan Jagdish Chandra (Ludhiana City, North) (*Hindi*): Sir, I beg to move —

That in sub-clause (2), line 3, between the words "application" and "of", the following words be inserted
"made within ninety days".

[Dewan Jagdish Chandra]

Sir, this sub-clause provides for a review of an order. The Collector, the Commissioner and the Financial Commissioner have been authorised to review their own orders or those of their predecessors. But no time-limit has been fixed for making an application in this behalf. This amendment provides for a time-limit of 90 days for the purpose.

Mr. Speaker. Motion moved—

That in sub-clause (2), line 3, between the words "application" and "of" the following words be inserted

"made within ninety days".

Rao Gajraj Singh (Gurgaon) (Hindi) : Sir, I am of the opinion that the words "within ninety days" should not be inserted in the sub-clause. Instead of being beneficial in any respect it is likely to prove harmful. It may be necessary to obtain a copy of an order before making an application for its review. It must take some time and if this time-limit is fixed, no allowance will be made for this delay. If you look at Section 82 of the Tenancy Act you will find that it gives more time to the applicant. By fixing this time-limit of 90 days you will lose even the concession allowed by the General Clauses Act.

Mr. Speaker. Question is :

That in sub-clause (2), line 3 between the words "application" and "of" the following words be inserted

"made within ninety days."

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker. Question is —

That Clause 7 as amended stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 8.

Sardar Wazir Singh (Delhon) (Punjabi) : Mr. Speaker, under this clause we are taking away the rights which a person acquires under a decree or order passed by a civil or some other court. Such decree or order might be against the landlord or the tenant. A person obtains a decree under the Civil Procedure Code. An appeal is then filed in the court of the District Judge thirty or sixty days after that. Second appeal is then filed in the High Court. A decree which is passed or confirmed at the final stage becomes the property of the person in whose favour it is passed. By this clause we are taking away that right. Under Article 31 of the Constitution, we cannot take

away a person's right without payment of compensation. We are extinguishing the rights which a person acquires against a landlord or a tenant by virtue of a decree in his favour. This step would be against the Constitution. My hon. Friend Sardar Partap Singh is not well acquainted with the provisions of the Constitution. If we pass this Bill in its present form, the Members of the Upper House will say that even the lawyer members of this House consisting of 126 Members did not draw the attention of the Government towards those clauses of this Bill which are against the Constitution. I, therefore, beg to submit that we should not deprive a person of the rights to which he has become entitled on account of a decree passed by a civil court unless we pay him the necessary compensation for it. I hope that hon. Sardar Gurbachan Singh will explain the position with respect to this point.

Minister for Public Works (Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa) (Punjabi) : Mr. Speaker, at present we are not dealing with decrees against the tenants. If a decree or order exists against a landlord it would be enforceable against the compensation payable to him in respect of the land. This clause will, therefore, cause no loss or hardship to any person. In my opinion there is no such provision in this Bill which the Upper House might hold *ultra vires*. We are not taking away anybody's rights or doing any thing against the Constitution.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That Clause 8 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 9.

Mr. Speaker. At this late stage, I have just received an amendment to Clause No. 9 from Shri Sri Chand. However, I consider it as being in time. The hon. Member cannot now blame us.

Shri Sri Chand (Bahadurgarh) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That the clause be deleted.

Mr. Speaker, so far the Government had adopted the attitude that it had the power to do everything but when we ask it to take some step for the benefit of the people it pleads its inability to do so. In the Punjab, the majority of big landlords were Muslims. The holdings of other people were not so large. A number of Muslim Nawabs owned large holdings of land in Karnal and people belonging to other communities tilled them. There

[Shri Sri Chand]

were hundreds of acres of such lands which were owned by Muslims but were cultivated by non-Muslim tenants. Nawab Mamdot owned about eighty villages in District Ferozepore. Most of those lands are in the possession of Hindu and Sikh tenants. What relief will such tenants get? Though their number is quite large, yet no provision has been made in this Bill for their benefit. I know that the Government of India does not permit our Government to take any action in that matter and that this House cannot pass any law with respect to the evacuee property but I am of the view that for the period for which the quasi-permanent allotment of lands remains in force, the tenants of those lands should also be given rights similar to those of the other tenants. The Government has not been able to give possession of lands to some of the allottees in spite of its efforts during the last five years, because those lands are already in the possession of tenants. The Government should do at least this much that so long as the quasi-permanent allotment of lands remains in force the occupancy tenants on those lands should not be ejected. I do not know what the Government thinks about these people. At the time of allotting lands the Government did not bear this fact in mind that a good many tracts of land were in the possession of occupancy tenants. It allotted those lands on paper only and the result is that the allottees are going from one place to another with those allotment chits. These people have not so far been able to get possession of those lands nor is there any prospect of their getting the same in future.

Under these circumstances, I would request the Government that these people should not be ejected from their lands till such time as legislation is passed permanently in this behalf. These tenants should be allowed to continue undisturbed to work on their lands. If this step is not taken then unpleasant consequences will follow. If the Government fails to afford necessary relief to the tenants cultivating lands owned by Muslim evacuee landlords, and allot the same to others then it will be guilty of discrimination against one set of people in the State. This State of affairs will certainly cause heart-burning among the people. The Government, therefore, must do something to avoid it and the only way to achieve the object is to delete this clause.

Mr. Speaker. Motion moved —

That the clause be deleted.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : The Government has advanced this reason that since no final agreement has been arrived at with the Pakistan Government regarding the evacuee lands the displaced persons working on them cannot be treated as occupancy tenants. I think that if the Government continues to follow this go-slow policy then there are very remote chances of arriving at any decision even within the next 5 or 7 years. I hold the Government responsible for this inaction and indecision. The Government is doing great injustice to these innocent people by denying them the right of ownership of their land. I would say that it is the weak-kneed policy of the Government that is responsible for no decision being arrived at with the Pakistan Government in this matter, and for which the tenants are being made to suffer. The disputes are going on between the Muslim land-owners and the displaced persons to whom these lands have been allotted. The Muslims are now being denied the share of income of resin derived from their land which they used to get previously. The occupancy tenants would have naturally felt rejoiced if they were given proprietary rights of the land occupied by them but they have been sorely disappointed as such rights have not been conferred upon them. As I have already stated there is no hope that any agreement would be arrived at with the Pakistan Government in this matter even within the next 5 or 10 years. I would go to the length of saying that our Government and not the Pakistan Government is to be blamed for not raising the status of occupancy tenants to that of full proprietors as it has not been able to arrive at any settlement with the Pakistan Government on this issue. There is a widespread dissatisfaction among the tenants on this account and continual conflicts on both sides of the Border are aggravating their acute distress. The measure which is going to be passed relates mostly to the evacuee land. These lands have now been entrusted to the Custodians. There is a general discontentment among the allottees of these lands as they have not been given proprietary rights in their tenancies.

Minister for Revenue and Development (Sardar Partap Singh Kairon) (Punjabi) : I am sorry to say that the Government cannot raise the status of occupancy tenants cultivating lands owned by Muslim evacuee landlords to those of full proprietors as the law does not permit us to do so. Such matters will be taken into consideration as soon as final agreement is arrived at with the Pakistan Government. When my Friends make such criticism against the Government then I can only say that they are trying to exploit the poor people. I do not attach much importance to this kind of criticism.

Sardar Wazir Singh (Delhon) (Punjabi) : Sir, Whatever has been stated by the hon. Minister incharge of the Bill is in my opinion not legally sound. It is the duty of the State Government to take steps to transform the land tenure system and to harmonies the relations between the landlords and the tenants. It is wrong to say that no new legislation can be enacted in respect of Muslim evacuee property so long as final agreement is not reached with the Pakistan Government. According to the Quasi-Permanent Scheme the lands have been allotted to all the displaced landowners. The Government should also give proprietary rights to those Muslim tenants who were cultivating lands before the partition. It is absolutely wrong to say that according to the Quasi-Permanent Scheme the status of such tenants who had been cultivating land owned by Muslim landlords cannot be raised under the law to that of full proprietors unless final settlement is reached with the Pakistan Government. I would say that in fact our Government does not like to confer proprietary rights upon such tenants nor does it like to afford any relief to the displaced persons who have been allotted lands owned by Muslim evacuee landlords. These displaced persons who owned lands in the West Punjab were allotted lands when they migrated to this side. The state of affairs today is that disputes are going on between the landlords and tenants in every district. In the districts of Rohtak, Hissar, Karnal, Nawab Mamdot Estate, Ferozapore, Ludhiana and Burj Hakimian the landowners were mostly Muslims and the tenants have been cultivating their lands for generations. According to the Quasi-Permanent Scheme these lands were allotted to those displaced landowners who had left their lands behind in Pakistan. The result of this was that these tenants did not surrender possession of their land in spite of the best efforts by the landlords to eject them and thus disputes are going on between them. Sometime back the Minister for Relief and Rehabilitation paid a visit to these ilaqas and this state of affairs was brought to his notice. We told him that if he considered that the tenants should not be ejected from their lands then he may decide in their favour or on the other hand if he wanted to restore the land to the landlords then he may decide accordingly so that their disputes may end once for all. He promised to take decision in this matter as early as possible but I am sorry to say that no decision has been made so far.

In Burj Hakimian many murders have been committed but the tenants have not surrendered the possessions of their lands. In many villages the police even resorted to firing but even then the landlords have not been able to get possession of their land. The poor tenants are being put to a great difficulty and I would, therefore, request the Government to take a decision in

this matter as early as possible. If the Government does not feel inclined to confer proprietary rights on these tenants then it should make an announcement to this effect in unequivocal terms. It does not behove the Government to avoid this issue by taking shelter behind the argument that it is a Central subject.

Minister for Finance (Sardar Ujjal Singh) (Punjabi) : Sir, in connection with the matter under discussion I place before the House the true facts in order that there may remain no scope for any misunderstanding on this score.

I may begin by saying that the ownership of land abandoned by the Muslims has not yet been vested in the Indian nationals. In the eyes of law, the owners of these lands are still the Muslim evacuees on whose behalf the Custodian looks after them. Same is the case with the lands left behind by our Hindu and Sikh brethren. It is a well-known fact that the Government of India and the Government of Pakistan have not been able to arrive at any mutually acceptable agreement on the issue of evacuee property. The Government of India is straining every nerve to have this issue settled by negotiations with the Pakistan Government but the fact remains that the ownership of evacuee property on this side still vests in the Muslim evacuees. Therefore, we cannot extend the application of the proposed measure to the land of which the ownership vests in the aliens. No sooner does this land legally come into our possession than the law will be got amended by this House accordingly.

Secondly fears have been expressed that the enactment of this Bill in its present form will give rise to disputes. May I, with your permission, make it clear to the House that a part of the evacuee land under occupancy tenancy rights has been allotted to the displaced persons who held similar lands in West Punjab. However, as the number of displaced persons holding occupancy rights in West Punjab was not very large, the rest of such land has been allotted to other displaced or refugee landowners though it has not been evaluated at the same standard as other evacuee land because such land is hemmed in with certain encumbrances. If any disputes arise about the holding of land under occupancy rights they are bound to be extra-legal because legally the position of the occupancy tenants is quite safe and they cannot be ejected from it by any legal procedure. It is our fervent desire that agrarian unrest may come to an end and complete harmony may prevail in this State.

CLAUSE 9.

Mr Speaker. Question is—

That the clause be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That Clause 9 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 10.

Mr Speaker. Question is—

That Clause 10 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 11.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That Clause 11 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 12.

Mr Speaker. Question is—

That Clause 12 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 13.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That Clause 13 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 1.

SUB-CLAUSE 1

Mr Speaker. Question is—

That Sub Clause (1), of Clause 1 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

TITLE

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That Title be the Title of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Minister for Development (Sardar Partap Singh Kairon) : Sir I beg to move—

That the Punjab Occupancy Tenants (Vesting of Proprietary Rights) Bill, 1952, be passed.

Mr. Speaker. Motion moved—

That the Punjab Occupancy Tenants (Vesting of Proprietary Rights) Bill 1952, be passed.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (*Punjabi*) : Sir while speaking on this Bill, the hon. Minister for Development stated that this Bill was aimed at ending the class conflict taking advantage of which the Communists were strengthening their hold on the masses. May I make it clear to him that the Communists do not need troubled waters to fish in or class conflict to increase their power. It is our firm belief that whosoever works, moves and keeps him-self in touch with the masses, wins their confidence and support and thus becomes powerful. I think that by this time the truth of this principal must have dawned upon him.

Sir, the question is whether the present Bill which as it is alleged, will put an end to class conflict, will really solve the problem. In my opinion it is not going to stop such conflicts at all, because it is being rushed through this House. No amendment from this side has been accepted. This means that any chances of whatever little good that could come out of this measure have gone. In this Bill the question of compensation has not been solved in the manner it ought to have been done. The way in which the controversial clauses of the Bill have been discussed appears to be rather very odd. For instance the examples of lands in Hissar have been given and not of those of Amritsar, where the value of lands is much higher. Thus an attempt has been made to keep the House in the dark about many matters. No mention has been made of the disputes that take place in the villages, then the occupancy tenant working on the *batai* system has been left at the mercy of the Revenue Officer. The hon. Chief Minister is perhaps aware of the fact that in Pathankote the Revenue Officers passed orders which were against the rules. The Government is aware of these things. In view of these, I say that the manner in which the question of compensation is being solved is faulty. Especially the problem of the occupancy tenants working on the *baeai* system cannot be solved in this way.

Minister for Development : The hon. Member should wait and see whether it gets solved or not.

Sardar Chanan Singh : We have seen so often. Another question is that of evacuee land. Such land has left outside the purview of this Bill. This has led to many disputes. For instance, in Ferozepore so many disputes have taken place and yet the Government says that these disputes are for nothing.

Minister for Irrigation : Is it relevant ?

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Yes, it is relevant. Sir, my submission is that, in fact, there is a need for some sort of legislation on this subject. And, I think, some better Bill should have been brought before the House in place of the present one. We wanted that some comprehensive legislation should have been enacted with regard to the tenants after due consideration once for all, but I am constrained to remark that although our Government feels that something should be done for the betterment of tenants yet it is afraid of the big *zimindars*.

Mr. Speaker : I wish to bring it to the notice of this House that some of the hon. Members have not so far intimated the Legislature Secretariat of their local address. Sometime back in this connection printed forms were circulated to the members to be filled in and returned but some of them have not so far been received back. In the absence of local addresses considerable difficulty is being experienced by this Secretariat in the despatch of letters and papers to the other members. I would, therefore make it clear that this Secretariat will not be held responsible if any letter or paper of any hon. Member is lost or delayed in the absence of his local address.

Shri Sri Chand (Bahadurgarh) (Hindi) : My hon. Friend Sardar Ujjal Singh has stated that evacuee property belongs to the Muslims and, therefore, we had not right to make any law with regard to it. I am prepared to accept this position if the Government of India orders this Assembly not to legislate upon this subject. But to say that this is the property of those who have left for Pakistan.....

Minister for Development : Why does the hon Member say wrong things ?

Shri Sri Chand : No. I do not say anything wrong. Is the hon. Minister for Finance prepared to give us an assurance that the occupancy tenants working on the lands of the Muslim evacuees will not be ejected from those lands.

Minister for Finance : No, they will not be ejected.

Shri Sri Chand : In my District many evacuee lands have been allotted and the chits of allotment have been distributed but still many disputes are going on.

Minister for Irrigation : Are they recorded ?

Shri Sri Chand : Yes, they are recorded. Many disputes of this kind are going on in the rural areas. The Government should take notice of this state of affairs. Although the allotment has been made yet there are many other connected problems to be solved.

Sardar Wazir Singh (Dehlon) (Punjabi) : Sir, while on the one hand it is avered that the tenants are to be and must be provided with some relief, on the other it is stated that we cannot pass any law concerning the evacuee lands. I feel perhaps both the statements might be correct. But the question is what position the Government is going to take with regard to such lands which have been allotted by the Rehabilitation Department and on which the occupancy tenants were sitting previously ? At present the position is quite confused. The Revenue Assistants and the Deputy Commissioners pass quite different orders with regard to such lands. In the District of Ludhiana, owners of two or four acres of lands have been allotted lands at various places. It is because the officers pass different orders. The Custodian, the Deputy Commissioner and the Revenue Assistant hold divergent views and naturally, they pass, diverse orders.

Chief Minister : The hon. Member should give specific instances.

Sardar Wazir Singh : Mr. Speaker, Government must take some decision as to who is the rightful owner of this land before the matter is finally decided with Pakistan. Our laws are the outcome of the muddle headed policies of the Government. Once an officer passes orders that the possession of land should be given to the landlord and after sometime the same officer changes his decision and orders that the possession should be transferred to the occupancy tenants. Due to these confused policies of the Government murders have been committed in the past and it is very probable that in future such things will continue to happen. What to talk of vesting proprietary rights in the tenants, I think the Government would be doing a great favour to them if it protects them from being murdered.

Minister for Development (Sardar Partap Singh Kairon) (Punjabi) : Mr. Speaker, there is no denying the fact that the Government is vesting proprietary rights in the occupancy tenants to enable them to cultivate as masters of their lands.

[Minister for Development]

My friend Shri Sri Chand has spoken about Evacuee Property. Previously he raised some other objections and now he has shifted his ground to something else. Naturally it is very difficult for the Government to satisfy him. Anyhow, I have every hope that the provisions of this Bill will stand the test of time which will show that the efforts of the Government to enact this measure, were directed simply to ameliorating the lot of the occupancy tenants.

Mr. Speaker, my friend Sardar Wazir Singh also has levelled criticism against the Government. He talked like a clever lawyer trying to make out his case. But he should refrain from distorting facts and for other facts from groping in the dark. I feel that it is the duty of every hon. Member, whether he belongs to the Opposition or to the Congress Party, that he should bring every irregularity to the notice of the Government. Then it will be incumbent upon the Government to get that irregularity removed. But if an hon. Member intentionally and knowingly strikes his head against the wall, then no one can help him.

Well Sir, the Government is going to vest the proprietary rights in the occupancy tenants, on payment of compensation to landlords, in a way in which the tenants would be put to the least hardship. In this connection certain powers are going to be conferred on the Collectors. If we do not give these powers to them, then let the hon. Members themselves suggest the agency that should be entrusted with such powers. After all somebody is to be given these powers. A party who is not satisfied with the decision of the Collector can prefer an appeal to the Commissioner and if still dis-satisfied a revision lies to the Financial Commissioner.

In the end, I thank you, Mr. Speaker and through you I thank the House and through this House I present the gift of the Punjab Occupancy Tenants (Vesting of Proprietary Rights) Bill, 1952 to the tenants of this State and wish them a happy and prosperous life. (Cheers),

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Punjab Occupancy Tenants (Vesting) of Proprietary Rights) Bill, 1952, be passed.

The motion was carried.

*The Assembly then adjourned till 2. p. m., on Tuesday,
21st October 1952.*

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

DEBATES

21st October, 1952.

Vol. III, No. 2

OFFICIAL REPORT



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Punjab Legislative Assembly

Tuesday, 21st October, 1952.

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Simla-4, at 2 p.m. of the clock. Mr. Speaker (Dr. Satyapal) in the Chair.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

REPRESENTATION FROM SARDAR KISHAN SINGH, BAZAR MANIMAN, AMRITSAR.

*846. **Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina:** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether any representations have been received from Sardar Kishan, Singh, Bazar Maniman, near Sarai Guru Ram Das, Amritsar, by the District Magistrate, Amritsar, I.G. Police and the Governor, Punjab, stating that, as result of the torture by police, his son, Dharam Singh, died in a hospital at Amritsar on the 17th of February, 1951;
- (b) whether any inquiries were made in the matter; if so, whether he is prepared to lay a copy of the report of enquiry on the Table of the House?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar: (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. The report of the Magisterial inquiry held in the case is as follows:—

IN THE DISTRICT OF AMRITSAR.

In the court of S. Kehar Singh Mann, P.C.S., Magistrate, 1st Class, Amritsar.

CASE NO. 34/4 OF 1951.

Date of institution .. 19th November, 1951.

Village Amritsar Khas. Goshwara No. 126 of Kulyat.

Copy of Report of Inquest and Enquiry into the death of Dharam Singh, son of Kishan Singh, caste Mehra, of Bazar Maniman, P. S. Kotwali, Amritsar.

The brief facts alleged in this enquiry are that on the 3rd November, 1951, one Dharam Singh, son of Kishan Singh, Mehra, of Bazar Maniman, P.S. Kotwali, Amritsar, was arrested by A. S. I. Ganda Mal. Parts concerning F. I. R. No. 188 of the 17th September, 1951, under section 380, I. P. C., P. S. Kotwali, Amritsar, were found fitted in his cycle, which were identified by the complainants. The accused appeared before a Magistrate, 1st Class and was remanded to police custody till the 11th November, 1951. Dharam Singh, deceased, remained in the lock-up with the Kotwali Police till the 7th November, 1951 and was then sent to the Cycle Staff for investigation on

[Chief Minister]

the 8th November, 1951, and on 9th November, 1951, the accused had high fever and he was sent to V. J. Hospital for treatment. Some stolen property had still to be recovered from the accused, and, therefore, further remand in police custody was taken on the 12th November, 1951 from the Ilaqa Magistrate S. Gurbux Singh Chatrath.

On the 15th November, 1951, A. S. I. Ganda Mal, the Investigating Officer, saw the left leg of Dharam Singh, deceased, swollen and he was told by the deceased that some insect had bitten him in that lock-up (Kotwali). The A. S. I. then took the deceased to the hospital for medical treatment. The deceased for the first time stated before the Assistant Surgeon that he was beaten by the Munshi of the Cycle Staff and F. C. Sampuran Singh, Goldsmith of the same staff, and that the Munshi had given him a lathi blow on his foot.

The doctor admitted Dharam Singh, deceased, in the hospital and kept his injury under observation. The condition of Dharam Singh, deceased, grew worse and on the 16th November, 1951, his statement was recorded by the Magistrate, 1st Class (Dewan Dilbagh Rai) as his condition deteriorated. He was bailed out on the 16th November, 1951.

On the 18th November, 1951, at 3. a.m. Dharam Singh, deceased, died in the hospital.

According to the evidence of Dr. Sham Singh the deceased Dharam Singh died due to the tetanus probably following ulcerated condition of cellulatus of the left leg. The doctor did not find any injury on the body of Dharam Singh, deceased, at the time of the post-mortem examination other than ulcerated condition of the left leg and the doctor definitely stated that the swelling of the leg was not due to any lathi blow as the muscles were not bruised under the skin. The doctor further stated that such like swelling was possible due to insect bite. The cynus of the leg was not necessarily due to the striking of a nail on the leg, but it could be due to the bursting of the abscess. If the nail had struck with a force it must have gone deeper. Such a condition was not found in this case. The tetanus was due to the infected condition of celloliatius of the skin.

From the evidence of the doctor, it is clear, that the tetanus on the leg of the deceased was not the direct or the indirect result of any beating by lathi or by a nailed plank and this condition was possible either by the insect bite or by the bursting of the abscess which might have been on the leg.

Had there been any other reason the deceased must have told either to S. Raghbir Singh, S. H. O. Kotwali, A.S.I. Ganda Mal or even to S. Gurbux Singh Chatrath, Magistrate, 1st Class, before whom he appeared on the 12th November, 1951. At the last he must have told to S. Mohan Singh Batra, Advocate, his counsel. I examined S. Mohan Singh Batra who has contradicted the examining of the foot by S. Gurbux Singh Chatrath, Magistrate, 1st Class, as deposed by the deceased's mother and even to S. Mohan Singh Batra, the deceased did not tell about any beating at the hands of the police officials. S. Gurbux Singh Chatrath, M.I.C., Amritsar, has stated on oath that neither he noticed any swelling on the leg of the deceased on the 12th November, 1951, nor did the deceased complain any such trouble on his leg. S. Raghbir Singh, S. H. O., Kotwali, always helped the deceased whenever he found

the deceased in trouble, as it is clear from the roznamcha of P.S. Kotwali. Relevant copies of these entries were produced before me and are attached on the file. There is no report made to S. Raghbir Singh, S. H. O., Kotwali, that there was swelling on the leg of the deceased but when a report regarding his running temperature was made to him he at once directed the constables to take the deceased to the hospital for necessary treatment, and even before the doctor before whom the deceased was produced for the treatment of fever, he never complained of any beating on his leg. On the 15th November, 1951, it was discovered that the deceased had a swelling on the leg. He was, therefore, immediately sent to the hospital for medical aid. There is, therefore, no indirect negligence even on the part of S. Raghbir Singh, S.H.O., P.S. Kotwali, and similarly Ganda Mal, A. S. I., is absolutely not guilty of any act of negligence so far as the deceased was concerned.

The deceased was produced before the doctor Iqbal Singh, Casualty Medical Officer, V.J. Hospital, on the 9th and 10th November, 1951. He diagnosed malaria and prescribed medicine for this disease. Dharam Singh, deceased, according to his (Dr. Iqbal Singh's) statement did not complain any swelling to any of his foot nor he examined any such trouble. He did not notice any lameness of Dharam Singh, deceased, while Dr. Nasib Singh examined the deceased on the 15th November, 1951 and he found swelling on the lower part of the left leg.

The next question is as to who gave any beating to the deceased.

From the evidence on the record, it is clear that there is no corroborative worth the name to the statement of Dharam Singh, deceased, which he made before Diwan Dilbagh Rai, M.I.C., Amritsar, that the *Staff Wala* had beaten him and that one Sampuran Singh, who is a police official, beat him on his leg, with a nailed plank. The deceased has not named any other officer in his statement before Diwan Dilbagh Rai, Magistrate, 1st Class.

Some under-trials who remained with the deceased in the Kotwali lock-up have been examined and they all have stated that the deceased complained to them that he had been bitten by some insect in the lock-up. Their names are Abdullah, Safar, Mohd Sammi.

From the statements of Ajaib Singh and other police officials it is clear that no one beat Dharam Singh, deceased, while he remained in Kotwali lock-up, and in their custody.

I recorded the statement of Ram Kaur, mother of the deceased, who remained with the deceased in the hospital when the deceased was told to talk and could not consider himself under the influence of anybody. The deceased did not name anybody who might have given him beating on his leg. Mst. Ram Kaur, the mother of the deceased, stated that one Ram Das, son of Mool Chand, told her that he saw Dharam Singh, deceased, with one foot swollen. This Ram Das was examined by me; he stated that he did not ever see Dharam Singh, deceased, in the Kotwali P. S. and that he had never been to Kotwali during the interval of the 8th November, 1951, to the 16th November, 1951. He never told Kishan Singh and his wife anything as he did not know anything and thus the statement of Ram Kaur is falsified by the statement of Ram Das.

[Chief Minister]

The deceased did not tell anything to his father Kishan Singh as to who had given him beating. The name of Munsha Singh, S. I., is not to be found either in the statement of the deceased before Diwan Dilbagh Rai, M. I. C., or in the statement of Ganda Mal, A. S. I. The name of the Hindu Munshi is also not given in both these statements. There is the name of only Sampuran Singh given by the deceased in his statement before Diwan Dilbagh Rai, M.I.C., and in the statement recorded by A. S.I. Ganda Mal. According to the statement of the deceased before Diwan Dilbagh Rai, M. I. C., it was Sampuran Singh who gave him beating but according to the statement recorded by Ganda Mal, A.S.I., earlier, it was Hindu Munshi who gave him beating with the nailed plank. Both statements are, therefore, contradictory on these very vital points. There is no corroboration whatsoever on the record. Dr. Sham Singh has attested the statement made before A. S. I. Ganda Mal and I, therefore, find that none of the three officers named above are at all responsible for the injury on the left leg of the deceased and I find that there is absolutely nothing against S. Munsha Singh, S.I. So far as S. Munsha Singh, S. I., is concerned, he was not present, according to the statement of the deceased in the police station. What little has been alleged against the Hindu Munshi, and Sampuran Singh in the two statements made by the deceased shortly after, both are discrepant and there is no other evidence direct or indirect to connect these two officials with the beating. The deceased did not even talk to his father or mother about this beating. Moreover, according to the evidence of the doctor this tetanus on the leg of the deceased was not the result of the beating with a *danda* or by a nailed plank as already mentioned.

Pooran Singh and Om Parkash, F.Cs, have also denied giving any beating with a *danda* or the nailed plank to Dharam Singh, deceased.

So under these circumstances, Om Parkash and Pooran Singh, F.Cs, are also absolutely innocent and the cause of death as is given by the doctor shown in the evidence is due to some insect bite on the leg of Dharam Singh, deceased, which later developed into tetanus or due to the bursting of an abscess which might have already been on his leg. The net result of my enquiry is that none of the police officers or officials are at all responsible, in any way, for causing the death of the deceased.

(Sd.) KEHAR SINGH MANN,
Magistrate, 1st Class,
Amritsar.

FURNITURE SUPPLIED AT RESIDENTIAL QUARTERS OF MINISTERS

*964. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur: Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state:—

- (a) the value of the furniture supplied at the residences of each of the State Ministers up to 15th August, 1947;
- (b) the water, electricity and gardening charges including the pay and allowances of the gardeners, respectively, during the month of August, 1952, for each of the State Ministers;
- (c) the rent of the furniture referred to in part (a) above for the month of August, 1952;
- (d) the rent of the residences of each of the Ministers for the month of August, 1952?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar: A statement containing the desired information is given below.

(a) The following is the value of furniture supplied in Government-owned residences meant for the Ministers. Such information is not available in respect of other houses used by the Ministers before 15th August, 1952:—

						Rs
Brockhurst No. I	..	..	..	..	..	4,082
Brockhurst No. II	..	..	..	..	..	4,236
Brockhurst No. III	..	..	..	..	..	4,696

(b) Water and electricity charges for August, 1952, are as below:—

<i>Name of house</i>	<i>Electricity charges</i>			<i>Water charges</i>
	Rs	A.	P.	Rs
(i) Allen Bank (Chief Minister's residence) ..	117	11	0	34
Guest House	37	4	0	6
Total	154	15	0	40
New Victoria Cottage (Education Minister's residence)	33	1	0	8
Boundary (Minister of Development's residence)	70	0	0	38
Victoria Place (Minister for Local Government's residence)	111	4	0	52
Brockhurst No. I	59	14	0	10
Do No. II	48	4	0	6
Do No. III	13	4	0	22

No gardening charges including the pay and allowances of the gardeners have been paid so far. The matter is being examined by Finance Department.

<i>Name of house</i>	<i>Rent of furniture</i>		
	Rs	A.	P.
(c) Allen Bank	276	7	0
New Victoria Cottage	78	0	0
Boundary	131	8	0

[Chief Minister]

Name of house	Rent of furniture		
	Rs	A.	P.
Victoria Place	144	0	0
Brockhurst No. I	32	7	0
Do No. II	62	10	0
Do No. III	58	8	0
(d) Allen Bank	319	0	0
Allen Bank Annexe	237	13	0
New Victoria Cottage	156	0	0
Boundary	297	0	0
Victoria Place	142	0	0
Brockhurst No. I	277	1	0
Do No. II	311	9	0
Do No. III	295	14	0

RETENTION OF CONTINGENCY RESERVE POLICE FORCE AT DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS.

***965. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur:** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state:—

- (a) the purpose for which the contingency reserve police force out of the sanctioned strength of any additional police post quartered under section 15 of the Police Act is retained at the District Headquarters under the provision of rule 2.22(i) of the Punjab Police Rules;
- (b) whether any procedure has been laid down by the Government to utilise the services of the police force referred to in part (a) above for the benefit of the localities concerned; if so, what;
- (c) (i) whether the services of the contingency reserve police force retained at the District Headquarters out of the sanctioned strength of the Additional Police Posts of Villages Makhi Kalan, Sur Singh and Kacha Pakka of Amritsar District were ever utilised for the benefit of the villages concerned during the life of these police posts in these villages during the years 1949-50 and 1950-51; if so, in what way;
- (ii) the total amount charged as the cost of contingency reserve police force during the years mentioned in part (c) (i) above from the inhabitants of each village?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar: (a) The contingency reserve police force out of the sanctioned strength of any additional police post is maintained at the District Headquarters against casualties in the additional police.

(b) This police force is maintained to provide for casualties in the additional police and as such the question of laying any special procedure for utilizing their services for the benefit of the localities concerned does not arise.

(c) (i) No, there arose no occasion to utilize their services for the benefit of the villages concerned.

(ii) No amount has been actually charged so far on this account. The total amount chargeable, however, is—

				Rs	AS.	P.
Makhi Kalan	..	..	..	966	8	0
Sur Singh	..	..	..	892	8	0
Kacha Pakka	..	..	..	966	8	0

MURDERS IN HOSHIARPUR DISTRICT

***995. Shri Rala Ram:** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state the number of murders committed tehsil-wise in Hoshiarpur District in the year 1951-52 and the number of those that have remained untraced so far?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar: *Part I.* The number of murder cases in the Hoshiarpur District Tehsil-wise in the year 1951-52 is as follows:—

Hoshiarpur ..	..	..	11
Dasuya ..	..	..	7
Una ..	..	..	4
Garh Shankar ..	..	..	11

Part II. The number of those that remained untraced so far is as under:—

Hoshiarpur ..	..	..	4
Dasuya ..	..	..	2
Una ..	..	..	1
Garh Shankar ..	..	..	1

THE PUNJAB CHILDREN ACT OF 1949.

***1015. Shrimati Sita Devi:** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state:—

- (a) the names of the places, towns and villages in the State where the Punjab Children Act of 1949 has been applied;
- (b) the number of children benefited by the said Act so far;
- (c) the number of delinquent parents and guardians who have been brought to book so far?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar: (a) The East Punjab Children's Act, 1949, has not so far been applied to any part of the State, as Rules under the Act are still under preparation with the help of a Special Committee formed for the purpose.

(b) The question does not arise.

(c) The question does not arise.

Shrimati Sita Devi: Will the hon. Chief Minister kindly tell us the reasons for not enforcing this Act, although it was passed in 1949?

Chief Minister: As already stated the rules have yet to be framed under this Act. It may be stated that a Committee was constituted for this purpose, but so far the rules have not been framed. However, when this fact came to my notice, I felt that this task should not have taken so long. I issued an order that the Committee should complete its work and submit its report at a very early date.

Shrimati Sita Devi: Will the hon. Chief Minister kindly state as to when the rules will be ready? Has he laid down any time limit for this purpose?

Chief Minister: I have ordered that the rules should be framed immediately and it means that these will be ready in a few days.

AGRICULTURAL FARM IN DISTRICT JULLUNDUR

***866. Sardar Darshan Singh:** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether he is aware of the fact that the Agricultural Farm run by the Agriculture Department near Village Jakhopur Kalan, P.S. Shahkot, District Jullundur, is occupying an area of about 200 acres;
- (b) whether he is also aware of the representations which have been made to the Deputy Commissioner, Jullundur, by several persons that the area belonging to the Agricultural Farm is only 35 acres and that the Agriculture Department is encroaching on 165 acres of land; if so, the action taken by the Government on the representations?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon: (a) The land at present comprising the Jakhopur Farm in P.S. Shakot, District Jullundur, is being run as a Tractor Cultivation Farm by the Agriculture Department for the production of improved seeds for distribution to the cultivators of this State. The land, covering over 200 acres, was allotted to the Agriculture Department by the Deputy Commissioner, Jullundur, for reclamation and subsequent development under the Grow-More-Food Scheme. This land prior to its allotment to the Agriculture Department was lying *banjar* near river side covered by 'Dib' and Sarkanda, etc. Since the Agriculture Department has spent a good deal of money on its development, it cannot be restored until and unless adequate compensation is paid to the Agriculture Department by the allottees concerned. The information regarding the exact area claimed by the allottees is not known at present.

(b) As intimated by the Deputy Commissioner, Jullundur, representations have been made to him by the allottees concerned for the restoration of the land in question without any charges. But this is not possible for the reason given under (a) above.

DECLARING OF FAMINE IN HISSAR DISTRICT

***910. Shri Ranjit Singh Captain:** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has declared scarcity in Hissar district only, and not in Rohtak and Gurgaon districts; if so, the reasons therefor;
- (b) the reasons why it has not been declared that famine conditions exist in Hissar district?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon: (a) *First Part. No.*

Second Part. Does not arise.

(b) Since the wages would have been paid according to the rates prescribed in the Famine Code which are below the normal rates the declaration of the famine conditions would not have been in the interest of the affected people.

RELIEF WORKS IN HISSAR DISTRICT

***911. Shri Ranjit Singh Captain :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether any relief works were started in Hissar on account of prevailing famine conditions there ; if so, details thereof together with the cost involved, time spent and the locality in which each relief work served ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : *First Part. Yes.*

[Minister for Development]

Second Part. A statement containing the required information is given below.

Statement showing relief measures taken in the scarcity areas of Hissar District together with the cost involved, time spent and the locality in which each relief work served.

Serial No.	Relief work	Locality	Cost involved	Time spent	Other details
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Pond digging	Name of tehsils— Hissar..63 villages Hansi..51 villages Bhiwani.. 119 „ Fatehabad 32 „ Sirsa .. 21 „ Total .. 286	Rs AS. PS. 2,82,992 9 3	March to August 1952	No. of ponds dug— Hissar .. 64 Hansi .. 55 Bhiwani .. 133 Fatehabad.. 32 Sirsa .. 21 Total .. 305
2	Labour Co-operatives— Digging of Bhakra Canals and Road-making	Hissar Fatehabad Bhiwani Hansi	4,18,668 0 0	October 1951 to 31st July 1952	1. Harita Minor 2. Chaudhriwala Minor 3. Balsmand Distributary 4. Fatehabad Branch 5. Rawalwas Minor 6. Sarsana Minor 7. Ambala-Hissar Road 8. Bhiwani-Loharu Road 9. Dhamana Minor 25 centres
3	Spinning Centres	All the five tahsils in the district	1,26,163 12 9	March 1952 to August 1952	
4	Gratuitous relief	Ditto	57,908 8 0	April to August 1952	1. Construction of kunds and repairs of wells Rs 8,499-8-0 2. Multi-vitamin tablets Rs 20,000 3. Stipends for students from the scarcity areas Rs 10,000

5. *Distribution of foodgrains and clothes.* Gram, Bajra and Barley were procured on control rates from within the district and then given to poor people through the Civil Supplies Department at controlled rates. In some cases, rates were subsidised by private charity. Seth Ishar Das of Bahal also gave 150 blankets and 25 quilts in his village and round about and also started cotton spinning centre and other relief works for the poor. 37,000 multi-vitamin tablets, 90 lb. of cod-liver, 500 lb. of whole milk powder with cream, were received from different agencies like Red Cross, Civil Surgeon, Hissar, etc., and these were distributed in the scarcity affected areas through the Medical Officers Incharge rural dispensaries. Besides this, medicines like 9,000 vitamin tablets, 2,500 sulphaguanadime tablets, boric acid, sulphanamide powder, etc., were utilised and distributed among the patients through the rural dispensaries under the charge of the Public Health Department.

1	2	3	4	5	6
6	Subsidy to stud bulls	All tehsils	Rs. 38,225	From March to July 1952	1,529 stud bulls were maintained
7	Cattle concentration camps	1. Hissar 2. Badopal 3. Siwani 4. Bawani Khera 5. Bhiwani 6. Tohana 7. Loharu 8. Barwala	About Rs 1,95,000	From May 1952 to August 1952	Relief was provided to 3,832 cattle
8	Supply of fodder to Goushalas at half price	1. Bhiwani 2. Hissar 3. Aroha 4. Behal 5. Sirsa 6. Hansi	Rs. 20,000 sanctioned	..	6,579 mds. and 3 seers of fodder was supplied to Goushalas

9. Concession for the import of fodder was also allowed and a sum of Rs. 2,39,540 was earmarked for this purpose. A sum of Rs 10,000 was sanctioned for meeting this expenditure to be incurred on the transport of fodder from the railway stations to the places in the interior.

BREACHES IN BUNDS AND SILTING TANKS IN GURDASPUR DISTRICT

*740. **Sardar Nidhan Singh :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state :—

(a) whether he is aware of the fact that repeated complaints were made to the officers of the Irrigation Department and the Government regarding breaches in bunds and silting tanks in Gurdaspur District ; if so, the action, if any, taken thereon ;

[Sardar Nidhan Singh]

(b) whether any enquiry has been ordered into the extent of the damage done to the Villages Rasulpur, Mallowal, Nadala Pakhoke, Talibpur, Pandori, Kotle Sainian and surrounding areas in District Gurdaspur due to the recent breach in a silting tank nearby ; if so, the findings of the enquiry ;

(c) whether it is a fact that compensation has been sanctioned only for the Village Tibri, Tehsil and District Gurdaspur ; if so, the reasons why no compensation has been sanctioned for the other affected villages, especially Kotli Sainian which has suffered a very heavy damage ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : (a) Yes.

(b) The matter is being vigorously pursued by Government and I issued instructions on the spot to the local officers, during my recent visit, to submit their report to Government as soon as possible.

(c) No compensation has been sanctioned so far, and it will be paid to all the villages, which have been affected as a result of this breach.

BREACH IN CANAL NEAR VILLAGE SOHAL, DISTRICT AMRITSAR

***847. Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that as a result of a breach in a canal near Village Sohal, Police Station Jhabhal, District Amritsar, a penalty of about Rs. 2,200 has been levied on the inhabitants of the area ;

(b) whether he is aware of the fact that applications were made by the inhabitants of the area on the 20th March, 1952 and 29th April, 1952, for a copy of the decision levying the fine and it has not been supplied to them for the purposes of appeal ; if so ; the reasons therefor ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : (a) The fact is that Main Branch Lower, of Upper Bari Doab Canal was cut at R. D. 180,350 Left on the night between 15th and 16th May, 1949. A special rate of Rs. 1,944-6-0 was levied.

(b) No applications on 20th March, 1952, or 29th April, 1952, for a copy of the decision were received. However, a copy was supplied to the inhabitants on the 28th January, 1952. The appeal was heard by the Commissioner on the 19th March, 1952 and it was rejected.

SUPPLY OF CANAL WATER TO VILLAGES WADALA, BHITWID, ETC., IN AMRITSAR DISTRICT.

***864. Sardar Darshan Singh :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a canal passes through Villages Wadala, Bhitwid, Kathaniyan, Kot of P. S. Sadar, Amritsar, P. S. Gharinda and P. S. Lopoke in District Amritsar ; if so, whether these villages are irrigated by water from the said canal ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : No channel passes through the land of the said villages, which are out of irrigation boundary and are not in receipt of canal water at present. A scheme for providing irrigation facilities for the villages is, however, under investigation. But it cannot be stated at this stage whether land in these villages would be commanded.

ALLOTMENT OF FIELD NUMBERS IN VILLAGE CHHICHHARWAL, DISTRICT
AMRITSAR

***702. Sardar Achbar Singh Chhina :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether he is aware of the fact that in June, 1951, the Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar, decided that because of irregularities in previous allotments of field numbers in Village Chhichharwal, Tehsil Patti, District Amritsar, the field numbers be re-allotted to the refugee land allottees of this village ;
- (b) whether he is further aware of the fact that the re-allotment of field numbers has not been made in this village up to 31st May, 1952 ; if so, the reasons therefor ;
- (c) the total number of such villages where the allotment of field numbers is still pending in the above mentioned district ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. Previously Village Chhichherwal was included in Tehsil Tarn Taran but later on due to *halqabandi* this village was transferred to Patti Tehsil. Consequent upon *halqabandi*, this work could not be completed up to 31st May 1952. It has now been completed.

(c) Allotment of field numbers has been completed in all the villages except those villages in which the High Court or the Custodian-General has issued *ad interim* stay orders.

REVISION OF LAND ALLOTMENT IN THE STATE

***852. Sardar Nidhan Singh :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

- (a) the total number of refugees in the State who applied for revision of their land allotment till the end of May, 1952 ;
- (b) the number of applications which were rejected ;
- (c) the number of applications that are still pending ;
- (d) the number of applications that have been accepted ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) 2,461

(b) 1,755

(c) 383

(d) 323

REVIEWERS OF TEXT-BOOKS

***930. Shri Wadhawa Ram :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the names of reviewers of text-books had leaked out this year ; if so, the circumstances under which this happened ?

Shri Jagat Narain : No. The question does not arise.

TEXT-BOOKS

***931. Shri Wadhawa Ram :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that orders were issued by the Education Department to the effect that complete sets of books should be given to one author only ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that sets of text-books were divided into two or more parts each and given to different authors ; if so, the reasons therefor?

Shri Jagat Narain : (a) Yes, a press note was issued last year in regard to text-books for classes I, II and V, and complete sets of books were approved ; but no such orders were issued this year regarding text-books for classes III and VI.

(b) Yes ; books were judged individually to avoid books below the mark being tacked on to one or two good books in the set.

Minister. Last year the Government had issued an order in which it had asked for a full set of books in Hindi and Punjabi from the authors. No other order except this was issued last year. After receiving the set of books the Government had observed that there was a supplementary book along with every Hindi Book and when an author takes a book from the publisher it is observed that sometimes the supplementary books are good whereas in some cases the main books are found to be good. The Government only approve of those text-books which are really good ones.

PLYING OF STATE BUSES

***951. Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that some new State buses have been put on the roads since 1st August, 1952 ;

(b) the total number of such buses together with the routes on which they are plying and the number of daily trips made by each bus ?

Shri Jagat Narain : (a) Yes.

(b) The names of routes, number of buses and the trips being operated on each are given below :—

Name of new routes	Number of buses	Number of daily trips
1	2	3
<i>(i) Ambala Roadways</i>		
Karnal—Delhi	6	4
Kaithal—Delhi	2	2
Delhi—Alwar	3	3
Delhi—Rohtak	3	3
Delhi—Jhajjar	2	2
Ambala—Rupar	4	6
Kalka—Rupar	2	2
Rupar—Sirhind	4	4
Ambala—Chan digarh	1	2
Total ..	27	28
<i>(ii) Jullundur Omnibus Service</i>		
Jullundur—Beas Bridge	2	2
Jullundur—Alawalpore	2	12
Total ..	4	14
<i>(iii) Amritsar Omnibus Service</i>		
*Amritsar—Khalra .. .. .	..	4
Harike—Ferozepore	1	1
Ferozepore—Fazilka	4	4
Total ..	5	9
Grand Total ..	36	51

*Services operating from Amritsar—Bhikiwind extended to Khalra.

MOTOR TRANSPORT OPERATORS' CONVENTION

***952. Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the proceedings of the Motor Transport Operators' Convention held at Jullundur in the last week of August, 1952, and presided over by Gyani Gurmukh Singh Mussafir, President, State Congress, Punjab ;
- (b) the action, if any, taken by the Government on the demands made and resolutions passed by the Convention ?

Shri Jagat Narain : (a) Yes.

(b) The resolutions passed and the demands made by the Convention are under examination.

 SCHOOLS

***997. Shri Rala Ram :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the schools started after 1934 are not brought on the grant-in-aid list ;
- (b) if the reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, the steps he proposes to take to abolish this invidious distinction between the schools rendering the same service to the community ?

Shri Jagat Narain : (a) Yes. Not on the regular grant-in-aid. The Government, however, give a special grant to unaided A.V. schools, on the recommendation of the Divisional Inspectors and Inspectresses.

(b) The question of bringing all such schools on the grant-in-aid list is already under consideration of the Government.

Mr. Speaker : Question No. 1017 is postponed.

Shrimati Sita Devi : On a point of information, Sir ; may I know as to why the majority of the questions are being postponed even though the condition of fifteen days' notice was duly complied with in each case ?

Mr. Speaker : I have no power to ask a Minister to reply to a question.

 BHAKRA AND NANGAL PROJECTS

***256. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to State :—

- (a) whether the newly-employed foreign experts for Bhakra and Nangal Projects have made any major changes in the plans and designs originally prepared on the basis of which work was undertaken in 1942 ; if so, the details thereof ;

- (b) whether it is a fact that the boring of even one of the two tunnels on either side of River Sutlej, which was the first major step in the original scheme of design and which was undertaken in 1948, has not yet been completed ; if so, the reasons for this delay ;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any action against the officers responsible for such delays ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that certain essential materials for the construction of the tunnels, for which orders were placed with the Central Workshop, Amritsar, in 1948, have not yet been fully complied with ; if so, the reasons for such delay ;
- (e) whether the Government is prepared to lay on the Table of the House facts and figures, and the schedule of construction work, which form the basis of the Government's announcement that the scheme shall be completed by 1959 without further delays ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : (a) No detailed plans and designs were prepared for Bhakra Dam in 1942. Moreover, the reservoir level was kept at elevation 1,600.00.

Specification, schedule and drawings were, however, got prepared in 1946 for a dam at Bhakra with reservoir level at 1,580. These documents formed the basis of work now in progress except in so far as certain modifications were later made in 1949 when revised schedule and specification drawings were got prepared with reservoir level at 1,680. The newly-employed foreign specialists have not yet made any major changes in the plans and designs prepared then but have made many valuable suggestions. These are :—

- (i) Elimination of tunnel spillway and passing the whole river discharge through and over the dam.
- (ii) Omission of portions of pen stocks in case where they have not to be used immediately and leaving block outs in the dam with a view to putting these portions later on.
- (iii) Change in the alignment of some pen stocks.
- (iv) Reduction in the number of galleries.
- (v) Reduction in the number of tiers of river outlets from 3 to 2.
- (vi) Increase in the height of pore of concrete from 5 feet to 6 feet.
- (vii) Use of tainter gates in place of drum gates on the overflow spillway.
- (viii) Reduction in the number of joints to be grouted.

These suggestions are still under examination and if adopted will effect substantial economies.

- (b) The reply to the first part of the question is in the affirmative.

Minister for Irrigation]

Regarding the delay in the completion of the tunnels, it would be pertinent to mention that the diversion tunnels of Bhakra are unique and have no parallel in any part of the world both as to their size and in relation to the difficult formation encountered while driving them through the canyon wells. In the first place, these tunnels have an excavated diameter of 60 feet, which is larger than any tunnel excavated in the world. Furthermore, they have to pass water moving at very high velocity and carrying abrasive material like shingle and grid. To provide a smooth and durable surface for the diversion of water, it is necessary to line the tunnels with concrete which requires careful attention in regard to specification and form. Even the least error in alignment or fall in quality may result in serious damage to the tunnels. These tunnels are in a curve and in a large portion of the length the section changes from place to place. This further complicates concreting and requires great care to ensure that there is no abrupt change. In spite of these difficulties and the fact that no expert help was available, 12,200,000 c ft of rock has been excavated out of 14,600,000 c.ft and 17 lakh c.ft of concrete has been poured out of 58 lakh c.ft. The tunnels are expected to be completed next year.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Central Workshop, Amritsar, was to supply ribs for supporting the tunnels during excavation, the steel shuttering and gantries for concreting. The entire quantity of steel required for the ribbing, i.e. 2,260 tons, has been supplied. Out of the total requirements of 2,000 tons of steel shuttering and gantries, the Central Workshop has supplied 1,676 tons to date. Six more gantries weighing 324 tons are expected to be supplied by the end of November this year.

The steel required for the tunnels is of a structural type. The structural shops at Government Central Workshop, Amritsar, have always been over-busy due to so many other demands of Irrigation Department itself. Thus the Government Central Workshop is supplying the entire gates and gearing required for Nangal Dam and is manufacturing scroll casing required for the Power Houses on Nangal Canal and the structural steel required for the tunnels. In addition, it is manufacturing towers for the Electricity Branch. The capacity is limited and manufacture of structural units has to be scheduled in conformity with the various priorities. Difficulty is also being experienced in getting steel.

(e) Government will be prepared to lay on the Table of the House facts and figures relating to construction schedule of Bhakra Dam as soon as the detailed programme of construction, which is now being revised and worked out in consultation with Mr. M.H. Slocum, our Construction Consultant, is ready.

ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) : Sir, I beg to ask for leave to make a motion* for the adjournment of the business of the House.

Mr. Speaker : I declare the Adjournment Motion out of order as it does not conform to the conditions laid down in the Rules of Procedure for such a motion.

*Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina, M. L. A., 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 failure of the Police to protect inhabitants of Village Manikpur, Tehsil Tarn Taran, District Amritsar, from the attack of the armed *Goondas* alleged to be hand in glove with very influential persons, on 13th October, 1952.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut(Tanda) : Sir, I beg to ask for leave to make a motion* for the adjournment of the business of the House.

Mr. Speaker : I rule the motion to be out of order.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : I shall feel grateful if the hon. Speaker gives reasons for such a decision.

Mr. Speaker : In this connection I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Member to a ruling of a prominent Speaker of the Punjab Assembly. A Lady Member, like the hon. Member, had asked the reasons of the Speaker for holding her adjournment motion out of order. To this the Speaker replied, "Order, order. The hon. Lady Member (of course, here I would say the hon. Male Member)—should resume her seat". I have held this motion out of order and I am not bound to give reasons. But, however, just to oblige the hon. Member, I shall certainly state the reasons. In the first place, it is quite evident from the subject of the Adjournment Motion that the matter is not of urgent public importance because it happened on the 2nd of October. Today, I hope, the hon. Member knows it full well, is 21st of October and 19 days have passed but the hon. Member has not cared to move his little finger to ask the Government to take action in the matter. In the second place, I understand that the proceedings of the case are still going on in a court of law. The hon. Member should know that if I allow the discussion of a matter which is *sub judice*, on the floor of the House, then it will prejudice the trial of the case.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : But may I remind you, Sir, that I wanted to move this Adjournment Motion yesterday, but I was not permitted to do so ?

Mr. Speaker : That is not correct. Yesterday the hon. Member due to his ignorance of the Rules of Procedure did not ask for leave at the proper time.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Now I would request you to allow this Adjournment Motion as it is connected with the Leader of the House.

Chief Minister : Sir, with your permission, may I inform the hon. Member that earliest opportunity will be taken to bring that matter before the House.

Shri Wadhawa Ram : Sir, I beg to ask for leave to make a motion **for the adjournment of the business of the House.

Mr. Speaker : Shri Wadhawa Ram has requested for leave to make a motion for the adjournment of the business of the House to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance. I have got a copy of the Adjournment Motion and I regret to announce that the matter stated therein is neither urgent nor definite. According to this Adjournment Motion, the hon. Member only wishes to raise a voice of protest against the terrorisation and indiscriminate arrests of the tenants by the police in the first week of October. The arrests were made some 2 weeks back and I do not think there is now any urgency in it. Moreover, this matter is *sub judice* as the persons concerned

*Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut, M. L. A. 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 Lathi charge of the police on the peaceful demonstrators at Ludhiana near Clock Tower and in the public meeting addressed by Shri Bhim Sen Sachar, the Chief Minister, on 2nd October, 1952.

**Shri Wadhawa Ram, M.L.A., 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, to raise a voice of protest against terrorisation and indiscriminate arrest of the tenants by the Police in Jalalabad, Tehsil Muktsar, District Ferozepore, in the 1st week of October.

[Mr. Speaker]

are being tried in a court of law. I, therefore, declare the Adjournment Motion out of order.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Re PROCEEDINGS OF YESTERDAY LAID ON THE TABLE

Mr. Speaker : Now I will make some announcements :

(1) The proceedings of yesterday's debate are laid on the Table for the use of the House. The speeches made by the hon. Members are also available.

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

(2) Under Rule 177 of the Rules of Procedure of the Punjab Legislative Assembly, I nominate the following persons as Members of the Committee on Petitions :—

Sardar Gurdial Singh Dhillon (*Ex-Officio* Chairman).
Sardar Wazir Singh.
Shri Rizaq Ram.
Shri Jagdish Chander.
Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur.

HOUSE COMMITTEE

(3) Under Rule 173, the following gentlemen have been nominated as Members of the House Committee :—

Sardar Gurdial Singh Dhillon (*Ex-Officio* Chairman) .
Shri Kedar Nath Sehgal.
Shri Abdul Ghaffar Khan.
Sardar Achhar Singh.
Sardar Gurbanta Singh.

Irrigation Minister : It is a fair selection.

Mr. Speaker : But the difficulty is that these Committees function very rarely.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : It is so because the Chairmen never call any meetings.

PUNJAB MATERNITY BENEFIT (AMENDMENT) BILL

Minister for Labour (Chaudhri Sunder Singh) : Sir, I beg to introduce the Punjab Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Bill, 1952.

Minister for Labour : Sir, I beg to move—

That the Punjab Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Bill, 1952, be taken into consideration at once.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Punjab Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Bill, 1952, be taken into consideration at once.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Sir, this amending Bill, when seen in the light of the existing law, appears to be defective. It does not provide any relief to those women employees who actually stand in need of such a relief. In the first place, the Factory Act applies only to a limited number of women workers. We want that the scope of that Act should be extended so as to apply to all women workers. Then the application of the Act should not be confined to certain factories only.

Now that the question of providing maternity benefits after delivery, miscarriage or abortion has been taken up in this Bill, I feel that every woman worker should be entitled to such benefits. Not only this. The law should provide for such benefits even before delivery, for a period of not less than forty days. The Bill is silent on this matter and I think it should incorporate a clause to this effect also. The present amendment does not serve the real purpose. In fact, the women workers are being deprived of this right. In my opinion, as I have already stated, the women workers should be given these benefits and the period should be at least forty days. Ordinarily, it is observed that a woman is unable to move out and do her job forty days before delivery. Therefore she should not be deprived of the maternity benefits for this period, otherwise this amending Bill will do no good to the women workers for whom it is meant.

There is another thing which needs mention. I find that only thirty days rest is sought to be provided in the present Bill for women workers suffering from miscarriage. Ordinarily in our homes we find that our women-folk require at least $1\frac{1}{2}$ months rest after delivery or miscarriage. I fail to understand why only thirty days' rest has been provided and not forty days.

Then, Sir, the production of certificates by the women workers regarding miscarriage or abortion is a veritable nuisance. This requirement throws blot on the character of a woman worker in the factories. As a matter of fact the women workers have to experience a lot of difficulty in procuring such certificates. I think if the Government wants to know the circumstances or the difficulties under which women workers secure such certificates at the peril of their self-respect, it should better conduct an inquiry in this matter. It is no exaggeration that the condition of producing a certificate often deprives many a woman worker of the maternity benefits she is entitled to under this measure, and in many cases they have to degrade themselves. This fact can be ascertained on inquiry.

With regard to the provision regarding appeals I wish to submit that....

Minister for Irrigation : Sir, the hon. Member is discussing the whole Bill and not the principle underlying it.

Sardar Chanan Singh : I can speak on this point when the motion for taking the Bill into consideration is before the House.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : On a point of order, Sir. The hon. Member should speak on the motion now before the House. He cannot discuss the Punjab Maternity Benefit Act, 1943 and the Factories Act of 1934.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Sir, we want that they should have the right of going to court as the factory-owners can influence the Labour Commissioner, etc., and the cases are not decided in favour of the labourers. I do not want to state before the House in detail the difficulties that these women labourers have to face. Sir, I, therefore, reiterate that these women should be permitted to prefer appeals against the decisions of the Labour Commissioner in the court.

Next, Sir, I submit that when these labourers have organised themselves into Trade Unions, their Unions should be permitted to take part in conducting the enquiries. This will enable the Government to get correct reports of the enquiries and thus administer even-handed justice to the poor people.

Then, Sir, so far as the question of fine is concerned, I personally know that the factory-owners do not give benefit to the labourers. I, therefore, suggest that the maximum limit of fine should be fixed at Rs 1,000 in place of Rs 500 so that nobody should dare withhold the maternity benefits to the women labourers.

Shri Som Datta Bahari (Simla) (Hindi) : Mr. Speaker, my friend Sardar Chanan Singh has raised an objection that the women labourers are not granted any leave before the delivery period. This is not correct. Section 5 of the Maternity Benefit Act, 1943, lays down that—

Any woman entitled to maternity benefit under the provisions of this Act—

- (a) who is pregnant may, on any day, give notice either orally in person or in writing in the prescribed form to the Manager of the factory that she expects to be confined within one month next following and may therein nominate a person for purposes of section 6.

The following is its second clause :—

- (b) When such notice is received, the employer shall permit the woman to absent herself from the factory from the day following the date of notice in the case mentioned in clause (a) of subsection (1).

Therefore, Sir, it is quite clear that if a woman labourer who is pregnant brings this fact to the notice of the Manager of the factory, it becomes imperative for him to grant her leave the very next day. Therefore the argument advanced by my hon. Friend does not hold water.

The next point relates to the production of a certificate. He has suggested that the production of a certificate should not be made compulsory. In this connection I state, Sir, that a woman has been given three options, viz.—

- (a) The first option is that a certificate may be produced about her state before one month of the delivery.
- (b) The second option is that she may produce such a certificate after the delivery.
- (c) The third option is that she can submit a copy of the entry of delivery made in the register.

It is, therefore, quite evident, Sir, that all the points are already covered and there is no need for a new amendment. The next point is about the right of appeal. Now the right of deciding an appeal has been transferred to the Labour Commissioner. The remarks of Sardar Sahib that justice will not be administered to them are also exaggerated.

Sir, the Punjab Maternity Benefit Act, 1943 (VI of 1943), was drafted at a time when the Factories Act, 1934, was in force ; and labour work was entrusted to the Director of Industries. The term 'factory' has now to be brought in line with the definition under the Factories Act, 1948, which is more extensive ; and Government have also set up lately a separate Labour Department and it is appropriate that any appeals against the decision of Inspector under sections 7, 10 and 11 of the Act, should be decided by the Labour Commissioner. Mr. Speaker, these are the salient points contained in this Bill and I think no other amendment is needed. With these words I resume my seat.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Punjab Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Bill, 1952, be taken into consideration at once.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Now the House will proceed to consider the Bill clause by clause.

CLAUSE 2

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That clause No. 2 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 3

Mr. Speaker : Now we proceed to clause No. 3 Sardar Achhar Singh and his other friends have given notice of an amendment to this clause. One of them may move it.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in proposed subsection (3), lines 3—5, the words "for a period—mis-
carriage or abortion" be deleted.

Sir, although our Ministry has felt the necessity of such a Bill very late, it is yet a matter of satisfaction that it has done so. The sub-clause (3) of clause 3 says—

In case of a miscarriage or abortion, every woman employed in the factory, for a period of not less than 6 months immediately preceding the day of miscarriage or abortion shall be entitled to and her employer shall be liable for, the payment of Maternity Benefit at the rate prescribed—

Mr. Speaker, may I, through you, ask the hon. Members sitting on the Treasury Benches as to why a woman worker whose service does not exceed 6 months should be deprived of the maternity benefits. This provision will be quite handy to the factory-owners to dispense with the services of every such woman so that she may not serve for a continuous period of 6 months. Consequently she would be deprived of her claim for maternity benefit. Sir, my suggestion is that every such woman irrespective of the length of her service, should be entitled to get this benefit and every employer should be made to pay it to such a woman. The period of 6 months should, therefore, be deleted and a provision be made that every woman labourer, whatever the period of her service may be, should be granted this benefit.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in proposed subsection (3), lines 5—3, the words "for a period—mis-
carriage or abortion" be deleted.

Shri Wadhawa Ram (Fazilka) (Punjabi) : Sir, I am in entire agreement with what has been stated by my hon. Friend Sardar Achhar Singh on this amendment. I suggest that the condition of the period of service being 6 months should be done away with. I have seen in many Government offices that the poor people are not allowed to complete their 6 months' service. Let me quote an example from the Jail Department. In this department poor Warders are not allowed to complete their 6 months of service after which period they become entitled to free uniform. A similar malpractice will become rampant in the factories. The owner or the management would see that no woman worker ever completes her six months' service, lest she should become entitled to maternity benefits. Thus no woman labourer will ever receive any benefit.

Mr Speaker, factory-owners always keep in view their own interests and act in such a way that they do not have to pay any money in the shape of maternity benefit etc. Therefore, they would terminate the services of every such woman worker on one ground or another. I, therefore, suggest, Sir, that the condition of completing six months' service may be removed and every woman working in a factory should be granted this benefit irrespective of the length of her service.

Minister for Labour (Chaudhri Sundar Singh) (Punjabi) : Mr. Speaker, I would just like to refer my hon. friend opposite to the Statement of Objects and Reasons of this Bill. The original Act which is intended to be amended by this Bill, was enacted in 1943. This Bill seeks to provide maternity benefit to the women workers employed in the factories in cases of miscarriage or abortion in the same way as they were eligible for such benefits in cases only of delivery under the original Act. But with this a condition has also been laid down, namely, that no maternity benefit shall be allowed to a woman employee having a miscarriage, if it results in her conviction under section 312 of the Indian Penal Code. It will be seen that the benefits, now intended to be extended to the women labourers at the time of miscarriage or abortion, were not allowed under the original Act. I, therefore, request my hon. Friends, who are opposing this Bill, that they should not worry much about the provision of six months in this Bill. They should keep in their minds the benefits which the women labourers will get through it. The period of six months is not long and will not matter much. They should not forget the real good which it will give to those workers.

Sardar Chanan Singh : Sir, we are unable to follow what the hon. Minister has said.

Shri Som Datta Bahari (Simla) (Hindi) : Mr. Speaker, one thing that I want to submit is that the necessary period of employment as provided in the Maternity Benefit Act, 1943, was nine months; but in the Bill, now before the House this period has been fixed as six months immediately preceding the day of miscarriage or abortion, that is, it has been reduced by three months. In other words, it provides greater relief to the women workers and the hon. Members should have no objection in adopting this Bill.

Sardar Achhar Singh : Sir, may I with your permission point out to the hon. Member that there is no question of reduction in the period from nine months to six months. What is required is that this condition should altogether be done away with.

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That in proposed subsection (3), lines 3—5, the words “for a period—mis-
carriage or abortion” be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That Clause 3 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 4

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That Clause 4 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 5

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That Clause 5 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 6

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That Clause 6 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 7

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 7 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 1

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That Clause 1 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

TITLE

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That Title be the Title of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Minister for Labour (Chaudhri Sundar Singh): Sir, I move—

That the Punjab Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Bill be passed.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved—

That the Punjab Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Bill be passed.

Sardar Wazir Singh (Delhon) (Punjabi): Sir, I want to congratulate the hon. Minister for Labour for reducing the period of service, which a woman worker must put in before she is entitled to maternity benefits. He has told the House that his Government has been good enough to agree to the reduction of this period from nine months to six months. So the Government also deserves felicitations on this account. But I would like to make an appeal to the hon. Ministers that they should altogether remove this condition of six months, if they are really anxious to help the women labourers.

My hon. Friends of the Communist Party have rightly said that the factory-owners will be in a position to avoid the payment of these maternity benefits to the women workers. They will rather misuse the provisions made in this legislation. Therefore, I again request the Government to abolish this condition completely.

Shri Som Datta Bahari (Simla) (Hindi): Sir, I want to point out to my hon. Friends, that there is no fixed time for calamities such as miscarriage or abortion. No one can foretell the time when a women is going to suffer from miscarriage. It may not take place even in six months. Therefore, I want to impress upon them that the condition of six months will not matter much.

Mr. Speaker: I am sorry to say that the hon. Member has taken Sardar Wazir Singh to be very serious about his suggestion.

Sardar Achhar Singh (Anjala) (Punjabi): Sir, this is an important issue. It means that these hon. Members do not wish that married women should work in the factories. According to the hon. Member, who is a lawyer also, only unmarried women should be allowed to work there. May I tell him that this is a matter of shame for us all. He also said that miscarriage could not take place in two months time and in this way tried to justify the reduction in the period from nine months to six months. I am of the opinion that the Government is going to repeat the blunder which its predecessor committed at the time of the passing of the original Act.

Chief Minister (Shri Bhim Sen Sachar) (Hindi): Mr. Speaker, personally I was of the view that this Bill would not face any opposition but I feel that an hon. Friend of mine has remarked that this matter is not a serious one....

Mr. Speaker: That was just by way of a joke.

Chief Minister : Sir, this is a measure that has been designed to bring about an improvement in the present state of affairs. Many of the hon. Members may not consider it advisable but the fact remains that the present legislation, in brief, is meant to cover those cases of maternity where the women concerned are employed in factories. The Bill has been necessitated in order to provide a safeguard against the removal of those women from the factories who, in consequence of a miscarriage or abortion during the period of duty, may be ordered to leave the job by the employers on account of their

inability to perform their duties. Besides, in order to make them qualified to claim the maternity benefit, it has been provided that a woman can prefer a claim provided she has put in six months service in the factory. Since she has served in the factory it becomes the responsibility of the factory-owners to provide her with such maternity benefit. During the course of their speeches some of my hon. Friends have remarked and others may apprehend that as soon as the factory-owner comes to know that abortion is going to take place in such and such case then they may remove the woman concerned from service prior to such a happening. As a matter of fact I am unable to understand the logic of such an argument. Moreover, a period of six months has been considered to be the most reasonable.

Therefore, a provision to this effect has been made in this Bill so that a woman labourer in these circumstances may become entitled to this benefit. The time when an abortion takes place is not the concern of this Bill but the purport of this provision is that in order to claim the maternity benefit, in case of an abortion, the woman should have got at least six months service to her credit.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Punjab Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Bill be passed.

The motion was carried.

THE CATTLE TRESPASS (PUNJAB AMENDMENT) BILL

Mr. Speaker: Now I request the Minister for Local Government to introduce his Bill.

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma) : Sir, I introduce the Cattle Trespass (Punjab Amendment) Bill.

Minister for Local Government (Hindi) : Sir, I move—

That the Cattle Trespass (Punjab Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration at once.

Sir, the Cattle Trespass Act is an old Act and needs to be amended in certain respects and for that purpose this amending measure has been brought forward. Well, Sir, the necessity has arisen in view of the fact that the parent Act does not contain any appropriate provision to save food crops from the ravages of the stray cattle, which, of late, are on the increase. The Government, therefore, feels that unless the Act is made more rigid, it would not be possible to solve this problem satisfactorily. Now, Sir, the major problem confronting us today is that of the Grow-More-Food. Obviously the damage done to the crops by the stray cattle considerably and seriously affects our efforts directed to make this Campaign a success. Under the circumstances when we have to import foodgrains from foreign countries, and when we want to conserve every ounce of the same, the enactment of such a measure as is under discussion, becomes all the more necessary. So, on account of this very reason and, otherwise, too, it has been felt that some amendments should be carried out in the existing Act.

Previously, the stud bulls were also included in the category of 'stray cattle' but the first amendment seeks to exclude such bulls of the District Boards as are let loose for stud purposes and are specified by a notification in a Government Gazette, from the definition of 'stray

[Minister for local Government]

cattle'. This step has been taken in order to eliminate the consequent botheration of getting them released in case the people get them impounded in some cattle-pound. This defect has been in existence till now, and, therefore, an amendment has been proposed to the effect that not every bull should come under this definition and the bulls which are specified for stud purposes by an official notification of the Government or, in other words, the registered bulls, should be excluded from its scope.

Secondly, the Act empowered the zamindar, the tiller of the land, the tenant, the landlord, etc., whose fields were damaged by the stray cattle, to capture them and put them in the pounds. It was left to the discretion of the person concerned to get the stray cattle impounded or not since he might not think the loss to be sufficient to justify the impounding. But now, in accordance with the provisions of the Bill, the Government wishes to delegate this authority to certain officers; probably the officers who are concerned with lands under the Grow-More-Food Schemes. I may, therefore, make it quite clear that the purport of the Bill is not to delegate these powers of impounding the cattle to any officer except those belonging to the Veterinary and the Grow-More-Food Departments.

This provision has been made so that if any land-owner is too careless to bring the stray cattle damaging his crops to the pound, the Government may take action of its own accord.

Then comes the third amendment. Previously, if the owner of any stray cattle did not appear to take back his cattle from the pound and the cattle had to be auctioned the procedure was that the money realised from the auction was, after deducting the fine and maintenance charges, handed over to the owner if he came forward to demand it within a period of three months. After that period it was forfeited. Now we have extended this period to six months. Supposing an owner does not get the information about the auction of his cattle and some money is due to him out of the proceeds of the auction, we will wait for six months before declaring it as forfeited.

The fourth amendment that has been proposed in this Bill relates to fines. The present procedure is that if a man whose crops have been damaged by stray cattle puts the cattle in the pound and then files a suit against its owner in a court of law the maximum penalty is a fine up to Rs. 50 only. Even this fine was for ordinary cattle. Those who rear pigs and other such animals could not be fined more than Rs 10 per head of the cattle. This made certain people careless and some of them became habitual offenders. The amount of fine was not enough to prove a deterrent in their cases. Another defect which we have sought to remove was that if any owner of the crop has suffered a heavy loss he could not be compensated to any extent whatever. Suppose someone suffered a loss of Rs. 200 or so and the matter came to a court of law, the poor fellow could not get any monetary relief because the maximum amount of fine permitted by the law was only 50 rupees and even that went to the Government treasury. Now the proposed amendment empowers the Magistrate to award compensation up to Rs 250 in addition to the fine.

Lastly, if a man has become a habitual offender and does not care to keep his cattle away from other people's crops the Magistrate trying the case has been given the power to confiscate and auction such cattle. The object of this amendment is to compensate those who have suffered a loss and teach a lesson to those who have become habituated to letting their cattle loose to cause damage to the crops of their neighbours.

Thus there is nothing controversial in this measure. It has been brought forward for the good of the people. Still it is before the House for discussion, comments and suggestions. I hope all of these proposals will meet with its approval.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved—

That the Cattle Trespass (Punjab Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration at once.

Shri Gopi Chand: On a point of information, Sir. Will the Minister please let us know what will happen if the owner of the cattle brought to the pound, does not turn up to claim them? It is well known that....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Since the hon. Member wants information he should confine himself to the asking of that information only.

Sardar Wazir Singh (Delhon) (Punjabi): Sir, the law regarding cattle trespassing is an old one, but it has never been enforced with any measure of strictness. I think the measure now put forward by the Government is very timely because it was urgently called for in these days of scarcity and dearness when the desire is that crops should be saved at all costs. I, therefore, congratulate the Government for having brought forward this Bill. I am glad that at long last the Government has thought of the zamindars and tried to favour them with this small mercy. But I feel constrained to say that even in this Bill they have failed to offer a solution of the real troubles. They have bestowed all their attention on minor things only and ignored the bigger ones. The real troubles are of two kinds. Firstly, there are some stray animals which no one will buy at any price. Even the persons in charge of pounds are not prepared to receive them. May I ask what has the Government proposed to cope with this trouble? If such cattle damage the crops of a zamindar what can he do to obtain adequate compensation and what relief has been provided in the Bill?

The second trouble arises from the wild cows and ownerless stray animals. It may be stated that hordes of wild cattle are found wandering in the Ferozepore District. Wherever they go, the crops are totally destroyed by them. Actually near the border of Ludhiana and Ferozepore Districts these wild cows are found roaming about in hordes of two to three hundreds and playing havoc with the crops. In this connection I may point out that we approached the Grow-More-Food Committee of the district and offered monetary contribution from the District Board funds with a view to making arrangements for combating this nuisance. But we were told that the Committee was not concerned with this matter and that the Government should be asked to attend to it. Now I take this opportunity to appeal to the Government that it should move in the matter and save the crops from the ravages of these animals. Let them make some arrangements on the model of their Cattle Farm at Hissar. I assure the Minister that all District Boards will be prepared to offer their fullest co-operation if any fund is raised for this purpose. Not only this. Sufficient money can be raised by way of donations from other people also. But it is beyond the resources of District Boards and Panchayats to adopt effective measures. Co-operation of both the Government and the people is needed to meet this evil. It may be stated that in certain villages people make private arrangements and pay between two and three hundred rupees to guards to ward off the ravages of the roaming cows. But even this method has not proved very satisfactory. In the end I request the Government once again to do something to rid the people of these menaces.

Shri Wadhawa Ram (Fazilka) (Punjabi): Mr. Speaker, instead of bringing forward some good measures for replacing the old laws and thus removing undesirable Acts from the Statute book, our Government is merely doing a patchwork. A new thing which the Government is going to do under this Bill is that it is arming itself with the power of seizing the stray cattle and also of imposing a fine of Rs 250 on their owner. It is a well known fact that in the districts of Ferozepore and Ludhiana, hundreds of stray cattle are roaming around. The Government should set up cattle farms for these cattle and after breeding them for some time, it should make them over to the needy people. At present the villagers have engaged guards for protecting their fields from the devastation caused by such cattle and they pay ten, fifteen or twenty seers of grain to those guards. If a person does not give grain to those guards, they let those cattle loose on his fields and get his crops damaged. The Government pays no heed to these matters. On the other hand what does it do? It merely asks its officers to draft a few lines in the form of a Bill and brings it before the Legislature. This very thing happened in the case of other Bills which were passed last time and it is being repeated now. I am of the opinion that if stray cattle are saved, the cattle wealth of the State will increase. There is shortage of cattle in Amritsar, Hoshiarpur and Jullundur Districts but our Government is going to take the power of confiscating them. This will result in the cattle of poor Harijans being seized by the Government officers and these people whom the Government claims to help will be adversely affected. The rich people go scot free because even the officers are afraid of them and also because they receive various benefits from them. So the poor people alone will suffer on account of the law empowering the Government to confiscate stray animals. A powerful person has nothing to fear. I am aware of all these things as I have a personal experience of these. As a matter of fact the Government should have started farms for stray cows and other cattle. In this connection the House will be interested to know that in my village there lived a *Granthi*, named, Harnam Singh. His calf entered a field. That calf was seized and Harnam Singh was told that it would be returned to him on payment of a fine of five rupees. He said that he would not pay the fine as the calf was worth not more than eight annas. (*Laughter*). What I mean to say is that if the stray cattle are properly protected, the cattle wealth of the State will increase. Whenever the Government brings forward an amending Bill, we are told that it is being done with a view to increasing agricultural production. Formerly, some *Sadhus* had set up Gaushalas. The lame, disabled and old cattle were brought up in those Gaushalas and the *Sadhus* were satisfied with whatever small quantity of milk they got for their use. But the Government should open farms for the stray cattle and after breeding them should give these to the needy people. Otherwise the poor people will always be afraid of their cattle being seized under the powers that are being taken by the Government under the proposed Bill.

Rao Gajraj Singh (Gurgaon) (Hindi): Mr. Speaker, this amending Bill has been brought forward with a view to saving the crops from being destroyed by the stray cattle but I am of the opinion that another provision should have also been incorporated in it. I am referring to section 14 of the main Act which lays down that the cattle cannot be auctioned till the expiry of fifteen days after their seizure. Seven days are allowed for making the report and seven days' notice is given for the auction. The expenses which have to be incurred on feeding the cattle during these fifteen days sometimes exceed the price fetched during auction. It should have been provided that the report should be made on the very day of seizure and the auction should take place

after seven days. This would have resulted in a saving of seven days. The period of fifteen days is too long. I wanted to bring an amendment to this effect but as the section in question had not been referred to in this Bill, I could not do so. I shall request the Minister concerned to do the needful. As the period of fifteen days is too long, he should give special permission for the necessary amendment being made in the Act.

Shri Babu Dyal (Sohna) (Hindi): Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the Government for bringing forward this Bill for the benefit of the farmers and villagers. I however, beg to submit that there are several other matters which should have been provided in this Bill. Hundreds of stray cattle move about in my *ilaga* and no provision has been made in the Bill for putting a stop to that menace. I have pointed out to the Deputy Commissioner and other officers many times that the poor peasants have to keep awake the whole night for protecting their fields which they prepare after great labour, from being damaged by stray cattle. Some suitable arrangement should be made for keeping these cattle in check. As the people of my *ilaga* are Hindus, nobody takes hold of these cattle for slaughtering them. It was, therefore, essential that some arrangement should have been made in this Bill for protecting the fields from stray cattle. Hundreds of them roam about in the forests. The crops on which the peasants work during the day are destroyed by these cattle at night. The herds comprising 200 to 250 cattle visit the fields at night and in the morning when a farmer finds his hard labour of six months completely ruined, he feels most miserable. He is not in a position to check this menace on his own and it is the duty of the Government to make some arrangement for combating this evil.

Then Sir, about two or three years ago we requested the district authorities that these stray cattle should be seized and auctioned. The Government acceded to our request and the result was that heifers and cows were purchased by the people. The heifers were retained and the cows were subsequently let loose. In my *ilaga* the cattle are seen moving about in hordes. I would request the hon. Minister-in-charge that he should take steps to prevent the damage to crops caused by these stray cattle by making some necessary amendments in the Bill so that zamindars may have some relief from this nuisance. There is only one way to do this and that is that the Government should seize these cattle and give them proper breeding at a place like the Hansi Cattle Farm. Then afterwards they may be put to use or auctioned. With these words, I hope that the Government would certainly take some steps by enacting some legislation in this behalf.

Sardar Nidhan Singh (Mehna) (Punjabi): Sir, I beg to submit that whatever Bill the Government brings up before the House, does not receive our full attention with the result that we have subsequently to resort to patch-work by making amendments in it and ultimately that legislative measure is found to be devoid of any force or life. It will always do well for the Government to put forth comprehensive measures. Besides the hon. Minister should remember that if any Bill is passed hurriedly then it would be returned by the Legislative Council with amendments. In this connection I may inform the House that during the British regime about 30 lakhs of cows were killed every year and their fat was utilised as manure or used in factories. I do not understand why such a Bill has been introduced before the House when Britishers have left the country. By bringing up this Bill the Government has dealt a blow to the tenants, zamindars and petty beoparis. Our Harijan brethren who belong to backward classes own no land nor do they enjoy any

[Sardar Nidhan Singh

right in the shamilat land and this is the reason why their cattle are seen moving about in the fields. It appears to me that the Government evinces no interest in the welfare of anybody. It is its duty to give them land so that they may be able to stand on their own legs and graze their cattle on them but the pity is that it is not paying any heed in this direction. I am certain that there is no possibility of effecting improvement in the conditions by resorting to patchwork. In these circumstances, I may warn the Government that if it continues to pursue this policy the result would be that the boat of the Government will soon get engulfed in the swift current of the time and capsize taking others along too.

Shri Gopi Chand (Pundri) (Hindi) : Sir, I am sorry to say that due to lack of time I could not give notices of amendments to this amending Bill which is now before the House. I have just studied the Bill and am sorry to say that it would not give any relief to the people. The Forest Guards challan the stray cattle of the rural people even when these are passing along the roads. These officials misuse their authority and oppress the poor people. If this measure is passed, then I think that instead of giving relief, it would prove harmful to the people. The main idea is to protect the crops from damage caused by these stray cattle but at the same time I am of the view that it becomes the duty of the Government to provide them land so that they may be able to keep their cattle there. The Government is at liberty to impose fines upon such people whose cattle are let loose but I fail to understand how those people are to be blamed who possess no land to tether their cattle and have to set them free for reasons beyond their control. The Government has not made any suitable arrangement for them where they can keep their cattle. Under these circumstances, how can they be charged with the commission of any offence when they possess no land to tether their cattle? I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister-in-charge through you, Sir, that this Bill is bound to cause great trouble to the people if not suitably amended. The Harijans are already in miserable plight. As you are aware, Sir, lot of disputes are going on in the villages and in connection with these the Harijans are subjected to mal-treatment and oppression by the zamindars. Under these circumstances, I would request the Government that it should give its close attention to this Bill and should not pass it in haste. It is true that such cases will come up before the courts but the poor people cannot afford the heavy expense and worry of such litigation. This problem is, therefore, of vital importance to the rural people. Some time back the hon. Minister had discussed the matter with zamindars and had impressed upon them not to let loose their cattle which were damaging their crops. But the Government has never cared to think why these stray cattle go about in large numbers. The crops invariably fail mainly because of the lack of the rainfall or excessive rainfall or because the zamindars do not get adequate supply of canal water. This results in scarcity of foodgrains. Under these circumstances, it becomes all the more necessary that suitable arrangement should be made by the Government for keeping off these cattle. So that whatever little crops the zamindars may have, may be saved from their ravages. Besides this, the Forest Guards are becoming a source of great nuisance to the public and it is necessary that this nuisance should be stopped.

Shri Abdul Ghaffar Khan (Ambala City) (Hindi) : Sir, I would like to make a few observations in this connection and seek clarification on one point from the hon. Minister-in-charge. I would request the Government

that it should, for God's sake, refrain from entrusting wide powers to its officers. My hon. Friend has already expressed his view on this point and I need not therefore repeat what he has already said. I would like to know whether all the cattle excepting the bulls let loose by the District Boards for stud purposes are to be impounded under the provisions of this Bill. In villages where there are no such District Board stud-bulls, I would like to know whether privately-owned stud-bulls will also be put into the cattle-pounds. I only want to seek clarification on this point from the hon. Minister-in-charge.

Shri Chand Ram Ahlawat (Jhajjar) (Hindi) : Sir, there cannot be two opinions on the necessity of saving the crops from damage by the stray cattle. While no hon. Member can object to the taking of necessary measures in this direction, we have serious misgivings as to whether the enactment of this measure will not add to the sufferings and handicaps of that poor section of the rural population, viz., the Harijans, who are now at last being slowly allowed to come into their own by grant of concessions and measures adopted for their uplift. Every now and then we hear the Zamindar members complaining of the hardships being piled upon their community by the Government ; but, Sir, the fact of the matter is that every Zamindar is like a dagger pointed at the heart of a Harijan and treats him as a serf. People who will be entrusted with the implementation of the provisions of the proposed Bill—whether they are lambardars or others—will invariably represent and safeguard the interests of the Zamindars and leave no stone unturned to harm the Harijans. It is on account of these misgivings that I sound a note of warning that while taking measures to save the crops from damage safeguards must be provided against their misuse resulting in the aggravation of the hardships of the Harijan community.

The measures that the Government has been resorting to in the past in this connection have been generally detrimental to the interests of the Harijans. Sir, the Government must bear this fact in mind that cattle-rearing or cattle-breeding is a supplementary occupation of the Harijans.

Now, may I, Sir, cite a concrete instance to make my point clear. Some time back, a Magistrate of my district imposed fines on some persons on a false complaint made against them by a Forest Guard that their cattle had been grazing in the forest area. The fact of the matter is that these persons belonging to the Harijan community had refused to mend the shoes of the Forest Guard *gratis* and, therefore, the latter had made a false complaint against them. Among those who were made to pay fines were some who owned and kept no cattle head at all.

So while I support this Bill, I want an assurance from the Minister-in-charge to the effect that the proposed measure will not operate unjustly on the poor people.

Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht (Hassanpur) (Hindi) : Sir, I congratulate the hon. Minister on having brought forward this amending Bill on the necessity of which there cannot be any two opinions.

Crops are generally damaged by two kinds of cattle—stud bulls and the unclaimed cattle. So far as the cattle of the former category is concerned, it has rightly been kept out of the purview of the proposed provisions and has not been made liable to any restriction but I think that suitable provision has not been made to save these crops from the great damage done to

[Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht]

them by the unclaimed cattle. Old, useless cows and bullocks have been of late roaming in the countryside in very large numbers. Nobody is prepared to own such useless cattle nor are there any slaughter-houses to dispose them off or Gowshalas to look after and feed them.

Clause 5 of the Bill provides for the payment of compensation to the owner of the damaged crop—'require him to pay to the person.....'. I wonder how this is going to be implemented in the case of an unclaimed cow or bullock damaging a crop. Who will pay the compensation to the owner of the crop ? With these words I urge that provision must be made to safeguard the crops from the ravages of unclaimed cattle.

Shri Ram Sarup (Butana) (Hindi) : Sir, I also congratulate the hon. Minister for Local Government on having brought forth this amending Bill with a view to save the crops from damage resulting from cattle trespass. At the same time I would like to make a few suggestions which, if accepted, would result in enhancing the utility of this measure.

The owner of cattle leaving it deliberately free to graze on the fields of a cultivator on account of some personal grudge or enmity is a common happening in the rural areas. As the cattle-pounds are generally situated at some distances from the villages, many a time the insistence of the owner of the damaged crop on taking the trespassing animal to the pound gives rise to quarrels and free fights on the way and generally the owner of the cattle succeeds in getting it released. In my opinion, damage to crops by the trespassing cattle cannot be checked unless there is a cattle-pound in or near every village. It would be well if a provision to this effect is made in the Gram Panchayat Bill which is likely to come up before the House in this very session.

Harijan friends have misgivings that this measure will add to their sufferings. In our district, every Balmiki Harijan is keeping a herd of pigs which do immense damage to the crops. As it is impossible to identify a pig, no fines can be imposed—the owner remaining discreetly silent. (*Laughter*). With these words I support this Bill and congratulate the Minister-in-charge.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Sir, the hon. Minister has stated that the provisions made in this Bill will help the Grow-More-Food Campaign. Yes, the Government has tried all other methods of increasing the food production of the State. After having failed to achieve the objective inspite of opening so many new departments, it appears as if it is now banking upon this method alone to make the campaign a success.

There is no denying the fact that stray and useless cattle do great damage to the crops and steps should be taken to save them from this damage but as to why the villagers themselves should not be allowed to catch the trespassing cattle passes my comprehension. There appears to be no reason why this work should be entrusted to officials only except that the Government is anxious to open new departments. What useful purpose will the opening of a new department serve ? I find that whenever a new measure is introduced, Government somehow does provide for or leave scope for the opening of a new department.

Another thing which I wish to say is about the risk involved in this. In my district the Harijans are facing a great hardship in the matter of grazing their cattle. Under the Forest Act they.....

Minister for Irrigation : This discussion does not relate to the Forest Act.

Sardar Chanan Singh : I know that. But my submission is that the Harijans are facing a great hardship in this matter. I admit that the safety of the crops should be our first concern but the thing that I want to point out is that the people in the villages should also be empowered to seize such cattle and put them in the cattle-pounds. The second thing is that these cattle-pounds should be larger than they are at present. The most important thing towards which the attention of the Government should be directed is the hardship that the Harijans face. This amending Bill should provide some remedy for their difficulty.

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma) (Hindi) : Sir, I was under the impression that there would not be much discussion on this simple amending Bill. But my hon. Friends occupying the opposition benches have even here found certain things to say. Even though there was nothing to be said, yet these friends, being compelled by their habit have tried to make certain uncalled for remarks. As a matter of fact the scope of this Bill was very limited. Those persons who keep cattle but who do not properly supervise or care for them, are responsible for the damage to the crops of their neighbours. This Bill is intended to be made applicable to such persons. The definition of the word 'cattle' covers nearly all the animals, but it passes my comprehension what made my friends stretch this definition unnecessarily and include wild animals like deer, lions, and tigers, etc., in it. Although it is the duty of the Government to check such animals and beasts from causing any damage to the crops but this matter concerns some other Act and some other department. To bring lions and tigers under this measure is to extend its scope unnecessarily. To suggest that wild animals like lions and deer may also be put in the cattle-pounds may sound well in the mouth of the Opposition Members but it sounds strange if the members on my right also begin to offer such suggestions. In fact, all these things are out of the scope of the present Bill. There are certain animals whose price is very small and if such animals are put in the cattle-pounds, the District Boards or the Municipal Committees, would not be able to get any appreciable price for them at the auctions because the people will not pay a high price. So there are many complications if the scope of this Bill is extended. Of course, the Government wants to see that no damage is done to the crops in any way, but my point is that to bring such wild animals in the definition of this Bill is not within its scope.

One of the hon. Members has suggested that it should be open to any person to seize and put in the cattle-pounds, any stray cattle that he may come across. So the suggestion is that those persons who have nothing to do with the fields should also be free to seize and put stray animals in the cattle-pounds in order to save the crops from damage. I wonder how any person would like to do this unpleasant job and take the responsibility of sending the cattle to the cattle-pounds from the fields with which he has no connection at all.

Another thing which I am at a loss to understand is that some of the hon. Members occupying Government benches have objected to the giving of more powers to the officials. It has also been remarked that the officers are likely to abuse these powers. In fact this is quite a different matter and it has and should have no connection at all with the Bill under discussion. I am surprised at intelligent persons saying that because the officers do not generally make a proper use of the powers given to them, they will, in this case also, misuse them

[Minister for Local Government]

and therefore no powers should be given to them. This generalization does not appear to hold water and in this case it is particularly irrelevant.

Another thing which has been stated is that the Harijans will suffer and the poor people will face great hardships. It has also been remarked that because they possess a small number of cattle, special consideration should be shown to them. If the poor Harijans have only a few heads of cattle, how does it mean that they should be allowed to damage the crops of the farmers? Of course the Harijans have a small number of cattle, but this does not mean that they will be harassed unnecessarily without any fault. If their animals cause any damage to the crops it is only then that they will be sent to the cattle-pounds and not otherwise. I assure the hon. Members that the powers proposed to be given to the officers will be used properly. Therefore I think that the points that have been raised on the floor of the House should not have been raised at all. Had the hon. Members been serious about the views, which they have expressed, they would have given notices of amendments. After hearing the discussion I can say that remarks made by some of the members are without any force, whatsoever.

There are some other points also which call for a reply from me. My hon. Friend Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan has asked for a clarification with regard to the stud-bulls and has remarked that there are certain bulls which are, in fact, useful to the public but which do not belong to the District Boards or the Municipal Committees. I want to tell the hon. Members that useful stud-bulls will be notified and the provisions of this Bill will not apply to the notified stud-bulls. But merely because a bull is straying it will not do.

Shri Abdul Ghaffar Khan : But what about the religious sentiments of the people?

Minister for Local Government : This is quite another question. We are not putting the useful stud-bulls in the cattle-pounds. There is yet another thing which I wish to place before the hon. Members. The Panchayat Bill is going to be passed soon. Of course cattle-pounds, schools, hospitals, etc., will be established in the villages and will be in the charge of these Panchayats.

Then, Mr. Speaker, it has been suggested by some hon. Members that a big building should be used as cattle-pound. It is not possible as it is very difficult to supply fodder to such a large number of cattle.

Then, Sir, Shri Gajraj Singh has suggested that the cattle detained in cattle-pounds should be disposed of after a week instead of 15 days. I consider it a good suggestion and I should agree to it as it can save a lot of expenditure. But on account of certain technical difficulties it is not possible to incorporate it in the Bill.

Sir, in the end I want to say that the present Act will benefit every class of people and will harm none. I again want to assure the House that the Government will take special care to see that nobody should take undue advantage of this Bill and harass the poor people.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Cattle Trespass (Punjab Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration at once.

The motion was carried

Mr. Speaker : Now the House will proceed to consider the Bill clause by clause.

CLAUSE 2

Sardar Wazir Singh (Delhon) (Punjabi) : Mr. Speaker, my hon. Friend Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan had asked quite a befitting question and I consider that an amendment incorporating his suggestion should have been made in the Bill. I think either the Minister-in-charge has not fully understood the suggestion or else he is not conversant with this topic. In this connection I submit that in every village the bulls are provided by the District Boards for stud purposes. I, as Chairman of a District Board, am in a position to say that District Boards have not so much funds as to supply every village with a stud-bull of its own. Their prices are high and if we take Rs 450 or 500 to be the price of one stud-bull, the District Boards will have to spend lakhs of rupees for the purpose. Therefore the District Boards provide one stud-bull for a group of 5 or 7 villages. Many villagers, in order to help the District Boards and also on religious grounds offer bulls of good breed for stud purposes. These private stud-bulls are not notified but they do fulfil the needs of the people. But it is a pity that these unnotified stud-bulls have not been taken notice of by the Government. If the notified stud-bulls are not to be impounded I suggest that the private stud-bulls should also be exempted because their existence is as essential as that of the notified ones. I, therefore, request that the Government should give due consideration to this aspect of the matter and refrain from rushing with the Bill.

Sir, it is the duty of the Government to give full consideration to the suggestions offered by the various hon. Members and try to meet them. It does not matter whether it takes ten days to pass the Bill.

It has also been suggested by my friend Rao Gajraj Singh that the cattle impounded in the cattle-pounds should be auctioned after a week instead of two weeks, if their owners do not turn up to claim them. Although the suggestion has been appreciated by the Minister but inability has been expressed for accepting it. Sir, I reiterate the necessity of giving full consideration to this Bill and removing its shortcomings.

Mr. Speaker, through you, I again request the Government to protect the unnotified stud-bulls as well against being impounded. I would like to request the Chief Minister in particular that whereas Government is spending lakhs of rupees on the 'Grow-More-Food-Campaign' it should also provide fodder for the 'Ram Cows' because the District Boards cannot afford to spend on them. Cattle-pounds are not run by the Government. As their expenditure cannot be borne by the District Boards and Municipal Committees, I request that Government should give attention to this side also.

Sir, in the end, I again cannot help saying that the unnotified stud-bulls should be given due protection as they are an asset to the rural people.

Mr. Speaker : I am sorry to say that Sardar Wazir Singh has missed the point. He ought to have made the general observations that he has made now when the Bill was at the consideration stage. Clause 2 is under discussion and he should have confined his observations to it. Now I will put the Clause to vote.

Question is—

That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 3

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 3 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 4

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 4 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 5

Mr. Speaker : Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut and some others have given notice of an amendment to Clause 5. I request any one of them to move it.

Sardar Darshan Singh (Taran Taran) (Punjabi) : Sir, I move—

That in part (b) lines 4-5 the words "be forfeited to the State" be deleted.

Mr. Speaker, I beg to submit that we fully support this Bill to the extent that it concerns the safety of the crops.

Minister for Irrigation : What is the amendment of the hon. Member ?

Mr. Speaker : His amendment is—

That in part (b) lines 4-5, the words "be forfeited to the State" be deleted.

Sardar Darshan Singh : Sir, I want to lay stress on the fact that the provision made in this Bill for the impounding of cattle which may happen to trespass some field, will mainly affect the poor Harijans and Mazhbi Sikhs, who do not own any land. During the last elections these people had voted against the will of the Zamindars but now the latter will again be in a position to put undue pressure on them.

Secondly, in the presence of this legislation, the Lambardars and other big landlords who want to have 'Beggars' i.e., forced labour, from these poor people, will also be in a position to put undue pressure on them and compel them to work for them without any remuneration. Therefore, Sir, I suggest that the hon. Minister would be well advised to accept this amendment moved by me.

Mr. Speaker : I want to point out to the House that strictly speaking, this amendment is not in order. It makes strange reading. In case it is admitted this part of the clause of the Bill will read as follows :—

(b) Order that the cattle in respect of which the offence has been committed shall, in addition to any other penalty imposed,

Therefore the amendment is not in order. In any case the hon. Member has placed his ideas before the House which he wanted to do.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 5 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried

CLAUSE 1

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 1 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

PREAMBLE

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Preamble stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

TITLE

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Title be the Title of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma) : Sir, I move—

That the Cattle Trespass (Punjab Amendment) Bill, be passed.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Cattle Trespass (Punjab Amendment) Bill be passed.

Sardar Wazir Singh (Delhon) (Punjabi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to submit that many suggestions have been made by some hon. Members both from the Opposition and the Ministerial benches which they wished to be incorporated in this Bill so as to make it more useful. But none of those suggestions has been accepted. In my opinion the hon. Ministers have succeeded in achieving two things through this Bill in the form in which it is going to be passed by this House. Firstly, they will be able to appoint a new officer to make use of powers conferred by this Bill. Thus they will be able to oblige some one by making his appointment.

Minister for Local Government : I may assure the hon. Member that we shall not do that.

Sardar Wazir Singh : The hon. Minister can reply to the criticism afterwards. At present he should avoid making any interruption.

Mr. Speaker : I am glad to note that the hon. Member has not allowed anybody to interrupt him.

Sardar Wazir Singh : Sir, I want to tell the hon. Minister that it is in the interest of every zamindar to protect his fields from the ravages of the cattle. He will, of his own accord, catch hold of such cattle as may trespass into his fields and deliver them to the cattle-pound. I want to ask the hon. Minister how can a person, deputed by the Government for this purpose, have an incentive to work faithfully and catch such cattle? He may, however, catch hold of some stray cattle some day and deliver to the cattle-pound in order to show his work.

[Sardar Wazir Singh]

The second thing which has been included in this Bill is that a person whose cattle happens to trespass into an other's fields, shall be liable to a fine up to Rs 250. The class of people which is likely to be most affected by this Bill is that of poor Harijans. Sir, I want to point out to the hon. Ministers that this type of treatment which they are extending to those poor Harijans, who, to a certain extent, were responsible for voting them to power, is 'to say the least, not right. The cattle of those Harijans will now be sent to the cattle-pounds whenever any of their cattle happens to trespass into some field. Further, it shall not be possible for them to take those back easily. On the one hand they will be made to pay a fine and on the other they will be asked to pay Rs 50 or Rs 60 as compensation to the owner of the field. I have serious apprehensions of this provision being misused. This, in fact, will cause great hardship to the poor Harijans. And yet my hon. friends on the Treasury Benches are never tired of proclaiming that they are out to 'help the Harijans. The Government is not even prepared to extend help to some public body which may open some ' Gow-Shalla ' for the care of useless cattle. In other countries, such useless cattle are killed but it is not possible here because of religious sentiments and also because the Government is not prepared to take any responsibility on itself.

Besides this, the Government has failed to make any provision for keeping off the stray cattle which cannot be kept under control. It is a thousand pities that it does not feel much concerned about such difficulties of the public and perhaps for that reason it has made only these provisions in the enactment of which it was interested.

Shri Wadhawa Ram (Fazilka) (Punjabi) : Mr. Speaker, through you, I wish to enquire of the hon. Ministers whether they have seen for themselves the cattle-pounds ? As a matter of fact the majority of the cattle impounded therein belongs to the category which is invariably stolen by the thieves. Mr. Speaker, I know that the staff posted at such pounds would come to some understanding with such thieves and get their share in proportion to the cattle which they will manage to admit in the pounds. In these circumstances, what will happen when the owner of the cattle comes to know about its having been stolen and impounded, and reaches there and raises a hue and cry to get it released. So to the first category belong that the cattle which are stolen by the thieves and admitted into the cattle-pounds. Mr. Speaker, I may tell the hon. Ministers that if they do not believe me, then they should better examine the registers maintained in the pounds and they will themselves come to know how many cattle impounded therein come under this category. I have myself been an eye-witness of this kind of affairs and, as compared with the hon. Ministers, I claim to possess more knowledge of the mis-appropriations carried in the villages.

Mr. Speaker : Is there any work which the hon. Member has not done ?

Shri Wadhawa Ram : Sir, I have got a good deal of experience of each line. I know.....(*interruptions*). The hon. Members should at least have patience to listen. As soon as any Member from this side stands to speak, the hon. Ministers immediately interrupt and ask him to speak slowly.....(*interruptions*). Mr. Speaker, I wish to submit that the Government did well in constructing these pounds. Their primary object was to save the fields from the devastation caused by the stray cattle so that there should not be any wastage of crops and foodgrains. Sir, it is a matter of deep regret that the poor and the down-trodden people are always made the main target of each law enacted under the present system. The intention may be to benefit the poor but the fact remains that what happens in actual practice is quite the reverse of it. However, I was saying that one category of the cattle is of those which are stolen by the thieves and sent to the pounds.

The second category of cattle belongs to those who do not have any friend or those who do not carry out the wishes of their superiors in the ilaqa. The only way for such high-ups to torment these poor people is to untie their cattle in their very presence and get them impounded. In this way, Sir, the 'kamis', the milk-maids and other people of low status are crushed. Then, Sir, I would like you to see the cattle of those people who claim to be the Chaud'ris of the villages. It is a fact that their cattle destroy the fields of the small peasants and the 'kamis' in broad day-light but nobody dare point it out. Their cattle roam about all day long and even the thieves do not carry them away. Why should they steal such cattle? After all, the thieves are also their agents.....

Mr. Speaker : I would request the hon. Member kindly to wind up his speech.

Shri Wadhawa Ram : Sir, what I wish to say is that the poor and ordinary people in the villages exercise the closest watch over their cattle by remaining themselves by their side throughout the day fearing lest somebody should steal them away. But the big people do not even care for their cattle; perhaps they know that neither the thieves nor the officers will seize them.

Besides, Mr. Speaker, I wish to enquire as to what is the necessity of appointing these new officers? What will be their utility? No officer—small or high—ever devotes his attention to his work. They always long to be vested with more and more powers so that they may wield more and more influence (*interruptions*). Sir, what I mean to say is that practically none of the cattle impounded in the pounds is fed with fodder procured by these officers. They remain starved for days together and are set free provided illegal gratification is offered to them. When the owners of the cattle come to get them discharged from the pounds, these officers get Rs 15 to Rs 20 per cattle and distribute the amount amongst themselves. This money neither goes to the coffers of the State nor is it deposited with the District Boards. Therefore, I feel that such powers should not be delegated to these officers and the Government should rather withdraw the Bill.

Then, Sir, the extent of fine, i.e. Rs 250 is also very exorbitant. What to speak of this Government, even hon. Members offer strange arguments in favour of this provision. Anyhow, Mr. Speaker, I am convinced that the poor people will not be benefited by this measure. It is nothing but an eye-wash. With these words I request the Government to withdraw this Bill.

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma) (Hindi) : Mr. Speaker, I submit that no new argument has been advanced by my hon. Friends during the course of the third reading. The same points, which were stated during the first reading of the Bill, have been repeated although in a different form. An hon. Friend from the Opposition has charged the Government with making this measure a pretext to create more posts. In fact, according to the provisions of the Act, it was at the discretion of the person concerned to seize the stray cattle and get them admitted into the pounds. But a drawback has been experienced in this practice which is that if nobody has sustained a loss he may not impound another's cattle, thinking that whatever was to happen has happened and therefore there was no purpose in getting the cattle impounded. Such slackness on the part of some people results in encouraging the owners of the stray cattle and consequently they do not care to look after them or keep them in check. All these things have a very adverse effect on our Grow-More-Food Campaign. Therefore, in view of these circumstances, the Government have felt it necessary to delegate the authority of

[Minister for Local Government]

getting the stray cattle impounded to certain officers so that the damage done by such cattle should be prevented. This is a very simple matter but I am constrained to remark that it is being unnecessarily prolonged. There is no idea of creating any new posts. Do the hon. Members think that the Government will appoint an officer in each village for this purpose? Mr. Speaker, I wish to make it abundantly clear to them that nothing of this kind is going to happen. The only thing is that in case circumstances warrant, some officers may be vested with such powers.

Then, Mr. Speaker, there are three or four simple things for which provision has been made in this Bill. Firstly, the existing Act includes stud-bulls also in the definition of 'stray cattle', but the Bill under consideration seeks to exclude them from its scope. Secondly, in order to seize the stray cattle and send them into the pounds, the Government wishes to reserve the power to delegate authority to some of its officers, so that the nuisance of these stray cattle should be checked and the crops saved from being damaged. Thirdly, there is the time-limit for preferring the claims, which has been extended to six months.

Some of my hon. Friends have stated that a kind of favour has been shown to the big people under the provisions made in Clause 5 of this Bill. Sir, I wish to tell them that if they hold this view, then they are entirely mistaken. The tillers of the land, the tenants and the poor but not the big people will be benefited by the provisions made in this clause, because it is they who have suffered a lot on account of the ravages of the stray cattle and also because they were never paid any compensation for losses sustained by them. For this purpose, therefore, the magistrates will be empowered to assess the amount of compensation to the extent of Rs 250. Then, Sir, it has been repeated *ad nauseum* that very wide powers are being given to the officers who will misuse them and harass the people. I think, this argument is very handy to the Opposition and can be advanced in connection with each and every measure which may be brought forward. Whenever the Government takes any action or proposes any measure they can raise this objection and I am sure, they will always raise it. But it will be admitted on all hands that this is not the way of doing things. Then one hon. Member was pleased to remark that people have no experience of cattle-pounds. My submission is that, not to speak of cattle-pounds, the people have sufficient experience of human-pounds as well (*laughter*). Anyway, my hon. Friend wanted to say something and he has done so. Now I commend this Bill to the House for its acceptance.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Cattle Trespass (Punjab Amendment) Bill be passed.

The motion was carried.

(The Assembly then adjourned till 2 p.m. on Thursday, 23rd October, 1952)

Punjab Legislative Assembly Debates

23rd October, 1952

Vol. III—No. 3

OFFICIAL REPORT



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Printed by Dev Datta Shastri, at the V. V. R. I. Press,
Sadhu Ashram, Hoshiarpur.

Price -/5/-

Punjab Legislative Assembly

Thursday, 23rd October, 1952.

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber at 2 p. m. of the Clock. Mr. Speaker (Dr. Satyapal) in the Chair.

QUESTION HOUR

Sardar Gopal Singh : Sir, as today is a non-official day, I request that the Question Hour be dispensed with.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Sir, there is nothing unusual about today's non-official day. The Question Hour should not be dispensed with.

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Member, Sardar Gopal Singh, need not worry, about the Question Hour. He will be given ample time to speak on the resolutions. Now questions on today's list will be taken up.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

DACOITIES AND THEFTS IN THE STATE.

*1000. **Shri Rala Ram :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state:—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the crime in the form of dacoities and thefts is on the increase in the State ;
- (b) if the reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what steps does he propose to take to put down crime of this nature ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) No. On the contrary, both forms of crime are on a steady decrease since 1949. (Statement giving the exact figures is given below).

(b) Does not arise.

Statement showing incidence of thefts and dacoities in the State from 1949 to 1952 (upto 31. 8. 1952).

Year	Thefts	Dacoities
1949	8322	178
1950	6787	85
1951	6183	78
1952	3789	33

(up to 31. 8. 52, i.e.. for 8 months)

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : May I know how many dacoities were traced out ?

Chief Minister : I require notice for this.

CULTIVABLE WASTE LAND IN VILLAGE SABHAPUR.

*979. **Shri Wadhawa Ram :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state :—

- (a) the area of cultivable waste lands lying in village Sabhapur, tehsil Jagadhri ;
- (b) whether the District Authorities have taken over these lands under Section 3 (i) of the East Punjab Utilization of Land Act, 1949, and given them to some person or persons for cultivation ; if not, the reason therefor ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) 214 acres.

(b) Notice under section 3 (i) of the East Punjab Utilization of Lands Act, 1949, was served on the land owner to enter into an agreement with the Collector for breaking the land within a specified period and to deposit the security. The owner failed to deposit the security. Further action is being taken to lease the land.

FIVE YEARS PLAN OF COMMUNITY PROJECTS IN THE STATE.

*998. **Shri Rala Ram :** Will the Minister of Development be pleased to state whether there is a plan for a regular five-year Community Project for this State or whether the extension of the scheme will depend on the success of the experiments being conducted at five places at present ; and if the latter, the steps that are proposed to be taken to level up such backward districts as Hoshiarpur and Kangra ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : According to the Community Projects Scheme in the Punjab, which will be on the lines of the model scheme prepared by the Government of India, with suitable modifications to suit local conditions, the development work to be taken up in different Project areas is to be completed in a period of 3 years. The lean finances of the State do not permit the establishment of a large number of Community Projects at once but as money becomes available, more Community Projects may be established gradually so as to cover the entire area of the State, including the Hoshiarpur and Kangra districts, in due course of time. In fact a portion of the Kangra district along with some area in the Himachal Pradesh is already under consideration for a new Project. Experience gained by the working of the first set of Projects will also be taken into consideration when deciding a further advance.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : May I know from which head the community projects are being financed ?

Mr. Speaker : How does a supplementary arise when the Minister has not given a reply to the main question.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : I have asked this question to know in what proportion the allotment of funds is being made for different schemes ?

Mr. Speaker : It looks very queer that a supplementary should be asked when the Minister has made no reply to the original question. How can the hon. Member put a question when the reply on which he has to base his supplementary does not exist ?

TACCAVI LOANS TO REFUGEE LANDHOLDERS.

*734. **Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether the Government is aware of the fact that a majority of refugee land holders are not yet in a position to repay taccavi loans granted to them in the state; if so, whether the Government have issued any orders postponing the recovery of taccavi loans from those who are unable to pay yet for a few years ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) Government is aware of the difficulties experienced by displaced allottees of lands. Taccavi loans, however, have to be repaid and after taking all facts into consideration, Government considered that the present, when the last harvest has been good and the prices of agricultural produce are high, is an opportune time for the loanees to pay off their dues.

(b) Except in the Hissar district where scarcity conditions prevail and the Bet areas of Ludhiana district, no orders have been issued postponing the recovery of taccavi loans.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Is the hon. Minister aware of the fact that great difficulties are being experienced by the Government in the recovery of taccavi loans ? In Hoshiarpur many people indulged in fighting and proceedings are going on against them. From this it appears that the people are not in a position to pay back these loans. Under these circumstances, may I know if the Government is prepared to make recovery of these loans in instalments or to postpone it for some time ?

Minister : The Government is not prepared to postpone the recovery of taccavi loans on the ground that some people indulged in fighting. I think that such a condition does not exist in Hoshiarpur which may warrant the postponement of the recovery of loans.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Is the Government prepared to make recovery of these loans in instalments ?

Minister : I have nothing to add to what I have already stated.

ALLOTMENT OF HOUSES TO THE REFUGEES FROM
WEST PAKISTAN.

*742. **Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

- (a) the number of refugees from West Pakistan who have so far been allotted one serviceable house, one repairable house or one for (vacant plot for construction) each separately ;
- (b) the number of refugees from West Pakistan who have been allotted more than one serviceable or repairable house, or one for each ;
- (c) the maximum number of houses or plots allotted to any single refugee family so far ;
- (d) the number of refugees from West Pakistan who have not, as yet, been allotted any house or plot for construction ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : Time and labour involved in collecting the information will not be commensurate with any possible benefit to be obtained.

SITTING ALLOTTEES IN THE STATE.

*853. **Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether he is aware of the fact that immediately after the issue of East Punjab Ordinance No. XIV of 1949 many allottees gave up possession of (i) vacant lands and (ii) lands on which kharif crop was still standing ;
- (b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether any such allottees who gave up possession of afore-mentioned classes of land were assessed with land revenue for the period prior to their giving up possession of their lands referred to in part (a) above ;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that some temporary allottees who had already given up possession of land prior to the issue of East Punjab Bill No. XXX of 1949 and who had not cultivated the rabi harvest of 1950, have also been assessed with land revenue for rabi, 1950 ;

(d) if the answer to parts (b) and (c) above be in the affirmative, the action Government has taken—

- (i) to refund the land revenue, if already realised or
- (ii) to prevent realisation of land revenue from such allottees ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) No.

- (b) In view of answer to (a) above this does not arise.
- (c) No such case has come to the notice of Government.
- (d) In view of answers to (b) and (c) above this does not arise.

WELLS ABANDONED BY MUSLIM EVACUEES IN THE STATE.

*854. **Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state:—

- (a) the total number of wells abandoned by Muslim evacuees in the State ;
- (b) the number of such wells as had persian wheels installed on them ;
- (c) whether he is aware of the fact that many temporary allottees have installed persian wheels on the wells at their own expense in the lands allotted to them; if so whether such persons are permitted to remove the persian wheels which they have installed; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh :

- (a) 54275. } Excluding Ferozepur district for which
- (b) 36675. } information is not readily available.
- (c) A few such cases have come to the notice of the Government. The temporary allottees can remove the persian wheels installed at their own expense with the permission of the competent authority after satisfying that those were installed by them at their own expense.

EVACUEE LAND IN VILLAGE HASANPURA, DISTRICT AMBALA.

*870. **Sardar Nidhan Singh :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the land of Muslim maurusi tenants of village Hassanpura in Tehsil Jagadhri had been declared evacuee land after the partition ;
- (b) the names of the persons who are in possession of the said land at present together with the names of those who till it ;
- (c) the area of the said land ;

[Sardar Nidhan Singh]

- (d) the area of culturable land in village Sabhapur in Tehsil Jagadhri ;
- (e) the area of land allowed to remain uncultivated in village Sabhapur ;
- (f) the reasons for its being left uncultivated ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) Yes. Out of 78 acres of land under Muslim occupancy tenants declared "evacuee property", 42 acres were restored to the Muslim occupancy tenants. The remaining 36 acres have thus been left in the evacuee pool.

(b) It is in possession of Kanwar Lal Amol Singh, Land owner of this village and Rais of Buria. The names of persons who are tilling this land are given below :—

1. Nazir ud-din s/o Abdul Cast Gujar.
2. Shahab-ud-din s/o Maju
3. Shadi s/o Allah Diya
4. Qamr Din s/o Ahmed
5. Sharaf Ali s/o Maju
6. Mansab Ali s/o Rihima
7. Kartar Singh s/o Harnam Singh Jat Sikh.

(c) As in (a) above.

(d) 527 acres out of which 26 acres are evacuee area.

(e) 215 acres.

(f) The land in question is non-evacuee (except 5 acres) and mostly belongs to Sardar Rattan Amol Singh. This land is at present occupied by Mst. Balwant Kaur as his tenant-at-will and she is incapable of controlling such a big area.

STARTING OF A ROSIN FACTORY AT HOSHIARPUR.

*999. **Shri Rala Ram :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether he is examining at present the prospects of a Rosin Factory at Hoshiarpur by way of rehabilitating the Jallo Rosin Industry in this State ; if so, by what date will the factory be started ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : The matter was considered by the Industrial Development Sub-Committee on the 14.8.1951 and the proposal to start a Rosin Factory in the Punjab was dropped as being financially unsound. This Government will, however, be prepared to consider a scheme for setting up a modern factory jointly with industrialists interested in this industry if a suitable scheme is put forward.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Is it a fact that the Punjab Government had invited applications in this connection ?

Minister for Finance : Yes, I remember that applications were invited two or three years ago when the Government had a mind to have a factory set up.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Is it a fact that certain interested parties had intimated their terms to the Government ?

Minister : I require notice for this.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Is it not a fact that in this very House in reply to a question it was stated on behalf of the Government that the terms offered by the party concerned were acceptable to the Government and that arrangements would be made to have the factory set up ?

Minister : I do not remember and, therefore, require notice for this.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Supposing some party is willing to set up a factory on Government's terms, will the Government accord the necessary sanction for that ?

Minister : I would invite the attention of my hon. friend to the reply to the main question wherein I have already stated that if any scheme for the setting up of the factory is received, the Government will certainly give its due consideration to it.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Has the Minister made sure after fully examining the scheme that a Rosin Factory cannot be run successfully in this State ?

Minister : I have read the report submitted by an officer about this scheme in 1951 but I do not agree with his conclusions ; that is why I have stated that if somebody submits a scheme in this connection the Government will give it its full consideration.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Instead of waiting for the members of the public to initiate the scheme, would it not be better if the Government itself undertakes to set up a Rosin Factory on the lines of the Jallo Factory ?

Mr. Speaker : This Supplementary is not relevant to the main question.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Sir, it arises out of the reply, namely, that the Government was not satisfied with the report regarding the establishment of a Rosin Factory. My question is that the Government should re-examine it.

Mr. Speaker : When the hon. Member says that the Government should re-examine it, then he does not put a question but makes a

(Mr. Speaker)

request and a request for a certain action cannot be treated as a supplementary question.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Sir, my supplementary is that in view of the dissatisfaction of the Government with that report, why has not the Minister so far re-examined the matter about the prospects of Rosin Factory.

Minister : As the House is aware, Government has decided to set up a Finance Corporation to help the industrial enterprisers. Since the raw material for a Rosin Factory, I think more than 50 per cent of it, would be supplied by the Forest Department, Government would be prepared to join in a venture if a private party puts up a suitable scheme for the consideration of the Government.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : In view of the past experience of Jallo Rosin Factory, may I know the reasons for Government's decision not to re-examine and continue such a factory as a State managed factory ?

Minister : My hon. Friend is perhaps aware that Jallo Factory was working more in favour of the Managing Agents than in favour of the Government. That pattern does not suit us. Government would be prepared to consider a scheme for setting up a modern factory jointly with industrialists interested in this industry if a suitable scheme is put forward. As a matter of fact, Government would welcome any scheme that would prove helpful both to the Government and the private parties joining in the establishment of a Rosin Factory.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Is the Minister aware that the Jallo concern was a paying proposition ? Could not the Government start it as a State-owned Factory and hand it over to the Managing Agents ?

Minister : I may tell my hon. Friend that conditions obtaining in this State at present are entirely different from what they were at Jallo. There the raw material necessary for a Rosin Factory was found in abundance but not here. All the same, Government considers it in the national interest to set up such a factory. I understand that some refugees have established small rosin factories. If they desire any help of the Government that help would be forthcoming.

Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht : Is the Government considering the possibility of setting up a rosin factory at a place outside the Hoshiarpur District ?

Mr. Speaker : It does not arise.

SAFE DEPOSITS OF VILLAGE PANCHAYAT FUNDS.

*968. **Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur:** Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether any instructions for the safe deposits of the Village Panchayat Funds have been issued by the Government; if so, a copy of the same be laid on the Table;
- (b) the number of villages in the Amritsar district and the number of Village Panchayats constituted therein upto 31. 7. 52;
- (c) whether any of the Panchayats referred to in part (b) above had a fund of more than Rs. 500/- in its hands on 1. 6. 52; if so, their list and the amount with each of them held on 1. 6. 52;
- (d) whether any of the Village Panchayats referred to in part (c) above had opened its account with any of the Post Office Savings Fund Account or any bank and had deposited any part of its fund with either of the institutions referred to above on or before 1. 6. 52; if so, their list and the amount which each of them had deposited?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma :

(a) Procedure for the deposit of Village Panchayat Funds has been laid down in rules 21 and 22 of the Punjab Village Panchayat Rules, 1940. In view of these provisions, no separate instructions are required to be issued.

(b) (i) There are 1276 revenue estates in Amritsar district but the Panchayat movement under the present Panchayat Act can be extended only to 1270 revenue estates leaving aside Municipal, Small Town and Notified Area Committees.

(ii) Upto the 31st July, 1952, 542 Panchayats were notified covering 610 revenue estates, while the total number of functioning Panchayats was 460.

(c) The required information upto the 1st June, 1952 is not available and could not be collected on account of short notice. However, on 31st March, 1952, 44 Panchayats had a balance of more than Rs. 500 at their credit and a list showing their names and the balance at their credit is given below.

(d) Yes. A good number of Panchayats did so. Detailed information on this point is not yet available and is being collected.

[Minister for Local Government]

*List of Panchayats having the closing balance of more than Rs. 500/-
at their credit on 31st March, 1952 in the Amritsar District.*

S. No.	Name of Panchayat.	Tehsil	Amount.
1.	Baheru	Amritsar	805 11 0
2.	Beggewal	do	15317 11 0
3.	Bharrariwal	do	991 12 0
4.	Bundala	do	1071 0 0
5.	Chhajjalwadi	do	1586 7 0
6.	Chawinda	do	892 15 0
7.	Daulo Nangal	do	689 8 0
8.	Dhaul Kalan	do	1122 1 0
9.	Khubba Rajputan	do	551 2 0
10.	Mahaddipur	do	2012 0 0
11.	Muchhal	do	712 5 0
12.	Tarpai	do	861 11 0
13.	Thande	do	936 9 0
14.	Usman	do	740 12 0
15.	Vedala Viram	do	813 4 0
16.	Nazir Bhuller	do	856 2 0
17.	Bhuchar Kalan	Taran Taran	816 1 0
18.	Bhuchar Khurd	do	1060 7 0
19.	Bhail Bhewal	do	574 10 0
20.	Chabal Kalan	do	1086 6 0
21.	Chabal Manan	do	1510 1 0
22.	Chamba Kalan	do	1510 5 0
23.	China Bidi Chand	do	577 3 0
24.	Pandori Sidhwan	do	867 10 0
25.	Rasulpur	do	623 0 0
26.	Sohal Thatti	do	2617 0 0
27.	Tharu	do	542 8 0
28.	Bagga	Ajnala	1013 10 0
29.	Jasraur	do	545 6 0
30.	Kohali	do	1285 8 0
31.	Manawala	do	639 2 0
32.	Motla	do	1004 2 0
33.	Peroke	do	1373 6 0
34.	Chuslewarh	Patti	8 6 2 0
35.	Dyal Rajputan	do	1591 8 0
36.	Kacha Pakka	do	99 9 0
37.	Kairon	do	1551 1 0
38.	Manhala	do	760 6 0
39.	Makhi Khurd	do	677 11 0
40.	Narli	do	1306 1 0
41.	Nathu Chak	do	766 9 0
42.	Padri Kalan	do	2776 3 0
43.	Ruri Wala	do	758 10 0
44.	Shakri	do	949 5 0

SUPPLY OF IMPORTED WHEAT IN THE STATE.

*1020. **Shrimati Sita Devi:** Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state :—

- (a) the total quantity of imported wheat supplied to the Punjab State during the years 1950-51, 1951-52, and 1952-53 together with the cost price and the sale price thereof;
- (b) the quantity of imported wheat allotted to each District in the years 1950-51, 1951-52, and 1952-53?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma :

(a) *Quantity of imported
Wheat supplied to
Punjab State.*

	<i>Tons.</i>
1950-51	50,495 (in return of loan)
1951-52	39,868
1952-53	Nil.
<i>Cost Price.</i> 1950-51	2,04,88,516/-
1951-52	1,99,85,721/-
1952-53	Nil.

Sale Price. The imported wheat is charged for at the same rate at which country wheat is issued. Since the quantities received during a particular year were not disposed of during that very year, a portion being carried over to the next year and merged with the receipts during that year, it is not possible to give separately the sale price of the quantities received during each year.

(b) A statement giving the required information is as follows :

Sl. No.	Name of District	1950-51 Tons.	1951-52 Tons	1952-53 Tons.
1.	Jullundur.	8,370	1,495	...
2.	Ludhiana.	4,380	2,290	...
3.	Karnal.	2,260	4,385	...
4.	Rohtak.	6,215	4,190	...
5.	Simla.	1,725	200	...
6.	Amritsar.	6,275	8,370	...
7.	Gurdaspur.	2,860	995	...
8.	Hoshiarpur.	6,760	...	...
9.	Hissar.	1,000	10,765	...
10.	Ambala	6,870	5,585	...
11.	Gurgaon.	3,320	1,593	...
12.	Kangra.	400	...	...
13.	Ferozepur.	...	...	...
		50,495	39,868	Nil

Shrimati Sita Devi: The hon. Minister has in his reply stated that in the districts of Hoshiarpur, Kangra and Ferozepur in the year 1951 some imported wheat was distributed. In the same districts during the year 1952 no imported wheat was distributed. As compared with these three districts in the year 1951 the districts of Karnal, Simla and Amritsar received less of imported wheat. In this way during both these years the quantity of imported wheat given to the various districts has been varying. May I know the reasons for such a variation?

Minister: Most of the wheat that we consume is produced in the State itself and only a small portion of it is imported. No district-wise estimates for the distribution of imported wheat have been made. So far as decisions regarding distribution of such wheat are concerned, they were made by the Government from time to time keeping in view the expenditure involved and the convenience in despatching the same. So no fixed proportion was kept between the quantity of imported wheat and country wheat for distribution purposes. The Government had to send wheat according to the local demands for it and it was sent in a way and in the proportion in which it was found convenient to do so.

Shrimati Sita Devi: Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether Hoshiarpur, Ferozepur and Kangra districts are more distant than the other districts like Simla and Amritsar; if not, then why is it that unequal distribution of imported wheat was made?

Minister: I have already stated that the Government and also the Civil Supplies Department took into consideration the factor of convenience and not the proportion of imported and country wheat. But now this matter should no longer be made a subject of discussion because during 1952 no wheat was imported in the Punjab.

Shrimati Sita Devi: My question is why equal quantities of imported and country wheat were not given in the various districts of this State?

Minister: Sir, I have nothing to add to what I have already stated. This question does not arise because we no longer consume any imported wheat.

REPRESENTATION FROM SHRI R. L. KOHLI OF KIWAREE BAZAR
AMBALA CANTT.

*871. **Sardar Nidhan Singh:** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had received a copy of the representation

addressed to the Governor by Shri R. L. Kohli of Kiwaree Bazar, Ambala Cantonment, in which allegations of corruption and favouritism have been made against certain officials of the Education Department ;

- (b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether any of the allegations contained in the said representation had been found correct ;
- (c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative ; what action the Government have taken in the matter ?

Shri Jagat Narain : (a) No.

(b) }
& } Do not arise.
(c) }

UN-STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

SUPPLY OF WATER TO THE TANKS OF VILLAGES KURANGAWALI, JHORAR, ROHI AND BHUNA DISTRICT HISSAR.

168. **Sardar Karnail Singh :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state whether the Government is aware of the fact that the supply of water to the tanks of villages Kurangawali, Jharar Rohi and Bhuna, Tehsil Sirsa, District Hissar has been stopped since two years, if so the reasons therefor ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : These tanks are not included in the 20 key tanks of Tehsil Sirsa District Hissar which are annually filled from the Pepsu channels under Model Scheme in April and May each year. This is the reason for their not being filled.

These tanks cannot be filled from any channel of the Abohar Branch.

REMODELLING OF TAIL R. D. NO. 14000, MINOR NO. III, DABWALI DISTRIBUTARY.

169. **Sardar Karnail Singh :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether Government has received a representation from the peasants affected by the remodelling of Tail R. D. No. 14000, Minor No, III, Dabwali Distributary, Kotla Branch, Sirhind Canal, Abohar Division resulting in the crest level of the said tail being lowered to such an extent that water does not reach the level of the fields and the whole supply flows down in the channel to the Bhakra Construction Works ;

[Sardar Karnail Singh]

(b) whether Government is aware of the fact that on account of the crest level being lowered there were no Rabi and Kharif crops in the area through which the said distributary runs ;

(c) the action, if any, taken in the matter ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : (a) Yes. The crest level of the tail was not lowered. It was on the other hand, actually raised by 0'6 ft. in order to improve the working of the tail.

(b) This is not correct. Irrigation is being done at site by the irrigators.

(c) Does not arise.

AUCTION OF TREES BY THE CANAL AUTHORITIES.

170. **Sardar Karnail Singh :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state whether the Government is aware of the fact that the Canal authorities have auctioned the trees on Minor No. III, Dabwali Distributary from R. D. 1 to 14000 and have paid no compensation to the landowners from R.D. 13000 to 14000 ; if so, the reasons therefor ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : The trees were auctioned from R.D.O.—14,000 on Minor No. III Dabwali Distributary. No compensation was paid for the trees in the reach 13000 to 14000 or is due as they were grown by the Canal Department, on the land which is in adverse possession of the Department for more than 12 years.

Mr. Speaker : As all the questions on today's list have been exhausted, we will now proceed with the next item on today's Agenda.

PUNJAB RESTRAINT ON DOWRY BILL.

Shrimati Sita Devi (Jullundur City, South East) ; Sir I move,—
That leave be granted to introduce the Punjab Restraint on Dowry Bill.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That leave be granted to introduce the Punjab Restraint on Dowry Bill.

Sardar Ajmer Singh : Sir, I object to the leave being granted to Shrimati Sita Devi to move the Punjab Restraint on Dowry Bill.

Mr. Speaker : As objection has been taken by Sardar Ajmer Singh, Shrimati Sita Devi can make a short speech in support of her Bill.

Shrimati Sita Devi (Jullundur City, South East) (*Hindi*) : Mr. Speaker, I did not know that there would be Members in this House who would oppose this Bill. It appears that the hon. Member preceding me, has only the affluent and the higher section of the society in view.

He is perhaps not aware of the plight of the general masses of the State of the Punjab. To me he does not seem to be acquainted with the meagre income of the poor people and the difficulties that confront them at the time of the marriage of their daughters.

Mr. Speaker, in 1949, this Bill came on the agenda of the Assembly and I thought that the House was going to enact a piece of noble legislation. As a matter of fact when the people of this State read in the newspapers about this Bill they heaved a sigh of relief. The poor people thought that an end to their miseries was in sight. But as ill luck would have it the Assembly adjourned soon after and it could not be passed. Sir, there are two categories of troubles in the world. To the first category belong the natural troubles and to the other those troubles for the creation of which society is responsible. The troubles caused by nature are such as earthquakes, locust swarms and the famines. When such calamities befall men, they remark that all these are by the will of God and that man is utterly helpless. The other troubles are the result of man's own actions. Our society has involved us in this trap just as a cob gets entrapped in its own web. The custom of dowry in our country is a great evil. Now, Sir, this House consists of enlightened representatives of the masses and they daily read newspapers and are fully conversant with the literature of foreign countries. They should know that the girls are not considered as a burden on their parents in Europe and America. In those countries, unlike India, people do not make merry or distribute sweets on the birth of a son. Nor do they feel aggrieved on the birth of a daughter. But in this country the birth of a daughter entails great worries to a poor man because of the realisation that he would have to spend beyond his means on her marriage. Not only this. Mr. Speaker, even if a woman has got seven sons and only two daughters, her worries and responsibilities about daughters would outweigh her happiness of having so many sons. It is all due to the existence of the evil of dowry. In other countries the solemnization of marriages of girls does not take long. The whole affair is over within a few hours. Either her relatives gather in a Church or the parents arrange a party where the marriage of the couple is performed.

But here the marriages of girls particularly during these days, are causing a great headache to their parents. Our social customs have become so vitiated that it has become well nigh impossible even for our well educated and highly qualified girls to marry for want of suitable matches. Suitable boys are prepared to marry them only if the parents of the girls are willing to pay them Rupees ten to fifty thousand or a car

[Shrimati Sita Devi]

in dowry or prepared to meet the expenses of their education in foreign countries. But those girls, who even though not well educated or possessed of other qualities, are likely to bring handsome dowries to their husbands are married without much difficulty. Even I.C.S. Officers or other highly placed or affluent persons are willing to accept them for marriage. Sir, this state of affairs exists in our country alone—not even in countries like Africa and Australia where a good many backward areas exist. It is a pity that such bad customs are prevalent in our country only. What do certain people do? They try to justify their action by saying that whatever they give in dowry they give to their own daughters, of their own accord. But this is a wrong practice. There is no doubt that in our Shastras it is laid down that '*Alankrita Kanya*' (well dressed girl) should be given in marriage. In other words it means that some suits of clothes must be given to the girls as presents on their marriages. But the difficulty is that the people in our country do not act upon this wholesome advice. They spend a lot to offer rich dowries to their daughters despite the fact that their financial position does not permit them to do so. My brother Sardar Ajmer Singh would have realised the pressing need for putting a restraint on dowries, if he had been a refugee. I think that even the financial position of most of the big landlords and jagirdars is not sound though outwardly it appears to be so. There is no doubt that the condition of the middle class people is very miserable. Their financial position does not permit them at all to give anything to their daughters, by way of dowry. Yet, Sir you will be surprised to learn how much the parents of the girls are required to give to the parents of the boys at the time of betrothal of their daughters. How a good deal of sweets, jewellery and clothes they have to offer to them on that occasion. Only a week back a betrothal of a girl took place at Delhi. The girl's father is an employee of some Bank. On that occasion, he gave Rs. 51 to the boy's father and the same amount to his mother. Then he gave Rs. 101 along with a silver plate to the boy. Besides this he also gave a large number of large plates full of sweets to them. One is disgusted at such a state of things.

Then, Sir, I would like to mention a dreadful happening in this connection before the House. In 1916, a girl named Sneh Latta was to be married. At the time of marriage a dispute arose regarding the amount of dowry. Things took such an ugly turn that the girl, realising the helplessness of her parents, committed suicide by burning herself after pouring kerosene oil on her body. Much water has flowed under the Satluj Bridge since 1916. It is 1952 now. But many a young girl has followed Sneh Latta in her footsteps in the Punjab too. The plight of women is really very miserable. I daily come across hundreds of such

women. There are many cases within my knowledge, in which either a poor woman committed suicide by taking poison or by burning herself.

Sir, I do not advocate that parents should not give anything to their daughters at the time of their marriages. Let them give whatever they like to give but they should do so sometime after the marriage. But in practice quite a different thing is happening. As I have already stated, some young men demand cars in dowry and some others want the girl's parents to bear the expenses of their education in some foreign country.

Mr. Speaker, I can quote chapter and verse to show that the present dowry system needs a radical change. This evil is eating into the vitals of the society at large. A few days back, when a marriage ceremony was over at Hoshiarpur, the parents of the bridegroom refused to take the bride back with them. Keeping in view the weakness of the parents of the bride that in our society it is not considered to be a good thing when a bride is not taken away by her in-laws after the marriage ceremony is over they said that they were prepared to take the bride with them provided her father was prepared to give a car in dowry. The father of the bride appealed to the bridegroom not to impose this condition. He asked him if his father had also given a similar dowry to his own daughters. But all his appeals were of no avail and he had to present a car to the bridegroom. Only after that could he send his daughter with her husband!

The other day, I had to go to Ambala to attend the All India Women's Conference. The Joint Secretary of that organisation is a young unmarried girl. I asked her why she had not invited me on her marriage which I learnt, was to have taken place some time back. She told me that her marriage could not take place since the bridegroom—a military officer—had demanded Rupees 12 thousand in dowry, which her parents could not afford to give.

Sir, the social customs in our country have changed for the worse. I, therefore, appeal to the hon. Members to adopt this Bill soon.

Sardar Ajmer Singh (Samrala) (*Punjabi*): I know I would be dubbed a reactionary for making an attempt to kill the Bill at this stage. But I must say what I feel about it. I think if this Bill is enacted into law, it would not prove beneficial to that class of people whom it is sought to benefit. To my mind the Bill will neither improve upon our present social structure, nor will it bring about any new or good social reform. It will rather make the existing social customs more defective.

[Sardar Ajmer Singh]

Sir, if this Bill is enacted into law many people will try to take undue advantage of it. For example, an orphan girl who is to be married will not get anything from her brothers who are well off and are in a position to give her something at the time of her marriage. I think that this Bill should not be passed till it is recognised by law that daughters will be entitled to have an equal share with their brothers in their father's property. Keeping in view our present social structure and the family circumstances, we find that brothers and other relatives of the girl make liberal contributions towards her dowry. But in the event of this Bill being brought on the Statute Book, the brothers and other relatives, if not the parents, will contribute little towards the dowry of the girls. This practice will unhinge our social structure. Sir, if the parents of a girl or other relatives contribute something of their own accord and the other party accepts it gladly, I do not see any reason why a third person should report against them and get them prosecuted.

Mr. Speaker, I do realise the necessity of improving our social customs and raising the standard of our society but for this purpose it is essential that the education should be disseminated amongst the illiterate masses so that on being enlightened, they themselves should feel the necessity of social reforms and make efforts to bring them about. Their condition may improve of itself. This Bill does not appear to be well-conceived. Sir, I am saying this thing in the interests and for the benefit of our own daughters and sisters. I admit that it is not fair to compel the parents to give dowries beyond their means, but at the same time the fixing of a ceiling is also not wise. I, therefore, feel that this Bill will result in the disintegration of our society and hence it should not be passed. However, if any measure of this kind applicable to the whole of India is brought forward in the Parliament, it can be given due consideration and acted upon accordingly. With these words, Mr. Speaker, I resume my seat.

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Members have heard a speech in support of this Bill and a speech against it which has been made by hon. Sardar Ajmer Singh. Now the question is—

That leave be granted to introduce the Punjab Restraint on Dowry Bill.

The motion was carried.

Shrimati Sita Devi (Jullundur City, South East) (*Hindi*): Sir, I introduce the Punjab Restraint on Dowry Bill.

Mr. Speaker : I have received a letter from Chaudhri Maru Singh Malik, M.L.A., wherein he has authorised Chaudhri Sri Chand to move,

on his behalf, the Resolution regarding reduction of abiana, balloted for today at No. 1. Under Rule 144 of the Rules of Procedure, I am empowered to grant such permissions. As a special case, I have agreed to Ch. Maru Singh's request. Now I request Chaudhri Sri Chand to move the Resolution.

Shri Sri Chand (Bahadurgarh) (*Hindi*): Mr. Speaker, the Resolution which stands in the name of Chaudhri Maru Singh and which you have very kindly allowed me to move, runs as follows:—

This Assembly recommends to the Government that water rates in the State be reduced to the pre-partition level

Sir, I am very grateful to you for having permitted me to speak on it. I may inform the hon. Members occupying the Treasury Benches that this is the third time when this Resolution has gone through the ballot. Its emergence from the ballot at No. 1 indicates that it is the will of God that this Resolution be moved and passed in this House and then translated into action by the Government.

Shrimati Sita Devi: On a point of order, Sir. Is the Chair empowered to grant permission to a member to move a resolution which stands in the name of another member ?

Mr. Speaker: Yes. I am empowered to do so under Rule 144 of the Procedural Rules.

Shri Sri Chand: Sir, as a major argument in support of this resolution I would like to quote from the speech of my learned Friend, Sardar Partap Singh Kairon, which he delivered on the 23rd of March during the Budget Session of 1950. In that speech, he emphatically spoke in favour of this proposal. With your permission, Sir, I wish to read out the relevant portion of his speech.

Strong words are likely to be used because this question affects the livelihood of eighty five percent of the population.

When canals were constructed in the Punjab of which the Upper Bari Doab was the first to be dug, an Act was passed. In the statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill it was stated in line seven that it was not the intention of the Government to earn money from that canal. It was not a business proposition. The main object of the Government was to provide the people with water which had been given by nature so that they might be saved from famines.

I beg to submit that no previous notice has been given with respect to the increase in the rates of Abiana. Those who support the proposal say that the Government is justified in getting a share of the increased income of the agriculturists. In view of what I have said above I say that the Government has no right to think over the problem of abiana in a manner so as to make it a means of profit. As a matter of fact water is a gift from nature to man.

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It flows down from the mountains, passes over the plains and reaches the seas. Nature has given a free supply of water. Government has only changed its course. It has no right to increase the rates at its sweet will, without the consent of the people. I regret to note that the powers enjoyed by the Irrigation Department are far in excess of those enjoyed by any other department of Government. In this connection, I wish to point out that even the Revenue Department makes assessment under certain Rules and Regulations after giving due notice of the same and telling the reasons therefor. Proper conditions are also explained beforehand in an appropriate manner.

Well, Sir, further on, my hon. friend remarked:

The increase in the rates of Abiana is quite unjustified. It has been suggested by those who have no soft corner for the agriculturists and who don't realise the difficulties under which the farmers have to work.

At present I regret to note that although there is a conflict going on between Pakistan and India, the water of Upper Bari Doab Canal instead of being given to Gurdaspur and Amritsar Districts wholly, is actually supplied to such Districts as Multan and Montgomery.

My submission is that there is no justification for the Government to enhance the water rates. They are out to charge increased rates for the supply of the same amount of water which was meant to irrigate a certain number of acres of land.

Now, Sir, the Government has increased the water rates by 50 per cent on the ground that prices of agricultural commodities have gone high. It has ignored the fact that the cost of production of the Zamindar too has risen proportionately. It is a thousand pities that the calculations in favour of increased water rates have been made while sitting in cosy offices without taking into consideration the factor of cost of production.

I may tell the Government that as a result of increase in abiana, ruin stares the Zamindar in his face, who has less than 15 acres of land in his possession.

Sir, it would be impossible for me to advance a more cogent and forceful argument than the one put forward by my hon. friend Sardar Partap Singh in that speech. And now it is our good fortune that the power to increase or reduce the rate of abiana or to keep it at the present level is in his own hands. He started a *jehad* against the Ministry which was responsible for increasing the abiana and threw it out of office. During the general elections, too, he very proudly drew the attention of the people to that speech declaring that he would do for the poor zamindars all that he had advocated in it. We have heard that speech and now we request the hon. Minister for Development to translate it into action because the power to make or mar the fortunes of those poor zamindars has come to him. I am sure that the hon. Minister will accede to this request of ours and will not resort to old tactics of uttering a few sentimental platitudes, hurling a few abuses at

the Communists and then finishing off with a tirade against the opposition. I assure him that if the condition of the zamindars has not deteriorated cent per cent, it is certainly more than 50 percent worse than what it was in 1950. He may once again repeat the charge that I am in the habit of raising the question of zamindar versus non-zamindar but I certainly do not want to raise such a controversy. All that I want is the permission to draw his attention through you, Sir, to the sad plight of a section of the population of the State. These people have not got even sufficient cloth to cover their bodies yet they are being burdened with more taxes than any other section of the people of this State. If you just look at the taxes the poor population of the rural areas has to pay, you will find that first of all they pay to the Government a sum no less than Rs. 32,580,000 in the form of *abiana* and another amount of Rs. 5,000,000 is extorted from them on the pretext of *tawan* for unauthorised cuts in water channels. Then comes the tax called the Land Revenue. The zamindars have to pay Rs. 21,800,000 under that item. Then there is the mutation fee. Of course, no section of the public has to pay the death duties. Even the Central Government has not finally decided to impose this tax as yet. But the zamindars have been paying this tax for a long, long time. When a zamindar dies and necessary entries regarding the ownership of his land have to be made in the records, the descendants of the deceased have to pay this mutation fee. The Government gets about Rs. 500,000 under this head. Those who get their mortgaged lands released pay to the Government exchequer no less than Rs. 500,000. If we want a copy of some record from the patwari we have to make some payments which are not to be recorded. But leaving them aside even the regular fee payable to the Government comes to the tune of Rs. 500,000. Then there is another tax called the *chaukidara*. The people in the cities do not have to pay a single pie for the services of watchmen. The people who look after their lives and properties are paid from the Government treasury but we pay the *chaukidara* from our own pockets and this comes to Rs. 4,000,000 a year.

Then come the taxes in connection with the so-called Panchayat Raj. It was said that the Panchayats had been brought into existence for the good of the rural people and that the measure amounted to sending the High Court to the villages. My submission is that we do not know whether the High Court has or has not gone to the villages but we do know one thing, and that is that we are being burdened with so many new taxes. These Panchayats have only imposed some new taxes and none of those promises have been fulfilled which were made in very high sounding words on the floor of the House. Then

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the greater portion of the Sales Tax is also paid by us. Apparently this tax is imposed on the traders and shop-keepers but actually it is paid by the consumers. Thus even this tax accounts for a burden of two crores of rupees on us. Then we pay quite a huge sum in the form of octroi or terminal tax. Similarly, the Excise Department comes in for quite a considerable share of our income. The poor people get awfully tired after the day's hard labour and take resort to drinking and opium eating etc. This item takes away something like 26, 800,000 rupees from our pockets. Again, a new tax is going to be imposed under the title of "Betterment fee on Land". This burden is also to be shouldered by the zamindars. Then Consolidation of Holdings has become a veritable hell for us. Leaving aside other troubles involved in these operations, and they are not few in number, we have had to part with a sum no less than Rs. 3,000,000 in this connection.

To be brief, we are paying some 17 taxes and even then if we ask for a reduction in the abiana we hear counter questions, namely, where is the money for running the administration to come from and whether we would like to have a vote of the House on this question, etc., etc. I now leave this matter entirely to the hon. Minister for Development. I have nothing to say to any one else. My request is to him alone and I beseech him to reduce the abiana.

One question has been repeated over and over again. They have asked us where the money to run the administration is to come from if abiana is reduced. My submission is that in the matter of extravagance and waste of money the Punjab beats all the other States in India. We have been drawing attention to the huge salaries of our Ministers but all our protests have proved a cry in the wilderness. They do not care for the sufferings of the people. Their first and foremost concern is to see the Ministers receiving fat salaries.

Mr. Speaker: How are these remarks relevant to the matter under discussion?

Shri Sri Chand: Sir, the relevancy of these remarks lies in the fact that whenever we make a request for any relief to the poor and suffering people their only reply is that they require money for running the administration of the State and, therefore, it is not possible to grant any relief to the public. I am now telling them to reduce their expenditure under the items where extravagance and waste are rampant. The Chief Minister outwardly receives Rs. 1500 as his monthly pay but I can say with all the emphasis I command that our

expenditure on him is not less than Rs. 4668 per mensem. There are eight Ministers in the Punjab and each one of them costs us nearly the same amount. Therefore, no one can question the weight and soundness of our demand for doing away with waste and extravagance and thus creating scope for the reduction in water rates.

Again, it has been repeated *ad nauseum* that the rate of abiana has been raised because the price of agricultural produce has increased and that, therefore, it is neither undesirable nor hard on the zamindars to charge a higher rate of abiana. My submission is that it is not the income of zamindars that has increased. If there has been any increase it is in the taxes to be paid by them. Their income could have increased only if the expenses of cultivation had remained the same and the price of agricultural produce had gone up. But, actually, it is the other way about. The price of bullocks, manure, implements and all other expenses on cultivation have risen by 300 per cent while the increase in the price of foodgrains has not even 50 per cent. How can anybody say under these circumstances that the income of the zamindars has increased? I think the poor zamindars are the easiest target for imposing all these taxes. If the Government tries to levy Sales Tax, a hue and cry is raised all over the State. There comes a large number of deputations from all corners and black-flag demonstrations are staged everywhere. But if any increase in the rate of abiana is made the zamindars cannot do anything because their representatives are scattered all over the State and they have neither any organisation nor a newspaper to voice their feelings and grievances. That is the reason why they are burdened with rates and taxes without the least hesitation.

Mr. Speaker, believe me these people cannot raise their voice only because they have no organisation. If the zamindars of the Punjab were also organized like other people, no power on earth could prevent the reduction of water rates. The pity is that they are not organized. When the representatives of these people are returned to this House and they occupy seats on the Government Benches, they forget the difficulties of their constituents. In this connection I am reminded of a story. The son of a *telan* (तेलन) got on the top of a palm tree. She was afraid lest he should fall down and lose his life. So she prayed to God for his safety and promised to make offerings on his safely climbing down. Her son began to come down. When he was about to reach the ground he asked his mother as to why she had promised to make such offerings when the only thing that they possessed was a goat

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worth not more than two and a half rupees. She said that she did so because she knew that she would ignore all that she had promised after he had safely climbed down. Silmilar is the case with the Members of this House. After their election to this House they forget the grievances of poor peasants. I know that the hon. Minister for Development would get up and say that a Committee had already been constituted to go into the matter and that the Government wanted to reduce the water rates to such an extent as would take even the communists by surprise. He will deliver a sentimental speech and then there matter will end. He is in the habit of saying that big jagirdars, moneyed men and landlords sit among us. I, however, find that there is no jagirdar, moneyed person or landlord at least on this side of the House. All the factory-owners, rich people, jagirdars and rajas sit on the Government Benches. We are poor people and have to work in the fields. The poor peasants do not make use of the banks. If they have any cash they keep it at their homes and do not refuse to give it to the Government whenever they are called upon to do so. I remember that during one year the zamindars of Rohtak contributed thirty eight lakhs of rupees for opening schools in that district. Now, however, these people are very poor. If they had money they would have no objection to paying it to the Government. I request the Ministers to reduce the water rates and assure them that if they do so, lakhs of people will greet them with 'jais' when they visit the villages next time.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That this Assembly recommends to the Government that water rates in the State should be reduced to the pre-partition level.

I have received three amendments to this resolution and the first one stands in the name of Shri Dharm Vir Vasisht. I call upon him to move it.

Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht (Hassanpur) (Hindi): Sir, I move—

That in line 2, for the words "be reduced to pre-partition level," the words "be revised according to the present rates of agricultural produce and the economic condition of the peasant," be substituted.

Mr. Speaker, when Chaudhri Sahib, who moved this resolution was delivering his speech, I was reminded of one of Ghalib's couplets which runs thus—

की मेरे कत्ल के बाद उस ने जफा से तोबा
 हाय उस झूद पशेमां का पशेमां होना ।
 बी मेरे बतल के घाट उस ने नडा मे उँघा
 राधे उस झूद पशेमां का पशेमां होना ।

In my opinion, he referred to certain matters which should not have been brought in. He talked about the salary of the Ministers and said many other irrelevant things, but I do not want to touch those points. If the whole matter is viewed dispassionately, it will have to be admitted that the Government has acted rightly.

We should examine the question on its merits and it makes no difference whether a proposal emanates from the Government or the Opposition. Things should not be judged in a partisan spirit. My amendment requires that we should compare the rates of agricultural produce prevailing now with those of the pre-partition days. We should also see if there has been any change, for the better or worse, in the economic condition of the peasant. We should keep all these things in view at the time of determining the water rates. The index numbers of prices in 1947 and 1952 might help us in this matter. The Government reports may also be helpful in finding out the difference in the cost of production and the rate of agricultural produce. These things will have to be searched from the weekly and monthly reports. It is possible that after examining the necessary data we may arrive at the conclusion that the water rates should be brought to the pre-partition level, but all the same it is essential that all such things should be considered before hand. Not to do so would be nothing but obstinacy. It would amount to—

या तुगलकां बाद रहें उजड़
या इस में रहें गुजर ।
नां तुगलकां घास रहें ਉਮੜ
नां इस में रहें गुँसर ।

My amendment requires that all the factors having a bearing on the subject should be taken into consideration. It is necessary that the rates of agricultural produce prevailing now and the present economic condition of the peasant should be compared with those in the pre-partition days. The price of some commodities may have fallen as in the case with Gur. All these things should be fully considered before taking any final decision and there is every possibility that after a thorough examination of the relevant data, the decision may turn out to be in favour of the recommendation made in the resolution. I, therefore, request the House to accept my amendment.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved—

That in line 2, for the words "be reduced to the prepartition level," the words "be

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revised according to the present rates of agricultural produce and the economic condition of the peasant" be substituted.

Now I call upon Master Nand Lal to move the amendment standing in his name.

Shri Nand Lal : Sir, I have no intention to move the amendment.

Mr. Speaker : Then I would ask Sardar Chanan Singh to move his amendment.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (*Punjabi*) : I beg to move—

That at the end of the resolution, the following words be added :—
by the 1st of December, 1952."

Sir, I feel that it is our good fortune that after making efforts for three times, we have been able to get an opportunity today to move this resolution. It is a matter of common knowledge that our Minister for Development has, off and on, been delivering long speeches in support of the reduction of 'abiana'. He also made persistent efforts in this Assembly and outside it to have the water rates reduced. There is no denying the fact that sometime back he also succeeded in ousting the previous Ministry by starting an anti-*abiana* agitation. Not only this, the Congress, in order to win the elections, held out rosy promises to the rural people that if it were returned to power it would try its best to reduce 'abiana' as early as possible. This House is fully aware of the fact that sometime back a committee was set up to find out ways and means for reducing 'abiana'. My hon. Friend, the Development Minister, had heard the views of the people on this subject and showed his anxiety to reduce 'abiana'. But on the other hand whenever we tried to see the hon. Chief Minister in this connection he pleaded his inability to see us for want of time. I am sorry to say that the hon. Chief Minister is not in his seat now otherwise I would have apprised him of the miserable plight of the peasants and also their indignation over the increased water rates. But when he is not prepared to see the deputation of peasants, it becomes quite obvious that either he fails to realise their difficulties or does not want to remove them. Today he is not present in the House to listen to the speeches that are being made on this resolution. In the previous session when a Bill was introduced by the Government to levy a new tax on the people then we had told the hon. Chief Minister that he could get the measure passed with the comfortable majority at his back but he would come to know of the resentment of people against these taxes when he visited his own constituency. Now I say that the *zamindars*, seeing the present attitude of the Members whom they have sent as their representatives in this Assembly, would receive them on

their return to their constituencies with black flags. Our contention is that 'abiana' should be charged according to the supply of canal water. But if we were to consider this matter calmly and dispassionately, we will find that the Government is trying to create complications in it. I think that by close and careful consideration we shall be able to understand the matter easily.

The Government is not reducing the water rates because its officers are not in favour of the reduction but on the other hand they suggest that it should be increased still further. We have tried our best to convince the Government and have made it clear to it that the income from abiana in the year 1951-52 had been Rs. 3,20,38,000 as compared with Rs. 2,35,00,000 in the year 1950-51, which shows an increase of Rs. 85½ lakhs. It is obvious that the Government is earning profit, though the hon. Minister has remarked in his speech that Government is not influenced by any motives of profit. At the time of the preparation of the Budget it was estimated that revenue receipts under this head would amount to Rs. 2,92,09,000 but the actual receipts have been in the neighbourhood of three crores of rupees. It appears that the Government do not present things in their true colours before the public, and try to throw dust in their eyes. I would go to the length of saying that the spirit of Beoparis has permeated the Government and that is why it is imposing taxes on the people and is particularly earning profits in blackmarket, like the beoparis, in the matter of abiana. The Government's plea is that it has to incur huge expenditure on the new departments and this expenditure in its opinion is very essential. Besides, the other reasons that have been advanced in this connection are that—

- (i) it has to open new tributaries;
- (ii) it has to balance the Budget; and
- (iii) it has to improve the condition of the peasants.

But I think that in reality the Government is no longer influenced by these considerations. As a matter of fact the Government has to pay the debt that India owes to the British. The Government has paid about Rs. 43 lakhs as interest so far. The Government of India has also paid Rs. 9 lakhs i. e. the sum of Rs. 52 lakhs has been paid by way of interest on loans. This money was spent during the British regime on the canals but strictly speaking the Government has by this time earned several times the actual investment. I would ask whether after the attainment of Independence it is considered necessary to pay so much amount as interest. I would impress upon the Government that it should try to fulfil the promises that the Congress had made with the people. We must remember that we should keep the ideal of

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service of the people before us rather than perpetuate the memory of the Britishers. But I am sorry to say that the Government is attaching more importance to the payment of interest on the Debts of the British instead of honouring the pledges that it had made with the public.

Then, Sir, after partition, only 15 per cent of canals fell to our share. But if we were to look at the expenditure incurred on this department, we will find that 96 lakhs of rupees are spent on the establishment alone. Out of this amount the sum of rupees 36 lakhs is being spent on the salaries of officers which constitute a heavy burden on the State's Exchequer.

Minister for Irrigation : Please do not make a wrong statement.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Sir, I would quote the figures from the Budget and say that the salary of Chief Engineer in the year 1951-52 was Rs. 32,130 but now it has been raised to Rs. 35,390 in the year 1952-53. Besides this, the total strength of Assistants and Clerks in this Department in the year 1949-50 was 21 and there has been a progressive increase in the number from 51 in 1950-51 to 70 in 1951-52 and now the number has gone up to 87. Similar is the case so far as the allowances of the establishment are concerned. In the year 1951-52 the sum of Rs. 3,96,000 was spent on the allowances in this department and now the expenditure has gone up to Rs. 5,40,000 in the year 1952-53. From this it would appear that there has been continual drain on the poor finances of the State every year. Besides this, the work in connection with the canals is got done on a contract basis with the result that the expenditure incurred by the Government goes very high. My hon. Friend, the Minister for Development, had remarked in his speech that out of the officers of the Irrigation Department who after partition came to this side, about 30 or 40 per cent, were considered surplus and they were working in other departments. But what is happening in this department? The officers misappropriate cement and petrol and try to get the work of their friends and relatives done through other officers. They give contracts for every work to their friends and relatives. It is no exaggeration to say that in this department the taxpayer's hard earned money is being squandered. And yet the Government is spending Rs. 1,12,00,000 annually on this department!

Now, I cite an instance to show how this department is functioning. The Government has after the partition taken over the charge of a new canal with the result that the rate of *abiana* which at one time used to be annas eight, afterwards Rs. 1-6-0 and then Rs. 2-4-0, has now been raised to more than rupees ten. On the other hand, whereas formerly

only four or five clerks used to manage the affairs, now a big department is being created for the purpose. I can cite the names of several villages situated on this canal which have not received any water and yet their names have been included by the *patwaris* in the official records for purposes of assessing *abiana*. Whereas formerly this canal used to irrigate five thousand acres of land, now it is being shown as irrigating fifteen thousand acres of land. This is the result of making false entries in the records, showing two acres of land as having been irrigated for every single field and thus indulging in a kind of black-marketing.

Mr. Speaker : Please don't use that word.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Sir, what I mean to say is that the revenue officials have been juggling with figures, reckoning the irrigated area on the basis of crops sown and thus showing that the irrigated acreage has increased.

The distribution of canal water is riddled with numerous defects. *Abiana* should not be assessed on the basis of the area of land but the quantity of water that is supplied to a peasant. Needless to repeat that the Government should not spend so much on this department as it is doing at present. The burden of the *abiana* is almost wholly borne by the tenants about whose poverty the less said the better. If our Friends sitting on the Government Benches are really sympathetic and sincere towards them, I see no reason why they should not agree to all possible reduction in the strength of the staff of this department. It is unnecessary to have three Chief Engineers to look after the Upper Bari Doab Canal. The sooner this department is rid of white elephants, the better for the State. The excuse of the work falling into arrears in case of reduction is absolutely frivolous. If the expenditure of this department is brought to a reasonable level, I am sure the Government can fulfil its promise of reducing the rate of the *abiana*.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That at the end of the resolution, the following words be added :—
“by the 1st of December, 1952.”

Now the resolution along with these amendments is before the House for discussion.

(At this stage the Speaker left the Chair and the Deputy Speaker occupied it).

Sardar Rajindar Singh Gyani (Rupar) (Punjabi) : Sir, I have tried to study the working of the governments of all the countries in the world but I have not come across a single instance of a government

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which has no responsibility on its shoulders and which can run the administration without spending anything. How marvellous it would be if our Government were to get hold of Alladin's lamp and have canal projects and hydro-electric schemes executed and bridges constructed overnight! But the pity of it is that not to speak of this Government no Government on earth has been able to find such a lamp which could work wonders.

I may point out that there is a lot of difference in the position of the members sitting on this side of the House and those sitting opposite. The latter can say whatever they like and can engage in wordy duels since no responsibility rests on their shoulders. Members of the Government party are keenly conscious of their responsibilities and cannot be oblivious of the fact that the Government needs crores of rupees to carry through its schemes of public utility. I fully appreciate the feelings of my Friends in the Opposition and am in full agreement with them in so far as the question of improving the economic condition of people—whether rural or urban—and bringing about general prosperity in the State, is concerned. I also feel that the burden of taxes on them should be reduced to the minimum but how can we forget that the Government cannot achieve anything without the necessary funds. It has to discharge so many responsibilities and it cannot be expected to do all things at one and the same time. My hon. Friends are well aware of the beneficent schemes which the Government announced at the time of the presentation of the Budget. I think they will admit that they are calculated to advance the well-being of the State.

But while preparing that budget the Government could not take any steps in connection with the reduction of the *abiana*. So now in the next budget something will be done. At this time of the year it will not be possible to implement the resolution if it is passed by the House. My hon. Friends over there are labouring under a misconception if they think that the Government has no sympathy for the *Kisans*. Any idea that this Government would act contrary to the best interests of the peasants should not be entertained. As a matter of fact we want the rural and the urban populations to prosper side by side. We also want that only a reasonable amount should be spent on administration. It is our desire to take as little from the people by way of taxes and give them as much as possible in return. But this thing cannot be done in one day, or in one year. For this sometime is required. I assure the House that the Government of which I am also a part is paying its serious attention to this matter. There is no reason why any provision with regard to the reduction of *abiana* should not be made in the

next budget. Therefore, I don't think there is any need for this resolution at all. This is beyond doubt that the hon. Members sitting on this side of the House are desirous of the welfare of the villagers and are in full sympathy with the *Kisans*. They want to improve their lot and to achieve that end they will continue to strive. But such matters always require time. At this time of the year, it is not proper to change horses in mid stream and make any reduction in the rates of abiana by levying some other tax. In fact it is not possible to make any provision at this stage to make good the loss in the budget resulting from a reduction in the abiana. The hon. Ministers who run the Government are giving full attention to this matter and they are holding consultations with the officers concerned in order that necessary provision may be made in the next Budget. So we are out to do our utmost for the good of the *Kisans* and the villagers. Of course I agree with the Opposition in what they want and I fully appreciate their feelings about this matter. But I would like them also to try to understand the responsibilities and appreciate the difficulties of the Government. They should bear this fact in mind that neither the State nor the *Kisans* stands to gain anything if unnecessary propaganda is carried on inside or outside the State about this matter. In fact the Opposition should put forth constructive suggestions. I feel that all of us here are imbued with the high ideal of improving the lot of the masses and bringing about general prosperity in the State. Our duty is to put the minimum possible burden of taxation on the poor people and in return to give them maximum benefits. We should levy only those taxes which are required for running the administration. In fact it is necessary and it is the fervent desire of every one here that the administration should be run efficiently. But we cannot do away with the expenditure that is absolutely necessary for this purpose. Again for effecting improvement in the condition of the people time is required. The Government appreciates the sentiments of the Opposition in this regard. It also behoves the Opposition to realise that Government requires time before it can do any thing in the matter and it is fully alive to this matter. Therefore, I think that this resolution is inopportune and ill-timed. If the Government fails to make any provision in the next Budget then all of us would be quite justified in condemning the Government. But so far as I am concerned, I am sure that this Government will certainly bring about some reduction in the rate of abiana. I, therefore, request the Opposition that it should withdraw this resolution because the Government is already carefully considering this matter.

Sardar Waryam Singh (Amritsar) (*Punjabi*): Sir, as far as I can see, it appears that the intention of the Opposition is not to reduce

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the rate of the abiana. If its real intention were to effect some reduction in it, it would never have untethered the calf and let it go to the cow at an inappropriate time (laughter). As you are aware, Sir, if the calf is untethered and allowed to go to the cow at the wrong time it only gets kicks and no milk. If we consider the matter carefully we find that more than half of the financial year has run out and it is only now that the Opposition has thought of doing something in the matter of reducing the abiana. In fact, the most opportune time was when the Budget was under consideration. Now the next Budget is being framed and if nothing is done in this regard, then they will have another opportunity to raise the issue. It is possible that at that time we may also have to add our strength to theirs in this matter. All the Members of the Legislature in this State are aware of the fact that the State Congress held out a promise to the people to bring about a reduction in the abiana and with a full sense of responsibility passed a resolution to the effect that the increase in the rates of abiana made by the previous Ministry was unjust to the kisans and tenants. We are ourselves very keen in this matter. That is why the Congress ousted the Ministry which did this injustice. So I am quite sanguine that abiana will be reduced. This Ministry is determined to accomplish this task and in the near future at the proper time, the rates will be decreased and the Kisans afforded relief in this direction.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : This will, I think, happen at the time of the next elections.

Sardar Waryam Singh : Whatever be the number of such elections, I don't think the number of the hon. Members sitting in front of me will ever go beyond five or seven. As a matter of fact it will come down. The tenants and kisans have shown their full confidence in the biggest organisation of the country—the Congress. The result of this is before our eyes. I do hope that in future also the peasants will repose the same amount of confidence in it. But the professions of sympathy shown by the hon. Members sitting on the Opposition benches for the poor kisans are quite hypocritical.

Sardar Achhar Singh : This will become clear to-day when the resolution is put to vote.

Sardar Waryam Singh : The people know the hon. Members quite well. It will be seen in the field. The Congress Government does not regard the question of abiana as a mere political stunt. In my opinion the abiana should not be reduced merely because the Congress

has decided to do so by a resolution but because its reduction is necessary from the point of view of the weak economic condition of the Kisans. To-day the amount of water which is being supplied to hundred bighas of land is hardly sufficient for irrigating thirty *bighas*. The amount of water can be reduced and supplied to more of land. Now a glass of water costing two annas can quench the thirst of only one person and not of four persons but if all of them want to satisfy their thirst, they will have to pay four times the money. So my point is that if the water is reduced the *abiana* should also be reduced in the same ratio. Now what is the state of affairs regarding water supply for irrigation purposes? The crops are not getting the required quantity of water and the canals remain mostly dry. This is another ground for effecting a reduction in the rates of *abiana*.

Mr. Speaker, my hon. friend Chaudhri Sri Chand has complained that sufficient canal water is not being supplied to lands. I admit that adequate water supply is not being made available and for this reason no crop matures well. It is also true that the tenants and the agriculturists should get more water and the *abiana* be reduced so that the kisans may have some relief. Many Friends, whose amendments I have read only here, have stated that the rates of commodities have risen very high. I wish that they should also know that the *abiana* is paid by the tillers of land and the tenants and not by the big landlords. They should not ignore the fact that the prices of necessities of life have also gone very high. Iron which is used for manufacturing agricultural implements is very costly and the same is the case with cloth. In spite of all that they say, a kisan's income is not sufficient to enable him to lead a comfortable life. It is hardly enough to make his both ends meet. I therefore, request that the *abiana* should not be enhanced in proportion to the rise in prices of commodities. In fact a kisan's annual agricultural produce is not so much as to enable him to be financially well off. These are the few points which require action and careful consideration of the Government.

Well, Sir, the kisans are considered to be the back-bone of a country. In other countries, their Governments, render them great assistance. In our own country, instead of giving them any help, the Government makes them bear the brunt of the taxes which are imposed by it. This is not just. I think the proper way is that the Government should not suppress them so much as to render them incapable of doing any service to the country. If the Government takes blood out of a man, then it must supply him with milk to recoup. The Government

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will be well-advised to see that the kisans get a fair deal from it. Mr. Speaker, here I am reminded of a Punjabi proverb—

ਵੇਲੇ ਦਾ ਰਾਗ ਤੇ ਕਵੇਲੇ ਦੀਆਂ ਟਕਰਾਂ ।
ਕੇਲੇ ਦਾ ਰਾਗ ਤੇ ਕਵੇਲੇ ਦੀਆਂ ਟਕਰਾਂ ।

What I mean, Sir, is that every thing looks well if done at the proper time. To me, this resolution moved by the Opposition appears to be

ਕਵੇਲੇ ਦੀਆਂ ਟਕਰਾਂ । *i. e.*, inopportune.

ਕਵੇਲੇ ਦਿਯਾਂ ਟਕਰਾਂ ।

Then, Sir, it has been alleged that there is a great difference between the Sachar and the Sikandar Ministries. If the abiana is not reduced after a period of six months, I will also admit that this Ministry has not done anything good for the people of the State. I would, therefore, suggest that we should continue extending our cooperation to the Government, and express our resentment if the abiana is not reduced next year. How strongly do we wish the reduction in abiana to be brought about at an early date cannot be imagined by any one because we know that when this is done our Friends sitting on Opposition Benches would become mum, and have nothing to say on this issue. (Applause)

Then, Sir, Opposition Members must not lose sight of the commendable work of public utility done by the Congress Government after the partition of the country. At the time of partition we had to leave 55 lakh acres of canal irrigated land in Pakistan, whereas in exchange we received only 6 lakh acres of such land in the East Punjab. Now, Sir, they should not ignore how much more land has been brought under canal water through the efforts of this Government and how much increase has been effected in the production of foodgrains since partition (Applause). Mr. Speaker, in this connection I would like to offer my hearty felicitations to Chaudhri Sahib with whose efforts a new tributary was opened within a very short time to cater to the needs of the kisans. I would ask my Friends sitting Opposite to hold themselves in patience and everything will be done by and by and at the proper time. As a matter of fact they do not want that the conditions in the State may improve. On the other hand they want to worsen them. Mr. Speaker, we also wish that the abiana should be reduced. But the intention of the Opposition Members is similar to that of a Jatti (wife of a Jat agriculturist) who said :

ਗਲੀਆਂ ਹੋ ਜਾਣ ਵੇਹਲੀਆਂ ਵਿਚ ਫਿਰਦਾ ਮਿਰਜ਼ਾ ਯਾਰ ਹੋਵੇ ।
ਗਲੀਆਂ ਹੋ ਜਾਣ ਵੇਹਲੀਆਂ, ਵਿਚ ਫਿਰਦਾ ਮਿਰਜ਼ਾ ਯਾਰ ਹੋਵੇ ।

i.e. the streets should become deserted, her husband should die and one other should remain alive so that she may be free to bring her lover home without any fear. Mr. Speaker, the Communist Members also wish that nobody should remain to look after the welfare of this State. They wish that there should be no Government, no Police and consequently no administration in the State so that they may conveniently bring their friends to this country—

ਗਲੀਆਂ ਹੋ ਜਾਣ ਵੇਹਲੀਆਂ ਤੇ ਵਿਚ ਫਿਰਦਾ ਗੋਪਾਲਨ ਤੇ ਸਟਾਲਨ ਯਾਰ ਹੋਵੇ ।
ਗਲੀਆਂ ਹੋ ਜਾਣ ਵੇਹਲੀਆਂ, ਤੇ ਵਿਚ ਫਿਰਦਾ ਗੋਪਾਲਨ ਤੇ ਸਟਾਲਨ ਯਾਰ ਹੋਵੇ ।

(Applause). They wish that anarchy should prevail all round. But, Sir, we cannot allow such a state of affair to prevail in this State. All the same we also do want that the abiana should be reduced. Their hearts do not bleed more than ours in sympathy for the kisans. Abiana should be reduced and will be reduced at an early date.

Sardar Wazir Singh (Delhon) (*Punjabi*): Mr. Deputy Speaker, some of the hon. Members sitting on the Government Benches have stated that inspite of their keen desire that the abiana should be reduced, they do not want that the credit for moving first in the matter should go to the Members of the Opposition. Sir, I, on behalf of the Opposition, want to assure the House that if the Government reduce the abiana on this resolution we will give the whole credit to the Treasury Benches. We will go from village to village in the State and tell the people that the abiana has been reduced by the kind efforts of the Development Minister and that it is the Congress party which has done this good job. But Mr. Deputy Speaker, it is a matter of common knowledge that this very Congress Party held out several promises to the public in addition to the one made in connection with the reduction of abiana that after the establishment of the Congress Raj no officer of the Government would be allowed to draw more than 500/- rupees, as his salary.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I would ask the hon. Member to confine his remarks to the resolution now before the House.

Sardar Wazir Singh: Mr. Deputy Speaker, my predecessor has been allowed to speak for about fifteen minutes. He has tried to condemn a party but the Chair has taken no objection to it, whereas I am only replying to his speech. I want to submit, Sir, that the

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Government should reduce the abiana and we will give the whole credit to it for this. The Development Minister's speech that he had made on the floor of this House before the elections has already been quoted. I think that nothing else could add more strength in support of this resolution than his own speech. It pains me to remark that a man who contested elections on this very issue, and was never tired of making high sounding speeches and whose party men held out definite promises of reducing abiana in their speeches at Amritsar and other places, should look at this resolution with disfavour. None of his companions has uttered even a single word in its favour. Mr. Deputy Speaker, this resolution has been balloted thrice and what has been the reaction? Sometimes the hon. Members on the Treasury Benches were overtaken by hill-diarrhoea and sometimes other reasons made them shelve or postpone the discussion of this resolution.

By doing so the Government simply misled the masses. Sir, I assure you on behalf of my party that in case the Government reduces the water rates, I shall give the whole credit, to the hon. Sardar Waryam Singh, the hon. Giani Rajindar Singh and the Government. We shall shower encomiums on them for this.

I want to impress upon my hon. Friend Giani Rajindar Singh who stated that the Government could not run its administration if taxes were not imposed on the public, there should be a fair ratio between the taxation levied and the compensation or the return given to the public. He should note that out of the total income of Rs. 18 crores, Rs. 13 crores come from the pockets of the people living in the rural areas. But what pains us is that out of this whole income, only Rupees three to four crores are being utilised for their good while the rest are spent for the benefit of the urbanites only. For instance hospitals, schools, colleges, and similar other amenities, are provided by the Government in the towns only and they are not made available in the villages. Some time back the Government had announced that it will be opening twelve thousand new schools in the villages of the twelve districts of this State. But I am pained to inform the House that Government has hedged that scheme with a difficult condition. Now it shall open schools only in those villages, where the inhabitants are prepared to contribute Rs. 1600 at the very outset.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is the hon. Member speaking on the resolution? He is irrelevant and should confine his remarks to the motion under discussion.

Sardar Wazir Singh: Sir, I regret to point out that you did not pull up my hon. Friend Sardar Waryam Singh when he had been saying things against our Communist Friends. We would not have felt the necessity of saying such things if you had checked him from making an attack on the Communists.

Well, Sir, I was going to submit that if the Government makes an announcement that necessary provision would be made to reduce water rates in the next year's budget, even then we are prepared to give the whole credit to it. I want to remind the hon. Ministers that they had been able to capture 100 out of 126 seats of this Legislature, simply on the promises for reducing the water rates in the State which they had extended to the public at the time of elections. They should not forget that the public which could liquidate the last Ministry, will never spare them. Undoubtedly the high rate of abiana is causing great hardship to the people.

Then it has been stated by my hon. friends occupying Government benches that the Government will have to impose certain new taxes when it has to fulfil certain promises made to the public. Sir, I know the case of a canal which was constructed some 75 years back. It cost the Government Rs. 42 crores but it has so far realised Rs. 129 crores by way of water rates alone. I cannot help saying that our Government is keen to save the rich from taxation. It conveniently forgets that the water rates are paid by the poor cultivators and not by the big landlords.

Then, Sir, the other argument advanced in favour of the enhancement of Abiana rates is that the prices of foodgrains have gone up. But the rise in prices of foodgrains does not necessarily mean that the income of the Zamindar has increased proportionately. Whereas it is not denied that his income has increased to some extent, it should not be lost sight of that the cost of production has also increased. Labour is much dearer these days. The poor zamindar is unable to make his ends meet. If we examine the ratio between the prices of foodgrains when these were low and the cost of production of that period and compare these with the ratio existing between the two factors at present we will come to the conclusion that the income of the zamindar has decreased. Therefore I request the hon. Minister for Development and other hon. Friends sitting on the Treasury benches that they should see reason and take steps to reduce the water rates. If they accede to our request the whole credit will go to them.

In the end, I may submit that the Opposition has done its duty by moving this Resolution and if even now the Treasury Benches fail to make a provision for its reduction in the next year's budget, there will be a lot of agitation against it.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (*Punjabi*): Mr. Speaker, much stress has been laid on three things in the speeches made on this resolution by the hon. Members sitting on the Government benches and in the amendment moved by hon. Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht. Shri Vasisht has advocated that the water rate should be fixed on the basis of the prevailing price of foodgrains. My hon. Friend Sardar Waryam Singh has expressed the opinion that the water rate should be assessed according to the economic condition of the people while hon. Giani Rajindar Singh is of the opinion that when the responsibilities of the Government are increased, it becomes essential for it to increase taxation and raise water rates. But I want to impress upon them that taxes should be levied strictly in accordance with their reasonableness. While examining their reasonableness it becomes necessary to keep in view the cost of production.

Sir, for instance, electricity has been recognised as a commodity of public utility. Its rates vary with the purpose for which it is consumed. It is a well known fact that whereas the rate of electricity for housing consumption is five and a half annas per unit, it is supplied at six pice per unit for industrial purposes. It will be seen that in this respect the principle of public utility has been followed. This is done only with a view to encouraging the industry. I, therefore, feel that this principle should be observed by the Government while fixing the water rates. The Government should not only reduce water rates but should also afford the Kisans extra help. To say that the times are not normal and that the question of reduction of 'abiana' will be reviewed in the light of the prices of the agricultural produce, is not fair. I submit that imposition of tax on things of public utility is an act which will not redound to the credit of the Government. If the Congress Party wishes to introduce agrarian reforms and serve the masses in the real sense of the word then it should bring about a reduction in the 'abiana' so that the peasants may get a bit of relief and consequently save money to purchase and use better quality of manure in their fields with a view to stepping up production. To my mind this is the only way in which Government can make its Grow More Food Campaign a success. But the actions of the Government indicate that it is heading fast towards retrogression.

Mr. Speaker, if it is held that abiana would be reduced only if there is no improvement in the condition of crops then my submission is that the present state of crops is not satisfactory and, therefore, there is no reason why this rate should not be reduced? But if the Government is of the view that a reduction in the 'abiana' will be possible only when the prices come down to the pre-partition level, then I wish to

submit that paddy which was sold at Rs. 12/- per maund before the partition is now available at Rs. 9/- per maund. May I know why this increase of 50% in the Abiana should not be done away with when the state of affairs obtaining at present does not justify it ?

Then my hon. Friend, Sardar Waryam Singh, has stated that when the initiative for the increase in the rate of abiana was taken by them then they will themselves effect a decrease also. Sir, I submit that we are no doubt anxious to have some credit for having moved the Government to effect a reduction in it. But we are prepared to let it go wholesale to them provided they accept today's Resolution which seeks to effect a reduction in the abiana rates (Interuptis). Does it require the services of any *pandit* for determining a 'mahurat' ? We will have no complaint against the Government provided it accepts this Resolution. The principle underlying it demands that a reduction should be made at the earliest possible moment. I would counsel the Government not to beat about the bush, but follow the principles of public utility and effect a reduction in abiana in the way that helps agriculture to progress. Just as electricity is a matter of public utility, so is agriculture. When the Government has already reduced the rate of electricity for industrial purposes, then why should the rate of 'abiana' in respect of agricultural purposes remain un-reduced ? Mr. Speaker, through you, I wish to invite the attention of the hon. Ministers towards my remarks so that afterwards they may not plead ignorance of what I have stated. Undoubtedly, the hon. Sardar Pratap Singh is M.A. (Economics) but.....

Mr. Deputy Speaker. No aspersions please.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : Sir, I was going to submit that the real facts were being put before them but the pity of it was that they turned a deaf ear to whatever came from this side of the House. What I wish to say is that there is no such principle in Economics as lays down the burdening of peasants with increased taxation. My friend Gyani ji has assured us that the Government would definitely reduce the rate of abiana. My feeling is that he is simply asking the people to live on false hopes. Just a while ago, an hon. Member hurled accusations at the Opposition. He has also remarked that Mr. Chhina does not wish the rate of abiana to be reduced. I contradict this mis-statement with all the emphasis at my command. This resolution was given notice of by the Opposition more than once, but even when it secured a place in the ballot it was so managed that this particular resolution could not be brought under discussion. During the last Session this very resolution figured on the list of Business against the name of Shri Maru Singh Malik.

[Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina]

Then it was again balloted and brought on the Agenda, but the lengthy speeches delivered by Shri Ram Krishan and others on another Resolution took the whole time of the House and, eventually, this Resolution could not be taken up. Today, I think it is due to the kindness of the hon. Speaker and Shrimati Sita Devi, who did not take much time of the House for introducing her Bill, that this Resolution has come up for discussion. Now nobody can say that this Resolution did not survive the ballot. I, therefore, request the House to pass it and fix some date by which Government should translate it into action. If this is done, only then we shall admit that this Government is really the sympathiser of the peasants and the tillers of the soil.

Shri Prabodh Chandra (Gurdaspur) (*Hindi*): Mr. Speaker, I have been listening to the speeches of the members of the Opposition for the last two or three days. By chance I have also overheard my hon. Friend, Sardar Pratap Singh, muttering once or twice in connection with this resolution. I simply wondered at what my hon. Friends were doing. I also heard the speech of my hon. Friend, Chaudhri Sri Chand with rapt-attention. Very pathetically he observed, pointing towards us, that we were a conglomeration of capitalists, contractors and landlords. He remarked in a state of utter meekness and humility that he himself was a person of no account. It is a fact that as one advances in age, one's memory also begins to fail one and that is why he was under-estimating himself. I wish to let him know that he is a very influential personality. Perhaps on account of short memory he has not been able to analyse himself, so I would like to remind him that he is a relic of the past. He is a scion of those people who helped foreigners.....(*interruptions*).

Shri Sri Chand : I do not wish to hear such things. I am not even prepared to see the face of such a person who casts aspersions on my ancestors. Order, Order.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : What is the objection of the hon. Member ?

Shri Sri Chand : My objection is that he is casting reflection on my forefathers and, therefore, I can not have the patience to hear such derogatory remarks. He should withdraw these words.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : I would request Shri Prabodh Chandra to offer constructive criticism. He can point out defects inherent in the Resolution. But he cannot cast reflections on the conduct of the sponsor of the Resolution or of any Member or criticise any Member. I would give two minutes more to the hon. Member.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Sir, objection has been taken to my remark that the Chaudhris are a relic of the olden times. My submission is that it was not an attack on my Friend. All that it means is that these people are a relic (*yadgar*) of the period of our slavery.

Shri Sri Chand : Sir, I object to the word 'yadgar'.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : But how is it objectionable ?

Shri Sri Chand : He is using this word in relation to my ancestors.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : But he is only talking in general terms.

Shri Sri Chand : No. Sir, he is referring to me.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : He is not naming any one.

Shri Sri Chand : Sir, he is making a pointed reference to me.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Sir, it is a pity that those who are in the habit of attacking others at every step have not the patience to listen to just a few words of plain talk.

Sardar Wazir Singh : This is again objectionable.

Sardar Ajmer Singh : Sir, he should be asked to speak on the resolution before the House.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Sir, I would only say that those who live in glass houses should be careful not to throw stones at others. Sir, I draw your attention to the remarks of my hon. Friends that the Congress party made false promises to the public and got their votes by deceit. My submission is that whenever a proposal for a reduction in the abiana was put forward in the past the Congress Party always raised its voice in its support while these people opposed it. Whenever agitation was started in this connection they at once came forward to oppose it. I have never seen these good people even join a procession of demonstrators. It was Sardar Partap Singh and his friends who jumped in the arena on such occasions. Now these very people are trying to bring our Government to disrepute on various pretexts.

Sir, I do not want to make any remark of my own with regard to what has been said by my Communist friends. Instead, I will draw your attention to the resolution passed by the Communist Congress at Moscow.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : What has that to do with the resolution under discussion ? This is not a party platform.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Sir, my submission is that I do not intend to take the speeches of my Communist Friends seriously. They receive orders from a distance of several thousand miles to the effect

[Shri Prabodh Chandra]

that the Parliamentary system should not be allowed to work and all destructive tactics should be adopted to.....(Interruptions).

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I am sorry to say that if this state of affairs continues I shall have to suspend the business of the House.

Minister for Irrigation: Why should you suspend the business of the House? You can take action against the unruly element.

Shri Prabodh Chandra: In deference to your wishes and my regard for a gentleman whom I respect as my uncle I shall refrain from exposing his party.

Shri Sri Chand: My only request is that the hon. Member may be asked to speak to the motion before the House.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: He is not speaking against you. I cannot presume that he is speaking against anybody.

Shri Prabodh Chandra: Sir, I only wanted to make a reference to the resolution which the Communist Party passed at the Moscow conference.

Sardar Chanan Singh: How is that resolution connected with the resolution under discussion?

Shri Prabodh Chandra: After the hon. Member has heard me he will understand the connection. Well, Sir, I now wish to point out that the question of abiana which is the subject-matter of this resolution was raised long ago by Sardar Partap Singh. My hon. friends claim to be the friends and champions of the cause of the cultivators but if they approach the matter with an open mind they will realise how much Sardar Partap Singh has done and what he intends to do in this regard. When this resolution was taken up in the last Session he was the first to declare in the party meeting that we must examine the whole position in order to find a way to make some reduction in the rate of abiana. My friends on the Opposition benches have formed a habit of opposing each and every thing that the Government wants to do. First they opposed the measure relating to transport. Then a hue and cry was raised against the imposition of the Sales Tax. In short, whenever any tax is proposed they at once jump up to oppose it without ever going into the merits of the case. They should have known that the reason for not reducing the water rate is that we want money for spreading a network of canals in the State. Every one of us knows that in the matter of constructing canals the Sikandar Ministry had focussed all its attention on the western part of the Province. We have now made it the first

item of our programme to cover the whole State with a network of canals by constructing dams etc. May I ask my Friends how we can augment our income to meet this huge expenditure without levying some taxes? This Government does not possess the Alladin's lamp. Nor is it in receipt of millions of rupees from abroad? But in spite of all this we will take the earliest opportunity to reduce the rate of abiana.

So far as the question of rural and urban population is concerned I would request my hon. Friends to go through the Budget carefully. They will then find, that all possible steps are being taken for the welfare of the rural people. Schools and veterinary hospitals are being opened in large numbers for the benefit of the rural people and several other measures are being adopted for the betterment of their lot. However, if some of my Friends still persist in raising the rural-urban cry we can very well excuse them because they have been brought up in an atmosphere surcharged with communal slogans and bitter controversies between rural and urban population as well as conflicts between the interests of the zamindars and non-zamindars. However, let me tell them plainly that the Government has much more solicitude for the welfare of the rural population than my Friends can ever have. Certainly we will look after their interests much better and do all that is possible for the development of rural areas.

Sardar Mohan Singh Jathedar (Tarn Taran) (*Punjabi*): Mr. Speaker, I have risen to express my views with regard to the resolution under discussion. I think that the water rate which was increased by fifty percent last year must be reduced but I also know that our Minister for Development, Sardar Partap Singh Kairon and the Pradesh Congress made three promises with the people. Two of those promises have been fulfilled. The zaildari system has been abolished and the Tenancy Act has been passed. I am sure that the third promise which was with regard to the reduction of water-rate would also be fulfilled. I feel that there was no necessity of moving this resolution before the presentation of the next budget.

Mr. Speaker, if my friends were serious about their demand for the reduction of the water rate, they would not have done so much propaganda as they have been doing in public meetings. This issue was used for ousting the previous Ministry and though my friends have not the power to dislodge the present Ministry yet they are doing propaganda for that purpose only. Meetings were held in the Temperance Hall near Hall Gate, Amritsar, and speeches were delivered on the issue of reduction of water rate. In this connection I am reminded of a story.

[Sardar Mohan Singh Jathedar]

At a certain place two mimics were imitating some people. After giving their performance one of the mimics asked the other for some reward. On being asked what reward he wanted, he replied that he would like to have one hundred rupees. The other man said, "Granted." Then the mimic demanded one thousand rupees and the other man replied that he granted his request. On being asked to pay the amount, he replied that he did not know from where to pay it. In the same way I ask my Friends as to why they make false promises with the public if they cannot fulfil them. I want to make it clear that I am in favour of the reduction of water rate.

I want to bring one or two things to the notice of hon. Chaudhri Lahri Singh in connection with the department under his charge. In the case of water supplied from the Upper Bari Doab Canal the same water rate is charged regardless of the quantity supplied, for instance to some lands it is supplied at the rate of three cusecs per thousand acres and to others at the rate of six and a half cusecs per thousand acres. I beg to submit that the water should be supplied at a uniform rate.

Another thing that I wish to point out is that the water rate charged in respect of water supplied for sugar-cane is Rs. 15/10 while that for garden areas it is less despite the fact that the water supplied to the latter is twice or thrice as much as to the former. This is not fair. Another submission which I wish to make is that water rate in respect of the Rabi crop which is being sown these days will be realised in the month of June. If the Government announces a reduction in the water rate just now the farmers will sow more wheat. The agriculturists are asked not to worry about the water rate but as the distribution of water is uneven they are bound to feel that it should be reduced. I, therefore, request the Government to reduce the water rate and make an announcement to that effect at the time of presentation of the Budget. That step would go a long way in satisfying the people. Every body knows that the hon. Sardar Partap Singh Kairon is in favour of reducing the water rate and he has been making speeches to that effect during his Presidentship of the Provincial Congress. I am sure that it will be reduced but the loss of revenue caused by that action will have to be made good from some source. This aspect needs to be fully considered. I own a small piece of land in Uttar Pradesh. I can say without any fear of contradiction that in that State the taxes are higher than those in the Punjab where the lands are much better. In that State over and above the land revenue, income-tax is also charged from the agriculturists. In addition to these, there is another tax known as sugar-cane tax. The

financial position of our State is such that the loss of sixty lakhs of rupees, which will be caused as a result of a reduction in the water rates will have to be made good from some other source. The whole question has to be thoroughly and carefully considered. Those people who think that Sardar Partap Singh Kairon is being used only as a tool and that he would not be able to get any thing done by the Congress Government are entirely mistaken. His position is not like that of the Late Sir Manohar Lal in the Unionist Ministry.

I expressed my views clearly on this subject during the last Session also. However, I reiterate that the water rate should be reduced from the present season and I am sure that it will be done. As regards some of my hon. Friends in the Opposition, I know that they say much without meaning anything.

Sardar Ajmer Singh (Samrala) (*Punjabi*): Mr. Speaker, I have listened to the speeches, delivered so far, with rapt attention. I feel that the resolution, now before the House, is of vital importance as it affects lakhs of peasants living in the villages. The attention of all the people is focussed on this House in which, sitting at a height of 7000 feet, we are discussing this question. They are closely watching as to what the different political parties say about this matter. The Akali Party has held many conferences in which this matter has been discussed by them and my Communist friends also say that a reduction of the water rate is one of the items of their programme. The Zamindara Party also has passed resolutions in favour of its reduction. The members of the Congress party make various kinds of promises with the public. They passed a resolution that it would be reduced by them.

I would ask, is this a democratic Government? Democracy means Government of the people, by the people, for the people. I would tell my hon. Friend Sardar Partap Singh Kairon that except the Congress, all other political parties are united in their demand for the reduction of 'abiana.' The need is pressing in view of the fact that the paying capacity of the peasants has very much gone down. They are so much burdened with the taxes that their back has been broken. The Government should at least consider whether they are in a position to pay 'abiana' at the present rate. Moreover, their cost of production has considerably increased and it is also to be considered whether they get adequate return from their agricultural produce. If we were to consider the pre-war level of prices, we will find that the prices, of wheat have gone up three times. Previously wheat was available at Rs. 4/8- per maund and now it is being sold at Rs. 13 per

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maund. The same is the case with cotton. Previously cotton was available at Rs. 8 per maund and now its rate has gone up to Rs. 24 or 25 per maund. Take another example. Muslin bearing No. 376 was previously sold at Re. $\frac{3}{6}$ per yard but now its price is Rs. $\frac{1}{8}$ per yard. Similarly, zamindars have to buy iron, the price of which has now considerably gone up. Besides, a bullock which could be had previously for Rs. 100 is now available at Rs. 500. I can say without any fear of contradiction that the peasants are not financially better off than before. On the other hand their financial condition has become worse. If any representative of the zamindars were to say that their financial position is sound then I think he cannot be called a real representative of the zamindars. Then, Sir, it is stated that the Government has to levy taxes upon the people in order to run the administration. But I would ask the Government whether it considers it justifiable to impose taxes upon the people who are already half-dead and who have not a single drop of blood left in their bodies. I would say that this is not the proper way of running administration. Again, those who today occupy ministerial benches, used to say that they will certainly reduce the 'abiana' but now I have begun to think that if the Congress says that the abiana be reduced immediately, then it connotes that the Government would take necessary steps to reduce the 'abiana' after one year. My hon. Friend Sardar Waryam Singh got a resolution passed in the meeting of the Working Committee of the District Congress Committee (Rural) on the 18th June to the effect that 'abiana' be reduced immediately by the Government, but so far no action has been taken on it. It may be mentioned that the Budget Session commenced on the 14th June and this resolution was passed on the 18th June. I would like to read the contents of the resolution before the House. It says —

The District Congress Committee (Rural) in a meeting of the working committee, presided over by Sardar Waryam Singh, M. L. A., also demanded the immediate reduction of 'abiana' describing the increase as wholly unjustified and expecting the new ministry to fulfil the promises made by some of the Ministers in this matter.

Now the pity of it is that those very friends who led anti-abiana agitation are today condemning us. When we say that the Government should levy taxes on affluent people living in cities then we are told not to raise any controversy over ruralites versus urbanites. If we say that the Government should impose taxes on the rich people and not on the poor then we are condemned for raising the question of 'rich' and 'poor'.

If we talk of different sections of people then the Government dub us as communalists. The Government would condemn the Opposition even if it says that the poor people should not be taxed. These poor people have no money to educate their children even. I think unless the Government stops squeezing out money from the pockets of the poor, they and their children will always remain steeped in illiteracy. There is no denying the fact that life in cities is better and more comfortable than that in villages. But whenever a suggestion is made to the Government to levy taxes on the urbanites then as already stated, my hon. Friend, the Chief Minister would say that it is not proper to raise any question of urbanites and ruralites in this House. Mahatma Gandhi had issued a statement on the day when he was shot dead, which I would like to read before the House.

Though split into two, India having attained political independence through means devised by the Indian National Congress, the Congress in its present shape and form, i. e., as propaganda vehicle and parliamentary machine, has outlived its use. India has still to attain social, moral and economic independence in terms of its seven hundred thousand villages as distinguished from its cities and towns.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: May I know where does the question of rural areas come in. The hon. Member is requested to confine his observation to the Resolution before the House.

Sardar Ajmer Singh: Sir, by "rural people," I meant "village people."

Mr. Deputy Speaker: When the hon. Member was reading some sentences from Gandhiji's Will, he was just trying to create a distinction between rural and urban people. This has nothing to do with the Resolution. I declare this as quite irrelevant.

Sardar Ajmer Singh: I would submit, Sir, that the Government should not impose taxes on the ruralites because their back is already broken under the heavy weight of taxes. Their financial condition is very bad. The Government should try to improve their economic condition and this can only be done if it refrains from imposing unfair taxes upon them. But experience has shown that the actions of the Congress belie its professions. It would say one thing on the public platform and quite another to its Ministers. Such inconsistencies, cannot redound to the credit of the Congress Organisation.

Shri Prabodh Chandra: On a point of order, Sir. Have the Members of the Opposition party got the privilege of saying whatever

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they want to say. Do they want to try the patience of the Congress members?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I am pained to observe that the hon. Member (Sardar Ajmer Singh) is unnecessarily casting aspersions on another political party. He should refrain from doing so.

Sardar Ajmer Singh: Well, Sir, if democracy has got any meaning then the Government should not ignore public opinion. The Government had given a word of honour that it would provide relief to the rural people by lessening the burden of taxation but no action has been taken by the Government so far. Is it political decency that the party in power is not fulfilling its own promises? So far as the public opinion is concerned, I can say that all the political parties representing it, are unanimous in their demand that this resolution should be passed by the Legislature today. This resolution would benefit the poor people and if I may say so, we are on trial as to what attitude we adopt today on this resolution. We have to see whether the Government passes this resolution as it stands or adopts an evasive policy like the British Government by saying that this matter will be taken up at an opportune time. I think that this Government will also put us off under some pretext or another. If it made only a slight reduction in the rate of "abiana" then it would only be an eye wash.

Now, Sir, I want to make the position clear by quoting certain facts and figures and show that an increase in the 'abiana' is absolutely uncalled for. When 'abiana' was first imposed, then the Government of Punjab had announced that it would not be charged on a monopoly basis. The total outlay on the construction of canals was of the order of Rs. 42 crores as against which the total receipts that have accrued to the Government are 180 crores of rupees. The interest at the rate of 4 per cent per annum comes to Rs. 50.5 crores. The profit that has accrued to the Government so far is Rs. 129.5 crores. Under the Debtors Protection Act, no creditor can realize interest exceeding two times the principal from any debtor. The Government has already collected from the sale of canal water money equal to four or five times the total outlay. Consequent upon the partition, the liability of this State on account of the money spent on the construction of canals has been reduced to Rs. 10.80 crores. On this the Government has to pay Rs. 42 lakhs, as interest charges while it is realizing much more from the poor Zamindars annually in the form of 'abiana.'

Then, Sir, out of the total receipts from 'abiana,' a huge sum of Rs. 96 lakhs is being expended annually on the department. While in the

United Punjab there used to be four canal divisions, their number has now been increased to six. The maintenance charges account for a huge sum of Rs. 1,20 lakhs. There is absolutely no justification for expending such huge sums of money. My hon. friend, Jathedar Mohan Singh has quoted the example of the Uttar Pradesh regarding the higher incidence of tax on the cultivators. May I know if he wants to see the peasants of this State reduced to the position of the 'ghasiaras' of U.P.?

Shri Prabodh Chandra : On a point of order, Sir. We cannot call the residents of another State 'ghasiaras'. He must withdraw that word.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : He has just quoted an instance.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : But my submission is that we cannot call the residents of any State 'ghasiaras.' It is not in keeping with the dignity of the House.

Sardar Ajmer Singh : Sir, what I mean to ask is this—does our Government also want to reduce the peasants of this State to the same state of destitution to which the Government of Uttar Pradesh has reduced its people by the imposition of one tax after another ?

I again request the Congress members to honour the promises that they made with the people at the time of the election. If they were true to their words, they would have pressed the Government to reduce the rate of this tax the very first day that it assumed office. No body can deny that the peasants are the real producers of wealth of a country. They mould the material and by the sweat of their brow make the soil yield gold. All other sections of the population consume what they produce and live thereon. Instead of discouraging these real producers of wealth, the Government should lighten their burden by imposing taxes on the capitalists like the mill owners. We are not in the least anxious to get any credit for the reduction of the rate of the 'abiana'; all that we want is to shake our Congressite brethren from the slumber that has overtaken them. Let my hon. friend Sardar Waryam Singh bring forward in the House a resolution to this effect and he will have our fullest support if it is only a question of credit which stands in this way or in the way of other Congress members while supporting this Resolution. In the end I again request the Congress members to leave aside false prestige and vote in favour of this Resolution.

Professor Sher Singh (Jhajjar) (Hindi) : Sir, a resolution similar to the one that has been moved today in this House by an hon. Member of the Opposition was passed by the Punjab State Congress a long time ago. While moving his resolution, the hon. Member has quoted from

[Professor Sher Singh]

a speech delivered in this House by Sardar Partap Singh Kairon some two years back. I may assure him that Sardar Partap Singh Kairon has not at all changed ; he is the same now as he was then. His position in this Ministry is analogous to that of Chaudhri Chhotu Ram in the Khizar Hayat Ministry—nay even stronger than that. When this is a well-known fact, why should any doubt arise in anybody's mind that he has given up the stand that he took two years back or that he will not honour his promise. I am quite certain that by the next Budget Session this problem will have been settled somehow or the other. I am confident that Sardar Sahib will definitely be able to fulfil the promise that he has made to us and to the peasants of this State.

Well, Sir, I do not see eye to eye with my brethren in the Opposition on one point. They have in their speeches tried to raise the issue of 'Zamindars versus non-Zamindars'. In my opinion, while discussing this resolution imaginary issues such as 'Zamindars versus non-Zamindars' and 'ruralites versus urbanites' should not have been raised. If the peasant produces more foodgrains or if we increase his capacity to do so by lightening the burden of taxes on him, it will all be in the interests of the whole State—nay even the whole country.

Then, so far as the principle enunciated by Sardar Achhar Singh is concerned, it is acceptable to me. The rate of abiana should be commensurate with the public utility of the same. Of course, it is right that 156 crores of rupees are to be spent on the construction of the Bhakra Dam. But if we spend such large amount with the idea of recovering the same from the kisans, then it won't be possible for the poor kisans to bear this burden, and in that case the construction of the Bhakra Dam will never be completed. The hon. Members sitting on the Opposition benches who have brought forward this resolution have also referred to the Betterment Fee. My submission is that the party to which they belong has been raising slogans for the last thirty years that the Bhakra scheme should be completed soon. But in spite of all they said, they did not do anything in the matter. In those cheap times when this task could be accomplished in fifteen crores of rupees only, they could not do anything in this direction, For the last thirty years slogans were continued to be raised to catch votes in the elections. If during those cheap days the work on the Bhakra had been started in right earnest, there would have been no problem of the Betterment Fee at this time. The scheme which would then have cost fifteen crores only will now cost several times more. If the Unionist Ministry had paid its attention towards the Ambala Division this problem would not have

arisen at this time. I would say that the present Ministry is not an enemy of the Zamindars. This Government has full sympathy for them because it is a democratic Government. The days when the people could be deceived have gone. The times have changed. The hon. Member who has moved this resolution, has also made a mention of the Chaukidara Tax and the Panchayat Tax. But he should know that these taxes were imposed by the Unionist Government and the same Panchayat laws, which were enacted by it, are still in force. Now the time has come when they have to be changed and the present Government is going to work for the poor. It equally belongs to the zamindars and the kisans. This is quite true. The party which is today in power has fought for the poor and it will continue to fight for them. We are of the opinion that burden on the kisans should be lightened. We have been saying this from time to time and every body knows it. The hon. Members occupying the Opposition Benches are thinking that about the 'abiana' today what we thought two years ago, namely, that it is excessive. It is alleged that we are sleeping. This is quite wrong. In fact we are wide awake and we are doing our best to better the lot of the peasants. This is a government of the kisans and the poor people and not of the big zamindars and the capitalists. The Congress Government has always been in full sympathy with the masses. It has been preparing schemes for giving water to the fields of the villagers. It has never discriminated between the small peasants and the big Zamindars in the matter of supplying canal water, unlike the Unionist Government which always looked to the interest of big zamindars. There are many instances of this nature where the *rajbahs* were put to lower lands under the influence of some rich persons, and the poor people were ignored.

Many things have been said by the Members sitting on Opposition Benches, such as this Government pays no heed to the interests of the poor people. I think this is contrary to facts. In my opinion the Congress Government is doing much for the advancement of the poor people, and is preparing many schemes to achieve this object. In those areas where the expert engineers of the Unionist regime thought water could not reach, water has now been supplied with the help of lifts by the present Government. I think that at those places only the running expenses should be realised from the kisans and double 'abiana' should not be charged. In the end I would again say that the Development Minister is the same person as he used to be about two years ago. Today also he thinks in the same manner. I am sure that he will very soon fulfil his promises which he held out to the people.

Sardar Ajmer Singh : Sir, I move—
That the question be now put.

Minister for Irrigation : Does the hon. Member want to deprive the Government from explaining its position? I think that the matter should be discussed thoroughly before any closure is moved.

Sardar Ajmer Singh : Sir, we have had enough discussion on this resolution. I insist that the closure be moved as there is yet another important resolution which we want to discuss.

Mr. Deputy Secretary : Question is—
That the question be now put.

The motion was lost, after the decision of the Deputy Speaker had been challenged.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : I call upon Shri Ram Kishan.

Shri Ram Kishan (Jullundur City, North-West) (*Hindi*): Mr. Speaker, while giving expression to their views on the present resolution, the Members of the Opposition have reminded the Government of many old promises held out by the Congress. I would like to tell them that the Congressmen clearly remember those promises and have not forgotten them. They have also complained against the taxation in our State. Mr. Speaker, if the statistics of all the twenty-six States of India are collected and perused by my hon. Friends it would become clear to them that in our State the rate of taxation is the lowest of all. In the Punjab the incidence of tax per head comes to Rs. 4/11/-, only whereas in Madras, Bombay and other States it varies from Rs. 4 to Rs. 11 per head. Sir, although I do not wish that the incidence of tax should be increased in this State, yet my submission is that while discussing the incidence of tax, my friends should not lose sight of the economic condition of our State in comparison with that of others. They must know that the per capita tax in our State does not exceed Rs. 4/11/-. If they collect necessary statistics from the Irrigation Department regarding the acreage of land which is irrigated in each state and compare the rate of 'abiana' which is being charged there and the amount being spent by the Government in this connection, then they will realise that there was no need of bringing this resolution before this House. They must not ignore the fact that in U. P. where the largest area of land is under cultivation, Government spends Rs. 4/8/- only per head. But against it in our State the rate of taxation is Rs. 4/11/- per head while the Government spends Rs. 72 per head on Irrigation Department, (*Applause*).

My hon. Friend must know that of all States like Assam, Bombay, Madras, Orissa, etc. Uttar Pradesh is the only State where 1,17,43,000 acres of land are under irrigation. But in the Punjab 52,84,000 acres of land only are irrigated. What I mean to submit is that the Congress

party remembers fully well all those promises that it had held out to the people during the recent elections and on the basis of which it was returned to power. The Members of the Opposition need not remind us of those promises. We have not backed out. We only need some time to fulfil them.

Then, Sir, the hon. Members advocating a reduction in the 'abiana' to the pre-partition level must decide first whether they want to raise the standard of living of our masses or they want to let it continue as before. The Leader of the Opposition held some high office in the pre-partition regime and so did the hon. Member who has moved this resolution. They must be knowing that in 1919 the Bhakra Dam Scheme was prepared but at the time of partition not even its record was available. Despite all these impediments our Government has made sufficient headway towards its materialisation. Sir, I feel that when we discuss the question of a reduction in the 'abiana,' we must see whether or not the Government has made proper use of the money raised through taxes. Have my friends forgotten that at the time of partition we received only 44 lakh acres of land, but within a period of only 5 years we want to raise this area up to 82 lakh acres through irrigational schemes? Then Mr. Speaker, only three or four months have passed since our Government presented the Budget for this year in this House. I am sure it will not ignore the inclusion of the beneficial schemes while presenting the next budget. At the same time I also hope that while considering the desirability of increasing or reducing a certain expenditure it will keep in view the question of a reduction in the 'abiana.' Mr. Speaker, if the hon. Member sitting opposite are desirous of spreading literacy and raising the standard of living of the masses, I would appeal to them to give their whole-hearted co-operation to our Government and should not put obstacles in its way. Sir, I assure them that our Government would keep in view this problem and find out its satisfactory solution. (Interruptions).

Mr. Deputy Speaker : I would like to tell the hon. Members occupying Opposition Benches that their attitude of interrupting the other Members during the course of their speeches is simply deplorable. I would ask Comrade Ram Kishan please to wind up his speech within a few minutes.

Shri Ram Kishan : Sir, I was submitting that our Government will fulfil all its promises as it has been doing in the past. I would, therefore, request the mover of the resolution to withdraw it. Our State which was a deficit one in foodgrains has become surplus due to the

[Shri Ram Kishan]

all-out efforts and development schemes of the Congress Government. By surplus I mean that the output of food-grains has increased by 3 lakh tons and we have been able to provide food to 27 lakh more adults. Sir, I would, therefore, again advise my hon. Friends opposite to withdraw this resolution and extend their full co-operation to the Government so as to enable it to put forward a satisfactory solution of this problem while presenting the next Budget. I assure them that the Government would give this problem its fullest consideration. In the end, Sir, I would also like to make it clear that if any Government can solve this problem it is the Government of Shri Sachar and Sardar Partap Singh Kairon and nobody else.

Minister for Development (Sardar Partap Singh Kairon) (*Punjabi*) : Mr. Speaker, I beg to submit that the problem now before the House is directly connected with our existence and is interlinked with our livelihood. The hon. Member Shri Maru Singh Malik is under the impression that we are afraid of the resolution moved by him but I want to make it clear to him that he has been labouring under a misconception.

Sir, we wish that we may have enough time to ponder over this problem and find out its solution. But I regret to point out that so far we have not even had time to do so. The fact is that my hon. Friends from the Opposition are not keen to bring about a reduction in the water rate by moving this resolution for which they have put in so much labour. Their anxiety, however, is to exploit the situation in which our Government is at present placed.

Sir, I want to remind them that there was great agitation against the water-rates during 1930-31 and 1932. I along with my comrades in the Congress took an active part in organising that agitation. Consequently in 1933-34 the Government had to reduce the water rates under pressure. My friends should, therefore, note that I have been struggling over this issue since 1930 and even earlier than that. They can verify this fact from my hon. Friend Shri Kedar Nath Saigal as to which party had been putting up a fight with the Government on this issue during 1907 and 1916. In this connection I may point out that so far as the question of parties is concerned, the Communists at that time were working in the Congress and giving a fight to the Government. But now the difficulty is that our friends of the Akali Party wish that we should not even make a mention of the Communist Party. I leave it to them to tell as to who had helped us during that fight,

I further want to enquire from them whether the leadership of the Akali Party of that time was more powerful and more commendable or that of the present Akali Party. In my opinion that party commanded greater prestige. But I regret to point out that the glory it had achieved disappeared when we left it and for that, I think, my friends are responsible.

Sardar Wazir Singh : On a point of order, Sir. May I know whether the resolution is under discussion or the Akali Party ?

Minister for Development : The brave workers had to quit the Akali Party. If I may say so, the 'Lions' had left and their places had been taken over by the 'jackals'. I further want to enquire from these gentlemen who are also members of the District Boards and Municipal Committees, whether they had ever taken part in those agitations.

Sardar Gopal Singh : On a point of order, Sir. Is the hon. Minister relevant in making all these remarks ? If the Chair does not pull him up we will be compelled to leave the chamber.

Minister for Development : If the hon. Member is extending threats, I am not afraid of him. I have a lot of experience of persons like him. I fully know what he has been doing in America. (Uproar)

Mr. Deputy Speaker : It is very sad that one party is following the example set by the other. I would request the Minister to confine his remarks to the resolution under discussion.

Sardar Ajmer Singh : Sir, the hon. Minister should have respect for the Leader of the Opposition. As you have to maintain the discipline in the House, I would request you to ask him to withdraw his remarks that he made about the Leader of the Opposition. We are not going to tolerate this state of things.

Minister for Development : Sir, I have every respect for the Leader of the Opposition in his official capacity. But he challenged me and I could not take things lying down.

Sardar Gopal Singh : Sir, I only asked the hon. Minister to be relevant to the motion. There was no question of any challenge.

Minister for Development : If that is so, then I am sorry for what I have said. I, however, meant no insult to the Leader of the Opposition. I express my regret if his dignity was hurt, but I make no secret of the fact that I know much about him.

Sardar Ajmer Singh : But this does not behove the hon. Minister.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : I would request the hon. Minister to speak on the resolution and resist the temptation of going astray.

Minister for Development : The hon. Members will bear me out that I have been saying those things in a lighter vein and I was not serious about them. However, it has given me great pleasure to find that out of all the hon. Members of the Opposition who have taken part in the discussion the speech delivered by hon. Sardar Achhar Singh was the best.

The arguments advanced by him have very much appealed to me, for they are based on economic and fundamental principles. Besides, Mr. Speaker, in connection with the extracts of my speech which my hon. Friend Chaudhri Sri Chand has quoted, I declare on the floor of the House that I stand by what I said then. Sir, you will be surprised to know about the tactics which my friends who have quoted from my speeches, employed in their bid to mislead the people of my constituency during the elections. They distributed posters in my ilaqa indicating that it was Sardar Partap Singh Kairon who was actually responsible for the increase in the rate of «abiana» and that the people should neither vote for him nor for the Congress. To counteract this mischievous propaganda I placed this very speech of mine before the people of my constituency in order to convince them of my actual views on the subject. The slogan which my hon. Friends have referred to, was undoubtedly raised by Partap Singh Kairon from the Congress platform. I still stand by that slogan of my party. That slogan is this that the increase of 50% in the rate of «abiana» without careful thinking was not a justified step taken by the then Government. This measure should have been considered thoroughly and calmly. Thereafter, if the circumstances warranted, it could, of course, be increased. But now it requires time to reconsider this question. It was on account of this very reason that I requested the hon. Members to wait till the next Budget Session so that by that time we could go into the pros and cons of the matter and whatever the outcome, it will ultimately come before them. We are not going to keep it a secret.

Sir, we are fully aware of the extent of the benefit accruing to the peasants from it. We are not ignorant of the things. I know more than my Friends sitting opposite in this connection. I am myself not in favour of advancing hollow arguments. I may point out that even at that time I used to say that if the Government could not help increasing the rate of «abiana» then it should do so on some solid grounds. This is not a sound principle to increase or decrease «abiana» on the basis of merely a rise or fall in the prices. The rate of wheat at the time when «abiana»

was increased stood at Rs. 14 per maund but now it has gone considerably low. Similarly, take the case of sugarcane. The rate of sugarcane and *gur* is much lower than what it was at the time when the water rates were increased. So, such like arguments do not appeal to me. Had the then Chief Minister, Doctor Gopi Chand Bhargava and others whom I do not wish to mention by name at present, taken this step after having considered the matter thoroughly, the conditions would not have deteriorated to such an extent. However, we are minutely examining the matter and any step that we would like to take, we shall take after considering all its pros and cons.

Then, Sir, my hon. Friends have given a very exaggerated account of the expenditure of the Irrigation establishment. In fact, this expenditure has not risen to the extent to which my hon. Friends give it publicity. In my opinion this expenditure was as follows :

Rs. 12,00,000 in the year 1923-24,

Rs. 13,00,000 in the year 1933-34.

and in the year 1950 it went up to the tune of Rs. 20,00,000. But I wonder why my hon. Friends lose sight of other aspects at the time of calculating this expenditure. Mr. Speaker, you are aware that a labourer who previously used to get a daily wage of eight annas, has now to be paid Rs. 2/- a day. May I enquire of the Friends sitting opposite whether they wish a labourer to be paid at the same rate which prevailed during the year 1916?

Besides, they unnecessarily criticise the number of the Chief Engineers in this state. Sir, at present, there are three Chief Engineers in this Department viz; Chief Engineer (Running Canals), Chief Engineer (Bhakra Dam) and Chief Engineer (Bhakra Canals).

Mr. Speaker, these people do not know while I know where the loop holes exist. Not only myself but also each member of the Congress Assembly Party knows where the weaknesses and excesses exist. Therefore, I would like to submit that the question facing us today is that of the proper development of the whole of the Punjab and not only that of the reduction in "abiana". I wish to make it abundantly clear that whenever a decrease in water rates will be made, it will be effected keeping in view the development of the state as a whole and not merely the prices. I would like to say that the Congress will definitely redeem its promises which it held out to the masses but after having them examined thoroughly. The Government will, of course, fulfill them even if it were to introduce a token cut in the Budget. If we can provide a sum of Rs. 43,00,000/- so as to increase the allowance of those employees who are getting pay upto Rs. 100/-, if we can manage to provide a sum of Rs. 80,00,000 for affording relief to the

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famine stricken people of Hissar and if the Government can borrow money in order to spend it on the construction of Bhakra Dam and other minor works in Amritsar, Ludhiana, Ferozepur and other parts of the state, then we will certainly reduce the rate of abiana at the opportune time for the sake of development of our State (Cheers). If, however, we stood in dire need of money then we will openly take the public into confidence. So what I mean to say is that Partap Singh Kairon would have not opposed Dr. Gopi Chand provided the latter had put forward sound arguments.

My hon. Friends Gyani Rajinder Singh, Professor Sher Singh and Sardar Waryam Singh Sultanwind have made their observations very rightly. I fully associate myself with whatever they have said. I want that the distribution of water should be on a rational basis. I would also like to let my hon. Friends know that Partap Singh Kairon is not a person who would get a canal excavated in his own constituency and ignore the interests of others. (Interruptions) I would request my Friends to listen to me.

The Congress is of the view that the petty peasants should be altogether relieved of the brunt of such levies and instead the big landlords should be made to contribute more towards the taxes. I am personally in favour of the view that all those petty zamindars who possess only ten to twelve bighas of land and manage to pay taxes by snatching away every loaf from the mouths of their children, should be exempted from the payment of "abiana" which should be levied on those who have got hundreds of surplus maunds of food-grains to sell in the markets. I rather believe that even if they are made to pay twice or four times the present rate of abiana, it will matter little to them. What I mean to say is that we will take a further decision on the question of "abiana" after giving it a thorough and careful consideration. I am well aware that the incidence of "abiana" falls on the poor tenants and tillers of the land and not on the owners of thousands of bighas of land and the former direly stand in need of relief.

Mr. Speaker, abiana is not the only problem which needs our close attention. As a matter of fact our attention has been focussed on many other similar problems also. The question of raising the salaries of the teachers employed in the District Boards and Forest Guards, who cannot afford to have two square meals a day, are receiving our undivided attention. I know that when the measures in connection with these problems will be introduced in this House even then the hon. Members

of the Opposition will advance different arguments. I know one thing for certain and which I wish to bring to the notice of my friends and that is, that the rate of «abiana» in the Uttar Pradesh is considerably high. Why was it enhanced? It was increased because of the regular water supply and the fertility of lands yielding bumper crops. Now, if we have to reduce the water rates here, we must explore ways and means in order to make good the loss. I do not mean that I will sleep over my promises. I shall try to reduce the rate of «abiana» but let me have the question examined in all its bearings.

As you are aware, Sir, agitation in this connection was started in 1930-31 and it bore fruit in 1933. At that time the price of wheat had fallen to about a rupee and a half per maund, and that was the reason why the rate of abiana was reduced. But now even Pakistan and the Uttar Pradesh have raised these rates. If you reduce the abiana now wherefrom will you meet your expenses? You should not shut your eyes to the fact that we have to do much for the development of our State.

Still I promise you that we shall examine the matter in detail and after taking stock of the whole position regarding our income and expenditure we will effect as much reduction in the rate of abiana as may be found possible. But remember one thing. Pratap Singh Kairon can never be coerced or bullied into taking any step whatever.

My Friends have referred to the year 1950 over and over again. Let me tell them plainly that we have not won the elections only with the help of slogans. Shri Bhim Sen Sachar did not enter this House through mere slogans. Nor could anyone else be elected on the score of some slogans about abiana. These things are not done only to catch the votes of the people. If our success were dependent on slogans about the abiana only why did we suffer defeat in the districts of Ludhiana and Ferozepore where lands are irrigated with canal water? Three-fourths of the population consisted of such constituencies as had nothing whatever to do with abiana. The Congress has won the elections on the strength of its sacrifices while those forming the main opposition have always employed religious and communal slogans to win over the voters.

I would ask my hon. friends to let us sit together and settle these matters amicably. I shall be prepared to appoint a Retrenchment Committee if they so desire and then we shall take whatever step is considered necessary in the light of the conclusions arrived at. I invite my communist Friends for face-to-face talks on this question. I suggest to my hon. Friend Sardar Achhar Singh that he should come forward

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and join us in making the necessary calculations. Then if we find that a man with 10 acres of land cannot bear this burden, we can start with those possessing 11 acres. You may start with the owners of 20 or even 50 acres. You will be at liberty to do whatever is thought proper but please refrain from hurling threats at Sardar Partap Singh Kairon. If we have stopped the 'bandobast' operations and if we have been able to put thousands of people to work on outlets and canals, do they think that the people will now refuse to listen to us?

Shri Sri Chand : The Minister has had his say but he is continuing simply because he is anxious to talk out the motion

Minister for Development : I invite the hon. Member sitting to the left of Shri Sri Chand for a heart to heart talk. I shall also be glad to take Chaudhri Sri Chand into confidence if he sheds off his prejudice. Let us sit together and thrash out these matters. That is the only way to do something for the good of our people. If they want to help the people let us make sincere efforts.

In the end I want to say to my own Comrades that whatever beneficial steps are to be taken, they should be taken by the party in power on its own initiative. We should not let those people take credit for such steps who are in the habit of exploiting the public. We should, therefore, oppose this Resolution.

Voices from the Opposition : The Question be now put, Sir.

Minister for Irrigation : I will take only five minutes and there are still fifteen minutes left for the adjournment of the House.

Chaudhri Sri Chand : Sir, I move—

That the question be now put.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : I am sorry closure cannot be moved at this stage when the Irrigation Minister is on his legs to reply to the criticism levelled by the Opposition party. Moreover, the Resolution under discussion concerns his department and he considers it necessary to clarify the position of his Department.

Chaudhri Sri Chand : But, Sir, we do not want to discuss this Resolution further.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : I am sorry you cannot have your own way.

Chaudhri Sri Chand : Then as a protest, we stage a walk out.

*(The Members belonging to the Opposition
Party then left the Chamber).*

Minister for Irrigation (Chaudhri Lahri Singh) (*Hindi*): Sir, I must say that I had expected some courage as well as honesty of purpose on this question of abiana from the party which appeared to be so enthusiastic about this resolution and had exhibited so much solicitude for the welfare of the zamindars. They showed so much keenness about this matter and, therefore, after having expressed to their views they should have listened to what the other side had to say so that they could arrive at some sensible decision in the light of the views expressed by both sides. No useful purpose can be served by running away from the House.

Now I want to clear one important point. It has been sought to make out that the Government is imposing a large number of taxes on the rural population but does not spend a single penny for the benefit of the rural areas. This is certainly a misrepresentation and responsible people should never indulge in such wild talk. We have heard some very strange utterances in the House today. Some one complained that the High Court had been shoved off to an obscure corner. Another came forward to denounce us for building a new city for the High Court. Yet another objected to the new city itself. I would only submit that it is not a joke to build a new city. We lost Lahore and a new city had to be built to replace it. Why cannot they understand even this much? Our Rehabilitation Department deserves all credit and praise for having done so much for the rehabilitation of our displaced brethren.

Now one question about the allocation of expenditure for rural and urban areas. Do my hon. Friends want that the Government should not spend even a penny on the urban population? Let them open their eyes and see what the Government is doing for the development of rural areas and how many big projects it has started for the benefit of the rural people. A large number of schools and veterinary hospitals is being established in the rural areas. At present the Government is spending no less than Rs. 338800000/- on the Grow More Food campaign and other big projects for the benefit of zamindars and the rural population. I wonder how the Government, which is under debt to the tune of eighty-eight crores of rupees and which wants to irrigate all the lands in Ferozepur and Ludhiana districts in order to make the people self-supporting, can be charged with not doing anything for the villagers. Four lakh kilowatts of electricity would be produced from the Bhakra and Nangal projects and it would be possible to electrify every house. Six hundred tube-wells have been bored since the partition and 256 more are being bored. In the presence of all

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these things the villagers are being misled by some people by saying that we are not doing anything for them. The Community Project and Rehabilitation schemes should not be lost sight of. We have decided not to leave even an inch of soil unirrigated. We are going to spend about two or three crores of rupees by borrowing this amount and still our friends enquire as to what we are doing for the rural people. Did any previous Government ever think that there was need of proper drainage in the villages? We propose to spend sixty lakhs of rupees on this work. Government will provide money for this purpose but we shall need the support of the people for the execution of the work. We cannot tolerate that the water should not find suitable passage and the fields should be damaged. If one happens to go to Amritsar, Rohtak or Ferozepur, he will find that the lands there are being ruined by water-logging. Many parties came into power and the Britishers as well as the Unionist Government ruled over this State but no heed was paid to this problem. The Government has decided to remove water-logging whether by tube-wells or by some other means. It will be noticed that the maximum amount is being spent for the benefit of the poor agriculturists.

Partap Singh Kairon has not changed and he still thinks exactly as he thought before. He wants to reduce the burden on the farmers as much as possible but he will do the whole thing after full thought and consideration. The Communists as well as other members of the public will be taken into confidence. This Government cannot go against the wishes of the public and will not deceive them.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : There was no occasion for the walk-out staged by the Opposition party today. I gave them a great deal of latitude. The speeches delivered by the Members of the Opposition were equal in number to those delivered from the Government Benches and they got almost equal time. It appears that they had come prepared for obstructing the business of the House today. In my opinion they were not so keen about the resolution as they were about obstructing the business of the House. I am sorry that they have not set up a healthy tradition today. There were two or three good lawyers in the Opposition but still they decided to act as they did. I enquired from hon. Chaudhri Sri Chand if he wanted to exercise the right of reply after the speeches made by the Treasury Benches but he did not exercise that right. Now, I shall first put the amendments to the vote of the House and then the resolution.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in line 2, for the words "be reduced to prepartition level," the words "be revised according to the present rate of agricultural produce and the economic condition of the peasant" be substituted.

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That at the end of the Resolution, the following words be added:—
"by the 1st of December, 1952".

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Now the question before the House is—

This Assembly recommends to the Government that water rates in the State be reduced to the prepartition level.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Now I call upon Sardar Ajmer Singh to move his Resolution.

(Sardar Ajmer Singh was not in his seat)

Mr. Deputy Speaker : As Sardar Ajmer Singh is not in his seat to move the Resolution and the time is 6.30 P.M., I adjourn the House.

(The Assembly then adjourned till 2 P.M. on Friday the 24th October, 1952)

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

DEBATES

24th October, 1952.

Vol III—No. 4

OFFICIAL REPORT



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PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Friday, the 24th October, 1952

*The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Simla, at 2 p. m. of the Clock
Mr. Speaker (Dr. Satyapal) in the Chair.*

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

ISSUING OF CIRCULAR OF PROHIBITING OFFICERS FROM GETTING PRIVATE WORK IN THEIR HOMES FROM OFFICE PEONS.

***857. Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina:** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Secretary had issued a circular to all heads of departments including the Punjab High Court prohibiting officers from getting private work in their homes from office peons;
- (b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether he is prepared to lay a copy of the circular on the Table;
- (c) whether it had been brought to the notice of the Government by the Punjab Peons' Association that a number of peons who in the light of the said circular had refused to do private work were dismissed by their departments at the instance of the officers;
- (d) if the answer to part (c) above be in the affirmative, the action, if any, taken by the Government in this connection ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar: (a) Yes, but later these instructions were modified at the instance of Officers and the employees.

- (b) Copies of the three letters, issued on the subject, are given below.
- (c) A few complaints were received.
- (d) Enquiries were made and showed that no peon was discharged or dismissed on account of his refusal to do private work. On grounds such as reduction in posts, inefficiency, carelessness, etc two peons were discharged.

Copy of letter No. 3825-G-50/1-2795 dated the 26th June 1950, from Chief Secretary to Government, Punjab, to all Heads of Departments; the High Court, Commissioners of Divisions, all Deputy Commissioners and District and Sessions Judges in the Punjab.

Subject: Employment of peons as private servants.

[Chief Minister]

I am directed to invite a reference to my letter No. 7104-G-48/57106, dated the 22nd October, 1948 and to say that on a further consideration of the matter, Government have decided to lay down, in supersession of all previous orders on the subject, that peons shall not be used for private work of any kind even on payment of additional remuneration for such work. Every official who is provided with a peon or who otherwise has such a Government servant at his disposal should note, that he shall not in future take any private work out of such an employee. At the same time, these peons and other inferior Government servants employed under you should be given a very clear understanding that if they are found doing private work for any of their superiors of their own will, they will make themselves liable to disciplinary action, even as those who employ them as such.

2. Government understand that there is a general practice with those provided with peons to keep them at their residence. This should also stop even if a peon is provided with shelter for reasons other than those of getting private work out of him.
3. I am to request that these instructions may be brought to the notice of all concerned for very careful compliance in future.

Copy of letter No. 7307-G-50/1-4390 dated the 31st October, 1950 from Chief Secretary to Government, Punjab, to all Heads of Departments, the High Court, Commissioners of Divisions, all Deputy Commissioners and District and Sessions Judges in the Punjab.

Subject : Employment of peons as private servants.

I am directed to refer to my letter No. 3825-G-50/1-2795, dated the 26th June, 1950, on the subject of employment of peons as private servants, and to say that Government have received, in this short interval numerous representations against the ban on private work prescribed therein, and also a good number of applications from individual Class IV Government servants for permission to engage in or undertake private work outside office hours on payment of remuneration.

- 2 The matter has, therefore, been considered further in the light of the communications referred to above and while Government strictly adhere to their view as previously expressed that Class IV Government servants should not be burdened with "begar" of any kind, they, nevertheless, realise that the existing orders may operate undue hardship on certain individuals belonging to this class of Government servants. They have, therefore, decided to modify them to the extent that where an individual Class IV employee applies for permission to engage in or undertake other work outside office hours on receipt of remuneration and the head of department office concerned is satisfied that engagement on such duties will not interfere with the applicant's duties in office, such an application may be considered on merits on the analogy of rule 13 of the Government Servants Conduct Rules, 1945, under which it is permissible for higher classes of Government Servants to undertake such work and thereby to supplement their income. At the same time, Government desire to make it clear that these employees should not, behind the excuse of work out-

side office hours, be employed on menial household duties such as sweeping of rooms, cleaning of utensils, and cooking of meals, etc.

Copy of letter No. 1273-G-51/3377 dated the 9th June, 1951, from the Chief Secretary to Government, Punjab, to all heads of Departments, the High Court, Commissioners of Divisions, all Deputy Commissioners and District and Sessions Judges in the Punjab.

Subject : Employment of peons as private servants.

I am directed to invite reference to my letter No. 3825-G-50/1-2795, dated the 26th June, 1950 and No. 7307-G-50/1-4390, dated the 31st October 1950. and to say that it has been represented to Government that the instructions issued therewith in regard to prohibition on getting private work from Class IV Government Servants, are not being observed to the letter, in that such work continues to be taken in some cases under compulsion. Government regret that this should have been so and wish to impress upon all concerned once again the desirability of following the instructions referred to faithfully.

**COMPLAINT FROM SHRI KISHAN SINGH AGAINST PHYSICAL
TORTURE ADMINISTERED BY SPECIAL STAFF OF
AMRITSAR POLICE.**

***859. Sardar Achbar Singh Chhina :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether he is aware that a complaint was addressed to D. C., Amritsar, I. G., Police and the Governor, Punjab by one Shri Kishan Singh of Bazar Munarian, Amritsar in which the complainant had alleged that his son Dharam Singh had died as a result of physical torture administered by the special staff of Amritsar Police during the investigation of a case of theft; if so, the action the Government has taken in the matter ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : Yes; case FIR No. 278 dated 18-11-1951 u/s 330/304 I. P. C. was registered at Police Station Civil Lines, Amritsar. A Magisterial Inquiry was held and a copy of the findings is as follows.

In the District of Amritsar.

In the court of S. Kehar Singh Mann, P. C. S., Magistrate Ist Class, Amritsar.
Case No. 34/4 of 1950.

Date of institution 19-11-51.

Village Amritsar Khas. Goswara No. 126 of Kulyat.

Copy of Report of Inquest and Enquiry into the death of Dharam Singh son of Kishan Singh, caste Mehra of Bazar Maniman, P.S. Kotwali, Amritsar.

The brief facts alleged in this enquiry are that on 3-11-51, one Dharm Singh son of Kishan Singh Mehra of bazar Munarian, P. S. Kotwali, Amritsar. was arrested by ASI Ganda Mal. Parts concerning FIR No. 183 of 17-9-51 under section 380 I.P.C., P.S. Kotwali, Amritsar were found fitted in his cycle, which were identified by the complainants. The accused appeared before a Magistrate 1st Class and was remanded to Police

[Chief Minister]

custody till 11-11-51. Dharam Singh deceased remained in the lock-up with the Kotwali Police till 7-11-51 and was then sent to the Cycle Staff for investigation on 8-11-51 and on 9-11-51, the accused had high fever and he was sent to V. J. Hospital for treatment. Some stolen property had still to be recovered from the accused and, therefore, further remand in police custody was taken on 12-11-51 from the *Ilaqa* Magistrate S. Gurbux Singh Chatrath.

On 15-11-51, ASI Ganda Mal, the Investigation Officer saw the left leg of Dharam Singh deceased swollen and he was told by the deceased that some insect had bitten him in that lock-up (Kotwali). The ASI then took the deceased to the hospital for medical treatment. The deceased for the first time stated before the Assistant Surgeon that he was beaten by the Munshi of the Cycle Staff and FC Sampuran Singh Goldsmith of the same staff and that the Munshi had given him a lathi blow on his foot.

The doctor admitted Dharam Singh deceased in the hospital and kept his injury under observation. The condition of Dharam Singh deceased grew worse and on 16-11-51, his statement was recorded by the Magistrate 1st Class, (Diwan Dilbagh Rai) as his condition deteriorated. He was bailed out on 16-11-51.

On 18-11-51, at 3 A.M. Dharam Singh deceased died in the hospital.

According to the evidence of Dr. Sham Singh the deceased Dharam Singh died due to the tetanus probably following ulcerated condition cellulatus of the left leg. The doctor did not find any injury on the body of Dharam Singh deceased at the time of the post mortem examination other than ulcerated condition of the left leg and the doctor definitely stated that the swelling of the leg was not due to any lathi blow as the muscles were not bruised under the skin. The doctor further stated that such like swelling was possible due to insect bite. The cynus of the leg was not necessarily due to the striking of a nail on the leg, but it could be due to the bursting of the abscess. If the nail had struck with a force it must have gone deeper. Such a condition was not found in this case. The tetanus was due to the infected condition of cellulatus of the skin.

From the evidence of the doctor, it is clear, that the tetanus on the leg of the deceased was not the direct or the indirect result of any beating by lathi or by a nailed plank and this condition was possible either by the insect bite or by the bursting of the abscess which might have been on the leg

Had there been any other reason the deceased must have told either to S. Ragbhir Singh, SHO, Kotwali, ASI Ganda Mal or even to S. Gurbux Singh Chatrath, Magistrate 1st Class, before whom he appeared on 12-11-51. At the last he must have told to S. Mohan Singh Batra Advocate, his counsel. I examined S. Mohan Singh Batra who has contradicted the examining of the foot by S. Guabux Singh Chatrath, Magistrate 1st Class as deposed by the deceased's mother and even to S. Mohan Singh Batra, the deceased did not tell about any beating at the hands of the police officials. S. Gurbux Singh Chatrath, MIC Amritsar has stated on oath that neither he noticed any swelling on the leg of the deceased on 12-11-51 nor did the deceased complain any such

trouble on his leg S. Raghbir Singh SHO, Kotwali always helped the deceased whenever he found the deceased in trouble as it is clear from the *roznamcha* of P. S. Kotwali. Relevant copies of these entries were produced before me and are attached on the file. There is no report made to S. Raghbir Singh SHO, Kotwali that there was swelling on the leg of the deceased but when a report regarding his running temperature was made to him he at once directed the constables to take the deceased to the hospital for necessary treatment and even before the doctor before whom the deceased was produced for the treatment of fever, he never complained of any beating on his leg. On 15-11-51, it was discovered that the deceased had a swelling on the leg, he was therefore, immediately sent to the hospital for medical aid. There is, therefore, no indirect negligence even on the part of S. Raghbir Singh, SHO, P. S. Kotwali and similarly Ganda Mal ASI is absolutely not guilty of any act of negligence so far as the deceased was concerned.

The deceased was produced before the doctor Iqbal Singh, Casualty Medical Officer, V. J. Hospital on 9-11-51 and 10-11-51. He diagnosed malaria and prescribed medicine for this disease. Dharam Singh deceased according to his (Dr. Iqbal Singh's) Statement did not complain any swelling to any of his foot nor be examined any such trouble. He did not notice any lameness of Dharam Singh deceased, while Dr. Nasib Singh examined the deceased on 15-11-51 and he found swelling on the lower part of the left leg.

The next question is as to who gave any beating to the deceased.

From the evidence on the record, it is clear that there is no corroboration worth the name to the statement of Dharam Singh deceased which he made before Diwan Dilbagh Rai, M. I. C. Amritsar, that the *Staff Wala* had beat him and that one Sampuran Singh who is a police official beat him on his leg, with a nailed plank. The deceased has not named any other officer in his statement before Diwan Dilbagh Rai, Magistrate Ist Class.

Some under-trials who remained with the deceased in the Kotwali lock up have been examined and they all have stated that the deceased complained to them that he had been bitten by some insect in the lock-up. Their names are Abdullah, Safar and Mohd Sammi.

From the statements of Ajaib Singh and other police officials it is clear that no one beat Dharam Singh deceased while he remained in Kotwali lock up, and in their custody.

I recorded the statement of Ram Kaur, mother of the deceased, who remained with the deceased in the hospital when the deceased was told to talk and could not consider himself under the influence of anybody. The deceased did not name anybody who might have given him beating on his leg. Mst. Ram Kaur, the mother of the deceased, stated that one Ram Dass son of Mool Chand told her that he saw Dharam Singh deceased with one foot swollen. This Ram Dass was examined by me, he stated that he did not ever see Dharam Singh deceased in the Kotwali P.S. and that he had never been to Kotwali during the interval of 8-11-51 to 16-11-51. He never told Kishan Singh and his wife anything as he did

[Chief Minister]

not know anything and thus the statement of Ram Kaur is falsified by the statement of Ram Das.

The deceased did not tell anything to his father Kishan Singh as to who had given him beating. The name of Munsha Singh, S. I. is not to be found either in the statement of the deceased before Diwan Dilbagh Rai, M. I. C. or in the statement of Ganda Mal ASI. The name of the Hindu Munshi is also not given in both these statements. There is the name of only Sampuran Singh given by the deceased in his statement before Diwan Dilbagh Rai, M. I. C. and in the statement recorded by ASI Ganda Mal. According to the statement of the deceased before Diwan Dilbagh Rai, M. I. C. it was Sampuran Singh who gave him beating but according to the statement recorded by Ganda Mal ASI earlier it was Hindu Munshi who gave him beating with the nailed plank. Both statements are therefore, contradictory on these very vital points. There is no corroboration whatsoever on the record. Dr. Sham Singh has attested the statement made before ASI Ganda Mal and I, therefore, find that none of the three officers named above are at all responsible for the injury on the left leg of the deceased and I find that there is absolutely nothing against S. Munsha Singh S. I. So far as S. Munsha Singh S. I. is concerned, he was not present, according to the statement of the deceased, in the police station. What little has been alleged against the Hindu Munshi and Sampuran Singh in the two statements made by the deceased shortly after, both are discrepant and there is no other evidence direct or indirect to connect these two officials with the beating. The deceased did not even talk to his father or mother about this beating. Moreover, according to the evidence of the doctor this tetanus on the leg of the deceased was not the result of the beating with a *danda* or by a nailed plank as already mentioned.

Pooran Singh and Om Parkash F. Cs. have also denied giving any beating with a *danda* or the nailed plank to Dharam Singh deceased.

So under these circumstances, Om Parkash and Pooran Singh F. Cs. are also absolutely innocent and the cause of death as is given by the doctor shown in the evidence is due to some insect bite on the leg of Dharam Singh deceased which later developed into tetanus or due to the bursting of an abscess which might have already been on his leg. The net result of my enquiry is that none of the police officers or officials are at all responsible in any way, for causing the death of the deceased.

Sd/- Kehar Singh Mann

Magistrate Ist Class,

Amritsar.

21-1-1952.

CLERKS IN THE OFFICE OF DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, AMBALA.

*860. Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether he is aware of the fact that in reply to a question in 1950 by Shri Dev Raj Sethi asked on the floor of this House it was disclosed that out of nearly 100 clerks employed in

the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Ambala, 75 were temporary having put in 5 to 14 years service and that out of these 48 were such as had put in 8 years or more of service ;

- (b) the total number of clerks in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Ambala at present together with the number of those who are temporary hands with service of five years or more and of those who are temporary hands with service of fourteen years or more respectively ;
- (c) the normal procedure for confirmation of those clerks together with the approximate dates when the clerks referred to in part (a) above will be confirmed in their posts ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that some clerks in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Ambala retired after serving their full tenure of service without ever being confirmed ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) No. If the Member indicates the number of the Assembly question in reply to which such commitment was made by Government enquiries will be made in the matter and requisite information will be supplied.

- (b) Total number of clerks 179
 Number of temporary clerks with service 43
 of five years or more.
 Number of temporary clerks with service of 14 Nil
 years or more.

- (c) The procedure for confirmation of these clerks is laid down in rule 13 of the District Subordinate Service Rules, 1942. The approximate period during which 43 temporary clerks mentioned above are likely to be confirmed may be estimated between 6 to 8 years.
- (d) No.

POLICE FORCE IN JULLUNDUR DISTRICT.

***1022. Shrimati Sita Devi :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

- (a) the total strength of the police force (constables, head constables, A. S. Is., Sub-Inspectors, Inspectors, Deputy Superintendents, Superintendent) in the Jullundur District during July, 1947 and their present strength separately ;
- (b) their scales of pay in July, 1947 and their present scales of pay separately ;
- (c) the number of those among them who will be benefitted by the additional allowance of Rs. 5/- per month recently announced by the Government ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : A statement containing the required information is given below.

[Chief Minister]

	NAME.	JULY 1947.			OCTOBER, 1952.		
		Permanent.	Temporary.	Total.	Permanent.	Temporary.	Total.
(a)	Superintendent of Police.	1	...	1	1	...	1
	Deputy Superintendents of Police.	1	1	2	1	...	1
	Inspectors of Police.	6	...	6	6	...	6
	Sub-Inspectors of Police.	28	3	31	29	2	31
	Asstt. Sub-Insprs. of Police.	39	11	50	39	8	47
	Head Constables.	101	27	128	100	23	123
	Constables.	742	82	824	741	40	781
	Total	918	124	1042	917	73	990
(b)	Supdt. of Police.	S. G Rs. 1450/- p m. T S. Rs. 650-25-1000/ 50/2-1100-50-1350 (26th year).			S.G. Rs. 1350/- P. M T.S. Rs. 600-40-1000- 1000-1050-1050-1100- 1100-1150 (in the 22nd year)		
	D. S. P.	S. G. Rs. 900/- P. M. T. S. Rs. 300/-25-475/ 25-650/30-800			Rs 900/- P. M. Rs. 300-25-475/25-550/ 30-800		
	Inspector.	Rs. 250-7½-325/7½-400.			Rs. 250-7½-325/7½-400 .		
	Sub-Inspector.	Ist S. G. Rs. 210/- P.M. 2nd S.G Rs. 200/- P.M. 3rd S.G. Rs. 190/- P.M. 4th S.G. Rs 180/- P.M. T.S. Rs. 120-5-160/5-180			Rs. 210/- P. M. Rs. 200/- P. M. Rs. 190/- P. M. Rs. 180/- P. M. Rs. 120-5-160/-5-180		
	Assistant Sub-Inspector.	Rs. 80-2-90/2-100			Rs. 80-2-90/2-100		
	Head Constable.	Rs. 40-1-45/1-50/1-55			Rs. 55-3-85		
	Foot Constable.	(S.G.) Rs. 33-1-1/3-41 (T.S.) Rs. 30-1/3-31-1/7- 33			Rs. 40-1-50 Rs. 33-1-36/4/7-40/5/7- 45.		
(c)	Assistant Sub-Inspectors.	47					
	Head Constables.	122					
	Foot Constables.	781					
	Total	950					

SCALES OF PAY OF JAIL WARDERS ETC.

*1023. **Shrimati Sita Devi:** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state:—

- (a) the scales of pay of Jail Warders, Clerks, Deputy Jailers and Jailers in July, 1947, and their present scales of pay separately;
- (b) whether all the Civil Service Rules are applicable to them;
- (c) the number of those among them who will be benefitted by the additional allowance of Rs. 5 per mensem recently announced by the Government?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar:

- (a) A statement giving the required information is given below.
- (b) With the exception of Chapter XIV of the Civil Services Rules (Pb.) Volume I. Part I all other provisions of Civil Services Rules are applicable to the Punjab Jails Executive staff. They are governed by a separate set of Punjab executive staff (Punishment and Appeal) Rules which are based on the same provisions. The clerical staff in Jails is however, governed by all the provisions of the Civil Service Rules.
- (c) Jail Warders=855
Jail Clerks=28

The scales of pay of Jail warders, Clerks, Assistant Superintendents and Deputy Superintendents Jails in July, 1947 and their present scales of pay are given separately as follows:—

Serial No.	NAME	Scales of pay in July, 1947.	Present Scales of pay.
WARDERS.			
1	Ordinary grade.	Rs. 30-33	Rs. 33-45
2	Selection grade.	Rs. 33-1/3-41	Rs. 40.1.50
3	Head Warders II grade.	Rs. 40-1-45/1-50	Rs. 50.3.65/3-80
4	Head Warders Ist grade.	Rs. 55/-	Rs. 85/-
1	Junior Clerks.	Rs. 50-3-80/4-100.	Rs. 50-3-80/4-100
2	Senior Clerks.	Rs. 80-5-110/5-150	Rs. 80-5 110/5-150
3	Head Clerks.	Rs. 106-6-160/8-200	Rs. 106-6-160/8-200
4	Accounts Clerks.	Rs. 55.5.155/5-180	Rs. 55.5.155/5-180
5	Assistant Superintendents.	Rs. 120-7½-180/7½-240	Rs. 120-7½-180/7½-240
DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENTS.			
1	Deputy Superintendent 2nd grade.	Rs. 270-10-340/10-420	Rs. 270-10-340/10-420
2	Deputy Superintendent Ist grade.	Rs. 450-500/10-550	Rs. 450-10-500/10-550

MILITARY TRAINING SCHOOLS IN THE STATE

***1064. Shri Ram Chandra Comrade :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

- (a) the number of schools giving military education and training in the State at present ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Government of India desires to change the venue of certain Military Educational Institutions from the Punjab and transfer them to other States ;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any action to approach the Government of India to persuade them to keep the present Institutions within the State ; if so, the action, if any, taken by the Government in this behalf and with what results ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) None.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

APPLICATIONS FOR GUN LICENCES IN DISTRICT KANGRA

***1066. Shri Ram Chandra Comrade:** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state the total number of applications for gun licences received by the Deputy Commissioner, Kangra from each Tehsil of the District between the 1st of March, 1952 ; and the fifteenth of September, 1952 ; and the action taken thereon in each case. ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar :

Number of applications for gun licences received from each Tehsil		Action taken		
Name of Tehsil	Total No. applications received.	Sanctioned.	ejected.	Pending with the Police and Tehsildars for verification of antecedents, etc.
Kangra	78	19	35	24
Nurpur	56	5	18	33
Dehra	92	4	37	51
Hamirpur	78	2	35	41
Palampur	75	9	27	39
Kulu	15	3	5	7
Seraj	10	3	...	7
Total	404	45	157	202

DACOITIES AND MURDERS IN THE STATE

- *1081. Shri Teg Ram :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—
- the total number of decoities and murders committed in the State from 1-4-1952 to 30-9-1952 ;
 - the number of dacoits and murderers who have been arrested during this period ;
 - the number of dacoits who were killed in encounters with the police ;
 - the value of goods that have been recovered from the dacoits have during the period mentioned in part (a) above ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar :

- | | | |
|-------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| (a) Part I. | Dacoities | 20 |
| Part II. | Murders | 318 |
| (b) Part I | Dacoits arrested | 34 |
| | Murderers arrested | 561 |
| (c) | No. of dacoits killed | 14 |
| (d) | Value of goods recovered | Rs. 7,293/-/-. |

INVASION OF LOCUSTS IN THE STATE

***956. Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state :—

- the extent of area in different districts of the State invaded by locusts during the year 1952;
- the extent of loss district wise and the measures adopted by the Government to afford relief to the affected persons ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon :

- This year the locust actively started in the first week of July and upto 23rd September, 1952, the number of villages visited by locust swarms and those where eggs were laid in different districts are as under :—

District	No. of villages visited by swarms	No. of villages where eggs were laid
Hissar.	422	364
Ferozepur.	218	133
Gurgaon.	103	33
Karnal.	94	28
Rohtak.	81	6
Ludhiana.	11	10
Ambala.	15	...
Jullundur.	4	---
Amritsar.	22	---

[Minister for Development]

- (b) No appreciable damage to crop has been reported from any district. The question of affording relief to the affected persons, therefore, does not arise.

The House will be pleased to know that the Punjab Government has been successful in eliminating the menace of locusts. (*Cheers*).

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CELEBRATION OF VANMAHOTSHAV PLAN IN THE STATE.

***1065 Comrade Ram Chandra :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state :—

- (a) the action, if any, taken by the Government to preserve the trees planted in connection with the Vanmahotshav Plan celebrated every year in the State;
- (b) the number of new trees planted during the years 1950-51, 1951-52, and 1952-53, respectively and the number of those that have taken roots ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon :

- (a) Instructions have been issued to all concerned to preserve the trees planted during the Vanmahotsav every year in as large a number as possible by putting around them tree-guards made of thorns, bricks etc., or by digging trenches around the young trees. The necessity for watering the young plants during the period of drought in the summer months has also been impressed upon them.

- (b) The number of trees planted during
- | | |
|---------|-----------|
| 1950-51 | 37,84,400 |
| 1951-52 | 58,90,900 |

The number of trees that have taken roots *i. e.* survived during the last two years is 29,65,100.

The figures relating to number of trees planted during 1952-53 are not readily available as some of the local officers have yet to submit their reports.

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SUPPLY OF OIL ENGINES BY THE AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT.

***1076. Sardar Shamsher Singh :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state the prices at which Oil Engines are supplied by the Agriculture Department, together with makes and the prices at which they are purchased by the Department ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : The following makes of Diesel Oil engines have been purchased through the Director General, Industries and Supplies, New Delhi, for distribution under the Pumping Set Scheme to the zamindars as taccavi loans.

Particulars of Engine	Purchase Price	Sale price including incidental charges such as inspection charges by D.G.I. & S. Insurance charges in transit, Railway freight, Handling charges and storage charges etc.
1. 5 H P. Slavia Engine Co. Works Czechoslovakia F.O.R Ludhiana.	Rs. 1,740/-	Rs. 1,831/-
2. 8 H. P. Slavoa Engine, Co. Works Czechoslovakia F.O.R. Ludhiana.	2,390/-	2,514/-
3. 5/6 H.P. Cooper Engine, Co. Works Stara Bombay F.O.R. Satara.	1,880/-	2,042/-
4. 6 H. P. Beacon Engine, including water Cooling arrangements, Japan made, F.O R. Bombay.	1,800/-	1,954/-

JAGADHRI-KARNAL-PANIPAT ELECTRICITY PROJECT.

*981. **Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state:—

- (a) the date on which the Jagadhri-Karnal-Panipat Electricity Project was started by the Government, and the amount invested thereon ;
- (b) the loss, if any, incurred by the Government in running this Project upto 31-3-1952 and the estimate of loss for the current year?
- (c) the steps, if any, taken or intended to be taken by the Government for making the Project self-supporting. ?

Chaudhari Lahri Singh :

- (a) There is no such Project as Jagadhri-Karnal-Panipat Electric Supply Project. The Government, however, installed Thermal Sets at Panipat and Jagadhri, which were put into commission on 18-12-1950 and 17-12-1950 respectively. The

[Minister for Irrigation]

Capital outlay on Panipat and Jagadhri Electric Supply Schemes upto end of the year 1951-52 is Rs. 42,79,000/- and 22,38,900/- respectively. Karnal Electric Supply Scheme is entirely a separate Scheme.

- (b) The loss incurred by Government in running the Panipat and Jagadhri Electric Supply Schemes upto 31-3-52, including interest is Rs.11,83,200 and Rs. 4,15,100 respectively. The estimated loss for the year 1952-53 works out to Rs. 10,32,700- and Rs. 3,59,100/- respectively.
- (c) These Schemes are not expected to be self-supporting, as supply in the industrial townships and to the G.M.F. Schemes is given at a rate below the cost price in the interest of rehabilitation of displaced Industries and Grow More Food Campaign. The question of treatment of losses is under consideration of the various Departments concerned and final decision is awaiting reply of the Controller and Auditor General of India to the issue regarding adjustment of these losses.

EXTRACTION OF MAIDA AND SUJI FROM WHEAT.

*1021. **Shrimati Sita Devi** : Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether it is fact that permission has been given by the Government to the Millers to extract Maida and Suji from the wheat;
- (b) the steps, if any, taken by the Government to check the adulteration of whole wheat flour with flour from which Maida and Suji has been extracted;
- (c) the difference between the prices of whole wheat flour and other flour from which Maida and Suji have been extracted?

Pandit Shri Ram S'arma :

- (a) Yes, but the permission is for the production of Maida only from imported wheat. The permission has been given in pursuance of the General policy of the Government of India.
- (b) Apart from usual supervision by the District Staff adequate instructions have also been laid down to check adulteration of whole-wheat flour. The stocks of imported wheat purchased by the Mills from this Government or from outside, and fines, atta and bran produced therefrom are stored in separate godowns. Milling of fines is done on specified days, and all pipes and channels of Mills are thoroughly cleaned before

diverting to production of whole-wheat flour. Separate accounts are required to be maintained of the raw materials and the products therefrom. The atta produced with maida can be disposed of in areas outside rationed towns under permits by the District Officers through Mills own agencies and not Government depots.

- (c) The prices of whole-wheat atta distributed by Government through their depots differ from town to town. The price of atta produced with maida is fixed by the Roller Flour Mills keeping in view its comparatively inferior quality and demand for it in areas outside rationed towns. The estimated price of this atta ranges between Rs. 11/- to Rs. 13/- per maund. The wholesale prices of whole-wheat atta issued under rationing ranged between Rs. 14/13/6 to Rs. 15/15/6 per maund during August, 1952, in towns where there are Roller Flour Mills.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Has the Government given any permission with regard to the percentage in which suji and maida are to be extracted ; if so, the percentage in which the same are to be extracted from the imported wheat may kindly be stated ?

Minister : Everybody knows the percentage in which suji and maida are normally extracted.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : But the hon. Minister should know that this percentage varies with different flour mills.

Minister : Even if it is so, we do not allow variation in it.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Is there any restriction imposed on the extraction of suji and maida from imported wheat ?

Minister : There is no such restriction.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Has the Government received any complaint to the effect that maida is being extracted from the country wheat instead of the imported wheat ?

Minister : No such complaint has been received by me.

HUSKING OF PADDY IN THE STATE.

***1036. Shri Ram Kishan :** Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state :—

- (a) (i) whether any restrictions have been imposed by the Government on the husking of paddy by mills on persons who do not produce the paddy themselves ; if so, since when ;
- (ii) the reasons for the imposition of these restrictions ;
- (b) whether any such restrictions existed in the prepartition days *i. e.*, between 1st January, 1940 and 15 August, 1947, if so, when and for what period ;

[Shri Ram Kishan]

- (c) whether Government proposes to withdraw these restrictions ;
if not, the reasons therefor ?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma :

- (a) (i) Yes, since 24th December, 1949.
- (ii) In order to ensure that all rice produced in the State is disposed of under the supervision of Government and to guard against leakage of rice into black-market, only authorised rice dealers associations at markets are allowed to get paddy milled into rice by authorised rice millers under the Monopoly Procurement Scheme for rice. With the same object in view husking of paddy into rice on private account has been allowed upto a certain limit for the benefit of rice producers only as a special case. Besides producers, it is only in villages, in rice controlled areas, where non-rice-producing labour gets all quantities of paddy as wages, and the same can be converted into rice by hand-pounding.
- (b) This information is not available.
- (c) No. The supply position of rice both within the country and in the world markets continues to be very difficult and the Government of India, who want this State to export maximum possible quantities of rice to other rice eating States, do not agree to any relaxation of the existing restrictions which have been imposed in the larger interests of the country. Without adequate control at the milling stage Government cannot succeed in the procurement of rice.

NON-AVAILABILITY OF SHOPS IN AMRITSAR DISTRICT.

***1 37 Shri Ram Kishan :** Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state :—

- (a) Whether any cases were brought to the notice of the Government or the District Organiser, Civil Supplies at Amritsar by Sardar Sajjan Singh Margindpuri or otherwise during 1951 and 1952 that certain cloth licensees of Patti and other towns of District Amritsar have not been able to carry on their trade for non-availability of shops in the towns ; if so, their list ;
- (b) whether the Government or the District Organiser, was requested to issue Hawker's Cloth licences in favour of the persons referred to in part (a) above in lieu of their licences ; if so, the action, if any, taken by the Government in the matter ?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma :

- (a) No such case was brought to the notice of the District Organiser, Civil Supplies and Rationing, Amritsar or the Government in the year 1951.

In April, 1952, one case of Shri Om Parkash of Patti was referred to District Organiser, Civil Supplies and Rationing, Amritsar, by S. Sajjan Singh, Margindpuri.

- (b) Yes. The retail cloth licence of Shri Om Parkash of Patti, was converted into Hawker's licence for a period of six months.

**PANCHAYAT ELECTION IN VILLAGE MANANA,
DISTRICT KARNAL.**

***1093. Shri Mool Chand Jain :** Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the nomination papers of Shri Puli Chand for election to the Panchayat in village Manana, Tehsil Panipat were rejected by the Deputy Commissioner, Karnal, even though they had previously been accepted by the Returning Officer ;
- (b) whether complaints have been received by the Government in this connection ;
- (c) whether the Government has ordered any inquiry into the matter ; if so, with what result ?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma :

- (a) Yes.
- (b) Yes.
- (c) Yes. The inquiry report has been received and is under examination.

MOTOR VEHICLES ACCIDENTS IN THE STATE.

***969. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state :—

- (a) the number of accidents caused by motor vehicles in the State during the years 1948, 1949, 1950 and 1951 respectively in the State ;
- (b) the number of persons killed and injured respectively during each of these years ;
- (c) whether any of the drivers of these motor vehicles was prosecuted in connection with these accidents; if so, their number during

[Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur]

each of these years; together with the number of those convicted;

- (d) (i) whether there has been an increase in such accidents during the aforesaid 4 years as compared to the 4 years preceding partition; if so, to what extent;
- (ii) what steps Government proposes to take to check these accidents?

Shri Jagat Narain :

The information is given below :—

	Year		
(a)	1948	243	
	1949	267	
	1950	346	
	1951	380	
(b)		Killed	Injured
	1948	81	342
	1949	120	269
	1950	122	507
(c)		Prosecuted	Convicted
	1948	250	131
	1949	293	150
	1950	290	153
	1951	313	173

- (d) (i) Prepartition figures are not available and therefore comparison is not possible.
- (i) A Safety First Board has been established in the State which meets from time to time to consider steps to be taken to check road accidents. The following steps are being taken to check road accidents :—
- (1) 58 slides have been prepared and are being exhibited at various places in the State.
 - (2) Dialogues and talks are broadcast on the subject of road sense from the All India Radio.
 - (3) Hand bills published in Hindi, Punjabi and Urdu are distributed through District Inspectors of Schools to inculcate road sense amongst the school children.
 - (4) A film on the subject has been completed and will be shown by the Public Relations Department to the public.
 - (5) Posters on the subject will also be widely distributed throughout the State.

- (6) The Motor Mobile Patrol Inspectors are instructed to take the District Public Relations Officers along once a month on their tour for making announcement, regarding road sense.
- (7) The enforcement staff of the Transport Department and Gangmen of P. W. D., B. & R. see that the bullock carts keep to the left.
- (8) Speed traps are arranged to check over-speeding.

AMENDMENT IN PUNJAB UNIVERSITY ACT.

***1002. Shri Rala Ram :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether he had received any representation from Shastris (Honours in Sanskrit), Prabhakars (Honours in Hindi) and Gianis (Honours in Punjabi) to the effect that he should have the Punjab University Act amended so as to give them the right to vote at elections to the Punjab University Senate like the B. A.'s and M. A.'s; if so, with what result ?

Shri Jagat Narain : Yes. The matter was referred to the Punjab University for consideration. The Syndicate, however, did not agree to consider persons who have passed O. T. Examination equivalent to graduates for the purpose of voting for election to the University Senate.

TREATMENT OF SNAKE-BITE CASES AT TALWARA DISPENSARY.

***1003. Shri Rala Ram :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether he is aware of the fact that in the hilly part of Sub-Tehsil Mukerian, scores of cases of snake-bite occur every summer and innumerable deaths take place thereby and whether it is proposed to make some provision for the treatment of such cases in some dispensary at a central place like Talwara in the *ilaga* ?

Shri Jagat Narain : Government have received no reports of innumerable deaths from snake-bite in the *Ilaga* of Mukerian. A subsidized dispensary has been sanctioned for village Talwara where sufficient quantity of anti-venum serum will be stocked as soon as the said dispensary is established. Sufficient quantity of anti-venum serum is, however, at present stocked in the hospitals and dispensaries in the Hoshiarpur District, including Mukerian.

MUKERIAN-TALWARA ROAD.

***1001 Shri Rala Ram :** Will the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether he is aware of the fact that the Mukerian-Talwara road is the only link for the vast hilly tract lying between Daulatpur (Una) and Hajipur (in Dasuha Tehsil) with the

[Shri Rala Ram]

Jullundur Pathankot Railway Line and that this tract is cut off from the outside world, when this road becomes unmotorable in the rainy season ;

- (b) whether the Government intend to include this road in the plan for the metalling of roads in 1953-54, in view of its importance to the people of this backward area ?

Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa :

- (a) Yes.
 (b) No. Due to financial stringency, it is not possible to metal the road.

CONSTRUCTION OF BRIDGES ON DRAINS

*1094. **Shri Mool Chand Jain :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether any permission is necessary for villagers to construct bridges by themselves on drains or water-channels maintained by the Government ;
 (b) the condition for giving such permission ;
 (c) whether it is a fact that the inhabitants of village Kurana, Tehsil Panipat, applied for permission for constructing a bridge on a drain more than a year ago and no permission has so far been given by the Government ; the reason therefor ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh :

- (a) Construction of bridges on drains and irrigation channels by the Zamindars themselves is against the policy of Government.
 (b) Does not arise
 (c) Yes. Permission could not be given for the reason given in clause (a) above. Government has however approved the construction of a bridge at R. D. 57,700 Nai Nallah Drain as a deposit work.

Shri Mool Chand Jain : Is the Minister for Irrigation aware that at the time of his visit to Karnal the Chief Engineer had told the people that they could construct a bridge themselves provided they got the necessary permission from the Department ?

Minister : The departmental permission is meant for the construction of a bridge on the drains and not on the channels.

Shri Mool Chand Jain : I had asked for both drains and channels and not for drains only. Will the Minister tell us the conditions under which the villagers can construct a bridge at their own expense ?

Minister : If the villagers deposit the necessary money the Government will enter into a contract with them and the material required for the purpose will be supplied by the Department.

Mr. Speaker : Honourable Members, before we proceed with the next item on the Agenda, I have very painfully to refer to the unhappy incident that took place yesterday in this House. I have always put my full faith in the sense of decency and decorum of the hon. Members irrespective of their party affiliations. I find that such reports of this unhappy incident have appeared in the Press, as are, if I may be excused, I would say, a slap on our face. That Punjab Assembly should have behaved in a manner, which offers an opportunity to the Press to speak ill of us, does not redound to the credit of this House. I have, at present, no intention to apportion blame to anybody, because that is not my function. But I cannot help saying that all that happened yesterday does not reflect glory on us, nor does it add to our good reputation. It is our bounden duty to maintain the dignity of the House, but I am very sorry to find that some of the hon. Members, though very amable, have not been able to give a better account of themselves.

Sardar Ajmer Singh : Sir, I would request that the proceedings relating to that incident be expunged. I was just going to write to you on this subject.

Mr. Speaker : That portion of the proceedings can be expunged only if the gentlemen concerned express their regret and make a request to that effect.

Sardar Ajmer Singh : This is exactly what we want.

Mr. Speaker : But these things are always spontaneous, just as people flare up in the heat of the moment. I, however, think that if after my emphatic appeal, no regret is forthcoming then I have no power to ask anybody concerned to express his regret.

Sardar Sarup Singh : Sir, I would submit that the best course to forget this incident would be to expunge the proceedings relating to it.

Mr. Speaker : True, but the proper course is that the request should come from the persons concerned after they have expressed their regret.

Sardar Ajmer Singh : But, Sir, if you ask an honourable Member to withdraw his remarks, who is going to disobey you.

Mr. Speaker : But it appears from yesterday's proceedings that everybody was out to insult the Chair. Very well, I shall see to this matter after carefully going through the report of the proceedings. Now I call upon the Chief Minister to move his motion.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE.

Chief Minister : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table of the House Ordinance No 2 of 1952.

THE EAST PUNJAB GENERAL SALES TAX (SECOND
AMENDMENT) BILL.

Minister for Labour (Chaudhri Sundar Singh) : Sir, I beg to introduce the East Punjab General Sales Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 1952.

Minister for Labour : Sir, I move—

That the East Punjab General Sales Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 1952, be taken into consideration at once.

Minister for Labour (Chaudhri Sundar Singh) (*Hindi*) : Mr. Speaker, this amending Bill is quite a small one and offers little scope for long argumentative speeches. However, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Members to one thing and that is this. Under the East Punjab General Sales Tax Act, 1948, the Government had full legislative power to fix the rate of the sales tax. In fact it had unfettered powers to do so. But obviously this was against the spirit of our Constitution. It is therefore, sought through this measure, to remove this lacuna in the Act. In this Bill, a provision is being made for fixing the maximum rate of Sales tax at two pice in a rupee of the taxable turn-over of a dealer. There is no doubt that even now Sales tax is being charged at this very rate but the Government wants to fix a ceiling beyond which it cannot go without the sanction of the Legislature. I hope the Bill will be passed by the House without much discussion.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the East Punjab General Sales Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 1952, be taken into consideration at once.

Sardar Wazir Singh (Delhon) (*Punjabi*) : Mr. Speaker I was surprised to receive a copy of this amending Bill. This is in fact an amendment to the Act which was passed by this House only a month or so ago. Sir, you will perhaps remember that during the discussion of the previous amending measure, the Members of the Opposition had rightly pointed out to the Government that it was not wise to fix the rate of Sales Tax at 2 pice per rupee because it was bound to hit the poor population of the State hard. To me it appears that our Government has false notions of prestige. Our hon. Ministers seem to have made it a point not to accept any suggestion emanating from the Opposition, however, useful or valuable it may be. They perhaps little realise that maintenance of false prestige causes a lot of strain on the public funds which are raised from the hard earned money of the

poor. The hon. Members should see, how this money is being wasted by them. They should just calculate the amount that has been expended in adopting this legislation. They should know how large would be the amount paid to the hon. Members as their travelling allowance etc., and how large would be the expenditure which might have been incurred on the officials! According to my estimate, at least Rs. 25,000/- are spent in adopting one amending Bill. Therefore, I appeal to the hon. Ministers that they should even now give careful thought to the provisions of this amending measure before getting it passed in haste so that afterwards they may not feel the necessity of putting forward yet another amending Bill.

Then, Sir, I want to remind the hon. Members that this very amendment which is being sought to be incorporated in the Act by the Government, had been moved by the Opposition during the last Session but it was thrown out. Now the Government has been forced by circumstances to bring in the same amendment. This is the direct result of the black flags meeting the hon. Ministers on their arrival at certain places. They realized their mistake only when they were forced to bring into operation section 144 Cr. P. C. and resort to lathi charging of the public to suppress the agitation.

Now I may point out to my hon. Friends on the Treasury Benches that even this rate of two pice per rupee is excessive and that is why one of my hon. Friends on my left has given notice of an amendment to be reduced to one pice per rupee.

Mr. Speaker, I still vividly remember the great agitation started by the public when the Unionist Government had imposed this tax at the rate of annas four per hundred rupees. I feel it is quite unfair to raise the rate from annas four to Rs. 3/2/- per cent, although during the last Session of this Assembly our Government had raised it to Rs. 6/4/- per cent. Sir, it needs no mention that this tax mostly falls on the poor population and not on the rich. Even a poor man, who even after a day's hard labour is hardly able to earn four to six annas, has to pay this tax, when he has to purchase a cake of soap. Therefore, I would request the hon. Ministers to repeal this tax altogether. In case they are not prepared to repeal it completely, they should at least reduce it to the minimum to obviate hardship to the poor. To me it appears that the hon. Members sitting on the Government benches have no soft corner for the poor because we do not come across any measure adopted by them for the benefit of the poor which may show that they really feel for them.

Mr. Speaker, I want to impress upon my hon. Friends that it is necessary to reduce the rate of the Sales tax from two pice to one pice per rupee, despite the strange circumstances prevailing in this State.

[Sardar Wazir Singh]

Though at this moment the Government has arrived at some understanding with the traders yet the possibilities of bringing another Amending Bill after a month's time are there and if that comes true, this would mean sheer waste of public money. I, would, therefore, again appeal to the hon. Ministers that they should completely abolish this tax.

Mr. Speaker, I would say at the cost of repetition that the incidence of this tax mainly falls on the poor for whom it is even difficult to make both ends meet and not on those who roll in wealth. The poor people have to pay hundreds of rupees every month in the form of this tax. The Government would, therefore, be well advised to bring in only such measures as may aim at benefitting the poor. The Sales Tax affects directly the poor and, therefore, as I have already stated, it should be withdrawn. The loss of revenue resulting from its withdrawal could be made good by reducing the superfluous expenditure and saving money by effecting retrenchment in the services. If this is not possible, then the incident of the Sales tax should be directed towards the rich. With these words, I appeal to the Government either to withdraw this measure or reduce the tax.

Minister for Finance (Sardar Ujjal Singh) (Punjabi): Mr. Speaker, the object of my intervening in the debate at this stage is to remove certain misunderstandings created by my hon. Friend hailing from Delhon constituency. He has in fact made a speech which shows that he has not even understood the Bill. At the very outset he remarked that the Government has wasted a large amount of money. Leaving aside all these things, Sir, I wish to inform him that the primary responsibility for the re-introduction of this Bill in this House rests mainly with the gentlemen of his ilk. The amendment now proposed in the Bill under consideration, was included in the previous Bill also but then these hon. Friends, without giving consideration to the matter began to create misunderstandings

Mr. Speaker, you will perhaps remember that the previous Bill embodied a provision to fix a maximum limit of the Tax at the rate of an anna per rupee. That provision did not enhance the tax to one anna per rupee. But my hon. Friends of the Opposition opposed it vehemently. We, therefore, deleted that provision lest they should imagine that the Government did not pay any heed to the voice of the Opposition. At that moment we accepted their suggestion but that has resulted in a technical objection having been raised to the effect that since the Government has not fixed a maximum limit of the Sales Tax, it has acquired such wide powers that it can increase the levy of this Tax at any time. Who vested these powers in the Government? Surely, it was my hon. Friends sitting opposite who did not let that maximum-limit to be fixed on the

last occasion. To meet that objection, therefore, this Amending Bill has been brought and the provision regarding this maximum-limit has been reduced from one anna to two pice in a rupee. It pains me to find my Friends trying to create misunderstandings without caring to know the actual facts of the matter. We have not proposed any new tax which can admit of some reduction.

It has been suggested by some of my hon. Friends opposite that this tax should be reduced to one pie per rupee. The Bill, under consideration, does not deal with any increase or decrease in the incidence of Tax and, therefore, there is no room for such amendment in it. Previously too, my hon. Friends wanted to create misunderstandings and again they want to resort to the same old tactics.

My hon. Friends have observed that this tax is a heavy burden on the people. I wish to inform them that this levy in other States like Bombay and Madras is double and treble the rate in our State. Besides, the Tax in our State is charged only at one stage whereas in other States it is charged at four or five stages which means that it is a multi-stage tax.

Then, Sir, through you I would like to tell them that the fixation of the maximum limit of two pice as proposed in this Bill is not a new proposal. It already exists under the parent Act. Even on the previous occasion, we did not propose any new tax. That Bill provided certain measures to be adopted for the purpose of checking the evasion of the Tax. It was a matter of deep regret that my hon. Friend and other Members of the Opposition went to the extent of organising agitations and tried to prolong the issue. Sir, I have no hesitation in telling them that there is no State where the levy of the tax is lower than that in our State.

There is still another misunderstanding created by these gentlemen. They ask as to why the rate of Sales Tax has been increased when, even during the Unionist's regime, it was only Re -/4/- per cent. Perhaps they forget that this Re. -/4/- per cent was a multi-stage tax and after having been charged at, say, eight to ten consecutive stages, it came to about Rs. 2/4/- per cent.

An hon. Member. How ?

Minister for Finance : Right from the manufacturing stage to the Retailer's shop from where an article went into the hands of a customer, it had to pass through eight to ten stages and then each customer at each stage had to pay a tax of Re. -/4/- per cent. There was a widespread agitation against this system, for it was felt that it was a great burden on the mercantile community for whom it was very difficult to maintain accounts at each stage and offered a good deal of hindrance in their business. Now,

[Minister for Finance]

when the Government has acceded to their demand and has imposed the tax at one stage only, my Friends accuse us of being land-lords, of being loyal to the big people and recommend us to adopt measures on the pattern of those of the Governments of Bombay and Madras.

Mr. Speaker, I need not reply to all the points raised in this discussion but I still maintain that this Bill is purely the outcome of the obstinacy and erroneous observations made by the Members of the Opposition. It incorporates only the fixation of the maximum rate of Sales Tax. I take this opportunity to assure you, Sir, that there would not be any increase in the levy of this tax (*Interruptions*). Had there been any comprehensive Bill in respect of the Sales Tax, I would have dwelt upon all the facts concerning it but, for the present, I would like to tell you, Sir, that as compared to all other States in India, the incidence of this tax in our State is the lowest and this amending Bill has been introduced to remove a legal lacuna so that there may not be any hardship to the traders in the matter of collecting the Tax. I am confident that my Friends will now perfectly understand it.

Sardar Chanan Singh (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Sir, whenever the hon. Ministers have no sound and convincing arguments to offer they say that the Members of the Opposition do not fully understand the provisions of the Bill.....(*interruptions.*)

Mr. Speaker : Order, Order. No interruptions please. Now I would request the hon. Member to carry on with his speech uninterrupted.

Sardar Chanan Singh : Sir, the hon. Minister has remarked that this Bill does not provide for the imposition of any new tax but that it seeks to fix a maximum-limit in accordance with the rate of the tax already in force. Perhaps, he is not aware of the powers inherent in a Legislature. This is not true to say that we cannot do anything. Mr. Speaker, we can do everything. If the House be unanimous, it can repeal all the previous Acts.

Besides, the hon. Minister has argued that the Sales Tax exists in other States and that the rate prevailing there is higher than that in our State. Sir, I wish to tell him that it is not necessary to blindly imitate other States. It is not essential that we should adopt the evil examples of others. May I ask the Government if any civilised Government in this world has ever imposed taxes on the people in such a manner? I think, no Government levies such atrocious taxes on the poor. Let anybody tell me in which country.....

Minister for Finance : In England, this very Tax is collected under a different name, viz., Purchase Tax.

Sardar Chanan Singh : The condition to which we have been reduced to-day, is mainly due to the fact that our Government has been following England in every respect.

They have asserted that the rate of two pice in a rupee is not too much. Let me draw their attention to what happened under the Unionist Ministry in the United Punjab. When they imposed the sales tax the beoparis started a strong agitation. Sardar Ujjal Singh joined them and declared that the tax was undesirable and uncalled for. Look at the irony of fate ! He is imposing the same tax now which was undesirable and uncalled for in his own eyes at that time. (*Interruptions*)

Mr. Speaker : I do not want these interruptions. I am sure the Ministers are not taking advantage of their position. I wish there should be no interruption from any quarter.

Sardar Chanan Singh : Sir, it was our fervent desire that this tax should not be imposed so that the trade in the State might not be ruined. That is why we opposed the Sales Tax Bill. But unfortunately we could not kill it. My hon Friends on the Treasury Benches have said something about the public opinion. Let me tell them that the opinion of the public is diametrically opposed to the one held by them. The public has expressed its opinion in the most eloquent terms to the Chief Minister and Sardar Ujjal Singh. They should pay heed to that expression of public opinion and try to understand it. In this connection let me quote Shri Bhim Sen Sacher's remarks which he made while speaking on the Governor's Address on the 2nd March, 1951. He said :

His Excellency has, in the course of his Address, expressed the view that there can be no question of taking any step likely to impair the income of the Government. But in this connection, I wish to draw the attention of the hon. Members to the income derived from the Sales Tax during the current year. The Government had told us that the tax would yield forty lakhs of rupees to the State exchequer but actually the income from this source has been no less than one crore and fifty lakhs. In spite of this huge income the Government has not acceded to the request of the public for lowering the rate of the tax. The public mind is extremely agitated over this matter. The Government should have met this demand of the public, but it continues to move in the same old ruts.

I am sorry to say, Sir, that he is in the habit of conveniently forgetting his own utterances and that is why it is said about him that :

बोह बादा ही कया जो बफ़ा हो गया ।
देह दादा ही किया नो दडा हो गिया ।

What I mean to say is that as soon as these good people assume power they forget their own utterances and promises. And the pity of it is that

[Sardar Chanan Singh]

if the public tries to remind them of those promises they get annoyed. The Chief Minister got the demonstrators lathi-charged. I declare that this was the worst kind of high-handedness and he took undue advantage of his position. He should not have acted as he did. The public is fed up with his broken promises. I would request all the Ministers to keep their promises. The public is in great distress and the trade in the State has been ruined. After this it is possible that you may ask for the registration of the Beoparis. If so that will prove the proverbial last straw on the Camel's back. Let me assure you that we are not worried about the rate of the tax. We in fact want this tax to be abolished altogether. But if you must impose it let it be realised at the initial stage.

Mr. Speaker : I would ask the hon. Members to confine the discussion to the real issue. The Bill seeks to fix the maximum rate of sales tax at two pice. Now you can say that it should be one pice or whatever you may consider to be the most suitable rate. But it would not be relevant to say that the Sales Tax Act is an undesirable measure or that this tax should not be imposed, because the underlying principle of the tax is not under discussion now.

Sardar Ajmer Singh (Samrala) (Punjabi) : Sir, I am really surprised at what Sardar Ujjal Singh has said in the course of his speech. He has asserted that in bringing forward this Bill the Government has really acceded to the request of the Opposition and that, therefore, the latter has no cause to grumble. My submission is that the Government never pays any heed to our suggestions. If they had accepted our advice the State would have been saved of a great loss. In fact they are causing a lot of confusion.

Mr. Speaker : Please don't try to lead them astray.

Sardar Ajmer Singh : No Sir, they are too clever to be misled by anybody. Now, I do not want to dilute on this point. My submission is that since negotiations with regard to the rate and some other matters relating to the tax are still going on with the traders this amendment should not have been brought forward at this time. The people are not ignorant. They understand everything. It is no use citing the example of other States. Ours is a refugee State. Let it have some peace and tranquillity. You should come forward with a Bill of this kind only when some final decision has been arrived at as a result of the negotiations. At the present moment it is nothing but untimely and premature.

Sardar Rajindar Singh Gyani (Rupar) (Punjabi) : Sir, the amendment brought forward by the Government in the form of the Bill under discussion is that :—

in sub-section (1) of section 5, after the word 'rates' the words not exceeding two pice in a rupee' shall be inserted.

No limit was fixed at the time of the enactment of the measure imposing this tax. Let me tell my hon. Friend who has described the Bill as untimely that this measure has been brought forward for the good of the poor people. The rate of this tax in the Punjab has been 2 pice for a long time and by fixing this as the maximum rate the Government has curbed its own power. This measure will assure the public that the rate cannot be raised to 3 or 4 pice now. There is no agitation among the traders of the Punjab on this point.

If there is any agitation among the traders, it is with regard to that Section of the Sales Tax Act under which the Government has got the power of seizing account books etc. There is no dispute regarding the rate of the sales tax. Under this Bill, the Government is fixing a limit that the rate of this tax shall not exceed two pice in a rupee. Some of my hon. Friends have moved an amendment that the rate of this tax should be reduced from two pice to one pice in a rupee.

Mr. Speaker : The amendment wants the maximum limit to be one pie and not one pice as stated by the hon. Member.

Sardar Rajindar Singh Gyani : I beg to submit that a Government cannot function unless it raises revenue by levying taxes. On the one hand my Friends desire that all the land should be irrigated, tube-wells should be sunk everywhere, electricity should be made available in every house and a network of hospitals, schools and roads should be spread in the State, and on the other hand they want the taxes to be reduced. How can the Government see to the materialisation of these demands without levying taxes? It is not a good policy to oppose every act done by the Government. In other countries the people consider it their duty to pay the taxes which are imposed by the Government. They submit their returns themselves and there is no need for the Government engaging Inspectors to ensure that nobody evades the payment of taxes. How can the Government do anything for the betterment of the people unless it has got the necessary funds? Sales Tax is being charged in this State at the rate of two pice in a rupee since a long time and there is no unrest on that account.

Shri Wadhawa Ram (Fazilka) (Punjabi) : Mr. Speaker, when the question of reducing water rate was under discussion yesterday, one of my hon. Friends referred to a speech delivered by the Minister who considers himself to be very popular with the peasants. That Minister used to say that the water rate would be reduced but the discussion that took place yesterday disillusioned the agriculturists. What is being said to-day will disillusion the traders also. Our Chief Minister is considered to be very popular among the traders. One of my hon. Friends has already referred to a speech which he made on the 2nd March, 1951.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member should refrain from making any personal references.

Shri Wadhawa Ram: Our Government is afraid that if it accepts some of our very reasonable suggestions, that would affect its prestige. I assure the Government that if it does anything for the good of the people, we will go to the people and tell them that the Sachar Ministry has acted in their best interests. However, what I feel is that the Government should not only reduce this tax, which is a heavy burden on the consumers but also, if possible, should abolish it altogether.

Mr. Speaker, if you happen to visit some village, you will find that even the cobblers are required by the Government to keep regular accounts or to pay the tax on a turnover of Rs. 50,000. How can these poor people engage clerks for keeping accounts? This tax is charged from the *tandoor-walas* also. The doctors have been repeatedly requesting the Government to exempt them from the payment of this tax, but no heed has been paid to their request. The doctors have to engage clerks for keeping accounts because Sales Tax is charged on the medicines too. Its burden falls ultimately on the poor patients. The Government has brought forward this Bill for reducing the rate of this tax from one anna to two pice in a rupee but I would request it to abolish it altogether.

Chief Minister (Shri Bhim Sen Sachar) (Hindi): Mr. Speaker, when one of my hon. Friends said that a certain hon. Member had not understood the significance of this amending Bill, some gentlemen objected and said that such an assumption was not correct. I beg to be excused when I repeat that either the purport of this Bill had not been understood or an attempt had been made to mislead those who understood it.

If an hon. Member who is not acquainted with law commits such a mistake he can be excused, but if those of my hon. Friends who are conversant with law fail to understand the provisions of this Bill, it will have to be admitted that either they really do not understand or they are trying to put a different interpretation on them.

Now, Sir, with regard to section 5 of the General Sales Tax Act the legal opinion demands that the maximum rate of tax should be fixed. In case the rate is not fixed then this Act cannot be enforced properly under the law. In the previous Session of the Assembly the Government wanted to fix the upper limit. We put forward a proposal and then objection was taken that by fixing this limit the Government would levy this tax to that extent. On the other hand some hon. Members were of the opinion that there was no harm if the upper limit was not fixed. But some Members, however, held the view that if the upper limit was not fixed then Government would have unlimited powers to levy this tax to any extent. We at that time said that if the House wanted to give unfettered powers to the

Government then we had no objection. But subsequently we decided to remove this lacuna by fixing the upper limit as otherwise this law cannot be validly enforced. A writ was lodged in the High Court and it was sought to prove from the rate of the Sales Tax that the Act was void under law and the Government was not empowered to levy this tax. My hon. Friends would be glad if the High Court were to accept that application. We, however, think that whatever has been done by the Government should have legal sanction behind it even if the High Court decides in favour of the Government. The question is since we have assumed the responsibility of administering the State, we have to consider how best we can discharge that responsibility. Some limit is required to be fixed under the law and we are only fixing that limit.

Then, my hon. Friend has remarked that the Government intends to impose a new tax but I may tell him that no new tax is proposed to be levied. The tax is already in force but this limit is being fixed to remove a legal flaw in this Act.

Sir, I would submit that the Government can do away with the limit of Rs 3/2/- per cent if it likes and in case it likes to maintain this limit there is nothing to prevent it from doing so. I made it clear at that time that if the Government wanted to raise the limit of Rs. 3/2/- per cent then it would not do so without taking the House into its confidence. My hon. Friends were under the impression that they were giving unlimited powers to the Government as it could increase the limit at any time by issuing a notification in the Government Gazette. I may tell them that it is not at all the Government's intention. Keeping these facts in view we have fixed the upper limit, otherwise the Act becomes void and inoperative in the absence of this limit.

Then, Sir, it has been advocated that the Sales Tax should be abolished altogether. This matter calls for a reply from me.

Sir, if you were to look to the civilised countries of the world you will find that this tax is in force everywhere whether in the form of a sales tax or a purchase tax. We must remember that by whatever name we may call it, this tax is a good source of revenue to the Government and I make bold to say that it will not be abolished. Then it has been stated that this tax is being levied on the poor people. I do not deny that every purchaser would be liable to pay this tax. An objection has been raised that if a poor man wants to buy a cake of soap he is required to pay the sales tax on it. I think this is a case of misplaced sympathy. My hon. Friends sitting opposite should know that even if this tax is levied at source or at various stages, such a person will have to pay the sales tax. We never forget and deny that this tax will touch the pocket of the purchasers. If any person purchases articles worth thousands of rupees then it does not matter much for him if he pays a little more as sales tax to the Govern-

[Chief Minister]

ment. The hon. Members who raise objections against the imposition of this tax may kindly wait for that day when the Governments could be run without the imposition of taxes. But in the world of to-day this thing is not possible. Sir, I may submit through you that the Government has already placed its programme before the public. We have formulated many schemes for the betterment of the people. We cannot proceed with these plans and projects unless we have money to finance them. This money would not come from foreign countries, but has to be collected from our own people. This is, therefore, a wrong slogan that this tax has been levied upon the poor people.

It has been said that the Government is squeezing out money from the pockets of the poor people, but the question is from whom should the Government collect this tax? Every man in the State has to make a progress in life and the Government has to play its part in helping him to achieve that progress. It is, therefore, necessary that the Government should have enough financial resources at its command so that it may be able to improve the lot of people.

Then, Sir, some persons are now-a-days trying to mislead the people by false slogans and it is all the more regrettable that they are well educated and even law-knowing persons. By referring to certain *sub-judice* matters some of the hon. Members have tried to create an unhealthy precedent. Though everything that they have alleged can be effectively rebutted, yet in view of the responsibility that we bear we would prefer to remain silent.

Then, Sir, a suggestion was made by some hon. Members that the rate of the tax should be reduced to one pie per rupee. I know full well that these Friends do not hesitate to suggest the total abolition of this tax and feel gratified at the consequent loss to the Government, of revenue to the tune of 1.75 crores of rupees annually. I am sorry to say that we cannot accept their lead in this matter because the responsibility of the Opposition is nothing as compared with that which rests on our shoulders. The Members of the Opposition cannot be called to account for anything said by them in their speeches. Nobody can do anything against them even if they choose to disown the correct report of their speeches.

To-day, the Government needs crores-nay hundreds of crores-of rupees for the execution of Bhakra-Nangal Projects, for the completion of Minor Irrigation Schemes, for carrying through the Community Projects, for giving an impetus to the Grow More Food Campaign, for starting cottage industries, for opening schools and hospitals and for bringing the work of consolidation of holdings to a successful end. The task before us is stupendous. Our financial resources are too meagre to bear any comparison to it; and if I may say so, our income is like a drop in the ocean. In view of

these facts, no sensible person can suggest that the Government should cease tapping whatever limited sources of income are open to it. May I request the hon. Members sitting opposite to say conscientiously as to whether the Government needs more funds or not? Can they suggest an alternative source of income in case the Government agrees to do away with the Sales Tax? I invite them to offer suggestions in this connection.

Sardar Ajmer Singh : Sir, I want to put a question. Will the Chief Minister reply at this stage whether he is prepared to nationalize the cinemas? He would get lakhs of rupees from this source.

Mr Speaker : Does the hon. Member want him to reply off hand?

Sardar Ajmer Singh : Please let the Chief Minister reply.

Sardar Chanan Singh : On a point of order, Sir. Is the Chief Minister's speech relevant?

Mr. Speaker : In your speeches, you raised several irrelevant points and if the Chief Minister does not reply to them they are likely to create misunderstandings in the mind of the public.

Chief Minister : We shall give due consideration to the suggestion that the hon. Member has just made. It involves a big issue and no commitment can be made about it off-hand. There are people who can talk irresponsibly; there are others who are not in this habit. I may assure my Friends sitting opposite that even though they do not hesitate to call everything bad, we shall not do so but shall give unstinted praise to them for making a good suggestion and at the same time declare that the Punjab has the unique honour of having an Opposition which is imbued with a deep sense of responsibility.

Sir, after assuring the House again that this Bill has been brought forward only to remove a lacuna, namely, the lack of specification of the maximum limit of the rate of the sales tax, I resume my seat.

Shri Sri Chand (Bahadurgarh) (Hindi) : Sir, the Chief Minister has stated that while a great responsibility rests on the shoulders of the Government, the Opposition is totally irresponsible. May I say a few words with regard to the sense of responsibility that the Government has displayed so far. During the last session whenever a Bill was brought before the House it was again and again stressed by the Opposition "Realize your responsibility, don't try to rush through the Bill, lest some defect should pass unnoticed and an Amending Bill may have to be brought in the next session," but to no purpose. Everytime that the necessity of giving due consideration to each Bill was pointed out by us the Government remained obstinate and had its own way. The result is that so many measures,

[Shri Sri Chand]

passed in the last session, are again coming before the House for amendment. Had the Government heeded our advice at that time and given due consideration to each Bill, there would have been no need of wasting the time of the House again on the consideration of the same measures. Every Bill that is brought before the House is found to be ill-conceived and ill-considered. It appears as though the Chief Minister dreams of the necessity of a measure at night and without giving the matter any thought directs the Legal Remembrancer next morning to draft a Bill on the subject. Our repeated requests to the Government not to make undue haste in passing a Bill so that it may not have to be brought before the House again, have gone unheeded.

I again submit to the Government to give full consideration to the issues involved, before getting this amending Bill passed by the House. It is no wonder if the Government may have to get this legislation amended again. The beoparis have not yet given up their agitation; petitions are being filed in the High Court impugning the validity of the Sales Tax Act. Why doesn't the Government call the representatives of the Beopar Mandal and settle the issues with them once for all and bring all the necessary amendments before the House in the form of a comprehensive Bill? The Passengers and Goods Taxation Act, the Tenancy Act and so many other Acts are again being brought before the House for amendment. What does the Government think? The Members have nothing else to attend to besides the legislative work? Why does the Government after all want to waste their time again and again on the consideration of the same measures? I again say that this matter should be fully deliberated upon in this very session lest another Amending Bill pertaining to this taxation measure may have to be brought in the next session.

Shri Abdul Ghani Dar (Nuh) (Hindi) : Sir, there is a Punjabi saying that you can wake up a man who is sleeping but not one who is wide-awake and pretends to be asleep.

सुते होए नूँ तां जगाईये पर जागे होए नूँ कौन जगाए ।

ਸੁਤੇ ਹੋਏ ਨੂੰ ਤਾਂ ਜਗਾਈਏ ਪਰ ਜਾਗੇ ਹੋਏ ਨੂੰ ਕੌਣ ਜਗਾਏ ।

It is obvious that the Bill under discussion is concerned with the fixation of the maximum rate of the Sales Tax. How have my Friends concluded from this measure that our Finance Minister, of whose ability the whole country can be proud, does not know what is the maximum rate at present, and what it would be. It is possible that after some time he may find that we can carry on with the rate of four pies or even three pies, then some relief can be given to people. Even one pie in the rupee; as has been suggested by some of my hon. Friends opposite, may prove

enough or if our Friends give up their subversive activities we may be in a position to do away with this tax altogether.

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Member should avoid casting reflection on the Opposition. He should discuss only the amending Bill that is before the House.

Shri Abdul Ghani Dar : Sir, I only request the Opposition, through you, to adopt the course of healthy opposition as is done in other democracies. I may point out that when a country like England was in trouble, both the parties, the Government and the opposition, joined hands and after consultations with each other imposed very heavy taxes on themselves. They had to improve the conditions in their country which had gone from bad to worse. We are face to face with a similar situation at present, and have to rebuild our State. The present Government of Punjab considers itself the servant of the public and not their ruler. But my Friends over there always misrepresent it and try to excite the people.....

Sardar Ajmer Singh : Is he relevant, Sir ?

Shri Abdul Ghani Dar : In Ludhiana they tried to.....

Mr. Speaker : We are not dealing with that. The hon. Member should confine his remarks to the motion under discussion.

Shri Abdul Ghani Dar : I was going to say that some of my hon. Friends have made a firm resolve to exploit the public in each and every matter.

Mr. Speaker : Does the force of an argument lie in its being offensive ? Please offer good arguments.

Shri Abdul Ghani Dar : Sir, when they resort to gross misrepresentation of facts at every step, one is compelled to refer to them. I am the Secretary of my party and as such it is my duty to remove the misunderstanding created by them.

Mr. Speaker : We do not recognise your position as the Secretary of the Congress Assembly Party in this House.

Shri Abdul Ghani Dar : I agree, Sir, but I do seek your permission to state what they are doing behind the scenes so that the people may know that

कोई मासुक है इस पदांगारी में ।

ਕੋਈ ਮਾਸੂਕ ਹੈ ਇਸ ਪਰਦਾ ਅੰਗਾਰੀ ਮੇਂ ।

There is nothing obscure in this Bill. It is a very plain and simple measure. I challenge those given to destructive tactics that

Mr. Speaker : It is not proper to throw challenges to each other on the floor of the House. There is a convention in the House of Commons

[Mr. Speaker]

that no party or individual throws a challenge to the other. It is exclusively the concern of each party to choose its policy and programme, whether it is constructive or otherwise.

Then there is no distinction between one Member and another in the House—whether big or small. Everybody has the same status and receives the same consideration here. I would, therefore, request the hon. Member not to indulge in these taunts.

Shri Prabodh Chandra, is not present in the House at the moment. I was really shocked to read yesterday's proceedings. He uttered certain words which were highly undesirable. Shri Sri Chand is a highly respected Member of the House and nobody should have said anything about him which was not in keeping with the dignity of the House. After going through the proceedings carefully, I shall cause to be expunged all such observations from it as are likely to impair the dignity of the House and the honour of Punjab. I assure you that whenever any one, be he a Minister or another Member, indulges in that sort of talk, I shall take a very serious notice of it.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the East Punjab General Sales Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 1952, be taken into consideration at once.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Now the House will proceed to consider the Bill clause by clause.

CLAUSE 2

I have received notice of two amendments to Clause 2, one by Dewan Jagdish Chandra and the other by Sardar Chanan Singh and others. I call upon Dewan Jagdish Chandra to move the amendment standing in his name.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Sir, on a point of personal explanation.

Mr. Speaker : I am really sorry I had to mention certain things when you were not here. I was therefore waiting for an opportunity to convey the same to you so that you may have a clear idea of what I told the House. Well, I have strongly objected to certain passages in your speech which you delivered yesterday. I wonder what explanation you can offer to justify them.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Sir, I should be told what those passages are to which the Chair has taken objection.

Mr. Speaker : Well, I have gone through the proceedings and I have taken exception to these words :

कि वह पुराने जमाने की यादगार है
कि वह पुराने जमाने की यादगार है

Now we are not concerned whether one belongs to this age or another. I feel that no personal attack like this should be made against a Member of this House. We can attack certain principles, ideas, propositions or ideals but not what a man is ; that is not a theme to be indulged in by any Member of the House.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Sir, I said nothing disparaging to the hon. Member. I only made a statement of fact on the floor of the House that he was a relic of the past and that he belonged to a party which stood for the slavery of the country.....

Mr. Speaker : You should not say things like that. I am afraid, by your explanation, you are making the offence more serious. The words 'relic of the past' and the sentence following it are equally objectionable. Now I invite your attention to yet another sentence which you should not have uttered here. It is like this.

वह मेरे ताऊ हैं इस लिये मैं उन का लिहाज़ करता हूँ

वेह मेरे ताऊ हैं इस लिये मैं उन का लिहाज़ करता हूँ ।

Shri Prabodh Chandra : But, Sir, there is no disparagement involved in it. By 'Taoo' I meant an old Member of the House.

Mr. Speaker : But the sentence taken as a whole indicates a personal relationship, the mention of which should be avoided in the House. Anyhow I confidently expect from a gentleman of Shri Prabodh Chandra's position that he will make sufficient amends to the gentleman whose feelings he offended yesterday. Even though he may not have meant anything, yet my feeling is that the Member did feel these remarks. It is possible the latter too, might have retorted. But as I have already stated, I hope that Shri Prabodh Chandra would make suitable amend to the Member whose feelings he hurt. If he does not, it is his look-out and I cannot order or compel him to do so.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Sir, if you so desire, I am hundred times prepared to submit to your directives and withdraw the remarks objected to by you. But Sir, you will also bear this in mind that he challenged me at least ten times and made attacks on my character using thereby the word *bad challan*. You can enquire from any Member of the House to find out the veracity of my statement.

Mr. Speaker : It is well that he has made suitable amends. In this connection may I just invite your attention to the great and high ideals observed by Mahatma Gandhi. He observed that we should never think of retaliation. I do not know if Shri Sri Chand made any remarks against Shri Prabodh Chandra. But this is his look-out to make amends according

[Mr. Speaker]

to his own belief. But what we believe that we cannot, we shall not and we will not give any offence to any Member of the House, whatever his convictions may be.

Shri Prabodh Chandra: Sir, we have to observe this principle because we belong to a certain group or party. But may I know whether those who do not agree with our ideal, have got the permission of the Chair to say whatever they like ?

Mr. Speaker: Can the hon. Member point out any instance wherein any Member may have said anything offensive against any other Member and I have not brought him to book ?

Shri Prabodh Chandra: But, Sir, yesterday when the Chair was occupied by Mr. Deputy Speaker; Shri Sri Chand did say certain undesirable things.

Mr. Speaker: At present Shri Sri Chand is not in his seat. We shall face him when he comes back. Now I call upon Dewan Jagdish Chandra to move his amendment.

Dewan Jagdish Chandra (Ludhiana City North) (Hindi): Sir, I beg to move—

That in line 3, after the word 'inserted' the following be added :—
“and shall be deemed always to have been so inserted”.

Mr. Speaker, the East Punjab General Sales Tax Act 1948 gave unfettered legislative power to the State Government in the matter of fixing the rate of the Sales Tax. Whereas only two pice in a rupee were notified, the Government had the power to fix the rate upto an anna in a rupee. But now the Government has brought in this amending Bill whereby it has put a curb on its own powers and fixed the maximum rate of Sales Tax at two pice in a rupee of the taxable turnover of a dealer. My Friends sitting on the Opposition Benches thought that the Government was going to fix the ceiling of the Sales Tax at one anna instead of two pice in a rupee. They also have been carrying on propaganda against this provision. At that moment, keeping in view the then circumstances, no amendment was made and the powers of Government remained unfettered. Now, Sir, as a writ has been lodged against this provision in the High Court, this Bill has been brought in to fix a ceiling on the tax at two pice in a rupee. Now, Sir, the question arises whether the amount of tax which the Government has hitherto realised under unfettered powers was justified. As no ceiling was fixed on the tax, it was not lawful and therefore the amount so realised should be returned. Mr. Speaker, keeping this contingency in view I have put forward this amendment so that the tax received by Government under unfettered powers should also be considered as having been

received under a fixed ceiling. I have introduced this amendment in order to remove this lacuna in the Act. It does not concern itself with increasing or decreasing the tax. I would, therefore, request the House to accept this amendment.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in line 3, after the word 'inserted', the following be added :—
"and shall be deemed always to have been so inserted".

Now I call upon Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina to move his amendment.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—
That in line 5, for the words "two pice" the words 'one pie' be substituted.

Mr Speaker, I was surprised to hear the speech of the hon. Minister which he made during the consideration stage of his amending Bill. He said that the mistake of not fixing the maximum rate of sales tax had been committed by the Government at the instance and wishes of the Opposition. In other words he conveyed that the responsibility for bringing forward this measure was that of the Opposition. But this is not a fact. I want to remind him that the Opposition has always been trying to guide the Government and lead it along the right path and save it from committing blunders. If his memory has failed him then he can verify the veracity of this fact from the speeches made by the Members of the Opposition on various occasions. As a matter of fact we had pressed for the complete abolition of this tax, but my hon. Friends had raised the rate of tax from two pice to an anna in a rupee instead of reducing it.

Then the hon. Chief Minister also did not lay behind in throwing the responsibility for this measure on the shoulders of the Opposition. But now I repeat what we had said at that time. We had stated that the Government was committing a mistake in raising the tax from 2 pice to an anna in a rupee and that instead of raising the limit of the tax, it should abolish it altogether. We are, even now, suggesting to the hon. Ministers that the rate of the sales tax should not exceed a pie in a rupee so that in future they may not again feel the necessity of bringing in another amending measure. In this connection I just ask the Government, whether it had passed the Punjab Passengers and Goods Taxation Act at the instance of the Opposition, in respect of which it also intends to bring an amending Bill in this session. It appears that at that time it did not attach any importance to the opinion of 26 Members occupying the Opposition Benches. But the Ministers realised their blunder only when they were received by the public with black flags. In spite of all this, now they allege that they had committed this mistake at the instance of the Opposition.

Then, it has been stated by my hon. Friend Giani Rajindar Singh, who appears to be working as Legal Adviser to the Government, that no Govern-

[Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina]

ment could carry on without funds. True. But is it advisable for the Government to unnecessarily tax the necessities of life? I am of the opinion that a Government which unnecessarily imposes taxes on the necessities of life, can never last long. Now what is happening in this State? A poor man has to pay sales tax even on the purchase of a cake of soap. Similarly he has to pay this tax on oil and cloth inspite of the fact that his financial position does not permit him to purchase even the minimum quantity of cloth required to cover his body. Not only this. I want to draw the attention of the hon. Members to the lot of the poor 'kisans' living in villages. These poor men have to sell their whole milk in the towns in order to make their both ends meet. Consequently they are unable to give milk even to their children. This tax is a burden on such people. Therefore, I appeal to the House even at this late stage to abolish this tax.

It has also been pointed out by the Treasury Benches that the rate of Sales Tax as it exists in other States, far exceeds that of ours despite the fact that the economic condition of our State is much better than that of other States. It appears that they are out to weaken the economic condition here also. I may tell them that this tax is going to prove the proverbial last straw on the camel's back. They have tried to justify the imposition of this tax by counting out to the House some of the big schemes undertaken by the Government for which funds are very essential. But the difficulty is that they are mainly utilising these funds in paying high emoluments to the Ministers and not for the construction of dams etc. They are out to keep a band of eight Ministers and five Deputy Ministers which are absolutely unnecessary. I think the work was going on quite satisfactorily during the last six months in the absence of five Deputy Ministers.

Shri Abdul Ghaffar Khan: On a point of order, Sir. Is the hon. Member relevant?

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina: Mr. Speaker, I am quite relevant. I am suggesting ways and means to save funds.

Mr. Speaker: I know the hon. Member would say all that he has come prepared to say.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina: But, Sir, with your permission I may point out that I, too, have full knowledge of what relevancy there is in the speeches which the hon. Shri Abdul Ghaffar Khan is in the habit of making in this House. Well, Sir, I submit that this tax entails direct burden on the poor people from which the rich are already exempted. Therefore, Sir, I again appeal to the hon. Members sitting on the Government Benches that they should refrain from imposing this tax so that next time they may not say again that they have committed a mistake at the instance of the Opposition.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in line 5, for the words "two pice", the words 'one pie' be substituted.

Sardar Wazir Singh (Delhon) (Punjabi) : Mr. Speaker, we have heard the speeches of hon. Chief Minister, hon. Minister for Finance and some other hon. Members on this amending Bill. To me it appears that this tax mainly affects the poor population. But these hon. Ministers have told the House that this tax cannot be abolished because the Government needs funds for constructing dams, roads and running hospitals in the State. I admit that every Government needs funds for running its administration efficiently and for that purpose it has to resort to taxation. But it is also a very vital point that it is obligatory on a popular democratic Government to see that it does not impose any such tax as may mainly fall on the poor population. It becomes its duty to abolish such taxes but in case of pressing need it should raise funds by taxing the rich.

Then, Mr. Speaker, some of the hon. Members occupying the Treasury Benches of this House and the hon. Ministers have all advanced the argument that this is not a new tax and that it is also in force in other States. My learned Friend, Sardar Achbar Singh, has thoroughly explained to this House the conditions obtaining in other places.

Sir, the only thing which I wish to say is that as compared with other States, the people of our State are less able to pay heavy taxes, the reason being that ours is an up-rooted State. This is the Punjab whose population has been reduced to poverty on account of the partition. All the property, wealth and lands of these displaced persons have been left in the West Punjab. In the circumstances, the argument advanced by the Minister for Finance that the people of the Punjab should also pay taxes like other States, is neither convincing nor sound.

Sir, the second point upon which I would like to express my views is the offer made by the Chief Minister to the Opposition in which he has appealed us to give concrete suggestions in order to augment the State revenues.

Mr. Speaker, I would make a few suggestions which, if adopted, would go a long way in effecting a net saving of about two to two and a half crores of rupees out of the total Budget expenditure of Rs. 18,00,00,000 without of course impairing the efficiency of any department.

Sir, you will perhaps remember that the previous Government in this State had constituted a Resources and Retrenchment Committee. All its recommendations are before the present Government. If it accepts them, there can be a saving of crores of rupees to the State. Besides, Sir, my main suggestion to effect saving is to abolish the Upper House which is nothing short of a white elephant to the State.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : On a point of order, Sir. May I know how this is relevant to the motion.

Mr. Speaker : I would tell the hon. Member that he has got no right to discuss the Upper House here. He should confine his speech to the motion under discussion.

Sardar Wazir Singh : Very well, Sir, as you please, but I feel that the incidence of this tax falls directly on the poor. I feel that apart from Sales Tax and Water Rates there are so many other sources which should be tapped to augment the State revenues. Then there are certain industries which can be nationalised in order to increase the State revenues. In the circumstances, the reduction of this tax as proposed in the amendment and even its abolition, would not bring about the fall of the Government.

Besides, Sir, the Chief Minister has twitted at my mentioning a poor man paying Sales Tax on the purchase of a cake of soap. I may tell him that the shopkeepers fleece the villagers and the illiterate people by charging Sales Tax on everything. I think the people will be saved of such hardships if the Government imposes this Tax at the initial stage *i. e.*, the manufacturing stage only. Then there is another way of increasing the revenues. The Government should effect retrenchment in services.

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Member's time is over.

Sardar Darshan Singh (Tarn Taran (Punjabi) : Sir, in connection with the amendment under discussion, I wish to tell the House that ours is an uprooted Punjab. The people of this State have been reduced to poverty on account of the Partition. They are in such a miserable plight that they cannot get any employment. In fact it is hard for them to make their both ends meet. Therefore, the existence of such a heavy Tax tantamounts to perpetrating of atrocities on them. Even in the previous Session when a similar Bill was introduced in this House, we vehemently objected to the continuance of this tax and advocated its total abolition but to our deep regret our suggestion did not find favour with the Government. Again when the traders organised an agitation against that measure, the Government was compelled to introduce this Bill. But this does not help the poor who are being hard hit as a result of the sales tax. Whenever any shopkeeper, after having sold something to his customer in a village, demands extra money in the form of this Tax, the customer at once throws the article on the ground which ultimately leads to an exchange of abuses between the two and, many a time, results in a fight. Therefore, in order to save the poor people from such disputes and fighting and also to enable the shopkeepers to carry on their business smoothly, I appeal that if the wholesale withdrawal be not possible then it should, at least, be reduced to one pice in a rupee since the present rate of two pice is very excessive.

Minister for Finance (Sardar Ujjaal Singh) (Punjabi) : Mr. Speaker, since no principle of the Sales Tax is involved in this Bill, I would like to speak only in connection with the two amendments which have been put

before this House. I am sorry to remark that my hon. Friends of the Opposition are trying to bring in all sorts of extraneous matters which have no bearing on the motion now before the House. If I take note of all their objections and points, then this debate will be unnecessarily prolonged. In the circumstances I am only to remark that the purport of the amendment tabled by my hon. Friend, Dewan Jagdish Chandra, is only to avoid the possibility of any legal flaw which the High Court may find afterwards. Therefore, this amendment has been sought to be incorporated in the Bill in order to meet such an objection. There is no other special motive behind it.

But, Sir, the amendment proposed by my hon. Friends of the Opposition is of a far reaching effect. The present rate of Sales Tax is two pice a rupee but they demand it to be reduced to one pie per rupee. In other words, the amendment means that not only for the last stage but also for the initial stage this limit should be at one pie per rupee. Sir, if we agree to impose this Tax at one pie per rupee at the initial stages then it means that the rate of the Tax at the lower stages will be almost nil. If, however, I accede to the request of my hon. Friends, the result will be an immediate loss of Rs. 1,50,00,000 to the State exchequer. At this stage the income accruing from this Tax is in the neighbourhood of Rs. 1 75,00,000 only. By reducing the Tax to its one sixth, this income will fall down to Rs. 30,00,000 only. If this amendment is accepted, how will the above mentioned loss of Rs. 1,50,00,000 be made good?

Besides, Sir, one of my hon. Friends has referred to the recommendations of the Resources and Retrenchment Committee. I would like to tell him that I am having each one of the recommendations examined thoroughly. I wish to assure the House that the Government will translate into action as many recommendations of this Committee as possible. But, at the same time it pains me to say that whenever we bring forth any proposal or any kind of nationalization or the like my Friends oppose it tooth and nail. They should know that we have to weigh all the pros and cons of a proposal before it is put in this House. If on the one hand we have to see that the governmental machinery should keep running smoothly then we have to be careful that the masses are not put to any undue hardship.

I admit that the Punjab is an up-rooted State. But we have to make an effort to rehabilitate it as early as possible. This object cannot be achieved, if the increase in the Water Rates is withdrawn, or no nationalization is carried out or no tax is imposed. Mr. Speaker, you are aware of the steps which the Government is taking in order to develop the State at the earliest. A sum amounting to the tune of Rs. 1,50,00,00,000 will be spent on Bhakra Nangal Schemes alone.

Then, Sir, to say that the incidence of this Tax falls only on the poor, is a mis-statement of facts. Just as the hon. Chief Minister has stated that

[Minister for Finance]

whosoever-whether poor or rich-buys something, he has to pay the Tax. Most of the articles sold in the villages are exempted from the levy of the Sales Tax. The first essential of the villagers is the foodgrains upon which there is no Sales Tax. Such a concession does not exist in any other State.

The second article is *khaddar*. There is no Sales Tax on it either. Khadi cloth is manufactured in the villages and the Government has not imposed any Sales Tax on this article. So these are the two main articles viz., food and clothing, on which there is no Sales Tax in the villages. As a matter of fact Sales Tax has been imposed on those articles only which the well-to-do persons consume. If any one were to suggest that there should be no Sales Tax on number 26 muslin, I cannot agree with him in this matter. Those who wear such fine muslin can also afford to pay two pice in a rupee by way of Sales Tax on it. So, to say that the burden of the Sales Tax is borne by the poor people is wrong. In fact, the Government always looks after the interests of the poor. Moreover, the money that is received from such taxes is mostly used for the good of the people. We want that the State coffers should be filled with more money so that the Government may use it to finance the schemes for the development of the poor and backward people.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in line 3, after the word 'inserted' the following be added :—
"and shall be deemed always to have been so inserted."

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in line 5, for the words 'two pice' the words 'one pie' be substituted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That clause 2, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 1

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That clause 1 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

TITLE

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Title be the Title of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Minister for Labour (Chaudhri Sundar Singh) : Sir, I beg to move—

That the East Punjab General Sales Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, as amended, be passed.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the East Punjab General Sales Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 1952, as amended, be passed.

Sardar Wazir Singh (Dehlon) (Punjabi) : Sir, the hon. Minister for Finance has stated that the Opposition created a mis-understanding among the people and that that was the reason why this Bill had to be brought before the House. I may make it clear to the House that the Opposition never indulged in such tactics. As a matter of fact this amending Bill is the out-come of an agitation carried on by the Beoparis in the State. In fact their agitation has shaken the very foundations of this Government. So this amending Bill has been brought in to assuage them. However, I would like to congratulate the Beoparis because they have shown a way to the poor kisans and workers that by carrying on an agitation the Government can be brought to its knees. But I go a step further and say that if the kisans and workers resort to an agitation, they can even recall the Members of this Assembly, because after the last general elections they have done nothing worth the name for the betterment of the people. Where I congratulate the Beoparis on their success, I sound a note of warning to my Friends on the Treasury Benches that if they fail to serve the people in the right way, there might be a strong agitation against them.

We find that during the last Budget Session no measure for the public good was adopted by this House. But on the other hand Acts like the Sales Tax Act and the Punjab Passengers and Goods Taxation Act were passed and the burden of taxes was increased on the people. At that time it was stated by the Government that in the next session of the Assembly beneficial Bills would be brought forward. But we find that even in this session no such Bills have been brought. In this connection I wish to point out that no popular Government can exist simply by increasing the burden of taxes. The example of the last Government is before us. The imposition of the Sales Tax and the enhancement of the Abiana were the main causes of its downfall. This Government says that Sales Tax and Abiana are old taxes. My submission is that if the old taxes were based on wrong principles, is it not the duty of the Government to abolish them?

My hon. Friend Sardar Ujjal Singh has stated that the report of the Resources and Retrenchment Committee is being thoroughly examined for the purpose of effecting reduction in the expenditure. Now half of this session is over. After some time the Budget will also be passed, but I do not think that anything will come out of consideration of that report. At the present speed with which the Government is carrying out its legislative programme, the poor people should not expect anything. Mere words that something will be done soon for the poor people, cannot satisfy them or provide them with food to eat and clothes to wear. Peasants and workers have to buy small things for their daily use. They have to buy soap, oil,

[Sardar Wazir Singh]

clothes and other articles and pay Sales Tax on them. Now well-to-do persons can conveniently pay something extra in the form of Sales tax but the poor people cannot afford to pay even two pice in a rupee. The Government should not ignore these persons while imposing this Tax. It should also remember that so far the agitation of the Beoparis has not come to an end. They are well organised and they will not allow the imposition of unjust taxes. The agitation which they carried out against this tax has set a good example to the kisans and workers, which they should try to emulate. This is a good precedent as the people can now bring round the Government to see reason and do justice by starting an agitation.

Shri Rala Ram (Mukerian) (Hindi) : Sir, the amendment which has been moved and in fact, accepted by the Government is quite a simple one and yet some of the hon. Members have opposed it. This shows that they offer opposition simply for the sake of opposition. As a matter of fact there is no demand from the people that two pice in a rupee is an excessive rate of the Sales Tax. Of course there has been some agitation carried on by the Beoparis against the Sales Tax. But the public has nothing to do with it. Effort has been made to create misunderstandings among the Beoparis. But the people have never complained that the Sales Tax is heavy. I know that the Beoparis are against the method of collection of this tax, but the Government is carrying on negotiations with them on the subject. I am sure that these negotiations would result in ending the agitation of the Beoparis. Their objection is not against the rate of the tax being fixed at one anna or two pice in a rupee. If the Government so desires, it can fix it at one anna in a rupee. This does not concern the Beoparis at all, because the burden of this tax falls upon the public and not the Beoparis themselves. But it is wrong to say that the public is against the imposition of this tax. No agitation against it has been carried on by the people.

In fact public of the Punjab is quite intelligent. They know that for rehabilitating this ruined State, spreading education and raising the standard of living of the people, the Government must have the necessary funds. My Friends said that the incidence of this tax fell on the poor people, but if they study the conditions in other countries they will find that such taxes exist everywhere. It is a well-recognised fact that direct taxation should be avoided as far as possible. The efficiency of an administration is judged from the amount of revenues that it raises by means of indirect taxation. However, there is nothing unjust in this tax.

Some of my hon. Friends said that the villagers derived no benefit from the exemption granted under the Sales Tax Act. For instance no Sales Tax is charged on foodgrains. I am myself a villager and I know

that sixty per cent of villagers have to purchase foodgrains for their use. It is a mistake to think that simply because the villagers cultivate lands they have not to purchase foodgrains. I, therefore, think that the Government has acted rightly in exempting foodgrains from this tax. Some people appear to be bent upon making a mountain of a mole hill. This amending Bill became necessary on account of a legal objection. That objection will be met by its enactment. It aims at changing a few words here and there without bringing about any increase in the rate of the tax. With these words I support the amendment moved by Dewan Jagdish Chandra.

Sardar Wazir Singh : That amendment has already been passed. The Bill is being given the third reading now.

Shri Wadhawa Ram (Fazilka) (Punjabi) : Mr. Speaker, a speech which the hon. Chief Minister delivered a year and six and a half months back in favour of the reduction of this tax has already been referred to by one of my hon. Friends. He says that when he delivered that speech the conditions were different but now work is going on in connection with Bhakra and Nangal Schemes. May I know if these schemes were not being worked when he delivered that speech? He says that we talk like irresponsible people. May I know from him if all that he said at that time was mere tall talk? We have been preserving copies of his speeches like ancient religious books so that those might be referred to at the proper time. Now, however, we find that all that he used to say before was nothing but empty talk (ਫਰੇਬ ਅਤੇ ਧੋਖਾ । ਫਰੇਬ ਅਤੇ ਧੋਖਾ.) If that is the case, all the record of his speeches should be destroyed as it is not worth preserving.

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Member should kindly withdraw the words 'ਫਰੇਬ' and 'ਧੋਖਾ' । 'ਫਰੇਬ' and 'ਧੋਖਾ'.

Shri Wadhawa Ram : I withdraw those words. Yesterday the hon. Minister said that he, too, was in favour of the water rate being reduced but still I find that the position has remained unchanged. He says that those times were different but I beg to submit that the work on Bhakra and Nangal Projects was going on at that time also. The hon. Minister said that the sales tax amounting to about one and a half crore of rupees should not have been levied, but when we make the same suggestion now, he is not prepared to accept it. Moreover, this Government levies those taxes which affect the poor people. As it is the poor people who have to pay the water-rate the Government does not reduce it. As the sales tax is realised from the poor consumers, it cannot be abolished. The Government found it necessary to bring forward this Bill so that it might not lose the right of squeezing the poor people by realising the sales tax. With regard to our suggestion to the Government, one of the hon. Members said yesterday that we did not make it at the proper time. He said that we

[Shri Wadhawa Ram]

untethered the calf at an inopportune time. I want to tell him that this buffalo is such as would not yield any milk, no matter how much coaxing is done.

Dewan Jagdish Chandra (Ludhiana City, North) (*Hindi*) : Mr. Speaker, I did not think that such a large number of speeches would be delivered on this Bill, but I find that my Friends in the Opposition have reopened the question of the sales tax and have discussed the propriety of its imposition. I beg to submit that this tax does not exist in this State alone. It has been levied in other States and countries, too. My hon. Friend who moved an amendment recommending the reduction of the rate of Sales Tax from two pice to one pie in a rupee said that it was the demand of the traders. I, however, know that the traders have not made that demand. They have to realize the sales tax from the consumers. If they had any objection, it was with regard to the method of its realization. Our hon. Minister for Finance had a talk with the representatives of the traders and that question has been almost settled. Some members of the Executive Committee of the Beopar Mandal have made a demand that a meeting of the Mandal be convened so that the terms of settlement might be implemented but there are certain forces and organizations who want the differences to continue and they distort facts. I beg to submit that if so soon after the elections, some of my hon. Friends whose party was routed at the recent elections, think that the Congress Party which won by a thumping majority has not remained popular among the masses, I challenge all the twenty six or say five or six Members of the Opposition to resign and recontest the elections on the issue of the sales tax.

Sardar Achhar Singh : If the hon Member resigns I am also prepared to resign.

Mr. Speaker : I refuse to allow the hon. Members to throw challenges and counter-challenges.

Dewan Jagdish Chandra : I beg to submit that the traders are not opposed to the sales tax and they do not want that it should be completely abolished. On the other hand they have declared that they want to strengthen this Government and to help it in raising its revenues.

Sir, my hon. Friends, who suggest that the rate of the 'abiana' be reduced, the sales tax be abolished and all taxes on the people in villages be withdrawn are saying so to earn cheap popularity among the public. The hon. Members can well imagine how urgently money is required for the rehabilitation of the State and that no scheme of public welfare can be executed without the necessary finance. I must submit that the Government is making every effort to scale down the expenditure on administration and give the maximum return for every pie that is realised from the taxpayer. Sir, if the Opposition indulges in criticism of the

Government merely for the sake of criticism then it does not reflect any credit upon that party. My hon. Friends who are occupying the Opposition Benches have not offered any constructive suggestions to the Government.

Sardar Chanan Singh (Tanda) (Punjabi): Sir, it has been said from the Government Benches that the sales tax is levied on the public and not on the traders. My hon. Friend Shri Rala, I am perhaps does not know that in the meeting of the Beopar Mandal a resolution was passed against the fixation of the rate of the sales tax at 2 pice in a rupee and it was demanded that the rate be reduced to one pice in a rupee. It shows that the incidence of this tax falls both upon the public and the beoparis. If my hon. Friend gets an opportunity to go to Hoshiarpur he will know that the public made a great agitation against the imposition of this tax. There is a feeling of resentment among the people and they are cursing the Government for this. If my hon. Friend says that there has been no agitation then he is simply provoking the public who will be driven to launch a still more vigorous agitation against the Government. The hon. Minister has remarked that the incidence of this tax does not fall upon the peasants or villagers. Perhaps my hon. Friend is under the impression that people in villages can go without cloth. They have to pay the sales tax on the cloth and iron which they purchase for their use. In Simla this tax is being charged even in hotels. Medicines are not free from this tax. Do the zamindars not stand in need of any medicines? I think that the rate of this tax must be reduced. Besides, it has been remarked that this is an indirect tax. I fail to understand under what economic law my Friend treats this tax as an indirect one. This is a direct tax and falls on every purchaser. In the end, I would like to submit that the hon. Minister is negotiating with the beoparis and this matter will be settled very soon. I am of the view that this matter will not be solved satisfactorily unless this Act is modified. So far as the challenge of my hon. Friend is concerned, personally speaking I do not like to throw challenges to anybody but if my Friends so desire I am prepared to contest election against Shri Jagdish Chandra and the hon. Chief Minister and I may tell them that the result will not be in their favour.

Minister for Finance (Sardar Ujjal Singh) (Punjabi): Sir, my hon. Friend Sardar Wazir Singh has remarked that the Government has brought this amending Bill as a result of the agitation started by the beoparis against the Government. I cannot say whether my hon. Friend has understood the demands of the beoparis or not but I must say that the agitation of traders against the sales tax has nothing to do with this Bill. The Government has introduced this Bill to remove a lacuna in the Act so that

[Minister for Finance]

it may not be declared null and void by the High Court. The Government has now fixed the upper limit so that it may not go beyond it.

I admit that beoparis launched an agitation against the imposition of the sales tax. The Government had a talk with the beoparis because it feels that if any section of the people has some difficulty then it becomes its duty to understand their difficulty and to take steps to remove it. I cannot say who has created the misunderstanding in the minds of the traders. I met the beoparis and had a frank talk with them. I placed the difficulties of the Government before them and heard their views as well. I promised them that the Government will try to remove their difficulties. I told them frankly that the Government urgently stood in need of money to satisfy its requirement and in these circumstances there was little justification for reducing the rate of the tax. I, however, assured them that the Government would try to remove their difficulties experienced in connection with the collection of the sales tax. I had discussions with them in this matter in a cordial atmosphere and I think that they had no idea of taking any political advantage of the situation. They have placed their grievances before the Government and we have tried to understand them and remove all such grievance, which we considered to be legitimate.

Without taking much time of the House I would say that this Bill has been brought up to remove a lacuna in the Act. We cannot unnecessarily wait for two or three years more. I would submit that the Government only wants to take powers so that it may be able to check effectively the evasion of the sales tax.

Mr. Speaker : I have been very indulgent towards you. Your speech is as irrelevant as it could be.

Minister for Finance : I am sorry that I have been somewhat irrelevant because I had to reply to all the points raised by my hon. Friends in their speeches. If I had failed to reply to their objections, it was bound to cause some misunderstanding in their minds.

Mr. Speaker : Question is--

That the East Punjab General Sales Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, as amended, be passed.

The motion was carried.

The Assembly then adjourned till 9.30 a. m. on Saturday, the 25th October, 1952.

Punjab Legislative Assembly Debates

25th October 1952

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OFFICIAL REPORT



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CHANDIGARH :

Printed by the Controller of Printing and Stationery, Punjab
1955

Price Re :-/7/-

Punjab Legislative Assembly

Saturday, 25th October, 1952.

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Simla, at 9.30 a.m. of the clock. Mr. Speaker (Dr. Satyapal) in the chair.

Minister for Development : (Sardar Partap Singh Kairon) : Sir, I want to say something in connection with the incident which occurred on the floor of the House day before yesterday.

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Minister may do so after the Question Hour is over.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

RESTORATION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY OF COMMUNISTS.

***945. Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina:** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether the Government has passed orders for the restoration of immovable property of those Communists against whom warrants of arrest under the Preventive Detention Act have been withdrawn; if so, whether these have been implemented, if not, the reasons therefor?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar :—

First Part—Yes.

Second Part—Yes, except in the case of Jaswant Singh of Ferozepore District. The hon. Member is, however, assured that orders regarding the restoration of immovable property in his case will also issue shortly.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut: Will the hon. Minister kindly tell us as to how much property has been auctioned and how much attached?

Chief Minister: I can give answers to such supplementary questions which arise out of the main question. If the hon. Member wishes to have information on any other matter he may ask a separate question.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut: Since there is lot of difference between the terms attachment and auction, I would request the hon. Minister to state the extent of property auctioned.

Chief Minister: For the information of my hon. friend I would repeat his question—

“Whether the Government has passed orders for the restoration of immovable property of those Communists against whom warrants of arrest under the Preventive Detention Act have been withdrawn; if so, whether these have been implemented, if not, the reasons therefor.”

It is a specific question to which I have given reply. I do not understand how the question of auction or attachment of land comes in.

TREASURY STAFF

***1024. Shrimati Sita Devi:** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the treasury staff is under the Deputy Commissioner of the district concerned or under the Accountant-General, Punjab;
- (b) the number of hours a day which the treasury staff is required to work;
- (c) whether they are paid anything for extra or overtime work;
- (d) their leave rules and how much leave they are entitled to in a year?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon :

- (a) The staff is under the administrative control of the Deputy Commissioner, concerned.
- (b) 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- (c) No.
- (d) The staff is governed by the leave rules contained in the Civil Services Rules (Punjab), Vol. I, Part I, applicable to other Government Servants.

Shrimati Sita Devi: Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether the rules provide for the payment of overtime to those who work for more than eight hours?

Minister : The hon. Lady Member can see the rules on this subject and find out the relevant provision.

Shrimati Sita Devi : I have seen them and that is why I have put this question. My submission is that in practice these rules are not strictly observed. These people have to work till ten o'clock in the night.

Minister : Everything is done according to rules. The hon. Lady Member should see them.

Shrimati Sita Devi : If everything is done according to the rules, will the hon. Minister please state whether such rules are right and just?

Minister : This question does not arise.

Shri Banarsi Dass Gupta : May I know whether the Treasurers are paid their salaries in accordance with the rules?

Minister : There is a vast difference between the Treasurers and the treasury staff. The work of the Treasurers is carried on a contract basis, while the treasury staff is being governed by the leave rules.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether any representation has been received from this staff?

Mr. Speaker : This does not arise.

APPOINTMENT OF A STATE SUBORDINATE SERVICES
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

***1057. Shri Ram Kishan :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Government proposes to appoint a State Subordinate Services Public Service Commission; if so, when, together with the scope of its functions;
- (b) the personnel of the Commission referred to in part (a) above?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) and (b) The matter is still under consideration.

Shri Ram Kishan : Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state the date by which it can be done?

Chief Minister: No dead-line has been fixed for this. The Government will, however, try to dispose of this matter as quickly as practicable.

PROSECUTIONS IN NURPUR TEHSIL

***1067. Comrade Ram Chandra:** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of prosecutions launched by the police under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act in Nurpur Tehsil between the months of January and September, 1952;

(b) the result of these prosecutions?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar :—

(a) Five.

(b) All the five accused were fined Rs 2 only.

REVENUE RECORDS OF PATTI TEHSIL

***972. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur:** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any villages in Patti Tehsil of Amritsar District which formerly were a part of Kasur Tehsil, the revenue records of which such as counterfoils of mutations registers, mutations, Khasra girdawri, were found missing after the partition; if so, their list;

(b) whether any steps have been taken by the Government to send for the record referred to in part (a) above from the Pakistan authorities for the period since the compilation of the Jamabandis of the village referred to in part (a) above till 15-8-47; if so, with what result; if not, what steps Government proposes to take in the matter?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon :

(a) First part. Yes.

Second Part. A list is given below.

(b) First part. Yes.

Second part. The Punjab (P) Government is being pressed through the Government of India for the transfer of these records.

LIST OF VILLAGES OF KASUR TEHSIL (PAKISTAN)

WHICH WERE TRANSFERRED TO AMRITSAR

DISTRICT (INDIA) AFTER THE PARTITION

Serial No.	Name of village.	Serial No.	Name of village.
1.	Patti.	55.	Bhura Hithar.
2.	Chuslewar.	56.	Jaloke.
3.	Thakkarpara.	57.	Bhoo.
4.	Dhariwal.	58.	Burj Poola.
5.	Kullah.	59.	Kuttiwala.
6.	Boparai.	60.	Ahmadpur.
7.	Dhagana.	61.	Ghurkwind.
8.	Shahid.	62.	Surwind.
9.	Cheema.	63.	Kacha Pakka.
10.	Barwala	64.	Mughal.
11.	Saido.	65.	Makhi Kalan.
12.	Umrabath.	66.	Margindpura.
13.	Asal.	67.	Akbarpara.
14.	Bhaggopura.	68.	Thutha.
15.	Singwan.	69.	Minhala Jai Singh.
16.	Bathe Bhaini.	70.	Theh Chahal.
17.	Saidpur.	71.	Manakpara.
18.	Ramsinghwala.	72.	Paragpara.
19.	Rodhalka.	73.	Baler.
20.	Bundala.	74.	Bhikhiwind Autar.
21.	Kaleke Hithar.	75.	Bhagwanpur.
22.	Jhuggian Pir Bakhsh.	76.	Bainka.
23.	Kot Buddha.	77.	Poola.
24.	Bangla Rai.	78.	Palwanke.
25.	Bhaawal.	79.	Chela.
26.	Bhojjoke.	80.	Darazke.
27.	Ballarke.	81.	Sandpara.
28.	Saffansinghwala.	82.	Sur Singh.
29.	Kote Nau Abad.	83.	Singhpura.
30.	Talwandi Sobha Singh.	84.	Sugga.
31.	Talwandi Mutsadda Singh.	85.	Farandipur.
32.	Talwandi Mehr Singh.	86.	Mari Samrai.
33.	Dubli.	87.	Mari Nau Abad.
34.	Kaleke Autara.	88.	Mari Gaur Singh.
35.	Jaur Singh Wala.	89.	Gazi Chak.
36.	Alipore.	90.	Choong.
37.	Thanthian.	91.	Boor Chand Wala.
38.	Burj Deva Singh.	92.	Bhaini Gurmukh Singh
39.	Narrar.	93.	Dayalpura.
40.	Harike.	94.	Sandra.
41.	Sabhrai.	95.	Fatehpur Sugga.
42.	Tung.	96.	Kale.
43.	Kollewal.	97.	Kalsian Kalan.
44.	Mallahwala.	98.	Theh Naushehra.
45.	Tatta Gudda.	99.	Amin Shah.
46.	Kirtowal.	100.	Seeto Nau Abad.
47.	Nabipur.	101.	Pohuwind.
48.	Theh Rajwah.	102.	Dode.
49.	Jindawala.	103.	Dhun.
50.	Seeto Meh Jhuggian.	104.	Kalsian Khurd.
51.	Doomnewala.	105.	Sidhwan.
52.	Bhaneke.	106.	Khalra.
53.	Gadike.	107.	Mari Megha.
54.	Goggarke.	108.	Mughal Chak.

[Minister for Development]

Serial No.	Name of village.	Serial No.	Name of village.
109.	Narla.	149.	Ram Khara.
110.	Narli.	150.	Valtoha.
111.	Veeram.	151.	Rattoke.
112.	Theh Kallah.	152.	Gajjal.
113.	Gilpan.	153.	Maddipura.
114.	Basarke.	154.	Mianwala.
115.	Padhal.	155.	Mohammadiwala.
116.	Barhwal.	156.	Mastgarh.
117.	Dall.	157.	Kals.
118.	Daleeri.	158.	Nurwala.
119.	Rajoke.	159.	Doohal Nau.
120.	Mari Udhoke.	160.	Khem Karan.
121.	Mari Kamboke.	161.	Maneke Jand.
122.	Madhar Matera Bhagi.	162.	Jodh Singh Wala.
123.	Wan.	163.	Assal Autar.
124.	Hundel.	164.	Amrirke.
125.	Hardo Chak Bamba.	165.	Kotliwasawa Singh.
126.	Keshopura.	166.	Bhangala.
127.	Bhaini Massa Singh.	167.	Jhuggian Natha Singh.
128.	Algon.	168.	Jhuggian Nur Mohd.
129.	Dibbipura.	169.	Muthianwala.
130.	Fatehpur.	170.	Jama Mega.
131.	Mehmoodpur.	171.	Balla Megha.
132.	Jagatpura.	172.	Kamalwala.
133.	Daudpura.	173.	Nihala Lavera.
134.	Doddipura.	174.	Dheera Kara.
135.	Lakhana.	175.	Tulli Ghulam.
136.	Ballianwala.	176.	Tut.
137.	Cheema near Assal.	177.	Rasulpur.
138.	Kalia.	178.	Jhuggian Kallu.
139.	Sankhatra.	179.	Bhoora Kohna.
140.	Dool Kohno.	180.	Bhoora Karampura.
141.	Manawan.	181.	Machhike.
142.	Kalanjar Autar.	182.	Gharyala.
143.	Thathi Jaimal Singh.	183.	Mann.
144.	Dholan.	184.	Kotli Sur Singh (Rakh Sur Singh.)
145.	Vernala.	185.	Serai Valtoha.
146.	Poonia.	186.	Chak Ladheke.
147.	Bahadar Nagar.		
148.	Dassuwal.		

CONVERTING OF STANDARD INTO ORDINARY ACRES

***1353. Shri Rala Ram :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state the scale, if any, fixed for converting standard into ordinary acres in such hilly areas as the Shiwalik range and the Kangra Hills?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : Necessary scale for converting ordinary acres into standard ones and vice versa for all circles including hilly areas in Hoshiarpur and Kangra Districts, as prescribed by the Rehabilitation Department, is as below :

Minister for Development]

VALUATION STATEMENT FOR KANGRA DISTRICT

(Figures represent value in annas per acre)

Tehsil	CLASS OF LAND												
	IRRIGATED						UNIRRIGATED						
	Area or assessment circle	Valuation	Area or assessment circle	Valuation	Area or assessment circle	Valuation	Area or assessment circle	Valuation	Area or assessment circle	Valuation	Area or assessment circle	Valuation	
.. Palam	.. 11	Rehlu	10½	Kangra	.. 11	Ramgarh	.. 10	Palam and Rehlu	5	Bargaon, Kangra and Ramgarh Ekthali-Kutlehar	3½	..	
.. Mahl Morian	.. 6½	..	..	..	..	..	..	Dorasli-Kutlehar	5½	Nadaun	.. 4	Khanaha
.. Dada Siba	.. 8½	..	..	Chanaur	.. 6	..	..	Nadaunta	.. 6	Nadaunta	.. ..	..
.. Gangot	.. 7	..	..	Jaswan	.. 8	..	..	Mahl Morian	.. 5½	Nahl	.. 3½	..
.. Mangarh and Nagrota	.. 9	..	..	Dhameta	.. 9½	..	..	Tirah	.. 4½	Morian	.. 3½	..
.. Rest of tehsil	.. 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	Rajgiri	.. 4	Tirah	.. 3½	..
.. Rajgiri and Palam	.. 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	Rajgiri	.. 4	Rajgiri	.. ..	..
.. Bangal and Kandi	.. 10½	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ghanaur, Jaswan and Nagrota	5½	Haripur	.. ..	..
.. Changar	.. 10½	..	..	..	..	..	..	Gangot	.. 5	Rest of tehsil	.. 6	..
.. Nurpur	.. 8½	..	..	Lodhwan	.. 9	..	..	Balihar	.. 6½	..	..	..
.. Chatter and Jowali	.. 9½	Khairan	.. 11½	Changar, Palam and Changar	6	Rajgiri	.. 6½	Gadheran	.. 3
.. Andraura	.. 12½	..	..	Surajpur	.. 7½	..	..	Rajgiri	.. 6½	Gadheran	.. ..	Gadheran
.. Rapa I	.. 12	..	..	..	..	..	..	Gadheran	.. 6½	Entire tehsil except Surajpur	5	..
.. Rapa II	.. 11	..	..	..	..	..	..	Entire tehsil except Surajpur	5	Surajpur	.. 6	..
.. Rapa III	.. 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	Bathal I	.. 10	Bathal II	.. 6	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Bathal III	.. 4½	Bathal IV	.. 6½	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.. 3	..

Notes. 1. Pehand Banjar in Kangra District except Hamirpur Tehsil should be evaluated like other Barani land in the village and in Hamirpur Tehsil it may be reckoned with Ekfasi.
 2. Kherater class of land in Kangra District should be considered as Banjar Qadim.

VALUATION STATEMENT FOR RANGAR DISTRICT
(Figures represent valuation in Rs. lakhs)

for Development)

IRRIGATED		UNIRRIGATED	
Area of assessment circle	Valuation	Area of assessment circle	Valuation
Palam	11	Rest of Palam	34
Mahl Motian	64	Rangarh, Kangra and Kullu	4
Dada Siba	84	Dorasi-Kinshar	24
Gangotri	7	Naduna	6
Mangarh and Narot	9	Naduna	24
Rest of Tehsil	10	Mahl Motian	21
Rajni and Palam	6	Naduna	24
Hangal and Kandi	104	Mahl Motian	21
Changar	6	Trahi	44
Nurpur	84	Rajni	4
Chatter and Jowali	94	Changar, Jowali and Narot	24
Andana	124	Rest of Tehsil	6
Raba I	12	Changar, Palam and Narot	6
Raba II	11	Changar	64
Raba III	10	Rajni	64
		Changar	64
		Rest of Tehsil except Nurpur	6
		Changar	6
		Raba I	10
		Raba II	10
		Raba III	10

Notes: 1. Rangarh and Narot in Kangra District except Hanmapur. 2. Rest of class of land in Kangra District should be included as Rangarh. 3. Other Rangarh land in the village of Hanmapur should be reckoned with Palam.

VALUATION STATEMENT FOR HOSHIARPUR DISTRICT

(Figures represent value in annas per acre)

CLASS OF LAND																						
ABI		BARANI—I			BARANI—II			BARANI—III			NAHRI SHAH NAHR		CHHAME		CHAHI ABI		NAHRI ABI		DOFASLI GARDEN		EKFASLI—	
Valuation	Area or assessment circle	Valuation	Area or assessment circle	Valuation	Area or assessment circle	Valuation	Area or assessment circle	Valuation	Area or assessment circle	Valuation	Area or assessment circle	Valuation	Area or assessment circle	Valuation	Area or assessment circle	Valuation	Area or assessment circle	Valuation	Area or assessment circle	Valuation	Area or assessment circle	
10	Sirwal ..	16	Sirwal ..	14	Sirwal ..	..	Sirwal ..	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
12	Kandi ..	12	Kandi ..	9	Kandi ..	..	Kandi ..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
16½	Rakkar	15	Rakkar	12	Rakkar	10	Rakkar	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
16	Sarwal ..	16½	Maira and Kandi	10	Sirwal ..	10	Sirwal and Bet	7	Entire tehsil	15	Entire tehsil	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
16½	Maira and Bet	16	Sirwal ..	14	Maira ..	8	Maira ..	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
13	Rakkar ..	13	Bet ..	11	Bet ..	9	Rakkar	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
12	Kandi ..	12	Rakkar ..	8	Rakkar ..	5	Kandi ..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
12	Kandi ..	7	Entire tehsil except Dun Dun	10	Changar .. Pahar and Bet Dun, Bit and Ghar	6	Changar .. Pahar and Bet Ghar Dun and Bit
10	Bet and Rakkar	11	Bet and Rakkar	9	Bet ..	5	Bet Sirwal and Rakkar Kandi	14	16	13
..	Bit	10	Bit	8	Bit and Kandi	4
..	Sirwal ..	13	Sirwal ..	10	Sirwal ..	8
..	Kandi ..	9	Kandi ..	7	Rakkar	6

APPLICATION FOR POSTAL ORDER

POSTAL ORDER OFFICE DELHI

POSTAL ORDER

TO THE ORDER OF THE POSTAL ORDER OFFICE DELHI

POSTAL ORDER NO. 1000

1000

1000

✓
✓

INQUIRY INTO THE EXORBITANT RATES CHARGED BY ELECTRIC SUPPLY COMPANIES

***985. Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state whether he announced in the Punjab Legislative Council on July 24, 1952 that he would order an inquiry into the exorbitant rates charged by private electric supply companies in the State, if so, the date on which the inquiry was ordered, the terms of the order, and the report of the inquiry, if any?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh :

(a) Yes.

(b) The matter is receiving active consideration of the Government.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : May I know the date on which the inquiry was ordered?

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : May I know the terms of the order?

Mr. Speaker : Since the Irrigation Minister who is fully acquainted with the background of this case is not present, I think it would be better if the hon. Member asks supplementary questions on some other day.

ALLOTMENT OF EVACUEE AREA.

***858. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut:** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

- (a) the total number in ordinary areas of the area of evacuee land that has been allotted to Government departments, etc., or brought into use by the Government;
- (b) the total number in ordinary acres of the area of evacuee land in the State which is *Gher Mumkin*;
- (c) whether the *Gher Mumkin* area of land in the State has been allotted: if not, the manner in which it is proposed to be dealt with.

[Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut]

(d) the total number in ordinary acres of the area of evacuee land which is not available for allotment, and the reasons therefor?

Sardar Ujjal Singh :

(a) 28,538 acres.

(b) 299,838 acres.

(c) Land shown in the records as *Gher Mumkin Khurlian* (Manger), *kotha* (mud-house), *Khirmangah* (thrashing floor), *kalar* (salt affected area), *ret* (sand) and *rukkar* (rocky land has been given to the allottees whose holding is situated in the neighbourhood without any valuation provided the area of *Gher Mumkin*, *kalar*, *ret* or *rakkar* does not exceed one acre. In all cases, if the area of land in the form of *Gher Mumkin pahar* (hill), *jungle* (forest), *rasta* (road), *chappar* (pond), *kabristan* (graveyard), etc., exceed one acre the same has been excluded from allotment.

Proposal regarding allotment of culturable *Gher Mumkin* unallotted area is under consideration.

(d) An area of 119,919 standard acres in which evacuees held interest jointly with non-evacuees or otherwise such as area owned by evacuees but mortgaged with local residents (78,440 standard acres), area owned by locals but mortgaged with evacuees (32,754 standard acres), area in possession of non-evacuee held free of rent (2,630 standard acres), area shown in the names of mosques and religious institutions (6,095 standard acres) and the area mentioned in part 'a' above is not available for allotment on quasi-permanent basis to displaced persons.

Figures in ordinary acres of these areas are not available.

APPOINTMENT OF A COTTAGE INDUSTRIES BOARD IN THE STATE

***983. Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that Government appointed a Cottage Industries Board last year; if so, the terms of its reference and its personnel:

(b) the suggestions made and the schemes recommended by it;

(c) the particulars of suggestions implemented by the Government so far;

- (d) whether it is a fact that the Board suggested that the services of a really competent and suitable man to organise cottage industries in the state be secured; if so, the action taken so far by the Government;
- (e) whether it is a fact that the Board suggested that an officer of the Industries Department should be deputed to Japan for studying Japanese equipment, and their methods of developing cottage industries; if so, the steps, if any, taken by the Government to implement this recommendation?

Sardar Ujjal Singh :

(a) Yes. A statement showing the terms of reference of the Cottage Industries Board and its personnel is given in the Annexure I.

(b) and (c). A statement containing the requisite information is given in the Annexure II. The Board has not recommended any scheme.

(d) and (e). Yes. Necessary information has been given in Annexure II against items (i) and (v).

ANNEXURE I.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. To consider matters referred to by the All-India Cottage Industries Board.
2. To examine the existing handicaps of cottage industries and to recommend to Government ways and means for the development of cottage industries.
3. To draw up a programme on development of specific cottage industries, keeping in view their need and cost of development.
4. To formulate a programme of survey of cottage and small scale industries and of resources required for their development.
5. To make recommendations to Government for the procurement and distribution of raw materials, provision of financial assistance and marketing facilities, and the training of artisans required for cottage industries.
6. To consider the formation of industrial co-operative societies for the encouragement of rural industries.
7. Any other matter referred to it by the State Government.

[Minister for Finance]

PERSONNEL

Chairman.

S. Ujjal Singh, Minister of Industries, Punjab.

Secretary.

Director of Industries, Punjab.

Members (Official).

1. Secretary to Government, Punjab, Industries Department.
2. Director, Food and Civil Supplies, Punjab.
3. Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Punjab.
4. Mian Fateh Singh, Additional Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Punjab, Jullundur.

(Non-Official).

5. Dr. Gopi Chand Bhargava, 85, Bank Road, Ambala Cantt.
6. Shi Achint Ram, M.P., 2-Telegraph Lane, New Delhi.
7. Pt. Om Parkash Trikha, Sanchalak, Gandhi Samarak Nidhi Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and PEPSU, Opposite Tribune Office, Ambala Cantt.
8. Pt. Bhagat Ram Shukla, Ambala Cantt.
9. Bhai Mul Raj, 131, Model Town, Panipat.
10. S. Balwant Singh Chhatwal, Secretary, East Punjab Cycle Parts Manufacturers' Association, Ludhiana.
11. S. Balwant Singh, Proprietor, Pioneer Sports, Jullundur.
12. Pt. Parshadi Lal, Proprietor, Pandit Brothers, Village Sihi, Tehsil Ballabgarh. District Gurgaon.
13. L. Hari Ram, Secretary, All-India Spinners Association (Punjab), Adampur Doaba.
14. Jathedar Udham Singh Nagoke, Member, Council of States, Village and Post Office Nagoke, Tehsil Tarn Taran District Amritsar.

Annexure II*Main suggestions made by the
Cottage Industries Board.**Action taken*

(I) An Officer of the Department of Industries, possessing suitable practical Industrial experience and likely to remain in service of the Department for a reasonable amount of time should be sent to Japan for studying the Japanese equipment and other methods of developing cottage industries.

To implement the recommendation, the Government of India were requested for the grant of a U.N.O. scholarship and they have advised that the matter should be taken up when proposals for the next year are invited by the Ministry of Finance.

(II) The cloth woven from hand-spun yarn should be exempted from sales tax.

Cloth woven on handlooms out of hand-spun yarn when sold by persons dealing exclusively in such cloth is already exempt from the payment of sales tax.

(III) Hire Purchase System should be introduced for the supply of improved tools and appliances to cottage workers.

The Government provide Rs. 3 lakhs annually for advancing loans to industries under State Aid to Industries Act and this scheme comes under the said Act.

(IV) Survey of cottage industries should be conducted.

The matter is under consideration.

(V) The services of a really competent and suitable man should be secured to organise cottage industries set up.

The Government have considered the proposal and have decided that for the present one of the Assistant Directors at the headquarters should solely be held responsible for the work relating to the development of cottage industries,

[Minister for Finance]

*Main suggestion made by the
Cottage Industries Board.*

Action taken.

should be increased to encourage the sports goods industry.

(VII) Government Departments should meet their requirements of cloth from the articles produced on handlooms to help the handloom industry.

(VIII) The Department of Industries should help the private manufacturers of woollen goods at Panipat in securing Government orders and render necessary technical guidance to them.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Part 5 of the Annexure II to the statement lays down that :—

'The Government have considered the proposal and have decided that for the present one of the Assistant Directors at the headquarters should solely be held responsible for the work relating to the development of cottage industries.'

A plan for increased cultivation of mulberry on canal banks and in a block of 6,000 acres in Ludhiana District has been launched by the Forest Department, and some progress has already been made by them in the matter.

According to the new policy for the purchase of stores for meeting requirements of Government Departments recently declared by the Government of India and adopted by the Punjab Government, products of all cottage industries, including the handloom weaving industry will be given preference.

Steps are being taken.

Will the hon. Minister please let me know who that Assistant Director is and what are his special qualifications which entitled him to be appointed against this post?

Minister : Previously he was Incharge of the Development Branch of the Industries Department and has got sufficient experience of the small scale and cottage industries. So the Government decided to put the Deputy Director on the side of large and medium scales Industries and the Assistant Director or an officer incharge of the Development Section on this job so that he may be able to give his special attention to this work?

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : May I ask what are his qualifications on the basis of which he has been entrusted with this work?

Minister : Considering his past experience, Government has put him on this work.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : This reply does not cover my query. I am asking the basis on which he has been appointed.

Minister : He has got sufficient experience of the work and for that he has been appointed.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : With which cottage industry is he fully conversant? It has been laid down in part E of the statement that the Board had suggested to Government to send one of its officers to Japan to study Japanese equipment there. I would like to know what action has been taken by the Government on this suggestion?

Minister : In reply to parts (d) and (e) of the question, I have already stated : "Yes, necessary information has been given in annexure II against items (i) and (v)". We are waiting for the same but the Government of India has not sent a reply to it. We had requested the Government of India to obtain the services of two Japanese technicians for us for the purpose of developing our cottage industries in general and the manufacture of cycle parts in particular in which most of our people are engaged. We are corresponding with the Government of India on this subject. We also wanted to make use of the U.N.O. scholarship for this purpose and wanted to send a man through the U.N.O.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Through the U.N.O.the suggestion was that an officer of the Industries Department should be sent to Japan to get the necessary training and that could be done even without the help of the U.N.O.

Minister : I have already replied to this point. But it appears that the hon. Member has not cared to follow it. If at all we have to send an officer why should we not send him on U.N.O. scholarship? At the same time if two technicians are imported from Japan it would be far better than sending one of our officers to Japan. We are already corresponding in this behalf with the Government of India.

TRAINEES IN LEATHER WORKS CENTRE, JULLUNDUR.

***102. Shrimati Sita Devi :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state:—

- (a) the present strength of trainees in the Leather Works Centre, Jullundur.
- (b) the period of training for each trainee;
- (c) the amount of scholarship granted to each trainee;
- (d) the number of trainees who completed their course during the years 1947-48, 1948-49, 1949-50, 1950-51, 1951-52 and during the present year?

Sardar Ujjal Singh :

- (a) 15.
- (b) One year. The duration of the course prior to the current year's session was, however, 6 months.
- (c) Rs. 33 p.m.
- (d) 1947-48 nil.
1948-49 nil.
1949-50 50
1950-51 15
1951-52 14
current year 15
(under training)

Shrimati Sita Devi : In reply to my question it has been stated that the duration of their course is of one year. May I request the hon. Minister to tell us the amount which the trainees could earn after the completion of their training?

Mr. Speaker : This question does not arise.

Shrimati Sita Devi : I want to know the number of those trainees who have completed one year's training and have rehabilitated themselves?

Mr. Speaker This does not arise out of the main question.

MANUFACTURE OF GOVERNMENT WEIGHTS AND MEASURES IN THE STATE.

***105. Shri Rala Ram :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the names of the firms that manufacture for the Government, weights and measures which the public are required to use and the rates sanctioned therefor by the Government for the manufacturers?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : Statements embodying the required information is as follows :—

LIST OF APPROVED MANUFACTURERS

Sr. No.	Names of Manufacturers with Addresses	License Nos.
1.	M/s. Hargo Lal and Sons, Ambala Cantt.	1
2.	The Oriental Science Apparatus Workshops, Ambala Cantt.	3
3.	Bubby Hurri and Co., Amritsar.	4
4.	M/s. R. S. Khanna and Co., Ambala Cantt.	5
5.	Associated Engineering Corporation Ltd., Ambala Cantt.	6
6.	M/s. Jagan Nath-Madan Gopal, Kaithal (Karnal)	9
7.	The Sarswati Iron Works, Ambala City.	11
8.	Nath Commercial Co., Ambala	28
9.	Indian Metal Industries, Ambala Cantt.	27
10.	Agricultural Industries, Amritsar Road, Batala.	34
11.	M/s. Rai Brothers, Hoshiarpur.	61
12.	Bhandhari Foundry and Iron Works, Miller Gunj, Ludhiana.	86
13.	Messrs. Krishna Iron Foundry Works, Ambala City.	EP/3

[Sardar Ujjal Singh]

LIST OF APPROVED MANUFACTURERS.

14. The Haryana Foundry Ltd., Rohtak.	EP/5
15. New Zamindara Foundry, Batala	EP/15
16. Khalsa Mechanical and General Repairs Shop, Hoshiarpur.	EP/17
17. S. Rajinder Singh, Abdullahpur Road, Jagadhri	EP/20
18. The Punjab Industrial Co., Ambala.	EP/21
19. M/s. Friends Engineering Works, Ambala Cantt.	EP/36
20. M/s. Nayug Foundry Works, Rohtak	EP/30
21. M/s. Gurdit Singh-Mal Singh, Chowk Pragdas, Amritsar.	EP/34
22. M/s. Elaka Industries, Rainak Bazar, Jullundur.	EP/37
23. S. Gurdev Singh, Phillaur.	EP/38
24. Pandit Charan Dass, Guru Bazar, Amritsar.	EP/43
25. M/s Himalaya Electrical Engineering Works, Amritsar	PB/44
26. O. K. Engineering Works, Kaithal.	PB/MFR/49
27. Foundry and General Engineering Works Centre, Panipat	PB/MFR/52
28. Malhotra Metal Works, Jagadhri.	PB/MFR/53
29. Suba Singh and Sons, Tarn Taran, Amritsar.	PB/MFR/54
30. M/s. Punjab Engineering Corporation, Basti Danash, Jullundur	PB/MFR/55
31. M/s. Lahroo Mal-Karam Chand, Katra Dulo, Amritsar,	PB/MFR/58
32. Sohinder Singh and Brothers, Rainak Bazar, Jullundur.	PB/MFR/59
33. Janson's Patent Scientific Industries, Ambala City	PB/MFR/60
34. M/s. Krishna Engineering Works, Gurgaon Cantt.	PB/MFR/65
35. Swaraj Foundry, Batala.	P/M73
36. M/s. Upper India Metal Works, Ltd., Amritsar	PB/MFR/80
37. Manager, Vocational Training Centre, Batala.	PB/MFR/82
38. Sh. Sardari Lal Kawatra, Batala.	PB/MFR/83
39. The Standard Sheet Metal Works, Punjabi Mohalla, Ambala Cantt.	PB/MFR/86

Statement showing the prices of different denominations of stamped weights.

S. No.	Capacity	Manufacturer's price.	
		Rs	A. P.
1.	$\frac{1}{2}$ seer to $\frac{1}{32}$ seer	1-8-0	
2.	1 seer to $\frac{1}{32}$ seer	1-15-0	
3.	2 seers to $\frac{1}{32}$ seer	2-10-0	
4.	1 maund	14-0-0	
5.	$\frac{1}{2}$ maund	7-5-0	
6.	$\frac{1}{4}$ maund	3-13-0	
7.	$\frac{1}{8}$ maund	1-15-0	
8.	2 seers	0-11-0	
9.	1 seer	0-9-0	
10.	$\frac{1}{2}$ seer	0-8-0	
11.	$\frac{1}{4}$ seer	0-7-0	
12.	$\frac{1}{8}$ seer	0-5-0	
13.	$\frac{1}{16}$	0-5-0	
14.	$\frac{1}{32}$ seer	0-5-0	
15.	56 lbs.	12-6-0	
16.	28 lbs.	6-4-0	
17.	14 lbs.	3-8-0	
18.	7 lbs.	1-2-0	
19.	4 lbs.	0-11-0	
20.	2 lbs.	0-9-0	
21.	1 lb.	0-7-0	
22.	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb.	0-5-0	
23.	$\frac{1}{4}$ lb.	0-4-0	
24.	2 oz brass	0-6-0	
25.	1 oz brass	0-5-0	

Shri Rala Ram : Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state if the tenders were invited before giving this work to the firms?

Minister : Tenders are not invited. However, the Government makes enquiries from firms and the firm which is prepared to undertake the work on the specified rates, is entrusted with the job. I would also like to inform the hon. Members that a Committee consisting of the Members of this House has been constituted to examine the rules pertaining to weights and measures. That Committee will see where economies can be effected in this connection. The Committee will carefully consider all the relevant points and the report of its deliberations will be placed before the House.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut:⁸ Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether any fee is charged every year for the renewal of the weights and measures? Has the Government issued instructions for the levy of such a fee?

Mr. Speaker : He has already said that a committee has been appointed to examine the matter. The result of its inquiry will be placed before the House.

INDUSTRIAL FINANCE CORPORATION IN THE STATE.

***1058. Shri Ram Kishan :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

(a) when the Industrial Finance Corporation is likely to begin its work in the State;

(b) the names of the Chairman, Managing Director and other Directors of the said Corporation;

(c) the location of its headquarter and branches, if any;

(d) the authorised capital of the said Corporation, and how it is intended to be invested?

Sardar Ujjal Singh :

(a) The Corporation is likely to begin its work by the end of this year.

(b) No Chairman is to be appointed. Shri Nangia of the Reserve Bank of India has been offered the post of the Managing Director and is expected to take over shortly. Other Directors have not yet been nominated or elected.

(c) The headquarters of the Corporation will be at Jullundur and will shift to Chandigarh in due course. There will be no branches for the present.

(d) The authorized capital of the Corporation will be rupees two crores, out of which a sum of rupees one crore will be issued to start with. The question of investment will be decided by the Managing Director and the Board of Directors, when constituted.

FINANCE CORPORATION IN THE STATE.

***1069. Comrade Ram Chandra :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether a Finance Corporation has been set up in the State; if so, its aims and objects and the names of the persons who form its directorate?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : The State Finance Corporation for the Punjab is likely to come into existence by the end of this year. Its object is to make medium and long term credits more readily available for the establishment of new industries and to industrial concerns which are facing considerable difficulties after partition. Shri Nangia of the Reserve Bank of India has been offered the post of the Managing Director of the State Finance Corporation and is expected to take over shortly. Other Directors have not yet been nominated or elected.

ADVERTISEMENT OF THE POSTS OF ASSISTANT PANCHAYAT OFFICERS IN THE STATE.

***1068. Comrade Ram Chandra :** Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state :—

(a) whether any posts of Assistant Panchayat Officers in the State were advertised during the years 1950, 1951 and 1952 respectively;

(b) the total number of applications received for the above vacancies in the years 1950, 1951 and 1952 respectively;

(c) the action, if any, taken by the Government on these applications?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma :

(a) Yes.

(b) The total number of such applications received in the years 1950, 1951 and 1952, was 2,090, 426 and 1,582 respectively.

(c) Out of the applications received in 1950 certain candidates selected through a competitive test were interviewed by a Selection Board appointed by Government. No appointments were, however, made, as it was finally decided to re-advertise. The posts were accordingly advertised again in the year 1951, but as a result of re-organisation of the Panchayat Department, it was no longer necessary to create new posts and there were no other vacancies to fill. In order to fill up a few vacancies that occurred subsequently, the posts were advertised again in 1952, stating that the candidates who applied in 1951 need not apply again, as their applications would be considered. These applications of 1951 and 1952 are now being considered to fill up the existing vacancies in the cadre of the A.P.O's.

THERMAL SCHEMES.

***982. Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state:—

(a) the total capital outlay of the Government on the Thermal Schemes in the State with a brief description of the area to be covered in each case;

(b) the amount of loss suffered so far by the Government and the estimate of loss for the current year;

(c) the steps, if any, taken or intended to be taken by the Government for making the schemes self-supporting?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh :

Parts (a) and (b): The requisite information is contained in a statement given below.

**STATEMENT SHOWING TOTAL CAPITAL OUTLAY,
AMOUNT OF LOSS SUFFERED ETC. IN RESPECT
OF VARIOUS THERMAL SCHEMES.**

Name of Scheme	Capital out- lay up to the end of 51-52	Amount of loss suff- ered so far	Estimate of loss for 52-53	Brief Description of the area to be covered.
1. Gurgaon (including Refugee Colony).	352,198	No loss Gain Rs. 68,800	Anticipated gain Rs. 11,800	Gurgaon Town in- cluding Jharsa and Gurgaon Villages and Refugee Colony.
2. Ferozepore	858,573	180,220	43,290	This scheme is not in operation. Thermal Plant was installed to serve as stand by for Ferozepore in the event of supply being dis-continued from Shalamar (Lahore). Such an event has not occur- red nor is likely to occur in future.
3. Palwal	78,091	25,627	59,303	Palwal Town (inclu- ding Refugee Co- lony).
4. Bahadur- garh.	334,813	55,000	109,000	Bahadurgarh (in- cluding industrial township).
5. Sonapat (including Industrial Township & Refugee Colony).	158,086	No loss Gain Rs. 17,367	Anticipated gain Rs. 5,660	Outside licensed area including Refugee Colony and Industrial Township.
6. Kalka	239,262	15,400	36,750	Kalka Town.
7. Panipat (including Industrial Township & Refugee Colony).	4,279,000	1,183,200	10,32,700	Outside licensed area, G.M.F. Scheme i.e. I.B. Tube-wells, Industrial Township, Refugee Colony and surrounding villages e.g., Graunda, Budha Khera, Ramba, etc.

[Minister for Irrigation]

Name of Scheme	Capital outlay up to the end of 51-52	Amount of loss suffered so far	Estimate of loss for 52-53	Brief Description of the area to be covered
8. Jagadhari (including Industrial Township)	2,238,900	415,100	359,100	Outside licensed area, Industrial Township, I.B. Tube-wells and Jamna Nagar.
9. Abohar	573,516	Since the matter with regard to the payment of compensation to each supply company is still under negotiations, the information required cannot be given at this stage.		Abohar Town.
10. Moga	6,644,207			Moga Town.
11. Fazilka	451,430			Fazilka Town.
12. Karnal (including Refugee Colony).	1,133,214	Moreover, it is not in the public interest to disclose it.		Karnal including Refugee Colony.

(c) The Thermo Schemes in Panipat, Jagadhri, Palwal and Bahadurgarh which were taken in hand primarily for rehabilitation of Refugees and displaced industries and to give impetus to the grow-more-food campaign, cannot be expected to be self-supporting, as supply for this purpose is given at rates below the cost price. Therefore, the question of making these particular schemes self-supporting does not arise.

With regard to other Thermo Schemes, Government has been and is very anxious to make these schemes self-supporting and to achieve this object, augmentation of existing Plants, reconditioning of the same, augmentation of L.D. System, etc., etc., with a view to developing the load to the maximum extent possible, have either actually been carried out or are under execution.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Sir, I have not received any statement.

Minister : If the hon. Member wishes, I will read out the statement also.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : I have got no objection.

Minister : Well, it is like this. (The statement was read out as above.)

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : The hon. Minister has stated that on the total investment of Rs. 3,34,000 in Bahadurgarh, the loss for the current year is estimated at Rs. 1,09,000. Will he kindly tell us how this

loss has been worked out when not even a single industry has been set up there?

Minister : Government has to spend a lot on the development of an industrial town irrespective of whether any industry starts working there or not. It has to make arrangements for the supply of electricity, water and certain other amenities. Moreover, it has also to anticipate certain things.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Whether it is a fact that in industrial towns the Government has to instal thermal sets and supply electricity even when not a single industry has started working there?

Minister : I require notice for this question.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : The hon. Minister has stated that a sum of Rs. 66,00,000 has been invested for this purpose. May I know whether this amount has been invested at one or more places?

Minister : Only at one place.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Where?

Minister : At Abohar.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : May I know whether an investment of Rs. 6,00,000 has been made in Abohar only?

Minister : I am sorry I stated wrong figures. This amount is Rs. 6,64,207 and not Rs. 66,00,000.

HOUSE ALLOTMENT COMMITTEES AT SIMLA.

***953. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut:** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Financial Commissioner (Relief and Rehabilitation) is empowered to allot houses direct without referring to the House Allotment Committee concerned; if so, the number of houses allotted by him in Simla ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : Financial Commissioner, Relief and Rehabilitation is in addition Custodian, Evacuee Property, Punjab. Under the Evacuee Property Act he is empowered to allot evacuee buildings without referring the cases to the Town Allotment Committees concerned, but in practice this power is not exercised. In Simla no house has been allotted by him without referring the case to the Simla House and Shops Allotment Board which previously consisted of

[Minister for Finance]

himself as Chairman, the Administrator, Simla and the Under-Secretary, Rehabilitation as members. This Board has since been expanded and Shri Som Dutt Bahri, M.L.A., Miss Bhan, M.L.C., Mrs. Mangat Rai, M.L.C. and Shri Salag Ram Sharma, have been co-opted as its members. Under the Evacuee Property Act, the powers of making allotments of evacuee property are only with the Custodian and the functions of the Allotment Committee are purely advisory.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

PAYMENT OF Rs. 6,000 TO D.B. HIGH SCHOOL, TIGAON

171. Shri Dharm Vir Vasisht : Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state:—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government granted a sum of Rs. 6,000 to the District Board High School, Tigaon, District Gurgaon for science apparatus in December, 1950; and that sum has since been paid to the D.B., Gurgaon;

(b) whether he is aware of the fact that the Head Master of the said school had submitted a list of the science apparatus required by the District Board a long time ago;

(c) the reasons, if any, for the delay in disbursement of the above-mentioned grant by the District Board to the said School?

Shri Jagat Narain:

(a) No such grant was sanctioned to the school by Government.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

TERMINATION OF SERVICES OF EX-HEAD MASTER,
D.B. MIDDLE SCHOOL, SIHI.

172. Shri Dharm Vir Vasisht : Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state:—

(a) whether it is fact that an inquiry was conducted by the Education Department against the Head Master, D.B. Middle School, Sihi;

(b) whether it is also a fact that as a result of the inquiry it was recommended two months ago that the services of the said Head Master be terminated;

(c) whether he is aware of the fact that the said Head Master has not so far been removed by the District Board, Gurgaon, from its service; if so, the action, if any, the Government proposes to take in the matter?

Shri Jagat Narain:

(a) Yes.

(b) The services of the Head Master have since been terminated.

(c) Does not arise.

COMMUNITY PROJECT BLOCKS AT FARIDABAD.

173. Shri Dharm Vir Vasisht: Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state :—

(a) the number and names of villages included in the community project blocks at Faridabad, district Gurgaon;

(b) the name of the project officer appointed together with his experience and educational qualifications;

(c) the date of launching of the above-mentioned project?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon :

(a) The development work under the Community Projects Scheme is to be taken up in two blocks around Faridabad. Although the blocks have not been demarcated so far, they would cover the whole of the Ballabgarh Tehsil comprising about 206 villages. Their names can be given later, if so desired.

(b) A project officer has not yet been appointed.

(c) The preliminary arrangements for the commencement of work are being made. Actual work is likely to start about April, 1953.

**CORRUPTION CASES AGAINST GOVERNMENT
SERVANTS IN THE STATE.**

174. Shri Dharm Vir Vasisht : Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

(a) the number of cases of corruption against Government Servants brought to the notice of the Government since the assumption of office by the present Ministry department-wise;

(b) the action, if any, taken by the Government against the said officers, department-wise?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : It is regretted that the required information is not readily available and the time and labour involved in its collection will not be commensurate with the benefits accruing from it. However, information in so far as it is available with Government is given in the statement given below. It relates to the complaints received by the Anti-Corruption Committee.

<i>Name of Service/Department.</i>	<i>Number of Government servants involved.</i>
1. I.C.S./I.A.S. and the Punjab Civil Service	... 11
2. Public Works Department	... 32
3. Civil Supplies	... 25
4. Industries	... 3
5. Health	... 6
6. Transport	... 1
7. Agriculture	... 1
8. Veterinary	... 3
9. Police	... 22
10. Education	... 7
11. Excise and Taxation	... 10
12. Jails	... 2
13. Rehabilitation	... 11
14. Revenue	... 24
15. Forest	... 8
Total	... <u>166</u>

<i>Name of Service/Department</i>	<i>Action taken</i>	<i>No. of Servants in- volved</i>	<i>Govt.</i>
(b) (i) Punjab Civil Service	Warned	...	1
(ii) Civil Supplies	Services terminated	...	1
	Warned	...	1
(iii) Revenue	Adverse entry made in personal file	...	1
	Censured	...	1
(iv) Police	Severely reprimanded	...	1
(v) Health.	Dismissed	...	1
	Increment stopped for one year	...	1
(vi) Rehabilitation	Service terminated	...	1
	Demoted	...	1
(vii) Public Works Department	Retired compulsorily	...	1
	Increment stopped for one year	...	1
	Services terminated	...	2
	Severely reprimanded	...	1

ELECTIONS TO LOCAL BODIES IN THE STATE

*175. **Shri Dharm Vir Vasisht :** Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state :—

(a) whether the Government has finally decided to hold elections to Local Bodies in the State by December, 1952;

(b) whether it has also been decided to hold elections to District Boards; if so, the mode of election determined upon?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma :

(a) Government are making strenuous efforts to hold elections to the majority of Local Bodies in the State by December, 1952;

(b) Elections to District Boards will be held as soon as possible after elections to urban local bodies have been held. No decisions have yet been taken as regards change in the present system of direct elections to District Boards.

**DELIMITATION OF CONSTITUENCIES OF LOCAL
BODIES IN THE STATE.**

176. Shri Dharm Vir Vasisht : Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state :—

(a) the number of Municipalities whose wards have already been delimited together with the number and names of those yet to be delimited for purposes of elections to the Local Bodies in the State;

(b) the number of District Boards together with their names for elections to which constituencies have so far been finally delimited up to date;

(c) the general principle, if any, followed in the matter of delimitation of constituencies for elections to the Local Bodies?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma :

(a) Wards of 36 Municipalities have been delimited so far. Of these, in case of 7 Municipalities, wards have been finally notified after inviting objections, while those of the remaining Municipalities have been notified for inviting public opinion. Wards of almost all Small Town Committees have been finally notified :—

Wards of the following 21 Municipal Committees are yet to be delimited :—

- (1) Municipal Committee, Jullundur.
- (2) Municipal Committee, Ludhiana.
- (3) Municipal Committee, Khanna,
- (4) Municipal Committee, Ambala City.
- (5) Municipal Committee, Jagadhri.
- (6) Municipal Committee, Panipat.
- (7) Municipal Committee, Rohtak.
- (8) Municipal Committee, Sonapat.
- (9) Municipal Committee, Gurgaon.
- (10) Municipal Committee, Palwal.
- (11) Municipal Committee, Hissar.
- (12) Municipal Committee, Amritsar.
- (13) Municipal Committee, Qadian.
- (14) Municipal Committee, Hoshiarpur.

- (15) Municipal Committee, Karnal.
 - (16) Municipal Committee, Kaithal.
 - (17) Municipal Committee, Thanesar.
 - (18) Municipal Committee, Rewari.
 - (19) Municipal Committee, Simla.
 - (20) Municipal Committee, Dabwali.
 - (21) Municipal Committee, Urmar Tanda.
- (b) Nil.
- (c) The principles underlying the delimitation of constituencies are :—

(1) Constituencies are to be delimited with reference to the serial numbers of voters on the rolls of the Punjab Legislative Assembly, which have been adopted for local bodies elections.

(2) In rural areas, geographical contiguity should, as far as possible, be secured. Rural constituencies should, as far as practicable, comprise whole zails, but on no account should individual villages be split up.

(3) In urban areas geographical boundaries need not be strictly adhered to in all cases.

(4) Local officers should exercise necessary discretion in order to secure that constituencies are formed on recognized rational principles and do not cause avoidable inconvenience to the voters.

ACCIDENTS TO MINISTERS' CARS.

177. Shri Dharm Vir Vasisht : Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state :—

- (a) the number of accidents in which Ministers' cars were involved individually, since April, 1952 up to date together with the total expenses incurred by way of repairs or reconditioning of the same individually and collectively.
- (b) whether at the time of each of the accidents referred to in part (a) above the Minister concerned was in his car;

[Shri Dharm Vir Vasisht]

(c) whether inefficiency or negligence of the driver concerned was one of the reasons for the accidents?

Shri Jagat Narain: (a) Five of the Ministers' cars have so far met with accidents, the details of which are as follows :—

PNJ—90	Allotted to F.M	Cost of repairs	Rs	1213	1	3
PNS—435	Allotted to D.M.	Ditto	Rs	340	1	3
PNS—432	Allotted to L.M.	Ditto	Rs	12	11	0
				<hr/>		
			Total	Rs	1565	13 6
			<hr/>			
PNS—431	Allotted to F.M.	Do	Repairs not yet carried out.			
PNS—444	Allotted to P.W.M.	Do	Rs	373	6	0
				<hr/>		
			Total	Rs	1939	3 6
			<hr/>			

(b) The Ministers concerned were in the cars at the time of accidents, except in the case of the Finance Minister's car No. PNS-431.

(c) No.

REGRET EXPRESSED BY THE MINISTER FOR DEVELOPMENT.

Minister for Development: (Sardar Partap Singh Kairon): With your permission, Sir, I would refer to the unpleasant incident which took place day before yesterday in this House. I really feel very sorry for what I said on that day. I would request you, Sir, to expunge to objectionable portion from the proceedings of that day's debate. I think, Sir, had your golden principle "not to make interruptions" been observed, this unpleasant incident would not have occurred. Nevertheless, I on my part, really feel sorry for what happened on that day.

Shri Prabodh Chandra: Sir, I want to have a clarification. Yesterday you directed me to withdraw some words which I had used in my speech day before yesterday to which objection had been taken by Chaudhri Sri Chand. Your ruling was that I could not use the words *Purane Zumane Ki Yadgar*. (Relic of the Past), as these words were objectionable. But I may point out, Sir, when I uttered these words I was only referring to some old political party

and I did not mean an attack on any individual Member. Your ruling is now solicited as to whether we can or cannot discuss or criticise the policies of any political party in this House.

Mr. Speaker : First of all, I very heartily congratulate Sardar Partap Singh Kairon for his very frank, generous and unconditional regret expressed in connection with the incident that occurred day before yesterday in this House. I did not expect anything less from a gentleman of his status and calibre. It is true that irritation caused by unnecessary interruptions or offensive remarks, makes one lose one's temper but I am definitely of the opinion that whatever may be the provocation, "Divinity lies in not being provoked". Therefore, unqualified and unconditional expression of regret by Sardar Partap Singh Kairon has been pleasing to me and I feel that by doing so he has built up, rather enhanced, his reputation. I would now request the Leader of the Opposition also to express regret for whatever he said on that day whether intentionally or unintentionally.

Sardar Gopal Singh : Mr. Speaker, I feel sorry for whatever happened in this House day before yesterday. I, therefore, request you to do whatever you deem proper in the matter of the expunging of undesirable remarks.

RULING OF THE SPEAKER REGARDING ADMISSIBILITY OF
CRITICISM OF THE PRINCIPLE OR PROGRAMME OF
POLITICAL PARTY.

Mr. Speaker : With regard to Shri Prabodh Chandra's point I may inform the House, that yesterday immediately after the adjournment of the House, Shri Bali came to me and enquired whether any criticism of a party or its policy came under the category of "objectionable thing". I think I have been misunderstood. I objected to the words, which I do not want to repeat as these have been withdrawn. I may inform my hon. Friend Shri Prabodh Chandra that it is not exactly the words that matter or the sense that they carry but it is the way and tone in which they are uttered. As you know, Chaudhri Sri Chand is very sore on the use of those words and he would not like to be reminded of his old days. Perhaps many of us may not be very happy to be reminded of what we were some years back. As a matter of fact, we should deal with persons as they are today. Criticism of the principles or the programme of any

[Mr. Speaker]

political party is perfectly admissible and I am really very sorry if I gave the impression that the political parties were immune from criticism, I will, however, request Shri Prabodh Chandra to prove equal to the task now imposed on him by his being the Chief Whip of the Congress Legislature Party. He should try to avoid as much as possible any bitterness whether in tone or words.

Chief Minister: Sir, I wish to have a clarification from the Chair. Will it be in order or not to refer to the approach of a Member to a certain measure. For instance, a Member criticises the approach of another Member by saying "well, it is surprising that my hon. Friend took a particular view because of certain associations that are there and associations die hard". Now will this type of expression be in order or not? I may, however, mention that it is a reference to the approach of a person without making a reflection of personal nature. It is only a reference to his political ideology. I shall be glad to have a clarification from the Chair on this point.

Mr. Speaker : It is very difficult to give a ruling on so many points put forward by the Chief Minister. I will, however, repeat my earlier ruling that criticism of any party or its programme and policies is allowed without reflections on any individual.

I think this matter has been sufficiently discussed and it should rest here. Now we will proceed to the next item on the Agenda.

**ELECTION OF TWO MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY EACH
TO SERVE ON THE LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES
OF THE WESTERN AND NORTHERN RAILWAYS**

Chief Minister: Sir, I move—

That the Punjab Legislative Assembly shall elect separately on such date and in such manner as may be approved by the Speaker, two representatives, who may be members of the Punjab Legislative Assembly, one to serve on the Western Railway Local Advisory Committee and one to serve on the Northern Local Advisory Committee.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Punjab Legislative Assembly shall elect separately on such date and in such manner as may be approved by the Speaker, two

NORTHERN RAILWAYS

representatives, who may be members of the Punjab Legislative Assembly, one to serve on the Western Railway Local Advisory Committee and one to serve on the Northern Local Advisory Committee.

Mr. Speaker : As no hon. Member wishes to speak on this motion, I will put it to vote of the House. Question is—

That the Punjab Legislative Assembly shall elect separately on such date and in such manner as may be approved by the Speaker, two representatives, who may be members of the Punjab Legislative Assembly, one to serve on the Western Railway Local Advisory Committee and one to serve on the Northern Railway Local Advisory Committee.

The motion was carried.

EAST PUNJAB WAR AWARDS (AMENDMENT) BILL

Mr. Speaker : Now I call upon the Chief Minister to move his Bill.

Chief Minister (Shri Bhim Sen Sachar) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to introduce the East Punjab War Awards (Amendment) Bill.

Chief Minister : Sir, I move—

That the East Punjab War Awards (Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration at once.

Mr. Speaker, this is a simple amending Bill. At present we are not concerned with the question whether war awards should be given or not. Some people cannot get these on account of the words 'resident of East Punjab' occurring in the Act. If a person cannot reside in the East Punjab on account of his business or some other reason, he cannot get the war award. This Bill is intended to remove that difficulty. This measure when passed will enable a person to whom a war award has been made to go on receiving it whether he resides in the East Punjab or at some other place.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the East Punjab War Awards (Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration at once.

Sardar Achhar Singh : (Ajnala) (*Punjabi*) Mr. Speaker, I am not against this Bill but I would like to submit that in the matter of grant or awards, those persons who actually suffered in the war

Chief Minister : On a point of order, Sir. That subject is not under discussion. The hon. Member should speak only on that subject which is under discussion.

Sardar Achhar Singh : Sir, my submission is that war awards should not be given to those persons who were recruited for the army by the zaildars and were

Mr. Speaker : That is not relevant to this amending Bill.

Chief Minister : On a point of order, Sir. I most respectfully submit that in the interest of high level debate, it is necessary that the matter which is not before the House should not be allowed to be debated upon. I hope the Chair would ask the hon. Member to speak on the issue now before the House.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the East Punjab War Awards (Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration at once.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Now the House will proceed to consider the Bill clause by clause.

Clause 1.

sub-clause 2.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

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

The motion was carried.

Clause 2.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Clause 3.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 3 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Clause 1

Sub-clause (1)

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

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

The motion was carried.

Title

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Title be the Title of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Chief Minister: Sir, I move—

That the East Punjab War Awards (Amendment) Bill be passed.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the East Punjab War Awards (Amendment) Bill be passed.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the East Punjab War Awards (Amendment) Bill be passed.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Now we proceed to the next item on the agenda. The Minister concerned may move the Bill.

THE PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY SPEAKER'S AND
DEPUTY SPEAKER'S SALARIES (AMENDMENT) BILL.

Chief Minister:(Shri Bhim Sen Sachar) (*Hindi*): Sir, I introduce the Punjab Legislative Assembly Speaker's and Deputy Speaker's Salaries (Amendment) Bill

Chief Minister: Sir, I beg to move—

That the Punjab Legislative Assembly Speaker's and Deputy Speaker's Salaries (Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration at once.

Sir, it would not be wrong if were to say that the Bill which I have placed before the House is of the nature of a consequential measure. In fact there is no necessity of my making a speech in support of this Bill. I think since the Speaker occupies an exalted position of great honour and respect the Bill should not be made a subject of any controversy. It has always been our policy and this House has always upheld that as far as possible, the status of the Speaker should not be lower than that of the Ministers. The Speaker

[Chief Minister]

should have all the facilities and amenities which the Ministers enjoy. Whenever we bring a measure relating to the Ministers before this House, the hon. Members get full opportunity of discussing it. On such occasions we consider all the matters before deciding whether the measure should be passed and the allowances mentioned therein should be given or not. By this Bill we wish to give all those facilities to the Speaker which have been given to the Ministers. If we oppose this measure, it might be taken to mean that we are discussing the office of the Speaker. That would not be proper. We are establishing very good conventions in this House and I take pleasure in saying that all the parties have tried to keep the Speaker above party politics. Besides, the views of the hon. Members with regard to the subject to which the Bill under discussion relates are well known. When a similar measure relating to the Ministers was placed before the House, some hon. Members opposed it but still that was passed. In this Bill we have provided only this much that what has been done in the case of the Ministers should be done in the case of the Speaker too. I would now request the Leader of the Opposition, in particular and also the members of the other parties of Opposition who at times side with the main Opposition party and sometimes take an independent stand, that while making criticism on this Bill they should see that the Speaker gets the same amenities which are enjoyed by the Ministers. It is our fervent desire that the Speaker should receive all those concessions which have been made available to the Ministers.

Mr. Speaker: I would like to make some comments on the Chief Minister's speech.

Chief Minister: Sir, my submission is that as Leader of the House I have explained to the hon. Members the respect and dignity which the Speaker enjoys and by doing so I have not brought in your person. With very great respect, I should say that we are not supposed to take notice of persons sitting in the galleries. So, while speaking on the Bill, I did not bring in your person. I would, therefore, humbly submit that you may not make any personal comments on my speech.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved—

That the Punjab Legislative Assembly Speaker's and Deputy Speaker's Salaries (Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration at once.

Sardar Wazir Singh (Delhon) (*Punjabi*): Sir, the Leader of the House has made an appeal to the Members of this House that this bill need not be discussed and passed as the office of the hon. Speaker is above party considerations. I do not subscribe to this view because if any criticism is made on the salaries bill of the Ministers or the Chief Minister or for that matter on the salary bill of the hon. Speaker then it has nothing to do with their persons. Today if a certain person is occupying the office of the hon. Speaker, tomorrow we may have another person in his place. The Chief Minister who holds the reins of office today may be replaced by another person tomorrow and this is equally applicable to the Ministers. In these circumstances, there is no question of making criticism against any particular person. Although we have great respect for the hon. Speaker, yet this bill cannot escape criticism because in my opinion the party in power has already done an act of high-handedness by passing the Ministers' Salaries Bill. Now it is bent upon passing the Speaker's and Deputy Speaker's Salaries (Amendment) Bill on the basis of that very precedent. It needs no mention that they are already in receipt of too many allowances and yet provisions are being made to provide them with still more facilities at the cost of the poor tax-payer. Sir, there is no denying the fact that ours is a poor State and about 85 per cent of the population is dependent upon agriculture. We also find that after partition the economy of the State has been completely shattered and the effect of this is visible in the poverty of the people who live here. Our popular Government has merely thrown dust in the eyes of the public by saying that it has reduced the salaries of Ministers from Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 1,500 per mensem when in addition to this the Government has given them free furnished bungalows.

Chief Minister: Sir, on a point of order. The hon. Member should be asked to confine his remarks to the matter before the House.

Mr. Speaker: I would like to know how he is irrelevant.

Chief Minister: Sir, the question before the House is whether such an amendment should be made for the purpose of Speaker. Let him discuss this matter and not the furniture lying in the houses of the Ministers.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member is requested to speak to the motion.

Sardar Wazir Singh: Sir, I bow to your ruling but I considered it necessary to say this to contradict the statement of the hon. Chief

[Sardar Wazir Singh]

Minister who had remarked that the office of the Speaker was equal to, rather higher than that of the Ministers.

Chief Minister: On a point of personal explanation, Sir, I never said that this bill should not be criticised. I only said that the amenities provided for in this bill are already being enjoyed by the State Ministers and it would not be proper to deny these amenities to the Speaker. The hon. Member is at perfect liberty to criticise every word, comma or fullstop of the bill. I may, however, point out, Sir, that the hon. Member has all along spoken about the salaries and other allowances drawn by the Ministers. May I request him through you, Sir, to speak on the Speaker's and Deputy Speaker's Salaries (Amendment) Bill?

Mr. Speaker: I will request Sardar Wazir Singh to continue his speech. He should use the word "Speaker" instead of "Minister." I am strong enough to bear the brunt.

Sardar Wazir Singh: Sir, I submit that it would not be possible to discuss this Bill if we are not allowed to refer to anything except the salary of the hon. Speaker. The fact is that the Government has already set a precedent by passing the Ministers' Salaries Bill and now this Bill is sought to be brought on the statute book on the same analogy. Now, what I want to point out is that the hon. Speaker and the Ministers are already enjoying all amenities in the form of allowances, well-furnished bungalows, etc., in addition to their salaries. The Government is giving the ministers all the amenities such as maintenance of the houses placed at their disposal which includes payment of local rates and charges for electricity and water and sweepers' charges excepting the doctor's consultation fee if they fall ill.

Minister for Irrigation: Sweepers' expenses are not included in it.

Sardar Wazir Singh: Sir, I feel that this expenditure is an unnecessary burden on our poor State where fifty per cent of displaced persons have not so far been properly rehabilitated. They are still in great distress. We should not follow the example of other States but should try to set our own house in order. When Government is asked to spare more funds for their rehabilitation it pleads its inability owing to financial stringency. When Government is asked to reduce the *abiana* it comes forward with the plea that the Government has not got ample funds to run the administration; and when it is asked to abolish the Sales Tax then it says that it requires

money badly for meeting the increased expenditure of the Government. I cannot help saying that by giving Rs. 1,500 per mensem as salary and well-furnished houses to the Ministers the Government is wasting public money.

Then, Sir, Government has to foot a bill of Rs. 500 or so per mensem on account of the hire of furniture lying in the bungalows of the Ministers. A sum of Rs. 11,000 is being paid to the Government of India on account of the rent of the bungalow of the Presiding Officer of the Legislative Council. Now, it is proposed to make a provision for the payment of the maintenance charges of the bungalows out of the Government coffers. None of the gentlemen sitting on the Government benches seems to think of the average *per capita* income of the people in this poor country, which is no more than annas two per diem. The emoluments of the Chief Minister alone come to no less than Rs. 4,700 per mensem. In view of these facts, it does not lie in their mouth to claim to be sympathisers and well-wishers of the masses or to talk of paucity of funds whether in connection with the construction of Bhakra-Nangal Project or some other work. True, we are no more than twenty-six members on this side of the House and the Government can conveniently ignore our submissions but certainly they cannot prevent us from telling the public outside that we did our best to dissuade the Government from passing such measures but the Congress members under the intoxication of power did not care a fig for what we told them. (*Cheers from Opposition Benches*). Well, Sir, we are fully conscious of our responsibility towards the people whom we represent. We are not unmindful of the fact that it is becoming increasingly difficult for them to solve the problem of food and clothing and that this Government has no money even for the provision of such essential amenities as schools, hospitals and roads. Realizing all this, how can we support a Bill like the one now before the House?

These very gentlemen used to say that when they came into power they would accept Rs 500 as their monthly salary and no more. It is in the fitness of things that they set up a good example by agreeing to reduce their salaries so that the high officers in the services may also feel inclined to follow suit. I would appeal to the hon. Members of this House also to charge T.A. on the basis of third class railway fare and to pull on without the daily allowance of Rs. 15.

[Sardar Wazir Singh]

Mr. Speaker, the great sacrifices that you made in the cause of the country's freedom are well known and need no repetition. We certainly expect you to set up a good example for the Ministers to follow. We also know that you will not mind this criticism on the Bill that is under consideration. Chief Ministership, Ministership or Speakership should not in my opinion be considered as an office of profit; these are and should be looked upon as opportunities for public service. The holders of these offices should, in a spirit of service, accept just living wages and no more. In this way they can show the way to the members of the services also.

Shri Wadhawa Ram : (Fazilka) (Punjabi) : Sir, at the time when the Ministers' Salaries Bill came up for amendment before the House in the last session and we read its provisions with regard to various allowances and free furnished houses, we tried to dissuade the Ministry from passing it in the name of the poverty of the people living in our State but they were bent upon having their own way and so we could not prevent this loot. I wonder whether these few persons who are occupying the ministerial *gadis* and those whom they intend to instal as Deputy Ministers are the only poor living in this State; and whether barring them all others are richly off. To me it seems as though our Ministers are really convinced of this thing.

Sir, I have no hesitation in saying that you are the crown of this House and we hold you in great esteem and that is why we want to save you from the odium that has come to be attached to the Ministers. We would, therefore, like you to tread a different path and not to follow the Ministers to the pit in which they have fallen. We do not grudge a living wage to any body but on the other hand we do not want that some persons should have so much income as to be able to pile up their bank balances while so many others should be dying of hunger. I would appeal to you not to spend money extravagantly and to try to bring down your standard of living to the level of the common man's standard of living because only in this way can you prove that you are sincerely sympathetic towards them and inspire respect in their minds. The Government is bent upon having this Bill passed. What we want is that the hon. Speaker should himself agree to its withdrawal and thus by accepting a lower salary enable the people to distinguish him from the Ministers and feel that he has a feeling heart for the poor masses of the State. I need hardly

repeat that money can never be the gateway to respect and dignity. He who lives like the poor and shares their sorrows and sufferings verily commands their respect.

Sardar Nidhan Singh (Mehna) (*Punjabi*): Sir, there can certainly be no two opinions on the question of passing this Bill. There are persons who move among the masses and work in their midst and are, therefore, aware of the extent of their poverty. Those of them who happen to be in this House are of the opinion that this Bill is not in the interests of the masses. Secondly, there are persons who are always in favour of making the most of an opportunity to grab and loot and who believe in establishing their prestige by suppressing the poor. Our Ministers and high officers fall in this second category.

May I ask the hon. Chief Minister, if accumulation of money or the drawing of high salaries were the only gateway to respect, would the portrait of Mahatma Gandhi be hanging before us today? What simple living the Mahatma used to have and what great respect and devotion he commanded! Personality and not money, commands respect. I can't say what constitutes respect according to our friends sitting on the other side. In our dictionary, it has been defined as I have put it.

Our Ministers and high officers of this Government should fix their salaries keeping in view the income of the common man in this country. As compared with America and England where the average *per capita* income is Rs. 1,468 and Rs. 250 per annum, respectively, the average *per capita* income in this country is only Rs 64 per annum. Keeping in view the miserable condition of the poor people of this State our Ministers should reduce their salaries. So far as the communists are concerned, they can pull on even with a very meagre income; out of the sum of rupees three hundred that they get as Compensatory Allowance they keep for themselves rupees one hundred only and contribute the rest to the party funds. They want nothing more. I need hardly repeat that if the Ministers boldly adopt the path of renunciation, they will command many times more respect than what they get now.

Shri Prabodh Chandra (Gurdaspur) (*Hindi*): Sir, I have listened to the speeches made by some of the hon. Members sitting on the Opposition benches with rapt attention. I have been able to follow

[Shri Prabodh Chandra]

some of the speeches, but the speech made by the hon. Member preceding me was beyond my comprehension. This was perhaps because he had tuned his voice at a high pitch. Therefore I cannot reply to what he said. Just before him another hon. Member made a speech in which he quoted a good many facts and figures. I cannot call them false (झूठे) because this word is unparliamentary but I can definitely say that they are wrong. He has stated that since the income of this State is very small, it is not possible to provide more facilities to the hon. Speaker. I beg to submit, Sir, that this argument is like the argument which the Muslim Leaguers used to advance. They used to say that the Muslims should get majority rights in the areas where they were in a majority and weightage where they were in a minority. The same is the case with our friends of the Opposition. Fortunately or unfortunately for them, in Pepsu there has taken place an unholy alliance. This is the Ministry in which.....

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Member should not criticise the Government of another State.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Sir, my submission is that there is a Ministry in one State where there are two partners. Both of those parties are represented here in this House by some of the hon. Members sitting on the Opposition benches.

Sardar Achhar Singh : We have nothing to do with the Ministry in Pepsu.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : But mere denying cannot convince me. As a matter of fact it is common knowledge that that Government...

Mr. Speaker : Please avoid reference to that Government.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Sir, my submission is that our State is a deficit one just like that State. If that is so, then why should not the hon. Speaker of this State enjoy the same facilities in regard to gardens, residence, etc., as are enjoyed by the hon. Speaker of that State? If we see carefully we find that the amenities enjoyed by the Speaker here are less than those enjoyed by the Speaker of Pepsu. I happened to go and see the house of the Speaker in Pepsu. There carpets worth thousands of rupees and costly furniture have been provided for him. In addition to this, there are so many other facilities. I would like to draw the attention of those hon. Members

who have criticised this bill, to what is happening in Pepsu. They would be well advised, if they really feel for the people at large, to do in Pepsu what they suggest here on the floor of this House. I hope that they would try to live up to the principles, which they profess to follow, in that State where they have got an opportunity to form a ministry, so that they could set an example for other States in India. They should not do one thing here and another in Pepsu. If the hon. Members sitting in front of me really believe in the principles they preach they should ask their party in Pepsu to put them into practice so that as I have already stated, it may serve as an example for others. With these words I would once again appeal to the hon. Members to say only such things on which they can act.

Sardar Bachan Singh (Bagha Purana) (*Punjabi*) : Sir, whoever stands says that our State has been ruined, our State has been partitioned our State is poor and it is unable to meet its expenses. But when the question of salaries comes up for consideration this State becomes rich. It is a well-known saying that a person should cut his coat according to his own cloth, so that he may not feel the pinch of it. But here in this case no attention has been paid to this wise saying, and more and more amounts are being sanctioned for the big persons. I would submit, Sir, that real respect and popularity does not come by having more money but by coming into close contact with the masses. If the income of a poor man is eighteen rupees and that of a rich man is eighteen thousand rupees how can there be any respect for the rich person in the mind of the poor person who cannot make his both ends meet? As a matter of fact, real respect will come only when the difference between their incomes will vanish. In our country some of the rich persons are amassing huge amounts of wealth while the country as a whole is growing poorer day by day. The man in the street will begin to love the leaders only if the leaders come nearer to them. Therefore I would appeal to the Ministers to bring down their high salaries so that the people may begin to love them. Some time back we tried our utmost to convince the Government about the desirability of increasing the salaries of the low-paid employees, but our efforts led only to a nominal increase of five rupees. I feel that the Government cannot win the hearts of the poor people in the State if it fails to ameliorate their condition and only thinks of providing amenities to the high-ups.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Sir, I move—

That the question be now put.

Mr. Speaker : But I shall make it an exception in the case of Sardar Gurdial Singh Dhillon. I call upon him to make a speech.

Sardar Gurdial Singh Dhillon (Jhabal) (Punjabi) : Sir, as this bill has nothing to do with my person I am going to say something on it. But I think that even if it had related to my person, I would have been prepared to put up a defence to it. I am surprised to find that the hon. Members sitting on the Opposition benches have tried to represent the expenditure involved in this bill as inordinately high and compare it with the salaries of the hon. Ministers. Some time back I read in the Tribune that the income of the Leader of the Soviet people, I mean Marshal Stalin, was near about twelve lakhs of rupees per annum.

Sardar Achhar Singh : This is quite wrong.

Mr. Speaker : Order, order. The hon. Member can contradict this statement when he makes a speech

Sardar Achhar Singh : But this statement is absolutely incorrect.

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Member should not interrupt. He should patiently hear and rebut the statement in his own turn.

Sardar Achhar Singh : But why are misstatements made here?

Mr. Speaker : Order, order. I may sound a note of warning that any interruption by any gentleman, whosoever he may be, will be severely dealt with. Persistent interruption is simply intolerable.

Sardar Gurdial Singh Dhillon : Sir, I gave an instance of another country's leader. Why should the hon. Member take umbrage to it? I cannot understand the logic of this. When the hon. Speaker has been provided with free accommodation by the Government, there is no reason why the other necessary facilities attached to it should also not be given. There should be no opposition to this. It is common knowledge that there are always staff quarters attached to a bungalow. It is not fair or reasonable to ask the Speaker to pay the local rates and such other taxes. When the hon. Ministers enjoy certain facilities the same should not be denied to the Speaker. It passes my comprehension to find the hon. Members sitting opposite criticising the Government for bringing forward such an innocuous

measure as the one now before the House. I hope the House will pass this Bill without any delay.

Dewan Jagdish Chandra : Sir, I move—

That the question be now put.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the question be now put.

Sardar Achhar Singh : Sir, before you put the question, I would like to speak on the motion.

Mr. Speaker : Order, order. Now the closure motion and not the previous motion is before the House.

Sardar Achhar Singh : But I want to make a speech on the previous motion.

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Member should not insist and behave like that. He will get ample opportunities to express his views. But I really feel very sad, rather disturbed, when I find that some hon. Members have no patience to hear a speech. They at once begin to interrupt another Member who is in possession of the House. Decency and parliamentary decorum demands that a Member who wants to contradict the statement of another should wait for his turn. I, therefore, again give a warning—I may be excused for this as I am compelled to do so—that any Member who makes an interruption during the speech of another Member will be severely dealt with.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the question be now put.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Punjab Legislative Assembly Speaker's and Deputy Speaker's Salaries (Amendment) Bill, 1952, be taken into consideration at once.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Now the House will proceed to consider the Bill clause by clause.

CLAUSE 2

Mr. Speaker : There is an amendment to clause 2 standing in the name of Sardar Achhar Singh. I call upon him to move it.

Sardar Achhar Singh (Ajnala) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That the proposed part (b) be deleted.

Mr. Speaker, I am surprised to hear from our Deputy Speaker that Mr. Stalin is getting twelve lakhs of rupees as his salary. Sir, I have myself gone to Russia.....(*Interruptions*).

Chief Minister: On a point of order, Sir. My submission is that we cannot put up with this irrelevancy that an august House like this should be turned into a propaganda forum for a certain ideology. I would request the Chair not to allow a speech which is not relevant or has not the slightest bearing on the motion under discussion.

Mr. Speaker : Since a certain matter was introduced by a gentleman on this side of the House while speaking on the previous motion, I would allow Sardar Achhar Singh to make a brief reference to that and finish off. As a matter of fact the matter was neither relevant in the former's speech nor will it be now. The hon. Member Sardar Achhar Singh may briefly contradict that statement.

Sardar Achhar Singh : Sir, I thank you for affording me an opportunity to contradict a wrong statement that has been made about a great man of the world.

Sir, I have myself seen Mr. Stalin's house and the furniture provided therein. Quite adjacent to his house is situated the house of his clerk. The house of the latter is of the same type as that of Mr. Stalin. Sardar Sahib has stated that his income is 12 lakh rupees and that he has read it in a newspaper. This is an impudent lie and a sheer propaganda. He gets only Rs. 500 as his pay.

Now, Sir, my submission is since the hon. Speaker gets a handsome pay, any allowances that are being given or sought to be given under the Bill should be reduced to the minimum possible extent. Then, Sir, the Government has sanctioned a large staff for our Governor and enormous sums of money are being spent over the maintenance of this establishment. It has been argued that if such allowances are not given to them they cannot maintain their dignity. Mr. Speaker, the fact is that the dignity can be maintained on the

strength of character and not with luxurious cars and beautiful gardens. I therefore, submit, Sir, that such lavish expenditure should not be incurred for the maintenance of false dignity.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the proposed part (b) be deleted.

Mr. Speaker : Question is--

That the proposed part (b) be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 3

Mr. Speaker : There is an amendment to clause 3 by Sardar Chanan Singh. He may move it.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in lines 7-8, for the words, "the State Government" the word "himself" be substituted.

Chief Minister (Shri Bhim Sen Sachar) : Sir, may I with your permission point out that the amendment put forward by the hon. Member is out of order. He seeks to substitute the word 'himself' for the words 'the State Government'. When that is done then the whole clause stands negatived because for 'himself' no legislation is called for. Legislation is needed only when the State Government has to make the payment.

Mr. Speaker : Yes, I agree with the Chief Minister. The amendment is out of order. But Sardar Chanan Singh can make a speech while opposing clause 3 as a whole.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Mr. Speaker, our past experience shows that amendments suggested by us have never been accepted by the Government and the present amendment is also going to meet the same fate. Anyhow what I want to impress upon the Government is this. Just as house-rent is charged from other Government servants by making deduction from their salaries

[Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut]

at a rate of 10 or 12 per cent, similarly, it should be deducted not only from the pay of the hon. Speaker but also from those of the Ministers. This expenditure should not be borne by the Government itself.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 3 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 1

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 1 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

TITLE

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Title be the Title of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Chief Minister: Sir, I move—

That the Punjab Legislative Assembly Speaker's and Deputy Speaker's Salaries (Amendment) Bill, 1952, be passed.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Punjab Legislative Assembly Speaker's and Deputy Speaker's Salaries (Amendment) Bill, 1952, be passed.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Punjab Legislative Assembly Speaker's and Deputy Speaker's Salaries (Amendment) Bill, 1952, be passed.

The motion was carried.

THE PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S AND DEPUTY CHAIRMAN'S SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1952.

Chief Minister (Shri Bhim Sen Sachar) (*Hindi*): Sir, I beg to introduce the Punjab Legislative Council Chairman's and Deputy Chairman's Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1952.

Chief Minister: Sir, I move—

That the Punjab Legislative Council Chairman's and Deputy Chairman's Salaries and Allowances ((Amendment) Bill, 1952, be taken into consideration at once.

Mr. Speaker, this amending Bill is exactly on all fours with the legislative measure that has just been discussed and passed by this House. This measure seeks to provide the same amenities and allowances for the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman, as have been provided in the previous Bill for the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly. I, therefore, do not feel called upon to make a lengthy speech and I hope the House will also pass it without much discussion.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Punjab Legislative Council Chairman's and Deputy Chairman's Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1952, be taken into consideration at once.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi): Mr. Speaker, yesterday, it was rightly stated in this House that the Government was very fond of adopting new legislation. It passes Bills in haste and afterwards when the lacunae left in them become glaring it feels the necessity of amending them. It needs no mention that a lot of time of the House is wasted when amending Bills are repeatedly brought before it.

Then, we have been told that through this amending Bill, the Government intends to extend the same facilities and allowances to the hon. Chairman, which had previously been extended to the hon. Ministers. Sir, I want to remind the House that we had even at the time opposed that Bill which provided these allowances for the hon. Ministers. We were against giving them so many allowances but despite our opposition that legislation was adopted with the help of the comfortable majority at the back of the Government. Even at that time we had strongly demanded the abolition of the Upper House. We had also appealed to the Government that it should pay the minimum possible salary to the hon. Chairman.

Then, Sir, according to the figures supplied yesterday by an hon. Minister to this House, the monthly expenditure on electricity and water of the houses occupied by each Minister ranges between Rs. 30 and Rs. 100 besides the expenditure on the upkeep of garden attached to these houses and the pay of the *malis* working there. One of my hon. Friends has tried to justify the provisions made in this Bill by referring to the present Pepsu Ministry. He has also tried to show that our party has some connections with that Ministry. I want to make it clear to him that our party's connections with that Ministry

[Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut]

are on the same footing as our connections here, with this Ministry. Perhaps the number of our party members in jails there is larger than it is in this State. That hon. Member has also cited an example of a foreign country. I would ask him to quote some local case. Sir, we have to keep in view the standard of living of our own people. That is, how they are able to make their living and what diet they are able to get. What a vast difference we find between the standard of living of the rich leading cosy lives in bungalows and the poor labourers and cultivators. I may tell my hon. Friend that there is a lot of difference between the local conditions and those prevailing in that country. Therefore, it is quite useless to quote cases of that country.

Then, Sir, the earlier the Upper House is abolished the better. The hon. Members perhaps know that the total monthly expenditure which the Government has to incur on the hon. Chairman in the form of his salary, free house, electricity and water is in no case less than Rs. 3,000. In my opinion his salary and allowances are too high and should be cut down.

Shri Prabodh Chandra (Gurdaspur) (Hindi): Mr. Speaker, my hon. Friend has stated that I wrongly quoted the example of the Pepsu Ministry. He wanted me to cite some local case. Let me quote an example which is directly connected with him.

Mr. Speaker : No. This is not proper.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Sir, that hon. Member has desired that the standard of living of the most honoured person of our State should not be as high, as is intended to be maintained by this legislation. But may I with your permission, remind him of the standard of living which he himself wanted to maintain in the District Jail, Ambala, or in other Jails, of this State in the capacity of a detenu. He has objected to the high standard of living being allowed to the hon. Chairman because ours is a poor State. I want to tell the House that this gentleman and the hon. Member sitting behind him taking notes, were amongst those who wanted the following diet to be provided for the detenus in the State Jails. They wanted that two seers of milk, two eggs, four ounces of cream and one pound meat be daily supplied to each of the non-vegetarian detenus. Besides this they demanded that there should be small flower beds outside their cells and there should be an arrangement for an efficient doctor to look after their health. In spite of all this, they are now crying themselves hoarse in the name

of the poor population. I want to enquire from them, whether they were justified in demanding such a rich diet in the capacity of simple detenus, who had no work to do while other prisoners were daily given a diet costing annas ten only. Further, newspapers were supplied to them and they were also given books to study. The hon. Members would be interested to know that the daily expenditure on each of these detenus came to Rs. 2-8-0 to Rs. 3. In other words, Government had to spend a lot on a person who was merely a detenu.

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Member should speak to the motion.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Sir, what I wish to say is that the Government acceded to so many demands of the detenus. As I have already stated one of the detenus who put forward such demands was my hon. Friend sitting opposite to me. In the light of the above-mentioned menu our Government has been spending Rs. 300 per month on each detenu. Still our friends occupying the Opposition benches indulge in tall talk in the name of hungry masses and say that as ours is a deficit State, its sources are too meagre to meet the expenditure of a small bungalow to be provided for the residence of the Chairman. So, what I mean to say is that when we had to spend so much in order to provide all sorts of facilities including medical aid to the prisoners, then may I know whether the dignity of the Chairman is less than even that of a prisoner? Yesterday, I made a reference to the Moscow Conference of the Communist Party. My purpose in making this reference was to show that, be it Parliament or the Assembly, the main object of the members of this Party is to turn it into a propaganda forum for exploiting others. They do not care to understand whether or not the particular measure under discussion is a comprehensive one or not good or bad; or whether it has been introduced for the benefit of the people or carries some other motives behind it. Their primary function or the sole object is to condemn it tooth and nail and consequently to raise a banner of revolt against the Government.....[interruptions.]

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Member is also going off the rails. He should confine his remarks to the motion now before the House.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Well Sir, I bow before your ruling. I simply want to submit that these hon. Friends of mine do not try to follow the principle underlying the measure but go on criticising it for nothing.

[Shri Prabodh Chandra]

Mr. Speaker, it was in consequence of their own demand that I narrated this example before you. They wanted me to avoid quoting references from other States and, instead, suggested that examples concerning our own State be quoted. I, therefore, submit that in view of the status of the Chairman, this demand is not an extraordinary one. With these words, I hope the House will pass this bill unanimously.

Chief Minister (Shri Bhim Sen Sachar) (Hindi): Mr. Speaker in the course of today's debate I find that no new argument has been advanced from any quarter of the House which may necessarily call for a reply from the Government. In view of this my hon. Friends must be thinking as to what has made me stand up and intervene at this stage. I have stood up simply to lay certain facts about this matter before the House.

I admit that the present rents of the houses occupied by the Ministers and others are excessive. The Government, too, does not deny that the articles of furniture lying in these bungalows as also their rents are very much on the high side. As a matter of fact this question has been seriously engaging the attention of the Government. In this connection I may tell the hon. Members that the ownership of some of the houses occupied by the Ministers, Speaker and the Chairman vests in the Central Government while others belong to the Government of Punjab. If we examine the system adopted in assessing the rent pertaining to the houses which belong to the Punjab Government, it will be seen that their rent is comparatively much less than that charged by the Central Government for its houses. It is due to this fact that the Central Government had fixed the rent of its bungalows long ago. Now, our position is that there is hardly any surplus accommodation to meet any emergency. Consequently we are compelled to prefer our demand of houses to the Centre and have to pay their rent in accordance with the terms acceptable to it. However, I would like to inform the house that I have already taken up this matter and am in search of cheaper alternative accommodation to enable my colleagues to shift there with a view to effecting some saving in the item of rent.

Sir, you will be surprised to know that the Central Government has itself fixed the rent of the furniture even. I know that my hon. Friends opposite are always on the look out for an opportunity to find out a loop-hole and as soon as they get it they jump at our

throats. So they have tried to magnify the question of rent of furniture and the bungalows. But in fact the position is that the Centre charges 30 per cent rent on the furniture in addition to the rent of bungalows. Now this rent does not go into our pockets but is deposited into the treasury under the proper head. But so far as the houses belonging to the Punjab Government are concerned, this rent is assessed at 15 per cent. As a matter of fact, this affair is only an office routine. The sum total of the rent of these bungalows has already been supplied to the House in a statement. If we take into account even the depreciation of the furniture worth Rs 20,000 which may be lying in a house, it ordinarily comes to something like Rs. 100.

Then, Sir, we have to accept all the conditions imposed by the Central Government with regard to its houses. For instance the rent of the residence of the Chief Minister, i.e., Allanbank is in the neighbourhood of Rs. 300/-.....

Sardar Achhar Singh : Rs. 317.

Chief Minister: Yes, it is something like that. Though the rent is reasonable yet they have now constructed an annexe with it whose rent has to be paid even if it is utilised or not. The Chief Minister has, after all, to put up somewhere. If he does not stay over there, where should he go then? There is a great scarcity of housing accommodation in Simla. Again, Sir, some of my hon. Friends say why these bungalows should not be vacated and that the Ministers should instead live in smaller houses? But, I may tell them that there is not sufficient accommodation even in the main house of the Chief Minister to meet his requirements according to his position.

Mr. Speaker : you might have sometimes felt that the accommodation there for the private residence of the Chief Minister is hardly two rooms which are occupied by himself, his family and a daughter. (*Interruptions*). I am going to state how the rest of the accommodation is put to use. There are one reception room, clerk room, visitor's room and office room in it. Besides, there are a kitchen, bath, latrine, etc.; which form essential requirements of a family. Now, Sir, I would request you kindly to judge for yourself how much accommodation is actually required and what is its position at present. The annexe cannot be utilised for private purposes but it has to be retained by force of circumstances for, it is not possible to surrender it when the main house

Chief Minister]

is occupied. I, therefore, submit that the Government is quite alive to this matter and we are ourselves trying to effect economy as far as possible. We are endeavouring to surrender the extra furniture lying in these houses without which we can do, to the Central Government. But a certain amount of furniture which we may or may not like to retain, has to be kept. I have returned as much furniture as possible out of the additional furniture which was lying in this house. This has been done in order to reduce the rent.

In the circumstances, Mr. Speaker, I assure the House that the Government fully realises this problem and the difficulty of its solution. I am trying my utmost to acquire such houses the rents of which may be lower. I would rather be obliged if my hon. Friends help us getting other houses so that we may shift there and effect some saving to the State exchequer. Again, I want to make it abundantly clear to them that the bills of this nature neither bring any personal gain to the Ministers, Speaker or the Chairman nor does this money go into their pockets. It is the policy of the Government not to acquire houses of higher rents. We want houses of such reasonable rents in which an ordinary person drawing a salary of about Rs. 1,000 per mensem could live and maintain his official position. My submission, therefore, is that the Government is already out to meet the objections raised by my hon. Friends by trying to get cheaper houses wherever they are available.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Punjab Legislative Council Chairman's and Deputy Chairman's Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1952, be taken into consideration at once.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Now the House will proceed to consider the Bill clause by clause.

CLAUSE 2

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 3

Mr. Speaker : There is an amendment by Sardar Achhar Singh to clause 3. I call upon him to move it.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That the proposed part (b) be deleted.

Mr. Speaker, the financial position of the State has already been referred to in some of the speeches. In addition to that argument I beg to submit that the Upper House is not popular like this House. The Chairman of that House should not be given the same salary, allowances and maintenance charges for his residence as are given to the Speaker of this popular House. We sent a resolution to the effect that the Upper House which served no useful purpose should be abolished.

Mr Speaker : The hon. Member should not criticise the Upper House.

Sardar Achhar Singh : Sir, my point is that the Government should not incur such a heavy expenditure on the Chairman of a House which is not popular.

Sardar Gurdial Singh Dhillon : On a point of order, Sir. In what sense is that House not popular?

Sardar Achhar Singh : That has not been elected by popular vote.

Another thing which I wish to say is that one of our friends is in the habit of provoking us and then going out for taking tea. Whenever we say something with regard to the high salaries he talks about the time when we were in jail. I want to tell my hon. Friend Shri Prabodh Chandra that when he says such things he should feel ashamed of the fact that even during the Congress regime people are detained without trial. When the British rulers detained persons under Regulation III of 1818, they did so for some particular offences only. One should feel ashamed if people are arrested and detained in the old imperialist manner even during the days of Ram Rajya. We feel ashamed on seeing this State of affairs.

ਇਹ ਹਾਲਤ ਦੇਖ ਕੇ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਸ਼ਰਮ ਆਉਂਦੀ ਹੈ

इह हालत देख के सानू शर्म आँदी है

Mr. Speaker : The word ਸ਼ਰਮ is unparliamentary and the hon. Member should withdraw it.

Sardar Achhar Singh : If that is so, I withdraw it and say that we feel pained on seeing these things. When my hon. Friend was in the Gujrat Jail Hospital an expenditure of fifteen rupees a day used to be incurred for providing him eggs, fish, etc.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : On a point of personal explanation, Sir, I can substantiate all that I said and am prepared to give that in writing. I challenge the hon. Member to disprove that statement.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut: I challenge the hon. Member to lay on the Table of the House in writing what he said about me.

Sardar Achhar Singh: There was no occasion for referring to the time when we were in Ambala Jail but my hon. Friend is fond of saying such things and we feel compelled to give a reply.

Mr. Speaker: Motion Moved—

That the proposed part (b) be deleted.

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That the proposed part (b) be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That Clause 3 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 4

Mr. Speaker: There is an amendment to clause 4 by Sardar Chanan Singh and others. I declare this amendment to be out of order as it negatives the whole clause. Now the Question is—

That Clause 4 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE I

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That Clause 1 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

TITLE

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That Title be the Title of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Chief Minister: (Shri Bhim Sen Sachar): Sir, I move—

That the Punjab Legislative Council Chairman's and Deputy Chairman's Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1952, be passed.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved—

That the Punjab Legislative Council Chairman's and Deputy Chairman's

Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1952, be passed.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (*Punjabi*): Mr. Speaker, while speaking on this bill, the hon. Chief Minister tried to explain the position with regard to the houses occupied by the Ministers, etc. Now, whether a house belongs to the Central Government or to a private individual, we have to see that the expenditure which is incurred with respect to it from the State exchequer by way of rent, etc., should be as small as possible.

Another thing which I wish to say is that my hon. Friend referred to me again and again. It is true that when I was in detention I submitted the minimum demands of the detenus to the Government. We were treated as 'C' class prisoners. I am thankful to him for his intervention when we were on hunger-strike but there is no sense in referring to those things every time.

Whenever we express our opinion about or criticise a matter which is placed before the House, we keep in view the condition of our State. It is said that we say these things for bringing about a rebellion. I want to tell the House that the hon. Members themselves do not observe the provisions of laws enacted by them. They are the very people who are responsible for creating conditions which bring about rebellions. It is not in keeping with the standard of living of the masses of the Punjab to spend such a huge amount on the Chairman. We should show proper respect for the outstanding personages but bungalows and gardens do not add to their prestige. One should have high character and I am glad that our Chairman has a high character. The manner in which money is being wasted is not proper.

Shri Wadhawa Ram (Fazilka) (*Punjabi*): Sir, it is a matter for gratification that the hon. Chief Minister has admitted and realised that the Government's expenditure has increased. Many bungalows of P.W.D. are lying vacant but the hon. Ministers consider it below their dignity to occupy them. Moreover, I am surprised that this Act will come into force from the 17th April and the hon. Speaker will be entitled to all these amenities from the aforesaid date when he was not even formally elected by this House. It is just like naming

[Shri Wadhawa Ram]

the child before he is born. These concessions should have been given to him from now onwards and it looks improper that this amending bill should be enforced with retrospective effect.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Punjab Legislative Council Chairman's and Deputy Chairman's Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1952, be passed.

The motion was carried.

The Assembly then adjourned till 2 p.m. on Monday, the 27th October, 1952.

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES

27th October 1952

VOL. III, No. 6

OFFICIAL REPORT



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Punjab Legislative Assembly

Monday, 27th October, 1952.

*The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Simla, at 2 p.m. of the clock.
Mr. Speaker (Dr Satyapal) in the Chair.*

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

VISIT OF MINISTERS TO INDORE

***987. Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) the names of Ministers who went to Indore in the middle of September, 1952 ;
- (b) the different items of expenditure incurred by the State on these Ministers for their trips to Indore ;
- (c) the date of departure from and return to Simla of these Ministers ;
- (d) the object of visit in each case ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) (1) Shri Bhim Sen Sachar.

(2) Sardar Partap Singh Kairon.

(3) Pandit Shri Ram Sharma.

(4) Shri Jagat Narain.

(5) Chaudhri Sunder Singh.

(b) The journey from Delhi to Indore was performed by the Ministers privately and no expenditure was incurred by the State on their trip. They, however, took their personal staff to Indore in the interest of office work and the State incurred expenditure on their travelling and daily allowances.

(c)—

<i>Name of the Minister</i>	<i>Date of departure from Simla</i>	<i>Date of return to Simla</i>
(1) Shri Bhim Sen Sachar ..	8th September 1952..	15th September 1952
(2) Sardar Partap Singh Kairon ..	6th September 1952..	17th September 1952
(3) Pandit Shri Ram Sharma ..	8th September 1952..	18th September 1952
(4) Shri Jagat Narain ..	7th September 1952..	17th September 1952
(5) Chaudhri Sunder Singh	8th September 1952..	17th September 1952

[Chief Minister]

(d) To attend a convention of the Leaders, etc., of the State Congress Legislature Parties at Indore so far as Chief Minister is concerned. Others went there to attend the Session of the All-India Congress Committee held at Indore.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Sir, I have been supplied with the statement pertaining to this question only just now and I have had no time to study it. I request that the supplementaries be postponed till tomorrow.

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** I have no objection.

EMPLOYMENT OF PRIVATE PERSONAL ASSISTANTS TO MINISTERS

*988. **Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government decided to employ Private Personal Assistants to Ministers in place of typist clerks ; if so, the date of this decision ;
- (b) the names of persons so employed, their date of employment and educational qualifications and the terms on which they have been employed ;
- (c) the names of typist clerks relieved as a result of these appointments ;
- (d) the nature of duties of the Private Personal Assistants and the rules regarding location of their headquarters, travelling allowances, tenure of office, etc. ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) No Private Personal Assistants to Ministers have been appointed. Decision was, however, taken on the 26th June 1952, to appoint one temporary Special Assistant in the office of each Minister if he liked. This Assistant is not to take the place of the typist clerk already working.

(b) and (d) A statement giving the required information in respect of the Special Assistants is given below.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

STATEMENT

Names of persons appointed as Special Assistants.	Date of employment	Educational qualifications	Terms of employment	Nature of duties	Rules regarding location of headquarters and T.A.	Tenure of Office
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Shri Chander Bhan, with L.G. M.	26th June 1952	Matric	(i) They have been employed on a purely temporary basis.	They assist their respective Ministers in political matters.	Civil Services Rules (Pb) as applicable to other Government servants of their category, i.e., Class III Government servants.	For so long as the respective Minister remains in Office.
2. Shri Baldev Raj Kapur, with D.M.	1st July 1952	M.A.	(ii) They hold isolated posts and have no claim for appointment on any other post in the Civil Secretariat if and when they go out of employment, on the acquittal of office by the respective Minister.			
3. Shri Banwari Lal, with I.P.M.	1st July 1952	Middle				
4. Shri Attar Singh, with F.M.	16th July 1952	B.A.	(iii) In case they wish to resign their posts they are required to give one month's clear notice or forfeit in lieu thereof one month's pay and allowances. Such a notice is required to be given by Government also in case it is proposed to terminate their services for reasons other than those mentioned at (ii) above.			
5. Shri Joginder Singh, with P.W.M.	4th August 1952	Matric	In case of mis-conduct, however, they are entitled to an opportunity to show cause why their services should not be terminated, in which case the condition of one month's notice will not apply.			

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Sir, regarding this question also I have received the statement just now. I am to request again that I may be permitted to make supplementaries on this question tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker : All right, the supplementaries are postponed till tomorrow.

DECLARING LORD MAHAVIR'S BIRTHDAY AS PUBLIC HOLIDAY

***1059. Shri Ram Kishan :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether the Government has received any representation or resolutions passed by the Jain Community requesting that Lord Mahavir's birthday be declared as a public holiday ; if so, the action, if any, taken by the Government in the matter and if no action has been taken, the reasons therefor ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : Yes. Representations for the declaration of Lord Mahavir's birthday as a public holiday have been received from the Jain Community and as a result it has been suggested to the Deputy Commissioners in the State that in districts where there are a sufficient number of Jains, their request for a holiday should be taken into consideration in fixing local holidays.

OPTION TO GOVERNMENT SERVANTS IN PRE-PARTITIONED PUNJAB

***1096. Dewan Jagdish Chandra :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Government servants of pre-partitioned Punjab were given an option at the time of partition to remain either with West Punjab or East Punjab Government after the partition;
- (b) whether it was guaranteed that the services of opting Government servants will continue on the same terms and conditions ;
- (c) whether the Government servants opting for East Punjab have been retained on the same terms and conditions as in the prepartitioned Punjab ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) Yes ; but no absolute guarantee of employment in accordance with the option was given.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes, as far as is known.

ALLOTMENT OF LAND TO POLITICAL SUFFERERS

***1071. Shri Ram Chandra Comrade :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any decision was taken by the Government to allot land to political sufferers in Karnal District ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that during the period between the last week of March and the first week of April 1952, letters were addressed to the political sufferers to receive lease orders from the Deputy Commissioner, Karnal, immediately ; if so, the number of political sufferers to whom land has been allotted so far ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) Yes.

(b) Orders were issued in April 1952, for allotment of land to 55 persons selected out of these political sufferers whose claims were verified by the Advisory Committee but later it was considered advisable to await selection of the remaining 265 political sufferers to be allotted land in Karnal District, in order to avoid any complaint about advance allotment of better areas. Accordingly no land has actually been allotted to any of these 55 political sufferers so far. Action is being taken to select the remaining political sufferers.

Shri Ram Chandra Comrade : Is it in the knowledge of the hon. Minister that when the people who had got the allotment letters went to see the Deputy Commissioner of the district, he told them that he had not received such orders from the Government ?

Minister : If the hon. Member tries to understand the reply given by me, he will find that although allotments have been made yet due to the pending selection of the remaining political sufferers, the actual possession of land has not been given to them.

Shri Ram Chandra Comrade : Is it in the knowledge of the Minister that the people who were allotted land had also requested the Government for the grant of loans to enable them to reclaim it ?

Minister : They may or may not ask for the loans. The Government is of its own accord considering this matter.

Shri Ram Chandra Comrade : Then, may I know what steps, if any, have been taken by the Government to implement this decision ?

Minister : As I have already stated, this matter is under consideration of the Government and a very early decision is expected.

Shrimati Sita Devi : May I know what criterion has been fixed by the Government for the allotment of land ?

Minister : The hon. Lady Member is asking a one-year-old question.

Shrimati Sita Devi : I want to know the basis on which the recommendations were made by the Government.

Mr. Speaker : This question does not arise.

Minister : The recommendations were made in accordance with the conditions laid down.

CANCELLATION OF WORK OF CONSOLIDATION OF LAND IN DISTRICT GURGAON
***1072. Shri Ram Chandra Comrade :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of villages in which the work of consolidation of holdings of land has been stopped in District Gurgaon ;
- (b) the expenses incurred on consolidation work before its being stopped ;
- (c) the action, if any, taken by the Government against those responsible for wastage of the Government money in this manner ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) In no village has the consolidation of holdings work in the selected Tehsil of Gurgaon been stopped since 1st April, 1951.

- (b) } Do not arise.
 (c) }

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether any action is being taken by the Government on the complaints received in this connection ?

Minister for Development : Yes. The Government is dealing with this matter so expeditiously that the hon. Member would simply feel surprised at the promptness.

PRIVATE ELECTRIC SUPPLY COMPANIES TAKEN OVER BY GOVERNMENT

***986. Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government took over certain private electric supply companies in the year 1949 ; if so, their names and the circumstances that compelled the Government to take them over ;
- (b) the terms on which the concerns were taken over ;
- (c) the capital of each electric supply company at the time of taking over, the total power sold by each, the rate at which sold and the profits or loss incurred by each company for the year previous to the taking over ;
- (d) the total compensation paid to each company by the Government, total investment made in running these companies since taking over, total power sold, rates charged and profit or loss incurred by Government for the entire period up to date ;
- (e) the reduction effected in rates, if any, by the Government ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : (a) Yes ; Moga, Abohar, Karnal and Fazilka. The notices to take over these Undertakings on the expiry of the duration of the respective licences had been served on the ex-licensees in the joint Punjab in accordance with the then policy of the Government to acquire all private-owned Undertakings on the expiry of their respective licences.

(b) On the terms laid down in the respective licences of these Undertakings in accordance with section 7 of the Indian Electricity Act, 1910.

(c) (i) Total capital outlay up to end of 1947-48 was—

	Rs	AS.	PS.
Moga	.. 1,43,566	4	11
Abohar	.. 2,20,350	9	5
Karnal	.. 1,58,819	8	3
Fazilka	.. 1,96,083	15	5

(ii) Total power sold in 1947-48—

	Units
Moga	.. 234,121
Abohar	.. 189,655
Karnal	.. 272,938
Fazilka	.. 236,729

(iii) Rates. See statement marked 'A' below.

(iv) Net revenue (1947-48) after meeting with income-tax.

	Rs	A.	P.
Moga	.. +9,427	1	11
Abohar	.. -6,846	14	5
Karnal	.. +8,863	1	7
Fazilka	.. +4,330	8	9

(d) Since the matter with regard to the payment of compensation to each Supply Company is still under negotiation, the information required cannot be given at this stage. Moreover, it is not in the public interest to disclose it.

(e) None.

STATEMENT 'A'

Statement of rates being charged by the Electric Supply Companies at the time of taking over of the Undertakings

Serial No.	Description	Basic rate per unit	Surcharge per unit (25 per cent)	Dearness charge per unit	Total gross per unit	Discount per unit	Net charge per unit	Minimum charge per mensem
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Rs A. P.	Rs A. P.	Rs A. P.	Rs A. P.	Rs A. P.	Rs A. P.	Rs A. P.
1	General Supply—				—MOGA			
	(a) Lights and Fans	0 7 0	0 1 9	0 0 6	0 9 3	0 1 3	0 8 0	2 0 0
	(b) Heating and Cooking	0 3 0	0 0 9	..	0 3 9	0 1 3	0 2 6	2 0 0
2	For Motive purposes—							
	(a) During unrestricted hours	0 5 0	0 1 3	..	0 6 3	0 1 3	0 5 0	5 0 0 per kW
	(b) During restricted hours—							
	(i) For all units up to and including 500	0 3 0	0 0 9	..	0 3 9	0 0 6	0 3 3	Ditto
	(ii) For all units thereafter up to and including 2,000 units per mensem	0 2 9	0 0 9	..	0 3 6	0 0 6	0 3 0	Ditto
	(iii) For all units above 2,000 units per mensem	0 2 6	0 0 7½	..	0 3 1½	0 0 6	0 2 7½	Ditto
3	Public Lighting as per contract of municipal committee.	0 4 3	0 1 0	..	0 5 3	..	0 5 3	Minimum Guarantee of Rs. 1,362 for 3,000 units per month ; this is not being adhered to by the local body.
2—FAZILKA								
1	General Supply—							
	(a) Lights and Fans	0 8 0	25% on 0 7 0	0 0 6	0 10 3	0 2 0	0 8 3	2 0 0
			being the rate as per license=					
			0 1 9					

[Minister for Irrigation]

Serial No.	Description	Basic rate per unit	Surcharge per unit (25 per cent)	Dearness charge per unit	Total gross per unit	Discount per unit	Net charge per unit	Minimum charge per mensem
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Rs A. P.	Rs A. P.	Rs A. P.	Rs A. P.	Rs A. P.	Rs A. P.	Rs A. P.
1	General Supply— <i>concl</i>							
	(b) Heating and cooking. There is only one case at Fazilka for which minimum charge of Rs. 2 per month is being recovered.	0 3 0	0 0 9	..	0 3 9	..	0 3 9	2 0 0
2	For Motive purposes—							
	(a) During unrestricted hours. There is only one case viz. telephone exchange, from whom rates for unrestricted are being charged.	0 4 6	0 1 1½	..	0 5 7½	0 1 0	0 4 7½	5 0 0 per kW
	(b) During restricted hours—							
	(i) For all units	0 3 0	0 0 7½	..	0 3 7½	..	0 3 7½	5 0 0 per kW
3	Public lighting as per contract of Municipal Committee—	0 3 6	0 0 10½	..	0 4 4½	..	0 4 4½	Nil
3.—ABOHAR								
1	General Supply—							
	(a) Lights and Fans	0 7 0	0 1 9	0 0 6	0 9 3	0 1 3	0 8 0	2 0 0
	(b) Unmetered supply for lights	1 9 0	per month net for each 20 watts lamp					
2	For Motive purposes—							
	(a) During unrestricted hours	0 5 0	0 1 3	..	0 6 3	0 1 3	0 5 0	5 0 0 per kW
	(b) During restricted hours—							
	(i) For all units up to and including 500	0 3 0	0 0 9	..	0 3 9	0 6 0	0 3 3	Ditto
	(ii) For all units thereafter up to and including 2,000 units per mensem	0 2 6	0 0 9	..	0 3 3	0 6 0	0 2 9	Ditto
	(iii) For all units above 2,000 units per mensem	0 2 0	0 0 6	..	0 2 6	0 0 6	0 2 0	Ditto
3	Public Lighting	0 4 0	0 1 0	..	0 5 0	..	0 5 0	Nil

STATEMENT A—CONCLD :

Serial Number	Description	Basic rates per unit		Discount per unit		Net charges per unit		Surcharge per unit (12½ per cent)		Dearness charges per units		Total charges per unit								
		Rs.	A. P	Rs.	A. P	Rs.	A. P	Rs.	A. P	Rs.	A. P	Rs.	A. P							
1	2	3		4		5		6		7		8								
		Rs.	A. P	Rs.	A. P	Rs.	A. P	Rs.	A. P	Rs.	A. P	Rs.	A. P							
		4—KARNAL																		
1	General Supply—																			
	(a) Light and Fans ..	0	6	6	0	1	0	0	5	6	0	0	8½	0	0	6	0	6	8½	
	(b) Refrigerator and heating	0	2	6	0	1	0	0	1	6	0	0	2½	0	0	6	0	2	2½	
2	For Motive purpose																			
	(a) During unrestricted hours	0	4	6	0	0	9	0	3	9	0	0	5½	..			0	4	2½	8
	(b) During restricted hours—																			
	(i) 1—500 units ..	0	3	0	0	0	6	0	2	6	0	0	3½	..			0	2	9½	
	(ii) 501—2,000 ..	0	2	9	0	0	6	0	2	3	0	0	3½	..			0	2	6	8
	(iii) 2,001 and above ..	0	2	6	0	0	6	0	2	0	0	0	3	..			0	2	3	
3	Public Lighting			0	4	0	

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Sir, the statement supplied to me relates only to part (c) and part (d) but nothing is given about the other parts.

Minister : The whole statement was supplied. I wonder how it got detached. Anyhow I would read out the replies about these parts of the question which have not been received by him.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : What are the reasons for not reducing the rates of Re 0-9-3 and Re 0-8-3 per unit of electricity which were being charged at Moga and Fazilka, respectively, by the previous Electric Supply Companies despite the fact that a large number of representations were made by the public against these high rates ?

Minister : I may tell the hon. Member that as the Government has yet to estimate the amount of compensation to be paid to the Companies, it has not been possible for it to effect a reduction in these rates at this stage.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Why is the hon. Minister confusing the issue of compensation with that of rates ? This is not fair.

Minister : These two issues are interlinked. Government does not want that as a result of compensation to be paid to the Companies, and the reduction to be made in the rates of electricity, the expenditure should exceed the income.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Why does not the Government abolish the minimum charge of Rs 2 which each consumer has to pay for consuming electricity for heating, cooking, fans and lighting purposes even though the public has made many complaints ?

Minister : I have no knowledge of such complaints but everything pertaining to the minimum charge has been given in the statement.

JULLUNDUR PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, ELECTRICITY BRANCH

***1083. Shrimati Sita Devi :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of Engineers working in the Jullundur Public Works Department, Electricity Branch, at present ;
- (b) the number of Engineers which were employed by the Jullundur Electricity Supply Company ;
- (c) the reasons for the increase in the number of Engineers, if any ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : (a) Three.

(b) Three.

(c) There is no increase. On the contrary there is a decrease in the staff employed by the Government after taking over the Undertaking. The Company had one Office Superintendent drawing Rs 435 per mensem as pay, one Accountant drawing Rs 240 per mensem as pay, and one Sub-Accountant drawing Rs 169-8-0 per mensem as pay besides the above Engineering staff. Government on taking over the above Undertaking did not create the above three superior clerical posts and their work is being looked after by Senior Clerks in the scale of Rs 80/150. Further one of the three Engineers mentioned against item No. (a) above, who is in charge of the Jullundur Cantt Operation Sub-Division of the Electricity Branch, besides catering to the needs of the Jullundur Cantt Area, is also looking after the area round about Jullundur Cantt where energy was previously supplied by the Electricity Branch direct. In fact Government is employing 2½ Engineers on the Jullundur Undertaking as against three Engineers and 3 highly-paid members of the Clerical Staff employed by the Company.

Shrimati Sita Devi : The hon. Minister has been pleased to point out in the detailed statement supplied by him, that the Government recruited staff at Jullundur for this purpose. I request him to let me know, whether the previous Electric Supply Company had no arrangement of its own for the distribution of electric energy ?

Minister : The question is a confusing one. I request the hon. Lady Member to repeat it.

Shrimati Sita Devi : It may be confusing to the hon. Minister but I have put it in clear words.

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** No mutual discussion, please.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Sir, I have put a straight question but the hon. Minister says that it is confusing.

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Lady Member should put a question and not enter into a discussion with the hon. Minister.

Shrimati Sita Devi : I want to know whether the previous Electric Supply Company was or was not supplying electricity to the public of that area and why the Government had to recruit so much additional staff.

Minister : It was not supplying.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether it is in his knowledge that recently the public of Jullundur made certain complaints against the defective supply of electricity there ?

Mr. Speaker : It does not arise.

REPRESENTATION FROM THE TRAINEES OF GOVERNMENT TECHNICAL
TRAINING SCHOOL, AMBALA CANTONMENT

***1084. Shrimati Sita Devi :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether the Government has received any representation from the trainees of Government Technical Training School, Ambala Cantonment that their diplomas should be recognised by the Government; if so, the action, if any, the Government proposes to take in the matter ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : Yes. Steps are being taken by Government to raise the standard of teaching in Government Technical Institute, Ambala, to Diploma Standard. As soon as this scheme is finalised, the passed out students of the Institute will be awarded Diplomas which will be recognised by Government. In the meantime, the Irrigation Branch will consider students of this Institute for appointment in the Directorate of Construction and Plant Design, Nangal Township.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Will the hon. Minister please state why the students who have received training at the Government Technical Training School, Ambala Cantonment, for full four years, are being refused even the posts of Supervisors in the Government Workshop ?

Minister : According to the recommendations made by our Engineers the standard of training received by these students, does not entitle them even for appointment as Overseers. However, the Government has issued instructions that these students should be offered posts for which they may be found suitable.

Sardar Chanan Singh : The hon. Minister has stated that the Government has issued instructions for the employment of these students on posts for which they are best suited. I want to know, what work they will be made to do when their standard of efficiency is not considered to be up to the mark.

Mr Speaker : This question does not arise.

Shrimati Sita Devi : May I know whether the instructions, which as the hon. Minister has stated, have been issued for employing students trained from this Institute on posts for which they may be considered to be fit, will also be applicable to those students who have already completed their training from that School ?

Minister : Yes. They will also be offered posts.

Sardar Chanan Singh : How many institutions of this type are operating in this State ?

Minister : I am not in a position to give their exact number but can tell the hon. Member that a large number of such institutions are imparting this type of education. But it is not necessary that every one of the persons trained there should be employed as an Overseer. They can start their own work after completing their training?

Shrimati Sita Devi : May I know whether the students likely to be successful in the next year will be issued duly recognised diplomas at the very outset as the hon. Minister has stated that he has issued instructions to recognise the diplomas of those who have already completed their course?

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** Disallowed.

BAN ON THE CONSUMPTION OF LIQUOR IN RESTAURANTS IN THE STATE.

***1070. Shri Ram Chandra Comrade:** Will the Minister for Labour be pleased to state whether there is any restriction on the consumption of liquor in restaurants in the State ; if so, the names of places where such restriction exists ?

Chaudhri Sunder Singh : First Part : Yes.

Second Part : All over the State.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

ISSUE OF FIREARMS LICENCES IN THE STATE

178. Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht : Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the District Authorities have been instructed by the Government not to issue more than 2 per cent or so of the existing firearms licences in any district of the State in a year ;
- (b) whether there is any departure from this rule in the border districts ; if so, to what extent ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) It is not in public interest to disclose the nature of instructions given to District Magistrates.

(b) Does not arise.

OPENING OF NEW PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN THE STATE

179. Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht : Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state the number of new primary schools opened in the State from April 1, 1952 up to 30th September 1952, and during the same period last year district-wise ?

Shri Jagat Narain : A statement giving the requisite information is as follows.

Opening of New Primary Schools in the State

Name of district	Primary schools opened during 1st April 1952 to 30th September 1952			Primary schools opened during 1st April 1951 to 30th September 1951		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
1. Jullundur ..	68	15	83	2	..	2
2. Ferozepore ..	23	23	46	32	..	32
3. Ludhiana ..	19	9	28	7	3	10
4. Amritsar ..	51	..	51	7	..	7
5. Kangra ..	39	..	39	5	1	6
6. Hoshiarpur ..	70	..	70	1	..	1
7. Gurdaspur ..	63	..	63	..	..	..
8. Gurgaon ..	9	5	14	15	1	16
9. Ambala ..	84	2	86	13	2	15
10. Karna ..	3	2	5	..	..	..
11. Hissar ..	12	2	14	22	5	27
12. Rohtak ..	28	1	29	9	10	19
Total ..	469	59	528	113	22	135

DAMAGE TO MUD-HUTS IN GURGAON REFUGEE COLONY

180. Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht: Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

- whether it is a fact that as a result of recent rains over 100 mud-huts in Gurgaon Refugee Colony were rendered almost roofless and many others considerably damaged ;
- whether it is a fact that the District Authorities and the Minister for Finance saw the conditions on the spot ; if so, the relief, if any, given by the Government to the affected persons ;
- whether it is a fact that a Satyagraha was also launched by refugees in this connection ; if so, the details of their demands ;
- whether these demands have since been met ; if so, to what extent ;
- whether the above Satyagraha was given up unconditionally ?

Sardar Ujjab Singh : (a) As reported by the Deputy Commissioner, Gurgaon, 50 mud-huts were rendered uninhabitable by the recent rains. 2,150 were partially damaged.

(b) Yes. A sum of Rs 50 per family was given by way of immediate relief to the affected displaced persons.

(c) Yes. Their demand was for allotment of 5-marla plots and loan of Rs 1,000 to each family.

(d) Government have a scheme under consideration where under 4-marla developed plots for construction of pucca tenements would be given on lease to displaced persons, without proper shelter, who will in addition be given building grants up to Rs 500 per plot. The demand of the residents of Gurgaon Mud-hut Colony is expected to be met under this scheme.

(e) Yes.

ADMISSIONS TO PATWAR SCHOOLS IN THE STATE

181. Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht : Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether some minimum educational qualifications have been prescribed by the Government for admissions to Patwar Schools in the State ; if so, whether any examination, written or oral, is conducted to determine the order of merit of candidates for admission ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : First Part : Anglo-Vernacular Middle Examination is the minimum educational qualification for all classes of Patwar candidates and for all localities except Lahaul and Spiti *parganas* of Kangra District where the sixth class is the minimum qualification.

Second part : A test is generally held to determine the merit of the candidates.

ADMISSION TO BASIC TRAINING AND J.T. CLASSES

182. Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht : Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state if any minimum qualifications and procedure are prescribed for admission to the Basic Training and J.T. Classes in the State ; if so, a copy of the same be laid on the Table ?

Shri Jagat Narain : Yes. The position in respect of procedure and qualifications prescribed for admission to these classes is explained below :

The minimum qualification for admission to the J.T. Class is a pass in the Middle School Examination in the case of boys and the Middle Standard Examination in the case of girls.

The minimum qualification for admission to Government Basic Training Schools is a pass in the Matriculation Examination, whereas in the case of Basic Training Classes run by voluntary associations, it is a pass in the Middle School Examination in the case of boys and the Middle Standard Examination in the case of girls.

Since the Middle School and the Middle Standard Examinations have been abolished, the question of prescribing a pass in the Matriculation Examination as the minimum qualification for admission to the J.T. and the Basic Training Classes, maintained by Government as also by voluntary associations is under the consideration of Government.

The admission to Basic Training and J.T. Classes is made as the result of a competitive test plus interview. Admission to recently started Emergency Courses is made on the basis of marks obtained in the Matriculation Examination plus interview. Admission to all the training classes is subject to medical fitness.

SUPPLY OF WATER TO GURGAON DISTRICT FROM UPPER AGRA CANAL

183. Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht : Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Government is aware of steadily dwindling supply of canal water from Upper Agra Canal (U.P.) to certain parts of Gurgaon District;
- (b) whether it is a fact that some years back an Inter-State Conference reviewed the progress of mutual agreements in this connection ;
- (c) if the answer to part (a) be in the affirmative, the action, the Punjab Government has taken or propose to take in this matter with the U.P. Government in the near future ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : (a) The irrigation done from Upper Agra Canal in certain parts of Gurgaon District is directly under the control of the Uttar Pradesh Government. It is, therefore, not possible to say authoritatively about the dwindling supply of canal water from Upper Agra Canal.

- (b) Punjab Government is not aware of any such Inter-State Conference
- (c) Does not arise.

PLANTATION OF TREES UNDER VAN MAHOTSAVA SCHEME

185. Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht : Will the Minister for Developmet be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of trees planted in the State in the months of July and August last under the ' Van Mahotsava ' Scheme ;
- (b) the number out of these survived up to date ;
- (c) the total amount spent on this work ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) 3,147,906.
 (b) 1,898,011. Information in respect of Hissar, Karnal Kangra, Ferozepore, Ludhiana and Amritsar is not available yet.
 (c) Rs 1,01,685-0-0.

SUSPENSION OF MUNICIPALITIES IN THE STATE

186. Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht : Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state the number of municipalities suspended since April 1952, with reasons therefor in each case, together with the representations, if any, made by any of these committees and the action taken by the Government thereon ?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma : Since April 1952, the Municipal Committees of Khanna and Rohtak have been superseded as they proved themselves incompetent to perform the duties imposed on them by the Punjab Municipal Act, 1911. No representation from either of these Municipal Committees was received by Government. After the supersession of Municipal Committee, Khanna, some representations were made by its ex-President Shri Ramesh Chandra Vasisht but no action thereon by Government was considered to be necessary.

BALLABGARH MUNICIPALITY

187. Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht : Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that two members of the Ballabgarh Municipality have been removed from membership and prosecuted for certain offences ;
- (b) whether Government have received similar complaints against the President of the said Committee also ; if so, the action, if any, taken so far by the Government in the matter ?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma : (a) Two members of Municipal Committee, Ballabgarh, have been prosecuted under section 409, I.P.C. Question of their removal is under consideration of Government.

- (b) Yes. Government is considering action against him.

DISLOYALTY BY GOVERNMENT SERVANTS

189. Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht : Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether any disciplinary action has been taken against any Government servant in the State since partition for reasons of disloyalty to Government ; if so, the number and the names of such persons together with the punishment awarded in each case ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : Yes, a statement is as follows.

Serial No.	Name of Government servant	Punishment awarded	Offence committed
1	S. Harnam Singh ..	Dismissed	Unlawful activities connected with R.S.S.S. agitation in December, 1948.
2	Shri Guran Ditta Khosla	Do	Ditto
3	Shri Goverdhan Dass ..	Do	Ditto
4	Shri Faqir Chand ..	Departmental action being taken	Disloyalty to Government.
5	S. Ranbir Singh Grewal	Dismissed	Took part in 'Protest Day' organised by the Akali Dal against the arrest of Master Tara Singh.
6	Shri Bodh Raj ..	Services terminated	Took part in the Satyagrah against Government.
7	Shri Siri Ram ..	Dismissed	
8	S. Tirlochan Singh ..	Services terminated	Due to Communist leanings.
9	S. Lachman Singh ..	Ditto	Ditto
10	Shri Ram Krishan ..	Removed from service	Took part in R.S.S.S.
11	Shri Amar Nath ..	Ditto	Ditto
12	Shri Jaswant Lal ..	Ditto	Ditto
13	Shri Girdhari Lal ..	Ditto	Ditto
14	S. Kirpal Singh ..	Services terminated	For giving shelter to Communist.
15	Shri Lokinder Nath ..	Services terminated	Took active part in R.S.S.S.
16	Shri Bhagat Ram ..	Ditto	Creating false rumours and thus creating panic.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Minister for Development (Sardar Partap Singh Kairon) : Sir, I lay on the Table Draft Rules made under section 7 of the Cotton Transport Act, 1923, and the notification proposed under section 3 of the said Act, as required by section 8 thereof.

Minister for Development : Sir, I beg to move—

That the Draft Rules made under section 7 of the Cotton Transport Act, 1923, and the notification proposed under section 3 of the said Act, as laid on the Table, be approved.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Draft Rules made under section 7 of the Cotton Transport Act, 1923, and the notification proposed under section 3 of the said Act, as laid on the Table, be approved.

Now there is an amendment by Shrimati Sita Devi. I call upon her to move it.

Shrimati Sita Devi (Jullundur City South East) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in proviso to Rule 4, line 2, for the word 'ten', the word 'twenty' be substituted.

Mr Speaker : Motion moved—

That in proviso to Rule 4, line 2, for the word 'ten', the word 'twenty' be substituted.

Minister for Development : Sir, I accept the amendment.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in proviso to Rule 4, line 2, for the word 'ten', the word 'twenty' be substituted.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Draft Rules made under section 7 of the Cotton Transport Act, 1923, as amended, and the notification proposed under section 3 of the said Act, as laid on the Table, be approved.

The motion was carried.

EXPRESSION OF REGRET BY SHRI SRI CHAND, M. L. A., FOR USING ABUSIVE LANGUAGE.

Mr. Speaker : It has been reported to me that Shri Sri Chand used the word 'bad challan' against an hon. Member of this House. May I know what explanation he has to offer.

Shri Sri Chand : Sir, I am very sorry for using that word and I withdraw it.

THE PUNJAB MUNICIPAL (AMENDMENT) BILL.

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma) : Sir, I introduce the Punjab Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1952.

Minister for Local Government : Sir, I beg to move—

That the Punjab Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1952, be taken into consideration at once.

Mr. Speaker, some amendments are required to be made from time to time in the Municipal Act which is, at present, in force in our State. Whenever in its actual working some flaws come to the notice of the Government, it becomes incumbent upon it to remove them. But the Government itself cannot amend an Act. It has to come before the Legislature with an amending measure. So according to the rules it is this very House which is empowered to carry out amendments in a parent Act. Now this Bill seeks to provide three things as given in the three clauses of this Bill.

The first thing is that whenever any Municipal Committee contemplates imposing a particular tax, it has to pass a resolution to that effect. Thereafter, the proposed tax is given publicity through the press. Then a final decision is taken after having considered the amendments, if any, proposed by the public. But the decision which is thus taken in respect of the tax has to be conveyed to the Government for approval. The Committee cannot enforce the levy of a tax unless approval for its imposition is accorded by the Government. It can neither increase nor reduce any tax without the prior consent of the Government. According to the present rules, the enforcement of a tax has to be withheld for three months even if the proposal to this effect obtains the concurrence of the Government.

Supposing a Municipal Committee resolves to impose a certain tax on the citizens, it cannot enforce it unless it receives the approval of the Government and the Government can take three months for according its assent to the proposal. In other words the Tax can be levied only after the expiry of this period and not earlier. It has been represented that the period of three months is long. Sometimes the imposition of a tax is considered to be urgent and obviously the requirement to wait for its approval by the Government serves no useful purpose. When there may be no objection to the acceptance of a certain proposal by the Government, why should it be delayed for a lengthy period of three months? Government, therefore, feels that this period of three months should be reduced to one month. This means that the Committee will be free to enforce the proposed tax after the expiry of one month. Besides, the Government thinks that when a certain step is considered justified both by the Municipal Committee and the Government, then there is no reason why its enforcement should be delayed. Experience has revealed that it is no use withholding its approval for such a long period. So, the first amendment seeks to remove this difficulty.

Secondly, the Municipal Committees at certain places, have imposed some taxes on the properties, houses and lands which fall within their jurisdiction. Even in this respect the regulation in force up till now is that if a particular person sells his house or land, etc., it becomes obligatory for him and the transferee to intimate to the Municipal Committee about the transaction. Besides, if the heir to any property dies, it becomes the duty of his collaterals to inform the Government about it so that it may not have to experience difficulty in collecting this tax. But it has been observed that there is no such provision in this Act which may help take action against those who violate this duty. Besides, it has been found that if a seller does not inform the Municipality about the sale of his property the buyer or the transferee is made to pay all the arrears of tax, etc, when the transaction comes to the notice of

the Municipal Committee. But it has to experience a good deal of difficulty in the realisation of arrears. It is, therefore, considered necessary that the onus should lie on the seller of the property or land to inform the Committee immediately after the transfer and registration of the property concerned. If he fails to bring this fact to the notice of the Municipal Committee, the transferee should file a report against him (the seller) upon which he can be punished with a fine which may extend to fifty rupees. If, even after the imposition of the fine, he continuously fails to furnish the information to the Committee, he can be fined further up to Rs 5 for every day until he complies with the requirement of the law. This will enable the Municipal Committees to find out who the person is from whom the tax on properties or lands has to be recovered.

The third amendment proposed in the Bill aims at putting a check on a very dirty and dangerous habit. Of course, it will not be possible to make this provision in the measure applicable to all municipalities but we will endeavour to enforce it in the bigger ones wherever it is found necessary to do so. The hon. Members are aware that spitting on the roads is prohibited in Simla. A measure of this kind is very necessary for hill stations because a large number of people suffering from tuberculosis and other such dangerous diseases visit these places. Their sputum is likely to spread germs of these dread diseases if they are allowed to spit on the roads and at other public places. The Government of India once promulgated an ordinance in this behalf and the Simla Municipality took advantage of it. The law was enforced in this area and a fine of Rs 20 was prescribed for the offence. The term of that ordinance has expired and there is no permanent law now to check the evil. Strictly speaking, there is no law at present under which a person spitting on public roads could be punished. Suppose you catch a man spitting in a public place and want to get him punished for it. The law cannot help you because there is no legal bar to spitting anywhere. It is, therefore, proposed now to empower big municipalities like Jullundur, Rohtak etc., to put a check on this dirty habit in those areas. But even in their cases we have laid down the condition that if a municipality wants to enforce this provision it can do so only after having passed a resolution to this effect and getting it approved by the Government.

So this Bill has been brought forward for this threefold purpose. There is a drafting mistake in it for the rectification of which an amendment will be moved. I know that the measure will cause a lot of hardship if that mistake is not removed and, therefore, I am going to accept it. Otherwise, there is nothing controversial in this Bill and I hope that the House will accept it.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved—

That the Punjab Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1952, be taken into consideration at once.

Now there are two amendments to this motion by Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina and Sardar Chanan Singh. I call upon Sardar Achhar Singh to move his amendment.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (Punjabi): Sir, I beg to move—

That the Punjab Municipal (Amendment) Bill 1952, be circulated for eliciting public opinion thereon by the 15th March 1953.

Sir, the Minister was pleased to remark that this is an innocent measure and there is nothing controversial in it. I am aware that there is always some innocent and non-controversial clause in every measure brought forward by

[Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina]

our Government but the difficulty is that this innocence is invariably taken away in other clauses of the Bill. For instance, I would refer to the clause relating to spitting. In this connection I would advise the Government to pay increased attention to the raising of the standard of cleanliness maintained by municipalities.

It is natural that one always avoids spitting on a road or in any public place which is kept spick and span. The roads in Simla are kept very clean and therefore nobody would like to spit on the roads here. But what about Amritsar? It is a very big city. The Municipality has a very large income, but what is the standard of cleanliness maintained by it in its bazars and streets? Once Pandit Jawaharlal remarked that if he had to stay in the State of Punjab he would stay anywhere except at Amritsar. Before enacting laws of this nature the hon. Minister should make the Municipalities raise their standard of cleanliness. As I said, nobody would like to spit in a public place at Simla. But in Amritsar where you find heaps of filth and refuse lying here and there, you feel like spitting everywhere, even without feeling the necessity for doing so. Now the hon. Minister is out to prescribe by law, a fine for spitting in public places, but has he ever cared to ponder over the matter and tried to understand its implications? Suppose a poor villager goes to a city where this law is in force and being ignorant of the law happens to spit at some dirty place. What will be the result? He will be punished with a fine amounting to Rs 20. In fact our Government is very fond of making laws imposing fines of different varieties. Perhaps they want to meet all their expenditure with income derived from these fines.

Then they have reduced to one month the period of three months which was allowed, under the existing law, to elapse between the notification of a Municipal tax and its enforcement. May I submit that in most cases even the period of three months is hardly enough to arrange for money to pay the tax?

As regards notice of a transfer of title to properties, I submit that after such transfers the transferers would naturally wish that the liability to pay the property tax may also be shifted off their shoulders at the earliest possible moment. No transferer would delay intimation regarding the transfer to the Municipality. Then where lies the necessity of prescribing a fine in this case?

In the end I would like to point out to the Government that the proper procedure in respect of such legislation would be first to make arrangements for educating the public. It should therefore impress upon, rather compel, the Municipal Committees to improve their standard of cleanliness and carry on vigorous propaganda against spitting on the roads with the help of their publicity vans. When this has been done it will be justified in bringing forward such a measure. Again, it is a matter of common knowledge that the kind of food that we eat causes a lot of phlegm. Therefore, before this enactment is made and enforced it should be made incumbent upon the Municipal Committees to provide Spittoons, receptacles, etc, at suitable places.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved—

That the Punjab Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1952, be circulated for eliciting public opinion thereon by the 15th of March 1953.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Punjab Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1952, be circulated for eliciting public opinion thereon by the 15th of March 1953.

The motion was lost.

Now I call upon Sardar Chanan Singh to move his amendment.

Sardar Chanan Singh (Tanda) (Punjabi): Sir, I beg to move—

That the Punjab Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1952, be referred to a Select Committee consisting of—

- (1) Pandit Shri Ram Sharma, Minister-in-charge,
- (2) Shrimati Sita Devi, M. L. A.,
- (3) Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut, M. L. A.,
- (4) Sardar Wazir Singh M. L. A.,
- (5) Shri Sri Chand, M. L. A.,

with instructions to report by the 18th December 1952.

Mr. Speaker, this Bill proposes to vest the municipal committees with wider powers than before. The hon. Minister cited the instance of Simla. It might be useful to forbid spitting in Simla but as regards other municipal committees it would be noticed that most of the towns are in a very dirty condition. The committees are, as a matter of fact, not aware of the civic rights of the people. Municipal elections have not been held for the last fifteen or sixteen years. In some cases the committees have been superseded and their work has been entrusted to Administrators. So we would be doing a great injustice to the people of the Punjab if we vest more powers in these Committees as they have ceased to be representative of the public. In other countries the municipal committees work for the benefit of the people. They construct parks, run hospitals and schools and supply electricity and water to the people. In our cities these things are conspicuous by their absence but heaps of filth are found everywhere. It is, therefore, not proper to give more powers to such Committees. I know something about the Town Committee, Dasuya, in Hoshiarpur District. It was elected 17 years ago and its members themselves take contracts for the construction of roads.

Then, Sir, the taxes are already very heavy. In addition to the house-tax, property-tax is also charged from the people. Over and above these, one has to pay sales tax too. The people are already overburdened with taxes and a Bill of this nature should not be passed hurriedly. It is for this reason that I have moved an amendment that it should be referred to a Select Committee so that it might be thoroughly examined.

Then, Sir, reduction of period between the notification of a municipal tax and its coming into force from three months to one month would mean great injustice to the people. It is with great difficulty that the people collect money in three months for filing appeals. The period of one month is too short and in such a short time the people would not be able to decide whether to file an appeal or not.

One of the clauses of the amending Bill relates to transfers of title. In many cases the change of title is due to the death of a person and his heirs becoming the owners of the property. After a person's death the mourning lasts for not less than fifteen or twenty days. While the bereaved family would be in mourning the municipal committee would start taking steps leading to a fine of fifty rupees being imposed on them. It is not fair that such

[Sardar Chanan Singh

a power should be given to the municipal committees. Instead of harassing the people in this manner why does the Government not nationalize everything in the towns so that the troubles of the public might end. A Bill of this nature must be referred to a Select Committee so that its provisions may be thoroughly examined before they are passed into law.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved—

That the Punjab Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1952, be referred to a Select Committee consisting of—

- (1) Pandit Shri Ram Sharma, Minister-in-charge,
 - (2) Shrimati Sita Devi, M. L. A.,
 - (3) Sardar Channan Singh Dhut, M. L. A.,
 - (4) Sardar Wazir Singh, M. L. A.,
 - (5) Shri Sri Chand, M. L. A.,
- with instructions to report by the 18th of December 1952.

Sardar Nidhan Singh (Mehna) (Punjabi): Mr. Speaker, I have noticed a very strange thing in this House. The public is perhaps regarded as a lump of sugar which would sweeten the mouth of a person who eats it. The administration of the municipal committees is such that if one were to go to a town one would find that it is a common practice that the houses of municipal commissioners alone are kept extra clean by the municipal scavengers. The municipal by-laws are completely ignored and the sanitary inspectors and other members of the municipal staff are used for doing domestic work for the municipal commissioners. No heed is paid to the cleanliness of the towns. Moreover no elections have been held for the past several years.

✓ **Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member is getting irrelevant.

Sardar Nidhan Singh: This is not irrelevant. I am speaking about the municipal committees. The rules and regulations which the committees frame are meant for the benefit of the municipal commissioners only and the public have to suffer.

✓ **Mr. Speaker:** The municipal committees are not under discussion at present. Some amendments have been proposed to the existing Act and those are under discussion.

Sardar Nidhan Singh: Well, Sir, after the passage of this Bill what will happen? When a person dies and his family is in mourning the municipal committee would start taking action against not being informed about the change of ownership. The committees have already imposed many taxes. In addition to paying a tax on milk and other articles of daily use, the public is being squeezed to pay an other tax in the form of octroi too. The committees should have the interests of the public before them. All these things should be thoroughly considered in the Select Committee before this Bill is passed.

Shri Wadhawa Ram (Fazilka) (Punjabi): Sir, I would like to express my views with regard to the speech made by the hon. Minister. It is the duty of every municipal committee to provide water and electricity to the people at the cheapest rates, make arrangements for cleanliness and give them all civic amenities at the lowest cost. I am surprised not to find any section of people on whom the municipal committees have not levied taxes in one form or another. In this connection I may cite the instance of Sadhaura Municipality which has levied tax even on barbers.

✓ **Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member is not relevant to the motion now before the House.

Shri Wadhawa Ram: Sir, I have just, by the way, made a mention of these things. I would say that the hon. Minister has tried to break the back of the Punjabi people by introducing this measure. The rigour of this law would be keenly felt at the time when this Act will come into force. My Congressite friends will realise the severity of this measure when they go from villages to cities and are challaned for spitting and are made to pay fine for committing this offence. I think that before making an amendment of this nature in the Municipal Act, the Government should first educate the people so that they may not contravene the provisions of this Bill. It should give full publicity to this law in villages so that the illiterate villagers may not infringe its provisions in their ignorance. It is meet and proper that the Government should enforce this law after making the necessary publicity in the villages. But now if any villager out of sheer ignorance spits in a public place in a town he will be punishable with a fine of Rs. 20. The Government is fully aware of how fines are generally imposed upon the people. I do not mean that the Ministers impose these fines but all the same ultimate responsibility devolves upon them because it is they who vest these powers in the officers who often misuse their authority. Now if this Bill is enacted into law much mischief can be played. A police constable would himself spit at some public place and challan an innocent person and get him fined by the court. Under this Bill the Government will give powers to certain specified municipalities which will in particular include municipalities of hill stations.

Besides, if any person transfers his title of property to anyone he will be required to give notice of this fact to the municipal committee within a period of one month. If he fails to do so he will be punishable with fine which may extend to Rs. 50 and in case of a continuing breach with further fine which extends to Rs. 5 for every day of the breach. I submit that the imposition of such penalty is not at all justifiable. There appears to be no ground for imposing this additional penalty of Rs. 5 when the municipal committees will easily recover the amount of tax. It does not behove our own Government to make such provisions in the law. Moreover, it will cause great hardship upon the people if the period is reduced from three months to one month.

Sardar Gurdial Singh Dhillon (Jhabbal) (Punjabi): Sir, I whole-heartedly support the new clause which is being incorporated in the amending Bill. I am surprised at the Opposition's attitude of criticising this Bill which prohibits spitting on the roads. The inclusion of this clause will help in improving the health of the people and reduce the chances of spread of diseases caused as a result of spitting, here and there, on the roads. I wonder why my hon. Friend Sardar Nidhan Singh had opposed this Bill. Does he wish that diseases should break out as a result of spitting on the roads and take a heavy toll of life? If my hon. Friend Sardar Achhar Singh had taken the trouble of carefully studying the Bill, he would not have said that the municipalities should provide receptacles for this purpose. I may tell him for his information that it has been clearly provided in the Bill that—

....spits in a place other than a drain or a receptacle provided by the committee for this purpose.

If a municipal committee does not provide these receptacles then no person can be deemed to have infringed the provisions of this law. It appears that the Opposition has taken a vow to oppose the Government and to criticise even

[**Sardar Gurdial Singh Dhillon**]

a useful measure and thus to seek an opportunity to condemn the Government to serve their own ends. I will again repeat that my friends should not oppose this Bill which aims at improving the health of the people.

Sardar Darshan Singh (Tarn Taran) (Punjabi): Sir, I would like to make a few observations with regard to this amending Bill. It has been provided in the Bill that any tax which is proposed to be levied by a municipal committee will be enforced within one month of its notification. Previously a period of three months was allowed to elapse between the notification and the actual enforcement of the tax and now this period has been reduced to one month. This will cause great hardship to the people.

Secondly, it has been provided in the Bill that if any person transfers the title of his property in favour of another person, then he would be required, under the law, to give a notice of this fact to the municipal committee within one month, instead of three months as already provided. If he fails to do so within the prescribed time he will be punishable with fine which may extend to Rs. 50. This provision has been made in section 74 of the Act. It will cause great hardship to the people.

Besides this, it has been provided in the Bill that if any person spits in a public place he will be punishable with a fine of Rs. 20. Many villagers will become the victims of this law, in ignorance. The Government should give full publicity to this law in the villages. At the same time I feel that no municipal committees should levy any tax upon the people unless it ensures that the money so collected would be utilised for the welfare of the people.

✓ **Mr. Speaker:** I will ask the hon. Member to confine his remarks to the motion under discussion.

Minister For Finance: He has not even moved a motion that the Bill be referred to the Select Committee.

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma) (Hindi): Sir, the motion before the House was that the bill be referred to a Select Committee with a direction to submit its report on it by 18th December 1952, but none of the hon. Members supporting it, has even after wasting so much of his breath been able to make out a case for the reference of the Bill to a Select Committee. It appears as though everyone of them took it as an opportunity to start a general discussion on the municipal administration. An hon. member of the Opposition has made three points in his speech all of which are the outcome of a mistaken notion. It would not, however, matter much if what he has said were just irrelevant because irrelevant discussion is of frequent occurrence.

Firstly, he is mistaken in taking the view that after the passage of this Bill municipal committees will start collecting a tax one month after the decision to levy it, without giving any opportunity to the people to file objections. This view is the result of a misunderstanding; no such provision has been made in this Bill. If he had listened to what I said in the beginning he would not have raised this objection. The correct position with regard to the levying of a tax by a municipal committee is this. Whenever a municipal committee passes a resolution to levy a tax, it will invite objections from the people before starting its collection. After giving full opportunity to them to file objections,

it will give them due consideration and send the case to the Government for approval. The collection of the tax will start one month after the Government has given its approval. Not to allow a municipal committee to realize the tax for a period of three months even after the Government has accorded its approval would be putting an unnecessary obstruction in its functioning. No conceivable benefit is likely to accrue to anybody by fixing the time-limit at three months. It is absolutely unnecessary to have such a time-limit. To think that with the passage of this measure people will be denied the opportunity to file objections or that it will be lessened in any way is to hold on to an erroneous view.

Secondly, the learned friends sitting opposite have taken exception to the provision for imposing a penalty for enforcing the provisions of section 74 of the parent Act. My submission in this regard is that in cases of alienation of property, whether by sale or mortgage, if the necessary intimation about the transfer of title is not given to the municipal committees the latter have to undergo unnecessary botheration. For instance they have to locate the transferee. If they succeed in this task, they are faced with another difficulty in the form of the efforts of the new owner to evade the responsibility for the payment of the property-tax on one pretext or the other. The provision for the imposition of a penalty has been made with a view to save the municipal committees from such like difficulties. With the passage of this Bill, they will not have to face any unnecessary difficulty in the realization of the tax.

The third objection pertains to the provision made in this Bill to vest powers in municipal committees to check spitting on public roads. It is wrong to think that it will result in the grant of unfettered liberty to all municipal committees to ban spitting and thus cause hardship to the illiterate people. No municipal committee will, even after the passage of this Bill, be able to frame a bye-law against spitting without the prior sanction of the Government. The intention of the Government is just to have such a bye-law framed in hill stations such as Simla and Dalhousie which are visited by the people primarily with a view to improve their health. I may also inform the hon. Members that the notice-boards prohibiting spitting and often seen fixed in Simla on roadsides today, have no legal force behind them. The Government has not the least intention of having fines imposed on those who might spit on public roads in cities like Amritsar and Jullundur. It is far from Government's desire to create any difficulty for the public. It would be better if the hon. Members try to understand the spirit of this clause. There is nothing in this Bill which may give rise to any misgiving of people being challaned or marched to police stations or of a municipal committee augmenting its funds with the help of fines realized from those found guilty of spitting.

My learned friends sitting opposite have said what they liked, without keeping in view the motion moved and supported by them. They have said even that which they ought to have said at the time when the House considered the Bill clause by clause. The Opposition has performed its function; no useful purpose would be served by carrying on discussion on this motion for reference of the Bill to a Select Committee. As a matter of fact there is absolutely no idea in referring it to a Select Committee. There is nothing in it on which the whole House cannot deliberate just now. With these words, I submit that this motion be rejected.

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That the Punjab Municipal (Amendment) Bill, be referred to a Select Committee consisting of—

- (1) Pandit Shri Ram Sharma, Minister-in-charge,
- (2) Shrimati Sita Devi, M. L. A.,
- (3) Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut, M. L. A.,
- (4) Sardar Wazir Singh, M. L. A.,
- (5) Chaudhri Sri Chand, M. L. A.,

with instructions to report by the 18th December 1952.

The motion was lost

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That the Punjab Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1952, be taken into consideration at once.

The motion was carried

CLAUSE 2

Mr. Speaker: Now the House will consider the Bill clause by clause. Sardar Chanan Singh and others have given notice of an amendment to clause No. 2. I request any one of them to move it.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut: Sir, I move—

That the Clause be deleted.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved.

That the Clause be deleted.

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That the Clause be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 3

Mr. Speaker: Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut and his colleagues have given notice of 2 amendments. Any one of them may move the amendments.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi): Sir, I move—

That in the proposed subsection (5), line 5. for the words "fifty rupees" the words "five rupees" be substituted.

That lines 6—9 of the proposed subsection (5) be deleted.

Sir, in my opinion the fine of rupees fifty which has been provided in this Bill is far too excessive. Such fines are undesirable because they create difficulties. The hon. Minister has stated, that its necessity has been felt because people do not generally send intimation regarding the transfer of their property, to the municipal committees in time. So in order to compel them to notify such transfers to the committees, this amendment has been proposed.

I, however, do not subscribe to this view. I still maintain that there is no need for a provision like this. It is surprising that even though such matters go to the courts yet they cannot come to the notice of the municipal committees. If in spite of such matters being in courts the municipal committees fail to take notice of them then it is no fault of the people. The Committees themselves should be vigilant. However, if the onus of informing the Committee of transfer of property is to lie on the people, then the defaulters should not be subjected to a heavy fine. I think the fine of rupees fifty is very excessive. It is in fact very unjust. My view is that rupees five would be quite sufficient. So it is proposed that in this clause a sum of rupees five should be substituted for rupees fifty. The second thing is that the last four lines of this clause are unnecessary and they should be deleted.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved—

That in the proposed subsection (5), line 5, for the words "fifty rupees" the words "five rupees" be substituted.

That lines 6—9 of the proposed subsection (5) be deleted.

Shri Sri Chand (Bahadurgarh) (Hindi): Sir, I feel that this clause has been put in the Bill without any careful thought being given to it; otherwise there was no question of 'continuous breach' in any way. In section 74 of the Punjab Municipal Act, 1911, it is provided :—

"(1) Whenever the title to or over any building or land of any person primarily liable for the payment of property taxes on such property is transferred the transferer—(or and the transferee) shall within three months of the registration of the deed of transfer, if it be registered, or if be not registered, within three months of its execution, or if no instrument be executed, of the actual transfer give notice in writing of such transfer to the committee".

Subsection (3) of the same section lays down :—

"(3) Whenever the title or over any building or land has devolved upon any person by inheritance, the heir shall within three months of the date of the death of the former owner give notice in writing of such inheritance to the committee".

The sum and substance of this section is that it is the duty of the person who transfers his property and of the person who gets the land by transfer or by inheritance to give notice of such a transfer to the municipal committee within three months of such a transfer. Similar is the duty of the person who buys land from another person. If somehow or other the information of such a transfer reaches the municipal committee, the question of a 'continuous breach' does not arise at all. So in the present Bill the provision for 'continuous breach' is wrong, because if somehow the information has reached the committee there can be no continuous breach in any way. If no information has been given the breach does not begin. If the person concerned does not give the required information, a fine of fifty rupees has been provided for the same. Therefore the second part of this clause is redundant. The first part is right, but the second is wrong. It has been unnecessarily inserted in the clause. It appears that the Clause has not been carefully read, otherwise it would not have been there.

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma) (Hindi): Sir, my hon. Friend Chaudhri Sri Chand is a good and able lawyer, but it is surprising to hear from him that the Government has put this clause without paying due thought or consideration to it or even without reading it carefully. Chaudhri Sahib may have read it but I, too, have a feeling that while making his speech, he did not care whether what he was going to say was right or not

[Minister for Local Government]

The real thing is that according to the existing law the buyer and the seller of any property within the limits of a municipality are required to give notice of any such transaction to the committee within three months. This requirement was necessary because the committee needed it for purposes of realising its various taxes. It is necessary to know from whom the taxes are to be realised so that there may be no disputes in this matter. The hon. Members will be surprised to know that despite the existence of this section difficulties have arisen in the realisation of these taxes, and there is no municipality in the State which has not to deal with five or seven such cases. This is what is happening under the existing law. What we wish to do now is that not only should the amount of tax due be realised with the help of the courts but the man who does not give the required information should also be penalised, so that he may feel the pinch of it and no more neglect to perform his duty. So the object of this Clause is that if any person fails to give the required information regarding the transaction to the committee the latter should make a report of his failure to do the needful to the court and get him fined to the extent of rupees fifty for his negligence. This is the maximum limit of the penalty which can be imposed upon any person. It need not be fifty in every case—it may be less. Still if a person does not give the required notice to the committee and also fails to pay the fine but furnishes the information at some later stage, he will be liable to a penalty of rupees five per day for continuing the breach. Ordinarily people do not go so far and they give the information on account of the fear of punishment. But there can be cases where even the fear of punishment cannot compel a person to give such information. The law must make a provision for all such eventualities, however remote. In other words, any person who does not give the required information to the committee will be fined. If he does not give such an information even after the imposition of the fine and continues in the breach, a daily fine has been provided against him. It is necessary that he should be dealt with in accordance with the nature of his offence. In fact, the Government in the case of a continuous breach . . .

Shri Sri Chand : When a person is fined the information reaches the committee by itself. So the question of a continuous breach should not arise. What other information is required by the committee ?

Minister for Local Government : The need for more information from the person arises because a lesson is to be taught to him. If he does not give the information even on being fined some other penalty should be imposed upon him. It is the desire of the Government to enforce the laws strictly and to see that the persons concerned realise their responsibilities fully in the matter. I, therefore, feel that this clause is neither redundant nor inserted carelessly. In my opinion my learned Friend has raised this objection without any sufficient ground.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in the proposed subsection(5), line 5, for the words "fifty rupees" the word^s "five rupees" be substituted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That lines 6—9 of the proposed subsection (5) be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 3 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Clause 4.

Mr. Speaker : I have received notices of several amendments to Clause No. 4. First of all I call upon Sardar Achhar Singh to move his amendment.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (*Punjabi*) : Sir, I beg to move—

That the Clause be deleted.

Mr. Speaker, whenever an hon. Member, a Minister or the Deputy Speaker makes a speech, he says that the Members of the Opposition criticise the Government simply for the sake of criticism. I think this is uncharitable on their part to make such a remark. We on this side of the House always put forward the view which we honestly hold. Now, Sir, when the Bills passed by this House come back from the Upper House, we are asked by the Government to show due regard for the Upper House and accept their recommendations. But it is a thousand pities that when we offer our suggestions, they are not accepted and we are dubbed as offering opposition for the sake of opposition. What does this indicate ? Does it not mean that the Treasury Benches have no regard for the Opposition and that is why they do not accept any of our amendments ? Is this the democracy in action ?

Sir, I would submit that the Government should at first issue a directive to the municipal committees to improve the sanitary conditions of the cities and towns where even the drains are not covered and are in a very unhealthy state. They should be asked to cover those drains. Mr. Speaker, there is a *ganda nala* in Amritsar which, as its name connotes, stinks. If I happen to go near it for spitting purposes I feel nausea. Naturally this must be the case with others and nobody would like to go near it for purposes of spitting in it. The difficulty is that the Government does not realise its own responsibility towards the public but is out to punish with fine which may extend to twenty rupees, every such person who within the limits of a municipality to which the operation of this section is extended by a notification by the State Government, spits in a place other than a drain or a receptacle provided by the committee for this purpose. I do not want to encourage the bad habit of spitting but I submit that the Government should also give its attention towards other shortcomings existing in the administration of local bodies because it is the duty of the Government to remove them. I would ask the Government not to remain in a fools' paradise but to learn to do their duty conscientiously. I would also request the hon. Members sitting on the Treasury Benches to eschew the habit of making remarks that the Opposition always criticise for the sake of criticism. I would request them to consider and accept our constructive suggestions. If they do not accept them, they are at liberty not to do so. But they should remember that non-acceptance of our amendments would leave the Bill ambiguous.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Clause be deleted.

Mr. Speaker : Now I call upon Shri Sri Chand to move his amendment.

Shri Sri Chand : Sir, I beg to move—

That in the proposed section 156-A, line 1, between the words "whoever" and "within" the following words be inserted:—

"in a public place".

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in the proposed section 156-A, line 1, between the words "whoever" and "within" the following words be inserted:—

" in a public place ".

Minister for Local Government : Sir, I accept this amendment.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Clause be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in the proposed section 156-A, line 1, between the words "whoever" and "within" the following words be inserted:—

"in a public place".

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 4, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 1

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That clause 1 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

TITLE

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Title be the Title of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Minister for Local Government : Sir, I move—

That the Punjab Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1952, be passed.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Punjab Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1952, be passed.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Punjab Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1952, be passed.

The motion was carried.

THE EAST PUNJAB COTTON (STATISTICS) (AMENDMENT) BILL.

Minister for Development (Sardar Partap Singh Kairon) : Sir, I beg to introduce the East Punjab Cotton (Statistics) (Amendment) Bill.

Minister for Development : Sir, I beg to move—

That the East Punjab Cotton (Statistics) (Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration at once.

Mr. Speaker, the East Punjab Cotton (Statistics) Act, No. XXIII of 1948, does not contain any provision to cover cases in which offences are committed by a company or other corporate body which deals in cotton, although it is essential that some responsibility should be imposed upon these bodies. In order to cover such cases, it is desirable that the East Punjab Cotton (Statistics) Act, 1948, should be amended. An amending Bill has, therefore, been moved to achieve this object and I request the House to pass it.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the East Punjab Cotton (Statistics) (Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration at once.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the East Punjab Cotton (Statistics) (Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration at once.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Now the House will consider the Bill clause by clause.

CLAUSE 2

Mr. Speaker : Sardar Achhar Singh may move his amendment.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (Punjabi) : Sir, I move—

That in the proposed subsection (2), lines 3—4, between the words “corporate” and “the” the following words be substituted:—

“the director or directors”.

Mr. Speaker, the object of this amendment is to strengthen this clause. Now the companies contravening the provisions of the Act ask their Managers, etc., to take the whole responsibility of violating these provisions on their own shoulders and promise them to pay the fine that would be imposed upon them. Mr. Speaker, we, therefore, want that along with the Secretary and the Manager the name of Director should also be included. As this amendment gives more strength to the Act, I request that it should be accepted by the Government.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in the proposed subsection (2), lines 3—4, between the words “corporate” and “the” the following words be substituted:—
“the director or directors”.

Minister for Development (Sardar Partap Singh Kairon) (Punjabi) : Mr. Speaker, the amendment moved by my hon. Friend opposite will not strengthen the hand of the Government. I think the inclusion of a person who is not responsible for contravening any of the provisions and is not present on the spot, will be an act of injustice on the part of the Government. I, therefore, feel that only the guilty person should be held responsible. The name of the Director should not, therefore, be included.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in the proposed subsection (2), lines 3—4, between the words “corporate” and “the” the following words be substituted:—
“the director or directors”.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 1

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 1 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

TITLE

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Title be the Title of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Development Minister : Sir, I move—

That the East Punjab Cotton (Statistics) (Amendment) Bill, 1952, be passed.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the East Punjab Cotton (Statistics) (Amendment) Bill, 1952, be passed

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the East Punjab Cotton (Statistics) (Amendment) Bill 1952, be passed.

The motion was carried.

THE PUNJAB PASSENGERS AND GOODS TAXATION (AMENDMENT) BILL.

Chief Minister (Shri Bhim Sen Sachar) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to introduce the Punjab Passengers and Goods Taxation (Amendment) Bill.

Chief Minister : Sir, I beg to move—

That the Punjab Passengers and Goods Taxation (Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration at once.

Mr. Speaker, I beg to submit that the amending Bill, now before the House, is a simple measure. Though the operators of transport and goods carriers in the State had agreed to the principle of this tax yet they objected to the provision relating to the maintaining of accounts. They said that most of them were illiterate and would feel a lot of inconvenience in doing so. Obviously the law, as it stands, will put the operators to trouble and it is also possible that some of the officers may even harass them. To avoid this difficulty, their representatives saw the hon. Ministers. They suggested that some solution should be found whereby the tax of the Government be realised without subjecting them to the condition of maintaining accounts? So keeping that thing in view, this amending Bill has been brought before the House.

By this amendment, the Government will be authorised to accept the tax on a lump sum basis. The main cause of their trouble, which they had apprehended will be removed by this Bill. I hope that this simple measure will be able successfully to meet that situation which acquired great importance recently.

I, therefore, hope that the hon. Members will pass it without much discussion :

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Punjab Passengers and Goods Taxation (Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration at once.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (Punjabi): Mr. Speaker, I may point out at the very outset, that we were originally against the principle of this legislative measure. However later on we accepted it but we were against the method intended to be adopted by the Government for the recovery of this objectionable tax. The hon. Members can verify this fact from the record of the speeches made by us at that time. It appears that the Government has made it a point not to accept any suggestion from the Opposition. Now, it has come out with that very amendment which we wanted it to adopt at that time. Now it has been obliged by the force of circumstances to bring forward this amendment. The truck-owners had suspended their business and expressed their inability to the Government to maintain the required accounts. They did not negotiate with the hon. Ministers for the removal of this difficulty. I am saying this on the basis of first-hand knowledge of the episode which led the Government to waive the condition of maintaining accounts by the truck-owners. They put forward the plea that they, being illiterate, would be exploited by the Police. I am pained to remind the House, that the hon. Ministers had not accepted our suggestion at that time but later on they were obliged to get an Ordinance promulgated by the Governor, on the basis of which the Government is at present recovering this tax.

It has been laid down in this measure that the Government shall be empowered to recover this tax in a lump sum but there is no mention about the amount which this lump sum signifies. Further, it appears that the Government has not even considered it necessary to give some concession for the payment of this tax to a truck-owner whose truck has to remain idle for a certain definite period owing to certain reasons beyond his control. He will have to pay the full amount, which may be laid down under the provisions of this Bill. This would be another hardship to the truck-owners.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Puniabi): Mr. Speaker, I beg to submit that the amending Bills that have so far been brought by the Government before this House in the current Session including the one now under discussion, are a clear proof of the fact that even the legal advisers of the Government could not suggest such useful amendments to it which we have been suggesting to it, and which it has never cared to accept.

[Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut]

Sir, I would like to inform the House that the truck-owners are not happy to pay this tax even in a lump sum. They take it to be a hardship on them. As a matter of fact they already resent the botheration of maintaining accounts and feel that the payment of tax in a 'lump sum' will altogether close their businesses. I may point out, Sir, that previously the permits for trucks were granted to those people who were not connected with this business. In fact the permits were issued to those Congress workers who had got no experience of this work.

✓ **Mr. Speaker:** Who got the permits and who did not get them the hon. Member need not bother about. He should please confine his speech to the subject-matter of the Bill.

Sardar Chanan Singh Mr Speaker, the truck-owners have to pay so many other taxes also. First of all, everybody has to get a permit for plying his truck. The fee for this purpose, in the first instance, was Rs. 48 but now it has been raised to Rs. 96. In addition to this, they have to pay a quarterly fee of Rs. 50 besides another amount of Rs. 600 per year. This is not all. They have to spend Rs. 300 for the upkeep, painting, etc., of an ordinary truck, and, if it were an old one, this expenditure would go up to Rs. 600. Besides, they have to employ a driver and a cleaner each, whose daily expenses amount to a figure in the neighbourhood of Rs. 10. Sir, it has been stated from the Treasury Benches that a settlement has been reached with the truck-operators. My submission is that no such agreement has been arrived at.

Moreover, in addition to the above facts, I would like to say some things more in connection with the truck-operators. Acceptance of bribes by the officials concerned and the imposition of fines on the operators are matters of common knowledge. The truck-owners have to spend a sum of about Rs. 10 to 15 daily for these purposes. I had to go to the plains last Sunday. Since I travelled mostly by bus I know how all these things happen (*Interruptions*).

✓ **Mr. Speaker:** I would request the hon. Member to avoid irrelevant things and confine his remarks to the motion.

Sardar Chanan Singh: Sir, what I wish to submit is that the Bill which is before the House today, does not contain anything to indicate the amount to be charged in 'lump sum'. It is not clear whether this would be rupees one thousand or four thousand. Then, Sir, since the amount in 'lump sum' to be paid by the truck-owners to the Government is indirectly to come out of the pockets of the businessmen and the peasants, this will adversely affect the business of the truck-owners. I, therefore, feel that Government should have brought this amending Bill in such a manner that the tax could have been abolished.

Shri Sri Chand (Bhadurgarh) (Hindi): Mr. Speaker, keeping in view the speed with which we are rushing through the Legislative business and considering the various measures on the floor of this House, I would request the Chief Minister to adjourn the Assembly for the present and hold the next session when there is enough business to transact. The manner of disposal of the business at present is no more than a farce. Looking at the way in which the business is being transacted here I have to offer this comment only. It seems that the Government desire that the House must remain in session whether there is business or not. It appears that the Chief Minister had developed some attachment for us and wants us to stay over here (*Interruptions*).

However, Sir, I might tell the Chief Minister that there is no indication in this Bill of the amount to be paid in 'lump sum' by the Truckwalas. It is not clear what amount the Government has fixed, what will be its maximum and minimum limits; whether such conditions can legally be imposed. If a tax of Rs. 5 is levied on one truck what is the guarantee that another will not be assessed at Rs. 500. It is not known whether there will be any rules and regulations governing the fixation and recovery of this tax and who will be the authority to assess this tax?

Besides, Sir, this fact has many a time been discussed in this House and is also common talk with the masses that the Transport Department is notorious for accepting bribes. It was, therefore, incumbent on the Government to have decided the maximum and the minimum limits of the tax to be paid in lump sum and also the authority to be empowered to assess it, etc. etc. I wonder, how this bill can be considered as a complete measure in the absence of these necessary provisions.

Chief Minister (Shri Bhim Sen Sachar) (Hindi): Mr. Speaker, during the course of this debate my hon. Friends of the Opposition have mentioned certain things which call for a reply from me. First of all my hon. Friend from Tanda has stated that he and his Comrades were present when the negotiations were conducted with the truck-operators. It is true that they were there with the operators but only at the time when they counselled them to go on a strike. They were not present there when the Government was carrying on negotiations with them. Perhaps they were not aware that a mutual understanding had been reached long before the impending strike and they could not even get an opportunity to instigate them to go on a strike. In fact the operators approached the Government and placed their viewpoint before it. I really appreciate the spirit of those who, in spite of being repeatedly and continuously instigated by some of the Friends to adopt violent methods, rejected their suggestions altogether and did not fall into their traps. I may inform the House that it was not due to any political motives but entirely due to the force of certain difficulties which they experienced that they placed their grievances before the Government. Obviously this is not a political problem it is only a question of the imposition of a tax. Why are we going to levy this tax? It is because we have to develop our State and for this purpose we need money. This Bill embodies the provision which may enable the operators to pay this tax conveniently.

Then, Sir, an enquiry has been made as to what will be the amount to be paid in 'lump sum' and who will be the authority to fix it? Again, Sir, with your permission I have to remark that had my hon Friends studied the Bill thoroughly, there would not have been any difficulty in understanding this matter. In this connection I am to say that the 'lump sum' will be assessed in the 'prescribed manner'. The 'prescribed manner' embodies a distinct clarification to this effect. Then, Sir, it has been said that it is not understood as to what will be the maximum and the minimum amount which may be charged from the vehicle-owners. I would like to request my hon. Friends that since it is a different matter they should not mix it up with this topic. This 'lump sum' etc. will be fixed in accordance with the rate which the House has already accepted in the Act. We cannot charge more than the rate which the House has already fixed in section 4 of the Act. So far as the question of assessment is concerned, it will be done according to the accounts which would be maintained by those people. After all, we are educated people, we are not illiterate. We have got up-to-date statistics with regard to all these

[Chief Minister]

things. On the basis of these statistics we can determine the amount of the tax which is to be assessed. Sir, I fail to understand why these people should worry when both the parties are satisfied and are prepared to adopt this system. When the Government has taken a decision on a certain matter and the taxpayers are also willing to pay it accordingly then what is the utility of such a debate.

Then, Sir, perhaps my hon. Friends think that our memory is short and we forget the previous things. Memory is, of course, short but only of the public who do not recall but forget as to what happened some two or three years back and how did it happen. I, therefore, wish to make it clear that the allegation made by the Opposition to the effect that they brought forward such an amendment during the previous Session is baseless. In fact, they were not in favour of imposing this tax even. Then the question of putting forward such an amendment does not arise. Now the speeches made by my hon. Friends will be reported in certain newspapers and they are likely to create a misunderstanding among the people. So, in order to combat that possibility I have tried to clarify the position.

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That the Punjab Passengers and Goods Taxation (Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration at once.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker: Now the Bill will be considered clause by clause.

CLAUSE 2

Mr. Speaker. Sardar Chanan Singh may move his amendment to Clause 2.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi): Sir, I move—

That in the proposed proviso, line 2, between the words "sum" and "in" the following words be inserted:—

"of Rupees 5 per month."

Sir, it has been claimed by the Treasury benches that the method of recovery of the tax as laid down in the parent Act would have entailed a lot of trouble and hardship to the truck-owners and that this amendment is being effected at their request. But they have not told us how the amount of the proposed 'lump sum' recovery will be calculated. It has appeared in some newspapers that a settlement at the rate of Rs. 30 to 40 per truck has been arrived at but this Bill does not contain any information on the point. The Government ought to have told us what they have settled with those people.

Again, the proposed proviso does not state clearly whether the payments will have to be made on a monthly or yearly basis and how the amounts will be calculated. They ought to have cleared this point in the proviso. If no cut provision is made in the Bill those people will have to maintain accounts. I would, therefore, submit that the Government should accept the amendment fixing the amount of payment at Rs. 5 per mensem. Those people are already groaning under so many burdens and the proposed proviso keeps them in the dark even about the payments they will have to make in a lump sum.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved—

That in the proposed proviso, line 2, between the words “sum” and “in” the following words be inserted:—

“of Rupees 5 per month”.

Shri Wadhawa Ram (Fazilka) (Punjabi): Sir, the Chief Minister has been pleased to remark that ‘if the bride and the bridegroom are agreeable to the marriage no third party can interfere’. The Government and its supporters are under the impression that we are given to destructive activities, but I would request them to go to the public and ask them whether our activities are destructive or useful and constructive. Sir, this amending Bill is like a blind alley. We cannot make out from the proposed amendment as to what the Government wants to realise from those people. They should have told us what settlement they have made with the truck-owners. It is possible that the Government may try to realise more than what is reasonable and in that case we shall not be in a position to object to it, if the matter is not settled clearly at this stage. In the absence of some definite amount fixed in the proviso the Government’s demand will become the landlords’ bag which swallows so many maunds of the tenants’ produce without any one being the wiser about it. We are not your enemies. Nor do we intend any harm to the truck-owners. Take us into confidence about these matters and accept the amendment fixing the payment at Rs. 5 per month so that everything may be clear and definite.

CLAUSE 2

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That in the proposed proviso, line 2, between the words “sum” and “in” the following words be inserted:—

“of Rupees 5 per month.”

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 3

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That Clause 3 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 1

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That Clause 1 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

TITLE

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That Title be the Title of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Chief Minister: Sir I beg to move—

That the Punjab Passengers and Goods Taxation (Amendment) Bill be passed.

Chief Minister (Shri Bhim Sen Sachar) (Hindi): Mr. Speaker, I shall once again try to clear the point in the hope that the hon. Sardar Sahib will also try to understand. He has been labouring the point that in the absence of any definite provision the Government may recover anything from those people. I have already explained to him that a rate has been fixed in section 4 of the original Act. We simply cannot recover more than that. How, then, can the question of recovering 'anything' arise?

Besides, we cannot compel any one to make the payment in a lump sum. This will be done only when they offer to pay in lump sum of their own accord. This means that whatever they pay will not be more than the ordinary rate.

Sardar Chanan Singh: And what is that rate?

Chief Minister: It is one pie per anna and we cannot realise more than that. Whoever comes forward to make the payment in a lump sum can declare that the Government cannot realise a single pie more than the rate fixed in the Act. They will make the payments in lump sum only when you go and tell them that this method of payment will be advantageous to them. I have explained this to my hon. Friends three or four times, and if they still refuse to understand it I cannot help.

Sardar Chanan Singh: May I know whether those people will have to maintain accounts?

Minister of Finance: There is no such restriction so far as we are concerned.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Punjab Passengers and Goods Taxation (Amendment) Bill be passed.

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That the Punjab Passengers and Goods Taxation (Amendment) Bill be passed.

The motion was carried.

The House then adjourned till 2 p. m. on Tuesday, the 28th October 1952.

Punjab Legislative Assembly Debates

28th October 1952

VOLUME III—No. 7

OFFICIAL REPORT



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CHANDIGARH :

Printed by the Controller of Printing and Stationery, Punjab
1953

Price : 0-3-0

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 28th October 1952

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Simla, at 2 p.m. of the clock. Mr Speaker (Dr. Satyapal) in the Chair.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

PROSECUTION OF PEOPLE BY RAILWAY POLICE BETWEEN PATHANKOT AND STATIONS OF KANGRA VALLEY RAILWAYS.

***1097 Comrade Ram Chandra :** Will the Chief Minister be Pleased to state—

- (a) whether it has come to his notice that occasionally the police in the State walk along the Railway line between Pathankot and stations of the Kangra Valley Railway and during this course the police challan the ignorant people of the illaqa for trespass and harass them by prosecution and other methods.
- (b) the steps Government intends taking to prevent unnecessary harassment and prosecution?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) The Railway police do walk along the railway line between Pathankot and the stations of the Kangra Valley Railway to safeguard against any possible mischief to the track but there has been no case of harassment of the people of that illaqa by false prosecution or by any other method.

(b) Does not arise.

SETTLEMENT OPERATIONS IN THE STATE.

***989. Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) the dates on which the last settlement operations were carried on in each district of the State ;
- (b) the reasons for delaying settlement operations in the districts where the period has already exceeded forty years ;

[Shri Dev Raj Sethi]

(c) the action, if any, taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to start settlement operations at an early date ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) A statement containing the required information is given below.

(b) and (c) The settlement operations have been postponed till the completion of consolidation operations. The proposal is to be reconsidered in 1957.

Statement showing the dates on which the last settlement operations were carried on in each district of the Punjab.

District	Tahsil or other Sub-Division	Settlement operations started from
Hissar ..	Sirsa ..	Kharif 1922
	Rest of district, viz. 4 tahsils—Hissar, Hansi, Bhiwani and Fatehabad	Kharif 1910
		Kharif 1911
Rohtak ..	3 Tahsils ..	Kharif 1909
	Sonepat ..	Rabi 1910
Gurgaon ..	Rewari ..	Rabi 1942
	Gurgaon, Nuh and Ferozpur-Jhirka Tahsils	Kharif 1942
	Palwal and Ballabgarh Tahsils ..	Kharif 1943
Karnal ..	4 Tahsils ..	Kharif 1909
Ambala ..	5 Tahsils { Rupar and Kharar Tahsils (Rupar Sub-Division) Ambala, Naraingarh and Jagadhri Tahsils	Kharif 1917 Kharif 1919
Simla ..	2 Tahsils ..	Kharif 1916
		Rabi 1917

District	Tahsil or other Sub-Division	Settlement operations started from
Kangra ..	Kangra ..	Kharif 1917
	Palampur ..	Rabi 1916
	Nurpur ..	Kharif 1918
	Dehra/Hamirpur ..	Kharif 1914
	Kulu (Seraj)—	
	(1) Outer Seraj ..	Kharif 1951
	(2) Inner Seraj ..	Kharif 1949
	Kulu ..	Kharif 1949
	Waziri Lahaul ..	Kharif 1951
	Waziri Rupi ..	Kharif 1949
Waziri Spiti ..	Rabi 1952	
Hoshiarpur ..	Una ..	} Rabi 1914
	Hoshiarpur ..	
	Garhshankar ..	} Kharif 1915
	Dasuya ..	
	Urban assessment ..	
Jullundur ..	Jullundur ..	Kharif 1915
	Nakodar ..	Rabi 1916
	Phillaur ..	} Kharif 1916
	Nawanshahr ..	
Ludhiana ..	Samrala ..	Kharif 1911
	Ludhiana ..	} Kharif 1912
	Jagraon ..	

[Minister for Development]

District	Tahsil or other Sub-Division	Settlement operations started from
Ferozepore ..	Fazilka ..	Kharif 1914
	Moga ..	Rabi 1913
	Zira ..	Kharif 1913
	Ferozepore ..	
	Muktsar ..	Rabi 1914
Amritsar ..	Tarn Taran ..	Rabi 1945
	Amritsar ..	Kharif 1945
	Ajnala ..	Kharif 1945
	Sub-Tahsil Patti ..	Rabi 1939
Gurdaspur ..	Gurdaspur ..	Kharif 1910
	Batala ..	
	Pathankot ..	Rabi 1912

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Sir, I have not been supplied with this statement.

Minister for Development : I am sorry. I shall supply it to the hon. Member.

Mr. Speaker : This shall be treated as a question postponed. The hon. Member will be permitted to ask supplementaries on some other day after he has received the said statement.

JAGADHRI TUBE-WELL PROJECT.

***990. Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) the text of the new agreement arrived at with the Associated Tube-well Company for the construction of 225 tube-wells known as Jagadhri Tube-well Project ;
- (b) the actual progress made up to date in this direction ;
- (c) the number of tube-wells completed so far ;
- (d) the number of tube-wells in operation at present and the total volume of water being pumped out by these tube-wells ;
- (e) the particulars of areas being irrigated by this extra supply of water ;
- (f) the manner in which the total water thus pumped out is to be distributed ?

Sadar Partap Singh : (a) Copy of the proposed new agreement is given below.

(b) & (c) M/s Associated Tube-well Ltd. have either constructed or in progress about 62 tube-wells so far out of which 31 tube-wells have been accepted by the Irrigation Department. Some of the Pump Houses on the accepted wells have been completed and the rest are under construction. Wiring work is being started by the Firm.

(d) No tube-well has started working as yet and the quantity of water thrown in the canal is therefore nil.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) With the water available by these tube-wells, Sunder and Bhalant Kharif channels will be converted into perennial channels.

This agreement made this day of between the Associated Tube-wells Ltd., a company incorporated with limited liability in England in accordance with the Companies Act and having its registered office at Falcon Works, Loughborough (hereinafter referred to as the contractors which expression shall include, where the context so admits, their successors and permitted assigns) of the one part and the Governor of Punjab (hereinafter referred to as the Government) of the other part.

WHEREAS by virtue of an agreement, dated the 13th December 1950 (hereinafter referred to as the Principal Agreement), the contractors agreed to construct 225 tube-wells for the Government on the terms and conditions contained therein ;

AND WHEREAS disputes have arisen between the parties as to whether the contractors are or are not liable to pay penalty and damages for not completing the tube-wells within the stipulated time and whether the contractors are or are not entitled to payment of 70 per cent of the amounts payable for Experts, Supervisors, Accountants and the like before the completion of tube-wells ;

AND WHEREAS the parties have settled the said dispute by mutual agreement and have agreed that the Principal Agreement be varied and modified in the manner and to the extent hereinafter specified.

NOW this agreement witnesses and the parties hereto hereby agree as follows :—

1. There shall be substituted for clause 29 of the Principal Agreement the following clause, namely :—

(a) "Time being of the essence of the contract the contractors agree that all the tube-wells shall be completed

[Minister for Development]

and delivered to the Government on or before 31st March 1953 in accordance with the following schedule :—

Year	Month	Number of tube-wells to be completed and delivered during the month specified in column 2	Progressive total up to end of month specified in column 2
1952	June	5	5
	July	8	13
	August	10	
	September	12	23
	October	20	35
	November	25	55
	December	40	80
1953	January	40	120
	February	45	160
	March	20	225

In the event of any short fall on this monthly programme the contractors agree to pay liquidated damages at the rate of Rs 50 for every week required to complete each of such well up to maximum of 20 weeks, that is, one thousand rupees per tube-well at the expiration of which Government shall have the right to take over the construction or completion of remaining wells or if the Government elects not to complete such unfinished wells, the contractors will repay to the Government the amount of any materials for which the Government has paid and which are not recoverable therefrom. If, however, the contractors complete within any month a larger number of wells than mentioned above, credit will be given to them in the subsequent months to the extent of such excess for the purpose of charging damages. These damages will be absolute and cumulative and will not be repayable to the contractors on any account. As and when the damages mentioned above become due to the Government they shall be deductible from the bills due to contractors from the Government.

- (b) The contractors agree to the provision in clause 1(a) subject to the exclusion of all delays occasioned through the lack or insufficiency of instructions by the Government necessary to enable the contractors to commence or execute any of the works. If the contractors shall desire any extension of time for completion of the works upon the grounds that they have been unavoidably hindered in the execution thereof or upon any other grounds specified in the Principal Agreement as grounds for extension of time for completion of the work the contractors shall apply in writing therefore to the Executive Engineer of the Government within a week after the date of such grounds arising. The Government may then authorise such extension of time, if any, as they may deem necessary or proper, but if the Government shall authorise no extension of time or if the contractor shall deem the extension of time granted by the Government to be inadequate the question may be referred to arbitration under clause 40 of the Principal Agreement upon the application of the contractors."

2. The clauses 30-A(g) (iii), 30-A(i) (2), 30-A(g) (ii) and 30-A(i) (I) of the Principal Agreement shall be read subject to the following provisions :—

- (a) The Government agrees to make advance payment of Rs 3,84,000 under clauses 30-A(g) (iii), 30-A(i) (2), 30-A(g) (ii) and 30-A(i) (I) of the Principal Agreement in respect of Experts, Supervisors, Accountants, etc., and the hire of rigs on the basis of the amount given in items 5 and 7 of the Principal Agreement provided the contractors first furnish guarantee of Lloyds Bank Ltd., to the effect that if there is any amount left after adjustment of the amount due to the contractors on account of the said charges and hire against the delivery of completed tube-wells against this advance on the 31st March 1953, or in case the work is stopped by the contractors for any reason and there is any balance amount left after adjusting the payment, if any, due to the contractor with respect to the clauses 30-A(g) (iii), 30-A(i) (2), 30-A(g) (ii) and 30-A(i) (I) of the Principal Agreement, the Bank shall pay the balance amount on demand to the Government irrespective of any dispute that might be in existence or might thereafter arise between the contractors and the Government in respect of the Principal Agreement or this agreement.
- (b) The payment shall be made in rupees instead of in Pounds Sterling as stipulated in the Principal Agreement.
- (c) Payment of the supervisory charges and the rig hire in accordance with the provisions in clauses 30-A(g) (iii), 30-A(i) (2), 30-A(g) (ii) and 30-A(i) (I) of the Principal Agreement will be adjusted against this advance as and when they become payable against the delivery of the number of completed tube-wells.

[Minister for Development]

3. Save as hereinbefore modified the Principal Agreement shall be fully binding between the parties and shall have full force and effect.

In witness whereof the parties have signed this Agreement hereunder on the dates respectively mentioned against their signatures.

1. Witness.

1. Signed for and on behalf of the Associated Tube-wells Limited by_____

2. Witness.

2. Signed for and on behalf of the Governor by_____

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : According to the agreement the company had to complete the construction of 55 tube-wells by the end of October 1952. The hon. Minister has stated that at present the construction of 62 tube-wells is in hand and out of this number 31 have been taken over by the Government after final inspection. What action does the Government intend to take against the company for not completing the rest ?

Minister : The construction of 55 tube-wells had to be completed by the end of October. So far, 31 have been completed in all respects and the rest need 'wiring', etc., for their completion. The late completion of these minor things is allowed for in the agreement.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : May I know the manner in which the water is to be distributed? The hon. Minister has neither stated the total volume of water to be pumped out of these tube-wells, nor has he given the particulars of the area of land in acres to be irrigated by this supply of water.

Minister : The hon. Member has not raised these points in his question.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : I would invite the attention of the hon. Minister to part (f) of my question which reads as follows :—

'the manner in which the total water thus pumped out is to be distributed' ?

He has not answered this portion of the question.

Minister : Well, all these tube-wells will be worked together on their completion. The water-supply will be made perennial.

REPRESENTATION FROM WOODEN STALL-HOLDERS, JULLUNDUR CITY.

*1088. **Shrimati Sita Devi :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether the Government has received any representation from the wooden stall-holders on the G.T. Road and Nakodar Road, Jullundur City, that their stalls should not be ordered to be removed till they are provided with alternate accommodation ; if so, the action Government proposes to take in the matter ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : Yes, a representation to this effect was received by the Deputy Commissioner, Jullundur, through the Commissioner, Jullundur Division, in the end of February 1952. As a result the stall-holders in question who were individually contacted were offered allotment of shops in the Shopping Centres proposed to be constructed in Jullundur for the benefit of displaced shopkeepers but there was almost no response from them; only two stall-holders have so far put in their applications for this purpose.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Will the hon. Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether it is to his knowledge that the situation of the shops which had been offered to them was such where their business could not flourish?

Minister : I have not received any representation regarding this matter.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Is it not a fact that the Minister had received a representation from me, particularly bringing this fact to his notice, that their business could not flourish at that site which had been offered to them?

Minister : How can we remove this grievance of theirs unless the hon. Lady Member suggests some alternative place for this purpose?

Shrimati Sita Devi : Is it not a fact that at Jullundur I had suggested to the hon. Minister that the land adjoining the building of the Tehsil office, Jullundur, be made available to them for this purpose?

Minister : I remember Lady Member having talked of that land to me. In fact I saw the land at the spot. I had also a talk with those stall-holders but they have not so far submitted any written representation to me in this respect.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Will the hon. Minister consider favourably the representation of these stall-holders and remove their difficulty, if they submit it now?

Minister : I am prepared to consider their representation sympathetically, but I cannot assure the hon. Lady Member that action will be taken according to their desire.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Has the hon. Minister for Public Works been requested to issue orders that they may not be disturbed pending the decision on their representation?

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** Not allowed.

Shri Ram Kishan : May I know whether it is a fact that they have had this site on lease for the last four years and have been regularly paying the lease money for it?

Minister : Yes, they are paying the rent.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Why are they being forced to vacate that place, when they are regularly paying the lease money ?

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** It does not arise.

PUNJAB AND DELHI TEXT-BOOKS PUBLISHERS' ASSOCIATION AND
NATIONALISATION OF TEXT-BOOKS.

***991. Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether a deputation of the Punjab and Delhi Text-Books Publishers' Association met him and the Chief Minister at Delhi in September 1952; if so, the demands put forward by them and the action taken by the Government on their representation ;
- (b) whether the Government intends to introduce changes in their proclaimed policy of nationalisation of text-books ;
- (c) whether the Government is aware of the criticism made by the public about the inferior printing of text-books through Government agency ; if so, the steps taken or intended to be taken by the Government to improve the standard of printing ?

Shri Jagat Narain : (a) Yes ; Publishers' demand was not to nationalise the text-books. No action has been taken.

(b) No.

(c) No ; the question does not arise.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : What were their demands ?

Minister : They requested the Government to entrust them with the publication of the books which were already being published through them.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Did they make any other demand ?

Minister : Their major demand was this only ; the rest were simple ones.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : What were the other demands ?

Minister : Those were in connection with the prices.

PLANTATION OF TREES IN BASIC SCHOOL, JAGRAON.

***1086. Shrimati Sita Devi :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state the number of trees that were planted in the Basic School, Jagraon, in the years 1950-51 and 1951-52 and the number of those surviving at present ?

Shri Jagat Narain : The requisite information is as follows :—

Year	Number of trees planted	Number of trees survived
1950-51	57	20
1951-52	15	7

Shrimati Sita Devi : In my question I also enquired as to how many trees out of the total number of trees planted were still alive. May I know the position with regard to this aspect?

Minister : I have already replied to it.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Will the hon. Minister kindly read it again?

Minister : Definitely. It is like this :—

(i) In the year 1950-51, 27 out of 37 remained alive.

(ii) In the year 1951-52 these figures were 7 out of 15.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Will the hon. Minister please state the reason for the damage of a large number of trees?

Minister : This does not arise. However, if the Lady Member gives fresh notice, the desired information will be collected and supplied to her.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES FOR THE YEAR 1952-53.

Minister for Finance : Sir, I beg to present the Supplementary Estimates (1st instalment) for the year 1952-53. The demands contained therein are made on the recommendation of the Governor.

PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT OF THE ESTIMATES COMMITTEE ON THE SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES FOR THE YEAR 1952-53.

Shri Som Datta Bahri : Sir, I beg to present the Report of the Estimates Committee of the Punjab Legislative Assembly on the Supplementary Estimates (1st instalment) for the year 1952-53.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE ASSEMBLY.

Chief Minister : Sir, I move—

That the Assembly at its rising this day shall stand adjourned to 2 p.m. on Thursday, the 20th November 1952.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Assembly at its rising this day shall stand adjourned to 2 p.m. on Thursday, the 20th November 1952.

Sardar Chanan Singh (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Mr Speaker, the Chief Minister has not given any reason for making a motion to adjourn the House for three weeks. What is the need for doing so? In fact, I know the real cause underlying this motion. The House is not being adjourned due to rigours of the approaching winter nor is it being done because some interest of the Government is suffering but in view of the impending Congress Elections in Kangra. It means that the Government's business is being postponed to give a respite to the Congress to fight the election. To my mind this is most unfair on the part of the Government to do so. Sir, I am quite aware that the Congress commands an absolute majority in this House and that is why it wants to take undue advantage of its position. But I may point out that it will become difficult for the

Members to stay here in the terrible cold which will have set in in Simla by the 20th November. In the circumstances, I request that the Congress should not take undue advantage of its majority.

Shri Wadhawa Ram (Fazilka) (Punjabi) : Mr Speaker, I remember that the Government got the Assembly adjourned twice during the summer. I agree that during those days the hon. Members were suffering from diarrhoea टटीआं लगीआं होईयां सन but now the weather is very fine.

Shri Kidar Nath Saigal : Are the words (टटीआं लगना) parliamentary ?

Shri Wadhawa Ram : If the hon. Member happily did not fall a prey to this ailment the others did get its attack (laughter). Mr Speaker, for this session we have already come to Simla. Why should there be a long adjournment and we made to come up again? People are fully aware of the small amount of work that we have done so far. If the House is being adjourned only for the sake of the Congress elections then I wish to enquire whether there are no other Congressmen in the Punjab who can do the electioneering campaign equally well? If the people wish to elect a Congressman, they would do so even if my hon. Friends are sitting here. They will not be giving any major lead to the people by going over there.

Mr Speaker : The hon. Member is irrelevant. I would request him to speak to the motion.

Shri Wadhawa Ram : Sir, what I wish to enquire is which business is to be given priority, Congress propaganda work or the Government legislative business? The weather nowadays is very fine. After a period of twenty or twenty-two days for which the House is sought to be adjourned, the winter season will set in in Simla in full swing and there will be terrible cold here. I fail to understand why the Chief Minister is in a great hurry to adjourn the House? If, in fact, there is no important legislative work to be done then they can plainly ask us to go back to our places.

Sardar Nidhan Singh (Mehna) (Punjabi) : Mr Speaker, we are never informed by the Government as to when the House is going to be adjourned or what particular business is going to be taken up on a particular day in this House. At least, we ought to be informed of these things beforehand. I think if we hastily dispose of the two Bills, placed on today's agenda, there is every likelihood of many lacunae being left in them. Besides, our past experience shows that the business which is being taken up in this House is only that which satisfies their own choice. I think they are taking undue advantage of the comfortable majority which they command in this House. The hon. Friends belonging to the Congress Party are perhaps under the impression that whatever they do without having the consent of the masses, is justified. They think that perhaps on account of their being in a majority they would be able to attract others and persuade them to follow their lead. But the times are changing fast. If, today the Congress is in a majority it can also be turned into a minority tomorrow. When the masses find that the Congress has failed to serve them, they can throw it overboard and withdraw their support from it.

BUSINESS ON THURSDAY, THE 20TH NOVEMBER 1952

Chief Minister (Shri Bhim Sen Sachar) (Hindi) : Mr Speaker, my hon. Friends of the Opposition have suggested that the whole of the programme should be finished at the earliest. I wish to submit that the work we are doing is being done at full speed. The question of disposing it of earlier does not, therefore, arise. Besides, I do not deny the fact that the Congress election is ahead. This is not a matter which calls for any comment. After all, the Government Party has also to look after its party organisation. We have to see that somebody may not deceive others and that justice is not denied to anyone.

The Betterment Charges and Acreage Rates Bill and the Punjab New Capital (Periphery) Control Bill, which have been placed before the House were considered at a party meeting. The party could not meet earlier. The hon. Members were of the opinion that these were important measures and should not be passed in haste. As they are the representatives of the public and are in a position to know their reaction, the Government has agreed to accept their suggestion. After the reference of these Bills to Select Committees there is no more work to be transacted for the present. If other business had been ready we would have asked for an adjournment for three or four days only, but as there is nothing to be done at present it is necessary to adjourn the meeting for a number of days. I have explained the position in clear terms and there is nothing to conceal about it.

Mr Speaker : Question is—

That the Assembly at its rising this day shall stand adjourned to 2 p.m. on Thursday, the 20th November 1952.

The motion was carried.

**TRANSACTION OF GOVERNMENT BUSINESS ON THURSDAY,
THE 20TH NOVEMBER 1952.**

Chief Minister (Shri Bhim Sen Sachar) (Hindi) : Sir, I move—

That Rule 23 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Punjab Legislative Assembly be suspended and Government business be transacted on Thursday, the 20th November 1952.

Mr Speaker, there is no need of saying much with regard to this motion. We want to finish the business and at the same time do not want to cause inconvenience to the hon. Members by prolonging the Session, as it is becoming very cold. We want their stay here during the winter season to be as short as possible.

Mr Speaker : Motion moved—

That Rule 23 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Punjab Legislative Assembly be suspended and Government business be transacted on Thursday, the 20th November 1952.

Sardar Gopal Singh (Jagraon) (Punjabi) : Mr Speaker, we get very few opportunities for transacting non-official business. Thursdays alone had been set apart for this kind of business but the hon. Chief Minister wants to take away that day also. I beg to submit that if the volume of Government business which has to be transacted is very large, we can meet on the 18th and 19th November for that purpose. We are prepared to sit on those days but we must get an opportunity of doing private Member's business on Thursday.

Sardar Chanan Singh (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Mr Speaker, we were going to get only one day for the transaction of non-official business but the Government appears to be frightened of that even. It does not wish us to move the resolutions of which we have given notice. Some of the Thursdays happen to be holidays and the Government wants to deprive us of the only non-official day which we were going to get. The hon. Chief Minister referred to the cold weather but I want to tell him that we shall be able to bear its rigours and will have no difficulty on that account. We must, however, be enabled to transact private Member's business on the 20th November. It would not be fair to take away that day.

Shri Sri Chand (Bahadurgarh) (Hindi) : Mr Speaker, when one of the days for non-official business was taken away during the last Budget Session, the hon. Chief Minister promised that he would give us another day in lieu of that and we accepted his suggestion. Not to speak of allotting a day in lieu of the one taken away then, we are going to be deprived of another non-official day. I beg to submit that I have not been able to understand the cause of this attitude. On the last occasion we were told that the Government wanted to finish important work by a certain date but that is not the case now. If the Session were about to come to a close and there were still a great deal of work to be done, he could take away one of the non-official days but in this case we are going to be deprived of the first private Member's day. Moreover, it is possible that official business may not be ready even on that day. Under these circumstances, it was but proper that this day should have been allowed to be utilized for the transaction of non-official business.

As we accept the hon. Chief Minister's proposal every time, he has begun to think that we do not attach any importance to non-official business. This belief of his is not correct. We are ready to cooperate with him fully. But he should be magnanimous enough to let the 20th November be utilized for non-official business and if afterwards there be need for it, he can utilize the next non-official day for Government business.

Mr Speaker : Question is—

That Rule 23 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Punjab Legislative Assembly be suspended and Government business be transacted on Thursday, the 20th November 1952.

The motion was carried.

THE PUNJAB BETTERMENT CHARGES AND ACREAGE RATES BILL.

Minister for Irrigation (Chaudhri Lahri Singh) : Sir, I introduce the Punjab Betterment Charges and Acreage Rates Bill.

Minister for Irrigation : Sir, I beg to move—

That the Punjab Betterment Charges and Acreage Rates Bill be referred to a Joint Select Committee of both Houses of the Legislature consisting of—

- (1) Chaudhri Lahri Singh, Minister for Irrigation,
- (2) Sardar Partap Singh Kairon, Minister for Development,
- (3) Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa, Minister for Public Works,
- (4) Jathedar Mohan Singh,
- (5) Principal Iqbal Singh,

- (6) Shri Devi Lal,
- (7) Shri Sarup Singh,
- (8) Professor Sher Singh,
- (9) Shri Rizaq Ram,
- (10) Master Daulat Ram,
- (11) Shri Samar Singh,
- (12) Shri Teg Ram,
- (13) Shri Chandi Ram Verma,
- (14) Sardar Gurdial Singh (Kartarpur),
- (15) Sardar Darbara Singh,
- (16) Shri Som Datta Bahri,
- (17) Rao Gajraj Singh,
- (18) Sardar Gopal Singh Khalsa,
- (19) Sardar Bachan Singh, M.L.A. and
7 Members of the Punjab Legislative Council, to be nominated by it,
with a direction to make the report by the 28th November 1952.

Mr Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Punjab Betterment Charges and Acreage Rates Bill be referred to a Joint Select Committee of both Houses of the Legislature consisting of—

- (1) Chaudhri Lahri Singh, Minister for Irrigation,
- (2) Sardar Partap Singh Kairon, Minister for Development,
- (3) Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa, Minister for Public Works,
- (4) Jathedar Mohan Singh,
- (5) Principal Iqbal Singh,
- (6) Shri Devi Lal,
- (7) Shri Sarup Singh,
- (8) Professor Sher Singh,
- (9) Shri Rizaq Ram,
- (10) Master Daulat Ram,
- (11) Shri Samar Singh,
- (12) Shri Teg Ram,
- (13) Shri Chandi Ram Verma,
- (14) Sardar Gurdial Singh (Kartarpur),
- (15) Sardar Darbara Singh,
- (16) Shri Som Datta Bahri,
- (17) Rao Gajraj Singh,
- (18) Sardar Gopal Singh Khalsa,
- (19) Sardar Bachan Singh,
and 7 Members of the Punjab Legislative Council, to be nominated by it,
with a direction to make the report by the 28th November 1952.

Mr. Speaker : Now I call upon Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut to move his motion.

Sardar Chanan Singh (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Sir, I move—

That the Punjab Betterment Charges and Acreage Rates Bill be circulated for eliciting public opinion thereon by the 18th March 1953.

[Sardar Chanan Singh]

Mr Speaker, I thought that this Bill, of which copies were supplied to us only last evening, would also be rushed through, but I find that it is proposed to refer it to a Select Committee. I am of the view that its mere reference to a Select Committee is not going to serve the purpose because it proposes to levy still another tax on the peasants who have already been saddled with various taxes like the land revenue, local rate, chaukidara, water-rate and so on. The Members of the Opposition have already pointed out that water-rate is too high. It is surprising that instead of reducing the present burden of the peasant, the Government should come forward with a Bill proposing still another tax. As you are aware, Sir, an agriculturist has got to pay tax on the foodgrains which he carries to the market and is charged passenger tax if he travels by bus. He has to pay a tax in respect of his house also. After all there should be some limit to the taxes. Well, Sir, our Government is adept in levying taxes. Every day it brings forward one measure or the other imposing a new tax on the people. But Bill is passed for improving the condition and raising the standard of living of the masses. Whenever we ask the Government to bring forward some useful measure at once comes the answer that it does not possess a magic wand with whose help it might improve conditions overnight. May I know if the peasants have any magic wand with the help of which they find it possible to pay all kinds of taxes that they are called upon to pay?

Shri Prabodh Chandra : On a point of order, Sir. My submission is that when the Bill is going to be referred to a Select Committee, there is no need for any general explanation or detailed speech on the general provision of the Bill. I seek your ruling on this point.

✓ **Mr Speaker :** He is speaking on a motion seeking to circulate the Bill for eliciting public opinion. He has every right to give his reasons thereon.

Sardar Chanan Singh : I was submitting that the peasants are already overtaxed. They want the Government to consolidate the holding without delay. For this work also the Government charges Rs 4-4-0 per acre from them. Then we are shortly expecting the Gaon Panchayat Bill to be enforced under which the Panchayats will levy more taxes on these poor people. As a matter of fact the agriculturists are so much burdened with taxes that they are not in a position to pay them.

Another thing which I beg to submit is that whereas from the other people taxes are charged on the basis of their income, the peasants are being burdened with fresh taxes every day without any regard to their income. Neither the amount of produce is kept in view nor is it considered whether the farmers are getting fair price for their crops. The Government goes on imposing new taxes without taking these things into view. No income-tax is charged from a trader whose income is less than Rs 5,000 but a peasant has to pay several taxes even if his income is very low. I shall request the hon. Members to go through the resolutions which were passed at Lucknow and Karachi sessions of the Congress.

✓ **Mr Speaker :** That is too much. All these things cannot be said on a motion for reference of a Bill to a Select Committee. The hon. Member should wind up his speech.

Sardar Chanan Singh : I beg to submit that the very principle on which this Bill is based is wrong and it should be circulated for eliciting public opinion thereon. I have a right to say that we should not accept this principle. This Bill is said to have been brought forward on account of the new projects and schemes which are to be executed.

Then, Sir, it has been stated in the Bill that the tax would be chargeable with retrospective effective, i.e., from 1947.

Mr Speaker : I draw the hon. Member's attention to the Rule that he can discuss only the general provisions and not the details of the Bill.

Sardar Chanan Singh : It has been stated in this Bill that it would be deemed to have come into force from 1947. In my opinion the cost of all the work done on lands in this State has been recovered in the form of water-rate and other taxes. More money is, as a matter of fact, being charged than that spent by the Government. Levying of taxes of this kind would be a breach of those promises which the Government has been making with the people. It is good that new schemes are being prepared but I notice that a great deal of wasteful expenditure is being incurred in connection with the Bhakra Dam Scheme. Expenditure on the new schemes should not be unnecessarily increased.

Then, Sir, we should secure the co-operation of the people. We should try to find out the cause of the people not helping the Government in the execution of these schemes. Feelings of patriotism should be aroused in the people and they should be induced to give the necessary help. Only a few days back Shrimati Vijyalaxmi Pandit told the people how lakhs of persons were doing work connected with development schemes in China. With the help of its people, Russia succeeded in connecting five oceans. The principle of collecting taxes in the name of projects is not good. This Bill should, therefore, be circulated for eliciting public opinion.

Mr Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Punjab Betterment Charges and Acreage Rates Bill be circulated for eliciting public opinion thereon by the 18th March 1953.

Shri Wadhawa Ram (Fazilka) (Punjabi) : Mr Speaker, the betterment fee and acreage rate proposed in this Bill are called 'khush hasiyat tax' 'khal khudai' in our language. Water-rate, land revenue and several other taxes are already being charged on the lands on which betterment fee is proposed to be levied. People are called upon to pay 'khush hasiyat tax' because the crops are good. Once an Englishman went to a field and after remarking that the crop was good, he enquired from the farmer the amount of tax paid by him. He replied that he paid Rs 5 or Rs 6 as water-rate and Rs 2 or Rs 2-8-0 on account of land revenue. The Englishman remarked that as the crop was good and the farmer was happy (khush) he should pay 'khush hasiyat tax' also. There would have

[Shri Wadhawa Ram]

been no objection to this tax if no other tax was charged from the peasants. If after meeting all his expenses a peasant had a good income, the Government could have levied betterment fee without any objection. In that case the Government could say that as the peasant was well off, he should pay betterment fee too, but I find that our Government adopts indirect methods. It has already increased the water-rate and it is going to impose betterment fee.

As regards the acreage rate, it has been noticed that great injustice is done to the people in the matter of its recovery. The people demand that holding should be consolidated. The Government officials go and make markings indicating the direction of channels proposed to be dug. These are called level marks. The peasants are made to pay four annas or eight annas per 'killa' on the plea that the water would irrigate their fields.

If this fee is levied, it will arouse feelings of resentment in the minds of the people against the Government, which is putting unnecessary burden upon the zamindars for the construction of water-courses. The peasantry has already become like a hollow sugar-cane but the Government is still sucking, whatever is left in it. It appears that the Government is bent upon robbing the poor people and I would therefore, request you, Sir, to advise the Government to desist from pursuing such a policy.

Shri Sri Chand (Bahadurgarh) (*Hindi*) : Sir, I am really surprised to hear the names of the Members of the Select Committee as announced by the hon. Minister for Irrigation. I would say that no useful purpose is likely to be served by constituting such a Committee. The main object for which the Bill is referred to the Select Committee is to purge it of all its defects and shortcomings by getting opinions of the members of all parties of the legislature so that when the report comes up before the House, the Bill may be disposed of easily without much discussion and delay. But I am sorry to say that no member of the Communist Party or Akali Party has been taken on this Committee. By doing so the Government has not set a good convention and no useful purpose will be served by appointing such a Committee. If only the Members of the Government Party were to be nominated on the Committee then there is no likelihood of any material change being effected in the Bill. I think it is essential that the Members of the Opposition should be included in this Committee in order to know their viewpoint with regard to this Bill. This has been the well-established convention in the past but our hon. Chief Minister is now setting up new conventions. He has not even thought it necessary to know the view-points of the Members of the Opposition by including them in this Select Committee. I would again say that it will not serve any useful purpose to appoint such a Committee as reflects the opinion of the majority party alone. The Government, instead of establishing good conventions, is even trying to deviate from the past healthy conventions. So what would be the result? The Select Committee to which this Bill is going to be referred would be deprived of the views, suggestions and advice of the Members of the Opposition. Consequently the Bill would emerge in the same shape and form as the hon. Minister wishes it to do. I would, therefore, request the Government that it should not set up such bad conventions in this House.

Minister for Irrigation (Chaudhri Lahri Singh) (*Hindi*):
Sir, I am surprised to hear the speech of my hon. Friend Shri Sri Chand in which he has remarked that the Government has ignored the Opposition by not including some of its Members in the Select Committee. I would, therefore, again for his information, read out the names of the members of the Select Committee which are as follows:—

- (1) Principal Iqbal Singh.
- (2) Sardar Gopal Singh (Leader of the Opposition).
- (3) Sardar Bachan Singh (Communist Party)

In view of these facts it is wrong to say that the Opposition has been ignored while constituting the Select Committee.

A great stress has been laid by the Members of the Opposition on the point that the Government should not levy this betterment fee upon the zamindars. As the discussion today has only to be confined to the principles of the Bill I would not like to go into the details at this stage. It has been remarked that the Government is doing a great injustice to the zamindars by levying such a fee on the landowners who are already paying land-revenue and 'abiana' to the Government. I would say that if we were to look to the past few years we would find that during the British regime and even after that when our popular Government had assumed the reins of office, practical steps were taken to rehabilitate the agricultural economy of the State. In the districts of Hissar and Ferozepore there are no irrigation arrangements to water the arid lands covering an area of thousands of miles. The same is the case in respect of Kaithal, Jhajjar and Sirsa. In Ludhiana and Jullundur Districts the level of water in the wells has gone down. Do my friends want that there should be no prosperity in these ilaqas? It is but natural that the yield of the land where no irrigation arrangements exist, should be less with the result that the price of such land also falls to a considerable extent. Sir, after the partition, Punjab (India) has been left with only 13 districts. In order to provide adequate irrigation facilities, the Government has undertaken the execution of a number of irrigation schemes including the Bhakra-Nangal project which will entail enormous expenditure, possibly to the tune of 1,56 crores of rupees. Out of this amount, the sum of Rs 93 crores is to be paid by us. There are no funds with us nor with the Government of India for meeting the said expenditure. If it had been a nominal sum the expenditure could be met from the proceeds of the 'abina'. Besides this, the Government has sunk 256 tube-wells in the Jullundur District, on which it had to incur a very heavy expenditure. Then, large investments have been made on minor projects. Our Government has already taken a loan of about three crores of rupees from the Government of India for this purpose. By the construction of these irrigation schemes we will be able to produce rice, maize and bajra in large quantities than before. The Government has spent about 88 crores of rupees on these schemes so far and crores of rupees are being paid by way of interest on this loan. Under these circumstances, if the Government is incurring huge expenditure on these schemes for the well-being

[Minister for Irrigation]

and prosperity of zamindars then it is only just and proper that the land-owners who are being considerably benefited thereby, be asked to make a contribution for meeting this colossal expenditure in the form of a levy as proposed in this Bill.

In the undivided Punjab when the Thal Project was being completed the then Government of the Punjab did levy betterment charges and acreage rates in spite of the fact that it was financially quite well off and owned thousands of squares of fertile nazul lands in Lyallpur and Montgomery Districts. Then, Sir, we are not the only State to bring forward such a Bill. Other States are also contemplating such measures, for instance, Bombay, Hyderabad, Pepsu, etc., where big irrigation projects are being constructed. It is so very easy to plead in the name of the poverty of the Zamindars but may I know if it is not a fact that they have been yearning for water for scores of years and the people who did not move even their little finger to help them when they could are today claiming to be their well-wishers? What the Zamindar wants is water. When his lands get water, his income will increase and he will not mind paying these small fees.

I admit that it is a very important measure but I fail to understand how we are showing any undue haste in this matter. I may assure the House that we shall not confine ourselves to delivering speeches. I am collecting all facts and figures and other literature pertaining to this subject on the basis of which I shall have an exhaustive note prepared for the persual of the Select Committee. The findings and recommendations of the Select Committee will come before the members of both the Houses in due course for consideration and discussion. So, it is not correct to blame the Government for having any intention of hustling the House into doing anything or of keeping it in the dark.

A legislation on the subject has already been on the Statute Book for the last about one year. I am referring to the President's Act of 1952 which is to expire in April next. It is amazing that leaders of none of the political parties have so far thought it fit to offer any criticism on it through the Press or make any suggestions for any improvement in it. I submit that no substantial change has been made in this Bill; it embodies the same provisions as were contained in the President's Act under reference. So it is absolutely incorrect to aver that we are showing undue haste in getting this measure passed. We proposed to supply water in several branches very soon; the President's Act is expiring in April next. This Bill has been brought forward in order that it may be possible to realize these fees from the Zamindars whose lands will start receiving water very soon.

After the passage of this Bill rules will be framed which will come before the House as well as the public. Then, a notification will be issued in regard to the fixation of the rate of the betterment fee. After this, objections will be invited and heard. Every endeavour will be made to administer even-handed justice to all. We are not here as the representatives of an alien government. This Government represents the Zamindars, the poor as also the rich—let my friends sitting opposite feel gratified at the mention of the rich. This Government belongs to the people—one and all and shall mete out justice and give facilities to them alike.

With these words, I request the House to give its approval to the motion for the reference of the Bill to a Select Committee. Meanwhile, I, myself, and my department will give our whole-hearted cooperation to any Member of the legislature who would like to seek any information on the subject.

Mr Speaker : Question is—

That the Punjab Betterment Charges and Acreage Rates Bill be circulated for eliciting public opinion thereon by the 18th March 1953.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Punjab Betterment Charges and Acreage Rates Bill be referred to a Joint Select Committee of both Houses of the Legislature consisting of—

- (1) Chaudhri Lahri Singh, Minister for Irrigation,
 - (2) Sardar Partap Singh Kairon, Minister for Development,
 - (3) Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa, Minister for Public Works,
 - (4) Jathedar Mohan Singh,
 - (5) Principal Iqbal Singh,
 - (6) Shri Devi Lal,
 - (7) Shri Sarup Singh,
 - (8) Professor Sher Singh,
 - (9) Shri Rizaq Ram,
 - (10) Master Daulat Ram,
 - (11) Shri Samar Singh,
 - (12) Shri Teg Ram,
 - (13) Shri Chandi Ram Verma,
 - (14) Sardar Gurdial Singh (Kartarpur),
 - (15) Sardar Darbara Singh,
 - (16) Shri Som Datta Bahri,
 - (17) Rao Gajraj Singh,
 - (18) Sardar Gopal Singh Khalsa,
 - (19) Sardar Bachan Singh,
- and 7 Members of the Punjab Legislative Council, to be nominated by it, with a direction to make the report by the 28th November 1952.

The motion was carried.

Sardar Bachan Singh : Sir, may I request you kindly to include Sardar Chanan Singh's name instead of mine in the personnel of the Select Committee ?

✓ **Mr Speaker :** It is not possible now. The motion containing the names of the Members has already been carried.

THE PUNJAB NEW CAPITAL (PERIPHERY) CONTROL BILL

Minister for Public Works (Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa) : Sir, I introduce the Punjab New Capital (Periphery) Control Bill, 1952.

Minister for Public Works : Sir, I beg to move—

That the Punjab New Capital (Periphery) Control Bill, 1952, be referred to a Select Committee consisting of—

- (1) Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa, Minister for Public Works,
- (2) Shri Abdul Ghaffar Khan,
- (3) Shri Chand Ram,
- (4) Shri Rala Ram,
- (5) Thakur Balwant Singh,
- (6) Shri Jagat Ram,
- (7) Sardar Gurdial Singh (Kartarpur),
- (8) Shrimati Sita Devi,
- (9) Shri Sri Chand,
- (10) Sardar Ajmer Singh,
- (11) Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina,

with the direction to make a report by the 25th November 1952.

Mr Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Punjab New Capital (Periphery) Control Bill, 1952, be referred to a Select Committee consisting of—

- (1) Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa, Minister for Public Works,
- (2) Shri Abdul Ghaffar Khan,
- (3) Shri Chand Ram,
- (4) Shri Rala Ram,
- (5) Thakur Balwant Singh,
- (6) Shri Jagat Ram,
- (7) Sardar Gurdial Singh (Kartarpur).
- (8) Shrimati Sita Devi,
- (9) Shri Sri Chand,
- (10) Sardar Ajmer Singh,
- (11) Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina,

with the direction to make a report by the 25th November 1952.

Mr Speaker : Question is—

That the Punjab New Capital (Periphery) Control Bill, 1952, be referred to a Select Committee consisting of—

- (1) Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa, Minister for Public Works,
- (2) Shri Abdul Ghaffar Khan,
- (3) Shri Chand Ram,

- (4) Shri Raja Ram,
 - (5) Thakur Balwant Singh,
 - (6) Shri Jagat Ram,
 - (7) Sardar Gurdial Singh (Kartarpur),
 - (8) Shrimati Sita Devi,
 - (9) Shri Sri Chand,
 - (10) Sardar Ajmer Singh,
 - (11) Sardar Achhar Singh
- with the direction to make a report by the 25th November 1952.

The motion was carried.

The Assembly then adjourned till 2 p.m. on Thursday, 20th November 1952.

Punjab Legislative Assembly Debates

20th November 1952

VOL. III. No. 8

OFFICIAL REPORT



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CHANDIGARH :

Printed by the Controller of Printing and Stationery, Punjab,
1954

Price : -/5/-

Punjab Legislative Assembly

Thursday, 20th November, 1952

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Simla, at 2 p.m. of the clock. Mr. Speaker (Dr. Satyapal) in the Chair.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Mr. Speaker : We will now take up Starred Questions printed in the list of questions for 30th October.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Sir, may I with your permission, point out that we have not been supplied with a list of questions dated the 20th November, meant for today?

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** There is no list of questions as such for the 20th November. Those questions which were listed for the 30th October, 1952, have been shifted on to this date, because the Assembly did not meet on that day. So I don't understand what is the difficulty of the hon. Member.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Sir, my submission is that the list of questions scheduled to be replied on the 20th November has not been supplied to us.

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** These were the questions which have been made available to all the Members and the same have been replied on the floor of the House.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Sir, if I remember aright, printed questions dated the 20th November, 1952, were supplied to the Members by post. I am referring to that list.

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** I am sorry the hon. Member is not correct. No such list of questions was ever issued on which the date 20th November was printed.

RESTRICTIONS ON RENT.

*1004. **Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government announced either through a press note or otherwise that buildings constructed during the years 1951 and 1952 would not be subject

[Shri Dev Raj Sethi]

to provisions of the Rent Restriction Act, relating to restrictions on rent; if so, a copy of the same be laid on the Table;

- (b) whether it is a fact that Government made the announcement to encourage people to build houses; if so, whether Government intends to extend the period by a couple of years in view of both residential houses and business premises being still in short supply;
- (c) whether corresponding changes were made in the Rules in force under the Rent Restriction Act?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma : (a) Yes. A copy is given below.

(b) *First part.* Yes.

Second part. The effect of the concessions is being assessed periodically and if circumstances justify the period will be extended.

(c) All buildings constructed during the years 1951 and 1952, were exempted by a notification under section 3 of the East Punjab Urban Rent Restriction Act, 1949 from the provisions of the said Act, for a period of 5 years from the date of completion of any such building.

COMMUNIQUE

With a view to encouraging construction of suitable houses by harnessing private capital in order to remove shortage of housing accommodation in the State the Punjab Government have decided to exempt all buildings constructed during the years 1951 and 1952 from the provisions of the East Punjab Urban Rent Restriction Act, 1949, for a period of 5 years with effect from the date of the completion of any such building. They have also decided not to requisition any such building during this period. In particular, these steps are calculated to speeding up the rehabilitation of displaced persons.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : May I know whether the expression "all buildings constructed in the year 1951-52" used in the reply, indicates the financial or the calendar year of 1952?

Minister : I cannot say anything off-hand.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : It embodies the expression "from the provisions of the East Punjab Rent Restriction Act". Has it been exempted from all its provisions or some particular one?

Minister : I have not followed the hon. Member.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : May I know whether the provisions of the East Punjab Urban Rent Restriction Act apply to all the buildings constructed during the years 1951 and 1952, or whether any exceptions have been made therein? May I also know whether there are separate provisions for a certain category of buildings and there are others which apply to some other type of buildings?

Minister : The provisions of the Act are applicable to all the buildings constructed during the years mentioned in the reply.

ASSISTANT CONSOLIDATION OFFICERS IN THE STATE

***1110. Shri Jagdish Chander :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) the total number of Assistant Consolidation Officers in the State at present;
- (b) the name of the Assistant Consolidation Officer who holds the largest area of land for consolidation under his charge alongwith the area of such land, his qualifications, age, tenure of service and the names of the posts in which he has so far served;
- (c) the number of the Assistant Consolidation Officers who are being promoted along with their names, parentage, age, qualification, length of service in years, and the names of the posts in which they have served so far ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) 110.

(b) Shri Narsing Dass. He is working as Assistant Consolidation Officer, Patwar in Hissar District and the area of such land is 64,416 acres. He was born on 28th February, 1903. He is a matriculate, holds the post of Kanungo substantively in the grade of Rs. 50—3—80/4—100 since 1936 and took over as Assistant Consolidation Officer on 21st May, 1951. He was taken as Kanungo in 1926 and worked as office Kanungo till 16th. May, 1951.

(c) This has not been decided as yet.

CONSOLIDATION OF HOLDINGS IN THE STATE

***1111. Shri Jagdish Chander :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) the total area of land under consolidation district-wise in the State during the year 1950-51;
- (b) the number of Officers entrusted with the land consolidation work, who have been punished on charges of bribery and the nature of punishment awarded to them in each case ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : Information regarding the financial year 1950-51 is as under :—

(a)

<i>District</i>	<i>Area in acres</i>
Amritsar	... 34,191
Gurdaspur	... 21,402
Hoshiarpur	... 24,122
Jullundur	... 34,023
Ferozepore	... 16,701
Ludhiana	... 35,254
Ambala	... 46,602
Karnal	... 50,246
Rohtak	... 14,036
Hissar	... 10,902
Gurgaon	... 1,850
Total	... 289,329

(b) Three, one of whom was given a severe warning, the other was warned and transferred from the circle and the third was dismissed from service.

AREA OF EACH KIND OF LAND LEFT BY MUSLIM EVACUEES IN EAST PUNJAB AND OF THAT LEFT BY HINDUS AND SIKHS IN THE WEST PUNJAB

*1112. **Shri Jagdish Chander :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) the total area of each kind of land left by the Muslim evacuees in the East Punjab and of that left by the Hindus and Sikhs in the West Punjab, respectively;
- (b) whether it is a fact that no part of the "Banjar Kadim" land has been allotted to the refugees in the East Punjab in place of "Banjar Kadim" lands left by them in the West Punjab;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that no area of land of "Thur" kind has been allotted to the refugees in the East Punjab in place of such land left by them in the West Punjab;
- (d) if the answer to parts (b) and (c) be in the affirmative, the action Government proposes to take in the matter?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) A statement showing the required figures is given below.

(b) Yes.

(c) No evacuee land has been allotted in place of uncultivated "Thur Land" abandoned by displaced persons. Allotment has, however, been made in lieu of cultivated "Thur Land" after evaluating the same at the rate of one-eighth of the value of the class of

land to which a holding pertains. With the conversion of all lands into standard acres it is not necessary that holders of "Thur Land" must get "Thur Land" in East Punjab.

(d) In view of the fact that there is already a great shortage of evacuee area to meet the demands of holders of cultivated land it is not possible to make any allotment to persons who had abandoned *Banjar Kadim* and uncultivated "thur land".

Statement showing area of each kind of land left by the Muslim Evacuees in East Punjab and of that left by the Hindus and Sikhs in the West Punjab.

Kind of land	Total area abandoned in West Punjab and outside West Punjab by Displaced persons of Punjabi extraction	Total area abandoned by evacees in East Punjab and Pepsu	
		Punjab	Pepsu
	Acres	Acres	Acres
Nehri Perennial ..	2,555,844	361,373	72,456
Other nehri ..	1,009,672	250,134	10,483
Chahi and abi ..	741,042	498,758	132,649
Barani ..	697,296	2,110,373	432,862
Sailab ..	260,915		
	} Barani and Sailab		
Banjar ..	1,068,248	441,191	87,498
Ghair Mumkin ..	396,033	299,838	37,695
Total ..	6,729,050	3,961,667	773,643

*1116. **Shrimati Dr. Prakash Kaur** : Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the land allotment files are open to inspection of the parties concerned or their counsel; if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) (i) whether any instructions were issued by the Director, Rehabilitation Department, in the month of August, 1951, regarding the inspection of files by the Pleaders engaged by the parties; if so, the nature of these instructions;

(ii) a copy of these instructions be laid on the table;

[Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur]

(c) the provision of law under which the instructions, referred to in part (b) above were issued;

(d) whether the copies of the orders passed by the Rehabilitation Authorities and the reports made on the files referred to in part (a) above can be had on payment; if not the reasons therefor?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a). No. Because as a result of constant handling, these files have already been mutilated and further inspection thereof would still deteriorate their condition;

(b) (i) and (ii). Yes a copy of the instructions is given below.

(c) This is a permanent and very important record which has been prepared with great pains by employing thousands of officials. The Rehabilitation Department are anxious to preserve it in its present condition.

(d) Only copies of the orders can be supplied on payment. Copies of the reports on the files made by the subordinate staff cannot be supplied because such reports are only meant for the information of the Officers.

Instructions regarding Inspection of files issued by the Rehabilitation Department

Under para 5 of Rehabilitation Department letter No. 10248/S, dated 22nd August, 1950, ordinarily lawyers need not be allowed to appear in the cases pertaining to review of allotments. However, in land-rights cases where documents are filed and the cases are of a complicated nature, permission can be given to Pleaders to appear for parties.

The condition of our files is such that if we start allowing the public to inspect them it will be further deteriorated. The applicant can easily obtain a copy of any document that he wants.

The 1st August, 1951.

Sd/-GURBACHAN SINGH

Inspection is impracticable both because files are not in proper conditions and also we have no staff to supervise inspection.

The 2nd August, 1951.

Sd/-VIKRAM SINGH

JULLUNDUR CITY MUNICIPALITY

*** 1090. Shrimati Sita Devi :** Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state—

(a) the period for which the Administrator is expected to continue to function for the Jullundur City Municipality;

(b) the approximate time by which the next elections to the said Municipal Committee are likely to take place?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma : (a) For the present uptil the middle of February, 1953, by which time the position will be reviewed.

(b) Immediately after the resuscitation of the Committee.

Shrimati Sita Devi : In Part B of this question the Minister has said that fresh elections will be conducted in the year 1953. May I know.....

Minister : I have not said like this. What I said was that the term of the present Administrator of the Committee which was fixed for one year would expire in the month of February, 1953, and before that Government would review the position and decide whether the Committee should remain under suspension or fresh elections be held.

RE-ORGANISATION OF SECONDARY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

***1006. Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Government has set up the Re-organisation of Secondary Education Committee; if so, its terms of reference and its personnel;
- (b) the number of meetings held by the Committee so far;
- (c) whether in view of the Government of India having set up a similar Committee with an industrial scope, is this State Committee still going to function?

Shri Jagat Narain : (a) Yes. re-examination of the courses of study and methods of instruction in classes I to VIII.

The personnel is as below :

- (1) Dr. Trilochan Singh, B.A., Ph.D., Principal, Government College, Ludhiana .. Chairman
- (2) Dr. A. C. Joshi, D.Sc., Principal, Government Training College, Jullundur ... Member
- (3) Shri Suraj Bhan, M.A., T.D. (Lond), Principal, D.A.V. College, Jullundur ... Do
- (4) Kumari Lajja Vati, Principal, Kanya Mahavidyala, Jullundur ... Do
- (5) Shri Davinder Lal, M.A. (Lond), Senior Lecturer, Government Training College, Jullundur ... Secretary

(b) One Preliminary. The questionnaire is being drawn up.

(c) The Committee will study the problems in the context of conditions obtaining in the Punjab.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Sir, with your permission, may I point out that there is a misprint in part (c) of this question. What I

[Shri Dev Raj Sethi]

wrote was 'comprehensive scope' and not 'industrial scope' as is given in the question under reply.

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** I am sorry for that.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : But, Sir, my point is that I have not received the proper reply.

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** If the hon. Minister can make a reply in the light of the changed word, well and good; otherwise the question can be postponed

Minister for Education : It would be better if the hon. Member puts a fresh question.

TRAINING CENTRES FOR TEACHERS IN THE STATE

***1089. Shrimati Sita Devi :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of training centres for teachers that have been opened in the State this year;
- (b) the number of persons, men and women who are receiving training therein together with the percentage of the women trainees among them?.

Shri Jagat Narain : (a) Seven

(b)

{	Men	...	...	255
	Women	...	...	82

(c) Percentage of Women trainees

24

CHARGING OF FEES BY THE DOCTORS OF V. J. HOSPITAL, AMRITSAR

***1102. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether a sum of Rs. 8 per day is charged by the hospital doctors as their fee from the in-door patients getting treatment in the family wards of the V. J. Hospital, Amritsar;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the nursing staff, the bearer staff and other necessities are supplied to such patients at Government cost;
- (c) the reasons for allowing these Doctors to charge the above fees while on Government duty?

Shri Jagat Narain : (a) No. Professors of Medical College, Amritsar, who are visiting physicians and surgeons of the V. J. Hospital, Amritsar, are entitled to a visiting fee of Rs. 8 per day from the indoor paying patients getting treatment in the private or family wards of the hospital. This scale of fee is subject to the provision that no fee is charged from persons whose income is below Rs. 150 per mensem and only half rates from persons whose income is above Rs. 150 per mensem but below Rs. 500 per mensem, if admitted as in-door patients in the private or family wards, in exceptional cases.

(b) Yes.

(c) The levy of visiting fees in the private wards of the hospitals is governed by the rules contained in Appendix LIII of the Punjab Medical Manual. The treatment of cases in the private Wards of hospitals is a part of private practice of Medical Officers which they are allowed to engage in under the existing arrangements.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : The hon. Minister has stated that they charge a fee of Rs. 8 from the in-door patients of the Hospital. May I know why they are being permitted to do so? I wish that it should not have been charged.

Minister : I have stated that they are the professors of the Medical College and they are entitled to a visiting fee of Rs. 8 from the in-door paying patients.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : It means that the fee is, of course, charged.

Minister : I have admitted that this is done.

BUILDING OF NEW FAMILY WARDS ADJOINING V. J. HOSPITAL, AMRITSAR

***1103. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any new Family Wards have built recently by the Government adjoining the V.J. Hospital, Amritsar, if so, the number of such Family Wards;
- (b) whether any money belonging to Indian Red Cross has been spent for this purpose, if so, the reasons therefor?

Shri Jagat Narain : (a) *First part.* No.

Second part. Does not arise.

(b) The District Red Cross Society and the St. John Ambulance Branch of the Indian Red Cross Society, Amritsar, built 24 new Family Wards adjoining the V. J. Hospital at an approximate cost of Rs. 1,40,000 and transferred them *gratis* to Government of their own accord. This will provide necessary facilities to the residents of Amritsar, in particular and of the State, in general.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Is it a fact that the people whose income is less than Rs. 500 are not admitted to these wards?

Minister : No such thing has come to my notice.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Was the money to construct these wards collected from the public? When the money was paid by the people how is it that.....

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** No arguments please. The hon. Member should ask a question.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : May I know why the people who paid for the construction of these wards are now refused admission to these Wards?

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** This does not arise.

Shrimati Sita Devi : From whom did the Red Cross Society get the money for the construction of these wards?

Minister : From the public.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Which means that although these wards were constructed with public money yet.....

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** This is an argument.

BEDS IN GENERAL WARDS OF V. J. HOSPITAL, AMRITSAR

*1104. **Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state —

(a) the total number of beds in the General Wards of the V. J. Hospital, Amritsar;

(b) the number of patients refused admission in the General Wards due to shortage of beds in the said Hospital during the last six months?

Shri Jagat Narain : (a) 452

(b) It is not possible to give definite information as no record of "admission-refused cases" is maintained by the Hospital authorities.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Is the Minister prepared to institute an enquiry to find out the difficulties experienced by the people in the matter of admission to the General Wards? My submission is that the authorities responsible for admission.....

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** Order, order. The hon. Member has started an argument.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

GRANT OF PERMISSION TO GOVERNMENT SERVANTS TO CONTINUE THEIR STUDIES

190. Sardar Mukhtar Singh : Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) the total number of Government employees studying at various institutions in the State;
- (b) whether the permission once given to an employee can be withdrawn after one year by the head of the department concerned without giving any reason ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) 114.

(b) The Head of a Department can withdraw permission once given to the employees in case the exigencies of service so require.

—————

EVACUEE CULTURABLE AREA RESERVED FOR DISPLACED PERSONS IN VILLAGE FARIDPUR KHERA, TEHSIL FAZILKA, DISTRICT FEROZEPURE

191. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur : Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) (i) whether any evacuee culturable area was reserved in Village Faridpur Khera *alias* Rasulpur Khera, Tehsil Fazilka, District Ferozepore during the year 1951, for any displaced persons; if so, list of such areas together with the list of such displaced persons?
- (ii) the reasons for reserving this area;
- (b) whether any persons or their descendants for whom this area was reserved has sent a representation to the Director, Rehabilitation, Civil Secretariat, Jullundur, on 15th February, 1952, which was received in this office on 19th February 1952,—*vide* postal acknowledgement for the allotment of this area; if so, the action taken in the matter up to 31st September, 1952;
- (c) whether the area under reference was allotted up to 30th September, 1952; if not the reasons therefor?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) (i) No.

(ii) In view of reply to (a) above, does not arise.

(b) Yes. Shri Sajjan Singh Margindpuri, *ex-M.L.A.*, sent a representation on 15th February, 1952, which was returned to him on 3rd March, 1952, requesting him to contact D. C., Ferozepore.

(c) Does not arise, in view of reply to (a) (ii) above,

PAY OF REVENUE PATWARIS

192. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur : Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) the starting pay per mensem of a Revenue Patwari at present;
- (b) the dearness allowance per mensem paid to a Revenue Patwari referred to in part (a) above;
- (c) the total amount drawn by him per mensem;
- (d) the conveyance allowance of the Naib-Tehsildar and Tehsildar per mensem at present?

Sardar Partap Singh. Kairon :

(a) Rs. 30 per mensem.

(b) Rs. 30.

(c) Total amount drawn by a Patwari is Rs. 64-8-0 per mensem as under:—

	Rs A. P.
Pay	... 30 0 0
Dearness Allowance	... 30 0 0
Carriage Allowance	... 4 0 0
Stationery Allowance	... 0 8 0
Total	... 64 8 0

(d) Rs. 67-8-0 per mensem and Rs. 70-8-0 per mensem, respectively.

RESERVATION OF EVACUEE AREA FOR DISPLACED PERSONS IN
DISTRICT AMRITSAR

193. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur : Will the Minister for finance be pleased to state—

- (a) (i) whether any *Robkar* (letter) bearing No. J.III. 5815, dated 6th February, 1952, was issued by the Assistant Registrar, Land Claims, Division III, Civil Secretariat, Jullundur, to the Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar, for the reservation of evacuee area for certain displaced persons; if so, the list of the persons concerned;
- (ii) the reasons for reserving this area;
- (iii) the list of the persons to whom this area has been given for temporary cultivation;

- (b) whether the area referred to in part (a) above has been allotted to the persons for whom it was reserved; if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the rate at which the rent of this area is to be charged from the persons referred to in part (a) (iii) above;
- (d) whether the rent chargeable has been fixed at higher rates than those of the land already allotted to them under the quasi-permanent allotments; if so, the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) (i) Yes; for Arjan Singh, Surain Singh Bhag Singh, sons of Jind Singh, Nihal Kaur, widow of Chanchal Singh and Milkha Singh, son of Chanchal Singh;

(ii) As on evidence produced by the applicant it was found that there was *prima facie* case for believing that they were co-sharers in a khewat for which no area had been given to them, reservation of area was ordered pending verification of record with the original Pakistan record;

(iii) This area is in illegal occupation of Kartar Singh, Ujagar Singh and Lachhman Singh, etc. who are locals;

(b) No quasi-permanent allotment has been made so far because comparison has not yet been made with Pakistan record;

(c) Eight times the land revenue and other cesses, etc;

(d) Yes; because it is in unlawful possession of local residents.

**TRAVELLING ALLOWANCE BILLS OF REVENUE PATWARIS OF TEHSIL PATTI,
DISTRICT AMRITSAR**

194. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur : Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any revenue patwaris of Patti Tehsil, District Amritsar, had submitted their travelling allowance bills during 1952 to the Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar, for the period from January 1951, for their visits to Jullundur Secretariat and Amritsar District Headquarters, if so, their list;
- (b) the total amount demanded by them;
- (c) the total amount passed for payment;
- (d) (i) the date when the bills were received in the Deputy Commissioner's Office, Amritsar, in the first instance;
- (ii) whether the bills under reference were returned to the Tehsil Headquarters with certain objections; if so, when;

[Shrimati Dr. Prakash Kaur]

(iii) the date when the bills were again sent back by the Patti Tehsil Authorities after answering the objections raised;

(iv) the date when bills were finally approved and forwarded to the Accountant-General, Punjab, for preaudit and sanction;

(v) the date when the bills were received in the Accountant-General's Office;

(vi) the date when the bills were returned to the Deputy Commissioner's Office by the Accountant-General, Punjab, duly passed;

(vii) the date when the bills were received back in the Deputy Commissioner's Office;

(e) (i) the date when the bills were paid;

(ii) the total period taken up by the Deputy Commissioner's Office for the payment of the bills.

(iii) whether there was any delay of more than a week in the payment of any bills, if so, the reasons therefor,

(iv) the action, if any, Government proposes to take against the person responsible for this delay,

(v) the steps, if any, Government proposes to take for the early payments of such bills in future?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) A list showing the requisite information is given below:—

(b) Given in the statement.

(c) Given in the statement.

(d) (i) to (vii) given in the statement.

(e) (i) to (ii) Ditto

(e) (iii) Yes, the bills were prepared but could not be got encashed because the same had to be sent to the Accountant-General, Punjab, for pre-audit.

(iv) Does not arise.

(v) Does not arise.

List showing the names of the revenue patwaris of Patti Tehsil, District Amritsar, who had submitted their travelling allowance bills during 1952, to the Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar, for the period from January, 1951 for their visits to Jullundur Secretariat, Amritsar, District Headquarters.

- | | | | |
|--|----|--|---------------------|
| (a) Names of Patwaris | .. | 1. Ramji Das | 2. Harkishan Lal |
| (b) Total amount demanded by them | | Rs. 44-5-6 | .. |
| (c) Total amount passed for payment | | Rs. 31-12-0 | Rs. 53-8-0 |
| (d) (i) The date when the bills were received in the D. C's Office, in the first instance | | 23rd January, 1952 | 11th January, 1952 |
| (ii) The date when the bills were returned to Tehsil headquarters with certain objections | | 1st February, 1952 | 5th February, 1952 |
| (iii) The date when the bills were again sent back by the Patti Tehsil authorities after removing the objections | | 9th February, 1952 | 16th February, 1952 |
| (iv) The date when the bills were finally approved and forwarded to the Accountant General, Punjab, for preaudit and sanction | | 9th July, 1952 | 9th July, 1952 |
| (v) The date when the bills were received in the Accountant-General's Office | | Not available as the original bills have been encashed and are with the A. G., Punjab Simla | |
| (vi) The date when the bills were returned to the Deputy Commissioner's Office, by the Accountant-General, Punjab, duly passed | | Ditto | |
| (vii) The date when the bills were received back in the Deputy Commissioner's Office | | Ditto | |
| (e) (i) Date of payment | .. | 23rd October, 1952 | 23rd October, 1952 |
| (ii) The total period taken up by the Deputy Commissioner's Office for the payment of the bills | | 8 months and 14 days, 8 months and 7 days
This includes the period taken up in correspondence with the A. G.'s Office | |

**PAYMENT OF T.A. BILLS OF REVENUE PATWARIS OF PATTI TEHSIL,
DISTRICT AMRITSAR**

195. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur : Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any travelling allowance bills were submitted by the Revenue Patwaris of Patti Tehsil, District Amritsar, in connection with their tours during the elections of the Punjab Legislative Assembly, in 1952; if so, their list;

[Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur]

(b) the date when the bills were received by the Deputy Commissioner's Office, Amritsar;

(c) the date when these were sanctioned;

(d) (i) the date of payment of the amount in each case;

(ii) whether there has been any delay of more than 7 days in the payment of any of these bills after their approval; if so, the reasons for delay in each case;

(iii) the action, if any, Government proposes to take against the persons responsible for this delay; if not, the reasons therefor?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) Yes. A list showing the requisite information is given below.

(b) and (c). The dates are mentioned in the list.

(d) (i). The dates are given in the list.

(ii) Yes. The delay in payment of Travelling Allowance is due to the fact that such amounts are generally paid at Tehsil Headquarters and patwaris concerned who are stationed away from the Headquarters were paid as soon as they turned up. No official was at fault.

(iii) Does not arise.

Statement showing the names of the patwaris of Tehsil Patti who submitted their Travelling Allowance bills in connection with their tours during the Election of the Punjab Legislative Assembly in 1952

Sr. No.	Name of the Patwari	Date of receipt of bill in D. C.'s Office	Date of approval	Date of passing of these bills by Treasury Office	Date of encashment at Sub-Treasury office, Patti	Date of payment
1	Shri Har Kishan Lal	26th April, 1952	28th April, 1952	8th May, 1952	23rd May, 1952	23rd May, 1952
2	Shri Ramji Dass	24th April, 1952	28th April, 1952	8th May, 1952	23rd May, 1952	23rd May, 1952
3	Shri Dewan Chand	18th June, 1952	20th June, 1952	7th July, 1952	19th August, 1952	19th August, 1952

ALLOTMENT OF EVACUEE AREA OWNED BY MUSLIM RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS AT VILLAGE VAIROWAL, DISTRICT AMRITSAR

196. **Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur** : Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) the total area of evacuee land owned by Muslim religious institutions at Village Vairoval, Teh. Tarn Taran, District Amritsar, according to the last Jamanbandi Records;
- (b) (i) whether any part of the area referred to in part (a) above was allotted to any displaced persons of Chak No. 39 Jhang Branch of Lyallpur District, if so, their list and the area so allotted to each of them during the quasi-permanent allotment ;
 - (ii) the authority of law under which this area was allotted to them together with the reasons therefor;
- (c) (i) whether the area referred to in part (b) (i) above was discharged from the allotment of the persons referred to in part (a) above a few months back; if so, when, and the reasons therefor;
 - (ii) whether the deficiency in the area so caused was made up out of the reserve area available in the village; if so, when, if not; the reasons therefor;
 - (iii) the way in which the area referred to in part (c) (i) above was disposed of;
 - (iv) whether the area was leased out to other persons; if so, their list and the reasons for giving them preference over the persons referred to in part (a) above;
- (d) (i) whether any evacuee area was made available for allotment in this village during the year 1952; if so, its total;
 - (ii) whether any applications from displaced persons were received during September, 1952, by the Tehsildar, Tarn Taran and other Rehabilitation Authorities of Amritsar District for the allotment of the area referred to in part (d) (i) above: if so, their list and the reasons for putting their claims;
 - (iii) whether the deficiency caused in the area of the persons referred to in part (a) above was made up before allotting this area to other persons; if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) the steps Government proposes to take in the matter for making up the deficiency in the area of the persons referred to in part (a) above ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) 213 kanals and 13 marlas.

(b) (i) Yes. 17 kanals and 1 marla to Chet Singh, son of Man Singh

(ii) At the time of preparation of Khasra-wise lists for the quasi-permanent allotment, this area was erroneously reckoned as Malkiat Kamal and hence inadvertently allotted on a quasi-permanent basis.

[Minister for Finance]

(c) (i) Yes, in June, 1950. Because such areas had been excluded from quasi-permanent allotment.

(ii) Yes, in November, 1952.

(iii) It has been leased out.

(iv) Yes, to Shri Desondha Singh who has not yet been allotted any land on a quasi-permanent basis. As Shri Chet Singh referred to in part (b) above had already been allotted land on a quasi-permanent basis he was not entitled to the lease of this area;

(d)(i) Yes. 975 kanals and 4 marlas;

(ii) Yes. Shri Chet Singh applied for making good the deficiency caused in the total area due to him.

(iii) Yes.

(e) In view of answer to (d) (iii) above it does not arise.

IMPREST MONEY SANCTIONED FOR THE COPYING BRANCH, DISTRICT COURTS, JULLUNDUR.

197. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur : Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether any amount as imprest money has been sanctioned for the Copying Branch at the District Courts, Jullundur; if so, the amount sanctioned for the year 1951-52 together with the manner in which this money is spent;

(b) whether any amount as imprest money was sanctioned for the Copying Branch of the Rehabilitation Department at the Civil Secretariat, Jullundur, for the year 1951-52; if not, the reasons therefor?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) A sum of Rs. 50 has been sanctioned as imprest money for the Copying Branch of this district, for the year 1951-52.

This advance money had been sanctioned to meet the contingent charges, refund charges, remuneration to copyists and other attesting officers. After incurring the expenditure a voucher is prepared and the amount drawn from the Treasury and thus the permanent advance is recouped.

(b) No separate imprest was sanctioned for the Copying Agency of the Land Claims Organisation in the Rehabilitation Department because this Agency is a part and parcel of the Land Claims Organisation (Rehabilitation Department), and its requirements are met from the imprest sanctioned for the Land Claims Organization.

ADJOURNMENT MOTION

Mr. Speaker : I have received notices of two adjournment motions from Sardar Achhar Singh. I am sorry I do not allow them. Under Rule 159(3) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in this House, it is provided:—

On a day allotted under sub-rule (1), for the voting of demands for grants, no other business shall be taken before the normal hour of interruption of business except with the consent of the Speaker.

I am sorry I cannot allow the discussion of these Adjournment Motions.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SECRETARY *re* BILLS RECEIVED FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Mr. Speaker : Now the Secretary will make an announcement.

Secretary : I have the honour to lay on the Table of the House a copy each of the Capital of Punjab (Development and Regulation) Bill, 1952, and the Punjab Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Bill, 1952, which were passed by the Punjab Legislative Assembly on the 31st July 1952 and the 21st of October 1952, respectively and transmitted to the Punjab Legislative Council for its concurrence. These have been returned by the said Council with amendments.

SITTING OF THE ASSEMBLY

Mr. Speaker : Now I have to make an announcement with regard to the timings of the Assembly. I feel that at 6 o'clock it becomes a little cold for the hon. Members to go back to their places. I have, therefore, decided that the Assembly shall meet on all ordinary days of sitting, except Saturdays, at 1 p.m. and adjourn at 5 p.m. This decision will take effect from Monday, the 24th November, 1952. Of course tomorrow on Friday we are meeting at 9.30 a.m. because on Saturday the House is not meeting.

Now I call upon the hon. Minister for Education to move the motion standing against his name.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Minister for Education (Shri Jagat Narain) : Sir, I lay on the Table of the House Rules made under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939, as required by section 133 (3) of the said Act.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1952-53

LAND REVENUE

Minister for Finance (Sardar Ujjal Singh) : Sir, I beg to move—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 11,18,400 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1953, in respect of
7—Land Revenue.

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** Motion moved—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs 11,18,400 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1953, in respect of 7—Land Revenue.

Here in this connection I would like to inform the hon. Members that 10 minutes will be allowed for the mover and 6 minutes for each of the hon. Members who take part in the debate. This is necessary because we have to finish the whole agenda by the evening at 5.15; that is 45 minutes before the normal hour of interruption under the rules. I shall apply the guillotine so that the voting of the demands is finished. Now the House shall proceed with the discussion on the Demand moved by the hon. Finance Minister.

Minister for Local Government : Sir, why not have a general discussion of the Supplementary Demands.

Sardar Wazir Singh : Sir, the hon. Minister has made a wholesome suggestion. It should be adopted as this will facilitate discussion on all the Supplementary Demands.

Shri Sri Chand : Sir, a general discussion will save time also

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** I am very sorry that I cannot accept the suggestion because the voting on demands will have to be taken separately and the hon. Members will also be required to speak on each Demand separately. I am afraid, I cannot have an omnibus discussion on the Supplementary Demands.

Minister for Local Government : But, Sir, there is a provision for general discussion of the demands in the Rules.

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** Perhaps the hon. Minister is confusing the Rule pertaining to the general discussion of the Budget.

Minister for Local Government : I think, Sir, the procedure is the same.

Sardar Wazir Singh : And this is also a Supplementary Budget. That Rule is equally applicable to this case as well.

Minister for Finance : Sir, procedure is the same unless you modify it and say that no general discussion is to be allowed on the Supplementary Estimates.

Chief Minister : Sir, I would respectfully draw your attention to Rule 167 of the Procedural Rules of this House. It is like this:—

Supplementary, Additional, Excess and Exceptional grants and Votes of Credit shall be regulated by the same procedure as is applicable in the case of demands for grants subject to such adaptations, whether by way of modifications, addition or omission as the Speaker may deem to be necessary or expedient.

My point is that only so much of the procedure as relates to the Demands may be modified by the Speaker. There should be no general discussion. The discussion should be confined only to the Demands put separately.

✓ **Mr Speaker :** Normally the general discussion on the Supplementary Demands is not in order but I will change the procedure because of the demand by the Members that a general discussion should be permitted and that no discussion will take place on the different Demands individually. I must make it clear to the Members that they must confine themselves to the Demands and not discuss the Budget which has already been passed by this House. In other words they shall not discuss general policy underlying the Budget. The Cut Motions given notice of by some hon. Members will be deemed to have been moved although they are not in time. Therefore if the general discussion ends before 5.15 p.m., the Minister shall move the Demands and the normal procedure relating to motions will be carried. At 5.15 p.m. as I have already intimated, guillotine shall be applied. Thereafter the Demands will be put from the Chair. No Cut Motions will be deemed to have been moved to the Demands which are put from the Chair.

I, however, rule that the procedure that we are adopting today in relation to the Supplementary Estimates will not be treated as a precedent.

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS.

DEMAND No. 1

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut :

That the Demand be reduced by Re. 1.

DEMAND No. 2

Sardar Nidhan Singh :

That the Demand be reduced by Rs. 100.

DEMAND No. 3

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut :

That the Demand be reduced by Re. 1.

DEMAND No. 4

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina :

That the Demand be reduced by Rs. 100.

DEMAND No. 5

Sardar Darshan Singh :

That the Demand be reduced by Re. 1.

[Mr. Speaker]

DEMAND No. 6

Sardar Nidhan Singh :

That the demand be reduced by Re. 1.

DEMAND No. 7

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut :

That the demand be reduced by Re. 1.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Mr. Speaker, the Supplementary Estimates now before the House cannot be viewed separately from the main Budget amounting to Rs. seventeen crores and five lakhs which was passed in the last session. There was a deficit of rupees fifty lakhs in that Budget. A sum of rupees eighty-four lakhs has been asked for in the Supplementary Estimates now before us. The manner in which these estimates are being prepared reveals that the expenditure is being increased and the public is being burdened with more taxes. Ours is a very small State consisting of only thirteen districts and calculating on the basis of the Budget for the undivided Punjab, the share of our State's Budget amounted to eight crores of rupees. Adding the amount asked for now to the amount of the main Budget passed last we find that the Government has felt it necessary to ask for rupees eighteen crores by now. It means that the Government has levied taxes to the tune of ten crores of rupees in the last five years. The total population of the Punjab is one crore and twenty-six lakhs. This shows that taxes at the rate of eighteen rupees *per capita* are being charged in this State. While arriving at this figure even those people have been included who do no work. If only those persons are taken into account who do some work, it would be found that the incidence of tax *per capita* amounts to Rs. 150 or Rs. 175. While preparing Budget Estimates for any country the question whether its production has increased is taken into account and.....

Minister for Finance : This is not the Annual Budget.

Chief Minister : Sir, in view of the digression made by my hon. Friend from Tanda Constituency, I would again request you to kindly reconsider your ruling and regularise the procedure as laid down under Rule 167 of our Rules of Procedure. If I remember aright, there used to be no general discussion on the Supplementary Demands, during the previous years. I am, therefore, anxious that you should be pleased to modify the procedure relating to the consideration of the Demands. If general discussion is allowed, digression is inevitable; the hon. Members will criticise the policy underlying the Budget and you will have to pull them up every time.

Sardar Wazir Singh : Sir, may I, with your permission, submit that you have already ruled that general discussion shall take place on the Supplementary Demands? The hon. Chief Minister need not press reversal of this decision.

✓ **Mr Speaker :** But the hon. Members should not lose sight of the fact that only Supplementary Demands are before the House, and not the Budget itself. Therefore any discussion on the Budget or of the policy underlying it will neither be proper nor relevant. If the hon. Members will just peruse the Agenda, they will find that item III is like this:

1. Discussion on the estimates of the expenditure charged on the revenues of the State.

2. Voting of the Demand for Supplementary Grants.

So it will be seen that the question of bringing in the general budget or the policy underlying it does not arise. I hope the hon. Members will avoid this.

Chief Minister : Strictly speaking, Sir, a general discussion on the Supplementary Demands is not consistent with the established practice. But now that you have been pleased to allow a general discussion on all the Supplementary Demands, my hon. Friend seems to think that criticism on all topics is permissible. This is totally incorrect.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : When the Budget goes on increasing, it means that.....

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** The hon. Member should distinguish the Supplementary Estimates from the main Budget. These are Supplementary Demands which are before the House and general discussion on the Budget or the policy of the Government will not be relevant. Only that demand which the hon. Minister has moved should be discussed. As regards the suggestion that the time of the House would be saved by allowing a general discussion I would like to say that brief speeches should be delivered on the motion moved by the hon. Minister otherwise a great deal of time would be wasted.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : After all something has to be said by way of introduction to a speech. I wanted to point out that the manner in which the Budget is being increased shows that our Government is acting as a police State or a bureaucracy. Nothing whatsoever is being done to remove the difficulties of the people. Our Budget would lead one to think that the industry in the State is flourishing and the production has increased but in reality the things are quite different. Neither industrial nor agricultural output has increased. The income of the people on whom more taxes are being levied has not increased. The conditions are just the reverse of it. The prices of some commodities are falling and the taxes are being increased.

It is a well-recognised principle that the Government should increase its budgetary provision only if there is increase in production or increase in the revenues of the State. The Government should see whether the public can bear the burden of the additional expenditure for which a Supplementary Demand is put before the House. It appears that the Government has made it its usual practice to increase its expenditure.

[Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut]

The reason for the imposition of taxes upon the poor people is that the salaries and allowances of high officers are to be increased. The Government, on the other hand, do not levy any cut on the fat salaries of high officers or on the income of big jagirdars. We find that instead of scaling down the expenditure on Police and Administration of Justice, the Government has increased its expenditure on these departments. The Government is imposing new taxes every now and then on the poor people of the State on the plea that it has to complete the work of consolidation of holdings and has also to meet the increased expenditure on its departments. When we met last, Government introduced a Bill under which it was provided for the levy of betterment charges on certain lands in the State which has put a heavy burden on the land-owners. If we were to compare our present Budget with the Budget of the united Punjab we will find that the Budget of our State comprising thirteen districts is in no way less than it used to be in the united Punjab.

✓ **Mr Speaker** : I would ask the hon. Member to confine his discussion to the supplementary demands which are now before the House. I shall not permit him to criticise the general Budget.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Sir, we now find that a Supplementary Demand for Rs. 11,18,400 has been put forward in respect of consolidation of holdings. We wish that the work of consolidation of holdings should be completed as early as possible. The Government has given an assurance that this work will be completed by the middle of 1959. I may point out to the Government that this work of consolidation was finished in China in two years and it is not proper that our Government should take such a long time to complete this work. Besides this, the Government propose to give the work of construction of stone pillars on a contract basis for which an expenditure of Rs. 5 lakhs is to be incurred. I may frankly say that out of this sum, two or three lakhs of rupees will be earned by the contractors. It is, therefore, obvious that this amount can be easily reduced in order to avoid unnecessary strain on Government's Exchequer. Sometime back when the Government imposed a tax on passengers and goods carried by road it provided a sum of Rs. 1,79,000 for employment of staff for purposes of checking and collection of this tax. I think that this sum also could be easily reduced.

Besides, there is very little work in the Excise Department and it constitutes an unnecessary burden on the State Exchequer. Though it has been stated on behalf of the Government that Nagrik Sabha is a non-official body yet there exist many organisations which are responsible for a considerable expenditure of the Government. Moreover, the Government has asked for funds for the employment of additional staff to clear the arrears of work which has been accumulating for the last five years. Such a state of affairs in a Government department is highly unsatisfactory. The Government instead of having recourse to the employment of additional staff should have awarded punishment to those officers who had been guilty of dereliction of duty.

✓ **Mr. Speaker** : I may ask the hon. Member that he should confine his discussion to the Supplementary Demands which are at present under consideration in the House. I cannot allow him to have a general discussion of the Budget. The hon. Member is not following the right procedure by raising a general discussion of the Budget. He has already discussed the general principles of the Budget and is now repeating the same line of argument. I would draw his attention to rule 157 of the Rules of Procedure according to which he can only be allowed to raise a discussion on the Supplementary Demand and not on the Budget as a whole. I would, therefore, ask him to express his views on the Supplementary Demand which is at present under consideration before the House. The general discussion on the Budget is irrelevant and out of order.

Chief Minister (Shri Bhim Sen Sachar) : Sir, as you have yourself observed, the hon. Member, who has just now preceded me has criticised the general policy of the Government which has got no relevancy to the Supplementary Demands that are now before the House. I think, Sir, it would be better if each Demand is discussed and voted upon separately. In support of my request, I would with your permission, quote some precedents. If you would kindly refer to the proceedings of the united Punjab Legislative Assembly held on the 26th February, 1942, relating to discussion on the Supplementary Demands, you would find that each Demand had been discussed and voted upon separately. Similarly, Sir, the same procedure had been followed by our own Assembly in 1948, 1949 and 1950.

✓ **Mr. Speaker** : I am grateful to the hon. Chief Minister for the trouble that he has taken in quoting the precedents. I had to change the procedure because of the demand made by the hon. Members. The only concession that I have made, and I think I should not feel sorry for it, is that instead of allowing discussion on each demand separately, I have permitted a general discussion on all the Supplementary Demands. But the hon. Members should not try to so interpret the term "general discussion" as to mean that they can discuss the policy of the Government or any other matter which has no connection with the Demands that are now before the House. They must confine their speeches to the Supplementary Demands.

Sardar Wazir Singh : Sir, with regard to this ruling of yours that there cannot be a general discussion on the Budget today, I have to submit that whenever the budget is presented a general discussion is allowed before proceeding with the individual demands.

✓ **Mr. Speaker** : This is my ruling. General discussion is not permitted; you may make any other submission, if you like.

Sardar Wazir Singh : What else is it. If it is not a Supplementary Budget?

✓ **Mr. Speaker** : You can make reference to any of the demands that are before the House; but you cannot discuss the General Budget.

Chief Minister : Strictly speaking, Sir, a general discussion on the Supplementary Demands is not consistent with the established practice. But now that you have been pleased to allow a general discussion on all the Supplementary Demands, my hon. Friend seems to think that criticism on all topics is permissible. This is totally incorrect.

Mr. Speaker : I am in perfect agreement with the Chief Minister. The hon. Members should confine their observations to the Demands.

Shri Sri Chand (Bahadurgarh) (Hindi) : Sir, in deference to your ruling I shall try to confine my remarks to the demands under discussion.

At the outset, I want to say something about the provision of Rs 11 lakhs made in connection with the consolidation work. I do not deny that the consolidation of holdings is a very beneficial measure for the peasants but the manner in which it is being proceeded with is rather defective. The hon. Minister for Development has been touring in almost every district and can, therefore, be expected to be aware of the defects and evils which are marring the execution of this work.

So far as the Rohtak District is concerned, I can say with certainty that there is hardly a village where bribery is not being resorted to. Complaints of corruption have reached the Development Minister also and I learn that he has caused an inquiry to be made into them as a result of which some Patwaris have been challaned and prosecuted. Under such circumstances, coming to the House with a demand for more money with a view to accelerating the pace of the consolidation work would serve no useful purpose.

When I enquired from the hon. Minister as to why sufficient time was not being devoted to the consolidation work I was told that a time-limit or a deadline is fixed for the completion of the work in every Tehsil so that the Patwaris may not delay or prolong it deliberately. I don't deny the necessity of finishing the work at an early date but the fixation of a deadline or in other words the binding of the hands of the officials concerned is resulting in great injustice to the people. If the hon. Minister visits any village where this work is being carried on, he will everywhere find people grumbling and groaning that undue haste is spoiling the whole work. Fixation of a deadline for the completion of the work results in an increase in the scope for corruption for the officials and denial of justice to the peasants. The people, for whom it is a question of their livelihood, are going to the length of selling the ornaments of their wives in order to be able to grease the palms of the Patwaris. This kind of loot is going on everywhere. Therefore, Sir, my submission is that this work should not be hurried by undue hurry and flurry. This Supplementary Demand is uncalled for. Unless and until the work is properly completed at one place, it should not be started elsewhere. It is a new experiment that the Government has undertaken. It should be proceeded with slowly so that it may not result in injustice to anyone.

It is with great regret that I have to say that some influential people are exercising their influence in a manner which is not conducive to the execution of this work on the basis of honesty and

justice. It is the foremost duty of the Government to take steps to ensure that nobody gets inferior land for superior land and *vice versa* as a result of consolidation proceedings owing to somebody's interference or influence because it is a matter which is closely connected with the livelihood of the peasants. I reiterate that this demand need not be passed. Let the work in hand be completed. By that time the staff employed on it will have acquired sufficient training and experience and will be able to execute it at a rapid pace. Haste will only help the corrupt officers and Patwaris.

In respect of the second demand, I have to say that in spite of our repeated suggestions to the Government to do away with the superfluous staff and reduce expenditure, the Government seems to be bent upon multiplying it. It appears that our friends occupying the Government benches are anxious to provide jobs to every relation of theirs. New offices are being opened every other day—sometimes for the Community Projects scheme, sometimes for the collection of Passengers and Goods Tax and so on. On the one hand it is given out that an agreement for the payment of a lumpsum has been reached with the truck operators and on the other hand posts of officers carrying salaries of Rs. 600 to Rs. 700 per mensem are being sanctioned in connection with the collection of the tax. Every department has a tendency to expand *ad infinitum*. And then, the persons who are once appointed see to it that the posts held by them continue for ever. Not to speak of this Ministry, it is not possible for God Himself to abolish the posts that are once created.

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** Please wind up.

Shri Sri Chand : Sir, I shall speak for five minutes more and resume my seat. I was submitting that there was no need for creating more posts of officers for the collection of taxes. One or two Inspectors can easily cope with this work. I am certainly not unaware of the matters in which our Ministers are helpless.

The Nagrik Sabha has nothing to do with the Government. I fail to understand why a sum of thirty thousand rupees has been provided for this purpose. If the Government wished to help any one it should do so openly. Why should it do it indirectly? It is not the business of the Government and the money spent on this will go waste.

The hon. Chief Minister has stated that the Opposition should believe the Government that it is really serious in the matter of decentralisation of the High Court. I wish to ask whether the opening of circuit court at Delhi will amount to decentralisation. This will increase rather than decrease expenditure. If this is what the Government meant by decentralisation of the judiciary I would request them not to do so. Decentralisation would mean more expenditure on the additional staff required for it. If the Government is really anxious in this matter it should better shift the High Court to the plains. If the Government wants to give relief to poor people in the State there is no reason why the Judges of the High Court should not stay in any one of the cities of the State like Amritsar, Jullundur or Ambala. It is very difficult for people to come to

[Shri Sri Chand]

this place in a season in which they carry back not justice, but pneumonia with them. It is the duty of the Government to shift the High Court to the plains in order that the people may not be put to unnecessary inconvenience.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : (Ajnala) (*Punjabi*) : Sir, enough has been said on the first demand. But the fact is that the co-operation of the people is needed. For this the essential pre-requisite is that corruption should be rooted out. In order to get the co-operation of the people at large the Government should try to do away with corruption and to effect economy in the expenditure of the State. In this connection I wish to point out that the expenditure which is being incurred on the jeeps is quite useless. This will in no way help the Government in the work of Consolidation. In the villages the land is being subjected to the continuous process of fragmentation and the day is not far off when no land will be left for consolidation. My submission is that the jeeps are not going to help us in any way in the work of consolidation. For this work a more solid action is needed.

The second thing which I wish to say here is that in the second Demand there is an item of rupees thirteen thousand by way of commission on the stamps worth rupees twenty-seven thousand. This expenditure is unnecessary and excessive. It should be reduced.

The third Demand is with regard to drainage. This work was started last year but was stopped later on. Now it is going to be started again and for this purpose a new department is going to be created. There is already the department of irrigation. Where lies the necessity of having another department for this work? If we look to the actual expenditure which is being incurred by the Government we find that the salaries and the allowances which are being paid to one Engineer are in excess of the salaries of twenty seven low paid employees of the department. It is surprising to find that such bureaucratic methods are still in vogue.

Regarding the High Court we are of the view that it should be shifted to the plains immediately. The sixth demand relates to the department of Education. In this connection my submission is that under the head education the demand for 1,880 rupees relating to the purchase of Khadis and yarn is wasteful. As regards the Basic Education, previously there was a scheme for opening sixteen schools but now it has been changed and only twelve schools are to be opened. Two model schools are to be started in Nilokheri and Dhunda. A sum of rupees thirty-one thousand has been provided to meet the expenses of contingencies and only twenty-one thousand rupees have been provided for the teachers. This is no economy of which one can boast. Similar is the case with regard to Tara-devi Scouts. I am in favour of providing help to the Scouts. But I disapprove the appointment of foreign personnel in this organisation. I am against this.

I think the Government should spend liberally on Ammonium Sulphate and other chemicals but in my opinion it is not proper to

patronise British concerns. We should think of our own country. More help should be given to the district authorities for fighting locust. Similarly more dispensaries should be opened. As far as the ninth demand is concerned I cannot understand the provision for constructing jeepable roads for the military by the State Government. It is the function of the Central Government and the State Government should not spend over it.

Much has been said regarding the Nagrik Sabha and I have no mind to say anything more. In the end I wish to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that in our State cultivation by means of tractors has mostly failed. So long as the Government does not start a factory for the repair of such tractors this experiment cannot succeed. The Government should take the work of repairing in its own hands because it is difficult for the people to go to Bombay and other places for it. That is why the tractors are lying useless. Giving of loans only cannot mend matters.

Regarding Ayurvedic and Unani dispensaries, my opinion is that the present scheme is quite inadequate. As a matter of fact research institutions should be opened in order to make it a success.

Sardar Nidhan Singh (Mehna) (Punjabi) : Sir, I wish to draw your attention to a few points for a few minutes. I wish to submit that the Government should pay its attention towards Janta, and should try to feel for them. Mr. Speaker, consolidation operations have been carried out in our village also. But the real object of consolidation has not been achieved. Sir, as I was born in a village, I well understand the demands of villagers. Therefore, through you, Sir, I would tell the hon. Ministers that the work of consolidation is not being done in the real sense of the word. What was required of the consolidation work was that the small and scattered holdings of the villagers should have been united into one whole and at one place. But the work done in Ferozepore District is quite different. The Patwaris, the Kanungos and the Tehsildars deputed on this work are misusing their powers and the slogan of Grow-More-Food is not being put into real practice. Mr. Speaker, what actually happens is that anyone who can grease the palm of the Patwaris, the Kanungos or the Tehsildars concerned gets his object accomplished and the poor people who cannot afford to offer a bribe keep on waiting and starve. People have to supply bottles of wine for the use of employoes of the Department. Thus in place of consolidation of holdings poverty is on the increase in far-off districts of our State. I would, therefore, request Government to explore ways and means to check it and with these words I finish my speech.

✓ **Mr. Speaker** : If the hon. Members differ from me on the question of raising a general discussion of the Budget while discussing supplementary demands, I would like to read out the debates of the Parliament of India. When an hon. Member enquired of the Speaker if the general discussion could be allowed on supplementary demands, he was told:—

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Member knows that the policy of Government will not be allowed to be discussed on the Supplementary Demands.

[Mr. Speaker]

I would, therefore, repeat my ruling that the policy of the Government will not be allowed to be discussed on the Supplementary Demands. General Budget has already been discussed. A new budget will again be presented before the hon. Members in March next when they would be given sufficient time to express their ideas. It would have been better if the hon. Members had expressed their ideas on one demand only. But the hon. Members of the Opposition wished that the general discussion might be allowed. I would make it clear that the general policy of Government or the General Budget is not under discussion, and the hon. Members should discuss only the demands before the House.

Sardar Wazir Singh (Delhon) (Punjabi) : Mr. Speaker, our basic objection against the demand is that when this Budget was passed only three or four months ago there was a deficit of about 50 lakhs of rupees. At that time it was guaranteed that no other demand would be put forward. But the Government have spent the money so lavishly that the last budget could not meet their requirements. It would have been meet and proper for the Government to spend the money of taxes realised from the people on the beneficent departments so that it could better the lot of the people. That money should not have been spent over establishment.

Both in the old and the new demands Government have asked for money to be spent on the maintenance of new and old establishments. Mr. Speaker, I cannot but remark that the Ministers' own henchmen are pressing them and the Ministers want to please them by levying new taxes on the people.

Mr. Speaker : You are again discussing the policy underlying the Budget. I may point out that the policy of the Government is not under discussion. He should confine his speech to the Supplementary demands.

Sardar Wazir Singh : Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the hon. Ministers whether the old members of the staff have not done their duty conscientiously and whether their work is in arrears which the Government wants to get done by employing new men. If the reply is in the affirmative the result would be that the services would go slack. I would request the Government to take a deterrent action against such services and they should be asked to clear their arrears.

In addition, Sir, at the time of discussion of the last budget also we said that the staff of the Procurement Branch in the Civil Supplies Department had heavily increased and that there was no need of continuing control over prices of foodgrains in our State. But the Government did not agree to our proposal. It would have been proper if an amount of the order of 21 or 25 lakhs had been spent for ameliorating the lot of poor people. It pains me to remark that in the shape of Supplementary Grants, Government have asked for additional staff.

Mr. Speaker, the Government should have no concern with the Nagrik Sabha as it is a private body. Therefore this demand is wholly unjustified. An amount of the order of 30 lakhs of rupees has been sanctioned for this purpose. If the other institutions also demand grants there is no reason why they should be refused.

Mr. Speaker, again it has been said that more money is needed to expedite the work of consolidation. The fact is that this work is not being done at the speed at which it was being done before the formation of the Ministry. Corruption is on the increase day by day. Anybody who has some approach or some voice with the officers, tries to get his work done according to his own wishes. The hon. Members shall come to know everything, if some enquiry is held in the matter.

Minister for Development : I request the hon. Member to give the particulars of the person, who has done so in his district.

Sardar Wazir Singh : I want to inform the hon. Members that in my District a person had accepted Rs. 200 from somebody in the name of hon. Sardar Partap Singh by saying that he had to get his work done by him.

Minister for Development : The hon. Member should tell the name of that person.

Sardar Wazir Singh : I don't want to tell his name. The hon. Minister already knows it.

Mr. Speaker it was expected from our Government that it will get small holdings of land consolidated but we find that something quite different is being done. The lands of certain persons which previously constituted single plots, have now been fragmented into a number of small plots. Further they have been given worse type of land in lieu of the good quality of land which they possessed prior to the consolidation work. The fact is that the rights of those persons are being ignored, who have no approach to the Consolidation Officers. These Consolidation Officers are at the beck and call of those persons, who are known to be connected with the hon. Ministers. Moreover these persons have been given better lands.

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Member is not relevant.

Sardar Wazir Singh : The second thing that I want to submit, Sir, is that whereas we feel that the Agriculture Department should be allotted the maximum amount, we find that this Department is serving no useful purpose. The Agriculture and the Grow-More-Food Departments of our State are not performing their real duty. The cultivators are neither supplied better quality seeds nor are they given good quality manure, even when they request for these things. In fact the money meant for this department should have been utilised in the procurement of these articles but we are pained to see the methods in which this money is being spent. It is generally spent in supplying jeep-cars to officers or in giving allowances to some of them.

[Sardar Wazir Singh]

As regards demand No. 3, which pertains to Education, I beg to submit that money should have been utilised for Education in such a way that there should have been a school in each village of the State and there should have been arrangement for imparting free education to the people. But what we find is quite the reverse of it. Now we find that the grants of the schools which were getting up to 70 per cent, have been reduced to 20 to 25 per cent. Previously our District Board was given Rs. 2,76,000 as annual grant for Education but now that has been reduced to Rs. 1,30,000 and it has been said that for this purpose the Government does not admit 1947 as the basic year because a large number of Muslims had left the State. The expenditure has therefore been much reduced.

Now, our hon. Minister for Education states that the Government will definitely open 12,000 new schools in 12,000 villages of this State and that they have been successful in opening five to six hundreded schools by now. But, I want to inform the hon. Members that the people of each of those villages where these schools have been opened, were mad to pay Rs. 1,600 before the opening of a school there. I want to ask the hon. Minister for Education as to how the Government can claim to have opened these schools when the main contributions had to be made by the people of those villages. Further, I want to inform him that during the current year our District Board has opened 65 new Primary Schools and for this purpose it has neither taken aid of a pie from the Government nor has it been given any grant. The thing that pains us most is that the money which is received by the Government from the people is not being spent for their benefit.

Then, there is a demand for the Bhakra Project. Our Government knows fully well how money is being wasted there. There have been numerous scandals. The cement meant for this project is being sold elsewhere. My submission is that there the engineers are being fed at Government expense. They are rendering no useful service and the money is being wasted on them.

Minister for Irrigation : The hon. Member should know that the Government have adopted many measures to check these irregularities. It has employed a sufficient strength of anti-corruption staff for this purpose.

Sardar Wazir Singh : Mr Speaker, for these reasons I feel that most of the money is not being utilised for the benefit of the people. It is being demanded for unnecessary things, perhaps to provide jobs to certain persons.

Sardar Mohan Singh Jathedar (Tarn Taran) (Punjabi) : Mr. Speaker, I want to support the supplementary demands which are now before the House. Our Government had not enough time to prepare the Budget for the current year and for this reason these supplementary demands were bound to be placed before the House. The hon. Members will realize that these are meant for the benefit of the people.

An hon. Friend has pointed out that the demand for the Consolidation Department is not justified. I feel that it is very necessary to allot more money for this Department so as to enable it to take up the consolidation work in hand all over the State at one and the same time. I feel that the money already voted for this department is meagre. Then another hon. Friend has said that many things are being said about this department. I want to point out that when the consolidation work is taken in hand in one Tehsil, people of the other Tehsils complain why this work has not been started in their Tehsils. Then certain hon. Friends have suggested that this work should be performed at a slow pace. I want to tell them that this is not what the people wish. The people wish that this work should be taken in hand all over the State at the same time. But this can be done when the Government have sufficient funds for this purpose. Therefore, I appeal to the House to grant this demand at once.

As regards the demands pertaining to electricity and irrigation, we fully know how the people of Amritsar and Gurdaspur Districts have been benefited by the distributaries which have recently been started there and how everybody is anxious to have electricity. Everyone is keen that it should be supplied to his village first. Under these circumstances I fail to understand why the demand for funds for supplying electricity is being objected to.

Then, an hon. Friend has demanded that the Nagrik Sabha should not be given any funds. But then he also desired that the Government should work with the co-operation of the public. To me these two points of view appear to be contradictory. I want to impress upon him that it becomes necessary for the Government to extend financial aid to some societies when it desires to have their co-operation. Sir, in these circumstances, I wish to request that all the demands should be accepted so that our Punjab may record a satisfactory progress and we may live in peace and plenty.

Minister for Development (Sardar Partap Singh Kairon) (*Punjabi*): Mr. Speaker, the demands are minor ones and the hon. Members who speak on them express themselves in a few words on each demand and after having criticised it, turn over to the next one. Each hon. Member has got a tendency to discuss more and more demands. Had any of them expressed himself at length on any one of the demands, I could have replied to him in detail. However, I do not wish to speak much on demands at this stage but would like to confine my reply only to the demands which relate to the departments which are under me and have been subjected to criticism by some hon. Members. During each session, it has been observed that the speeches delivered are of a very hollow nature but those are published irrespective of whether they are substantial or otherwise. I am of the view that my hon. Friend Sardar Wazir Singh has delivered such an un-convincing speech that its hollowness cannot remain hidden.

Sardar Wazir Singh: Is this matter relevant to the subject? Such decisions can be made even outside the House. (*Interruption*).

Minister for Development : Now, Sir, my submission is that my Friend has alleged that the people who have got access to Ministers succeed in getting money up to the extent of Rs. 200 while others have got nothing. Mr. Speaker, a Minister is a person who is approached by all classes of people—big or small. Every body has to place his complaints before him. We have not to classify whether the person complaining is an ordinary man or a big personality. We have not to see him in respect of his status. We have to listen to him dispassionately. He may be the President of a District Board or someone else. All that we are concerned with is that there is some one to represent his grievances. Therefore, it is wrong to say that such and such person is influential and such and such is not. In my opinion, no one is uninfluential. Whether the complaint made by him is right or wrong, we have to give him a hearing.

So far as the district of Ludhiana is concerned, consolidation operations are being carried on there too. I would like to tell the hon. Members that two hon. Members hailing from Ludhiana District informed me that corruption is rampant in such and such villages and that such and such officers are corrupt. Both these Friends belong to the Opposition Party and are sitting by the side of Sardar Wazir Singh. I am very much pleased that the information supplied by both these hon. Members was correct. I went on tour of these villages and conducted on the spot investigations into the complaints. This investigation helped me to know who was the corrupt and who was the honest officer. I want to assure you, Sir, that I would definitely investigate into the complaints which are brought to my notice. However, the facts about those places will, of course, remain unknown where our hon. Members will try to do favour to the people and conceal their mischiefs. My hon. Friend coming from Ajnala has remarked that corruption is prevalent in the consolidation work of this area also. I take this opportunity to request him to let me know the names of the persons who offer bribes along with the names of those who receive them and I would investigate. It is, however, not reasonable to talk in a general way. I do not deny that corruption is there, but this much I necessarily wish to declare that we have got a strong rod to curb down this evil and we are not prepared to spare, in any case, anybody who indulges in such like anti-social activities. I subscribe to the view that this rod should be applied to them with full force. I am of the opinion that such persons should not be spared in any case. I associate myself with my Friends when they say that they should be severely dealt with. I have got a great respect in my heart for the two hon. Friends hailing from Ludhiana who gave me a clue to a case of corruption. I bow my head before them, for they helped us to round up the dishonest people working in their own constituencies. I shall be too glad if my other Friends who have offered criticism today, will also let me know of the secrets of the corrupt people of their constituencies. (*Interruptions*). I have come to know of the officers who are really good and also of those others who are dishonest and are working in many villages of certain constituencies.

During the previous session, Sardar Wazir Singh had alleged that some Patwaris of Samrala were sitting idle. This allegation was

absolutely unfounded . The work of consolidation has started in Jagraon Tehsil and the operations in Samrala are nearing completion. No Patwari is sitting idle. The consolidation work had started in Samrala one and a half year ago. I would request my hon. Friends kindly to abstain from levelling useless criticism. They should instead bear in mind that they have to dedicate themselves to the welfare of the tillers of the land. We will never spare any corrupt person irrespective of his party affiliations. Sir, I wish to submit that I have made a thorough checking in about five or six districts of the areas where the consolidation operations are in progress and can say that there is no corruption now at any of those places. I shall make enquiries in other districts also. Wherever I go, I get all the inhabitants of the village gathered at one place and sometimes the people make allegations to the face of the officer concerned saying that he accepted such and such bribe at such and such time. However, I was saying that the work commenced 1½ years ago and now it is about to finish.

Chaudhri Sri Chand has made certain observations. I wish he were there in his seat at this time. I think, it is the first and the foremost duty of the hon. Members to preserve their constituencies from evil things. They should rather abandon their whole work and extend their unstinted support to the Government in rounding up the thieves and detecting the thefts committed by them. Reference has, once again, been made to the purchase of 11 jeeps. But I am sorry to point out that hon. Friends have not tried to understand the purpose for which they are to be purchased. These jeeps are being purchased to expedite the work and remove the grievances of the public.

Then it has been claimed by an hon. Member that the Government in China has completed the consolidation of holdings in two years. This is not correct. In fact they have not consolidated the holdings of the people, they have snatched them away from their owners.

Similarly, my Friends have not realised that the expenditure on stone pillars is absolutely necessary. Still I assure them that we are going to save a good bit of this amount of Rs. 5,30,000 which has been demanded under this head. We are constantly reviewing and scrutinising every item of expenditure and it is expected that this item will be managed within Rs. 3,70,000 and the rest will be saved. (*Hear, hear.*) As regards the expenditure on Survey Equipment, it is hardly necessary to point out that we cannot proceed with the work without this equipment. In fact we never undertake any expenditure which can be avoided.

My friend Chaudhri Sri Chand has gone out after having remarked that in certain areas the work of consolidation of holdings has been started *de novo* and that in this manner it is not likely to be completed in the near future. Let me make it clear that wherever corruption and bribery have been found out fresh operations have been ordered and I am not prepared to give up this practice. I want that those who offered bribes should be taught a lesson and they should lose their money. In order to achieve this end I will not care the least if the operations drag on for some time.

[Minister for Development]

In the end I assure my hon. Friends that I shall get full value of every pice of this expenditure of Rs 11,18,400 in respect of Land Revenue and see to it that not a single pie is mis-spent. The jeeps will be used to expedite the work and the officers concerned will make use of them to find out the grievances and complaints of the people on the spot. Similarly, full consideration will be bestowed on economy and results in respect of other items too.

I would submit once again that those hon. Members who do not complain against corrupt officers simply because they occasionally get these officers to do something for some members of the public are really encouraging those officers. They should come forward to help us to eradicate corruption. I promise that I shall expose all corrupt officers and none of them will escape punishment. (*Cheers*).

Shri Som Datt Bahri (Simla) (Hindi) : Sir, I am of the opinion that the Government deserves our congratulations on having allocated to the beneficent departments the funds mentioned in the Supplementary Estimates. For instance Rs. 5,70,000 are earmarked for the purchase of Ammonium Sulphate for distribution among our cultivators. This manure will increase their produce considerably.

Then a sum of Rs. 5,00,000 will be spent on the Locust Control Scheme which is designed to save their crops from locusts. This again will mean a considerable indirect increase in the agricultural produce of the State. Certainly, this expenditure is very necessary. To save the lands from waterlogging is really necessary for increasing the produce of our land. We are going to spend 2½ crores of rupees on these operations and this expenditure is being incurred by stages. As regards consolidation of holdings, the Development Minister has already pointed out that these operations will benefit the zamindars and their importance is too obvious to mention. The establishment of the Key Centre Farm will again benefit the zamindars. My hon. friend Sardar Wazir Singh is in the habit of declaring off and on that the Government is not doing anything for the zamindars. Let him look at these items and realise how much this Government feels for them. For the traders the Government is establishing a State Financial Corporation. A sum of Rs. 22,50,000 will be spent under this head so that the trade in the Punjab may flourish and the State as a whole may progress. Similarly, social improvement is one of the duties of a civilised Government and in order to fulfil this duty a Nagrik Sabha is being brought into existence. A grant of Rs. 30,000 has been set aside for this purpose. Needless to say that this will be a very useful institution. Its aims and objects must have been read by all the hon. Members. It will remove the curse of illiteracy, introduce social reforms and carry on all the nation building activities. This Sabha will not be attached to any particular faction or party. Let me read out its aims and objects to prove my contention. **They are—**

- (i) to work actively for the general progress and welfare of the citizens of the State;
- (ii) to inculcate in the public, civic sense and the ideals of true citizenship;

- (iii) to eradicate illiteracy;
 - (iv) to work for social reforms, improve public health and sanitation;
 - (v) to set and demand a high moral standard in all departments of life;
 - (vi) to organise and celebrate public festivals other than religious festivals;
 - (vii) to organise volunteers for social service;
 - (viii) to strive for equal rights for all;
 - (ix) to arrange medical relief and first-aid;
 - (x) to give relief against famine and other calamities;
 - (xi) to organise games and sports, supply of sports material and to hold tournaments;
 - (xii) to give aid to destitutes and poor;
 - (xiii) to establish and organise child welfare centres and otherwise work for the welfare of the children;
 - (xiv) to open and organise branches of the Sabha at different places.
- Being a non-political organisation the Sabha shall not engage in party politics.

Thus all of us whether Communists, Akalis or Congressmen can join this organisation. The amount of Rs. 30,000 which has been demanded for this Sabha is just a paltry sum as compared with the benefits which are likely to accrue.

Then there is a grant of Rs 10,000 to the Olympic Association. It is well-known that every country in the world spend much more than this for the improvement of the health of its people. We should follow their example and should not shirk the responsibility of spending money on games and sports.

With regard to the activities relating to general welfare a sum of Rs 43,440 has been demanded for constructing a new ward in the Tuberculosis Sanatorium at Amritsar which will provide the much-needed facilities to displaced patients. Another sum has been earmarked for constructing mud-huts for refugees, repairing the old huts and making suitable bathing arrangements for Women; and I am sure that this expenditure will not be seriously contested by any hon. Member.

Now I come to the High Court. The question of opening the Circuit Bench at Delhi had been under consideration for quite a long time. The Punjab Government did not favour the proposal but the Central Government pressed the matter with great vehemence. The

[Shri Som Datt Bahri]

demand under this head amounts to Rs 98,200 but this burden will not fall on our shoulders because the whole expenditure will be borne by the Central Government. I was opposed to this Circuit Bench too, but now it is an accomplished fact.

Then my hon. Friends of the Opposition are always clamouring for economy and reduction in expenditure. Acting on the recommendations of the Estimates Committee our Government has made considerable reduction in its expenditure and it will certainly try to effect further reduction wherever possible.

Shri Rala Ram (Mukerian) (Hindi): Mr. Speaker, every Government presents Supplementary Demands and it is not surprising that our Government has also placed such demands before the House. There is nothing in this step which should upset us or should be regarded as an occasion for levelling criticism. Supplementary Budgets are presented in every country and the motion before the House should not astonish us.

I was surprised to hear some hon. Members say that the experiment in the basic scheme of education which was being conducted at Nilokheri and another place was sheer waste of money. I, however, feel and this is my complaint against the hon. Minister that the money provided for this purpose is too small. We want the present system of education to be changed. The present system is not good and we are not satisfied with it. In order to change it, it is necessary that we should conduct experiments to find out as to what system should be adopted. This can be done by trying the new system at certain places. This task involves a huge sum of expenditure and no private individual or organisation can perform it. The Government alone is in a position to make such experiments. Even if the experiment which is being made at Nilokheri fails the money spent on that account will not be wasted. No individual or organisation except Mahatama Gandhi has desired any new system of education. I request to hon. Minister for Education to try those experiments and systems of education, which are being tried in Sweden, Denmark and Japan, in this country also. On the basis of these experiments, the system which is considered most suitable for primary education should be adopted. The money which is being spent on these things should not be regarded as being wasted. The chief complaint which we have got against the modern system of education is this that it produces clerks and the children acquire an aversion for manual work. In view of these things the experiment in basic education which is being tried is of great importance.

Then, Sir, it was said that it was waste of money to open twenty dispensaries and that instead of these the Government should open schools or such institutions. It is not disputed that there should be institutions where Vaidis might be trained but I want to point out that there are scores of Ayurvedic practitioners who want to practise in villages but they find it difficult to make their both ends meet with private practice. Only one dispensary is proposed to be opened in my district. The people of many

places in that district are prepared to give land and also bear the initial expenditure if dispensaries are opened in their villages. The largest possible number of hospitals should be opened and we should ask the Government to provide maximum amount of money for this purpose. There should be a dispensary in every village.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : I said that the number of dispensaries proposed to be opened was too small.

Shri Teg Ram (Khuian Sarwar) (*Hindi*) : Mr Speaker, the public has always been demanding of the Government that it should open more schools and hospitals and arrange for the supply of good manure. The Supplementary Estimates presented by the Government show that while preparing them it kept those demands in view. Nobody can say that any of these estimates is improper. In my opinion all these estimates are just and proper. I rather feel that the amount of money asked for is inadequate.

The twenty dispensaries for the opening of which a demand has been included in these estimates would be insufficient for fifteen or sixteen thousand villages of this State. Ayurvedic and Unani medicines suit the villagers. Medicines prepared from the herbs mentioned in Ayurveda can prove more useful for these people. In my opinion the sum of money asked for in this Demand is too small and instead of twenty the Government should open a very large number of dispensaries.

Another item which has been included in the Supplementary Demands relates to the training of teachers for imparting basic education in primary schools. In this connection I wish to say only this much that the demand is appropriate but the money set apart for this purpose should be spent properly. A few days back it came to my notice that a teacher who had been trained in the Basic School, Jagraon, was not appointed in a basic school. After he had received training in the system of basic education he was appointed in an ordinary primary school. In District Ludhiana there are two basic schools in Chak Kalan. These were opened several years back but the necessary material has not been supplied for them so far. The system of basic education is such that without the necessary material education cannot be imparted to the children. The Government should arrange to supply the required material to these schools so that these might serve the purpose for which they are intended.

In this Budget a demand has been made for the supply of good manure to the agriculturists. This is a commendable step. In this connection, I beg to point out that large quantity of American cotton is grown in my *ilaqa*. In our State there is a department for increasing the production of cotton. The officers of this department go to the villages and ask the people to use a particular type of manure but that is not supplied at the proper time. I request the Government to arrange for the supply of manure to the farmers at the time when they require it.

Then, Sir, a demand has been made for agricultural exhibitions. I beg to submit that these exhibitions should not be confined to the

[Shri Teg Ram]

cities. Ordinarily the officers do not like to go to the villages with the result that the villagers derive no benefit from them on which huge sums of money are spent. Those people whose villages are situated near the road visit these exhibitions but others cannot do so. This work should be done in such a manner that the maximum number of villagers benefit by it.

All the demands are just and proper and while preparing these the good of the largest number of people has been kept in view.

I would submit that these supplementary demands are quite reasonable and should be passed by the House. It is the general complaint of the members of Ferozepore District that this district is being entirely neglected by the Government. I would, therefore, request the Government that it should bestow its special attention to this district. With these words, Sir, I resume my seat.

Sardar Shamsheer Singh (Ludhiana Sadr) (*Punjabi*): Sir, a major portion of the Government's revenues is being derived from villagers in the form of taxes which are imposed upon them but I am sorry to say that the Government do not spend adequate amount for their welfare. For example, take the case of electricity. The people living in the rural areas have submitted their applications for the supply of electricity to them for drawing out water from their wells but the Government has not supplied them with electricity so far.

Some time back the hon. Minister had called a meeting in the Civil Secretariat building for this purpose and I also attended that meeting. At that time I had brought to his notice that the Government should favourably consider the demand of the inhabitants of Village Dhandri for the supply of electricity as they had submitted their applications about three years ago. The Chief Engineer was at that time pleased to remark that electricity was in great demand at Ludhiana during the day-time and that electricity could be supplied during night-time. I expressed my willingness to this proposal and submitted an application to the hon. Minister. After two or three months I received a letter from the Government saying that the question of supplying electricity to my village is under the consideration of the Government and that it will be supplied after one year in case electricity is found to be surplus. Thus it would be abundantly clear that the Government is providing all amenities of life in the cities by collecting money from the villagers. We do not want electricity for our household consumption but we need it for agricultural purposes; but in spite of this we find that our legitimate demand is not being accepted. It is really a pity that the Government should refuse this demand at a time when our country is faced with acute food shortage and when the peasants seem to be only too willing to strive hard to remove this food shortage.

Minister for Irrigation : We propose to hold a meeting on the 24th instant for this purpose.

Shri Wadhawa Ram (Fazilka) (*Punjabi*): Sir, some of the hon. Ministers are not today in their seats otherwise they would have heard the plain facts from me as to how they are carrying on the administration of the State because when they are here they ask us to

bring to their notice any irregularities and promise to take prompt action in order to remove them.

Minister for Irrigation : I am here to listen to your speech.

Shri Wadhawa Ram : Sir, when any Minister rises to make a speech, he is given a loud applause by the Members of his party but on the other hand when we resort to plain speaking and make criticism against the Government then the hon. Ministers feel perturbed and do not pay any heed to our criticism or at the most say that they will make necessary enquiry in the matter from the officers of their departments.

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** I would ask the hon. Member not to make irrelevant remarks and that he should confine his discussion to the supplementary demand which is at present under consideration of the House.

Shri Wadhawa Ram : Sir, this Supplementary Demand is in respect of consolidation of holdings. The manner in which the work of consolidation is being carried on here has never been witnessed in any part of the world. This work of consolidation instead of increasing the pace of development would prove disastrous to the villages.

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** I may draw the attention of the hon. Member that the general policy of the Government is not at present under discussion before the House.

Shri Wadhawa Ram : Sir, I have not the least hesitation in saying that the money which is being asked for under this Supplementary Demand would go waste and the officers of the Government will put the lands in a worse order. It is being stated on behalf of the Government that money is urgently required for the Drainage System. I may point out to the Government that the Irrigation Department has already become notorious for its corruption and slow administration. I know that the Government gave an assurance sometime back that a canal would be dug in the Ferozapore District but no steps have been taken by the Government so far in this connection. In that district the crops have been damaged for non-availability of water. In spite of this the hon. Minister says that the complaints of the public are thoroughly enquired into. It is a general complaint that the officers of the Irrigation Department do not allow supply of water to the peasants in the sowing season but give it in the months of July and August when they do not stand much in need of it. The officers instead of showing sympathy towards the peasants are doing a great injustice to them.

The crops have been destroyed in many villages. In some villages the distributaries were cut by the officers and this act has caused a great damage to the crops. The officers have been given wide powers and they do not care for anybody. There is, in fact, general maladministration in all Government departments. In some villages the Government have imposed punitive fines on the inhabitants on a supposed charge of causing breaches in the distributaries.

[Shri Wadhawa Ram]

We wish that ample funds may be provided for Education and Health in the Budget, but at the same time I would request the Government that it should not squander away public money on new departments.

Minister for Irrigation (Chaudhri Lahri Singh) (*Hindi*): Sir, I had no mind to make any speech today because I had thought that my department would not come in for criticism. Some of the hon. Members have remarked that corruption is rampant in the Irrigation Department and that it does not care much to safeguard the interests of the zamindars. I may tell my friends that the Government has tried its best to give the maximum quantity of water to the agriculturists and the result of it is distinctly visible in the fact that there has been a large production of rice in the State this time. The very fact that the production of rice in this small State has risen to one lakh tons proves the amount of work done by this department.

Another problem that the Government had to face was the provision of drains to clear away the rain water that got collected at many places in the districts of Ferozepur, Gurdaspur, Amritsar, Karnal, etc., and as a result of which the crops were damaged. Heavy rainfall in these districts made the Government feel the necessity of constructing drains. Without any desire to criticize the previous Governments, I cannot help pointing out that they did not give this problem the attention it deserved. The Government has for the present provided a sum of Rs. 7 lakhs for this work which includes expenditure on staff also. More schemes for this purpose will be coming before the House in the next Budget Session. It is our heart-felt desire and we shall strive our utmost to save the peasants from the loss resulting from damage to their crops due to heavy rains. What we want is that either the rain water should drain away to the sea through the rivers or help in making the soil fit for the sowing operations for the next crop; it should not in any case prove detrimental to the interests of the Zamindars.

An able Friend has raised the objection that all districts are not being treated alike in this matter. May I read out something from page 6 to remove his misunderstanding. The schemes on which this amount is proposed to be expended are as follows:—

Remodelling drains in Upper Bari Doab Canal in Amritsar and Gurdaspur Districts.

Remodelling drains in Karnal and Ambala Districts.

Constructing and remodelling drains in Ferozepore District and so on.

From this it is clear that the drains will be constructed wherever necessary. The Irrigation Department will endeavour to get this work done by the people themselves. It will appeal to every villager to undertake the responsibility for this work. But there are some *ilaqas* where it will not be possible for the people to do

without the help of the Government. It is in view of this fact that a sum of Rs. 7 lakhs is being provided in the Supplementary Estimates for the construction of drains. I fail to understand how, as has been said, this money will be ambezzled or go waste. I do not deny that the integrity of the Irrigation Department is not above doubt but this does not mean that it should be wound up.

With regard to the criticism levelled against the staff working at the Bhakra Dam, I am to submit that inquiries are being made against the corrupt officers, some of whom have proceeded on long leave but it is not fair to tar them all with the same brush. While there are some bad officers there are others who are very able and honest. It does not behove a responsible Member of the House to say that all officers are corrupt.

The second item relates to the expansion of the Central Workshop, Amritsar. It is undeniable that a good deal of machinery is required in connection with the construction of the Bhakra Dam. To criticize the Government over this item is behaving just like the old woman who used to abuse the lambardar of the village for nothing. When questioned as to what harm he had done her, she was said to have replied, "Why should I not call him names when the whole village is doing so?"

If the Irrigation Department launched the scheme of tube-wells and other minor irrigation projects, it was for the benefit of the Zamindars. So, it is not proper to condemn this department wholesale.

Shri Sri Chand : They are using sand instead of cement.

Minister for Irrigation . This allegation is baseless. Statements made in the last session are being repeated. It is not proper to call this expenditure as wastage. We fully appreciate the feelings of the hon. Members in regard to the eradication of corruption and are doing our best to achieve the desired end.

Shri Jagat Ram Bhardwaj (Hoshiarpur) (*Hindi*): Sir the Government has done well to bring before the House these Supplementary Estimates but it is a matter for deep regret that even though the reins of Government are in our own hands nothing substantial has been done to better the lot of the lower classes. Sir, in every department you will find officers drawing Rs. 800 to Rs. 1,500 per mensem and the poor peons being paid rupees twenty to twenty-five. Does the Government want the children of these poor people to starve and remain without education? If we do not reduce the salaries of the high-ups and improve the economic condition of the low-paid employees, the ideal for which Mahatama Gandhi and other leaders of our nation made sacrifices will never become a reality.

✓**Mr. Speaker :** This is irrelevant, please.

Shri Jagat Ram Bhardwaj : Had the Finance Minister enhanced the wages of peons and clerks, we would have been right glad. Nobody can make both ends meet with an income of rupees twenty to fifty per mensem.

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** Please don't discuss the general policy of the Government.

Shri Jagat Ram Bhardwaj : Sir, I wish to submit that whereas it is necessary to do a lot for the betterment of the conditions of the factory labourers something ought to be done for the poor chaprasis as well. In the offices the officers generally sit late and the poor chaprasis have to remain there, although nothing is given to them by way of overtime allowance. Their salaries are small and the Government does not do anything to raise them.

Minister for Irrigation : An increase of Rs. five was effected only recently and the Government will look into this question again.

Principal Iqbal Singh (Jagraon) (Punjabi) : Sir, I have to say only one or two things in connection with the demands. The first is regarding consolidation. In my opinion it is wrong to think that corruption will end by dismissing a few officers. Of course, the Government have taken in hand the work of rooting out corruption, but the manner in which it is doing this work will not put an end to it. In fact corruption will increase. I have no time to go into details. What I wish to say is that the officers who have been appointed in place of the old ones are quite inefficient and the work is suffering. The impression, which the appointment of persons whose value lies in running after the Ministers only gives, is not healthy.

As regards education, of course, emphasis has been laid on basic education. But may I ask whether the giving of help to Bharat Scouts and Guides will help in any way the promotion of the basic education in the State? It would be more proper to give this money to the schools and for the training of the teachers. My suggestion is that a deputation should be sent to some foreign country for seeing the conditions of primary education and of the schools there. This will show us that the conditions there are much better than those prevailing in our country. We should pay more attention towards basic education. For this it is essential that steps should be taken towards the training of teachers. Although the Scouts and Guides have their own value, yet this is not the first thing to be done. The Government should pay its attention towards important matters first. I have learnt that it is giving a grant of ten thousand rupees to the Punjab Olympic Association. My submission is that first things should come first. The Education Minister says that he is anxious to promote primary education, but his actions belie his professions.

As regards agriculture the Government should seek the co-operation of the people at large. Of course money has been provided to fight locusts, but the co-operation of the masses has not been obtained. When an officer of the Department goes on tour the people of the place which he visits are not aware of the fact that anti-locust operations are going to be started there. I wish to draw the attention of the Government towards the fact that the co-operation of the people in such matters is most essential,

The officers should not align themselves with any party. They should do their duty efficiently. The people of Ludhiana have a special grievance that the Ministers go and do not try to get their co-operation and they come back without doing any useful work.

Minister for Irrigation : When we went to your district nobody came forth to explain the grievances of the people.

Principal Iqbal Singh : But we were never invited. If the Government educates the masses and tries to seek their co-operation most of the grievances can be redressed.

So far as the work of irrigation is concerned the people themselves inform the officers of the Department that there is a breach in the canal at this place or that but nobody attends to it for at least 48 hours. The fact is that the canal officers do not care to listen to the voice of the people. At one place there was a breach but nobody cared to look to it for three days. The crops were damaged, no attention was paid to this matter and the breach continued for three days. As a matter of fact where the water is required it is not supplied although it is being wasted at other places. The Deputy Commissioner was approached in this connection. He directed the people to submit a report to the officers of the Canal Department. This is how the people are put to unnecessary botheration. Their co-operation is not being sought.

I once again beg to submit that for the promotion of education in the State money should be provided for the training of teachers. This is most essential. In fact more money should be provided for the Education Department. The Government should pay its attention towards this matter.

Shri Maru Singh Malik (Sampla) (Hindi) : Sir, I shall speak on three or four demands only. First of all there is the demand for Consolidation. For this purpose a sum of rupees twelve lakhs has been asked for.

So far as the work of Consolidation of Holdings is concerned it is a useful work. There will be no objection if some more money is demanded for such work. But my submission is that there is a lot of corruption in this department. When we see it we should think of doing something to root it out. On the one hand bribery is rampant while on the other hand there is favouritism. Those who have an approach can get good land. In a village, a villager killed himself by jumping into a well because he was going to get a bad piece of land. This happened in the village of a Private Secretary of an hon. Minister, who was able to get good land because of his influence, and the poor man jumped into the well because he could not have good land. In my *ilaga* there is too much of corruption in the work of Consolidation. There is no village in which some sort of corruption is not prevailing. The Patwaris are getting rich by illegal gratifications. The poor kisans are compelled to give bribes because they think that the matter of getting land is for them a matter of generations. This is not all. What is more unfortunate is this that the M.L.A.s and other influential persons are

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interfering in this work and they put undue pressure. Sir, when the condition is such that in place of doing good to the people, the Government is causing an injustice, I am of the opinion that the whole Department should be abolished.

Mr. Speaker, the next demand is that of Irrigation. Perhaps, the Ministers think that the world's best treasures have come in the possession of Kisans of India. That is why they want that all the expenditure on the Engineers and their subordinates should be borne by the zamindars. The drains are to be dug by the zamindars and an Engineer is proposed to be appointed over them whose expenditure is to be borne by them. Sir, I want to state that neither have they got money for this purpose nor are they desirous of spending over this item. When they don't pay for it and do not dig the drains, there would remain no necessity of an Engineer.

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** Hon. Members, I have already said that the discussion would be stopped at 4-30 p.m. After that the Minister for Finance will reply to the debate. Now it is 4-20 and we have got 10 minutes left at our disposal. If any hon. Member wants to place a new suggestion before the House, he may do so.

Sardar Hari Singh (Dasuya) (Punjabi) : Mr Speaker, many hon. Friends have made speeches on Supplementary Demands. Some of them have passed such remarks that they lead one to the conclusion that the Opposition criticises even useful proposals put forward by the Treasury Benches for the sake of criticism. Many of them are zamindars themselves and they can well realise that the villagers also require all the facilities of modern life like dispensaries, etc. But I am surprised to find that whenever Government asks for money for these purposes they raise objections.

Mr. Speaker, I do admit that we should press upon the Government the necessity of eradicating corruption wherever it exists. But if we want that the Government should dig new canals and start new schools Government needs money for the accomplishment of these objects. Why do my brothers raise objections? Therefore, Sir, before finishing my speech I would ask the hon. Members to please pass the grants that have been placed before the House by the Government.

Sardar Bachan Singh (Bagha Purana) (Punjabi) : Mr. Speaker, although Sardar Pratap Singh Kairon has seen the work of consolidation of holdings in my *ilaqa* yet there are many villages which still remain to be seen by him. Great injustice and high-handedness is being done to villagers. Words fail to describe the treatment that is being meted out to the people in villages—Bhagike, Bholewal, Nathoke, etc. Corruption is rampant everywhere and even after getting bribes officers do not perform their jobs properly.

Sir, if the money realised from the *kisans* is spent for their benefit, it does not pain us. But I am sorry to note that Government is not doing any good to the *kisans* even by incurring additional expenditure. In the last session too we pressed the Government that the *abiana* should be reduced. But it was not agreed to by the Government.

In order to get the work of consolidation done people offer bribes to the officers and for this purpose they go to the extent of selling their ornaments. This work was started three years ago and it has not been completed still. Sometimes temporary and sometimes quasi-permanent allotments are made. On account of poverty one of the kisans gave over his necklet to the son of the Tehsildar. Mr. Speaker now that the Government is our own, we are asked as to what steps have been taken to improve the lot of the poor people? No beneficial reform has been introduced by the Government. I pray, for God's sake, please stop the work of Consolidation of Holdings and let us live in peace. What was required was that the small and scattered holdings should have been united into one larger whole. But what actually has been done is that if a zamindar's land was at two places it has been divided into 4 places due to the operations of Consolidation of Holdings. A zamindar is asked to affix his thumb-impression and if he does not, he is allotted worse land. I, therefore, request that this work should be stopped.

Mr. Speaker, we wish that Government may spend as much money as it can over the Departments of Health and Education. Unfortunately nothing is being done in this connection. I am sorry to find that Chaudhri Lahri Singh is not in his seat at this time. I wanted to bring to his notice that leaving aside other things Government does nothing to strengthen the sides of roads by throwing earth on them. On this very account a bullock cart was broken and the bullock died. Then, Sir, there was a breach in a distributary in my *ilaqa* which was not repaired for three or four days. Consequently all crops were damaged—both *Hari* and *Sawni*. Therefore, Sir, I again reiterate that Government should devise ways and means to improve the lot of the people.

Shri Samar Singh (Gharaunda) (Hindi) : Mr. Speaker, I want to suggest two important things to the Government, by doing which it will be able to effect a lot of saving in its expenditure. It will also benefit the public. My submission is that the roads of this State which are at present under the control of the Public Works Department and the service roads of the Irrigation Department which run on both sides of the canals, should be brought under the control of one authority. The service roads should be made pucca and be opened to the public for traffic. For doing so, the Government shall not have to acquire any more land or spend any more for levelling. The existing katcha roads can be used after making them pucca for traffic running in the opposite directions. This may be done now, if possible at this stage or it should be kept in view while preparing the next year's Budget. A lot of land and expenditure will be thus saved. The money so saved should be utilised for making these service roads pucca. After this has been done, these may be opened to the public for traffic. By so doing, we will have more new roads while the people will also continue getting water-supply.

The second thing that I want to submit, Sir, is that the demarcation of the existing canal divisions is quite strange and very old. The circle of canals of our district (Karnal) is divided into four or five parts and is spread over Rohtak, Jind, Delhi, Hissar

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and Karnal Districts. The trouble is that though the canal irrigated area of District Karnal is not much it is divided on all sides. During the British Rule, these circles had been demarcated keeping in view the facilities of the Canal Officers and the convenience of the people was not at all considered. Even to-day the drainage system is being worked on those very lines. All the relevant meetings and the postings of Executive Engineers are being arranged district-wise. Some portions of the canal which runs in our district also pass through Rohtak, Delhi and Hissar. Whenever some engineer is approached in a meeting being held in Karnal District, in connection with some particular drain or outlet of a canal, he says that that drain or outlet does not fall in his division. Similarly, the same reply is received from the other Engineer when he is approached for the same purpose.

Minister for Irrigation : Mr. Speaker, I beg to submit that the points which the hon. Member is placing before the House, have no relevancy to the Supplementary Demands. For these, he may see me privately. I shall explain the whole position to him and we shall also try to find out their solution.

Shri Samar Singh : I simply wanted to bring these things to the notice of the hon. Minister and I have done that.

Minister for Finance (Sardar Ujjal Singh) (Punjabi) : I beg to submit, Sir, that the item of Supplementary Demands is a necessary one and these are bound to come. The figures of expenditure of most of the departments of the Government do not reach the Government at the time of the compilation of the Budget Estimates and therefore, no provision can be made for them in the Budget at that time. Besides this, many other eventualities arise during the year for which the Government is obliged to incur expenditure. For these reasons the Supplementary Demands become indispensable.

It has been pointed out by certain hon. Members that the Government funds are raised from the agriculturists but are not utilised for their benefit, and that the collection of taxes will not cause them any pain if these are spent on their betterment. They have further said that the thing that pains them most is that this money is spent not for their betterment but for the good of other classes of people. I want to point out to these hon. Members that out of the total sum of Rs. 87 or 88 lakhs of these demands which are now before the House and which are meant for the benefit of the people, 75 per cent will be spent for the benefit of the agriculturist class. The hon. Members fully know the class of the people with which the consolidation of lands is connected. The hon. Minister for Revenue and Development has already explained this thing to the House.

Now, I want to tell the hon. Members that the money is intended to be spent on drainage, in order to save the lands from water-logging and also to utilize this water for irrigation purposes which at present is spoiling some lands. We fully realise how this water troubles the cultivators during the rainy season. Therefore, it is necessary in the interest of cultivators to get drainage

completed before the next rainy season so that they may be saved from this botheration at that time and that is the reason for which we want to take this work in hand at once. For this purpose, we have provided Rs. 7,00,000.

Next, I want to impress upon the House that Ammonium Sulphate is a very useful and important item for agriculture. There is a great demand for it for the Community Project Schemes now being worked in the State and also for the public. We are anxious to be able to supply the maximum quantity of this manure to the people so that they may be able to increase production. By using this manure the produce per acre can be increased by one maund to four maunds.

Shri Wadhawa Ram : But this can only prove useful, where the crops are given water at the proper time.

Minister for Finance : It is quite true that this manure can be useful only there, where there is ample supply of water and the zamindar knows it fully well. He does not use this manure in the barani lands. This expenditure is not incurred on lands from which no return can be expected.

The second item of demand under Agriculture is that for checking locust. During some time past—God has been very kind to us and we have been saved from this calamity but it is very essential that we should purchase such material as is used for destroying this pest, so that we may be fully prepared to use it as soon as some eventuality arises. We have provided Rs. 5,00,000 for the purchase of necessary chemicals.

An hon. Friend has said that he was willing to allow more funds for the Agriculture Department but in his opinion the Agriculture Department was not working satisfactorily. I submit that it is only with the help of this department that we have been successful in increasing the production of long staple cotton by 55 per cent. He should note that for that purpose even now we have placed Rs. 10,70,000 at the disposal of that department. Then, rupees 22½ lakhs have been provided for the Industrial Corporation, which cannot be claimed to be directly meant for the benefit of the agriculturists. The Government has contributed rupees 30 lakhs for this purpose. Some contributions are to be made by the people and some by certain Banks. Industries will progress to a great extent in our State by the help of this Corporation and ultimately the cultivator class will also be benefited by it. I want to tell the hon. Members that while touring different parts of our State I have noticed everywhere that the cultivators are very anxious for the opening of another sugar factory, which if done, will enable them to sell their sugarcane crop.

Then, there is a provision for funds for extending loans. This money will be given as loan to the people of districts like Rohtak, Hissar and other similar places where the crops usually fail. We shall be in a position to help the people of those areas immediately if the crops fail in the absence of rains, when we have funds at

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our disposal sanctioned for this purpose. We shall be able to help them on such occasions by extending them loans.

Then, there is a demand for Electricity which is for the benefit of the general public.

Therefore, Sir, I feel that all these demands are meant for the benefit of the general public and particularly for the agriculturist class. Besides, two more objections have been raised. I do not wish to dilate much on these but would say only a few words with regard to them.

First of all, some of my hon. Friends have levelled criticism not only in connection with the corruption rampant in the Department of Consolidation but have also criticised its very principle. In this connection I would like to inform you that the Government is fully alive to the matter. But, I do not subscribe to the view that the farmers will not be benefited from these operations. It is wrong to say that the Consolidation is not in the interest of the tillers of the lands. You can observe that in our State there is a vast majority of such petty farmers who possess holdings covering five to six acres of land which have been divided into three or four fragments, with the result that in order to cultivate them the farmer has to divide his attention to three or four places. From this you can realise that he can neither get complete advantage from his lands nor can he devote his full attention to his fields. In this way there appear so many obstacles in his way which are necessarily required to be removed. Moreover, I wish to make it clear to my hon. Friends that we shall leave no nerve unstrained to remove the flaws wherever they are found to exist in this matter. My hon. colleague the Development Minister has already explained to the House the steps which he has taken in order to eradicate corruption and other evil practices prevalent in this department. He has disclosed the action which is being taken against the people as also the number of persons who have been imprisoned on the charge of corruption. Besides, Sir, if my hon. Friends are in possession of more complaints, we shall take all possible action in respect of them in so far as they are supported by concrete proof. Mr. Speaker, I wish to tell you that the action taken in this matter by Sardar Sahib has been described by some people as extreme and they complain that it should not have been so drastic. But, we shall take full advantage of our powers in rooting out corruption from our State. We are prepared to take immediate action against any person as soon as we know that he has accepted a bribe. We cannot ignore the moral standard of the masses. It is also necessary to improve it. Take, for instance, a case in which a patwari takes a bribe. He accepts it only when it is offered by someone. He does not get it by force. This is a great weakness in the people. It has been observed that when any landlord feels some difficulty in the matter of his land, he knows that he can get it removed by greasing the palm of the patwari. In every village, there are such people who think that they can get their work done by offering some money. In these circumstances, how can we eradicate corruption, root and branch? We wish that

our Friends should propagate in their constituencies that both the taking and the offering of the bribe is a crime. Then, we shall see that the object which cannot be accomplished by the strenuous efforts of the Government for many long years, will be achieved very soon. In these circumstances, I assure you that so far as the questions of corruption and raising the moral standard of our State are concerned, we are putting in combined endeavours to take stern action against the dishonest officers.

Then, Sir, my hon. Friends have raised an objection to the expenditure which we are incurring for the High Court. In fact, this is not the case. A Circuit Bench of the High Court has been established at Delhi and the total expenditure on this account, is to be met by the Central Government.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Why does it not provide this fund just now?

Minister for Finance : We shall spend this amount now and it will, afterwards, be refunded to us by the Central Government.

My Friends have also levelled scathing criticism against the sum of Rs. 30,000 which is being provided for the 'Nagrik Sabha'. They have enquired whether it is an official body for which such a heavy amount is being provided. Sir, my submission is that an organisation which has been set up for the welfare of the people and which is not based on any political ideology or which has got no affiliation with any political party, deserves Government aid. We have given help to the Olympic Association for purposes of sports, for we feel that the sportsmen from the Punjab should participate in sports activities outside the State. This Association does not possess so much funds that it may send its players outside the State. Similar is the case with the 'Nagrik Sabha', which is making an experiment. This experiment is being made in order to raise the civic sense of the masses, to wipe out illiteracy from them and to cultivate in them the spirit of maintaining cleanliness. If this work is undertaken by the Government, it will take many years with an expenditure of crores of rupees for its accomplishment. But, on the other hand, if awakening is brought about amongst the masses, the object can be achieved very early. The hon. Members will see that there is a Sanitary Department in our State. Sometimes the sweepers clean the drains and the people immediately after fill them with filth and dirt again. What I mean to say is that the main reason for this is the lack of civic sense in the people. The present need is the cultivation of civic sense in them. Why should we not raise the morale of our citizens? We cannot achieve substantial progress so long as there is no awakening in the masses. I want to assure you that this 'Nagrik Sabha' has not been established for any political objects. I have got with me the objects of the Committee which has been constituted for this purpose. This Sabha has been organised in order to maintain cleanliness and to liquidate illiteracy. This is why a sum of Rs. 30,000 has been provided.

My hon. Friends have enquired as to why a sum of Rs. 27,000 and another sum of Rs. 13,000 have been provided for the printing

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of stamps and the commission thereof, respectively? I think that they have misunderstood things. A commission of Rs. 13,000 will be paid for the sale of stamps. The sum of Rs. 27,000 will be the expenditure incurred on the stamps which will be affixed on the tickets to be issued to the passengers. Moreover, I am myself not satisfied with this system. I shall see whether it is possible to do this work through the agency of the Post Offices.

Besides, an hon. Friend of mine has remarked that tractor-farming cannot prove successful in this country and that because the tractors do not give a satisfactory service, the provision of such a huge sum is not justified. I agree with him that two things are absolutely necessary for the success of tractor-farming. I would rather say that not two but three things are essential, i.e. tractor machines, spare parts and the workshop. The workshop should be of such a standard that effective repairs may be carried out. Tractor-farming cannot prove successful unless these three things are available. Still, I am of the opinion that tractor-farming is very necessary for the reclamation of heavy soil and the land which is at present lying barren. People with small holdings can continue their old methods of agriculture if they so desire but those who are anxious to improve their lands can adopt modern methods and use tractors. Many zamindars have derived great benefit from these new methods and my own experience is similar to theirs.

The Government has a workshop of its own for manufacturing spare parts but the whole-sale dealers are required to stock spare parts too. Under the orders of the Central Government they can sell tractors only if they stock a certain percentage of spare parts.

Sardar Wazir Singh : What loss have you sustained in Karnal ?

Minister for Finance : I am aware of that but it has no relevancy here. It will be mentioned at its proper place.

The Central Workshop has to be expanded to meet the requirements of the Bhakra, Nangal and Harike Projects and a demand for Rs. 1,90,000 has been made for the purpose. We have very good machinery in our workshop, the like of which will be found in very few places. Then we are not hampered by want of space either. Thus there will be no difficulty in expanding the workshop. Then why should we not make such things as we can in our own workshop and thus get rid of our dependence on others? We want to complete these projects as soon as possible and, therefore, it is necessary to prepare as many things in our own workshop as may be found practicable and possible. This will result in monetary gain and will also provide work to a large number of our people. The experts are of the opinion that this expenditure is essential.

In respect of the expenditure on the construction of mud-huts an hon. Member was pleased to remark that this is a fraud being played upon the refugees. I should like to inform him that in

place of the kacha huts which have fallen we are going to construct pucca huts for the refugees. In addition, we are going to build four thousand pucca houses in order to accommodate those living in *dharmshalas*, etc., and thus put an end to their misery. (*Hear, hear*). I may also inform my hon. Friends that this money is not to be provided by us. The whole burden is to be shouldered by the Central Government. We are only the spending agency.

Sardar Wazir Singh : Please see that these houses are not like those built at Khanna.

Minister for Finance : Oh no. The hon. Member knows that Khanna is in the Ludhiana District. (*Laughter*).

My hon. friend Principal Iqbal Singh has complained that Ministers do not visit any places in the Ludhiana District. Let me submit that I have paid at least two visits to the said district. I may not have stayed in the city itself but I toured the area in the scorching heat of the summer sun in order to acquaint myself with the condition and requirements of the people. It is quite another thing that my hon. Friends do not care to meet the Ministers on such occasions and favour us with their *darshans*.

Another hon. Member has asked the Government to increase the pay of peons. This matter has no relevancy here but I may let him know that we have increased the allowance of those drawing less than Rs 100 per mensem which means an increase of Rs. 44,00,000 in our expenditure. Let me assure my Friends that it will remain our consistent policy to effect reduction in the salaries of higher officers and increase the pay of the low-paid ones. (*Cheers*).

In the end, Sir, I would like to draw, through you, the attention of the hon. Members to another item of expenditure. This relates to expenditure on canals and supply of more water to zamindars and also on the construction of storage bins. We are undertaking this expenditure so that, on the one hand, we may increase our produce, and on the other, proper arrangements may be made to procure and store foodgrains to ensure distribution according to the needs of the various places in our own State and use the surplus for helping other States. After having constructed these bins we were able to procure more rice.

Sardar Wazir Singh : That was given by the cultivators.

Minister for Finance : You would say the same thing about each and every praiseworthy act, of the Government. Well, Sir, I know that this has become a habit with my hon. Friends but I am sorry to observe that the contribution made by the cultivators of Orissa was recognised in the Parliament but no mention was made of the

[Minister for Finance]

creditable efforts and sacrifice of the Punjabi cultivators in this connection. In 1949-50, we procured fifty-one thousand tons of rice and exported seventy-three per cent of it to other States. Similarly in 1950-51, seventy-three thousand tons were procured and seventy-five per cent of the procured quantity was exported. In 1951-52, we procured forty-four thousand tons and exported seventy-three per cent. During the current year we have offered thirty-five thousand tons of rice to the Government of India and in addition to it we mean to supply them as much more as will be possible. In 1950-51, Orissa exported only eighteen per cent of the rice procured by it to other States. As compared to this we exported seventy-five per cent of the quantity procured by us. This will clearly show that as compared with Orissa whose action was highly praised, we exported much more rice to other States.

As regards the system of monopoly procurement adopted by us in the case of wheat, I beg to point out that this method causes no inconvenience either to the farmer or to anybody else. This helps in the procurement of the maximum quantity of wheat and we export the quantity in excess of our needs to other States. It was said that our system of procurement was not very good and probably it was due to our being surplus in foodgrains. In this connection, I want to point out that no other State procured such a high percentage of wheat produced in it as we did. We procured from 23 to 27 per cent of the wheat grown in this State. Uttar Pradesh procured only 6.7 per cent. The Committee appointed by the Government of India to go into this question remarked that the system of monopoly procurement adopted by the Punjab was the best system. The rise or fall in prices has no effect on the procurement made by this method. The price of wheat has been fixed at thirteen rupees per maund. Whether the price in other markets is higher or lower, our procurement is not affected. This is why we have exported 136,000 tons of wheat. After procurement we send all the foodgrains which are in excess of our needs to the Government of India. With these words I present these demands.

Mr. Speaker : As I stated at the beginning, the following procedure will be adopted. Up to 5.15 p.m. the Finance Minister will move the various Supplementary Demands. The Demands moved by him alongwith the cut motions thereto given notice of by some hon. Members, will be put to the vote of the House. After 5.15 p.m. the remaining Demands will be put from the Chair but no cut motion will be deemed to have been moved.

LAND REVENUE

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Demand be reduced by Re. 1.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker Question is—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs 11,18,400 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1953, in respect of 7—Land Revenue,

The motion was carried.

OTHER TAXES AND DUTIES

Minister for Finance : Sir, I move—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,67,440 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1953, in respect of 13—Other Taxes and Duties.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,67,440 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1953, in respect of 13—Other Taxes and Duties.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Demand be reduced by Rs. 100.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,67,440 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1953, in respect of 13—Other Taxes and Duties.

The motion was carried.

OTHER IRRIGATION REVENUE EXPENDITURE

Minister for Finance : Sir, I move—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 6,32,170 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1953, in respect of 18—Other Irrigation Revenue Expenditure.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 6,32,170 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1953, in respect of 18—Other Irrigation Revenue Expenditure.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Demand be reduced by Re. 1.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 6,32,170 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1953, in respect of 18—Other Irrigation Revenue Expenditure.

The motion was carried.

CHARGES ON IRRIGATION ESTABLISHMENT

Minister for Finance : Sir, I move—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 67,830 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1953, in respect of Charges on Irrigation Establishment.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 67,830 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1953, in respect of Charges on Irrigation Establishment.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Demand be reduced by Rs. 100.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 67,830 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1953, in respect of Charges on Irrigation Establishment.

The motion was carried.

MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS

Minister for Finance : Sir, I move—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs 26,500 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1953, in respect of 47—Miscellaneous Departments.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs 26,500 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1953, in respect of 47—Miscellaneous Departments.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs 26,500 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1953, in respect of 47—Miscellaneous Departments.

The motion was carried.

EDUCATION

Minister for Finance : Sir, I move—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 10,000 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1953 in respect of 37— Education.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs 10,000 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1953, in respect of 37— Education.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Demand be reduced by Re. 1.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs 10,000 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1953, in respect of 37— Education.

The motion was carried.

AGRICULTURE

Minister for Finance : Sir, I move—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs 10,70,000 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1953, in respect of 40— Agriculture.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs 10,70,000 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1953, in respect of 40— Agriculture.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Demand be reduced by Re. 1.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs 10,70,000 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1953, in respect of 40— Agriculture.

The motion was carried.

VETERINARY

Minister for Finance : Sir, I move—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 60,010 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1953, in respect of 41—
Veterinary.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs 60,010 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1953, in respect of 41—
Veterinary.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Demand be reduced by Re 1.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs 60,010 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1953, in respect of 41—
Veterinary.

The motion was carried.

CIVIL WORKS.

Minister for Finance : Sir, I move—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs 1,25,210 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1953, in respect of 50—
Civil Works.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs 1,25,210 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1953, in respect of 50—
Civil Works.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Demand be reduced by Re. 1.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs 1,25,210 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1953, in respect of 50—
Civil Works.

The motion was carried.

CHARGES ON BUILDINGS AND ROADS ESTABLISHMENT.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 32,830 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1953, in respect of Charges on Buildings and Roads Establishment.

The motion was carried.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 39,800 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1953, in respect of 57—Miscellaneous.

The motion was carried.

CONSTRUCTION OF IRRIGATION WORKS.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs 1,90,000 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1953, in respect of 68—Construction of Irrigation Works.

The motion was carried.

CAPITAL OUTLAY ON INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs 22,50,000 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1953, in respect of 72—Capital Outlay on Industrial Development.

The motion was carried.

CAPITAL OUTLAY ON ELECTRICITY SCHEMES.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs 2,63,000 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March, 1953, in respect of 81-A—Capital Outlay on Electricity Schemes.

The motion was carried.

LOANS TO MUNICIPALITIES ETC.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs 22,43,000 be granted to the Governor to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st March 1953, in respect of Loans and Advances bearing Interest—Loans to Municipalities, etc.

The motion was carried.

MEDICAL.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That a supplementary 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, 1953, in respect of 38—
Medical.

The motion was carried.

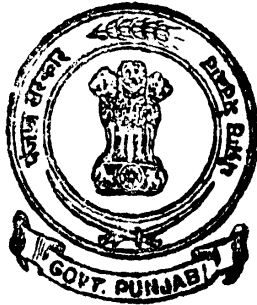
The Assembly then adjourned till 9.30 a.m. on Friday, the 21st November, 1952.

Punjab Legislative Assembly Debates

21st November 1952

VOL. III, No. 9

OFFICIAL REPORT



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CHANDIGARH :

Printed by the Controller of Printing and Stationery, Punjab
1953

Price : Re 0-5-0

Punjab Legislative Assembly

Friday, 21st November 1952.

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber Simla, at 2 p.m. of the clock. Mr. Speaker (Dr. Satyapal) in the Chair.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

DETENUS IN ALL THE JAILS OF THE STATE

***1107. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) the total number of detenus in all the Jails of the State detained at present under the Preventive Detention Act;
- (b) the number of persons so detained since the passing of the Preventive Detention Act in the Budget Session (1952) of the Indian Parliament?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) Ten.

(b) Two, but since released.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : May I enquire about the harsh treatment meted out to those who are arrested or whom the Government considers it necessary to detain? The officers concerned.....

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** Order, order. This is not a supplementary question.

FILING OF APPEALS AGAINST THE ORDERS OF CONSOLIDATION OFFICERS AND SETTLEMENT OFFICERS

***1117. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the orders of the Consolidation Officers and those of the Settlement Officers are open to appeal;
- (b) whether the consolidation files are open to inspection of the parties and their pleaders; if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the copies of the orders passed by the officers referred to in part (a) above can be had on payment;
- (d) if the answer to part (b) above be in the negative and to part (c) above be in the affirmative, the reasons for not allowing the inspection of the files referred to above?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) Orders by the Consolidation Officer on objections preferred under sections 19 and 21 of the East Punjab Holdings (Consolidation and Prevention of Fragmentation) Act, 1948, are appealable to the Settlement Officer. Orders by Settlement Officer under section 21 only are appealable.

(b) Yes, on payment of usual inspection fee.

(c) Yes.

(d) Does not arise.

SETTING UP OF SEMI-AUTONOMOUS CORPORATION FOR CONSTRUCTION AND ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROL OF BHAKRA-NANGAL PROJECT

***1008. Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government has decided to set up a Semi-Autonomous Corporation for the construction and administrative control of Bhakra-Nangal Project; if so, the particulars of the same;

(b) the details of distribution of duties and rights *vis-a-vis* the Punjab Government, Government of India and the Sind Corporation;

(c) the representation of other States on the Corporation?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : (a) No.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

COMPLAINTS REGARDING THE LEFT BANK OF MOGA NO. 11745 IN ELEVA MINOR

***1113. Shri Jagdish Chander :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state whether any complaints have been received by the Irrigation Department regarding the left bank of Moga No. 11745 in Eleva Minor; if so, the action, if any, taken by the Government thereon?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : Yes. The outlet at R. D. 11745-L Eleva Minor, irrigates the villages of Durana and Kutwal. The shareholders of Durana requested in the beginning of June 1952 for shifting the site of this outlet about 75 feet upstream from the present site, but the villagers of Kutwal did not agree to it. The outlet is drawing 2 cusecs against 1.5 cusecs authorised.

Both the parties agreed on the 25th August 1952, to split the chak into two but the shareholders of Durana Village do not wish to pay the cost of construction. The matter is, therefore, pending.

REFUGEE OWNERS OF HOUSES IN RURAL AREAS

***1007. Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that refugee owners of houses in rural areas are entitled to an additional one standard acre of land for each thousand rupees of the assessed value of their rural housing property;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that no facilities have been provided by the Government to refugee landlords owning rural houses to get lands as compensation for rural houses valued at less than Rs. 20,000 ;
- (c) whether the Government is aware of extreme hardship to such refugee landlords owning rural houses; if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to compensate them ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) No.

(b) No. The fact of owning a house in rural areas valued at less than Rs. 20,000 has duly been taken into consideration at the time when allotment of houses valuing less than Rs. 20,000 in rural areas was made.

(c) In view of reply at (b) no hardship has been caused.

COMMON UNIVERSITY FOR PUNJAB, PEPSU AND HIMACHAL STATES

***1009. Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any conference of representatives of Punjab, PEPSU and Himachal States was held with the Education Minister of Government of India to evolve a scheme for a common University for the three States during August-September 1952 ; if so, the decision taken therein ;
- (b) whether any Sub-Committee of nine has been appointed to explore the subject ; if so, the names of representative, on the Sub-Committee of Punjab State and Punjab University;
- (c) whether a proposal for locating the new University at Hoshiarpur is also under the consideration of the Sub-Committee ; if so, the views of the Punjab Government on the subject ?

Shri Jagat Narain : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. Professor C. L. Kapur, Education Secretary and Dewan Anand Kumar, Vice-Chancellor.

(c) No.

SHORTAGE OF BEDS IN T.B. HOSPITAL, AMRITSAR

***1105. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a shortage of beds in the T.B. Hospital, Amritsar;
- (b) the number of T.B. patients on the waiting list who have been unable to get admission to the said Hospital for the last six months;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to increase the number of beds in the said Hospital;
- (d) the number of Doctors attending to the outdoor patients in the said Hospital together with the average number of out-patients who attend the Hospital every day ?

Shri Jagat Narain : (a) Yes.

(b) 125.

(c) Yes.

(d) Two doctors attend to out-door patients. The average number of out-patients attending the Hospital everyday is 64, out of whom 15 are new cases and 49 old cases.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

MOSQUES IN GURGAON DISTRICT

198. Shri Babu Dayal Sharma : Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the possession of shops attached to the mosques in Gurgaon District has not so far been given to the Muslims; if so, the list of such mosques together with the reasons for which possession of shops has not so far been given?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : There are 124 shops attached to 30 mosques (list given below) in Gurgaon District. These shops have been allotted to displaced persons as evacuee property and possession thereof has not been given to Muslims, because no proper application for their restoration under the Administration of Evacuee Property Act, 1950, has been made so far. The Deputy Custodian has been asked to advise the persons concerned to file proper applications for restoration, if they so desire.

List of mosques in District Gurgaon town-wise showing the number of shops attached with them

Serial No.	Name of Town	Description of mosque	Description of shops
1	Hodel ..	E.P. 75, Mohalla Darzi Wara	E. P. 76/77 .. 1
2	Do ..	E.P. 225, Teliwara ..	224 .. 1
3	Do ..	E.P. 36, Mohalla Bhatiara ..	360 .. 1
4	Faridabad ..	E.P. 33, Ward No. 1 ..	E.P. Nos. 32, 34, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, and 44 .. 12

Serial No.	Name of Town	Description of mosque	Description of shops
5	Faridabad ..	E.P. 92, Main Bazar ..	E.P. Nos. 91 and 92 .. 2
6	Do ..	Main Bazar ..	E.P. 141, 142, 143 and 144.. 4
7	Gurgaon ..	Railway Road Mosque ..	E.P. 443 to 445 .. 3
8	Do ..	Jama Masjid ..	E.P. 458 to 479 .. 22
9	Do ..	Masjid near Arya Samaj ..	E.P. 452 and 543 .. 2
10	Farakhnagar	Jama Masjid ..	E.P. 4/S to E.P. 14/S .. 11
11	Palwal ..	Idgah ..	E.P. 476, 476-A and 476-B.. 3
12	Firozpur- Jirka ..	Ward No. 1 ..	E.P. 145 and 238 .. 2
13	Pataudi ..	Masjid Nawab Shah ..	E.P. 261 to 266 .. 6
14	Bawal ..	Mosque in Mohalla Kanungoan	E.P. 179 to 181 .. 3
15	Rewari ..	131/58 Mehar Wara ..	E.P. 131/1/59, 131/2/60 and 131/3/61 .. 5
16	Do ..	450/141, Mehar Wara ..	E.P. 130/1, 130/2 and .. 3 130/3
17	Do ..	872-B/216, Mohalla Katla ..	216 .. 1
18	Do ..	1233/295, Bazza Bazar ..	1234/296, 1235/297, 1236/ 298, 1237/299, 1238/300 and 1239/301 .. 6
19	Do ..	1485/325, Gokal Bazar ..	325/1 .. 1
20	Do ..	1951/615, Nai Basti ..	2046-A/718, 2046-B/719, 2047/720, 2047-A/721, .. 4
21	Do ..	3349/980 Banjanwara ..	3350/981 .. 1
22	Do ..	3397-A/1139, Banjanwara ..	3397-B/1040, 3397-B/1041, 3397-C/1042 .. 3
23	Do ..	4102/1559, Shakurpura ..	4100/1557 and 4101/1558 .. 2
24	Do ..	4330/1679, Shakurpura ..	4329/1678, 4331/1680, 4332/ 1681, 4333/1682 and 4334/ 1683 .. 5
25	Do ..	4452/1715, Shakurpura ..	4450/1713, 4451/1714 .. 2
26	Do ..	4875 Mallanwara ..	1937 .. 1
27	Do ..	5056/2064, Qaziwara ..	5056/2063 .. 1
28	Do ..	5736/2368, Chauk Bazar ..	5726/2364, 5727/2365, 5728/ 2366, 5729/2367 .. 4
29	Do ..	5841/2462, Qazi Wara ..	5835/2458, 5836/2459 and 5837/2461 .. 3
30	Do ..	6953/2900, Jaipur Gate ..	E.P. Nos. 2901, 2903, 2894, 2895, 2896, 2897, 2898, 2899, 2902, 2904 and 2905 .. 11

Total number of mosques having shops attached to them .. 30

Total number of shops attached to these mosques .. 124

**EVACUEE AGRICULTURAL LAND LYING UNCULTIVATED IN THE VILLAGES OF
TEHSIL NUH, DISTRICT GURGOAN**

199. Shri Babu Dayal Sharma : Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether any evacuee agricultural land is lying still uncultivated; if so, the reasons therefor together with a list of the villages in Nuh Tehsil, District Gurgaon, where such land exists?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : Yes; the following are some of the main reasons—

- (i) Some lands have since been rendered uncultivable by erosion or have come under river beds and as such cannot be brought under cultivation.
- (ii) Some areas are under sand dunes or in *bets and* are unfit for cultivation, so much so that even the landless tenants and others are not prepared to take them for temporary cultivation at reduced rents.
- (iii) Some lands are *banjar qadim* or have become so due to non-cultivation by the allottees, who are either absentee landlords or they possess small holdings and are not in a position to have their lands broken by tractors, etc.

A list of villages in Nuh Tehsil, District Gurgaon, where such land exists, is given below.

Name of Village	Uncultivated Agricultural Area		Name of Village	Uncultivated Agricultural Area	
	St. Acres	Units		St. Acres	Units
1. Ujina ..	1	4½	13. Goola ..	74	13½
2. Tajpur ..	0	4½	14. Kaliaka ..	8	2½
3. Rawasan ..	6	10½	15. Sehsola ..	97	10
4. Mehrola ..	1	6½	16. Bedwas ..	63	0
5. Rajka ..	19	1½	17. Chhajupur ..	24	2½
6. Badlaki ..	0	5½	18. Mendhla ..	35	2
7. Khori Khurd ..	6	1	19. Sondh ..	126	9½
8. Sunari ..	8	14	20. Jafarabad ..	3	1½
9. Kangarka ..	0	10½	21. Bamroli ..	24	14½
10. Malikpur ..	1	7	22. Kharka Sohna ..	27	4
11. Naharpur ..	53	13	23. Bhango ..	20	2
12. Saidpur ..	23	15	24. Meedki ..	16	7½

Name of Village	Uncultivated Agricultural Area		Name of Village	Uncultivated Agricultural Area	
	St. Acres	Units		St. Acres	Units
25. Khark Tauru ..	1	2	54. Korali Sohna ..	0	5½
26. Buraka Tauru ..	9	14½	55. Barwar ..	0	6
27. Chela ..	0	3½	56. Ghasera ..	4	5
28. Pachgaon ..	0	3½	57. Shugarpur ..	0	0
29. Malabaka ..	0	1½	58. Chandeni ..	16	9
30. Dalaka ..	1	13½	59. Narainpur ..	2	1
31. Kharkhari ..	1	8½	60. Ferozepur Namak	1	15
32. Outoon ..	0	8	61. Shahpur Nagli ..	1	2
33. Rangala ..	11	3	62. Biwan ..	15	8
34. Jhanwas ..	46	8	63. Bhatka ..	3	3
35. Sabras ..	15	6½	64. Sulamba ..	2	11
36. Sheikhpur ..	20	11	65. Salaheri ..	3	10
37. Gudhi ..	14	1½	66. Albar ..	2	13
38. Sianika ..	28	10½	67. Nizampur Nuh	14	13
39. Dhinganhari ..	74	14½	68. Hussainpur ..	14	9
40. Tauru ..	57	3	69. Satputiaka ..	7	3
41. Gawarka ..	12	12½	70. Dandoka ..	1	2
42. Khaika Tauru ..	2	10	71. Tain ..	8	9
43. Nanoka ..	28	15	72. Nuh ..	13	11
44. Seelkho ..	14	2	73. Dhundaheeri ..	3	7
45. Thana Alam <i>alias</i> Maseet	41	¾	74. Pulla ..	45	11
46. Chilawali ..	25	4	75. Pulri ..	9	7
47. Noorpur ..	16	6	76. Nullhar ..	32	14
48. Bisar Akhar Pur	7	14½	77. Soankh ..	4	15
49. Rathora ..	7	1	78. Kherla ..	5	1
50. Kherli Kankar ..	1	1½	79. Marora ..	41	2
51. Sherpur Kalahari	0	¾	80. Zakupur ..	5	3
52. Bahaduri ..	0	3½	81. Ountka ..	1	1
53. Khor ..	0	6½	82. Muradbas ..	3	11
			83. Baroji ..	8	15

[Minister for Finance]

Name of Village	Uncultivatod Agricultural Area		Name of Village	Uncultivated Agriculture Area	
	St. Acres	Units		St. Acres	Units
			89. Malab ..	102	1
84. Khori Nuh ..	3	13	90. Dehana ..	1	3
85. Bai ..	7	14	91. Shadipur ..	0	9
86. Kotla ..	66	9	92. Asrika ..	4	15
87. Mohdpur Nuh ..	4	13	93. Meoli ..	15	14
88. Akera ..	75	9	GRAND TOTAL..	1,647	3½

FIXATION OF THE PRICE OF GRAM SEED

200. **Shri Babu Dayal Sharma :** Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state whether the rate of gram seed was fixed at Rs. 18 per maund by the Government while similar stock of gram was being sold for Rs. 13 per maund in the market ; if so, the reasons therefor ?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma : Yes. The issue rate of gram seed has been fixed at Rs. 18 per maund except in Rohtak and Hissar Districts where it is sold at the maximum retail rate fixed by the Government of India, i.e. Rs. 14 per maund. This rate has been fixed on a 'no-profit, no-loss' basis. According to the information available with Government the market rate of the gram fit for seed is higher than Rs. 18 per maund except in Rohtak and Hissar Districts.

ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS

Mr. Speaker : The questions appearing in today's list have been exhausted. Now we will proceed to the next item on the Agenda. Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina and Sardar Chanan Singh have given notices of 4 adjournment motions. The first adjournment motion given notice of by Sardar Achhar Singh relates to the insulting and bureaucratic behaviour of some high officials towards a deputation of villagers on the 17th November 1952. I rule this adjournment motion out of order as it is not of urgent public importance. However, if the Chief Minister wishes to make any statement on this matter, I would welcome it.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : Will you kindly read my adjournment motion ?

Mr. Speaker : I am sorry I am not bound to read it.

Chief Minister : Sir, I may point out that the Government has no information about this incident.

Mr. Speaker : Will you now look into the matter ?

Chief Minister : Most certainly, Sir.

✓ **Mr. Speaker** : Now, the second adjournment motion which also stands in the name of Sardar Achhar Singh is about the students of the Khalsa College, Jullundur, who are on a hunger-strike.

Chief Minister : On a point of order, Sir. Can a Member move more than one adjournment motion at one sitting.

✓ **Mr. Speaker** : I have ruled his first adjournment motion out of order. Now the hon. Member is asking for leave to move the second adjournment motion. So the question of his moving more than one adjournment motion does not arise. I rule the second adjournment motion also out of order on the ground that the Government has no jurisdiction over the Khalsa College, Jullundur, and as such the matter does not come within the purview of the Legislative Assembly.

The third adjournment motion, which Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut wishes to move, relates to the death of one Shingara Singh on the 10th November 1952, while in police custody. This incident took place some 11 days back and I do not think there is now any urgency in it.

Moreover, the authorities concerned must be holding investigations. I, therefore, rule this motion out of order. The fourth adjournment motion given notice of by Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut is in connection with the restriction imposed by the Deputy Commissioner on a dramatic performance in the Jullundur District on the 14th November 1952. I regret to say that as this matter is not of urgent public importance, I rule the motion out of order.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : I submit that this is a very important motion. An hon. Member of this House is involved and it is a question of the dignity of the House.....

✓ **Mr. Speaker** : The hon. Member must know that he has got no right to question the ruling given by the Chair. Now I call upon the Chief Minister to make his motion.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : This would mean that the police is authorised to kill any person. If an adjournment motion cannot be moved in respect of this matter then what.....

Mr. Speaker : Order, order.

**MOTION RE. ADJOURNMENT OF THE ASSEMBLY TILL
TUESDAY, THE 25TH NOVEMBER, 1952.**

Chief Minister (Shri Bhim Sen Sachar) : Sir, I beg to move—

That the Assembly at its rising this day shall stand adjourned till 1 p.m. on Tuesday, the 25th November 1952, and the Speaker shall adjourn the Assembly at 5 p.m. without question put.

Since we are observing Monday as a holiday, I will, with your permission, suggest that the Assembly should meet on Wednesday, the 26th, though ordinarily it is an off day.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Assembly at its rising this day shall stand adjourned till 1 p.m. on Tuesday, the 25th November, 1952, and the Speaker shall adjourn the Assembly at 5 p.m. without question put.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Assembly at its rising this day shall stand adjourned till 1 p.m. on Tuesday, the 25th November 1952, and the Speaker shall adjourn the Assembly at 5 p.m. without question put.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : I want to inform the hon. Members that the Assembly will meet on Wednesday, the 26th, at 1 p.m. and adjourn at 5 p.m.

PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE

Chief Minister (Shri Bhim Sen Sachar) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table of the House as required by Clause (5) of Article 320 of the Constitution the addition made by the Governor to Schedules 'B' and 'C' referred to in regulations 5 and 6 of the Punjab and North-West Frontier Province Joint Public Service Commission (Limitation of Functions) Regulations.

THE PUNJAB MATERNITY BENEFIT (AMENDMENT) BILL.

Minister for Labour (Chaudhri Sundar Singh) : Sir, I move—

That the amendments made by the Punjab Legislative Council in the Punjab Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Bill, which was passed by the Punjab Legislative Assembly on the 21st October 1952, be taken into consideration.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the amendments made by the Punjab Legislative Council in the Punjab Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Bill, which was passed by the Punjab Legislative Assembly on the 21st October 1952, be taken into consideration.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the amendments made by the Punjab Legislative Council in the Punjab Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Bill, which was passed by the Punjab Legislative Assembly on the 21st October 1952, be taken into consideration.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 3

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in the proposed subsection (3), to section 4 of the said Act, for the word "thirty" the words "forty-two" be substituted.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 4

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in the proposed sub-clause (iv), to subsection (3) of section 5 of the said Act, for the word "thirty" the words "forty-two" be substituted.

The motion was carried.

Minister for Labour : Sir, I beg to move—

That the Punjab Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Bill, as amended, be passed.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Punjab Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Bill, as amended, be passed.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Punjab Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Bill, as amended, be passed.

The motion was carried.

THE PUNJAB GRAM PANCHAYAT BILL

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma) (*Hindi*) : Sir, I beg to present the report of the Select Committee on the Punjab Gram Panchayat Bill and wish to say a few words with respect to it. The Panchayat system.....

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Minister should only present the Report now. He will have the opportunity of speaking about the principles of the Bill when he moves for its being taken into consideration.

Minister for Local Government : Very well, Sir. I will move the motion first and then make a speech. I beg to move—

That the Punjab Gram Panchayat Bill as reported on by the Joint Select Committee be taken into consideration.

Sir, it would be in the fitness of things if I were to say a few words about the Bill and the Report of the Select Committee. The Panchayat system has existed in India since long. Since very ancient times, since the Vedic age, this system has existed in this country and we read in the books on Indian history that small republics existed in the villages in those days. The name of this system was different at different times. As a matter of fact the word 'Panchayat' is very old and its mention has been made in history. A reference has been made to this system in the 'Shanti Parv' of Mahabharata. In the olden days, the administration was what we call decentralised.

[Minister for Local Government]

After the country became free the step, which we propose to take now, had to be taken in order that the task of reconstruction might be based on firm foundations and be completed successfully. Greece and several other countries benefited from Indian history. We read in Greek history that the Panchayat system was established in that country also. It is necessary that the Panchayat system should be started *de novo* and run successfully and efficiently in this country. On going through Indian history we find that Muslim rule came to be established in this country and the rulers changed one after the other but the Panchayat system, which had been adopted for the good of the people, remained unaffected. The change of rulers had no effect on it.

Then came the British regime. In the beginning, the Panchayat system did not find favour with the Britishers because they wanted to centralize all power in their own hands. They tried to discourage the old system of dispensing justice. Later on, Lord Ripon thought of establishing municipal committees in cities and towns and that system is still in vogue. The system of Panchayats has also been in vogue since then but it did not receive much support from the Government in the beginning. The system of *Bradries* existed here even much earlier. It received a set-back in the beginning but continued to linger on. Even now *Bradries* have been set up in small villages and they are functioning quite successfully. Under this system the people in villages assemble and settle all problems of village life. There is a Panchayat for 10 or 12 villages and it decides all important matters in the villages. The administration in India has been carried on on this basis from very olden times and the Panchayat system has been occupying a prominent place ever since. So far as Punjab and other States are concerned, the Governments devoted their attention in this direction about 20 years ago. A Royal Commission came to India and considered the question of the establishment of Panchayats and expressed its views in the matter. It was the first time when Britishers paid their attention towards the system of Panchayats and expressed their authoritative views on it. The English historians have also been expressing their views on this system from time to time. I am stating all these facts because the report of the Joint Select Committee which is at present under consideration has a close bearing on the administration of the State. I would like to place before the House one or two quotations in this connection.

Sir George Birdwood remarked—

India has undergone more religious and political revolutions than any other country in the world but the village communities remain in full municipal vigour all over the peninsula.

Sir Charles Metcalf wrote—

The village communities are little republics having nearly everything they can want within themselves, and almost independent of any foreign relations. Dynasty after dynasty tumbles down; revolution succeeds to revolution but the village community remains the same. I conceive that the unions of village communities contribute more than any other cause to the preservation of the peoples of India through all the revolutions and changes which they have suffered and it is in a high degree conducive to their happiness and to the enjoyment of a great portion of freedom and independence.

These were the views of Europeans with regard to the Panchayat system. Later on the Royal Commission expressed its views as under:—

We hope that it is most desirable, alike in the interest of decentralization and in order to associate people with the local administration, that an attempt should be made to constitute and develop village Panchayats for the administration of local public affairs. We are of the opinion also that the foundation of any stable edifice which shall associate people with the administration must be the village, as being an area of much greater antiquity than administrative creation, such as a tehsil.

The fact is that the Government set up District Boards and Local Boards in the State. The system of Municipal Committees was already in vogue. Then it was officially admitted that if Panchayats are established in any unit of villages they can work successfully. Though the Government had conceived the idea of establishing panchayats in villages, yet the Government lacked enthusiasm to take steps in this direction. In 1912, the first Panchayat Act was passed and Panchayats were nominated in some villages. Their function was to settle amicably the disputes between the parties if they agreed to accept their decision. The Government then officially recognised the establishment of Panchayats in villages. Later on in 1919 new reforms were introduced and Legislative Councils were formed. After some time a new Panchayat Act was passed in 1921 when Sir Fazl-i-Hussain was the Education Minister. This Act conferred limited powers on the Panchayats. It was subsequently realized that the Act of 1921 was not a comprehensive one. This Act was amended in 1929 and its scope was enlarged. This was the first time when the representatives of villagers were included in the Panchayats and some of the judicial functions of the courts were transferred to them. As the Panchayats enjoyed limited administrative authority, they could not successfully improve the tone of village life. Then elections were held in 1939 and the Unionist Government again enlarged the scope of the Panchayat Act. At that time I was also a member of that Legislative Assembly. When the Gram Panchayat Bill came up before the House, the Congress Party took active part in its discussion. The Panchayat system which is at present in vogue in the State is based upon that Act.

The scope of the present Bill has been enlarged and the Panchayats have been entrusted with sufficient administrative powers. We now feel that the time has come when more administrative authority should be transferred to the Panchayats. The other States where Congress Governments are functioning and especially those which have passed the Panchayat Acts have now realised the necessity of modifying that Act and placing measures of this kind on the Statute Book. Sometime back, Uttar Pradesh, Bombay and Madras Governments drew the attention of the people towards the necessity of establishing Panchayats in villages. When other States had taken the lead in this direction we also considered the advisability of taking such a step here. On going through the previous records, I find that the Chief Minister of the previous Government had also thought of

[Minister for Local Government]

enlarging the scope of the Panchayat Act and he had issued instructions for the drafting of a Bill on the lines of the U.P. Act. The U.P. Act is very comprehensive in this behalf. Consequently a Bill was drafted and was brought before the House in the last session of the previous Assembly. It was then referred to a Select Committee. We now find that the Select Committee made improvement in the Bill. Some of the Ministers of the present Cabinet were also members of that Committee.

But the Report of that Select Committee could not come before the House for consideration. Then came the general elections and the present Assembly was constituted under the new Constitution of India. The work that had already been done could not naturally be ignored. The Bill as amended by the previous Select Committee was brought before the House in the form of a new Bill. It was expected that it would be passed in the last session of this Assembly but due to paucity of time it was not found possible to do so and hence the Bill was referred to a Joint Select Committee of both the Houses. This Committee held two or three sittings at Ambala and prepared a report which I have presented to the House today.

In the Select Committee we first of all discussed the principles underlying the Bill. I want to make this thing clear that the membership of the Select Committee reflected the structure and composition of both the Houses, i.e. it contained the active members of all the parties. Only those members of the Government party who were in every way considered fit for the work were taken on the Select Committee.

Now, I want to explain to the House how this Bill will improve upon the existing Panchayat legislation. This Bill is definitely more progressive than any other measure passed so far on this subject. After the passage of this Bill, the powers of the Panchayats will be considerably increased. Without going into details, which will be discussed at the time of clause-by-clause consideration, I may now just point out the broad points which differentiate this measure from the previous measures on the subject.

Under the Panchayat legislation in force at present, it is not necessary that every village should have a Panchayat. There are many villages in which there are no Panchayats at present. When this Bill is passed, it will be compulsory for every village or a group of villages to have a Panchayat.

Secondly, this Bill aims at improving the method of election to the Panchayats. According to the existing procedure, a list of all the adults living in a village is prepared every year and elections are held according to that. Complaints were frequently made against this system. We have now provided that for elections to the Panchayats the voters should be the same as for elections to the Parliament and the Assembly. Though the election procedure is not detailed in this Bill, its spirit is there. System of voting by ballot is also being introduced in these elections.

So far as the number of members of a Panchayat is concerned, at first it used to be from three to five but afterwards the maximum was raised to seven. According to a time-honoured tradition of our country the number of Panches, as the term itself signifies, should be five. 'Panch Parmeshwar' is a well known adage in our country. In view of the sanctity attached to this tradition as also for consideration of uniformity we have decided to fix the number of members of the Panchayats at five irrespective of the population of the village concerned. The number of members of an administrative body should not be so large as to make it unwieldy and to hamper its smooth working. From the point of view of the proper discharge of its judicial functions also, the number of members of a Panchayat should not be more than five.

So far as the administrative powers of the Panchayats are concerned, we are widening their scope considerably. There is hardly anything relating to rural life— be it sanitation, maintenance of roads and paths, running of hospitals and schools in which the Panchayats are not being given enhanced powers. Maximum powers are being given to the Panchayats in all matters pertaining to rural life so far as it was proper to do so. So far as the judicial powers are concerned, they are at present being enjoyed by the Panchayats on a uniform basis according to a schedule. This schedule lays down the limits of the powers of adjudicating civil and criminal cases enjoyed by each Panchayat. Under the provisions that we have now made, every Panchayat will not have the same judicial powers. The Panchayat that will be found fit for this work will be entrusted with enhanced powers. Every Panchayat will not be entrusted with judicial powers.

In Uttar Pradesh, the Panchayats have been entrusted with administrative powers only, namely, sanitation, running of schools, maintenance of roads, etc., and the number of members varies from thirty to fifty. They are elected at general meeting of all the residents of the village. Without any desire to indulge in criticism, I just want to say that I wonder how such an unwieldy Panchayat can function properly.

In addition to this, they have taken representatives from the Panchayats of four or five villages and constituted them into Adalti Panchayats for deciding cases. In their opinion, the outsiders can take a more detached view of matters than the villagers. The way in which the villagers think makes us feel that they will think more of their personal matters than of justice. I do not say which of these opinions is correct. What I wish to point out here is that these views have been expressed in the House. In the Report of the Select Committee, both of these opinions have been taken into account. If some village Panchayats are so minded they can combine and form an Adalti Panchayat. They can be given more powers for the purpose. The villages which want to work on the lines of U.P. can do so. In this Bill a provision for this purpose has been made.

As regards funds, this Bill lays down four or five different ways in which these can be collected and used for the work of the Panchayats.

[Minister for Local Government]

In the first place, taxes can be imposed by the Panchayats with the permission of the Government. Under this Bill the Government has taken the power to authorize the Panchayats to impose certain taxes for raising funds for their use.

Then, Sir, the District Boards derive a part of their income from the local rates which they collect. So naturally if the District Boards are abolished these funds will go to the village Panchayats. I am not prepared to state the policy of the Government in the matter of the abolition of the District Boards at this stage, because this matter is still under consideration. But I can say that it is just possible that some part of these local rates and taxes collected by the District Boards may go to the village Panchayats.

In addition to these sources of income, the Panchayats will get some money from the Government in the form of grants. In the Bill as reported by the Select Committee and even in the original Bill there are provisions to the effect that the Government can give grants to the Panchayats from certain heads. Before the elections it was a common belief that if the villagers collected a certain amount of money for village work the Government would also contribute a certain proportion of the amount required for the purpose. I have gone through the files but there was no such thing there. Anyhow this idea had spread among the people and so we decided to give seventy-five rupees out of hundred rupees required for the work. We decided that this help should be given tehsilwise. So this source will also add to the income of the Panchayats.

There is yet another source and it is the fines which the Panchayats are authorised to impose. In the Panchayats Act, there are various provisions which give powers to the Panchayats to impose fines and by the exercise of such powers the Panchayats will be in a position to realise certain amounts.

In addition to these sources voluntary contributions can be made at any time. While the Panchayats will get money from the various sources stated above, they will be able to raise some amount by means of voluntary subscriptions also. While the Government will give whatever it can spare for the Panchayats, the people should also feel interested in the work of their villages and raise voluntary contributions. The village Panchayats will thus be in a position to raise funds for themselves in a number of ways.

In the last Select Committee, when the question of giving concessions to the Scheduled Castes was considered, it was thought that because they had been given concessions under the Constitution, they should be given some concessions in the Panchayat Act also. This was the view of the minority in the Committee, but the majority of members was not in its favour. At that time I was in the minority, but now I am in a majority. I am of the opinion that the Harijans should be given some concessions for ten years at least. So, we have made a provision that in the Gram Panchayat area, where the population of the Harijans is not less than ten per cent there should be at least one Harijan in the Panchayat. In the first place, the Harijans will get a chance like

the others to get elected to the Panchayats, but if no Harijan gets elected, we have provided that there must be at least one Harijan in the Panchayat. In this way we have tried to make sure that there will be at least one Harijan member in the panchayats of those villages where the Harijans form at least ten per cent of the total population. I believe that in at least ninety-nine per cent of the villages in our State, the Harijans are more than ten per cent. So, we have tried to ensure that there must be at least one Harijan member in every Panchayat. In the case of District Boards, the method of election is quite different. In their case the seats are distributed according to population. In this way at some places a number of Harijan members are elected while at other places no Harijan member is returned. A complaint was received from the Harijans of Gohana that no member of their community was returned. I also felt that it was a hardship, but what could be done? On calculation, it was found that there, their population was a little less than ten per cent. Nothing could be done because according to the method in vogue for the election of members to the Local Bodies it was quite in order. For the Panchayats the Select Committee has suggested a very proper method of elections. It has been provided in the Bill that if the population of Harijans at a place is not less than ten per cent—it is seen that in most of the villages their population is more than that—there should be at least one Harijan on the Panchayat of that village. So at places where the population of Harijans is sufficient, there is no reason why at least one Harijan is not returned to the Panchayats. A recommendation to this effect has been made by the Select Committee.

Mr. Speaker, this Bill provides a good safeguard for the interests of the villagers. Tehsil Unit which so far existed only nominally has now been properly regulated. It will have no other function except that of supervision. It is yet to be seen whether the District Boards would continue or not and what sort of work is to be taken from them. District Boards, Municipal Committees and Panchayats perform the same type of duties. The Panchayats are being entrusted the work of Honorary Magistrates also which was previously taken away from them. Some people say that when the Panchayats are being entrusted with both executive and judicial powers, similar provision should also be made in case of big towns and the Municipal Committees should be given powers to decide petty litigation in addition to looking after sanitation etc. The Panchayats are important local bodies and they are being empowered to perform executive as well as judicial duties.

Mr Speaker, I think that it is high time that we should take a step forward and improve upon the old Act. This is the only Bill after passing which we can go to villages and claim that the powers which we got from the foreign rulers have not been centralized at the headquarters at Simla but that, on the other hand, we are determined to give both judicial and executive powers to the people according to their own will. We want to pass on the powers which we have taken from the foreign rulers with the support of the people, to the villagers.

[Minister for Local Government]

Mr Speaker, I think that important as it is, this Bill has been the subject of a great deal of controversy. I remember very well that when I was myself a member of the Select Committee there used to be 5 or 7 meetings of the Committee and in each meeting there used to be two Reports—one of the majority and the other of minority. But I cannot help appreciating the spirit with which the hon. Members of this Select Committee have been extending their co-operation. It is only due to their co-operation that we could complete within 2½ days the work which should ordinarily have been completed in 4 days. It is gratifying that the leading Members of Opposition have also given us their full co-operation and in spite of minor differences we have been able to present the Bill before the House within a short time. Mr. Speaker, I do not mean that this Bill should not be thoroughly considered. What I mean is that through this Bill we are making the people realise that we have transferred the power that we got from the foreign rulers to them. Therefore, Sir, through you, I would request the hon. Members to pass this Bill with the same spirit with which they have been working in the past.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Punjab Gram Panchayat Bill as reported on by the Joint Select Committee be taken into consideration.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (Punjabi) : Mr Speaker, I am very pleased to find that the Government is transferring the privileges and rights to the people which they were enjoying in the Vedic age but of which they were deprived during the British regime. Sardar Partap Singh's words are still echoing in my ears when he said that when this Bill is presented before the House, the hon. Members would be wonderstruck. But it is a case of a mountain in labour producing a rat. I had gone through the original Bill and after that when I read the report of the Joint Select Committee, I was reminded of the maxim. "The son is an improvement upon his father". It was required of the Government that the provisions of the Bill should have been liberalized but these have been made rather more stringent.

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** Has the hon. Member listened to the motion before the House? The hon. Minister has moved that the Bill as reported on by the Joint Select Committee be taken into consideration. May I know whether the hon. Member is in favour of its being discussed or not? May I know the object of the hon. Member's speech! Is he opposing the Bill or the consideration motion?

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : The consideration of the Bill has started.

✓ **Mr Speaker :** I want to know whether the hon. Member is in favour of the consideration motion or not?

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : Sir, I am speaking on the Bill as has been reported on by the Joint Select Committee.

Mr. Speaker : Please go on with your speech.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : It was laid down in the original Bill that the Gram Sabhas would meet twice a year and the budget would be presented before and discussed by them. But now in the amended Bill, Gram Sabha has altogether been abolished. Does it mean that the people will go back just like spectators after witnessing a *tamasha*? This is not good. Gram Sabhas should have been established.

The next thing is that in our country a person becomes a major at the age of 18 but he is authorised to give his vote after 3 years, while in other countries where a person becomes a major at the age of 21 he is allowed to vote at the age of 18. The case in our country is just the reverse. Mr Speaker, if the Gram Panchayats are to be established, Gram Sabha is also a necessity. But, Sir, I fear that these institutions would prove just like that of the Zaildars, and the Government would use them as an instrument for carrying on its propaganda.

A provision regarding the setting up of Panchayats already exists in our Constitution. In Article 40, it is laid down that—

The State shall take steps to organise village Panchayats and endow them with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as units of Self-Government.

The hon. Ministers are not bestowing any new right upon us. We have already got it through our Constitution. I feel that they do not wish to establish *Ram Rajya* in our State. The method, which our Government is going to adopt to attain the object laid down in Article 40, will bring no good. It is even contradictory to this principle. According to the procedure which they want to adopt, the Gram Sabha shall stand dissolved as soon as it has once selected its Panches. Even previously the Gram Sabha used to meet twice a year despite the fact that it used to work under the directions of the Government. Now, it will not meet after the election of Panches.

Further, it has been provided in this Bill that the Panchayat Officer will have power to remove the Panches elected by the people. In other words, it means that these Panchayat Officers will remove those Panches whom they do not like. I want to ask the Government what is the sense under the circumstances in the election of Panches by the Gram Sabha?

Minister for Local Government : I submit that with the exception of the Government no one shall be competent to remove the Panches of a Panchayat. Only the Government will have this power. The hon. Member is under some wrong impression.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : I want to enquire from the hon. Minister whether the Panchayat Officers are not representatives of the Government. What does he mean by the Government?

Minister for Local Government : I repeat that the Government alone shall be competent to remove them. The Panchayat Officers will not be authorised to do so.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : The hon. Minister should realise that in this case the Director or the Assistant Director will mean Government as they will be entrusted with this power.

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** The hon. Member should not carry on any conversation. He should make his speech. The hon. Minister will reply to all the criticism afterwards.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : The hon. Minister should not interrupt me.

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** He will not interrupt the hon. Member.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : This means that the Panches will begin to look for favours to the person who is invested with this power. It would be the same thing as the Members of this House trying to win favour of the person who may have the authority to remove them from membership despite the fact that they had been elected by the public. Similarly, these Panches will care more for the Government's wishes. Therefore, Sir, I want to submit that they should not delude themselves by the notion that by passing this Bill they shall be able to establish *Ram Rajya*. They should also not have the misunderstanding that through this Bill they will be successful in checking the people from becoming communists. On the other hand, all of them will become communists.

(At this stage the hon. Minister for Local Government wanted to say some thing).

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** The hon. Minister should allow the hon. Member to make his speech.

Minister for Local Government : The hon. Member has given way, Sir. This is Parliamentary practice that a Member is allowed to speak when another Member, who is in possession of the House, takes his seat in order to allow him to speak.

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** All right, the hon. Minister may say what he wishes to say.

Minister for Local Government : Mr Speaker, I want to point out that the hon. Member who was just in possession of the House is mistaken. In the absence of some authority to remove a Panch who does not work diligently that Panchayat will become quite useless. For that reason, the Government must have the power to remove him.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : Mr. Speaker, I too do not wish that a Panch who does not work well should not be removed. In my opinion such a Panch must be removed. The power to remove a Panch should not vest with the Government but it should lie with

the electorate which elects him. The Panchayats shall not be able to work well if the Government holds this power. Further, in that case the Panchayat officers shall be in a position to create a split among the people and the whole purpose with which this institution is being started, shall be destroyed. The Government should not be empowered with the authority of being able to dissolve a Panchayat which has been elected by the people. The people must hold the power to remove those Panches, who in their opinion do not work well, as they have been authorised to elect them.

Next, I want to submit something about the powers of Panchayats. Much has been said from the Treasury Benches that the Government is giving more powers to these Panchayats to decide criminal as well as civil cases. According to them, a Panchayat shall have the power to impose fine up to Rs 500 whereas previously it could fine only up to Rs 250. I want to point out that the ruralites do not like these fines. Further, how can we call these Panchayats courts, when they are not authorised to send anybody to prison?

Moreover, the Government is allowing very meagre funds for the Panchayats. These Panchayats are being authorised only to collect the hearth-tax whereas the abiana as well as the land revenue is realised by the Government. To me there does not seem to be any sense in starting these institutions, if the people have to get the lanes and drains of the villages made pucca after collecting funds from the public by their own efforts. I feel that these Panchayats are not being given any powers.

Sir, what I wish to submit is that when the Panchayats have been empowered to collect funds they should also be allowed to utilise them. A lion's share of the local rates and the land revenue comes from the pockets of the villagers. Therefore, why should it not be provided that the Panchayats can spend a part of the same for the management of the villages? Then, it has been laid down that the District Boards will provide funds to the Panchayats if they wished to get some work done by them. Mr. Speaker, how can an organisation progress if it lacks funds? Besides, Sir, I am surprised that on the one hand it has been provided that the Panchayats will be elected by the people themselves and on the other hand the authority to remove the Panches has been vested in the Director. The Panchayats will not be able to become independent units so long as the powers, which have now been delegated to the officers, are not transferred to them. The existing provisions will lead to the creation of an institution under the control of the bureaucracy. I wonder why the Panchayats have not been empowered to spend the money when they have been given the right for its collection. Even the money realised by them in the form of fines will be deposited into the State coffers and they will again have to approach the Government, and obtained its permission for withdrawing and spending the money.

The second thing, Sir, is that all the final powers in the matter of taking decisions have been given to the officers. The responsibilities of the Panchayats have, no doubt, been increased but they will neither be able to function like democratic institutions nor will they be able to do full justice to their work, so

[Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina]

long as they are not delegated adequate powers to discharge their functions properly. I can foresee that afterwards it will be said that administrative powers were transferred to them but they have not proved capable of undertaking the work. In the circumstances, therefore, I can remark that 'Ram Rajya' will never be established in the villages with the passage of this Bill.

The legal powers which have been entrusted to the Panchayats are the same as are exercised by the Magistrates. It is a well-known fact that at present whenever an appeal against the decision of a panchayat is heard by a Magistrate, the decision is declared null and void. I, therefore, apprehend that it will create dissensions in the organisation with the result that the officers will harm many people and the Panchayats will go into disrepute. These things will not allow any scheme to materialise.

So, what I mean to say is that there is no material difference between this Bill and the previous Act. It is just a replica of the same. Moreover, the fact which I have noticed is that whereas the responsibilities of the Panchayats have been increased no corresponding powers have been vested in them. It will neither lead to the setting up of a democratic institution nor will it inculcate the enthusiasm of service in the minds of the people. It is wrong to think that they cannot construct the roads or open new schools. They know everything but cannot do the actual work unless the real political power is transferred to them. I can say that it is only the dictatorship which is being revived with the provisions embodied in this Bill.

Minister for Local Government : What does the hon. Member mean by the term "political power?"

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : By the term 'political power' I mean that the villagers should possess the power of electing, recalling, and removing the Panches. They should have the political power of self government. It does not seem justifiable that the officers should have control over the elected representatives of the people. These Panchayats constituted under the provisions of this Bill will function on the lines of the old bureaucratic system. There will be too much official influence over the Panchayats with the result that the Panches under the fear of being removed by the higher officers will grovel about them and not do justice to the work for which they are elected. Therefore, to sum up, I would like to say that so long as this interference by the officers is not removed; and the Panchayats are not given full powers and provided with adequate funds, they will not be able to constitute self-governing units in the real sense of the word.

Shri Sri Chand (Bahadurgarh) (Hindi) : Mr. Speaker, just as my learned Friend, the hon. Minister has remarked, I also believe that this Bill can introduce new life into the Punjab and at the same time it can also mar it. The only question which we have to see is as to what are the provisions of this Bill. From the time the elections were held our hon. Ministers and other Members of this House had been holding out hopes to the people, time and again, that they would enact the Panchayat Act through which extensive powers would be transferred to the ruralites. Continuous discussions in the Select Committee were held for three days

at Ambala but when I read this Bill, I was reminded of the following verse:—

बहुत शोर सुनते थे पहलू में दिल का ।

जो चीरा तो एक कतरा ए खून निकला ॥

ਬਹੁਤ ਸ਼ੋਰ ਸੁਣਤੇ ਥੇ ਪਹਿਲੂ ਮੇਂ ਦਿਲ ਕਾ ।

ਜੋ ਚੀਰਾ ਤੋ ਇਕ ਕਤਰਾਏ ਖੂਨ ਨਿਕਲਾ ॥

Besides the discussions, consultations were also held there but I am surprised to know about the result which was arrived at after these deliberations. Whenever our Chief Minister goes on tour, he makes announcements to the effect that the Government would decentralise the administration, the powers would be transferred to the villagers, the ruralites would run the Government and that 'Ram Rajya' would be established. Is it the same 'Ram Rajya' with the hopes of which the Congressmen have been alluring the people? Is it the same 'Ram Rajya' which was being dreamt of by them? I feel surprised when I hear that our Ministers cannot take final decision about any matter. How strange it is that they have not, so far, been able to decide the lines on which the Panchayats are to be run? When, at Ambala, I enquired of the Minister about the future of the District Boards, he replied that, so far, they had not decided whether they are to be retained or abolished. There has been such a delay and slackness on the part of the Cabinet that it has not even taken final decisions as to which Acts are to be enacted. I suggested to them at Ambala that the simultaneous running of both the Panchayats and the District Boards would not lead to any good. Let them abolish the District Boards for the sake of an experiment and thereafter watch whether the Panchayats can serve the purpose. If the experiment succeeds well and good; otherwise they might take some other step in accordance with the need of the time. But who cares to listen to our voice Sir! Now the result of this step would be that neither the District Boards nor the Panchayats would function properly. I do not think that the District Board is a department of police whose abolition will create a revolution in the State. The Government may make an experiment and see the results. This is simply a nuisance created by the Britishers. It should be put an end to. If after the abolition of District Boards the work cannot be carried on smoothly, these may be revived after the expiry of six months or a year. But I fail to understand why the Cabinet has not yet been in a position to decide whether the District Boards are to be retained or not. It is a different matter whether the Panchayats are imperfect or maimed, but they should, at least, make some decision about the future of the District Boards. When I find that they have failed to take any decision up till now I am led to believe that a decision will never be arrived at so long as the Congress Ministry is in office. It lacks boldness and courage to take decision with firm determination.

The meetings of the Select Committee were postponed simply because the decision with regard to retaining or abolishing the

[Shri Sri Chand]

District Boards had to be taken by the Cabinet. The result was that to-day also the matter remains undecided. Panditji has said that he wants to abolish the District Boards but the final decision has to be taken by the Cabinet.

Our Minister for Education goes about getting himself photographed with some books under his arm and declaring that education will be made universal and compulsory but nothing tangible has come to our notice. We are prepared to co-operate with the Government and put forward constructive proposals in this connection. Let me tell the Minister that so long as primary education is not entrusted to the Panchayats, the scheme of compulsory education will not succeed. Even now if it is decided to entrust this work to Panchayats, compulsory education can be introduced from the 30th April. So far as expenditure is concerned, the government can hand over to them the income from cesses and rates. This income will be enough to meet the necessary expenses.

Then the Government has provided for the posts of Secretaries to the Panchayats. I would submit that this work can be entrusted to school teachers. If teachers are made Secretaries, the work will be done for a small consideration of say, Rs 10. Then why compel the poor people to shoulder the huge burden of the salaries of so many whole-time Secretaries?

As regards common lands, I suggest that they should be made over to the Panchayats so that every person in the village may have his or her share in the 'Shamilat'. The Ministers go about making speeches to the effect, that Harijans and other non-proprietors should be given a share in the 'Shamilat' but no formula has so far been put forward as to whether this share will be given to an individual as such or it is to be calculated on the basis of the members of each family or the whole population of the village. As a matter of fact the Government does not want to give a clear and categorical reply to this question. The Congress Government has a confused brain, and, therefore, it cannot take a decision in respect of any matter whatsoever.

One important advantage of making over the common lands to Panchayats will be that litigation in villages will be greatly reduced. Usually, a large percentage of the litigation in the villages relates to encroachments on common land. These encroachments are very common and frequent. The best remedy is that the common lands should vest in the Panchayats and at the same time encroachment on the common land should be made a cognizable offence. In this way people will be compelled to shed off their bad habit of making encroachments on shamilat and litigation will decrease to a very great extent. So here are two constructive proposals. The first is that it should be the duty of every Panchayat to maintain a primary school for boys and girls, and the second is that common land should vest in the Panchayats. In that case, it will not belong to any individual or individuals but shall be the property of the Panchayat and encroachment being a cognizable offence, the offenders will be brought to book without unnecessary delay.

Then, village roads are a veritable hell. They are so narrow that even a horse cannot pass except with great difficulty. The

Government has not paid any attention to them so far. These things also should be entrusted to the Panchayats.

Then comes the question of the financial position. It is said that the Government would give grants to the Panchayats but I submit that this is not the right way of doing things. This would mean that the Government wants to place them in the position of beggars always dependent upon it. There is also a mention of "the balance standing at the credit of the Panchayat at the commencement of this Act". But I should very much like to know if any Panchayat has any balance whatever to its credit. In addition to these sources of income, you have asked the Panchayats to levy hearth-tax and allowed them to impose other taxes as well. This means that you want to saddle the poor people of rural areas with further taxation. These people are already groaning under a very heavy weight of taxes. You spend all the money collected from them on urban areas. I do not say that you should not spend anything on the urban people, but I do submit that at least 4 annas out of each rupee collected from the ruralites should be spent on their welfare.

I may, once again, be accused of raising over and over again the question of rural versus urban interests. But when there is a serious clash between the two, you simply have to refer to it. Even then my only request to you is that you are welcome to spend 12 annas out of a rupee collected from us on the urban population but 4 annas per rupee must be returned to us. I am sure that even this much will be enough for proper and efficient working of the Panchayats.

On reading this report every sensible person will be prompted to remark; "What is this nonsense of *chulha* (hearth) tax and *chakki* tax?" I submit that it is not proper to try to throw more and more burden on our shoulders. As I have already said fine roads in the cities may be constructed with our money but 4 annas out of a rupee must be spent on the improvement of the miserable village roads.

It has been said with a great show of pride that the Panchayats have been invested with so many powers. Surely they will be entitled to levy taxes and also act as courts of law in respect of certain matters. But in spite of all this, they will be no better than the proverbial 'Nawabs without an inch of territory'. I do not want to say anything about the powers that the Government has given to the Panchayats in this Bill but the duties entrusted to them are so many that it is doubtful whether any member of a Panchayat will find time even for a nap at night. That is why I have submitted that we do not want lakhs of rupees to be given to the Panchayats but they must have enough money to discharge satisfactorily the duties which are being entrusted to them. The local rate can be increased. The Government says that it would help them but if a gentleman like Sardar Ujjal Singh who has no interest in the villages comes into power, he would not give a penny to the Panchayats.

Minister for Finance : Have I no interest in the villages? Like my hon. Friend, I do not practise law in a city.

Shri Sri Chand : That is right. The hon. Minister is engaged in business. I was submitting that the Government has promised to help the Panchayats by giving them grants but in my opinion that would not be a satisfactory arrangement.

Now Sir, it has been hinted that I was responsible for the deletion of provision relating to Gram Sabhas. Take the case of Russia, America or England. After holding the elections, are the people in any country gathered together for passing the Budget or doing some other business? If this course is to be adopted, what is the use of holding elections? No useful purpose would be served by convening a meeting of all the residents of a village. They will merely quarrel among themselves. Will it be possible to tell any one of those present there that he was not a voter? This kind of thing is not done in any other country of the world.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : This is done in Switzerland.

Shri Sri Chand : Does such practice exist in Russia?

Minister for Development : The hon. Member should speak about the recommendations made by the Joint Select Committee.

Shri Sri Chand : I am saying the same things which I said in the Select Committee. I said that there was no need of Gram Sabhas but some of my friends say that these are necessary.

Minister for Development : Who says that these are essentials?

Shri Sri Chand : What is the use of holding a meeting of the general public after they have made their choice at the time of elections? In my opinion, if the voters are asked to give their opinion today, they would like to recall half of the members elected to this House. If a large number of persons gather together to do a work, they cannot do it quickly and properly. If the people do not like a certain member, they can return some other person in his place after three years. What is the sense in convening a meeting of the general public every six months? If this system is adopted in the provincial sphere also, it would mean that the voters should prepare the Budget for the Punjab. In that case what is the need of holding elections?

In my opinion, the District Boards have ceased to be of any utility and these will have to be abolished. Each Zail returns its representative to the District Board. Let the Government set up District Unions with each member representing two Zails. Instead of Tehsil Unions we should have District Unions. It is only by this method that the villages can be administered properly. What are the District Boards doing at present? Lakhs of rupees are spent by way of salaries. The District Board, Rohtak, is maintaining one garden also. If a hospital cannot be run or a school cannot be maintained for want of funds, this task too has to be done by the District Boards. If my hon.

Friend, the Minister-in-charge, looks into the matter he will find that a major portion of the District Board funds which are realised from the rural people is spent on doing those things which are the responsibility of the Municipal Committees. In District Rohtak, the Beri Municipal Committee expressed its inability to run the primary school as it was short of funds and so the District Board had to take over the running of that school. In this manner more than half the amount spent by the District Boards is expended for doing that work which should be the concern of the Municipal Committees. The time when District Boards could be of use is gone and there is no reason why the villagers should not look after their work themselves. Two institutions cannot be maintained simultaneously. Either the District Boards can remain or there can be Panchayats. If it is felt that the District Boards cannot be abolished as yet, I shall request the Government to wait a little and not to proceed with this Bill. If, however, the Government wishes to improve the condition of villages, there is no need of District Boards.

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Member used the word *bakwas* in the course of his speech. He should withdraw that word.

Shri Sri Chand : I withdraw it but I don't remember when I used that word.

Chief Minister (Shri Bhim Sen Sachar) (Hindi) : Mr Speaker, I had no intention of taking a part in the discussion but in view of the remarks made by some hon. Members I consider it necessary to explain the policy and programme of the Government with regard to Panchayats so that proper atmosphere may be maintained during discussion of this Bill.

It would perhaps be remembered that this Government assumed reins of office on the 17th April. Two days after that the Government announced that it proposed to decentralise the administration. This Bill has been brought forward in order to make the dispensation of justice and other needs within easy reach of the villagers who have at present got to go to the district headquarters, or even to Simla, to get these things.

The Government fully realizes this fact. My hon. Friend Chaudhri Sri Chand has remarked that the Government has a confused brain but I may submit in this connection that the Government's brain is quite clear, at least with regard to the fact that it wants to transfer all powers to the people living in the rural areas. I am surprised that the Leader of Opposition has remarked in his minute of dissent that—

As the conditions are in our country, particularly in the rural side, this will create chaos and further unsatisfactory state of affairs in the villages. Because of lack of education the moral and intellectual sense of the people has not been developed to an extent that we can safely confide in them the judicial functions of courts which should be above extraneous influences.

Sir, if we attach much importance to the views expressed by the Leader of Opposition and other hon. Members sitting on the Opposite Benches, then the fate of the people living in the rural

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areas is almost sealed. They say that we should not entrust such powers to the people in rural areas because they are illiterate but the Government's view-point is that it should transfer all powers to them although they lack education and may commit mistakes. My hon. Friends say that such powers should not be transferred to them as they will not be able to administer justice. They will commit mistakes and thus public money will go waste. I would ask them, are they so much enamoured of the present system of administration? Do they want that they should not be allowed to solve their own difficulties and problems themselves which is, as a matter of fact, their natural right? We take this Bill in this spirit and want to transfer all powers to the hands of the people. Sir, today we are in power and it is just possible that some other government may be in power tomorrow. I think that no government can remain in power for long if it does not transfer power to the people in the rural areas in the real sense. It is the determined policy of this Government to transfer all such powers. Besides this, a suggestion has been made to the Government that a lump sum amount equal to 25 per cent of the land revenue be placed at the disposal of the Panchayats. Sir, you may pause to conjecture that if 25 per cent of the annual revenue of two crores of rupees on account of land revenue were to be distributed among fourteen or fifteen thousand villages then Rs 300 will be the amount that will be apportioned to each village annually. So I would ask, will they be able to solve their problems with this meagre amount? I would go to the length of saying that if need be we will place at the disposal of Panchayats even 50 per cent of the whole Budget. I am sorry to say that my hon. Friend Chaudhri Sri Chand in spite of his best efforts to maintain good atmosphere in this House sometimes involuntarily opens his mind and raises the question of ruralites and urbanites in the House. I am of the opinion that every urbanite should try to serve the people living in the rural areas. I would say that any urbanite who does not serve the rural people is a worthless fellow. We should try to create such an atmosphere in the State! We should jointly try to remove all dissensions and conflicts among the people because it is not possible for urbanites and ruralites to live without the help of each other and without money. My hon. Friend should not think that urbanites should have no money but I would say that every Punjabi should have enough material resources at his command and this can only be possible if there is whole-hearted co-operation between the ruralites and the urbanites. Mr. Speaker, in fact my hon. Friends have no confidence in themselves. The public has given us full powers by reposing full confidence in us and we are transferring that power to the people in the rural areas by bringing forward this Bill. I disagree with my hon. Friend, the Leader of Opposition, and think that we should transfer judicial powers to the village people to carry on the administration in order to change the village life beyond recognition. My hon. Friend has raised an objection with regard to the appointment of Secretaries and I may point out to him in this connection that we are bringing an amendment under which the appointment of Secretaries will not be made in the way as at present provided. I quite agree with my hon. Friend Chaudhri Sri Chand that a village teacher may be appointed as Secretary in order to avoid putting any financial burden on the rural people. I am of the view that a Panchayat may be established in every village in order to inculcate a

sense of unity among the people so that they may be able to solve their own difficulties and problems. As remarked by my hon. Friend, the Panchayats will at least be able to open primary schools in the villages.

So far as the question of the sources of revenue of the Panchayats is concerned, it is a matter for serious thought and cannot be decided off-hand. I doubt if the local cess will yield them an income of more than Rs. 1,000 per annum. This matter cannot be decided without keeping in view the financial position and the revenues of the Government itself. We want to create such conditions in the State as may give an incentive to the villagers to do everything by self-effort, no matter whether it is the construction of roads, the sinking of wells or the erection of school buildings. I have consulted the Minister-in-charge and we feel that a lump sum grant should be made to every Panchayat and the villagers should be asked to make their own contribution whether in cash or by way of effort.

In spite of wasting so much breath on the discussion the Opposition Members have not been able to prove that the Government does not sincerely desire to give enhanced administrative financial and judicial powers to the Panchayats. We are really anxious to give maximum powers to them. The different sections of the Opposition have given vent to divergent views. Some of them are anxious lest the Government should do something which might lead to the establishment of complete peace and harmony in the State because in that case they will not be able to find grist for their mills (*Cheers*). How can the persons, who are not prepared to believe that all men are equal, realize the benefits that will accrue to the people by the enactment of this measure?

Whatever Chaudhri Sri Chand has said about the District Boards is correct. I want to make this announcement here and now that we want to abolish the District Boards as soon as possible (*Cheers*). We want that the function of the State Government should be that of just a supervisory body and that every village should be a self-sufficient and self-governing unit. (*Renewed cheers*). The people living in every village should themselves construct roads, sink wells, run hospitals and industries and produce good seeds according to their requirements. The Government should come to their help only when it is absolutely necessary, otherwise they should be left free to solve their problems by their joint efforts and the spirit of co-operation. In view of this policy the District Boards are reduced to an anachronism and cannot continue in their present form. We do not want that the village folk should have to come to the district headquarters for any kind of work, least of all for such minor matters as the issuing of licences. What we desire is an effectively functioning administrative unit for a group of say, five or ten or fifty villages. The hon. Members should not be under the impression that this is merely empty talk. Orders have already been issued that Resident Magistrates should be posted at every tehsil headquarters. At every step we endeavour to effect decentralization. Nothing inconsistent will be found in our whole administrative policy from this point of view. A Committee has also been formed to consider the

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question of making the district administration easy and convenient for the people. Its report is being awaited. To afford the maximum possible facilities to the ruralites is our real aim and we shall see to it that they have to go out of their villages very seldom. If we can entrust a Tehsildar with the powers of sentencing a man to imprisonment, that is, the powers of making or marring his career, why cannot we authorise him to spend a sum of rupees four hundred to five hundred without sending the papers for obtaining the sanction of the Government? We are all for decentralization of powers. What really matters is that the persons in whom these powers are vested should be really good.

Shri Sri Chand : First send the High Court Judges to the plains.

Chief Minister : The High Court or for that matter other offices will not be kept at Simla even for a single day beyond the time during which it is absolutely essential to have it here due to lack of any other alternative. I may inform the hon. Member that the construction of the High Court building has started at Chandigarh.

An hon. Member : When will it be complete ?

Chief Minister : Does the hon. Member think that it is possible to erect a big building in a few days' time? If it were for the Opposition to decide this matter it would not let any building be constructed. Whatever we say, we have to say with a full sense of responsibility.

So far as this Bill is concerned we are anxious to have before us all points of view. That is why I have given freedom to the Members of my party to express their views on this Bill. This very thing proves our bona fides. The Members of our party have also the freedom of vote so far as this Bill is concerned. This Bill was sent to the Select Committee with this very end in view. Friends sitting opposite were also included in it. They have, however, submitted a minute of dissent which will be duly considered by us. What we are anxious about is that we should be able to achieve our object as early as possible.

Sardar Ajmer Singh (Samrala) (Punjabi) : Sir, I have listened to the speech of the hon. Chief Minister with full attention. I do not doubt his intentions but he has indirectly tried to cast a reflection on the intentions of the Opposition in a way which does not become him. I do not wish to say with what intention the Gram Panchayat Bill has been brought before the House, but I wish to make certain submissions because we also think in terms of the welfare of the people at large. Therefore, I want to place before you, Sir, certain things honestly and I do hope that they will receive your most careful consideration.

The first thing is that the hon. Chief Minister has unfortunately tried to ridicule the minute of dissent by the Members of the Opposition to the Select Committee Report on this Bill. As a matter of

fact, no effort has been made to look to the object behind the notes submitted by the Members of the Opposition and their statements have not been read carefully. I wrote in the note of dissent—

We are for giving administrative powers to the Panchayats for carrying on beneficent activities in the villages but are against giving judicial powers as are proposed in the Bill.

Sir, my submission is that this matter should be carefully thought over. It is said that we are going to have '*Ram Rajya*' here and that we are going to revive the good traditions of the days of Raja Vikramaditya. But in actual practice the powers that we are giving to the people are such as are not in their interest. We should see the conditions under which we are living. The educational condition of our masses is such that if we give them these powers at this time they will not be rightly used. The Chief Minister says that he is anxious to give wide powers to the people. He is right. But what I wish to point out is that a gun should be given to that person only who knows how to use it. It should not be handed over to a child, because he is likely to misuse it. We find that in the State, Magistrates are appointed to dispense justice. They are well-educated and highly-paid persons. The Government is there to control and enforce their decisions. The Government has a large police force for the purpose at its disposal. Can you expect the Panchayats to do all this job? The village Panches who will have to depend on the votes of the villagers cannot be expected to give their decisions against bad characters of the *ilaqa*. Have they got enough police force at their beck and call to save themselves against the designs of such persons? A magistrate incurs the displeasure of the accused when he gives his decision against him. But in spite of the fact that he has the police force near him and he lives in the city he has sometimes to feel afraid of the person against whom he gives his decision. How can the Panches, who have no police under their control be in a position to dispense justice freely and boldly?

The second thing is that the villagers who are to become Panches are generally uneducated. They have no knowledge of the Land Revenue Laws, the Indian Penal Code and the District Boards Act. No qualification has been laid down for becoming a Panch. Will those persons who will be elected as Panches be in a position to understand these laws and give their decisions in accordance with them? Their views cannot be independent. Under this Act we are going to leave them at the mercy of those against whom they have to try cases. These days the law has become quite complicated. But our Government seems to be dreaming of those days when it was not so complicated and when the morals of the people were considerably high. At that time people used to respect the decisions of the Panchayats. But nowadays conditions here in our country are different. The times have undergone a change. As a matter of fact, the Government should invite the views of big officers and respect those views. It is necessary that the views of the District Magistrates and District Judges should be respected in matters of law because they understand this matter thoroughly. In the Panchayats there is often factionalism. The proof of it lies in the fact that every day applications are made for the transfer of cases

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pending in the Panchayats. This is a matter of everyday experience. Ordinarily the villagers say that a case should not be heard in such and such a Panchayat because a relative of the other party is a member of that Panchayat. These things lead us to the conclusion that the villagers are not at the present time prepared to shoulder the responsibility of taking independent decisions. Some time back, the Government appointed some honorary magistrates but later on the experiment had to be abandoned because it proved a failure. Now, the Government is going to appoint so many honorary magistrates under this Act! This won't work, because these persons will be uneducated. About the system of Panchayats, Mr. Patanjli Shastri the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of India than whom there cannot be any greater authority on law, said, recently—

“It was not possible in the present industrialised society, where law was growing complex day by day, to administer justice through Panchayats as was done in ancient times.”

Is this opinion not correct? But when we put this very thing in our note of dissent to the report of the Select Committee, it was ridiculed by the Government. The present Government made certain promises to the people, but it appears they made them only as a political stunt. In fact, the right thing is to work for the welfare of the people in the real sense. Mere promises should not be made. The Government should do something really useful for the people. The way in which the Government is working will increase disputes among the people.

The second thing is that if the Government considers that by giving more powers to Panchayats, it is going to effect economy in expenditure, it is mistaken. In my opinion the conditions in the Punjab after the passing of this measure will be such that more money will have to be spent to control the Panchayats. There will be murders of Panches. Either they will not be able to dispense justice or if they do so they will be in trouble.

Another thing which I wish to state is that these five persons will not be whole-time workers. They have to do their own work also. The Government is asking them to meet at least once in a month. They are expected to know civil, revenue, criminal, tenancy and so many other Acts. Does the Government seriously believe that they will know all these laws? Does the Government really want to work for their welfare?

Then, Sir, I do admit the necessity of decentralization of administration in our State. But my contention is that the Government should not lose sight of the circumstances prevailing in the State. The hon. Minister for Local Government has himself remarked that the experiment of Local Bodies has failed and I also feel that it is a fact. He is also aware that due to corruption and neglect of duties many members of the District Boards and Municipal Committees have been disqualified and some Municipal Committees had to be superseded. This is in spite of the fact that the people living in towns are mostly literate and the spirit of factionalism exists at a lesser rate amongst them. Mr. Speaker, you can

well realise that the condition of those towns, where the Municipal Committees have been superseded has much improved. The condition of schools and roads at those places has improved. We have the case of Ludhiana before us. Within one year, the shape of things there has changed beyond recognition.

Government is going to organize Panchayats which will be given judicial powers. Many irregularities will be committed there. The Minister concerned knows it very well that a person who has to administer justice should possess high academic qualifications and should remain above factionalism. If he takes the trouble of sending for reports from the Deputy Commissioners, he will come to know that about 50 per cent of the Panches are either under the influence of scoundrels or are themselves scoundrels. If a Harijan ventures to lodge a complaint against a zamindar of his village, would he be able to get justice under the circumstances? He will be asked to compromise with the other party and his case will not be decided on its merits. And if a case is instituted against a Congress worker, will the Panches be bold enough to give their decision against him?

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, the Government should ask the people to start new hospitals, new schools and to introduce some new reforms. It should not give them such wide powers which would make them fall out amongst themselves. The panchayats have been allotted multifarious duties but no provision has been made for sufficient funds for the purpose. On account of their mutual dissensions and bickerings they would not be able to run the schools or do any other beneficial job. They would not be able to decide civil or criminal cases. I know what reply, the people will receive if they lodge a complaint to the Government. They will be told "All the powers have been given to you. You are the makers of your destiny." I, therefore, suggest that the Government should give them these powers by and by. If the giving of these powers to them proves beneficial more powers can be given to them. If it is found that literate and suitable persons are coming into the Panchayats, their powers can be further increased. At present, most of the Panches are illiterate and whenever they are required to sign they affix their thumb-impressions. Generally the Secretary decides the cases and has complete control over the Panches. This is the reason why the decisions taken by the Panchayats are ridiculous and 80 per cent appeals against them are accepted.

Mr. Speaker, as a matter of fact the Government do not intend to give any useful powers to the ruralites. In order that the urban property may not attract the attention of the ruralites, the Government have brought this Bill. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I reiterate that the Panchayats should be given these powers by and by and at this stage judicial powers should not be given to them.

Professor Mota Singh Anandpuri (Adampur) (Hindi) : Mr. Speaker, today I have listened with rapt attention to the ideas, opinions and suggestions put forward by my hon. Friends in connection with the Gram Panchayat Bill. After giving my full thought to the matter, I have arrived at the conclusion that the spirit of this Bill is worth appreciation. The thing which I like most in this Bill is the principle of decentralization. This is the first step taken by

[Professor Mota Singh Anandpuri]

us after the attainment of independence through which the ruralites would get autonomy. It is a separate thing as to how far the procedure adopted by us for the working of the autonomous system is right or wrong. How far it can be put into practice is a matter which requires consideration.

Mr. Speaker, I am in agreement with the view expressed by the Opposition that the ruralites should not yet be given judicial powers. They are not yet fit to carry out the judicial duties with such skill as is required of a judicial body. However, one thing is essential. Litigation is very common in villages and the Panchayats should try to reduce it by the method of arbitration. When the Panchayats are being given the powers to decide cases like Magistrates and it is thought that the Panches would be in a position to decide cases in a way that will result in improving the lot of the ruralites, it becomes incumbent upon the Government to give the necessary help and guidance to these institutions.

Mr. Speaker, I beg to submit that certain provisions of this Bill deserve appreciation. This will create new life amongst the people and through this piece of legislation the village life will turn a new leaf. I feel that this will transfer the great responsibility of running the administration to the ruralites and this would be vital and beneficial in the social education of a Nation. So, I congratulate the hon. Minister on this.

There are certain provisions of this Bill, with which I do not agree. The hon. Minister has not paid his full attention to one or two things. Very limited powers to raise funds have been given to them whereas their sphere of activities has been made very wide. I want to impress upon the Government that the Panchayats will not be able to perform their duties satisfactorily with the help of funds raised by them by levying hearth-tax, fines and fees. Therefore, I appeal to the hon. Minister-in-charge to pay more attention to this matter and to provide more funds to the Panchayats.

I want to remind the House that the scheme of setting up multi-purpose co-operative societies, which is being worked in the country for rural uplift, will certainly help the village society in its progress. The number of such societies has gone up to 18,162 and these have been started in Madras, Bombay and Uttar Pradesh. Beside these, some such societies have been formed in Madhya Pradesh and Bihar too. Their working capital has reached near about 3 billions. Punjab is in great need of such societies. The standard of living of the ruralites can be considerably raised through them. These multi-purpose societies can serve very useful purpose. These can help a long way in easing the difficulties of the agriculturists by supplying their necessities to them, i.e., these can supply them implements, seeds and cattle after purchasing these things. These should be placed under the control of Panchayats. For this purpose I feel that it is essential that there should be sufficient funds at the disposal of these Panchayats so that they may be able to purchase these articles and ensure their regular supply to the people. These Panchayats shall not be able to work successfully unless this is done. For

this purpose, I recommend to the Government that one-third of a Panchayat's income should be reserved for this purpose. It is most essential, that the revenue realised from a Panchayat area should be set apart for that very Panchayat. If the Government are keen to work any scheme successfully for raising the standard of living of the ruralites, they will have to spare sufficient funds for the purpose.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (*Punjabi*): Mr. Speaker, the Bill, which is now before the House is in accordance with Article 40 of our Constitution. The last portion of that article reads as follows—

'and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as units of Self-Government'.

In other words, it means that these Panchayats should be given the status of units of self-government. We have also the ideas of Mahatma Gandhi on this point which he had expressed as below:—

'Independence must begin at the bottom. Every village will be a republic or a Panchayat having full powers.'

Therefore, I feel that the hon. Minister has introduced this Bill in this House while keeping in view Article 40 of the Constitution and the words of Mahatma Ji. The previous Ministry had begun preparing this Bill. We could not expect better things and more democratic attitude from that Ministry than from present one, because the present Ministers have been elected by the people and have derived this power from them. That is the reason why our Chief Minister and the Minister for Local Government have said while referring to the Vedic times that they want to transfer power to the general public. Only literate people can judge as to how much power they are going to transfer to the people, the illiterate people cannot understand this thing. According to me this Bill has been made even more reactionary in the Select Committee than it was before. The original Bill was more democratic. I feel that power is being transferred to the Director of Panchayats instead of to the people.

The method which has been adopted in this Bill for the uplift of the villagers is very ineffective. The first factor which has to be borne in mind is that the economic condition of the people of the place where a democratic institution is to be set up should essentially be sound. When we view the condition of our villages from this point of view, we come to know that their economic condition is very unstable. The steps to be taken by the Government should, therefore, be such as to raise the economic condition of the people.

Besides, Mr. Speaker, we notice in this Bill that the minimum age of a voter has been fixed at 21. An adult of 18 has not been given the right of vote. Secondly, from amongst these people, only those will be entitled to exercise the privilege of electing the Panchayats who have been registered as voters for the Legislative Assembly. Mr. Speaker, when the people have to undergo a lot of difficulties for getting themselves registered as Assembly voters, it can well be imagined how much hardships the villagers will have to face. I remember that in this connection even after depositing a sum of

[Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut].

Rs. 50 we had to struggle hard for getting one of our comrades who was confined in jail during the previous elections registered as a voter. Even now we had to exert every nerve to get our friend, Shri Surjeet, registered as a voter from Nakodar. Similarly, it is not a fair system, that the villagers should become voters after having undergone so much inconvenience. I wonder why on the one hand the Government wishes to confer responsibilities on the villagers, and on the other hand many rigid restrictions are being imposed on them. In the circumstances, this system cannot be said to be democratic in the real sense of the word. Besides, the restrictions imposed on the voters, viz., the disabilities in the case of insolvency, previous convictions, etc., are altogether unjustified. In spite of these restrictions, if the people elect such persons, the Director has been empowered to remove them. Then, the Director will be free to levy a tax of his own choice. It will thus be said that the Panches who were the elected representatives of the people had imposed it. It means that the orders of the Director will prevail but the Panches will earn the odium for no fault of theirs.

Then, Sir, the Bill embodies a provision to the effect that the Director will be authorised to remove any of the elected Panches. This simply amounts to the revival of the old system. In fact, the democratic system provides that the right of removing the representatives should be vested in the people who actually elect them. When they have elected them why should they be denied the right to remove them. In a real democracy, the electors should have the right of recalling or removing their representatives whenever they so desire. Such powers should not be delegated to the Director.

Then, Sir, my hon. Friend, Chaudhri Sri Chand referred to Russia. I would like to tell him that in that country the Panchayats are the most powerful and significant units. The secret of their success is that they are the representatives of the common people; the labourers working in the workshops and mills are also allowed to take part in their working.

The limit of five in respect of the number of Panches who would constitute a Panchayat, is also extremely improper. If the population of a particular village is 500, another village may have a population of 10,000. But in accordance with the provisions of this Bill, a Panchayat Area will have only five Panches, irrespective of whether its population is 500 or 10,000. Again, a provision has been made that only one Panch will represent each Panchayat in the Tehsil Panchayat Union which will be established later on. It means that a Panchayat may represent a population of 5 000 or 10 000 but they will be represented in this Union by only one representative. In other words, the populations of 5 000 and 10,000 will have only one member. In this way, there will be a wide disparity in this regard. I, therefore, wish to submit that this Bill is entirely an undemocratic one and the democratic rights which were promised to be given to the people have not been given to them.

The second point to which I wish to draw your attention, Sir, is that the Panchayats have, no doubt, been given some powers to

decide certain cases, but at the same time the Director has been vested with the power of vetoing their decisions. The Director has got the power to impose any new tax which he likes; he is authorised to suspend any member and he is empowered to dissolve any Panchayat. Similarly, he has been vested with discretionary power of allowing or not allowing any grant to the Panchayats. If a Panchayat deems it necessary to take a particular step within its area, the Director can annul its decision. Whenever a Panchayat collects certain funds for any special purpose, it lacks the authority to utilise them without the approval of the Director. In this way the whole power has been centralised in the hands of the Director. In short, the village administration has been transferred into the hands of the I.C.S. and other bureaucratic officers. Our Ministers are running the administration with the help of these I.C.S. officers. These very officers have now been allowed the powers of interfering with the rural affairs. I.C.S. officers are those people whom the Britishers trained for their own object. In any case this cannot be described as a democratic set-up. In this way the Congress Government wish to set up a kind of dictatorship and not 'Panchayat Raj'.

Besides, I do not deny the fact that the Panchayats have, of course, been empowered to file complaints against the Patwaris but why should they not be allowed to report to the Government against the conduct of the police officers and others who come to the villages and perpetrate so many cruelties on the residents. When the Patwaris are responsible to the Panchayats, why should other officers who act in a dictatorial manner in the villages be not answerable to them?

Then, Sir, the next point is with regard to the finances. No funds, whatsoever, have been provided to the Panchayats through this Bill. The Chief Minister has stated that the Government was prepared to provide them with the 50 per cent of their Budget. But I am not prepared to accept his assurance when no mention of this kind has been made in this Bill. There is no source of permanent income to the Panchayats. The income accruing by way of fines, etc., is not a stable one. Moreover, this money will also go to the State exchequer and they will again be left with no funds which may help them to carry out reforms in the villages. This envisages that a hearth-tax will be imposed. I wish to enquire, Sir, upon whom will this tax be levied. Will it be imposed on those who are already groaning under the pressure of so many other taxes? The ruralites are already heavily saddled with these taxes. They are paying local rates, abiana, land revenue, chowkidara and so many other taxes.

I wish to point out that the people now cannot bear the burden of any further taxation. Just go through the report of the Government with regard to Monetary Fund. It says—

We are in favour of an additional allotment being made to the village Panchayats, of 15 per cent of land revenue in addition to other provisions already made.

[Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut].

The Bombay Government gives them 15 per cent of land revenue while 12 per cent is given by the Madras Government. You said that you would give them grants. May I ask what has been done in that connection? Then, it was promised that the Government would contribute towards the funds of the Panchayats amounts equal to those collected by each Panchayat respectively. Even that promise has not been fulfilled. Then, the procedure prescribed for giving the grants is not at all satisfactory. The result of the proposed method will be that any Panchayat which is in the good books of the Director will receive the grant and others will have to go without it.

I would suggest that 25 per cent of the land revenue should be given to the Panchayats. The common lands should be made over to them. I am sure that with the exception of a few interested people no one will object to it. You can carry on your activities in this field with the income from these sources and, therefore, it will be highly undesirable to levy new taxes.

Sardar Sharnster Singh (Ludhiana Sadar) (*Punjabi*): Mr. Speaker, the conditions in the rural areas have become so bad that no one considers his life or property safe. I am afraid that if things do not improve very soon, we shall see the drama of Egypt repeated in India. Just as the military has taken over the Government there the same thing may happen here.

It is a laudable thing to constitute Panchayats and give the people power and chance to manage their own affairs, but so far the rural population has not gained from these Panchayats anything but party factions and quarrels. If you are really anxious to give powers to the people then do the thing in a proper way. To avoid untoward results law and order should be separated from the judiciary. The best way to accomplish the task of giving powers to the people would be to constitute units of, say, 20 thousand persons each in the rural areas and saddle them with responsibility of maintaining peace and order in their respective jurisdictions. There should be "village police" to help the Panchayats in maintaining peace and tranquillity and this police should be responsible to the Panchayats.

Besides that, a liberal policy should be adopted in the matter of issuing licences to the people to keep arms for self-defence. Justice and fairplay should guide the actions and decisions of the Government while issuing these licences. Nowadays anybody who displeases the police for any reason is sure to lose his licence. If a person does not agree to give false evidence at the instance of the police he is dubbed a Communist and his licence is cancelled. I would suggest that these licences be issued on the recommendations of the Panchayats.

I am of the opinion that the Panchayats should be invested with the powers to hear and adjudicate on the civil and revenue suits of ordinary and simple nature. They should also be authorised to hear criminal cases which are bailable. This will prove very convenient and beneficial to the people. Indeed, I would go to the extent of suggesting that even more important and serious cases should be heard by

Panchayats with the help of juries and efforts should be made to settle most of the disputes through arbitration. Many a family in the rural areas is ruined by civil litigation and this method will go a long way to save such people.

Moreover, the Panchayats should be required to arrange village festivals in their areas where they should offer interesting programmes relating to reforms and village uplift. They should carry on propaganda exhorting the people to give up drinking, thieving and other bad habits and to live peacefully like decent people.

Then our Government has paid very little attention to games and sports. Previously, people in the rural areas used to be very fond of games and exercise. When I was a child we used to play "Khuddo-khundi".....

An hon. Member : No grounds are to be found anywhere for such games now.

Sardar Shamsher Singh : Even otherwise the Government is not paying any attention whatever to this necessity of the villagers.

Then, the Chief Minister was pleased to remark that the Opposition is unnecessarily harping on the interests of the rural people as against those of the urban population, because, as he said, he and his colleagues are very favourably disposed towards the village people and are anxious to do everything for their welfare. All that I can say in reply is that I very sincerely wish that his assertion was based on facts. In that case we would not have come all the way to Simla just to bandy words with him and his friends. We would have left them alone and spent our time in attending to our fields, happy in the thought that some good people were managing the affairs of the State in the best possible manner and, therefore, we should not interfere. I do not want that Akalis or Communists should be at the helm of affairs instead of the Congress Party. If the present Government were doing things properly we would be quite satisfied and really happy to leave them alone. But I am sorry to say that all these professions of sympathy are not supported by their actions.

Shri Wadhawa Ram (Fazilka) (Punjabi) : Mr. Speaker, we are discussing a very important measure today but the Minister concerned has spoken in a manner which shows that his approach to the problem is very mechanical. His casual remarks gave one the impression of a man passing through a garden just touching a flower here and a twig there. Or else he wanted us to believe that their predecessors on the Ministerial *gaddis* were gods and angels always doing good deeds and also that they themselves are even greater gods and their actions still more praiseworthy.

As a matter of fact, Sir, the forces of evil have always tried to suppress those of light and goodness. In olden days *Panchayat Raj* was prevalent throughout the world. Then feudalism destroyed this system of government. But it wrought such havoc with the life and liberty of the people that the latter were compelled to rise up

[Shri Wadhawa Ram]

and destroy it. And now that the days of the feudal *Rajas* and *Maharajas* appeared to be numbered, their protagonists began to devise ways and means to keep them in existence. A number of devices are being adopted for the purpose. Outwardly it is declared that the country is now free from the curse of feudalism, India is a Union and the *Rajas* are no more, but actually there has been no change whatever. They have only changed the names. Otherwise we do not find any difference between feudalism and the present regime.

The people's forces are on the rise and the Government is devising new methods and slogans for suppressing them. My friends sitting opposite say that they show proper regard for our suggestions but I find that their policy and decisions remain unchanged. The Government says that it has brought forward this measure in order to please the people but it will give them no powers. The Panchayats which will be constituted under this measure will be dependent on the Government. The hon. Chief Minister said that the Government wanted to distribute the powers which had been obtained after the achievement of independence. I want to tell him that what we have got is not independence. It would be noticed that the interests of the British have remained unaffected. The Britishers gave us independence in the form in which they liked to give it. Similarly, our Ministers are giving only those powers to the Panchayats which they have liked to give and not those which the people want. The whole thing is done in such a manner as may keep the interests of the ruling class secured. It is said that the Government wants to pass down the powers which it has got but I want to know if these powers have been received from the heavens and are such a commodity that a small share of these is proposed to be given to the masses. The whole power is in reality derived from the masses. It is the public who have returned Members to this House, out of whom some occupy the Ministerial Benches.

One of my hon. Friends said that if all the people were gathered together, they would quarrel among themselves. Does that gentleman regard the people to be beasts? He should not have uttered those words. My hon. Friends sitting on the Opposition Benches, who have the power in their hands, say that the people are being given certain powers but in reality no powers are being given. Panchayats which will be set up after the passage of this Bill will not be independent but will depend on the Government officers. A great deal of propaganda was carried on that the institution of *Lambardars*, *Zaildars*, *Rajas* and others who supported the bureaucracy would be abolished but all of them are being kept intact in one form or another. Now our Government is going to create a new type of *Lambardars* and *Zaildars* for doing its work. If real powers were to be given to the Panchayats, these should have been empowered to decide all matters and administer all things concerning the villages. The residents of a village should have been given the power of deciding the number of members of their Panchayat because they alone are the judge of their needs. They alone can say whether seven men would be enough or they needed ten. The hon. Minister said that 'five' was an auspicious number. It has been provided in this Bill that the number of members of a Panchayat should not exceed five. In

this connection, I want to know if this House consisting of 126 Members is not a Panchayat. If a Panchayat cannot consist of more than five members, why not reduce this number to one? If democratic system is to be adopted, every locality should have the right of sending one representative to the Panchayat so that the matters concerning the residents of that locality might be properly considered. Just as the independence which we have got is not real independence, the Panchayats which will be set up will be Panchayats only in name. The Government is earning a bad name among the public because it does not fulfil their demands. The Panchayats will be economically dependent and for every penny these will have to depend on the Director and the Government. In the case of our independence also, we are always awaiting financial aid from America or some other country. The fact is that our Government wants to maintain under some other name the same old order which it professed to dislike. These gentlemen carried on propaganda against the rulers of States but they have not been disturbed from their positions. On the other hand, they have been given still wider powers. Similarly propaganda was carried on against the British but their interests have been fully safeguarded in this country. The same is the case with the Panchayats. If the Government is earnest about seeing the villages prosper, why does it not transfer all the powers to the Panchayats? These should have the power of selecting Patwaris and appointing Magistrates. One of my friends said that some people were against the courts, too. This is due to the fact that the courts do not administer that justice which the people expect from them. There was a person in my village who used to administer justice admirably. He would award suitable punishment even to his real brother if he was found to have committed an offence. Due to this quality he was so popular that he had nothing to fear. He used to lie in the open without any fear. Our courts administer that kind of justice which the British rulers taught them to administer. The people curse the courts because they do not get that kind of justice from them which they should get. The police harasses and beats people.

The Government has taken a very commendable step in bringing forward this Bill but the Panchayats should be given full powers and they should not be subordinated to any officer. The people should have the right of electing anybody they like as a member of the Panchayat. If they want to choose some such person as a member of the Panchayat who committed a theft or deprived somebody of his share of the crops, there should be nothing to prevent them from doing so. In these matters the Director or some authority superior to him should have no right to interfere. If the residents of a village think that one, two or all the members of their Panchayat are not performing their functions properly, they should have the right of removing them and electing new members in their stead.

I am of the view that all matters pertaining to land should be left for the Panchayats to decide. Even the Patwaris in villages should be under the control of Panchayats. Not only this, the responsibility for deciding all matters concerning village life should be placed on the Panchayats. No organisation can successfully carry out its various obligations if it has to look for the allotment of funds to somebody

[Shri Wadhawa Ram]

else. It is no doubt true that the Government has given an assurance for giving ample grant to the Panchayats, but I would suggest that the Government should allow a share of revenue realized from the rural areas to remain with the Panchayats. The Government should give 75 per cent of land revenue and 'abiana' derived from villages to Gram Panchayats. Mere indulging in tall talk will not serve any useful purpose. If the Government wants to perpetuate the old system of British regime then the villagers will not be able to get any real relief.

Sardar Gurdial Singh (Kartarpur) (Punjabi): Sir, I would like to make a few observations with regard to this Bill and without going into details would place before the House different points of view on this Bill. I would not make any personal insinuation against anybody but still I am afraid that my remarks may be unpalatable to some of the hon. Members. As contemplated under this Bill, the number of Panches will be five. I have never seen such a provision in any law in any part of the country. It may be said that villagers are not endowed with much understanding and intelligence but I would say that they are certainly above the average man. As the persian adage goes—

चूं पीर शब्द इनसां हिंस जवां गरदद

ਚੂੰ ਪੀਰ ਸ਼ਬਦ ਇਨਸਾਂ ਹਿਰਸ ਜਵਾਂ ਗਰਦਦ

(When a man becomes old, he is too prone to greediness and cannot successfully resist temptations.)

So if old people are nominated as members of Panchayats they will not be able to administer even-handed justice. It is generally observed that only active and energetic people come forward to contest elections. I would, therefore, suggest that no limit should be prescribed with regard to the number of Panches. It so appears that the Government has favoured the idea of having five Panches on the consideration that a body manned by five persons (five being an auspicious number) has the blessing of God. I think this number should not be fixed and representation should be given on the basis of population.

Besides this, I am of the view that the Panchayats' responsibility should be collective like the 'Cabinet system'. It is strange that the provisions incorporated in this Bill are at variance with a similar Act passed in Madhya Pradesh. If the Government propose to have only five Panches, then the leader should have the power to nominate four members of his own choice on the basis of their administrative experience. This is necessary because the responsibility for improving village conditions and ministering to the welfare of the people is placed upon him.

Apart from this, the principle of separating judiciary from the executive has been accepted in the Constitution of India. We have prescribed the functions and powers of Panchayats but we have prescribed no effective check to see that they discharge their duties satisfactorily. I would submit that there has never been a system of

elected judiciary in any country but if we have to try this experiment in our State, we should make a provision that half the members be nominated and the other half be elected by means of the single non-transferable vote. The power to nominate members should be given to the District Judge. Some qualifications should also be prescribed for the persons seeking election to the Panchayats so that they may direct their energies into constructive channels for improving the conditions of village life. It is often observed that there are cliques and factions in almost every village and illiterate Panches will easily succumb to such influences and thus direct their activities to destructive channels. If the responsibility is collective, then there will be smooth working, failing which every Panch will try to shift all blame and responsibility upon others and will indulge in mutual incrimination and recrimination. This will result in lowering the standard of village administration. Under the Panchayat system most of the disputes in villages should be settled by the Panchayats. An appeal against the order of a Panchayat should lie to the District Judge and if a person is aggrieved by the order of the District Judge, he should be able to prefer an appeal to the High Court.

Financial stability is also very essential for the Panchayats. No doubt, the Leader of the House has given expression to pious wishes but so long as these are not given a practical shape the Panchayats will remain penniless. It has rightly been remarked that political power without economic power is meaningless. To begin with, a definite percentage of the land revenue and the local rates must be earmarked for the Panchayat fund. This is necessary to create confidence in them. As Mahatma Gandhi used to say, "Every village should be a republic within the State."

Even from economic point of view, it is desirable to introduce the principle of division of labour in the working of the Panchayats. Some members should come by election and others through nomination; the former should perform the administrative functions and those nominated by the District Judge should perform the judicial functions. If the number of members varies from 15 to 45, the work can be got done in a very satisfactory manner by constituting sub-committees. Even a Panchayat consisting of fifteen or twenty members would be preferable because in that case it would not be possible for it to carry on the work without securing the support of ten or twelve members. They will try to carry the village with them and the system will definitely be workable. If the number of members is fixed at five the whole system will become topsy turvy. Without proper machinery and adequate funds, this experiment of Panchayat Raj cannot be successful.

Sardar Wazir Singh (Delhon) (Punjabi): Sir, our Chief Minister who is a nice gentleman has delivered a very sentimental speech in which he has declared his willingness to distribute fifty per cent of the total revenues of the State to the ruralites through the agency of the Panchayats. In my opinion, this is all empty talk. Of late, the members of the party in power have been lecturing a great deal. At the time of elections, they had issued

[Sardar Wazir Singh]

high sounding manifestos and delivered fiery speeches but what have they resulted in? Have they given bread to the hungry or any satisfaction to anybody?

What we want is that real power should be transferred to the people. As Sardar Gurdial Singh has suggested, a definite percentage of the land revenue should go to the Panchayats. What, if with a view to pleasing the people occupying the galleries or the hon. Members sitting on the Government Benches for a few minutes, the Chief Minister went to the length of declaring that he is prepared to devote fifty per cent of the Budget for the welfare of the ruralites. We know that nothing is going to come out of it. Neither the Government can nor does it have any intention of giving so much money to the Panchayats. This is just a way of humouring the people.

It is far from the Opposition's intention to create any such controversy as urbanites versus ruralites. What they desire is the welfare of the people in general. They have access neither to the press nor to the platform and that is why they cannot make themselves heard by the Government. There is no way in which they can apprise the Government of their difficulties and hardships. The Chief Minister has been pleased to state that the towns exist to serve the people living in the villages and that he does not consider that town as a town which does not perform this function. It really amazed me to hear this remark. I wonder how the people who are rolling in luxuries, riding in cars and sleeping under electric fans in summer can be termed as servants and those who are finding it difficult to keep the wolf from their doors can be styled as 'masters'. We are quite willing to change places with our 'servants.' Let them move to the villages and live as 'masters'. We are willing to live in towns and serve them. How astonishing it is that there are colleges and hospitals for the 'servants' at a distance of every two miles but if a 'master' happens to fall ill, he dies even before reaching the hospital which is generally far away.

So far as we are concerned, we need no more proof of the determination of the party in power to crush the ruralites in general and the peasants in particular. There is very little difference between this Panchayat Bill and the existing Panchayat Acts. Not much attention has been paid to the important matters in this Bill and I am sure it will not lead to decentralization. This experiment will fail because the powers that are being given to the Panchayats are very limited. After a year or so, it will be said on behalf of the Government that 'the Panchayats have failed because the ruralites are illiterate and faction-ridden and do not know how to manage their affairs. We had given powers to them but they have been found wanting'.

Sir, I feel that the work of the Panchayats cannot be done unless we make some definite provisions in this Bill for funds required for this work. Mere words of the hon. Chief Minister cannot stand us in good stead. As a matter of fact, the very first provision of the Bill should have been that a certain portion of the State revenues would set apart for this purpose. It is only then that the villagers

will have a desire to change the face of their villages and work for the success of the Panchayats. The main difficulty in every sphere of activity is the lack of necessary funds. This problem cannot be solved by levying hearth-tax or any other tax of this kind. Already, the villagers are groaning under the weight of various kind of taxes and their purchasing power has gone down considerably. Only recently the passenger tax and the sales-tax were imposed. If the Director issues orders for the recovery of a tax, it does not mean that that tax can be realised. As a matter of fact, the real thing is that the poor people are already heavily burdened and they are unable to pay taxes. The taccavi loans which were advanced recently are not being returned because the villagers have no money with them. If the Government is really serious about serving the people, it should try to solve the problem of funds needed by the Panchayats. I think that the party now in power thought that it could win the elections by raising the slogans of ruralites *versus* urbanites, Harijans, Jats etc. Now that the elections to the local bodies are at hand the same stunts are being repeated.....

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** Please, dont attribute any motives.

Sardar Wazir Singh : Well, Sir, I won't do this. But the thing is quite clear. They think that just as at the time of elections to the Co-operative Banks, the Registrar and the Assistant Registrars exercise their influence in favour of the party in power and the elections are won, in this case the prescribed Authority should be vested with wide powers, so that it may be in a position to put influence on the voters. The Government has kept the power of appointing Secretaries in its own hands so that they may be able to control the Panchayats. By giving the power of appointing Secretaries to the Director the Government has made the former dependent upon the latter. Just as in other Bills there is scope for providing for the relatives of persons who w ld influence, in this Bill also such a scope has been left. Although the hon. Chief Minister has given an assurance on the floor of this House that the clause regarding the appointment of Secretaries will be deleted and that the school teachers will be given that duty yet there is no hope of this promise being fulfilled. When this Bill gets the approval of this House, the Government will forget its promise. In fact this Bill is being passed by false propaganda and with the help of a misleading slogan.

Shri Daulat Ram (Kaithal) (Hindi) : Sir, the institution of Panchayats is an old one in India. As has been stated by some hon. Member this institution existed even during the British regime. It has been in existence since long. In fact, the Governments have been changing from time to time but there has been no change in the village life. When the English came to India there appeared some change in village life. Before that the life in our villages had remained unchanged. On the eve of the British rule in India, the structure of our rural society was just the same as it had been for centuries past. During the British regime, however, our social structure began to undergo a change. In the villages the Lambardars, Zaildars, etc., began to be appointed. The Panchayat system began to break. I congratulate the hon. Minister-in-charge of this depart-

[Shri Daulat Ram]

ment on the fact that he is paying his attention to the need for the revival of this time-honoured institution. This Bill has been brought forward with that object. Mahatma Gandhi used to say that real independence begins from the bottom. So far, the village people have not felt the glow of independence. But this Bill will make them feel that they also have a share in the advantages of freedom of the country.

Now, we have to consider this Bill. There are three things to be noted in it. In the first place we have to examine the constitution of the Panchayats which will be formed under the provisions of this Bill. In the second place, we have to see as to what powers are being given to them. Thirdly, what funds they are going to get. The independence of the villagers depends largely on these things. During the last Session, the Panchayat Bill was introduced in the Assembly and it was referred to a Joint Select Committee, with instructions that it should submit its report within six months' time. After three months, the report is before the House. We have to express our opinions on the recommendations made by the Joint Select Committee. This Bill will encourage the villagers to work for their own betterment and they will, of course, make efforts for the development of their villages.

The Assembly then adjourned till 1 p.m. on Tuesday, the 25th November, 1952.

Punjab Legislative Assembly Debates

25th November 1952

VOLUME III—No. 10

OFFICIAL REPORT



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CHANDIGARH :

Printed by the Controller of Printing and Stationery, Punjab
1953

Price : -/12/-

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 25th November, 1952

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Simla, at 2 p.m. of the clock

ABSENCE OF THE SPEAKER

Secretary : I have to inform the House that the hon. Speaker is unavoidably absent. The Deputy Speaker will therefore take the Chair.

(Sardar Gurdial Singh Dhillon, Deputy Speaker, then occupied the Chair).

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

CHARGING OF FEE AS "NIGHT PASS" FROM THE OWNERS OF TAXI VEHICLES

***1143. Shri Mansa Ram Kuthiala :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the traffic police at Simla and Kalka Barriers charge a fee known as the "Night Pass" from such vehicles as ply between Kalka and Simla and *vice versa* between the hours of sun-set and sun-rise ; if so, the amount of the fee thus charged from different types of public vehicles plying at such times at present ;
- (b) the additional facilities or measures of protection or security provided on this road during these hours for such vehicles ;
- (c) the reasons, if any, for the imposition of this fee of 'Night Pass' ?

Shri Jagat Narain : (a) Under the rules framed by the District Magistrates, Ambala/Simla, under section 74 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939, for the control of traffic on the Kalka-Simla Road, no transport vehicles, which include taxi cabs, can be permitted to leave the Kalka Barrier for Simla and the Barrier at Boileaugunj for Kalka after 7 p.m. or before 5 a.m. except on the authority of a valid night pass which can be had from the District Magistrates concerned on payment of Re. 1 and from the staff at the barriers on payment of Rs. 2.

(b) No.

(c) The fee has been imposed to reduce the operation of transport vehicles on the Kalka-Simla Road during dark hours to the minimum in order to avoid accidents and to contribute towards the cost of staff employed for enforcement work on the Kalka-Simla Road.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : / Does it apply to the Government servants also ?

Minister : I cannot say off-hand. The hon. Member may put a fresh question.

ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF A DHARAMSALA AT PUNAHANA, DISTRICT
GURGAON, BY THE POLICE

***1149. Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the building of a Dharamsala at Punahana, District Gurgaon, was occupied by the local thana Police about 5 years back ;
- (b) whether the Government has since received requests for the vacation of the same ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Government has already given administrative approval of the same ; if so, the reasons for delay in implementing it ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) The Old Police Station building at Punahana in Gurgaon District collapsed in August, 1948, and the Police Station was accommodated in the Village Dharamsala belonging to Shri Chhaju Mal, as a temporary measure.

(b) Representations were received for its vacation and steps were taken to build a new Police Station.

(c) The proposal for the construction of a new Police Station has since been administratively approved at an estimated cost of Rs. 42,000. It was included in the Schedule of New Expenditure for the year 1951-52 and funds have since been voted. The P.W.D. are looking into the question of acquisition of land.

REPRESENTATION OF HARIJANS IN SERVICES

***1197. Shri Chand Ram Ahlawat :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) the total number of Government servants in the State at present category-wise together with the total number of members belonging to the Scheduled Castes amongst them in each category ;
- (b) the number of persons recruited in different categories by the Government in its various departments since August 15, 1947, together with the number of members of Scheduled Castes amongst them ;
- (c) the total number of gazetted officers at present in the State along with the number of members of Scheduled Castes amongst them ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : It is regretted that the information asked for is not readily available and the time and labour involved in collecting it will not be commensurate with any possible benefit to be obtained. It may, however, be added that Government have made every possible effort to ensure that the vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes are filled by them.

FORMATION OF JOURNALIST BUREAU IN FEROZEPURE DISTRICT

***1209. Shri Teg Ram :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) the date when the Journalist Bureau was formed in the Ferozepore District ;

- (b) the number of the Members of the said Bureau together with the conditions laid down for selecting the Members ;
- (c) the number of newspapers and periodicals which are published in Ferozepore District together with the number of the representatives of these newspapers taken on the Bureau ;
- (d) the number of Members of the District Journalists Association and Members of the Assembly, respectively, who have been taken as Members of the said Bureau ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) Government is not aware of the formation of any Journalist Bureau in the Ferozepore District.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) (i) At present 35 newspapers and periodicals are published from the Ferozepore District.

(ii) Does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

Shri Teg Ram : I want to tell the hon. Chief Minister that it was given out in the newspapers that a Journalist Bureau had been established at Ferozepore. It was also stated that it had been set up by the Government. If the Government has no information about this matter how was that information published in the newspapers ?

✓ **Mr. Deputy Speaker :** The hon. Member is giving information instead of asking for it.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE WIDOWS OF I. N. A. MILITARY
PERSONNEL

***1266. Bakshi Partap Singh :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any representation by the President, Gorkha Association, Dharamsala, on behalf of the widows of I.N.A. Military personnel was received by the Government in the last week of May 1952, for financial assistance from the Political Sufferers' Fund ;
- (b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, the action taken thereon by the Government ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) Yes.

(b) The representation was forwarded for consideration to the Government of India. According to their reply, the widows are not entitled to any pension. Lump sum grants admissible to them were paid to them in 1951. They may also apply for financial assistance to the Regimental Centres of their late husbands' units through the District Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board.

QUARTERING OF PUNITIVE POLICE POSTS IN DISTRICT FEROREZEPORE

*1289. **Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina** : Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) the dates when the punitive police posts were quartered in the villages of *Chur Chak*, *Dodeke* and *Ajitwal* in the District of Ferozepore;
- (b) the total amount of collective fine imposed on the said villages ;
- (c) whether the Government received any representation on the 28th September, 1952, in this connection; if so, the action Government proposes to take in the matter ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) A punitive police post was quartered in the area comprising *Chuhar Chak*, *Dhudike* and *Ajitwal* Villages for the period from the 1st September, 1950, to the 6th July, 1951.

(b) Rs. 15,540.

(c) No representation, but a copy of a resolution, dated the 28th September, 1952, passed by the "Judicial Panchayat of Village Ajitwal" asking for exemption for the payment of punitive police tax was received. As the Post was located at the expense of the inhabitants concerned on account of the disturbed condition of these villages and the conduct of their inhabitants, it is not proposed to exempt them from liability to bear the cost of the Post.

FORMULATING A SCHEME UNDER THE FIVE-YEAR PLAN IN THE STATE

*1291. **Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma** : Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether the Punjab Government has so far formulated any scheme under the Five-Year Plan for the development of the State ; if so, the details thereof district-wise showing therein the amount to be spent by the Government separately on each Department ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : Yes. As the schemes included in the Five-Year Plan are spread over the whole State, it is not possible to give the amount to be spent district-wise. The amounts to be spent by each department are, however, given below :—

<i>Name of the Department</i>	<i>Total for five years (Rupees in lakhs)</i>
Agriculture including Consolidation of Holdings	6,32
Veterinary	26·8
Forests	18·0
Co-operation	11·8
Irrigation	3,26·2
Power	38·2
Industries	63·6

<i>Name of the Department</i>	<i>Total for five years (Rupees in lakhs)</i>
Roads	75.1
Education	1,18.0
Medical	73.9
Public Health	50.1
Housing	11.3
Labour and Labour Welfare	1.8
Capital Project	12,80.0
Community Projects	3,21.6
Extension Training Centres	5.6
Amelioration of Scheduled Areas	75.4
Total	31,29.5

The figures given above do not include an amount of Rs. 88,12 lakhs to cover the expenditure on the Bhakra-Nangal and Harike Projects during the period covered by the Plan.

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma : May I know from the hon. Chief Minister whether any scheme regarding allocation of funds district-wise has been prepared ?

Chief Minister : If the hon. Member will kindly refer to his question he will find that he has asked—

Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether the Punjab Government has so far formulated any scheme under the Five-Year Plan for the development of the State ;

Since this question relates to the Five-Year Plan, it is not possible to give district-wise allocation of funds under it.

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma : May I know whether any consideration was given to such a scheme ?

✓ **Mr. Deputy Speaker :** This does not arise.

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma : Will the Chief Minister kindly tell us whether any consideration is being given to backward areas while allocating funds for the development of the State ?

✓ **Mr. Deputy Speaker :** This does not arise.

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma : Sir, it does arise, but if you rule that it does not, then I won't pursue it.

✓ **Mr. Deputy Speaker :** I have no objection to your asking this question provided the hon. Chief Minister is prepared to reply.

Chief Minister : I can only state for the information of the hon. Member what the general policy of the Government in this respect is. It is that funds should be distributed equitably throughout the State.

RESERVATION FOR HARIJANS IN SERVICES IN THE STATE

***1306. Sardar Nidhan Singh :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether 15 per cent vacancies are reserved for the Harijans in the different departments of the Government ; if so, whether this percentage has been completed ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : The percentage of reservation in services for Scheduled Castes has been raised from 15 to 19 (including Scheduled Tribes) from August, 1952. This, however, applies only to fresh recruitment. Government have made every possible effort to ensure that the vacancies reserved for the Scheduled Castes are filled by them. This could not, however, be done in some of the departments for want of Scheduled Castes candidates possessing the qualifications prescribed for the posts.

THEFTS IN HISSAR TOWN

***1326. Shri Balwant Rai Tayal :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the number of thefts committed during the years 1947-48, 1948-49, 1949-50, 1950-51 and up to 30th September in 1952 in Hissar Town ;

(b) the number of thefts traced during the above-mentioned periods respectively ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) The number of thefts committed in Hissar Town is as under:—

1947	..	31
1948	..	77
1949	..	70
1950	..	47
1951	..	50
Up to 30th September, 1952	..	42

(b) The number of thefts traced during the said period is as under :—

1947	..	11
1948	..	33
1949	..	27
1950	..	21
1951	..	21
Up to 30th September, 1952	..	22

REVENUE OFFICERS AND REVENUE PATWARIS OF TEHSIL PATTI

***490. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any revenue officers and revenue patwaris of Patti Tehsil of Amritsar District were sent to Jullundur Civil Secretariat between 1st April, 1951 and 31st March, 1952, respectively ; if so, their names and the period for which each of these stayed at Jullundur during this period ;
- (b) (i) whether any travelling allowance was allowed to them for visiting Jullundur and for their stay there ; if so, the amount claimed by each of them ;
- (ii) the amount paid to each of them; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) Yes. A statement giving the required information is placed below.

(b) (i) and (ii). Only S. Jamel Singh, Tehsildar, and Sardar Bhagwan Singh, Naib-Tehsildar, put in a claim for Travelling Allowance and they were paid the following amount :—

	Rs
(1) S. Jamel Singh	.. 36
(2) S. Bhagwan Singh	.. 132

List of revenue officials who had gone to Rehabilitation Secretariat, Jullundur, from 1st April, 1951, to 31st March, 1952.

<i>Serial No.</i>	<i>Name with designation</i>	<i>Dates</i>
1.	S. Jamel Singh, Tehsildar, Patti	17th January, 1952, to 31st January, 1952, 1st February, 1952, to 16th February, 1952 (31 days).
2.	Pt Harbans Lal, Kanungo, Halqa Patti	7th September, 1951, to 10th September, 1951, 28th November, 1951, to 2nd December, 1951, 5th December, 1951, to 11th December, 1951, 26th December, 1951, 27th December, 1951, 1st February, 1952, to 16th February, 1952, 22nd February, 1952, to 24th February, 1952 (37 days).
3.	Sh Manohar Lal, Patwari, Halqa Patti	8th May, 1951, to 8th June, 1951, 6th August, 1951, to 11th August, 1951, 21st January, 1952, 19th March, 1952.

[Minister for Development]

<i>Serial No.</i>	<i>Name with designation</i>	<i>Dates</i>
4.	Chanan Singh, Patwari, Khara	21st January, 1952, to 26th January, 1952, 28th January, 1952, to 2nd February, 1952, 5th February, 1952, to 16th February, 1952.
5.	Sh. Ram Dass, Patwari, Halqa Varnala	1st February, 1951, to 9th February, 1951, 8th May, 1951, to 26th June, 1951 (55 days).
6.	Sh. Mohinder Singh, Patwari, Halqa Toot	12th February, 1952, to 17th February, 1952, (6 days).
7.	Sh. Hans Raj, Patwari, Halqa Village Algon	15th June, 1951, 16th June, 1951, 24th June, 1951, 3rd August, 1951, 4th August, 1951, 16th August, 1951 (6 days).
8.	Sh. Kundan Singh, Patwari, Halqa Mehdipura	5th December, 1951, to 23rd December, 1951 (19 days).
9.	Sh. Jagtar Singh, Patwari, Halqa Asal Autar	5th December, 1951, to 23rd December, 1951 (19 days).
10.	Sh. Amar Singh, Patwari, Halqa Rattoqi	27th November, 1951, to 23rd December, 1951, 28th January, 1952, to 18th February, 1952 (49 days).
11.	Sh. Faqir Chand, Patwari, Halqa Bhikhiwind	27th July, 1951, to 31st July, 1951, 2nd August, 1951, to 17th August, 1951, 3rd September, 1951, to 5th September, 1951, 7th September, 1951, to 14th September, 1951.
12.	Sh. Munshi Ram, Patwari, Halqa Khalra	8th May, 1951, to 23rd June, 1951 (46 days).
13.	S. Hardeep Singh, Patwari, Halqa Sur Singh	8th May, 1951, to 23rd June, 1951, 6th December, 1951, to 15th December, 1951, 22nd January, 1952, 23rd January, 1952, 24th January, 1952, to 4th February, 1952 (71 days).
14.	S. Inder Singh, Patwari, Halqa Khem Karan	8th May, 1951, to 23rd June, 1951 (47 days).
15.	Sh. Gurbachan Singh, Patwari, Halqa Dialpur	21st January, 1952, to 16th February, 1952 (27 days).

<i>Serial No.</i>	<i>Name with designation</i>	<i>Dates</i>
16.	Sh. Sulakhan Singh, Patwari, Halqa Bajuke	11th February, 1952, to 14th February, 1952, 15th February, 1952, to 16th February, 1952 (6 days).
17.	Sh. Sardari Lal, Patwari, Halqa Mari Moga	10th June, 1951, to 22nd June, 1951, 17th September, 1951, to 20th September, 1951, 6th December, 1951, to 18th December, 1951, 23rd January, 1952, to 18th February, 1952 (58 days).
18.	Sh. Sant Lal, Patwari, Halqa Bundala	23rd May, 1951, to 2nd July, 1951 (41 days).
19.	Sh. Ram Parkash, Patwari, Halqa Kachha Pucca	17th January, 1952, to 19th January, 1952, 21st January, 1952, to 26th January, 1952, 28th January, 1952, to 2nd February, 1952, 5th February, 1952, to 17th February, 1952 (28 days).
20.	Sh. Harkishan Lal, Patwari, Halqa Shaheed	17th October, 1951 and 5th November 1951 (2 days).

PERSONAL FILES OF REVENUE PATWARIS, ETC., OF DISTRICT AMRITSAR

*491. **Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur** : Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the personal files of the Revenue Patwaris and Field Kanungo Gardawars now posted in Amritsar have been received from Pakistan by the State Government ;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether their salaries have been fixed in the same grades which they were receiving before partition ; if not, the reasons thereof ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) Out of 203 revenue displaced officials (Kanungos and Patwaris) absorbed in this district the service record of 88 officials have been received so far.

(b) Yes. In the case of 88 officials referred to in part (a) above.

TRACTOR CULTIVATION SCHEME

***1132. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government sustained a loss of Rs. 10 lakhs on the Karnal Agricultural Farm in connection with the Tractor Cultivation Scheme ;
- (b) whether any enquiry was instituted by the Government in the matter ; if so, the findings of the said enquiry ;
- (c) whether any officer has been punished on this account ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) Government did sustain a loss on the Nagla (Karnal District), Chandipur and Nasirpur Farms. It is very difficult to separate the losses of each of these farms.

(b) An Enquiry Committee was constituted by Government and it has submitted its report and has given its findings regarding the causes of the loss in tractor cultivation.

(c) As the sole purpose of the Enquiry Committee was to find out the reasons of such a colossal loss, its finding is of a general nature as the loss was due to certain general causes. So far no specific blame has been attributed to any particular officer.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether the charge of corruption has been proved against any officer ?

Minister : It is a general question. If the hon. Member wants to have information about any particular officer then it can be supplied to him on a fresh notice.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : May I know whether the Government received any applications from drivers and other petty officials that the officers misappropriated money in the deal of tractors and petrol ?

Minister : An inquiry was made in order to ascertain why the Government sustained such a heavy loss.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : May I know whether the Government received any applications from the drivers making allegations of corruption against the officers ?

✓ **Mr. Deputy Speaker :** This does not arise.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether any inquiry was instituted ; if so, what was the result of that inquiry ?

Minister : Yes, an enquiry has been made.

DEPARTMENTAL MAIL BAG OF THE OFFICE OF REGISTRAR, CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES, JULLUNDUR

•1142. **Shri Mansha Ram Kuthiala** : Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Departmental mail bag despatched by the office of the Registrar, Co-operative Societies, from Jullundur to the Registrar at Simla under an R/R, dated 17th July, 1952, did not reach Simla till 28th July, 1952 ;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative whether any enquiry into the matter was held by the Government ; if so, the persons responsible and the action taken by the Government against them ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) Yes.

(b) The bag was unloaded at Chandigarh. It is very difficult to say whether it was a genuine mistake or was done deliberately. Hence it is not proper to take action without positive proof one way or the other.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Will the hon. Minister be pleased to say whether an enquiry has been conducted in this behalf ; if so, its outcome.

Minister : Yes. It has been conducted.

 DAMAGE BY FLOODS IN ROHTAK DISTRICT

1170. **Shri Sri Chand** : Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the names of the villages affected by the recent floods in the Rohtak District ;

(b) the estimated loss to crops, houses and lives in each village of the villages referred to in part (a) above ;

(c) the measures taken by the Government to give relief to the inhabitants of the affected areas ;

(d) whether any relief has also been given to the Harijans and other sections of the people so affected ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) A statement is given on pages 12 to 14.

(b) The information about estimated loss in each village is not available. The total loss to crops and houses is estimated at Rs. 3,58,568 and Rs. 6,16,096, respectively . Three lives were lost.

[Minister for Development]

(c) The measures taken to give relief to the inhabitants of the affected areas are as given below:—

(i) In order to consider the remission of land revenue special Girdawari was undertaken.

(ii) A sum of Rs. 31,000 was sanctioned for repairs to evacuee houses.

(iii) A proposal for grant of Rs. 50 per displaced family, who has allotment of holdings below 5 standard acres, is under consideration of Government.

(iv) It is also proposed to advance Rs. 50,000 as taccavi loans to displaced persons having allotments of land over 5 standard acres, for the repair of their houses.

(v) Quinine and poludrine, etc., were distributed in the affected villages to avoid spread of malaria and other epidemics.

(vi) Inoculation of cattle against *Gal Ghotu*, etc., was carried out.

(d) Yes, it is proposed to give relief to the extent of Rs. 50,000 to Harijans and other landless classes whose houses have been damaged.

**Statement showing the names of villages affected by floods in
Rohtak District**

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Mahmudpur. | 15. Khanpur. |
| 2. Kailana (Mahmudpur). | 16. Kakana. |
| 3. Gangesar. | 17. Suragthal. |
| 4. Mathind. | 18. Sawanka. |
| 5. Jagsi. | 19. Chhattra. |
| 6. Chirana. | 20. Ahmadpur Majra. |
| 7. Mandlana. | 21. Bichhpari. |
| 8. Sarsadh. | 22. Gohana. |
| 9. Badhothi. | 23. Khandrai. |
| 10. Busana. | 24. Barota. |
| 11. Kailana Khas. | 25. Nagar. |
| 12. Kailan (Khanpur). | 26. Gudha. |
| 13. Kasandi. | 27. Bhain Swal Kalan. |
| 14. Kasanda. | 28. Katwal. |

Statement showing the names of villages affected by floods in
Rohtak District—*contd*

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| 29. Rewara. | 55. Khidwali. |
| 30. Anwali. | 56. Sasrauli. |
| 31. Bidhlan. | 57. Tatauli. |
| 32. Bidhal. | 58. Sunderpur. |
| 33. Hasrana. | 59. Singhpur. |
| 34. Giwana. | 60. Bahu Khurd. |
| 35. Lath. | 61. Sisana. |
| 36. Joli. | 62. Himayunpur. |
| 37. Niyat. | 63. Kansala. |
| 38. Kheri Damkan. | 64. Silana. |
| 39. Rabra. | 65. Hassangarh. |
| 40. Kahni. | 66. Dhamar. |
| 41. Bhainswal Khurd. | 67. Ladhaut. |
| 42. Mahra. | 68. Kilo. |
| 43. Moi. | 69. Gaddi Kheri. |
| 44. Rithal. | 70. Bidhlan. |
| 45. Rukhi. | 71. Basandhi. |
| 46. Sawana Mal. | 72. Mirakhpur. |
| 47. Rana Kheri. | 73. Pahara. |
| 48. Chhichhrana. | 74. Palri Kalan. |
| 49. Mirza Pur Kheti. | 75. Palri Khurd. |
| 50. Madina. | 76. Jajal. |
| 51. Nuran Khera. | 77. Jhundpur. |
| 52. Ahulana. | 78. Pabsara. |
| 53. Butana. | 79. Jakhauli. |
| 54. Sanghi. | 80. Khatkar. |

[Minister for Development]

**Statement showing the names of villages affected by floods
in Rohtak District—concl'd**

81. Khuranpur.	91. Mehandipur.
82. Aternal.	92. Bega.
83. Hassanpur.	93. Umedgarh.
84. Manirpur.	94. Sanpera.
85. Manauli.	95. Giaspur.
86. Bagirpur.	96. Chandauli.
87. Dahesro.	97. Rasulpur.
88. Aurangabad.	98. Tajpur.
89. Khewra.	99. Bakhtawarpur.
90. Datauli.	100. Pughthala.

LAND-OWNERS IN TEHSIL UNA, DISTRICT HOSHIARPUR

*1205. **Shri Khushi Ram Gupta** : Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state the total number of land-owners owning cultivable land on 15th August, 1947, within the area of each police station in Tehsil Una, District Hoshiarpur:—

- (a) below 2 ordinary acres ;
- (b) below 5 ordinary acres ;
- (c) below 10 ordinary acres ; and
- (d) 50 standard acres or above ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) to (d) A statement containing the requisite information is given below :—

Statement showing the total number of land-owners owning cultivable land on 15th August, 1947, within the area of each police station in Tehsil Una, District Hoshiarpur.

Name of Tehsil	Name of police station	Below 2 ordinary acres	Below 5 ordinary acres	Below 10 ordinary acres	50 standard acres or above
Una ..	Una ..	2,271	4,436	1,810	29 2
	Anandpur	3,310	3,865	1,402	197
	Nurpur	4,879	8,139	2,626	58
	Amb ..	2,630	3,249	1,537	270
	Total ..	13,090	19,689	7,405	817

OCCUPANCY TENANTS IN TEHSIL UNA, DISTRICT HOSHIARPUR

•1206. **Shri Khushi Ram Gupta** : Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) the total number of occupancy tenants in possession of cultivable land on 15th August, 1947, below 2 ordinary acres within the area of each police station in Tehsil Una, District Hoshiarpur ;
- (b) the total number of non-occupancy tenants ejected from their cultivable lands without any legal proceedings in courts within the area of each police station in Tehsil Una, so far in each year commencing from 15th August, 1947 ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) and (b) A statement is given below :—

Name of Tehsil	Name of police station	Number of occupancy tenants in possession of cultivable land below ordinary acres	Number of non-occupancy tenants ejected during					
			1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
			1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
Una ..	Una ..	8,792	1,780	1,980	1,651	1,428	1,367	1,179
	Anandpur	5,127	902	961	820	825	749	661
	Nurpur	4,290	950	1,009	910	922	787	749
	Amb ..	8,766	1,798	1,850	1,485	1,831	1,532	991
	Total ..	26,975	5,430	5,800	4,866	5,006	4,438	3,580

Shri Teg Ram : Will the hon. Minister kindly tell us whether any of these ejected tenants have been given land for cultivation anywhere else ? Has the Government got any information on this subject ?

Minister : They might have succeeded in getting land elsewhere.

Shri Teg Ram : Will the hon. Minister kindly give a definite reply as to whether they got land for cultivation elsewhere or not ?

Minister : How can the Government have information about all cases of ejected tenants ? If the hon. Member asks for information regarding a particular case in writing, it will be supplied to him.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Yes. The hon. Member can give notice of another question.

COMPLAINTS FROM THE PEOPLE OF VILLAGE DALHA, DISTRICT
LUDHIANA

***1231. Sardar Nidhan Singh:** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether he has received any complaints from the people of Village Dalha, Tehsil Jagraon, District Ludhiana, regarding Consolidation of Holdings; if so, the action, if any, taken by the Government thereon?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon: Yes. The matter is being looked into by the Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana.

CHOS IN HOSHIARPUR DISTRICT

***1248. Shri Jagat Ram Bhardwaj:** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) the total number of chos in the Hoshiarpur District ;
- (b) the total amount spent by the Government during the last 20 years for training and canalising the said chos;
- (c) the number of chos canalised and trained so far by the Government;
- (d) the total area of land under the said chos at present.
- (e) the total area of land damaged by the chos on their banks ;
- (f) whether he is aware of the fact that many villages are in danger of being washed away by the said chos; if so, the action the Government proposes to take to save the villages, the lands and the crops from this standing menace from chos?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon: (a) The total number of important chos in Hoshiarpur District is 95.

(b) A sum of Rs 4,91,910 has been spent on the training and canalizing of the chos in this district from 1939-40 to 1951-52 for which only figures are available.

(c) 45.

(d) Nil.

(e) About 75,000 acres.

(f) There is no village which is subject to immediate danger of being washed away by the said chos. Many villages and lands have been saved permanently from this menace. It is, however, hoped that the cho menace can disappear within say ten years period provided the villagers could extend their co-operation in executing the works of effective closures followed by sowings and planting of suitable species and gully plugging, etc., inside nullahs in the hilly catchment and training of chos and proper afforestation of cho-beds reclaimed and proper terracing of cultivated fields.

Shri Jagat Ram Bhardwaj : May I know whether it is a fact that certain chos in the Hoshiarpur District have been trained and canalised?

Minister: Yes.

Shri Jagat Ram Bhardwaj : Will the hon. Minister for Development please tell us the reduction in area under such chos ?

Minister : I cannot tell off-hand.

Shri Jagat Ram Bhardwaj : Will he kindly state the extent of the area reclaimed because the Reclamation Report indicates that there has been no such reclamation in the Hoshiarpur District?

Minister: Then that report must be wrong.

RECLAMATION OF LAND IN THE STATE

***1249. Shri Jagat Ram Bhardwaj:** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) the total acres of land reclaimed by the Department of Reclamation in each district of the State up to date;
- (b) whether he is aware of the fact that besides Banjar lands two hundred thousands of culturable land is lying waste in Kandi ilaqa (Sub-hill area) in the Hoshiarpur District; if so, the action, Government proposes to take to bring these lands under the plough at the earliest ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon: (a) The total acreage reclaimed by the Agriculture Department so far with the help of the State tractors is as under:—

<i>Name of District</i>	<i>Area reclaimed (acres)</i>
1. Karnal ..	9,302
2. Ludhiana ..	10,442
3. Jullundur ..	5,319
4. Ferozepore ..	7,224
5. Hoshiarpur ..	4,151
6. Amritsar ..	1,929
Total ..	38,367

No large scale reclamation operations have been undertaken by the Irrigation Branch since partition. However, Indri Reclamation Farm for reclaiming 2,000 acres of water-logged area and Nisang Experimental Farm for reclaiming 200 acres of kallar-affected area have been taken in hand.

[Minister for Development]

(b) The total culturable waste land in the Hoshiarpur District is 244,000 acres, out of which 22,000 acres of waste land is fit to be taken up for reclamation. The Land Reclamation and Mechanical Cultivation Scheme run by the Agriculture Department has since been restricted to a few farms under the control of that Department.

Action is, however, being taken by the Deputy Commissioner to lease these waste lands under the provisions of the East Punjab Utilization Act, 1949, for reclamation and cultivation.

APPLICATION OF SECTIONS 4 AND 5 OF CHOS ACT OF 1900 TO THE
KANDI ILAQA OF HOSHIARPUR DISTRICT

***1262. Shri Baloo Ram:** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that recently at a public meeting held at Pojewal (Tehsil Garhshanker) he announced that the operation of sections 4 and 5 of the Chos Act of 1900 would be suspended for nine months, during which period the whole problem would be reviewed;
- (b) if the answer to part (a) be in the affirmative, whether the operation of the said sections of the Chos Act has been suspended?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) The local officers concerned of the Forest Department have been instructed to relax the restrictions on grazing of sheep, goats and camels under sections 4 and 5 of the Punjab Land Preservation Act, 1900, for a period of 6 months from August, 1952, and that the matter will be re-examined thereafter.

(b) Yes. The above orders have already been given effect to.

REGISTRATION OF WAR-AWARD CASES FOR JAGIRS IN DISTRICT
KANGRA

***1267. Bakshi Partap Singh:** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) the total number of cases of war-awards for Jagirs registered in Kangra District so far;
- (b) the date by which the Government intends to pay these rewards?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) 477 cases of war Jagirs relating to Kangra District have been received and are being examined.

(b) As soon as possible.

ABOLITION OF ZAILDARI SYSTEM IN THE STATE

***1270. Shri Hari Ram:** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Government has abolished the Zaildari System in the State ;

- (b) whether it is a fact that there are no Zaildars working anywhere in the State except in the Kangra District; if so, the reasons therefor?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) Yes.

- (v) There are no Zaildars now working anywhere in the State.

ALLOTMENT OF JAGIRS IN THE STATE

***1271. Sardar Khem Singh:** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether the policy of allotting some lands, etc., to persons, whose three sons had served in the World War II is still in force; if so, whether any applications in this connection duly recommended by the Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar, have been received by the Government; and if so, the action, if any, taken by the Government thereon?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : *First part.* There has never been any decision to give land in such cases. However, for such cases Government has decided to give cash Jagirs under the East Punjab War Awards Act, 1948.

Second and third parts. Applications were received and in all eligible cases numbering 260 Jagirs have been sanctioned.

RECRUITMENT OF KANUNGO CANDIDATES IN FEROZEPURE DISTRICT

***1273. Sardar Shamsher Singh :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of Kanungo candidates recruited directly in Ferozepore District in the year 1949 ;
- (b) the place or places they were sent to for preliminary revenue training;
- (c) the total amount of money spent by the Government for imparting revenue training to these candidates;
- (d) whether the persons referred to above are still in service; if not, the reasons why their names were removed from the list of the candidates?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon (a) : Three.

(b) Kulu Settlement.

(c) Not available.

(d) The names of all the three candidates were removed from the list of Kanungo candidates, because their selection was declared irregular due to favouritism at the hands of the Sadar Kanungo and Naib Sadar Kanungo. On the removal of their names they were offered the posts of Patwaris in officiating capacity. Shri Kewal Krishan and Shri Ajit Singh did not accept the job, while Shri Ram Chand accepted it and is still in service.

TRAINING OF OFFICERS UNDER THE COMMUNITY PROJECTS

***1327. Shri Balwant Rai Tayal:** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any officers of the Government were sent for training at Government expense in the Scheme of Community Projects in the State, if so, where, and the number of such officers;
- (b) the expenditure incurred by the Government thereon;
- (c) whether the persons referred to in part (a) above have been employed in the Community Projects in the State; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) *First part.* Yes.

Second part. Bakshi-ka-Talab Training Centre, Lucknow (U.P.)

Third part. Five.

(b) About Rs 11,020.

(c) One of these officers has been interviewed by the Public Service Commission for the post of Assistant Project Officer. If he qualifies on the merits he will get an appointment. The other four officers are already working on higher posts than those of Assistant Project Officers and drawing higher salary in higher scales of pay in their respective departments. Since their return from Bakshi-ka-Talab Training Centre, no suitable posts have become available under the Community Projects Scheme to which these officers could be appointed.

LIVESTOCK FARM, HISSAR

***1328. Shri Balwant Rai Tayal :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) the total area of land cultivated during the period from the 18th May 1952 to the 15th July 1952 and thereafter up to the 13th September 1952, separately in the Hissar Livestock Farm, Thaska Block;
- (b) the number of days for which the land, during the period 18th May 1952 to the 13th September 1952, remained uncultivated together with the reasons, therefor ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a)

From the 18th May 1952 to the 15th July 1952 : 117 acres.
From the 16th July 1952 to the 13th September 1952 : 492 $\frac{3}{4}$ acres.

(b) There was no suspension of work during this period.

HOUSE-RENT CHARGED BY GAUGE READERS, ETC., IN CANAL DEPARTMENT

***932. Shri Ram Kishan :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Gauge Readers, Signallers, Compounders and Sub-Assistant Surgeons in the Canal Department were not charged any house-rent before the 15th August 1947 ;
- (b) whether the officials referred to in part (a) above are being charged any house-rent at present ; if so, since when and the reason therefor ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : (a) Yes.

(b) Compounders and Sub-Assistant Surgeons in the Canal Department continue to enjoy the concession of rent-free houses. Gauge Readers come under the category of Government servants of Class IV. Servants of this class, who were actually enjoying rent-free concession before the 1st December 1932, continue to enjoy it till they hold posts which they held at that time. No Gauge Readers employed after 1932 enjoy rent-free concession from 1951. This is according to the decision of the Joint Punjab Government.

 SUPPLY OF CANAL WATER IN TEHSIL AJNALA

***1108. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state—

- (a) whether he has recently received any representation from the residents of 32 villages in Ajnala Tehsil, District Amritsar, regarding the shortage in the supply of canal water ;
- (b) if so, the steps Government proposes to take to relieve the situation ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh (a) & (b). Yes. Complaints against short supply from residents of 32 villages in Ajnala Tehsil, District Amritsar, were received.

These complaints relate to the new channels of Ramdass Minor and Hardorawal Sub-Minor taking off from Fatehgarh Distributary which were opened to irrigation for the first time during Kharif 1952.

It was not possible to run full supply in the Ramdass Minor and Hardorawal Sub-Minor downstream of the railway crossings because the railway crossings could not be completed in spite of the persistent efforts of Irrigation Branch. As a temporary measure the channel was diverted through the existing rain water Railway culverts and maximum possible irrigation was got done in these villages. The Railway authorities have since undertaken the construction of the crossings which will be completed before the next Kharif season.

USE OF PERSIAN WHEELS FOR IRRIGATION PURPOSES

***1171. Shri Sri Chand :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the cultivators use persian wheels or other means for lifting canal water, where irrigation is not possible or easy by the flow of water ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the rate of abiana on the Western Jumna Canal on irrigation by flow is double that of abiana on lift irrigation ;
- (c) the number of cultivators who used persian wheels or other means of lift irrigation during the years from 1930 to 1951 on the Western Jumna Canal, Delhi Division.

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The number of cultivators who used persian wheels or other means of lift irrigation during the years 1930 to 1951, in Delhi Division on Western Jumna Canal, is not available and Government consider that the labour involved in collecting this information will not be commensurate with the results to be achieved.

IRRIGATION BY SIRHIND CANAL IN ABOHAR DIVISION

***1207. Shri Teg Ram :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state—

- (a) the area irrigated by the branches and the minors of the Sirhind Canal in Abohar Division during the period from 16th September to 15th October 1952;
- (b) the total number of breaches that took place together with their respective dates during the period mentioned in part (a) above ;
- (c) the period for which each breach continued ;
- (d) the period for which shortage of the supply of water continued in the respective branches or minors due to such breaches ;
- (e) the total acres of land which remained unirrigated due to these breaches ;
- (f) the reasons reported by the Canal Officers for each of these breaches ;
- (g) the area of land that was irrigated by each of these breaches ;
- (h) the action, if any, taken by the Canal authorities against the owners of the land which was irrigated due to these breaches ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : (a) The correct area is not ascertainable. The total area of Kharif 1952 under cotton and sugarcane is 143,384 acres. It can be presumed that about 75 per cent of this area, i.e., 107,538 has been irrigated during the period from the 16th September 1952 to the 15th October 1952. 20,000 acres Rabi irrigation has also been done during this period. The total area irrigated during this period may be taken as 120,000 acres approximately.

(b), (c), (d), (e) and (g). Necessary information is given in the statement placed below.

(f) The cuts were made by the interested cultivators and breaches took place due to cattle ghats or rat holes.

(h) The cut cases have been reported to the Police. Special rates will be levied by the Executive Engineer after the Police submit clear final report to him.

Number of breaches which took place from 16th September 1952 to 15th October 1952

Serial No.	Name of Distributary	R. D. of cut or breach	Date of occurrence	Date of closing	The period for which each breach continued.	Period for which shortage of supply of water continued in the respective branch or Minors due to such breach	Total acres of land which remained unirrigated due to these breaches	Area of land that was irrigated by each of these breaches (Area flooded)
	(b)				(c)	(d)	(e)	(g)
				CUTS	Hours	Hours	Acres	Acres
1	Bhagsar Minor ..	27025-R	26th September 1952	28th September 1952	About 36	36	880	24
2	Alamwala Distributary ..	9264-R ..	21st September 1952	21st September 1952	10	10	220	4
3	Arniwala Distributary ..	81565-R ..	13th October 1952	15th October 1952	48	72	3,200	207
4	Arniwala Distributary ..	104400-R	13th October 1952	13th October 1952	10	10	200	52
5	Nakerian Sub-Minor ..	5178-R ..	25th September 1952	25th September 1952	10	10	5	7
6	Lal Bhai Distributary ..	13375-R ..	28th September 1952	1st October 1952	60	60	3,160	200
7	Sukhchain Minor ..	43740-L ..	17th September 1952	19th September 1952	36	48	1,300	105
8	Minor No. 5 } Dabwali	6650-L ..	6th October 1952	7th October 1952	10	10	16	5
9	Minor No. 1 } Distributary	970-L ..	10th October 1952	10th October 1952	4	4	6	1
10	Arniwala Distributary ..	50800-R ..	8th October 1952 ..	10th October 1952	72	72	4,400	1,339
11	Lal Bhai Distributary ..	8030-R ..	5th September 1952	6th September 1952	10	10	570	20 (Approximate)

Shri Teg Ram : Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether the steps which the Government has taken have led to any decrease in the number of cuts ?

Minister : Action is taken in respect of those cases which are brought to the notice of the Government and it is hoped that by so doing the number of such cuts will decrease. If the hon. Member has in mind any particular case it should be brought to our notice.

Shri Teg Ram : Is the hon. Minister aware of the fact that a cut occurred the very day when the Chief Engineer paid a visit to Abohar ?

Minister : This has not been brought to our notice.

WAJIDPUR MINOR OF MURADWALA BRANCH IN ABOHAR DIVISION

***1208. Shri Teg Ram :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state—

- (a) the last date when silt was cleared from the tail of the Wajidpur Minor of Muradwala Branch in the Tappanwali Sub-Division in Abohar Division ;
- (b) the distance up to which the silt was cleared ;
- (c) the amount spent by the Canal Department for getting the silt cleared ;
- (d) whether the clearing of the silt was effected through the Contractors or by the Canal Department itself ;
- (e) the number of labourers employed for clearing the silt together with the date and also the place where they received their wages ;
- (f) the name of the officer who disbursed the wages to the labourers ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : (a) Wajidpur Sub-Minor was silt cleared on the 22nd September 1952.

- (b) Bed clearance was done from head to tail.
- (c) Rs 318.
- (d) Departmental labour.
- (e) Number of coolies employed .. 159 on 22nd September 1952 and payment made in their respective villages.
- (f) The payment was made by Shri Surrinder Singh Bedi, Overseer.

Shri Teg Ram : Is it in the knowledge of the hon. Minister that the residents of Village Wazidabad have submitted a representation to the effect that they have not been paid any wages for the work done by them and that the receipts for payment have been prepared by the officials of the Canal Department under forged signatures ?

Minister for Finance : This has not come to our knowledge. If, however, proper notice is given the matter will be inquired into.

Shri Teg Ram : My submission is that the villagers have made representations to the effect that they have not been given any wages and that their signatures have been forged on certain receipts. Is this not a fact ?

Minister : I have already stated that if a proper notice is given, the matter will be inquired into.

Shri Teg Ram : In answer to part (f) of my question it has been stated that the payment has been made to the villagers. But the fact is that the receipts obtained are false and no payment has been made at all. Is this not correct ?

Minister : Sir, I have told the hon. Member that this is not within my knowledge and I have promised to inquire into the matter, if he gives proper notice of it.

Shri Teg Ram : What I wish to point out is that the reply given by the Government that payment has been made is not correct.

Minister : So far as the answer is concerned it is quite correct. It cannot be wrong as in the papers payment is shown to have been made by the department and receipts obtained for the same. Regarding the actual transaction I have stated that inquiry can be made.

REPRESENTATION OF CANAL PATWARIS FOR SOME CONCESSIONS

***1229. Sardar Bachan Singh :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state whether he has received any representation from Canal Patwaris regarding their demands ; if so the details thereof together with the action if any, taken thereon ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : Yes. The Patwaris' demand, together with the action taken thereon is tabulated as below :—

<i>Demands of the Association</i>	<i>Action taken</i>
<p>(i) Revision of scale of pay</p> <p>During these hard times it is not possible for the Patwaris to pull on with such a small B. Pay and D.A. (Rs 25) when we have been considered as Superior Government Servants and the same T. A. Rules are applicable to us ; then why our scale of pay and D.A. is not brought on the equivalent scale to that of other Government Servants of the rank.</p>	<p>.. The scale of pay of Canal Patwaris was revised recently after partition. Government is not in a position to reconsider this question at this stage. Similarly the question of increase in the rate of dearness allowance cannot be reconsidered.</p>
<p>(ii) Payment of arrears of pay</p> <p>Two years have been elapsed when our pay was revised with effect from 1st August 1945 but the arrears of pay have not so far been paid to us. Early payment may be requested from the Accountant-General and be requested to give reasons of the delay caused by his office.</p>	<p>.. This matter purely relates to the Local Officers and the Association was advised to contact the Executive Engineers concerned for early settlement of their dues.</p> <p>If any specific cases are brought to notice of Government enquiry can be effected.</p>

[Minister for Irrigation]

It will be appreciated if the payment is made to us from the current year's budget and an *ex post facto* sanction of the same is called for from the Government.

- (iii) Half-yearly bonus to be merged into the monthly pay. Half-yearly Bonus of the Patwaris should be emerged into monthly pay, as the Bonus, etc., are the foundation of the corruption and is a blot to the Government and Government servants both. Schedule of Fines which is not applicable to other Government Servants is made applicable on us, when all Government servants are equally administered by the Rules and Regulations, then why this Schedule of Fines is thrust upon us so as to kill our will power.

The request of the Association regarding $\frac{1}{2}$ yearly bonus allowed to Canal Patwaris to be merged into their pay was considered but it was regretted that their request could not be agreed to in the interest of efficiency of work.

- (iv) Accommodation .. Canal Patwaris should be supplied with Government accommodation, as is done in the case of Civil Patwaris. In either case a House-rent at the rate of Rs. 6 per mensem should be sanctioned as the Civil Patwaris are already in receipt of.

The question of providing the Canal Patwaris with Government accommodation is under examination. The decision will be communicated to the Association in due course.

- (v) Duty Allowance to Patwaris employed on *Chakbandi* work.

The question regarding duty allowance to be paid to Patwaris employed on *Chakbandi* work is under consideration and final decision will be communicated when arrived at.

Those Patwaris who have been employed on Special Duties of *Chakbandi* and Land Requisitions, etc., were allowed a Special Duty Allowance for a long period but now the same has been stopped. This is an injustice to us. In no case Special Duty Allowance has been forfeited from other Government Servants. It is, therefore, requested that a Special Duty Allowance should be sanctioned from the date of discontinuation to those who are working on Special Duties.

SUPPLY OF WATER IN JANDIALA BRANCH

***1260. Sardar Darshan Singh :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state whether he is aware of the fact that the supply of water in the Jandiala Branch has been stopped twenty days ahead of the fixed time, if so, the reasons therefor ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : There is no branch by the name of Jandiala Branch. No dates, regarding which this query has been made, have been given, hence no definite reply is possible.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : The name of the branch can be wrong but is it not a fact that the water was stopped twenty days earlier ?

Minister for Finance : The question is quite vague. May I know to which twenty days the hon. Member is referring ? There is no mention of the year either.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : This very year.

Minister : But this thing has not been made clear in this question. This ought to have been done.

SUPPLY OF CANAL WATER IN KANGRA DISTRICT

***1292. Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state whether any scheme for dam and lift irrigation in the Kangra District is under the consideration of the Government ; if so, the steps so far taken to implement this scheme ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : 26 Kuhls providing irrigation to culturable commanded area of 40,092 acres have been repaired or constructed. A scheme for constructing Sidharthahar Kuhl taking off from Dehar Khad estimated to cost Rs 11.57 lakhs has been sanctioned and work is in progress. This will provide irrigation to 10,000 acres. Some more schemes are also under investigation and consideration and funds permitting these will also be taken in hand.

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma : I know that the Sidharthahar Kuhl is being constructed. But my question was whether the State Government had under consideration any scheme for dam and lift irrigation in the Kangra District; and if so, what steps had it taken to implement the scheme ? The hon. Minister has not given any information on this point. Will he kindly do so now ?

Minister for Finance : Some schemes are at present under the consideration of the State Government.

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma : Will the hon. Minister tell us precisely whether the State Government is considering any scheme for dam and lift irrigation in the Kangra District ?

Minister : Whatever information on this point was available has already been given to the hon. Member.

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma : Is the hon. Minister aware of the fact that dam irrigation is the only possible method by which different parts of the Kangra District can be irrigated ?

Minister : I think the question of determining as to which is the best possible method of irrigation should be left to the Engineers. The hon. Member need not bother about it

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma : Has the hon. Minister obtained any expert opinion on this point ?

Minister : As I have stated above this matter should be left to the technical experts.

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma : May I know whether any methods of Irrigation exist at present in the Kangra District ? If not, has the Government thought of evolving some suitable methods of irrigation ?

Minister : The Kuhls provide irrigation facilities in the Kangra District. Moreover, the State Government is constructing Sidharthahar Kuhl, which, on completion, will provide irrigation for 10,000 acres.

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma : My only question is whether the State Government is considering the possibility of implementing a scheme for providing dam and lift irrigation in the Kangra District ?

Mr. Deputy Speaker : This question has already been replied to by the Finance Minister.

Minister : Some schemes are under the consideration of the Government.

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma : Will the hon. Minister give details of those schemes ?

Minister : I am sorry it is not possible to give details of all the schemes that are under the consideration of the Government in reply to a question.

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma : I have asked for this information in my original question.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Order, order. I will not allow any more supplementary questions.

AWARD OF GANDHI MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS IN THE STATE

***1039. Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government has decided to award Gandhi Memorial Scholarships for purposes of training in some industries within India and abroad ; if so, the details thereof, and the conditions and terms for selection of trainees ;

whether Government has arranged with other State Governments
(b) or with foreign countries for facilities for training to the grantees of such scholarships ; if so, the details thereof ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) Yes. Suitable candidates have been selected for training abroad in the following trades :—

- (i) Sericulture and/or Research in Sericulture.
- (ii) Manufacture of goods on a cottage basis (for lady students only).
- (iii) Watch and Clock-making.
- (iv) Optical Science.
- (v) Manufacture of electrical goods and electrical machinery.

Candidates have also been selected for training in India in the following trades by a Board constituted for the purpose and its recommendations are under consideration of Government :—

- (i) Manufacture of cycles and their parts.
- (ii) Educational Handicrafts (for lady students only).
- (iii) Pulp and Paper manufacture.
- (iv) Woollen Textiles.
- (v) Oil Technology.
- (vi) Manufacture of sewing machines and their parts.
- (vii) General Machine Tools and their designs.
- (viii) Textile Technology.
- (ix) Repairing and overhauling of automobiles.
- (x) Tanning.

Selection has been made in accordance with the rules approved by Government a copy of which is given below.

(b) The State Government have approached the Government of India to arrange seats in institutions/factories for training of scholars in foreign countries, while arrangements for training of scholars in India have been made in the institutions/factories in other States in direct correspondence with the firms/institutions and also through the help of the Government of India. A statement giving details of institutions/factories which have agreed to arrange for training is given below.

Statement showing the names of Institutes/Factories who have agreed to train the scholars.

I—Manufacture of cycles and their parts.

1. Indo Belga Engineering Company Ltd ; Manufacture of Bicycle accessories, Gomtipur, Ahmedabad.

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2. Hind Cycle Ltd ; Birla Bros, Ltd ; Bombay.
3. Messrs Atlas Cycle Industries, Ltd ; Sonapat.

II—Educational Handicrafts (for lady students only).

Visva Bharati, Santi Niketan at Vinaya-Bhavan.

III—Pulp and Paper Manufacture.

Rohtas Industries, Ltd ; Dalmianagar (Bihar).

IV—Woollen Textiles.

Messrs Indian Woollen Textile Mills, Chheharata.

V—Oil Technology

Har Court Butler Technology Institute, Cawnpur.

VI—Manufacture of sewing machines and their parts.

1. Jay Engineering Works, Ltd ; Calcutta.
2. K. C. Mullick and Sons Ltd ; Calcutta.

VII—General Machine Tools and their designs.

1. New Standard Engineering Company Ltd; Carron Road, Bombay-13.
2. Atlas Works Ltd, 119 Ripon Street, Calcutta-16.
3. The Indian Machinery Company, Ltd ; Calcutta.
4. Bhartaya Engineering Works, Calcutta.

VIII—Textiles Technology.

1. The Technological Institute of Textiles, P. O. Birla Colony , Bhiwani.
2. The Punjab Cloth Mills, Ltd ; Bhiwani.
3. Birla Cotton Spinning and Weaving Mills, Ltd ; Birla Lines ; Delhi.
4. Messrs Delhi Cloth Mills, Delhi.

IX—Repairing and overhauling of automobiles.

1. Sanghani Mamot Industries, 6 New Bhat Wadi Lane, Bombay-4.
2. Automobile Products of India, Ltd ; Bombay.

3. Poddar Automobiles 113, Part Street, Calcutta-16.
4. Peninsular Motor Corporation, Ltd ; 19 Convent Road, Calcutta.
5. Me-Kenzines 208, Lower Circular Road, Calcutta.

X—Tanning.

National Tanner Company, Ltd; Merchantile Buildings, Lall Bazar, Calcutta.

Rules for the award of Gandhi Memorial Scholarships for Industrial and Technical Training in India and abroad.

1. The Punjab Government will award every year the scholarships mentioned below to Punjabi students for industrial and technical training in India and abroad :—

- (i) 24 scholarships of the value of Rs. 100 per mensem each for advanced studies in Universities or specialised Institutes or for practical training in industry in India.
- (ii) 7 scholarships for advanced studies in Universities or specialised Institutes or for practical training in industry in foreign countries.

The value of these scholarships will be fixed from time to time and it will be sufficient to cover the expenses of the student or the trainee as specified below :—

- (a) A maintenance allowance of £ 300 per annum in the United Kingdom and in the Continent of Europe and 1,200 Shillings in U.S.A., subject to variations from time to time by the Finance Department, Government of Punjab.
- (b) University, College or other training fee, if any, required by rules and regulations of the University, College or other training institute.
- (c) An equipment allowance of Rs. 300 will be paid to each scholar, before embarkation.
- (d) Travelling allowances for journey to foreign country and back will be paid at the following rates :—
 - (1) Second Class steamer fare by the nearest route.
 - (2) Second class railway fare for journey in India from the place of residence of the Scholar to the port of embarkation and back.
 - (3) III class railway fare for journeys in the United Kingdom, second class on the continent of Europe and the lowest class in U.S.A., and other countries.
 - (4) £ 5 each way on account of incidental expenses connected with the journeys to and from the country in which the course of studies is taken.

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2. The names of the industries and the institutions for training will be approved by the Board of Industries and will be notified every year for the benefit of intending candidates. The scholarships will be awarded by Government on the advice of the Director of Industries, Punjab.

3. The scholarships will be tenable for a period of one or two years for training in India and two or three years for abroad, according to the duration of the course of training taken by a particular scholar.

4. The candidates should not be more than 25 years at the time of application. The age limit may, however, be relaxed by Government in exceptional cases.

5. The minimum educational qualification required will be Matriculation for scholarships in India and a degree of a recognised University for scholarships abroad. Preference will be given to candidates already possessing knowledge or training in the Industry selected.

6. The selected scholar will be required to produce a medical certificate (of a medical officer not lower in status than a Civil Surgeon for candidates going abroad, and an Assistant Surgeon for candidates who will get training in India) to the effect that the candidate is physically fit to undergo the course of studies or training selected by him.

7. The scholar will have to submit to the rules and working regulations of the institution or factory to which he is posted. He will be required to give an undertaking to this effect before being posted to the training institute or factory.

8. The scholarships will be payable for the following periods only :—

- (a) Days of actual attendance.
- (b) Sundays and sanctioned holidays.
- (c) Days of sick leave not exceeding 6 days at a time, or 30 days in all in the academic year of the institution concerned.
- (d) Days of ordinary leave for not more than 6 days at a time or 14 days in all in an academic year of the institution concerned.

Note. If any period of absence exceeds the number of days admissible under this rule the scholarship will not be payable for any part of such absence in excess of the prescribed limit. In the case of the scholar selected for training abroad maintenance expenses will, however, be admissible as specified under rule 1 above, with effect from the date the scholar joins the institution and actually commences his studies.

9. A certificate in the following terms signed by the head of the institution or factory concerned shall accompany all bills for scholarships :—

“ I hereby certify that the scholar on whose account the above amount has been drawn, has been regular in attendance and has conformed to the rules under which the scholarship is tenable ”.

10. The scholarships will be paid monthly by (i) the Director of Industries, Punjab, in respect of the scholars in India and (ii) the High Commissioner for India or the Government of India's Ambassador, as the case may be, in respect of scholars getting training abroad, on the receipt of the certificate referred to in rule 9. The scholarships shall begin from the date the scholars actually join their training institutes or colleges.

11. A scholarship shall lapse if not availed of within one month of the date of award or if the scholarship-holder dies or gives up his training before the completion of the prescribed course.

12. The selected scholar and his surety will be required to give a written undertaking in the form given below to the effect that the scholar shall be bound to serve the Punjab Government for five years if required to do so. In case the scholar does not serve the Government or quits the service earlier or is removed from service earlier or is removed from service on account of misconduct, negligence or inefficiency etc., he will be liable to refund to Government the scholarship drawn by him.

13. The scholarships will be liable to be forfeited for misconduct, irregularity of attendance or unsatisfactory progress or if the scholar leaves his training before the completion of the course and he and his surety will be jointly liable to refund the whole amount of scholarship drawn by him except where it is found to the satisfaction of the Director of Industries, Punjab, that the circumstances for leaving training were unavoidable.

14. In all matters of dispute concerning these scholarships the decision of the Director of Industries, Punjab, will be final.

15. The stamp duty on the bond will be borne by the scholar.

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIES, PUNJAB
SECURITY BOND FOR SCHOLARS RECEIVING TRAINING

Know all men by these presents that I*— _____

_____son of _____

and** _____son of _____
hereinafter referred to as 'the Principal' and 'the surety' respectively are held and firmly bound unto the Governor of Punjab through the Director of Industries, Punjab, (hereinafter referred to as the Government), in the sum of*** _____to be paid to the Government, its successors or assigns, for which payment well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, our heirs and legal representatives jointly and each of us binds himself, his heirs legal representative severally, firmly by these presents. Signed and delivered by us this day of _____19 .

WHEREAS the said scholar _____
_____has been selected for the award of a scholarship of
Rs. _____
per mensem for**** _____
tenable for a period of _____from the date the Principal actually joins the selected institution and the Principal has agreed to join the said institution.

*Scholars.

**Surety.

***The maximum amount that can be drawn by way of scholarship.

****Training in _____(name of institute).

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AND whereas the Government of Punjab has agreed to pay the Principal a scholarship at the rate of _____ rupees per mensem during the period of Months/Years while he shall be receiving training at—

AND WHEREAS THE Principal has agreed to abide by the rules for scholarship, which have been read by both the Principal and the said surety, to serve under the Punjab (India) Government for five years on the completion of training if required so to do within three* months of such completion after which he will be at liberty to take employment elsewhere and to obey all instructions which the scholar may receive from the Director of Industries, Punjab, as to this course of study or otherwise and devote himself diligently and exclusively during the period of his stay in (_____) to the study of the subject for which his scholarship was granted and to behave himself in an orderly manner and to obey and comply with all lawful orders of the head of the institute/factory where he is receiving training or of other officers under whom he may from time to time be working.

Now the condition of the above-written bond or obligation which is given for the performance of a public duty in which the public are interested within the meaning of section 74 of the Indian Contract Act is such that if the above bounden Principal shall, to the satisfaction of the Director of Industries, Punjab, whose opinion therein shall be final and conclusive between all parties hereto, faithfully and diligently observe and comply with each and all of the rules and regulations relating to his training or if in the event of the Principal failing to complete the full course of training or to comply with any of the aforesaid rules or regulations or orders or with covenants on his part to be fulfilled as contained in the said rules etc., and in this instrument, or to serve when required so to do within three months from the date of the completion of his training and his landing in India under the Punjab (India) Government for a period of five years on such salary, terms and conditions as may be fixed or imposed by the Government, the Principal or the said surety shall refund to the Government all monies given to and taken by the Principal by way of scholarship, unless for exceptional reasons the Director of Industries, Punjab, whose decision shall be final, allows a candidate to withdraw from the Institution, before the completion of the course, then this bond or obligation shall be void, otherwise the same shall be and remain in full force and effect.

_____ (Witness) _____ (Scholar)

_____ (Witness) _____ (Surety)

Director of Industries, Punjab.

*In the case of scholars sent abroad, this period will be counted with effect from the date of his landing in India.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state how much money has been sanctioned by the Government for this purpose ?

Minister : I am sorry I cannot give any reply to this question off-hand. Had it been asked in the main question, I would have been able to give a reply to it.

TOTAL AREA OF LAND IN THE STATE OWNED BY EVACUEES AND NON-MUSLIMS BUT OCCUPIED BY LOCAL AND EVACUEE OCCUPANCY TENANTS RESPECTIVELY.

***1146. Shri Mool Chand Jain :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) the total area of land, district-wise, in the State, owned by evacuees but which is under the local occupancy tenants at present ;
- (b) the total area of land, district-wise, in the State, owned by Non-Muslims but which was under the occupancy tenancy of evacuee's and now vested in the Custodian ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh . (a) and (b) Two statements containing the requisite information are given below :

PART (A)

Statement showing total area of land owned by evacuees but under the local occupancy tenants

District	Cultivated area(acres)	Uncultivated area (acres)	Total (acres)
1. Jullundur ..	6,762	181	6,943
2. Ludhiana ..	1,478	86	1,564
3. Hoshiarpur ..	11,895	1,330	13,225
4. Ferozepore ..	11,231	1,005	11,236
5. Kangra ..	143	102	245
6. Amritsar ..	6,695	466	7,161
7. Gurdaspur ..	4,375	199	4,574
8. Ambala ..	7,583	686	8,269
9. Karnal ..	6,377	1,244	7,621
10. Hissar ..	35,135	1,192	36,327
11. Rohtak ..	3,095	86	3,181
12. Gurgaon ..	6,701	310	7,011
Total ..	101,470	6,887	108,357

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PART (B)

Statement showing total area of land owned by Non-Muslims but under the Occupancy tenancy of evacuees.

District	Cultivated area (acres)	Uncultivated area (acres)	Total (acres)
1. Jullundur ..	5,931	316	6,247
2. Ludhiana ..	1,641	111	1,752
3. Hoshiarpur ..	13,391	4,040	17,431
4. Ferozepore ..	32,309	1,636	33,945
5. Kangra ..	402	1,669	2,070
6. Amritsar ..	14,455	1,368	15,923
7. Gurdaspur ..	10,430	499	10,929
8. Ambala ..	4,608	523	5,141
9. Karnal ..	3,303	881	4,184
10. Hissar ..	44,729	2,816	47,545
11. Rohtak ..	2,030	38	2,068
12. Gurgaon ..	2,764	319	30.83
Total ..	135,993	14,226	150,219

APPOINTMENT OF A COMMITTEE REGARDING WEIGHTS AND MEASURES IN THE STATE

*1147. Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht : Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government have appointed a Committee to go into the complaints regarding weights and measures in the State ;
- (b) whether this Committee has since completed its deliberations and has finally made its recommendations ; if so, the details of those recommendations.

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. A copy of the recommendations made by the Committee is given below.

Extract from the report of the Committee which examined the Weights and Measures Rules and Orders.

Para 13—Recommendations.

The Committee after careful consideration of all the complaints received by the members of the Committee and the Department make the following recommendations with a view to improving the working of the Punjab Weights and Measures Act and the rules thereunder and redressing the grievances of the traders :—

(1) The State Government may constitute non-official committees consisting of not more than five members each in all Municipal areas of the State to maintain a liaison between the public and inspectorates of Weights and Measures.

(2) The ceiling price of electro-plated yard measures fixed by the Department is Rs. 1-10-0 at present. The break-up cost of unpolished yard measures made of steel, works out as given below :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
(a) Cost of raw material	..	0	4 0
(b) Labour including lead plugging, etc.	..	0	2 0
(c) Cost of marking graduations and trade mark, etc.	..	0	2 0
(d) Stamping fee	..	0	7 0
(e) Profit	..	0	1 0
Total	..	<u>1</u>	<u>0 0</u>

The ceiling price of an unpolished yard measure may, therefore, be fixed at Re. 1 or less.

(3) The bullion tola weights are required to be made at present only of solid brass, gun metal, bronze or German Silver as per Rule 26 (2). Weights of one ounce and two tolas and over are required to be provided with one adjusting hole only as per Rule 28 (1). Adjusting holes shall be in the under surface of the weights, and shall not extend to the upper surface. They shall be under cut and plugged with lead, which shall cover the bottom of the hole and shall not project beyond the surface. In order to have cheaper supplies for the traders, bullion weights with or without adjusting holes and lead plugging may be allowed. The shapes, sizes and tolerances of all such weights should, however, conform to the specifications as laid down in the rules. For the weightment of silver (and not gold and precious metals) 100 tolas and above weights, i.e., 200, 300, 400, 500 to 1,000 tolas, may be allowed to be made of cast iron provided these conform to the tolerances as prescribed for bullion tola weights. This recommendation is being made with a view to bringing down the prices of such weights.

In the case of other weights, the weights with or without lead plugging may also be allowed, but such weights should conform to specifications in

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all other respects regarding their shapes, sizes and tolerances as provided under the rules. It is for the traders to see as to what types of weights they should buy for their use.

(4) Under the existing rules the repairing work of weights, etc., is carried out through the repairers, who are registered by the Department. The work of repairing of weights, etc. should either be done at Government level, and charges for all types of repairs fixed by Government. Alternatively, the public should be allowed to get repairs done from anywhere without the registration restrictions being imposed upon the traders.

(5) Under Rule 129(1), the weights, the yard measures and milk measures are required to be verified and stamped at least once in every two years. The period of reverification and stamping for weights, yard measures, and milk measures only should be extended to once in every three years instead of every two years, fees remaining the same. This will minimise the hardship experienced by the traders at present.

(6) In bigger towns like Ambala, Ludhiana, Jullundur, Amritsar, etc., the Inspectors should fix important business centres, where the traders should be asked to get their weights, etc., stamped.

(7) The prices of milk measures should be arrived at and fixed by the Department of Industries at a reasonable level, and the prices should preferably be fixed on the basis of weight of material plus the stamping fees, incidental charges, and sales tax being extra. Such prices should be fixed both for the manufacturers as well as dealers.

(8) A set of four milk measures, i.e. $\frac{1}{8}$ seer, $\frac{1}{4}$ seer, $\frac{1}{2}$ seer and 1 seer is being sold at present for Rs 12-7-6 in the market manufactured by 'Eleka' Industries, Jullundur, as per details given below:—

Description	Weight of measures in tolas	Selling price excluding Sales Tax		
		Rs.	As	Ps
$\frac{1}{8}$ Seer ..	$9\frac{1}{2}$	1	12	6
$\frac{1}{4}$ Seer ..	15	2	8	0
$\frac{1}{2}$ Seer ..	$26\frac{1}{2}$	3	7	0
1 Seer ..	31 to $32\frac{1}{2}$	4	12	0
	Total ..	12	7	6

The break-up cost of the manufacture of a set of four measures as estimated by the Government Utensil Making Work Centre, Abdullapur, works out to Rs. 8-4-0 per set excluding stamping fee of Re. 0-13-0. The Committee feels that this could be reduced further if large orders are placed with this

Work Centre. The ceiling prices of all the milk measures, i.e. 1/8 seer, 1/4 seer, 1/2 seer and 1 seer should, therefore, be fixed at Rs. 9-15-0 at dealers end. The ceiling prices to be charged by the manufacturers and dealers should be fixed separately for each measure and a set of four measures by the Department of Industries. This will give some relief to the milk sellers.

The ceiling prices of milk measures of aluminium should also be suitably fixed allowing for verification fees and dealers' profit, etc.

(9) The registered associations should be allowed to take Dealers Licences on " 'Co-operative' and no-profit-no-loss basis", as and when applied for.

(10) No exemption at present is being given from any of the provisions of the Punjab Weights and Measures Act to :

- (1) Weighmen in the Mandis,
- (2) Hawkers, and
- (3) Traders in the rural areas.

Exemption should be given to the above classes of persons from keeping the iron beamscales of capacity not exceeding five seers, prescribed standards under section 39 of the Weights and Measures Act in order to give them relief. They will thus be able to use wooden Dandis.

(11) It may not be possible to stamp the cast iron weights, etc., without lead plugging with the small types of stamps now being used by the Department of Industries. Bigger steel stamps should be designed for stamping such weights.

(12) The steel yards are at present marked in inches. The public and the traders in general are used to 'Girah' system of measurement. Besides the marking of inches on one side, the yard measures should also be marked in Girhas on the other side. This will help the public, who are used to Girha system of measurement.

(13) There are far too many inspectors belonging to different departments, who deal with the public. The Punjab Weights and Measures Act has to be applied throughout the length and breadth of the State. This cannot be done unless adequate staff is provided under the Weights and Measures Act. The present number of Inspectors provided for the successful enforcement of the Act is very meagre. However, increase in the inspection staff involves additional expenditure. In order to keep down this expenditure the Committee recommends that the inspection staff provided for the enforcement of the Weights and Measures Act, and Shops and Commercial Establishments Act, should be amalgamated and work under the Administrative control of the Director of Industries, Punjab. This will result in the reduction of the total number of inspectors in both the establishments and will ensure more efficient control, as only one inspector will have to enforce the two Acts instead two separate inspectors as is the case at present, and by doing so the public will also be benefited very much.

(14) Government should also consider of starting a manufacturing

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workshop, where weights, measures, weighing and measuring instruments could be manufactured to specifications laid down in the Punjab Weights and Measures Act and Rules, and supplied to the public on cost plus profit basis.

NUMBER OF FAMILIES OF DISPLACED PERSONS ALLOTTED LAND IN
VILLAGE HALDRI.

*1225. Shri Jagdish Chander : Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

- (a) the number of families of displaced persons who were allotted land in Village Haldri, Tehsil and District Ambala on a temporary basis ;
- (b) the number of displaced persons who have now been allotted land in the said village on a quasi-permanent basis together with the number of *pucca* and *kutchha* houses allotted to each one of them ;
- (c) the number of families at present occupying *kutchha* houses which are over and above the requirements of the allottees who are being ejected together with the reasons therefor ;
- (d) whether he is aware of the fact that one allottee has been allotted 24 houses in the village mentioned in part (a) above ; if so, the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) Fifty-seven.

(b) A statement showing the number of allottees and the houses allotted to them is given below.

(c) Twenty-five families, who have been allotted land in Naraingarh Tehsil and Gurgaon District. These houses are not surplus to the requirements of the allottees, who require them for the storage of grains, and tractors ; for use as cattle sheds and for providing accommodation to their tenants.

(d) No.

Serial No.	Name of allottee	Area allotted	Number of Pacca house	Number of Kacha houses
		SA, Units		
1	Sarwan Singh, son of Attar Singh ..	12—7½	..	1
2	Amar Singh, son of Attar Singh ..	12—7½	..	2
3	Sher Singh, son of Nihal Singh ..	1—3½	..	1

Serial No.	Name of allottee	Area allotted	Number of Pacca house	Number Kacha houses
4	Inder Singh, son of Hari Singh ..	14—9½	..	2
5	Gobind Singh, son of Hari Singh ..	14—9½	..	2
6	Kishan Singh, son of Hari Singh ..	14—11½	..	2
7	Narain Singh, son of Hari Singh ..	14—9½	..	2
8	Kanwar Amrit Lal, son of Rai Bahadur Kidar Nath ..	55—7½	1	4
9	Kanwar Prem Lal, son of Rai Bahadur Kidar Nath ..	55—7½	..	5
10	Kanwar Raj Nath, son of Rai Bahadur Kidar Nath ..	53—4½	1	3
11	Kanwar Rattan Lal, son of Rai Bahadur Kidar Nath ..	55—7½	..	4
12	Kanwar Krishan Lal, son of Rai Bahadur Kidar Nath ..	55—7½	..	4
13	Chaman Lal, son of Mela Singh ..	2—4	..	1
14	Gopal Singh, son of Mela Singh ..	2—9½	..	1
15	Godha Ram, son of Mela Singh ..	2—7½	..	1
16	Hari Mal, son of Ghandu Mal ..	2—3½	..	..
	Total ..		2	35

**TOTAL NUMBER OF PLOTS SOLD AT MODEL TOWN, AMBALA AND
THE NUMBER OF HOUSES BUILT BY GOVERNMENT**

***1274. Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan:** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state:—

(a) the total number of plots at Ambala Model Town sold out and the number of houses so far constructed by the Government;

(b) the number of Government built houses that have so far been sold out ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh: (a) Number of plots sold .. 343

Number of houses constructed by the Government .. 26

(b) Number of built up houses sold .. 8

NOMINATION OF MEMBERS OF MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, KALKA

*934. **Shri Ram Kishan:** Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state:—

- (a) whether any persons were nominated as members of the Municipal Committee, Kalka, District Ambala, between 15th August 1947 and 31st December 1950 ; if so, their list;
- (b) whether any of them were asked to resign; if so, their list and the reasons therefor in each case;
- (c) whether any persons were nominated as members to the different local bodies in Patti Tehsil, Amritsar District, between 1st January, 1950 and 31st December, 1951, if so; their list together with the names of the local bodies to which each was nominated and the dates when such nominations were made;
- (d) (i) whether any of the persons referred to in part (c) above was defeated in the general elections to any of the local bodies; if so, their list;
- (ii) the policy of the Government regarding nomination to local bodies in connection with the persons who had been defeated in the general elections;
- (iii) whether this policy was relaxed in the case of any of the persons referred to in part (c) above; if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether any complaints were received by the Government from S. Sajjan Singh Margindpuri, Ex. M.L.A., regarding the persons referred to in part (d) (i) above; if so, when ?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma: (a) Yes. Sarv Shri Ram Chand, Tirlok Nath and Ishar Singh.

(b) Shri Tirlok Nath was asked in January 1949, to resign on the ground that he was a defeated candidate in the municipal elections and it was against the policy of Government to nominate such persons. The facts were not in the knowledge of Government at the time of his nomination.

(c) Yes. Shri Bajj Nath, son of Shri Babu Ram, was appointed as a member of the Municipal Committee, Patti,—*vide* Punjab Government notification No. 1363-G, dated the 11th August, 1951.

(d) (i) Shri Bajj Nath.

(ii) It is the Policy of Government not to appoint defeated candidates to Local Bodies, unless there are very strong reasons to the contrary.

(iii) The fact that Shri Bajj Nath was a defeated candidate in the municipal elections of Patti was brought to the notice of Government after his nomination had been notified. It was not then considered necessary to order his removal, as it was contemplated to hold General Elections to Local Bodies very shortly.

(e) Yes. In October, 1951, a complaint was received from S. Sajjan Singh Margindpuri who was sent a reply on the above lines.

MERGER OF MUNICIPAL AREAS OF JAGADHARI AND
YAMNA NAGAR

***1041. Shri Dev Raj Sethi:** Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state whether the Government has received copies of resolutions passed by various bodies protesting against the decision of the State Government to merge the municipal areas of Jagadhari and Yamna Nagar; if so, the action taken or intended to be taken by the Government in the matter?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma: Yes, the matter is under the consideration of Government.

PADDY CROP IN TEHSILS SIRSA AND FATEHABAD, DISTRICT HISSAR

***1177. Shri Lajpat Rai:** Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state:—

- (a) the number of villages in Tehsils Sirsa and Fatehabad, in which Paddy crop for the year 1952 has been irrigated by the water of the river Ghaghar and the Sirsa Canal Branch;
- (b) the number of villages in the above-mentioned tehsils in which paddy was cultivated during the years 1950 and 1951;
- (c) the area of land in bighas, in each of the villages referred to above, which was cultivated during the years 1950, 1951 and 1952;
- (d) the area of land in bighas in the said villages in which paddy was cultivated during the years 1950, 1951 and 1952 and the total quantity of produce in maunds during each of these three years;
- (e) whether the whole of the produce of paddy during these three years was brought to Sirsa or two some other Mandi for sale;
- (f) if the whole of the produce of paddy was not brought to Mandi for sale in each year, the quantity that was brought there and the place or places where the remaining quantity was disposed of;
- (g) the control price of rice during these three years in District Hissar and in the contiguous areas of Rajasthan;
- (h) whether any quantity of rice was ever captured when being smuggled into Rajasthan, if so, the number of such cases during these three years?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma: (a) In all there are 57 villages, 47 in Sirsa and 10 in Fatehabad, Tehsils of Hissar District where paddy crop was cultivated in the year 1952. These villages are irrigated by the water of River Ghaghar and Sirsa canal.

(b) The same as at (a) above.

(c) The required information is given in part (d) below.

(d) The area of land in bighas in the said villages in which paddy was cultivated during the years 1950, 1951 and 1952 and the total quantity of

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produce in maunds during each of these years are as under:—

Name of Year	Area of land in Bighas in which paddy was cultivated	Total quantity produced in maunds
1950	9,064	1,32,048
1951	10,669	1,58,028
1952	16,116	2,38,392

(e) Government have no information about this except that instead of bringing the whole of their produce for sale in Mandis they generally keep quantity enough for their house-hold requirements.

(f) As already stated above, Government have no information if or not the whole of the produce of paddy was brought to Sirsa or other Mandis. The following stocks of paddy were procured by the Rice Dealers Association of Sirsa and Fatehabad Mandis during the three years under report:—

Quantity of Paddy procured in Tons.

Name of Year	Sirsa	Fatehabad	Ding	Hansi	Total
1950	385	21.7	76.8	9.5	493.0
1951	1467	96	..	..	1563
1952	57.9	12.8	..	..	70.7

Government have no information as to how the remaining stocks were disposed of by the producers and at what places.

(g) The control prices of different varieties of rice in Hissar District during the three years as fixed by Government have been as under:—

Name of Variety	From 1st January, 1950 to 9th October, 1950	From 10th October, 1950 to 31st December, 1950	1951	1952
	Rs A. P.	Rs A. P.	Rs A. P.	Rs A. P.
Dara ..	16 14 0	17 14 0	17 14 0	18 0 0
Begmi ..	18 8 0	19 9 0	19 9 0	19 11 0
Sone ..	19 2 0	20 2 0	20 2 0	20 4 0
Basmati ..	25 6 0	25 6 0	25 6 0	25 8 0
Parmal, Hans Raj, Mushkin, etc.	22 10 0	22 10 0	22 10 0	22 12 0
Sela Basmati ..	23 2 0	23 2 0	23 2 0	23 4 0
Sela Parmal and Hans Raj, etc.	23 14 0	20 14 0	20 14 0	21 0 0
Sela Joshy ..	17 0 0	17 14 0	17 14 0	18 0 0
Mongra, Basmati Parmal, etc.	16 10 0	16 10 0	16 10 0	16 12 0
Total white and Sela ..	12 10 0	12 10 0	12 10 0	12 12 0
Kani ..	9 10 0	9 10 0	9 10 0	9 12 0
Santhi ..	15 10 0	16 4 0	16 4 0	16 6 0

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Information with regard to the control prices of rice in contiguous areas of Rajasthan during these three years is not available.

(h) About 474 maunds of paddy in all has been captured by the enforcement staff during the three years when being smuggled to Rajasthan. The total number of cases thus detected during the period under report is 34.

(When the hon. Minister for Local Government was replying to this Question)

✓ Deputy Speaker: I request the hon. Minister that in future, he should lay the replies of such lengthy questions on the Table.

SMUGGLING OF PADDY TO RAJASTHAN

*1178. Shri Lajpat Rai: Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether any complaints and deputations have been received by the Government from the Foodgrains Association, Sirsa, during the last five years regarding the smuggling of paddy to Rajasthan; if so, the steps taken by the Government to check such smuggling;
- (b) the number of persons arrested by the Police for smuggling paddy together with the number of those awarded punishment therefor and the number of those who were acquitted respectively during the period mentioned in part (a) above;
- (c) the steps, if any, taken by the Government for checking the smuggling of paddy to Rajasthan during this year (1952)

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma: (a) Yes.

(b) Number of persons arrested	..	..	96
Number of persons convicted	..	..	76
Number of persons acquitted	..	..	20

(c) Anti-smuggling operations during the rice season have been intensified and efforts made to seal practically all vulnerable points on the border to stop smuggling of paddy into Rajasthan. The Government of India and the Rajasthan Government were also addressed to check smuggling of paddy from Hissar into their areas both by sealing the rice chakkis or checking up their intake of paddy in the Nohar, Bahadra, Hanumangarh, Sangria, etc., areas in Bikaner District as well as by instructing the Customs Authorities at Phiphana to refuse entry of Hissar paddy into Rajasthan. During the current season additional anti-smuggling staff has been posted to Hissar District from other districts in order to tighten up anti-smuggling operations along with the Rajasthan border. The Government of India and the Rajasthan Government have also been addressed again in order to secure the assistance of the latter Government for taking concerted action against smugglers. Statistics have also been collected of produce of paddy in Hissar District so as to check up arrivals of paddy in markets from different villages.

DAILY HOURS OF WORKING OF DRIVERS AND CONDUCTORS

***933. Shri Ram Kishan:** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state:—

- (a) the number of hours in a day for which the drivers and conductors of the Government Omnibus services are required to work;
- (b) whether the private Transport Companies have been directed by the Government to afford the same facilities to their conductors and drivers which are being enjoyed by the Government Omnibus Service drivers and conductors regarding daily hours of working; if so, with what result?

Shri Jagat Narain: (a) The hours of work for drivers are regulated under Section 65 of the Motor Vehicles Act and Punjab Minimum Wages Rules, 1950. The Drivers and Conductors of the Government Transport Services are required to work for not more than 9 hours in a day or for more than 54 hours in a week.

(b) No instructions have been issued to the private transport companies by the Transport Department for affording the same facilities to their conductors and drivers as are being allowed to such staff in Government Transport Services. Their duty hours are governed under the Punjab Minimum Wages Rules, and the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939.

SHIFTING OF PHYSICAL TRAINING COLLEGE FROM TARA DEVI
TO RUPAR.

***1040. Shri Dev Raj Sethi:** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state:—

- (a) whether the Government has decided to shift the physical training college from Taradevi to Rupar; if so, the reasons therefor;
- (b) the probable period within which the said College is expected to be shifted again to Chandigarh;
- (c) the total expenses incurred by the Government in shifting the said College from Taradevi to Rupar?

Shri Jagat Narain: (a) Government used to conduct Physical Training Courses of six months duration at Tara Devi. Now it has started a permanent College of Physical Education which has been provisionally located at Rupar on account of the following reasons:—

(i) Accommodation for housing the College as also the hostel is available there. This will save an annual expenditure of Rs 5,000 on account of building rent incurred by the Government at Tara Devi.

(ii) Tara Devi was deficient in play-grounds. A well-equipped gymnasium and spacious play grounds are available at Rupar.

(iii) The proximity of the Canal and the river at Rupar will make it possible to teach the trainees aquatic games, swimming and rowing.

(iv) Absence of practising schools at Tara Devi was a great handicap for the trainees who used to come to Simla for the purpose.

(b) The College will be shifted to Chandigarh as soon as the building is put up there.

(c) A sum of Rs. 598 has been incurred on the transportation of some of the furniture and equipment from Tara Devi to Rupar. An expenditure of about Rs. 300 is expected to be incurred more in this connection.

SUPPLY OF UNIFORM TO AMBALA ROADWAYS WORKERS

***1124. Shrimati Sita Devi:** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state :—

(a) the date when and the firm with which the order for the sewing of uniforms for the workers of the Ambala Roadways was placed;

(b) the number of summer uniforms supplied to the workers up to October 15, 1952;

(c) the number of summer uniforms still to be completed and supplied to the workers;

(d) whether he is aware of the fact that more than 50 per cent of the uniforms did not fit the persons to whom they were given ;

(e) whether he is further aware of the fact that those persons had to pay extra tailoring charges to get those uniforms fitted;

(f) whether an order for the supplying of winter uniforms has been given to some one; if so, the date by which the workers will get these uniforms?

Shri Jagat Narain: (a) The order for the sewing of uniforms for the workers of the Ambala Roadways was placed with the Department of Industries who entrusted the said work to the Widow House, Karnal, on the 13th May, 1952.

(b) 224 complete summer uniforms were supplied to the workers up to the 15th October, 1952; in addition 45 pairs of Slacks were supplied also up to this date.

(c) 34, excluding the recently recruited staff.

(d) No. However in certain cases adjustment in the fittings had to be made.

(e) Not to the knowledge of this Department.

(f) Cloth for winter uniforms has been arranged. Tailors have been appointed and the uniforms are under preparation. The supply of winter uniforms to the employees is expected to be completed in December, 1952.

**SUPPLY OF UNIFORMS TO THE WORKERS OF AMRITSAR AND
JULLUNDUR OMNIBUS SERVICES**

***1125. Shrimati Sita Devi:** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state:—

- (a) the number of workers of Amritsar and Jullundur Omnibus Services who have been supplied with summer uniforms;
- (b) the number of workers who have not been supplied with any uniforms so far;
- (c) the date by which the winter uniforms are expected to be supplied to them?

Shri Jagat Narain: (a) The following workers of Amritsar Omnibus Service and Jullundur Omnibus Service have been supplied with summer uniforms:—

Amritsar Omnibus Service	..	479
Jullundur Omnibus Service	..	292

(b) the number of workers who have not been supplied with any uniform is as under:—

Amritsar Omnibus Service	..	48
Jullundur Omnibus Service	..	53

(c) The woollen cloth has been arranged. Tailors have been appointed and the winter uniforms are expected to be supplied to the workers in December, 1952.

—————
SCALES OF PAY OF CLEANERS

***1126. Shrimati Sita Devi :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state:—

- (a) the scale of pay of cleaners in the Amritsar, Jullundur and Ambala Omnibus Services ;
- (b) whether this rate has been fixed keeping in view the provision in the Minimum Wages Act, if not, the reasons therefor?

Shri Jagat Narain : (a) The posts of cleaners in Amritsar/Jullundur Omnibus Services and Ambala Roadways are sanctioned at Rs. 20 per mensem fixed as pay *plus* Rs. 30 per mensem as dearness allowance. Other allowances sanctioned by the Government from time to time are also admissible to them.

(b) Yes. The minimum basic wage rate fixed under Minimum Wages Act, 1948, is Rs. 20 per mensem only.

PRIVATE PRACTICE BY MEDICAL OFFICERS

***1191. Shri Baloo Ram:** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state:—

- (a) the monthly non-practising allowance usually allowed by the Government to different categories of medical officers in whose cases private practice is prohibited;
- (b) the proportion that such medical officers bear to the total number of medical officers employed by Government?

Shri Jagat Narain : (a) The monthly non-practising allowance varies according to the special qualifications and experience of medical officers as under:—

- (i) P. C. M. S., Class I .. From Rs. 100 per mensem to Rs. 150 per mensem.
- (ii) P. C. M. S., Class II .. From Rs. 50 per mensem to Rs. 100 per mensem.
- (iii) Assistant Surgeon, Class II (Non-Gaz.) .. From Rs. 15 per mensem to Rs. 30 per mensem.
- (b) (i) P. C. M. S., Class I .. 10 per cent.
- (ii) P. C. M.S., Class II .. 11·2 per cent.
- (iii) Assistant Surgeon Class II (Non-Gaz.) .. 10 per cent.

CLOSING DOWN OF GOVERNMENT AND DISTRICT BOARD HIGH AND MIDDLE SCHOOLS

***1241. Shri Rala Ram:** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether he has issued instructions to the Education Department regarding the closing down of Government and District Board High and Middle Schools at places where private institutions already exist and are in a position to meet the local demand for accommodation and admissions; if so, a copy of those instructions be laid on the Table?

Shri Jagat Narain: Copies of instructions on the subject issued by the Department are placed below. No school is recognised by the Department unless it is needed in the locality on educational grounds as laid down in article 232 of the Punjab Education Code.

Copy of D.O. letter No. 17172-S, issued in 1948, from the Director of Public Instruction, Punjab, Simla, to the Inspectors/Inspectresses of Schools in the East Punjab.

Government has decided that in the new set up of the Province, it should ensure that no schools compete with one another and that arrangements should be made to establish schools in areas which need them. You are, therefore, requested to survey the position in respect of High Schools in your Division and make suggestions how this policy can be given effect to.

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2. Moreover, in many cases district boards have raised their A.V. Middle Schools to the position of high schools even when a privately-managed high School already existed in close proximity and functioned satisfactorily meeting the needs of the area. The question of reducing the status of such D.B. High Schools to that of middle schools and shifting the high departments of these schools to other district board middle schools, which can more appropriately be raised to high standard may also be reviewed in consultation with the local bodies concerned. As all such proposals are to be made by the local bodies concerned well in time before the next session, you should give the matter your personal attention.

Copy of memorandum No. 25065-S, dated the 25th July, 1952, from the Director of Public Instruction, Punjab, Simla, to the Divisional Inspectors/ Inspectresses of Schools in the Punjab.

Subject :—Educational Survey.

In view of the expanding needs of the people for High School Education, it appears necessary to have an educational survey of the State. There may be places where schools are badly needed, as also where they are superfluous and uneconomical. While in the former case the absence of a school is a great drawback, in the latter case the existence of a school amounts to waste of public funds.

It is, therefore, requested that places may be indicated where high schools are urgently needed as also where they are superfluous. Since it may not be possible for Government, on account of financial stringency, to start their own schools at places where, you feel, such schools are immediately needed, it will be necessary to persuade local bodies or voluntary associations to open schools at those places.

The information may please be supplied not later than the 31st January, 1953.

PROFORMA 1

Statement showing the names and particulars of places where High Schools are needed.

Serial No.	Name of the place	Name of the District	Name and distance of the nearest High School	Population to be served by the proposed school	Name of the management (private or local body) willing to open a High School	Whether facilities regarding buildings, playgrounds, etc. are available at the proposed place	ANY REMARKS
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

PROFORMA 2

Statement showing the names of schools which are unnecessary along with names of places to which they are proposed to be shifted.

Serial No.	Name of the School	Why unnecessary	Name of the place where the school is proposed to be shifted	Whether the management of the school agree to the transfer of the school to the proposed place	Whether facilities regarding buildings, playgrounds etc. are available at the proposed places	ANY REMARKS
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

FARE CHARGED BY OMNIBUS TRANSPORT ON TARN TARAN -JANDIALA SERVICE.

***1258. Sardar Darshan Singh :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Amritsar Omnibus charges higher rates than the others on the Tarn Taran-Jandiala Service ; if so, the reasons therefor ?

Shri Jagat Narain : No please.

FARE CHARGED BY OMNIBUS SERVICE ON TARN TARAN ROUTE.

***1259. Sardar Darshan Singh :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether he is aware of the fact that the Omnibus Service running on the Tarn Taran route charges three pice over and above the fare; if so, the reasons therefor ?

Shri Jagat Narain : The Amritsar Omnibus Service does not charge anything over and above the fare, but only collects the following taxes from passengers travelling to Tarn Taran on the Amritsar-Tarn Taran route :—

- (a) Six pies on account of the Punjab Passengers and Goods Taxation Act, 1952, at one pie per anna on the fare.
- (b) Three pies on account of the Pilgrim Toll Tax levied by the Municipal Committee, Tarn Taran, and being collected by the Amritsar Omnibus Service on their behalf.

EMPLOYMENT OF EX-SERVICEMEN IN THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

***1287. Shri Wadhawa Ram :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state —

- (a) the number of ex-servicemen employed in the Education Department between September, 1946 and February, 1947 ;
- (b) whether the persons mentioned in part (a) above were junior to those who had joined earlier ; if so, at what seniority have they been placed ?

Shri Jagat Narain : (a) Forty three ex-servicemen were recruited during the period between September, 1946 and February, 1947. This figure does not include Muslim ex-servicemen recruited during that period, as data relating to them is not available.

(b) The ex-servicemen appointed on probation against war reserved vacancies were placed senior to those officials with no war service who had joined earlier, but were officiating.

EDUCATION IN KANGRA DISTRICT.

***1290. Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state the total amount of money spent on education in Kangra District during the years 1934-35 and 1952-53, respectively, together with the percentage contributed towards this expenditure by the Government ?

Shri Jagat Narain :

			<i>Total amount spent on edu- cation</i>	<i>Percentage of Govern- ment</i>
			Rs.	
1934-35	..	..	5,98,435	63·5
1951-52	..	..	23,65,122	56·3

The figures for the year 1952-53 are not available at this stage. The figures for 1951-52 have been supplied therefore.

CONSTRUCTION OF MATERNITY HOSPITAL IN DISTRICT FEROZEPORE.

***1305. Sardar Nidhan Singh :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether he is aware of the fact that the people of Village Patta Hira Singh, Tehsil Moga, District Ferozepore, deposited Rs. 25,000 in the Moga Sub-Treasury for the opening of a Maternity Hospital ; if so, the reasons why such hospital has not so far been opened ?

Shri Jagat Narain : Yes, the question of recovery from Punjab (Pakistan) of the sum of Rs. 25,000 (donated by S.B. Captain Hira Singh and the residents of Patta Hira Singh and surrounding villages), which was credited in the Joint Punjab accounts, is under consideration of Punjab Partition Committee. As soon as a decision is reached in the matter, necessary steps will be taken by the State Government for the opening of the proposed Maternity Hospital in Village Patta Hira Singh, in Ferozepore District.

NEW SOCIAL SECURITY SCHEME.

***1330. Shri Ram Chandra Comrade :** Will the Minister for Labour be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the New Social Security Scheme for workmen is intended to be extended to this State ; if so, the details of arrangements made for the purpose ;
- (b) the number of workmen in the State to whom the benefit of the Scheme regarding Provident Fund, etc., shall be applicable?

Chaudhri Sundar Singh : (a) The exact meaning of the New Social Security Scheme is not understood. There are, at present, two schemes, viz : Employees Provident Funds Scheme and the Employees State Insurance Scheme, framed by the Central Government. The former has come into force in the whole country with effect from the 1st November 1952, while actual date of enforcement of the later has not been decided upon as yet by the Government of India as far as this State is concerned.

(i) In regard to the Employees Provident Funds Scheme, Government of India have appointed the Labour Commissioner, Punjab as Part-time Regional

Provident Funds Commissioner, Punjab, and the appointment of other necessary staff for the administration of this Scheme in this State is under the consideration of Government of India, Ministry of Labour. A list of the factories covered by this Scheme has been drawn up and necessary data in respect of workers who will contribute to this Scheme is being collected through the field staff of the Labour Department.

(ii) As to the Employees' State Insurance Scheme, a Regional Director of Health Insurance has been appointed by Government of India, Ministry of Labour, and he is conducting the preliminaries for the enforcement of the Scheme.

(b) About 30,000.

APPLICATION OF HEALTH INSURANCE SCHEME IN THE STATE.

*1331. **Shri Ram Chandra Comrade** : Will the Minister for Labour be pleased to state whether the Health Insurance Scheme for workmen has been put into practice in the State ; if so, the Industries, Cities and Factories in which the above Scheme has been made applicable and the facilities provided to the labouring population ?

Chaudhri Sundar Singh : *First part.* Not yet.

Second Part. Does not arise.

REPRESENTATIONS BY THE RESIDENTS OF VILLAGE DUBHETA, TEHSIL UNA,
DISTRICT HOSHIARPUR.

*1141. **Shri Mansa Ram Kuthiala** : Will the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that most of the agricultural land of village Dubheta, Tehsil Una, District Hoshiarpur was acquired by the Government for constructing buildings in Nangal township ;
- (b) whether he has received a large number of residential representations from the owners of the land of the said village for allotment of agricultural land in lieu of the land from them ;
- (c) the action, if any, taken or proposed to be taken by the Government on the representations referred to in part (b) above ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) As no agricultural land was available in lieu of the land acquired, the oustees were paid compensation in cash which they have accepted.

NAI NALLA DRAIN BETWEEN VILLAGES KURANA AND GOHANA, DISTRICT
ROHTAK.

***1169. Shri Sri Chand :** Will the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of bridges on the Nai Nalla drain between the villages Kurana and Gohana, District Rohtak;
- (b) the number of villages through which this drain passes;
- (c) the number of villages where there is no bridge over this drain ;
- (d) whether he is aware of the fact that 3 women died by drowning in the drain, as there was no bridge near village Matind in the Gohana Tehsil ;
- (e) whether Government has been receiving representations during the last 3-4 years from the inhabitants of villages Chhatehra Matind and Kurana asking for the construction of bridges over this nallah; if so, the action taken on these representations ;

Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa : (a) There is one bridge between the villages Kurana and Gohana.

(b) The drain passes through ten villages in Delhi Division.

(c) The names of villages where there is no bridge over this drain are :—

Urlana Khurd, Dimyana, Chhichrana, Kurana, Matinda, Chhatera, Ahmadpur Mazra, Madhopur, Urlana Kalan and Gohana.

(d) Government in the Irrigation Branch are not aware.

(e) Yes, representations have been received. Estimates and designs have been prepared. The bridges would be constructed at the cost of the villagers to be benefited after they have deposited the amount as required under the rules on the subject.

REQUISITIONING OF EVACUEE AND NON-EVACUEE HOUSES IN THE STATE.

***1190. Shri Baloo Ram :** Will the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state —

- (a) the total number of Evacuee and non-evacuee houses requisitioned so far by the Government, for Government servants, district-wise, in the State ;
- (b) the number of these houses that were given to Gazetted Officers and non-gazetted employees of the Government, respectively ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) and (b). A statement containing the requisite information is given below.

Statement regarding requisitioning of Evacuee and non-evacuee houses in the State.

(a). *District* *Total number of Evacuee and non-Evacuee houses requisitioned so far by the Government*

Hissar	..	161
Rohtak	..	40
Gurgaon	..	62
Karnal	..	103
Ambala	..	42
Simla	..	289 (805 sets)
Kangra	..	36
Gurdaspur	..	64
Amritsar	..	105
Jullundur	..	219
Ludhiana	..	207
Ferozepur	..	70
Hoshiarpur	..	168

(b)		<i>For Gazetted Officers</i>	<i>For Non-Gazetted employees</i>
Hissar	..	34	127
Rohtak	..	21	19
Gurgaon	..	23	22 (<i>plus 17 buildings being used as Government offices and Foodgrain Godowns</i>)
Karnal	..	15	49 (<i>plus 39 buildings being used as offices</i>)
Ambala	..	12	30
Simla	..	70 (sets)	735 (sets)
Kangra	..	11	16 <i>plus 9 buildings being used as offices</i>

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	<i>For Gazetted Officers</i>	<i>For Non-Gazetted employees</i>
Gurdaspur ..	13	51
Amritsar ..	88	17
Jullundur ..	30	179
Ludhiana ..	41	132 (<i>plus 34 houses being used as Govt. offices</i>)
Ferozepore ..	15	55 (<i>includes houses occupied by Govt. offices, Foodgrain Godowns etc.</i>)
Hoshiarpur ..	37	118 (<i>plus 13 houses being used as offices.</i>)

SPREADING OF SARKANDAS IN VARIOUS CHOS IN HOSHIARPUR DISTRICT.

***1242. Shri Rala Ram :** Will the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state the amount of money, if any, earmarked this year (1952-53) by the Government for spreading sarkanda in the various chos in Hoshiarpur District to facilitate the traffic, if not, the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa : Funds to the extent of Rs. 9,000 have been earmarked during 1952-53 for spreading sarkandas in the various chos in Hoshiarpur District to facilitate the traffic.

JAWALAMUKHI-MARHUN ROAD.

***1268. Bakshi Partap Singh :** Will the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the Jawala Mukhi-Marhun Road has been declared by the Government as a Second Class Road; if so, whether any intimation to this effect has been sent to the District Board, Kangra ?

Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa : The matter for promotion of Jawalamukhi-Marhun Road from Class III to Class II is under consideration of the Government and the final decision when taken in the matter will be communicated to the District Board, Kangra.

CONSTRUCTION WORK-CHARGED STAFF AT PHILLAUR.

***1286. Shri Wadhawa Ram :** Will the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

- (a) whether he is aware of the fact that the construction work-charged Staff, Phillaur, have not received their pay for the last two and-a-half months ;

- (b) whether he is further aware of the fact that four months' deduction has been made in the salary of the workers mentioned in part (a) above without notice ;
- (c) if the answer to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, the steps Government propose to take in the matter ?

Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa : (a) Yes—only a part of the work-charged staff.

(b) No. The pay of certain work-charged employees has been revised as the result of introduction of the revised scales of pay by Government with effect from the 1st April 1952 in the Electricity Branch.

(c) The pays of the staff affected are being refixed near about what they were getting on the 31st March 1952, in order to eliminate any loss to them so far as possible as a result of this revision.

CHOS BETWEEN HOSHIARPUR AND DASUYA.

***1301. Shri Wadhawa Ram :** Will the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

- (a) whether he is aware of the fact that the " Chos " falling in the route between Hoshiarpur to Dasuya cause great inconvenience to the people and the transport services ;
- (b) whether he has received any representation, dated 15th October 1952, in this connection ;
- (c) if the answers to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, the steps Government proposes to take in the matter ?

Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Instructions have been issued for paying greater attention to the maintenance of the stretches of roads passing through the Chos so that they remain passable for the maximum period during the year.

RESIGNATION BY OVERSEERS AT CHANDIGARH CAPITAL SITE.

***1329. Shri Ram Chandra Comrade :** Will the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a number of Overseers employed at Chandigarh Capital Site have resigned their posts; if so, the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa : It is not a fact that a number of Overseers employed in the Capital Organisation at Chandigarh have resigned their posts. Only one Overseer has, under the terms of his employment, given one month's notice of his intention to resign on account of private circumstances.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

ADDITIONAL POLICE POSTS IN DISTRICT AMRITSAR.

129. Shri Ram Kishan : Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any additional police posts were quartered at village Miani, Police Station Jhabhal and at village Makhi Kalan, Police Station Bhikhiwind of Amritsar District between 1st October 1949 and 15th June 1950 ; if so, when and for what period ;
- (b) the sanctioned strength of each of these police posts ;

- (c) the estimated and the actual cost of each of these posts respectively ;
- (d) (i) whether out of the sanctioned strength for Makhi Kalan Police Posts, any police constables were kept at the District Head-quarters in the reserve police force ; if so, their names ;
- (ii) the period for which each of them remained attached to the reserve police force at the District Head-quarters during the stay of the police force at village Makhi Kalan ;
- (iii) the total cost borne by the Government regarding the police constables referred to in part (d) (i) above ;
- (e) whether the police constables referred to in part (d) (i) above were ever sent to the police post at village Makhi Kalan during the year ; if so, when and the period for which they remained in the village ;
- (f) (i) if the answer to part (e) above be in the negative, the way in which the services of these police constables were availed of and by whom ;
- (ii) the total cost borne by the Government regarding these police constables referred to in part (d) above ;
- (g) whether at the time of assessment the cost borne by the Government in connection with the constables referred to in part (d) (i) above has been included in the cost to be recovered from the inhabitants of the village ; if so, the reasons therefor ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) Yes, at village Miani from 11th May 1950 to 10th May 1951 and at village Makhi Kalan from 1st December 1949 to 30th November 1950.

(b) 1 Assistant Sub-Inspector of Police and 5 Foot Constables including contingency reserve.

(c)	<i>Estimated Cost</i>			<i>Actual Cost</i>		
	Rs.	As.	Ps.	Rs.	As.	Ps.
Miani	7,523	6	0	7,162	6	0
Makhi Kalan	7,543	12	10	6,247	4	9

(d) (i) Yes, one Foot Constable sanctioned for Additional Police Post, Makhi Kalan, as contingency reserve was kept at District Headquarters. His name is Baldev Raj.

(ii) From 1st December 1949 to 30th November 1950.

(iii) Rs. 966-8-0.

(e) No.

(f) (i) The services of this Foot Constable were utilized on general duty by the District Police.

(ii) Rs. 966-8 0

(g) Yes ; in accordance with the provisions of rule 2-22(i) of the Punjab Police Rules.

ASSESSMENT OF ADDITIONAL POLICE POST COST IN DISTRICT AMRITSAR.

130. **Shri Ram Kishan :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the bad characters, convicts and suspects of villages Sur Singh, Kacha Pakka and Makhi Kalan, District Amritsar, have been ordered to pay any extra amount in addition to the one due from them in proportion to the land revenue or their profession for the additional police post; if so, the rate at which this extra amount has been assessed ;
- (b) whether the bad characters, convicts and suspects of village Miani, District Amritsar, have been treated at par with persons referred to in part (a) above in the matter of charges for the additional police post cost ; if not, the reasons therefor ;
- (c) (i) whether any persons of village Kacha Pakka, referred to in part (a) above who were arrested in connection with the murder of a police officer on or about 19th March 1950, have been ordered to pay Rs. 100 per head in addition as the cost of additional police post ;
- (ii) whether any persons of village Miani referred to above were arrested in connection with this murder of the police officer referred to in part (c) above ; if so, their list ;
- (iii) whether the persons referred to in part (c) (i) above have been treated at par with the persons referred to in part (c) (ii) above in connection with the payment of additional police post cost ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) No.

(b) Yes.

(c) (i) Thirteen persons of village Kacha Pakka were in the first instance levied an additional charge of Rs. 100 each, but later on the assessment list was revised and no such additional charge was imposed.

(ii) Yes, a list is given below.

(iii) Yes.

List of persons of village Miani who were arrested in connection with the murder of a police officer on or about 19th March 1950.

- (1) Shangara Singh, son of Bela Singh, Jat.
- (2) Sucha Singh, son of Bela Singh, Jat.
- (3) Chanan Singh, son of Hazara Singh, Jat.
- (4) Ram Singh, son of Pala Singh, Jat.
- (5) Geja Singh, son of Pala Singh, Jat.
- (6) Inder Singh, son of Bhagat Singh, Jat.

BEATING OF SARDAR MOHAN SINGH OF JULLUNDUR CITY BY THE POLICE.

201. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) whether he is aware of the fact that one Sardar Mohan Singh, son of Daleep Singh, House No. 93, resident of 8-Marla Cheap Housing Colony, Nakodar Road, Jullundur City, has been beaten and tortured by A.-S.I. Incharge, Adam pore Police Station;
- (b) whether he is further aware of the fact that Cycle No. O/48,18313 was forcibly taken by the A.-S.I. referred to above from the said Mohan Singh who was forced to sign a receipt therefor ;
- (c) if the answer to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, the action so far taken in the matter?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) There is no Mohan Singh, son of Dalip Singh, residing in house No. 93 of eight-Marla Cheap Housing Colony, Nakodar Road, Jullundur City. There is, however, one Mohan Singh, son of Dalip Singh, of village Kapurpind, Police Station Adampur. He was never beaten or tortured by the Adampur Police.

(b) No bicycle No. 0/48,18313 was forcibly taken by the Adampur Police and no receipt was ever obtained from him.

(c) Does not arise.

 BEATING OF RAI SIKHS IN AMRITSAR DISTRICT BY THE POLICE.

202. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether he is aware of the fact that a number of Rai Sikhs of village Bhalarwal, Tehsil Ajnala, District Amritsar, have been beaten by the local Chowki of the border ; if so, the steps, if any, taken by the Government in the matter?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : No Rai Sikhs of village Bhalarwal, Tehsil Ajnala, District Amritsar, were ever beaten by any Police Officer of the Punjab Armed Police Picket, Bhalarwal, nor was any report to this effect made to the Police Station.

 COMPENSATION TO THE OWNERS OF THE LAND UTILIZED BY THE GOVERNMENT FOR BUILDING ROAD FROM PANIPAT IN GOHANA.

203. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Will the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any compensation has been paid so far to the owners of the lands utilized for making a *pacca* road from Panipat to Gohana in District Karnal ; if not, whether any steps have been taken in this direction ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that a Jagirdar of Kishanpore has been paid compensation at the rate of Rs. 10,000 per acre; if so, the reasons therefor ;

- (c) whether he is aware of the fact that the owners of the lands so utilized in the building of the road are still paying the Land Revenue; if so, the action Government intends taking in the matter ?

Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa : (a) Yes. Compensation for land, acquired in Guddiwara Village has since been paid. As regards other villages the Revenue staff is already taking necessary action in the matter to pay the compensation as soon as possible.

(b) Yes. The matter is under investigation.

(c) No.

ARREST OF TENANTS AND LANDLORDS IN THE STATE.

204. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that a number of tenants have been arrested in the State in the first week of October, 1952 ; if so, their number together with their names and the reasons for their arrest ;
- (b) the number of landlords that have been arrested so far ; and the reasons for their arrest ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) *First Part* . Yes.

Second Part. 30. A statement containing their names is given below. They were arrested for having committed a criminal offence under section 379/406, I. P. C., in forcibly removing the landlords' share of the produce.

(b) *First Part.* 77 landlords, including members of their party, have been arrested so far since 1952. Besides, action under section 107, Cr. P. C., was taken against 8 landlords, as relations between the tenants and landlords were strained over the possession of land.

Second Part. Assaults on tenants in connection with disputes over land ; trespass into land ; illicit possession of arms ; forcible removal of tenants' share of produce and danger to breach of peace over ejectments.

List of Names.

1. Raja Ram, son of Milawa Ram, Kambo, of Kath Garh, P. S. Jalalabad.
2. Gehna Singh, son of Kahan Singh, Rai Sikh, of Mohkam Arain, P. S. Jalalabad.
3. Bahal Singh son of Bainka Singh, Rai Sikh, of Ahsan wala, P. S. Jalalabad.
4. Mangal Singh, son of Gurdas Singh, Rai Sikh, of Mahalam, P. S. Jalalabad.
5. Jinda Ram, son of Panjoo, Kamboo, of Kath Garh, P. S. Jalalabad.

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6. Nihal Singh, son of Juma Singh, Rai Sikh, of Ahsanwala, P. S. Jalalabad.

7. Chanan Singh, son of Bhag Singh, Rai Sikh, of Kathgarh, P. S. Jalalabad.

8. Sampuran Singh, son of Bhag Singh, Rai Sikh, of Ahsanwala, P. S. Jalalabad.

9. Bishen Singh, son of Inder Singh, Rai Sikh, of Amir Khas.

10. Wasawa Ram, son of Raju Ram, Kamboo, of Kathgarh.

11. Man Singh, son of Bahadur Singh, Rai Sikh, of Amir Khas.

12. Jassa Ram, son of Raju Ram, Kambo of Kathgarh.

13. Jinda Ram, son of Panju Ram, Kambo, of Kathgarh.

14. Nanak Singh, son of Sohna Singh, Rai Sikh, of Sohna Sandhar.

15. Saudagar Singh, son of Sohna Singh, Rai Sikh, of Sohna Sandhar.

16. Dhara Singh, son of Kanshi Singh, Rai Sikh, of Sohna Sandhar.

17. Fauja Singh, son of Kanshi Singh, Rai Sikh, of Sohna Sandhar.

18. Surjan Singh, son of Kanshi Singh, Rai Sikh, of Sohna Sandhar.

19. Khushal Singh, son of Punjab Singh, Rai Sikh, of Sohna Sandhar.

20. Kartar Singh, son of Khushal Singh, Rai Sikh, of Sohna Sandhar.

21. Bagga Singh, son of Wazir Singh, Rai Sikh, of Kathgarh.

22. Sahib Singh, son of Bagga Singh, Rai Sikh, of Ghobaya.

23. Kartar Singh, son of Joga Singh, Rai Sikh, of Ghobaya.

24. Kala Singh, alias Kala, son of Sadda Singh, Rai Sikh, of Ghobaya.

25. Lal Singh, son of Kharak Singh, Rai Sikh, of Ghobaya.

26. Goman Singh, son of Mathaila Singh, Rai Sikh, of Chak Totianwali.

27. Kartar Singh, son of Kala Singh, Rai Sikh, of Chak Totianwali.

28. Sarya Singh, son of Lachhman Singh, Rai Sikh, of Kattianwali.

29. Sher Singh, son of Jhanda Singh, Rai Sikh, of Mahalam.

30. Kala Singh, son of Bahadur Singh, Rai Sikh, of Mahalam.

MUTATIONS EFFECTED IN THE STATE.

205. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of persons in the State owning 50 standard acres or 100 ordinary acres of land in the year 1947 ;
- (b) the number of mutations that have been effected since 1947, in which the land has been transferred to the son or other near relatives of the land-owners ;
- (c) the number of tenants (permanent or at-will) that have been affected by mutations referred to in part (b) above and the steps the Government proposes to take in this connection ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) 11,350.

(b) 4,313.

(c) *First Part.* 7,002.

Second Part. Under Section 6 of the Punjab Security of Land Tenures Act, 1953, all transfers of land except bona fide sales or mortgages with possession, or transfers resulting from inheritance, made after the 15th August 1947 and before the commencement of this Act, have to be ignored while determining the area owned by a land-owner under the Act. In Section 10(1) of the above-mentioned Act it has further been provided *inter alia* that where a tenant has been ejected from any land after the 15th August 1947 and such land is under self-cultivation, such tenant shall be entitled to be restored to his tenancy in the manner prescribed on the same terms and conditions on which it was held by him at the time of his ejection. These provisions of law thus provide sufficient relief to the tenants.

RELIEF TO POLITICAL SUFFERERS IN THE STATE.

207. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of political sufferers in the State, who have been given relief by the Government so far ;
- (b) the party or parties to which they belonged in the past and their present political affiliations ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) 242 (orders have been passed in about eighty other cases for a pension of Rs. 50 per month).

(b) They have been given relief regardless of political affiliations.

STRIKE BY DISTRICT BOARD TEACHERS OF LUDHIANA.

208. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) the reasons why the District Board teachers of Ludhiana have decided to go on strike after the 30th October, 1952 ;

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- (b) the details of their demands and the steps Government proposes to take to prevent the said strike and to meet the demands of the District Board Teachers of Ludhiana?

Shri Jagat Narain : (a) In pursuance of the decision of Punjab Board Teachers Union.

(b) The main demands of the Board Teachers are given below:—

- (1) Provincialization of all local body schools.
- (2) The same grades of pay should be given to local body teachers as are in force for teachers in Government Schools.
- (3) Board Teachers should be exempted from payment of professional tax.
- (4) Displaced local body teachers from West Punjab should be considered to have put in continuous service from the date of first appointment in the local body schools in the Punjab.

These demands are being considered by the Government.

PROFESSION TAX IN FEROZEPURE DISTRICT.

209. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether profession tax is charged from school teachers at the rate of Rs. 4 in the District of Ferozepore by the District Board ; if not, the reasons for asking the school teachers to pay it and for asking the headmasters to report cases of non-payment to the Inspector of Schools up to the 10th May, 1952 ;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that a letter No. 184, dated 10th May, 1952, was issued in connection with the fact mentioned in part (a) above ; if so, a copy of the said letter be laid on the Table ?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma : (a) Profession tax was charged from the District Board teachers at the rate of Rs. 4 per annum prior to April 1952, but from the 1st April 1952, tax is levied according to the new schedule ; which is based on graded scale according to the income of the individual. The second part of question does not arise.

(b) *1st part.* No.

Second part. Does not arise.

COMPLAINT AGAINST THE PRESIDENT, MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, HISSAR.

210. Shri Balwant Rai Tayal : Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that he received a letter, dated 6th June 1952, from Shri Madan Lal Baghi of Hissar in which he had made a complain

against the President and some other employees of the Municipal Committee, Hissar, ; if so, the steps taken by the Government in the matter ?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma : No. Letters bearing some other dates of the same matter were received from Shri Madan Lal Baghi and enquiries were made but the allegations remained unsubstantiated.

SWAN NADI IN UNA TEHSIL.

211. Shri Mansa Ram Kuthiala : Will the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

- (a) the length of the Swan Nadi in Una Tehsil together with the area of land covered by it at present and the area washed away by it each year during the last ten years ;
- (b) the number of human lives and cattle reported to be lost owing to the floods in the said Nadi during the rainy seasons in the past ten years ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Government in the prepartition and post-partition period had been making a provision in the Budget for the construction of a bridge over this Nadi near Una or elsewhere ; if so, the amount that used to be provided for this purpose and in what years ;
- (d) whether any bridge has been constructed over the said Nadi; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa :

(a) Legth of Swan Nadi in Una Tehsil .. 45 miles.

Area of land covered by it .. About 45 square miles.

Area washed way by it each year during the last 10 years .. No definite figures can be given . . Sometimes a few hundred acres are washed away—another time so much area is added.

(b) Not known.

(c) No.

(d) The bridge has not been constructed on account of financial stringency.

REGISTRATION OF HANDLOOMS IN THE STATE.

212. Shri Mansa Ram Kuthiala : Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) the total number of handlooms registered in the State as on 31st December 1951 ;
- (b) the total number of persons employed in this industry and the

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number of ' dependants ' of these persons during the above-mentioned period ;

(c) the quantity of silk and cotton yarn imported in the State and consumed by these handlooms and the quantity of cloth manufactured during the half year ending :

(i) 31st December 1951 ; and

(ii) 30th June 1952 ;

(d) the steps which the Government has taken or proposes to take to protect this industry in the State ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) There is no provision for the registration of handlooms in Punjab. There were, however, about 44,000 handlooms in the State on the 31st December 1951.

(b) Exact figures regarding the number of persons employed and their dependants are not available. However, according to an *ad hoc* enquiry conducted by the Department of Industries, there were 66,000 workers employed in the industry of handloom cloth in the year 1951-52. Information in regard to the dependants of workers engaged in this industry is not available.

(In bales of 400 lbs. each)

Period	QUANTITY OF SILK AND YARN IMPORTED		CONSUMPTION BY HANDLOOMS ONLY		CLOTH MANUFACTURED ON HANDLOOMS
	<i>Silk Yarn</i>	<i>Cotton Yarn</i>	<i>Silk Yarn</i>	<i>Cotton Yarn</i>	
	1st July, 1951 to 3rd December, 1951.	Nil	11,041	Negligible		6,511 bales.	Figures are not available.
1st January 1952 to 30th June 1952.	Nil	5,432	Do	3,590 bales	Ditto

(d) The Government of India have reserved the following varieties of cloth which only handloom weavers, including small powerloom concerns, can manufacture :—

- (1) Dhoties with borders exceeding $\frac{1}{4}$ " or with Zari or Muga or Artificial Silk Yarn in border.
- (2) Lungi and Gumchas with a check pattern.
- (3) Chaddars (like shawls) checked or striped.
- (4) Bed Sheets with coloured woven borders length-wise or breadth-wise.
- (5) Bed Covers, any type.
- (6) Counterpanes, any type, other than one having overall dob by or jacquard designs.

- (7) Gauze, bandage and jaconet cloth, any type.
- (8) Table-cloth and Napkine, other than damask bleached qualities.
- (9) Dusters, Duster-cloth, or Glass Cloth.
- (10) Coarse-cloth of plain weave with warp or weft counts of 8-s and below.
- (11) Towels or Towelling-cloth in honey comb weave.
- (12) Saris with borders exceeding 2½" in width with striped or check pattern.

The Government of India have also decided that the products of cottage industries should be given maximum possible preference consistently with the needs of Government Departments concerned, and instructions to this effect have been issued by the State Government. This will also give protection to the handloom industry.

SUPPLY OF DRINKING WATER FROM THE LAJPAT RAI WATER WORKS, NANGAL
BAT (BEET WATERWORKS).

213. Shri Mansa Ram Kuthiala : Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state —

- (a) the number of the villages, together with the total population thereof, which are getting water from the Lajpat Rai Waterworks, Nangal Bat (Beet Waterworks) in the jurisdiction of Police Station Una ;
- (b) the quantity of water, in gallons, daily pumped by these waterworks ;
- (c) the total expenses incurred by the Government annually for the working of these Waterworks and the annual revenue recovered as water rate ;
- (d) whether the Government has under consideration any scheme for the other villages of Una Police Station for [meeting the scarcity of drinking water ?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma : In this connection, please refer to reply to the Starred Assembly question No. 812, which is given below.

SUPPLY OF WATER FROM LAJPAT RAI WORKS IN THE JURISDICTION OF UNA
POLICE STATION.

***812. Shri Mansa Ram Khuthiala :** Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state :—

- (a) the number of villages together with the number of the people who are getting water from Lajpat Rai Waterworks (Beech Waterworks) in the jurisdiction of Una Police Station ;
- (b) the quantity of water, in gallons, daily pumped by these water works ;
- (c) the amount of water rate charged per head from the public ;
- (d) the total expenses incurred annually for the working of the waterworks and the annual revenue recovered as water rate ;
- (e) whether Government has any other scheme for this area for meeting the scarcity of drinking water ?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma : (a) Number of Villages .. 9
Number of people .. 10,849

(b) 2,08,933 gallons.

(c) Rs. 3 per head per annum.

(d) Annual expenditure .. Rs. 80,000 approximately.

Annual assessment .. Rs. 81,751.

(e) Originally the Scheme was prepared in two parts: Works covered by Part I have been carried out ; but on account of paucity of funds, it is not yet proposed to carry out the works covered by Part II.

INSTALLATION OF LAJPAT RAI WATER WORKS (UNA POLICE STATION).

214. Shri Mansa Ram Kuthiala : Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state —

- (a) the total investment made by the Government for the installation of the Lajpat Rai Water works (Una Police Station) ;
- (b) the total revenue recovered by the Government on account of the supply of water to the villagers as water rate up to 31st March 1952 ;
- (c) the annual expenditure incurred by the Government on account of the establishment of the said water works ;
- (d) the total cost of fuel consumed in the running of the said water-works, (i) f.o.r. price at Jaijon Doaba Railway Station and (ii) the transport charges incurred for the carriage of fuel from Jaijon Doaba to the site of works during the year 1951-52 ?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma : (a) Rs. 9,98,864.

(b) The total revenue recovered by the District Board, Hoshiarpur, on account of the supply of water to the villagers as water rate up to the 31st March 1952, is Rs. 86,539. No revenue is recoverable by Government.

(c) Rs. 20,771.

(d) Rs. 51,653 which is detailed as under :—

- (i) F. O. R. price at Jaijon..Rs. 49,331.
- (ii) Transport Charges..Rs 2,322.

TORTURE OF SHRI RAJA RAM OF VILLAGE TELEHRI, DISTRICT AMBALA, BY THE POLICE.

215. Sardar Bachan Singh : Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether he is aware of the fact that one Shri Raja Ram of Village Telehri, Police Station Mallana, Tehsil and District Ambala, was tortured to death by the Assistant Sub-Inspector of Police, ; if so, the action taken by the Government in the matter ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : Shri Raja Ram of Village Telehri, Police Station Mullana, Tehsil and District Ambala, is a proclaimed offender in case F.I.R. No. 2, dated 9th January 1952, under section 302/460, Indian Penal Code, Police Station Bilaspur, which is being put into court. There is nothing to show that he was tortured to death by the Assistant Sub-Inspector ; he is in fact absconding still.

MERGER OF MUNICIPAL AREAS OF JAGADHRI AND YAMUNA NAGAR

216. Sardar Bachan Singh : Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state —

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Notified Area Committee, Yamuna Nagar, is proposed to be merged with the Jagadhri Municipal Committee ;

- (b) the distance between Yamuna Nagar and Jagadhri ;
- (c) whether he has received any representations against the proposed merger; if so, the action taken thereon ?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma : (a) Yes.

(b) About a mile.

(c) Yes; the matter is under the consideration of Government.

DAMAGE TO CROPS IN FATEHBAD, DISTRICT AMRITSAR.

217. Sardar Bachan Singh : Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) whether he is aware of the fact that a landlord, named Bharpur Singh of Fatehbad, District Amritsar, destroyed the whole crop of tenants with tractors in the month of September 1952 ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that a deputation of tenants of the said village led by Sardar Mota Singh, General Secretary, Kisan Sabha, District Amritsar, met the Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar, in this connection ; if so, the action, if any, taken by the Government in the matter ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) Yes, after he had deposited in court of R. A. Amritsar the amount of compensation for the crop.

(b) In the absence of a specific date it is not possible for the Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar, to say whether any deputation of tenants waited on him. However, Sohan Singh and other tenants submitted an application to him on 27th September 1952. It is just possible that those tenants may have been led by Shri Mota Singh. The allegations were found baseless and the application filed.

REPRESENTATION BY ALLOTTEES OF VILLAGE NEZA DALLA KALAN, TEHSIL SIRSA, DISTRICT HISSAR.

218. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that 80 per cent allottees of Village Neza Dalla Kalan, Tehsil Sirsa, District Hissar, got *barani* land and only 20 per cent got *Sailab* ;
- (b) whether any representation against the allotment referred to in part (a) above were received by the Financial Commissioner, Relief and Rehabilitation, Punjab, Simla ; if so, the steps Government proposes to take in the matter ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) No.

(b) No.

CHALLANS UNDER THE EAST PUNJAB PURE FOOD ACT.

219. **Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut** : Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state the total number of challans districtwise in the State made under the East Punjab Pure Food Act during the last six months ?

Shri Jagat Narain : The requisite information is given below :—

<i>Name of the District</i>	<i>Number of cases challaned</i>
(1) Hissar ..	135
(2) Rohtak ..	96
(3) Gurgaon ..	69
(4) Karnal ..	155
(5) Ambala ..	146
(6) Simla ..	192
(7) Kangra ..	179
(8) Hoshiarpur ..	47
(9) Jullundur ..	247
(10) Ludhiana ..	211
(11) Ferozepore ..	114
(12) Amritsar ..	504
(13) Gurdaspur ..	110
Total ..	2,205

VILLAGES BELONGING TO PUNJAB (INDIA) BUT STILL HELD BY PAKISTAN.

220. **Sardar Chanan Singh] Dhut** : Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Villages Ghuria ke Bet, Rasulpur and Sowala are in Tehsil Batala, District Gurdaspur and Simran, Sowala, Niki Wadhai are in Tehsil Ajnala, District Amritsar, and that after the partition they formed part of the Indian territory but they actually were under the control of the Pakistan Government ;
- (b) whether he is aware of the fact that the people of the villages referred to in part (a) above have been driven out by the Pakistan Government; if so, whether these people have been rehabilitated like other refugees, if not, the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) Yes. The correct names of the villages are—

Batala Tehsil.

- (1) Ghannike Bet and not Ghuria ke Bet.
- (2) Rasulpore.
- (3) Lallowal and not Sowala.

Ajnala Tehsil.

- (1) Saharan and not Simran.
- (2) Kassowala and not Sowala.
- (3) Niki Bhidi and not Niki Wadhai.

(b) Yes. Such persons have been leased out equal area belonging to Pakistan nationals, but managed by Indian Union, on reciprocal basis.

SHRI GIAN SINGH OF VILLAGE BAHONA, TEHSIL MOGA,
DISTRICT FEROZEPORE.

221. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) whether he is aware of the fact that one Gian Singh of Village Bahona, Tehsil Moga, District Ferozepore, who was working in the Consolidation Department on Jarib measurements at a salary of Rs. 37-8-0 per mensem was dismissed from service and that his salary for 3½ months has not so far been paid ;
- (b) whether he is further aware of the fact that the Chief Minister in his reply on 20th August 1952 to the said Gian Singh stated that the needful would be done ; if so, the action so far taken by the Government in the matter ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a)(i) Shri Gian Singh who was employed as Flagman at Rs. 10 per mensem as pay, *plus* Rs. 25 as Dearness Allowance was not dismissed but left service of his own accord.

(ii) His pay was drawn but was refunded as he did not turn up to get it. The amount is again being drawn for disbursement to him.

(b) Government are not aware of the reply of the Chief Minister given on 20th August 1952.

POLICE POST AT VILLAGE NASRALA, DISTRICT HOSHIARPUR.

222. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that a police post was quartered in Village Nasrala, District Hoshiarpur, in the month of November 1951; if so, the reasons therefor ;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the said Chowki is located in the Barat Ghar which is in the centre of the town ; if so, the reasons for locating the same in the Barat Ghar;

[Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut]

- (c) whether the Superintendent of Police, Hoshiarpur, when on tour received any deputation on 3rd May, 1952, of the people of the said village in this connection ; if so, the steps taken by the Government in the matter ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) No regular police post was quartered in Nasrala but owing to increase in robbery cases and other serious crime against property in that area an Assistant Sub-Inspector and some Constables were deputed to remain in that area to curb the activities of criminals.

(b) With the permission of the villagers the Barat Ghar was used by the Police for interrogation purposes. It is not now being used by the Police. The Police used Barat Ghar for interrogation purposes because no other suitable building was available.

(c) Yes. The Barat Ghar is not now being used by the Police for any purpose.

GRANT OF ARMS LICENCES IN THE STATE.

223. Sardar Darshan Singh : Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of people who were given arms licences in the years 1947-48, 1948-49, 1949-50 and 1950-51, respectively, in the State ;
- (b) the general qualification necessary to qualify for the grant of an arms licence ;
- (c) the number of licences that have been given to the landlords and tenants, respectively, during the above-mentioned periods ;
- (d) the number of licences that have been cancelled in the same years together with the reasons therefor in each case ;
- (e) whether the Government has paid any compensation to the persons who had to deposit their arms due to the cancellation of their licences ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a), (c)&(d) The time and labour involved in collecting the information will not be commensurate with the benefit aimed at. However, an inquiry will be made by Government into any particular case that the hon. Member may wish to bring to their notice.

(b) Licences are granted under rule 31 of the Indian Arms Rules, 1951. In determining whether or not to grant a licence to possess or carry firearms, the licensing authority does have regard to the suitability of an applicant and also to his character, status and personal needs and does not grant a licence to any person who cannot be confidently relied upon to use firearms properly.

(e) Licences are cancelled under section 18 of the Indian Arms Act, 1878, which does not provide for any compensation or when their renewals are refused under rule 41 of the Indian Arms Rules, 1951. However, the case of providing compensation to persons who were required to deposit arms of prohibited bore categories, is under examination.

RELIEF TO THE POLITICAL SUFFERERS IN THE STATE.

224. Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of political sufferers in the State who have so far been given relief by the Government ;
- (b) the party or parties to which they belong at present ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) and (b) The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to the answer given to Assembly Question No. 207 (unstarred).*

STRIKE BY DISTRICT BOARD TEACHERS OF LUDHIANA.

225. Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) the reasons why the District Board Teachers of Ludhiana have decided to go on strike after the 30th October 1952 ;
- (b) the details of their demands and the steps Government proposed to take to prevent the said strike and to meet the demands of the District Board Teachers of Ludhiana ?

Shri Jagat Narain : The hon. Member is referred to my reply to Assembly question No. 208 (unstarred).**

DETENUS IN JAILS OF THE STATE.

226. Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state the total number of detenues in all the jails of the State at present ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : Nine.

POSTPONEMENT OF THE APPLICATION OF SECTIONS 4 AND 5 OF THE CHOS ACT.

227. Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government has ordered the postponement of the enforcement of sections 4 and 5 of the Chos Act ; if so, whether the order was given orally or it was sent through circulars ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : The relaxation of restrictions on grazing of sheep, goats and camels in Ambala and Hoshiarpur Districts under sections 4 and 5 of the Punjab Land Preservation Act, 1900, has been ordered for the periods of 9 and 6 months from June and August, 1952, respectively. The above orders were issued through official communications to the local officers concerned of the Forest Department.

* Reply to unstarred question No. 207 appears in this very debate.

**Reply to unstarred question No. 208 appears in this very debate.

PROMOTION TO GAZETTED POSTS IN AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT.

228. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the persons already serving in the Agriculture Department who are above 35 years of age are debarred from promotion to gazetted posts ; if so, the reasons therefor ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the persons below 35 years of age are taken directly for gazetted posts ; if so, the number of such persons promoted together with the reasons therefor in each case ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) There are two categories of gazetted posts in the Agriculture Department, viz., Punjab Agricultural Service, Class I, and Punjab Agricultural Service, Class II. The posts in these cadres are classified under three main sub-heads, viz., Research, Teaching and District Work. Appointment to these two classes of service are made under statutory Rules.

Under the Punjab Agricultural Service, Class I Rules, recruitment to all research posts in the P. A. S., Class I, is made through the Punjab Public Service Commission and there is no age-limit restriction for candidates (whether already in service or outsiders) applying for such posts. In the case of other posts in the P. A. S., Class I, appointments are made either by direct appointment or by promotion as Government may in each case decide. When appointment is made by promotion, there is no age restriction and appointment is made on the basis of seniority-cum-merit, but when appointment is made by direct appointment through the Commission, candidates must be not less than 22 nor more than 35 years of age.

The recruitment to the gazetted posts in the P. A. S., Class II, is made either by promotion from the subordinate service or by direct appointment as Government may, in each case decide, provided that the posts of District Agricultural Officers and Assistant Professors of Agriculture are filled alternately by promotion and by direct appointment. When appointment is made by promotion there is no age restriction and seniority-cum-merit are both taken into consideration. In the case of recruitment by direct appointment candidates must be not less than 22 nor more than 35 years of age.

(b) Yes, as explained against (a). The number of the persons who were below 35 years and were recruited to gazetted posts by direct appointment since partition is four only.

ALLOTMENT OF LAND AT VILLAGE MOHAN MAJRA, DISTRICT KARNAL.

229. Master Partap Singh : Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the allotment of land previously made to the 1st Group of old soldiers of District Ambala at Mohan Majra, Post Office Pahuwa, Tehsil Kaithal, District Karnal, is being cancelled, and the land is being allotted to the members of some other group ; if so, the reasons for this change ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : There is no village of the name Mohan Majra in Kaithal Tehsil but there is a village Mohanpur where groups o

ex-soldiers from Ambala District have been allotted land. Through the Group Commanders, Subedar Amar Singh and Jamadar Har Bhajan Singh, these ex-soldiers have themselves applied that as a big Nullah passes through their land they may be allotted land somewhere else. The question of cancellation of allotment, therefore, does not arise.

—————
SUSPENSION OF REVENUE PATWARIS AND KANUNGOS IN AMRITSAR
DISTRICT.

230. Shri Ram Kishan : Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any Revenue Patwaris, Field Kanungos, working in the Consolidation Department of the Amritsar District, were suspended between 1st April 1952 and 30th September 1952 ; if so, their list and the reasons for suspension in each case;
- (b) whether the persons referred to in part (a) above were in permanent service;
- (c) (i) whether the persons referred to in part (a) above were allowed any maintenance allowance as laid down in rule 3·26 of the Land Record Manual ; if so, the amount allowed to each of them up to 30th September 1952 ;
- (ii) whether the amount due was paid to them every month up to 30th September 1952 ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) Yes. The names of the officials, their designations and reasons for suspension are given below:—

<i>Name of official</i>	<i>Designation</i>	<i>Reasons for suspension</i>
(1) Sardar Kartar Singh..	Field Kanungo	Corruption
(2) Shri Lila Ram ..	Patwari	.. Inefficiency
(3) Sardar Moja Singh..	Patwari	.. Inefficiency and absence from duty

(b) Except Shri Moja Singh, the other two officials are permanent Patwaris.

(c) (i) No. Their service record was not available; hence maintenance allowance could not be paid.

(ii) Does not arise.

—————
REPRESENTATION FROM SARDAR GARMEJ SINGH AND OTHERS OF VILLAGE
MARGINDPURA, DISTRICT AMRITSAR.

231. Shri Ram Kishan : Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state whether any representation by Sardar Garmej Singh and others of village Margindpura, Tehsil Patti, District Amritsar, regarding the defective

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working of a certain canal outlet, was received by the Executive Engineer, Jandiala Division of the Upper Bari Doab Canal, Amritsar, on or about the 22nd October 1952 ; if so, the action taken thereon ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh: Yes. An application from Sardar Garmej Singh and others of Village Margindpura, Tehsil Patti, District Amritsar, regarding the defective working of outlet R. D. 80-L of Makki Distributary was received by the Executive Engineer, Jandiala Division, on 24th October 1952.

The case was investigated. The actual irrigation from the outlet for the last 3 years is 473 acres against 312 acres permissible. No action is, therefore, called for .

POSTING OF REVENUE PATWARIS IN TEHSIL PATTI, DISTRICT AMRITSAR.

232. Shri Ram Kishan : Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) whether there are any revenue patwaris in Tehsil Patti, District Amritsar, who are posted within 10 miles of their ancestral village homes ; if so, their list along with the names of patwar circles in which they are working at present ;
- (b) (i) the reasons for posting them within 10 miles of their homes ;
- (ii) the date since when each of them has been posted at the places referred to in part (a) above ;
- (c) (i) whether the Government proposes to make enquiries as to why they have been posted in violation of the rules within 10 miles of their homes ;
- (ii) the steps Government proposes to take to avoid such violation of the rules in future ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) Yes. A list showing the requisite information is given below.

(b) (i) In almost all these cases the Patwaris are displaced persons and they are working in circles which are within 10 miles of their villages of quasi-permanent allotment, which has only recently been completed.

(ii) Given in the statement.

(c) (i) In view of b(i) above the question does not arise.

(ii) Action is being taken to transfer them to far off circles.

List of Patwaris in Tehsil Patti, who are posted within 10 miles of their ancestral village homes

Sl. No.	Name of Patwari	Name of Circle	Date of appointment	REMARKS
1	Sh. Inder Singh	Pahuwind ..	15th August 1947	He is a displaced patwari and has now received quasi-permanent allotment in Sur Singh. He was appointed in the circle even before partition and still continues. He has since been granted leave.
2	Sh. Manohar Lal	Patti ..	4th June 1951	As above. Has received quasi-permanent allotment of land in Bhaggupur.
3	S. Hardip Singh	Sur Singh ..	27th February 1952	As above. Has received quasi-permanent allotment of land in Algon.
4	Sh. Ram Par-kash	Kacha Pakka	30th September 1951	As above. Has received quasi-permanent allotment of land in Gharyala.
5	Sh. Bogh Singh	Tulwandi Sobha Singh	9th June 1951	Is an unaccepted hand. Was posted in vacant circle when accepted and qualified hands were not available. Will be relieved shortly when patwari candidates are available by the end of January 1953.
6	Sh. Harkishan Lal	Shaheed ..	12th March 1951	Was appointed to officiate in the leave arrangement of Shri Khushal Singh, permanent patwari, on a temporary vacancy. The permanent patwari is still on leave. Will be relieved on his return.
7	S. Mohinder Singh	Tut ..	5th February 1952	Was posted in this vacant circle which is 9 miles from his home. Action is being taken to shift him.
8	Sh. Amar Singh	Rottoke ..	23rd November 1951	His father has received quasi-permanent allotment of land in Gharyala. Is a displaced person.
9	Sh. Suba Ram	Dal ..	5th February 1952	Is a candidate. Was posted temporarily on the transfer of the permanent patwari to consolidation. Action is being taken to shift him to a further circle.
10	Sh. Saudagar Singh	Shehbazpur	7th January 1949	He belongs to Village Akbarpur according to his service record but is reported to have taken up residence in his circle. The case is being examined.

ALLOTMENT OF MORTGAGED EVACUEE AREA TO DISPLACED PERSONS
AT PATTI, DISTRICT AMRITSAR.

233. **Shri Ram Kishan** : Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any mortgaged evacuee area at Patti Town, District Amritsar, was allotted to any displaced persons during the reviews of quasi-permanent allotment; if so, their list together with the area allotted to each of them ;
- (b) whether the persons referred to in part (a) above had been allotted any land during the quasi-permanent allotment ; if so, the names of the villages where the allotment had been made to them;
- (c) (i) whether in any cases while approving allotments, the Director, Rehabilitation Department, Jullundur, refused to cancel allotment made, referred to in part (b) above ; if so, their list;
- (ii) whether in any cases the allotments of land referred to in part (b) above were cancelled ; if so, by whom and when, and the list of persons so affected;
- (d) whether the allotments referred to in part (a) above were ordered to be cancelled ; if so, when and the reasons therefor;
- (e) (i) whether after the cancellation of the allotment referred to in part (a) above, all the allottees were restored to the villages of their original quasi-permanent allotment ; if so, their list, if not ; the reasons for not doing so;
- (ii) whether they have been fitted in any villages ; if so, where;
- (f) (i) if the answer to part (e) (ii) above be in the negative, the steps so far taken by the Government to allot them lands;
- (ii) the results of these efforts?

Sardar Ujjal Singh: (a) No. Karam Singh, son of Dayal Singh, Gurdit Singh, son of Chanda Singh, and Atto widow of Chanda Singh, were, however, earmarked for mortgaged area subject to the condition that this area would be allotted to them when redeemed by the State Government and the Government of India agreed to the utilisation of such redeemed areas for making quasi-permanent allotments. Since according to revised instructions such areas are not to be utilised for quasi-permanent allotments, orders earmarking the areas in question in favour of these persons have been withdrawn.

(b) Yes. Karam Singh in Village Pakki Patti, District Ferozepore, and Gurdit Singh and Musammatt Atto in Village Mast Garh, Tehsil Patti, District Amritsar.

(c) (i) Yes; of Karam Singh..

(ii) Yes; the allotments of Gurdit Singh and Mst. Atto were cancelled by the Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar, on 18th December 1952.

(d) Please refer to reply given to part (a) above.

(e) (i) No, as no area was then available.

(ii) Karam Singh has since been allotted land in Villages Ram Singh Wala, Jhungian Nur Mohd, Bhangala, Bundala and Saffa Singh Wala in Tehsil Patti. Gurdit Singh is being considered for allotment in Village Mast Garh, where area has become available due to the cancellation of allotment of another displaced person. Musammatt Atto is being fitted in Village Kala near Mast Garh.

(f) (i) and (ii) Do not arise in view of reply to e(i) and e (ii).

ACQUISITION OF LAND IN CONNECTION WITH BIST DOAB CANAL.

234. Sardar Nidhan Singh: Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state—

(a) the total area of land that was acquired by the Government from the peasants in connection with the Bist Doab Canal;

(b) whether any compensation has been paid by the Government to the peasants referred to in part (a) above; if so, on what basis;

(c) whether it is a fact that during the survey the line was changed from time to time; if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any cases of corruption came to his notice; if so, the action taken thereon ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh: (a) The final figures for the area to be acquired for Bist Doab Canal are being collected.

(b) No compensation has been paid so far.

(c) The alignment of Bist Doab Canal was changed only in the reaches R.D. 2,000 to 10,000 and R.D.1,02,000 to 1,11,000. The former reach falls in Hoshiarpur District and the latter in Jullundur District. The changes had to be made for reasons of engineering and economy.

(d) None.

PROMOTION TO GAZETTED POSTS IN VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.

235. Sardar Nidhan Singh: Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether the promotions to gazetted posts, Class II, in the Veterinary Department are made on the basis of seniority; if not, the reasons therefor?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon: As required by Rule 6 of the P.V.S. Class II Rules appointments to the P.V.S., Class II, by promotion from the C.V.D. subordinate services are made by strict selection, and no member of the subordinate service can be deemed to have had promotion withheld by reason of not being selected for such appointments or have any claim for such appointments as of right. Within the meaning of the provisions of this rule, promotions

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to the gazetted posts in P.V.S., class II, are not made on the basis of seniority alone but on the basis of seniority-cum-merit. No deviation whatever in this behalf has ever been made in the Civil Veterinary Department.

SHRIMATI UTTAM DEVI OF D. B. PRIMARY GIRLS SCHOOL, KUKAR
PIND, DISTRICT JULLUNDUR.

236. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it has come to his notice that Assistant Sub-Inspector Partap Singh of Thana Sadar, Jullundur, misconducted himself in connection with the case of Shrimati Uttam Devi of the D.B. Girls Primary School, Kukar Pind, Tehsil and District Jullundur, by keeping her under illegal custody for full one day, and torturing her when in custody from 16th July to 17th July 1952; if so, whether the Government has made an enquiry against the officer concerned; if not, whether it proposes to hold an enquiry into the matter;
- (b) whether he is aware of the fact that the said teachress has been suspended from service from the 19th April 1952 and that she has not been given her pay; if so, the reasons therefor?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar: (a) Yes. A magisterial enquiry was held in this case. The magistrate found that S.H.O. Thakar Partap Singh had no personal enmity with Shrimati Uttam Devi who was suspected to be responsible for the abduction of a girl. The S.H.O. had to interrogate her on receiving this report. The entire Panchayat supported the fact that the S.H.O. did not inflict any injury on her or mishandle her. The magistrate also found that Shrimati Uttam Devi complained against the S.H.O. only to extricate herself from the case in which she was strongly suspected of abducting a girl.

(b) Shrimati Uttam Devi was suspended with effect from 26th November 1951, but later on was reinstated from the same date. The case regarding payment of arrears of her pay is under consideration with the Chairman, District Board, Jullundur.

TOTAL ACREAGE OF EVACUEE LANDS IN THE STATE ALLOTTED TO
REFUGEES.

237. Shri Jagat Ram Bhardwaj: Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) the total acreage of evacuee lands in the State;
- (b) the total acreage of the land allotted to the refugees;
- (c) the area of land still to be allotted;
- (d) the area of land allotted but not taken possession of by the allottees so far;
- (e) the area of land referred to in parts (c) and (d) above which has been leased out to tenants and the area which still remains uncultivated?

Sardar Ujjal Singh: (a) 2,058,764 standard acres.

(b) 1,994,557 standard acres.

(c) 64,207 standard acres.

(d) 51,044 standard acres.

(e) The requisite information is not readily available. The time and labour involved in collecting the information will not be commensurate with any possible benefit to be achieved.

LAND ALLOTTED TO SMALL ALLOTTEES.

238. Shri Jagat Ram : Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether some small allottees have been allotted lands in still smaller units in two, three in the State ; if so, the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh: Allottees to whom less than three standard acres were due have, as a general rule, been given land in one grade and in a compact block but where this course tended to cause material harm and injustice in the distribution of better land to persons entitled to more than three standard acres the allottees of less than three standard acres have been given land in more than one piece.

RECEIPT OF COMPLETE JAMABANDI RECORDS OF VILLAGE MATTA,
TEHSIL KASUR, DISTRICT LAHORE, FROM PAKISTAN.

239. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur : Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state —

(a) whether complete Jamabandi records of Village Matta, Tehsil Kasur, District Lahore, and of Village Sarich, Tehsil Lahore, have been received from Pakistan Government ; if so, when ;

(b)(i) whether the Chhant of these villages has been prepared and Parcha Claims of allottees completed according to this Chhant ; if not, the reasons for delay ;

(ii) the steps Government proposes to take to complete the record of these villages ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) Complete Jamabandi records of Village Saraich, Tehsil Lahore, were received from Pakistan on 30th August 1952. Some records of Village Matta, Tehsil Kasur, District Lahore, are still due from Pakistan ;

(b)(i) No. Chhant of Village Saraich is under preparation and Parcha Claims of the allottees will be prepared when the Chhant is completed. Chhant and preparation of Parcha Claims of Village Matta cannot be prepared in the absence of complete records ;

(ii) In pursuance of the demand made by the State Government, the Government of Pakistan have agreed to supply the original record of Village Matta for comparison and completion of the record at the time of exchange of records on the next occasion. After it is done, the records will be completed.

MISSING OF A FILE REGARDING ALLOTMENT OF LAND.

240. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur : Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state —

- (a) whether any representation was received by the Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar, on or about the 18th February 1952, from Sardar Sajjan Singh, ex-M.L.A., Patti,—*vide* his letter No. 1264, dated 16th February 1952, regarding the missing of the file relating to the allotment of land of S. Gopal Singh and Gurbux Singh of Village Dialpore, Tehsil Patti, District Amritsar ; if so, whether any enquiry was ordered ;
- (b) the person on whom the responsibility for the missing of the file has been fixed and the action, if any, taken by the Government in the matter ;
- (c) whether the enquiry has been finished ; if not, the reasons for delay ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) Yes. It is incorrect that the file relating to the allotment of land to S. Gopal Singh and Gurbux Singh, sons of Chanan Singh, of Village Dialpore, Tehsil Patti, was lost. Therefore, the question of instituting an enquiry does not arise.

(b) and (c) The questions do not arise, in view of reply to part (a).

SUSPENSION OF OFFICIATING REVENUE PATWARIS IN DISTRICT
AMRITSAR.

241. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur : Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state —

- (a)(i) whether any officiating Revenue Patwaris in the district of Amritsar were suspended between 1st April 1952 and 30th September 1952 ; if so, their list ;
- (ii) the date of suspension in each case ;
- (b)(i) whether any of the persons referred to in part (a)(i) above were ordered to be reinstated till 27th October 1952 ; if so, their list ;
- (ii) the date of reinstatement in each case ;
- (iii) the date when the reinstatement orders were communicated to each of them and the date they were asked to report their presence to the competent authority ;
- (iv) the date when each of them reported his presence or applied for being posted ;
- (c)(i) the time taken by the revenue authorities for posting each of them since their appearance or their applying for postings after the communication of the reinstatement orders referred to above ;

- (ii) whether in any case the revenue authorities took more than one month for the posting of the persons referred to in part (b)(i) above ; if so, their list and the total period taken for posting each one of them ;
- (iii) the reasons, if any, for causing a delay of more than 30 days in posting them ;
- (d)(i) whether any of the persons referred to in part (b) (iv) above were reinstated in the month of June 1952 ; if so, the date thereof ;
- (ii) whether any of the persons referred to in part (d)(i) above were posted till 27th October 1952 ; if not, the reasons, if any, for delay ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a)(i) Yes. A list is enclosed.

(ii) Given in column 3 of the list.

(b)(i) Yes. Mentioned at Serial No. of the list.

(ii) Given in column 4 of the list.

(iii) The orders were issued to the Tehsildar, Patti, on 12th October 1952, for compliance and communication to the Patwari concerned. The Tehsildar put up a proposal about his posting which was only sanctioned by the Deputy Commissioner.

(iv) No such application was received.

(c)(i) The posting was sanctioned within a week of the receipt of the proposal from the Tehsildar. The incumbent being a Patwari candidate had no substantive lien in any circle and thus arrangements had to be made to absorb him. No delay occurred in sanctioning the proposal.

(c)(ii) In view of reply to (c)(i) above the question of delay does not arise.

(c)(iii) The question does not arise.

(d)(i) No.

(d)(ii) Does not arise.

Statement showing suspension of officiating Revenue Patwaris in Amritsar District.

Serial No.	Name of Revenue Patwari suspended between 1st April 1952 to 27th October 1952	Date of suspension	Date of re-instatement
1	2	3	4
1	Shri Jagir Singh of Tehsil Patti	22nd May 1952	8th October 1952
2	Shri Vishwa Nath of Amritsar Tehsil	24th May 1952	Still under suspension.
3	Shri Meja Singh of Tarn Taran Tehsil	26th June 1952	Ditto

STARTING SALARIES OF REVENUE AND CANAL PATWARIS.

242. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur : Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state —

- (a) whether there is any difference between the starting salaries per mensem of Revenue and Canal Patwaris ; if so, what ;
- (b) whether any house-rent is paid to the Revenue Patwaris where there are no Patwarikhanas; if so, at what rate ;
- (c)(i) whether any accommodation is made available to the Canal Patwaris at Government cost; if no, whether they are paid any house-rent; if so, at what rate ;
- (ii) if the answer to part (c)(i) above be in negative and to (b) above be in the affirmative, the reasons therefor ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : (a) No, there is no difference between the starting salaries per mensem of Revenue and Canal Patwaris.

(b) Yes. House-rent Allowance of Rs. 6 per mensem or actual rent, whichever is less, is paid to those Revenue Patwaris in whose circles there are no Patwarkhanas or where arrangements cannot be made for accommodation for their residence and they have to get houses on rent.

(c)(i) Patwarkhanas are provided to Canal Patwaris wherever they exist and no rent on them is charged. Where there are no Patwarkhanas, no house-rent is paid to Patwaris employed on Running Canals, while 10 per cent of the pay or actual rent, whichever is less, is paid to all the staff including Patwaris employed on Bhakra-Nangal Project.

(ii) No house-rent has been sanctioned by the Government to the Canal Patwaris.

RETIREMENT OF SIGNALLERS OF UPPER BARI DOAB CIRCLE,
AMRITSAR.

243. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur : Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state —

- (a) whether any Signallers of the Upper Bari Doab Circle, Amritsar, are due to retire from service in November 1952; if so, their list;
- (b) whether any of them is a refugee ;
- (c)(i) whether the pay of any period still remains to be paid to any of the retiring persons; if so, the amount to be paid to each of the persons referred to in part (a) above ;
- (ii) whether the persons referred to in part (a) above had deposited any security with the Department during their service ; if so, the total amount so deposited by each of them ;
- (d)(i) the total amount that will be payable to each of the persons referred to in part (a) above on account of the items referred to in (c)(i) and (ii) above ;

(ii) the procedure, if any, that has been laid down for the payment of this amount ;

(iii) whether the dues referred to in part (c)(i) and (ii) are to be paid on the day of their retirement ; if so, the reasons therefor ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : (a) Yes. Only one Signaller attached to the Upper Bari Doab Circle, Amritsar, was due to retire in November 1952. His name is Shri Shadi Lal and he has retired with effect from 8th November 1952 (forenoon).

(b) He is a displaced person from West Punjab.

(c)(i) Pay from 1st November 1952 to 7th November 1952 is only due to the Signaller, which amounts to Rs 28.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Pay	..	18	11	0
Dearness Allowance	..	9	5	0
Total	..	28	0	0

(ii) Rs. 10 deposited as security in Lower Gugera Division.

Rs. 10 deposited as security in Jandiala Division.

		Rs
(d)(i) Pay and Dearness Allowance	..	28
Security deposited	..	20
Total	..	48

(ii) He is being paid his pay. Security is to be paid after six months from the date of retirement.

(iii) As per (ii) above.

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FIXATION OF SUB-TEHSIL PATTI, DISTRICT AMRITSAR, FOR PURPOSES OF ALLOCATION OF LANDS TO DISPLACED LANDHOLDERS COMING FROM CERTAIN ZONES IN PUNJAB (PAKISTAN).

244. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur : Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) (i) the territorial zone in Punjab (Pakistan) for which the allocation fixed was in Sub-Tehsil Patti, District Amritsar, during 1947-48, for the quasi-permanent allotment of land ;

(ii) the date when this decision was taken by the Government ;

(b) (i) the date when the Sub-Tehsil of Patti, District Amritsar, was brought into being ;

(ii) whether any villages of Tarn Taran Tehsil were attached to Sub-Tehsil Patti, to raise its status to that of a full Tehsil; if so, their list ;

(c) (i) whether the colonist displaced persons of the villages referred to in part (b) (ii) above were allowed allotment of land in the area formerly comprising Sub-Tehsil Patti ; if so, the date when this decision was taken by the Government;

(ii) the reasons for taking this decision ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) (i) The displaced landholders of Tehsil Kasur, Tehsil Lahore and colonists of Patti were allowed to take allotment on a quasi-permanent basis in this Sub-Tehsil.

(ii) In July 1949.

(b) (i) 21st August 1947,—*vide* East Punjab Government notification No. 57-EG/47/126, of the same date.

(ii) Yes. The list of such villages is given below.

(c) (i) No.

(ii) In view of answer to (c) (i) above it does not arise.

[Minister for Finance]

List of villages of Tehsil Tarn Taran, which have been brought into Sub-Tehsil Patti, to raise its status.

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Chhachrewal | 35. Miani |
| 2. Dobulian | 36. Shabazpur |
| 3. Padri | 37. Galaipur |
| 4. Sarai Diwana | 38. Vegepur |
| 5. Theh Brahmanan | 39. Jora |
| 6. Tatley | 40. Koharka |
| 7. Bua | 41. Nathu Chak |
| 8. Kamalpur | 42. Patta |
| 9. Wan | 43. Baigari |
| 10. Gopal | 44. Bahmniwala |
| 11. Kairon | 45. Abboke |
| 12. Lohka | 46. Khabba Rajputan |
| 13. Lakhna | 47. Kheda |
| 14. Dial Rajputan | 48. Karyala |
| 15. Jamalpur | 49. Durga Pur Sharki |
| 16. Nandpur | 50. Shakri |
| 17. Jawunda Kalan | 51. Thathian |
| 18. Sarhali Mandan | 52. Waryah |
| 19. Nathupur Toda | 53. Sarhali Kalan |
| 20. Durga pur Gharbi | 54. Jaunkey |
| 21. Jalleywala | 55. Rorewala |
| 22. Mohanpura | 56. Chak Sarhali |
| 23. Sohawa | 57. Panghota |
| 24. Gandiwind | 58. Nader |
| 25. Mehrana | 59. Raipur Ballem |
| 26. Dhattal | 60. Kot Data |
| 27. Nathupur | 61. Khara |
| 28. Pingri | 62. Ram Lai |
| 29. Zanardar | 63. Nurpur |
| 30. Do Dev | 64. Jhamkey |
| 31. Moosey | 65. Ranian |
| 32. Chak | 66. Maluwal |
| 33. Sheikh | 67. Sarhali Kalan |
| 34. Bhurey | |

EJECTION OF TENANTS IN TEHSILS FAZILKA AND MUKTSAR

246. **Shri Wadhawa Ram** : Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether he is aware of the fact that the tenants in the tehsils of Fazilka and Muktsar are still being ejected, if so, the steps Government proposes to take in the matter ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) No tenant in the tehsils of Fazilka and Muktsar is being ejected.

(b) The question of prevention of ejections of tenants during the current year is under consideration of Government.

PUNJAB GRAM PANCHAYAT BILL

Resumption of Discussion

✓ **Mr. Deputy Speaker** : As the question hour is over, we will now proceed to the next item on the Agenda. We will resume discussion on the Punjab Gram Panchayat Bill. Shri Daulat Ram was on his legs when the House adjourned on Friday last. I call upon him to continue his speech.

(*Shri Daulat Ram Sharma was not in his seat.*)

✓ **Mr. Deputy Speaker** : Since he is not in his seat, I call upon Sardar Gurbanta Singh to make his speech.

Sardar Gurbanta Singh (Adampur) (Punjabi) : Mr. Speaker, after the dawn of independence, the Gram Panchayat Bill is the first of its kind which is going to be passed in this Assembly in order to transfer power into the hands of the people. With its passage, the ruralites will be very much benefited. Until today, the people in the villages have been leading a very miserable, almost a beastly life. They have got no means which may help them to look after their children properly, construct their houses in an appropriate way and maintain the sanitation of their villages. But after this Panchayat Bill is passed, they would be in a position to impart education to their children and keep clean the dirty lanes of their villages which would have a salutary effect on their health. But in spite of such useful provisions, I wish to offer certain suggestions which are necessary and ought to be incorporated in this Bill.

First of all is the question that no qualifications have been prescribed for the panches who will be elected. This main flaw is there even in the existing Panchayat Acts, with the result that able persons have not been elected as panches, and these seats have often been captured by 'goondas' who disturb the peace and tranquility of the villages. I am of the view that 40 per cent of the existing Panchayats are such as are dominated by the *goondas* who have created lawlessness and factionalism in the rural areas. I, therefore, wish that some standard of ability should be prescribed for the panches as a necessary qualification so that only such people should become panches as may be able to maintain the peace of the villages.

[Sardar Gurbanta Singh]

The second flaw in this Bill is that the number of the panches has been fixed very low. I am surprised to note that in accordance with the provisions embodied in this Bill, all the panchayats, whether meant for areas consisting of a population of 500 or 10,000 will have only 5 panches each. When there exists a wide difference in the population of various villages why should the number of the panches be not fixed proportionately ? Besides, in pursuance of this Bill, there will be constituted Adalti Panchayats. A village having a small population will be represented by one member and the village having a fairly large population will also be represented in these ' Adalti Panchayats ' by only one representative. Similar is the case with the Tehsil Panchayat Unions. This Union will represent each Panchayat and, obviously the Sarpanches will be the representatives of their respective Panchayats. In this way, a small village consisting of a population of 500 will have one representative on it and similar will be the case with a village having a large population, say, of 10,000 people. I, therefore, urge that the question of population in the matter of this representation should not be ignored.

The third shortcoming which I am observing in this Bill is with regard to the Harijans. After having minutely studied this Bill, I am surprised to find that the Government have not extended any concession to them even in this matter. The Bill provides that wherever 10 per cent of the population comprises of the Harijans, its Panchayat will include one Scheduled Caste Member. (Interruptions). It is not that we begged of it to give us one seat. We do not cringe. We demand our rights. So far as the question of reservation of a seat for us is concerned, I am sorry to remark that what this means is that whether the Harijans constitute a population of 10 per cent or 50 per cent, they will be entitled to have only one seat with the result that they will have a very inadequate representation in the Panchayats. This is not all. No seat has been reserved for us in the Tehsil Panchayat Unions. I can say with full confidence that we will have no representation in the Tehsil Panchayat Unions because the members of this Union will consist of only the Sarpanches and it cannot be possible for a Harijan Member to become a Sarpanch. I, therefore, think that even in this matter a good deal of injustice has been done to the Harijans.

Similarly, the ' Adalti Panchayats ' will also be constituted by giving representation to only one member of each village and thus no representative of the Harijans will have any chance in them. It pains me to remark that denial of representation to the Harijans in the ' Adalti Panchayats ' is a severe blow to them. In the circumstances, after having felt these handicaps, I think it is necessary to remove them. Mr. Speaker, my submission is that if the Panchayats constituted under this Bill were strong ones, nobody would dare file any suit against them for fear of them. It is a well-known fact that people rush to the rich people to express their sympathy even at the death of their dogs but no body comes to a poor person even at the demise of his son. Such is the condition obtaining in the villages. No body challans the influential people even if they use force. I am afraid the poor will be subjected to high-handedness by these Panchayats. I apprehend that a case against a poor man will be registered even if he plucks a sugarcane from some body's field but nobody will catch hold of the powerful person even if he commits a murder. I feel that it is of paramount importance that special attention should be paid to the poor in the matter of representation in these Panchayats. There should necessarily be some representation of the poor on hem. This category of people mainly consists of the Harijans who are

dependent on the mercy of other people, who do not have any sympathisers in the villages and who are everywhere harassed. They will, therefore, have no access anywhere so long as they do not get a fair representation.

Besides, Mr. Deputy Speaker, no funds are proposed to be allocated to the Panchayats through this Bill. I am pleased to hear the announcement of the Chief Minister to the effect that the District Boards will be abolished, but I wonder when a Bill embodying a provision that the Panchayats will collect funds for the District Boards will be brought. Why should the Panchayats not be allowed the authority to spend the money raised through taxes ? Sir, no Panchayat can function properly without sufficient funds at its disposal. Panchayats do not ask for much assistance from the Government. Even if the amount raised through Local Rates, Land Revenue and other similar taxes, which instead of being deposited with the District Boards or the Government for spending in the urban areas, is left with the Panchayats, I am of the view that schools and dispensaries can be opened even in small villages and the Panchayats will be able to launch schemes for the maintenance of sanitation and other public utility services.

Another matter to which I want to draw your attention is the scope for some profitable new industries. Their importance cannot be overemphasised. But it is regrettable that no facilities are provided to the poor section of the rural population to start any new industries. On the contrary, it has been made more difficult for them to make any such venture. Take for instance the case of tanneries. Previously, it was laid down that they should not be located within 220 yards of the residential area of the village, but now that radius has been extended to 440 yards. My submission is that instead of creating difficulties of this kind the Government should give those poor people more and more facilities so that they may be encouraged to start new industries. At present, they cannot venture to embark on any new activities in this field. In fact, the conditions obtaining in the villages have become so bad that the poor section of the population finds it very difficult to live there.

Then, there is another point which requires careful consideration. It was laid down in the old Act that a continuing breach of any order of the Panchayat would be punishable with a penalty of Rs 2 per day. That provision has been included in the present measure also although the penalty has been reduced to Re. 1 per day. I wish to point out, Sir, that this continuing penalty has assumed a very dangerous shape. It may appear just a nominal penalty to you, but I am aware of cases where its continuity has raised the amount to Rs. 1,600. What happens is that if the Panches are not on good terms with a certain person some order couched in vague and indefinite term is served on him, with the result that the poor fellow cannot comply with it in spite of himself and the continuing penalty goes on accumulating till it runs into hundreds and even thousands. In Tehsil Jullundur, the penalty to be paid by four persons has in this way risen up to Rs 1,600. Now, even the Panchayat feels the absurdity of the situation thus created and wants to get out of the mess. Higher authorities were approached for guidance and help but no way out has been found so far. Now it is for you to judge how much trouble and hardship can be caused by this provision for continuing penalty by which the amount can rise even up to Rs 2,000.

Lastly, the Bill proposes to give the Panchayats the right to report against the Patwari or Chaukidar, but this is not enough. The Government should go a step further and provide that if a Sub-Inspector of Police or a Naib-Tehsildar

Sardar Gurbanta Singh]

gets drunk or otherwise indulges in disorderly behaviour the panchayats will be competent to report against him. Sometimes, Assistant Sub-Inspectors of Police, Kanungos and even Tehsildars make a nuisance of themselves by their disorderly conduct in villages. The Panchayats must be given the right and power to complain and report against such officers.

Rao Gajraj Singh (Gurgaon) (Hindi) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, a full one day's debate has already taken place on this Panchayats Bill. The Chief Minister and the Minister-in-Charge have told us that the measure has been brought forward with two main objects. One of them is the decentralisation of power. This implies that the Government does not want to keep with itself or in the hands of the Assembly all the powers that we have snatched from the British but is anxious to share them with the people living in the remote villages. The second object is to enable the population of the rural areas to obtain justice at their very doors. A very good step indeed, and I congratulate the Government on having taken it. But it can do some good to the people only if proper consideration is bestowed on the practical side of the steps it proposes to take. No doubt, the Joint Select Committee has tried to improve the measure. Still if you go through it carefully, it will be found that in its present form this law can become a weapon of oppression as well. I can declare on the basis of my personal experience that this can happen and has happened on a number of occasions. I am sorry to remark that the efforts of the Joint Select Committee to improve the Bill have, at best, been only half-hearted. Let me give you a concrete example. A certain Assistant Panchayat Officer got displeased with a man who was elected to a Panchayat. "If I allow this man to take his seat in the Panchayat, call me a bastard" said he. Now that man had been duly elected having secured about 90 per cent votes but the said officer did not allow him to take the oath and enter upon his duties as a Panch. He was entangled in litigation and harassed in many ways by the officer taking advantage of the various loop-holes in the law. What I want to point out is that these officers can make, and have been making, an undue use of the powers which this law gives them.

The separation of the administrative functions from the judicial ones is a most-needed step and its desirability is admitted on all hands. To constitute separate Panchayats for administrative and judicial functions will be quite in keeping with the provisions of our Constitution and ancient *granths*. Our Ministers declare that they will provide justice to the rural people at their very doors but I submit that it will be very difficult for an elected Panch to do even-handed justice to every one in his own village. Naturally, he will be more favourably inclined towards those who voted for him during the elections. When a similar provision in the U.P. Panchayats Act became the source of such troubles the Government had to do away with it. The judicial functions can be carried on properly only if separate judicial panchayats are constituted and such panchayats are not confined to single villages. Only recently the Delhi State Government decided to enact a measure of this kind. I was also consulted in this connection. They have decided to have one judicial panchayat for every five villages. I am of the opinion that our Government should follow this example. Every village should submit a panel of two persons. Then the Deputy Commissioner or some other officer should scrutinise these panels and see to it that no uneducated or ignorant person is allowed to find his way into the panchayat and also that no unfair means are employed. When the panchayats are constituted by selecting the most suitable persons out of the panels, the people will get justice at their very door and there will also be very little scope, if at all, for favouritism and any display of personal enmities. At

present there is a lot of trouble on account of these personal enmities. The moment a person incurs the displeasure of a Panch or the Panchayat, he is harassed with so many orders 'to remove this thatch, to do this and not to do that, etc. etc.'" Let the Government ask the District Magistrates to send them reports of the vagaries of the panchayats and they will find that in 90 per cent cases there is a great deal of harassment and injustice. I am sure that if public opinion is obtained it would be found that in ninety per cent cases only those offenders are punished by the Panchayats who have no influence with the Panches. It is clearly provided in the Constitution and our Government also agrees with the view that the administrative and judicial functions should be separated. In this Bill, however, the Government is taking a step which is opposed to that principle. This thing was done by the other States also but now they admit that it was a mistake on their part to have done so. I shall request the hon. Minister to benefit from the experience gained by other States.

Another thing which I beg to point is that in order to establish a welfare State it is necessary to have such an administration as may bring about maximum development. The villagers must feel that powers vest in them and that they have to improve their living conditions by making proper use of those powers. At the same time, I beg to submit that if the Panchayats have to bear the financial burden and have to deposit their funds in the State treasury, they would be handicapped in the discharge of their functions.

In some of the speeches it was stated that some sources of revenue would be transferred from the District Boards to the Panchayats. In this connection, may I know whether the funds which the District Boards obtained either in the form of taxes or as grant were sufficient? If they had sufficient funds they would have spent more on improving conditions in the villages. It will have to be admitted that they had inadequate funds. The State Government will have to provide funds from its Exchequer in order to enable the Panchayats to function properly.

One of my hon. Friends who calls himself the representative of a large rural area said certain things in the course of his speech about the relevancy of which I am not sure. Most of the work in the villages is done by the District Boards. There might be some defects in the present District Boards Act but it would not be proper to deprive the villages of any kind of local institutions. It is the fundamental principle of Local Self-Government that such institutions should exist. Do cases of embezzlement or such other malpractices not occur in the Municipal Committees? I agree with the principle of decentralization and have no objection against the setting up of Tehsil Unions etc. But it would not be proper to deprive the rural areas of their local institutions. It is necessary to have such institutions for looking after the village dispensaries and roads and for the political training of the people living there. If the Government does not like the District Boards it may abolish them, but some such institution will have to take their place. A common institution may be set up for the rural as well as the urban people, but the people will not tolerate the setting up of an official board of the type which the Government proposes to establish. It must have been noticed that such institutions have not been liked at other places.

Then, Sir, without going into details, I beg to submit that the provision made in this Bill regarding the filing of election petitions is not proper. It

[Rao Gajraj Singh]

will mean that election petitions will be filed even in those cases in which the defects in the election are of a very minor nature. I shall request the hon. Minister to examine the Clause relating to this matter with a view to remove the defect which exists in it.

Sardar Mohan Singh Jathedar (Tarn Taran) (Punjabi): Mr. Deputy Speaker of all the measures which have been passed by the present Assembly, the Gram Panchayat Bill now under discussion is the most useful. I want to make it clear that after the passage of this Bill, justice in the villages will become less costly. The ruralites will be saved from paying lawyers' fees, touts' commission and illegal gratification to the corrupt officers. I am sure that when this Bill is passed and enforced, the villagers will begin to feel their responsibility and will learn to work collectively.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I can say without any fear of contradiction that the powers which are being given to the Panches under this Bill will be larger than the powers of the Members of this House. If they make some effort, they can improve the conditions in the villages considerably. It has been said that constituencies should be delimited for the election of Panches. In my opinion, this should not be done. If the constituencies are delimited, the minorities will have a lesser chance of obtaining representation in the Panchayats. The system prescribed in the Bill will enable the minorities also to have their Panches in the village Panchayats.

One commendable provision made in this Bill is that the Sub-Inspector of Police or the Tehsildar will not have the powers to make a report against any village official who misconducts himself in his official capacity. After the enactment of this measure, every villager, whether a member of the Panchayat or not, will have the right to report against these officials to the Deputy Commissioner. The Panchayats are also being given powers under this Bill to enquire into and make a report about the misconduct of petty officials. I think that the making of such a provision was very necessary.

Sir, I would also like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the fact that there is still a scope to amend certain clauses of this Bill. I am of the opinion that the Government has not taken a right step in fixing the number of Panches at five without taking into consideration the fact that the density of population in villages differs very greatly. There are villages which have a very large population and there are others which are sparsely populated. We find that the representation to the Parliament, Legislative Assembly and Local Bodies is always proportionate to the population but this principle has been ignored in the constitution of the Panchayats. It will be a sheer injustice to the people in the rural areas to provide for five panches in each village irrespective of the fact whether its total population is five hundred or one thousand or more. In the light of this, it is highly desirable that the number of panches should be less in villages which have less population and their number should be raised where the population is larger. If this is done, people in all villages will be able to get a fair representation in the Tehsil Union and District Panchayats Union.

One of my hon. Friends has remarked in his speech that judicial powers should not be transferred to the Panchayats but I think that without these powers this Bill would be devoid of any force and life and be a useless piece of legislation. Many people advocate the cause of the separation of the judiciary from the executive and such an argument apparently appeals to the people very much. In the present context of things, however, if administra-

tive powers are withdrawn from District Magistrate then he will feel as if he has lost his priceless treasure and it will be too humiliating a thought for him to bear. Similarly, if judicial powers are withdrawn from the Panchayats, then it would be difficult for them to improve the tone of village life and besides this the Panchayats will lose their prestige. If my hon. Friends are under the impression that the Panchayats will not be able to dispense justice to the people then I can only say that they are sadly mistaken. In Amritsar District the Panchayats had to deal with 3,029 cases out of which the number of criminal and civil cases was approximately 1,535 and 1,494, respectively. Out of 1,535 criminal cases 382 cases were dismissed, in 859 cases compromises were brought about between the parties and in 294 cases the accused persons were convicted. Out of 1,494 civil cases, 277 cases were dismissed, in 636 cases compromises were effected between the parties and in 581 cases decrees were passed against the defendants. Besides this, I may submit that out of 3,029 cases decided by the Panchayats appeals were instituted in the appellate courts in only 16 cases. In four of these cases, the decisions of the Panchayats were set aside, in two the decision was modified ; two cases were remanded to the Panchayats for fresh decision and eight appeals were rejected. I think, that such a good record cannot be maintained even by a competent Magistrate. There would be very few instances in which the judgments passed by a Magistrate in so many cases would have been upheld by the appellate courts. As a matter of fact, the villagers do not feel any shame in making false statements in the courts as they are not known to the Magistrates and the Pleaders. But on the other hand if any man in the village is not truthful in the evidence he is dubbed as a liar and is despised by all. The Panchayats may not, however, be given wide powers to try criminal cases so that they may not do any harm to the people by their injudicious decisions but they should be given powers to inflict punishment by way of fine in petty cases. If the Panchayats have an intention to do harm to anybody they can very easily order that the building of any person be demolished on the ground that it has been built on the Shamilat land. In view of these facts, I think there will be no harm in passing over all these powers to the hands of the Panchayats.

Moreover, it has been provided in the Bill that powers to impound stray cattle which damage the standing crops in villages will be given to the Panchayats with the approval of the District Boards or the Government. I am of the view that these powers must be given to the Panchayats so that they may be able to deal with such cases in the villages. This offence should also be included in the schedule of offences made cognizable by a Gram Panchayat.

There was a provision in the original Bill that a Panchayat shall be established in every village with a population of not less than five hundred. Now I find that in the Bill as amended by the Joint Select Committee the word "shall" has been replaced by the word 'may'. Moreover, there is no gainsaying the fact that many schemes of the Government do not fructify on account of the whims of the Secretaries though they are approved by the Ministers and the Members of this House.

Now, a specific provision has been made in the Bill with regard to the appointment of the Secretary of the Village Panchayat. I do not think there is any urgent need of making that appointment as the Gram Panchayat can easily take that work from the village school master or the Patwari. Besides this, the Panchayats have not been empowered to try cases of theft. For example, if any person steals some maize-ears (*chhalis*) from any field then the

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Gram Panchayat cannot take cognizance of such an offence. The Government should give powers to the Panchayats to try petty cases of theft of property of the value of Rs. 20 or Rs. 30 in order to save the people in rural areas from the expense and botheration of going to headquarters for this purpose.

Then, Sir, I would submit that if the Government proposes to abolish the institution of District Boards, it should take steps to constitute District Panchayats Unions so that the people in the rural areas may get an opportunity of meeting together and devising ways and means for their own uplift and betterment.

I may also submit that the procedure relating to election petitions to be laid down in the proposed legislation should not be a complicated one. The section pertaining to it should only provide for the admissibility of petitions in cases in which the nomination papers may have been wrongly rejected or accepted. The procedure followed in their disposal should be simple ; there is no need of having a provision for the examination of witnesses, etc., because it will put the people to unnecessary botheration.

The passage of this Bill after all the useful amendments have been adopted would verily be a boon for our State. The leader of our party has done well to give us complete liberty of expressing our views and moving amendments on this Bill. We should, therefore, try to improve this Bill as much as we can. I may, however, add that the Panchayats would not be able to function properly without adequate funds and suitable provision should be made for this purpose here and now. This thing should not be put off. There should be a specific provision in this very Bill laying down that such and such percentage of the Land Revenue and the Local Rates will be given over to the Panchayats. With these words, I resume my seat.

Sardar Partap Singh (Mallanwala) (Punjabi) : Sir, I have given notices of several amendments in respect of the various clauses of this Bill but what I want to say at the outset is that it is worthwhile, even necessary, to have a Gram Sabha, the provision in respect of which has been deleted by the Joint Select Committee. Both the functions which were proposed for the Gram Sabha are quite important. Its existence will prove of immense value to the Panchayats. It will create the necessary interest and enthusiasm in the rural population. Their establishment would be a step forward in the direction of real democracy.

An hon. Member has averred that the system of Gram Sabhas is not in vogue in any other country. I think this is not correct ; it is definitely in vogue in some countries. My submission is that Constitutions are not the outcome of divine revelation ; they are made by men and there is no harm in altering or modifying them in accordance with the needs of the times. If we want to progress, we have to leave bad things and unhesitatingly adopt good ones. Establishment of Gram Sabhas is not only a democratic step but also one calculated to stimulate the interest of the villagers and create a desire in them to make their Panchayat a success. I do not understand how it will be difficult for the villagers to assemble together twice or thrice a year. When the Panchayat area is not going to be vast, why should any difficulty be foreseen in the matter of the assembling of all the voters on a few occasions.

Then, Sir, the Panchayats are after all not going to rule with a rod. If they tend to do so, the very object of this measure will be defeated. If we

desire the real welfare and progress of the rural people, we must allow them to take part in the meetings of the Gram Sabha. In those meetings besides giving their considered opinion on the proposed taxation measures, they will be able to do something else also. If, for instance, under the influence of factiousness, the Panches are not pulling their weight together, they will help bring about reconciliation among them by using their influence and thus put an end to any conflict that might be hampering the smooth working of the Panchayats.

Besides, I am of the opinion that the Panchayats should not be entrusted with the powers of adjudication in criminal cases because they shall not be able to discharge these functions properly. Before introducing any reform, it is necessary to ascertain whether the people are ready for it and whether the time is ripe. Before entrusting powers to the people, it has to be seen whether they have got the sense of responsibility necessary for their proper exercise and whether or not they have reached the proper stage of development. Nobody can deny that the incidence of crime in the villages at this time is very high and that the villagers are faction-ridden. The rural people are mostly illiterate and as such they shall never be able to adjudicate properly in criminal cases. Out of fear of retaliation, the Panches will not be inclined to punish the *goondas* and as a result thereof lawlessness and rowdyism will increase. The Panches will not have the courage to impose fines on the miscreants, and thus the object of improving the conditions of rural life will be defeated. We do want that more powers should be vested in the Panchayats but at the same time we feel that the time is not yet ripe for giving them powers to award punishment to those guilty of moral turpitude. A gun in the custody of a gentleman will not only protect him but his neighbours also but if the same gun falls into the hands of a malefactor it will become a source of danger for everyone. The conditions of rural life as they are today do not warrant the vesting of these powers in them. So far as the moral aspect is concerned, they are today in a much worse condition than they were in the British days. So long as their standard of living is not raised and so long as they are without the blessings of education, these powers should not be entrusted to them.

Sir, the fact is that money is required to run the Panchayats. Without money the Panchayats cannot work. For this purpose only one vague clause has been inserted in this Bill. In order to help the Panchayats financially, some definite clause should be inserted in this Bill.

Another submission which I should make is that what is being given with one hand is being withdrawn with the other. Under democracy, the voters should also have the power to remove the officials. This power of removal should also be given to the Panchayats. In this connection, I have given notice of an amendment also. This power should be given to the Panchayats because the members of the Panchayats and the villagers know which officials are bad and which are good. With these words I resume my seat.

Sardar Waryam Singh (Amritsar) (Punjabi): Sir, I congratulate the Government of the Punjab State on laying the foundations of a truly democratic form of government in the State by means of this Bill, in this democratic age. In fact, the people were waiting to see when the efforts which the Congress had been making in the direction of independence would bear fruit. Now they have borne a fruit. After the achievement of independence, the Congressmen have given the power which they derived from the people to the

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people themselves. The people showed confidence once again in the Congress during the elections and now again the Congress is giving the fundamental right of governance of the State to the people themselves.

I make bold to say, that this Bill is a revolutionary measure. It will bring about a true revolution in the life of those who now think that although independence has come yet it has not come for them. On the coming into force of this Bill such persons will be in a position to participate in the day-to-day work of administration. I am simply surprised when I have heard the members of the Opposition making a complaint that this Government is run by those who are favourably inclined towards the urbanites and who do not think for the ruralites. Now, when the urban people are giving powers to the villagers, why should our Akali brothers sitting on Opposition benches feel uneasy? This is perhaps due to the fact that during the recent elections the people did not show confidence in their party. As far as I can see, the masses will exercise these powers properly. They should be given an opportunity of getting training through this Panchayat Bill. As a matter of fact, this Bill will serve as a primary school for preparing the people to work successfully the experiment of a democratic form of government in our State. It will lay the foundations of democracy on a firmer ground. The people in general will begin to love democracy.

In our country, like other countries of the world, there are people of low castes—of course, I will not like to call them 'people of low castes'. It has been stated that such a class of persons will be put to trouble. This idea is totally wrong. On the other hand, this Bill will give a chance to the Harijans, the *Chamars*, and the *Jhiwars*, etc., to become Panches. They cannot only become Panches in the villages but can rise to high positions in the State itself. Similarly, capable persons among them will get an opportunity of becoming leaders of all-India fame. By the will of God, they will be in a position to go forward.

This Bill is revolutionary in this respect also that in the villages the vanity of the Jats will disappear. Non-Jats constitute more than half of the rural population. We have noticed as to how when honorary Magistrates were appointed the Jats resorted to high handedness at a number of places. Complaints made against the Jat youths were hushed up while poor man's sons were put to a lot of unnecessary botheration. Now, such a state of affairs would no longer exist. The non-agriculturists will now come in larger numbers. So, in my opinion, this Bill is a revolutionary measure, both for the non-agriculturists as well as the agriculturists.

Sir, I find that most of the opposition to this Bill has been offered by the lawyers. Perhaps they are afraid that as a result of the passage of this measure, litigation will decrease. I would request my lawyer brothers not to mind it. This will put an end to all loot and will result in making justice inexpensive, available on the spot and speedy. It is a well-known maxim that 'to delay justice is to deny it' this Bill will prevent such delay in the administration of justice.

It has been alleged that under this Bill wide powers are proposed to be given to those who are not fit to exercise them properly. It is possible that in the transitional period there may be an improper use of such powers to a certain extent. But, after all, the masses will certainly have to bear such a burden. Responsibility comes in the wake of independence. Now that India has

achieved freedom, the people will have to bear this burden. Everybody knows how the British carried out devolution and decentralization. To start with, powers were given to the Central Assembly. After that, the Provincial Assemblies were invested with powers, and last of all powers were given to the District Boards. The Britishers did not consider it advisable to go farther and give full powers to the villagers. They never dared to come down to these people. After independence, there has come about a revolutionary change in the minds of the people. Therefore, we have to strengthen the roots of the Republic from below. For this object, it is necessary to make the village Panchayats strong, because it is only by doing so that we can make the experiment in democracy a success.

Now a few words about the question of elections. It is very necessary that the elections should be by secret ballot, so that every person may be able to vote unfettered. That is why the block system has been put an end to. This is a change for the better.

So far as the question of the number of Panches is concerned, I wish to support Jathedar Sahib. Although, there is sanctity attached to the figure 'five' and so Jathedar Sahib ought to have been in favour of its retention, yet he has not done so. Anyhow, I wish to support him in that, the number should be nine instead of five. This will give an opportunity to more persons to serve on the Panchayats. In the villages, there are various types of questions such as 'pattis' and 'bradaries' etc. By increasing the number of Panches, there can be more satisfaction among them. I think that by doing so the work can be carried on in a better way. Moreover, these Panches are to be honorary and not paid ones. So, there is no harm if the number is increased. If need be they can work by forming smaller sub-committees. Therefore, Sir, through you I wish to request the hon. Minister-in-charge to change the number to nine.

Sir, another plea advanced by the hon. Members of the Opposition is that the masses are illiterate. I feel that their attitude as proved by their remarks about the ruralites is reactionary. They may be illiterate but they are very sensible people and fully understand the matters pertaining to the rural areas. To say that they lack understanding is a sheer injustice and the hon. Members in Opposition should not adopt this attitude towards them. Let them count upon them and should not act according to the maxim :—

मां जे मै थानेदार होवां
ते तैनुं चाबुक मारां

मां जे मैं घानेदार होवां
तां तैनुं चाबुक मारां

Sir, it is gratifying to note that the Government have afforded this opportunity to Town Committees of availing of the new powers. I want to point out to the Ministers that the condition of Town Committees is appalling. The Committees which have been given the duties of maintaining sanitation cannot do that. The money realised by them in the form of Local Rates is taken away by the District Boards and new taxes are levied on people—both the zamindars and the non-zamindars. If the Panchayats have also to impose more taxes, I pray that these powers should be withdrawn from them as people are already overburdened with taxes. And, if they can discharge their duties without resorting to additional taxation then it will be a very kind act on the part of our Government.

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Mr. Speaker, so far as the question of primary education is concerned, it is very essential and it should be made compulsory in the rural areas. The management of schools should be handed over to the Panchayats though some of them may remain under the District Boards. I feel that two sorts of organisations are useless; there should be only one organisation, viz. the Panchayats. As the Government has formed the policy in the case of agrarian reforms that there should be only two parties—one Government and the other tiller of the land; similarly, I suggest that at the bottom there should be Panchayats—the basic administrative unit—and at the top the Punjab Government with no intermediaries. Thus the District Boards are superfluous and should be done away with. I am thankful to the Chief Minister who has already announced that the District Boards will be abolished.

Sir, one thing more in this is worth appreciation. Of late, we have been demanding from the Government that the Lambardari system which had been started by the British Government should be abolished. In this Bill it is laid down in clause 25 that:—

A Gram Panchayat may notwithstanding any law to the contrary, in respect of any area within its jurisdiction, enter into contract with Government or a local body to collect land revenue or any taxes or dues payable to Government or a local body on being allowed such collection charges as may be prescribed.

Thus the heavy amount of money that used to go into the pockets of the Lambardars in the shape of the *Panjotra* will be spent for the common welfare of villagers. If any Government officer visits a village, the Panches will be able to extend their willing co-operation to him instead of the Lambardars.

Mr. Speaker, this Bill also seeks to empower the Panchayats to introduce prohibition within their jurisdiction. I feel that all the disputes and litigation in the rural areas have their origin in the use of intoxicating liquor. It will be a very good piece of beneficial reform if the Panchayats introduce prohibition in their areas. I think we should impress upon the Government the necessity of giving them some more powers for the purpose if need be.

Mr. Speaker, the existence of Gram Sabha comprising all the 'major' residents of the village is also essential. Gram Sabha is to be the parliament of the village and the Panchayat its executive. It is a fact that the Gram Sabha being a very large body would not be able to execute business efficiently. However, if it is not possible to retain it, I must request that the Sarpanch should at least be elected by the votes of all villagers so that he may enjoy the confidence of the whole population. Nobody should be allowed to be elected through underhand means.

Sir, the reading of the whole Bill has given me satisfaction except clause 13. This clause contains the provision for nomination. Government has abolished the method of nomination in the District Board but not in the Municipal Committees and the Panchayats. Sometimes, unpopular persons who are not liked by the people and who have not been able to win direct elections get in through indirect election, as has happened in the case of 'Josh Sahib', the Champion of the Opposition, who has managed to become a Member of the Upper House.

✓ **Mr. Deputy Speaker:** May I please ask the hon. Member not to cast any reflection on any other hon. Member whether of this House or the other?

Sardar Waryam Singh: My contention is that there should be no place for nominations in this age of democracy. I will resume my seat after saying one or two things more, so that my brothers in the Opposition may not get annoyed with me.

Sir, to make the Panchayats a success the following things are most essential. If the Police is not going to give up their present attitude, there is no necessity of organising the Panchayats. If some differences crop up between the officials of the Police Department and the Panches the latter are challaned under sections 107 and 109. I, therefore, request that the Government should issue instructions to the effect that whenever Police Officers go to the villages for investigation purposes they should seek the co-operation of the Panchayats. This will go a long way in increasing the prestige and dignity of the Panches.

Mr. Speaker, if possible, the Sarpanch must be a literate person. The Panchayat Officer should be of a gazetted rank and should have the charge of not more than 50 Panchayats. There are 364 Panchayats in my district, out of which in one hundred cases elections have not been conducted. I, therefore, suggest that the Panchayat Officers should not be overworked to this extent. They should have sufficient time at their disposal to guide the people. At present, bogus entries are made in connection with the realisation of the taxes and similar is the case with the entries of expenditure. The fines imposed upon the people are not realised for years together. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I request that the Panchayat Officers should be given full powers for the realisation of fines and imposition of taxes, etc.

My third suggestion is that there must be a Secretary so long as the Panches and Sarpanches are not fully trained for their jobs. Illiterate people may become members of the District Boards and the Legislative Assembly but the work of the Panchayats cannot be carried on without literate people. So the Secretary should be an intelligent person and a trained hand.

In the end, I want to congratulate the hon. Minister who has taken a great deal of pain to prepare such a Bill, and who has also tried to father it successfully. The poor will be benefited by this Bill. I will finish up my speech by saying 'Long live the Panchayat Rule'.

Shri Rala Ram (Mukerian) (Hindi): Mr. Speaker, the institution of Panchayats is a very old one. This is an important institution which has its roots in the old civilization of India. Foreigners have also much commended it. Karl Marx, the great Communist leader, had also praised this institution of India. He had remarked that this was a great experiment of human society which had its existence in the history of India and for which the whole world had respect. It is very essential to revive the Panchayats. We should congratulate our Government for the Bill which it has now introduced in this House.

There is no doubt that a thousand years ago, an Indian village used to be an independent unit but now the whole world has changed much. In the present age of science, the whole world has become like a town. Therefore, we cannot hope to be successful in making the villages self-sufficient and exclusive. But we want to re-introduce the old administrative system through this institution. For this, we will have to adopt the old systems of village life after incorporating some changes in them according to the circumstances and removing their short comings. I do not wish to repeat the observations made by certain hon. Friends, but, Mr. Deputy Speaker, I would like to submit a few suggestions for the consideration of the hon. Minister-in-charge.

Education should not be under the management of the Village Panchayats. Even now, it is being imparted through the agency of the District Boards and

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the Municipal Committees. Although there is no doubt that it is serving our purpose, yet there has been a lot of criticism of this system which is based on truth and facts. Its shortcomings are being pointed out and the Government is being approached to take up this work in its own hands. This demand is based on facts. Therefore, no useful purpose will be served by placing the village schools under the management of the Panchayats. If this is done, primary education is likely to suffer. Therefore, Sir, it should be under the direct control of the State Government. However, the panchayats must be given supervisory powers because I feel in the capacity of a teacher that a village school teacher needs supervision. It is necessary to watch whether he attends the school punctually and as to how many school boys are made to work at his house? There should be one uniform system for primary education throughout the State and it should be under the control of the Government. I fear, that the Panchayats will rather lower the standard of education than raise it, if the primary schools are allowed to run under their control. They are incapable of raising that standard. Therefore, it will be more useful to allot only supervisory powers to the village Panchayats and they should be required to submit a quarterly report about the working of the village schools. For this reason, I oppose the provision in question.

Further, the Panchayats are now being given judicial powers to try criminal as well as revenue cases. Sir, I being a resident of a village, know the party frictions that exist amongst the villagers. Recently, I have been to my constituency. There, I had a talk with certain persons about this Bill. I found the people holding two different sets of views. Some of them thought that people needed experience for this work while others held the view "let us hasten slowly". Some thought that the present Bill would make a hell of the village life and the dangers to its peace would increase. While thinking so, they kept in view the behaviour of some such persons whose record was not clear and worthy of praise. But we should not be discouraged by these things. These weaknesses had been developed because of the foreign rule. If we are keen to raise the standard of morality, we will have to put responsibility on the villagers because it always sobers. It also makes people think seriously and calmly. It invests them with serenity and seriousness. Therefore, these powers should be transferred to them, and these responsibilities placed on their shoulders. This experiment is worth trying. It will be disgraceful for us if out of fear we begin to think that these powers should be transferred to the people only when they have received real education. Similarly, when our Government had decided to give every adult the right to vote, it was said that Pandit Nehru had committed a blunder and that there was every likelihood of a state of anarchy being created throughout India.

The general elections have belied the fear that the illiterate people lack intellect and understanding. Whenever there crops up the question of responsibility, even the uneducated people exhibit keen serenity and understanding. I, therefore, do not agree with the view that our masses will fail to discharge their responsibilities. I, however, feel that it will be better if these new responsibilities are transferred to them piecemeal.

I also feel that since powers to try civil and revenue cases are to be vested in the Panchayats, it is in the fitness of things, and also of paramount importance that a literacy test for the Sarpanches and the Naib-Sarpanches should also be prescribed. There is no denying the fact that there is no such restriction for those wishing to become members of the Legislative Assembly, but at the

same time it is also known to all that they are not to decide judicial cases. If, for a while, we take it that the whole work is to be done by the educated secretaries, then the whole significance of the Village Panchayats will disappear. If we prescribe the qualification of a literacy test for the Sarpanches and the Naib-Sarpanches or accept the imposition of a restriction of 30 or 40 per cent of the total votes polled, I think that these people will prove more useful and be able to claim to be the true representatives of the village in the real sense of the word. In view of these facts, I am of the opinion that a literacy test for the Sarpanches and the Naib-Sarpanches should be prescribed.

Our Chief Minister, had stated that the Secretaries of the Panchayats would usually be the teachers of the villages and would be sent to undergo training in the J.V. & S.V. courses. In this connection, I beg to suggest that for them an optional paper in the subject of Local Self-Government should also be introduced so that they should get some theoretical and practical knowledge in connection with the administrative work. After the conclusion of their training, they will definitely be in a position to discharge the duties of the post of the secretaries satisfactorily. I, therefore, recommend to the Government to make a provision to this effect and make proper arrangements for their training.

So far as the question of funds for the Panchayats is concerned, many hon. Friends have argued that the Panchayats will not be able to function smoothly in the absence of adequate finances. That is right. They should necessarily have some funds at their disposal. But it is not a healthy principle that in order to collect the funds, the whole responsibility should lie with the State Government and the Panchayats should have no share in the same. It is true that taxation involves an unpleasant duty i.e. the imposition of taxes is such an action which brings resentment in its wake. But when we aspire at self-government and keenly desire to be vested with powers why should some responsibility with regard to taxation not devolve on us? The chief result of saddling the Panchayats with this responsibility will be that whenever they are required to spend something they will not spend money lavishly and that schemes, will be chalked out after full deliberations. A provision to this effect has been made in this Bill and such a provision also exists in the Acts in force in other States. It is necessary that for self-help the Panchayats should themselves shoulder the burden of taxes if not wholly, at least to some extent. The principle which has been initiated in this Bill is a healthy one and I am of the opinion that we should adopt the same, for I am confident that when the Panchayats themselves raise the funds, only then they will feel the responsibility of spending the money properly and carefully.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I would like the hon. Member to wind up his speech.

Shri Rala Ram: Mr. Speaker, one point more and I have done. It has usually been observed that the Forest Guards create a good deal of nuisance in the villages. I am of the opinion that the Village Panchayats should also have supervisory powers in order to maintain a control over them. I am fully convinced that with such an arrangement the atmosphere of the village will become peaceful and the complaints which the people generally make against them, will also be put an end to. There is no such arrangement up till now. This arrangement must be made.

Concluding, Sir, I feel that it is only when all the above-mentioned provisions are embodied in the Bill that the Village Panchayats will be able to set a fine example of local self-government and prove successful.

Shri Maru Singh Malik (Sampla) (Hindi) : Mr. Speaker, I rise to offer my congratulations to the Minister for Local Government and the Chief Minister, for while presenting this Bill they announced that wide powers will be vested in the Village Panchayats. I think that this is the best measure introduced so far under their regime. The more the powers in the hands of the people, the greater will be the sense of responsibility felt by them. The greater the sense of responsibility felt by them, the larger the measure of progress achieved by our country.

True, some powers as well as responsibilities are proposed to be entrusted to the people through this measure, but it appears that what is being given with one hand is being taken away with the other. Some restrictions prescribed in the Bill are such that the powers will be transferred to the Panchayats only if the Government or the District Boards agree, otherwise not. In other words, it has been left to the discretion of the Government to confer or not to confer any power on the Panchayats. I feel, that the clause in which such restrictions are embodied, should be withdrawn and the powers which the Government really wish to transfer to the Panchayats should be clearly stated so that the interference of the District Boards is avoided and the Panchayats be in a position to discharge their functions unfettered.

Then, Sir, it has been said that there will prevail injustice in the Panchayats. That is, an absolutely wrong belief. If we, collect facts and figures in this connection, we shall find that as compared with the courts, even now true justice is administered in the Panchayats. If we take into account only a few such examples, we shall be convinced of the kind of justice administered by the Panchayats. On the other hand, if we study the conditions obtaining in the courts, it will be revealed that to add to the conflicts and struggles there are present the lawyers, and in spite of the appeals filed with the High Court, so many acts of injustice are perpetrated. Therefore, it would be improper not to invest the Panchayats with powers under the apprehension that the Panchayats will not be able to administer justice. I am rather of the view that the authority of hearing appeals against the decisions of the Panchayats, which has been vested in the District Magistrates or in other words the Deputy Commissioners, Senior Sub-Judges and Collectors, should instead be delegated to the Panchayats themselves. What I mean to say is that the power to hear appeals against the orders of one Panchayat should be vested in some other Panchayat and if even that Panchayat fails to arrive at any decision, this authority should further be delegated to a group of four or five Panchayats. In the event of any decision not being taken even by this group of Panchayats, the Tehsil Panchayat Union should appoint a committee which should possess the powers to hear such cases and administer justice. Besides, the Union Panchayat should replace the personnel of such a committee after every three or four months so that there should not be any sort of favouritism and justice be administered.

My submission is that the authority to hear appeals against the orders of one Panchayat and also that of admitting transfer applications should be assigned to some larger Panchayat and the cases which are not decided by it should be referred to the Committee constituted by the Tehsil Panchayat Union, whose members should be replaced at the expiry of every third or fourth month. In this way, the power of hearing appeals should lie within the Panchayat area and not in the courts. If this suggestion is accepted, a very sound machinery can be established and our success would also be in it.

Then, Sir, there is the question of the number of the Panches. In my opinion, the meaning of the word 'Panchayat' is not that the number of Panches should be five only and not, in any case, more or less. This number can range from one to ten and this has actually been the case in many of our Panchayats. In fact, the real meaning of a Panchayat is an organisation. I am convinced that the larger the number of the Panches in a Panchayat, the higher the quality of justice administered therein, for the larger the number of the Panches elected, the greater will be the extent of the collective responsibility felt by them. My suggestion, therefore, is that instead of five, the number of Panches should be fixed in accordance with the population of the villages concerned. Then, Sir, certain powers and a number of duties are being entrusted to the Panchayats but the Government have not made adequate arrangements for funds with which they are to carry on their various activities. True, the Government have given them powers to levy certain taxes and I concede that they should have been given this power yet they should also be given adequate grants. I am, also prepared to agree that Land Revenue should remain payable direct to the Government. But then the Government can give them grants out of the Consolidated Fund.

The Chief Minister has told us that the Government intends to abolish the District Boards and that this intention will be translated into action before long. This will be a very wise step. When the Panchayats have been constituted the District Boards will become superfluous. But when the Panchayats are to be entrusted with the duties now performed by the District Boards, they should also get the income which the District Boards derive from various sources. The profession tax and other such taxes as well as the local cesses should be handed over to the Panchayats so that they may be able to discharge their various duties satisfactorily.

Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan (Ambala City) (Hindi) : Sir, I am of the opinion that this Panchayat Bill is much more useful and important than any other piece of legislation so far brought forward in the House, and I congratulate the Ministry and the Minister-in-charge on having proposed this measure. It is no matter for surprise, that while we give due credit to the Government for its laudable actions, my hon. Friends opposite are out to criticise the Ministry irrespective of the nature of its activities. This has become a habit with them. It is well known that every particular action of people sticks to a particular set of habits. In fact, when a habit has been formed, it sticks to you till the end of your days. Really, the Opposition should have been happier than those sitting on this side of the House over this particular measure, but

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Anyway, what I want to submit is that since ancient times every village in India used to be a self-sufficient unit. The British realised that this system was not conducive to the strengthening of their power and continuance of their rule in this country and so they tried, with success to destroy it. They systematically ignored the welfare and progress of the rural areas. Even when constitutional reforms were introduced by creating Councils and Legislative Assemblies they paid more attention to leaves and branches than to the roots with the result that the whole set-up became top-heavy. When the top and trunk become too heavy for the roots the tree cannot but fall down. But now we want that the strength of the roots should get more attention than

[Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan]

that of the top. This measure has been prepared with this very aim in view. Still if there be found any defect or scope for further improvement we can do the needful after mutual discussion.

Then, my hon. Friend Principal Rala Ram, who is an eminent educationist, has been pleased to say that the management of schools should not be entrusted to the Panchayats. I would, not venture to contradict him but I fail to understand how this step can prove prejudicial to the education of our children and discipline in the schools when we are giving so many powers to the Panchayats in respect of civil and criminal cases.

Again, certain people base their hesitation to give more powers to the Panchayats on the ground that illiterate villagers may not prove competent to make proper use of them. Sir, I am a villager myself and I can say confidently that although we are backward in the matter of education yet we have a very keen instinct which tells us whether a certain thing is good or bad for us.

What I mean to say is that we people, who are villagers have an instinct which enables us to distinguish between good and evil as efficiently as the educated people can, if not better. Just as on account of the atmosphere in which they live even the educated people, lawyers and graduates sometimes degenerate, the villagers also degenerate on account of the circumstances in which they are placed. As regards my hon. Friend who is the Principal of a college, I shall say only this much that I have great respect for the teachers and the educational institutions. I think, that the Principals and teachers alone can help raise the stature of a country and enable its people to progress. I regard them as 'makers of men'. We can become useful men with the help of these gentlemen alone. They should, therefore, be shown proper respect.

Another thing which I must point out is that there is one major defect in this Bill. The Panchayats will not have the necessary funds at their disposal. The Government should know that without funds these will be of no use. The Government wishes to give powers to the Panchayats, but it does not wish to provide them with the required funds. If the Panchayats are left, to depend on a few taxes only and no provision is made for them in the Budget, it will create a very difficult position for them. There are rivalries in the villages and whenever the Panchayats impose taxes on the people, the latter will think that it has been done on account of their enmity with some of the Panches. This will give rise to friction and disputes. While empowering these Panchayats to levy petty taxes, the Government should provide funds for them in the Budget, too. If this is not done, as I have already stated, there will be disputes in the villages. With these words, I again congratulate the hon. Minister on his bringing forward this Bill.

Sardar Rajindar Singh Gyani (Rupar) (Punjabi) : Mr. Speaker, nobody can deny that the Gram Panchayat Bill which is now before the House is a very useful measure. Not a single hon. Member has said that this measure should not be passed. On the other hand, everybody has remarked that in this age of democracy the village units should be vested with powers.

I, however, think that the passage of this Bill will give rise to a complication. At present, all the criminal offences are tried under the Indian Penal Code and the civil causes are adjudicated upon under the provisions of the

Civil Procedure Code. These enactments are so comprehensive that very able lawyers alone can understand these. When we have such laws on the Statute Book, it will give rise to a serious complication if the power of deciding cases is given to the Panches who have no knowledge of law. Appeals against the decisions of the Panches will lie to the civil and criminal courts. This fact will always be borne in mind by the Panches and they will try to give a legal appearance to their decisions. Without being acquainted with the legal procedure, they will try to adopt it for deciding cases before them. On the one hand, justice is administered in accordance with very comprehensive laws and on the other hand the power of deciding cases, is being given to those people who will have no knowledge of legal procedure. No qualification has been prescribed for the Panches in this Bill. The Sarpanches, Naib-Sarpanches and other Panches will have to pass no qualifying test in law. I have my apprehensions that under these conditions we will not be able to get the justice which we are hoping for. It would have been understandable if it had been laid down that the Panches who are familiar with the lands, the different localities and people of the village will decide the cases and that no appeal will lie against their decisions, but according to this Bill the Panches will try to follow a certain procedure. Witnesses will be summoned and dates for recording their evidence will be fixed. In this way, we will fail to achieve our object. The Panches will always be thinking of the different provisions of law and justice will not be done properly.

I would suggest to the Government that many illiterate persons will get an easy walk-over in the elections through their personal influence and they would not be able to understand the intricacies of revenue, civil and criminal law. In these circumstances, I think that some qualifications may be prescribed for them so that they may, when elected as members of a Panchayat, be able to discharge their duties satisfactorily.

Secondly, I would suggest that appeals against the orders of the Panchayats should not lie with the Sub-Judges and Magistrates. Tehsil Panchayat Unions should be constituted and some qualifications be prescribed in this behalf for the persons to become eligible to contest these elections. Moreover, if the Government proposes to abolish the District Boards, then it must set up District Panchayats Unions in their place. It is generally observed that educated persons have no fascination for the village life and there is a tendency among them to shift to towns as they can enjoy all amenities of life there. These persons would not like to become Panches in small villages. If the Government take steps to set up Tehsil Panchayat Unions by abolishing the District Boards, it may provide some incentive for the educated persons to become members of such Panchayats. The Government should see that only educated and well-qualified persons are taken in the Panchayat Unions and the District Panchayat Unions.

We know the legal structure, that is before us, and the law by which we are governed. It is, therefore, necessary that some qualifications or test should be prescribed so that persons of proved ability and integrity and high status should become members of the Panchayats. Only in this way can real justice be administered to the people in the rural areas.

In the Bill as it was introduced in the House, there was a provision for the constitution of Gram Sabhas in villages but in the Bill as it has emerged from the Joint Select Committee this provision has been deleted. The function of the Gram Sabha was to review the work of the Gram Panchayats and

[Sardar Rajindar Singh Gyani]

discuss the progress made by them during the preceding year. I think that this provision should not have been deleted.

Besides this, I want to bring it to the notice of the Government, that the funds which are proposed to be provided to the Panchayats are very inadequate. No specific provision has been made in the Bill in regard to the amount of funds that will be placed at the disposal of the Panchayats. It has been provided in the Bill, that the Government will contribute money to the Panchayats funds and certain functions and powers of the Panchayats have also been specified. It has also been stated in the Bill, that additional powers may be given to the Panchayats from time to time. I would ask my hon. Friends who hold the view that the Panchayats will not be able to exercise their powers judiciously that they should not feel apprehensive of confiding powers to them because I feel that they will certainly have a full grasp over their work in due course of time and feel their responsibility in this matter. These powers are being given to them in the hope that they will discharge their duties satisfactorily.

I congratulate the Government on bringing forward this important measure, as its need was being keenly felt. It goes to the credit of our Government, that within a few months of its assuming the reins of office it has satisfied the needs of the people of our State by bringing up such a Bill before the House.

Sardar Partap Singh (Rupar) (Punjabi) : Sir, we have been keenly looking forward to the day when the Government would bring forward the Gram Panchayat Bill before the House and now it is a matter of great satisfaction and pleasure that this Bill is today before us. It is very necessary that the Panchayats should be established in villages in our State. Now that we have achieved Independence we should see to it that the villagers also feel the glow of freedom. We have to make an experiment to ascertain whether the people in villages can administer even-handed justice and improve the conditions in villages. It is no doubt true that the members of the Panchayats would mostly be illiterate and unqualified but experience will show that they will raise the standard of administration to a high level.

Objections have been raised by my hon. Friends that the number of the Panches should be fixed in proportion to the total population in villages. This objection is a very sound one because if the number of Panches is large they will be able to evolve a plan for improving the conditions in villages. Besides this, the Headmaster of a village school who is often a well-read person can be taken as a member of the Panchayat. The Panchayats would be able to consider each case on its own merits and give their well-considered judgment on it. It goes without saying, that the persons who would be elected as members of the Panchayats, would not be able to guard themselves against the spirit of factionalism which generally prevails in the villages. But teachers are always above party politics. I, therefore, think that it would be in the fitness of things if the Headmaster or a teacher in a single-teacher-school may be appointed as Secretary of the Panchayat. They will be able to carry on the work of the Panchayats, quite satisfactorily. If the members of the Panchayats are well-educated, they will be able to maintain a high standard of administration in villages. It is a matter of common knowledge that the officers generally misconduct themselves in villages and the people cannot dare to make a report against them to the higher officers. Now, when the Panchayats are established they will be empowered to make a report against any official if he misconducts himself in the discharge of his duties.

An objection has also been raised with regard to the restricted powers of the Panchayats to award punishment, but I think, that whatever powers have been given to the Panchayats, are quite adequate.

At the same time, I do not agree with what Sardar Waryam Singh, has stated with regard to the reservation of seats for the Harijans. If this principle is not adopted, I am afraid no Harijan will get a seat in any Panchayat. The presence of a Harijan in every Panchayat, is essential if the Harijans are to get justice or a fair deal. It has been observed, that in most of the cases that go to the Panchayats, punishment is awarded to the poor. In very few cases, the judgment goes against the rich.

It is also important to give the necessary funds to the Panchayats. If one-fourth of the Land Revenue of the Village is earmarked for the Panchayat fund, every Panchayat will be able to bank upon a definite sum of money every year. This will strengthen their position.

Then, Sir, I am of the opinion that appeals against the judgments of the Panchayats, should lie in the court of the District Magistrate. Under the Act of 1934, appeals against the decisions of the village Panchayats lay with the Panchayat of Sarpanches of the former. The result was, that the latter invariably used to uphold the decisions of the former under the influence of the Sarpanch of the original Panchayat. After that was introduced the procedure of filing appeals in the courts of the Magistrates. In my opinion this procedure should be adhered to in the proposed legislation also. When it is seen, that the Panchayats are working successfully, Tehsil Unions and District Unions should be constituted. It is hoped, that they will include educated persons capable of hearing appeals. Till that time, appeals should lie in the court of the District Magistrate.

The Panchayats generally fail on account of the mutual rivalries of the rural people. The weak among them are hit hard and punishment is visited upon two or three or, in some cases, all members of their families. For instance sometimes not only the culprit but his son is also made to pay a fine. Sometimes, the person who is found guilty is made to pay a fine of two or three rupees per head per diem. As a result of this, a single family has to pay a penalty of rupees ten per diem and if the case continues to be heard for one month the head of the family has to pay a sum of money running into hundreds as penalty—a sum which is generally beyond his paying capacity. Therefore, Sir, I want to urge that the Panchayats should have the power to award punishment to the person who is guilty and not all the members of his family.

Sardar Uttam Singh (Sri Gobindpur) (Punjabi): Sir, the Bill that is now, before us is a very good one, indeed. From the point of view of the welfare of rural population, of all the measures passed in this session this is the most important. In a country whose Constitution is based upon democratic principles, it is, but meet and proper to give judicial powers, i.e., the powers to settle their own disputes, and the freedom of giving a thought to schemes for their welfare and of managing their own affairs to the rural population itself. The people living in villages are feeling jubilant at the introduction of this Bill. To make democracy successful in this country, it is necessary to give such training to them. Now that the scheme of Community Projects, has been started and other schemes for the benefit of the villagers are also likely to be taken up, it appears necessary in these circumstances

[Sardar Uttam Singh]

to form Panchayats to give the villagers an opportunity of progressing and standing on their own feet.

The number of members of a Panchayat, should not be fixed at five. The size of the Panchayats should be proportionate to the population of the villages. A large-size village, should have more members, in its Panchayat than a small village.

Besides this, the funds at the disposal of the Panchayats, should be adequate. Without adequate funds, their very foundation will remain weak. The money realised in the form of Local Rates should not first go to the District Boards as at present ; it should go direct to the Panchayats. I can say, on the basis of my personal experience, that the District Boards are no longer necessary. The total income of the District Board of our district is of the order of rupees eight lakhs out of which Local Rates account for rupees seven lakhs but a major portion of this money is spent for purposes other than those for the betterment of the rural people and is wasted on unnecessary things or spent on the office establishment at the district headquarters.

If the Panchayats have sufficient funds with them, the development of the villages can be carried on in a better way. This can make the villages independent of the urban areas so far as their needs are concerned. One village would open a school, another a hospital and the third one a mandi. In this way, the villages can become self-sufficient to a large extent. Most of their needs can be satisfied by means of Co-operative Societies. We see that from the small organization of the Panchayat system which we have at present, we are in a position to derive a lot of advantage. On the basis of the experience, I have gained, I can say, that a good deal of benefit has accrued. In my District in 950 villages about 560 Panchayats are working. The work done by these 560 Panchayats is worth appreciating. Before these Panchayats 617 cases came up for hearing. Out of these, in 465 cases, compromises were effected. In this way, these poor people were saved the botheration of going to the courts and got justice in their own villages. In addition to these cases, 108 cases were dismissed and judgments were given in 82 cases. Out of these appeals were filed only in two cases. These two appeals were also rejected. This shows how these uneducated people have administered justice. The judgments given by them, have been taken to the courts and the Judges have seen them and found no fault with them. I am sure, that these uneducated persons will give decisions which will be based on justice, because the villagers know that if wrong decisions are given by them the people living in their village would not let them take rest and would curse them for the same. Therefore, the Panchayats will work in good faith. On the basis of past experience, it can be stated that the judgments delivered in these village Panchayats are better than those given in the cities. In villages, people have an honesty of purpose and good faith. Therefore, I think that in the villages justice can be administered quite efficiently. It is wrong to say that because the villagers are uneducated they should not be given any powers. In my opinion, so long as we do not uplift the villages, India cannot make any progress. We should have full faith in the people living in the villages and should not hesitate to give them powers.

There are one or two other things which I wish to place before the House in one or two minutes. In the first place, with regard to schools it has

been said that the Panchayats cannot run them properly. This is not correct, because so long as the management of the schools is not entrusted to the Panchayats working of these schools cannot be efficient. The funds will be with the Panchayats and so the schools should also be run by them, whether the Panches are educated or uneducated. They can do this job successfully. In my opinion the schools, the mandis, the hospitals, and the Co-operative Societies should be under the management of the Panchayats. With the experience that we have of the working of the Panchayats, I can say that all these things can be done by the people living in the villages. So, there is no need for any more discussion on this point.

There is one thing from which there appears to be some danger. Steps should be taken in this matter. At some places, the Police puts undue pressure on the Panches. Before this, the police used to put pressure on the Lambardars and the Chowkidars. But now it tries to control the Panchayats, and to use them for its own ends. I received a *resolution* from Gurdaspur District, that the Police made the members of a Panchayat sit in the sun and tried to put undue pressure on them. This matter should be inquired into. I request the hon. Minister to make an inquiry in this connection. This resolution must have been received by him also. Of course, it has reached me. This is another danger which must be guarded against. The Panchayats can work only if they are allowed to remain independent, so that they may give independent decisions. With these words I resume my seat.

Sardar Bachan Singh (Bagha Purana) (*Punjabi*) : Sir, I beg to submit that it is good to form Panchayats in the State. It is a matter of great pleasure that our Government is thinking of doing so. But I would like to suggest that these Panchayats should be independent. It is only then that they can work efficiently.

The first thing, which I would like to say, in connection with these Panchayats is, that the minimum age for voters should be 18 years, instead of 21 years, so that the young men in the villages may also be able to exercise their right of vote. It is strange, that an old man of 90 years, who cannot keep his turban steady and who cannot see, is given the right of vote, while a youngman of 18 years is denied this right. So my submission is that the age limit should be 18 and not 21 as proposed in this Bill for the right to vote.

The second thing is, that in clause five, the number of Panches has been kept at five. In my opinion, the number should be larger in the larger villages and it should be small in the smaller villages.

The third thing is with regard to the funds. Without funds, the Panchayats cannot work. It is surprising to find the hon. Ministers saying that the funds can be raised through fines. This is the same things which happened in China, during the days when Britishers were here. There, the poor soldiers were compelled to pay fines and large amounts were realised by the Government in this manner. I would request the Government not to reduce the Panchayats to such a state, that their funds are collected by imposing fines. Of course, there should be Panchayats, but the Panchayats should be good. Their working should not be like that of the Consolidation Department. In the beginning, the people liked this work but afterwards

[Sardar Bachan Singh]

the bad officers of this department earned for it a bad name. So, the Panchayats which we are going to establish should be good ones, and they should be kept independent. Funds should be provided for them. In this Bill, there are certain defects which should be removed. As a matter of fact, the working of the Panchayats will be successful only if the Government behaves like a mother which gives milk to the child and not sing mere lullabies. The mother which sings, mere lullabies to the child cannot stop it from crying. So the Government, should provide ample funds for the Panchayats and should help them in every way.

Mr. Speaker, the organisation of the Panchayats in the rural areas is of utmost necessity and they should be established as early as possible. But the fact is that the Government does not actually want to give them any powers and simply wants to enthuse the people by mere verbal assurances. The Government does not want to give any relief to the people from the burden of taxes but goes on levying new taxes on them. I request, that sufficient funds may be put at their disposal, as without them the Panchayats would not be able to perform their duties efficiently.

The next thing, that I wish to suggest is, that the Panchayats should be allowed to function independently and powers should not be centralised in one man's hands. This will help the Panchayats to redress the grievances of the poor people.

Shri Chand Ram Ahlawat (Jhajjar) (Hindi) : Mr. Speaker, the Panchayat Bill has been thoroughly discussed by the hon. Members of this House. The hon. Minister for Local Government is feeling both happy and proud in presenting this Bill to the House. As the original Bill had to be re-drafted by the Joint Select Committee, it has taken so much time. Government had given a promise in the last Session, that the ruralites would be granted wide powers through the Panchayats. Sir, I have not risen up to explain the objects of this Bill. I shall only say that it is chiefly based on the principle of decentralisation. Through this Bill, the Government aims at giving power into the hands of those people who are its real masters. In other words the Government is going to put democracy into real practice, so that justice should become cheap and handy.

There is no denying the fact, that the original Bill was drafted with these objects in view. But I feel, that the changes brought about by the Joint Select Committee in the original Bill make no improvement in it. What I mean is, that the good features of the Bill as introduced are missing in the report of the Joint Select Committee on the Gram Panchayat Bill, 1952. What was required was that the Government should have known the grievances of the people through the Gram Sabha and taken interest in redressing them. According to the provisions of the original Bill, every Gram Sabha was to hold one annual general and one half-yearly general meeting after the *Sawni* and *Hari* harvests. The Gram Sabha, at each *Sawni* meeting, was to pass the budget and lay down plans for the following year and also examine the accounts and review the work of the preceding year. That provision has now been omitted.

We people have lost sight of the speed with which Communism is gaining ground in rural areas. Everybody knows that the majority has an overpowering influence over the minority. At present, although the Panchayats

possess ordinary powers, yet their policies are repressive so far as the poor Harijans are concerned. Giving them both judicial and executive powers, is just like giving a double-edged sword in the hands of a child who does not know how to use it. Like that child, the Panchayats will also make a wrong use of their powers. The only safeguard against the misuse of their powers was the Gram Sabha, but that has been done away with. After that, a man who can be taken as their leader, is the Sarpanch. It pains me to remark, that the provision for the election of a Sarpanch by the village population has also been deleted. I submit that the Government should not lose sight of the wit and intelligence of the people to whom these powers are being granted.

Mr. Speaker, as I have already stated and as also the Minister concerned has remarked, some people are not satisfied with the giving of these powers to the Panchayats. Before coming to Simla, I got the opportunity of meeting some Harijans of my constituency. I had a talk with them about the Gram Panchayat Bill. They were of the opinion that the existing Panchayats were not according fair treatment to the poor and the Harijans and if the Government gives them such wide powers, it must keep a watchful eye over their working and the use to which these powers are put. Sir, I am not in favour of an indiscriminate use of powers and, therefore, request that the Government must keep a close watch over their working whether they are 1st Class or 2nd Class Panchayats.

Mr. Speaker, the next thing that I wish to say is, with regard to the reservation of seats for the Harijans in the Panchayats. To my mind, it is a sort of a half-hearted provision. As in the villages the majority dominates the minority and the minorities are not given a fair treatment, I feel that the reservation for the Harijans should be on lines similar to those which have been laid for the Parliament, so that the poor people may also heave a sigh of relief. A similar procedure should also be adopted in the case of Tehsil Unions.

Sir, as the Panchayats are proposed to be granted powers in the sphere of Revenue, as also for the constructive works, I again request that Government should supervise their working very carefully and see that they make a right use of these powers so that the rights of the poor people are properly safe guarded.

Shri Niranjana Dass Dhiman (Phillaur) (Hindi) : Mr. Speaker, about five years ago after the attainment of freedom, Congress Government was established in our country. By this very Government a similar Bill was presented before the previous Assembly. But due to certain limitations it was not passed. So our Government has again presented it before the Legislature, and for that I congratulate the Government.

Sir, it is a measure the enactment of which will have a very healthy effect on rural life. Litigation amongst the ruralites will be very much reduced. This will go a long way in saving them from the heavy expenses that they usually incur on litigation in the Courts. Objections have been raised by the hon. Members of the Opposition as also by some other Members, that the Panchayats would not be able to perform those duties efficiently, which are being entrusted to them under the Punjab Gram Panchayat Bill. What they have said, recalls to our minds the utterances of the Britishers who used to say that if they quit India, there would be anarchy all round. Sir, this is my

[Shri Niranjan Dass Dhiman]

firm belief that if the Panchayats are given powers they would make the best use of them. I myself am working as the Sarpanch of my village Panchayat and also as Junior Vice-President of the Tehsil Committee and I am in a position to say on the basis of my experience that the villagers can perform any difficult task efficiently. I admit, that there is some possibility of their misusing these powers. But simply because of this fear that they would misuse their powers, the Government cannot withhold these powers from those to whom it has been promising them.

Sir, I say that to be an illiterate person is not to be a criminal. It is our misfortune that most of the population of our country is illiterate. But the wit and intelligence shown by the illiterate people during the last elections, I believe, can rarely be matched. I again congratulate the Minister-in-charge on the presentation of this Bill before the House and request that this Bill be passed very soon. Its enactment will have a very good effect on the ruralites. Therefore, I suggest that any amendment that is considered necessary should be soon placed before the House and the Bill passed. I have been listening to the speeches of the hon. Members on this Bill very carefully. It has been said that the number of Panches should not be fixed. I may point out that the number of the Members in the District Boards, Municipal Committees and the Legislative Assembly is always fixed and I, therefore, do not see eye to eye with the hon. Member so far as this suggestion is concerned. Mr. Speaker, I suggest that a village with a population of one thousand should be allowed to have 5 Panches and that with a population of 2,000 7 members and if the population is between 4,000 and 5,000 the number of Panches should be nine. For a population of 5,000 and more the number of Panches should be 11.

The next thing that I wish to state is that without funds no Panchayat would be able to perform its duties efficiently. There can be only two ways for the provision of funds either these Panchayats should be given grants or they should be empowered to levy taxes. I wish that some provision be made for their funds. If sufficient funds are kept at their disposal they will certainly become model Panchayats.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : The hon. Member's time is over. Now I call upon Shri Gopi Chand to make his speech.

Shri Gopi Chand (Pundri) (Hindi) : Mr. Speaker, it is after a very long time that the grievances of the villagers are being heard. Much had been said here in this connection during the last Budget Session. We had requested our Government to pay more attention to the betterment of the lot of the ruralites. I congratulate the hon. Minister-in-charge of this Department, the Secretary and the Director, who have taken great pains to draft this Bill. A lot of discussion has taken place on this Bill, and all its shortcomings and good points have been mentioned. I want to draw the attention of the hon. Members to clause 5 (2), wherein it is given :—

Every such Panchayat shall consist of five Panches who shall be elected by all adults, entered as voters on the electoral rolls for the State Legislative Assembly, in force for the time being and pertaining to the Gram Panchayat area.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, you know that the population of all the villages is not the same. We find, if there are villages with a population of ten thousand, there are also such villages which have a population of not more than five hundred. Hence, there is no justification to provide for the same number i.e., five Panches, for villages with a ten-thousand population and for those having a five-hundred population. In this connection, I want to refer to the Minute of Dissent of hon. Pandit Jagat Ram in which he has said that

there should be five Panches for a village with a population of five hundred, six for villages, the population of which varies from 500 to 1,000, seven for 1,000 to 2,000, eight for 2,000 to 3,000 and nine for villages which may have a population of 3,000 or even more.

The second point is that in clause 5 (2), it has not been clearly stated whether the voting will be by ' Secret Ballot ' or otherwise. I feel that after the words ' the Panches shall be elected ' and before the word 'by' the words ' Secret Ballot ' should be inserted. Then, it has been provided that first of all the Sarpanch and the Naib-Sarpanches will be elected and thereafter the election of the Panches will be held. I am of the view that the election of the Panches should be held first and they may elect the Sarpanches and the Naib-Sarpanches on the analogy of the election of the Chief Minister.

Besides, there is the question of the appointment of the Secretaries. The Bill provides that their appointments will be made by the Director. My suggestion is that the Tehsil Panchayat Union and not the Director or the Government should make their appointments. I also support the suggestion made by Chaudhri Rizaq Ram that the area should be divided into various Wards and the election of the Panches should be held accordingly.

Thereafter arises the question of financing the Panchayats. I am of the opinion that the income accruing from the Local Rates, Hearth Tax etc., to the Government along with 1/4 of the Land Revenue should be given to the Panchayats so that they should carry on reforms in their villages properly.

Then, I am of the view that the Patwaris and the Lambardars should not be brought under the control of the Panchayats, for it will create much dislocation in the administration. Moreover, I fully endorse the suggestion made by my hon. Friend, Shri Rala Ram, that the Forest Guards should be brought under the control of the Panchayats because it has been observed that these people harass the villagers very much. In the end, my suggestion is that the District Boards should be abolished all at once.

Shri Badlu Ram (Kalanaur) (Hindi) : Mr. Speaker, I have risen to say a few things only. I was under the impression that the learned lawyers present in this House will at least be knowing something about the condition of the ruralites, but I have seen that they seem to be altogether ignorant of the problems of the shopkeepers and the villagers. However, for the present I advert to the provision concerning the imposition of fines on the villagers which has been made in this Bill.

I wish to submit, Sir, that in our villages even twenty years ago decisions were given by the Panchayats after having applied a good deal of common sense and thought to the points at issue and fines and punishments were imposed after full consideration. Whenever anybody was found guilty of any fault, he was punished by social boycott with the result that the person concerned was himself ashamed of what he had done and did not commit any offence in future. I am surprised that although the Minister himself belongs to the Hariana area yet he has failed to understand the problem.

Mr. Speaker, I shall relate an example of justice which was administered in our area. There, a man who had committed an offence was asked to give 1/4 seer of tobacco by way of fine. He replied that

[Shri Badlu Ram]

he was prepared to pay a fine amounting to a lakh of rupees but not the tobacco. From this you can judge the extent of simplicity of conduct of those people.

The establishment of the Panchayats in the villages will entail multifarious duties for the Panches to perform and the Sarpanch will have to run the whole administration. I, therefore, request that special attention should be paid to the age of the Panches who constitute the Panchayats. A man of less than 40 years in age should not be elected as Sarpanch, for a man of less than 40 years of age does not possess any practical experience. The hon. Members who are of the opinion that only educated people should be elected as Sarpanches are labouring under a wrong impression. (*Laughter*). A four-years old child goes to the school and studies in the college till the age of 20. He does not gain any practical experience except reading and writing English. (*Interruptions*). Sir, whatever I say is correct. For instance, take any case and hand it over to any lawyer for favour of his decision. I shall also record my own opinion. Mr. Speaker, you may then take that case to the high Court and you will come to know whose opinion was correct. Everything depends upon personal experience. No legal intrigues prevail in the villages. The decisions arrived at there are such as call for no discussion. Today, we see in this Assembly that all the Members sitting in this House are longing for their inclusion in the Cabinet but I have no allurements whatsoever for the same. Besides, there should be no question of education in connection with the membership of the Panchayats. The only qualifications necessary for membership of a Panchayat are, firstly, that their age should not be less than forty years, and, secondly, they should have full knowledge and experience of village life. It should not be like Shri Rao living at some other place and become a panch in a village.

The third thing which I wish to refer to is the 'Shamilat Lands' of the villages. I wish that all the 'Shamilat Lands' in the villages should be in possession of the Panchayats. If this suggestion is adopted then the apprehension expressed by my Friend Shri Chand Ram will also be removed.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Sir, I move—

That the question be now put.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That the question be now put.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Now I call upon the Minister for Local Government to make his speech.

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Sri Ram Sharma) (*Hindi*) : Mr. Speaker, the general discussion on this Bill which has emerged from the Joint Select Committee has been held for two days, i.e., yesterday and today. Many hon. Members have expressed their views during the course of this debate. There are three sections in the Opposition. I am surprised to find that they have not expressed similar views on the importance and significance of this Bill.

A section of the Opposition apprehends that the delegation of the civil and criminal powers to the Panchayats will result in a good deal of hardship and miseries. The other section of the Opposition is of the view that the powers delegated to the Panchayats through this Bill are insufficient and that more

powers should be conferred upon them. They consider that the provisions which already exist in this Bill with regard to the Gram Panchayats are not enough and, therefore, these should be increased. The third section of the Opposition has put forward the plea that even if the existing scope of the Gram Panchayat Bill is retained as it is or increased, it will serve no useful purpose, but that on the other hand it may create perplexity, and the work of the Panchayats will suffer. In addition to them, the Members of the Government Party have also expressed their opinions. So, I shall take this opportunity to reply in a few minutes to the main points which have been raised in this debate of two days.

A point on which much stress has been laid is that adequate arrangements should be made to provide reasonable and sufficient funds to the Panchayats. I made it abundantly clear in my previous speech also that there are some means which can be adopted by our Panchayats in order to raise funds for themselves. The first and the foremost way for raising money is to impose taxes. Secondly, when the District Boards are abolished, their funds will be transferred to the Panchayats. I, therefore, feel that it is of no use for the hon. Members to worry about this aspect. And if some District Boards are retained and others are abolished the Government has made arrangements that some of the functions of the abolished local bodies as well as a reasonable proportion of their funds will be handed over to the Panchayats concerned. Similarly, there is a provision that a Panchayat will receive a grant according to the amount collected by itself. For instance, 75 per cent of the income of a Panchayat is given to it by way of grant at present. With regard to fines also, it has been provided that the amount realised will remain in the custody of the Government for three years and on the expiry of that period the accumulated money will be handed over to the Panchayat concerned.

Fifthly, whatever is collected by the Panchayats will remain with them. As the Chief Minister has given a hint about the intentions of the Government with regard to the District Boards, the Government will have no objection to the demand that whatever proportion is fixed, it may be paid as and when a certain amount has been collected.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Why not fix that proportion and be done with it ?

Minister for Local Government : This suggestion can be considered when we reach the relevant clause. In Bombay they have fixed it at 15 per cent of Land Revenue or 25 per cent of the Local Rates, while the Madras Government gives to the Panchayats 12½ per cent of Land Revenue and Abiana. I agree that it would be better to fix the proportion and we will fix it after due consideration.

Then, we come to the number of the Panches. I do not think that it is so important as to require all this emphasis from my hon. Friends. They can have two or three hundred Panches, if they so desire. But knowing that only two judges can sit and decide most important cases in the High Court, I do not see any reason why there should be so much concern with regard to the number of the Panches in our Panchayats. Perhaps it may be in the interest of my Communist friends to increase the number of the Panches because in that case they may hope to get a seat or two here and there but I am sure that the number of the Panches has nothing to do with the efficiency of a Panchayat.

[Minister for Local Government]

As regards the Budgets of the Panchayats, I am sure that no one would like to get them discussed and passed in the manner suggested by some of my hon. Friends. That will give rise to so many troubles and quarrels. Any one whose suggestion is not accepted will at once get ready to create mischief.

In the matter of the appointment of Secretaries too, I am of the opinion that the best way is that these bodies should have their own servants with powers to appoint and remove them. But if one man is appointed to work as Secretary to more than one Panchayat, he will be running about from one place to another and you can very well imagine how the work will suffer. Then, with regard to the suggestion that school teachers be appointed as part-time Secretaries my submission is that if it had been suggested that we should carry on without the Secretaries with the help of efficient clerks the proposal would have deserved some sort of consideration but it will hardly be conducive to the efficient working of the Panchayats to entrust this work to school teachers, etc. The Panchayats will have very little control over these teachers. I do not know if my Friends have any particular reason to get this work from school teachers but so far as efficiency and proper working of Panchayats are concerned you can have them only when they have their own servants.

Again, I cannot make any promise off-hand with regard to handing over the common lands to the Panchayats. There is no clause pertaining to this matter in the Bill. But if it is sought to make such a provision by means of a new clause, then, I shall have no objection to it.

With regard to the abolition of the District Boards, I cannot at present go beyond what the Chief Minister has hinted at in his speech. And so far as the question of judicial powers is concerned, the hon. Members have before them the experience of U. P., as well as of our own State and we can make suitable provisions after mutual discussion in the light of that experience. The pith of the matter is that we want this measure to be useful to the people and also to work successfully, and to achieve this end I shall be prepared to consider every suggestion with care and sympathy.

With these remarks I commend this Bill to you for careful consideration clause by clause.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That the Punjab Gram Panchayat Bill as reported on by the Joint Select Committee be taken into consideration.

The motion was carried.

The House then adjourned till 1 p.m. on Wednesday, the 26th November, 1952.

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

DEBATES

26th November, 1952.

Vol. III—No: 11

OFFICIAL REPORT



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PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Wednesday, 26th November, 1952

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Simla at 1 P. M. of the Clock.

ABSENCE OF THE SPEAKER.

Secretary : I have to inform the House that the Speaker is unavoidably absent. The Deputy Speaker will, therefore, take the Chair.

(Sardar Gurdial Singh Dhillon Deputy Speaker then occupied the Chair).

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR AIR FORCE AERODROME.

***745. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

- (a) the area of land in ordinary acres taken over from cultivators for the conversion of the Adampur (Jullundur) landing ground into an Air Force Aerodrome;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the land allotted to refugee cultivators in the vicinity of the former landing ground has also been requisitioned for the construction of the Aerodrome and military barracks etc;
- (c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative whether the refugee allottees have been allotted lands elsewhere; if so, where, and whether the new allotments are equivalent in size and of the same quality as the lands requisitioned; if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the non-refugee cultivators whose lands have also been requisitioned for the aerodrome etc., have been given compensation; if so, in what form and to what extent; if not, why not?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar :

- (a) 205·249 acres.
- (b) Yes. Land measuring 12·248 ordinary acres allotted to refugee allottees in village Chomon was taken by the Military authorities.

[Chief Minister]

- (c) The refugee allottees have been allotted equivalent lands out of the remaining available area of the same village. The land taken from and given to refugee allottees in exchange is *Barani*.
- (d) The non refugee cultivators have been paid compensation at the rate of Rs. 4/- and Rs. 8/- per kanal per year for the cultivated area and uncultivated area respectively. The compensation for the period after 1946—47 upto 15-6-1952 has been forwarded to the Tehsildar, Jullundur, for payment to the owner at a very early date. The owners have also been informed to receive the compensation from the Tehsildar, Jullundur, immediately.

DETENTION OF S. ANOKH SINGH ETC. BY THE POLICE
OF DISTRICT GURDASPUR.

***756. Shri Wadhawa Ram :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

- (a) the length of time since S. Anokh Singh, S. Surain Singh and S. Madan Singh have been kept under detention by the Police of District Gurdaspur;
- (b) whether it is a fact that no challan in any single case has been put up so far against either of them in Court;
- (c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, the action Government proposes to take in the matter ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar :

- (a) Sardar Anokh Singh was first arrested on the 19th September, 1951, u/s 109 Cr. P. C. at Ludhiana. At that time, he gave a false name and identity. However, enquiries revealed his correct name and identity and, as he was wanted in several cases of dacoity in Gurda-pur district and in U. P., he was shown under arrest in those cases and was transferred to Gurdaspur on 16-10-51. Thereafter, he remained in custody of the Gurdaspur, and U. P. Police upto 21-4-52 in connection with the complicated investigation of the cases against him.

He was transferred to judicial custody on 21-4-52 and is still there pending trial in one case.

S. Surain Singh was arrested on 25-10-51. He was also wanted in five dacoity cases of Gurdaspur district and remained in police custody upto 4-2-52 in connection with the investigation of the complicated cases.

He was sent to judicial lock-up on 5-2-52 and is still there pending trial in two cases.

Sardar Madan Singh was arrested on 5-2-52 and remained in Gurdaspur police custody up to 19-4-52 in connection with the investigation of three dacoity and one Arms Act case against him.

Since 20-4-52, he has been in judicial custody pending trial in two cases.

(b) Sardar Anokh Singh has been challaned on 8-7-52 in one case, FIR 7 of 1951, u/s 395/397 IPC, Police Station Kahnuwan, Gurdaspur district. He could not be challaned in the other four cases against him.

Sardar Surain Singh was challaned on 8-7-52, in two cases, FIR 7 of 1951, u/s 395/397 IPC, P. S Kahnuwan, and FIR 207 of 1949, u/s 395/397 IPC, P.S. Dinanagar (Gurdaspur).

He could not be challaned in the other three cases against him.

Sardar Madan Singh was challaned on 8-7-52 in two cases (FIR 7 of 1951 u/s 395/397 IPC, P. S. Kahnuwan and FIR 16 of 1951 u/s 19 Arms Act, and Explosive Substances Act, P. S Sadr Gurdaspur.

He could not be challaned in the other two cases.

(c) Does not arise.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Some cases have been withdrawn and out of those which have not been withdrawn I would like to know whether there is any case in which a challan has been put up by the Punjab Government against these persons ?

Chief Minister : The answer to this question has already been given.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Sardar Anokh Singh was detained in Jail from 19-9-1951 to 8-8-1952 without any challan. May I know whether any enquiry was instituted by the Government during this long period of his detention; if so, what was the result of that enquiry ?

Chief Minister : There are two ways of detaining a person. Firstly, a person may be detained under the security provisions. Secondly, the cases of persons who are detained, are reviewed by the Government from time to time. So far as denention is concerned, it is in accordance with the provisions of law.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Is the Government satisfied that his detention for such a long period was really necessary ? If so, was it in accordance with the rules ?

Chief Minister : Yes.

Shri Wadhawa Ram : May I know the reasons for which these persons were detained in Jail for such a long time ?

Mr. Deputy Speaker : This is a matter of opinion.

Chief Minister : In 1951 we were not in the Government.

Shri Wadhawa Ram : During this regime I have been able to get a reply to my question after five or six months.

TORTURE CASE IN BHINDI SAIDAN, DISTRICT AMRITSAR.

***848. Sardar Darshan Singh :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether it has come to his notice that in the Bhindi Saidan District Amritsar Torture Case, all the accused have been acquitted by the court trying the case;
- (b) does the Government propose to take any further steps in this connection ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar :

- (a) Yes.
- (b) An appeal against the order of acquittal has been filed in the High Court.

GOVERNMENT OWNED CARS FOR MINISTERS.

***907. Captain Ranjit Singh :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

- (a) the number and makes of cars purchased for the use of Ministers ;
- (b) the cost price of these cars;
- (c) whether the Ministers are allowed to use these cars for private purposes also;
- (d) if the answer to part (c) above be in the affirmative whether the Ministers have to pay to the Government for the private use of the cars; if so, what amount each Minister has paid for the private use of the Government cars upto 14-6-52 ;
- (e) the quantity of petrol and lubricants used in each Minister's car from 30-4-52 to 11-5-52 for the local running of cars?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar :

- (a) Eight cars, all Chevrolet make.
- (b) Rs. 1,50,146/-.
- (c) Yes.

(d) Ministers are allowed to use Government cars for private journeys as follows :—

- (i) For a journey within a radius of ten miles from the place of halt while on tour or at Headquarters and within a radius of 20 miles while at Delhi, free of any cost.
- (ii) In respect of all other journeys, on payment of the price of petrol and mobiloil.
- (iii) A flat rate of Rs. 3/2/- per gallon is charged for private journeys when the petrol is purchased on Government account.
- (iv) In case of an accident, during the private journey the entire cost of repairs etc. arising out of such accident will be borne by the Minister concerned. The following Ministers have performed private journeys in Government cars upto 14-6-52 and have paid the amount noted against each :—

Chief Minister	...	...	Rs. 33 5 6.
Minister for Development	...	...	Rs. 12 0 0.
Minister for Finance	...	...	Rs. 103 2 4.
Minister for Local Government	...	...	Rs. 70 13 0.
Minister for Irrigation	...	...	Rs. 18 12 0.
Minister for Education	...	...	Rs. 39 0 0.
Minister for Labour	---	...	Rs. 6 0 0.

Minister for Capital Project... Assumed office on 19-6-52 and is not covered by this Question.

(e) The quantity of petrol and lubricants used in each Minister's car from 30-4-52 to 11-5-52 for local running of cars is indicated below :—

Chief Minister	12 gallons petrol only.
Minister for Development	10 gallons petrol and $\frac{1}{4}$ gallon mobil oil.
Minister for Finance	15 $\frac{1}{2}$ gallons of petrol.
Minister for Local Government	19 $\frac{1}{2}$ gallons petrol and 1 gallon mobil oil.
Minister for Irrigation	24 gallons of petrol only.
Minister for Education	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ gallons of petrol only.
Minister for Labour	20 $\frac{1}{2}$ gallons of petrol only.
Minister for Capital Project	Assumed office on 19-6-52 and is not covered by this Question. His predecessor was using a car lent by the Election Department and a new car was purchased for the Minister for Capital Project on 1-8-52 at Government expense.

PILGRIMS TO MAHESH YATRA.

***949. Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether it is a fact that some pilgrims to the Mani Mahesh Yatra were killed in a violent storm, while crossing a 16,000 feet high pass near Dharamsala, District Kangra during the last week of August, 1952; if so, the exact number of pilgrims killed, particulars of other losses sustained, and the circumstances under which the said tragedy occurred;
- (b) what action, if any, has been taken or proposed to be taken to eliminate chances of such accidents for future ?

Shri Jagat Narain :

- (a) No death is reported in the jurisdiction of Kangra District. Intimation received from the Himachal Pradesh Government authorities, however, reveals that some pilgrims died, while passing through Andreh, Jalsu and Kawari Passes on their way to Man Mahesh in Himachal Pradesh territory.
- (b) This State Government is not concerned.

DISTRIBUTION OF PRAMAN PATRAS ON INDEPENDENCE
DAY IN THE STATE.

***954. Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether it is a fact that *Praman Patras* were distributed on the Independence Day *i. e.* 15th August, 1952 to certain persons in different districts in the State;
- (b) the authority or authorities under whose orders this was done together with the list of persons to whom such *Patras* were issued and the services for which they were issued ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar :

- (a) Yes.
- (b) The *Patras* were granted in accordance with the orders of the State Government issued on the 7th December, 1950, regarding the grant of *Parman Patras* and *Prashansa Patras* to workers, Philanthropists and genuine helpers of the administration. A statement containing the names of persons to whom such *patras* were issued on the Independence Day 1952, and the services for which they were issued, is given below :—

LIST OF PERSONS TO WHOM PUNJAB GOVERNMENT PRAMAN PATRAS WERE ISSUED.

Serial No.	Name and address.	Grounds for the award of the patras.
1	Dr. Y. P. Bedi, Municipal Medical Officer of Health and Honorary Secretary, Distt Red Cross Society, Amritsar.	For doing excellent work in connection with the Red Cross and St. John Ambulance, and rendering useful service in distributing relief to the flood sufferers.
2	Sardar Kartar Singh, Ex-Secretary, District Board, Amritsar.	Did excellent work for Dehat Sudhar, Amritsar, Co.-operative Bank, and Grow More Food Campaign. Has just retired from District Board service with a meritorious record.
3	Thakur Surinder Singh of Kishankot, Tehsil Batala, District Gurdaspur.	Wields influence in the ilaqa. Did outstanding work in all the spheres of the Grow More Food Campaign work. Is a keen helper of the Administration.
4	Ch. Kesho Dass, of village Dhaki, Tehsil Pathankot, Distt. Gurdaspur.	Is a member of the District Board and an Ex-Zaildar of village Dhaki. Donated Rs. 60,000/- and land near Pathankot for the construction of a college in a public meeting at Palampur before the Hon'ble Chief Minister. Is a public spirited man and a great helper of the Administration.
5	Pt. Amar Nath Honorary Assistant Recruiting Officer, Palampur, District Kangra.	<p>An Honorary Assistant Recruiting Officer who has rendered excellent service in publicizing and propagating the need for recruitment in the public. A very honest worker who never looks to remuneration but does it simply for the sake of service to mother country. He wields great influence in the public, and is a leading congress worker of his ilaqa.</p> <p>2. Besides the above, he is a great educationist whose services in the cause of education will always be remembered by the people of the district. As Secretary of the Punjab Pritinidhi Sabha, Dharamsala he is managing 12 High Schools, 7 Middle Schools and 1 Primary School run by that Sabha with funds which he collects by his personal efforts from rich people belonging to other parts of the country.</p>

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(11) 7

Serial N	Name and address.	Grounds for the award of the Patras.
6	Captain Sansar Chand Secretary D.S.S & A. Board, Hoshiarpur.	Has fine record of loyal and faithful service to the country and to the recruiting organization. He is very helpful in publicising the recruiting demands and bringing in recruits for enrolment through his personal efforts without charging any T. A. or D. A.
7	Shri Ishar Dass Sub Inspector of Police, Station House Officer, Adampur (Jullundur District).	Rendered useful services in connection with the anti-locust measures. During the recent attack of locust on this district this official did excellent work—this was certainly beyond the sphere of his ordinary duties.
8	Shri Mela Singh of Ludhiana City.	Helped in the detection and prevention of crime and collection of secret intelligence regarding the movements of political suspects and other under ground activities of political workers. He had been running with the police on petrol duty as well.
9	Rai Sahib Lala Kundan Lal Ahuja, President Municipal Committee, Abohar, district. Ferozepore.	Helped General Administration and donated towards various funds.. His handling of the Municipality of Abohar is commendable. Extremely helpful to Government Administration.
10	Sardar Jabarjang Singh, Landlord, Muktsar, District Ferozepore.	He is a very leading and influential ex Zaildar of Muktsar area. Though he has no connections with the Recruiting Organization-Ex-Service men but still he spends quite a good amount of money by sending people in the rural area for publicity and propaganda, which has given a very good result in a recruitment in Muktsar Tehsil. He has also been taking very keen interest in looking after the welfare of ex-servicemen by settling their petty cases and has helped a lot in the investigation of family pension cases by going out on tour for which he has not claimed any Travelling Allowance or Dearness Allowance from the Government. He is very strongly recommended in the interest of service to keep up the morale of such people, who should be granted a Punjab Sarkar Praman Patra for recruiting work. Is always ready with all kinds of help for public causes and has been helpful to Government Administration in all spheres. Was of great help in the rearing up of recent schools and colleges.

LIST OF PERSONS TO WHOM COMMISSIONER'S PRAMAN PATRAS WERE ISSUED.

Serial No.	Name and address	Grounds of award of Patras
1	S. Didar Singh Sarpanch, Panchayat, Mari Megha, Tehsil Patti, District Amritsar.	For doing excellent work for the promotion of the Grow More Food Campaign and Dehat Sudhar.
2	Dr. Atma Singh of Tarn Taran.	For rendering assistance in anti-malaria and relief work during the floods of 1950.
3	S. Gurdit Singh of Baba Bakala, District Amritsar.	For doing useful work in connection with the opening of a Maternity Home in village Baba Bakala.
4	L. Durga Dass of village Mehtab Kot, District Amritsar.	For his valuable assistance to the administration and for doing excellent work in connection with the opening of a Maternity Home in village Kot Mehtab.
5	Capt. Amar Singh of Sathiala, District Amritsar.	For doing useful work in connection with the opening of a Maternity Home in village Sathiala.
6	Shri Anokh Singh, Sarpanch, Panchayat Samalsar, District Ferozepore.	For doing outstanding work in connection with the Grow More Food Campaign and for help to the General Administration.
7	L. Mukand Lal Ahuja, President, Municipal Committee, Fazilka.	For rendering valuable help to the administration and for donating to various funds.
8	Capt. Lal Singh of Moga.	For doing excellent work for the Recruiting Organization.
9	S. Basant Singh of Gurdaspur.	For doing outstanding work in connection with the Grow More Food Campaign.
10	S. Rawal Singh, Desh Sewak Foundary Batala.	For doing excellent work in connection with the National Savings Scheme and for rendering valuable help to the Administration.

LIST OF PERSONS TO WHOM COMMISSIONER'S PRAMAN PATRAS WERE ISSUED

Serial No.	Name and address	Grounds of award of Patras
11	L. Sita Ram Aggarwal of Mandi Gurdaspur.	For rendering valuable help to the Administration.
12	S. Partap Singh, Member D. B. Ludhiana Ex-Zaildar, Dalla Zail, President, Malva Improvement Cattle Society.	For rendering useful assistance in connection with the improvement of cattle breeds.
13	S. Gurdev Singh, V. & P. O Mohi, Tehsil Jagraon.	For doing excellent work for the Recruiting Organization.
14	S. Natha Singh of P. S. Dakha (Ludhiana).	For his help rendered to the Administration in the detection of crime.
15	B. Hari Chand, Pleader and President, Municipal Committee, Jagraon.	For doing outstanding work in connection with the Grow More Food Campaign, Census and for rendering valuable help to the Administration.
16	2/Lieut. S S. S. Narindar Singh, H. A. R. O. and Sen. Vice Chairman, District Board, Jullundur	For rendering valuable help to the Administration and doing excellent work for the Recruiting Organization.
17	L. Thakar Dass Kapur, Member, District Urban Resettlement Committee, Jullundur.	For rendering valuable assistance to the Administration.
18	Prof. Mota Singh, M. L. A. Jullundur.	For rendering useful help to the Rehabilitation Department.
19	Comrade Ram Krishan, c/o State Congress Committee, Jullundur.	For rendering valuable help to the Administration.

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PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

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| 20 | S. Kartar Singh Randhawa. President, Central Co-operative Bank, Dasuya, District Hoshiarpur. | For outstang work in connection with the Co-operative movement. |
| 21 | Capt. Ram Nath, V. & P. P. Daulatpur, District Hoshiarpur. | For excellent work for the Red Cross Society and the welfare of ex-soldiers. |
| 22 | S. Amrik Singh Randhawa of village Bodal. | For rendering valuable help to the Administration particularly in the sphere of rehabilitation. |
| 23 | Rai Hari Chand, Vice Chairman, District Board, Hoshiarpur. | For excellent service in connection with anti-locust measures |
| 24 | Sh. Charan Dass Puri, Advocate, Dharamsala. | For rendering valuable help to the Administration in organizing the Fauji Mela at Hamirpur, the Red Cross Mela at Dharamsala and in collecting funds for the Small Savings Scheme. |
| 25 | Pt. Rattan Nath Advocate, J.V.C. District Board, Dharamsala. | For rendering valuable assistance to the Administration and for taking keen interest in the affairs of the District Board. |
| 26 | Th. Brij Lal, Lambardar of village Kharmar Tappa Mehla, Tehsil Hamirpur. | For rendering valuable assistance to the Administration and for helping with donations in the construction of (1) a road from Patta to Kharmar, (2) a high school at Bhoranj and (3) a Girl School at Kharmar. |
| 27 | Mahant Parmahans Nath, President, Municipal Committee, Gurdaspur. | For outstanding work in connection with Grow More Food Compaign and for rendering valuable help to the Administration. |

AMBALA DIVISION.
LIST OF PERSONS GRANTED PUNJAB SARKAR PRAMAN PATRAS.

District	Name of the grantee	Grounds for the grant of Patra	Remarks.
Government Praman Patra			
Hissar	1. Ch. Hukam Singh.	Is a public spirited man and a most active and keen helper of the administration. He served as a Camp Commandant and also as a stipendiary 1st class Magistrate. As President of the Town Committee, Tohana, he has done useful work.	Vide Chief Secy's Memo. No 7201-P-51/304, dated the 18th Feb. 1952, to the address of the Commissioner, Ambala Divn
Rohtak	1. Captain Dalpat Singh	Is popular in the district and has done exceedingly well as non-official Chairman of the District Board. He has been useful all round.	do
Gurgaon	1. Shri Shiv Narain Mathur.	Is a member of Urban Resettlement Committee. Has been attending its meetings regularly and giving help to administration.	do
Karnal	1. Shri Randhir Singh	He has served the Karnal Central Co-operative Bank zealously and loyally. He has been taking keen interest in all co-operative activities in the district.	do
	2. Ch. Baru Singh	He has done outstanding work in the Recruiting Organisation and has produced recruits in a great number. He is responsible for having produced lot of recruits during the Hyderabad Campaign. He has also done lot of welfare work in the district and is very popular amongst ex-servicemen and civilians. He is an asset to the military authorities.	
	3. Ch. Sarup Singh	He got the streets paved at the cost of about 7,000/-. Two village roads have been constructed at the cost of Rs. 5,000/-. Due to his personal efforts a compost scheme has been carried out by the villagers of his village. He cooperates with all the local officers and renders all possible help if and when necessary. He is a very enthusiastic worker.	
Ambala	1. S. Bhagat Singh	This gentleman had been recommended by the Recruiting Officer, Ambala. He has done outstanding work for the recruiting Organisation and has enrolled 1823 recruits. He also worked as a Welfare Officer for Ambala Tehsil and was very helpful in removing difficulties of ex-servicemen. He is a retired Jamadar and a member of the District Soldiers' Board and an assessor. He has spent a good deal of money out of his pocket during the last emergency and during the Hyderabad campaign to encourage recruitment.	do

Chief Minister]

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

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LIST B.

LIST OF PERSONS GRANTED COMMISSIONER'S PRAMAN PATRAS.

District	Names of the persons recommended.	Remarks by the recommending officer.	Remarks
Gurgaon	(1) Rao Bahal Singh, B. A., LL. B, Pleader Palwal. (2) Rao Mohar Singh, M. L. A. Gurgaon.	Has been the Hony. Secretary Palwal Cooperative Union Ltd for seven years and rendering every possible help to the cooperative Movement in Palwal Tahsil. Is a member of Urban Resettlement Committee. Has been giving help to the Administration.	
Ambala	(3) S. Phuman Sing s/o Kehar Singh jat of vill. Burail, Tah. Kharar. (4) Shri Dharam Vir Kapur, Head Clerk District Board's office Ambala. (5) S. Ran Singh s/o Shri Gopala, Jat of vill. Kalibar, Teh. Kharar.	This gentleman was of considerable help in securing a settlement of the anti-Capital agitation. Has worked hard to bring about a compromise between the oustees and Govt. at the risk of personal unpopularity and ostricism. His services were, therefore, of great assistance to the State. This gentleman is Head Clerk, of the D. B. His service to the St. John Ambulance Association is beyond all praise. It was due almost entirely to his untiring efforts that 16 Ambulance Divisions and 5 Nursing Divisions have been formed in this district. He has also taken an extremely active part in popularising the Home Defence Organisation. His services to the Red Cross are also praise worthy. He is a person who had devoted almost all his spare time to the success of these organization and I strongly recommend him for the Commissioner's Praman Patra. He was helpful in counteracting the anti-Capital agitation and in persuading the oustees to put in applications for compensation in the shape of land. In the teeth of fierce opposition and inspite of threats of ostricism, he not only submitted his own application, but persuaded a large number of other oustees to do the same. His services are fit for recognition in the form of a Commissioner's Praman Patra.	

LIST B.

LIST OF PERSONS GRANTED COMMISSIONER'S PRAMAN PATRAS.

District	Names of the persons i. recommended.	Remarks by the recommending officer.	Remarks
Hissar	(6) Shri Inderjit Singh Sharma s/o Pt. Mali Ram Brahman of Vill. Kalibar, Tehsil Kharar.	In spite of the fact that this gentleman was originally detained under section 3 of the Punjab Public Safety Act in connection with his participation in the Capital agitation, he latter gave his full cooperation in resolving the differences between the Government and the Capital Oustees Board. He is helping in the resettlement operations and his services deserve recognition.	
	(7) S. Amar Singh Bhatia M. SC. Lecturer in Political Science, Govt. College, Rupar.	He did commendable work for Adult Education. He has organized these centres at different places in the City. Seventy three persons were educated through his efforts.	
	(8) Shri Rattan Singh, Vill. Bihta, Tehsil Ambala.	He is President of the Bhita National Cooperative Multipurpose Society, which came into existence through his efforts. The Society has purchased a Tractor, installed a tube well and has given full impetus to the Grow More Food Campaign.	
	(9) S. Gurdial Singh, vill. Kurali, Tehsil Kharar.	He is the president of the Kurali Multi-purpose Society which is doing the work of wheat procurement scheme successfully under his able guidance. The Society is running a Ration Depot and is thus having business in lakhs, the credit for which goes to S. Gurdial Singh.	
	(10) Shri Sita Ram Bagla, President, Teh. Congress Committee, Sirsa.	Helping the administration.	
	(11) S. Ganda Singh s/o S. Partap Singh, Lambardar of village Dabwali.	Helping the administration.	
	(12) Mahant Girdhari Lal, vill Bahaudi Din.	Very useful helper of the police. Got arrested several absconders in murder cases. Great helper of Police.	
	(13) Shri P.K. Chaudry, village Sheikhupura, Tehsil Hansi.	Is a big Zamindar of Hansi Tehsil. Always liberally inclined to charitable institutions and works of Public utility. Has recently donated a handsome quantity of rice by way of food gift to the sufferers of Assam. Is quite intelligent and takes great interest in the various schemes of the district. Holds influence in the Ilaqa.	

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Chief Minister]PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
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Karnal	(14) S. Gorindar Singh of Shamgarh.	He has been helpful to the administration.
	(15) Ch. Dev Raj of Taraori.	—do—
	(16) Ch. Khushi Ram of Jundla.	He is reported to have done excellent work in settling the allottees of Garden Colony Jundla.
	(17) S Kishan Singh, Goghpur.	Rendered assistance to the Police administration.
	(18) L. Amar Nath Khurana, Kaithal.	—do—
Simla	(19) Shri N. N. Mohan.	Is an influential man and has been of help to the administration generally. Liberally contributed towards the Red Cross, Sports and other funds.
	(20) Sh. Avtar Singh, s/o Dr. Hazara Singh, The Mall, Simla.	Recommended by the S. P. for rendering valuable assistance to the local Police. He is Junior Vice President of the Municipal Committee, Simla, and President, Singh Sabha Simla. Has been of assistance in establishing harmonious relations between various communities.
Rohtak	(21) Seth Khushi Ram s/o R. S. Kirpa Ram of village Chhara, Tehsil Jhajjar.	Has contributed Rs. 500/- to the Assam Relief Fund, donated Rs. 21,000/- for a High School for his village and has spent about Rs. 500/- in helping the poor during the year 1950—51.
	(22) I. Rattan Lal s/o R. S Kachhmi Narain Mahajan of Beri.	Has donated Rs. 5100/- for the construction of a room in M. B. High School, Beri.
	(23) Th. Bhopal Singh s/o Th. Bharat Singh, Ex-Zaildar Rajput of Jakholi, Teh. Sonapat.	Has rendered very valuable help to the Administration.

JULLUNDUR DISTRICT

S.No.	Name and address	Remarks
1	S. Mehr Singh, Officiating Sub-Inspector Police, Lines officer, Jullundur.	Helped the Administration.
2	Shri P. P. R Sawhney. Chairman, Improvement Trust, Jullundur.	—do—
3	S. Balwant Singh Gill, Secretary, District Board, Jullundur.	—do—
4	Lala Tek Chand, Member, District Urban Resettlement Committee, Jullundur.	—do—
5	S. Basant Singh, President Central Co-operative Bank Ltd Nawanshahr.	—do—
6	Mahant Amar Singh, Lambardar, V. Saura, Tehsil Jullundur.	—do—
7	S. Kartar Singh, President, Central Co-operative Bank Ltd. Nawanshahr.	—do—
8	Thakar Shankar Dass, Fisheries Commission Agent, Jullundur.	—do—
9	Shri Rulia Ram Puri, s/o Sh. Lahori Ram, Mohalla Bikrampur, P. S. City Jullundur.	—do—
10	S. Kartar Singh, s/o Sh. Nihal Chand, Lambardar of Pasla, P. S. Nurmahal.	—do—
11	L. Narsi Ram, s/o L. Rajaba Ram, Khatri of Nakodar,	—do—
12	Sub Anant Ram Sharma, V. Jadla, Tehsil Nawanshahr.	—do—
13	Smt. Sita Devi, M.L.A. Member District Urban Resettlement Committee, Jullundur.	—do—
14	S. S. S. Achar Singh, Lambardar of Laroya, District Jullundur.	—do—
15	S. B. S. Gurbachan Singh, Alawalpur, District Jullundur.	—do—
16	S. Hazara Singh, Lambardar of Mehatpur.	—do—
17	Shri Kesho Ram, Assistant Consolidation Officer,	—do—
18	S. Ujagar Singh, Vill. Padhiana, Tehsil and District Jullundur.	—do—
19	L. Bhim Sen, B.A LL.B., Hony. Secretary, Central Co-operative Bank, Nawanshahr, District Jullundur.	—do—
20	Captain Ganga Singh Lambardar of Village Dherian, Tehsil Nakodar.	—do—
21	Malik Om Parkash, Municipal Engineer, Jullundur.	—do—
22	Shri Lal Chand Sabharwal, B. A. LL. B., Jullundur.	—do—
23	S. Wattan Singh, Sports Dealer, Adda Hoshiarpur, Jullundur.	—do—
24	S. Ragbir Singh, Works Manager, Jullundur Omni Bus Service.	—do—
25	S. Ishar Singh of Village Daroli, Tehsil Jullundur.	—do—
26	Gyani Thakar Singh of Bhojwal.	—do—
27	Shri Hari Chand Sahni, Jullundur	—do—
28	Shri Harbans Lal Anand, Motor Vehicles Inspector, Jullundur.	—do—

FEROZEPUR DISTRICT

Serial No.	Name and address	Service Rendered.
1	S. Prithvi Singh Sidhu Bar-at-law, Fazilka.	Helped General Administration and donated towards various funds.
2	S. Kartar Singh Panch of Mudki (Tehsil Ferozepore).	For Panchayat work.
3	S. Sucha Singh of Chugha Kalan (Tehsil Zira).	For Agriculture work.
4	Bhai Haridhan Singh of Raonta (Tahsil Moga).	—do—
5	S. Gurdas Singh of Phola.	—do—
6	S. Gur Raj Singh of Bhadal (Tehsil Fazilka).	—do—
7	S. Bishan Singh of Fatehgarh Karotana (Tahsil Zira).	—do—
8	S. Dalip Singh, Sarpanch Panchayat, Bhaloor.	Helped General Administration, Grow More Food & Flood Relief work.
9	S. Sewa Singh Lambardar and Sarpanch, Sibian.	—do—
10	S. Nikka Singh of Banwala Hanwanta (Tehsil Fazilka).	Helped General Administration and other relief matters.
11	S. Nathmal of Fazilka.	—do—
12	S. Ranjit Singh of Abul Kharana (Tehsil Fazilka).	—do—
13	Shri Nathu Ram Loona Rais of Muktsar.	Helped General Administration.
14	R. S. Dr. Sadhu Chand Hony. Secretary General Co-operative Bank, Ferozepore City.	For Co-operative work.
15	S. Mahla Singh of Mehna (Tehsil Moga).	—do—
16	Bhai Mohinder Singh of Sikhwala (Tahsil Fazilka).	—do—
17	S. Gurmukh Singh, Municipal Commissioner, Moga.	Helped General Administration, Grow More Food & Food Relief work.

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Serial No.	Name and address	Service Rendered
18	S. Harbans Singh Lambardar Sibian (Tahsil Moga).	Helped General Administration, Grow More Food and Food Relief work.
19	L. Faqir Chand, Country Liquor Contractor of Moga.	Helped General Administration and in collection of Red Cross and Other Funds.
20	S. Ratan Singh of Raoli (Tahsil Moga).	—do—
21	Shri Ganga Ram Harijan of Bagha Purana.	Helped General Administration.
22	S. Mohinder Singh, Manager, Malwa Bus Service, Zira.	Helped in the destruction of locust.
23	Shri Bhardwaj Sehgal of Dharamkot.	—do—
24	Shri Som Parkash Jaini of Zira.	Helped in the destruction of locust.
25	S. Gandhara Singh, Managing Director, The New Samundri Bus Service, Muktsar.	—do—
26	S. Harcharan Singh Rais of Sarai Naga (Tahsil Muktsar).	Helped in the destruction of locust and in contributing handsomely towards the new Government College, Muktsar.
27	Bhai Ujagar Singh Lambardar of Bhucho Khurd.	Village uplift and Grow More Food Campaign.
28	Bhai Ajaib Singh Sarpanch of Chak Bakhtu.	—do—
29	Subedar Major Harnam Singh H. A. R. O. of Qabarwala (Tahsil Fazilka).	Recruiting work.
30	S. Bhag Singh of Kala Tiba (Tahsil Muktsar)	For Agriculture work.
31	Tikka Balbir Singh of Lalanwali.	—do—

KANGRA DISTRICT

(1) **Shri Charan Dass Puri Advocate Dharamsala :**

Was of great help to the Administration in organising the Fauji Mela at Hamirpur. The Red Cross Mela at Dharamsala and in collecting fund for the Small Savings Scheme. He is very loyal to the administration. Is a prominent member of the Bhagsu Nath Temple Committee. Has collected funds for the improvement of the Temple.

(2) **L. Murari Lal Puri Advocate Dharamsala :**

He is Honorary Secretary of the Prisoners Aid Society and has rendered valuable assistance in organising civil defence work in the district.

List showing the names of recipients of Deputy Commissioner's Praman Patras together with the services for which they were issued

LUDHIANA DISTRICT

Serial No.	Name of person with address.	Services rendered
1	Shri Babu Singh Amrican, s/o Suchet Singh of Village Dakha, tehsil and district Ludhiana.	For rendering help in the cause of education among the rural masses.
2	Shri Chuhar Singh s/o Jiwan Singh Ex. Zaildar Todarpur, tehsil Samrala, district Ludhiana.	For rendering help to the administration.
3	Shri Bir Singh Gyani, s/o Attar Singh, Village and P.O. Swaddi Khas, tehsil Jagraon, district Ludhiana.	For rendering alround assistance to the administration, census and Grow More Food work.
4	Shri Sant Singh Bawa. s/o Gurbakhsh Singh Bawa, Rais of Jagraon, district Ludhiana.	For rendering alround assistance to the administration.
5	Shri Inder Singh s/o Jassal Singh, V. Lamma, Teh. Jagraon, district Ludhiana.	For rendering valuable services in the cause of spread of education in the area rural, uplift side and popularising co-education.
6	Shri Albel Singh s/o Dal Singh of Sahnewal, Kalan tehsil and district Ludhiana.	For his help to organise villages Welfare Co-operative Societies & to the Administration.
7	Shri Ajaib Singh s/o Sain Ditta, Ex-Zaildar and Lambardar of Village Jodhan Tehsil and District Ludhiana.	For rendering help in the re-settlement of the refugees and in land consolidation work.
8	Shri Madho Ram Sharma; Hakim, s/o Karta Ram of Adda Dakha, tehsil and district Ludhiana.	For conveying useful information regarding anti-government activities.

[Chief Minister]

Serial No.	Name of person with address	Services rendered
9	Shri Harnam Singh son of Dayal Singh, Jat of Village Bhari, P. S. Samrala, district Ludhiana.	For rendering assistance to the administration especially in the recovery of illicit arms; collection of Gandhi Memorial Fund and for Red Cross Fund.
10	Shri Sarwan Singh s/o Sewa Singh, Jat of Village Lohar Majra Kalan, P. S. Khanna, District Ludhiana.	For rendering assistance to the administration.
11	Shri Lal Singh Lambardar of Village Fatehpur Barewal, P. S. Saddar Ludhiana.	For the help rendered to the Administration in the detection of crime.
12	Shri Kundan Lal s/o Manohar Lal Khatri of Salim Tawri, P. S. Sadder, Ludhiana.	For assistance rendered to the administration in the deduction of crime.
13	Shri Jagan Nath s/o Amin Chand Brahmin of Dhandari, P. S. Ludhiana.	For rendering help to the administration.
14	Lt. Col. Jagdishwar Singh Doctor s/o Arjan Singh of Jagraon, district Ludhiana.	—do—
15	Shri Amar Dass Mahant, Chela of Harnam Dass Mahant, Rais of Jagraon.	—do—
16	Shri Bhagwant Singh s/o Karam Singh of Village Rachhin, tehsil and district Ludhiana.	For assistance rendered in the opening of rural dispensary and other activities of the Public Health Department.
17	Shri Sohan Singh s/o Prem Singh Ex-Sepoy Kutchery Bazar Raikot, tehsil Jagraon, district Ludhiana.	For doing excellent work for the recruiting organisation.
18	Shri Gopal Dass Mahant, Chela of Hari Dass Mahant, of Village Raiyan, tehsil and district Ludhiana.	For the help rendered to the administration in the collection of various funds and other rural welfare work.
19	Shri Amar Singh s/o Bakhshish Singh V. Kot Gangu Rai, tehsil and district Ludhiana.	For the assistance rendered in starting of Key Village dispensary under the self help scheme.

AMRITSAR DISTRICT

Serial No.	Name of person	Services Rendered
1	Giani Inder Singh of Lakhuwal.	Helped in Anti-Malaria and Medical Relief work in the flood stricken area.
	Mrs Guranditta Mehra of Amritsar	Convener of Sub Committee for Red Cross Welfare work in rural areas. Helped in the distribution of clothes and blankets in the flood stricken area.
3	S. Puran Singh, President, Congress Committee, Othian.	Did useful relief work in flood stricken area.
4	S. Uttam Singh, President, Town Committee, Ramdas.	—do—
5	S. Kartar Singh of Dulo Nangal, Amritsar Tehsil:	Did useful anti-locust work.
6	Giani Shankar Singh, Municipal Commissioner and Manager Darbar Sahib, Committee, Tarn Taran.	Was responsible for running a whole time free langar for the flood sufferers.
7	S. Amar Singh Bhuller, V. and P. O. Patti.	Has taken keen interest in the welfare of Ex-Servicemen.
8	Mrs. Prem Dawar, B.A. of Amritsar.	Did useful Red Cross work as convener of the sewing and knitting sub-committee.
9	Mrs. Sheela Kapur of Amritsar.	A zealous worker for the Red Cross who was successfully running the Refugee Widows Home.
10	Mrs. Puranik of Amritsar.	Took keen interest in organising the Second Baby Show in April, 1951.
11	S. Bur Singh of Patti.	Rendered useful assistance to the administration.
12	S. Sohan Singh of Wazir Bhuller.	—do—
13	Capt. Charan Singh of Pandori Ran Singh.	Rendered useful assistance to the administration and in destruction of locust.
14	Shri. Desa Singh of Musa Kalan.	Helped in Anti-Malaria and Medical Relief work in flood stricken area.
15	S. Bur Singh of Dhing Nangal.	Rendered useful assistance to the administration.

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S. No.	Name of persons	Service rendered
16	S. Dalip Singh of village Thothian.	Did useful work in destruction of locusts and hoppers.
17	Shri Baldev Raj B.A., LL. B. of Sham Nagar, Sarpanch Panchayat.	Is responsible making his village model village.
18	S. Gurbachan Singh ex-Zaildar of Verka.	Keen helper of administration.
19	S. Dalip Singh Lambardar of Wadala Hohal, Tehsil Amritsar.	Did useful work in connection with destruction of locusts and hoppers.
20	S. Bishan Singh, Lambardar, Harike.	—do—
21	S. Harbans Singh son of S. Man Singh of village Bharowal.	Rendered useful work in rural uplift. Got some streets of his village Paved. Took a batch of volunteers, at his own expense, to Jullundur for training in Anti-locust work.
22	L. Shankar Dass Head Master, Middle School, Vain Doin.	Rendered useful service in Anti-Locust work.
23	S. Gurdip Singh Sarpanch of village Shahid	Has been of great assistance to the administration and did useful work in the Anti-locust campaign.
24	Shri Ram Parkash, B.A., LL B., Pleader, Patti.	A good type of social worker, organised Home Defence Scheme and assisted in the anti-locust campaign.
25	S. Teja Singh Lambardar of Ratta Gudda.	Has done useful work in connection with the destruction of locust.
26	S. Sunder Singh son of S. Jowala Singh of village Kairon.	—do—
27	Pt. Ram Nath Manager, Pt. B. N. High School, Amritsar.	A keen sportsman and Hony' Secretary of the Amritsar Games Association, in which capacity he has done very useful work.
28	Jathedar Chanan Singh, Orara.	Gave valuable assistance to the administration during floods and donated Rs. 500/- for the flood sufferers.
29	S. Sher Singh, Sarpanch, Panchayat Rajoke Tehsil Patti.	Village Rajoke is situated near the Indo-Pakistan border and there is no dispensary within a radius of 10 miles. Through the untiring efforts of S. Sher Singh, a dispensary is being constructed with voluntary contributions amounting to nearly Rs. 10,00/-
30	Dr. Dhira Singh of Theh Amirka, Tehsil Patti.	He planted 1100 trees. Most of them are fruit bearing trees.
31	S. Makhan Singh and S. Harnam Singh of village Bharochi Rajputan, Tehsil and District Amritsar.	Through the efforts of these gentlemen about 35,000 trees were planted in this village, out of which 24,000 are alive and they planted the largest number of trees.

HOSHIARPUR DISTRICT

Serial No.	Name of person	Services Rendered
1	Shri Bishan Dass Kuthiala s/o R. B. L. Jodha Mal Kuthiala, V : Haroli, District Hoshiarpur.	Rendered valuable service in connection with the Public Health.
2	Dr. Ram Sarup s/o Hakim Mehar Chand of Dasuya.	He is a zealous Congress worker and is philanthropist in giving free medicines to the poor and needy patients.
3	Ch. Gaggan Singh of Village Jandowal.	He is President of the Jandowal Credit Society as well as of Mukerian Union. He is a silent and substantial worker and helps the cooperative staff in organization work.
4	Capt. Labh Singh of Village Binewal.	He is a good helper in recruitment and helps settling the family pension claims of ex-servicemen.
5	Sh. Surrendar Kumar s/o Chamba Mal of Dasuya.	He is good Congress worker and President of the Congress Committee, Dasuya. He is also a supporter of the administration.
6	Subedar Piara Singh, President, Municipal Committee, Dasuya.	He belongs to a respectable family. He is quite a gentleman and supports the administration and the Government policy to its fullest extent.
7	Th. Gujjar Singh, Sarpanch, Village Dholbaha.	He is a willing a selfless worker and takes a keen interest in Panchayat movement. He got a building constructed for Health Bureau and himself contributed a handsome amount for the purpose. He and his family donate about Rs. 2000/- yearly as a help to the local High School.
8	Pt. Amin Chand, Sarpanch, Village Datarpur Rakri.	He wields considerable influence in the ilaqa and is willing helper to all the beneficent Deptts. He got a civil dispensary started in his village at the cost of Rs. 1250/- and a Veterinary Ist Aid Centre a cost of Rs. 150/-. In addition to that he was instrumental in getting 200 trees planted.
9	Ch. Puran Chand, Director, Co-operative Union, Mahilpur.	Did good work in connection with the anti-locust campaign.
10	Pt. Amar Nath President, Tehsil Congress Committee, Barian.	- do -
11	S. Harnam Singh, B.A., S.A.V., Headmaster D.B. Middle School, Barian.	- do -
12	Shree Brij Mohan Pall, Headmaster Rajpur High School, Nadalon.	- do -
13	Giani Kehar Singh Lambardar of Mona Kalan.	-do-

HOSHIARPUR DISTRICT (Contd.)

Serial No.	Name of person.	Service Rendered.
14	S. Jagir Singh Lambardar of Ahrana Kalan.	Did good work in connection with the anti-locust campaign.
15	S. Harnam Singh Lambardar of Badala Mahi.	--do--
16	Giani Ram Singh Johar, Member, District Board, Hoshiarpur.	Did Excellent work in connection with the anti-locust campaign.
17	S. Sant Singh of Makhan Garh.	--do--
18	S. Sadhu Singh Lambardar of Ajram.	--do--
19	S. Jawala Singh Lambardar of Meghowal.	--do--
20	S. Mohan Singh Lambardar of Mukran.	--do--
21	S. Hazara Singh Lambardar of Talwandi Arain.	--do--
22	S. Shiv Singh Lambardar of Badala Mahi.	--do--
23	Sh. Madan Lal Lamberdar of Khanaura.	--do--
24	S. Tara Singh s/o Natha Singh of Nangal Maroof.	--do--
25	S. Harnam Singh, President, Local Congress committee, Pur Hiran.	--o--
26	Ch. Madan Gopal Lambardar, Hoshiarpur City.	He rendered valuable assistance to the Police Administration during the year 1950.
27	Ch. Rajmal Lambardar of Dugga, PS Hariana.	--do--
28	Ch. Prithi Chand s/o Ram Kishan of village Rampur PS Mahilpur.	--do--
29	Ch. Labhu Ram, President, Municipal Committee Urmar Tanda.	--do--
30	Ch. Balbir Singh Lambardar of Mukerian.	--do--
31	Pt. Amar Nath, Naib Panch, Badesera, PS Una.	--do--
32	Sh. Gurdas Ram s/o Nauranga Ram of Una Town.	--d--

GURDASPUR DISTRICT

Serial No.	Name of person.	Services Rendered.
1	S. Atma Singh, President Municipal Committee, Batala.	Is President of Municipal Committee, Batala. Has always been helpful to the administration. Also, did good work in connection with the National Savings Scheme.
2	Sh. Gorakh Nath, President, District Congress, Committee.	Is President of the District Congress Committee. Has always been of very great assistance to the administration.
3	Dr. Mrs. Lila Golak Nath, Assistant Surgeon, Civil Hospital, Gurdaspur.	In spite of the fact that she was extremely busy with her official and professional duties, she found time to work long hours for diverse activities like the Red Cross, First Aid, distribution of cloth, powdered milk etc. to displaced persons in the rural area, collection of money for various Funds Hospital Welfare for destitute patients. Otherwise also, has been of commendable help to the administration.
4	Miss Gursharan Kondal of Gurdaspur.	Has throughout shown very keen interest in social work. Whether it was a question of assisting displaced persons by distribution of cloth etc., or whether it was help to destitutes in the local hospital, she worked willingly and hard. Also took active interest in Red cross and First Aid work, and joined the various activities regularly.
5	Shrimati Hans Rani, B. A. B. T., Assistant Mistress Government Girls High School, Gurdaspur.	Took very prominent part in social work throughout. Beginning with distribution of cloth, powdered milk etc. in villages in 1947, she assisted in collection of funds for relief of displaced persons, in knitting garments for the hospital in organising successful Baby Shows and in welfare of destitutes at the hospital. Whenever a call was made she came forward willingly and gave valuable help.
6	Mahant Ajudhia Nath of Gurdaspur.	A calm and quiet worker, and a great helper of the administration.
7	Hakim Chuni Lall of Mandi Gurdaspur.	A simple man filled with a love of mankind. Always spends time, energy and money in helping others. Has also been a helper of the administration, in Flood Relief work.
8	Sh. Kesar Chand of village Khushalpur.	Helped the authorities in detecting 7 cases under the Wild Birds, and Wild Animals Act.

[Chief Minister]

GURDASPUR DISTRICT (Contd)

Serial No.	Name of person.	Services Rendered.
9	Sh. Gauri Shankar of Gharota.	Is a member of the Tehsil Grow More Food Committee, and an influential man of the village. He takes interest in meeting officers.
10	Ch. Wadawa Ram of village Tara-garh.	Is an ex-Zaildar of the village. Exercises good influence in the Saini community, and loves to meet officers. Helped considerably in the Grow More Food Campaign work.
11	Pt. Devi Sharan Bhardawaj Advocate, Gurdaspur.	Did commendable work in connection with the working of the Red Cross Society in the district. Is a genuine helper of the administration.
12	S. Surat Singh of Gurdaspur.	Is Vice-Chairman of the District Board and a very influential man. Is dependable and a helper of the administration.
13	Sh. Amir Chand of Dalhousie.	Is a member of the Municipal Committee Dalhousie, and a quiet helper of the administration.
14	Ch. Dhirt Ram of village Kotli Mughlan.	Came to notice for helping the administration on several occasions.
15	Sh. Puran Chand, Member Distt. Scheduled Castes Welfare Committee, Gurdaspur.	Is an active member of the District Scheduled Castes Welfare Committee, and has been of considerable help to the administration in affairs of his community.
16	Ch. Balwant Singh of Kathalaur.	Is a member of the District Board, and an influential man of the ilaqa. Can be depended upon as genuine helper of the administration.
17	Shri A.N. Wadehra of Pathankot.	Is an influential man of the city, and a genuine helper of the administration.

HISSAR DISTRICT

1	B. Birbal Singh, B. A. LL. B., Pleader, Fatehabad.	Is one of the leading persons of the tehsil owing agricultural lands in Hansi tehsil. Helps the general administration. Is a malguzar of village Dault.
2	Shri Narain Dass Private Medical Practitioner Fatehabad.	Takes interest in tehsil affairs and is inclined towards helping the poor people.
3	Shr Jag Ram, Town Committee, T hana.	He is a representative of the scheduled castes. Is a nominated member of Town Committee, Tohana. Has been useful in bringing to notice, the encroachments made on the evacuee lands.

HISSAR DISTRICT (Contd.)

Serial No.	Name of Persons.	Services Rendered.
4	Shri Nand Kishore son of L. Munna Lal, Jakhal Mandi.	Proved a great help in bringing the last flood in the Mandi under control. He served on that occasion both by men and money. Commands influence in the Ilaqa.
5	L. Prem Sukh Dass President, Municipal Committee, Sirsa.	Helping administration.
6	S. Karnail Singh son of S. Ram Singh of Dabwali.	—do—
7	Ch. Ram Rai s/o Ch. Rup Ram Bishnoi of V. Sakta Khera.	—do—
8	Pt. Chatar Bhuj V. Rewari, Tehsil Bhiwani.	He has been taking keen interest in the development of a Model Agricultural Farm in the village and matters concerning Grow More Food generally.
9	Dr. Narain Dass, Bhiwani.	He has been doing very useful work in connection with the rehabilitation of refugees in the town of Bhiwani.
10	L. Gurdhan Dass, Bhiwani.	He has been doing very useful work in connection with the rehabilitation of refugees at Bhiwani.
11	Ch. Nand Ram s/o Ude Ram Jat Kulana.	Helped very much in recovery of illicit arms and ammunitions, liquor and opium.
12	S. Hazara Singh s/o Attar Singh Lambardar, Bighar.	Helper of the police.
13	Sh. Sardul Singh s/o Dungar Jat of Saidanwali.	—do—
14	L. Kidar Nath s/o Jia Lal Mahajan, Khabra.	—do—
15	Shri Rati Ram V. Panjukhera Khurd, Tehsil Hansi.	Treasurer of Panjukhera Co-operative T. & C. Society. Helping in reviving societies in his area.
16	Shri Lakshmi Narain V. Dhana Khurd, Tehsil Hansi.	Honerary Secretary Dhana Khurd Co-operative T. & C. Society. Has been helping in reviving the old and morihand societies. Taking keen interest in the commission Shop, Hansi.
17	Havildar Changi Ram of V. Jeora.	President of Co-operative T. & C. Society. Helps inreviving the societies and making concession shop at Uklana a success.
18	Shri Ramji Lal V. Uklana.	Managing Director of Co-operative Commission Shop Uklana. Rented his shop at low rate and sold all his produce through this shop.

[Chief Minister]

HISSAR DISTRICT (Contd.)

Serial No.	Name of Persons.	Services Rendered.
19	Shri Karam Singh, V: Dangra Tehsil, Hissar.	Director of Central Co-operative Bank Ltd., Hissar and a worker of Co-operative T. & C. Society Dangra. Helps the staff in starting new societies. An enthusiastic co-operator.
20	Shri Richpal, Aider Vety. Ist Aid Society, V. Jui, Tehsil Bhiwani.	Harijan member of Jue Co-operative T. & C. Society and First Aider of Vety. First Aid Society Jui. Is doing very good work in Vety. Ist Aid Society.
21	Shri Gopal Singh V. Dhani Gopal, Tehsil Fatehabad, District Hissar.	President of the village T. & C. Society. Man of influence. Renders useful help in starting new societies.
22	Shri Dhan Singh V. Khokar Teh. Sirsa.	President of Co-operative thrift and Credit society, Khukhar. He is a Director of Central Co-operative Bank Sirsa and is a man of influence. Running the Society with credit and is improving societies in his ilaqa.
23	L. Balwant Singh, Rais and Land lord, Hansi.	Is a Big Rais of Hansi tehsil and commands influence in the Teh. takes interest in the affairs of administration.
24	Ch. Ganga Ram Ex-zaildar and Member Dist. Board, Gila Khera.	Is a supporter of the administration.
25	L. Kalyan Singh, Rais, Hansi.	Is an ex-zaildar and a big zamindar of Hansi tehsil. Owning big agricultural holdings as well as residential property, is a keen supporter of the Administration, wielding influence in the Ilaqa.
26	Ch. Siri Ram s/o Ch. Zalim Singh Jat, Manager Estate late Sir, Chhaju Ram V. Sheikhpura (Hansi)	He has been taking a very active interest in furtherence of G. M. F. Campaign and Mr. Mukerji very much appreciated his work. He has also been of considerable assistance to the administration whenever there has been.

ROHTAK DISTRICT.

Serial No.	Name and Address of the recipient.	Kind of Patra.	Reasons.
1	Shri Ved Pal of Sundana Tehsil Rohtak.	Deputy Commissioners Praman Patra.	For service to the administration.
2	Shri Nami Chandra Advocate of Gohana.	—do—	—do—
3	Capt. Maya Ram of Boaroda, Tehsil Gohana.	—do—	—do—
4	Shri Mange Ram of Katwal Tehsil Gohana.	—do—	—do—
5	Shri Krishan Bal of Jhajjar.	—do—	—do—
6	Shri Man Singh of Naunali.	—do—	—do—

GURGAON DISTRICT.

Rao Ranbir Singh, Honorary Assistant Recruiting Officer.

Ch. Bhup Singh s/o Ch. Brij Lal, Village Keheri, P. O. Matla Kalan, tehsil Rewari, district Gurgaon.

Ch. Dhan Singh, village Aharwan, P. O. and Tehsil Palwal.

Ch. Devi Ram s/o Nawal Singh, P. O. Mangal Sikhu, Police Station and Tehsil Palwal.

Ch. Notan Das, Municipal Commissioner, Ferozepur Jhirka.

Ch. Dharam Chand, allottee, Lambardar of village Rajpur tehsil Palwal.

Ch. Prem Singh, M. L. A., Gurgaon.

Shri Net Ram Beldar c/o Agricultural Assistant, Palwal.

Shri Gobind Ram Vaid, Secretary, Tehsil Congress Committee Punahana, tehsil Ferozepur Jhirka.

Shri Sarup Singh, Patwari of Rajoli Circle, tehsil Palwal.

Shri Narain Singh s/o Shiv Parshad, Village Sohna, tehsil Gurgaon.

Shri Arya Muni s/o Shri Narain Dass, village Sohna, tehsil Gurgaon.

Kanwar Gurdit Singh, s/o Lalji Ram Rajput of Kurali, tehsil Balbgarh.

Pt. Mehar Chand, President, Municipal Committee Balbgarh.

Ch. Kalyan Singh, Lambardar village Durgapur, tehsil Palwal.

Hakim Chandan Ram Virmani, Palwal Relief Camp.

Ch. Kanwal Khan Meo, village Ali Meo tehsil Nuh.

L. Harkishan Lal, Advocate, Palwal.

Hakim Nanak Chand, Farizarabad Missa, tehsil Palwal.

Shri Narsing Ex-Zaildar of village Beni Puns, sub tehsil, Bawal.

Shri Jagmal Singh, s/o Rao Raghbir Singh Ahir of Rajpur, Sub Tehsil Pataudi.

Ch. Bharat Singh s/o Ch. Chandan Singh Rajput of Palwal.

Shri Gajraj Singh, Chohan, Gurgaon.

Shri Chhotte Lal Hem Raj Jat of village Jharsa, tehsil Gurgaon.

Shri Raghu Nath Singh Maid Rajput of village Jharsa, tehsil Gurgaon.

Shri Sani Ram Jaswant Singh Jat of

—do—

[Chief Minister]

Shri Jawala Parshad, Ram sarup, Jain of	village Jharsa tehsil Gurgaon.
Shri Jamna Das Kirori Mal Mahajan of	—do—
Shri Khema s/o Shadi Jat of	—do—
Shri Bhikan s/o Ramji Lal Jat of	—do—
Shri Chhutan Lal Lakhmi Chand Jain of	—do—
Shri Nihal Ram Singh Jat of	—do—
Shri Richhpal s/o Premu Khateek of	—do—
Shri Shib Lal Nek Ram Jat of	—do—
Shri Rati Ram Jat of	—do—
Shri Yad Ram Hirde Ram Jat of	—do—
Shri Mehr Chand Brahmin of	—do—
Shri Niranjan Lal Jain of	—do—
Ch. Raghbir Singh of village Bahraula, Tehsil Palwal.	

KARNAL DISTRICT

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER'S PRAMAN PATRA

L. Mani Ram Gharaunda.	Helped the administration.
Ch. Bhagwan Singh of village Kunjpura.	—do—
S. Kishan Singh of village Gogpura.	—do—
B. Ram Gopal Member District Board, Karnal.	—do—
S. Taran Singh of village Bandrala.	—do—
S. Labh Singh of village Ahon.	—do—
Ch. Rulia Ram of village Gharaunda.	—do—
L. Banarsi Dass, President, District Congress Committee, Karnal.	—do—
Ch. Kartar Singh of Jundla.	—do—
S. Atma Singh son of S. Labh Singh Arora of Karnal.	—do—
Shri Ram Parshad son of Tara Chand Saraf of Karnal.	—do—
Th. Badan Singh Sarbara Lambardar of Rawan Hera, P. S. Phundri.	—do—
Shri Balwant Singh son of Chuhar Singh of Kaithal.	—do—
Ch. Atma Ram Member District Board, Karnal and Lambardar of village Surajgarh.	—do—
S. Jasmer Singh son of S. Inder Singh P. S. Radaur, village Khuradaband.	—do—
Ch. Tek Chand Landlord of Urlana Kalan.	—do—
Shri Sadhu Ram son of Jug Lal Basina.	—do—
Shri Balkar Singh son of Mula Singh Jat of Mahammadpur.	—do—
Ch. Rulia Singh, Ex-Zaildar of Tohana.	—do—
Ch. Gug Ram son of Sada Ram Jat of Sarwan Majra Vir.	—do—
S. Aroor Singh of Mughalmajra.	—do—
Ch. Surjan Singh, Sarpanch Panchayat, Sartha.	—do—
Shri Payara Singh son of Nirmal Singh of village Jhanjari.	—do—
Ch. Udho Ram Lambardar of village Sanch.	—do—
Ch. Uttam Chand of Sewari.	—do—
S. Rajwant Singh of Panipat.	—do—
S. Ajit Singh son of Lala Atma Ram caste Arora, of city Karnal.	—do—
S. Dhan Singh Lambardar son of Udhe Ram Arora, of Kaul.	—do—
Shri Baru Singh son of Adu Ram Jat of Pai.	—do—
Shri Amar Nath son of Durga Dass Aggarwal of Kaithal.	—do—

Shri Dalel Lambardar of Bharaichpur.	Helped the administration.
Ch. Dewan Chand son of Chander Bhan, Arora, of Chhalhauni.	—do—
Shri Jawia Ram son of Sita Ram of Patti Kailiana.	—do—
Dayal Mal son of Jhandu Mal, Caste Arora of Samalkha.	—do—
Shri Sharad Rai of Samalkha Mandi.	—do—
Ch. Tarka Ram son of Jug Lal Jat of Badana.	—do—
Shri Ami Ram son of Nathu Ram Jat of village Chhajpur Kalan	—do—
Malik Lal Chand son of Malak Budh Ram arora of Bacheri.	—do—
L. Amar Nath, Khurana.	—do—
Shri Pears Lal son of Nirmel Caste Brahmin village Jhanjhai, Teh. Karnal.	—do—
S. Jiwan Singh, President of Shahabad Gila Sikhan Co-operative Society.	—do—
Shri Dina Nath, Patwari, village Geong.	—do—
Shri Shiba Ram son of Asa Ram of Mehrana.	—do—

Shri Ram Kishan : Will the Chief Minister let us know if the Government has any intention of taking any action on the resolution passed by the State Congress Committee in connection with the grant of Parman Patras ?

Sardar Chanan Singh : Are there any M. L. As among those who have been granted these Parman Patras ?

Chief Minister : No member should have a misgiving that his services will not be rewarded. If he deserves, he will get it.

TOURS BY MINISTERS.

*957. **Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

- (a) the total Mileage covered in State Cars by each Minister from the date of his taking the oath of Office upto the 30th September, 1952 ;
- (b) the total number of days for which each Minister was on tour during the period referred to above ;
- (c) the total daily allowance drawn by each Minister during the aforesaid period and the total expenditure incurred by the State in connection with the above tours ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : A statement containing the desired information is given below.

STATEMENT

(11) 32
 [Chief Minister]
 PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
 [26th November, 1952]

Serial No.	(a)		(b)	(c)	
	Total millage covered in State Cars from 17-4-52 to 30-9-52.		Total number of days for which each Minister was on tour during the period from 17-4-52 to 30-9-52.	(i) Total daily allowance drawn by each Minister during the period from 17-4-52 to 30-9-52.	(ii) Total expenditure incurred by State.
1	2		3	4	5
1	Chief Minister	7,390 miles	47 days	Rs. 705/-	Rs. 22,001/13/3
2	Development Minister	14,911 ..	90 days	.. 1522/8/-	
3	Irrigation & Power Minister	8,153 ..	47 days	.. 615/-	
4	Finance Minister	11,032 ..	55 days	.. 945/-	
5	Local Government Minister	11,940 ..	58 days	.. 870/-	
6	Education Minister	13,350 ..	103 days	.. 1545/-	
7	Labour Minister	10,195 ..	68 days	.. 1020/-	
8	Public Works Minister	6,529 ..	43 days	.. 645/-	

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : According to this statement the Development Minister covered a distance of 14,900 miles and the Government had to spend the sums of Rs. 15,000 and Rs. 22,000 connection with this tour. Is the Government aware of the resentment of the public on the incurring of such heavy touring expenses and the frequent undertaking of tours by the Ministers ?

Minister for Development : It is not correct. It appears to be a figment of the hon. Members brain.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : I do not know whether it is correct or not but it is not clearly indicated in the Statement that has been supplied to me that the State Government incurred an expenditure to the tune of Rs. 22,001/13/3 in connection with the tours of the Minister for Development ?

Chief Minister : Item No. 4 relating to Development Minister's tours should be read like this. During the period 17/4/1952 to 30/9/1952 the Minister for Development covered 14911 miles in the State car, remained on tour for 90 days and drew Rs. 1522/8/- from the Government as his daily allowance. No mileage was charged by him as the cost of petrol was met by the State Government. I think the sum of Rs. 22,001/13/3 has been wrongly shown against item No. 4.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : It may be wrong but it is given like that in the statement. According to the statement that has been supplied to me, the total mileage covered by the Ministers in the State cars exceeds 80,000. May I know the total expenditure incurred by the State Government in this connection ?

Chief Minister : Rs. 22,001/13/3. Just a few minutes before Shri Dev Raj Sethi was saying the State Government had spent a sum of Rs. 22,001/13/3 in connection with the tours of the Development Minister. He probably misunderstood it. This expenditure was incurred by the State Government in connection with the tours of *all the hon. Ministers*.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Does this total expenditure include the depreciation and the charges of the drivers and the staff also ?

Chief Minister : Yes, this sum includes the depreciation charges, and the daily allowance of the Personal Assistants, Stenographers, Camp Clerks etc. who accompanied the Ministers on tour during the above mentioned period.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Do the Ministers coordinate with the Chief Minister when they plan their tour programmes ?

Deputy Speaker : How does this question arise ?

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : It does arise, Sir. This question relates to the General Administration.

Chief Minister : Yes. They do coordinate with me while planning their programmes.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Out of the total period of 155 days, the Education Minister was on tour for 103 days. Is the Government aware that the public feels that the frequent undertaking of tours by the Ministers hampers the smooth working of the administration, wastes the time of the officers and puts the public to unnecessary inconvenience ?

Chief Minister : The hon. Member can give vent to his feelings when the time for discussion on General Budget comes. So far as the supplementary question is concerned, I would respectfully submit that it does not arise out of the main question.

Shri Sri Chand : Do the Ministers when they go to some place to perform an opening ceremony travel at State expense ?

Chief Minister : When they go to perform some official function they travel at State expense but when they go to attend some private function such as a marriage ceremony, they travel at their own expense. However, if they go to some place on official duty and at the same time avail of the opportunity to attend somebody's marriage, then too it is regarded as an official visit.

Shri Sri Chand : If a person invites a Minister to perform the opening ceremony of a poultry farm, will that visit be treated as a public function or a private one ?

Shri Wadhawa Ram : May I know why the P. A.'s to the Ministers charge T. A. when they travel with the Ministers in their cars ?

Chief Minister : I shall gladly explain the position. When the P. A.'s and other staff travel with the Ministers in their cars, they are not entitled to railway fare for that journey; they get only the incidental expenses which they would have got had they travelled by rail.

Sardar Chanan Singh : Did the Ministers when they went down to the plains in connection with the elections of the Congress delegates travel at Government expense ?

Chief Minister : I am glad that the hon. Member has by putting this question provided me with an opportunity of declaring that the Ministers who accompanied the Congress Goodwill Mission had travelled at their own expense. (Cheers)

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : May I know if the depreciation charges were realized from them ?

Chief Minister : State cars can be used by the Ministers for both purposes—public as well as private. A Minister can use his car for private purposes provided he spends on petrol and mobil oil from his own pocket.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Is there any difference between the old rules and the new. According to the old rules Government cars could be used for private work within 10 miles and outside this area the expenses had to be paid.

Chief Minister : There is no new rule. The same old rule applies. Within ten miles the cost is not to be paid but beyond 10 miles, for private work, petrol and mobil oil expenses are to be paid. In Delhi this limit has been fixed at twenty miles. In the past rupees two hundred and fifty per month were given as conveyance allowance. But now this has been stopped.

Sardar Chanan Singh : It has been stated that these cars can be used for private purposes also. May I know whether elections can also be fought by travelling in these cars ?

Chief Minister : The Government cars can also be used for private purposes of the Ministers. When they are used within ten miles nothing is charged from them, but if they go beyond this limit, for private work, they have to pay for mobil oil and petrol etc. In Delhi this limit is fixed at twenty miles.

I want to make it clear again that the Ministers can use the State cars for private purposes also.

APPOINTMENT OF MINISTERS

*960. **Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to State :—

- (a) the names of the Ministers other than the Chief Minister appointed between 15th August, 1947 and 19th June, 1951 ;
- (b) the period for which each of them remained in office ;
- (c) Whether any of them received less than the fixed salary ; if so, their list and the amount surrendered by each of them during each month ;
- (d) the period for which each of them received less than the fixed salary ;
- (e) the total amount surrendered by each of them during his period of office ;
- (f) the date when the decision, if any, to receive less than the fixed salary was communicated in each case to the Government ;
- (g) the rate per mensem at which the Ministers received their salaries after making voluntary surrenders ;
- (i) the number of times the reductions in the salaries were made voluntarily between 15th August, 1947 and 19th June, 1951 ;
- (ii) the rate of reduction each time per mensem ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : The time and labour involved in collecting this information will not be commensurate with the benefits to be derived.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Sir, just as in arithmetic there is compound interest, we find that here we have compound postponement of questions. Certain postponed questions have again been postponed by the Government. My I know how many times such questions can be postponed ?

Mr. Deputy Speaker : This is not for the Speaker to decide, as the replies are to be given by the Government.

— — — — —

**CONFISCATION OF LAND OF S. CHANAN SINGH OF VILLAGE
BOOR CHAND, DISTRICT AMRITSAR**

*963. **Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

- (a) Whether the land of S. Chanan Singh of Village Boor Chand, Tehsil Patti, District Amritsar was confiscated after his execution due to his conviction in the First Lahore Conspiracy Case of 1914-15 ; if so, the area so confiscated ;
- (b) Whether the land is still with the Government ;
- (c) Whether S. Baghel Singh, real brother of S. Chanan Singh was also awarded a life sentence in the case referred to in part (a) above and was released after 18 years rigorous imprisonment ;
- (d) (i) whether Government proposes to restore the property referred to in part (a) above to S. Baghel Singh referred to in part (c) above ; if not, the reasons therefor ;
- (ii) whether the Chief Secretary to Government, received any application on or about 21-8-52 from the said Sardar Baghel Singh for financial help ; if so, the action taken thereon ?

- **Shri Bhim Sen Sachar :** (a) Yes. The area is two Kanals only.
- (b) Yes.
 - (c) Yes.
 - (d) (i) No. The property can only be restored to the actual sufferers or their direct descendants and not to collaterals.
 - (d) (ii) Yes. The matter is receiving attention.

— — — — —

**ADDITIONAL POLICE POST AT VILLAGE KACHA PAKKA,
DISTRICT AMRITSAR.**

*966. **Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether any representation dated 17-8-1952 (registered A. D.) by Sardar Charan Singh and others of village Kacha Pakka,

District Amritsar was received on or about the 21st August, 1952 by the Home Secretary to Government, Punjab, Simla to the effect that the cost of the Additional Police Post quartered there be either remitted or reduced ; if so, what reasons were put forward by the applicants in support of their cause ; and what decision has been arrived at by the Government in the matter ;

- (b) (i) whether the costs of any additional Police Posts were remitted either in part or in full by the Government in any District of the State during the period from 1-1-1948 and 31-7-1952 ; if so, the districtwise list of the localities concerned together with
- (ii) the amount remitted in each case ;
- (iii) the reasons for remission in each case ;
- (iv) the date when the police post was posted in each locality ;
- (c) the reasons if any, for distinguishing between this case and others referred to in part (b) above ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sacher : (a) Yes, the statement marked 'A' shows the reasons put forward by the applicants.

This representation has been fully considered by Government but they find no ground for remission or reduction of the charges.

- (b) (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) Yes, the statement (marked 'B') gives the information.
- (c) The grounds which necessitated remission of cost in the cases referred to in part (b) above do not exist in this case.

STATEMENT 'A'

Reasons put forward by the applicants in support of their cause for remission or reduction of the cost of Additional Police Post Kacha Pakka.

1. That the Additional Police Post was quartered in their village on 11-5-1950 for a period of one year and Rs. 16,148/- are being realized as the cost of the Police Post.
2. That this Police Post was quartered in connection with the murder of one A. S. I. of Police on 19-3-1950, in which 7 inhabitants of the village were involved. Out of these 7 accused, 5 were at first acquitted by the Additional Sessions Judge, Amritsar, (date not given) while the other two were acquitted by the High Court on 11-1-1952. That as far as the other crime situation of the village is concerned, it is not all bad, vide Government statement in reply to a previous Assembly Question (no. not given).
3. That the cost of the police has been levied at an exorbitant rate i. e. many times the land revenue. That never in the history of Additional Police Posts, have costs been imposed at such high rates. That Government has already remitted half the cost of Additional Police Post, Miani, District Amritsar, because the rate of cost was found too heavy.
4. That the Government has remitted the cost of some villages in Rohtak and Hissar Districts and their case is by no means different from them.

STATEMENT B.

Statement showing names of Additional Police Posts whose cost was remitted by Government either in part or in full during the period from 1-1-1948 to 31-7-1952.

[Chief Minister]

(11) 38

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

[26th November, 1952]

District	Name of the Additional Police Post	Amount remitted	Reasons for remission	Date of posting of the Police Post
Hissar	Jagmalera located in the area comprising Jagmalera, Chichal, Alipur and Kanjarwala villages.	Rs. 8320/15/-	This amount was due from Sikh land-lords and other non-Muslims. In the case on account of which this Police Post was quartered, Muslims solely were aggressors.	22-6-1947
Hissar	Hissar City	Rs. 1059/6/9	Being arrears which could not be recovered due to the defaulters having left the city for unknown places leaving behind no property of any kind.	29-3-1938
Rohtak	Jataula	Rs. 4330/10/-	The activities for which this Post was located were closely allied to political activities which had been resorted to by patriots who, though misguided, genuinely believed that by pursuing this path they were bringing the day of freedom nearer.	16-4-1944
Ludhiana	Ludhiana Town	Rs. 49038/-/-	This Post was located on account of communal disturbances that took place on the Diwali night of 24th October, 1946 and this amount was a part assessment on residents of un-affected Mohallas.	11-11-1946
Amritsar	Miani	Rs. 3581/3/-	The cost of the Post was found to be much too excessive in reference to the revenue and prosperity of the village.	11-5-1950

ADDITIONAL POLICE POST AT VILLAGE SUR SINGH, DISTRICT
AMRITSAR.

***967. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether any representation dated 22th August, 1952 from Sardar Jagir Singh and other inhabitants of village Sur Singh, District Amritsar was received by the Home Secretary to Government, Punjab on or about the 27th August, 1952 to the effect that the cost of the Additional Police Post of the village be either remitted or reduced to the extent of 75% ; if so, what were reasons put forward by the applicants ;
- (b) what decision has been arrived at by the Government in the matter ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar :

- (a) Yes, a representation dated 24-8-52 (not 22-8-52) from Sardar Budh Singh (not Jagir Singh) and others, requesting for remission or reduction of the cost of Additional Police Post, Sur Singh, was received by the Home Secretary to Government, Punjab, about the 9th September, 1952. A statement showing reasons put forward by the applicants is given below.
- (b) Government have decided not to charge from the inhabitants concerned the cost of the Assistant Sub-Inspector of Police in charge of the post for the 34 days he spent on duties outside village Sur Singh, which duties were not connected with work in this village.

**Reasons put forward by the applicants for remission or reduction of
the cost of Additional Police Post Sur Singh.**

1. That the reason for the quartering of this Post was that on 17-6-49 some bad characters robbed Mian Dharam Singh I/C Town Post of his revolver, within the limits of village Sur Singh. That two inhabitants of the village were arrested for this robbery, but they were proved to be innocent during the investigation of the case. That the prosecution too submitted an application to the court for the withdrawal of the case against them. That after trial, the accused were acquitted by the Court.
2. That due to frequent floods, the financial position of all the agriculturists of the village has become weak and they are not in a position to pay this heavy tax.
3. That during the period of the location of the Post, its officer-in-charge investigated, with the help of his subordinates, several cases of villages Benka, Balira, Singh Pura, Farindi Pur, Puhle, Bhaini, Gurmukh Singh, Ghurk Wind, Sur Wind, Soga and other villages, although the inhabitants of village Sur Singh had nothing to do with those cases.
4. That some Constables (one or two) sanctioned for contingency reserve remained at headquarters of the district and his/their services were never utilized for the benefit of the villagers:

ADDITI NAL POLICE POSTS IN THE STATE.

***975. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kuar :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to s ate :—

- (a) whether the costs of any additional police posts quartered in the State before 15-8-47 have been remitted ; if so, their districtwise list and the amount remitted in each case ;
- (b) the districtwise list of the Additional Police Posts quartered before 15-8-47 of which costs have not been remitted ;
- (c) the reasons for distinguishing between places referred to in parts (a) & (b) above ;
- (d) whether any representation by Sardar Jagir Singh, Budh Singh and others of village Sur Singh, Tehsil Patti, District Amritsar was received by the Home Secretary to Government, Punjab on or about the 28th August, 1952 for the remission and reduction of the cost of the Additional Police Post quartered there ; if so the action, if any, taken in the matter by the Government ;
- (e) the reasons put forward by the applicants in their representation referred to in part (d) above for remission or reduction of the police post costs ;
- (f) whether it is a fact that the officer Incharge of the additional police post at village Sur Singh remained engaged in investigating criminal cases of other villages during his stay in the said village ; if so, the list of cases investigated by him and the approximate time spent thereon ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar:

- (a) Yes, the statement marked 'A' gives the information.
- (b) The statement marked 'B' gives the information.
- (c) The grounds which necessitated remission in cases referred to in part (a) above do not exist in cases referred to in part (b) above.
- (d) Yes, a representation from Sardar Budh Singh and others was received by the Home Secretary to Government, Punjab about the 9th September, 1952. Government have decided not to charge from the inhabitants concerned the cost of the Assistant Sub-Inspector of Police in charge of the post for the 34 days he spent on duties outside village Sur Singh, unconnected with duties involving this village.
- (e) The statement marked 'E' shows the reasons put forward by the applicants.
- (f) Yes, a statement marked 'F' gives the information. He spent 34 days on these investigations.

STATEMENT 'A'

District.	Name of Additional Police Post.	Amount remitted.
Hissar	Jagmalera	Rs. 8320/15/- (amount due from Sikh land-lords and other non-Muslims only).
Hissar	Hissar City (Located in 1938)	Rs. 1059/6/9 (Being arrears which could not be recovered due to the defaulters having left the city for unknown places leaving behind no property of any kind)
Rohtak	Jataula	Rs. 4330/10/-
Ludhiana	Ludhiana Town	Rs. 49038/- (Part assessment on residents of un-affected Mohallas).

STATEMENT 'B'

District.	Name of Additional Police Post.
Hissar	1. Hissar City (Located in 1946). 2. Hansi. 3. Jagmalera, so far as share of Muslims is concerned.
Rohtak	4. Sanghi. 5. Kahnaur. 6. Makrauli Kalan. 7. Jasur & Jasur Kheri. 8. Jasia. 9. Rohtak Town. 10. Makrauli Khurd. 11. Bohar. 12. Bhalaut. 13. Gangana & Swana. 14. Bhainswal Kalan. 15. Grauthi. 16. Jagsi & Gangana. 17. Randhana. 18. Bhatgaon. 19. Gohna. 20. Lohari Tibba.
Karnal	21. Arjana Khurd.
Ludhiana	22. Chananwala. 23. On 12 villages in Tehsil Jagraon. 24. Buzurg. 25. Ludhiana Town. 26. Bhanichur. 27. Manoke.

[Chief Minister]

STATEMENT 'B'

District.	Name of Additional Police Post.
Kangra	28. Nagrota Surian.
Ferozepore	29. Manoke. 30. Mallan. 31. Sito Ghanoo. 32. Daulatpura.
Amritsar	33. Kohatwind. 34. Bhitewind. 35. Guru Bazar, Amritsar. 36. Jandiala. 37. Barar. 38. Harse Chhina. 39. D & E divisions Amritsar City.

STATEMENT 'E'

1. That the reason for the quartering of this Post was that on 17-6-49 some bad characters robbed Mian Dharam Singh I/C Town Post of his revolver, within the limits of village Sur Singh. That two inhabitants of the village were arrested for this robbery, but they were proved to be innocent during the investigation of the case. That the prosecution too submitted an application to the court for the withdrawal of the case against them. That after trial, the accused were acquitted by the Court.

2. That due to frequent floods, the financial position of all the agriculturists of the village has become weak and they are not in a position to pay this heavy tax.

3. That during the period of the location of the Post, its officer-in-charge investigated, with the help of his subordinates, several cases of villages Benka, Balira, Singh Pura, Farindi Pur, Puhle, Bhaini Gurmukh Singh, Ghurk Wind, Sur Wind, Soga and other villages, although the inhabitants of village Sur Singh had nothing to do with those cases.

4. That some Constables (one or two) sanctioned for contingency reserve remained at headquarters of the district and his/their services were never utilized for the benefit of the villagers.

STATEMENT 'F'

Serial No.	Place of occurrence.	F. I. R. No.	Date	Section
1	Sugga	115	8-7-50	392/452 IPC
2	Sugga	153	9-9-50	447 IPC
3	Farandi Pur	234	29-11-49	61/1/14 E. Act.
4	—do—	235	29-11-49	61/1/14 E. Act.
5	Minhala Jai Singh	236	2-12-49	19/11/78 A. Act.
6	—do—	237	2-12-49	20/11/78 A. Act.
7	—do—	238	2-12-49	20/11/78 A. Act.
8	Phule	249	28-12-49	457 IPC.
9	—do—	3	3-1-50	430 IPC.
10	—do—	41	8-3-50	411 IPC.
11	—do—	85	20-5-50	452/324 IPC.
12	—do—	120	14-7-50	24 PPS Act.
13	—do—	162	28-9-50	457 IPC.
14	Balair.	219	7-11-49	380/451 IPC.
15	Khurakwind.	244	2-12-49	366/452/170 IPC.
16	Bhikhiwind.	153	11-9-50	379 IPC.
17	Singh Pura.	43	16-3-50	454 IPC.
18	—do—	106	22-6-50	302 IPC.
19	—do—	117	11-7-50	457 IPC.
20	Bainka.	205	23-10-49	429 IPC.
21	—do—	214	1-11-49	302 IPC.
22	—do—	6	8-1-50	381 IPC.
23	—do—	11	26-1-50	457 IPC.
24	—do—	42	15-3-50	9/1/78 Opium Act.
25	—do—	77	13-5-50	327/777/511 IPC.
26	—do—	91	30-5-50	302 IPC.
27	—do—	122	17-7-50	457 IPC.
28	—do—	167	6-10-50	452/307 IPC.

EMPLOYMENT OF HARIJANS IN THE STATE.

*994. **Shri Rala Ram :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

- (a) the number of Harijans employed in the P.C.S. cadre and in ministerial services ;
- (b) the proportion it bears to the total strength of the personnel in the above two cadres ;
- (c) the number of valmiks among the Harijan employees of the State ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar :

- (a) & (b) The available information is contained in the statement given below.
- (c) No distinction is made between the Valmiks and other Scheduled Castes while making appointments against the reserved vacancies. This information is, therefore, not available.

Serial No.	Name of Department.	No. of Harijans employed in the P. C. S. cadre & Ministerial services.		The proportion it bears to the total strength of the personnel in the two cadres.	
		(a)		(b)	
		P. C. S. cadre	Ministerial services.	P. C. S. cadre	Ministerial services.
		(i)	(ii)	(i)	(ii)
1	Jails Department.	...	4	...	4.49 %
2	Consolidation of Holdings.	...	1	...	3 %
3	Establishment Branch, Punjab Civil Secretariat.	...	12	...	2 %
4	Industries Department.	...	15	...	2.87 %
5	High Court.	3	2	4.5 %	1.1 %
6	Criminal Tribes Deptt.	...	13	...	9.6 %
7	Elections Department.	...	6	...	10 %
8	Co-operative Societies Department.	...	5	...	1.98 %
9	Health Department.	...	4	...	2.01 %

Serial No.	Name of Department.	No. of Harijans employed in the P. C. S. cadre & Ministerial services.		The proportion it bears to the total strength of the personnel in the two cadres.	
		(a)		(b)	
		P. C. S. cadre	Ministerial services.	P. C. S. cadre.	Ministerial services.
		(i)	(ii)	(i)	(ii)
10	Public Service Commission.	...	1	...	7 %
11	P. W. D. Electricity.	...	30	...	4.64 %
12	Panchayat Department.	...	4	...	6 %
13	C. E. Chandigarh Capital Project.	...	4	...	1.7 %
14	Capital Administration.	...	5	...	5.1 %
15	Veterinary Department.	...	1	...	1.17 %
16	Electric Inspector to Government, Punjab.	...	2	...	13.3 %
17	Printing & Stationery Department.	...	6	...	8.7 %
18	Rehabilitation Department	...	35	...	6.8 %
19	Land Records Department.	...	2	...	9 %
20	Home Defence Department.	...	...	...	...
21	Labour Department.	...	12	...	11 %
22	C. S. (Gazette Branch) P. C. S. (Executive).	3	...	2.7 %	...
23	Agriculture Department.	...	16	...	5.9 %
24	Education Department.	...	8	...	2.5 %
25	P.W.D. Building & Roads.	...	16	...	5.6 %
26	P.W.D. Irrigation Branch.	...	462	...	5.6 %
27	Police Department.	...	1	...	1.1 %
28	Excise & Taxation Deptt.	...	28	...	9.2 %
29	Public Relations Deptt.	...	7	...	3.1 %
30	Transport Deptt.	...	18	...	8.8 %
31	Assistant Settlement Officer, Kulu.	..	...	...	...
32	Colonization Officer, Hissar.	...	3	...	11.8 %

[Chief Minister]

Serial No.	Name of Department.	No. of Harijans employed in the P. C. S. cadre & Ministerial services.		The proportion it bears to the total strength of the personnel in the two cadres.	
		(a)		(b)	
		P. C. S. cadre	Ministerial services.	P. C. S. cadre.	Ministerial services.
		(i)	(ii)	(i)	(ii)
33	Deputy Development Commissioner, (Community Project).	...	11	...	6 %
34	Forest Department.	...	6	...	4.76%
35	Administrator General & Official Trusty, Punjab.	...	...	...	...
36	Examiner, Local Fund Accounts, Punjab.	...	2	...	3.3 %
37	Legal Remembrancer, Pb.	...	...	...	...
38	Secretary to Governor's Office.	...	1	...	12.5 %
39	Military Secretary to Governor.	...	...	...	..
40	Advocate General, Punjab.	...	...	...	...
41	Chief Accounts Officer, Bhakra Nangal Project.	...	2	...	1.75%
42	Special Enquiry Agency.	...	...	...	...
43	Director Election (Local Bodies), Punjab.	...	...	...	...
44	Game Department.	...	...	...	...
45	Commissioner, Jullundur Division.	...	1	...	2.86%
46	Commissioner A m b a l a Division.	..	1	...	4 %
47	D. C. Karnal.	...	6	...	16 %
	—do— (Consolidation).	...	...	...	...
48	D. C. Gurgaon.	...	4	...	4.25%
	—do— (Consolidation).	...	1	...	1 %
49	D. C. Rohtak.	...	13	...	2.5 %
50	D. C. Ferozepur (Urban Resettlement Office and Relief Office).	...	...	...	...

Serial No.	Name of Department.	No. of Harijans employed in the P. C. S. cadre & Ministerial services.		The proportion it bears to the total strength of the personnel in the two cadres.	
		(a)		(b)	
		P. C. S. cadre	Ministerial services.	P. C. S. cadre.	Ministerial services.
		(i)	(ii)	(i)	(ii)
50	D. C. Ferozepur (Rehabilitation, Revenue, Consolidation & General Establishment).	...	6	...	0.72 %
	D. C. Ferozepur (District Rent Officer).	...	...	...	...
51	D. C. Ludhiana.	...	7	...	6 %
	D. C. Ludhiana (District Rent Officer).	...	2	...	3.23 %
	D. C. Ludhiana (Assistant Custodian).	...	...	...	...
	D. C. Ludhiana (Urban Resettlement).	...	1	...	0.2 %
	D. C. Ludhiana Rural Resettlement).	...	...	...	...
	D. C. Ludhiana, (Consolidation).	...	...	...	...
52	D. C. Gurdaspur.	...	7	...	...
	—do— (Consolidation.)	...	2	...	6 %
53	D. C. Hissar.	...	4	...	5 %
	D. C. Hissar, (Consolidation).	...	4	...	3.9 %
54	D. C. Kangra.	...	30	...	30 %
	—do— (Consolidation).	...	1	...	4.5 %
55	D. C. Amritsar.	...	8	...	3.2 %
	—do— (Consolidation).	...	10	...	4.5 %
56	D. C. Jullundur.	...	3	...	2.65 %
	—do— (Consolidation).	...	...	...	1.8 %
57	D. C. Ambala.	...	6	...	...
58	Administrator, Simla.	...	4	...	5.89 %
59	D. C. Hoshiarpur.	...	52	...	5.7 %
60	District and Sessions Judge, Ludhiana.	...	...	...	6.71 %
61	District and Sessions Judge, Jullundur.	...	1	...	2.2 %
62	District & Sessions Judge, Hissar.	...	1	...	1.37 %
63	District & Sessions Judge, Gurdaspur.	...	...	...	...
64	District & Sessions Judge, Hoshiarpur.	...	...	...	...
65	District & Sessions Judge, Karnal.	...	2	...	5 %
66	District & Sessions Judge, Ferozepur.	...	2	...	2.38 %
67	District & Sessions Judge, Ambala.	...	1	...	1.8 %
68	Senior Sub Judge Hoshiarpur.	...	...	...	...
		...	1	...	8.33 %

REGISTRATION OF CASE REGARDING MISAPPROPRIATION
OF ATTACHED MARES AND HORSES AT POLICE
STATION, WALTOHA.

***1033. Shri Ram Kishan :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state:—

- (a) whether any case regarding the misappropriation of attached mares and horses was registered during 1951 of the Police Station Waltoha, District Amritsar against certain revenue officers and their staff of Patti Tehsil by S. Chanan Singh Orara, Resident of village Daudpura, Tehsil Patti, during 1951; if so, its date ;
- (b) the brief story of the case as registered ;
- (c) whether any enquiry was made by the Police in this case; if so, with what results ;
- (d) the extent to which the facts of the case as alleged by the complainant were to be correct ; if not, whether any case was registered against him under Section 182 IPC for giving a false report to the Police, if, not, the reasons therefor ;
- (e) whether any of the mares and horses referred to in part (a) above were recovered later on by the Police from any person ; if so, from whom and what relations he had with the complainant and his family referred to in part (a) above ;
- (f) whether on the complaint of the complainant referred to in part (a) above any enquiry was instituted by the Resident Magistrate, Patti against certain Revenue Officers and their staff for having mis-appropriated the mare and horses ; if so, the finding of the Magistrate in this case ;
- (g) whether any action was taken by the District Authorities in the light of the findings of the Resident Magistrate referred to in part (f) above either against the Government servants or the complainant ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar :

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) (b) (c) (d) (e) (f) (g) | } | <p>A statement containing the required information is given below.</p> |
|---|---|--|

STATEMENT

- (a) No such case was got registered by S. Chanan Singh Orara resident of V. Daudpura, Tehsil Patti during 1951. A case was however got registered by the Resident Magistrate, Patti, on a complaint made by the Naib Tehsildar of Patti and forwarded by the Tehsildar of Patti on 20-3-51 u/s 409 IPC in Police Stations Waltoha (FIR No. 43) against the Tehsil Peons Nirranjan Singh, Hazara Singh and Kishan Chand, regarding the misappropriation of attached mares and horses.

- (b) Jathedar Chanan Singh of village Daudpur, had failed to deposit the auction proceeds of a garden in village Daudpur amounting to Rs. 650/-. On 21-2-51 a warrant of attachment was issued for the realisation of this amount. On 15-3-51 one mare worth about Rs. 350/-, a colt worth Rs. 220/- and a filly worth Rs. 100/- were attached by the Naib-Tehsildar Jagir Singh from the house of S. Chanan Singh.

This S. Chanan Singh had also to pay a sum of Rs. 550/14/- as balance of the land revenue of land in village Bhattiwala. A warrant of attachment had been issued for its realisation on 15-2-51. So one horse worth Rs. 350/- and a filly worth Rs. 250/- were attached on 15-3-51 by the Naib Tehsildar. All the animals were entrusted to Jamadar Dalip Singh of the Tehsil, as no Supardar was available. The Jamadar was directed by the Naib Tehsildar to take the animals to the Tehsil at Patti, with the help of Hazara Singh, Kishan Chand, Naranjan Singh and Teju Ram Tehsil peons. One of the horses being un-controllable and dangerous could not be taken into possession and hence was left at the house of the defaulter, Chanan Singh, while the remaining animals were taken into possession by the Tehsil peons. Teju Ram Tehsil peon was driving the mare and the colt worth Rs. 220/-. While he was on his way to Patti, this mare and the colt got frightened by the arrival of a motor vehicle and escaped. Teju Ram chased them but both these animals went into the house of the defaulter. Mohinder Singh who lived jointly with the defaulter, shut them inside the *Havali* and refused to deliver them back.

The remaining two animals, which were in the possession of Naranjan Singh, Hazara Singh and Kishan Chand Tehsil peons, were kept by them in the house of Arjan Singh Lambardar of village Algon, for the night. On the following morning these peons gave these animals to one Lal Singh s/o Sher Singh Jat, of village Daudpur, on 'Sapurdari' though they had been directed to take the animals to the Tehsil.

On 16-3-51 the peons reported the matter to the Tehsildar who directed them to collect these animals and bring them to the Tehsil, since they were not authorised to release them on 'Sapurdari'. On 18-3-51 Jamadar Dalip Singh and the four Tehsil peons reported that Lal Singh Supardar and Chanan Singh defaulter had refused to give back the animals to them. They further added that they had gone to P. S. Valtoha to lodge the report but the Police declined to register the case and directed them to send their report through the Revenue Officer.

- (c) Yes. Since no prima facis offence was established, the case was cancelled by the Resident Magistrate on the recommendation of the Police on 24-5-51.
- (d) As already stated, the report was made by the Tehsildar of Patti, believing that the animals might have been misappropriated by the Tehsil peons and the case required police investigation. The version in the report was not false and hence the question of action u/s 182 IPC did not arise.
- (e) No.
- (f) An enquiry was held by the Resident Magistrate, Patti, against the Revenue Officers on the complaint of S. Chanan Singh Orara. He found that neither the Tehsildar nor his staff was to be blamed, vide copy of his findings enclosed.

[Chief Minister]

(g) No action was taken against the Revenue Officials, as in the opinion of the Enquiry Officer their action was certainly not without justification.

Copy of Confidential letter No. 306/RM, dated 5-4-51, from Ch: Sube Singh, P.C.S., Resident Magistrate, Patti to the Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar.

Subject :- Application of Jathedar Chanan Singh Arora against S. Jamail Singh Patti and his staff.

I have held enquiries into the above cited matter and also looked into the counter allegations made by the Tehsildar.

Though the Jathedar made lots of allegations, yet he has more or less no proof to prove what he says.

In fact there could be no proof because the allegations were of a general and a sweeping nature.

After having considered the written versions of both the sides, I found that the Tehsildar and Jathedar have not been seeing eye to eye from the very beginning but that was entirely due to their own look outs on life and such like differences cannot be made basis of an enquiry.

As far as the question of attachment of the mares of Jathedar is concerned, neither the Tahsildar nor his staff are to be blamed because the Jathedar had admittedly to pay Land Revenue, which he was avoiding to do. Therefore the issue of warrant in lieu of Land Revenue and the subsequent proceedings taken by the Tahsil Staff were certainly not without justification.

REGISTRATION OF CASES AT VARIOUS POLICE STATIONS IN THE STATE.

***1035. Shri Ram Kishan :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

- (a) the number of the cases registered at the various police stations of each district in the State during the years 1948, 1949, 1950 and 1951 respectively;
- (b) the number of persons taken into custody by the police during each of the years mentioned in part (a) above from each District in connection with the cases referred to above;
- (c) the number of the persons against whom cases were withdrawn by the police in each district during each of these years;
- (d) the number of persons challaned in the courts by the police during each of these years in each district;
- (e) the number of persons convicted by the courts during each of the years in each district in connection with the cases referred to in part (a) above;

- (f) the number of persons acquitted on appeal or revision by High Court and Sessions Courts separately in each district during each of the years in connection with the cases referred to in part (a) above ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sacher :

- (a) A statement marked 'A' is given below.
 (b) A statement marked 'B' is given below.
 (c) A statement marked 'C' is given below.
 (d) A statement marked 'D' is given below.
 (e) A statement marked 'E' is given below.
 (f) Two separate statements marked 'F' and 'G' are given below.

STATEMENT 'A'

Showing the number of the cases registered in each district in the State during the years 1948, 1949, 1950 and 1951.

District	1948	1949	1950	1951
Hissar	3835	4801	3442	3327
Rohtak	2726	4686	2812	2114
Gurgaon	2316	3638	1860	2292
Karnal	5771	5960	3865	3590
Ambala	3195	3407	2915	2599
Simla	424	453	376	329
Kangra	966	1135	995	1030
Hoshiarpur	2641	2600	2194	2417
Ludhiana	2748	2665	2597	3050
Ferozepore	5531	6630	4693	4927
Jullundur	3080	2148	2344	3162
Amritsar	7970	7881	6153	6653
Gurdaspur	4371	3782	2829	3051

[Chief Minister]

STATEMENT 'B'

Showing the number of persons taken into custody by the Police during the years 1948, 1949, 1950 and 1951 in each district of the State.

District	1948	1949	1950	1951
Hissar	4014	5296	4104	3300
Rohtak	4512	7441	3479	2906
Gurgaon	3050	4261	2580	3184
Karnal	4942	4952	4398	3995
Ambala	3562	4097	3411	2764
Simla	610	545	435	445
Kangra	1564	1667	1641	1712
Hoshiarpur	3082	3096	2669	2661
Jullundur	3779	3011	3496	3911
Ludhiana	2886	2761	2885	3162
Ferozepore	7076	7355	5273	6074
Amritsar	8142	9257	7762	8286
Gurdaspur	5069	6215	3588	4184

STATEMENT 'C'

Showing the number of the persons against whom cases were withdrawn by the police in each district during the years 1948, 1949, 1950 and 1951.

District	1948	1949	1950	1951
Hissar	...	2	3	3
Rohtak	...	150	...	...
Gurgaon	301	140	203	91
Karnal	4	5	11	15
Ambala	224	592	383	223
Simla	..	4	1	...
Kangra	136	67	93	120
Hoshiarpur	207	170	187	127
Ludhiana	..	...	3	2
Ferozepore	587	214	272	187
Jullundur	733	298	374	390
Amritsar	991	151	210	213
Gurdaspur	1	4	...	1

STATEMENT "D".

Showing the number of persons challaned in the courts by the police during the years 1948, 1949, 1950 and 1951 in each district of the State.

District	1948	1949	1950	1951
Hissar	4014	5296	4104	3264
Rohtak	5261	8712	5387	3627
Gurgaon	2749	4121	2377	3093
Karnal	4772	4867	4321	3896
Ambala	2545	4482	3091	2495
Simla	446	403	288	372
Kangra	1035	1079	1020	1209
Hoshiarpur	2875	2926	2482	2534
Jullundur	3660	627	2575	3519
Ludhiana	2886	2761	2882	3160
Ferozepore	6489	7141	5001	5887
Amritsar	5328	9224	7914	7152
Gurdaspur	3742	6106	3573	4099

STATEMENT "E"

Showing the number of persons convicted by the courts during the years 1948, 1949, 1950 and 1951 in each district of the State.

District	1948	1949	1950	1951
Hissar	2372	4990	2513	1671
Rohtak	2790	4828	2845	1916
Gurgaon	1586	3115	1156	1762
Karnal	3392	3817	2090	2091
Ambala	1804	2630	1752	1422
Simla	342	272	206	263
Kangra	527	505	597	540
Hoshiarpur	1289	1831	1351	1212
Jullundur	1968	1943	1301	1863
Ludhiana	1749	1699	1809	1724
Ferozepore	3368	3766	3370	3194
Amritsar	4955	6690	5614	5102
Gurdaspur	1704	3259	1893	2357

[Chief Minister]

STATEMENT "F"

Showing the number of persons acquitted on appeals or revision
by Sessions Court in each district during the years
1948, 1949, 1950 and 1951.

District	1948	1949	1950	1951
Hissar	118	249	322	82
Rohtak	10	82	145	165
Gurgaon	11	51	47	58
Karnal	195	201	174	198
Ambala	52	80	72	40
Simla	...	...	...	2
Kangra	40	16	4	2
Hoshiarpur	65	40	84	55
Ludhiana	42	27	33	111
Ferozepore	6	122	168	242
Jullundur	150	122	156	190
Amritsar	417	637	414	512
Gurdaspur	93	78	106	75

STATEMENT "G"

Showing the number of persons acquitted on appeals or
revision by High Court in each district during
the years 1948, 1949, 1950 & 1951.

District	1948	1949	1950	1951
Hissar	4	3	3	5
Rohtak	...	5	19	11
Gurgaon	...	...	...	4
Karnal	21	12	8	13
Ambala	5	7	12	7
Simla	...	...	...	2
Kangra	...	...	2	...
Hoshiarpur	20	23	19	13
Ludhiana	8	5	6	4
Ferozepore	...	1	6	...
Jullundur	...	1	10	1
Amritsar	12	8	23	21
Gurdaspur	18	10	5	...

GRANT OF PARMANPATRAS ON REPUBLIC DAY IN THE STATE.

***1063. Shri Ram Chandra Comrade :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

- (a) the total number of Parmanpatras granted on the Independence Day in each district of the State by the District Magistrate concerned ;
- (b) the qualifications for being a recipient of such 'patra' ;
- (c) the date when the decision to grant such patras was taken by the Government ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar :

- (a) 277.
- (b) The Praman Patras were granted to workers, philanthropists and genuine helpers of the administration.
- (c) Orders in connection with the grant of patras were issued by the State Government on the 7th December, 1950.

EJECTION OF TENANTS IN THE STATE.

***1.2 Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state :—

- (a) the total number of ejection notices issued by the landlords against tenants in the State during the years 1950-51 and 1951-52, districtwise ;
- (b) the total number of tenants ejected in the State during the above period districtwise ;
- (c) the measures so far taken by the Government to prevent ejection of tenants ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon :

- (a) & (b) A statement is given below.
- (c) A Bill [Punjab Prevention of Ejection (temporary powers) bill of 1952] has been passed by both the Houses of Legislature which is awaiting the assent of the President.

[Chief Minister]

Statement showing number of ejection notices and tenants ejected in the State during the years 1950-51 and 1951-52 districtwise.

Serial No.	District.	Total No. of ejection notices issued by landlords during		Total No. of tenants ejected during	
		1950-51	1951-52	1950-51	1951-52
1	Hissar	1835	1201	648	374
2	Rohtak	1854	572	38	550
3	Gurgaon	209	447	428	366
4	Karnal	851	601	406	455
5	Ambala	560	452	344	375
6	Simla	2	1	...	...
7	Kangra	215	130	150	89
8	Hoshiarpur	158	245	38	5
9	Jullundur	362	435	99	141
10	Ludhiana	272	255	163	70
11	Ferozepore	714	1220	227	263
12	Amritsar	1018	1219	544	582
13	Gurdaspur	338	305	52	17

Sardar Chanan Singh : In this statement ejection of five tenants has been shown in Hoshiarpur District. But I know that in our villages hundreds of tenants have been ejected. If this is the state of affairs there must be misstatements made in connection with other districts also. How can this statement be true ?

Minister : I can look that up later.

TRANSFER OF LAND IN THE STATE.

***182. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state :—

- (a) the total number of transfers of land effected during the period between November, 1950 to 31st December, 1951 by land-owners owning above 100 standard acres (or 200 ordinary acres).
- (b) the total number of transfers of land effected since January, 1952, by owners owning land above 50 standard acres, (or 100 ordinary acres) ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kalron :

- (a) 1478
 - (b) 643
- } These figures do not include information in respect of Ferozepore district which is yet awaited.
-

CULTURABLE AREA IN THE STATE.

***185. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state :—

- (a) the total culturable area in acres in the State in the year 1951-52 ;
- (b) the total area under cultivation ;
- (c) the total area of culturable land lying waste in the year 1951-52 ;
- (d) the total area under canal irrigation in the year 1951-52 ;
- (e) the yearly increase in canal irrigation since 1947-48 ;
- (f) whether there has been any increase in the number of cusecs of water supplied for irrigation, canalwise ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon :

- Part (a) 12019237 Acres.
- Part (b) 9744814 „
- Part (c) 1253496 „
- Part (d) 4875574 „
- Part (e) Yearly increase in canal irrigation over figures of 1947-48 is as below :—

Year.	Increase Acres.
1948-49	197380
1949-50	420837
1950-51	993979
1951-52	897644

Part (f) Yes. The increase is given below canalwise :—

Canal.	Increase.
Western Jumna	27884 Cusec days.
Sirhand	279992 „ „
Upper Bari Doab	25143 „ „
Eastern Canal	10435 „ „

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : It has been said that the area of irrigated land has been increased. May I ask the hon. Minister concerned if only the area has been increased or the supply of water has also been enhanced ?

Minister : The area of agricultural land can only be increased if the water is increased. It, therefore, means that the supply of water has been increased as a result of which area of agricultural land has increased ?

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state how much quantity of water has been increased ?

Minister : I have already stated this thing.

— — — —

BARANI AREA UNDER CULTIVATION IN THE STATE.

***186. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state :—

- (a) the total area of land under barani cultivation in the State; districtwise in the years 1950-51 and 1951-52;
- (b) the measures taken by the Government to bring these areas under irrigation ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon :

Part (a) A statement is given below.

Part (b) The following measures have been taken by the Government to bring the barani areas under cultivation :—

- (i) the irrigation to such areas as can be irrigated from the canals in the Western Jumna Canals East Circle will be taken up when supplies become available on the completion of Bhakhra Project. The discharged water now utilized by Sirsa Branch would then be available for irrigation of barani area. A beginning has now been made by extending irrigation for Kharif only to areas lying over the Delhi Branch and one such scheme known as Nahri Distributry Scheme has been completed.
- (ii) Temporary shoots are being allowed on the Upper Bari Doab Canals every Kharif from 1949 when the water is available, for such areas within or outside Irrigation boundry. Also new channels have been constructed to provide irrigation to Barani areas. There are still more schemes under preparation which will bring a large number of areas under canal irrigation both in Gurdaspur and Amritsar districts.
- (iii) The following schemes have been taken up for canal irrigation in the Western Jumna Canal West Circle :—
 - Talu minor extension and construction of Talu Sub-Minor.
 - Extension of Bhiwani Khera Minor.
 - Extension of Markrauli Minor.
 - Extension of Bhiwani Disty.
 - Extension of Jasrana Minor.
- (iv) The following schemes are to be completed during 1952-53
 - Constructing Harita Minor Daha Sub Minor.
 - Constructing Dhamana Minor.
 - Constructing Talu Sub-minor extension.
 - Constructing Ciman Sub-Minor.
 - Constructing Extension Baroda Minor.
 - Extension of Bakra Minor.

- (v) The following schemes are under preparation and in hand :-
 Constructing Badala Minor of Sundar Sub-Branch.
 Extension of Talu Sub-Minor.
 Converting existing W. C of outlet R. D. 58370-L.
 Bhainswal Disty; into minor.
 Constructing a Lift Jahangirpur Minor from Dalehra Disty.
 Extension of existing Dhasa Minor from R. D. 24500-51000.
 Constructing Surkhpur minor.
 Constructing a minor for Malanwala.
 Constructing Gushani Minor.
 Extension of existing Gujrani Minor.
 Constructing a Sewan Sub-Minor.
 Extension of B iwani Disty; 24500-248000.
 Constructing a lift channel from R. D. 19900 :-R Bhiwani Disty.
 Constructing a lift channel from R. D. 206500-L Bhiwani Disty.
 Constructing a lift channeo from Tail Karandha Minor.
 Constructing a lift channel from tail Jhajjar Disty.
- (vi) The barani land has also been brought under irrigation in the Sirhind Canal Circle and is to be brought under irrigation in the Narwana Circle, the Bist Doab Canal and the Narwana Branch.
- (vii) An area of 178330 acres in the 2nd Bhakra Main Line Circle has been taken as culturable commanded area under the Barwala Branch during 1951-52 which was opened for irrigation purposes last year. Irrigation will be extended to further areas when other channels of Bhakra Canals start operation.
- (viii) With regard to Shah Nehar and Natha Singh canals extension of irrigation is being made in Mukerian and Dasuya Tehsils. The project of Bhogpur from Shah Nehar Canal is under investigation. By this Project part of Jullundur, Dasuya and Hoshiarpur Tehsils will be irrigated.
- 301 miles of Sidwan Branch have been dug during 1950-51 and 1951-52 and remaining 241 miles length is in hand. The Grey canals are being remodelled. The Sidhwan Branch and remodelled Grey Canals will irrigate Ludhiana and Ferozepur Districts.
- (ix) Irrigation schemes such as sinking of wells and installation of tubewells and the construction of kuhls have also been undertaken.

[Minister for Development]

STATEMENT

District	Total area under barani cultivation.	
	1950—51	1951—52
Jullundur	282472	280262
Kangra	450807	453052
Gurdaspur	290866	285772
Ludhiana	401140	334284
Amritsar	161549	137553
Hoshiarpur	647900	632473
Ferozepore	1076981	Not yet available.
Ambala	693255	697684
Karnal	767087	686873
Hissar	2267672	1659564
Gurgaon	942170	940919
Rohtak	693483	607886
	8675382	6636322

Shri Sri Chand : Will the Minister be pleased to state if the quantity of water has also been increased for the new minors which are being started or the old quantity of water has further been divided ? In my district additional water has not been given for the new minors but the same old quantity has further been divided.

Minister : The additional and the old quantities of water have not been mixed. But the rain water of which no use was made before has been utilised for this purpose.

Shri Sri Chand : Is it not a fact that the rain water which was previously utilised in the canal has been supplied to the new minors and the quantity of water has not actually been increased ?

Minister : No, it is not a fact. Additional water has been supplied and the quantity of water has been increased.

Minister : Additional 9 lakh acres of land have been brought under cultivation. How could this area be irrigated with the old supply of water. The quantity of water has been increased.

Shri Sri Chand : In my district canal water has been utilised for the minors and the supply of water has not actually been increased. Will the Minister please let me know how much additional water has been supplied in the Rohtak District ?

Mr. Deputy Speaker : It is a separate question. Notice may be given.

Shri Sri Chand : Sir, this question arises from the main question. There is no need for giving notice of a new question for eliciting this information.

Minister : Similarly the hon. Member would ask the quantity of water supplied to his own land. This is not proper.

Shri Sri Chand : Why does the Minister concerned not reply that it is not within his knowledge ?

— — — —

FAMINE IN HISSAR DISTRICT.

***909. Shri Ranjit Singh Captain :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state :—

- (a) the date on which the fact that there were famine conditions in Hissar District and some tehsils of Rohtak and Gurgaon Districts, was first brought to the notice of the Government by public men, and officers of the Districts concerned ;
- (b) the details of measures taken by the Government to give relief to the people together with dates thereof ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon :

- (a) The scarcity conditions in Hissar district were reported by a public man on the 9th August, 1951 and by the Deputy Commissioner, Hissar, on the 1st August, 1951 ; in the Rohtak district by the public man on the 2nd October, 1951, and by the Deputy Commissioner, Rohtak on the 7th October, 1951. A report was received from a Member of Legislative Assembly about Gurgaon district but the Deputy Commissioner Gurgaon, reported on the 3rd October, 1951.
- (b) A statement is given below.

[Minister for Development]

**Statement showing the details of the measures taken by Government
in the Scarcity Areas.**

There was fortunately no scarcity of food but of fodder only. The following steps were taken by the Punjab Government to ameliorate distress in the affected areas :—

- (1) *Concessional rates* :—Concession in railway freight was allowed for the import of fodder from other States as well as from other districts within the Hissar district on 1st October, 1952 and for Rohtak and Gurgaon districts on 8th November, 1951, and a sum of Rs. 2,39,540/- was earmarked for this purpose during the year 1951-52.
- (2) *Priority* :—Priority in the supply of railway wagons for the transport of fodder was sought from the Government of India.
- (3) *Control on movement of fodder* :—The Government of India was approached to ban the export of fodder from this State. Consequently, the Cattle Fodder (Movement Control) Order, 1951, was promulgated by them.
- (4) *Import of fodder from other States* :—The import of fodder from the States, from where its export was banned, was arranged through Government of India.
- (5) *Subsidy for the maintenance of stud bulls (Hissar district)* :—Subsidy for the maintenance of stud bulls was sanctioned on the 29th February, 1952 and 1529 stud bulls were maintained at cost of Rs. 38,225.
- (6) *Supply of fodder to Gaushalas (Hissar district)* :—Fodder was supplied at half price to certain gaushalas in Hissar district and Government had to incur an expenditure of Rs. 30,000/- on this account.
- (7) *Transport of fodder (Hissar district)* :—For transport of fodder from the railway stations to places in the interior so that it could be sold at the same rates at which it was sold at Railway Station, and expenditure amounting to Rs. 10,000/- was incurred.
- (8) *Cattle Concentration Camps (Hissar district)* :—Early in May, 1952, Government sanctioned the opening of 8 Cattle Concentration Camps and 3832 cattle were maintained at the cost of more than Rs. 195000/
- (9) In order to speed up the transport of fodder into the affected areas a Fodder Advisor along with his staff was appointed. An Assistant Commissioner was also appointed to help the Deputy Commissioner, Hissar, in the scarcity work.
- (10) In order to accelerate the loading of fodder from stations situated outside the Punjab two State Movement Officers (Naib-Tehsildars) were appointed, one at Izzatnagar and the other at Jhansi.
- (11) *Labour Co-operatives (Hissar district)* :—Instead of contractors the work on canals and roads, which was started on the 11th October, 1951, was got done through the village labour co-operatives organised by the Deputy Commissioner, Hissar. A sum of Rs. 4,18,668/- was earned by them as wages. On Harita Minor alone at one time 5000 labourers were working.

- (12) *Ponds digging (Hissar district)* :—Ponds digging work was started during the month of March, 1952. 305 ponds have been dug at different places in Hissar district. The total expenditure on this account amounted to Rs. 2,88 052/-/. In this way relief was provided to 178326 persons.
- (13) *Spinning Centres (Hissar district)* :—The organisation of Spinning Centres was set up during the month of March, 1952. 25 Wool and Cotton Spinning Centres were opened. Government had to incur expenditure of Rs. 1,26,167/8/6 on them. Out of it a sum of Rs. 35 792/14/3 was paid as wages to spinners.
- (14) *Filling of ponds with canal water (Hissar district)* :—About 200 ponds were filled with canal water.
- (15) *Gratuitous Relief (Hissar district)* :—Private Charity was tapped from the very beginning of scarcity conditions and was received both in kind and cash from individual persons and institutions. Out of the amount realised as such a sum of Rs. 8433/8/- was spent in providing help for drinking water in 55 villages. Further, a sum of Rs. 49,409/- was spent on purchase of vitamin tablets for their free distribution to the needy and stipends were given to the students coming from the scarcity affected villages. In 9 villages help was provided for the construction of kunds and wells which amounted to Rs. 8,499/-. Foodgrains, clothes and medicines were also distributed free of cost amongst the needy persons. In addition to the relief given in kind a total sum of Rs. 42,109/9/- was spent in providing gratuitous relief to the affected people.
- (16) *Taccavi aid* :—A sum of Rs. 63 lakhs has so far been sanctioned by Government from time to time for distribution as taccavi loans for fodder, seed and bullock in the Hissar district since 16th April, 1952. Since June, 1952, a sum of Rs 4,25,000/- has so far been sanctioned as taccavi loans for Rohtak district and Rs. 4 lakhs for Gurgaon district since May, 1952.
- (17) *Food (Hissar district)* :—The export of gram from the district of Hissar was banned. In order to enable people to get their rations easily the number of ration depots was increased to 213 from 137.

Shri Ranjit Singh Captain : Will the hon. Minister kindly tell us the measures adopted by the Government to meet famine conditions in the Hissar District ?

Minister : These have been given in the statement.

EJECTION OF TENANTS IN THE STATE

*980 **Shri Wadhawa Ram :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state :—

- (a) the number of tenants who have been ejected in the State since 1st May, 1952.
- (b) the number of such ejections which have taken place in Buria Jagadhri, District Ambala and the action if any, taken by the Government for the restoration of these ejected tenants to their lands ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon :

(a) 2607

(b) 139 tenants were ejected by the Chief of Euria. None of the tenants was restored to his land.

— — — — —
DAIRY FARMS IN THE STATE.

*996 **Shri Rala Ram :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state :—

(a) the steps taken so far by the Government to promote dairy farming in the State;

(b) the number of applications received from January, 1952 to August, 1952, and the number of new dairy farms that have been sanctioned and started in the State ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon :

(a) Government sanctioned a Dairy Development Scheme as a Post-War Development Scheme in the year 1948. As the Government of India declined to give grants for all Post-War Development Schemes after the 1st March, 1950, this Scheme was wound up from that date and the work relating thereto was merged into the normal activities of the department with the minimum staff.

This staff is responsible for :—

(i) imparting training in dairying to private enterprizers at the Government Livestock Farm, Hissar ;

(ii) giving free technical advice to persons interested in Dairying, Gaushala managements etc.

In 1949 Government sanctioned a scheme for promoting Dairy Industry on a cottage basis under which loans of Rs. 5,000/- or more under the Punjab State Aid to Industries Act, 1935, can be advanced. On account of lean finances the Government could not revive a separate scheme for Dairy Development. A short course on Dairy Farming of three months' duration is being conducted at the G. L. F. Hissar. With a view to control and regulate the production, processing, transportation and distribution of milk produce, a bill called "the Punjab Dairy Bill" is under consideration with this Government.

(b) First part : Six.

Second part : 12 persons have been granted Dairy loans so far and a number of them have already started Dairy Farms on desired lines.

**STRENGTH OF TECHNICAL CADRES IN PUNJAB P. W. D.
ELECTRICITY BRANCH.**

*849. **Sardar Darshan Singh** : Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state :—

- (a) the number of posts sanctioned in the various technical cadres in the Punjab, P. W. D., Electricity Branch;
- (b) the number of posts so far filled permanently by the confirmation therein of employees in the different cadres;
- (c) the number of posts which are still unfilled on a permanent basis in each cadre, and the reasons therefor ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : The required information is given below.

Name of Post	Part (a)	Part (b)	Part (c)
1. Technical Subordinates	3	3	...
2. Load Convessers	2	2	...
3. Overseers	7	6	1
4. Surveyors	3	3	...
5. Estimators	3	3	—
6. Stock Verifier	1	...	1
7. Workshop Foreman	1	1	...
8. Line Superintendents (Grade I.)	6	4	2
9. Line Superintendents (Grade II.)	58	34	24
10. Operators (Grade I.)	8	7	1
11. Operators (Grade II.)	4	4	...
12. Lorry Drivers	14	14	...
13. Head Mistries	8	6	2
13-A Machine Attendants.	4	4	...
14. Mistries	12	6	6
15. Assistant Machine Attendants	4	2	2
16. Telephonists	4	3	1
17. Welders	1	1	...
18. Assistant Welders	1	...	1

[Minister for Irrigation]

Name of Post.	Part (a)	Part (b)	Part (c)
19. Winch Drivers Grade I. ...	2	2	...
20. Winch Drivers Grade II. ...	2	2	...
21. Pipe Line Inspector ...	1	1	...
22. Crane Driver (Grade I.) ...	1	1	...
23. Crane Driver (Grade II.) ...	1	1	...
24. Linesmen (Grade I.) ...	101	26	75
25. Linesmen (Grade II.) ...	68	7	61
26. Assistant Linesmen ...	177	25	152
27. Oilers and Cleaners ...	36	2	34
28. Substation Attendants ...	22	16	6
29. Assistant Substation Attendants ...	14	2	12
30. Laboratory Assistants ...	5	3	2
31. Test Inspectors ...	3	2	1
32. Cable-Jointers ...	2	1	1
33. P. W. Inspector ...	1	1	...
34. Telephone Supervisor ...	1	1	...
35. Meter Inspectors ...	7	7	...
36. Driver-cum-Attendants ...	12	...	12
37. Power House Superintendents ...	3	...	3
38. Fitters ...	3	...	3
39. Electrical Overseers ...	2	1	1
40. Cable Jointers' Mates ...	2	...	2
41. Power House Foreman ...	1	...	1
TOTAL ...	611	204	*407

*The question of confirmation in the remaining posts is receiving earnest consideration of the Electricity Branch. Additional Staff has now been sanctioned for this work.

DAM IN DISTRICT KANGRA

***1010. Shri Daulat Ram Sharma :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state :—

(a) the number of villages of ilaqa Kutlehar, tehsil Hamirpur, district Kangra which will be submerged under the Damor affected thereby together with the area of cultivated and waste lands separately which will be thus affected ;

(b) the total population likely to be uprooted and the percentage of the population depending on agriculture ;

(c) the steps Government intends to take to rehabilitate them ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh :

(a) 99 villages comprising of

Cultivated lands 5400 acres and
uncultivated waste lands 6200 acres.

(b) 7000 individuals, mainly Agriculturists.

(c) The question is under the active consideration of the Government and an *ad hoc* Committee has been appointed to go into it urgently.

IRRIGATED AREAS OF VILLAGES KALLAH, GILPON AND
KHALRA, DISTRICT AMRITSAR.

***1053. Shri Amir Chand Gupta :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state :—

(a) the total irrigated area under each of the canal outlets of village Kallah, Police Station Khalra, villages Gilpon and Khalra, Tehsil Patti, District Amritsar;

(b) the area of the villages referred to in part (a) above actually irrigated during each Rabi and Kharif Crops respectively from 1937 to 1952;

(c) whether there is any deficiency in the irrigated areas after the partition ; if so, to what extent and the reasons for this deficiency;

(d) the steps, if any, Government proposes to take to make up this deficiency in the irrigated area ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh :

(a) As per statement given below.

(b) —do—

(c) There is no deficiency in the irrigated area after partition except in the case of outlet at R. D. 34251 T. F. R.

(d) Permanent arrangements for supply of water to this village (Kallah) has been made by extending Sukharchak Distributary.

[Minister for Irrigation]

STATEMENT SHOWING THE IRRIGATION

Serial No.	Name of Channel	R. D. of outlet.	Name of village			1937-38		1938-39		1939-40		1940-41		1941-42		1942-43	
				CCA	PA	K R	K R	K R	K R	K R	K R	K R					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12						
1	Subarchak disty.	18866 -TF	Gilpon	16	12												
2	Dode disty.	30895 -R	--do--	101	91	45	53	60	51	73	48	76	47	63	52	54	40
	--do--	32511-R	--do--	71	64	43	36	47	32	42	35	49	47	52	53	53	40
	--do--	34251-TR	Khalaro	65	60	52	35	50	21	53	46	55	41	60	50	56	42
	--do--	34251-TF	--do--	624	561	255	206	294	172	280	174	303	198	288	230	210	174
	Gilpon Mr:	28010 -R	--do--	4	3	10	3	1	1	1	1	3	1	8	4	3	4
	--do--	33350 - R	--do--	30	22	27	18	23	19	27	21	25	22	24	18	25	22
	Khalra Dy.	2465-R	--do--	74	56	22	30	26	31	25	32	27	29	35	31	29	24
	--do--	4350 -R	--do--	129	96	108	90	107	100	105	93	103	82	99	98	107	92
	Dode disty.	29193	Theh Kallah	172	154	73	70	88	70	95	60	83	76	97	101	105	101

FIGURES FOR THE YEARS FROM 1937—52.

1943—44		1944—45		1945—46		1946—47		1947—48		1948 - 49		1949—50		1950 -51		1951—52		Remarks
K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	K	R	
13		14		15		16		17		18		19		20		21			22
54	65	57	59	65	67	67	70	60	38	59	71	65	54	77	56	63	48	
52	61	56	60	55	62	61	62	47	54	47	56	49	43	36	24	50	58	
61	55	66	40	63	59	58	60	60	37	68	52	55	38	50	37	32	54	
334	307	338	258	338	387	328	347	255	181	180	210	237	256	291	147	254	151	
5	4	4	4	5	4	5	4	4	4	4	4	5	4	3		4	4	
24	23	27	25	31	20	29	25	29	18	29	17	32	25	29	24	32	30	
29	32	29	30	38	41	45	49	39	2	15	39	41	47	30	42	47	54	
101	99	110	93	98	70	90	94	91	19	62	73	85	95	89	92	93	142	
93	91	105	114	113	99	103	97	69	107	99	170	118	135	108	157	92	134	

**GIVING OF COMPENSATION TO THE OWNERS OF
SHAH NAHAR (Mukerian)**

***1056. Shri Rala Ram :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state :—

- (a) the amount of compensation fixed for payment to the owners of the Shah Nahar (Mukerian) when it was taken over by the Government ;
- (b) the amount that has been paid so far and when the balance is proposed to be paid ;
- (c) whether any deductions have been made by the Government from the fixed sum of compensation on account of 'Hallas' (mass labour for repairs) ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh :

- (a) The amount of compensation was estimated to be Rs. 5,45,096/- for Shah Nahar Canal when it was taken over by the Government consisting of :—

(i) On account of enhanced water rates	3,89,635/-
(ii) On account of assessment of share of owners	1,32,561/-
(iii) On account of miscellaneous income.	22,900/-

- (b) The amount covered by item (ii) & (iii) has already been paid except Rs. 65,000/-. This amount could not be paid as some of shareholders were Muslims and also some Non-Muslims did not accept it.

The basis of payment for item (i) has been decided in consultation with Legal Remembrancer and instructions have been issued for payment immediately.

- (c) Yes. 1/3 of the total capitalized amount of enhanced water rates and share of the owners has been deducted on account of Halla labour in estimating the compensation. The Halla labour covered the annual expenditure on Repairs and Maintenance, which has to be borne by Government now for working the Canal.

Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan : Does the hon. Minister not know that the meaning of canal and 'Nahar' are the same ?

Minister : The name of that canal is 'Shah Nahar'. That is why both these words have been used.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Is the Government willing to extend this canal ?

Minister : Yes. The matter is under the consideration of the Government.

— — — — —

SUPPLY OF ELECTRIC ENERGY TO JULLUNDUR MUNICIPALITY

***1082. Shrimati Sita Devi :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Jullundur Municipality has deposited a sum of Rs 12,500/- with the Public Works Department, Electricity Branch for the installation and the supply of electricity to several new areas in the City ; if so, the reasons for the delay in the supply thereof ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : Yes ; for supply of power for street-lighting only on Law College Road and in Basti Guzan. Since the amount was deposited by the Municipality only recently by a cheque dated the 8th September, 1952, the question of delay does not arise. The required material was collected at site and other formalities completed during this short period and the work was actually taken in hand on 31-10-52. It is expected to be completed by the end of November.

Shri Ram Kishan : Is it within the knowledge of the hon. Minister that inspite of the representations which the residents of some other localities of Jullundur City besides Basti Guzan had made to the Municipal Committee, Jullundur, this scheme has not been worked there ?

Minister : I have no knowledge of that.

Shri Ram Kishan : Is the hon. Minister prepared to hold an enquiry in this connection ?

Minister : Yes. An enquiry will be held.

MUSLIM EVACUEE HOUSES IN THE STATE.

***700. Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

- (a) the total number of Muslim evacuee liveable houses in the State at present together with the number of those allotted so far ;
- (b) the total number of Muslim evacuee repairable houses in the State together with the number of those allotted so far ;
- (c) the number of land allottees in the State who have not so far been allotted any liveable houses ;
- (d) the total grant for houses advanced by Government to land allottees ; together with the amount advanced to landowners allotted repairable houses or 'Tors' (vacant plots for houses) ;
- (e) whether any portion of this grant was allotted to land allottees given serviceable houses ; if so, how much ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : It is regretted that it is not in public interest to supply the information asked for by the hon. Member.

**REVIEW APPLICATIONS AGAINST ALLOTMENT OF HOUSES
IN THE STATE**

***701. Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

- (a) the total number of review applications filed so far against allotment of houses (rural) in each district of the State; together with the number of those so far disposed of;
- (b) the total number of applications, referred to in part (a) above which has been rejected so far in each district;
- (c) the total number of review applications which are still pending and are:
 - (i) three months old ;
 - (ii) six months old ;
 - (iii) nine months old ;
 - (iv) one year old ;
 - (v) $1\frac{1}{4}$ years old ;
 - (vi) $1\frac{1}{2}$ years old ;
 - (vii) $1\frac{3}{4}$ years old ;
 - (viii) two years old ;
 - (ix) over two years old ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh :

- (a) } A statement is given below.
 - (b) }
 - (c) }
-

Serial No.	Name of the District.	(a)		(b)	(c)								
		No. of re- view appli- cations re- ceived.	No. of re- view appli- cations dis- posed of.	Review applica- tions rejected.	No. of review applications still pending.								
					Three months old.	Six months old.	Nine months old.	One year old.	1½ years old.	1½ years old.	1¾ years old.	Two years old.	Over 2 years old.
1	Ferozepur.	578	502	363	...	6	7	13	15	30	5	...	...
2	Ludhiana.	766	735	593	13	9	9	...	...	...	...	...	...
3	Jullundur.	717	627	408	47	13	13	17	...	...	...	...	...
4	Gurdaspur.	774	774	625	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	Ambala.	757	756	454	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
6	Karnal.	561	529	347	19	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7	Rohtak.	767	752	454	...	9	2	2	2	...	...	...	...
8	Hoshiarpur.	324	79	52	5	25	51	29	42	61	32	...	...
9	Hissar.	481	465	367	13	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10	Gurgaon.	123	77	47	...	30	16	...	...	...	...	...	...
11	Amritsar.	380	375	316	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12	Kangra.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13	Simla.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Total ...	6228	5671	4026	102	108	98	61	59	92	37	...	...

ARRESTS OF REFUGEES.

*851. **Sardar Nidhan Singh** : Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the number of persons in the State arrested up to the end of May, 1952 for their inability to repay loans advanced to them earlier as refugees ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : 1031 persons.

REVIEW APPLICATIONS AGAINST ALLOTMENT OF LAND IN
THE STATE.

*855. **Sardar Achhar Singh Chinna** : Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

- (a) the total number of Review Applications filed against land allotments before the Deputy Commissioners in each of the districts in the State;
- (b) the total number of Review Applications :—
 - (i) so far accepted by the Deputy Commissioners;
 - (ii) so far rejected by the Deputy Commissioners;
 - (iii) so far pending with the Deputy Commissioners;
- (c) the total number of pending Review Applications which are
 - (i) six months old, (ii) one year old, (iii) two years old (iv) more than two years old;
- (d) the total number of Review Applications against land allotments filed before the Director General, Rehabilitation;
- (e) the total number of Review Applications :—
 - (i) so far accepted by him;
 - (ii) so far rejected by him;
 - (iii) so far pending with him;
- (f) the total number of pending Review Applications which are :—
 - (i) six months old;
 - (ii) one year old;
 - (iii) two years old;
 - (iv) more than two years old ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh :

- | | |
|-----|-------------------------------|
| (a) | } A statement is given below. |
| (b) | |
| (c) | |
| (d) | |
| (e) | |
| (f) | |

Serial No.	Name of District.	(a) Total No. of review applications received against land allotment.	(b) Total No. of review applications so far :-			(c) Total number of pending review applications which are -				(d) Total No. of review applications filed with D.G.R.R.	(e) Total No. of review applications so far :-			(f) Total number of review applications which are			
			Accepted.	Rejected.	Pending.	6 months old.	One year old.	Two years old.	More than two years old.		Accepted.	Rejected.	Pending.	6 months old.	One year old.	Two years old.	More than two years old.
1	Ferozepore ...	10958	3510	5448	19612	8303	6223	250	250	
2	Ludhiana ...	4039	1666	2953		4836 applications which were meant for the Deputy Commissioners were forwarded to them for disposal. These applications have been included by them in parts (a), (b) and (c).							
3	Jullundur ...	6565	3631	2934	...	...	...	...					
4	Gurdaspur ...	9740	3358	5882	...	...	...	...					
5	Ambala ...	6824	2691	4133	...	...	...	...					
6	Karnal ...	8903	4099	4804	...	...	...	...					
7	Rohtak ...	6663	1776	4887	...	...	...	...					
8	Hissar ...	6591	2384	4207	...	...	...	...					
9	Hoshiarpur ...	7977	2212	5165	...	...	...	...					
10	Gurgaon ...	4189	1964	2225	...	...	...	...					
11	Amritsar ...	9438	2420	7018	...	...	...	...					
12	Kangra ...	70	26	44	...	...	...	...					
13	Simla ...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...		
	Total...	81957	32257	49700	...	-	19612								19362

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

FILING OF REVIEW APPLICATIONS IN THE STATE.

***971. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether any of the persons referred to in Starred Assembly Question No. 605 (d) printed in the list of starred questions dated 8-6-1952, has upto now been restored in the village where he was the temporary allottee, if not, the reasons therefor ;
- (b) whether any letters from the Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar after the receipt of the complaint referred to in the Assembly question referred to in part (a) above were received by the Director, Rehabilitation Rural, Jullundur asking for copies of the orders approving the review applications of the allottees referred to above ; if so, their number and the date of despatch of each together with the dates when each was received ;
- (c) the action taken by the Director, Rehabilitation after the receipt of the letters from the Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar referred to in part (b) above ;
- (d) whether the copies of the orders of the D.R.R. were sent to the Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar ; if so, when, if not, the reasons therefor ;
- (e) the steps, if any, which the Government proposes to take in the matter to get the orders of the Director Rehabilitation (Rural) referred to in starred Assembly question No. 605 (d) above implemented ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh :

- (a) Yes, all excepting S. Lal Singh s/o Sher Singh for whose restoration in the village in question the orders could not be implemented for loss of the review file in transit.
- (b) Yes, with his memoranda No. RR/9/640, dated 4-4-1952 and RR/823, dated 1-5-52 received in the Rehabilitation Secretariat on the 9th April and 12th May, 1952 respectively.
- (c) The Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar was informed that since orders for restoration of Lal Singh were passed on his original review application already sent to him a copy of the order could not be supplied.
- (d) It does not arise in view of answer to part (c) above.
- (e) Lal Singh s/o Sher Singh, as already stated in part (a) above is being considered for allotment out of the available area in this village and the balance in a contiguous village area may be available.

INSPECTION OF REVENUE RECORDS RECEIVED FROM PAKISTAN.

***976. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether the Government proposes to allow the inspection of the revenue records received from Pakistan to the public ; if not, the reasons therefor ;
- (b) whether Government has invited the co-operation of the public in disclosing the quasi-permanent allotments of land in excess of the rights of the allottees ;
- (c) whether the Government has given any assurance that if any area is found to have been allotted in excess it will be allotted to the complainants if he happens to be a displaced person and if no land has already been allotted to him or in the case of non-allottee complainant, to a displaced person of his choice ;
- (d) whether the complainants referred to in part (c) above will be allowed to inspect the records referred to in part (a) above ; if not, what other procedure has been laid to enable them to verify their complaints themselves?

Sardar Ujjal Singh :

- (a) No ; because it is not in the public interest to allow inspection of revenue records by the people. These are very important records of permanent nature, which have been secured from Pakistan Government with great difficulty. By constant handling thereof by the Rehabilitation Department, most of the record has already been mutilated. The demand for inspection by the public is so heavy that it is feared that it may further be worn out by frequent handling. Besides this inspection would make it easier for interested parties to make interpolations, additions or alterations in the record for which it will be difficult to fix responsibility. However, copies thereof can be obtained, on payment by the public.
- (b) Yes.
- (c) If the complainant is entitled to an allotment of such area according to grade and allocation and if his claim is still unsatisfied, he will be allotted the land so disclosed in preference to the demand of the sitting allottees or persons seeking consolidation with blood relations. But in the case of non-allottee complainant, the area will be allotted to suitable displaced land-owners and to the nominees of the complainants.

[Minister for Finance]

(d) No. The departmental machinery, which is equipped with the technical staff only can scrutinize the complaints and examine the record, as in view of the answer to part (a) above, outsiders cannot be allowed to have access to such records.

Shri Sri Chand : Is the Government prepared to get a copy of this record prepared ?

Minister : I have already replied to this question. I have said that a copy of this record can be obtained by depositing the fixed fee.

Shri Sri Chand : The hon. Minister has not followed my question. I want to know whether the Government is prepared to get a copy of this whole record prepared, which is necessary to be maintained ?

Minister : For the time being we shall preserve the present record, and if need be we will get this record copied.

— — — — —

**LANDS LEFT BY MUSLIM OCCUPANCY TENANTS IN VILLAGE
HASSANPURA, DISTRICT AMBALA.**

*978. **Shri Wadhawa Ram :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

- (a) the area of land left in village Hassanpura, tehsil Jagadhri, district Ambala by Muslim occupancy tenants while migrating to Pakistan;
- (b) whether the area of the above mentioned land has been declared evacuee property ; if not, the name of the occupant of these lands at present along with the authority of such occupancy ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh :

- (a) 78 ordinary acres. Of this, an area of 42 acres has been restored to them.
- (b) Yes. The land in question is, however, at present occupied by Kanwar Lal Amol Singh, the landowner of the village, due to the fact that this could not be included in the evacuees pool erroneously in the first instance. It is, however, now being allotted to displaced persons. The following persons under Kanwar Lal Amol Singh are at present cultivating this area :—

- (1) Nasuru-ud-din s/o Abdul caste Gujjar.
 - (2)*Shabbud-din s/o Maju — do—
 - (3)*Shadi s/o Ala Din — do—
 - (4) Qamr Din s/o Ahmed — do—
 - (5)*Sharaf Ali s/o Maju — do—
 - (6) Mansab Ali s/o Rahima — do—
 - (7) Kartar Singh s/o Harnam Singh Jat Sikh.
- — — — —

ADMISSION OF WOMEN INTO THE PUNJAB WIDOWS' HOMES.

*1016. **Shrimati Sita Devi** : Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

- (a) the total number of women admitted into the Punjab Widows' Homes ever since they were opened ;
- (b) the number of such women who have been trained for useful and lucrative professions to be able to rehabilitate themselves ;
- (c) whether the Government intend to initiate any new scheme of work centres to rehabilitate them or the present arrangements will continue indefinitely ;
- (d) the amount of money sanctioned per head by the Central Government for the maintenance of the inmates of Widows' Homes ; and the amount actually given per head ;
- (e) the charges of establishment of the Widows' Homes and the proportion they bear to the grant ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh :

- (a) 17,910 women were admitted into the various Widows' Homes of the State since their establishment.
- (b) 12,384 women have been trained for useful and lucrative professions to be able to rehabilitate themselves.
- (c) A new scheme for re-organisation of the Work Centres is under the active consideration of Government.
- (d) A sum of Rs. 25/- per capita per month has been sanctioned by the Central Government and cash doles at the rate of Rs. 20/- per head per month are given in lieu of rations and clothing.
- (e) The charges of establishment incurred on the inmates of Homes are Rs. 8,800/- per mensem and are 6% of the grant.

Shrimati Sita Devi : The Minister has stated in his reply that in order to re-organise these centres, a scheme is under consideration. This is a usual reply and has been repeated several times during the last one year. I wish to know the actual time by which this scheme will be finally considered.

Minister : I cannot give the exact time at present, but I think that this decision will be made very soon just in a few months.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : The Minister has remarked that the widows have been admitted into the Widows Home, Hoshiarpur. May I know whether other Widows' Homes have been closed ?

Minister : In fact, the actual position is this that there was no room in other Ashrams. Had there been any room in other Widows' Homes they would have been admitted there.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : May I know, why the admissions are not made in Rohtak Widows Home in spite of there being enough room and the applications having been made to that effect ?

Minister : This fact has not yet come to my notice.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Have any instructions been issued by the Government that the admissions should be made in no other Widows Home except that at Hoshiarpur ?

Minister : There is no such instruction, but this is, of course, there that when there is no room in other Widow's Homes, they should be admitted in the Widows Home, Hoshiarpur.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Will the minister be pleased to state as to when the widows will be rehabilitated and enabled to take to their jobs ?

Minister : Pardon !

Shrimati Sita Devi : What I mean to say is when would the widows be enabled to stand on their legs ?

Minister : I have already replied that the Government is imparting them training in various works. They will automatically stand on their own legs as soon as they learn them.

Shrimati Sita Devi : The Minister has stated in his reply that the Government is imparting training to them. How and when will they be rehabilitated after they have learnt these things ?

Minister : This thing will be taken into account in the reorganisation scheme.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Is it in the knowledge of the Minister that there is a large number of women who are undeserving ?

Minister : Un-deserving !

Sardar Chanan Singh : The work of rehabilitating widows may be entrusted to the expert Member of the Council whose aim is to rehabilitate them. (*Interruptions*).

Mr. Deputy Speaker : I would request the Ministers not to reply collectively. The reply should be given only by the Minister concerned. Such interventions by others are not proper.

DECLARING BASTI NAU AREA, JULLUNDUR CITY AS A
NON-INDUSTRIAL AREA.

*1018. **Shrimati Sita Devi :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Basti Nau Area, Jullundur City, where sports goods are manufactured, has been declared a non Industrial Area by the Punjab Government ; if so, whether the industrial population of the Area has been shifted from there ; if not, the reasons therefor ;

- (b) whether it is a fact that electric current was not supplied to the sports goods manufacturers despite their repeated and insistent demands ;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to utilise the Basti Nau Area and the buildings therein, if, and when the present industrial population migrates to some other place ;
- (d) whether the Government has received any representation or deputation from the sports agencies asking the Government that these premises in the Basti Nau be utilised as residential houses for the displaced population ; if so, the action taken thereon ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh :

- (a) Yes. Efforts are being made by the Deputy Commissioner, Jullundur, to eject the sports manufacturers from Basti Nau and to make them shift to the Industrial Area, but it has not been possible so far to do so. It is understood that one of the main reasons for the reluctance of the industrialists concerned to shift to the Industrial Area is the non-availability of adequate electric power to run their factories during day time. Government have however, now decided to allow 10 K. Ws. of additional load to sports manufacturers at their request on an unrestricted basis, that is, day and night supply and it is hoped that they would now shift to the Industrial Area shortly.
- (b) Out of 75 factory buildings which have actually been constructed in the Industrial Area at Jullundur, the allottees of all factories have applied for power connections. Night connections have been sanctioned to almost all of them, but they are not willing to avail of these connections and want day connections. About 30 allottees have applied for light connections, and 14 have actually got them.
- (c) Yes.
- (d) Yes. The Deputy Commissioner, Jullundur, has been directed to take possession of the premises vacated by the present industrial population for further allotment to deserving displaced non-industrialists in accordance with rules on the subject.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Will the Minister be pleased to state whether he has received some representation from the sports-dealers in which they have made a demand for loans because in the absence of loans they have not been able to construct the buildings ?

Minister : A representation was received from them in which they had said that some people did not get loans. But the people whom we are compelling to shift are those who had got the loans.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Will those not be compelled to shift who have not received the loans and have not constructed the buildings ?

Minister : No.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Does it mean that they will be able to remain where they are so long as they do not get the loans ?

Minister : The case of loans is under consideration and those who have no buildings will not be compelled to shift.

Shri Ram Kishan : Will the Minister say if anybody has been served with a notice to shift ?

Minister : I cannot say off hand whether any body has been served with such a notice or not.

REVIEW AND REVISION OF ALLOTMENT OF LANDS TO
DISPLACED PERSONS IN THE STATE.

***1027. Shri Ram Kishan :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

- (a) the procedure, if any, laid down for the review and revision of applications of those displaced persons who were allotted lands between 1-10-1950 and 31-8-1952 in the State; if none, the reasons therefor and what other remedies there are to meet the grievances of such persons ;
- (b) the provision of law under which the persons referred to in part (a) above have been deprived of their right of review and revision ;
- (c) whether the District Authorities and the Rehabilitation Authorities at Jullundur Civil Secretariat have been instructed by the State Government to entertain no review or revision petition of the persons, referred to in part (a) ; if so, the copy of such instructions be laid on the table ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh :

- (a) A copy of the instructions, governing the filing and disposal of applications for review and revision of quasi-permanent allotment of land and houses is placed below.
- (b) In view of the answer to part (a) above, it does not arise.
- (c) Yes ; but under the proviso contained therein review and revision applications are still being entertained under certain categories. A copy of the instructions is also given below.

DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION, PUNJAB.

Revised instructions governing the filing and disposal of applications for review and revision of the quasi-permanent allotment of land and houses in supersession of the instructions issued in August 1950, and published in Punjab Government Gazette notification No. 10349/S, dated the 25th August 1950, appearing in the Punjab Government Gazette of September 1, 1950.

1. These instructions prescribe the procedure and machinery for dealing with applications for review and revision in relation to orders of allotment and leases of evacuee land and to displaced persons in East Punjab under Statement of Conditions issued with the East Punjab Government notification Nos. 4891/S and 4892/S, dated the 8th July 1949, or in Pepsu under notification Nos. 8-R and 9-R, dated the 23rd July 1949, and allotment of houses. In other words, these refer to steps necessary if individual claimants or allottees apply for change after orders have issued. The cardinal principle in dealing with these applications is that they are to be entertained only from allottees and lessees who have taken possession, except in the case of persons to whom no allotment has at all been made or in cases in which a correction of a clerical error is involved, in which no adjustment of the allotted area is required.
2. The Custodian, Evacuee Property, Punjab, has by virtue of powers conferred on him under section 10 (2) (q) of the Administration of Evacuee Property Ordinance, 1949, delegated his functions in respect of allotment and lease of immovable evacuee property to the following officers :—
 - (1) Financial Commissioner, Relief and Rehabilitation.
 - (2) Commissioners of Divisions.
 - (3) Director-General, Rehabilitation and Additional Director-General, Rehabilitation.
 - (4) Director, Urban Rehabilitation.
 - (5) Deputy Commissioners.
 - (6) Additional Deputy Commissioners.
 - (7) Registrar, Land Claims.
 - (8) Assistant Collectors, (1st grade.)
3. *Machinery.* In the districts, work relating to allotments is in the charge of Deputy Commissioners or Additional Deputy Commissioners who are assisted by one or more Revenue Assistants. Deputy Commissioners or the Additional Deputy Commissioners who are ex-officio Authorised Deputy Custodians have full and complete responsibility for the disposal of all work relating to the review and revision of orders of allotment and lease of evacuee land under Statements of Conditions issued with the East Punjab Government notifications Nos. 4891/S and 4892/S, dated the 18th July 1949, and applications concerning claims to land from displaced persons in whose favour allotments have been sanctioned in their districts.

[Minister for Finance]

For Punjab and Pepsu a Land Claims Office has been established under a Registrar, Land Claims, who is subordinate to the Rehabilitation Department. He maintains the record regarding displaced persons who have submitted claims to the Punjab Government, the jamabandis received from the West Punjab Government and other records relating to resettlement. The Financial Commissioner, Rehabilitation who is head of the Rehabilitation Department, Punjab, is assisted on the rural side by a Director, Rehabilitation (Rural).

Applications from persons to whom orders of allotment or lease have issued lie to the Deputy Commissioner or Additional Deputy Commissioner as authorised Deputy Custodian of the district in which the allotment or lease has been sanctioned. All such applications addressed to the Financial Commissioner or the Director Rehabilitation (Rural) are to be referred to the Deputy Commissioner or Additional Deputy Commissioner as authorised Deputy Custodian of the district concerned for report or disposal as may be deemed appropriate. When an application relates to the record, assessment or valuation of a claim, the Deputy Commissioner or Additional Deputy Commissioner as Authorised Deputy Custodian should ascertain from the Registrar, Land Claims, such facts as may be relevant and then proceed to take the necessary action.

Applications for revision or review (a) from displaced sitting allottees will be made to the Deputy Commissioner or Additional Deputy Commissioner as Authorised Deputy Custodian of the district in which the applicant was a temporary allottee and (b) for consolidation of blood relations to the Deputy Commissioner or Additional Deputy Commissioner as authorised Deputy Custodian of the district in which consolidation of blood relations was originally requested.

Applications from persons to whom no allotment has been made or application for correction of clerical errors with regard to the names of the allottees, their fathers, names or castes, in which no adjustment of the allotted area is involved, should be made to the Registrar, Land Claims.

Applications from displaced persons to whom orders have issued but who may not be aware of them, if received by the Registrar, Land Claims, be referred to the Deputy Commissioner or Additional Deputy Commissioner as Authorised Deputy Custodian concerned.

In Pepsu, Assistant Commissioners, Rehabilitation, are incharge of Rural Rehabilitation work in the districts, while a Director, Rural Rehabilitation is responsible for the work of the Union as a whole.

4. *Possession as a prior condition.* As has been indicated already, the Deputy Commissioner or Additional Deputy Commissioner as Authorised Deputy Custodian of a district will entertain an application for revision and review from a displaced person in whose favour an allotment or lease has been sanctioned in his district only after the latter has taken possession of the land allotted to him. Where, however, the application of this rule is likely to cause great hardship, the Deputy Commissioner or Additional Deputy Commissioner as Authorised Deputy Custodian may in his discretion entertain an application without insisting on prior

possession of land. All applications for revision or review should be accompanied by affidavit of the applicant to the effect that possession of the allotted land has been taken by him or, if possession has not been taken, giving reasons for not taking possession, and that the facts given in the application are correct to the best knowledge of the applicant.

4-A. *Presentation of applications and exemption from personal attendance in the case of serving faujis.* An application for revision or review should be presented in person by the applicant or through an authorised agent. Servicemen may be allowed to send their applications through their Commanding Officers.

5. *Period of limitation.* As provided in Rule 31 of the Rules framed by the Central Government under section 56 of the Administration of Evacuee Property Act, 1950.

6. *Power of General Superintendence and Control.* The Financial Commissioner, Relief and Rehabilitation as Custodian may, at any time, either on his own motion or on an application made to him in this behalf call for the record of any proceeding which is pending before, or has been disposed of, by an officer subordinate to him for the purpose of satisfying himself as to the legality or propriety of any orders passed in the said proceeding and may pass such order in relation thereto as he thinks fit.

7. *Court-fee stamp.* As provided in Rule 32 of Rules framed under section 56 of the Administration of Evacuee Property Act, 1950.

8. *Categories of applications.* Applications relating to allotment and lease of evacuee land fall broadly into the following six categories :--

(a) those pertaining to allocation, assessment, valuation of land and rights held in Pakistan by parties, including cases of dispute between parties ;

(b) those which relate to allocation of area for the purpose of resettlement and to allotment of villages ;

(c) those which relate to allotment of fields within an allocated village ;

(d) applications for exchange ;

(e) applications from persons to whom no allotment has been made or in whose case correction of a clerical error is involved, in which no adjustment of allotted area is required ; and

(f) applications for consolidation of allotment made in different places for want of consolidation of parcha claims of different villages.

9. *Applications relating to claims. Category (A)* The following procedure shall be followed in respect of applications relating to the record, assessment and valuation of land and rights held in Pakistan by parties including cases of dispute between parties :—

(1) the Deputy Commissioner or Additional Deputy Commissioner as Authorised Deputy Custodian will pass orders after ascertaining the relevant facts, if necessary, from the Registrar, Land Claims.

[Minister for Finance]

- (2) To the extent that an amendment in a claim has an effect on allotment, the necessary adjustment will be made by the Deputy Commissioner or Additional Deputy Commissioner as Authorised Deputy Custodian according to the instructions on the subject. But if there is no available evacuee area in the district from within which he can provide additional land according to the amended claims, the Deputy Commissioner or Additional Deputy Commissioner as authorised Deputy Custodian shall refer for orders to the Director, Rehabilitation (Rural) (Ex-Officio Additional Custodian).
 - (3) Applications for amendment of claims which have been correctly assessed and valued according to jamabandis received from West Punjab, shall not be entertained unless they are supported by authentic documents, such as registered deeds.
 - (4) Cases of disputes between parties regarding claims to land abandoned in Pakistan shall be heard by the Deputy Commissioners or Additional Deputy Commissioners as authorised Deputy Custodians who may pass orders after obtaining such information or data as is available from the Registrar, Land Claims.
10. *Applications relating to allocation of area and allotment of villages. Category (B).* In dealing with applications relating to allocation of area and allotment of villages, the Deputy Commissioner or Additional Deputy Commissioner as Authorised Deputy Custodian while examining the facts in the light of the instructions governing allotments, should consider whether in the allotment made, any substantial injustice has occurred. They may reject applications in which they find that substantial injustice has not occurred. Cases in which they consider that substantial injustice has occurred, may be reported by them to the Director, Rehabilitation (Rural) (Ex-Officio Additional Custodian), who will pass orders.
11. *Applications for the revision of fields. Category (C).* Applications for revision of fields which may have been allotted in a village shall lie to the Revenue Assistant of the district as Assistant Custodian or part of the district in which the village is situated. The following rules dealing with such applications have been laid down :—
- (1) An application for a complete re-allotment of fields in any village shall lie, if supported by not less than one-half of the allottees of a village holding not less than two-thirds of the evacuee area of the village. Such an application should carry the signature or thumb impression of each applicant and should be accompanied by an affidavit by each of the applicants;
 - (2) an application for revision against the orders of a Revenue Assistant (Ex-officio Assistant Custodian) shall lie to the Deputy Commissioner or Additional Deputy Commissioner as authorised Deputy Custodian whose order will be final;
 - (3) in other cases, where the Deputy Commissioner or Additional Deputy Commissioner as Authorised Deputy Custodian considers that substantial injustice has occurred in the allotment of field numbers in any village, he may, with the permission of the Financial Commissioner, Relief and Rehabilitation, as Custodian, order re-allotment of fields amongst the allottees and lessees. This permission should generally

be obtained through the Director, Rehabilitation (Rural), (Ex-Officio Additional Custodian); and

- (4) if for any village a re-allotment of fields has been ordered by the competent authority, the Revenue Assistant (Ex-Officio Assistant Custodian) may pass orders proposing a new scheme of allotment of fields either in accordance with the wishes of the allottees or in accordance with the principles and procedure of partition cases, whichever may be more feasible. Such re-allotment shall be based on the shares of individual allottees and lessees as stated in standard acres.

12. *Applications for exchange. Category (D).* Displaced persons to whom allotments are made in Punjab can apply for exchange of land allotted to them against other evacuee land in Punjab or PEPSU. The Statements of Conditions issued by East Punjab Government with notifications Nos. 4891/S and 4892/S, dated the 8th July 1949, provide :—

“Subject to such conditions as may be specified by him, the Custodian, or as the case may be, the Rehabilitation Authority, may allow the allottee to exchange the whole or any part of the land for other evacuee land in Punjab or with the concurrence of Patiala and East Punjab States Union, in the territories comprised in the Union.”

The condition stated above covers (1) cases of exchange between allottees by mutual agreement, and (2) cases of exchange between land allotted to an individual and un-allotted land lying at the disposal of the Custodian. Applications falling in the second category will be dealt with on merits. As regards applications in the first category, the following instructions have been laid down :—

- (1) Applications for the mutual exchange within a village shall be addressed to Tehsildar (Ex-Officio Assistant Custodian) of the tehsil in which the village is situated, and he will pass the necessary orders;
- (2) applications for mutual exchange within a district shall be addressed to the Revenue Assistant (Ex-Officio Assistant Custodian) of the district in which the village is situated and he will pass the orders;
- (3) applications for mutual exchange between two districts of Punjab shall be addressed to the Director, Rehabilitation (Rural) (Ex-Officio Additional Custodian) who will pass the necessary orders;
- (4) in cases of applications for mutual exchange between a district of Punjab (1) and a district of PEPSU, the Director, Rehabilitation (Rural) Punjab (Ex-Officio Additional Custodian) and the Director, Rural Rehabilitation Pepsu, will pass orders after consultation with each other; are
- (5) applications for exchange between land allotted to an individual and unallotted land lying at the disposal of the Custodian will be addressed to the Deputy Commissioner or Additional Deputy Commissioner as Authorised Deputy Custodian of the district if the villages in which the land is situated lie within the same district and to the Director, Rehabilitation (Rural) (Ex-Officio Additional Custodian) if the villages are situated in different districts of Punjab. In case the land wanted in exchange lies in a district of Pepsu, the applications for exchange

[Minister for Finance]

should, in the first instance, be made to the Director, Rehabilitation (Rural), Punjab (Ex-Officio Additional Custodian). The Director, Rehabilitation (Rural), Punjab (Ex-Officio Additional Custodian) and the Director, Rural Rehabilitation, PEPSU, will pass orders on such cases after consultation with each other.

12-A *Applications from persons to whom no allotment has been made or applications for correction of errors. Category (E).* The Registrar, Land Claims will pass orders after ascertaining the relevant facts from the record. Orders regarding allotment of land to persons, in whose favour no allotments have at all been previously made, will be communicated to the Deputy Commissioner or Additional Deputy Commissioner as Authorised Deputy Custodian of the area of allocation and the orders regarding clerical error will also be communicated to them for correction of relevant resettlement record. But if there is no available evacuee area in the allocation and sub-allocation areas concerned for adjustment of any unsatisfied claims, the Registrar, Land Claims, shall refer for orders to the Director, Rehabilitation (Rural) (Ex-Officio Additional Custodian).

12-B. *Applications for consolidation of allotments. Category (F).* Applications for consolidation of allotments made to an allottee in different districts of Punjab or in Punjab and Pepsu without consolidation of parcha claims for different villages may be made to the Director, Rehabilitation (Rural), Punjab, Jullundur (Ex-Officio Additional Custodian).

Applications for consolidation of allotments made to an allottee in different villages in the same district without the consolidation of parcha claims for different villages will be made to the Deputy Commissioner or Additional Deputy Commissioner as Authorised Deputy Custodian of the district.

13. *Resumption of Land.* Circumstances in which the leases and allotments may be cancelled or terminated or the terms of any lease or agreement varied are given as follows :—

The Custodian shall be competent to cancel or terminate any lease or allotment or vary the terms of any lease, allotment or agreement and evict the lessee/allottee in any one of the following circumstances :—

- (a) that the lease/allotment is contrary to the orders of the Punjab Government or the instructions of the Financial Commissioner, Relief and Rehabilitation or of the Custodian Evacuee Property, Punjab ;
- (b) that the lessee/allottee has infringed or intends infringing any of the terms of the lease/allotment ;
- (c) that the lease/allotment was obtained by false declaration or insufficient information ;
- (d) that the area leased/allotted to or occupied by the lessee/allottee is more or less than he was authorised to take on lease/allotment or occupy under the instructions issued by the Punjab Government or the Financial Commissioner Relief and Rehabilitation, or the Custodian, Evacuee Property, Punjab ;
- (e) that the claims of other parties with respect to the land have been established or accepted by the Custodian or the Rehabilitation Authority ;

- (f) that the lessee/allottee has been convicted of an offence under the Act ;
- (g) that the lessee/allottee has failed to take possession of the land within the time allowed by the Custodian or the Rehabilitation Authority or after having taken possession, has failed to cultivate the land or any part thereof ;
- (h) that it is necessary or expedient to cancel or vary the terms of a lease/allotment for the implementation of resettlement schemes and/or rules framed by the State Government ; or for such distribution amongst displaced persons as appears to the Custodian to be equitable and proper ; or
- (i) that it is necessary or expedient to cancel or vary the terms of a lease/allotment for the preservation, or the proper administration, or the management of such property or in the interests of proper rehabilitation of displaced persons.

So far as conditions (a) to (h) are concerned, the Deputy Commissioner or the Additional Deputy Commissioner as Authorised Deputy Custodian of a district, should take such action to remove the abuse as may be called for at any time. But in regard to cases falling only under clause (i), he should, before taking action, obtain the previous approval of the Custodian.

14. *Allotment of houses in rural area*, Revision from the orders of Revenue Officers (Ex-Officio Assistant Custodians) in respect of allotment of evacuee houses in rural area will lie to the Authorised Deputy Custodian of the district.

P. N. THAPAR,

Custodian and Secretary to Government, Punjab,
Relief and Rehabilitation Department.

DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION, PUNJAB

Dated 24th July, 1952.

It has been decided by the State Government that the work relating to review and revision petitions against the quasi-permanent allotment of land should be wound up as early as possible. In pursuance of this the following instructions are issued for immediate compliance :—

- I. Review petitions relating to the following matters should be filed :
 - (i) increase or decrease in the valuation of various kinds of land as given in the valuation statements.
 - (ii) the upgrading or downgrading of a village;
 - (iii) disputes between parties regarding claims to land in Pakistan, which are not supported by registered documents;
 - (iv) kind of soil being different from that given in the jamabandi and in which no documentary evidence is forthcoming;

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(v) transfer of allotment to a village in which no unallotted area is available. This does not apply to review applications for suburban areas of a dozen urban towns in which enquiries are being completed, and on which orders have to be passed by the Financial Commissioner. These cases are likely to be disposed of in the next ten days.

(vi) reallocation of fields in a village; and

(vii) allotment of mortgaged lands.

II. Revision petitions :

All revision petitions with DRR arising out of orders rejection passed on review petitions by Deputy Commissioners should be filed.

2. No fresh review application or miscellaneous petition relating to a change in an allotment already made should be entertained except in cases of :

(i) voluntary mutual exchange;

(ii) exchange with unallotted available area;

(iii) allotments in excess of what was due;

(iv) consolidation of areas provided this can be done without cancelling other persons' allotment.

[Cases under (iii) can be taken up *suo moto* also]

3. A revision petition should, in future, be entertained only in cases in which the order sought to be revised was passed by the lower authority on a review and revision application, and provided that it was either an order cancelling an allotment, or an order accepting a review and revision petition which acceptance is to result in the cancellation of somebody's allotment. The revision petition before it is entertained should be complete in all respects, *i.e.* (a) accompanied by a spare copy of the petition; (b) an affidavit, and (c) an authentic copy of the order sought to be revised, and should be fully stamped and filed within the period of limitation.

4. Except as permitted in paragraphs I (v), 2 & 3 and in the writ cases before the High Court, no new orders shall be passed either on new or pending applications which shall have the effect of cancelling any one's allotment.

5. Implementation of orders already passed except in cases in which stay orders have been issued by the High Court, the Custodian General the Custodian or the Additional Custodian should, as far as possible, be completed by the end of this month.

6. In order to avoid injustice in the allotment of available areas, a regular procedure should be laid down. D. R. R. may please draw up instructions for the guidance of the Deputy Commissioners on the following lines—

- (i) Any area becoming available in a village should be notified by the Tehsildar through a notice displayed on the Notice Board of the Tehsil Office. A copy of this notice should be pasted on the door of the Patwari's office also;
- (ii) the notice issued should contain the name of the village and the khasra numbers of the land becoming available and invite applications for its allotment to be received within a period of two months from the date of the notice;
- (iii) applications received by the Tehsildar and the parcha claims of the eligible unsatisfied claimants already allocated to the Tehsil should be submitted for orders to the Deputy Commssioner, as far as possible, within a fortnight after the last date for their receipt, with complete reports on facts relating to temporary allotment, on the grade of the Pakistan village and the grade of the village of allotment of the applicant and whether the land already allotted to the applicant is culturable or unculturable, etc. etc.
- (iv) applications for exchange with or allotment of available area should be treated broadly in the following order of precedence :—
 - (1) additional area due to an existing allottee on rectification of a clerical error;
 - (2) temporary allottee of the village whose claim is lying unsatisfied and who is otherwise eligible for settlement in the village;
 - (3) temporary allottee whose claim was wholly or partially overflowed to another village or to whom additional area becomes due on a land right case;
 - (4) colonist of the village settled in some other village or whose claim is lying unsatisfied, and who according to the grade of his holding in Pakistan is eligible for settlement in the village;
 - (5) unsatisfied claimants otherwise eligible for settlement in the village;
 - (6) claimants who have received allotments in villages of markedly inferior grade.

Notes:— 1. In each category selection will be made in the following order :—

- (a) close relations as defined in paragraph 2 of R-101 of the existing allottees;
 - (b) relations and joint *khewatdars* as defined in paragraph 6 of R-101 of the existing allottees;
 - (c) others;
2. In each sub-category widows, minors and military and ex-military personnel will receive precedence;
 3. Among claimants of equal rights in each category or sub-category preference should be determined by the proportion of unculturable area allotted.
 4. In exceptionally hard cases widows and minors can be given precedence notwithstanding the order of preference laid down above.

[Minister for Finance]

7. No clear instructions exist in regard to the disposal of applications for mutual exchange. A draft of instructions should be put up.

These applications should be accompanied by affidavits to the effect that the parties agree to the mutual exchange after having seen the land sought in exchange personally on the spot and should mention the *khasra* numbers of the land to be surrendered and sought in exchange, and should be received in accordance with the procedure laid down in 12 (1), (2) and (3) of the revised instructions governing the filing and disposal of applications for review and revision.

The officer to whom an application for mutual exchange has been submitted should pass orders thereon only after hearing both the parties in person, after recording their statements, and after satisfying himself that each party has full knowledge of the land sought in exchange. Where a party or parties to a mutual exchange withdraw the application, before the order of sanction has been passed, either through a written petition or on a statement made to the officer before whom the case is pending, the application for mutual exchange should be filed. In all other cases the sanction to exchange should stand.

No revision of the orders passed in such cases shall lie except where the prescribed procedure for the disposal of these applications has not been followed.

In cases of mutual exchange which fall under category 12 (3) orders will be announced by DRR only after obtaining the concurrence of the PEPSU, as provided in the revised instructions.

8. DRR will please take action immediately in accordance with these instructions in regard to review and revision cases pending in his office or in the Land Claims Organisation, and also issue detailed instructions to the Deputy Commissioners on the points dealt with in this note.

Sd/- P. N. Thapar
Secretary to Government, Punjab,
Department of Rehabilitation, Simla.

Director, Rehabilitation (Rural) (Ten spare copies)

U. O. No. 10508/S (Reh) dated 24-7-52

No. 10509—76/S (Reh)

Copy for advance information and compliance to :—

1. all Deputy Commissioners (five spare copies each)
2. all Tehsildars in the State

Sd/- Dwarka Dass
for Secretary to Government Punjab,
Department of Rehabilitation, Simla.

No. 10577—10629/S (Reh)

Copy for information to :—

1. all Secretaries of Bar Associations at District and Tehsil Headquarters.

Sd/- Dwarka Dass
for Secretary to Government Punjab,
Department of Rehabilitation, Simla,

STATEMENT

DISTRICT.	Implementation of orders passed on review applications.						Progress up to the fortnight ending 31. 5. 52		
	Number of villages in which :—						Total number of accepted applica- tions in respect of which :—		
	changes are required.	Plus minus statements have been prepared.	Allottees lists have been prepared	Khasra marking has been done and allotment orders issued.			Orders have to be imple- mented.	Orders have been implemented	
				During the fortnight	To-date	Percentage		During the fortnight	To-date
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1. Amritsar ...	384	384	384	...	384	100.0	2219	...	2219
2. Rohtak ...	220	220	220	...	220	100.0	1876	...	1876
3. Gurgaon ...	696	696	682	...	677	97.3	2579	116	2558
4. Hissar ...	560	543	540	...	539	95.2	3523	...	3146
5. Ludhiana ...	387	377	372	...	372	96.1	1086	...	1018
6. Hoshiarpur ...	831	815	803	...	803	96.2	1858	256	2763
7. Ambala ...	641	641	613	...	606	91.0	2705	...	2405
8. Ferozepur ...	892	892	850	57	850	95.3	9124	848	8500
9. Jullundur ...	740	734	692	55	657	88.8	4024	841	3215
10. Karnal ...	845	841	823	94	763	90.0	4099	51	4092
11. Gurdaspur ...	1094	1094	493	97	590	53.7	4619	1324	3279
Total ...	7238	7237	6462	303	6461	88.5	38712	3320	35071

NOTE :—(1) This shows that orders on review and revision applications for 7237 out of 7288 villages affected had been passed by 31-5-52.

(2) On the implementation side fresh allotment of 6462 villages had been issued.

Shri Ram Kishan : The Minister has stated that a copy has been given to me. I wish to submit that no copy has been supplied to me.

Minister : I am sorry. I shall supply the same to the hon. Member.

ALLOTMENT OF LANDS TO BLOOD RELATIONS AT PATTI TOWN.

*1030. **Shri Ram Kishan :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

- (a) (i) whether any group or groups of blood relations were settled at Patti town of Amritsar district during the quasi-permanent allotment; if so, their list and the area allotted to each member of such groups;
- (ii) the total area allotted to each group;
- (b) whether any of the persons mentioned in part (a) above was ousted as a result of review applications; if so, their list;
- (c) (i) whether any temporary allottees of Patti who were also blood relations were ousted during the quasi-permanent allotment and settled in certain villages of Patti Tehsil villages, if so, their group-wise list.
- (ii) the area to which each of them was entitled;
- (iii) the total area to which each of the group is entitled;
- (d) (i) whether the review applications of any of the persons referred to in part (c) above were accepted by the Rehabilitation Authorities; if so, their list;
- (ii) the list of the persons referred to in part (c) above whose applications were rejected by the Rehabilitation Authorities and the reasons therefor in each case;
- (e) whether at the time of reallocation of lands at Patti as a result of revised additional values the group of blood relations referred to in part (c) above with smaller areas were given preference over the group or groups referred to in part (a) above with large areas; if not, reasons therefor ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh :

(a) (i) Yes. A list is given below.

	SA. Unists
(ii) Group No. 1 Bhagat Singh s/o Sher Singh	13—15½
Group No. 2 Inder Singh s/o Ganda Singh	31—1¼
Group No. 3 Dula Singh Kundan Singh & Co.	31—4½
Group No. 4 Teja Singh Megh Singh & Co.	5—14½

(b) No.

(c) (i) Yes. Their names are given hereunder: -

Kishen Singh s/o Chet Singh }
 Bishan Singh s/o Chet Singh } one group only

(ii) Kishan Singh s/o Chet Singh 3--3 SA.

Bishan Singh s/o Chet Singh 3-10½ SA.

(iii) 6 Standard Acres and 13½ Units.

(d) (i) Yes. Review applications of both Kishan Singh and Bishan Singh were accepted; and they have actually been restored;

(ii) In view of the answer to part (d) (i), it does not arise;

(e) In view of the fact that the persons referred to in part (a) above were not disturbed, the question of giving preference to the persons referred to in part (c) did not arise.

LIST OF GROUPS OF BLOOD RELATIONS WHO WERE SETTLED IN PATTI.

S. No.	No. of Group.	Name of allottee	Area.
1	Group No. I	Bhagat Singh s/o Sher Singh	6-15½
2	--do--	Hira Singh s/o Sher Singh	6-15½
			} 13-15½
3	Group No. II	Inder Singh s/o Jhanda Singh	0-15
4	--do--	Ganga Singh s/o Jhanda Singh	0-14½
			} 31-1½
5	--do--	Jhanda Singh s/o Chattar Singh	29-4
6	Group No. III	Dula Singh s/o Kapur Singh	29-8
7	--do--	Kundan Singh s/o Dula Singh	1-12½
			} 31-4½
8	Group No. IV	Teja Singh s/o Nihal Singh	2-15½
9	--do--	Megh Singh s/o Nihal Singh	2-15½
			} 5-14½

APPLICATION OF RULE 37.

✓ **Mr. Deputy Speaker :** Since all the questions entered in to-day's list have not been covered during the Question Hour, the remaining questions will be deemed to have been answered under Rule 37 of the Rules of Procedure and contract of Business in the Punjab Legislative Assembly.

OUSTING OF TEMPORARY ALLOTTEES OF PATTI TOWN

*1032. **Shri Ram Kishan :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state:—

- (a) whether any temporary allottees of Patti town, district Amritsar, were ousted from there and allotted lands at village Mastgarh, tehsil Patti, during the quasi-permanent allotment; if so, their list and the area each of them was entitled to;
- (b) (i) whether any of them had filed review applications for being restored to Patti town; if so, their list;
(ii) whether the review applications of any of the persons, referred to in part (b) (i) above were accepted; if so, their list;
(iii) whether any of them was restored and put into possession of the land at Patti town upto 31-8-52; if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any of the persons referred to in part (a) above were allotted evacuee mortgaged lands of Patti which were yet to be redeemed from Non-Muslims; if so, their list and the area allotted to them;
- (d) (i) whether the allotment referred to in part (c) above was cancelled under the orders of the Government; if so, when;
(ii) the reasons for this cancellation;
- (e) (i) the steps so far taken by the Government to allot land to the persons referred to in part (c) above;
(ii) whether the persons referred to in part (c) above are entitled to be restored to the village from which they were disturbed before the allotment referred to in part (e) above, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (f) whether any of them or their descendants had applied to the Amritsar District Authorities or the rehabilitation Authorities at Jullundur Secretariat during 1951 or 1952 for their being restored to the villages from which they had been disturbed; if so, their list and the action taken in each case by the authorities concerned?

Sardar Ujjal Singh :

- (a) Yes. A statement is given below.
- (b) (i) Yes. All the allottees mentioned in the statement filed review applications for restoration to Patti town.
 - (ii) The review applications of the allottees mentioned at Serial Nos. 1 to 13 of the statement were accepted.
 - (iii) No. Consequent upon the issue of an ad interim stay order by the High Court none of them could be put into possession. The stay order has not so far been vacated.
- (c) No.
- (d) (i) Does not arise.
 - (ii) Does not arise.
- (e) (i) Steps are being taken to fit them in suitable villages where area may still be available for allotment.
 - (ii) Yes.
- (f) Yes; from Gurdit Singh and Atto. As area is not available in village Mastgarh, they are being allotted land in other villages where area may still be available for allotment.

11/11/58

[Minister for Finance]

STATEMENT

Serial No.	Name of allottee.	Area.
1	Hazara Singh s/o Lehna Singh	SA—units 3—12½
2	Khushal Singh s/o Sunder Singh	6—15¾
3	Balwant Singh s/o Sunder Singh	0—13½
4	Munshi Ram s/o Devi Datta	8—4½
5	Sohan Singh s/o Narain Singh	2—10¾
6	Bela Singh s/o Ladha Singh	1—4¼
7	Chanan Singh s/o Gurmukh Singh	9—11½
8	Teja Singh s/o Ghasita Singh	0—12
9	Partap Singh s/o Kirpa Singh	1—4¼
10	Inder Singh s/o Hira Singh	3—8¼
11	Naranjan Singh s/o Sadha Singh	5—3¼
12	Sohan Singh s/o Sardul Singh	10—10½
13	Wasan Singh s/o Bishen Singh	5—10
14	Gurdit Singh s/o Ghanda Singh	25—6¾
15	Mst. Atto wd/o Chanda Singh	17—4½
16	Ganga Singh s/o Saudagar Singh	10—2½
17	Amar Singh s/o Didar Singh	12—14½
18	Gurbachan Singh s/o Didar Singh	12—14½
19	Bur Singh s/o Gurdit Singh	26—8¼
20	Bhag Singh s/o Chand Singh	33—7
21	Asa Singh s/o Meja Singh	39—8

**ALLOTMENT OF LANDS TO DISPLACED PERSONS IN GARDEN
COLONY AT PATTI.**

***1049. Shri Amir Chand Gupta :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether any displaced persons have been allotted any area in the garden colony of Patti town in Amritsar district in lieu of the area to which they were entitled ; if so, the list of such persons together with the full addresses of their villages in Pakistan ;
- (b) whether any of them have been allotted any houses in Patti town ; if so, their list ; if not, the reasons therefor ;
- (c) whether any of the persons referred to in part (a) above has been allotted any house in any villages of Patti tehsil ; if so, their list and the distance of such villages from the Garden Colony area allotted to them ;
- (d) whether the persons referred to above are entitled to the allotment of houses at Patti in lieu of those which they left in Pakistan ; if so, the steps Government proposes to take to allot them houses at Patti, if not, the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh :

- (a) Yes. A statement showing the names and particulars of the allottees is given below.
- (b) Yes. Allottees referred to at Serial Nos. 3, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 25, 29, 34, and 51 of the statement have been allotted evacuee houses on a rental basis. The applications of allottees mentioned at Serial Nos. 30, 37, 39, 40 and 47 are under consideration. The other allottees have not so far applied for the allotment of houses.
- (c) No.
- (d) No. Patti is a Municipal Committee and as such houses situated therein constitute urban property, which under the Inter-Dominion Agreement has been excluded from quasi-permanent allotment. Such houses can only be allotted on a rental basis.

[Minister for Finance]

STATEMENT

Serial No.	Name of allottee with parentage.	Address of Pakistan.	Remarks.
1	Surat Singh s/o Sham Singh.	Chak No. 206, Lyallpur.	
2	Balwant Singh s/o Labh Singh	Chak No. 27, R B., Chak No. 78 G B. Tehsil Jaranwala, Distt Lyallpur.	
3	Sant Singh s/o Rattan Singh	Chak No. 34 S B., Teh: Sargodha	
4	Gurbux Singh s/o Kishan Singh	Chak 7/I A.L., Okara, District Montgomery.	
5	Major Janmeja Singh s/o Chanan Singh,	Village Daffuh, Tehsil Kasur (Lahore)	
6	Jarnail Singh s/o Gian Singh	Chak No. 672/13-4B., Teh. Toba Tek Singh (Lyallpur).	
6	Kartar Singh s/o Mehtab Singh	Village Ghoond, Teh, & District Lahore.	
7	Isher Singh s/o Hav: Lal Singh	Chak No. 60/12. Montgomery.	
8	Dial Singh s/o Hukam Singh	Chak 24-18-17-7/H. B. District Sheikhupura.	
9	Jaimal Singh, Bachan Singh, Gajjan Singh s/o Budh Singh	Village Orara Tehsil Kasur District Lahore.	
10	Balwant Singh s/o Narain Singh	Budhana, Teh: & distt: Lahore.	
11	Beant Singh, Naranjan Singh, Tirlokh Singh ss/o Mula Singh	Chak No. 228-141 Teh: Samundri, G. B. Dist. Lyallpur.	
12	Hardip Singh s/o Jowala Singh	Green Kot, Tehsil Kasur, Distt. Lahore.	
13	Bishen Singh s/o Jowala Singh	—do—	
14	Karam Singh s/o Vir Singh	—do—	
15	Gurnam Singh s/o Kartar Singh	—do—	
16	Lehna Singh s/o Inder Singh	—do—	
17	Kundan Singh s/o Teja Singh	Green Kot, Tehsil Kasur, Distt. Lahore.	

Serial No.	Name of allottee with parentage.	Address of Pakistan	Remarks.
18	Budha Singh s/o Sohan Singh	1. Chak No. 52 & 58/SP, Tehsil Pakpattan Dist. Montgomery.	
19	Shiv Dev Singh s/o Kishan Singh	Chak No. 88/12-L. Tehsil & District Montgomery.	
20	Bur Singh s/o Narain Singh	Kumian, Teh. Distt. Lahore.	
21	Hazara Singh s/o Jagat Singh	Chak No. 29/J. B., Tehsil & District Lyallpur.	
22	Captain Mehtab Singh s/o Sant Singh.	Cah. 23/207 Chak No. 289/E.B. Tehsil Pakpattan District Montgomery.	
23	Hira Singh s/o Jagat Singh	Chak No. 92, Fort Abbas, Bhawalpur.	
24	Kapur Singh s/o Sunder Singh	Oulakh Sindhu, Teh. Kabirwala Arjan Wala Multan	
25	Maclagan Singh s/o Sunder Singh	Oulakh Sindhu, Tehsil Kabirwala, Multan.	
26	Chhatarpal Singh s/o Thakar Singh	Chak No. 171/9-L, Teh. & Distt. Montgomery.	
27	Mehtar Singh s/o Rawel Singh	Chak No. 338/J. B. Tehsil Toba Tek Singh, Distt. Lyallpur.	
28	Gurbachan Singh s/o Rawel Singh	— do —	
29	Harinder Singh, Jatinder Singh ss/o Hukam Singh	Qilla Jiwan Singh, Tehsil & District Lahore.	
30	Lakhmir Singh, Balbir Singh, Daljit Singh ss/o Sohan Singh	Chak No. 342, 337, 367. Tehsil Toba Tek Singh, District Lyallpur.	
31	Hira Lal s/o Hardyal Singh	Gondlanwala Kambampur Teh. & District Gujranwala.	
32	Nihal Singh s/o Gurdit Singh	Chak No. 21/G B., Tehsil Toba Tek Singh, Distt. Lyallpur	
33	Narain Singh s/o Jawund Singh	Chak 241-72/R.B., Tehsil Taranwala District Lyallpur.	
34	Mihian Singh s/o Mehtab Singh.	Chak No. 232/G. B., Tehsil Taranwala District Lyallpur.	

[Minister for Finance]

Serial No.	Name of allottee with parentage	Address of Pakistan	Remarks.
35	Hardev Singh s/o Thakar Singh	Chak No. 414/G. B. Tehsil Toba Tek Singh, District Lyallpur	
36	Chanan Singh s/o Kehar Singh	Chak No. 58/R. B., Tehsil Jaranwala, Distt. Lyallpur.	
37	S. Gurbachan Singh & Veeran Devi, s/o Sewa Singh	Orara, Tehsil Kasur, Lahore. Chakrian, Tehsil & District Gujrat.	
38	Lt. Bhagwan Singh s/o Hira Singh	Chak No. 219, Lyallpur.	
39	S. Santokh Singh s/o Sewa Singh	Orara. Teh. Kasur Distt. Lahore	
40	S. Mehtab Singh s/o Sewa Singh	- o -	
41	S. Barjinder Singh Jatinder Singh ss/o Dhian Singh	Qilla Jiwan Singh, Tehsil & District Lahore.	
42	Labh Singh s/o Bhagat Singh	Chak No. 17/141 Tehsil & Distt. Montgomery.	
43	S. Narinder Singh s/o Kehar Singh	Qilla Jiwan Singh Tehsil and District Lahore.	
44	Prithvipal Singh s/o Shibdev Singh	Chak No. 92, Tehsil Khanewal, District Multan.	
45	Tara Singh s/o Narain Singh	Khawaja Kharak, Tehsil & District Lahore.	
46	S. Balwinder Singh s/o Rajinder Singh	Qilla Jiwan Singh, Tehsil & Distt. Lahore.	

Serial No.	Name of allottee with parentage	Address of Pakistan	Remarks.
47	Sarup Singh s/o Kehar Singh	Qilla Jiwan Singh, Tehsil and District Lahore.	
48	Ghulla Singh s/o Dial Singh	Chak No. 511/E. B., Teh. Vihari District Multan.	
49	Gurmakh Singh s/o Dial Singh	—do—	
50	Dalip Singh s/o Uttam Singh (adopted)	Chak No. 62/12-L, Chak 435/E.B. Teh. Vihari Distt. Multan.	
51	Dr. Sohan Singh s/o Natha Singh	Chak No. 464/G. B. Tehsil Samundri District Lyallpur.	

**EVACUEE CULTURABLE AREA AT VILLAGE BHAINI MASSA SINGH
DISTRICT AMRITSAR.**

- *1050. Shri Amir Chand Gupta :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—
- whether there was any evacuee culturable area at Village Bhaini Massa Singh, Tehsil. Patti, District Amritsar during the year 1947-48 ; if so, the total area thereof in acres ;
 - whether the area referred to above was temporarily allotted to any displaced persons ; if so, when
 - whether the area was allotted to any displaced persons during the quasi-permanent allotment ; if so, to whom, if not, the reasons for removing this area from the allotment pool ;
 - whether any representation for the allotment of this area was received by the Revenue Assistant Amritsar during the month of August, 1952 ; if so the decision, if any, taken thereon ;
 - whether the area under reference was temporarily allotted to any displaced persons to whom no allotment could be made; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh :

- (a) Yes, 30 acres.
- (b) Yes, in 1947. But the displaced persons did not take possession of this area.
- (c) The area in question was allotted to four displaced persons. Their allotments were however, immediately cancelled due to the injunction received from the Assistant Custodian Amritsar in whose Court a pre-emption suit in respect on the land in question had been filed by one Sardul Singh s/o Pal Singh against the evacuee owner of the property. This suit is still pending in the Court of Additional Custodian, Evacuee Property, Punjab.
- (d) Yes. The application was made by Sardar Sajjan Singh Margindpuri on 27-8-1952 on which no action is possible unless the injunction referred to in part (c) above is vacated.
- (e) No. No displaced persons applied for allotment of the area in question. It is on lease with Sardar Sardul Singh since 1947 at the rate of rent equivalent to eight times the land revenue.

— — —

EVACUEE MORTGAGED AREA IN THE STATE

***1051. Shri Amir Chand Gupta :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

- (a) the total evacuee mortgaged area in the State in possession of the non-Muslims at present ;
- (b) the total mortgaged money required for the redemption of this area ;
- (c) the total amount realised as rent of the area referred to above in the State upto 30-9-52 ;
- (d) whether any mortgaged culturable area of non-Muslim in the possession of evacuee Muslims has been redeemed upto 30-9-52 ; if so, the amount so received by the Custodian of the evacuee property in the State ;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to redeem the area referred to in part (a) above ; if so, the scheme approved by the Government for this purpose ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh :

- (a) 7844 standard acres.
 - (b) Rs. 2,76,31,422/-
 - (c) & (d) Information is not readily available. The time and the labour involved in collecting this information will not be commensurate with any possible benefit to be obtained.
 - (e) Such lands have not to be redeemed but are to be dealt with in accordance with the provisions contained in the Evacuee Interest (Separation) Act (Central Act LXIV) of 1951.
- — —

AMENDMENT IN EVACUEE PROPERTY ACT.

***1052. Shri Amir Chand Gupta :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

- (a) since when the sub-rule 6 of rule 14 of the Administration of Evacuee Property Act has been amended ;
- (b) (i) whether there is any evacuee culturable area in village Salempur, Tehsil and district Jullundur ; if so, the total area in acres ;
(ii) whether the evacuee area referred to in part (b) (i) above was allotted to any displaced persons during the quasi-permanent allotment ; if so, the list of those allottees and the area allotted to each of them ;
- (c) (i) whether any of the allottees referred to in part (b) (ii) above have been ousted or were proposed to be ousted from this village after 1-4-52 ; if so, their list and the reasons for ousting them in each case ;
(ii) when the final orders in cases of the persons referred to in part (c) (i) above were passed by the Additional Custodian, Director, Rehabilitation Rural or the Financial Commissioner, Rehabilitation and with what result ;
- (d) (i) whether any new allottees have been fitted in this village in place of those referred to in part (c) (i) above ;
(ii) the reasons for giving them preference over the existing allottees ;
(iii) the list of the new allottees and the area allotted to each of them ;
- (e) whether the orders passed by the Rehabilitation Authorities have been carried out ; if so, when ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh :

- (a) 22nd July, 1952 ;
- (b) (i) Yes. An area of 343 SA. and $10\frac{3}{4}$ Units was available ;
(ii) Yes to the extent of 342 SA. $\frac{1}{4}$ Unit as per details given in the Statement "A" below.
- (c) (i) Yes Statement "B" is given below.
(ii) The reasons and dates of final orders have been shown in Statement B.
- (d) (i) Yes ;
(ii) Because their claims were superior to those who were ousted ;
(iii) Statement C is given below.
- (e) Allotment orders have since been prepared which are being checked and will be issued to the new allottees shortly.

STATEMENT A

S. No.	Name of the allottee.	Area allotted in St. Acres.
1	Dal Singh s/o Sher Singh	17-4
2	Hazara Singh s/o Mangal Singh	12-4½
3	Bhagat Singh s/o Hira Singh	16-4
4	Annant Ram s/o Thakar Das	14-14½
5	Labha Mal s/o Thakar Das	12-11½
6	Harbans Kaur wd/o Parshotam Singh	10-5½
7	Khushal Singh s/o Mehtab Singh	15-12½
8	Hardit Singh s/o Mehtab Singh	11-13¾
9	Kesar Singh s/o Labh Singh	7-9½
10	Kishan Kaur wd/o Labh Singh	2-15½
11	Gurdip Singh s/o Lal Singh	14-12½
12	Mehar Singh s/o Lal Singh	14-12½
13	Milkhi s/o Khushala	10 11
14	Ishar s/o Khazana	8 - 1
15	Tej Kaur wd/o Raghbir Singh	16-10½
16	Dalip Singh s/o Achhar Singh	16-9
17	Sarmukh Singh s/o Gopal Singh	21-14½
18	Gurdial Singh and Karnail Singh	11-8
19	Sant Kaur wd/o Sunder Singh	11-3
20	Fauja Singh s/o Sunder Singh	22-14
21	Amar Singh s/o Narain Singh	5-¾
22	Nanak Singh s/o Dula Singh	23-15¾
23	Jiwanbai wd/o Buta Singh	7-5
24	Gurcharan Singh s/o Sant Singh	7-8¾
25	Waryam Singh s/o Amar Singh	7-8¾
26	Harnam Singh s/o Amar Singh	7-8¾
27	Amar Singh s/o Hazara Singh	4-2¾
28	Ujagar Singh s/o Hazara Singh	4-2
29	Bachan Singh s/o Narain Singh	1-2
30	Dilbagh Singh s/o Mohinder Singh	2-12½
		342-½

STATEMENT B.

S. No.	Name of the allottee.	Reasons of ousting.
1	Anant Ram s/o Thakar Das	Being out of allocation. Cancelled vide D. R. R.'s order dated the 3-5-52
2	Labha Mal s/o Thakar Das	Being out of allocation. Cancelled vide D. R. R.'s order dated 3-5-52
3	Kesar Singh s/o Labh Singh	Restored to the village of his temporary allotment according to his wishes.
4	Kishan Kaur wd./o Labh Singh	-do-
5	Tej Kaur wd./o Raghbir, Singh	Did not own any sub-urban area. Cancelled vide Deputy Custodian's order dated 16-5-52.
6	Dal Singh s/o Sher Singh	For having failed to possession of the allotted area
7	Hazara Singh s/o Mangal Singh	-do-
8	Sarmukh Singh s/o Gopal Singh	Did not own any area in suburban belt in Pakistan. Cancelled vide F. C. R. R.'s order dated 2-8-52
9	Gurdial Singh & Karnail Singh	-do-
10	Sant Kaur wd./o Sunder Singh	-do-
11	Fauja Singh s/o Sunder Singh	-do-

STATEMENT C.

S. No.	Name of the allottee.	Area Allotted in St. Acres.		
1	Jiwan Singh s/o Kahan Singh	24	—	15½
2	Harnam Singh s/o Jiwan Singh	43	—	2½
3	Harnam Singh s/o Arur Singh	7	—	14½
4	Gurjit Singh s/o Narain Singh	9	—	9½
5	Mohinder Singh s/o Narain Singh	9	—	9½
6	Bachan Singh s/o Narain Singh	0	—	4½
7	Dilbagh Singh and Mohinder Singh	1	—	4½
8	Charanji Lal s/o Ram Ditta	56	—	10½

**COLLAPSE OF HOUSES BUILT BY GOVERNMENT
FOR REFUGEES**

***1061. Shri Ram Chandra Comrade :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

- (a) the total number of (i) evacuee houses and (ii) mud huts and other hutments built by the Government and occupied by the refugees which collapsed during the recent rainy season at Jullundur, Ludhiana, Karnal, Gurgaon and other places in the State, and the loss of life and property caused thereby;
- (b) the steps, if any, taken by the Government to give relief to those affected ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh :

- (a) 713 evacuee houses and 2000 mud huts collapsed during the recent rainy season in the State. No loss of life occurred in mud hut colonies. 4 persons have been reported to be killed in evacuee houses collapsed at Karnal, Rohtak and Ferozepore. The loss caused to the evacuee property is estimated at Rs. 4,36,170/- and that to Government on account of collapsing of mud huts is Rs. 7 lakhs. The latter figure does not include the loss caused to Government in respect of partially damaged huts, the number of which is reported to be 2350.
- (b) Occupants of evacuee property which collapsed during the rains are reported to have been provided with alternative accommodation. Sanction to repair property was accorded in 5004 cases. Rs. 1,21,782/- were advanced in cash and an adjustment against rent allowed to the extent of Rs. 791,985.-. In the case of mud hut colonies, an amount of Rs 50/- per family living in the mud huts, which had collapsed, was given. Government is further working out a scheme to replace the collapsed and unsafe mud huts by one room *pacca* tenements costing Rs. 500/- each.

— — —

PURCHASE OF CLOTH BY PUNJAB GOVERNMENT

***1079. Shri Teg Ram :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

- (a) the total quantity of cloth in yards which the Government purchases every year for the use of the various Departments ;
- (b) the total quantity of cloth consumed in the various Government Departments in the State during the year ending March, 1952 together with the quantity of handloom *khadi* cloth therein ;

- (c) the total quantity of khadi cloth purchased by the Government for its own purposes during the period mentioned in part (b) above;
- (d) the quantity of cloth referred to in part (c) above which was purchased from the Government Weaving Centres and from the branches of the Bhartya Charkha Sangh respectively ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh :

- (a) The total quantity of cloth purchased by various State Government Departments is not readily available except for the year 1951-52, as the cloth is purchased either through the Civil Supplies Department at control rates or on the basis of rate contracts for cotton and woollen goods arranged by the Punjab Stores Department. The information for the year ending the 31st March, 1952, is given below :—

Cotton cloth (Mill made)	--	2,62,983 yards.
Woollen	...	11,033 ,,
Cotton (Handloom)	...	62,500 ,,

Total :		3,36,516 yards.

- (b) The information is given in para (a) above.
- (c) The quantity of Kha li cloth (Handspun and Handwoven) purchased by Government Departments in 1951-52 is 57,500 yards.
- (d) The entire quantity of khadi cloth was purchased from the Government Weaving Centres. No purchase was effected from Bhartya Charkha Sangh.

PROFESSIONAL TAXES ON SCHEDULED CASTES IN AMRITSAR DISTRICT

*865. **Sardar Darshan Singh :** Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state what kinds of professional taxes are levied on persons belonging to Scheduled Castes in the Amritsar District and the total income accruing to the District Board therefrom during the years 1950-51 and 1951-52 ?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma : A tax is being levied by the District Board Amritsar on all the persons including scheduled castes, who carry on professions, trades, callings and employments etc. in the area under its jurisdiction.

Income from this tax on the scheduled castes :—

1950-51	...	...	...	Rs. 33,547
1951-52	...	...	...	Rs. 35,986

VILLAGE PANCHAYAT FUNDS

*1038. **Shri Ram Kishan** : Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state :—

- (a) the instructions, if any, issued by the Government to the Village Panchayats for the safe custody of their funds;
- (b) whether the village panchayats have been instructed to open their accounts with banks or post office saving funds for the deposits of their funds; if not, what other procedure is being followed for the safety of the village panchayat funds;
- (c) the number of the village panchayats in Patti Tehsil of Amritsar district on 1-9-52;
- (d) whether any of the panchayats referred to in part (c) above had cash in hand amounting to Rs. 100/- or more; if so, their list and the amount of funds in each case;
- (e) (i) whether any of the panchayats referred to in part (d) above had opened their accounts with the post office saving funds or with banks and had deposited their money in them for their safe custody; if so, their list;
- (ii) the list of such panchayats referred to in part (d) above which had Rs. 100/- or more in their funds and had not deposited them in any bank?

Pandit Shri Ram S. arma :

- (a) The procedure is laid down in rules 21 and 22 of the Punjab Village Panchayat Rules, 1949. No separate instructions are necessary.
- (b) Yes.
- (c) (i) Notified Panchayats ... 159
(ii) Functioning Panchayats. ... 120
- (d) Yes. A list of such panchayats and the balance of cash in hand with each is given below.

1.	Bhagwan Pura	...	...	Rs. 123 2 0
2.	Chuslewarh.	...	...	Rs. 896 2 0
3.	Dyal Rajputan	...	...	Rs. 1591 8 0
4.	Kacha Pacca	...	...	Rs. 992 9 0
5.	Khalra	—	...	Rs. 320 14 0
6.	Kairon	...	...	Rs. 1551 1 0
7.	Lauhka	...	...	Rs. 100 5 0
8.	Minhalla	...	...	Rs. 760 6 0
9.	Makhi Khurd	...	...	Rs. 667 11 0
10.	Muse	...	...	Rs. 320 0 0
11.	Mari Mehga	...	...	Rs. 472 2 0

12.	Narli	...	...	Rs. 1306	1	0
13.	Narla	...	...	Rs. 134	9	0
14.	Nathu Chak	...	...	Rs. 766	9	0
15.	Padri Kalan	---	---	Rs. 2776	3	0
16.	Ruriwala	...	---	Rs. 758	10	0
17.	Shahid	...	...	Rs. 303	3	0
18.	Sidhwan	...	...	Rs. 340	4	0
19.	Shakri	...	...	Rs. 949	5	0
20.	Talwandi Sobha Singh	...	...	Rs. 446	8	0

(e) (i) Yes. The required information is given below.

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Chuslewarh. | 4. Nathu Chak. |
| 2. Makhi Khurd. | 5. Padri Kalan. |
| 3. Narli. | 6. Shakri. |
| | 7. Muse. |

(ii) The required information is given below.

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Bhagwan Pura. | 2. Dyal Rajputan. : |
| 3. Khalra. | 4. Kairon. |
| 5. Lauhka. | 6. Minhalla. |
| 7. Mari Mehga. | 8. Narla. |
| 9. Ruriwala. | 10. Shahid. |
| 11. Sidhwan. | 12. Talwandi Sobha Singh. |
| 13. Kacha Pacca. | |

ENHANCEMENT OF TERMINAL TAX ON SUGAR IN JULLUNDUR MUNICIPAL AREA

*1060. **Shri Ram Kishan** : Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state whether he has received any representation from the traders and merchants of Mandi Fenton Ganj, Jullundur City regarding recent enhancement of Terminal tax on sugar in the Jullundur municipal area; if so, the action, if any, taken by the Government thereon; and if no action has been taken, the reasons therefor ?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma : Yes, the matter is receiving the consideration of Government.

PLYING OF CYCLE RICKSHAWS IN THE STATE

*108). **Shri Teg Ram** : Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state :—

(a) the total number of Cycle rickshaws that are being plied in the State at present;

[Shri Teg Ram]

- (b) whether it is necessary to obtain licences for plying such rickshaws;
- (c) whether any age limit has been fixed by the Government for those pulling such rickshaws, if so, what;
- (d) whether Government has laid down any provision regarding the maximum weight that can be pulled, and the distance over which it can be pulled; if so, what?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma :

- (a) 6857 in all districts, except Rohtak for which no record is available.
- (b) It is necessary in the case of municipalities which have made by-laws for the plying of Rickshaws under section 188 (a) and (b) of the Punjab Municipal Act, 1911. So far, Municipal Committee of Amritsar has framed such by-laws.
- (c) In the model by-laws framed by Government in the matter, the age limit of a driver, who impels or propels a rickshaw has been fixed at not less than eighteen years and not more than 45 years.
- (d) No rickshaw shall carry more than :—
 - (i) two passengers; or
 - (ii) an adult passenger and a child, and personal luggage upto 15 seers; or
 - (iii) two maunds of luggage when there is no passenger.

There is no limit on the distance over which a cycle rickshaw may be plied.

ASSESSMENT OF PROFESSIONAL TAX BY THE DISTRICT BOARD, KARNAL.

***1092. Shri Mool Chand Jain :** Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether any complaints have been received by the Government against the attitude of the officials of District Board, Karnal in connection with the assessment of professional tax; if so, whether the Government has ordered any inquiry into the matter;
- (b) the result of the inquiry, if any?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma :

- (a) Yes.
 - (b) Inquiry into the complaint is being conducted by the Additional District Magistrate, Karnal.
-

SUBMISSION OF APPEALS, PETITIONS OR REPRESENTATIONS
IN THE OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC
INSTRUCTION, PUNJAB.

*929. **Shri Wadhawa Ram** : Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that some members of the Staff of the office of the Director of Public Instruction, Punjab, filed appeals, petitions or representations against the orders issued by the Department relating to certain appointments, promotions, supersessions, and fixation of seniority during the years 1951-52, and 1952-53; if so, the action taken thereon ?

Shri Jagat Narain : Appeals can be preferred by officials against orders of the Government. They are disposed of according to rules with all expedition.

RESEARCH WORK DONE IN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

*959. **Shri Benarsi Dass Gupta** : Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state :—

- (a) the subjects in which research work is being done by employees in the Education Department together with the names and the grades of pay of such persons, and the total volume of work done by them;
- (b) whether the work of any of these persons has received recognition abroad;
- (c) the steps which the Government has taken to encourage such persons in their research work ?

Shri Jagat Narain : A statement containing the required information is given below.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE RESEARCH WORK DONE BY THE MEMBERS OF EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

S. No.	Name and qualifications	Grade	Research work done	Whether the work recognised abroad	Steps taken by the Government to encourage such persons
			ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT		
1	Dr. Kewal Krishan M.A., Ph. D., P. E. S. (I) offg. Principial, Punjab University College, Hoshiarpur.	350-40 750/40- 950-50-1:00	He has done research work in 'structure of Indian Industries.'	Work not yet published.	None.
2	Shri K. C. Palta, M. A., P. E. S. (III) Lecturer, Punjab University College Hoshiarpur.	150-10-350	Written a pamphlet on 'The Recent Punjab Finance.' Doing work on 'Provincia Finance in India.'	Approved by the Punjab University	None.
			PHYSICS DEPARTMENT		
1	Dr. N. R. Sarna, M. Sc., Ph. D., (London) P. E. S. (1) Professor of Physics, Punjab University College Hoshiarpur.	350-40-750,40 950-50-1200	Work done on 'Cosmic Rays, Dielectrics and Magnetism'	15 published in Indian and Foreign journals	None.
2	Dr. Balwant Singh, D Sc., A. R. I. C., P. E. S. (II), Senior Lecturer, Punjab University College, Hoshiarpur.	250-25-750	1. Has done research work on :-- (a) Parachors, (b) Magnetism and Molecular Structure, (c) Potentiometric Studies in Oxidation Reduction Reactions, (d) Periodate of Uranium and (e) Potassium Meta-Periodate as volumetric Reagent. 2. 26 papers on research. 3. 3 Research papers have been published and 3 more have been accepted for publication during the year (Oct 51 to Sept. 52)	Published in Indian and Foreign journals.	None.

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PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

[26th November, 1952]

3	Sardar Apar Singh, M Sc. P. E. S. III Lecturer, Punjab University College, Hoshiarpur.	150-10-350	1. Had done research work on :- (a) New Synthetic Anti-Malarials and Anti Septics o Acridine Series ; (b) Potasium Meta-periodate as volu- metric reagent and (c) Periodate of Uranium and published 9 research papers 2. In collaboration with Dr. Balwant Singh during the year (Oct. 51 to Sept. 52.) three papers have been accepted for publication.		None.
4	Shri Harkishan Lal Gupta M.Sc., P.E.S. (III), Lec- turer, Punjab University College, Hoshiarpur.	150-10-350	In collaboration with Dr. B. R. Puri M.Sc., Ph.D., he is working in the 'Recovery of Oxalic Acid from Indian Woods by Fusion Process.'		None.
5	Dr. Sardari Lal Bhatia, M.Sc., (Ph) D.Sc. P.E.S. II, Senior Lecturer, Government College Ludhiana.	250-25 550/25 750	1. Brochure on Penicillin Reviewed in Nature. 2. Utilisation of sarkanda (Saccrum spontanea) in making compressed boards. 3. Utilisation of Indian Bees Wax in making Polishes. 4. Synthetic Petrol reviewed in Nature. 5. Extraction of gallic and Tannic Acids from Acacia Pods for making Blue Black Inks. 6. Designing of Pilot Plants (on small scale) for making chloroform and Ether from Ethyl Alcohol. 7. Enamelling of Iron Plates for arti- ficial slates.	No.	None.
1	Dr. Hans Raj Gupta, M.A. Ph. D., F.N.I., F.E.S. II, Senior Lecturer, Punjab University College, Hoshiarpur.	250-25 750	MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT A. (a) Number of papers published 82. (b) Number of papers in press : 3. The following two monographs have also been unpublished.	Published in Foreign Journals.	None.

S. No.	Name and qualifications	Grade	Research work done.	Whether the work recognised abroad	Steps taken by the Government to encourage such persons.
			<p>(1) "Tables of Partition" Published by the Indian Mathematical Society, 1939. (2) "Symmetric Functions in the Theory of Integral Numbers"—being a course of Lectures delivered by invitation at the Lucknow University.</p> <p>His new "Partition Tables" of use in nuclear and crystal Physics are to be published by the Royal Society of London. The Punjab University has made a generous grant of £ 200 to meet half the cost of publication.</p> <p>B. References to his work have been made among others by authorities like: Professors Hardy, Wright and Temperley (England), Lehmer and Erdos (U. S. A.); Hoessner and Bauer (Germany); Viggo Brun (Norway) Sxekeres (Australia) Gloden (Luxembourg) -and Oblath (Hungary.</p> <p>C. He is a member of the Board of Reviewers of the "Mathematical Reviews" ever since this famous American Journal started publication in 1940.</p> <p>He was elected a fellow of the National Institute of Science of India in 1950. The Ministry of Defence are entrusting one of their problems to the Computation Department of which Dr. Gupta is the Head.</p>		None.
2	Shri Hans Raj Aggarwal M. A , P. E. S. (III), Lecturer, Punjab University College, Hoshiarpur.	150-10-350	Doing work in "Ballistics" & in collaboration with Dr. H. Gupta doing the work on "Calculations of Projections with 1940 tables."	None	None

HISTORY DEPARTMENT

1	Shri K. L. Malhotra, M. A., P. E. S (II) Senior Lecturer, Punjab University College, Hoshiarpur.	250-25-750	Written a thesis on the "A Historical Survey of the Industries of the Punjab (1852-1888)"	...	None.
2	Shri Jogindra Singh, M. A., P. E. S. III, Lecturer, Punjab University College, Hoshiarpur.	150-10-350	1. Has done extensive research on the British Indian Period-concerning the Sikh Period and has submitted a thesis on "The Annexation of the Punjab" for Ph. D. in December, 51. 2. Doing research work on "Post Ranjit Singh Period."	...	None.
3	Shri Ram Chand Khanna, M. A., P. E. S. II, Senior Lecturer, Govt. College, Hissar.	250-25-550/ 25-750	Epigraphic and Numismatic sources of Indian History for the period between the Maurya Age and the Gupta Age.	No	No

BOTANY DEPARTMENT

1	Dr. A. C. Joshi, B. Sc., F.N.I., P.E.S.I., Principal Govt. Training College, Jullundur.	350-40-750/ 40-950-50-1200	He is the author of more than 100 original research papers and is well known throughout the world for his investigations in the field of Plant Anatomy and Morphology. He is also an authority on Himalayans and Punjab Flora.	No	No
2	Dr P. C. Joshi, M. Sc., Ph. D., P. E. S. II, Senior Lecturer, Punjab University College, Hoshiarpur.	250-25-750	1. Published 8 papers. 2. Elected full member of the American Society of Sigma XI, Botanical Society of America and Linnean Society of London.	Indian and Foreign Journals.	None.
3	Shri Gajinder Singh, M. Sc., Lecturer, Government College, Rupar.	150/	Has been working on Embryology of Abbis Pindrow and Cuperosers Torulors for three years.	No	No

POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

1	Shri Bodh Raj Sharma, M. A. P. E. S. (III), Lecturer, Punjab University College, Hoshiarpur.	150-10-350	1. Written a report on the "Elections in the Punjab" for the All India Political Science Association of which he is the Vice President.	...	None.
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S. No.	Name and qualifications	Grade	Research work done .	Whether the work recognised abroad	Steps taken by the Government to encourage such persons.
	<p>*Head of the Political Science Department, K. G. K. College Muradabad</p>		<p>2. Written papers (two) for the All India Journals of Political Science (a) Suggested improvements in the Electoral Machinery"; (b) "Effect of the 1951 amendment to the Constitution on the Liberties of the Indian Citizens." 3. Guiding the research for Ph.D., in Political Science of Shri Iqbal Nath M.A., on "Social Legislation in the Punjab." Shri D C. Grover, M.A.,* on "India in Transition The Interim Government." 4. Working on Co-operative study of Greek and Ancient Indian Political Philosophers.'</p>	<p>Indian Journal.</p>	<p>None.</p>
2	<p>Shri B. S. Khanna, M. A , P.E.S. (III), Lecturer, Punjab University College Hoshiarpur</p>	<p>150-10-350</p>	<p>Published two papers-one on UNESCO, the other on G.B.S. as Pol. Thinker ; Two articles-one on Welfare State the other on Trade Unionism. One more paper-D V.C.—a study in Public Enterprise—Accepted for publication Also working on a thesis "Civil Service since 1836-1887" for a doctorate degree-general guidance of Prof. V.K.N. Menon of Patna University</p>	<p>...</p>	<p>None.</p>
1	<p>Shri S. N. Bhardwaj, M.A. , P.E.S. (III) Lecturer, Punjab University College, Hoshiarpur.</p>	<p>150-10-350</p>	<p>ENGLISH DEPARTMENT. Two papers on Tagore-published. Working on "A comparative Study of the Eastern and Western Mystical Thoughts" as expressed in the poetry of the Meta-Physical Poets,</p>	<p>...</p>	<p>None.</p>

PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT

1 Dr. Prem Nath, M. A., Ph. D., (P. E. S. III) Lecturer, Punjab University College, Hoshiarpur. 150-10-350

- I. Research on (i) Psychological Teachings of Patangli (Thesis for Ph. D.)
 (2) Psycho-analysis in Education.
 (3) Patanjali's Yoga in the light of Modern Psychology.
 (4) Engaged in research work for his D. Litt. on "Trends and Problems in Contemporary Ethical Thought."

Pb. Educational Journal.

Published in Phylosophical quarterly.

None.

...

None.

ZOOLOGY DEPARTMENT

1 Shri N. K. Gupta, M. Sc., P. E. S. (III) Lecturer, Punjab University College, Hoshiarpur. 150-10-350

Doing research work on "Halminthology (Zoology)

...

None.

Published the following papers on :—

East Pb. University Bulletin, 1950.

- (1) The Anatomy of Paramphistomum (Cauliorchis) Crassum.
 (2) The Morphology of Phathycotyle a common amphystoms found in the bileducts of Indian bovines.
 (3) Carrying out research work on Helminth Parasites (Parasitic Worms).

GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT

1 Shri Raja Ram, B. Sc., Senior Lecturer, Govt. College, Ludhiana. 250-25-350/25-750

Land utilisation survey of East Punjab.

No

No

S. No.	Name and qualifications	Grade	Research work done.	Whether the work recognised abroad	Steps taken by the Government to encourage such persons.
2	Shri O P. Bhardwaj, P.E.S. III, Lecturer, Government College Ludhiana.	150/350.	Bist Jullundur Doaba Regional study.	No	No
3	Shri J. C. Sen, Lecturer, Government College, Ludhiana.	150/350.	Urban Geography of Delhi.	No	No
4	Shri J. D. Dharani, Lecturer, Government College, Ludhiana.	150/350.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Relation between PH and Subscription 2. Composition of Indian Feeding stuff and their digestibilities 3. Composition of Milk of Indian Cows and Buffaloes 4. Fixation of Po amin in Indian soils and Minerals 	Recognised by P. K & U.S.A. Dairy Experts.	
SANSKRIT DEPARTMENT.					
1	Shri Ved Prakash, M.A., Lecturer, Government College, Mukatsar.	150/350.	Distinctive study of Sanskrit Synonyms.	No	No
PUNJABI DEPARTMENT					
1	Shri Narain Datt Uppal, M.A., Lecturer, Government College, Hissar	150/350	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Compiling a dictionary of Multani and a dictionary of Punjabi 2. Has completed a paper on the Making of Punjabi. 	No	No
MISCELLANEOUS					
1	Shri Nand Lal Dosanj, M.A., B.T., Lecturer, Government Training College, Jullundur.	150/350.	Working on the subject of Personality Testing	No	No
2	Shri Rameshwar Nath Pal, B.A., L.Sc., Librarian, Government College, Mukatsar.	80-5-110/5-150.	Notation or Numbering system.	No	No

**SELECTION FOR SENIOR BASIC TRAINING AT SHANTI
NIKETAN.**

***1011. Shri Daulat Ram Sharma :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether it is a fact that ordinary graduates and trained graduates from this State were selected for senior basic training at Shanti Niketan ;
- (b) the date on which the letter conveying information regarding the above selection was sent to D. I. of Schools, Kangra by the Divisional Inspector of Schools, Jullundur Division ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the letter reached D. I. Kangra on the date when the interview for selection was taking place ;
- (d) whether any candidate has been selected from the Kangra District ?

Shri Jagat Narain :

- (a) Yes. One M. A. and two M. A. B.T's were selected for senior basic training at Shanti Niketan.
- (b) 17-6-52.
- (c) No.
- (d) No.

WATER WORKS SCHEME FOR JULLUNDUR CITY.

***1017. Shrimati Sita Devi :** Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state whether a Water Works Scheme is being contemplated by the Government for Jullundur City ; if so, how long it will take to be put into effect ?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma : Yes. The estimates of the Scheme have since been prepared by the competent authority and are now being forwarded to the Sanitary Board, Punjab, for consideration and administrative approval.

**BASIC EDUCATION SCHOOLS IN CHAK KALAN, DISTRICT
LUDHIANA.**

***1077. Shri Teg Ram :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state :—

- (a) the number of Basic Education Schools in Chak Kalan, District Ludhiana, together with the dates when each of them was started ;
- (b) the number of teachers and of boys receiving education at each of these schools ;
- (c) the respective dates when necessary materials were supplied to the pupils at these schools for handicraft and basic education purposes and the cost thereof ?

Shri Jagat Narain :

- (a) Two-one for boys and the other for girls. The former was opened on 15-12-1950 and the latter on 2-1-1951.
- (b) Two teachers in each school. There are 43 boys in one school and 56 girls in the other school.
- (c) Delay in the supply of material has been reported. Instructions have been issued by express letters to the District Inspector and Inspectress of Schools, Ludhiana to supply the material immediately.

TRAINED BASIC EDUCATION TEACHERS IN THE STATE.

***1078. Shri Teg Ram :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state :—

- (a) the total number of teachers that have been trained in the State upto 30-9-52 for the Basic Education Scheme ;
- (b) whether all the teachers referred to in part (a) above have been appointed in schools ;
- (c) whether Basic Education has been introduced in all the schools where the said teachers have been appointed ?

Shri Jagat Narain :

- (a) 734.
- (b) No.
- (c) No. Basic trained teachers have also been employed in Non-Basic Schools where, in view of the multifarious curricular and Co-curricular activities under the new Syllabus of the department, their employment is considered useful.

BASIC SCHOOL, JAGRAON.

***1085. Shrimati Sita Devi :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether it is a fact that a large number of people have withdrawn their children from the Basic School, Jagraon ; if so, the reasons therefor ;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the Inspector of Schools, Jullundur Division has given adverse remarks on the working of the said school ;
- (c) the number of students in the above Basic School studying at present ?

Shri Jagat Narain :

- (a) No.
- (b) Yes. His inspection report was critical.
- (c) 167.

FURNITURE IN BASIC SCHOOL, JAGRAON.

***1087. Shrimati Sita Devi :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state :—

- (a) the total amount of money sanctioned by the Government for the purchase of furniture for the Basic School, Jagraon last year as well as during this year ;
- (b) the total estimated cost of the furniture intact at present in the said school ?

Shri Jagat Narain :

- (a) (i) 1951-52. Nil.
- (ii) 1952-53. Rs. 450/-.
- (b) Rs. 13,911/12/-.

**CHARGING OF FEES BY THE CIVIL SURGEON, JULLUNDUR,
FOR ISSUING CERTIFICATES TO THE PUBLIC.**

***1095. Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether he is aware of the fact that the Civil Surgeon, Jullundur, while issuing a certificate of fitness to any member of the public for his private use asks him to deposit a sum of Rs. 18/- with the Head Clerk of his office ; if so, the rules under which the deposit is required to be made ?

Shri Jagat Narain :

No. The Civil Surgeon, Jullundur, charges a sum of Rs. 16/- for issuing a medical certificate of fitness to any member of public for private use, as admissible under the rules.

**ENFORCEMENT OF THE PUNJAB PASSENGERS AND GOODS
TAXATION ACT, 1952 IN THE STATE.**

*** 950. Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Minister for Labour be pleased to state :—

- (a) the date on which the Punjab Passengers and Goods Taxation Act, 1952, came into force in the State ;
- (b) the details of establishment appointed for the administration of the said Act ;
- (c) the amount realised as Passengers and Goods up Tax to 1-10-52 ?

Chaudhri Sundar Singh :

- (a) 1st September, 1952.
- (b) (i) Excise and Taxation Officers 2
 (ii) Taxation Sub-Inspcctors 29
 (iii) Assistants 2
 (iv) Senior Clerks 16
 (v) Junior Clerks 19
 (vi) Steno-typists 2
 (vii) Class IV Govt. servants 31
- (c) Rs 2,39,764/11/-.

**ENFORCEMENT OF THE GENERAL SALES TAX (AMENDMENT)
 ACT, 1952 IN THE STATE.**

*953. **Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Minister for Labour be pleased to state :—

- (a) the date on which the General Sales Tax (Amendment) Act, 1952, came into force in the State ;
- (b) the number of cases of mis-appropriation of Sales Tax detected under the provisions of the Act referred to above from the date of its enforcement upto 1-10-52 together with the total amount involved ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Finance Minister carried on negotiations with the representatives of the Beoparis for introducing further amendments to the said act ; if so, the details and the final results of such negotiations ;
- (d) whether any instruction or communication has been received from the Union Government for introducing uniform legislation on this subject ; if so, the action taken by the Government on it ?

Chaudhri Sundar Singh :

- (a) 8th August 1952.
- (b) 793 cases. The amount of Sales Tax involved in these cases cannot be stated at present as the assessment of the tax will be made after the close of the current financial year.
- (c) Yes. It is not in public interest to disclose the details of the negotiations.
- (d) Yes. The matter was discussed in the Finance Ministers Conference held at Delhi for the purpose in the middle of October, 1952, but no final decisions have yet been taken in the matter.
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**DISPLACEMENT OF VILLAGES BY THE FORMATION OF THE
LAKE ENVISAGED IN THE BHAKRA NANGAL SCHEME.**

***257. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state : —

- (a) whether it is a fact that a very large number of villagers are likely to be displaced by the formation of the lake envisaged in the Bhakra Nangal Scheme ; if so, the total number of villages likely to be thus affected and the number of the inhabitants thereof ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister of India has in his inspection notes dated 4-4-1952, pointed out that "Nothing has been done" in connection with the arrangements for alternative land to these villagers and that it would be unfortunate if "people are pushed out without any new arrangement being made for them" ;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any action in connection with the allotment of alternative land to these villagers ; if so, what and with what effect ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh :

(a) Yes, 355 villages are likely to be affected by the construction of Bhakra Dam. The number of persons likely to be affected is approximately 24,000.

(b) Yes.

(c) A committee consisting of

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| (i) Financial Commissioner, Punjab
(to be nominated by the State Government) | Chairman |
| (ii) Chief Commissioner, Bilaspur | Member |
| (iii) Shri Mahabir Singh, Representative of
the Himachal Pradesh Government | Member |
| (iv) Deputy Chief Engineer, Bhakra Dam | Member-
Secretary |

has been appointed for the rehabilitation of the persons likely to be displaced. Data regarding the area to be submerged, area available for allotment and persons to be displaced is being collected.

FERRIES.

*1034. **Shri Ram Kishan :** Will the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state :—

- (a) the list of the ferries in each District of the State which are being administered by the Government ;
- (b) (i) whether any of these ferries are being run on a contract basis ;
if so, their list in each District ;
(ii) the income derived from each of these ferries in Amritsar District during the years 1949-50, 1950-51 and 1951-52 respectively ;
(iii) the total income and expenditure of each category of these ferries in each district borne by the Government during each of the years referred to in part (b) (ii) above ;
- (c) whether in any case the expenditure has been more than the income; if so, the reasons therefor ;
- (d) the steps Government proposes to take in the matter so as to meet the deficiency in the income ;
- (e) the income and expenditure of the ferries which were being administered directly by the Government for the years 1949-50, 1950-51 and 1951-52 in the District of Ludhiana and Jullundur respectively ;
- (f) (i) whether in any case the expenditure has been in excess of the income in any of the years referred to in part (e) above ;
if so, to what extent ;
(ii) the reasons for the expenditure being in excess ;
- (g) the steps Government proposes to take in the matter so as to make up the deficiency in income ?

Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa :

(a) **Hoshiarpur District.**

1. Anandpur Ferry.
2. Nangal.

Ambala District.

3. Rupar Ferry.
4. Ghaggar Ferry.

Gurdaspur District.

5. Shahpur Kandi Ferry.
6. Gidri Ferry.
7. Manshehra Ferry.
8. Trimmu Ferry.
9. Kohar Ferry.
10. Shangarwan Ferry.
11. Sirigobindpur Ferry.

Amritsar District.

12. Goindwal Ferry.
13. Gagrewal Ferry.
14. Verowal Ferry.
15. Harike Ferry.
16. Charkha Chamba Ferry.

Kangra District.

17. Dera Gopipur Ferry.
18. Nadaun Ferry.
19. Sujanpur Tira Ferry.

- (b) (i) All the ferries, except the two at Ghaggar and Kohar in Ambala and Gurdaspur District respectively, are run on a contract basis.
- (b) (i), (ii) (iii),
- (c) and (d). The required information is given below.

Name of Ferry.	Income derived.			Expenditure incurred.			Reasons for the expenditure being in excess of income.	Steps Government proposes to take in the matter so as to make the deficiency in income.
	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Hoshiarpur District.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		
1. Anandpur Ferry.	3200	3025	6500	...	...	...	...	...
2. Nangal Ferry.	8300	1000	1050	2000	1156	938	Excess during 1950-51 is trifling.	..
Ambala District.								
3. Rupar Ferry.	2210	2455	4000	...	...	...	...	...
4. Ghaggar Ferry.	266	403	222	5100	5200	3671	This ferry is on National Highway and is run departmentally. The income is low as the traffic mostly consists of Government employees who are exempted from payment of toll charges.	...
Gurdashpur District.								
5. Shahpur Kandi Ferry.	...	150	225	38	744	561	The ferry is maintained to serve as a link between Kashmir State and India and not much as a source of income which is low on account of permit system for entry into Kashmir.	Beats lying at this ferry are being surveyed off to reduce expenditure.

6. Gidri Ferry,	Auctioned by District Board.	1825	1250	6428	657	1263	Excess during 1951-52 is trifling.	Question does not arise.
7. Manshehra Ferry.	--do--	7625	7700	29352	6744	1594	...	--do--
8. Trimmu Ferry.	...	310	200	2508	3268	2 23	The ferry is run on border mostly in the interests of military. The income is low as there are only a few villages on the Pakistan side.	Unavoidable.
9. Kohar Ferry.	...	...	...	1644	1418	1808	The ferry is not auctioned and is run for military only.	...
10. Shangarwan Ferry.	Not auctioned during 1949-50	1300	455	1167	126	45	...	Question does not arise.
11. Sirigobindpur Ferry	...	...	3025	...	...	9940	The excess of expenditure over income is due to the fact that 20 emergency boats are looked after and maintained in addition to the regular running of the ferry.	...

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Amritsar District.								
12. Goindwal Ferry.	2699	1175	2720	2105	3957	2470	These ferries are situated at a very out of way place where the traffic is very light. Ferries were auctioned by public auction and let out on contract to the highest bidders. Expenditure on ferry at Gurkha includes the expenditure incurred on the maintenance and upkeep of emergency boats anchored there.	It is proposed to reduce the number of chaukidars kept on emergency boats.
13. Gagrewal Ferry.	739	1435	1152	1985	4018	1262		
14. Verowal Ferry.	443	900	300	2112	3075	1052		
15. Gurkha Chamba Ferry.	...	5500	...	10475	3507	1165		
16. Harike Ferry.	...	...	41010	...	71798	66071	The expenditure involved includes expenditure on the construction of a boat bridge. The actual expenditure on running of ferry is, however, less than the income derived.	...
Kangra District.								
17. Nadaun Ferry.	16000	10300	8600	12370	3823	1959	...	Question does not arise.
18. Sujampur Tira Ferry.	13500	5800	3909	11418	4616	2805	...	—do—
19. Dehra. Gopipur Ferry.	20500	12200	12200	35097	26103	21965	The excess of expenditure over income is on account of construction of a boat bridge during 6 months of winter. Special repairs to boat bridge and its gradual strengthening to take greater load also add to the expenditure.	It is not practicable to eliminate the deficit unless the rates of toll are enhanced.

(e), (f) (i) (ii) and (g) question does not arise as no ferries in Ludhiana and Jullundur Districts are run by Government.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Now the Question Hour is over and the next item on the Agenda will be taken up.

RESUMPTION OF DISCUSSION ON THE PUNJAB GRAM
PANCHAYAT BILL.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Now the House will proceed to consider the Gram Panchayat Bill clause by clause.

CLAUSE 1

Sub Clauses (2) and (3)

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That sub-clauses (2) and (3) of clause 1 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 2

Shri Maru Singh Malik (Sampla) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in line 3, after the figures "1939" the following be added :—

"The Punjab District Boards Act 1881."

Mr. Speaker, it has been said on behalf of the Government that they are going to abolish District Boards. My submission is that when there are to be no District Boards where is the necessity of keeping the District Boards Act on the Statute Book? It should be repealed too. And it is for this purpose that this amendment has been moved.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motion moved—

That in line 3, after the figures "1939" the following be added :—

"The Punjab District Boards Act, 1881"

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Now I call upon Sardar Chanan Singh to move his amendment to Clause 2.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That the proviso be deleted.

This amendment has been moved for deleting that part of the clause under consideration which excludes the present panches from the application of clause 5. That clause provides that the elections to all the panchayats will be by the vote of the people and, therefore, if the proviso in question is allowed to remain the people will be deprived of the right which you are seeking to give them by enacting this measure. That is why I want this proviso to be deleted.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motion moved—

That the proviso be deleted.

Shri Sri Chand (Bahadurgarh) (Hindi) :—Sir, the first amendment aims at the repeal of the District Boards Act. Our Chief Minister has already

[Shri Sri Chand]

declared in the House that the District Boards are going to be abolished. Now if the Boards are not to remain in existence it is better that the Act may be repealed just now so that we may not have to take fresh steps for the purpose. If this matter is left over to be dealt with through fresh legislation it will mean sheer waste of public money and the time of the House. Therefore, if the Government mean to take the step mentioned by the Chief Minister they should have no objection to the proposal contained in the amendment. But if they feel that there is a possibility of the Act being needed for some time, then they can effect a formal change in the wording and say that the Government may repeal the Act by issuing a notification.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Mr. Speaker, I rise to oppose the first amendment. This amendment is absolutely irrelevant because the District Boards Act has nothing to do with this Bill. No doubt, the Chief Minister has told us that the Government is thinking of abolishing the District Boards. Still I must say that that matter is not in any way related to the present measure. In fact, I am of the opinion that the abolition of the District Boards will not be a step in the right direction. These institutions are constituted with the votes of the people, thus conferring on them a valued democratic right. Possibly, there may be some defects in the working of the District Boards. But they may be due to the presence of nominated members and also to the fact that the Government has delayed elections to these bodies for an inordinately long period. I would, therefore, once again request the Government not to deprive the people of these democratic rights by abolishing an institution which gives them the power to choose their own representatives in their respective districts.

As a matter of fact the Chief Minister and his comrades are afraid of the people's vote. Perhaps there are some other Friends too who are doubtful about their being returned by the people. Is it not strange that on the one hand the Government claims credit for decentralisation of power while on the other the people are being deprived of their existing right in the sphere of their own districts. I once again request the House to reject this amendment.

Minister for Local-Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma) (Hindi) : Mr. Speaker, two amendments have been moved to Clause 2 of the Bill. One of these desires that the District Boards should be abolished. I am grateful to my friends of the Opposition for clarifying the position with respect to the point raised by an hon. Member sitting among them. This has lightened my task a great deal. In my opinion, it would not be proper

to repeal one Act at the the time of enacting another. As the hon. Chief Minister stated the Government think that the District Boards should be abolished but no decision has been taken in regard to it so far. When the Panchayats start functioning satisfactorily, there will be no need for retaining District Boards, as keeping them in existence would amount to duplication. At this stage, however, it would not be proper to take such a step. Now we are only discussing the Gram Panchayat Bill.

The other amendment seeks to delete the proviso to this Clause. Under the present Act, the number of panches constituting different panachyats is different. Some have three members while others have five, seven or even more. The proviso aims at saving the existing panchayats from the operation of the provisions of this Bill. These amendments are such that it is not necessary to pass them. It would be better if these are withdrawn but if that is not done, I hope that these would be rejected by a large majority.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in line 3, after the figures "1939" the following be added :—

"The Punjab District Board Act, 1881"

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That the proviso be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is —

That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried,

CLAUSE 3

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Now Clause 3 is before the House for discussion. I call upon Sardar Iqbal Singh to move his amendment to Clause 3.

Principal Iqbal Singh (Jagraon) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in part (a) line 3, for the figure "21" the figure "18" be substituted.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motion moved—

That in part (a) line 3, for the figure "21" the figure "18" be substituted.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut may move his amendments.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in part (f) line 1, for the word "Panchayat" the word "Sabha" be substituted.

That in part (g) line 2, for the words "the Panchayats" the following words

[Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut]

be substituted :—

“the executive committee of the Gram Sabha consisting of all adults of 18 years age in the Gram Sabha area”.

That in part (i) lines 5-6, the words “or appointed” be deleted.

That in part (k) line 5, for the word “Panchayat” the word “Sabha” be substituted.

That in part (i) lines 5-7, the words “and..... Sarpanch” be deleted.

Mr. Speaker, the first of these amendments aims at reducing the age on the attainment of which one will be entitled to vote at the elections i.e. from twentyone years to eighteen years. In India a man or a woman is regarded to be a major at the age of eighteen. It would, therefore, not be proper to deprive a man or woman of the right of vote for three years after they have attained majority. A woman is regarded to have attained maturity at the age of fourteen or fifteen. In these circumstances, why should a person not be entitled to vote till he or she is twenty-one years of age. A person understands everything at the age of eighteen; he does work of every kind and takes part in all the affairs of the world. He understands politics and takes part in the political activities. It is not fair to prevent them from exercising the right of vote for three years. As we want to establish the panchayats on democratic principles, the clause under discussion should not be retained in its present form.

The other amendment seeks to substitute the words ‘Gram Sabha’ for the word ‘Panchayat’. As the hon. Minister has admitted, the public opinion is in favour of the setting up of Gram Sabhas. It appears to me that the majority of this house is also in favour of that view and the hon. Minister is going to accept that suggestion. I want the words ‘Gram Sabha’ to be substituted for the word ‘Panchayat’ so that the working of the clause may be in accordance with the suggestion which the Minister is going to accept.

The third amendment seeks to substitute the words ‘Gram Sabha area’ for the words ‘Gram Panchayat area’. This change has been suggested in order that the Clause may be properly worded.

The fourth amendment wants the words ‘or appointed’ to be deleted from sub-clause (l). If there is any vacancy in the Gram Panchayat, Tehsil Panchayat Union or the Adalti Panchayat, the Government or the Director should not have the power of filling that seat. When the members of Panchayats are going to be elected, it would be tantamount to an onslaught on the democratic rights of the public to empower the Government to fill vacant seats. It would be improper to give such powers at a time when we are trying to act on democratic principles. For these reasons, the words ‘or appointed’ should be deleted from this Clause. With these words, I commend my amendments to the House.

Mr. Deputy Speaker. Motions moved—

That in part (f) line 1, for the word "Panchayat" the word "Sabha" be substituted.

That in part (g) line 2, for the words "the Panchayat" the following words be substituted :—

"the executive committee of the Gram Sabha consisting of all adults of 18 years age in the Gram Sabha area".

That in part (i) lines 5-6, the words "or appointed" be deleted.

That in part (k) line 5, for the word "Panchayat" the word "Sabha" be substituted.

That in part (l) lines 5-7, the words "and.....Sarpanch" be deleted.

Shri Maru Singh Malik (Sampla) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That at the end of sub-clause (b) the following be added :—

"a Chaupal and a Dharamshala".

That after sub-clause (j) the following sub-clause be added :—

"Prescribed authority" means any authority which may be notified as such for any particular purpose or purposes by Government subject to such conditions as may be prescribed.

Sir, in clause (1) of the original Bill as it was introduced before the House a definition of 'prescribed authority' was given but now in the Bill as it has been amended by the Select Committee this definition has been omitted. The word 'prescribed authority' is mentioned at many places in the Bill but its definition has been deleted. I think it is necessary that this definition be retained and I would request the Government that the definition of 'prescribed authority' may not be deleted.

Mr. Deputy Speaker. Motion moved —

That at the end of sub-clause (b) the following be added :—

"a Chaupal and a Dharamshala".

That after sub-clause (j) the following sub-clause be added :—

"prescribed authority" means any authority which may be notified as such for any particular purpose or purposes by Government subject to such conditions as may be prescribed.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (Punjabi) : Sir, I support the amendment moved by my hon. Friend Sardar Chanan Singh that the word 'Gram Sabha' be substituted for the words 'Gram Panchayat'. The hon. Chief Minister has remarked in his speech that the word 'Gram Sabha' will be deleted in the Bill. If this is done the people in villages will not be able to come together and suggest ways and means for their own uplift and betterment. I think that in order to have control over the panches it is

[Sardar Achbar Singh Chhina]

necessary that meetings of Gram Sabha be held once or twice during the year so that it may review the progress that is made by the panchayats. The Gram Sabha will make the panches realize their responsibility. By omitting the provision of Gram Sabha, the very object of the Bill will be defeated. If the hon. Minister really wants to transfer all powers to the people in rural areas in order to enable them to decide their own fate, then he should not delete the provision of Gram Sabha in the Bill. The Gram Sabha will examine the accounts and review the work of panchayats and pass the budget, but I am sorry to say that this provision has been deleted and in its stead the word 'Gram Panchayat Area' has been substituted. I would draw the attention of the House to this fundamental point and request the Government that the provision of the Gram Sabha should not be deleted.

Shri Sri Chand (Bahadurgarh) (*Hindi*): Sir, I think that the amendments moved by my hon. Friend Shri Maru Singh Malik are quite important. He has said that the words "A Chaupal and a Dharamshala" be added at the end of sub clause (b) to clause 3 under the definition of the word 'Building'. Secondly, a definition of the 'prescribed authority' should be given because this finds a mention at various places in the Bill. In my opinion the definition of this expression must be given in the Bill as I think it can never be the intention of the select committee to omit its definition.

Shri Jagat Ram Bhardwaj (Hoshiarpur) (*Hindi*): Sir, my hon. Friend Sardar Chanan Singh has remarked that a person should be allowed to exercise his right of vote at the age of 18 years because he becomes an adult at that age and is also in a position to marry at this age. In this connection I would like to make a few submissions and hope that my hon. Friend will feel inclined to withdraw his amendment after hearing my arguments. I may point out to him that persons get married even at the age of 14 or 15 years. I was also married when I was of this age. It is not necessary that after marriage a person becomes an adult. Every Punjabi knows that a person gets the full number of teeth at the age of 18 but the wisdom tooth comes out at the age of 20 or 21. So long as this wisdom tooth does not appear a person cannot be said to be an adult. I am, therefore, of the view that no person should be given the right to vote until he has attained the age of 21 years.

Secondly, so far as the constitution of Gram Sabha is concerned, I would submit that people in villages can assemble at any time they like and suggest ways and means to improve the conditions in villages. For example, if the hon. Members were asked to get the opinion of 70 lakh voters before passing the Budget, then it will not be a feasible proposition.

The persons who have once been elected by the village people have every right to pass the Budget. There is hardly any village matter which is not in the knowledge of the members of Panchayats. I think that people in villages can easily assemble whenever they like and devise ways and means for their uplift and betterment. So there is little force in the argument that Gram Sabha should be constituted in order to pass the Budget.

Sardar Partap Singh (Rupar) (*Punjabi*) : Today, several years after the attainment of Independence, we are considering the question of fixing the minimum age limit for a voter for elections to the Panchayats. When it is an admitted fact that a person becomes an adult at the age of eighteen years, why should the limit of 21 years be fixed for enrolment as voters for elections to the Panchayats? If this condition is prescribed, I am afraid lakhs of sensible young men who can be regarded as fit persons in the real sense of the term will be deprived of the right to vote. In order that every sensible young man of India should enjoy the right of vote, it is necessary to amend this Bill so as to fix the minimum age to a voter at 18 years.

Shri Rala Ram (Mukerian) (*Hindi*) : Sir, no discussion appeared to be necessary on the question of age limit. In my opinion, the limit fixed in the Bill is quite appropriate. The minimum age limit in the case of the voters for the Assembly and the Parliament is also 21 years. There appears to be no sound reason for reducing it to 18 years in the case of voters for elections to the Panchayats. The right to vote is a fundamental right and is the keystone on which the arch of democracy is built. It is a right which involves a big responsibility. In my opinion, the age limit of a voter for a Panchayat should be the same as is prescribed for a voter for the Assembly or Parliament. Reducing it would be tantamount to jeopardising the success of the Panchayats. It is at the age of 21 that a person becomes capable of realizing his responsibility and understanding things.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : How is it that Shri Karan Singh has been elected as the head of the Jammu and Kashmir State at the age of 18?

Shri Rala Ram : Exceptions are always there.

Shrimati Sita Devi (Jullundur City South-East) (*Hindi*) : Sir, so far as the provisions made in this Bill are concerned, in my opinion no member whether of the Congress party or of the Opposition should oppose them just for the sake of opposition. It is not proper from any point of view to give a person the right to vote at the age of 18 because one is far from being mature in his thoughts at this age nor can anyone of this age be expected to possess sense and knowledge enough to make him fit for being entrusted

[Shrimati Sita Devi]

with the power of deciding the destiny of a village. At this age, one is hardly free from the influence of one's childhood. Such youths can easily be misled by my brothers like Sardar Chanan Singh. At the age of 21, one can think for oneself and discriminate between good and bad. For these reasons, I am of the view that no amendment is called for so far as this clause is concerned.

Sardar Nidhan Singh (Mehna) (Punjabi) : Sir, my first submission is that in the debates that are held here both sides of the House should be allowed to have their say so that the people outside may come to know the respective view-points and may decide for themselves as to who speaks the truth and who does not.

I have risen to support the amendment moved by Comrade Chanan Singh. People who have visited foreign countries and seen the world know that a person becomes an adult at the age of 18. He is then quite fit for every kind of work ; he no longer remains a child. There are persons who remain backward and reactionary even at the age of 21 ; there are others who begin to look ahead and have a progressive outlook at the age of 18. It is in the fitness of things that training in organisational work should be given to the youths from the age of 18 years. It is an undeniable fact that if the young men are given an opportunity to think for themselves so far as the matters concerning their welfare are concerned at the age of 18, by the time they are 21 they will have become quite experienced. There is no reason why they should be debarred from a job involving responsibility for three years. In my opinion, the minimum age limit for voters in this Bill should be reduced to 18.

Principal Iqbal Singh (Jagraon) (Punjabi) : Sir, two wrongs do not make one right. If in the case of the Assembly and the Parliament, the right to vote has been given to those who are 21 or above, this does not mean that the same wrong should be repeated in the case of elections to the Panchayats. Since in the eyes of the law, a person becomes an adult at the age of 18, there is no reason why young men of this age should be debarred from the right of vote.

We are to-day laying the foundation of democracy. If it would be laid in a wrong manner the whole structure will remain faulty for ever. Let us boldly make this amendment in the Bill because thereby we shall be setting an example for the Assembly and the Parliament as well. We should show the same large-heartedness in reducing the age of the voter in this Bill to 18 years that we have shown in bringing forward this Bill. I would again appeal to the Minister-in-charge not to deprive any adult of the right to vote.

Shri Wadhawa Ram (Fazilka) (Punjabi) : Sir, I have to say just a few words with regard to this clause. When a person of 18 years of age is considered as a full-grown adult with all his senses intact by the law courts and is relied upon, there appears to be no reason why he should not be given the right to vote. In fact, old people in their seventies should have in some cases been denied the right to vote but what we find here is that young men are being deprived of this right. If a young man of 18 can plough the land, harvest the crops, construct the roads and do every kind of job in the village economy, why can't he exercise his right to vote properly ?

In India, in the eyes of law, any person who attains the age of eighteen is considered a major. It is strange that while very aged persons are given the right to vote, young men are denied the same. The Government should not be afraid of them. Fear alone cannot save it from them.

The next thing is that the provision for making Gram Sabhas has been deleted. This is not a step in the right direction. One of the hon. Members has stated that it is not possible for seventy thousand persons to come together at one place. If the population of a village is five hundred there can hardly be one hundred adults in it. How do they arrive at the figure of seventy thousand ? In my opinion the work of the Panchayats should be entrusted to the villagers because the officers who work under the instructions of the Director would not consult the people and would work according to their own sweet will. So the provisions for constituting Gram Panchayats should remain in the Bill.

Shri Rala Ram : On a point of order, Sir. As the provision for Gram Sabha was made in clause 4, the discussion on it can only be carried on when that clause is under consideration and not now. May I know whether anything regarding Gram Sabhas can be said at this stage ?

✓ **Mr. Deputy Speaker :** That was only a suggestion.

Sardar Hari Singh : Sir, I beg to move—

That the question be now put.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That the question be now put.

The motion was carried.

Minister For Local Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma) (Hindi) : Sir, to this clause three or four amendments have been moved. The first is that for voters the age limit should be eighteen and not 21.

I think nowhere in India has the age-limit been fixed at eighteen. Another thing is that there is also a practical difficulty in it. There are

[Minister for Local Government]

already in existence lists of voters for the Assembly, District Boards and Municipal Committee's elections. If the age limit is lowered in the case of Panchayats separate lists would be required for the elections in this case. This will involve a lot of labour and expenditure. Two lists of voters will have to be kept one for the Assembly and the other for the Panchayat elections. May I ask why the age limit should not be still lowered to fifteen years? It will doubtless increase the young element in our Panchayats. But on the other side we should see the practical difficulties that have to be faced in adopting such a course of action. If the hon. Members are saying so merely for the sake of propaganda it is another matter. In that case they can even suggest fourteen or fifteen years.

Now about the question of Gram Sabhas. This matter will come under another clause. It has been stated that there should be Gram Sabhas. This can, of course, be provided in the rules. There appears to be no need of bothering our heads on this topic here. Definition is always needed for those terms only which are frequently used in the Bill. If a term occurs only once or twice in the Bill there is no need for giving its definition. So there appears to be no need for giving the definition of Gram Sabha here. For this a provision can be made in the rules which the Government will frame.

Regarding 'building', it had been suggested that Dharamsala and Chaupal should also be included in the definition of this term. I cannot understand what would be gained by doing so. May I know where it has been said that the definition of the word 'building' will not include these.

There appears to be no need for a separate definition of the term 'prescribed authority' also, because in two words it has been stated that it will be prescribed in the rules. This amendment is not acceptable. If it is accepted it will make no difference at all. The Select Committee has laid down the principle that this Act should be kept as simple as possible. Ordinary persons cannot understand complicated matters. Therefore I beg to submit that either these amendments should be withdrawn, or they should be rejected by the House because their acceptance will not make any difference.

Shri Sri Chand : On a point of explanation, Sir. The definition of the word "building" as given in the Bill is not so extensive as to include Dharamsala and Chaupal in it. This is why notice had been given of this amendment. But if the Government does not accept it, it is its own sweet-

will. Similarly there is a need for clarification in the case of the term 'prescribed authority'.

Minister for Local Government : It has nowhere been written that building will not include Dharamsala and Chaupal. Therefore to me there appears to be no necessity for this amendment.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in part (a) line 3, for the figure "21" the figure "18" be substituted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in part (f) line 1, for the word "Panchayat" the word "Sabha" be substituted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in part (g) line 2 for the word "the Panchayat" the following words be substituted :

"the executive committee of the Gram Sabha consisting of all adults of 18 years age in the Gram Sabha Area."

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in part (i) lines 5-6 the word "of appointed" be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in part (k) line 5, for the word "Panchayat" the word "Sabha" be substituted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in part (l) lines 5-7, the words "and.....Sarpanch" be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That at the end of sub-clause (b) the following be added ;
"a Chaupal and a Dharamsala".

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That after sub-clause (j) the following sub-clause be added ;

"prescribed authority" means any authority which may be notified as such for any particular purpose or purposes by Government subject to such condition as may be prescribed."

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That clause 3 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Clause 4.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina is requested to move his amendments.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in sub-clause (1), line 2, for the word “may”, the word “shall” be substituted.

That in sub-clause (1), line 3, for the word “any”, the word “every” be substituted.

That in sub-clause (1), lines 5-6, for the words “constitute one—area”, the words “be a Gram Sabha area for the purposes of this Act”, be substituted.

That in sub-clause (2) line 3 for the word “may” the word “shall” be substituted.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, it has been stated by the Minister for Local Government that the Joint Select Committee has made the Bill more useful for the people. The fact of the matter is that it has become more convenient for the bureaucracy. But for the people it has grown more stringent. The word ‘shall’ everywhere has been replaced by ‘may’ thereby leaving all the powers into the hands of the officers. They may or may not do a certain thing. All has been left to the discretion of the officers.

Sir, I request that in line 3 of sub-clause 2, the word “shall” may be substituted in place of “may”.

Then, Sir, the provision of Gram Sabha has altogether been removed. The provision of Gram Sabha was essential. Mr. Deputy Speaker, it was laid down in the original Bill that—

“Demarcation of Gram Sabha Area (1) Government shall, by notification, declare every village with a population of not less than five hundred to be Gram Sabha area for the purposes of this Act.”

But now there also ‘may’ has been used in place of ‘shall’. It appears as if at the instance of the Director of Panchayats everywhere the word ‘may’ has been put in place of ‘shall’ so that it may prove more convenient for the Government. That is why I say that the Bill has become more complicated and its provisions have become vague. I, therefore, suggest that the word ‘may’ be replaced by ‘shall’.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motions moved —

That in sub-clause (i) line 2 for the word “may” the word “shall” be substituted.

That in sub-clause (1), line 3, for the word “any” the word “every” be substituted.

That in sub-clause (1) lines 5-6, for the words "constitute one.....area", the words "be a Gram Sabha area for the purposes of this Act" be substituted.

That in sub-clause (2), line 3, for the word "may" the word "shall" be substituted.

Minister for Local-Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma) (Hindi) : I am of the view that we should not get into any controversy as to meanings of words. I want to tell the hon. Members that generally in Government Departments, the word 'may' is used. But it does not mean that the Government is seeking protection under this word and does not intend to do anything. In case the word 'shall' is substituted in its place, it will become obligatory for the Government to establish panchayats all over the State at the same time but sometimes it is difficult for the Government to do so. I may inform the House, that neither the previous Government nor the present has ever thought of not establishing panchayats in the State. So, I want to assure hon. Members that for all practical purposes the word 'may' shall be used in the sense of 'shall'. Here the word 'may' has purposely been used because in actual practice the use of the word 'shall' can create difficulties.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in sub clause (1), line 2, for the word 'may' the word 'shall' be substituted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in sub clause (1), line 3, for the word 'any', the word 'every' be substituted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (1), lines 5-6, for the words 'constitute one..... area', the words 'be a Gram Sabha area for the purposes of this Act' be substituted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in sub clause (2) line 3, for the word 'may' the word 'shall' be substituted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That clause 4 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Clause 5

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Now we take up clause 5. I have received several notices of amendments to this clause. I call upon Principal Iqbal Singh to move his amendments.

Principal Iqbal Singh (Jagraon) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move —

That in the proviso to sub-clause (3), lines 1-2, the words "that for1960" be deleted.

That the second proviso to sub-clause 3 be deleted.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, My submission is that the limit of 26th January, 1960, which has been provided in this clause, should be removed. In case, it is allowed to stand it will mean that the Scheduled castes will be benefited by this clause only up to this date and after this they will not have any chance to send their representatives to the panchayats. They are so backward that they may not be able to make any progress by that date. Therefore, Sir, the proviso to this clause should not be allowed to stand.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motions moved—

That in the proviso to sub-clause (3), lines 1-2, the words 'that for... ...1960' be deleted.

That the second proviso to sub-clause 3 be deleted.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in sub-clause (1) line 1, for the word 'may' the word 'shall' be substituted.

That for sub-clause (2) the following be substituted :—

"(2) Every such Gram Panchayat shall consist of all adults qualified to be voters and prescribed but no such adult shall be entitled to be or to remain such a member of a Gram Panchayat if he—

- (a) is of unsound mind and stands so declared by a competent court; or
- (b) is an undischarged insolvent; or
- (c) is convicted of an election offence; or
- (d) is a servant of the Central Government or the State Government or of a local authority, serving in or having jurisdiction over any area of the Gram Panchayat.

Provided that the disqualification under clause (b) or (c) may be removed by an order of Government or the prescribed authority.

That after sub-clause (?), the following sub-clause be added :—

"(3) Register of members. On the establishment of a Gram Panchayat the prescribed authority shall cause to be prepared a register in the prescribed manner of all adults entitled under sub-section (2) to be members of the Gram Panchayat".

That in sub-clause (3), line 2, between the words 'five' and 'candidate' the words 'or more' be inserted.

That sub clause (4) be deleted.

Sir, in accordance with my first amendment I wish that the word 'may' be substituted by the word 'shall'. Sir, in this regard it is said that this is simply a legal point and that such language is used in all Bills. There is no denying the fact that in every Bill such words are, of course, used, but who started this system? In fact, this is the procedure which was initiated by the Britishers and they commenced the use of this word for their own convenience. Now when we are going to draft democratic laws, we shall have to bring about a change in the language. We are not to follow anything blindly. This is an old system by which they could conceal their evil traits. If there occurred any omission or commission, they could defend it under the provision of the word 'may'. Now when this Assembly has been constituted by the votes of the people and is going to make new enactments, it is essential that their drafting should be very clear so that they might be translated into action in right earnest. The word 'may' was incorporated under the rule of the bureaucracy for its own defence so that it might not commit any mistake. Therefore, in view of convenience and also to shield the officers they did not insert the word 'shall'. But it appears to me that it has also become a habit of this Government to follow their principles. My submission is that the people who are to form these Acts and also those upon whom these are to be enforced are both the citizens of our own country. Therefore, with the insertion of the word 'may' our Government will be vested with such powers by virtue of which it will be in a position to create hurdles in the formation of the panchayat of any village. I fear that in these circumstances, the officers will misuse their powers with the result that this word will undermine the whole spirit of this Bill. I am, therefore, of the opinion that in order to safeguard the rights of the panchayats, the word 'may' be substituted by the word 'shall'.

My second amendment concerns the number of the panches. Mr. Deputy Speaker, a reference to this effect had already been made and the House is of the opinion that the work of the panchayats will not be run with only five panches. The major question is that one village may be big and the other small. I mean that the population of some villages is small and that of others is large. Secondly, the experience till today reveals that the imposition of such restrictions on the panchayats has tended to create different parties. I am of the opinion that its results will be that in the villages, there will always be some sort of disorder and peace and tranquillity will not be maintained there. If the villages were given such rights that they could elect seven, nine or as many panches as they require and that the people of various shades of opinion and sections were accommodated then I think that the danger of the party-organisations which is a major danger.

[Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut]

will be averted. Therefore, we feel that in order to bring about healthy circumstances, it is necessary that this restriction on the number should be withdrawn and I recommend that the provision of this number should be changed from five to thirteen so that every village should possess the right to have as many panches as they require. When the panchayats will be the body representatives of all sections of the people, there will remain no possibility of party organisations. But, on the other hand if the number of the members is restricted to five, then I think that the party-politics will definitely remain there and the purpose for which this Bill has been presented, will altogether be defeated.

Our third objection is with regard to the qualifications of the voters. This Bill embodies that the electorates electing the panchayats will only be those who elect the members of the Legislative Assembly. I feel that it is for the convenience of the Government itself that it has accepted the Assembly electorates as the electors of the panches of the panchayats. But I cannot help saying that it will have very far reaching consequences. When the Government has accepted the age limit of 21 years for an adult it will be seen by investigation in the villages that many adults are not included in the electoral rolls. I wonder why on the one hand the age for becoming an adult has been increased from 18 to 21 years and on the other hand the right of franchise has not been conferred even upon those who are 21. Besides, the electoral rolls are reviewed at the time of Assembly elections only. Its result will be that a good many *bona-fide* voters of the villages will be deprived of their rights to take part in the panchayat elections, which means that the panchayats will not be representative bodies. Again, the panches will also not take pains in the work of the panchayats. I, therefore, wish to submit that so far as the question of the election of the village panchayats is concerned the condition of the Assembly electorates should not be made applicable for this purpose.

Then, there are conditions that people who have committed bailable or non-bailable offences and have undergone imprisonment will not be entitled to remain members of the panchayats. But if, however, such people are elected, then the Government will be empowered to remove them. Mr. Deputy Speaker, I think that to vest such wide powers in the Government or any of its department is tantamount to defaming the name of democracy. There occur many cases in villages which are of bailable nature and there take place even such cases in which after having undergone an imprisonment of a year or two, the accused is released. Besides, in pursuance of the provisions contained in Section 326, there will be maintained many registers of habitual offenders with the result that all such

people will be deprived of their right of being members of the panchayats. Therefore, it appears that all these conditions have not been embodied in accordance with the spirit for which the panchayats are going to be constituted. In the presence of these restrictions, these panchayats will never go to form democratic institutions. Then, Mr. Deputy Speaker, what does the police do? It challans the people even in the absence of any offence. It means that whenever a person is convicted rightly or wrongly he will not be a member of the panchayat and consequently a vast majority of the village population will not be benefited from these powers and this will be so despite their keen desire to serve the people.

Sir, restrictions have been imposed on the panchayats and their nature will be that panchayats will not really be representative bodies. There will be many obstacles in their way and they will not function properly. I, therefore, think it necessary that my amendments namely the word 'may' be substituted by the word 'shall', the number of panches should be raised from five to 11 or 13 and the election restrictions should be deleted so that the party factions may not exist in the villages, may be accepted.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motions moved—

That in sub clause (1), line 1, for the word 'may' the word 'shall' be substituted.
That for sub-clause (2), the following be substituted :—

“(2) Every such Gram Panchayat shall consist of all adults qualified to be voters as prescribed but no such adult shall be entitled to be or to remain a member of a Gram Panchayat if he—

- (a) is of unsound mind and stands so declared by a competent court ; or
- (b) is an undischarged insolvent ; or
- (c) is convicted of an election offence ; or
- (d) is a servant of the Central Government or the State Government or of a local authority, serving in or having jurisdiction over any area of the Gram Panchayat ;

Provided that the disqualification under clause (b) or (c) may be removed by an order of the Government or the prescribed authority.

That after sub-clause (2), the following sub-clause be added :—

“(3) Register of Members. On the establishment of a Gram Panchayat the prescribed authority shall cause to be prepared a register in the prescribed manner of all adults entitled under sub section (2) to be members of the Gram Panchayat.

That in sub clause (3), line 3, between the words 'five' and 'candidate' the words or more, be inserted.

Sardar Mohan Singh Jathedar (Tarn Taran) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in sub clause (2), line 2, between the words 'five' and 'panches' the words 'to nine' be inserted.

That in sub-clause 2, lines 2—3, between the words "panches" and "who" the following words be inserted :—

"in proportion to the population as may be prescribed."

These amendments will have consequential effect on sub-clause (3) in as much as after the words 'first five' the words 'to nine' will have to be inserted there too. Similarly, the same amendment will have to be effected in the Proviso i.e. the words 'to nine' shall be added after the words 'first five' and, as a consequential amendment, the words 'to ninth' shall have to be inserted after the word 'fifth' in the last line.

My submission is that the population of all the villages is not equal and, therefore, the number of panches in each panchayat should not be the same. The panchayat should have more or less panches according to the population of their respective areas. The maximum number has been fixed at nine because if there is no limit to the number of panches the panchayats will become unwieldy and it will not be possible for too many panches to consider any matter properly. I do not think these amendments requires any further clarification.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motions moved—

That in sub-clause (2), line 2, between the words 'five' and 'panches' the words 'to nine' be inserted.

That in sub-clause 2, lines 2-3, between the words 'panches' and 'who', the following words be inserted :

"in proportion to the population as may be prescribed."

Sardar Gurbanta Singh (Adampur) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That the following be added to the first proviso to 5 (3) :—

"and in the case of a Panchayat with more than six panches two Scheduled Castes candidates securing the highest number of votes shall be deemed to have been elected as the last two panches."

I have moved this amendment in view of the fact that in a large number of villages there will be more than 5 or 6 panches on account of their larger population. You have provided that wherever we, the scheduled castes constitute not less than 10 per cent of the population and no member of the scheduled caste is among the first five, the scheduled caste candidate securing the highest number of votes shall be deemed to have been elected as the fifth panch. Sir, we are the poorest and the most oppressed people and, therefore, it is necessary that we should have our representative in every panchayat. If we have no voice in any panchayat we shall never receive any justice from it

Previously, we used to get one seat in an area where we formed 20 per cent of the total population. Now you have provided for reservation

of a seat for us where we happen to constitute 10 per cent of the population. This is very kind of you. But my submission is that if a panchayat is to consist of not more than five members and we happen to form, say, 11% of the population we shall get one seat in the panchayat and our representative will be in a position to make his voice heard, but if we have only one representative in a panchayat of 8 or 9 members his voice will be no more than a cry in the wilderness. Of course, if we have two representatives in a panchayat consisting of eight or nine members they can make their presence felt and their voice can be effective in spite of our members being poor and illiterate. I, therefore, most earnestly request the Minister to kindly accede to this request. It is true that at certain places we can be in a position to get better representation on the strength of our population and the number of our own votes but it is well known that these poor and ignorant people are coerced in many ways to vote for non-scheduled caste candidates. I would, therefore, request the Government to so arrange things as to enable us to get ourselves elected to the panchayats with a comparatively smaller number of our own votes just as has already been done in the case of elections to this Assembly. That is the only way to save the poor population of the villages from injustice.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motion moved —

That the following be added to first proviso to 5 (3) :—

“and in the case of a Panchayat with more than six panches two Scheduled Caste candidates securing the highest number of votes shall be deemed to have been elected as the last two panches.”

Shri Rizaq Ram (Rai) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in sub-clause (3), line 3, after the word ‘five’ the words ‘or nine candidates, as the case may be’ be added.

That in sub clause (3), line 3, the word ‘candidate’ be deleted.

That in the first proviso to sub-clause (3), line 8, after the word ‘five’ the words ‘or nine’ be added.

That in the first proviso to sub clause (3), lines 12-13, between the words ‘fifth’ and ‘panch’ the words ‘or ninth’ be inserted.

That in sub-clause (4), part (e), line 3, for the word ‘officer’, the word ‘offender’ be substituted.

Mr. Speaker, my hon. Friend Sardar Mohan Singh Jathedar has moved an amendment to the effect that the number of panches should be between five and nine. If this amendment is accepted, its provisions would affect the second proviso to sub-clause 3. When the number of panches is going to be increased, it is necessary to make consequential changes in the Bill. The population of one village may be only five hundred while that of another may be five or eight thousand. It would, therefore, not be proper to prescribe the same number of panches for every panchayat. It should be permissible to have upto nine members. The number of panches should be according to the population of a village.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motions moved—

That in sub clause (3), line 3, after the word 'five' the words 'or nine candidates, as the case may be' be added.

That in sub clauses (3), line 3, the word 'candidate' be deleted.

That in first proviso to sub clause (3), line 8, after the word 'five' the words 'or nine' be added

That in the first proviso to sub clause (3), lines 12-13, between the words 'fifth' and 'panch' the words 'or ninth' be inserted.

That in sub clause (4), part (e), line 3, for the word 'officer', the word 'offender' be substituted.

Shrimati Sita Devi (Jullundur City South East) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That after sub clause (3), the following be added :—

“(4) 20 per cent seats shall be set apart for women.”

At the end of sub-clause (4), the following be added :—

“No one will be elected as a panch or Sarpanch who has not passed the Primary School Examination.”

Mr. Speaker, I have felt it necessary to move these amendments because the Gram Panchayat Bill which we are discussing is intended for improving conditions in the villages. As you are aware, Sir, women are comparatively backward. The number of educated women is less than that of educated men and they are not so 'forward' as to compete with men. Before Pakistan came into existence, four seats were reserved for women in the Legislative Assembly of the undivided Punjab. At that time four women were returned to the Assembly. Now, however, for certain reasons no reservation has been made for them in the Constitution. As a result of it, only three women have been returned to this House. God alone knows how even these three succeeded in being elected. In order to enable women to discharge their responsibilities, it is necessary that twenty per cent of seats in the panchayats should be reserved for them. If that is not done the panchayats would remain incomplete for the purpose for which they are meant.

My second amendment wants it to be laid down that the panches and Sar-panches should be educated upto the primary standard at least. It is essential to make this provision because if these people are uneducated, they will not be able to understand their work properly. The Secretary of every Panchayat will always be an educated person. If the panches are uneducated, they will not be able to check or control the Secretary's work. This will in a way lead to Secretary's rule. Uneducated members will not be able to read the contents of the papers placed before them by the Secretary. In view of these difficulties, I hope that all the Members of this House, whether they sit on the Government Benches or on the Opposition Benches, will support this amendment. If it is really desired

that this Bill should bring about improvement in the villages and the Panchayats should function efficiently, it is essential that all the panches should be educated upto to the primary standard at least. I hope that no hon. Member will oppose this amendment and the hon. Minister will accept it. If this is done, the people will say that the Government has enacted a really useful measure.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : I may inform the Lady Member that her first amendment is out of order. Motion moved—

That at the end of sub clause (4), the following be added :—

‘No one will be elected as a panch or Sarpanch who has not passed the Primary School Examination’.

Rao Gajraj Singh (Gurgaon) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in clause 5 (4) (a) the word ‘non-bailable’ be omitted.

That in clause 5 (4) (b) the first 4 lines beginning from ‘has one year or’ be omitted.

Sir, I would submit that there appears to be some lacuna in this clause inasmuch as the same punishment has been provided for non-bailable offence involving moral turpitude and bailable offence involving moral turpitude. This appears to be wrong. This is an ordinary amendment and I hope that the Government will have no objection in accepting it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motion moved—

That in clause 5(4) (a) the word ‘non-bailable’ be omitted.

That in clause 5(4) (b) the first 4 lines beginning from ‘has.....one year or’ be omitted.

Bakhshi Partap Singh (Sujanpur) (Hindi) : Sir, I have stood up to support the amendment moved by my hon. Friend Sardar Mohan Singh Jathedar. I may submit that there might be some justification in having five panches in villages where the total population is less than five hundred but it will be sheer injustice to the people of those villages where the total population is one thousand or more and where the number of panches is five.

Minister for Local Government : I have agreed to accept this amendment.

Bakhshi Partap Singh : I had to say something more in this connection but after the hon. Minister has given an assurance that he is accepting this amendment I would not like to press my arguments further.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : Ajnala) (Punjabi) : Sir, I have stood up to support the amendment moved by my hon. Friend Sardar Hanan Singh Dhut. Before this I had also made a request to the hon. Minister that the word ‘Gram Sabha’ be substituted for the word ‘Gram Panchayat’ but he did not accept my suggestion and had remarked that the definition of

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the word 'Gram Panchayat' had been modified in the Bill. Now it is not the question of definition and I think that the Government is departing from the original Bill. In the Bill as it was introduced there was a provision for the constitution of Gram Sabha but now that provision has been changed and the word 'Gram Sabha' has been replaced by 'Gram Panchayat'. I think that by doing so the object for which gram panchayats are being established in villages will not be served. Panchayats are already in existence but the difficulty is that 'here is no effective control over them. It is commonly observed that the officers try to create dissensions among the members of the panchayats to serve their own ends. It is, therefore, essential that the control over Panchayats should be given to the Gram Sabhas. If this is not done, then the members of Panchayats will always remain at the beck and call of the officers.

Minister for Local Government: On a point of order, Sir. When the question relating to the provision of the Gram Sabha has once been decided, how far is it relevant to make a speech on it ?

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina: That speech was on the omission of the definition of the term Gram Sabha. Now we have before us the clause relating to its establishment and constitution.

✓ **Mr. Deputy Speaker:** This question has already been decided.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina: Sir, that was the question of its definition. Here the Government is proposing to do away with its existence. On that occasion the Minister had stated that it was only a question pertaining to its definition. The Bill as introduced provided... ..

“Government shall by notification declare every village with a population of not less than five hundred to be a Gram Sabha area for the purposes of this Act.”

✓ **Mr. Deputy Speaker:** You cannot speak on this issue as it has already been decided.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina: I hold that this has not yet been decided.

✓ **Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, order. You are not to hold; I am to hold what is in order and what is not.

Shri Prabodh Chandra: On a point of order, Sir. Can he challenge the ruling of the Chair ?

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina: Let the hon. Minister himself explain the correct position. When we broached this matter first, the Chief Minister came down upon us. (ਸਾਡੇ ਪੈ ਗਏ ਸਨ) (ਸਾਨੂੰ ਪੈ ਗਏ ਸਨ)

✓ **Mr. Deputy Speaker:** The word ਪੈ is not parliamentary.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chnina : Sir, this is a question relating to the very existence of the Gram Sabha. We must have at this stage the right to speak; after this we shall not even refer to it.

The maximum limit for the members of the Panchayats should not be five and Jathedar Mohan Singh's amendment should be accepted. As a result of the fixation of the limit at five, villages with larger population will not get their due representation in the Tehsil Unions.

Shri Sri Chand (Bahadurgarh) (Hindi) : Sir, in his amendment Jathedar Mohan Singh has indicated the maximum limit of the number of members but has not given the minimum limit.

Minister for Local Government : It is there. I may read out to him.

That in sub-clause (2) line 2, between the word 'five' and 'Panches' the word 'to nine' be inserted.

Shri Sri Chand : These words should have been put after the word 'Panches'.

Sir, the population of the villages varies from five hundred to eight thousand. If the number of members of the Panchayat of a village with a population of five hundred is fixed at five, then there should be an increase of one member after an increase of every hundred in the population of a village. I find no logic or fairness in fixing the number of members of the Panchayat of a village with a population of eight thousand at nine. Either the ancient convention should have been adhered to and the number of members of all the Panchayats fixed at five or it should have been kept proportionate to the population. If the number of Panches is not made proportionate to the population, the villages with larger populations will not get due representation in the Tehsil and the District Unions. What will the Government after all lose by fixing the number of members proportionate to the population? It is not going to pay any remuneration to the Panches. I fail to understand why we should stop at the figure 'nine' so far as the membership of the Panchayats is concerned. Why should not the principle of representation proportionate to the population be followed? After all, the Government should proceed in the matter in accordance with some principle. It should not think that with the help of the majority at its back, it can with impunity do anything - whether legitimate or illegitimate. To fix the number of Panches at five in the case of a village with a population of five hundred and nine in the case of a village with a population of eight thousand is neither fair nor democratic.

I wonder how this figure of nine has been arrived at. On the basis of my personal experience, I am of the opinion that the larger the

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number of members the greater the chances of muddling and delay in the reaching of decisions. It appears as if the Government has fixed the maximum number at nine to please those gentlemen who belong to villages with a population of about nine hundred and are anxious to increase the chances of their success in the elections to the Panchayats.

Then, Sir, the election procedure envisaged in this Bill is rather complicated. I wonder why the procedure followed in the case of elections to the Municipal Committees, namely, dividing the towns into wards and holding the election by single non-transferable vote is not being adopted for elections to the Panchayats? Why should the candidates for membership of the Panchayats be made to approach for vote every voter in the village of which the population is, say, eight thousand. Under the system provided for in the Bill, the candidates will have to undergo a lot of inconvenience.

If the Government wishes to be just, it should not give up certain principles even for minor matters. The principle of having five members in a panchayat should not have been given up when some persons had asked the Government to have nine members. However, if the Government wants to follow some other principle it should better divide the village into wards on a population basis just as is done in the case of municipal committees. If this thing is not acceptable to the Government it should stick to the number five and keep the Act simple. It is not proper to change the number to nine and then to eleven and so on and so forth. This is acting in an arbitrary manner and no Government is justified in acting in this manner.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Sir, I move —

That the question be now put.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is —

That the question be now put.

The motion was carried.

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma) (Hindi) : Sir, my submission is that clause 5 of this Bill is an important clause. The Select Committee made the recommendation for five members. But yesterday and the day-before on hearing the general discussion I came to the conclusion that the majority of members in the House were in favour of increasing the number of Panches in Panchayats. It is wrong to say that the number has been increased to nine. As a matter of fact, what has been done is that wherever necessary the number can be increased to nine. This does not mean that without any principle it will be increased to nine. Regarding this,

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possibly, a provision will be made in the rules to be framed by the Government that where the population is more the number can be increased proportionately. Of course, this will be done according to some formula. There is no truth in the statement that without any consideration whatsoever the number will be increased to nine on some one's saying.

Now as to the sanctity of the number five, it is right that according to the popular belief there is some sanctity attached to the number five. But there is also no denying the fact that there is some political sanctity behind the views expressed by the hon. Members. So there is nothing wrong if the number is increased in accordance with their wishes.

For Harijans there was a provision made by the Government that the fifth member should automatically be a Harijan. Now that the number of members has been increased, it is but natural that their number should also increase proportionately. There is some weight in the amendments moved by Sardar Gurbanta Singh, Jathedar Mohan Singh and Rao Gajraj Singh. Therefore, the Government is prepared to accept them. Further, as it is the intention of the Government to keep the Bill as simple as possible, other amendments cannot be accepted.

Sir, I forgot to mention the two suggestions made by Shrimati Sita Devi. One of them is that women should be given at least twenty percent reservation. As a matter of fact, they are free to demand reservation upto fifty per cent. What I wish to submit is this that doing this will be against the Constitution. My hon. Sister has pledged her loyalty to the Constitution of India and, therefore, I would request her not to make such an unconstitutional demand.

The second thing which she has stated is this that even the condition of primary education has not been laid down for the panches. In this connection I wish to point out that when a person can be elected to the high office of the President of the Republic of India without having any educational qualification at all, it does not look proper that such conditions should be laid down for elections to the panchayats in our State.

Shrimati Sita Devi : But you can get credit if you do so.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in the proviso to sub-clause (3) lines 1-2 the words "that for..... 1960" be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That the second proviso to sub-clause (3) be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (1), line 1, for the word "may" the word "shall" be substituted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That for sub-clause (2), the following be substituted :

"(2) Every such Gram Panchayat shall consist of all adults qualified to be voters as prescribed but no such adult shall be entitled to be or to remain a member of a Gram Panchayat if he,

- (a) is of unsound mind and stands so declared by a competent court ; or
- (b) is an undischarged insolvent ; or
- (c) is convicted of an election offence ; or
- (d) is a servant of the Central Government or the State Government or of a local authority, serving in or having jurisdiction over any area of the Gram Panchayat;

Provided that the disqualification under clause (b) or (c) may be removed by an order of Government or the prescribed authority.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That after sub-clause (2), the following sub-clause be added :—

"(3) Register of members. On the establishment of a Gram Panchayat the prescribed authority shall cause to be prepared a register in the prescribed manner of all adults entitled under sub-section (2) to be members of the Gram Panchayat."

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (3) between the word "five" and "candidate" the words "or more" be inserted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That sub-clause (4) be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (2) line 2, between the words "five" and "Panches" the words "to nine" be inserted.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in lines 2-3, between the words "Panches" and "who" the following words be inserted ;

"in proportion to the population as may be prescribed"

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That the following be added to the first proviso to 5 (3) "and in the case of a panchayat with more than 6 panches two Scheduled Caste candidates securing the highest number of votes shall be deemed to have been elected as the last two panches."

The motion was carried.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (3) line 3 after the word "five" the words "or nine candidates as the case may be" be added.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (3) line 3, the word "candidate" be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in the first proviso to sub-clause (3) line 8, after the word "five" the words "or nine" be added.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in the first proviso to sub-clause (3) lines 12-13 between the words "fifth" and "panch" the words "or ninth" be inserted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That at the end of sub-clause (4), the following be added :
"No one will be elected as a panch or Sarpanch who has not passed the Primary School examination".

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (4) (a) the word "non-bailable" be omitted.

That in sub-clause (4) (b) the first four lines beginning from "has on year or" be deleted.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 5, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Clause 6.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Chaudhri Shri Chand has given notice of 3 amendments to Clause 6. He is requested to move them.

Shri Sri Chand (Bahadurgarh) (Hindi) : Sir, I move—

That after sub-clause (2), the following new sub-clauses be added :

- “(3) The Government may confer upon the representatives of the Tehsil Panchayat Union and the District Panchayat Union powers to hear appeals against the orders passed in judicial proceedings by any Gram Panchayat in the Tehsil or the District area as the case may be.
- (4) The representatives of Tehsil or District Panchayat Union upon whom appellate powers have been conferred shall when acting as such be known as Adalti Panchayat and
- (5) Every member of the Tehsil and District Panchayat Union shall be known as an Adalti Panch when exercising the powers conferred by sub-clause (3).
- (6) Ten members of the Tehsil and District Panchayat Union shall by rotation sit as Adalti Panches every month to hear appeals.
- (7) The representatives of the District Panchayat Union shall hear appeals against the order of the Tehsil Panchayat Union.”

That sub-clauses (3) and (4) be deleted.

That after sub-clauses (2), lines 3-4, the words “or elected...Gram Panchayats” be deleted.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, these amendments seek to provide that the appeals against the decisions of the Panchayat courts should lie in the Tehsil Union and District Union courts instead of the court of the District Magistrate. It has been said by the hon. Members sitting on the Treasury Benches that they want to re-organise the working of village life and bring a new life to it. I appeal to them that if at all they are sincere in their utterances, they should allow the Tehsil Union and District Union courts to hear the appeals against the decisions made by a panchayat and these should not be heard by the District Magistrate. I know that in order to rebut this point, it will be said that the panchayats lack experience. It may also be said that villagers are not so able that they may be fit to hear appeals against the decisions of the panchayats and instructors might be needed to coach them. I want to point out to the Government that it has got instructors at its disposal and that too in large numbers. It can depute the Director of Panchayats, the Commissioner, the Deputy Commissioner and the Revenue Assistants for this purpose. Their number will be sufficient for this purpose. In case, the Government is anxious to transfer power to the panchayats, it should not empower the District Magistrates to hear appeals since they have obtained training on quite different lines. Generally, we find that a thief, who has been caught red-handed is set free by them for want of evidence. Similarly a murderer goes scotfree, when there is not sufficient evidence to prove the charge against him. Their approach to things is quite different. They decide cases on the merits of evidence whereas the panches will decide cases on the basis of their personal knowledge. A District Magistrate will examine the decision of a panchayat from quite a different point of view when an appeal against that decision comes before him. He will

mainly depend upon the evidence and is apt to upset the previous judgment. For this reason, Sir, I beg to submit that the appeals against the decisions of the panchayat should be heard by the Tehsil Union and District Union panchayats. However, if the Government is anxious to equip the District Magistrates with powers in this regard, it may authorise them to review these cases where the Tehsil or District Union courts might have committed glaring mistakes. I can say with confidence that most of the judgments of the panchayats will be upset when appeals against them are heard by the District Magistrates, who have quite a different angle of vision.

I want to tell the House that as long as the appeals against the judgments delivered by the panchayats are allowed to be heard by the District Magistrates, the hon. Ministers shall not be successful in removing the curse of litigation from among the villagers and in saving them from incurring unnecessary expenditure on it, since even now the villagers will have to attend courts, in ur lots of expenditure there and the result will be that litigation will continue to stick to them. Therefore, Sir, I appeal to them that they may very kindly, authorise the Tehsil and District Unions to hear these appeals.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motions moved—

That after sub-clause (2), the following new sub-clauses be added :—

- “(3) The Government may confer upon the representatives of the Tehsil Panchayat Union and the District Panchayat Union powers to hear appeals against the orders passed in judicial proceedings by any Gram Panchayat in the Tehsil or the District area as the case may be.
- (4) The representatives of Tehsil or District Panchayat Union upon whom appellate powers have been conferred shall when acting as such be known as Adalti Panchayat and
- (5) Every Member of the Tehsil and District Panchayat Union shall be known as an Adalti Panch when exercising the powers conferred by sub-clause (3).
- (6) Ten members of the Tehsil and District Panchayat Union shall by rotation sit as Adalti Panches every month, to hear appeals.
- (7) The representatives of the District Panchayat Union shall hear appeals against the order of the Tehsil Panchayat Union.”

That sub-clause (3) and (4) be deleted.

That in sub-clause (2), lines 3—4, the words ‘or elected Gram Panchayats’ be deleted.

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma) (Hindi) :
Mr. Deputy Speaker, I regret to say that I cannot accept the amendment which hon. Chaudhri Sri Chand has moved. I do not feel that any substant-

[Minister for Local Government]

ial good will be done to the villagers, if the appeals against the decisions of the panchayats are allowed to be heard by the Tehsil Unions and District Unions. The District Magistrates while hearing appeals against these decisions will keep in view the manner in which cases are decided by the village panchayats which have full knowledge about them. Moreover, the law too has been liberalised in this respect and now they will be very particular about it.

Then, the ruralites are mostly illiterate and lack experience of the procedure of courts. Therefore, it does not appear reasonable to my mind that those very people should be authorised to hear appeals, as is desired in these amendments. Further, my hon. Friend is mistaken in saying that these people will continue to fall a prey to litigation. I want to tell him that a great change will be effected by this legislation because the disputes of the villagers will now be decided by the panches, who will be their neighbours. It will not be too much to hope that most of the cases will now finally end there and there may not be many appeals. Now, they will not have to attend courts and waste money for prosecuting appeals.

Further, knowledge of the procedure of the courts and experience is very essential, and in the absence thereof there will be every danger of injustice being done to the people. Therefore, no useful purpose can be served by authorising the Tehsil Unions or the District Unions to hear appeals.

However, if the circumstances permit, we would also like the Railways Department to appoint separate magistrates *i.e.*, one for each Local Body. But it is not in the fitness of things to vest the power of hearing appeals in the members of the 'Union' who will neither get any pay nor allowances. I, therefore, cannot accept the amendment.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That after sub-clause (2), the following new sub-clauses be added :—

- “(3) The Government may confer upon the representatives of the Tehsil Panchayat Union and the District Panchayat Union powers to hear appeals against the orders passed in judicial proceedings by any Gram Panchayat in the Tehsil or the District area as the case may be.
- (4) The representatives of Tehsil or District Panchayat Union upon whom appellate powers have been conferred shall when acting as such be known as Adalti Panchayat and
- (5) Every member of the Tehsil and District Panchayat Union shall be known as an Adalti Panch when exercising the powers conferred by sub-clause (3).
- (6) Ten members of the Tehsil and District Panchayat Union shall by rotation sit as Adalti Panches every month, to hear appeals.
- (7) The representatives of the District Panchayat Union shall hear appeals against the order of the Tehsil Panchayat Union.”

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That sub-clauses (3) and (4) be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (2) lines 3-4, the words "or elected Gram Panchayats" be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That clause 6 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Clause 7

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 7 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Clause 8

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 8 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Clause 9

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Now we come to Clause 9. Shri Maru Singh may move his amendment to this Clause.

Shri Maru Singh Malik (Sampla) (Hindi) : Sir, I move—

That in sub-clause (2), line 4, for the word "three" the word "five" be substituted.

Mr. Speaker, in accordance with the provisions contained in this Bill, the term of office of the Sarpanches and the Panches has been fixed at three years. Taking into account the powers and the duties entrusted to them, I am of the opinion that they will not be able to fulfil them in this period of three years. It can also take more than three years for the accomplishment of whatever schemes they formulate. For instance, the work of education, sanitation or any other work which may have been taken in hand by the panchayats for the general benefit of the people may not be completed in three years as they may not get the opportunity to do the needful. In the circumstances, I feel that whereas their duties and powers have been increased, they should also be given ample time so that they might easily accomplish their cherished schemes. I, therefore, propose that for this purpose, their tenure of office should be increased from three to five years.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motion moved—

That in sub-clause (2), line 4, for the word "three" the word 'five' be substituted

Shri Rala Ram (Mukerian) (Hindi) : I beg to move—

That in sub clause (1), line 3, after the word "Sarpanch", the following words be added :-

"who must be able to read and write. Voting shall be by secret ballot."

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sarpanches should at least, be educated, for I feel that the dignity of the panchayats will mostly depend upon the efficiency of their Sarpanches. If even the Sarpanches are not educated the result would be that they will have to be dependent on the Secretary or some body else for the execution of their business. This is a question involving the prestige of the panchayats and it is the efficiency of the Sarpanches which increases or decreases the importance of the panchayats.

It is true that there is no academic qualification prescribed for the President of India but the Sarpanch will have to decide many cases, keep records and to do a number of things which it will be impossible for an unlettered person to do properly. Therefore, he must be a man with some education. I do not want him to be a highly educated person; nor do I request you to fix a minimum of primary or middle school examination as the qualification for the office. Let him know Punjabi only, but he should have some sort of education which may enable him to discharge his duties satisfactorily. I would, therefore, request the Minister, through you Sir to accept this amendment.

Then it is also necessary that he should be elected by a secret vote because, otherwise, votes will be influenced and the elections will not be really fair.

Once again I emphasise that for the sake of the dignity of the panchayats it is necessary that the Sarpanch be an educated person.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motion moved—

That in sub-clause (1), line 3, after the word "Sarpanch", the following words be added :—

"who must be able to read and write. Voting shall be by secret ballot."

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma) (Hindi) :—Sir, one of the two amendments under discussion seeks to extend the life of a panchayat from three to five years. I am sorry I cannot accept this proposal. Even this Assembly and our Parliament have been given only five years' lease of life and, therefore, three years' duration is quite long enough for the panchayats. The period of three years is sufficient for a panch or a whole panchayat to create an impression and gain the pleasure or displeasure of their fellow villagers. On the expiry of this period there should be fresh elections. Thus the life of a panchayat need not extend to more than three years.

The amendment requiring the sarpanch to be an educated person appears, on the face of it, to be very reasonable but you know that usually we find such old men in villages whose wisdom, experience and general knowledge of the ilaqa would make them much more suited to the job than many an educated young man. Even otherwise it is better to have an elderly person as a sarpanch. The keeping of records and other work requiring educational qualifications can be left to the clerks and secretaries. Personality and general ability are much more important. And after all even some educated persons can prove awfully ignorant.

Besides, uneducated people can attain to so many high positions....

Chief Minister :—Why, they can even become Ministers!

Minister for Local Government : Yes; and there have been so many kings in India in olden times who were absolutely unlettered but ruled with great skill and efficiency. It is possible that after some time we may be able to get educated and otherwise capable persons in every village but such a condition should not be laid down at this stage. Once again I repeat that when there is no academic qualification prescribed for the President of India there is no reason why such a condition should be laid down in the case of Sarpanches.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is --

That in sub clause (2), line 4, for the word 'three' the word 'five' be substituted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is —

That in sub clause (1), line 3, after the word 'Sarpanch' the following words be added:-

“who must be able to read and write. Voting shall be by secret ballot.”

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That clause 9 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Clause 10.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Now I call upon Shri Maru Singh Malik to move his amendment to clause 10.

Shri Maru Singh Malik : (Sampla) (Hindi) : Sir I beg to move :—

That in sub clause (1), line 4, after the word 'may' the following be added :

“on furnishing a security in the sum of Rs. 100/- and on complying with such other conditions as may be prescribed.

That in sub-clause (1), line 5, for the word 'twenty-one' the word 'seven' be substituted.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motions moved—

That in sub clause (1), line 4, after the word 'may' the following be added :
 "On furnishing a security in the sum of Rs. 100/- and on complying with such other conditions as may be prescribed."

That in sub clause (1), line 5, for the word 'twentyone' the word 'seven' be substituted.

Rao Gajraj Singh (Gurgaon) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That for sub clause (1), of clause 10 the following be substituted :—
 "any five voters or a defeated candidate of Gram Panchayat and in case of election of Adalti Panchayat, any Panch may within 21 days of the date of announcement on confirmation by Deputy Commissioner or any other authority prescribed, prefer a petition in writing to the prescribed authority against the said election, in prescribed manner.

Provided that a confirming authority may for reasons to be recorded in writing refuse to confirm the result of an election for any patent illegality or material irregularity vitiating the election and order fresh election."

If the Minister be willing to consider my submissions favourably, I would like to point out that this provision that the election petition will have to be filed within twenty-one days of the announcement of the result of an election will cause a lot of trouble. The usual time-limit in such cases is 21 days after the notification of the results in the Gazette. I may point out that the results of the elections to the panchayats will have to be sent up to the Deputy Commissioners for confirmation and, therefore, it would have been better if this time-limit were to start after this confirmation. It is not impossible that in some cases the Assistant Panchayat Officers will detain the results and the time-limit will pass without anybody knowing it. There have been cases where these officers made a list of their friends as elected candidates and the people came to know of these "results" only when the time-limit for filing objections and election petitions had passed. It is true that now such irregularities are usually rectified by the Deputy Commissioners and other authorities but previously there existed a deplorable state of affairs in regard to these elections.

I would also like to point out that these election petitions will usually drag on for not less than a year in each case and that will be simply useless litigation. Therefore, it would be much better if a provision is made for such irregularities to be rectified by the Deputy Commissioners and Revenue Officers so that this senseless litigation may not continue for months together. I hope that in view of these considerations the Minister will be pleased to accept the amendment.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motion moved—

That for sub clause (1) of clause 10 the following be substituted :—
 "Any five voters or a defeated candidate of Gram Panchayat and in case

of election of Adalti Panchayat, any Panch may within 21 days of the date of announcement on confirmation by Deputy Commissioner or any other authority prescribed, prefer a petition in writing to the prescribed authority against the said election, in prescribed manner.

Provided that a confirming authority may for reasons to be recorded in writing refuse to confirm the result of an election for any patent illegality or material irregularity vitiating the election and order fresh election."

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (*Punjabi*) Sir, I beg to move :—

That in sub clause (1), lines 2—4, the words "of theany Panch" be deleted.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motion moved—

That in sub clause (1), lines 2—4, the words "of the any Panch" be deleted.

Shri Sri Chand (Bahadurgarh) (*Hindi*) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, these people should certainly be given the right of filing election petitions but if no provision is made for a security deposit, it is possible that a person living at Rohtak.....

Minister for Local Government : A provision to that effect will surely be made.

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma) (*Hindi*) : Mr. Speaker, I do not consider it necessary to say much on this subject. It is a simple thing that after the elections an announcement of the names of the members who have been elected should be made so that the public might know as to who have been elected as panches for a certain village. The papers will at the same time be sent up for confirmation. This process will afford a facility to those who want to file objections against the election of any panch. If the objections are received by the Deputy Commissioner before he has confirmed the election, he shall be able to look into these at the time of passing orders for confirmation.

As regards the suggestion that the primary voters should have the right of filing election petitions against the adalti panches. I beg to submit that when the panches will elect the adalti panches, it is they alone who have the right to file election petitions against the adalti panches. This is the practice in Uttar Pradesh also. Panches are the voters for the election of adalti panches, and it is for them to file objections if they have any. I want to make it clear that it is the voters who in all cases have got the right of questioning the election of the members elected by them.

As regards the security deposit, I wish to make it clear that the necessary provision will be made in the rules which will be framed under the Gram Panchayat Act. We cannot permit anybody to file an election petition without any rhyme or reason.

[Minister for Local Government]

Moreover, it has been said that there is no provision requiring confirmation of the elections in the Bill under discussion. It appears that while moving the amendment my hon. Friend Rao Gajraj Singh had the existing Act in view. There is no need for this amendment in the Bill which we are discussing.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Now I will put amendments to clause 10 to the vote of the House. Question is—

That in sub clause (1), line 4, after the word 'may' the following be added :
"on furnishing a security in the sum of Rs. 100/— and on complying with such other conditions as may be prescribed.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in sub clause (1), line 5, for the word 'twentyone' the word 'seven' be substituted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That for sub clause (1) of clause 10, the following be substituted.

"Any five voters or a defeated candidate of Gram Panchayat and in case of election of Adalti Panchayat any Panch may within 21 days of the date of announcement on confirmation by Deputy Commissioner or any other authority prescribed, prefer a petition in writing to the prescribed authority against the said election, in prescribed manner".

Provided that a confirming authority may for reasons to be recorded in writing refuse to confirm the result of an election for any patent illegality or material irregularity vitiating the election and order fresh election."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in sub clause (1), lines 2—4, the words "of the... .. any Panch" be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Questions is—

That clause 10 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

The Assembly then adjourned till 1 p. m. on Thursday, 27th November, 1952.

V.V.

Punjab Legislative Assembly Debates

27th November, 1952

VOL. III, No. 12
OFFICIAL REPORT



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CHANDIGARH :

Printed by the Controller of Printing and Stationery, Punjab
1953

Price :-7/6/-

Punjab Legislative Assembly

Thursday, 27th November 1952.

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Simla, at 1. p.m. of the clock.

ABSENCE OF SPEAKER

Secretary: I have to inform the House that the Speaker is unavoidably absent. The Deputy Speaker will, therefore, take the Chair.

(Sardar Gurdial Singh Dhillon, Deputy Speaker then occupied the Chair.)

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

WELFARE WORK AMONGST CRIMINAL TRIBES IN THE STATE

* 1043. **Shri Dev Raj Sethi:** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Government has set up some department for welfare work amongst the Criminal Tribes since the repeal of the Criminal Tribes Act in the State;
- (b) whether free rations given to the inmates of the reformatories have been stopped or are still being continued;
- (c) whether any employment for the people belonging to the Criminal Tribes, who have now been released, has been provided or is intended to be provided by the Government
- (d) whether Shrimati Rameshwari Nehru and Shri Sewak Ram after touring some parts of the Punjab in September 1952, sent some proposals in this connection to the Government; if so, the action, if any, taken by the Government thereon?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar: (a) Yes.

(b) Free rations given to the inmates of the Reformatory Settlement, Amritsar, were stopped from the date of the repeal of the Criminal Tribes Act.

(c) The lessees on agricultural settlements will continue there. Otherwise, all members of the erstwhile Criminal Tribes will live as free citizens everywhere and their welfare will be specially looked after by Government.

(d) Yes. These proposals are under the examination of Government. The Government's own action taken so far for organising the welfare of these people has already been communicated to Shrimati Rameshwari Nehru.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : May I know the proposals made in this regard by Shrimati Rameshwari Nehru and Shri Sewak Ram ?

Chief Minister : They had proposed that the work of the welfare of these people might be entrusted to a non-official body that existed for this purpose.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Has their proposal been accepted ?

Chief Minister : No. The Government is of the view that the manner in which this work is being carried on at present is quite satisfactory and better than the manner in which that non-official body will be able to do it.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Is the Government aware of the opinion and fears expressed by the representatives of the people formerly known as the 'criminal tribes' about entrusting the work of their welfare to the Police and other Government officials ?

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : May I know if the Government is aware of the suspicion and fears expressed by the representatives of the erstwhile Criminal Tribes about the handing over of the welfare work to the official bodies ? Is it within the knowledge of the Government that they prefer non-official organisations in this respect ?

Chief Minister : So far as I am aware, no such representation has been made to the Government.

Shri Chand Ram Ahlawat : So far as the work of the welfare of the 'criminal tribes' is concerned, was it also proposed by Shrimati Rameshwari Nehru and Shri Sewak Ram that these people should be settled on land ? If this is true, what does the Government propose doing in this regard ?

Chief Minister : With the permission of the Chair, I will explain the correct position. People who were formerly governed by the Criminal Tribes Act are no longer considered as such. There is now no control on their movements; they are as free as we are; they can go where they like and settle at any place they like. They are now part of that population which can be called backward. They will also benefit from the measures that have been passed and the orders that have been issued with the object of the uplift of the backward people in view. Those of them who were settled on land will not be uprooted ; their leases will be renewed and they will be given the same special consideration as is shown to other backward people.

Shri Chand Ram Ahlawat : What I had enquired was whether they had made any such proposal as the settling of these people on land ?

Chief Minister : They had only proposed that the work connected with their welfare might be entrusted to them.

Shri Chand Ram Ahlawat : So far as I remember, a report had appeared in the Press to this effect.

HIGHWAY ROBBERY IN DISTRICT FEROREPORE.

***1044 Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state:—

- (a) whether the Government received any report of a highway robbery committed on Kot Kapura Road near Muktsar, District Ferozepore, resulting in three Foot Constables being relieved of their cycles and the fourth of his uniform in the middle of September 1952; if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the dacoits have been captured; if not, the steps so far taken by the Government to apprehend them;
- (c) whether any precautionary or preventive measures have been taken by the Government to suppress such acts of violence in these areas in future?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) Yes. Four armed culprits committed a highway robbery on the Muktsar-Ferozepore Road in the area of Village Ude-Karan on the 14th September 1952, after dusk. Among others, three Foot Constables, one of whom had gone to the Rajbaha for a bath while the other two were returning after an evening stroll, were the victims in this case. They were off duty and not in uniform. They were relieved of one cycle, a wrist watch, Rs. 78-12-0 in cash and a haversack containing the uniform of one of the Foot Constables.

(b) The robbers have not so far been arrested. But vigorous efforts are being made to trace them. Selected officers have been detailed on the investigation of this case.

(c) To prevent recurrence of such highway robberies, two squads in addition to the usual foot patrol, have been regularly performing dusk patrolling since the day of the above-mentioned occurrence. One of the two squads, which is headed by a Gazetted Officer or a selected Inspector, has been given a Weapon Carrier, while the other squad comprises Mounted Police under a Sub-Inspector. Boobytraps are arranged at irregular intervals. The local Bad Characters are regularly under surveillance and the assistance of S.H.Os. of surrounding Police Stations of this district as also of District Bhatinda (Pepsu) is being availed of.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : May I know if the Government rewarded those constables for having been relieved of their articles by the robbers?

Chief Minister : We hope that the hon. Member would redeem his promise that he will give something to the members of such class of people.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : On behalf of the Government, of course (Laughter).

APPLICATION FOR PASSPORT FROM CH. PARTAP SINGH DAULTA AND
B. ANAND SARUP, ADVOCATES OF ROHTAK.

***1174. Shri Sri Chand :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Ch. Partap Singh Daulta and B. Anand Sarup, Advocates of Rohtak, applied for passport to attend the Peace Conference at Peking; if so, the action taken by the Government on their applications ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : This information has already been supplied in reply to question No. 57*.

PAYMENT OF PENSIONS OF RETIRED GOVERNMENT OFFICERS IN THE STATE.

***1253 Shri Jagat Ram Bhardwaj :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) whether he is aware of the fact that several retired Government officers have not been able to draw their pensions for years and some of them have even died because they could not make their ends meet;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that audit objections in some cases are still pressing even though the persons concerned have died;
- (c) if the answers to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, the action Government proposes to take in the matter ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) Yes; but Government are not aware of any case of death due to the cause alleged.

(b) Yes.

(c) In most cases anticipatory pensions have been sanctioned. Pension cases are receiving prompt attention and efforts are being made to get the pensions of retired officials sanctioned as soon as possible.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Is it within the knowledge of the hon. Minister that there are cases in which more than four years have elapsed since these persons retired but so far no pension has been given to them ? There are many such instances of school teachers.

Chief Minister : The Government regrets that there has been some delay in certain cases. But the hon. Members should realise that the reason for this delay is that the Service Books and other record of such persons were left in Pakistan. In spite of our best efforts there was some delay in getting them. There can be no other cause for delaying their cases here.

*Reply to this question appears in the Proceedings of 23rd July, 1952, Vol. II, No. 24.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Is there no other record in the offices except these Service Books ?

Mr. Deputy Speaker : This supplementary does not arise from this question.

Shri Jagat Ram : When a person is to retire, why does the Government not make the disposal of the audit objections and other things in time so that all the papers may be ready at the time of his retirement ?

Chief Minister : This is quite another thing. I have submitted that the reason for delay has been that the relevant papers were left in Pakistan. If any particular case is brought to our notice it can be found out whether such delay was due to some audit objections, etc.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Is it within the knowledge of the hon. Minister that in Jullundur a teacher retired in 1947 and subsequently died but he was not allowed to draw his pension ?

Chief Minister : The hon. Lady Member should know that a Minister has not to think of the people of his constituency only. He has to look after the affairs of the whole State.

GRANT OF ARMS LICENCES FOR CROP PROTECTION IN KANGRA DISTRICT.

***1293. Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) the total number of arms licences granted for crop protection in the Kangra District up to 31st October 1952;
- (b) the date when orders for the grant of such licences were issued by the Government ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) 266.

(b) 14th December 1949.

REMOVAL OF JUNIOR CLERKS IN THE OFFICE OF DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, HOSHIARPUR.

***1302. Shri Wadhawa Ram :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state the number of Junior Clerks that have been removed from service in the Deputy Commissioner's office, Hoshiarpur, between August 1951, and August 1952, together with the reasons therefor in each case ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : Four. Three of them were over-age and failed to fulfil the undertaking given by them to pass the B.A. Examination. The fourth tampered with the office records.

Sardar Chanan Singh : Has any one tried to prove that he is not overage but is of the required age ?

Minister : The hon. Member should not forget the words 'failed to fulfil the undertaking given by them to pass B.A. examination' in the reply. I hope this will satisfy him.

ARREST OF PEASANTS AND TENANTS IN JALALABAD AREA, DISTRICT FEROZEPURE.

*1303. **Shri Wadhawa Ram :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of peasants and tenants who were arrested in Jalalabad area, Tehsil Muktsar, District Ferozepur, in the first week of October 1952, together with the reasons therefor in each case;
- (b) whether he has received any representation from any M.L.A. in this connection; if so, the steps taken by the Government thereon ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) Twenty-eight tenants were arrested for forcibly removing landlords' share of farm produce and two for criminal trespass.

(b) Yes, A representation from Shri Wadhawa Ram, M.L.A., was received and was sent to the I.G. Police, for an enquiry and report.

NOTE: The action mentioned at (a) above was taken in cases F.I.R. No. 170 and 174 of P.S. Jalalabad. In the two cases a total of 40 persons is involved. Thirty of them were arrested in the first week of October, and 7 later on in the month. Three are still absconding.

Shri Wadhawa Ram : What about the inquiry ?

Chief Minister : Nothing so far. But when it is completed, the hon. Member will come to know about it.

CASES OF CORRUPTION AND BRIBERY IN VILLAGE DAMRUKE, DISTRICT FEROZEPURE.

*1304. **Shri Wadhawa Ram :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) whether he is aware of the fact that there have been cases of corruption and bribery in Village Damruke, Tehsil Moga, District Ferozepur;
- (b) whether any representation in this connection from the people of the village referred to in part (a) above was received by the Deputy Commissioner, Ferozepur, on the 23rd July 1952; if so, the action, if any, taken thereon?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) Government are informed that there were allegations of corruption and bribery against certain staff engaged in the Consolidation of Holdings Work of Village Damru Kalan.

(b) A representation from the villagers was received by the Deputy Commissioner, Ferozepur, on the 24th July 1952, and an enquiry was made, as a result of which the repartition proceedings conducted against the provisions of the draft scheme were cancelled. Preliminary departmental action has been taken against three officials and an enquiry into the charges levelled against them is in progress.

QUARTERING OF PUNITIVE POLICE POSTS IN VILLAGES ROORKA KALAN,
BANDI AND LOPO, DISTRICT FEROZEPURE.

*1307. **Sardar Nidhan Singh :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether he is aware of the fact that the Superintendent of Police, Ferozepur, announced on the 13th of October 1952, when he visited Villages Roorka Kalan, Bandi and Lopo, District Ferozepore, that punitive police would be stationed in these villages; if so, the reasons therefor?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : Yes; the Senior Superintendent of Police, Ferozepur, announced on the 13th of October 1952, when he visited Village Raoke Kalan (not Villages Roorka Kalan, Bandi and Lopo), District Ferozepur, that a punitive police post had been sanctioned for Village Raoke Kalan, Badhni Kalan, Lopon and Badhni Khurd. This post has been located on account of the disturbed condition of these villages and the conduct of their inhabitants.

NON-PAYMENT OF SALARIES OF NAIB-TEHSILDARS, ETC., OF CONSOLIDATION
DEPARTMENT IN TARN TARAN TEHSIL.

*492. **Shrimati Dr. Prakash Kaur :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) (i) whether there are any Naib-Tehsildars, Gardawar Kanungos and Revenue Patwaris in the Consolidation Department in the Tarn Taran Tehsil who have not been paid their salaries in full from 1st April 1951, to 31st May 1952; if so, their names rankwise;

(ii) the amount due to each of them;

(b) the reasons for delay in each case?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) A statement giving the required information is given below.

Statement showing the names etc., of officials of Consolidation of Holdings Department who have not received their salaries for the month of March, 1952.

Serial No.	Name of official with rank	Amount due	Reasons for delay in payment	
	<i>I—Kanungos</i>	Rs. A. P.		
1	S. Bela Singh ..	75 0 0	The reasons for the delay in the payment of salaries of these officials are :—	
	<i>II—Patwaris</i>			
1	Shri Boga Ram ..	60 8 0		
2	S. Pal Singh ..	59 8 0	(i) difficulties in the remittance of money through post offices as under the existing orders of the Postal Department, a postman cannot disburse money orders for more than Rs. 50 in rural areas, so all those officials who reside away from a branch post office have to receive their pay at the Tehsil headquarters ; and	
3	Shri Raghbir Chand ..	74 8 0		
	<i>III—Naib Tehsildars (Assistant Consolidation Officers).</i>			
1	Shri Dalip Chand ..	535 0 0 for March and April 1952		
2	Shri Iqbal Chand ..	505 0 0 for March and April 1952		
	FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 1952			
	<i>I—Kanungos</i>			(ii) late receipt of last pay certificate of some of the officials who were transferred to Tarn Taran from other districts.
1	Shri Sant Ram ..	75 0 0		
2	Shri Harnam Singh ..	75 0 0		
3	Shri Hans Raj ..	75 0 0		
4	S. Attar Singh ..	75 0 0		
5	Shri Amar Nath ..	75 0 0		
6	Shri Malak Ram ..	75 0 0		
7	S. Bela Singh ..	75 0 0		
8	Shri Sadhu Singh ..	75 0 0		
9	S. Gurpal Singh ..	75 0 0		
	<i>II—Patwaris</i>		Most of the officials in question have, however, since received their salaries and instructions are being issued to the Deputy Commissioner to take steps to ensure that such delays do not occur in future.	
1	S. Chanchal Singh ..	64 8 0		
2	S. Udham Singh ..	59 8 0		
3	S. Daljit Singh ..	65 8 0		
4	Shri Inder Abnash ..	59 8 0		
5	S. Sadhu Singh ..	59 8 0		

Serial No.	Name of official with rank	Amount due	Reasons for delay in payment
	FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 1952—concl'd II—Patwaris	Rs. A. P.	
6	S. Swaran Singh ..	59 8 0	
7	S. Sadhu Singh ..	59 8 0	
8	S. Bhagwan Singh ..	65 8 0	
9	S. Karam Singh ..	59 8 0	
10	S. Karam Singh ..	59 8 0	
11	Shri Bhagwan Dass ..	65 8 0	
12	Shri Karam Chand ..	60 8 0	
13	Shri Kidar Nath ..	59 8 0	
14	S. Sant Singh ..	65 8 0	
15	Shri Jiwan Dass ..	65 8 0	
16	Shri Sohan Lal ..	59 8 0	
17	S. Amar Singh ..	59 8 0	
18	Shri Jago Ram ..	59 8 0	
19	S. Amrik Singh ..	65 8 0	
20	Shri Ram Dass ..	59 8 0	
21	S. Hardip Singh ..	59 8 0	
22	Shri Darshan Masih ..	59 8 0	
23	S. Sohan Singh ..	65 8 0	
24	S. Kundan Singh ..	65 8 0	
25	S. Sant Singh ..	74 8 0	
26	S. Hari Singh ..	59 8 0	
27	S. Charan Singh ..	59 8 0	
28	Shri Behari Lal ..	59 8 0	
29	S. Pal Singh ..	65 8 0	
30	Shri Raghbir Chand ..	74 8 0	
31	S. Dayal Singh .. (1st to 14th April 1952)	27 13 0	
32	S. Jarnail Singh .. (9th to 30th April 1952)	43 10 0	
33	Shri Nand Lal .. (1st to 6th April 1952)	11 15 0	
34	S. Kartar Singh .. (24th to 30th April 1952)	13 14 0	

[Minister for Development]

Serial No.	Name of official with rank	Amount due	Reasons for delay in payment
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III. Naib-Tehsildars (Assistant Consolidation Officers)

As mentioned under the month of March 1952

FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 1952

I. Kanunges

		Rs.	A.	P.
1	Shri Sant Ram ..	75	0	0
2	S. Harnam Singh ..	75	0	0
3	S. Shigara Singh ..	75	0	0
4	Shri Hans Raj ..	75	0	0
5	S. Attar Singh ..	75	0	0
6	Shri Amar Nath ..	75	0	0
7	Shri Malik Ram ..	75	0	0
8	S. Bela Singh ..	75	0	0
9	S. Sadhu Singh ..	75	0	0

II. Patwaris

1	S. Chanchal Singh .. (1st to 8th May 1952)	16	9	0
2	S. Udham Singh ..	59	8	0
3	S. Daljit Singh ..	65	8	0
4	Shri Inder Abnash ..	59	8	0
5	S. Sadhu Singh ..	59	8	0
6	S. Sadhu Singh ..	59	8	0
7	S. Bhagwan Singh ..	59	8	0
8	S. Karam Singh ..	59	8	0
9	Shri Bhagwan Dass ..	59	8	0
10	Shri Kidar Nath ..	59	8	0
11	S. Sant Singh ..	59	8	0
12	Shri Jiwan Dass ..	59	8	0
13	Shri Sohan Lal ..	59	8	0
14	S. Amar Singh ..	65	8	0
15	Shri Jagoo Ram ..	65	8	0
16	S. Shingara Singh ..	59	8	0

Serial No.	Name of official with rank	Amount due	Reasons for delay in payment
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FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 1952—concl'd
II—Patwaris—concl'd

			Rs.	A.	P.
17	S. Amrik Singh ..	59	8	0	
18	Shri Ram Dass ..	59	8	0	
19	Shri Om Parkash ..	59	8	0	
20	S. Hardip Singh ..	59	8	0	
21	Shri Darshan Masih ..	59	8	0	
22	S. Sohan Singh ..	59	8	0	
23	S. Kundan Singh ..	59	8	0	
24	S. Sant Singh ..	74	8	0	
25	S. Hari Singh ..	59	8	0	
26	S. Chanan Singh ..	59	8	0	
27	Shri Behari Lal ..	59	8	0	
28	S. Pal Singh ..	59	8	0	
29	Shri Raghbir Chand ..	74	8	0	
30	S. Kartar Singh ..	59	8	0	
31	S. Jarnail Singh ..	59	8	0	
32	Shri Parma Nand .. (7th to 31st May 1952)	48	0	0	
33	S. Sant Singh ..	65	8	0	

III.—Naib-Tehsildars (Assistant Consolidation Officers)

1	S. Ram Singh ..	242	8	0	
2	S. Pritam Singh ..	242	8	0	
3	Shri Iqbal Chand ..	252	8	0	

REVENUE PATWARIS OF PATTI TEHSIL.

*493. **Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur** : Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether any Revenue Patwaris of Patti Tehsil of Amritsar District were ordered to visit District Headquarters, Amritsar, for purposes of allotment during the period from 1st January 1951 to 31st May 1952; if so, their names;

(b) whether they were entitled to any T.A. for each visit to Amritsar; if so, the amount paid to each of them; if not, the reasons therefor?

Sardar Partap Singh Kalron : (a) Yes. A list showing the names of such Patwaris is given below.

List

<i>Serial No</i>	<i>Name of official</i>	<i>Halqa</i>
1	Pt. Harbans Lal, Kanungo	Patti
2	Shri Manohar Lal, Patwari	Patti
3	S. Chanan Singh, Patwari	Khara
4	Shri Vidhya Bhaskar, Patwari	Rorewala
5	Shri Mohinder Singh, Patwari	Toot
6	Shri Dewan Chand, Patwari	Valtoha
7	Shri Kundan Singh, Patwari	Mehandipura
8	Shri Amrik Singh, Kanungo	Valtoha
9	Shri Jagtar Singh, Patwari	Asal Autar
10	Shri Amar Singh, Patwari	Rattoke
11	Shri Faqir Chand, Patwari	Bhikiwind
12	Shri Munshi Ram, Patwari	Khalra
13	Shri Hardip Singh, Patwari	Sur Singh
14	Shri Gurbachan Singh, Patwari	Dialpura
15	Shri Sulakhan Singh, Patwari	Basarke
16	Shri Shebaz Singh, Patwari	Sidhwar
17	Shri Sardar Lal, Patwari	Mari Megha
18	Shri Ram Parkash, Patwari	Kacha Pucca
19	Shri Harkishan Lal, Patwari	Shaheed
20	Shri Gian Chand, Patwari	Tehsil Patti

(b) Yes. They were entitled to Travelling Allowance. An amount of Rs. 404 has since been paid to 4 Patwaris. As regards the Travelling Allowance claims of other Patwaris none of them has yet preferred any claim.

REVENUE PATWARIS OF KHALRA CIRCLE.

*494. **Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur** : Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) (i) whether any Revenue Patwaris of Khalra Circle, Tehsil Patti, District Amritsar, visited Tehsil Headquarters in connection with their official duties during 1st April 1951 and 31st May 1952; if so, their names;
 (ii) how many times each of them was required to visit the Tehsil Headquarters during this period;
 (b) whether they were entitled to any T.A. under the rules; if so, the amount paid to each of them; if not, the reasons thereof?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) (i) & (ii) Yes. A list 'A' giving the necessary information is given below.

(b) Yes. No amount has so far been paid to them as the Patwaris have not submitted their claims, and hence the question of payment does not arise.

List 'A' of Patwaris of circle Bhikhiwind (previously known as khalra) who visited Tehsil Office

Serial No.	Name of Patwari	Dates on which the Patwari paid a visit to Tehsil office	Number of days	Claimed T. A. or not
1	Shri Faqir Chand, Halqa Bhikhiwind	19th April 1951, 17th June 1951, 23rd—26th July 1951, 1st August 1951, 16th October 1951, 2nd November 1951 to 4th November 1951, 9th November 1951 to 23rd November 1951, 25th November 1951 to 29th November 1951, 4th December 1951 to 5th December 1951, 12th December 1951, 18th December 1951 to 20th December 1951, 5th January 1952, 5th February 1952 to 6th February 1952, 8th February 1952 to 11th February 1952, 15th February 1952, 17th February 1952, 23rd February 1952, 29th March 1952, 3rd April 1952 to 7th April 1952, 28th April 1952 to 29th April 1952, 1st May 1952, 5th May 1952, 8th May 1952 to 10th May 1952, 20th May 1952	60 23 times	No T.A. claimed

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Serial No.	Name of Patwari	Dates on which the Patwari paid a visit to Tehsil office	Number of days	Claimed T.A. or not
2	Shri Munshi Ram, Halqa Khalra	2nd July 1951, 10th July 1951, 23rd July 1951 to 2nd August 1951, 31st August 1951, 9th November 1951 to 13th November 1951, 14th November 1951 to 1st December 1951, 31st December 1951, 8th February 1952 to 10th February 1952, 11th February 1952 to 16th February 1952.	47 9 times	No T.A. claimed
3	Sardar Harjit Singh, Halqa Sur Singh	10th July 1951, 11th July 1951, 23rd July 1951 to 2nd August 1951, 31st August 1951, 9th November 1951 to 12th November 1951, 15th November 1951 to 20th November 1951, 22nd November 1951 to 26th November 1951, 23rd November 1951 to 1st December 1951, 31st December 1951, 6th February 1952, 8th February 1952 to 10th February 1952, 17th March 1952, 7th April 1952, 30th April 1952, 6th May 1952, 11th May 1952.	44 15 times	Ditto
4	Shri Devi Dayal, Patwari Halqa Hari Gur Singh	9th November 1951 to 30th November 1951, 10th December 1951 to 22nd December 1951	25 2 times	Ditto
5	S. Saudagar Singh, Halqa Shabaspura	9th November 1951 to 20th November 1951	27 1 time	Ditto
6	Shri Sulakhan Singh, Halqa Basarka.	9th November 1951 to 20th November 1951, 7th August 1952 to 9th August 1952	25 2 times	Ditto
7	Shri Om Parkash Halqa Pidri.	9th November 1951 to 20th November 1951.	22 1 time	Ditto
8	Shri Amar Nath, Halqa Rusey.	9th November 1951 to 20th November 1951.	22 1 time.	Ditto
9	Shri Sardari Lal, Halqa Hari Nah- gha.	9th November 1951 to 13th November 1951, 15th November 1951 to 20th November 1951, 22nd November 1951 to 24th November 1951, 28th November 1951 to 1st December 1951	19 4 times	Ditto

COMPLAINTS OF BRIBERIES IN FEROZEPURE DISTRICT.

***937. Shri Ram Kishan :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any complaints of having taken bribes from the allottees against the Revenue Patwaris and the Gardawar Kanungoes were received by the Deputy Commissioner, Ferozepore, during the years 1951 and 1952, respectively; if so, their number;
- (b) whether any inquiries were ordered after the receipt of complaints referred to above; if so, the number of cases in which the complaints were found to be correct; together with the action, if any, taken thereon?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) Yes. Nine complaints were received during the year 1951 only and none in 1952.

(b) Yes. Out of these nine complaints three Patwaris are under suspension and the enquiry is being conducted against them. Charge-sheets have also been framed against four and the enquiries are proceeding. There was no case against the remaining two.

FILING OF APPLICATIONS BY TENANTS FOR THE RESTORATION
OF POSSESSION OF LAND IN THE STATE.

***1172. Shri Sri Chand :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of applications filed in each district of the State for restoration of possession by tenants under the Punjab Prevention of Ejectment (Temporary Powers) Ordinance, 1952;
- (b) the number of tenants to whom possession has been restored together with the total area of the land involved?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) & (b) A statement is given below.

Statement showing filing of applications by tenants for the restoration of possession of land in the State.

Serial No.	District	Number of applications filed for restoration under the Punjab Prevention of Ejectment (Temporary Powers) Ordinance, 1952	Number of tenants restored together with the total area of the land involved
1	2	3	4
1	Hissar	118	64 tenants with total land of 218 acres.
2	Rehtak	310	411 tenants with total land of 1,133 bi ghas and 17 biswas.

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Serial No.	District	Number of applications filed for restoration under the Punjab Prevention of Ejectment (Temporary Powers) Ordinance, 1952	Number of tenants restored together with the total area of the land involved.
1	2	3	4
3	Gurgaon ..	194	111 tenants with total land of 404 acres.
4	Karnal ..	104	56 tenants with total land of 269 acres.
5	Ambala ..	147	70 tenants with total land of 1,306 bighas, 5 biswas.
6	Simla ..	..	Nil
7	Kangra ..	..	Information not received.
8	Hoshiarpur ..	85	29 tenants with total land of 198 kanals and 11 marlas.
9	Jullundur ..	3	5 tenants with total land of 57 kanals and 7 marlas.
10	Ludhiana ..	68	17 tenants with total land of 129 acres.
11	Ferozepore ..	323	121 tenants with total land of 1,480 acres, 6 kanals and 17 marlas.
12	Amritsar ..	96	36 tenants with total land of 2,454 kanals and 8 marlas.
13	Gurdaspur ..	11	6 tenants with total land of 57 kanals and 10 marlas.

APPLICATION OF SECTION 38 OF THE FOREST ACT AND SECTIONS 4 AND 5 OF CHOS ACT, 1900, IN HOSHIARPUR DISTRICT.

*1244. **Shri Rala Ram** : Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether the Government has ordered a revision of the rules and a re-determining of the conditions governing the application of section 38 of the Forest Act and sections 4 and 5 of the Chos Act, of 1900, to the hilly and sub-mountainous areas of Hoshiarpur District as a result of his recent tour in that illaqa; if so, by what date the instructions in this connection are likely to be made known to the public?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : In August 1952, orders for the relaxation of restrictions on grazing of sheep, goats and camels in the whole of Hoshiarpur District for a period of six months were issued by government and these have already been put into effect by the Forest Department. The matter is being considered and final orders in the matter will be passed on the expiry of the above period.

CONSOLIDATION OF HOLDINGS OF LAND IN VILLAGES BHAKKOWAL AND HUSSAINPUR GURU, DISTRICT HOSHIARPUR.

*1251. **Shri Jagat Ram Bhardwaj** : Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) the date when the consolidation of holdings of land in the villages of Dhakkowal and Hussainpur Guru, District Hoshiarpur, was begun together with the date when it was completed;
- (b) the total acres of land to be consolidated in each village and the total expense incurred by the Government and the people themselves on the said consolidation;
- (c) the target dates, if any, fixed for each village for the finalisation of consolidation of land ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : A statement giving the requisite information is given below:—

STATEMENT

Name of village	Date of start of consolidation work	Date of completion of repartition under section 21(2) of the Act	Area	Total expenses incurred by Government	People	The target dates for finalization of consolidation of land
Dhakkowal	22nd August 1950	9th June 1952	Acres 352	Rs. 2,400 approximately	Nil except the consolidation fee at Rs. 4	31st August, 1952.
Hussainpur Guru	19th September, 1950	5th November, 1952	279	Rs. 2,100	Per cultivated area paid to Government	30th September, 1952

CASES OF CORRUPTION IN VILLAGE LALLPUR, DISTRICT AMRITSAR.

*1288. **Sardar Darshan Singh** : Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether any cases of corruption in the village of Lallpur, Tehsil Tarn Taran, District Amritsar, in connection with the consolidation of holdings have been brought to his notice; if so, the action Government proposes to take thereon ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (i) No.

(ii) Does not arise.

CONSOLIDATION OF HOLDINGS IN VILLAGES BHAGI KE AND RAO KE,
DISTRICT FEROZEPUR.

***1380. Sardar Nidhan Singh :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any cases of bribery and corruption in villages Bhagi Ke and Rao Ke, District Ferozepur, in connection with the consolidation work were brought to his notice;
- (b) whether it is a fact that while on tour in the villages mentioned in part (a) above he cancelled the consolidation that had been done there; if so, the reasons therefor and the action, if any, taken by the Government against the officers concerned?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes, the consolidation work in these villages was defective and against the provision of the draft scheme. Both the Assistant Consolidation Officers and two Field Kanungos of the area circles have been reverted to their substantive posts. The Patwaris of these villages have been transferred and an enquiry is being conducted against them.

MANAGEMENT OF 3RD CLASS FOREST IN KULU SUB-DIVISION.

***1333. Shri Ram Chandra Comrade :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether he has received any memorandum from the District Congress Committee, Kangra, with regard to the management of 3rd Class Forests in Kulu Sub-Division and the development of horticulture; if so, the action, if any, taken by the Government thereon?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : Part A. Yes.

Part B. It will be examined.

REALISATION OF TAWAN FROM HARIJANS IN THE STATE.

***1201. Shri Chand Ram Ahlawat :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state—

- (a) whether he is aware of the fact that Tawan for an illegal breach or cut of a canal by the Zamindars for unlawful irrigation is levied and charged from the Harijans as well who are not sharers in the irrigated lands;
- (b) whether he has received any complaint in that regard from Harijans and other non-proprietors of Village Gawalisan in Tahsil Jhajjar of Rohtak District; if so, the action taken by the Government thereon?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : (a) No Tawan is levied on a breach, but the irrigated area under breach is entered in Khasras and charged in the ordinary manner.

Tawan on a cut, in an unauthorised manner, in a canal is levied according to section 33 of the Canal and Drainage Act.

(b) No Tawan was levied on Harijans of Village Gawalisan in Tahsil Jhajjar, District Rohtak. No complaints were ever received by the Irrigation Officers from the Harijans in this respect.

Shri Chand Ram Ahlawat : I may state for the information of the hon. Minister that in this connection warrants have been issued against certain people and the Deputy Commissioner has obtained the orders of the Government for their prosecution.

Minister : The hon. Member should bring any particular case he has in mind to my notice to enable me to give a reply to his question.

COMPLAINT AGAINST THE SUB-DIVISIONAL OFFICER.

***1261. Sardar Darshan Singh :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state whether he has received any complaint against the Sub-Divisional Officer at Rasulpur Rest House in Amritsar District on the 20th July, 1952; if so, the details thereof and the action Government proposes to take thereon?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : No complaint dated the 20th July, 1952, against the Sub-Divisional Officer at Rasulpur Rest House in Amritsar District was received. A complaint dated the 11th June, 1952, was, however, received wherein it was stated that as Shri Ram Kishan, Sub-Divisional Officer, Canals, Rasulpur, and Shri Fateh Chand, Overseer, Rasulpur, were at loggerheads and were creating party factions in the illaqa both of them should be transferred from Rasulpur. As a result of a detailed enquiry both the Sub-Divisional Officer and the Overseer have since been transferred.

CONSTRUCTION OF BIST DOAB CANAL IN DISTRICT JULLUNDUR.

***1334. Shri Ram Chandra Comrade :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state—

(a) the date when it was decided by the Government to construct the Bist Doab Canal in District Jullundur;

(b) the progress, if any, made so far in its survey and construction?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : (a) 19th December, 1950.

(b) The survey work of Bist Doab Canal with its Nawan Shahr and Jullundur Branches, had since been completed. The construction work is in hand.

CUTS IN SIRSA BRANCH.

***1343. Shri Balwant Rai Tayal:** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of cuts that occurred in Sirsa Branch during the years 1949-50, 1950-51 and 1951-52;
- (b) the total expenditure incurred by the Government in checking the cuts referred to in part (a) above;
- (c) the amount of fine imposed in connection with the above cuts; together with the amount thus realized;
- (d) the proposals, if any, under the consideration of Government to check these cuts in future?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh :

	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
(a) Number of cuts	3	2	8
(b) Expenditure	519	1,921	6,769
(c) Tawan imposed	Nil	44,628	3,70,089
Amount realized	Nil	Nil	Nil

(d) All the above 13 cuts occurred in Sirsa Branch (Pepsu Territory). The Pepsu Government dealt with cases of imposition and realisation of tawans. Executive Engineer, Narwana (Pepsu), informs that realisation has been stopped by the Chief Engineer, Irrigation Branch, Pepsu, pending decision of appeals.

Punjab and Pepsu Police are patrolling the canal. This Police will be removed only when Law and Order in this area improve.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi: Will the Minister for Irrigation and Power be pleased to state as to what action has been taken by the Government in the case of fines imposed upon the people in 1949-50, 1950-51 and 1951-52, which have not been realised up to this day?

Minister: I have already given a reply to this question. After the imposition of fines on them, those people lodged their appeals against the orders of the Government. And so long as the appeals are not decided the question of the realisation of fines does not arise.

GARDEN COLONY OF PATTI TOWN, DISTRICT AMRITSAR.

***936. Shri Ram Kishan:** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any area in Garden Colony, Patti Town, District Amritsar, has been given to non-refugees; if so, their list together with the area given to each of them;

(b) whether any area has been leased out to any of such persons; if so, the area so leased out in standard acres;

(c) whether sanction of the Custodian-General of Evacuee Property, Government of India, was obtained before leasing out the area, referred to in part (b) above; if so, when, if not, the reasons therefor?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) Yes.

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| (1) Shri Mangal Singh, son of Budha Singh | ... Full unit. |
| (2) Shri Sahib Singh, son of Budha Singh | ... Full unit. |
| (3) Shri Surjit Singh, son of Dhira Singh | ... Full unit. |
| (4) Shri Amar Singh, son of Jiwan Singh | ... Full unit. |
| (5) Shri Ujagar Singh, son of Wasawa Singh | ... Half Unit. |
| (6) Shri Balwant Singh, son of Mangal Singh | ... Half unit. |

(b) Following area has been allotted and not leased out to each of the allottees referred to in part (a) above as garden colony allottees:—

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| (1) Shri Mangal Singh | ... 17 SA (11½ Units). |
| (2) Shri Sahib Singh | ... 17 SA (10¾ Units). |
| (3) Shri Surjit Singh | ... 17 SA (9¾ Units). |
| (4) Shri Amar Singh | ... 17 SA (12¾ Units). |
| (5) Shri Ujagar Singh | ... 8 SA (13¼ Units). |
| (6) Shri Balwant Singh | ... 8 SA (13¼ Units). |

(c) The sanction for exchange was obtained from the Custodian-General, Evacuee Property, on the 18th October, 1951.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : May I know whether some area of land was added to the total pool of evacuee lands in lieu of the land allotted to the local people out of these lands?

Minister: Yes, the land obtained in exchange was put into the evacuee property pool.

—

RECOGNITION OF DIPLOMAS OF GOVERNMENT TECHNICAL INSTITUTE,
AMBALA CITY.

***1134. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Industries Department of the Government awards diplomas to persons who qualify at the Government Technical Institute, Ambala City;

(b) whether the said diplomas are recognised by the Government, if not, the reasons therefor?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) Yes.

(b) The diplomas are recognised by the Industries Department for appointment to certain posts, such as, skilled workers, mechanics, fitters, erectors, instructors, supervisors and technical assistants. The Public Works Department B & R and Irrigation Branches, however, do not recognise these diplomas for appointments requiring supervisory control, such as, mechanical overseers and foremen of workshops, etc. The passed-out students will be considered by the Irrigation Branch for appointments in the Directorate of Construction and Plant Designs in the Nangal Township. Steps are also being taken to raise the standard of teaching in this Institute so that its diplomas are recognised by all Departments.

Sardar Chanan Singh : Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state the difficulty that the Government feels in absorbing in its departments those students, who complete their courses after spending four years in this institution ?

Minister : I have already replied to this question. I have told the House that the Government is prepared to employ them as skilled workers, mechanics or fitters in its Irrigation Branch but the standard of training they received there is not considered to be so high as to make them fit for the posts of mechanical overseers or foremen.

MANUFACTURE OF PALM-GUR.

***1226. Shri Teg Ram :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state the year in which the Government started the manufacture of Palm-Gur in the State and the number of Centres established for the manufacture thereof; together with the amount spent by the Government each year for its manufacture ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : The Palm Gur Development Scheme was sanctioned in June, 1950. but the actual work was started from 1st October, 1950, when the Palm Gur Organiser came back to the Punjab after receiving training at the Central Palm Gur Training School, Cuddalore, Madras. This scheme was terminated in March, 1952. Other information required in this connection is given below:—

	1950-51	1951-52
1. Number of Centres (Production and Training) established for the manufacture of Palm Gur	2	2
2. Amount spent for the manufacture of Palm Gur (Expenditure on the Scheme)	Rs. 12,474	Rs. 16,305

Shri Teg Ram : For what considerations has the Government closed this department ?

Minister: We have closed it in the absence of a demand for this variety of 'gur'. How can there be any demand for this variety of 'gur', when there is not much demand for other varieties?

Shri Teg Ram : Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state the idea with which it had started it and also the reasons for which it has closed it?

Minister: It was started when the prices of 'gur' were pretty high and now it has become very cheap while its cost of production is still high. Therefore, this department had to be closed.

Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht : Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether some quantity of this 'gur' was manufactured at all?

Minister: Yes. It was manufactured.

REHABILITATION OF PASHMINA INDUSTRY AT NURPUR, DISTRICT KANGRA.

***1294. Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether the Government has under consideration any scheme to rehabilitate the Pashmina Industry at Nurpur in Kangra District; if so, the steps, so far taken by the Government to rehabilitate the said industry?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : Yes. A scheme costing about Rs. 57,000 for setting up a training-cum-work Centre at Nurpur was prepared by the Director of Industries, Punjab, and was submitted through the Financial Commissioner, Relief and Rehabilitation, Punjab, to Government of India for approval. This approval has just been received and further action to set up the centre will be taken as soon as necessary preliminaries are completed.

WOOL SPINNING AND WEAVING INDUSTRY IN KANGRA DISTRICT.

***1295. Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether there is any scheme under the consideration of Government to organise the wool-spinning and weaving industry in Kangra District; if so, the details of the proposed scheme and the steps so far taken by the Government in the matter?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : Yes. The Industries Department prepared a scheme involving about Rs. 57,000 for starting a training cum-work Centre at Nurpur for the revival of the Pashmina Industry. It was submitted for approval to the Government of India by the Financial Commissioner, Relief and Rehabilitation, Punjab. That approval has just been received and further steps to start the centre will be taken as soon as necessary preliminaries are completed. It is also proposed, under the Five-year Plan, to set up a carding plant in the Siraj Valley, which will provide facilities to

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the local spinners to have their wool carded at this centre. Besides, the Department is running at Kulu an industrial school where training is imparted in spinning and weaving of wool and a Wool Department Centre where facilities are provided for carding of wool and finishing of blankets. Government have also sanctioned a demonstration party for imparting training in wool spinning and weaving in Kangra District. This party is stationed at Palampur for the last two years.

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma : I know that the Government is running an Industrial School and a Wool Department at Kulu. But may I know whether there is any scheme under the consideration of the Government to organise the wool industry in other parts of Kangra District ?

Minister : Wool-Spinning Industry will get a great impetus by the establishment of a Pashmina Centre at Nurpur. Moreover, there is a Demonstration Party at Palampur which imparts training in wool-spinning and weaving. There is no other scheme at present under the consideration of the Government.

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma : May I know whether the Government have under consideration any scheme for the establishment of a Carding Centre at Palampur or Kangra or in any other part of the district, except Kulu ?

Minister : It is proposed to set up a Carding Plant in the Seraj Valley under the Five-Year Plan. Besides this, there is no other scheme under the consideration of the Government.

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma : Is the hon. Minister aware of the fact that there is a genuine need for such a plant at Palampur or Kangra ?

Finance Minister : I am not aware of it. However, the Government will look into the matter.

SUPPLY OF NEW GUNNY BAGS TO MUSLIM CAMP, AMBALA.

*1317. **Shri Ram Parkash :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that about three to five thousand new gunny bags were supplied to the Muslim Camp, Ambala, just after the Partition and the same are yet not traceable;
- (b) whether any enquiry was made in the matter referred to in part (a) above; if so, the person or persons held responsible for the loss and the action, if any, taken by the Government in the matter ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) Yes. 4,072 empty gunny bags were supplied to Muslim Camp, Ambala, in the winter of 1947. 700 were received back and the balance taken away by the Muslim evacuees to Pakistan.

(b) No enquiry was necessary, as the issues were subsequently regularised.

Sardar Chanan Singh : The hon. Minister has stated that several bags had been received back but he has not given their exact number. Will he kindly state it now ?

Minister : I have stated in my reply that 700 bags had been received back. I have not used the word 'several'. It appears that the hon. Member was not attentive.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : May I know why four thousand bags had been supplied to them ?

Minister : These had been supplied to them for their use as they had not even clothes to wear.

GRANT OF SUBSIDY AND LOANS TO HARIJAN INDUSTRIALISTS OF THE STATE

***1319. Shri Ram Parkash :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) the total amount of subsidy and loans granted by the Government to the Harijan industrialists in the State during the current financial year ;
- (b) the total number of applications received from the Harijans in this connection ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) No subsidy has been granted to any party (Harijans or others) in Punjab, during the current financial year. However, the Board of Industries, in their meeting held on the 6th October, 1952, recommended 4 applications for the grant of subsidies amounting to Rs. 4,200 including a sum of Rs. 700 to two Harijan industrialists, and sanctions from Government are being issued in these cases.

An amount of Rs. 7,000 to 4 Harijan industrialists has been granted as loans during the current financial year, out of a total amount of Rs. 22,400 granted to 13 parties in the State.

(b) The applications, for State aid to industries, do not indicate whether the applicant is a Harijan or not; and as such it is not possible to give the total number of applications received from Harijans.

CONTROL RATES OF JOWAR AND BAJRA.

*1151. **Shri Dharm Vir Vasishat** : Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state—

- (a) the control rate of Jowar and Bajra per maund in each district of the State together with the market rates thereof in each district at present ;
- (b) the reasons for difference in prices, if any, and the measures Government propose to adopt in this connection ?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma : (a) Control rates fixed for Bajra and Jowar for District Headquarters and some of the important mandis are given in the statement given below. The market rate of Bajra ranges from Rs. 8-4-0 to Rs. 13-8-0 and of Jowar from Rs. 8 to Rs. 11 in different districts;

(b) The main reasons for rise in prices of Jowar/Bajra, at present are decontrol, partial or complete, in the neighbouring States of U.P., Rajasthan, etc., decontrol of gram, which is selling at Rs. 20 and uncertainty in the matter of future policy of food controls.

District Headquarters	Other Mandis	Price per maund of 82.2/7 lbs.	
		Bajra	Jowar
		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Hissar .. ..	.. ..	8 2 0	8 0 0
	Sirsa	8 2 0	8 0 0
	Dabwali	8 2 0	8 0 0
Rohtak	Jakhal	8 2 0	8 0 0
	.. ..	8 4 0	8 0 0
	Sonepat	8 4 0	8 0 0
Gurgaon .. ..	.. ..	8 12 0	8 4 0
	Farrukhnagar	8 12 0	8 4 0
	Rewari	8 12 0	8 4 0
Karnal .. ..	.. ..	8 4 0	8 0 0
	Panipat	8 4 0	8 0 0
	Kaithal	8 4 0	8 0 0

District Headquarters	Other mandis	Price per maund of 82.2/7lbs	
		Bajra	Jowar
Ambala City and Cantt.	..	8 8 0	8 4 0
	Jagadhri	8 6 0	8 2 0
	Naraingarh	8 6 0	8 2 0
Simla	..	9 8 0	9 6 0
Dharamsala	..	9 8 0	9 6 0
Hoshiarpur	..	8 14 0	8 14 0
	Mukerian	8 14 0	8 12 0
	Una	9 8 0	9 6 0
Jullundur City and Cantt.	..	8 14 0	8 12 0
	Nawanshahr	8 14 0	8 12 0
	Phillaur	8 14 0	8 12 0
Ludhiana	..	8 8 0	8 6 0
	Jagraon	8 4 0	8 4 0
	Khanna	8 8 0	8 6 0
Ferozepur City and Cantt.	..	8 6 0	8 4 0
	Moga	8 2 0	8 0 0
	Talwandi	8 2 0	8 0 0
	Fazilka	8 2 0	8 6 0
Amritsar	..	9 0 0	9 0 0
	Tarn Taran	8 14 0	8 14 0
	Patti	8 14 0	8 14 0
	Jandiala	8 14 0	8 14 0
Gurdaspur	..	8 14 0	8 14 0
	Batala	8 14 0	8 14 0
	Pathankot	8 14 0	8 14 0

Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht : The Minister has stated that the control rate ranges from eight to nine rupees while the market rate varies from Rs. eight to thirteen. May I know if the Government is considering the question of revising the control rate ?

Minister : My submission is that the whole responsibility in this matter has been taken up by the Government of India. The Food Minister is reaching Ambala on the 30th of this month where we will hold discussions with him. The item relating to the fixing of the control prices is also likely to be taken up there.

Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht : Has the Government under consideration the possibility of decontrolling the coarse grain ?

Minister : The hon. Member asking this question ought to know that the Government of India has already announced its policy to some extent with regard to this matter. So far as the question of commodities other than wheat and gram are concerned, they have ordered their decontrol within the States and the States which are deficit in these commodities can get them surplus States. In a way, the decontrol is being introduced practically, and other minor restrictions on the import and export of the foodgrains beyond the boundaries of the States have not yet been removed.

—

SUPPLY OF DRINKING WATER TO CERTAIN VILLAGES OF TEHSIL
GARHSHANKER, DISTRICT HOSHIARPUR.

***1264. Shri Baloo Ram :** Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any efforts are being made to supply water regularly to Villages Klowal, Seehwan, Sekhowal, Khurali, Malakwal, Hebbowal, in tehsil Garhshankar, which are situated at a slightly higher level than the other villages, and where the water-supply fails or is extremely inadequate in the summer months;
- (b) whether it is intended to instal a pipeline right up to village 'Tabba;
- (c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the negative, the reasons why water cess is regularly charged from the inhabitants of the said villages although no pipeline has yet been carried to the said village ?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Does not arise.

Shri Baloo Ram : Is the Minister aware of the fact that water cess is being charged from some villages where even the pipelines do not exist ?

Minister : Not in the least. However, if there are any villages where water cess is being charged even in the absence of any pipelines, then I would like the hon. Member kindly to bring this fact to my notice and I assure him that I shall institute an enquiry into the matter.

Sardar Chanan Singh : Is the Minister aware of the fact that the people of the areas where water is supplied are being made to pay a cess at the rate of Rs. 3 per unit and the property of the people, who are unable to pay such dues, is attached under the decrees of the Courts?

Minister : This matter comes under the jurisdiction of the District Board, Hoshiarpur, and the Government does not ordinarily interfere in the affairs of the Local Bodies.

Sardar Chanan Singh : Has the District Board passed and sent any Resolution to the Government suggesting that the burden of this cess may be shared equally by the District Board, the people and the Government?

Minister : I do not know anything about this matter.

CLOSING DOWN OF THE GOVERNMENT VEGETABLE SHOP AT SIMLA.

1318. Shri Ram Parkash : Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state the reasons for closing down the Government Vegetable Shop at Simla?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma : The Government shop had to be closed because, it could not be run on 'No profit, No loss basis.' The overhead charges as a result of the detailed system of accounting would have gone very high with the result that vegetables and fruits could not be sold at competitive prices.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : With a view to provide articles at cheaper rates to the Secretariat employees, has the Government explored any way of reducing this overhead expenditure so that this useful arrangement should continue?

Minister : The Government have not entered into any contract with the Secretariat employees to continue the supply of cheap articles.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Why does the Government refrain from providing cheap articles to its poor employees?

Mr. Deputy Speaker : This question does not arise out of the main question.

LEVY OF TAX ON GOODS CARRIED BY PUBLIC CARRIERS IN THE STATE.

*1042. **Shri Dev Raj Sethi** : Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Government has entered into negotiations with the representatives of public carriers in the Punjab State, and whether any agreed formula has been evolved for the levy of tax on goods carried by public carriers; if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the estimate of yield of revenues in the event of the agreed formula being implemented;
- (c) the estimate of yield of revenues according to the existing rules ?

Shri Jagat Narain : (a) The Punjab Government discussed the matter with the representatives of the public carriers in the Punjab State and it was agreed that the following lump sum rates of tax should be charged—

- (i) Rs. 360 per annum per public carrier other than that plying on hilly routes or under countersignatures of the authorities in the adjoining States under the Motor Vehicles Act.
 - (ii) Rs. 540 per annum per public carrier plying on hilly routes or under countersignatures of the authorities in the adjoining States under the Motor Vehicles Act.
- (b) About Rs. 12,00,000 (Rupees twelve lakhs) per annum.
- (c) About Rs. 14,00,000 to Rs. 15,00,000 (Rupees fourteen to fifteen lakhs) per annum. This was only a rough estimate of income expected in case the taxes were realized *pro rata* of freight.

REPRESENTATION FROM THE PUNJAB GOVERNMENT NATIONAL MOTOR
TRANSPORT WORKERS' UNION.

*1127. **Shrimati Sita Devi**: Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the Government has received any representation from the Punjab National Motor Transport Workers' Union to the effect that certain appointments to the posts of Inspectors have been made by the Transport Department against the rules; if so, the action, if any, taken by the Government in the matter ?

Shri Jagat Narain : Yes; a representation from the Punjab Government National Motor Transport Workers' Union has been received, which is under examination. The allegations made are not correct, as the appointments and promotions to the posts of Inspectors are made in accordance with the rules. However, a Departmental Committee is proposed to be set up to go into the details.

CONSTRUCTION OF RESIDENTIAL QUARTERS FOR THE SUBORDINATE STAFF OF THE OMNIBUS SERVICES, AMRITSAR, JULLUNDUR AND AMBALA.

* **1128. Shrimati Sita Devi:** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the Government intend to construct residential quarters for the subordinate staff of the Omnibus Services, Amritsar, Jullundur and Ambala respectively?

Shri Jagat Narain : No such scheme exists at present for the construction of residential quarters for the subordinate staff of the Omnibus Services of Amritsar, Jullundur and Ambala.

Shrimati Sita Devi : The Minister has stated in his reply that no such scheme is yet under consideration. May I know whether keeping in view their meagre salaries the Government is prepared to consider the grant of any separate House-rent Allowances to its employees so long as the new scheme is not formulated?

Minister : No.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Is the Government prepared to consider this question?

Minister : They are being given reasonable salaries. The question, therefore, does not arise.

Shrimati Sita Devi : ³³ Quarters are allotted to Government servants on payment of rent equal to 10 per cent of their respective salaries. Why doesn't the Government apply the same rule to its employees in the Transport Department?

Minister : This Department has come into existence very recently and the rules in respect of the conditions of service are still under consideration.

FIRST-AID ARRANGEMENTS FOR GOVERNMENT TRANSPORT WORKERS.

* **1129. Shrimati Sita Devi:** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether any first-aid arrangements are made by the Government for the Transport Workers of Amritsar, Jullundur and Ambala Omnibus Services?

Shri Jagat Narain : Yes every bus of Government Transport Services carries a first-aid box and this kit can be used in case of emergency. The proposal for the establishment of departmental dispensaries in State Transport Services is also under examination.

Shrimati Sita Devi : The Minister has said that the matter is under consideration. Will he be pleased to say when this process of consideration will be concluded?

Minister : I have already stated that we are considering the matter.

MEDICAL FACILITIES TO STATE EMPLOYEES.

***1144. Shri Mansa Ram Kuthiala :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the medical expenses incurred by the Government servants who draw a salary of Rs. 150 or above are reimbursed to them; if so, the reasons for not providing such facilities to the employees of the Government drawing less than Rs. 150 as their pay?

Shri Jagat Narain : Yes, but that is in case of medicines on the Medical Store Department list and not available in the hospitals. Government Servants in receipt of pay less than Rs. 150 are entitled to free supply of medicines and treatment in the general wards of hospitals and the question of reimbursement in their case does not arise, as medicines not available are purchased from hospital contingencies.

WATER-SUPPLY FROM LAJPAT RAI WATER-WORKS, UNA POLICE STATION.

1145. Shri Mansa Ram Kuthiala : Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the water-supply from the Lajpat Rai Water-Works (Beet Water-Works), Una Police Station, was stopped during the month of September or August, 1952; if so, the number of days for which the supply of water was discontinued and the compensation or rebate, if any, the Government proposes to allow to the consumers in this connection?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma : The water-supply from Lajpat Rai Water-Works was stopped for six days from the evening of the 23rd August, 1952, up to the evening of the 29th August, 1952, on account of one of the pipes having burst accidentally. As stoppage of water-supply was temporary and only for a short interval the question of giving a rebate or compensation to the consumers by the District Board, Hoshiarpur, which is the collecting authority, does not arise.

DEMANDS OF D. B. TEACHERS.

***1150. Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the D. B. Teachers of the State have put forward certain demands to the Government regarding an increase in their salary and the taking over of their services by the Government; if so, the decisions, if any, so far taken by the Government on these demands?

Shri Jagat Narain : Yes. The matter is under consideration.

Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht : May I know whether one of their demands was.....

Mr. Deputy Speaker : When the Minister says that the matter is under consideration, how can you ask supplementaries?

Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht : I think I am entitled to elicit some information from the hon. Minister.

Minister : I have already stated that the matter is under consideration.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Has this matter been under consideration for more than two years now ?

Minister : It has been under our consideration only for two months.

ROUTE PERMITS FOR LORRIES AND TRUCKS.

•1152. Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht : Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any new route permits for lorries and trucks have been issued by the Government to any person, firm or company, old or new, since April 1, 1952, up to date; if so, the names thereof along with the particulars of the routes;
- (b) whether any applications from the political sufferers were also received and considered by the Government for the purposes; if so, with what results ?

Shri Jagat Narain : (a) (i) No stage carriage permit has been issued on a regular basis on any new route to any person, firm or company, old or new, since April 1, 1952. The following three stage carriage companies consisting of refugees, were, however, changed from the Pathankot-Dalhousie route at their own request during June, 1952, due to insufficient traffic obtaining on that route :—

(1) Pindi Bhatian Transport Co., Ltd., Pathankot.

(2) Chiniot Transport Co., Ltd., Pathankot.

(3) Murree Hills Transport Co., Ltd., Pathankot.

These companies have been issued stage carriage permits on the following routes in lieu of permits held by them on Pathankot-Dalhousie route :—

Serial No.	Name of route	Mileage	Permit	Return Trip
(1) <i>Pindi Bhatian Transport Co., Ltd.</i>				
1	Hoshiarpur-Jawalamukhi Mandir	48	1	1
2	Dharamsala-Jawalamukhi Mandir	36	1	1
3	Dharamsala-Haripur ..	37	1	1

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Serial No.	Name of route	Mileage	Permit	Return Trip
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(2) *Chiniot Transport Co., Ltd.*

1	Pathankot-Jogindernagar ..	97	2	1
2	Nagrota-Mandi (Nagrota-Manali permit) ..	74	2	1

(3) *Murree Hills Transport Co., Ltd.*

1	Pathankot-Dharamsala ..	56	1	1
2	Pathankot-Baijnath ..	82	1	$\frac{1}{2}$
3	Dharamsala-Nurpur Indora ..	56	1	1

(ii) A quota of 8 public carriers' permits was sanctioned for Harijans of Ambala Region by the Government. Out of these, 7 public carriers' permits were issued before April 1, 1952, and the remaining one public carrier's permit has been issued after April 1, 1952, in favour of Shri Jeet Ram, son of Parbhati, Harijan of Gurgaon District. In addition to this some temporary permits have been issued for seasonal business for transportation of potatoes and fruits between Manali-Kulu-Pathankot and Simla-Thanedar and for construction of Government works.

(b) A few applications for the grant of stage carriage permits have been received from political sufferers and these have been kept pending till the finalisation of policy of issue of permits on closed and kacha routes.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : May I ask what conditions are required to be complied with for the issue of a permit? Has one to deposit some security?

Minister : No security has to be deposited.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Then, what is the qualification?

Minister : Any one who is doing that work and has the desire to do it can get the permit.

TRAINING SCHOOL FOR HINDI, SANSKRIT OR PUNJABI TEACHERS IN THE STATE.

*1173 **Shri Sri Chand :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether there is any training school for Hindi, Sanskrit or Punjabi Teachers in the State; if not, whether the Government intends making some other arrangements for the training of Hindi, Sanskrit or Punjabi Teachers?

Shri Jagat Narain : Arrangements exist in the training institutions of the State for the training of teachers in the teaching of languages.

SETTING UP OF A BOARD OF AYURVEDIC PRACTITIONERS IN THE STATE.

***1224. Shri Teg Ram :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any Board of Ayurvedic Practitioners was set up by the Government in the State; if so, when;
- (b) the number of the members of the said Board;
- (c) the qualifications laid down for becoming a member of the Board;
- (d) the steps, if any, by the Board to develop the Ayurvedic system of medicine;
- (e) the number of meetings of the Board, if any, held so far?

Shri Jagat Narain : (a) Yes. The Board was set up on the 14th June, 1950.

(b) Eleven.

(c) Vaid and Hakims who are eligible to be registered can become members in case of the first nominated Board; while registered Vaid and Hakims will be members in case of the subsequent elected Boards. They should be residents of Punjab (India).

(d) The development of the Ayurvedic and Unani Systems of Medicine is not the function of the Board which is concerned primarily with the registration of Vaid and Hakims and recognition of institutions imparting education in these systems of medicines.

(e) Five.

Shri Teg Ram : Has the Minister heard that some members have no knowledge of Ayurvedic and Unani systems of medicine?

Minister : I have not heard anything to that effect.

POSTING OF A MEDICAL OFFICER AT BALACHAUR DISPENSARY, DISTRICT HOSHIARPUR.

***1263. Shri Baloo Ram :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether he is aware of the fact that the Dispensary at Balachaur, District Hoshiarpur, has been without a Medical Officer for the last five months; if so, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether any Medical Officer has been posted at Balachaur; if so, when he is likely to take charge of the Dispensary?

Shri Jagat Narain : (a) The Civil Dispensary, Balachaur, was rendered vacant on the 12th July, 1952, on the retirement from service of the previous medical officer attached to it. It has not been possible to fill the post due to an acute shortage of medical licentiates.

(b) A medical officer was recruited and posted to Balachaur on the 21st October 1952, but he did not join the post. Efforts are being made to post a medical officer at Balachaur, as soon as possible.

Shri Baloo Ram : Is the Minister aware that the said Doctor refused to go to Balachaur saying that it was not a suitable place for him?

Minister : He did not say that to us.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : The hospital was without a Doctor for six months due to that gentleman not joining duty. Has the Government asked for his explanation for disobedience of its orders?

Minister : The question of disobedience did not arise. It was a new recruitment and after some time the gentleman told us that he did not want to join service.

CONSTRUCTION OF A BRIDGE OVER THE CHO IN HOSHIARPUR DISTRICT.

***1133. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut :** Will the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

- (a) whether he is aware of the fact that the Bhangi Cho (Hilly rivulet) which flows near Hoshiarpur City damages low-lying areas around it and causes distress to the inhabitants of that area;
- (b) whether the Government has received representations from the public and the Motor Transport Companies asking for the building of a bridge over the Cho mentioned in part (a) above;
- (c) whether the Government has also received a petition from the Hoshiarpur Municipality in this connection; if so, the action taken thereon;
- (d) whether it is a fact that no steps to build a bridge over the said Cho have been taken; if so, when Government intends to build the said bridge?

Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa : (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) No.

(d) Yes. On account of financial stringency, it is not proposed to build a bridge over the Cho.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Has the paucity of funds occurred only in respect of Hoshiarpur District? The Cho is playing havoc in that area and the Government should let us know whether or not it intends to construct a bridge to save it?

Minister : There is no money, Sir.

DAMAGE OF LAND BY CHOS IN HOSHIARPUR DISTRICT.

*1135. **Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether he is aware of the fact that large areas of land are damaged by Chos (hilly rivulets) in District Hoshiarpur, particularly in Tehsil Hoshiarpur; if so, whether the Government intends building a bund in this connection or a bridge over the road from Hoshiarpur to Dasuya; if not, what other steps Government proposes to take to save the land from damage by Chos?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : Government are fully aware of the menace of Chos in the Hoshiarpur District; no bund in this connection or bridge over the road from Hoshiarpur to Dasuya is proposed to be built but action has been taken by Government in this regard for the last many decades. The evil of Chos has been mitigated to a great extent and considerable areas of land both cultivated and uncultivated have been saved by judicious closures of hill catchment and by training of Chos by construction of vegetative spurs on the banks of Chos. It has been able to reduce the intensity of floods and silt load and the results obtained are very encouraging.

ADMISSION TO OVERSEERS AND DRAFTSMEN CLASSES.

*1200. **Shri Chand Ram Ahlawat :** Will the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of vacancies reserved for admission to the Overseers and Draftsmen Classes for Scheduled Castes in the Government Engineering School, Nilokheri, in the years 1951-52, 1952-53 and 1953-54;
- (b) the number of applications for Overseers and Draftsmen Classes received from Scheduled Castes candidates, the number of those admitted respectively in the years referred to in part (a) above?

Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa :

Year	Number of seats reserved for scheduled castes candidates in		Number of applications received from scheduled castes candidates for Overseers and Draftsmen Classes	Number of scheduled castes candidates admitted in	
	Over-seers Class	Drafts-men Class		Overseers Class	Draftsmen Class
1951-52 ..	7	4	4	1	1
1952-53 ..	9	3	8	Examination held in October 1952, but admission not yet made.	
1953-54 ..	Examination will be held next year after which admission will take place.				

CONSTRUCTION OF PUCCA CONCRETE CAUSEWAYS ON CHOS IN THE STATE.

*1243. **Shri Rala Ram** : Will the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state the names of the major Chos in the State where pucca concrete causeways; if any, are intended to be built by the Government in the years 1952-53 and 1953-54 ?

Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa : It is not intended to build concrete causeways on any of the Chos in Hoshiarpur District during 1952-53 and 1953-54.

CONSTRUCTION OF A BRIDGE OVER THE SUTLEJ AT RUPAR.

*1265. **Shri Baloo Ram** : Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state whether Government have decided to build a bridge over the Sutlej at Rupar ; if so, whether the contracts for the said construction have been given ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : Yes; the work has since been given to contractors and is in progress.

CONSTRUCTION OF NEW MOTORABLE ROADS IN DISTRICT KANGRA.

*1269. **Bakshi Partap Singh** : Will the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the Government intends to construct any new motorable roads in the Kangra District; if so, when and where ?

Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa : None.

PROVIDING PROTECTIVE WORKS TO SAVE THE AREA OF INDORA THANA FROM THE DEPRIDATIONS OF RIVER BEAS.

*1332. **Shri Ram Chandra Comrade** : Will the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether any scheme has been prepared by the Government for providing protective works to save the area of Indora Thana, Tehsil Nurpur, District Kangra, from the deprivations of River Beas; if so, the progress so far made therein ?

Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa : The question of carrying out protective works for Indora Town is under active consideration of Government. Experiments are being carried out at the Hydraulic Field Research Station, Malikpur, on a model of the River Beas as at Indora Town to investigate and decide on a suitable design for protective works. As soon as a proper safe design has been evolved, Government will consider their construction.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

GAUGE READERS IN UPPER BARI DOAB CANAL CIRCLE.

247. **Shri Ram Kishan** : Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any Gauge Readers in the Upper Bari Doab Canal Circle are used for receiving and delivering the Dak (Mail); if so, their lists and places of their posting;
- (b) whether the persons referred to in part (a) above are paid any allowance for the Dak work referred to above; if so, at what rate;
- (c) the number of Overseers, Zilladars, Canal Patwaris for the receipt and delivery of whose Dak each of the Gauge Readers referred to in part (a) above is responsible?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh (a)—

Serial No.	Number of Gauge Readers	Place of posting	Rate of Dak allowance paid	Number and Designation of officials whose dak is received and despatched by Gauge Readers	
1	One	Raya	Re 1 per men-sem	Overseer	.. 1
				Zilladars	.. 2
				Patwaris and Sub-Divisional Dak work in addition	.. 18
2	Do	Khawaspur	Ditto	Overseer	.. 1
				Zilladar	.. 1
				Patwaris	.. 10
3	Do	Naushera	Ditto	Zilladar	.. 1
				Patwaris	.. 10
4	Do	Athwal	Nil	Overseer	.. 1
				Patwaris	.. 2
5	Do	Khara	Nil	Overseer	.. 1
				Zilladar	.. 1
				Patwaris	.. 9

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6	One	Valtoha	Nil	Overseer	..	1
				Zilladar	..	1
				Patwaris	..	4
7	Do	Minhala	Nil	Overseer	..	1
				Zilladar	..	1
				Patwaris	..	6
8	Do	Sathiali	Nil	Overseer	..	1
9	Do	Panj-Grain	Re 1	Overseers	..	6
				Zilladars	..	4
				Patwaris	..	38
10	Do	Fatehgarh	Nil	Overseer	..	1
				Zilladar	..	1
				Patwaris	..	8
11	Do	Kathu Nangal	Nil	Overseers	..	3
				Zilladars	..	3
				Patwaris	..	8
12	Do	Bhuchar	Nil	Overseers	..	2
				Zilladar	..	1
				Signaller Bhuchar		1
13	Do	Khalra	Nil	Overseers	..	2
				Zilladar	..	1
14	Do	Rane Wali	Nil	Overseers	..	3
				Zilladars	..	2
				Patwaris	..	8
15	Do	Beharwal	Nil	Patwaris	..	8
16	Do	Nanungal	Nil	Patwaris	..	3
17	Do	Kunjar	Nil	Overseer	..	1
				Patwaris	..	4

(b) Yes, as per column 4 of the above list. The payment of allowance to Gauge Readers who are not paid anything for doing Dak work is under consideration.

(c) Vide column 5 of the above list.

IRRIGATION BY A CANAL OUTLET TO VILLAGE JAND, DISTRICT AMRITSAR.

248. Shri Ram Kishan : Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any lands of Village Jand, Tehsil Patti, District Amritsar, were being irrigated by a canal outlet having its head in Rasulpur Distributary some years ago;
- (b) whether the outlet referred to in part (a) above was stopped by the canal authorities; if so, when and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the area under the command of this outlet;
- (d)
 - (i) whether any representation was received by the Sub-Divisional Officer, Canals, Tarn Taran, on the 20th June 1952, from Sardar Darbara Singh and other cultivators of the said village requesting that the outlet referred to above be restarted; if so, the action, if any, taken by the canal authorities in the matter;
 - (ii) the arrangements, if any, made for the irrigation of the area referred to in part (c) above after the outlet referred to in part (a) above was stopped;
 - (iii) whether the area referred to in part (c) above is still shown as *nahri* in the revenue records and was assessed at the *nahri* rates at the last settlement of 1937-38; if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to revise the land revenue assessment of this area and reassess the same at the rate at which barani lands are assessed; if not, the reasons therefor?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. The outlet of Rasulpur Distributary was closed prior to 1918 for reasons not known as the relevant records are not available and its area was transferred to outlet R.D. 33,080 T.F. Rasulpur Minor.

(c) The area transferred to outlet R.D. 33,089 T.F. is 324 acres.

(d) (i) Yes, a representation was received from Sardar Darbara Singh on the 1st July 1952. It has been investigated and the proposal for transferring the area in question from the existing outlet to Rasulpur Distributary is under consideration.

(ii) The area was transferred to outlet at R.D. 33,089 T.F. Rasulpur Minor.

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(iii) Yes. The area is still classified as *nahri* as it is included in the chak of outlet R.D. 33,089 T.F. of Rasulpur Minor.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) (iii) above.

INSPECTION OF RECORDS.

249. Shri Ram Kishan : Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether any register regarding the inspection of records at the Civil Secretariat, Jullundur, is being maintained, if not, the reason therefor?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : Apparently the hon. Member is referring to the register for the inspection of land records maintained in the Registrar, Land Claims Branch, in Secretariat at Jullundur. If so, the reply is in the affirmative.

RESOLUTIONS

Mr. Deputy Speaker : As the question hour is over, we will now proceed to the next item on today's Agenda. I call upon Shri Mool Chand Jain to move his Resolution.

(Shri Mool Chand Jain was not in his seat).

Mr. Deputy Speaker : As Shri Mool Chand Jain is not present in the House, I call upon Sardar Nidhan Singh to move his Resolution.

ABOLITION OF UPPER HOUSE.

Sardar Nidhan Singh (Mehna) (Punjabi) : Sir, I move—

That this House is of the opinion that the Upper House of this State Legislature serves no useful purpose and is only a financial burden on the people of this State. It, therefore, resolves that it should be abolished.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : On a point of Order, Sir. I want to bring it to your notice that any discussion on the Resolution moved by my hon. Friend, Sardar Nidhan Singh, would be tantamount to contravention of Article 169(1) of the Constitution of India. With your permission, I would like to read this article. It is like this:

Notwithstanding anything in Article 168, Parliament may by law provide for the abolition of the Legislative Council of a State having such a Council or for the creation of such a Council in a State having no such Council, if the Legislative Assembly of the State passes a resolution to that effect by a majority of the total membership of the Assembly and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of the Assembly present and voting.

Sir, it is abundantly clear from the above Article that the Resolution for the abolition of the Legislative Council can only be passed by a majority of the total membership of the Assembly. Whereas you will yourself find, Sir, the attendance in the House is less than one-half of the total members. Moreover, it cannot be presumed that at the time of voting, the number of the Members present would exceed one-half of the total members. I would, therefore, respectfully submit that no discussion on this Resolution be allowed.

Shri Sri Chand : Mr. Speaker, the relevant Article of the Constitution of India provides that such a resolution should be passed by a majority of the total membership of the Assembly and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of members present and voting. That question does not arise at this stage when we have still to discuss the resolution. It has already been admitted by the hon. Speaker and the provisions of the Article read by my hon. Friend will apply at the time of voting. It would be meaningless to prevent its discussion on the plea that it cannot be passed by the prescribed majority.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Suppose, the necessary number of members is not present in the House. Will it not be a waste of time to discuss the resolution ?

Shri Sri Chand : It is not laid down anywhere that a certain number of Members must be present in the House at the time of discussion of this resolution. If after the discussion, the required number of Members are not present at the time of voting, the resolution would be defeated. It has nowhere been provided that a certain number of Members must be present at the time of discussion too.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Discussion in this House has gone on even when the number of Members present was less than that present now. The question of the number of Members should be considered at the time of voting.

Chief Minister (Shri Bhim Sen Sachar) (Hindi) : Mr. Speaker, the resolution which has been moved in the House is of great importance. I shall request you not to throw it out on any technical ground. Sufficient number of Members is no doubt, not present in the House but it can always be said that the majority of them are at our beck and call and that if we wanted to allow discussion on this resolution we could have them present. I do not wish to be held responsible for that and would not like to give the impression that we want to prevent discussion of the resolution on the ground of a certain number of members being not present. If we wanted to prevent its discussion, I could have moved that instead of non-official business, official business be transacted today. It is a privilege of the Chair to give a ruling on this point of order but I shall request you, Sir, that unless there be any objection discussion of this resolution should be allowed without any ruling being given.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : I have consulted the Members' Attendance register and have found that less than half of the total number are present but acting according to the spirit of the statement made by the hon. Chief Minister, I allow the resolution to be discussed without giving any ruling on the point of order.

Sardar Nidhan Singh : Sir, I beg to move that the Upper House may be abolished. It is serving no useful purpose. The poor people of the State are already over-burdened with taxes and the capitalist class is sucking their blood. The

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object for which this Upper House was established is not being served. There are representatives of different parties in this House who are expected to scrutinise every measure carefully before it is passed by the Assembly. Today we find that the Congress members are in a large majority in that House.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Member to the fact that he cannot make any insinuation against any member of that House nor can he criticise the status of that House. He can, however, while discussing on this resolution, say that the Upper House is not serving any useful purpose.

Sardar Nidhan Singh : Sir, I was saying that the object for which the Upper House was constituted is not being properly served. That House represents the vested interests and safeguards their rights. It does not care a jot for the interests of the poor people and is an unnecessary financial burden on the State Exchequer. The Upper House is losing its importance in every democratic country. In Italy very little importance is attached to such House. Generally speaking, such Houses are to be found in imperialist countries like America, England and France. It does not behove our Government to set up two Houses in a poor State like ours. From the time this House has come into being we find that there has been a great deal of delay in the passage of legislative measures.

In the end, I would say that there are also representatives of the public in the Lower House who give their careful consideration to each and every measure that is brought up before them. I am of the view that the Upper House is not serving any useful purpose and is an unnecessary burden on the people of the State. I would recommend the abolition of that House for the following reasons:—

- (i) The Upper House is instrumental in causing delay in the enactment of legislative measures.
- (ii) It is undemocratic.
- (iii) It is an unnecessary burden on the people of the State.
- (iv) The Lower House can nominate only 13 members to the Upper House who can be called the real representatives of the people.
- (v) The Upper House is not serving that purpose for which it was constituted, viz., the careful examination of the Bills which are passed by the Lower House by persons having special knowledge and practical experience. The Congress Party which is in power today has created the second chamber in order to benefit some of their capitalist friends who do no useful work except drawing their compensatory allowance.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : I would request the hon. Members to make correct statements while discussing this resolution and not to indulge in making irrelevant remarks.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motion moved—

That this House is of the opinion that the Upper House of this State Legislature serves no useful purpose and is only a financial burden on the people of this State. It, therefore, resolves that it should be abolished.

Sardar Gopal Singh Khalsa (Jagraon) (Punjabi): Sir, the resolution that is at present before the House is that the Upper House of the Punjab State Legislature serves no useful purpose and is only a financial burden on the people of the State. It should, therefore, be abolished.

Sir, you might be aware of the fact that before the attainment of Independence, the Congress used to make tall claims and tell the people that if it came to power it would make the rich, poorer, and the poor richer, and also fix the salary of Ministers at Rs. 500 per mensem. It also used to promise that by its action it would work miracles which would astound the people of the State. The first miracle of the Congress Government has been that it has given a top-heavy administration to the State. We know that as a consequence of partition, Punjab State has been the worst sufferer. In spite of the attenuated resources of this State, the Government has increased the number of the Ministers and has over-burdened the people with taxes.

Chief Minister : The number of the Members of the State Legislature has also been increased.

Sardar Gopal Singh Khalsa : I would like to point out that bicameral legislature exists only in rich countries like America and England where special representation is given to vested interests. There, if the Lower House passes any measure which adversely affects the interests of the capitalist class of people then the Upper House is there to safeguard their interests. Our Congressite friends have all along been claiming that they will endeavour to remove economic inequality in the State but instead they have copied the institution of Upper House from America. In America, there are two Houses of the Federal Legislature—the House of Representatives and the Senate. The Senate has the power to disagree with the decision of the House of Representatives and return the Bills for their reconsideration. Similarly, the Legislative Council here has the right to return any Bill passed by the Lower House with their recommendations but this House is within its rights to accept or reject those recommendations. Under these circumstances, I think no useful purpose is being served by the Upper House.

In Britain, the Upper House of the Parliament is known as the House of Lords. It is there to protect colonial interests and the

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interests of the capitalists, dukes and lords. So far as these classes are concerned, we want to finish them here in India. The British had introduced the bicameral system because they were anxious to safeguard the interests of Rajas, Maharajas, Jagirdars and other capitalists. So far as the Congress is concerned, it is committed to the liquidation of these classes. In these circumstances, there cannot be two opinions on the point that the expenditure that the Government is incurring in connection with the second chamber is unnecessary.

The peasantry of the Punjab has cried itself hoarse over the question of the reduction of the rate of the abiana. The Government has always put forth the plea of financial stringency to reject this demand. If the Upper House is abolished, I can assure the House that the Punjab will not go to pieces nor will the legislative business cease to be transacted at its present rate. On the one hand, the Government is increasing the tax-burden on the people, insisting on charging a lump sum from the truck operators and a tax from people travelling in buses and on the other hand it is indulging in this wastage of public money. Then, it is proposed to impose betterment charges on land.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Please speak on the Resolution.

Sardar Gopal Singh Khalsa : Sir, I am pointing out to the Government an item from which it can save a lot of money. Ours is a small State and a State which has sustained the greatest loss as a result of partition. In view of these facts, there is absolutely no justification for a bicameral legislature in this State. With these words, I support this Resolution.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Sir, I have risen to support the resolution moved by my hon. Friend Sardar Nidhan Singh. Not to speak of the existence of the Upper House, its very concept is undemocratic. To create an Upper House to sit in judgment over the decisions of the persons directly elected by the people as their representatives is to do an undemocratic thing. A chamber which exists to act as a check on the true representatives of the people, to interpose delay in or obstruct the implementation of their decisions cannot be called democratic, even by courtesy.

England and France are the two countries where the Upper House first originated but even there they are continuing as relics of the past; their powers have been considerably curtailed and efforts are being made to abolish them. In those countries, they came into existence as a result of the play of historical forces, namely, the gradual transfer of power from the hands of the Crown to the nobility but the process of transfer did not stop there and power gradually passed on to the commons. The result is that the Upper Houses in those countries have very limited powers. This is the case with the House of Lords in Britain as well as the second chamber in France. While in other countries there is a tendency towards the abolition of the second chambers and steps are being gradually taken for this purpose. Here in this country they have been deliberately created. It is a pity that our Government is in the

habit of copying blindly the constitutions of other countries. Their principle is to copy everything English whether it is right or wrong and to make loud professions of being the followers of democracy. If this Government cannot do without two chambers and a host of officers, it must admit that it wants to rule like an imperialist Government. It is not proper for it to say on the one hand that it is in favour of decentralisation and giving more powers to the Panchayats and to rule by imperialistic methods on the other hand. The existence of an Upper House serves no purpose other than that of impeding and delaying the implementation of the will of the people.

Generally speaking, the existence of Upper Houses is necessary in capitalist countries to give some power to the upper classes, i.e. the 'lutas' lest the masses should rise against them and exterminate them. It is with the object of imposing restraints on the masses that the Upper Houses are being maintained in capitalist countries.

When we look at the construction, composition and complexion of the Upper House in this State.....

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Please don't refer to any party. What do you mean by 'lutas'? It is an unparliamentary word.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : What I mean to say is 'exploiter'. I shall feel grateful if you kindly let me know its Punjabi equivalent. I have not used this term for the Members of the Upper House of this State. I was referring to other countries.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : On a point of order, Sir. We cannot criticise the members of the other House and call them 'lutas'.

Sardar Achhar Singh : But he can compare them.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : He cannot do that. Sir, I want your ruling whether the word 'lutas' is unparliamentary or not.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : I have already declared this word as unparliamentary. But as the hon. Member's party has a representative in that House I do not know whom he is referring to.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Sir, my submission is that even if my hon. Friend's party has a representative in the Upper House, it is not fair to refer to the members of that House in a derogatory term like 'lutere'.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Well, Sir, I shall use the word 'exploiters' in place of the word 'lutere'.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : It is equally unparliamentary.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : On a point of order, Sir. My submission is that when the word 'lutere' has been declared as unparliamentary by the Chair, the hon. Member should be asked to withdraw it. It is strange that he is insisting on using it in one form or the other.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : The word 'lutere' is of course unparliamentary, but since the hon. Member insists on using it, let it go to his credit.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Rather to his discredit.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : No I would not say like that.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : On a point of order, Sir, I have to make this submission that we are here to maintain the dignity of the Chair. The Chair may forgive a particular member using offensive language, but the House cannot tolerate the ruling of the Chair being flouted continuously by that member. I request that the hon. Member should be asked to withdraw that word.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Sir, I have already offered to substitute the word 'lutere' by the word 'exploiters'.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : He obviously admits that the word 'lutere' is unparliamentary.

Chief Minister : Sir, the word 'lutere' connotes 'robbers' and the word 'exploiters' is not the exact substitute for it.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : So, he must withdraw it.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Exploiters also means 'lutne-wala', but it is not unparliamentary.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : I have already held that if the hon. Member uses the word 'exploiters' in the sense of 'lutere' then this word is also unparliamentary.

Chief Minister : Sir, with your permission, I have to make a submission in this connection and that is this. When a word has been declared to be unparliamentary by the Chair, it means that it cannot be used in the Legislature, and it cannot remain in its proceedings. The hon. Member, therefore, must withdraw it. If he refuses to do so then, as you know, Sir, other consequences are bound to follow. So, there is no doubt about the fact that he has to withdraw it.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Sir, I withdraw the word 'lutere' and substitute it by the words 'loot khasoot karne wale'.

Sir, the word 'exploiter' means one who loots. So, if the word 'looter' is unparliamentary. I withdraw it. But may I know what Punjabi word should I use for the word 'exploiter'?

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Order, Order.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Sir, I was submitting that in other countries the Upper Houses are constituted with some political object in view, but in our country the Upper Houses in the States have been formed so that the majority party may be in a position to please its friends. There is no other purpose behind their formation.

There is another thing and it is this that the Governor is given the power to make nominations to the Upper House. He.....

Mr. Deputy Speaker : No such references to the Head of the State please.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : The post of the Governor is mentioned in the Constitution. I am not making any criticism against his person (Interruptions).

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Order, Order. The hon. Member should avoid such remarks. The Members are entitled to discuss the subject of the resolution but there are certain subjects which they are not entitled to discuss here.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Sir, I was saying that the Congress Party nominated certain persons to the Upper House saying that they were experts in certain matters. May I know in what matters they were considered experts? In what way did they prove useful to the Government? May I know the contribution which the Upper House has made ever since it was constituted? I can say that it has not done anything useful so far. As a matter of fact, it was formed by the party in power to provide for its own persons. The Punjab did not stand in need of any Upper House at all.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Please don't attribute any motives. *

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Sir, I was saying that there was no need for the creation of the Upper House. In other countries, the second chambers have been constituted with some object in view. In England or France, the second chamber was constituted with one point of view while in Russia it was constituted with another. In Russia there is one House of Representatives and the Second House of Nationalities. Both the Houses have equal powers. There the second House is meant for the representation of the various nationalities only. Had the same object been kept in view here also I could well understand the necessity for the same and that only at the Centre. In fact, in Russia there are no second chambers in the States. It is only at the Centre that the need for the second House has been felt. Therefore, here also, there can be some justification for the Upper House at the Centre. In Russia the Upper House at the Centre represents the various States. In other countries, too, the same considerations apply. In America, too, the Upper House is meant to give representation to the States of the Federation.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : The hon. Member should not make baseless allegations.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : I am not telling wrong things. If they are baseless some of the hon. Members can contradict them in their speeches. What I am driving at is that in other countries of the world there are Upper Houses at the Centre only and those too only to give representation to the States and to safeguard their rights. But in our Constitution the States are also free to have Upper Houses for themselves. This is quite undemocratic. In the Punjab, there appears to be no need for a second chamber. This is a State comprising twelve districts only. In India there are certain bigger States which have no Upper Houses. Where lies the necessity of having a second House in such a small State as the Punjab? This is not at all democratic. There is another thing. The composition of this House is also undemocratic. Eight of the members of this House are nominated, thirteen are elected by the Lower House in an indirect manner, and most of the others are sent by the Local Bodies. Such persons cannot be called the representatives of the people. These Local Bodies were formed long ago and the elections to them are overdue. The members elected by these Bodies cannot be called the representatives of the people. Therefore, the composition of this House is quite undemocratic. Such a House has no business to put obstacles in the way of the democratic House.

There is another thing which I would like to say in this connection and it is this that by keeping this House a financial burden of about three lakhs of rupees has to be borne by our Exchequer. And this is all useless. In fact, it appears that the party in power is trying to please certain persons by giving them scholarships from public funds. As regards the work done by this House, I may only point out that it only changes commas and fullstops here and there in the Bills passed by this House. Of course, it has made certain amendments but they are nothing new. In fact they were suggested by us here on the floor of this House, but the Government did not accept them simply because the credit for them might have gone to the Opposition. For instance, take the case of the Bill conferring maternity benefits. In this Bill we suggested that the period for such benefits should be raised to forty days. This was not acceptable to the Government but an amendment to the same effect was moved in the Upper House and it was accepted.

Sir, like other Bills, the Punjab Capital (Development and Regulation) Bill was also received back from the Upper House. Our House passes all the Bills hurriedly which is a great shortcoming on its part. Our own weakness should not mean that the Upper House gives us useful suggestions. This weakness of ours can be removed even without the help of the Upper House. Mr. Speaker, the difficulty is that whatever is done by the Congress party is done with this object in view that no credit should go to any other party. Sir, the establishment of the Upper House is neither useful for the State Exchequer nor for the public of this State. The Second Chamber does not serve any useful purpose. It goes to the extent of passing 6 Bills at one sitting. I may remark that it is absolutely a useless House.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : No such reflection on the actual working of the Upper House, please.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Sir, I cannot help saying that the Second Chamber is a *Nikama* House.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Would you please ask the hon. Member to withdraw the word *Nikama*? He is going too far.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : It appears that no other word is available in their dictionary.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : May I submit if the Chair takes a lenient view then the dignity of the House would suffer. He has often used so many words derogatory to the honour of that House.

Shri Sri Chand (Bahadurgarh) (Hindi) : Mr. Speaker, I request that the hon. Members of this House should not come to the conclusion after hearing my speech that I have no respect for the hon. Members of the Upper House or that I want to be in any way disrespectful towards them. But as it is a substantive motion before the House which aims at abolishing the Second Chamber I would be required to say such things the meanings of which, I request, should not be taken otherwise. What I mean to say is that the hon. Members of that House are our colleagues and their disgrace is not our object.

Mr. Speaker, the reason for the establishment of the Upper House is this. Already, Second Chambers exist in England and America. And as we people blindly follow the example of other countries we have established the Second Chambers here also. Otherwise no hon. Member of this House feels that there is any necessity of having a second Chamber in our State. Our Government have copied each and every point of the constitutions of those countries and so they have thought it proper to establish a Second Chamber in every State of this country. Sir, I remember that on the occasion of the Round Table Conference when this question was raised, Mahatamaji said that India did not need the services of a Second Chamber. But it is very painful that in spite of that a Second Chamber has been set up in our State. Not only here, but also in Parliament and in every other State of the country a Second Chamber has been set up. Every hon. Member of this House is aware that the Upper House does not make any special amendments in the Bills passed by this House. It simply makes nominal amendments and returns the Bill so that nobody may have the opportunity to say that it does not perform any duty. Sir, my submission is that the existence of the Second Chamber is a great burden on the Exchequer of our State and our State cannot afford it. Our Government can do some other useful work with this amount of 3½ lakhs of rupees which is now being spent on the maintenance of the Upper House. On being asked by an hon. Member as to why a bridge had not been constructed on a *Cho* the Minister concerned had replied that the Government had no money to spend over such works. I cannot understand wherefrom money becomes available for this unnecessary expenditure.

[Shri Sri Chand]

Mr. Speaker, after the departure of the Britishers there was a general loot in our country. At first, it was said that there was feudal system in our country and that the big landlords did not work for themselves and as such the rent money was converted into interest money. As a result of this a group of people drawing fat salaries cropped up. It is the same class. Only the men have changed. It is a class of such people who do not perform any useful function but the society has to tolerate them. The same is the case with our Upper House, the hon. Members of which are getting pensions.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : May I remind the hon. Member that he had promised that he would not cast any reflection on the working of the Second Chamber.

Shri Sri Chand : Sir, I do not want to pass any remarks about any individual. What I mean is that they are elderly people and draw pension. Society has to afford their expenses. I feel that the party in power must have thought that if they remained unemployed they would engage in party politics against the Government. It therefore, might have been necessary that they should be engaged in such a manner that they might also continue to get their due share. What amazes me all the more is that in the District Boards one represents 40,000 persons and in Municipal Boards one Member represents about 500 people. Several towns whose population is 25,000 or 30,000 have 40 representatives and big cities whose population is 11 lakhs have ten representatives. A town having 11 lakhs as its population and the towns having 25 or 30 thousand as their population have got the same number of representatives. To me it appears a strange system of representation. I know that the number of the members of the Municipal Committee of Rohtak must be twice, if not thrice, the number of Members of the Rohtak District Board. Whereas the population of the Municipal Committee area is 1½ lakhs the population of the District Board area must be not less than 9 lakhs. As such, the representatives of a population of 9 lakhs can be very well defeated by the representatives of 1½ lakhs. This is not a correct system of representation.

Then, Sir, though we have every respect for the Governor who is the head of our State, yet I beg to submit that out of the members he has nominated to the Upper House some cannot even talk well.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : The hon. Member will be well-advised to refrain from making such criticism.

Shri Sri Chand : There is no such rule which may debar us from indulging in such criticism, especially when there is a substantive motion before the House. I would like to know if there is any rule which checks us from doing so.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : The hon. Member is reflecting on the conduct and action of the Governor in nominating certain members to the Upper House. He should avoid it.

Shri Sri Chand : Sir, with due respect to your ruling, may I just point out that there is a substantive motion now before the House and that no provision exists which can debar me from discussing that.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : But the conduct or the action of the Governor is not under discussion. What is under discussion is whether the Upper House does or does not serve any useful purpose. The hon. Member should confine his remarks to the motion.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : But the nomination of members comes under the head 'appointments made by the Governor.' Thus, I think the hon. Member can criticise it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : No, he cannot.

Shri Sri Chand : Sir, with due respect I still maintain that such matters can be subjected to criticism under a substantive motion.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Please do not try to justify as I have already disallowed discussion on the conduct or action of the Governor.

Shri Sri Chand : Mr. Deputy Speaker, I have every respect for your ruling but I cannot help pointing out to you that there appears to be no sense in bringing this resolution before the House, if we admit that the nominations made by the Governor are fully justified. There is nothing objectionable in the conduct of the members nominated by him for which we may not criticise his conduct but we cannot admit that the method of representation to the Upper House is proper.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : There is nothing wrong with your logic but you cannot be allowed to criticise the conduct of the Governor.

Shri Sri Chand : My submission is that while debating upon a substantive motion, we can criticise every authority.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : I ask the hon. Member whether this motion is against the Governor or against the Upper House?

Shri Sri Chand : It was the Governor, who had nominated certain members to the Upper House and therefore, we can discuss his nominations. Mr. Deputy Speaker, it appears that you want to gag me by giving such a ruling, so that I may not be able to criticise the nominations made by the Governor. You are not even ready to hear my explanation. If that is your intention, I have not the least inclination to disobey your order. However, I want to point it out to you that to speak on a substantive motion is my right.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : The hon. Member accepts my ruling but also goes against it.

Shri Sri Chand : My submission is that I have every respect for your ruling despite the fact that there is no such provision which may debar me from doing so.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : The hon. Member is again discussing the action of the Governor.

Shri Sri Chand : I am afraid, Sir, I will have to bring that in the discussion otherwise I cannot elaborate my point.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : The hon. Member should know that I have ruled that the action of the Governor cannot be brought under discussion. I would ask him to avoid it.

Chief Minister : Sir, with your permission, I most respectfully draw the attention of the Chair to Rule 79 of the Rules of Procedure. It is laid down in Rule 79(1) that:—

The matter of every speech shall be strictly relevant to the matter before the Assembly.

Then Rule 79(2)(ii) clearly provides that:—

A member while speaking shall not reflect on the conduct of the President as distinct from the Government of India or any Governor or Rajpramukh as distinct from the State Government.

From this it is abundantly clear that he cannot discuss the action of the Governor or reflect on his conduct.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : But the difficulty is that despite my ruling, he is trying to bring in the conduct of the Governor over again.

Chief Minister : Sir, my submission is that the hon. Member should not be permitted to flout the ruling of the Chair. The hon. Member wanted to know the rule and that has been brought to his notice. The rule clearly says that the conduct of the Governor as such cannot be reflected upon. He cannot say that the Governor while making nominations was actuated by any considerations. The question before the House is whether the Second Chamber is serving any useful purpose or not.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : I have repeatedly explained it to the hon. Member but to no effect.

Chief Minister : You have full authority to enforce your ruling when the hon. Member is not caring to obey it.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : On a point of order, Sir, I want to know whether if the conduct of the Governor cannot be discussed, we can discuss the functions of the Governor, because appointment, etc., come under his functions.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : If the hon. Member had heard the Chief Minister attentively, he would not have raised this point of order.

Shri Ranjit Singh Captain : On a point of Order, Sir. My submission is that the Governor while making nominations to the Upper House does not act in his individual capacity. He acts on the advice of the Council of Ministers. Therefore any such action can be criticised.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : The hon. Member should know that he ceases to be Governor when he acts like that.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : On a point of order, Sir. I think the action of the Governor is subject to criticism of this House.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : I have already given my ruling on this point and the hon. Member is trying to controvert it.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : On a point of order, Sir. I want to know as to whom we can criticise here, when we are neither allowed to discuss the actions of the Governor nor the party in power.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Had the hon. Member gone through the provisions of the Indian Constitution, he would have known whether he could discuss the institution of the Governor or not.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : If the hon. Member is not conversant with these provisions, you may better explain these to him.

Members : Order, Order.

Shri Sri Chand : Our speeches are generally ruled out as irrelevant by you and even now you have given a ruling to this effect. What to say of rules, the Secretary is there to help you. He points out to you that such and such thing is irrelevant according to such and such rule.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : The hon. Member should not bring the Secretary under discussion.

Shri Sri Chand : We will bring him under discussion because we find him generally interfering in our work.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Why is the hon. Member threatening?

Shri Sri Chand : There is no question of any threat, Sir. But I feel that you cannot stop me from saying that.

Minister for Irrigation : Sir, the attitude of the hon. Member is very improper.

Shri Sri Chand : It is for the Chair to decide and not the hon. Minister.

Minister for Irrigation : I am only suggesting it to the Chair.

Sardar Pratap Singh (Mallanwala) (Punjabi) : Mr. Speaker, the Resolution which is before the House today represents a major demand of the people. It is such an important Resolution that prior to the General Elections when the Upper House was not even constituted, many leading and learned members of the Congress who also form the intelligentsia of our country, during the course of their speeches expressed themselves against the establishment of this House. I can quote from the newspapers which contain the speeches of these learned friends. Besides, Mahatama Gandhi, the Father of the Nation, remained against the establishment of the Upper House throughout his life. Therefore, keeping in view all these things and also in view of the public opinion and above all in view of the welfare of our nation and the country, it is imperative not to indulge in party politics while discussing this Resolution.

My submission is that our Punjab is a poor and deficit State. To thrust a white elephant on this State, which consumes lakhs of rupees of its revenues, would amount to a sheer wastage of the precious money of the State and Nation. Mr. Speaker, whenever any tax is imposed on the people and speeches are made, it is usually pleaded by the Government Benches that taxes are levied because funds are required in order to enable the Government to run the administration. I quite associate myself with this observation but at the same time I wish to remind you that during the previous Budget Session our Chief Minister made an offer to the Opposition to suggest such ways and means which may yield financial income so as to manage the administration. But, Sir, I am constrained to remark that whenever such like resolutions embodying steps to save money by adopting economy measures are tabled by the Opposition, then our Friends occupying the Treasury Benches do not even give a hearing to what we say. On the other hand, we are made a laughing stock. Sir, if the Government wishes to raise money to run the administration, it can do so in two ways:—

(1) by imposing taxes, and

(2) by avoiding superfluous expenditure.

The method of imposing taxes usually bring disrepute to the Government because the public organizes agitations but the other method, i.e., making economy in the expenditure, brings credit to it and is also a source of pleasure to the masses. In it lies the benefit of the country and the nation. Why should the Government, therefore, not adopt this method ?

Then, Sir, you may examine the constitution of the Upper House, i.e., the method how it is constituted. The ordinary voters of the country have not been given the right to exercise their vote in its formation. The teeming millions have altogether been deprived of

the right of electing the members of this House while, on the other hand, how surprising it is that some particular groups of the people have been vested with the privilege of exercising two, rather three, votes each? As such, this House does not represent the masses. It only represents some particular classes of people. Such a House which does not represent the common people—if I utter the next word the hon. Speaker may call me to order and, therefore, I would only say that that a House which does not represent the common people—is not fit to be continued in the present age of democracy. It is, therefore, in the best interests of the country and the nation that in order to wash away the stigma of discredit appearing against us today, such a House be abolished as soon as possible.

Sir, I have been observing that no speeches are being made by the members of the Governmental Party.

Chief Minister : We did not feel any necessity of delivering speeches.

Sardar Partap Singh : Sir, if any arguments were advanced by the members of the Government Party, we would have replied to them emphatically. But anticipating the arguments which they would express through the Press and the platform outside this House, I wish to say, something about them.

An argument which is put forward by the Congress Party is that the existence of the Upper House is necessary to keep a watch and control over the Assembly business and also in order to amend and review the Bills and other legislative measures passed by it in a hurry and in the heat of the moment. This is the main argument which is advanced by the members of the Congress Party. In this connection, my submission is that the improvements made by the Upper House in the whole business which was transacted in this Assembly are before you. It has been seen that all the Bills which were sent to that House were sent back in the same form. Some minor amendments were, of course, made at certain places. Mr. Speaker, what I mean to say is that if only these are the functions and duties of that House, then I am of the opinion that it is of no utility to our State. Its abolition can result in a saving of a huge amount of money. If, however, the existence of a body to revise the legislation passed by the Assembly is considered necessary, then the Governor can set up an Advisory Committee for this purpose which may consist of the Secretaries and the Heads of all the Departments. Besides, if the opinion of any un-official expert in some particular case is considered necessary, the Governor can invite him to give his opinion. So far as the question of control and supervision is concerned, that is already being done by the Central Ministry of States. This Ministry of the Centre is such a powerful one that our Government cannot take even a single step against its wishes. It possesses such wide powers that it can even dissolve this legislature. When the Centre is exercising such a powerful influence on our affairs, where lies the justification of the control and supervision by the Upper House? The States Ministry is having such a strict watch over our State matters that we cannot appoint even a Minister without its consent.

[Sardar Partap Singh]

Besides, Sir, another argument that is advanced is to the effect that there are some such learned people who do not want to enter the Assembly through the elections and, therefore, the Upper House has been created in order to avail of their ability and talent. This is an absolutely erroneous view. Sir, I am of the view that a bold and ambitious politician will never be desirous of being nominated to the Upper House. He will always try to get elected to the Assembly, since he is aware of the fact that it is only on the floor of the Assembly that he can translate his programme into action and not in the Upper House. He cannot serve the cause he has at heart in the Upper House merely by delivering powerful speeches and wasting his talent there.

If the members of the Upper House are able and talented people then why are they wasting their talents and energy in that House ?

I wish to declare openly that the Government has constituted the Upper House as a back-door entrance for those who dared not face the public in the open elections or for such people whom this Government wanted to reward for supporting it so that the vested interests may always side with it.

It has been said that Upper Houses exist in all the important democratic countries ; Russia, America, England, France, all have their Upper Chambers. But my submission is that the Upper House is a sheer luxury and our State cannot afford it. Again, even in those countries the Upper Chambers exist only at the Centre. Can our friends name any country which has Upper Houses in its provinces ?

Then, Sir, the United Punjab consisted of 29 districts before the Partition, but there was only one Chamber of the Legislature and the number of Ministers too was about half of what we have now. Now, we have only 13 districts and the number of Ministers has almost doubled. I fail to understand why they feel the necessity for the Upper House. Is it because they lack the ability to run the Government or is it all a game of power politics ? As a matter of fact, the Congress wants to keep the reins of the Government in its own hands by all means, fair or foul. Its policy number one is power politics; the country and the public come after that.

I am sure that if all the members of the House are allowed to vote according to their individual opinion the resolution would be carried almost unanimously. (*Applause*). But the hon. Members belonging to the Congress party are helpless. Even then I would request them to act in the best interest of the country and the people and thus prove, beyond doubt, that we are the representatives of the people and want to act in accordance with their interest and welfare.

Shri Ram Kishan (Jullundur City, North-West) (*Hindi*) :
Mr. Speaker, I rise to oppose the resolution moved by my hon. Friend, Sardar Nidhan Singh. Even the Opposition has had to

admit that the Upper Chambers of Legislatures exist in all the advanced countries of the world. America, England, Russia, all have their Upper Chambers. I, therefore, fail to understand this opposition to a Second Chamber in our own State.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Can the hon. Member name any country which has a second chamber in any of its provinces ?

Shri Ram Kishan : I shall give a reply to each and every point raised by my hon. Friends. Only let them listen to me patiently. First of all, I wish to point out that when this matter came under discussion in the Constituent Assembly, it was decided by the Drafting Committee that the representatives of each State should decide whether or not they wanted second chambers in their respective State. The representatives of the Punjab were present there and they included representatives of the present Opposition in this House, I mean my Akali friends. All of them said that they were in favour of a second chamber in the Punjab. I can show you the speeches of Dr. Ambedkar and Sardar Patel in which they had declared that they did not insist on second chambers but left it to the representatives of each province to decide the question among themselves. The Punjab decided in favour of the second chamber. But the Drafting Committee also declared that it was an experiment and that if after some time any province wanted to abolish the second chamber it could do so.

The Upper Houses proposed in the Government of India Act, 1935, were not acceptable to us too. The reason for not having an Upper House in the Punjab at that time was that such a chamber would have consisted of the representatives of the rich classes, the capitalists and other vested interests. Can my hon. Friends tell me what vested interests have got any representation in our Second Chamber ? All the members of that House have been elected by the elected representatives of the people and, therefore, have a fully representative position. The representatives of the local bodies have been chosen by the representatives of rural as well as urban population. Similarly, what vested interest can the graduates and teachers have ? These people are the makers and reformers of the Nation. Then there are some members elected by us and there can be no doubt about their representative position. And may I ask what vested interest has got any representation through any one of the members nominated by the Governor ? These members are experts in and representatives of Co-operatives, Science, Art and Literature. Every country tries to take advantage of the ability and talents of such people and they are spared the trouble of fighting elections.

Again, the Council has been in existence for no more than 6 months as yet and can any one say that this experiment has proved a failure in the Punjab ? If it proves a failure some time in the future the hon. Members can make use of the relevant provision in the Constitution and abolish the Council. But nothing of the sort has happened yet. Sir, you know that there have been only three sessions of the Council so far and that during this short period it

[Shri Ram Kishan]

has done a lot of useful work and given us some excellent suggestions. We took some decisions in a hurry. The Council pointed out the same to us and put forward its suggestions after thorough examination. Those suggestions were so good and useful that we adopted all of them unanimously. Then, how can any one say that the experiment has proved a failure ?

Once again I submit that the necessity for the services of experts has been felt at all times in every democratic country and the Second Chambers of the Legislatures have been constituted to take advantage of their talents.

After the first revolution in 1789, a Constituent Assembly was set up in France. That Assembly decided that there should be an Upper House in that country. America, Russia and Canada also decided to have Upper Chambers. A peaceful revolution took place in our country also and after that we decided to have Second Chambers in some of our States. It was repeatedly stated by some of my hon. Friends that the Upper Chambers were established for checking the introduction of revolutionary reforms. It would, however, be noticed by the hon. Members that so far as our Upper House is concerned it has never adopted an obstructionist attitude. It has gone a step further and has made useful suggestions in many cases. We should not pass this Resolution and should take full advantage of the experiment which our Parliament and our leaders have decided to make. It is not only in our State that a Second Chamber has been established. These have been set up in other States also and none of them has raised any voice against their creation. If some circumstances arise and we consider the Upper House to be unnecessary, we have the power to ask for its abolition. There is no need of taking such a step at this stage. I hope that this resolution will be withdrawn but if that is not done it will be defeated by a large majority.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (Punjabi) : Mr. Speaker, an hon. Member who spoke from Government Benches just now said that every advanced country had the Second Chamber. He did not make it clear that such Houses existed at the Centre. The argument advanced by him could be put forward if a resolution for the abolition of the Council of States were under discussion at Delhi. I want to point out that the Upper House in the United States of America to which he has referred exists at the Centre. No constituent State has an Upper House. The Upper Houses are of two kinds. These may be of a hereditary character as is the case in England or elective. The House of Commons has been curtailing its powers continuously for the last several years. If not 'physically' at least legally it has been practically finished by the reduction in its powers. As regards U.S.A. to which the hon. Member was pleased to refer, I want to tell him that in that country the States were developed first. Those States collectively framed the Constitution and decided to have an Upper House at the Centre. The fact that the States were sovereign bodies was duly kept in view and in order to safeguard their sovereignty the members of the Upper House in the U.S.A. are elected by direct vote. In Russia the

Upper House represents the nationalities. In that country, too there are no Second Chambers in the States. If there is no need of Second Chambers in the States of other countries, what are those factors which made it necessary to have an Upper House in the Punjab ?

Then Sir, it was said that the Akali party and other parties had their representatives on the Drafting Committee. I want to make it clear that nobody belonging to our party was a member of that Committee and that is why this Resolution has been brought forward by us. It was said that if at some stage it was found that there was no need of having the Upper House, it would be abolished. May I know if it is serving any useful purpose at present ?

My learned Friend said that the Members of that House did not represent any vested interest or as a matter of fact any interest. If that is the case, what is the use of having that House ? Whenever, it is decided to have an Upper House, it is done in order to give representation to certain interests. When all the interests of the public are represented in this House, what purpose does the Upper House serve ? The Akali party, the Congress party and our party returned 13 members to the Upper House in proportion to their strength in this House. The whole process is nothing but duplication. The members of the Upper House express the same views which those belonging to their party express in this House. Similarly the members of the local bodies have returned members belonging to different parties in the same proportion in which they had themselves been elected to them. We cannot discuss the Governor, but may I know if the system of "nomination" of members exists in any progressive country ? This system should be done away with. So far as the members elected by the graduates and teachers are concerned, I admit that they are intellectuals. Except these, the election of other members is mere repetition. I can understand the utility of the Upper House, if it is intended for pleasing those persons who fail to get elected to this House. This is not a democratic method.

As regards the argument that the Upper House has caused no obstruction but has made useful suggestions I beg to submit that no new suggestion has emanated from it so far. The only difference is that the suggestions made by the Opposition in this House are not accepted but the same suggestions when made in the Upper House are sometimes accepted. Some Bills have been returned by that House with those suggestions that were made by us in this House. When we enquired as to why the same suggestions were not accepted when we made them in this House, we were told that the suggestions made by the Upper House were accepted with a view to showing respect to it. Does the Government mean that it has no respect for us ? Why should a sum of three lakhs of rupees be spent simply for showing respect to that House or because it causes no obstruction.

As has been reported a number of times, there is only one active member of that House. That member is Sardar Sohan Singh

[Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina]

Josh. It was said that on a certain day seven Bills were passed by that House because Sardar Sohan Singh did not attend the meeting on that day. That House will meet and all the work which we are doing will be passed by it in four or five days. If that House has to correct drafting mistakes only, cannot some legal advisers be appointed for that purpose? It is no use spending three lakhs of rupees annually for that work only. Most of the Members of that House take no part in the discussions. One or two Members speak while the others do not consider it necessary to take any interest because their monthly salaries are guaranteed. What I mean to say is that the principle of having Second Chambers is not sound. The Upper House can serve the purpose of giving representation either to hereditary nobles or to nationalities. In our country, their creation is simply a duplication. Thirteen members are returned by the representatives of the public elected to this House and another thirteen by the local bodies. The practice in other countries bears no comparison because wherever Upper Chambers exist these are meant to serve some purpose. In England the Upper House i.e., being gradually abolished. Here too we should abolish the Upper House at the earliest and utilise the money saved thereby for the benefit of the masses.

Principal Iqbal Singh (Jagraon) (*Punjabi*): Sir, I am very thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on this Resolution. I think that you have perhaps allowed me time to speak on the ground that this Resolution has been sponsored by a member on the Opposition side. I recollect that some time back a member of the Akali Party had expressed his views on this matter in the Constituent Assembly but now when the Akali Party wants that this Resolution be passed it would be clear that the views already expressed by a member of the Akali Party in his individual capacity were not the views of the Akali Party as a whole.

My hon. Friend Sardar Achhar Singh has remarked that this House has been constituted on the analogy of the Upper House which exists in the United States of America. But I would say that ours is a small State and cannot be compared with a rich country like America. It will not be wrong if our State be called a Sub-State. It has been said on behalf of the Government that it is trying the bicameral system as an experiment and the Second Chamber is not a permanent feature. The Constitution provides that some States will have two Houses. But if the people of the State want to be saved of the unnecessary burden of the second chamber then there appears to be no need of making such an experiment.

Secondly, after the partition the economy of the State has been thrown completely out of gear and we have to build up life *de novo* in all its aspects. The Government have not even enough resources at its command to carry on the administration of the State satisfactorily. Even today in the meeting of the Select Committee appointed to discuss the Punjab Betterment Charges and Acreage Rates Bill it was being pointed out on behalf of the Government that it could not meet its normal requirements for want of funds.

Under these circumstances, I cannot understand why the Government is spending money lavishly on the Upper House, when it can easily do without it. Where lies the need of having a double-chamber legislature when the legislative business can be transacted all right by the Lower House?

There should not be a senseless waste of government money when it is urgently required for the useful projects that are under construction and especially when our Government has to pay off large loans taken from the Central Government. Besides this, our Government is imposing new taxes on the people by passing legislative measures. The exigencies of the situation demand that the Government should not waste money on such like experiments but should make all possible efforts to achieve economies in government expenditure. I would say that my hon. Friends who occupy the Treasury Benches are today on trial and they should give a proof of their sincerity by making determined efforts at austerity in budgetting.

The Governor had once remarked in this address that the Punjab would gain a new life after the General Elections. I would, therefore, say that there is absolutely no justification for constituting a Second Chamber so long as our State does not achieve financial stability and prosperity. The Government should utilise the money being expended on the Upper House for the betterment of the people in the State and should try to lessen the burden of heavy taxation under which they are groaning. I would appeal to the Congress Party in general and my hon. Friends sitting on the Treasury Benches, in particular, that if they really feel that they are the representatives of the public then they should devote themselves unitedly and whole-heartedly to the promotion of the welfare and happiness of the common man. By relieving the existing burden of taxation they can give a proof of the fact that they have a soft corner for the poor. A Persian poet has remarked :—

ਚੁਨਾਂ ਦੇਵੰਦੰਸਤ ਅਦਰ ਦਿਲ ਕਿ ਗਰ ਗੋਯਮ ਜ਼ਬਾਂ ਸੋਜ਼ਦ
ਵਗਰ ਦਮ ਦਰ ਕਸ਼ਮ ਤਰਸਮ ਕਿ ਮਗਜ਼ੇ ਉਸਤਖਾਂ ਸੋਜ਼ਦ

ਚੁਨਾਂ ਦਰਦੇਸਤ ਅੰਦਰ ਦਿਲ ਕਿ ਗਰ ਗੋਇਮ ਜ਼ਬਾਂ ਸੋਜ਼ਦ ।
ਵਗਰ ਦਮ ਦਰ ਕਸ਼ਮ ਤਰਸਮ ਕਿ ਮਗਜ਼ੇ ਉਸਤਖਾਂ ਸੋਜ਼ਦ ॥

Today, the people are in great distress. The Government should try to assuage their lacerated hearts. I hope that the members of the Congress Party would give a proof of their being representatives of the people by not opposing this Resolution.

Shri Wadhawa Ram (Fazilka) (Punjabi): Sir, there is no denying the fact that the existence of the Upper House is unnecessary and opposed to the principles of a democratic system of government. Though we have achieved Independence yet we find that many restrictions are imposed even upon the hon. Members

[Shri Wadhawa Ram]

of this House inasmuch as they cannot express their views independently. We find that after the Partition the economy of our State has been completely shattered. I can say with confidence that the Upper House does not exist anywhere in any truncated State like ours.

Minister for Finance : The bicameral system is in vogue in several States.

Shri Wadhawa Ram : But it is not in existence in any State shattered like ours. It is true that five or six States in this country have got a bicameral legislature but out of them all, the condition of the Punjab and Bengal is the worst. This State comprising, as it does, 12 districts is not the real Punjab. The real Punjab has been left on the other side of the border. Without caring for the fact that our State has been ruined, our Government is continuing to indulge in extravagance. Public exchequer has been emptied but expenditure is still on the increase. Even if the Government were to have funds enough and to spare, it would not be advisable to have such an undemocratic and unnecessary House.

If our friends sitting on the Government Benches have any sympathy with the poor masses, they must lend an ear to what we want to say. Let them not be under the misunderstanding that since they are drawing fat salaries no one is poor in this State. We have, however, heard it said so often that a person who becomes blind in the month of *Sawan* considers everything green; he cannot think of a dry spot. This may be the case with some of our friends but it is inconceivable that all of them have become blind. I am sure all others barring the few I have referred to are not blind. The condition of this Government is such that it cannot pay travelling allowance to small officials who may have been on tour for a month or so on official duty. If a demand is made for a reduction in the rate of the *abiana*, it puts forth the plea of financial stringency. How can it look proper on the part of a government who cannot afford to pay an allowance in lieu of house-rent to the peons at the rate of rupees two per mensem to have a bicameral legislature in its State?

Chief Minister (Shri Bhim Sen Sachar) (Hindi) : Sir, the Opposition has expressed its surprise at the fact that none from this side is inclined to speak on this Resolution. It is strange that people who generally complain of a lack of sufficient opportunity to speak should grumble even today when they have complete freedom to speak as long as they like. When the Opposition makes any measure the target of its criticism it does not mean that there is something wrong with it; it does so because it has to justify its existence.

Opposition's case against the Second Chamber can be summed up in two words which were just used by Shri Wadhawa Ram,

namely, that it is undemocratic and unnecessary. What I fail to understand is as to how the Communist friends have made the statement that in the United States which is known as the cradle of democracy while there is a bicameral legislature at the Centre, in the States the legislature is unicameral. I can't say whether it is an inadvertent or a deliberate misrepresentation of facts.

Now, Sir, with your permission I may read out something from this book that I am holding for the enlightenment of these Friends. This book is 'Modern Democracies' by James Bryce, Volume II, and is available in the market. There is a reference about legislatures in the United States of America at page 56, chapter 41, of this book.

These are a great multitude for besides the two Houses of Congress there are forty-eight State Legislatures, each of two chambers.

If the friends sitting opposite have not forgotten all that they were taught as students, they can surely understand what it means. Lest they think that this statement has been made by the author by mistake, I might read out another reference from page 83 of this book.

We have already seen that every State Legislature is elected either by manhood suffrage or by universal suffrage, that each has two Houses.....

Now, not even the greatest admirer of the Soviet Union can say that U.S.A. is not a democracy. So, this argument of our friends that since in the United States of America the States do not have bicameral legislatures there should not be two Houses in this State does not hold good.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : It is wrong to say that all States have bicameral legislature.

Chief Minister : I hope these friends will in future state the facts correctly. I have great respect for them but if I were to give my opinion I would consider Bryce's statement more authentic than theirs.

I have yet to quote another reference. This is about Australia. On page 201 of this book, Bryce writes:--

The bicameral system established when responsible Government was first granted to each colony, was suggested partly by the example of the mother country, partly to provide a check on the supposed danger of hasty and ill-considered action by the more popular House.

So, it is incorrect to say that the bicameral system is not democratic. This argument does not hold water. On this ground alone, the existence of the Second Chamber in this State cannot be condemned.

Now we have to examine the question whether it is necessary or not or in other words whether it serves any useful purpose.

[Chief Minister]

It appears that some of the hon. Members have learnt a few slogans and although they are now quite out-of-date, yet they go on raising them even today. It has been said that the Upper House has been created to give representation to the 'vested interests'. My submission is that this is quite wrong.

Sardar Chanan Singh : We have not made use of the words 'vested interests' in our speeches today.

Chief Minister : Sir, my submission is that our Finance Minister is good at heart. He does not seem to realise at all that these hon. Members are bent upon not understanding things. So what is the good of reading out to them from page 587 of this book? They are not going to believe us. On the other hand, they will say that this book must have been got printed by us in our own press. Anyhow what I wish to submit is that even if this Resolution is passed by this House it does not mean that the thing is decided once for all. As a matter of fact, this matter does not lie in the power of the State Government alone. Had it been so, I would have certainly tried to give arguments and convinced the hon. Members. But the fact is that after its passage here it will have to be sent to the Parliament. Therefore, I do not wish to say anything more on this subject.

There is another thing and that is that on the basis of the experiments carried on in other democratic countries of the world we have found the system of bicameral legislature to be of some use and so we are trying to introduce it in our State. We should be allowed to test it by our experience, so that we may be in a position to say how it works here. We want to see whether the experiments done in other countries succeed here or not. The thing is to be seen on its merits. My hon. Friends sitting on the Opposition Benches began to say that this thing was against popular will even before the results of this experiment were out. Had the criticism been made now after they have seen the working of the Upper House for about six months I would have understood their point of view, but, in fact, they indulged in this sort of criticism even before the beginning of this experiment. As a matter of fact, without seeing the functioning of this experiment it was stated that the Upper House was an obstacle in the way of the enforcement of the popular will and that it delayed the work of legislation.

Another thing which has been stated is that the composition of the second House is not democratic and popular. This allegation is quite wrong. It cannot be condemned on the score of popular representation. Experiments have been carried on in the democratic countries of the world and it has been found that to represent the popular will there is always the Lower House and to see that there are no defects in the legislation there is the Upper House. If the hon. Members sitting opposite are against the method of working with care and thought, it is quite a different matter. But I think there is need for added deliberations or extra-deliberations. The second House is meant for weighing various opinions and making added deliberations in the work of legislation. If by experience

it is found that there is no need for any further deliberations on the legislative measures passed by the Lower House, the Upper House can be abolished. But how can it be said beforehand that there is no such need for it ?

Sir, it has been said that there is no man of ability in the Upper House. This thing is also wrong. I wish to submit that the second House is a contrivance and a device and it has been provided for by the Constitution after due deliberation. This experiment must be made. It is no wisdom to state that there is no utility in the Upper House and that this expenditure should be saved. If the object is simply to effect a saving in expenditure, why not reduce the number of hon. Members of this House from 126 to 50 ? This line of argument is not sound. When it is realised that there is need for a certain thing then the expenditure is only a consequential matter. In this way it can as well be said that all the Government Departments should be abolished and that the number of members of this House should be reduced.

Shri Wadhawa Ram : We say this too.

Chief Minister : Yes, what else can we expect from Shri Wadhawa Ram? What he wishes to do is not acceptable to us. Perhaps the Upper House has been constituted to serve as a brake on persons like him.

Anyhow what I wish to submit is that this matter is not within the province of the State Government alone. Therefore, I do not want to say anything more here on this subject.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That this House is of the opinion that the Upper House of this State Legislature serves no useful purpose and is only a financial burden on the people of this State. It, therefore, resolves that it should be abolished.

The motion was lost

ADOPTION OF SHORT-TERM PLANS TO REDUCE UNEMPLOYMENT

Mr Deputy Speaker : Now I invite Shri Ram Kishan to move his Resolution.

Shri Ram Kishan (Jullundur City North-West) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That this Assembly recommends to the Government that in view of the day-to-day increase in unemployment, the Government should take measures to reduce it speedily by adopting short-term plans.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution is of the utmost importance. After the attainment of political freedom, the pressing need of the

[Shri Ram Kishan]

people of our country is economic freedom and the raising of the standard of living of our people. Keeping this object in view, our Central Government is making all-out efforts to find a solution of the problem of unemployment. Not very long ago, a resolution was moved in the Session of the All-India Congress Committee at Indore. Two sentences of that resolution are very important. They are:—

The great urgent task before the people of India is to fight poverty, unemployment, ignorance, and disunity and to direct all their energies in a disciplined and organised way towards economic progress, greater production, more equitable distribution and the raising of the standard of the people.

Not only this. Articles 38 and 41 of the Constitution of our country which was drafted by our leaders after hard labour of three years lay down the following directive principles of the State policy.

Art. 38. The State shall strive to promote the welfare of the people by securing and protecting as effectively as it may a social order in which justice, social, economic and political, shall inform all the institutions of the national life.

39. The State shall, in particular, direct its policy towards securing :

- (a) That the citizens, men and women equally, have the right to an adequate means of livelihood ;
- (b) that the ownership and control of the material resources of the community are so distributed as best to subserve the common good.

Article 41 provides that:

The State shall, within the limits of its economic capacity and development, make effective provisions for securing the right to work, to education and to public assistance in case of unemployment, old-age sickness and disablement and in other cases of undeserved want.

Mr. Speaker, these articles of the Constitution of India and the Resolution moved at the Indore Session referred to by me have very important implications. As we have a democratic form of Government in our country, it becomes necessary that we should concentrate our attention on giving people social and economic democracy as well. In our State alone, which has a population of 126 lakhs, about 62 lakhs adults are such who have been given the right to vote. After excluding old persons and children, there are in our State 42 lakhs of persons who must be provided with work. To-day, there are about 1,18,000 refugees in our State out of whom for every 5 persons one is unemployed. On 1st March, 1951, when Census operations were carried on under the orders of the Government of India, the economic status of every family had also to be recorded. The underlying idea was to bring about necessary social reforms or revolutionary changes. Enquiries were also made whether a person was an employee or an employer, how much

education he had received, whether or not he had been supplied work and how large each family was.

Sir, the calamity of unemployment has overtaken the people of our State. It, therefore, becomes imperative that we should fight against unemployment with all our might. No Government can be a success, nor can democracy work effectively unless masses enjoy the right to work and an adequate means of livelihood.

Mr. Speaker, we want to make our State a welfare State. To achieve this object, it is necessary that everybody should get work, be supplied with roofed accommodation and two square meals a day and that every person should be given proper education. But what is the condition today? People are anxious to get work, but they cannot. I, therefore, request that the Government should adopt such means as would provide work to every citizen of the State.

Sir, unemployment exists both amongst the educated and the uneducated people. First of all I want to tell something about the rural population. If we give this matter our careful thought we will come to know that while at the time of the Census of 1861, 62 per cent of the population of our State earned their livelihood by means of agriculture, in 1921 this percentage rose to 66 and at the time of the Census operations of 1931 this number rose to 72 per cent. If we collect the latest statistics, we will find that to-day there are 76 per cent to 78 per cent persons who depend upon agriculture. And what about agriculture itself? In Bihar and Orissa, only three acres of land fall to the share of one person and similar is the case in our State. Considering the present condition of agriculture, we will resort to new measures for its development.

Then, Sir, the people who depend mainly upon agriculture have to remain idle for four to five months in a year. Further, most of them have not so much land that income from it may enable them to maintain a good standard of living. In our country, an average 'zamindar' possesses a holding of three acres. But if we compare average zamindars of our country with the average zamindars of other countries, we will find that they have much larger holdings. In Denmark, an average cultivator has a holding comprising 40 acres of land, in the United Kingdom he has 82 acres, in U.S.A. 159 acres and in Canada 234 acres. There is no comparison between the zamindars of our country and the zamindars of those countries. In our country, a zamindar has to depend upon the income of three acres only. This is the reason why unemployment is on the increase amongst the ruralites. The washermen, barbers and certain other classes of people of our State used to depend for their living upon these zamindars. Now, how can these poor zamindars help them when they themselves are unable to make their ends meet? This is the reason for the large exodus of village population to the towns in search of jobs, but unemployment is also on the increase in the towns. Therefore, I appeal to the hon. Members that they should

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concentrate their whole attention on this problem of unemployment so that they may be able to find out some means to solve it. Only three months ago, the Transport Department had advertised some posts at Ambala. Four to five thousand candidates reached there for 64 to 65 vacancies and amongst them there were hundreds of graduates. I want to point out that unemployment has increased very much. Both the Government of India and our State Government have prepared a Five-Year Plan for solving this problem of unemployment. They intend to change the whole economic structure of this country through this plan. They entertain very bright hopes about the future of our country after the expiry of the five years. But the question is, what will be the state of affairs in our state during these five years? We must try to find out means through which we may be able to solve this problem promptly. Recently, our Government has started the execution of the Community Projects Scheme in our State, which will enable the people to get employment. This scheme will cover 37 thousand square miles of our State and 16 per cent of its people will be benefited by them. We should also try to find out how to remove unemployment from among the remaining population.

Mr. Speaker, I do not intend to make any lengthy speech but want to draw the attention of this House to three or four more matters.

Sometime ago, the Planing Commission had published a draft report. But later on, it had to incorporate many changes in it because it feared that its original plan may not be successful in solving this vital problem of unemployment. Now, the State Governments have been requested to concentrate their energies more on the development of small-scale village industries. I want to draw the attention of the hon. Members to the evil consequences of unemployment. This results in an increase in the number of dacoities, thefts and other crimes in the State. Therefore, in order to check this increasing evil, it is very necessary to keep the people employed. It has been rightly said that an idle man's brain is the devil's workshop. We must arrange to provide employment to the unemployed, if we are anxious to establish a welfare State in our country. Schemes pertaining to small-scale industries should be prepared so that this problem is solved with the least possible delay. For this purpose, it is necessary for the Government to concentrate its whole attention on the economic progress of the people and on raising their general standard of living. We read in the newspapers that China has been successful in solving its problem of unemployment. Unemployment has also been removed in Japan to a large extent. The people of that country have become better off than before. We must find out methods by which the people of those countries have been successful in solving this vital problem even though we may or may not agree with their ideology. We should also direct all our energies to destroying this demon.

The Government of India had sent a delegation to Japan. That delegation on its return from there has published its report. I

want to draw the attention of the House to that report. Therein, it is stated that the war-torn Japan has progressed so much that fifty four per cent of its population is depending on cottage industries and these cottage industries are being run in the form of one man-workshops. Besides this, ninety-six per cent of its population is dependent on such industries in which the number of workers varies from one to a hundred. I want to draw the attention of our Government to that report so that it may, after going through it, take steps to develop the largest number of such cottage industries in our State also which are being run in Japan. Bamboo is available here in sufficient quantities. In Japan, many articles are manufactured from it and exported to U.S.A. Women and school-going children are also made to work in this industry. Cycle parts are also produced in large quantities there. The cycle industry has progressed there to such an extent that cycle is being produced at a cost Rs. 7 only. All this work is being done in the form of cottage industries. Toys are also being manufactured there. A toy, which costs Rs. 2 to Rs. 2-8 0 here, is produced there at a cost of two or three annas only. These are produced in small cottage industries where hardly three to four persons work.

Further it is stated in that report that these industries are being run with a total investment of rupees four to five thousand and annual profit from them comes up to rupees ten thousand. A needle factory is being run very successfully in Hiroshima, a town which had been totally ruined by an atom bomb during the last war. Needles worth rupees three thousand millions are exported from there to other countries. Eight thousand labourers, which include five thousand women, work there in that factory. I want to draw the attention of our Government particularly to this matter.

In consequence of the partition which took place five years ago, our State was completely ruined. Its economy was almost completely shattered. We have not yet been able to re-build it properly. I, therefore, think it necessary that in order to improve the present state of affairs we should prepare small-scale schemes and start those small-scale and cottage industries the adoption of which helped other countries capture the foreign markets. What I mean to submit is that in this report, the Government of India has recommended to all the State Governments to adopt and encourage the establishment of small-scale industries. I am personally of the view that this step can go a long way towards liquidating unemployment and, therefore, I urge the Government to focus its attention on these matters.

The second point to which I wish to draw the attention of the Government is that 'Charkha' and 'Khadi' have played a very prominent role in our fight for freedom. But today I am constrained to remark that after having attained independence we have altogether been ignoring the vital significance of these things. It is the need of the day that like heretofore continuous attention should be paid towards the industries of 'Khadi' and 'Charkha'. It is true that we have achieved political independence but still I am of the

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opinion that so long as we do not attain social and economic independence, the extent of the significance of the political freedom will not be such as it ought to have been. I, therefore, think that everywhere the use of 'Khadi' should be popularised and patronised. All the Departments of the Government Police and others should consume 'Khadi'. The adoption of 'Khadi' can also decrease, to some extent, the unemployment prevalent in our State because if the 'Khadi' manufactured by the people is purchased and consumed by the Government in its Departments, then people can easily get two square meals a day. I may tell you, Sir, that the whole bulk of the 'Khadi' which is prepared in our State today, is either purchased by Bombay or Bihar. I, therefore, wish to suggest to the Government through this Resolution that the use of 'Khadi' can play a very significant role in rooting out unemployment from the State and the Government should, in the circumstances, lend its full support to it.

The third suggestion which I wish to give to the Government through this Resolution is that since there are fairly good deposits of so many minerals in our State, particularly in Kangra District, it should constitute an Industrial Research Board. A reference to this effect and the scope of research was also made in the Report of the year 1953, but no attention was paid to that. I am confident that full advantage can be taken from the mineral deposits of Kangra and Hoshiarpur District. I, therefore, propose the establishment of an Industrial Research Board in our State which should carry out an investigation into these matters and present its report to the Government which should thereafter chalk out its future schemes on its basis.

Besides, I cannot help saying that with a view to providing employment to the people, the Government of India have no doubt at places opened Employment Exchanges which are crowded by thousands of our brethren and sisters who gather there in order to seek jobs, but there is no denying the fact that only a few of them succeed in getting them whereas the rest of the people again fill the ranks of the unemployed. We have, therefore, to think of the fate of those thousands of men and women who come back disappointed. To solve this problem, there is only one way i.e., that they should be put to work after having been imparted training in the cottage industries. I am aware that our Government have established Vocational Training Centres but the question is, how much benefit has accrued from them? It has been observed that only one-fifth or one-fourth of the people who come out successful from these institutions get employment at one or another place but the rest of them again remain out of job. They are unable to find any means of earning their livelihood. Therefore, I beg to suggest that training in such crafts should be imparted in these Vocational Training Centres. It is by the adoption of such schemes that the Governments of China and Japan have raised the economic standard of their people. They should be imparted basic training in some craft so that when they leave schools and colleges they may be in a position to earn their living and support their families. I am, therefore, of the opinion that in order to efface poverty and unemployment prevailing today we must harness all our means.

I admit that the policy of the present Government is to end economic slavery, but still I feel that it requires certain changes so that we should be able to bring about a radical change in the present economic condition of the masses. This has been recommended in the Report of the Congress Economic Committee also. If we carefully study the proceedings of the last conference of the Chief Ministers and the Provincial Congress Chiefs, we shall find that in this conference, too, attention was specially drawn to the matter that all the State Governments should devise ways which can help promote small, basic and village industries. Therefore, I beg to request my Government that they should explore ways and means to give a practical shape to the directions embodied in these Reports and encourage small-scale industries recommended therein. I am fully confident that these things can go a long way towards liquidating unemployment.

Now I advert to the question of rural economy. We cannot, in any case, ignore the question of unemployment which is widely prevalent in the rural areas. We shall have to establish economic democracy in our villages in order to justify our political freedom and it is the foremost duty of the Government to remove all the obstacles which lie in the way of achieving this end. For this purpose, the primary step would be to introduce land reforms as early as possible. Moreover, I have already stated that most of the land holdings in our State are of three or four acres each. Not dilating much on the point, I would only recommend that with a view to bringing about uniformity in this matter, we should introduce the principle of Co-operative Farming. With this end in view if we study the conditions obtaining in other countries, we shall come to know the extent to which they have achieved success in raising the economic standard of their rural population. By adopting these measures, the United States, Mexico and Russia have achieved complete success wherever they have introduced Co-operative Farming. Mr. Henrik F. Infield while referring to these organisations in his book, 'Co-operative Communities at work' says:

In Soviet Russia, in Mexico, in Palestine, the co-operative has been effective in introducing the more advanced farming methods into formerly backward rural areas. By pooling resources peasants have availed themselves of advantages of large-scale farming and have thereby increased production and raised their standard of living. The co-operative has brought medical care, improvement in diet and more decent and sanitary housing to people who formerly lived in dirt and squalor, suffering from malnutrition or other diseases of poverty. Destitute farm folk as full-fledged members of a co-operative group have acquired for the first time in their lives a sense of economic security.

Moreover, when I made a reference to China and Russia, what I meant to submit was that we should study how these countries have succeeded in liquidating unemployment (*Cheers from Communist members*). So far as the political ideologies of the countries like China, etc., are concerned, I may or may not agree with them but so far as the question of unemployment goes, I wish to submit to my Government that the achievement of a Government depends only upon the steps which it takes in order to check the increasing

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unemployment in its State. With a view to having a correct idea of the problem of unemployment, I would urge upon the Government to constitute a Committee which should undertake the work of extracting out of the Census records the number of the people who are the victims of unemployment. In this way, a national register of those people should be prepared and consequently ways and means explored to solve the problem of unemployment. I hope that the Government will mobilise all its resources to solve this problem and it will not be worthy of real gratitude unless it succeeds in establishing economic and social independence in the real sense of the word. With these words, Sir, I present my Resolution to the House and hope that the Government will consider it very sympathetically.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motion moved—

That this Assembly recommends to the Government that in view of the day-to-day increase in unemployment, the Government should take measures to reduce it speedily by adopting short-term plans.

Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht (Hassanpur) (Hindi) : Sir, Shri Ram Kishan has pointed out that we are facing this problem of unemployment in two forms, rural and urban. Now we have to attend to and tackle it in both these forms. India is counted among important industrial countries of the world, but it is a pity that only 8 per cent of its population is engaged in industrial vocations. Again, in the matter of trade and commerce India occupies the fifth position in the world. But we are importers of finished goods and export only raw material. Sir, I wish to draw your pointed attention to the fact that very few people are engaged in industrial vocations in our country. As has been pointed out by Shri Ram Kishan, the rural population has practically nothing to do for at least five months in the year. They are busy with their agricultural activities during the months of September, October and November and then in the months of April, May and June. But the rest of the year is a period of complete idleness for them.

Most of the other countries of the world have grappled with the problem of unemployment and they have succeeded in solving it to an appreciable extent. Look at Japan. There are about 50,000 factories in that country which can be described as domestic factories. About five persons are kept engaged by each one of these factories which means that almost all the members of an average family are kept busy. These people make combs, toys and so many other things of the kind and they earn enough thereby. But what is the condition in our country? It can be aptly described in the words of the poet who said:

ਸ਼ਕਵੇ ਕੀ ਕਿਆ ਜ਼ਰੂਰਤ ਆਪਣਾ ਯਹੀ ਹੈ ਆਲਮ ।

ਗਮੇ ਇਸ਼ਕ ਗਰ ਨ ਹੋਤਾ ਗਮੇ ਰੋਜ਼ਗਾਰ ਨ ਹੋਤਾ ॥

शकवे की क्या जरूरत अपना यही है आलम

गमे इशक गर न होता गमे रोज़गार होता

The famine Commission stated in its report that 30 per cent of our rural people do not get even two square meals a day and another thirty per cent are under-nourished. What a dangerous state

of affairs! And we have not yet been able to adopt any satisfactory method of finding work for them. My submission is that domestic industries are the only means to end unemployment in the rural areas.

As regards urban unemployment, the people affected are again divided into two categories, the educated class and the uneducated labourers. In this connection, I would recall the advice of Bapuji where he says that students should learn small handicrafts and work in small industries. If the students learn some handicrafts during the period of their studies, that will go a long way towards solving the problem. They will be able to earn something to meet the expenses of their education and at the same time learn some handicraft which will enable them to earn a decent living afterwards. But the problem of the labourers cannot be solved by small industries. We shall have to start big factories for them.

But inspite of all this, I feel that it is imperative to tackle the problem of the ever increasing population. Without that, all our efforts to root out unemployment are doomed to failure. Sir, you are aware that an International Family Planning Conference is in progress in Bombay. It is discussing the problem in all its aspects and trying to find out some satisfactory method of tackling it. But we are not paying sufficient attention to this problem here. No doubt, the God of death always lends us a helping hand. Two lakhs of babies die in child-birth or in their infancy, another two lakhs die of tuberculosis and quite a large toll is taken by fevers and other diseases. But even then there is an increase of 50 lakhs in the population every year. Under these circumstances, it is almost impossible to root out unemployment without first solving this problem of growing population.

Professor Sher Singh (Jhajjar) (Hindi) : Sir, I rise to support the Resolution moved by my Friend Shri Ram Kishan. My submission is that if we really want to solve the problem of unemployment and make use of our man-power, we should prepare statistics of our man-power just as we prepare a monetary budget. We should find out how many persons are fit to do a certain kind of work, what are the vocations for which people have received training and what are the occupations for which we have to train our people. Every country prepares such statistics and thus makes an estimate of its man-power. This practice has not been followed in our country so far. But now we are a free nation and, therefore, we should pay immediate attention to this important work. Only political freedom is not enough. The first and foremost question is that of food. As has been pointed out by Shri Vasisht, 30 per cent of our people have to go without two meals a day. Thus we shall have to think and work on the lines adopted by other progressive and civilised countries. This problem cannot be solved merely by passing resolutions. You will have to do something practical to achieve this end.

My next submission is that we should carry out an economic survey of the various parts of the State in order to find out what

[Professor Sher Singh]

raw material is produced in each one and how we can use it to the best advantage. In this way, we shall be able to judge as to what employment we can offer to the people in a particular area. Then having found out the activities that can be carried on in different areas which are really useful, we can make the training in such vocations an integral part of our education.

We can then prepare a graded course for imparting education in our schools so that our children might receive technical education according to their physical and mental development. It is only in this manner that we can make our children fit for taking to those types of work for which raw material and other facilities exist in the State. This is the only method of removing unemployment. If we want that our young men should not remain idle after completing their education, it is necessary that a survey of the resources of the State should be made as suggested by me. With these words, I again submit that in order to check the increasing unemployment in the State the Government should consider the suggestions made by me and take some constructive step to meet the situation.

Professor Mota Singh Anandpuri (Adampur) (*Hindi*) : Mr. Speaker, the mover of this Resolution said several things with respect to Indian economy but he did not attempt to make a detailed reference to the economic life of the Punjab. I want to review the economy of this State and to place some facts and figures before the House in that connection.

There is a regular drain of one hundred crores of rupees on the economic life of the Punjab. We have to import cotton goods worth forty crores of rupees and sugar worth fifteen crores of rupees. It means that there is a burden of fifty-five crores of rupees on our agricultural economy. The first step which we should take in order to meet this situation is that all the waste land in the State should be reclaimed as early as possible. We should try to bring under cultivation that land too which is being damaged by erosion. If we take these steps, this drain of fifty-five crores of rupees can be reduced a great deal. This will leave a deficit of forty-five crores. This can also be adjusted by paying attention to the industrial economy of the State. For this purpose, we should pay greater attention to the Bhakra and Nangal Projects. Electrification can prove very advantageous. For instance, if the Ordnance Factory at Amritsar is worked with electricity instead of diesel oil, it can prove very useful for the whole country. In addition to this, I want to point out that alcohol is a by-product of sugar which is manufactured in our country. Alcohol can easily replace other kinds of fuel.

Then, Sir, I perfectly agree with the suggestion made by my hon. Friend Professor Sher Singh that a survey of the State should be conducted. After that survey, we should devise means of balancing the economy of the Punjab. We should adjust the economy of our State by exchanging the raw material produced here with the manufactured goods of Ahmedabad.

Another thing which I want to point out is that unemployment can be removed to a large extent by making use of electric energy. If we construct new roads and run electric trolley-buses on them, trade in our State will receive a great impetus. The greater the use we make of electricity produced by the Bhakra and Nangal Schemes, the better will the economic life of the State become. Similarly, trains can be run with electricity. By these methods we can balance our economy.

Shrimati Sita Devi (Jullundur City South-East) (*Hindi*): Mr. Speaker, everybody would agree with the view that though we have achieved independence yet our country cannot be happy so long as the problem of unemployment is not solved. Ninety per cent of the people who come to us with their complaints are those who are educated but have no work to do. They want employment. Many graduates and double-graduates are prepared to do petty jobs because the Punjabi character is such that these people want to earn with the sweat of their brow and hate begging. The same is the condition in our villages.

As the time at my disposal is very short, I shall offer two or three suggestions only. In 1905-06 when Bengal was partitioned, the conditions which prevailed there bore great resemblance to these which obtain in the Punjab today. At that time, Swadeshi movement took its birth. A committee was constituted there for finding out the articles which the public required for their use. After preparing a list of those articles, that committee tried to manufacture them there. As must have been noticed by the hon. Members, most of the factories in this country are situated in Bengal. For instance, all the chemical factories in other parts of India taken together do not manufacture as many chemicals as are manufactured by the Bengal Chemical and Pharmaceutical Works.

I urge that such a committee should be appointed to prepare a list of all such commodities as are imported from foreign countries and others which can be manufactured in our own country, so that the problem of unemployment be solved.

The hon. Minister for Irrigation is always keen on showing plans of the projects which are under construction but these are long-term plans. At present, there is need for adopting short-term plans. My brother, Shri Ram Kishan, has already remarked in his speech that a remarkable expansion of cottage industries has taken place in Japan where women and old people are engaged in these industries. Some time back, we used to get Japanese goods at very cheap rates. For example, Japanese cloth was available at Re. 0-2-6 per yard, clock for Rs. 6, gramophone for Rs. 8 and silken cloth for Re. 0-6-0 per yard. A few years back, when Japan suffered a defeat in the last World war, I happened to be at Haridwar. When this news reached that place, the sweepers burst into tears on hearing this news. On being asked the cause of their sorrow they told me that they would not be able to get silken cloth at Re 0-6-0 per yard thereafter. What I want to submit is that if our Government take steps to spread throughout the country a net-work of small-scale and cottage industries, the

[Shrimati Sita Devi]

general problem of unemployment can be solved to a great extent. A few days ago, I met a friend of mine who had come from America and she enquired from me about the state of education in our State. I told her that there were only 60 Arts Colleges in our State. On hearing this, she expressed great surprise. Under these circumstances, I think it is necessary that some radical change should be brought about in the present system of education. The hon. Minister is sitting before me and I would request him that instead of opening Arts Colleges, the Government should open new technical colleges where people may get training in various crafts and the young men may be able to develop a taste for vocational education.

Moreover, I would request the Government to allot lands only to those persons who can till their lands with their own hands as is the practice in China. If this is done, we will be able to solve many of the problems concerning land. I notice that in many districts thousands of acres of land are lying waste and such land is called crown land. I would appeal to the hon. Chief Minister to introduce land reforms immediately in the State so that not a single inch of land may remain uncultivated. Land be allotted only to those persons who can cultivate it themselves. I hope the Government will take immediate steps in this behalf.

Shri Gopi Chand Gupta (Pundri) (Hindi) : Sir, in connection with the Resolution moved by my hon. Friend Shri Ram Kishan that the Government should take measures to reduce the increasing unemployment, I would like to suggest that we should adopt short-term plans. My hon. Friend has also given some suggestions and I am sure that if the Government acts upon those suggestions it would be able to solve the problem of unemployment. Mahatama Gandhi had once remarked that most of India's population lives in villages and our people depend directly or indirectly on agriculture. It is, therefore, necessary that top-priority should be given to agriculture. In order to do so, there is a great need for making a radical change in the system of education. Five years have now elapsed since we attained Independence, but the standard of education continues to be the same as it used to be during the pre-independence period. Education is very expensive and persons of ordinary means find it exceedingly difficult to give education to their children. When the boys pass the Matriculation Examination, they hanker after jobs in the offices but do not succeed in spite of their persistent efforts. Instead of getting any job, they begin to look upon household work with disfavour, if not contempt. It is, therefore, necessary that a committee of five men be appointed to reform the system of education. As has already been remarked by my hon. Friends, Shri Ram Kishan, and Dharam Vir Vasisht, there is a great need for establishing cottage industries in our State like Japan. In order to attain this object, we will have first to revolutionise our system of education.

Moreover, we should devote more attention towards the development of agriculture in our State. I would also suggest that parents should encourage their children to do some other work in their spare time in order to help supplement the slender income of

their family. School boys can easily engage themselves in subsidiary work of toy-and-envelope-making and can add to the income of their families. The purpose of getting education is not that we should become job-seekers. People in other countries also do not get education with this object in view. They do so with the prime purpose of raising the status of their family and to make the village life more healthy and progressive. But the pity is that there is a tendency among the people here to shirk work. If we could get industrial training in our State, we would never give preference to Government service. This is why I have made a suggestion to the Government for the appointment of a committee and I hope that the Government would take early steps in this direction. The system of education should be so reformed that every person may be able to give education to his children. Without taking much time of the House, I would request the Government to take steps to renovate the present system of education.

Chief Minister : Sir, I would request you kindly to take the sense of the House whether it agrees to postpone the discussion of this Resolution to next Thursday or I may give a reply to the debate now.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : I think I have the agreement of the House that the discussion of this Resolution may be postponed to the next non-official day. (*The House agreed*).

The Assembly then adjourned till 1. p.m. on Friday, the 28th November, 1952.

Punjab Legislative Assembly Debates

28th November 1952

VOL. III—No. 13

OFFICIAL REPORT



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CHANDIGARH :

Printed by the Controller of Printing and Stationery, Punjab
1953

Price : Re 7-0

Punjab Legislative Assembly

Friday, 28th November, 1952.

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber at 1 p.m. of the clock. Mr. Speaker (Dr. Satyapal) in the Chair.

QUESTION HOUR

Shri Prabodh Chandra: Sir I want to make a submission. As there are two important items, i.e., the Punjab Appropriation Bill (No. 2) and the Gram Panchayat Bill, for discussion on today's agenda, I suggest that the Question Hour be dispensed with today.

Mr. Speaker: I shall certainly agree to your suggestion, provided the Opposition has no objection.

Shri Sri Chand : We have no objection, Sir.

Mr. Speaker : The Question Hour is dispensed with today.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Since you have been pleased to dispense with the question hour today, may I know whether the starred questions appearing in today's list will be taken up tomorrow?

Mr. Speaker: Under Rule 37 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Punjab Legislative Assembly, replies to all the starred questions appearing in today's list are required to be laid on the Table of the House and no supplementary questions in respect of these questions can be allowed. But if the hon. Member insists that these questions be taken up tomorrow, I have no objection in waiving Rule 37 as a special case.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : I request, Sir, that questions appearing in today's list should be taken up tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker: I agree.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

QUARTERING OF PUNITIVE POLICE POSTS IN DISTRICT FEROZEPURE

250. **Shri Wadhawa Ram :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) the total number of punitive police posts quartered in the district of Ferozepore, since 1st November 1949, Tehsil-wise together with the reasons therefor in each case;
- (b) the total amount of fine exacted, so far, from the people concerned;
- (c) whether any representation in this connection was received from any of the villages concerned; if so, the action Government proposes to take thereon?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar: (a) A statement is given below.

(b) Rs. 33,939-11-6.

(c) (1) Yes.

(2) As the Posts have been located on account of the disturbed condition of the villages concerned and the conduct of their inhabitants, no action is proposed to be taken on these representations.

Statement showing number of Punitive Police Posts quartered in the Ferozepore District since 1st November 1949, Tehsil-wise, together with the reasons therefor in each case.

Tehsil	Name of Punitive Police Post	Reasons for location
Muktsar ..	1. Harike ..	Disturbed condition of the area concerned and the conduct of its inhabitants
	2. Mallan ..	Ditto
	3. Doda ..	Ditto
	4. Chibranwali ..	Ditto
	5. Thandewala ..	Ditto
Moga ..	1. Chuharchak ..	Ditto
	2. Ghall Kalan ..	Ditto
	3. Mari Mustafa ..	Ditto
	4. Raunta ..	Ditto
	5. Badhni Kalan ..	Ditto
Ferozepore ..	1. Bhucho Mandi ..	Ditto
	2. Tarkhanwala ..	Ditto
	3. Mudki ..	Ditto

PROSECUTION OF TENANTS IN TEHSIL FAZILKA

251. Shri Wadhawa Ram: Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state the number of tenants in Tehsil Fazilka, District Ferozepore, who have been prosecuted during the last six months by the police under sections 107/151 together with the reasons therefor in each case?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar: Preventive action under section 107/151, Cr. P. C., was taken against sixteen tenants in 3 cases in Tehsil Fazilka, District Ferozepore, for imminent danger of breach of peace. The trouble in the first case arose when four tenants

in Village Hasta Ganjanna refused to give share of produce to their landlord and forcibly cultivated land, kept by the landlord for self-cultivation. In the second case, six tenants of Village Tahliwala Bodle had usurped the whole produce of land and on demanding share by the landlord extended threats to him. In the third case, six old tenants of Village Salim Shah refused to release land allotted to a new allottee and threatened him.

MURDER OF TENANTS IN TEHSIL FAZILKA

252. Shri Wadhawa Ram: Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of tenants murdered in Tehsil Fazilka, District Ferozepore, during the last six months;
- (b) whether the culprits have been arrested and punished; if not, the reasons therefor?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar: (a) None.

(b) Does not arise.

PUNJAB APPROPRIATION BILL.

Minister for Finance (Sardar Ujjal Singh): Sir, I beg to introduce the Punjab Appropriation (No. 2) Bill.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi: On a point of order, Sir, I have not received a copy of this Bill.

Mr. Speaker: My Secretary informs me that copies of this Bill were distributed to the Members on the 21st instant.

Minister for Finance: Sir, I beg to move—

That the Punjab Appropriation (No. 2) Bill be taken into consideration at once.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved—

That the Punjab Appropriation (No. 2) Bill be taken into consideration at once.

Mr. Speaker: Now I invite Sardar Chanan Singh to initiate the discussion on this Bill.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi): Sir, some of the items in the estimates which have been presented before the House appear to be quite unnecessary. In fact, some of these should not have been there at all. It has been noticed that some of the departments for which large amounts have been provided here are not working properly. For instance, the work of the Consolidation Department, for which a sum of rupees eleven lakhs has been provided, is not working satisfactorily. This amount has

[Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut]

been earmarked for the purpose of purchasing jeeps and marking boundaries. But what I wish to suggest is that the removal of corruption from this department is more important. In the beginning people used to consider this department useful because it was created for the public good, but now on account of the prevalence of corruption and bribery in it they have begun to regard it as something bad. The Government should try its utmost to root out corruption so that the work of consolidation may be completed at an early date. It is wrong to think that the work of consolidation of holdings can be completed merely by the purchase of jeeps, etc. The real fact is that the officials of the department do not want that the work of consolidation should finish because if it is finished their services will not be needed any more. So the Government should try to make the services of such officials secure because it is only by doing so that they would work properly. Otherwise persons who are afraid of losing their service, if the work is completed, will work in such a manner that it is delayed.

This state of affairs exists in the Rehabilitation, Civil Supplies and other temporary departments. There the officials do not wish to complete the work soon. Therefore, it is essential that in order to get the work done, the services of such persons should be made secure. It is only by doing so and not by giving more money, that the work can be expedited.

As far as the Industrial Corporation is concerned, a sum of rupees 22 lakhs has been provided for it. It is a good idea that the industries should be developed. But so far this Corporation has not come into existence. I fail to understand why rupees twenty-two lakhs have been provided for it here. Had this amount been asked for after the coming into being of such a Corporation, it could well be understood. Why has it been provided beforehand? The first thing is the formation of the Corporation itself. The Government should pay attention towards this matter.

The third thing is that a new item of expenditure has been provided for the Executive Engineers. In this connection my submission is that their salaries are too high. In this department where 23 employees are paid rupees 3,260, one Engineer will get Rs. 3,920. This is too much. The salaries of the subordinate servants are very low. How can they work honestly at such salaries? As compared with them, the salaries of the Engineers are too high.

In addition to this, there is a provision for the construction of jeepable roads in Kangra District. For this, the sanction of the Government of India is to be obtained. In my opinion the expenditure on the construction of these roads should be borne by the Centre because these roads are to be used primarily by the army. The Government of Punjab is already spending rupees eighty lakhs on the Border Police and is thus unnecessarily bowing before the Central Government.

Mr. Speaker, it is our desire that basic education should be made compulsory. But at the same time I feel that the hon. Members sitting on the Treasury Benches seem too much in favour of *khadi* industry. No doubt we ourselves have been wearing *khadi* but the crying need of the country now is that its industry should be developed on scientific lines. This is the age of science and machinery. I, therefore, think that the children need not be given training in the manufacture of *khadi*. Sir, my own son reads in the 5th class. I was surprised when I saw a spindle in his hand and still more when I was told by him that that work carried 100 marks.

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Member cannot discuss all the points at one and the same time.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Sir, my submission is that this money could have been spent elsewhere more usefully. It is true that we are in favour of basic education and wish that the students should be given training in handicraft, but there is no fun in training them in such craft as can be of no gain to them in their lifetime.

Sir, now I come to the next thing. At Ambala the storage godowns of the Civil Supplies Department are under construction. May I ask what useful purpose these stores will serve when the Government intends abolishing the Civil Supplies Department? It will take three years more to complete them. At that time there will be no need for such buildings and lakhs of rupees spent over them will go in waste.

Then, Sir, it has been said that the *Nagrik Sabhas* will create civic sense among the people. May I ask whether 'jathebandi' does not develop civic sense? Again, the Government has got such a huge department known as the Publicity Department at its disposal. This Department carries on propaganda in favour of the Government and stages dramas etc. Can it not be helpful in creating civic sense among the people? I, therefore, submit, Sir, that the *Nagrik Sabha* is superfluous.

Then, I come to agriculture. Mr. Speaker, a mention has already been made about it and it has been said that the people are already over-taxed. The Agriculture Department indulges in malpractices and irregularities. The old members of the staff of this department are not afforded opportunity of further promotions and new people are imported. I have come to know that all these irregularities are being carried on to help some persons.

Mr. Speaker : This is not relevant please.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Then, Sir, the amount set apart for Unani and Ayurvedic dispensaries is very small. We desire that Research Institutes should be started for the advancement of indigenous systems of medicine.

Sir, in the end I wish to say that many superfluous items of expenditure have been included under the name of beneficent departments but actually these will be of no use to the people. It appears that all these facilities are being afforded for sake of officers. The interests of the public are being completely ignored.

Minister for Finance : (Sardar Ujjal Singh) (*Punjabi*): Mr. Speaker, my friend representing Tanda Constituency has made a long speech on this Bill and as I have to reply to all the objections raised by him I also have to make a long speech.

Sir, in the first place he has admitted that the provisions made in the Supplementary Estimates for the beneficent departments are necessary. But he has expressed his fear that, perhaps, people may not be benefited by this money. For example, he stated that the entire amount of about 11 lakh rupees which had been set apart for the Consolidation of Holdings would be spent on the purchase of jeeps and that nothing had been done to eradicate corruption from the Government Departments. Sir, I would like to state for the information of my friend that the Government has already established a separate department for the eradication of corruption as also to bring to book the guilty officials. I do not understand whether my hon. Friend wants that separate anti-corruption staff should be employed for each and every department. If this is what he desires, the result will be disorder in the administration. The staff required by the Government for this work has already been engaged and it is attending to the complaints received by them very conscientiously.

Mr. Speaker, you are already aware that our Minister for Development has been making strenuous efforts for rooting out corruption from the services. As a matter of fact, all the Ministers want to work for the benefit of the people of the State. Sir, as has already been stated by me, it requires two persons to pick up a quarrel. The person who gives bribe and one who accepts it are both guilty in the eyes of law. Whereas, we issue instructions to the Government servants that they should not accept bribes and that if they accept then we would bring them to book, we appeal to our friends to make propaganda in the public that nobody should offer bribe. If this work is done honestly, it will have a very healthy effect.

The next point raised by him is that temporary staff has been engaged in Government offices and they delay the cases so that they may continue in service for longer periods. In support of his objection he quoted the example of the Rehabilitation Department and said that so long as its staff was not confirmed the work would never be completed. Mr. Speaker, I have not been able to follow his argument. If a certain work is to finish within a certain period I do not see any reason why the staff should be employed for a longer period. If my friend desires that the establishment of the Rehabilitation Department should be made permanent, wherefrom will the funds be provided for it? What duties will they perform when their job is completed? I, therefore, say that the expenditure on such staff can be incurred only for that period, for which its services are absolutely necessary. The main point that we have to keep in view is that the officials engaged for a particular job perform their duties honestly and finish the work in the shortest possible time. In this connection I may state that the Department of Consolidation of Holdings has made sufficient headway in its work. The Rehabilitation Department has finished the work of

allotment of lands. The officials cannot dare to delay the work. The Government keeps a watchful eye over the working of every Government servant.

Mr. Speaker, next comes the Industrial Finance Corporation. It has been stated that the Corporation has not yet come into existence; and, therefore, there is no necessity of making any provision for funds for it. I assure the House, Sir, that if the Corporation does not start its work, no such provision will be made. But the fact is otherwise and the Corporation has started functioning. The Managing Director has taken over the charge and started performing his duties.

Forms are being printed. These are expected to be received very shortly and we hope to open the share list within a month's time. It would not have been possible for the Government to start this work and purchase its shares even up to April or May next, if funds had not been provided in the Supplementary Estimates, now. I want to inform the House that the Managing Director has arrived here and taken over the charge of this work. Now the Government hopes to start the sale of shares of the Corporation to the public.

Then, the hon. Member has pointed out that the cost of construction of road between Lahaul and Spiti, for which our Government has obtained the approval of the Government of India and which it intends to construct shortly, should be borne by the Central Government because it is required for defence purposes. I want to bring home to him and he should realise that the area of Lahaul and Spiti is very backward and this road is meant for the people of that area. It is strange that the hon. Member is opposing this demand whereas generally he professes to be prepared to sacrifice everything for the cause of the down-trodden people.

(At this stage, Sardar Chanan Singh wanted to rise but the hon. Speaker did not allow him.)

At present, there does not exist any regular road between Lahaul and Spiti. There is only a beaten path for the pedestrians. Therefore, it is very necessary to construct a road by widening the existing path.

Then, the hon. Member has referred to two or three things more. Basic education was one of them. He said that there was absolutely no need for it. I want to inform him that basic education does not mean that the children are to be given training in arts and crafts from the very outset. We are keen to make arrangements for it in the State because it is considered to be the best system of imparting education to the children. They always remember the work which they have once done with their own hands. My hon. Friend tried to give an authoritative opinion on this subject. Only the Director of Public Instruction or some other person with equal qualifications could do so.

Next, he said that it was quite unnecessary to have more godown accommodation as sugar and cloth have already been decontrolled and

[Minister for Finance]

the control on foodgrains is also hoped to be removed soon. I want to inform him that as yet the foodgrains have neither been de-controlled nor has their procurement been stopped. Therefore, godown accommodation is necessary. It appears that he wants that the construction of these buildings which have been almost completed and whose roofs alone remain to be constructed should be stopped. I want to point out to him that our Government does not believe in the policy of leaving incomplete a work which it has once taken in hand.

He has also objected to the provision made for the *Nagrik Sabhas*. I want to enquire from him if there is any political party in the country which may be giving or be capable of giving training to the people in order to develop civic sense among them. I want to tell him that it is only the *Nagrik Sabhas* which is capable of training people for this purpose while remaining aloof from all political parties or ideologies. Then, the provision made for it is quite meagre. We are going to make an experiment for the time being.

I have not been able to follow the objections that he has raised pertaining to the Department of Agriculture or certain other Government Departments. However, I want to make a request to the hon. Members that if it comes to their notice that an official of the Government has done injustice with any person they should point it out to the Government. I assure them that we will take steps to undo it.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Punjab Appropriation (No. 2) Bill be taken into consideration at once.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Now the House will proceed to consider the Bill clause by clause.

CLAUSE 2

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 3

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 3 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

SCHEDULE

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Schedule stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 1

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 1 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

TITLE

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Title be the Title of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Minister for Finance : Sir, I beg to move—

That the Punjab Appropriation (No. 2) Bill be passed.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Punjab Appropriation (No. 2) Bill be passed.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Punjab Appropriation (No. 2) Bill be passed.

The motion was carried.

PUNJAB GRAM PANCHAYAT BILL

CLAUSE 11

Mr. Speaker : Now Clause 11 of the Gram Panchayat Bill is before the House for consideration.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That for lines 2—6, the following be substituted :—

“The Gram Sabha may at any special meeting convened for the purpose, remove the Panch or Panches or the whole Panchayat by a majority vote of its members.”

That the proviso be deleted.

Sir, this clause embodies the provision that a no-confidence motion against the *Sarpanch* can be passed if at least four *Panches* vote for it. But, through this amendment, I wish to provide that the passing of a no-confidence motion should require only a majority of *Panches* to vote in its favour. I feel that if we let this clause remain as it is, the people will hardly get an opportunity of moving a no-confidence motion. Moreover, when such situation arises, the *Sarpanch* will get ample time to win over one or more *Panches* and will thus be able to avert the no-confidence motion.

Secondly, the provision that a non-confidence motion cannot be moved unless it is previously approved by the Director is entirely unjustified and against the principles of democracy. If the act of getting decisions of a democratic institution nullified by the Director and of vesting him with such wide powers is not dictatorship. What

[Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut]

else can it be termed? I am of the view that when a *Sarpanch* fails to exercise his duties properly, the people should have a right to replace him. In the circumstances, to place such a wide power in the hands of the Director is tantamount to an encroachment upon the democratic rights of the people. I think that the power to remove the *Sarpanch* from his office should be vested in the people who actually elected him and not in the Director. I am surprised to observe that the power given to the people by one clause is snatched away from them by another clause.

Mr. Speaker : I would like to know as to the amendment on which the hon. Member is speaking. Is he speaking on the first or the second amendment?

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : On both of them.

Mr. Speaker : When the hon. Member has moved an amendment to the effect that this Clause be deleted, the question of speaking on the previous amendment does not arise.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Sir, my first amendment was for the deletion of the words 'if at least four Panches vote for such removal' are contained in the Clause and the second amendment is with regard to the proviso.

Mr. Speaker : All right, continue your speech.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : So, what I wish to submit is that the restriction of obtaining the previous approval of the Director in order to hold a meeting, is an undemocratic one and, therefore, this proviso should be deleted.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That for lines 2—6, the following be substituted:—

"The Gram Sabha may at any special meeting convened for the purpose, remove the Panch or Panches or the whole Panchayat by a majority vote of its members."

That the proviso be deleted.

Rao Gajraj Singh (Gurgaon) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in lines 4—6, for the words 'if at.....such removal', the following words be substituted:—

"if at least two-thirds of the Panches vote for such removal."

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in lines 4—6, for the words 'if at.....such removal', the following words be substituted:—

"if at least two-thirds of the Panches vote for such removal."

Professor Mota Singh Anandpuri (Adampur) (Hindi) : Mr. Speaker, this is the first time after the dawn of freedom that we are seeing the Director being given the power of exercising a pre-veto

by this Clause. Veto is known to have existed in some cases but if in the present age of independence such a power is vested in the Director and a Gram Panchayat cannot hold a meeting unless permitted by him, it will amount to its being deprived of its fundamental right of passing a no-confidence motion against the Sarpanch. An institution which is going to be set up for the first time after the acceptance of the policy of decentralisation, is being denied the privilege of expressing its views freely. At this moment, the Gram Panchayats do not even possess the right to move a no-confidence motion against their Sarpanches. To me, it appears that the powers of the Director would be analogous to those of a Moghul King. The word 'Director' has appeared very frequently in this Bill.

Clause 95 of this Bill lays down that the Government "may delegate all or any of its powers under this Act" to the Director, which means that in the end the Government will hand over the Panchayats to the Director and he will be free to run them according to his sweet will. This is autocracy, pure and simple, which must be done away with. It should not be left to the Director whether to allow the holding of a meeting or to withhold permission therefor. You should introduce real democracy. I would, therefore, submit that this suggestion that the Sarpanch should be removable by a two-thirds majority is a very sound proposal and you should accept it.

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma) (Hindi): Mr. Speaker, Clause 11 provides for the removal of a Sarpanch who proves to be thoroughly incapable and unable to run the show. But if he is made removable by a majority vote only, then there is the danger that the game will be played too frequently. Thus it was necessary to fix a particular majority. Originally, we fixed this majority at four because the total number of Panches was five. But now that the maximum has been fixed at five to nine. I am prepared to accept the proposal to fix the requisite majority at two-thirds of the total number of Panches.

As regards Professor Sahib's remark that every power has been handed over to the Director, my submission is that after all some one has to be appointed to run the show. We do not want the farce of no-confidence motions enacted every day but at the same time we want to give this right to the Panches. Therefore, we have made the provision for such motions but it is absolutely necessary to see before such a motion is allowed to be moved whether or not there is a *prima facie* case. This job has been entrusted to the Director.

Under the circumstances, I am prepared to accept the proposal regarding the two-thirds majority but cannot accept the other amendment.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That for lines 2—6, the following be substituted:—

"The Gram Sabha may at any special meeting convened for the purpose, remove the Panch or Panches or the whole Panchayat by a majority vote of its members."

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the proviso be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in lines 4—6, for the words 'if at.....such removal', the following words be substituted:—

“if at least two-thirds of the Panches vote for such removal.”

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 11, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 12

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 12 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 13

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That the clause be deleted.

This clause provides that in case a Panch, Sarpanch or an Adalati Panch is not elected within the prescribed time, the prescribed authority may appoint someone to take his place. My submission is that this will open the way for the said officer to appoint his favourites in every panchayat or even to appoint the whole panchayat if he so desires. You should provide for fresh elections in such cases because, otherwise, the officers concerned will usually declare in almost all cases that no election is possible and they will appoint Panches of their own choice. Surely, this will be a deplorable state of affairs and, therefore, I request that this clause be deleted.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the clause be deleted.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the clause be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 13 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 14

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 14 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 15

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 15 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 16

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma : (Haripur) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in the proviso, lines 1-2, between the words 'may' and 'appoint' the following be inserted:—

“out of the panel of names recommended by the Panchayat or Panchayats concerned.”

Sir, my object in moving this amendment is to help the Director in making the appointment of the Secretary of a Panchayat or Panchayats. The amendment will enable him to get a panel of names from different Panchayats to make his choice of the Secretary.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in the proviso, lines 1-2, between the words 'may' and 'appoint' the following be inserted:—

“out of the panel of names recommended by the Panchayat or Panchayats concerned.”

Shri Maru Singh Malik (Sampla) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in line 4, after the word 'servants', the words 'and a Secretary' be added.

That in line 8, after the word 'servants' the words 'the Secretary' be added.

That the proviso be deleted.

Mr. Speaker, this clause empowers the Director of Panchayats to appoint Secretaries of Panchayats. As you are aware, Sir, the villagers are generally illiterate people. If the Director has the power of appointing the Secretary and he thrusts one on a Panchayat, the Panches will consider him to be their officer and not their subordinate. My amendment seeks to empower the Panchayats to appoint or dismiss the Secretary.

Mr. Speaker : Motions moved—

That in line 4, after the word 'servants', the words 'and a Secretary' be added.

That in line 8, after the word 'servants' the words 'the Secretary' be added.

That the proviso be deleted.

Sardar Mohan Singh Jathedar (Tarn Taran) : Sir, I beg to move—

That the proviso be deleted.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the proviso be deleted.

Shri Sri Chand (Bahadurgarh) (Hindi) : The hon. Minister has agreed to delete the proviso to this clause but I beg to submit that in order to empower the Panchayats to appoint their Secretaries it is necessary that after the word 'servant' the word 'Secretary' be inserted.

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma) (Hindi) : Mr. Speaker, I accept the amendment asking for the deletion of the proviso. When this is done, there is no need of inserting the word 'Secretary' after the word 'servant'. Every thing will be provided for in the rules. The insertion of the word 'Secretary' will serve no useful purpose. It will merely increase the number of words in the clause.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in the proviso, lines 1-2, between the words 'may' and 'appoint' the following be inserted :—

“out of the panel of names recommended by the Panchayat or Panchayats concerned.”

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in line 4, after the word 'servants', the words 'and a Secretary' be added.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in line 8, after the word 'servants' the words 'the Secretary' be added.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the proviso be deleted.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 16, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 17

Shri Rizaq Ram (Rai) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in lines 6-7, the words "or the.....Director" be deleted.

Mr. Speaker, this is a consequential amendment. As the amendment suggesting deletion of the proviso to Clause 16 has been accepted and the Director will not have the power of appointing Secretaries of the Panchayats, it is necessary that my amendment should also be accepted.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in lines 6-7, the words "or the.....Director" be deleted.

Minister for Local Government : Sir, I accept this amendment.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in lines 6-7, the words "or the.....Director" be deleted.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 17, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 18

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in part (b), lines 2—4, the words "subject.....Director" be deleted.

I would like to submit in this connection that this clause provides that gratuity to any servant of the Gram Panchayat cannot be given without the previous approval of the Director. I am of the view that the words "subject to the previous approval of the Director" should be deleted.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in part (b), lines 2—4, the words "subject.....Director" be deleted.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in part (b), lines 2—4, the words "subject.....Director" be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 18 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 19

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : (Tanda) (*Punjabi*) : Sir, I beg to move—

That after part (r) of sub-clause (1), the following be added :—

(s) providing, within the period of one year from the establishment of the Gram Sabha Area, for at least one dispensary and one maternity and child welfare centre in the Gram Sabha Area ; and providing for such other medical relief and aid as the Gram Panchayat by a majority decide ;

(t) providing, within the period of one year from the establishment of the Gram Sabha for at least one Primary School for boys and girls in the Gram Sabha Area ; and providing other educational facilities, which the majority resolution of the Gram Sabha decides ;

(u) the promotion of cheap agricultural credit on easy terms through the establishment of credit co-operatives and centres for which purposes the Government shall undertake to supply funds to the Gram Panchayat and Tehsil Panchayat Union ;

(v) the establishment of agricultural co-operatives for the cheap supply of improved varieties of seeds, implements and fertilizers, for which purposes the Government shall direct Agriculture Department to meet the full requirements of the Gram Sabha Area from its stocks and resources ;

(w) the collective marketing of sugarcane and other commercial crops to the Gram Panchayat for which the Government shall direct all bulk buyers of sugarcane to make prompt and speedy payments to the sellers through the Gram Panchayat ;

(x) the registration and verification of mutation and land transfer ;

(y) the registration of births, deaths and marriages ;

(z) the working out of the scheme for the consolidation of holdings in fullest consultation with the Gram Sabha, in co-operation with the staff of Consolidation Department and the supervision over actual work of consolidation in the Gram Sabha Area ;

(z-a) the supervision of work in connection with the periodical land survey for the purposes of land revenue settlement.

Under this clause the Panchayats would be required to deal with many matters mentioned therein. I think that it should be the duty of the Gram Panchayats to make all these arrangements and the Government should place the necessary funds at their disposal in order to enable them to meet the requirements of the Gram Panchayat Area in respect of these matters.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That after part (r) of sub-clause (1), the following be added :—

(s) providing, within the period of one year from the establishment of the Gram Sabha Area, for at least one dispensary and one maternity and child welfare centre in the Gram Sabha Area ; and providing for such other medical relief and aid as the Gram Panchayat by a majority decide ;

(t) providing, within the period of one year from the establishment of the Gram Sabha for at least one Primary School for boys and girls in the Gram Sabha Area and providing other educational facilities, which the majority resolution of the Gram Sabha decides ;

(u) the promotion of cheap agricultural credit on easy terms through the establishment of credit co-operatives and centres for which purposes the Government shall undertake to supply funds to the Gram Panchayat and Tehsil Panchayat Union ;

(v) the establishment of agricultural co-operatives for the cheap supply of improved varieties of seeds, implements and fertilizers, for which purposes the Government shall direct Agriculture Department to meet the full requirements of the Gram Sabha Area from its stocks and resources ;

(w) the collective marketing of sugarcane and other commercial crops to the Gram Panchayat for which the Government shall direct all bulk buyers of sugarcane to make prompt and speedy payments to the sellers through the Gram Panchayat ;

(x) the registration and verification of mutation and land transfer ;

(y) the registration of births, deaths and marriages ;

(z) the working out of the scheme for the consolidation of holdings in fullest consultation with the Gram Sabha, in co-operation with the staff of Consolidation Department and the supervision over actual work of consolidation in the Gram Sabha Area ;

(z-a) the supervision of work in connection with the periodical land survey for the purposes of land revenue settlement.

Shri Maru Singh Malik (Sampla) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That part 1 of sub-clause (2) be deleted and parts (a) to (g) be renumbered as parts (s) to (y) respectively.

That for the proviso to the clause, the following be substituted :—

“Provided that the Government shall allot every year to each Panchayat in the form of grant at least one-fourth of the total revenues realised from the inhabitants of the Panchayat area in the form of taxes or otherwise by the Government or any local body.”

Sir, there are two parts of this clause. In the first part certain administrative duties of the Gram Panchayats have been mentioned in detail and in sub-clause (2) it is mentioned that subject to such exceptions as the Government may by general or special order make, a Gram Panchayat may and shall, if Government so directs or prescribes, make provisions for.....

I may submit that these powers have been conferred on Panchayats under sub-clause (2). The detailed specification of administrative duties has been made in sub-clause (1). In order to enable the Panchayats to carry out their duties mentioned in sub-clause (1), the Government should place at their disposal necessary funds for this purpose. In case the funds are not provided to the Panchayats, they will not be able to discharge their duties satisfactorily. I, therefore, suggest that the Government should allot every year to each Panchayat in the form of grant at least one-fourth of the total revenue realised from the inhabitants of the Panchayat area in the form of ‘abiana’ or land revenue so that they may be able to discharge their functions satisfactorily.

Mr. Speaker : Motions moved—

That part 1 of sub-clause (2) be deleted and parts (a) to (g) be renumbered as parts (s) to (y) respectively.

That for the proviso to the clause, the following be substituted :—

“Provided that the Government shall allot every year to each Panchayat in the form of grant at least one-fourth of the total revenues realised from the inhabitants of the Panchayat area in the form of taxes or otherwise by the Government or any local body.”

Shri Teg Ram (Khuian Sarwar) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in part (g) of sub-clause (1), after the word ‘poor’, the words ‘and unemployed’ be added.

That in part (j) of sub-clause (1), line 2, between the words ‘of’ and ‘animals’, the words ‘cow and other’ be inserted.

That in part (n) of sub-clause (1), line 2, between the words “Agriculture” and “and” the word “Khadi” be inserted.

That in part (n) of sub-clause (1), line 2, between the words ‘and’ and ‘Village’ the word ‘other’ be added.

That at the end of sub-clause (1), the following be added :—

“(s) protection and maintenance of bulls and steeds”.

Sir, in regard to these amendments, I would like to submit that arrangement has been made in this clause to afford facilities to the people residing in the rural areas and in part (j) a provision has been made for the improvement of the breed of animals used for agricultural purpose, but I am sorry to point out that no stress has been laid on the improvement of the breed of cows. In India, cow is considered to be the most useful of all animals. I would, therefore, request the Government that it should add the word ‘cow’ in this clause. Secondly, an essential part of rural reconstruction is to give due importance to the handloom industries in villages. Next to foodgrains, *khadi* is of vital importance. Mahatma Gandhi used to lay great stress on the establishment of cottage industries. He once remarked that the spinning wheel was like the sun and cottage industries revolved round it like the planets. I have moved an amendment that at the end of sub-clause (1), the words ‘protection and maintenance of bulls and steeds’ be added. I think that when a legislative measure, with regard to the institution of Panchayats is on the anvil, it is advisable that we should devote proper attention to the maintenance of bulls and studs in order to improve the breeds of cattle. At present, too, it forms a part of the duties of the non-official Panchayats to make arrangements for the maintenance of bulls and studs.

Mr. Speaker : Motions moved—

That in part (g) of sub-clause (1), after the word ‘poor’, the words ‘and unemployed’ be added.

That in part (j) of sub-clause (1), line 2, between the words ‘of’ and ‘animals’, the words ‘cow and other’ be inserted.

That in part (n) of sub-clause (1), line 2, between the words “Agriculture” and “and” the word “Khadi” be inserted.

That in part (n) of sub-clause (1), line 2, between the words ‘and’ and ‘Village’ the word ‘other’ be added.

That at the end of sub-clause (1), the following be added :—

“(s) protection and maintenance of bulls and steeds”.

Shri Rala Ram (Mukerian) (*Hindi*) : Sir, I beg to move—

That after part (r) of sub-clause (1), the following be added :—

“(s) the laying out of new roads and pathways and maintenance of existing ones.”

Sir, the administrative duties assigned to the Panchayats have been mentioned in detail in this clause but I would submit that the laying out of new roads and pathways and the maintenance of existing ones has been left out of the administrative control of Panchayats. I would, therefore, suggest that the above-mentioned part may be added after part (r) of sub-clause 1.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That after part (r) of sub-clause (1), the following be added :—

“(s) the laying out of new roads and pathways and maintenance of existing ones.”

Shri Chand Ram Ahlawat (Jhajjar) (*Hindi*) : Sir, I beg to move—

That after part (r) of sub-clause (1), the following be added :—

“(s) the management and control of Shamilat Dehs, Abadi Dehs and Common Waste Lands in the manner to be prescribed.”

Sir, during the last session, the Minister-in-Charge made an announcement in this House to the effect that the Government wanted to give a share in the Shamilat Dehs to every villager, no matter whether he was a landlord or a tenant. The difficulties experienced by half of the rural population as a result of the non-implementation of this decision were brought to the notice of the Government through a memorandum submitted to it by twenty Harijan Members of this House. Consolidation operations are being carried on in one Tehsil or another in every district in the State and the Shamilat land is also being distributed regardless of the interests of the non-proprietors. The Harijans are being treated in the same manner in regard to their interests in the Shamilat as the tenants were treated by the Zamindars when the latter came to know that a legislation to safeguard their rights was proposed to be brought forward.

This land is called Shamilat-i-Deh, i.e. land belonging to the village, but it is extremely regrettable that half of the rural population has absolutely no share in it. There is no provision in the Land Revenue Act giving to the non-proprietors the right of purchasing land even for the purpose of building houses for themselves with the result that they have perforce to live in hovels and small cells. If the Shamilat land is placed at the disposal of the Village Panchayat, the Harijans will be able to say that they have got some share in it.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That after part (r) of sub-clause (1), the following be added :—

“(s) the management and control of Shamilat Dehs, Abadi Dehs and Common Waste Lands in the manner to be prescribed.”

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma (Haripur) : Sir, I beg to move—

That after part (r) of sub-clause (1), the following be added :—

“(s) the management and control of Shamilat Dehs, Abadi Dehs and Waste Lands.”

[Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma]

Mr. Speaker, I do not want to waste the time of the House by repeating the arguments with respect to management of Shamilat and Village Abadi which have already been advanced by my learned Friend Shri Chand Ram Ahlawat. I, therefore, simply commend this amendment to the House.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That after part (r) of sub-clause (1), the following be added:—

“(s) management of Village Shamilat, Village Abadi and Common Waste Lands.”

Mr. Speaker : Now I call upon Shri Babu Dayal to move his amendment.

Shri Babu Dayal (Sohna) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That at the end of part (r) of sub-clause (1), the words “and roads” be added.

Sir, when so many other duties are being assigned to the Panchayats through this Bill, I see no reason why the work of looking after and maintenance of roads connecting one village with another should not be entrusted to them. If this is done, the villagers may be able to construct even new roads to connect them with other villages.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That at the end of part (r) of sub-clause (1), the words “and roads” be added.

Rao Gajraj Singh (Gurgaon) (Hindi) : Sir, I have risen to oppose the amendment moved by Shri Chand Ram. It is not proper to hand over the whole of the Shamilat land to the village Panchayats. He has perhaps not borne in mind the case of Zamin-dari Mauzas in which the whole area is the joint property of the village or in other words the whole land is considered as Shamilat. Does he want that in such villages the whole area should be transferred to the Panchayats?

Then, Sir, cultivable land also forms a part of the Shamilat in many cases. It would have been better if he had raised the question of only that Shamilat land which was fit for residential purposes. His amendment in its present form is not acceptable to us. Its acceptance and adoption would be tantamount to expropriating the proprietors without compensation which is not in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of India.

Shri Sri Chand (Bahadurgarh) (Hindi) : Sir, since a great deal of importance was being attached to this Bill, we were under the impression that the question of giving adequate funds to the Panchayats would also be kept in view. A number of amendments have been moved today with a view to entrusting functions such as the construction and maintenance of roads, rearing of cattle including bulls, maintenance of pathways, repairs of ponds and old buildings, etc., to the Panchayats. A long list of duties has been

given in this Bill, but that vital matter, namely, provision of adequate funds for the Panchayats has been ignored.

Minister for Local Government : That provision will come later on.

Shri Sri Chand : Yes, on some clause yet to be discussed an amendment is to be moved by Jathedar Mohan Singh proposing the allotment of one-tenth of the Land Revenue and one-fifth of the proceeds from Local Rates to the Panchayats. I have to say a few words with regard to this proposal. In his speech the Chief Minister has been pleased to state that the average annual Land Revenue of a village is of the order of Rs. 1,200 and the maximum receipts of a village from Local Rates are no more than Rs. 300.

Minister for Local Government : On a point of order, Sir. Discussion on the provision of funds for the Panchayats is not relevant at this stage. The question before the House at this moment is whether the Shamilat should or should not be entrusted to the care of the Panchayats.

Shri Sri Chand : Sir, I am speaking on Chaudhri Maru Singh's amendment which seeks to provide for the allotment of one-fourth of the total money realised from a village to its Panchayat.

Mr. Speaker : Here it is—

Provided that the Government shall allot every year to each Panchayat in the form of grant at least one-fourth of the total revenues realised from the inhabitants.....

Shri Sri Chand : Our difficulty is that the Ministers do not care to go through the amendments that are given notice of. They should be thankful to Mr. Speaker for having read it out to them.

Sir, I was submitting that the total amount that a Panchayat will have at its disposal will be about one hundred and eighty rupees a year; one hundred and twenty rupees as ten per cent of land revenue and sixty rupees as twenty per cent of local rates. What can a Panchayat do with such a small amount? Is it not a joke that after discussing such an important measure in detail, this Assembly is going to give a Panchayat such a meagre amount for the realisation of its objects? The rural people do not ask for big colleges and good dancing halls. Their demands are quite simple. What they want is primary education for their children. In fact, the work of primary education should be handed over to the Panchayats. The villagers do not grudge if colleges are opened in the cities. But they want that their children should be provided facilities for primary education in the rural area. Is it not the right of the villagers to get this much at least? Can the Government expect the Panchayats to give primary education to the villagers with the sum of rupees one hundred and eighty only and to do many things more? With this amount, a Panchayat is expected to maintain an office for itself, to engage a chaprasi, to buy stationery and to keep a sweeper also. Can all this expenditure be met out of one hundred and eighty rupees? Can these Panchayats

[Shri Sri Chand]

be expected to undertake other works of development in addition to all this? In my opinion, by giving such a petty sum to the Village Panchayats a farce is being enacted. In fact all these various powers that have been given to the Village Panchayats under this Bill are meaningless. As a matter of fact what the Government should do is to provide primary education to the rural areas. But this is not being done.

My submission is that the Government may not give a large amount but what it gives should be substantial. It should not try to throw dust in the eyes of the ruralites. It should make arrangements for imparting primary education to the village children. Of course, many things like sanitation, etc., have been provided for in this Bill but what is lacking is the provision of necessary funds to the Panchayats. What can the Panchayats do without funds? The villagers do not ask for much. The Government may give twelve annas in a rupee to the cities, but it should give at least four annas to the villages. Of course, this Bill will be passed, but what will the villagers get out of it? I wish to submit that the Government should pay some attention to the villages.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Speaker : I wish to make two announcements. The first is that the hon. Members who wish to give any notices of amendments for tomorrow should do so by 5.30 p.m. today as the sitting of the Assembly begins at 9.30 a.m. tomorrow. These amendments are to be printed and so some time is required for that purpose.

The second announcement is that letters and telegrams which the hon. Members send to me should not be addressed to me personally if they have something to do with official work, because they are likely to be delayed if I go outside. For instance, I have been out of Simla for some days and such papers remained lying here. So, I would request the hon. Members to address telegrams and letters relating to official work to the Secretary, Punjab Legislative Assembly.

RESUMPTION OF DISCUSSION ON THE GRAM PANCHAYAT BILL.

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma)
(Hindi) : Sir, Clause 19 provides for the administrative duties of the Panchayats. These duties have been divided into two parts, general duties and those which have been mentioned in sub-clause (2). The Panchayats will ordinarily perform the first type of functions. They will perform the second type of function only if they are asked to do so. The first amendment is that such a distinction in the duties of the Panchayats should not be made. In my opinion there are certain duties which the Panchayats will certainly perform and there are certain others which it is difficult for them to perform under ordinary circumstances. If at any time, the Government feels that a Panchayat should do a certain work, it will have to make some arrangements for that purpose. So, I beg to submit that such distinction should be kept. Therefore, the amendment that the distinction should be abolished cannot be accepted.

One of the amendments relates to *khadi* and *charkhas*. The idea is good, but may I ask how the hon. Member has come to believe that there is any restriction placed in this Bill on the doing of such

things by the Panchayats? Cottage industries and such like things which the Panchayats have to undertake are there and there appears to be no need for specifying them here. But we have provided in general that it will be the duty of a Village Panchayat to make arrangements for the development of agriculture and village industries. I think, this should be sufficient. There is no need of making provision for every small matter. As a matter of fact, the residents of a village should themselves think in terms of the development of their village. Every thing cannot be provided for in the Act itself.

As regards the construction of new roads, personally I have no objection to making a provision for that purpose here, but why should the State Government itself not undertake this work? Ordinarily, the construction of roads is done by the State Government and the Central Government and even they find it difficult to do it satisfactorily. I would advise the hon. Members to let this job be done by the Government.

The next thing is about the Shamilat Deh. Personally, I have a desire to take steps in this matter, but there are many difficulties in the way.

It has been suggested that the Shamilat land should be distributed amongst those ruralites who do not possess any land. But the legal advice which I have been given is that it is not advisable to accept this suggestion. I have full sympathy with those people who do not possess land but to say that Shamilat land should be allotted to them is not possible from the legal point of view. I want to tell the hon. Members that I do not want that the old practice which was established 20 years ago should not be changed. It has been remarked about the Assembly and the Parliament that these can do everything except converting a man into a woman or a woman into a man. I have every desire that the Shamilat land should be allotted to the landless villagers but the making of such a provision in the Bill does not seem advisable.

Sir, there was some fairness in the first and the last speeches of Chaudhri Sri Chand but they lacked consistency. I make these remarks because there is another clause in the Bill which relates to the provision of funds for the Panchayats but to go on insisting that such a provision must be made in Clause 19 is not reasonable. Sir, in this connection, I may submit that the Government will make suitable arrangements to provide sufficient funds to the Panchayats to enable them to carry on their duties properly. It would not be possible for them to perform their duties without sufficient funds at their disposal. Now, Sir, let the hon. Member state how far he is justified in making such a speech and placing an amendment before the House that a provision for a particular amount must be made in Clause 19. To ask for the grant of 10 per cent, 15 per cent or 20 per cent of the land revenue is irrelevant and to go on pressing the Government that a share of *Abiana* be allotted to the Panchayats is not justified. If the hon. Members insist on it, I must say that not to speak of the land revenue of this State, the land revenue of the whole of U. P. even would not suffice. The fact is that even as much money as is obtained from the land revenue of Madras and

[Minister for Local Government]

Bombay States would not be sufficient for this work. But if they are bent upon propaganda against the Government, it is a separate matter. Mr. Speaker, it is all right if they desire that sufficient money should be granted to the Panchayats but the question is as to wherefrom this amount is to be got. I would, therefore, request them to offer some practicable suggestion. Had there been an election campaign, they were justified in doing this propaganda. But, now they should not oppose the Government on this Bill.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask the hon. Members of the Opposition not to lose sight of the fact that our Government is going to place more funds at the disposal of the Panchayats through means different from those adopted by any other State in India. If the House wants to provide still more funds for them, I would be the last man to oppose it.

Mr. Speaker, the next objection raised by my friends is that the Panchayats have been entrusted with too many duties. In this connection, I would submit, Sir, that if the Panchayats were given less work they would have complained that these had not been given any work. Now if they have been given some work, the hon. Members complain about it. Sir, I myself have been in the Opposition and I know that the hon. Members in Opposition always have good scope of criticising the Government. But now the country is free from foreign yoke and I would ask the hon. Members to share at least some responsibility with us. Clause 19 is the backbone of this Bill and I would request the hon. Members to pass it. They should consider the whole matter dispassionately at the time of voting for or against this clause.

Sardar Ajmer Singh : On a point of order, Sir. The hon. Minister has stated that the Opposition criticises for the sake of criticism and that if the Government had given less duties to the Panchayats, an objection would have been taken that the Panchayats had not been given sufficient duties. I want to make this point clear. It has been laid down in the Bill that—

'Subject to such rules as may be prescribed it shall be the duty of the Gram Panchayat within the limits of the funds at its disposal to make arrangements for, so on and so forth.'

Government has entrusted them with multifarious duties such as—

Maintenance of public buildings, relief to the poor people, health and sanitation in the villages—

But what about funds, Sir? Very paltry amounts have been placed at their disposal and these will not serve any useful purpose. There should be some responsibility of the Government as well.

Mr. Speaker : No reply is needed. The responsibilities of the Panchayats will be in proportion to the funds at their disposal.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That after part (r) of sub-clause (1), the following be added :—

“(s) providing, within the period of one year from the establishment of the Gram Sabha Area, for at least one dispensary and one maternity and child welfare centre in the Gram Sabha Area ; and providing

for such other medical relief and aid as the Gram Panchayat by a majority decide ;

(t) providing, within the period of one year from the establishment of the Gram Sabha for at least one Primary School for boys and girls in the Gram Sabha Area ; and providing other educational facilities, which the majority resolution of the Gram Sabha decides ;

(u) the promotion of cheap agricultural credit on easy terms through the establishment of credit co-operatives and centres for which purposes the Government shall undertake to supply funds to the Gram Panchayat and Tehsil Panchayat Union ;

(v) the establishment of agricultural co-operatives for the cheap supply of improved varieties of seeds, implements and fertilizers, for which purposes the Government shall direct Agriculture Department to meet the full requirements of the Gram Sabha Area from its stocks and resources ;

(w) the collective marketing of sugarcane and other commercial crops to the Gram Panchayat for which the Government shall direct all bulk buyers of sugarcane to make prompt and speedy payments to the sellers through the Gram Panchayat ;

(x) the registration and verification of mutation and land transfer ;

(y) the registration of births, deaths and marriages ;

(z) the working out of the scheme for the consolidation of holdings in fullest consultation with the Gram Sabha, in co-operation with the staff of Consolidation Department and the supervision over actual work of consolidation in the Gram Sabha Area ;

(z-a) the supervision of work in connection with the periodical land survey for the purposes of land revenue settlement."

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That part 1 of sub-clause (2) be deleted and parts (a) to (g) be renumbered as parts (s) to (y)

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That for the proviso to the clause, the following be substituted :—

"Provided that the Government shall allot every year to each Panchayat in the form of grant at least one-fourth of the total revenues realised from the inhabitants of the Panchayat area in the form of taxes or otherwise by the Government or any local body."

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in part (g) of sub-clause (1), after the word "poor" the words "and unemployed" be added.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in part (j) of sub-clause (1), line 2, between the words "of" and "animals" the words "cow and other" be inserted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in part (n) of sub-clause (1), line 2, between the words "Agriculture" and "and" the word "Khadi" be inserted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in part (n) of sub-clause (1), line 2, between the words "and" and "Village" the word "other" be added.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in the end of sub-clause (1), the following be added:—

"(s) protection and maintenance of bulls and steeds".

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That after part (r) of sub-clause (1), the following be added:—

"(s) the laying out of new roads and pathways and maintenance of existing ones."

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That after part (r) of sub-clause (1), the following be added:—

"(s) the management and control of Shamilat Dehs, Abadi Dehs and Common Waste Lands in the manner to be prescribed."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That after part (r) of sub-clause (1), the following be added:—

"(s) management of Village Shamilat, Village Abadi and Common Waste Lands."

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That at the end of part (r) of sub-clause (1), the words "and roads" be added.

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 19, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 20

Mr. Speaker : Clause 20 is before the House for discussion.

Shri Maru Singh Malik (Sampla) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in line 2, the word "may" be substituted by the word "shall".

That in lines 7-8, the words "may and", "if so required by Government" and "any of" be deleted.

That for part (a), the following be substituted:—

"(a) all functions with regard to primary education, sanitation and health."

Mr. Speaker, my submission is that through my amendment I want that those functions of the District Boards must be delegated to the Panchayats, which according to Clause 20 of this Bill it is not obligatory on their part to perform. There are many villages in that part of the State from which I have been returned where not a single primary school has been opened since the coming into existence of the District Board. Despite the fact that the residents of those villages have been regularly paying taxes to the District Board, there is no school there even at a distance of five or six miles. This causes great hardship to the people living there. According to my amendment, it will become obligatory for a District Boards to place the taxes recovered by it at the disposal of the Panchayats for primary education.

According to the amendment, which one of my hon. Friends had moved but later on withdrawn, it was desired that the Panchayats should have the right to manage common lands existing in the villages. But through my amendment, I want that the proprietary rights over common lands should vest in the Village Panchayats in order to enable them to have more finances by either selling a part of these or by bringing them in for some other use. This will also help in settling the disputes which generally arise in villages over the common lands.

I want to point out that if the Government accepts my amendment, it will prove its sincerity regarding the promises made by it to the people. If it does not do so, all those promises will prove to have been meaningless.

Mr. Speaker : Motions moved—

That in line 2, the word "may" be substituted by the word "shall".

That in lines 7-8, the words "may and", "if so required by Government" and "any of" be deleted.

That for part (a), the following be substituted:—

"(a) all functions with regard to primary education, sanitation and health."

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (*Punjabi*): Sir, I beg to move—

That after part (c), the following be added:—

“ (d) to regulate market places and fairs.

(e) Regulate cart stands and lorry stands etc.”

Mr. Speaker, when the *Panches* and the *Sarpanches* have to work honorarily and have to exercise so many duties, I think that the function of organising fairs, etc., should also be entrusted to them. I am of the view that this will help them to raise some funds which can be utilised for financing other schemes.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That after part (c), the following be added:—

“ (d) to regulate market places and fairs.

(e) Regulate cart stands and lorry stands etc.”

Shri Sri Chand (Bahadurgarh) (*Hindi*): Sir, on the opening day of the discussion on this Bill, the Chief Minister was pleased to remark that if the Panchayats did not manage primary education in the villages what else would they do? Besides, he made an announcement regarding the Government's decision to abolish District Boards. The object of this amendment is also this that the management of the education, sanitation and other allied functions should be entrusted to the Panchayats. It should not be left at the discretion of the District Boards to ask or not to ask the Panchayats to undertake that work. What I mean to submit is that when we realise that this work is, to some extent, to be got done through the Panchayats, why should we not directly entrust it to them?

On the first day also, I suggested that if we are desirous of rooting out illiteracy from the villages, this can only be done through the agency of the Panchayats. I think that if the announcement made by the Chief Minister was a considered one, the Government should not hesitate in abolishing the District Boards at once, and the controversy which is going on about this issue, should be put an end to. The Government should give practical shape to the declaration made by the Chief Minister and should abolish the District Boards. When the news of his announcement reached the villages, the people there felt extremely happy and hoped that as a consequence of the abolition of District Boards, the function of spreading primary education would also be transferred to the Panchayats. I request the hon. Chief Minister to fulfil the promise held out by him the other day that the District Boards would be abolished at the earliest and to accept this amendment through which the task of spreading primary education is sought to be entrusted to the Gram Panchayats.

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma) (*Hindi*): Mr. Speaker, there is a clear provision in Clause 20 that so long as the District Boards exist—I cannot say whether they will

continue for a day or a thousand years more—they can delegate any of their functions to any Panchayats. Besides, the Government has also the right to transfer any function of the District Board to the Panchayat. This clause also embodies a provision to the effect that the District Board will have to provide funds to the Panchayat for the performance of the function entrusted to it. No work will be got done without the funds having been provided. So far as the question of promoting education in the villages is concerned, that is justified. It was good that the Chief Minister made a reference to that effect. The Government is not opposed to that course. When authority has been vested in the District Boards and the Gram Panchayats to carry on this work collectively, the question of accepting the amendment on that subject does not at all arise. Moreover, when the Government feels that these bodies have failed to perform their functions, it will take further steps in the matter for which it has reserved the necessary powers. I, therefore, think that my Friends should not mis-construe the intentions of the Government while considering this clause.

Shri Maru Singh Malik (Sampla) : Sir, I beg to ask for leave of the House to introduce the following two new clauses :—

20-A. All common land of the village shall vest in the Gram Panchayat and it shall be the duty of the Panchayat to manage it.

20-B. The Panchayat may sell to any person residing in the Panchayat area any plot of land out of the common land, required for residential purposes or cattle shed, subject to confirmation by the Collector.

Mr. Speaker : Has he the leave of the House to move the new clauses ?

The leave was refused.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in line 2, the word "may" be substituted by the word "shall".

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in lines 7-8, the words "may and", "if so required by Government" and "any of" be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That for part (a), the following be substituted :—

"(a) all functions with regard to primary education, sanitation and health."

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That after part (c), the following be added :—

"(d) to regulate market places and fairs.

(e) Regulate cart stands and lorry stands etc."

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 20 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 21

Mr. Speaker : Now Clause 21 is before the House.

Shri Maru Singh Malik (Sampla) : Sir, I beg to move—

That after part (h) of sub-clause (1), the following be added:—

“(i) to remove any encroachment upon the common land”.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That after part (h) of sub-clause (1), the following be added:—

“(i) to remove any encroachment upon the common land”.

Rai Raghuvir Singh (Seraj) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in part (a) (iv) of sub-clause (1), lines 4-5, between the words “matter” and “therefrom” the following words be inserted:—

“or a store of fuel wood, charcoal or hay”.

Sir, in this regard my submission is that the ruralites in general and the people inhabiting the hilly areas in particular accumulate heaps of stack, coal, litter, etc. It is true that they do so in order to meet their requirements in the rainy season, but it has been observed that sometimes the stack and litter catch fire and there is danger of houses situated in the village being burnt. Many such incidents have actually happened particularly in the hilly tracts. I know of a hundred and one such examples which I can quote before the House. I want to mention a very recent instance. A fortnight ago, some bushes near a village consisting of 32 families caught fire. On account of the area being situated in the hills, scarcity of water and the force of wind, the whole village was reduced to ashes. There is no doubt that by virtue of ‘the power to require removal of encroachments and nuisance’ contained in Clause 21, the Panchayats can ask the Government to order the removal of piles of fuel and litter but the question is what will be the remedy if the heaps of stack and litter for the removal of which the Panchayat has approached the Government catch fire before the receipt of its approval? It is, therefore, necessary to delegate these powers direct to the Panchayats in view of the fact that the Panches being the inhabitants of the same village can appreciate the interests and difficulties of the people much better. In the circumstances, this authority should directly be given into the hands of the Panchayats instead of the necessity of referring the matter to the Government.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in part (a) (iv) of sub-clause (1), lines 4-5, between the words “matter” and “therefrom” the following words be inserted:—

“or a store of fuel wood, charcoal or hay”.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That after part (h) of sub-clause (1), the following be added :—

“ (i) to remove any encroachment upon the common land ”.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in part (a) (iv) of sub-clause (1), lines 4-5, between the words “ matter ” and “ therefrom ” the following words be inserted :—

“ or a store of fuel, charcoal or hay ”.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 21 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 22

Mr. Speaker : I call upon Rai Raghuvir Singh to move his amendment to Clause 22.

Rai Raghuvir Singh (Seraj) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That at the end of the clause, the following be added :—

“ (p) to regulate such matters as may be necessary for closure, opening, conservation, afforestation and management of the village forest, waste land and shamilat ;

(q) require villagers to have the village streets, surroundings and drainage. ”

Sir, one of the provisions in Clause 22 is that the forests, common lands and waste lands attached to a village will be handed over to the Panchayat which may ‘ regulate such matters as may be necessary for the general protection of standing crops and planting of trees etc. ’ But if no power is given to the Panchayats in this respect they will not be able to take any action without express instruction from the Government. For instance, if the Panchayat wants to take any action in respect of erosion, etc., how can it perform its duty satisfactorily unless all the people co-operate with it ? The same difficulty will be faced in the matter of the planting of trees. So long as each and every person is not anxious to make it a success and does not extend full co-operation to the Panchayat there can be no chance of success. You cannot appoint a guard for the protection of each and every leaf and twig. The co-operation of the people is absolutely essential and it is for ensuring it and the realisation of the Government’s object that I have moved this amendment.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That at the end of the clause, the following be added :—

“ (p) to regulate such matters as may be necessary for closure, opening, conservation, afforestation and management of the village forest, waste land and shamilat ;

(q) require villagers to have the village streets, surroundings and drainage. ”

Shri Teg Ram (Khuian Sarwar) (*Hindi*) : Sir, I beg to move—

That at the end of the clause, the following be added :—

“(p) prohibit the use of obscene records and songs and dances”.

Sometimes certain people sing obscene songs in villages or there are dances accompanied by filthy dialogues. Similarly, if gramophone records of obscene songs are played on the roofs of houses with loudspeakers on, they are heard by womenfolk of the whole village and this practice becomes a shameful nuisance. I, therefore, request the Government to add this new sub-clause to check this nuisance.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That at the end of the clause, the following be added :—

“(p) prohibit the use of obscene records and songs and dances”.

Shri Maru Singh Malik (Sampla) (*Hindi*) : Sir I beg to move—

That at the end the following be added :—

“(p) regulate the burying of dead animals and the selling of skins and bones of dead animals.”

Mr. Speaker, the people who used to remove skin from the dead bodies of animals in villages have given up this work now with the result that our State is incurring a great loss. If arrangements in this connection are entrusted to Panchayats, our villages will get rid of the trouble which they are facing and the State will be saved the loss which runs into lakhs of rupees.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That at the end the following be added :—

“(p) regulate the burying of dead animals and the selling of skins and bones of dead animals.”

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That at the end of the clause, the following be added :—

“(p) to regulate such matters as may be necessary for closure, opening, conservation, afforestation and management of the village forest, waste land and shamilat ;

(q) require villagers to have the village streets, surroundings and drainage”.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That at the end of the clause, the following be added :—

“(p) prohibit the use of obscene records and songs and dances”.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That at the end the following be added :—

“(p) regulate the burying of dead animals and the selling of skins and bones of dead animals.”

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 22 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 23

Mr. Speaker : Clause 23 is before the House for discussion

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in line 8, for the word “twenty-five” the word “ten” be substituted.

That in lines 9—14, the following words be deleted :—

“and if the.....breach continues”.

Mr. Speaker, this clause lays down that if any person disobeys any order of the Panchayat, he will be liable to a penalty which may extend to twenty-five rupees, and also, that if the breach is a continuing one, it will be punished with a further penalty up to one rupee per day. My submission is that this practice of giving the Panchayats the power to impose penalties will usher a reign of fines and penalties in our villages. Again, the amount of the penalty has been fixed at a very high rate and the provision for a penalty of one rupee a day will render the measure almost unworkable. Whenever penalties of this kind were imposed the amounts rose up to hundreds, even thousands of rupees and thus they could not be realised. I wish to point out that if this provision for penalties is allowed to remain as it is, the amounts of penalties in our villages will very often become so large that people will not be able to pay them even if they sell out all their properties and thus the Panchayats will find it difficult, almost impossible, to realise these amounts.

I wish to draw your attention to the fact that we are establishing these Panchayats not to impose heavy fines and penalties but for ameliorating the conditions in our rural areas and settling of ordinary petty disputes among the villagers. Therefore, let us not make them an instrument of oppression and a source of trouble for the people. The penalty provided for in this clause will go on doubling and trebling day by day and it will be not only difficult but absolutely impossible to realise it. Thus the provision will not prove useful in any way. On the contrary, it may do a lot of harm.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in line 8, for the word "twenty-five" the word "ten" be substituted.

That in lines 9—14, the following words be deleted:—
"and if the.....breach continues".

Shri Maru Singh Malik (Sampla) : Sir, I move—

That the following proviso be added to the clause:—

"Provided that the recurring fine shall not exceed the sum of rupees five hundred".

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the following proviso be added to the clause:—

"Provided that the recurring fine shall not exceed the sum of rupees five hundred".

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in line 8, for the word "twenty-five" the word "ten" be substituted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in lines 9—14, the following words be deleted:—
"and if the.....breach continues".

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the following proviso be added to the clause:—

"Provided that the recurring fine shall not exceed the sum of rupees five hundred".

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 23 as amended stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 24

Mr. Speaker : Now I call upon Rai Raghuvir Singh to move his amendment to Clause 24.

Rai Raghuvir Singh (Seraj) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in sub-clause (1), line 9, between the words "watcher" and "or" the following be inserted:—

"Primary School Teachers, P.W.D. Road Inspectors, District Board Overseers and Mistries, Foresters, Process-Servers, Beldars, Veterinary Stock Assistants, Compounders of rural civil hospitals and veterinary hospitals and District Board Professional Tax Officers."

Mr. Speaker, the Panchayats have been authorised by this clause to keep a watch over the conduct of its officials in the villages. Through my amendment I want to provide that the Panchayats should be able to know whether the officials referred to in my amendment and especially the Professional Tax Officers and primary school teachers discharge their duties properly or not. If a Gram Panchayat has any complaint against some of these officials, it should be able to move the Deputy Commissioner in that respect. In brief, I desire that the Panchayats should have the same powers with respect to these officers which it is being given regarding other officials.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in sub-clause (1), line 9, between the words "watcher" and "or" the following be inserted:—

"Primary School Teachers, P.W.D. Road Inspectors, District Board Overseers and Mistries, Foresters, Process-Servers, Beldars, Veterinary Stock Assistants, Compounders of rural civil hospitals and veterinary hospitals and District Board Professional Tax Officers."

Mr. Speaker : Now I call upon Sardar Achhar Singh to move his amendments.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (Punjabi) : Sir, I move—

That in line 9, between the words "other" and "class" the following words be inserted:—

"servants of State, or Central Government or Local authority serving in or having jurisdiction over any part of Gram Sabha."

That in lines 9—13, the word "class...this section" be deleted.

That for the proviso to sub-clause (1), the following proviso be substituted:—

"Provided that if the Gram Sabha or Gram Panchayat has reason to believe that the said authority has not taken prompt and effective action on its complaints, it may forward the report along with the *Prima facie* evidence to the State Government who shall be required to take suitable action and to inform the Gram Panchayat thereof within a period of 30 days from the receipt of such a report."

Mr. Speaker, it has been provided in this clause that if the Government notifies that these provisions would apply to other officials also, it would be able to take action against them too. I have moved an amendment for providing that the Gram Panchayats should have similar powers with respect to the servants of the State or Central Government or local authority who do the work which is the responsibility of Gram Sabhas.

The other thing for which I want a provision to be made is that if a report is sent to the prescribed officer and he fails to take suitable action on it, appeal should lie to higher authorities.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in line 9, between the words "other" and "class". the following words be inserted:—

"servant of State, or Central Government or Local Authority serving in or having jurisdiction over any part of Gram Sabha."

[Mr. Speaker]

That in lines 9—13, the word "class...this section" be deleted.

That for the proviso to sub-clause (1), the following proviso be substituted :—

"Provided that if the Gram Sabha or Gram Panchayat has reason to believe that the said authority has not taken prompt and effective action on its complaints, it may forward the report along with the *prima facie* evidence to the State Government who shall be required to take suitable action and to inform the Gram Panchayat thereof within a period of 30 days from the receipt of such a report."

Shri Rala Ram (Mukerian) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That after sub-clause (2), the following be added :—

"(3). **Supervision of School Teachers.** On the initiative or the personal knowledge of a Sarpanch or on a report being made to him that a teacher or teachers working in a Government or a local authority school are not regular and punctual in the discharge of their duties or that students of the school are compelled to attend to a teacher's domestic work, the Panchayat after making such enquiries as it deems necessary, shall forward the complaint to the proper authorities along with its report for necessary action, but the teacher concerned shall not be required formally to appear before it."

Mr. Speaker, provision has been made in this sub-clause for the supervision over the work of patwaris but I feel that in order to improve the management of primary schools in the villages, it is essential to empower the Gram Panchayats to see whether the primary teachers open, attend and close these schools at the proper hours. It is also necessary to see whether the students actually receive education at the schools or are employed by the teachers for doing their domestic work. It is very important that a watch over all these things should be kept. In my opinion it is very dangerous to entrust primary education to the Gram Panchayats. As our system of education is at a stage when it is sure to undergo revolutionary changes, this task should not have been entrusted to the Panchayats. We want our system of education to improve and so by this amendment I have sought to give to the Panchayats the power of supervision over the primary teachers. It is with that object that I have moved this amendment.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That after sub-clause (2), the following be added :—

"(3) **Supervision of School Teachers.** On the initiative or the personal knowledge of a Sarpanch or on a report being made to him that a teacher or teachers working in a Government or a local authority school are not regular and punctual in the discharge of their duties or that students of the school are compelled to attend to a teacher's domestic work, the Panchayat after making such enquiries as it deems necessary, shall forward the complaint to the proper authorities along with its report for necessary action, but the teacher concerned shall not be required formally to appear before it."

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Sir, I rise to oppose the amendment moved by my hon. Friend Shri Rala Ram. I admit that he is a very experienced man but his knowledge is confined mainly to the conditions of schools in cities and towns. I would submit that the condition of primary schools in villages is far from satisfactory, particularly of those schools which are under the

administrative control of the District Boards. The Government does not pay any heed in this direction. In the District Board schools even mattings have not been provided on which the students can sit conveniently during school hours. In many villages, people have opened primary schools with their own private effort. My hon. Friend has remarked that the management of primary schools should not be entrusted to the Panchayats and that they should have the right to only supervise these. I do not agree with his opinion and think that the work of education should be entrusted to the Panchayats.

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma (Haripur) (*Hindi*): Sir, I beg to move—

That in sub-clause (1), line 9, between the words "watcher" and "or" the following words be inserted:—

"Forester, Mukkadam, P.W.D. Beldar."

Sir, while under this clause the Gram Panchayats have been empowered to make a report against some officials if they misconduct themselves in the discharge of their duties, I suggest that the words "Forester, Mukkadam, P.W.D. Beldar" may also be inserted in this clause.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved—

That in sub-clause (1), line 9, between the words "watcher" and "or" the following be inserted:—

"Forester, Mukkadam, P.W.D. Beldar."

Sardar Uttam Singh (Sri Gobindpur) (*Punjabi*): Sir, my hon. Friend Shri Rala Ram has made a suggestion that the Panchayats should only be given the right to supervise the schools and that the entire management of the schools should not be given in their hands. I am of the opinion that the whole work of education should be entrusted to the Panchayats.

Shri Babu Dyal (Sohana) (*Hindi*): Sir, I beg to move—

That in sub-clause (1), line 9, between the words "watcher" and "or" the following words be inserted:—

"Excise and Taxation Tobacco Sub-Inspector."

Sir, I have noticed in certain villages in my constituency that the Excise and Taxation Tobacco Sub-Inspectors exercise unfettered power of levying taxes on the people. The people in my ilaqa generally complain about the offensive behaviour of these Sub-Inspectors.

An hon. Member: Excise and Taxation Tobacco Sub-Inspectors are under the control of Government of India.

Shri Babu Dayal: If these Sub-Inspectors are under the control of the Government of India, I would suggest that the approval of the Government of India may be obtained and the Panchayats be empowered to make enquiry into the conduct of such officials so that these officers may be prevented from acting arbitrarily.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in sub-clause (1), line 9, between the words “watcher” and “or” the following words be inserted :—

“Excise and Taxation Tobacco Sub-Inspector.”

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma) (Hindi) : I would like to point out in this connection that for the present only those petty officials have been mentioned in this clause who come in close contact with the villagers. In the light of experience to be gained, if the Panchayats feel that any other class of officials is misconducting itself in the discharge of its duties, then the Government will extend the provisions of this clause so as to include that class also in this clause. At this stage, the Government does not consider it necessary to include these officials and if in future the Government feel it necessary to incorporate their names in this clause, it will take necessary steps in this direction.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (1), line 9, between the words “watcher” and “or” the following be inserted :—

“Primary School Teachers, P.W.D. Road Inspectors, District Board Overseers and Mistries, Foresters, Process-Servers, Beldars, Veterinary Stock Assistants, Compounders of rural civil hospitals and veterinary hospitals and District Board Professional Tax Officers.”

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in line 9, between the words “other” and “class” the following words be inserted :—

“servants of State, or Central Government or Local Authority serving in or having jurisdiction over any part of Gram Sabha.”

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in lines 9—13, the word “class...this section” be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That for the proviso to sub-clause (1), the following proviso be substituted :—

“Provided that if the Gram Sabha or Gram Panchayat has reason to believe that the said authority has not taken prompt and effective action on its complaints, it may forward the report along with the *Prima facie* evidence to the State Government who shall be required to take suitable action and to inform the Gram Panchayat thereof within a period of 30 days from the receipt of such a report.”

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That after sub-clause (2), the following be added :—

“(3) **Supervision of School Teachers.** On the initiative or the personal knowledge of a Sarpanch or on a report being made to him that a teacher or teachers working in a Government or local authority school are not regular and punctual in the discharge of their duties or that students of the school are compelled to attend to a teacher's domestic work, the Panchayat after making such enquiries as it deems necessary, shall forward the complaint to the proper authorities along with its report for necessary action, but the teacher concerned shall not be required formally to appear before it.”

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (1), line 9, between the words “watcher” and “or” the following words be inserted :—

“Forester, Mukkadam, P.W.D. Beldar.”

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (1), line 9, between the words “watcher” and “or” the following be inserted :—

“Excise and Taxation Tobacco Sub-Inspector.”

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 24 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 25

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That the clause be deleted.

Sir, under this clause the power to collect land revenue has been given to the Panchayats. If such power is given to them, the result of it would be that after some time the people will begin to nurse a feeling of repulsion against the Panchayats and this would lead to friction and bitterness among them. I would submit that the Panchayats would hardly be able to collect their own taxes from the people, and thus entrusting to them of this additional work of collecting land revenue would not appear to be fair or just. The Government is imposing new taxes on the people day in and day out and there is already a feeling of resentment in the minds of people on this account. If this work is transferred to the Panchayats, the people will turn against the Panchayats and it will be exceedingly difficult for them to discharge their main function of exercising administrative control in the rural areas satisfactorily. Under these circumstances, I am of the view that this kind of work should not be entrusted to the Panchayats.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the clause be deleted.

Sardar Ajmer Singh (Samrala) (Punjabi) : Sir, I have risen to support the amendment moved by Sardar Chanan Singh. This clause is fraught with the danger of a very great mischief being done to the rural population. Moreover, the provision made in it comes into conflict with the provisions of several other Acts. It provides for the giving of the agency for the collection of land revenue of a village to its Panchayat, or for that matter the agency for the collection of any other tax, whether levied by the Government or any Local Body, to the village Panchayat. It is clear that since the Panchayats will not have adequate funds at their disposal, they will manifest a marked tendency towards encroaching upon the right of the Lambardars to have the *Panchotra*. This will naturally give rise to a conflict between these two sets of agencies and in all likelihood the Lambardars will have to perform quite a number of duties barring the collection of land revenue without any recompense. If, unfortunately, some Lambardar is not on good terms with the Panches or the latter bear him a personal grudge, every effort will be made by the Panchayat to debar him from the right of collection of land revenue. This clause must be deleted, for otherwise it would create more bad blood in the villages than there already is. The Government must first decide whether the institution of Lambardars is to continue or not and what is to become of the District Boards. It must also ascertain as to whether the proposed provision is consistent with the provisions of the Excise and Taxation Act or not. To pass this clause without doing these things would be tantamount to creating complete confusion.

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma) (Hindi) : Sir, there is no denying the fact that the demand for the abolition of the office of the Lambardar on the ground that it is a hereditary office and also because the Lambardars are a reactionary element in our society, has been made so often that it needs no repetition. The policy of this Government is to devolve powers on the elected representatives of the people, i.e. the persons who enjoy the confidence of the people. The Government wants to ascertain by experiment as to how far it is practicable and advantageous to have the duties of the Lambardars performed by the elected representatives of the villagers. It is with this object in view that the proposed provision has been made in this clause. We see no reason why the work at present entrusted to five or seven individuals of the village should not be got done by the Panchayat and why the money that goes to the pockets of the former in the form of *Pachotra* be not included in the Panchayat Fund and utilised for the benefit of the village as a whole.

Sardar Ajmer Singh : On a point of information, Sir. May I ask the hon. Minister as to what compensation will then be available for the Lambardars for which there is a provision in the Land Revenue Act?

Minister for Local Government : All such matters of detail cannot be settled here and now. Any Act will be got amended when it is found necessary to do so. Some provision will be made to give compensation to the Lambardars for the remaining duties.

Entrusting the work of the collection of the land revenue to the Panchayats is a progressive step and the Government wants to ascertain in an experimental spirit as to how far it would be practicable and advantageous to do so.

Sardar Ajmer Singh : It will result in confusion.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the clause be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 25 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

(At this stage the Speaker left the Chair and the Deputy Speaker occupied it.)

CLAUSE 26

Sardar Partap Singh (Mallanwala) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in sub-clause (1), lines 3-4, between the words 'liquor' and 'may', the words 'opium and other intoxicating drugs' be inserted.

Sir, there appears to be no need to speak on this amendment as everybody knows that opium is a bad thing. It saps one's energy. It is surprising that whereas in all other countries of the world the use of opium is strictly prohibited, in our country no steps have been taken in this direction so far. Only the other day while discussing the abolition of the Upper House here the example of other countries was given in order to justify its retention. How is it that in the matter of opium, the example of other countries is brushed aside? During the British regime it was said that the use of opium would be prohibited. Now that we have our own Government, we should try to redeem those promises. It can be well understood that in the matter of prohibiting the consumption of liquor there are certain practical difficulties like illicit distillation etc., but there are no such difficulties in the case of prohibition of opium. It can be done very easily. Therefore I need not say anything more on this. It is my earnest appeal that the use of opium should be banned.

Minister for Local Government : It is not our job. It is the function of the Government of India to do so.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motion moved—

That in sub-clause (1), lines 3-4, between the words 'liquor' and 'may', the words 'opium and other intoxicating drugs' be inserted.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That the proviso be deleted.

Sir, the proviso to this clause gives powers to the Excise and Taxation Commissioner to sanction the opening of a wine shop wherever he pleases, notwithstanding the decision of the village Panchayat to the contrary. My submission is that where the power of closing down a wine shop has been given to the Panchayat, the power of opening such a shop should also be given to it and not to the Commissioner.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motion moved—

That the proviso be deleted.

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in Clause 26, lines 3-4, the words "four Panches" be substituted by the words "two-thirds majority of Panches".

Sir, I just want to make a submission with regard to this clause. Since the number of Panches has been changed and the maximum number has been fixed at nine, a consequential change in this clause has become necessary. We want that the words 'two-thirds majority of the Panches' may be substituted for the words 'four Panches'.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motion moved—

That in Clause 26, lines 3-4, the words "four Panches" be substituted by the words "two-thirds majority of Panches".

Sardar Ajmer Singh (Samrala) (Punjabi) : Sir, clause 26 is a half-hearted provision. It is born out of confusion. It has been suggested that opium should also be banned. For this purpose an amendment has been moved. In fact, opium is as bad as wine itself. My submission is that the statement of the hon. Minister that it is only the Government of India and not the Government of this State, which can prohibit the use of opium appears to be incorrect. As a matter of fact, opium is as harmful a substance as liquor, so far as health is concerned. Its use should also be banned. I am of the view that the Government of the State is authorised to prohibit its use. With regard to wine, it is laid down in the proviso to this clause :—

"if the Excise and Taxation Commissioner is of the opinion for reasons to be recorded in writing that within such local area illicit distillation or smuggling of alcohol has been carried on or connived at, within two years preceding the date of the passing of such resolution, in such local area, such resolutions shall not be binding upon him."

This means that where illicit distillation is carried on a large scale, the permission can be given. This is quite strange. While on the one side the Government is trying to prohibit the use of liquor, on the other it is giving permission for its distillation. I think that this measure is not clear. I cannot say whether such things are good

for the country or not but this much I can say that these do not bring any credit to this House.

Sardar Mohan Singh Jathedar (Tarn Taran) (*Punjabi*): Sir, I think that this clause should be passed in its existing form. It has been stated here that the use of opium also should be banned. Of course, opium too is a harmful substance, but there is difference between opium and liquor. Whereas an opium-eater ruins himself alone, a drunkard spreads the evil in the society itself. We have never seen opium-eaters quarrelling. This clause has been introduced with the object of preventing such people who drink and come to the villages from outside from fighting or doing any other mischief there.

There is another thing. This provision has been made with a view to seeing that the villagers may not close licensed wine shops in order to push the sale of illicit liquor. As a safeguard against this the Excise and Taxation Commissioner has been armed with such a power. Therefore, my submission is that this clause should be passed as it is.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (*Punjabi*): Sir, Jathedar Sahib has just now stated that opium is not a bad thing whereas wine is bad. I wish to submit in this connection that most of the people in my village are opium-takers and I can say that the habit of taking opium is harmful for health.

Even when reduced to straitened circumstances, persons addicted to opium-eating start committing thefts, consequent upon which crimes increase in the country. Sir, we have the example of China before us. Japanese used to admit opium in the cereals that were exported to China in order to harm their mental traits. I believe that opium adversely affects the good qualities of nations and ultimately their existence. I, therefore, suggest that in the Punjab, which has been proud to be the land of martial races, there should be no place for opium. Opium should, therefore, be also included in this clause along with liquor.

Sir, the fact is that whether a Panchayat desires it or not, the officials of the Excise and Police Departments ask people to distil illicit liquor. Sir, here I am reminded of a case where the Sub-Inspector of Police himself sat by the still (*bhatti*). What I mean to submit is that as a result of this clause the number of liquor shops will not decrease but will increase and, therefore, I request that it should not be passed in this form.

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma) (*Hindi*): Mr. Deputy Speaker, the Village Panchayats have been empowered by this clause to pass a resolution by a two-thirds majority of their Panches to the effect that a liquor shop in their area be not opened. There are two reasons for it. The first thing is that intoxicants like opium, poppy and wine have very harmful effects. Even then my colleagues and I would not have objected to the amendment of Sardar Achhar Singh, if the Excise Department were not under the control of the Government of India. The difficulty is that for

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such a provision, we will have to obtain the sanction of the President of India. That will mean a delay of months. Even after that period, if the Excise Department decides that circumstances are not in favour of this suggestion, nothing would be gained by adopting that course. This matter directly concerns the Government of India and we are unable to accept this suggestion. There is no use in discussing what bad effects opium, poppy or wine has got. It is a different matter if some people have more experience about a particular thing than the others. Mr. Deputy Speaker, the Government have empowered Panchayats that if they want that liquor shops be not opened in their area they can pass a resolution to that effect. We want that the Panches should perform their duties honestly but it is also possible that some of them may bring forward such a resolution in order to benefit themselves by selling illicit liquor. Sometimes it so happens that even well-intentioned efforts bear evil fruits. I may assure the hon. Members that if the Government feels that the decision of the Panches is based on selfishness, the Excise and Taxation Departments will be asked to submit their report and it is possible that the Government may not accept the decision of the Panches. Sir, I beg to submit that these powers have been given to the Panchayats for the benefit of the common people.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (1), lines 3-4, between the words 'liquor' and 'may', the words 'opium and other intoxicating drugs' be inserted.

The motion was lost

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That the proviso be deleted.

The motion was lost

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in Clause 26, lines 3-4, the words "four Panches" be substituted by the words "two-thirds majority of Panches".

The motion was carried

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That clause 26, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried

CLAUSE 27

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in sub-clause (2), lines 5—9, the words "and if.....breach continues" be deleted.

That in sub-clause (3), lines 5-6, for the words "Director may determine", the words "as the rules may specify" be substituted.

That in sub-clause (3), lines 6—8, the words "and no by the Director" be deleted.

That in sub-clause (2), line 5, for the word "ten", the word "one" be substituted.

Sir, it has been provided that the Gram Panchayat may direct that a breach of these by-laws shall be punishable with fine, which may extend to ten rupees. The fine is too high. Again, it provides that if the breach is continuous, it shall be punishable with a further fine of one rupee for every day after the first day during which the breach continues. Those who drafted this Bill should have understood the general conditions of the villagers and the need of improving them. Government thinks that the rural people are being organised but the actual result will be that the Panchayats would not be able to work properly. There will crop up new disputes among the people. They will have to knock at the doors of the courts and the Panchayats will prove harmful instead of being beneficial.

Mr. Speaker, there should be no fine for the breach of a Panchayat's by-laws as provided in this clause. If at all the Government is keen to incorporate a provision of this kind, it should provide a very small fine for such offences. In my opinion, this fine should not exceed rupee one in any case.

Further, the provision for the previous confirmation by the Director of by-laws made by the Panchayats is not proper. The Director should not have any say in such matters as a Panchayat has to frame its by-laws strictly in accordance with its rules. I mean to say that all such tasks which the Panchayats can perform very efficiently should not be unnecessarily entrusted to the Director. The Panchayats can very well frame these by-laws according to the Panchayat Rules. It will not be good in the interest of the Panchayats and these will not be able to work well, if the Director is entrusted with this work. For this reason, Sir, the village Panchayats may be allowed to frame their own by-laws in accordance with the Panchayat Rules.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motions moved—

That in sub-clause (2), lines 5—9, the words "and if.....breach continues" be deleted.

That in sub-clause (3), lines 5-6, for the words "Director may determine", the words "as the rules may specify" be substituted.

That in sub-clause (3), lines 6—8, the words "and no by the Director" be deleted.

That in sub-clause (2), line 5, for the word "ten", the word "one" be substituted.

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma) (Hindi) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, like District Boards and Municipal Committees, the Panchayats have been authorised by this clause to frame their own by-laws. Apprehending that the Panches being mostly illiterate people, the by-laws framed by them may in some cases contravene the provisions of this Act, it has been provided that the by-laws framed by a Panchayat shall not come into force until these have been confirmed by the Director.

Further, in my opinion, the provision of fine for breach of Panchayat by-laws is most proper because it will be a sort of punishment for breach of by-laws framed for the benefit of the people.

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The Panchayat shall not be able to work efficiently, if this provision is not incorporated in the Bill. Therefore, Sir, I beg to submit that this clause is very important and the criticism which has been levelled against it does not carry any weight. It should be immediately passed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (2), lines 5—9, the words "and if.....breach continues" be deleted.

The motion was lost

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (3), lines 5-6, for the words "Director may determine", the words "as the rules may specify" be substituted.

The motion was lost

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (3), lines 6—8, the words "and no by the Director" be deleted.

The motion was lost

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (2), line 5, for the word "ten", the word "one" be substituted.

The motion was lost

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 27 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried

CLAUSE 28

Shri Khushi Ram Gupta (Amb) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in line 2, between the words "Sarpanch" and 'of', the following be inserted :—

"accompanied with at least one Panch".

Mr. Speaker, I beg to submit that it is possible that the owner of the house, which the Sarpanch or any other Panch enters alone in order to make an inspection, may lose his temper because the ruralites are generally not well-behaved. He may insult or even attack him. Further, the Sarpanch or Panch being all alone, he may even be tempted to accept bribe. The question of such temptation will not arise if instead of one two persons go for such inspection. Moreover they will be in a better position to inspect the house. There shall not be any chance of a quarrel taking place, or a bribe being offered, if two persons go there for this purpose.

Minister for Irrigation : What will be done if both of them were to receive illegal gratification?

Shri Khushi Ram Gupta : Then there can be no remedy for

it. Therefore, Sir, I want that a Panch must accompany the Sarpanch on such occasions.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motion moved—

That in line 2, between the words "Sarpanch" and 'of', the following be inserted :—

"accompanied with at least one Panch".

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in line 2, between the words "Sarpanch" and 'of', the following be inserted :—

"accompanied with at least one Panch".

The motion was by leave withdrawn

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 28 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried

CLAUSE 29

Shri Lal Chand Prarthi (Kulu) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in sub-clause (1), line 6, between the words 'forest' and 'near', the following words be inserted :—

"and Government waste land within and"

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motion moved—

That in sub-clause (1), line 6, between the words 'forest' and 'near', the following words be inserted :—

"and Government waste land within and"

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma) :
Sir, I accept this amendment.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (1), line 6, between the words 'forest' and 'near', the following words be inserted :—

"and Government waste land within and"

The motion was carried

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 29, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried

CLAUSE 30

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 30 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried

CLAUSE 31

Shri Maru Singh Malik (Sampla) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in lines 3-4, the words 'with the consent of the District Board', be deleted.

That in lines 6—9, the words "with such agreed upon" be deleted.

Sir, Clause 31 provides that the Panchayats will have to get the consent of the District Boards even if they are to organise a new fair or start a new market. The Chief Minister and the Minister-in-charge make announcements and give assurances to the effect that the District Boards would be abolished. I, therefore, wish that so long as they are not abolished their interference in the minor affairs of the Panchayats should be removed and their concurrence should not be required for the management of new fairs and markets by the Panchayats. In the circumstances, I feel that this small freedom should be allowed to the Panchayats.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motion moved—

That in lines 3-4, the words 'with the consent of the District Board', be deleted.

That in lines 6—9, the words "with such agreed upon" be deleted.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in lines 3-4, the words 'with the consent of the District Board', be deleted.

The motion was lost

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in lines 6—9, the words "with such agreed upon" be deleted.

The motion was lost

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 31 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried

CLAUSE 32

Shri Maru Singh Malik (Sampla) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in lines 3-4, between the words "street" and "waterway" the words "all common lands" be inserted.

Mr. Speaker, just as stated by me in support of one of my previous amendments, I want that the Panchayats should be given authority over the common lands just as they have been allowed to exercise control over the streets.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motion moved—

That in lines 3-4, between the word "street" and "waterway" the words "all common lands" be inserted.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That for part (e), the following be substituted:—

"(e) undertake such minor irrigation projects as the needs of the village may dictate ;

Provided that where such irrigation projects affect a canal which is under the Northern India Canal and Drainage Act, 1893, the Gram Panchayat shall have the right to recommend to the Government or to such officer the irrigation projects required for their area ;

Provided further that Government shall be bound to undertake work on such recommendation within a period of 3 months or shall inform the Gram Panchayat or the members of the Gram Sabha in writing within three months of the reasons for which it is unable to undertake work on the recommendation."

Mr. Speaker, I beg to submit that where the Northern India Canal and Drainage Act, 1873, is not in force the Panchayats can, at their own discretion, excavate new waterways if they so desire but it is necessary for them to obtain the approval of the Government for carrying out such work at places where the said Act is in force. What I wish is that if such a sanction is necessarily required to be obtained, the Government should not take more than three months in according it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motion moved—

That for part (e), the following be substituted:—

"(e) undertake such minor irrigation projects as the needs of the village may dictate ;

Provided that where such irrigation projects affect a canal which is under the Northern India Canal and Drainage Act, 1893, the Gram Panchayat shall have the right to recommend to the Government or to such officer the irrigation projects required for their area ;

Provided further that Government shall be bound to undertake work on such recommendation within a period of 3 months or shall inform the Gram Panchayat or the members of the Gram Sabha in writing within three months of the reasons for which it is unable to undertake work on the recommendation."

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in lines 3-4, between the words "street" and "waterway" the words "all common lands" be inserted.

The motion was lost

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That for part (e), the following be substituted :—

“(e) undertake such minor irrigation projects as the needs of the village may dictate ;

Provided that where such irrigation projects affect a canal which is under the Northern India Canal and Drainage Act, 1893, the Gram Panchayat shall have the right to recommend to the Government or to such officer the irrigation projects required for their area ;

Provided further that Government shall be bound to undertake work on such recommendation within a period of 3 months or shall inform the Gram Panchayat or the members of the Gram Sabha in writing within three months of the reasons for which it is unable to undertake work on the recommendation.”

The motion was lost

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 32 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried

CLAUSE 33

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 33 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried

CLAUSE 34

Mr. Deputy Speaker : I call upon Shri Lal Chand Prarthi to move his amendment to Clause 34.

Shri Lal Chand Prarthi (Kulu) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in line 8, between the words “and” and “dispensaries”, the words “Ayurvedic or Unani” be inserted.

Sir, this clause requires the Panchayats to give such help as may be prescribed for the efficient running of schools, hospitals and dispensaries. In my opinion the intention of the Government is that dispensaries will include Ayurvedic and Unani dispensaries also. But it will be better if this point is made clear in the body of the Bill. My amendment has been moved to serve this purpose.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motion moved—

That in line 8, between the words “and” and “dispensaries”, the words “Ayurvedic or Unani” be inserted.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in line 8, between the words “and” and “dispensaries”, the words “Ayurvedic or Unani” be inserted.

The motion was by leave withdrawn

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 34 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried

CLAUSE 35

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Clause 35 is before the House for discussion.

Shri Lal Chand Prarthi (Kulu) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in line 11, between the words "or" and "dispensary", the words "Ayurvedic or Unani" be inserted.

Mr. Speaker, the hon. Minister has very kindly agreed that dispensaries as mentioned in Clause 34 will also include Ayurvedic and Unani dispensaries. But now in the matter of opening new dispensaries, we should not lose sight of the fact that allopathic dispensaries are very costly. You will require about 15,000 rupees for opening a new allopathic dispensary. It is not difficult to realise what a huge task it will be to collect this amount from the poor villagers. On the other hand an Ayurvedic or Unani dispensary can be opened with a much smaller amount. Moreover, rural people have more faith in the indigenous system of medicine. Therefore, I would submit that you may take any decision you like in respect of special hospitals to be opened in the State but the ordinary dispensaries which are to be opened by the Panchayats must be Ayurvedic and Unani dispensaries.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motion moved—

That in line 11, between the words "or" and "dispensary", the words "Ayurvedic or Unani" be inserted.

Minister for Local Government : Sir, I accept the amendment.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That in line 11, between the words "or" and "dispensary", the words "Ayurvedic or Unani" be inserted.

The motion was carried

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 35, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried

CLAUSE 36

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Now I call upon Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut to move his amendment.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That the clause be deleted.

[Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut]

This clause saddles the Panchayats with the duty of assisting any Government servant in the performance of his duties within their respective areas and the word used for this purpose is "shall". In fact, our present Government has a special aptitude for using the word "shall" where they should use the word "may" and putting in "may" when commonsense demands the word "shall". I wish to point out that the way in which the establishment of the Panchayats is sought will reduce them to the plight of *Lambardars*. Even to-day, the *Lambardars* have to appear as witnesses in police cases and to provide food and other comforts to Government servants who may visit their villages. Does the Government want these Panchayats, which are being brought into existence for the good of the people and progress of the rural areas, to fall in the same rut? My submission is that under these circumstances, no Panchayat will be able to work as a real Panchayat. We want the Panchayats to be representative bodies but the Government is trying to compel them to dance attendance on Government officers. Previously, this duty used to be performed by *Zaildars* and *Lambardars*. The *Lambardars* are still there, but does the Government want that Panchayats should now take the place of *Zaildars*, ignoring their real duties, and thus become a curse for the rural population instead of the boon that we want them to prove. The Panchayats are sought to be constituted for the good of the people but the method being used for their creation will reduce them to mere official institutions.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motion moved—

That the clause be deleted.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (Punjabi) : Mr. Speaker, I have stood up to say a few words in favour of this amendment. Whereas the other clauses contain the word 'may', this clause contains the word 'shall'. It will mean that whenever a police officer, a *Tehsildar* or some other Officer visits a village, 'the Panchayat shall have to do certain things. The hon. Minister said that there was no difference between the words 'may' and 'shall' and that it was customary to use them in legal enactments. If that is the case, why is the Government not prepared to use the word 'may' in this clause? It is being made obligatory for the Panchayats to entertain Government Officers.

Minister for Local Government : If they do not do so, there is no provision in this Bill under which they would be punished.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : I beg to submit that they will surely be penalised. By the use of word 'shall' in this clause, it has been made imperative that whenever a Sub-Inspector of Police, a Head Constable or some other Officer pays a visit to a village, the members of the Panchayat should attend to his needs and arrange for his meals etc. The Government has, as a matter of fact, adopted this method for creating another kind of its henchmen.

Shri Wadhawa Ram (Fazilka) (Punjabi) : Mr Speaker, the other day we were told that it was necessary to have the word

'may' in the various clauses of this Bill. May I know from the hon. Minister the reason for using the word 'shall' in this clause if there is no difference between the words 'shall' and 'may'? Whenever a certain thing has to be done by the Government the word 'may' is used but in this case where a function has to be performed by the Panchayats, the word 'shall' has been used.

Mr Speaker, it must have been noticed that according to the existing law, if the Chos damage some land or if crops are destroyed by locusts and the peasants see the Deputy Commissioner and request him to remit land revenue, he 'may' do so. Full discretion has been given to the Deputy Commissioner whether to accede to their request or not. If he feels pleased and the palm of his orderly is greased, he might remit the land revenue but if he is not inclined to remit it he might say that he was not anybody's servant. If the officers are the servants of the public, the word 'shall' should be inserted in provisions of the kind referred to by me. If a certain thing has to be left to the will of the people the word 'may' should be used in the clauses concerned. If the Government is determined to follow the old bureaucratic method then it is a different matter, but if it wants to act according to the wishes of the people the word 'shall' occurring in this clause should be substituted by the word 'may'. I want to tell the Government that it will have to act according to the wishes of the public. For this reason the word 'shall' in the clause under discussion should be replaced by the word 'may' and the word 'may' occurring in other clauses should be substituted by the word 'shall'.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That the clause be deleted.

The motion was lost

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 36 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried

CLAUSE 37

Mr. Deputy Speaker : I invite Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina to move his amendment to Clause 37.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That the proviso be deleted.

Mr. Speaker, while the heading of this clause is 'Power to take over management of institutions etc.' it has been stated in the proviso that sanction of the Director will have to be obtained if the expenditure to be incurred exceeds Rs. 500. It should be known to every body that in these days even a buffalo cannot be

[Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina]

purchased for five hundred rupees. It must have cost the Government more than five hundred rupees to get this Bill printed. If the Panches cannot spend more than five hundred rupees, what useful purpose can they serve? Not even one street in the village can be constructed with five hundred rupees. It is no use having a Panchayat, if for every minor thing the Director has to be approached. It would be a cruel joke to have Panches who have no powers. I want this proviso to be deleted so that the sanction of the Director may not be necessary. A Panchayat should have the power of spending as much as its revenues permit. In these days of inflation, the purchasing power of a rupee is not more than that of four annas a few years back. Now-a-days many parents give five hundred rupees to their young sons as pocket money. The Director cannot be wiser than the Panches. If a Panchayat cannot spend more than five hundred rupees, why does the Government not entrust the entire work to the Director? In that case there is no need of having Panchayats.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motion moved—

That the proviso be deleted.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That the proviso be deleted.

The motion was lost

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 37 stand part of the Bill.

After ascertaining the votes of the House by voices, Mr. Speaker said, "I think the Ayes have it". The opinion was challenged and division was claimed. Mr. Speaker, after calling upon those Members who supported the claim for Division and those who challenged his decision to rise in their places, declared that the division was unnecessarily claimed.

The motion was declared carried

CHAPTER IV.

Sardar Partap Singh (Mallanwala) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That the Chapter be deleted.

Sir, this Chapter IV deals with the criminal judicial functions of Gram Panchayats. There has already been a good deal of controversy in the Press about the transferring of such powers to Panchayats and the politicians of our country have also expressed their views on this subject. The delegation of such powers to the Panchayats will greatly affect the village life. I am afraid that the transfer of such powers will lead to the spread of factionalism in the rural areas. I feel that maximum powers should be conferred upon the Panchayats but at the same time it is to be seen

whether Panches are fit to be entrusted with such powers and whether they would be able to exercise such powers to the collective benefit of the people. Sir, the standard of education in villages is not so high and for this reason the people in villages cannot be expected to possess basic equipment or qualifications necessary for understanding the intricacies of criminal law in order to administer justice properly. They have not developed such moral character and sense of responsibility as to be able to administer unalloyed justice to the people by remaining above party spirit and without yielding to the threat of *goonda* element in the villages. It is generally observed that village life is full of intrigues owing to the existence of cliques and factions in almost every village. I may further submit, Sir, that this Chapter is very important and I would, therefore, request you to allow me more time to speak. I would like to cite an instance to show how the peaceful and law-abiding citizens are intimidated by the bad characters in villages. I hope that the hon. Minister would listen to me attentively. Sometime back the Sarpanch of Tehsil Zira came to me and requested me to save him from the ignominy of giving evidence in a case in which a gun was recovered. He frankly admitted that although the gun was recovered in his presence, yet he was extremely reluctant to give evidence as the *goondas* were threatening him with serious consequences if he did so. On the other hand he was threatened by the police that if he failed to give evidence in that case, his gun licence would be cancelled and some legal action would be taken against him. I advised him to give evidence and told him that if the law-abiding citizens would not come forward to co-operate with the police who else would. But he was so afraid of the *goondas* that he preferred to resign from the office of Sarpanch rather than give evidence in that case.

I think that the transfer of judicial powers to the Panchayats will tend to aggravate party spirit in the villages. Before enforcing this law, we should try to create a good atmosphere in the villages. We know well enough that Khan Aman Ullah Khan—the king of Afghanistan—wanted to introduce social reforms in his country by following the example of other advanced countries. The result of it was that he invited ridicule, contempt and opposition of the people because the atmosphere in that country was not such that the people could welcome such reforms. Similarly I would say that if we want to have a rich harvest of wheat or any other crop, we should first plough the land carefully before sowing good seed in it. If we do not till the land properly, the harvest will be poor and our efforts of no avail.

Sir, I may cite the case of the law relating to the consolidation of land holdings. There cannot be a more beneficial piece of legislation so far as the interests of the Zamindars are concerned, but thanks to the lowering of the moral tone and character of our public as well as the Government officials, the manner in which this work is being carried on has created a sensation in the countryside. I hope you must have read about this state of affairs in the newspapers. Things have come to such a pass that when the people hear about their village being taken up for consolidation operations, they get alarmed just as they do on hearing the outbreak of cholera

[Sardar Partap Singh]

or plague. What I mean by giving these illustrations is that before introducing reforms we should first make the people capable of benefiting from them.

I consider it very necessary to reply to certain points raised by the Congressite members when the Bill was under general discussion. We have not come here to mislead the public. It is our duty to point out to the Government the shortcomings of this Bill so that it may remove them before placing it on the Statute Book. An hon. Friend had expressed the view that the rural people were endowed with a keen power of discrimination between good and evil and that they were quite fit to be entrusted with judicial powers and so we should have no hesitation in investing them with these powers. In my opinion this view is erroneous. If he takes the trouble of looking into the records of the Police Stations, he will find that crimes of all kinds are on the increase in the rural areas and that the villagers are responsible for most of the cases of murder and dacoity. He can have the necessary facts and figures to verify this thing from the Police or the Home Department. I can say without fear of contradiction that the extent to which illicit distillation of liquor is going on in the rural areas today has surpassed all previous records.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Please speak on your amendment.

Sardar Partap Singh : Sir, if this amendment is accepted, it will result in the withdrawal of many other amendments relating to other clauses and thus a lot of the time of the House will be saved. So it is in the interests of the House as a whole that I should be given more time to speak on this amendment. I hope to be able to convince the Minister-in-Charge of the necessity of adopting this amendment.

Another hon. Friend stated that the villagers had shown a great sense of responsibility during the last general elections. What an incorrect and misleading statement to be made by an hon. Member of this House ! It is with full responsibility that I say on the floor of this House that in the last elections ninety per cent of the voters cast their votes under the influence of communalism, factions, relationship or greed. Let the Government have an enquiry made into this thing. Not only this. When I say that barring twenty or twenty-five constituencies, candidates in all other constituencies spent fifty to sixty thousand rupees I am not at all guilty of exaggeration. Let the Government set up a Board to hold an enquiry into this matter. Where did all that money go? (Interruptions).

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Don't generalise your own experience.

Sardar Partap Singh : If the House is not inclined to lend ear to these hard facts, I shall not stress them.

I find that many high officers are present in the galleries today. My appeal to them is that if they are sincerely desirous of the uplift of the rural population they should endeavour to remove the

demon of factionalism from among them. This demon has ruined them.

Minister for Local Government : Sir, has it anything to do with his amendment ?

Sardar Partap Singh : Sir, I want to suggest that the Government should issue instructions to all the officers to do their best to put an end to factions in the villages and to stop the illicit distillation of liquor. Only then will the rural population become fit for being invested with these powers and exercising them for their own well-being.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Chapter be deleted.

Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan (Ambala City) (Hindi) : Sir, I have risen to oppose this amendment. I am really amazed that we ourselves have formed such a bad impression about ourselves. After hearing what the members of the Opposition have said, I have also started thinking as to whether it would not have been better if we had not been born in villages or in other words if we had not been peasants. The picture of the ruralites that they have painted is calculated to create the impression that they are bad and worthless people who cannot be at peace with one another, not to speak of doing anything useful. Sir, I am sure that if this impression gets deep-rooted in the ruralites, they will not be able to shake off a feeling of inferiority complex.

The Assembly then adjourned till 9.30 a.m. on Saturday, the 29th November 1952.

Punjab Legislative Assembly Debates

29th November, 1952.

VOL. III—No. 14

OFFICIAL REPORT



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CHANDIGARH :

Printed by the Controller of Printing and Stationery, Punjab,
1954

Price : -/6/-
-/6/-

Punjab Legislative Assembly

Saturday, 29th November, 1952

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Simla at 9.30 a.m. of the clock. Mr. Speaker (Dr. Satyapal) in the Chair

QUESTION HOUR.

Chief Minister (Shri Bhim Sen Sachar) : Sir, may I request that the Question Hour be dispensed with in view of the fact that the Bill, now before the House is a lengthy one, and the hon. Members are very anxious that it should be finished as soon as possible so that, later on, at the third stage enough time becomes available for its discussion. Besides this, I understand that the Members want to go to their respective constituencies today. If the Question Hour is dispensed with, it may obviate the necessity of holding a non-stop session for passing this Bill. Hence I request that the Question Hour be dispensed with today.

Mr. Speaker : May I know if the Opposition has any objection to the request made by the Chief Minister ?

Sardar Gopal Singh : No Sir, there is no objection to the Question Hour being dispensed with.

Mr. Speaker : So the Question Hour is dispensed with.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Sir, what about the questions which were to be replied today ?

Mr. Speaker : These will be treated as Starred Questions on Tuesday, the 2nd of December, 1952.

SITTING OF THE ASSEMBLY.

Chief Minister : Sir, I move—

That the Assembly at its rising this day the 29th November, 1952, shall stand adjourned till 1 p.m. on Tuesday the 2nd December, 1952.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Assembly at its rising this day the 29th November, 1952, shall stand adjourned till 1 p.m. on Tuesday the 2nd December, 1952.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Assembly at its rising this day the 29th November, 1952, shall stand adjourned till 1 p.m. on Tuesday the 2nd December, 1952.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : I have to make an announcement in this connection and it is this. The Assembly shall meet on Wednesday, the 3rd December, 1952, at 1 p.m. Ordinarily Wednesday is an off-day

[Mr. Speaker]

but we are utilising this particular Wednesday because there will be no sitting of the House on Monday the 1st December, 1952.

**PUNJAB GRAM PANCHAYAT BILL—RESUMPTION OF
CONSIDERATION.**

Mr. Speaker : Now I call upon Shri Abdul Ghaffar Khan to continue his unfinished speech, which he was making when the House adjourned yesterday.

Shri Abdul Ghaffar Khan (Ambala City) (Hindi) : Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was stating that an hon. Member in the Opposition had raised objections to the powers being given to the Panchayats under the Gram Panchayat Bill. He remarked that the zamindars committed various crimes such as thefts, dacoities, illicit distillation of liquor, etc., and as such were a constant danger to the restoration of law and order in the country. At that time I was reminded of the incident of Warren Hastings impeachment. Burke impeached him so cleverly that Hastings began to feel that he had been the biggest rogue in the world. Similarly, when yesterday the hon. Member remarked that the zamindars were worthless people and that they were outlaws and mischief-mongers a feeling of regret came over my mind as to why I was born in a zamindar's family. I was shocked to hear that none else was more useless in the world than the zamindars. But Mr. Speaker, the fact is otherwise. The hon. Member concerned is not in his seat at this moment otherwise I wanted to tell him that during the recent elections they begged votes from these very zamindars whom they call thieves, dacoits and outlaws in this House and in regard to whom they wish that no powers should be given to them. Sir, I am astonished that these hon. Members have the temerity to decry those very people who have returned them to this House. No self-respecting zamindar can tolerate such remarks about himself.

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Member is not relevant. He may please speak on the amendment which is before the House.

Shri Abdul Ghaffar Khan : Sir, yesterday you were not present in the House. Whatever the hon. Member spoke in the presence of the Deputy Speaker made zamindars feel extremely angry

Mr. Speaker : Whosoever said these words has not done well. But the hon. Member should not follow his example.

Shri Abdul Ghaffar Khan : Sir, I am speaking in favour of zamindars and do not speak ill of anybody.

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Member may speak in favour of anybody but should not decry anybody.

Shri Abdul Ghaffar Khan : Sir, what I wish to submit is that the zamindars should be given wide powers. Then you will see with what adroitness and wisdom they decide their own matters.

Sardar Hari Singh (Dasuya) (*Punjabi*): Mr. Speaker, several speeches have been made from the Opposition side and it has been particularly argued by the lawyer Members that judicial powers should not be given to the zamindars. I know for certain that some of the hon. Members in the Opposition do want that wide powers should be given to the zamindars but only the lawyers fear that if the Panchayats are given judicial powers also their practice will suffer for the number of cases coming to them will go down. Because of this fear they urge upon the Government that these powers should not be vested in them. I request, Sir, that wide powers should be given to the Panchayats so that the people may become self-sufficient and our State may prosper.

Shri Wadhawa Ram : (Fazilka) (*Punjabi*): Sir, it has been stated that the Members in the Opposition have spoken against powers being given to the people. The fact is that whereas members of my party want maximum powers to be vested in the people the Government does not wish to do so. However, I feel that giving of the proposed powers can be likened to cosmetics being applied to a negro girl whose complexion does not improve despite their use (*laughter*). Similarly the proposed powers are not going to help the Panchayats. So it is the Government which does not want to give them any real powers. But the pity of it is that my hon. Friends leave no opportunity to accuse the Members of the Opposition that they do not let the Government give these powers to the people. Mr Speaker, the Members in the Opposition are convinced that unless the ruralites are given maximum powers our country cannot make any headway. We admit that certain drawbacks do exist in villages but these cannot be removed unless our present political set-up undergoes a radical change. So long as our present set-up is not changed, this evil will continue to exist.

Mr. Speaker : You are absolutely irrelevant.

Shri Wadhawa Ram : Sir, my submission is that the ruralites should be given maximum powers.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Chapter be deleted.

The motion was lost.

CLAUSE 38

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 38, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 39

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : (Tanda) (*Punjabi*) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in sub-clause (1), lines 6-7, for the words "two hundred and fifty rupees", the words "five hundred rupees" be substituted.

That at the end of the clause, the following proviso be added :—

"Provided that every Panchayat shall have the right to apply on the eve of preparation of its budget to the Tehsil Union to raise its status and confer enhanced powers on it. The Tehsil Union shall consider and accept or reject the application prior to the presentation of the budget before the Gram Sabha on the basis of the record of the efficient discharge of its functions by the Gram Panchayat and such other criteria as the rules may specify."

Mr. Speaker, my amendment will authorise the village panchayats to decide disputes concerning property worth Rs. 500 instead of Rs. 250 as at present provided in this clause of the Bill. Generally the civil suits of the ruralites pertain to properties valuing up to Rs. 500 and there are very few disputes for properties valued up to Rs. 250. The village panchayats must surely be able to decide offences concerning properties valued at Rs. 500 when they are considered fit to decide cases regarding properties valued up to Rs. 250. Therefore, I appeal to the Government to authorise these panchayats to decide cases concerning properties valuing up to Rs. 500 instead of Rs. 250 so that the ruralites may not again have to go to courts for litigation and waste money there.

Through my second amendment, I want that the power to decide whether a panchayat should or should not be given enhanced powers after examining its working, should not vest in the Director of Panchayats, but that it should vest in the Union Panchayat which being located in the neighbourhood will have better knowledge of its working than the Director of Panchayats or the Panchayat Officers, who would be working quite far away. For this reason this power should vest in the Union Panchayats.

Mr. Speaker : Motions move—

That in sub-clause (1), lines 6-7, for the words "two hundred and fifty rupees", the words "five hundred rupees" be substituted.

That at the end of the clause, the following proviso be added :—

"Provided that every Panchayat shall have the right to apply on the eve of preparation of its budget to the Tehsil Union to raise its status and confer enhanced powers on it. The Tehsil Union shall consider and accept or reject the application prior to the presentation of the budget before the Gram Sabha on the basis of the record of the efficient discharge of its functions by the Gram Panchayat and such other criteria as the rules may specify."

Sardar Hari Singh : (Dasuya) (*Punjabi*) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in Clause 39, in line 1, the words "class I" be deleted.

Mr. Speaker, the words 'class I' used with the word 'Panchayat' is superfluous since now the panchayats are not to be classified on the basis of enhanced powers. Therefore, it should not be allowed to stand there.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in Clause 39, in line 1, the words " class I " be deleted.

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma (Haripur) : Sir, I rise to support this amendment. The words 'class I' are quite superfluous and they should be deleted because no classification of any kind has been provided for in the clause.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (1), lines 6-7, for the words "two hundred and fifty rupees", the words "five hundred rupees" be substituted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That at the end of the clause, the following proviso be added :—

" Provided that every Panchayat shall have the right to apply on the eve of preparation of its budget to the Tehsil Union to raise its status and confer enhanced powers on it. The Tehsil Union shall consider and accept or reject the application prior to the presentation of the budget before the Gram Sabha on the basis of the record of the efficient discharge of its functions by the Gram Panchayat and such other criteria as the rules may specify. "

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in Clause 39, in line 1, the words " class I " be deleted.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 39, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 40

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 40, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to ask for leave to move the following new clause :—

That after Clause 40, the following new clause be added to the Bill :—

" 41. In all other cases not falling within the jurisdiction of the Gram Panchayat to investigate the facts of the case and the report of Gram Panchayat investigation shall be regarded as essential admissible evidence. "

Mr. Speaker : Has the Member the leave of the House to move the new clause ?

(The leave was granted.)

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (*Punjabi*) : Sir, I beg to move—

That after Clause 40, the following new clause be added to the Bill :—

“ 41. In all other cases not falling within the jurisdiction of the Gram Panchayat to investigate the facts of the case and the report of Gram Panchayat investigation shall be regarded as essential admissible evidence.”

Sir, the purport of this clause is that the panchayats should submit their reports even with regard to the cases which do not fall under their jurisdiction and are tried in the courts of the magistrates. In other words it means that the opinions expressed by the panchayats regarding certain matters falling outside their jurisdiction will be treated as essential admissible evidence.

Minister : Should they do so even in murder cases ?

Sardar Achhar Singh : Yes. I think that in criminal cases the panchayats can give more useful evidence than the witnesses which the people bring along with them.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That after Clause 40, the following new clause be added to the Bill :—

“ 41. In all other cases not falling within the jurisdiction of the Gram Panchayat to investigate the facts of the case and the report of Gram Panchayat investigation shall be regarded as essential admissible evidence.”

Mr. Speaker : The question is that this clause be considered.

(The question was affirmed)

Sardar Ajmer Singh (Samrala) (*Punjabi*) : Sir, clause 40 embodies a provision that the Gram Panchayats shall be deemed to be criminal courts when trying a criminal case. It is clear from this clause and the other provisions following it, that immediately after the passing of this Bill by the Punjab Assembly and its enforcement, at least 15,000 new criminal courts will be set-up in the State which, if not altogether illiterate, will of course, be less educated courts.

Minister : They exist even at present.

Sardar Ajmer Singh : Sir, what we have to see is how far this experiment which we are going to make by delegating large powers to the panchayats, will prove successful. I can say that our

past experience about Panchayats does not encourage us to think that, leaving aside the question of Revenue and Civil matters, the panchayats will be able to administer such justice in criminal cases as is expected of them. We have to see how far they have proved successful in administering equitable justice to the poor. It is, of course, a fine idea to transfer wide powers to the panchayats including criminal cases but, Mr. Speaker, I am of the view that at present the circumstances in our country are not very favourable for these people to exercise such wide powers successfully and impart equitable justice. In view of their little education, it is not in our interest to delegate them such vast powers pertaining to the Criminal Code. Why? Mr. Edward Brook in a letter sent by him to a Member of Parliament wrote that in such cases restrictions from without should naturally be imposed on them. If restrictions from without are not imposed, then they should at least, possess such qualifications which may help them control the matter properly. But if they are illiterate and inefficient, it is of paramount importance not to vest in them large powers and, at the same time, restrictions from without should also be imposed. I, therefore, wish to request that this step is most risky and I can foretell future events, if they remain invested with these powers. Besides, if so many administrative powers are transferred to them, i.e., the Revenue Civil and Criminal powers, they will fail to handle them, for they lack the capacity to do so with the result that disputes and murders amongst the ruralites will increase. On my part I am of the opinion that to delegate these powers to them is tantamount to murdering justice itself. A time will come when the situation will take such a turn that the Government will be compelled to retrace this step.

In order to substantiate my argument I can cite opinions of all the District Judges, District Magistrates and the Judges of the Criminal Courts. I can quote authorities in support of my view. It has been held that to transfer the judicial powers to the panchayats is tantamount to murdering justice itself. The very fact that our Communist Friends are dissatisfied even with such vast powers, is the major argument which goes in favour of the view that the panchayats should not be entrusted with such powers. In the circumstances, I submit to the Government that it should clearly understand the matter and not go after false and empty slogans (*Interruptions*). For instance, take the powers contained in section 334 of Indian Penal Code. It covers cases which, come under the heading 'causing hurt under provocation.' In this connection it is essential that the person concerned should be awarded punishment only when it is proved that the provocation was grave and sudden. Sir, what I mean is this that so long as the panchayat does not establish the fact that this provocation is grave and sudden, it cannot form its decision in any case. Besides, let us glance at some other facts. There are differences in the procedure of trying different offences. In addition to this there is also another chapter governing the right of private defence. If anybody has got genuine apprehensions that somebody intends to cause him some hurt, then the former can hurt the latter even before the latter translates his intentions into action. Then, I wish to enquire whether the Panchayats will be in a position to decide such complicated cases as whether a hurt was under provocation or not?

[Sardar Ajmer Singh]

Again, Mr. Speaker, they have been given the powers of trying cases involving criminal breaches of trust. With a view to deciding such matters the panchayats will have to consider whether the trust was created and whether there has actually been any breach of the trust?

Then look at sections 415 and 417 which relate to cheating. It will be very difficult for the panchayats to interpret them correctly and pass judgment.

You have invested the panches with the status of public servants, but we find that usually in a law suit from village two panches of that village appear as witnesses on one side while another two go to support the other party. You can be sure that this will be the case in future also. Now it is obvious that both parties cannot be right; with the result that the trying magistrate decides the case in favour of one of the parties and declares the panches supporting the other side as unreliable witnesses. Now the same unreliable panches will come back to the village and decide the cases before the panchayat. You can very well imagine the nature and value of such decisions and judgments. Therefore, I submit that if you must establish panchayats you should first make an experiment in certain selected places, say, in the towns where Community Projects have been started. It will not be advisable to give these powers to the people in 15,000 places at once.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Mr. Speaker, it has been suggested more than once in this House that such powers should not be given to the people. The Akali party has been consistently making this demand. But I am of the opinion that this is not a matter of policy with them and this strange demand is the result of the concern of lawyers about their practice. They say that such powers should not be given to the rural people because they lack the ability to use them properly. It has also been declared that these powers in the hands of village people will result in a chaos. But my submission is that wherever more powers have been given to the public the result has been steady progress and not chaos. The examples of Russia and China are before you. Even uneducated persons were appointed as magistrates at certain places in these countries and nothing untoward happened. There may have been some undesirable incidents or disturbances in the Ferozepore District because its border is common with Patiala. But the argument that the village population is not conversant with law and, therefore, these powers should not be given to them is not sound. There are so many examples to prove that rural people possess sufficient ability and knack for settling their own disputes. Very few of the appeals preferred against the decisions of panchayats have been accepted and mostly their decisions have been allowed to stand. Thus we should give them more powers instead of binding their hands as suggested by certain hon. Members.

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma) (Hindi) : Mr. Speaker, I regret that I cannot accept this amendment proposing the addition of a new clause. It has been suggested that

the panchayats should submit to magistrates reports of cases tried by them. But the question is what will be the legal status of such a report. Will it be in the nature of a recommendation or evidence? Had my hon. Friends paid a little attention to this aspect of the matter they would not have made this suggestion.

So far as the powers of the panchayats are concerned, one section of the House demands still more powers for them while another is of the opinion that even the powers already provided for in the Bill are too much and they should be curtailed. Then obviously what we have proposed is the most appropriate golden mean.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That after clause 40, the following new clause be added to the Bill :—

“41. In all other cases not falling within the jurisdiction of the Gram Panchayat to investigate the facts of the case and the report of Gram Panchayat investigation shall be regarded as essential admissible evidence.”

The motion was lost.

CLAUSE 41

Sardar Mohan Singh Jathedar (Tarn Taran) (*Punjabi*) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in line 8, between the words “suspicion” and “shall” the following words be inserted :—

“or where the complaint or report discloses after enquiry an offence triable by the Panchayat”.

If the clause is left as it is then any one who wants to take his case out of the hands of the panchayat will approach the police and get the case registered under some section triable by a magistrate. Therefore, the magistrates should be given the power, and it should be made incumbent on them to return a case to the panchayat concerned if they find in the course of its trial that really it falls within the jurisdiction of the panchayat.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in line 8, between the words “suspicion” and “shall” the following words be inserted :—

“or where the complaint or report discloses after enquiry an offence triable by the Panchayat”.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (*Punjabi*) : Sir, I beg to move—

That at the end of the proviso, the following words be added :—

“upon application by the complainant or accused.”

[Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina]

I wish to submit that it is not desirable to give an open licence to the District Magistrate for transferring cases on his own initiative. It will be alright if a case is transferred at the request of one of the parties, but we should not give him the power to transfer cases at his sweet will.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That at the end of the proviso, the following words be added :—

“upon application by the complainant or accused.”

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in line 8, between the words “suspicion” and “shall” the following words be inserted :—

“or where the complaint or report discloses after enquiry an offence triable by the Panchayat”.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That at the end of the proviso, the following words be added :—

“upon application by the complainant or accused.”

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 41 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 42

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That sub-clause (1) be deleted.

Mr. Speaker, it is provided in this clause that ‘no Gram Panchayat shall take cognizance of any offence’ if the complainant or the accused is a public servant. I beg to submit that patwaris, teachers and many other people live in the villages. If the previous sanction of the Government were necessary only in those cases in which the accused involved was a public servant it was understandable but there is no sense in debarring a public servant from placing his personal disputes with someone else before the panchayat for its decision. It is with a view to removing this difficulty that I have moved this amendment.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That sub-clause (1) be deleted.

Rai Raghuvir Singh (Seraj) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in sub-clause (2), line 6, between the words 'shall' and 'send', the word 'forthwith' be inserted.

That in sub-clause (2), line 9, between the words 'offence' and 'and', the following words be inserted :—

“with the report whether the officer-in-charge of the police station concerned is proceeding with the investigation immediately or on some probable future date”.

That in sub-clause (2), line 17, for the word 'information' the words “detailed report” be substituted.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that the hon. Minister will have no objection to my amendment regarding the word 'forthwith'.

As regards my second amendment, I beg to submit that if some person manages to lodge a report with the police with respect to the commission of an offence which the Panchayats have to try, they will not be able to know the result of the action taken by the police. The police will no doubt inform the Panchayat regarding the lodging of the report, but the latter will not know as to how the police is investigating into the matter. It is very likely that on account of shortage of staff or accumulation of work, the first information report might not be looked into for a number of days. Any work can be postponed for months together on the plea of excessive official work. The Panchayats should know the date of lodging of the report and the day when the investigation is taken into hand by the police. If for some reason the matter cannot be investigated into immediately, the Panchayat should know it.

As regards my third amendment, I beg to submit that if a Sub-Inspector of Police or some other police officer investigates into some case which is triable by a Panchayat and submits his report with regard to it, the panchayat will not know the result of his investigation. I want the Panchayat to be informed about the result of the investigation so that if the aggrieved person, who lodged the report with the police approaches the Panchayat again he should know the conclusion arrived at by the police.

Mr. Speaker : Motions moved—

That in sub-clause (2), line 6, between the words 'shall' and 'send', the word 'forthwith' be inserted.

That in sub-clause (2), line 9, between the words 'offence' and 'and', the following words be inserted :—

“with the report whether the officer-in-charge of the police station concerned is proceeding with the investigation immediately or on some probable future date”.

That in sub-clause (2), line 17, for the word 'information' the words “detailed report” be substituted.

Minister for Local Government : Sir, I accept the first amendment moved by Rai Raghuvir Singh.

Minister for Irrigation (Chaudhri Lahri Singh) (Hindi) : Mr Speaker, if sub-clause (2) is studied carefully it would be found that there is no need for the amendments which have been moved by some of my hon. Friends. It was said that the Punjab police did not investigate into the cases properly. In this connection I want to draw the attention of the hon. Members to the words—'such officer shall send the information to the Gram Panchayat after the conclusion of the investigation' at the end of sub-clause (2). It is thus clear that after investigation the information would be sent to the Panchayat. Do my Friends require that even before the conclusion of the investigation the police should inform the Panchayat that they are going to challan the accused or are recording evidence and that such and such witnesses are true and such and such ones are false? The demand of a detailed report would be tantamount to investing the Panchayats with the powers of the Superintendent of Police. Then, Sir, it was said that on various excuses the investigation would be delayed. In this connection I want to inform the hon. Members that there are definite rules on the subject. In those rules it is clearly laid down as to how the 'zimnis' are to be prepared and what action is to be taken. If some police officer is negligent in the performance of his duties, the Superintendent of Police takes action against him. The officer-in-charge of the police station has to send regular reports to the Superintendent of Police or the officer concerned. There is no question of investigation being delayed. These matters should not be confused with the provisions of the Panchayat Act. It has been clearly stated that after the investigation of a case a report would be sent to the Panchayat. I do not understand the necessity of these amendments. As already submitted by me the police shall send the information. They will inform the Panchayat concerned.

Shri Babu Dayal (Sohna) (Hindi) : Mr Speaker, I beg to submit that unless the police sends a copy of its report to the Panchayat, the latter will not be able to know as to what is the offence of the accused. How can they proceed with the matter unless they know this thing? For this reason it is essential that as soon as a report is lodged with the police, a copy of it should be sent to the Panchayat. We know that in many cases the police makes alterations in the First Information Report. If a copy of the First Information Report is not sent to the panchayat how can the person who lodged the report expect justice from it? I want this amendment to be accepted so that when a First Information Report is lodged its copy should immediately be sent to the Panchayat concerned.

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma (Haripur) : Sir, I rise to support the amendments moved by my hon. Friend Rai Raghuvir Singh. The first amendment seeks to insert the word 'forthwith' between the words 'shall' and 'send' in sub-clause (2) of clause 42. This makes it obligatory for the officer-in-charge of the Police Station to send the First Information Report of an offence to the Gram Panchayat without any delay. I am glad that the hon. Minister-in-charge of the Bill has accepted it.

Then, Sir, the second amendment is equally essential. It seeks to insert the words—

“with the report whether the officer-in-charge of the police station concerned is proceeding with the investigation immediately or on some probable future date”.

between the words ‘offence’ and ‘and’ in line 9 of sub-clause (2). On perusal you will find, Sir, that the amendment makes the sub-clause more comprehensive and clear. I don’t think the hon. Minister should have very serious objection to the insertion of these words in the sub-clause. There is nothing wrong if the Gram Panchayat is informed whether the Officer-in-charge is proceeding with the investigation immediately or is just postponing it to some future date. I feel that this amendment, if accepted, will make it incumbent on the Officer-in-charge of the Police Station to expedite the matter.

The object of the third amendment is also to make the sub-clause clear and comprehensive, the words “detailed report” cover the word ‘information’, and also make it incumbent on the officer concerned to send a fuller report to the Panchayat after the completion of investigation of the case. I don’t think there is any thing wrong with this amendment and I hope the Minister will see his way to accepting it.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That sub-clause (1) be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (2), line 6, between the words ‘shall’ and ‘send’, the word ‘forthwith’ be inserted.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (2), line 9, between the words ‘offence’ and ‘and’, the following words be inserted:—

“with the report whether the officer-in-charge of the police station concerned is proceeding with the investigation immediately or on some probable future date”.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (2), line 17, for the word ‘information’ the words “detailed report” be substituted.

(After ascertaining the votes of the House by voices, Mr. Speaker said, “I think the Noes have it.” This opinion was challenged and Division was claimed. Mr. Speaker, after calling upon those Members who supported the claim for Division and those who challenged his decision to rise in their places, declared that the Division was unnecessarily claimed.)

The motion was declared lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 42, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 43

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 43, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 44

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 44, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 45

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 45, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 46

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 46, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 47

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 47, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 48

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 48, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 49

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 49, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 50

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 50 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 51

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 51 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 52

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in part (d), of sub-clause (1), line 1, before the word "suits", the word "all" be added.

That in part (d), of sub-clause (1), lines 2-3, the words "clauses (j), (k), (l).....(3) of" be deleted.

That at the end of part (d) of sub-clause (1), the following words be added :—

"and all suits by tenants against unlawful ejectments from land or applications by them for restoration to such land under section 4 of the Punjab Prevention of Ejectments (Temporary Powers) Act, 1952.

My first amendment is that in part (a) of this clause the word 'all' may be inserted before the word 'suits'. Secondly, I wish that all disputes between the landlords and the tenants should be referred to the Panchayats and it is with this end in view that I desire to have the whole of section 77 of the Punjab Tenancy Act covered by part (d) of the clause.

Thirdly it is desired that all the pending cases of ejectments filed under the Act of 1952 should also be referred to the Panchayats. If these amendments are accepted, the aggrieved tenants will be saved from the fees of the lawyers who generally try to mislead them. They will really be able to benefit from the laws enacted for their protection. The lawyers will then not be able to confuse them by advising them to start a case in a 'criminal' court instead of a civil court or a revenue court instead of a 'criminal' court. If our Government has got real sympathy with the tenants, it should have no objection to investing the Panchayats with the powers of adjudicating cases arising out of disputes between the landlords and the tenants. This is the only easy way of tackling the problem.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motions moved—

That in part (d), of sub-clause (1), line 1, before the word "suits", the word "all" be added.

That in part (d), of sub-clause (1), lines 2-3, the words "clauses (j), (k), (l).....(3) of" be deleted.

That at the end of part (d) of sub-clause (1), the following words be added :—

"and all suits by tenants against unlawful ejections from land or applications by them for restoration to such land under section 4 of the Punjab Prevention of Ejections (Temporary Powers) Act, 1952.

Shri Wadhawa Ram (Fazilka) (Punjabi) : Sir, if even after the constitution of the Panchayats the people who form the majority of the rural population are unable to get justice, their existence would mean nothing. Out of the thousands of cases that have gone to the courts in the past hardly one or two cases have been decided in favour of the tenants and this is natural because of the fact that the dispensers of justice themselves belong to the upper classes. Ejections of tenants in an undue and highhanded manner are still continuing. They cannot make themselves heard in any quarter. As they are still being oppressed, it is very necessary that the powers of deciding their cases should be vested in the Panchayats.

Minister for Irrigation (Chaudhri Lahri Singh) (Hindi) : Sir, Section 77 of the Punjab Tenancy Act, 1887, is so lengthy, vast and complicated that it will not be possible for the Panchayats to understand its implications. The application of the whole of this section will be a task beyond their understanding. They may be able to decide cases of disputes relating to the payment of rent but there are many other matters included in this Section which will be beyond their comprehension. For instance, there is the question relating to occupancy tenancy for a proper decision of which it will be necessary to go through the records some of which may be as old as 1848, and to consult such big and bulky books as will be beyond their ken.

Secondly, appeals in cases coming within the purview of the Tenancy Act lie in the courts of the Commissioner and the Financial Commissioner. So, if these amendments are accepted the whole of the Tenancy Act will have to be got amended so that in future appeals in revenue cases may not lie in the courts of these officers. Section 77 comprises three groups. The first group includes cases arising out of disputes relating to the payment of rent but it also covers matters which it will not be possible for the Panchayats to understand.

In these circumstances, Sir, how can this amendment be accepted. In the villages there are tenants as well as landlords. In the panchayats also there will be both landlords and tenants. Naturally there are disputes between them. If this amendment is accepted it will lead to confusion. Therefore it is impossible to accept it and it should be withdrawn.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in part (d), of sub-clause (1), line 1, before the word "suits", the word "all" be added.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in part (d), of sub-clause (1), lines 2-3, the word "clauses (j), (k), (l).....(3) of" be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That at the end of part (d) of sub-clause (1), the following words be added :—

"and all suits by tenants against unlawful ejections from land or applications by them for restoration to such land under section 4 of the Punjab Prevention of Ejections (Temporary Powers) Act, 1952.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 52 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 53

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 53 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 54

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (Punjabi) : Sir, I move—

That in sub-clause (2), lines 1-2, between the words "Collector" and "may" the following words be inserted :—

"on application by the petitioner or the defendants."

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in sub-clause (2), lines 1-2, between the words "Collector" and "may" the following words be inserted :—

"on application by the petitioner or the defendants."

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (2), lines 1-2, between the words "Collector" and "may" the following words be inserted :—

"on application by the petitioner or the defendants."

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 54 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 55

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 55 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 56

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 56 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 57

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 57 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 58

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 58 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 59

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 59 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 60

Mr. Speaker : Now I invite Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina to move his amendment to this Clause.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : Sir, I beg to move—

That in sub-clause (1), lines 2-3, the words "of sub-section (1)" be deleted.

There does not exist sub-clause (1) in Clause 55. The words "of subsection (1)" appearing in sub-clause (1) of the clause are, therefore, superfluous and should be deleted.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in sub-clause (1), lines 2-3, the words "of sub-section (1)" be deleted.

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Shri Ram Shrama) :
Sir, I accept the amendment.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (1), lines 2-3, the words "of sub-section (1)" be deleted.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 60, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 61

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 61 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 62

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 62 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 63

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 63 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 64

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 64 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 65

Mr Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 65 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 66

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 66 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 67

Sardar Ajmer Singh (Samrala) : Sir, I do not want to waste the time of the House, but there is one loophole in this Clause, which I will point out just now, Sub-clause (1) of clause 67 reads as follows :—

“No member of a Gram Panchayat shall take part in any case, suit or proceeding to which he or his employer, employee or partner is a party or in which any of them may be personally interested.”

It is clear from the above sub-clause, that a Panch can take part in a case or suit to which his son, uncle or any relative is a party. How can you expect that the Panch will go against his own kith and kin? On the other hand, he will try to defend his relatives. This I am afraid will lead to favouritism and nepotism in the Panchayats. I, therefore, suggest that the Panch should be forbidden from trying a case in which his relative or relatives may be a party. I hope the Minister for Local Government will give due consideration to this point and amend this sub-clause suitably.

Minister for Local Government : Sir, I may point out that Shri Rala Ram has already given notice of an amendment to this sub-clause on the lines suggested by Sardar Ajmer Singh.

Shri Rala Ram : Sir, I beg to move—

That in sub-clause 1, line 5, between the words “business” and “is” the words :

“or near relative” be inserted.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in sub-clause 1, line 5, between the words “business” and “is” the words :

“or near relative” be inserted.

Minister for Local Government : Sir, I accept the amendment.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause 1, line 5, between the words “business” and “is” the words :

“or near relative” be inserted.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 67, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 68

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 68 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 69

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 69 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 70

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 70 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 71

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 71 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 72

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 72 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 73

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 73 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 74

Mr. Speaker : Now I call upon Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut to move his amendment.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in sub-clause (1), line 15, for the words "twenty-five" the word "ten" be substituted.

[Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut]

Sir, I only want to state that sometimes very poor people are involved in litigation who cannot afford to pay so much money. I therefore, request that this amount should be fixed at Rs. 10 in place of Rs. 25.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in sub-clause (1), line 15, for the words "twenty-five" the word "ten" be substituted.

Minister for Local Government : Sir, I accept the amendment.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (1), line 15, for the words "twenty-five" the word "ten" be substituted.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 74, as amended, stand part of the Bill

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 75

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 75 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 76

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 76 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 77

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 77 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 78

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 78 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 79

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 79 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 80

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 80 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 81

Mr. Speaker : First of all I invite Shri Babu Dayal to move his amendment

Shri Babu Dayal (Sohna) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That at the end of the clause the following be added :—

“ (d) the Punjab State Government shall give 12½ per cent of its land revenue to the Panchayat every year so that the Panchayat should easily carry on its duties.”

Mr. Speaker, my submission is that these panchayats will not be able to perform satisfactorily these numerous duties which have been entrusted to them, in the absence of sufficient finances. Therefore, it is very necessary that they must be given one-eighth of the land revenue. In case, the Government agrees to do so, the panchayats would prove very useful institutions. Such a thing will also show that the money realised from the people is spent for their welfare. Therefore, my amendment must be accepted.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That at the end of the clause the following be added :—

“ (d) the Punjab State Government shall give 12½ per cent of its land revenue to the Panchayat every year so that the Panchayat should easily carry on its duties.”

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma : (Haripur) (Hindi) : Sir I beg to move—

That in part (a), line 1, before the word “all” the following be added :

“ Ten per cent of the land revenue of the State and ”.

With this amendment, Sir, part (a) of Clause 81 will read as such:

“ (a) Ten per cent of the land revenue of the State and all grants from Government or local bodies and all sums other than judicial fees and fines received by or on behalf of the Gram Panchayat under this Act, or otherwise.”

[Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma]

Mr Speaker, my submission is that the addition of a new clause to the Bill is giving rise to some apprehensions. I am of the opinion that only ten or twelve per cent of land revenue will not be sufficient for the Panchayats to carry on their work, and, therefore, I have added the word 'and' before the words "all grants" so that these panchayats may get both land revenue and the grants.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in part (a), line 1, before the word "all" the following be added :

" Ten per cent of the land revenue of the State and "

Mr. Speaker : Now, I call upon Sardar Chanan Singh to move his amendments.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That for part (a), the following be substituted :—

" (a) the Gram Fund shall constitute (i) 25 per cent of Land Revenue (ii) 50 per cent of the Local Rate (iii) whole of Professional Tax (iv) 50 per cent of Judicial fees and all sorts of fines, of the prescribed Gram Panchayat area "

That after part (c), the following new part be added :—

" (d) all income from the common land, the trees on the common land, should vest in the Gram Panchayat "

Mr. Speaker, my submission is that in spite of the promise made by the hon. Minister, this clause of the Bill which provides that grants will be given to the panchayats, has not been amended. According to the amendment now before the House, the Panchayats will get both grants and a share of land revenue. I am of view that the provision of grants should be totally eliminated because these are not properly given and in its place a provision be made for giving to the Panchayats a fixed share of all the taxes namely land revenue, local rate and professional tax which the Government realizes from the people of a panchayat area.

Further, the Municipal Committees and District Boards are allowed by the Government to realize independently some taxes whereas the village panchayats are being debarred from this right. Though the Government realizes taxes from the people of the panchayat areas it does not compensate them by supplying amenities of life. I want to point out to the hon. Ministers that the ruralites also need hospitals. They also need schools for giving education to their children and play-grounds for their games. The grants which the Government intend to give to the panchayats shall not enable them to provide those amenities to the people of their areas. Therefore, they must be given a substantial share of the land revenue. We find that the ruralites have to pay all sorts of taxes but get nothing in return. On the other hand, Police Officers visit their villages and harass them.

I want to inform the House that local rate up to 44 per cent is being realized in District Hoshiarpur. Therefore, Sir, I have moved this amendment according to which the panchayats will get fifty per cent of the local rate along with twenty five per cent of the land revenue. I want to bring home to the hon. Members of this House the fact that each panchayat will hardly get Rs. 10 to Rs. 15 in case only ten per cent of land revenue is allowed to them because ten per cent of the total land revenue of our State approximately comes to Rupees twenty lakhs and it is to be distributed amongst 14,000 village panchayats. Therefore, Sir, I submit that the grant to be given to each panchayat should be at least equal to the income which the Government derives from its area in the form of different taxes.

Mr. Speaker : Motions moved—

That for part (a), the following be substituted :—

“ (a) the Gram Fund shall constitute (i) 25 per cent of Land Revenue (ii) 50 per cent of the Local Rate (iii) whole of Professional Tax (iv) 50 per cent of Judicial fees and all sorts of fines, of the prescribed Gram Panchayat area ”

That after part (c), the following new part be added :—

“ (d) all income from the common land, the trees on the common land, should vest in the Gram Panchayat ”.

Shri Rizaq Ram (Rai) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That at the end of the clause the following be added :—

“ (d) not less than ten per cent of the land revenue realized from the Panchayat Area concerned ;

(e) not less than ten per cent of the local rates and professional tax realized from the Panchayat Area concerned. ”

Mr. Speaker, I beg to submit that according to the amendments moved by me to this clause, the Government will be required to give at least ten per cent of its income from the land revenue to the village panchayats. This second amendment requests the Government to pay even more than ten per cent, if it likes to do so. Therefore, I hope the hon. Minister-in-charge will accept my amendments.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That at the end of the clause the following be added :—

“ (d) not less than ten per cent of the land revenue realized from the Panchayat Area concerned ;

(e) not less than ten per cent of the local rates and professional tax realized from the Panchayat Area concerned. ”

Shri Lal Chand Prarthi : (Kulu) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That at the end of the clause, the following be added :—

“ (d) the balance and proceeds of Kothi Fund in Kulu Sub-Division and proceeds of Trini tax in Kangra District ”.

[Shri Lal Chand Prarthi]

Mr. Speaker, I wish to submit that it is absolutely necessary on the part of the Government to provide adequate funds to the panchayats, for their programmes cannot materialise in the absence of money. If not more, they should at least be provided with the money which is raised from their *ilaqas* in the form of various taxes and other cesses. For instance, there will be collected a fund while selling the trees of the third class forests of Kulu which will be operated by the Government under head 'Kothi Fund' and will be raised from the zamindars of the area. I, therefore, feel that in view of the poor financial conditions of the zamindars, the whole of this fund must be placed at the disposal of their panchayats. When the Government is solicitous to spend the money raised from the public on them, I suggest that the money accruing to such a fund should be given to the Panchayats. In this way their money will be spent for their own benefit which will give them impetus. Besides, in the area of Kangra another tax, i.e. 'Trini Tax' is levied on sheep and goats. I wish that the whole money collected through this tax should also be allotted to the panchayats so that they may possess some funds which may be spent for the benefit of the villages. I am confident that the Minister will not feel any hesitation in accepting this proposal.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That at the end of the clause, the following be added :—

“(d) the balance and proceeds of Kothi Fund in Kulu Sub-Division and proceeds of Trini Tax in Kangra District”.

Professor Sher Singh (Jhajjar) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That after part (c), the following new part be added :—

“(d) 10 per cent of the Land Revenue paid by the Gram Panchayat area to the Government”.

Sir, the purport of the amendment which I have tabled is that it is necessary to some extent to decentralise the proceeds of income when we are going to decentralise the administration. For this purpose, I am of the view that to begin with we must start by allocating to the Panchayats 10 per cent of the Land Revenue and afterwards we should also transfer to them the income accruing from the Sales Tax. But these funds should be in addition to the usual grants and not be inclusive of them. Some hon. Friends as well as the Minister for Finance had, however, expressed the opinion that after having been deposited into the State Exchequer, the Land Revenue would be passed on to the Panchayats in one form or the other, but I apprehend that this will come under the regular grants. I, therefore, urge that this amount should be in addition to the ordinary grants. It should be confirmed that this amount will not be included in the grant of Rupees 50,00,000. Besides, I wish that the money realised in the form of fines and fees should also be given to the Panchayats. I feel that such an initiative has not, so far, been taken by any other State. It will, therefore, be in the fitness of things if we give them a lead in this regard, as well.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That after part (c), the following new part be added :—

“(d) 10 per cent of the Land Revenue paid by the Gram Panchayat area to the Government”.

Sardar Mohan Singh Jathedar (Tran Taran) (*Punjabi*) : Sir, I move—

That in part (a), line 3, for the words "other than" the word "including" be substituted.

Sir, the essence of my amendment is that though the Government will without doubt give the money collected by the Gram Panchayats in the form of Judicial Fees and Fines and in the shape of grants yet I wish that if in place of the words 'other than' which exist in this clause, the word 'including' is substituted, the people will have still more satisfaction that the Government is prepared to transfer the money accruing under these heads to the Gram Panchayats.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in part (a), line 3, for the words "other than" the word "including" be substituted.

Shri Maru Singh Malik (Sampla) (*Hindi*) : Sir, I beg to move—

That for part (a), the following be substituted :—

" (a) the Government shall allot every year to each Gram Panchayat area at least one fourth of all moneys collected in whatever form, i.e. whether land revenue, water-rate, local rate, professional tax or any other tax imposed by the State Government or any local body from the Village Panchayat area "

That at the end of the clause the following be added :—

" (d) the sale proceeds of any parcel of common land or any other property which has vested in the Gram Panchayat under the provisions of this Act. "

Mr. Speaker, yesterday while moving an amendment to clause 20, I requested that whereas the Panchayats had been given large powers and assigned enhanced duties, they should be allotted sufficient funds to discharge them. They can raise these funds either by imposing taxes or by having grants from the Government. But as a good many other taxes have already been levied on the ruralites, little scope is left for further imposition of new taxes. I, therefore, feel that with a view to enabling the Panchayat to do the work, the Government must provide the Panchayat with at least 1/4th of the money which is realised from its area in the form of various taxes. Besides, if the Common Lands are also transferred to the control of the Panchayats, then they can raise more money by selling them and ultimately translate their schemes into action. In this way, I hope that the everyday disputes which arise in the villages in connection with common lands will also end.

Mr. Speaker : Motions move—

That for part (a), the following be substituted :—

" (a) the Government shall allot every year to each Gram Panchayat area at least one fourth of all moneys collected in whatever form, i.e. whether land revenue, water-rate, local rate, professional tax or any other tax imposed by the State Government or any local body from the village Panchayat area "

That at the end of the clause the following be added :—

" (d) the sale proceeds of any parcel of common land or any other property which has vested in the Gram Panchayat under the provisions of this Act. "

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (*Punjabi*): Sir, I have risen to support the amendment tabled by my hon. Friend, Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut which requires that some percentage of the Water Rate, Local Rate, Fees and other taxes raised from the Panchayat Areas should be allotted to the Panchayats. I feel that the amount proposed by my Friend should be placed at their disposal. The Chief Minister has remarked that if Rs. 1,200 per annum accrue from these taxes and if 1/4th of the same, i.e., Rs. 300 is earmarked for the panchayats, what useful purpose will it serve for them? Sir, my submission is that even if the Government contribute towards their funds Rs. 300 or Rs. 100 they will feel that they get back at least a part of the amount they pay to the Government in the form of taxes. No doubt, this is something immaterial for the Government, yet I think that it will lend some dignity to them. If the Government does not pay anything to them from the exchequer and they are asked to fulfil their requirements by imposing taxes, then what is the importance of the panchayats? In that case they will only form 'Sewa Samitis'. I feel that if they are not provided with adequate funds by the Government, there is no necessity for establishing them. The works which they are to undertake in consequence of the enactment of this legislation, can be carried out by them even in the absence of such Acts provided they possess funds. On the other hand, if we return to them a part of the money collected from the Land Revenue, etc., they will feel that they also form a part and parcel of the Government with the result that they will realise their responsibilities and will spend money with proper care and thought. I, therefore, request that this amendment should be accepted.

Shri Sri Chand (Bahadurgarh) (*Hindi*): Sir, yesterday when I made a reference to this aspect the Minister-in-charge remarked that this matter would be taken up in clause 81 and that I should not discuss it at an inopportune moment. At that time he also held out an assurance that when the question of funds would arise, he would definitely try to make necessary provision for the panchayat. Now, the suggestions before the House are that 10 per cent of the Land Revenue and 20 per cent of the Local Rates should be placed at the disposal of the panchayats. Sir, if the whole of this amount is taken together, it hardly amounts to a sum of Rs. 180 per annum, i.e., Rs. 15 a month. In other words, the panchayats would have only a nominal income of annas eight per day. Yesterday, the Minister-in-charge was pleased to observe that even if the budgets of Punjab, Utter Pradesh and the Centre are put together, they cannot, in view of the duties entrusted to the panchayats, fulfil their requirements. When the Government realises, that the duties which have been delegated to the ruralites cannot be performed with even this much money, then I think that to make such like provisions as we are making amount to nothing else except deceiving them. The ruralites cannot undertake even a minor work with a paltry sum of Rs. 180 per annum.

With 180 rupees a year one cannot employ even a peon. You have assigned so many duties to the panchayats, asked them to employ a number of persons, contribute towards their provident fund and make arrangements for the payment of gratuity, etc., to them. But this amount of Rs. 180 will not suffice even to purchase the

necessary stationery. I would request the Government to act reasonably. We suggested that since the co-existence of District Boards and Panchayats would result in unnecessary duplication the District Boards may be abolished and their functions as well as the sources of their income may be handed over to the panchayats. The Chief Minister assured us, and that assurance was repeated by the Minister-in-charge, Pandit Shri Ram Sharma, that the Government wanted to abolish District Boards. But so far as their income is concerned the Government wants to give the panchayats no more than 20 per cent of the local rates collected by the District Boards.

Sir, the District Boards had three main charges, *viz.*, schools, roads and medical. It is a matter of common knowledge that the roads of the District Boards are always in a much worse condition than those maintained by the Government. Then there is quite a lot of duplication of duties between the Government and District Boards and now you have brought into the field a third party in the shape of panchayats. The proverb goes that "one between two stools cometh to the ground". Now God alone knows what will happen when there are three stools instead of two. My suggestion is that Primary education as well as medical aid may be made a charge of the panchayats but the construction and upkeep of roads should be wholly entrusted to the Public Works Department. Some people think that I am perhaps deadly against the District Boards. I have no particular reason for hating the District Boards. All that I say is that District Boards and Panchayats cannot function together. What you are doing is that on the one hand the District Boards are kept in existence while on the other their ears, tails, etc., are cut off in order to create the panchayats out of those amputated parts. This will not do. Quite a lot of money will be required for the satisfactory performance of the functions which you have assigned to the panchayats. It is not enough to say that the panchayats have been given the power to raise funds through taxation. You have to see of what avail this power can be to them. Let me repeat once again that the rural population has been bled white already and it has no more blood to offer to you. Whenever you try to do something for the rural people, one new tax or another is attached to it. They have to pay for every drop of water which they get for their crops; they are required to pay betterment charges and, similarly, a lot of money is being extorted from them in connection with the consolidation of holdings. And what do they get in return? You do not give back to them even four annas in a rupee paid by them. A very large number of their needs would be satisfied if you were prepared to return to them even four annas in the rupee. They do not ask for the luxury of big colleges. Their only demand is for primary schools so that their children may get elementary education.

As a matter of fact the Government seems to suffer from a confusion of the brain and, therefore, it cannot take any definite decision in any matter. It is under the impression that the abolition of the District Boards will result in a huge revolution in the country. Let me assure it that nothing of the sort will happen. All that is required is a little courage. If you want to establish panchayats, abolish the District Boards, but if you think that District Boards have

[Shri Sri Chand]

to be retained for some time yet then postpone the establishment of the panchayats.

Sardar Ajmer Singh (Samrala) (*Punjabi*) : Mr Speaker, I find that the Minister for Local Government has been very generous in entrusting various functions to the panchayats. He has readily agreed to each and every proposal in this connection. Running of schools, construction of roads, this, that and everything has been entrusted by him to the panchayats for the mere asking. But Sardar Ujjal Singh is feeling very uneasy. He knows that these functions cannot be carried on without money and his anxiety is due to the fact that if all these things are to be done, it will be very difficult for him to prepare a balanced budget. The Government has entrusted a host of duties to the panchayats and has used the word "shall" in respect of each one of them. Now if the Government thinks that after having assigned these duties to the panchayats it has no further responsibility then necessary powers to collect the funds required for the performance of these duties should be given to the panchayats, but if it is found that they have not got sufficient money the Government should make up the deficiency out of its own coffers. When the Government has assigned so many functions to the panchayats it is the Government's bounden duty to supply them with necessary funds for the performance of those functions. You should have taken into account this aspect of the matter at the time when you took the decision to thrust so many duties on the panchayats. I think Sardar Ujjal Singh should open a school of auditors to carry on research as to how the panchayats can carry on their multifarious functions without affecting the Government's budget or asking for a single penny from it.

Sardar Nidhan Singh (Mehna) (*Punjabi*) : Mr Speaker, I want to address a few remarks to our Ministers. When the Government is establishing panchayats it should also provide them with necessary funds. You say that you have given them the powers to collect these funds by imposing taxes but I would request you not to make to the tank a gift of its own water.

A certain person having the mentality of our Ministers went to a tatoo shop and told the man incharge that he would not mind paying well if the latter tatooed him in a manner as would make him appear like a real lion. He was asked to sit in the chair which he did very readily because he was anxious to show to the people that he was really a lion. But when the other man took the tatoo needle and began the "operation" on his waist that man cried out "look here my man, this affair is a bit dangerous. You leave the waist as it is because, after all, a lion is usually without a waist". Then the man started to tatoo the tail and again he was asked to give up the idea because the needle gave him unbearable pain. The same thing happened in connection with the tatooing of ears, nose and other parts. What I mean to say is that if you want to be called lions then behave like them. You are establishing panchayats and if you want them to function properly give them necessary funds. As I have said already this plea of having given them the power to impose taxes amounts to making to the tank a gift of its own water.

Professor Mota Singh Anandpuri (Adampur) : Sir, when we keep in view the powers that are being vested in the Gram Panchayats, we are led to believe that complete autonomy is going to be transferred to the villages. But after reading Chapter VII, which pertains to "Finance and Taxation" we find that nothing substantial is going to be given to them. In my opinion, without adequate funds, it will be impossible for the Panchayats to function efficiently and discharge their duties in the desired manner.

I think sufficient time of the House has been wasted on the discussion of this Bill—a Bill which is totally useless. I call it a useless Bill because in the absence of sufficient money being provided for the Village Panchayats the whole scheme envisaged in this Bill would dwindle into insignificance.

On the day when this Bill was introduced, I requested the Minister for Local Government to give his serious consideration to the problem of finance. But it seems he has not done anything in this respect.

The villagers would, I am sure, not feel satisfied if the Chapter relating to "Finance and Taxation" is passed in its present form and there would be an agitation throughout the State.

You have yourself seen, Sir, that most of the Members who have taken part in the discussion on this Bill, have stressed that the District Boards should be abolished forthwith. A few days back when the Chief Minister was speaking on the Bill, he said that he and his cabinet colleagues were in favour of abolishing District Boards and they would soon take a decision to this effect. The people in the State felt very happy when they read this news in the papers. But now I have come to know that the Cabinet is a little bit hesitant to abolish the District Boards.

Mr. Speaker : Are you speaking on Clause 81?

Professor Mota Singh Anandpuri : Yes Sir. I am suggesting to the Minister that the District Boards should be abolished and the money thus saved should be given to the Village Panchayats. The District Boards have outlived their utility. I want that the Government should abolish them immediately. I further suggest, Sir, that 50 per cent of the income earned by the Government from a Gram Panchayat area should be given to the Gram Panchayat.

In the end, I would appeal to the hon. Members that they should not be led away by the party impulse. They must insist on adequate funds being given to the Village Panchayats so that their hands are strengthened and they are enabled to discharge their duties satisfactorily.

Shri Wadhawa Ram (Fazilka) (Punjabi) : Mr. Speaker, I beg to submit that in my opinion our Ministers should be described as Moses of the present time. Moses once told the people that if they

[Shri Wadhawa Ram]

did not get bread they should search their hearths. The same is the case with our Government. Sometimes the hon. Ministers try to show themselves as very generous and say that they would give grants. What help can this Government give to others when it is always looking forward for aid from the Central Government? Sometimes it complains of want of funds for one project and sometimes for another. The villagers have begun to realise that just as ashes consigned to the Ganges cannot be got back, similarly the money paid into the Government treasury cannot reach them again. If the Government is really desirous of helping the Panchayats, it should straightaway place one-fourth of the land revenue at their disposal. Professional tax is realised from the poor people. This can be allowed to be utilized by the Panchayats for the benefit of the people. In addition to this various kinds of fines are imposed upon the villagers. If the villagers know that the amount realised from them by way of fines was going to be utilized for their good, they would not feel its pinch so much. If roads are constructed, new schools are opened and such other things are done for the good of the villagers, they would feel greatly encouraged.

We are told that the Act of 1844 is very complicated. If an Act is very complicated why should it be enforced at all? The wearer of the shoes knows where it pinches. Similarly, the villagers know their difficulties much better and are in a position to remove them. I am reminded of a story which illustrates the attitude of our Government. Once a person asked his sons to work hard and promised to reward them if they did so. They ploughed the fields the whole day long and asked their father to give them meals in the evening as they were very hungry. Their father asked them to enjoy themselves during his lifetime. He pointed at the pestle and mortar and asked them to mince onion with salt and eat it. The same is the attitude of our Government. It tells the villagers that they should feel happy as Panchayats were going to be established for them. If the Government genuinely wants to help the villagers in their uplift, it should provide them with the necessary funds too. If that is done, the Panchayats would be able to do useful work. They would be able to open schools where the village children might receive free education. This would certainly give them encouragement. In that case they would be in a position to take pride in their achievements. If the Government acts in this manner the condition of this State can be rapidly improved. As a matter of fact our Government is not so much to blame because it is following methods which every bureaucratic Government follows.

Minister for Finance (Sardar Ujjal Singh) (*Punjabi*): Mr, Speaker, Clauses 81 and 82 relating to the sources of revenue of the Panchayats are really very important because I realise that the Panchayats will not be able to discharge the duties entrusted to them unless they have the necessary funds. There is no doubt that if we want to improve the conditions in the State and do things for the good of the public we should provide sufficient funds to the Panchayats. At the same time we must understand as to where these funds are to come from. These funds will not descend from the

heavens! The only manner in which these funds can be raised is that either the Government should itself levy fresh taxes or the panchayats should be empowered to levy them. Another way of doing this is that a part of the revenues of district boards or other local bodies can be placed at the disposal of the Panchayats. At present the Government pays some amount to the panchayats while they themselves raise the rest by levying taxes. The Panchayats raise about six lakhs of rupees in all by way of taxes. It is due to the fact that at present out of the fourteen thousand villages in the State there are Panchayats in only eight thousand. So, as I have submitted a sum of about six lakhs of rupees is collected by the Panchayats in the form of taxes. Seventy-five per cent of this amount, that is, Rs 4,80,000 are to be paid by the Government. The collection of all the taxes imposed by the Government is made by the panchayats for their own benefit. Moreover, the Government is spending rupees five lakhs on Panchayat Officers out of the land revenue receipts. Today the Government is spending Rs. 9 lakhs and 26 thousand annually on the panchayats of which the sum of Rs. 8 lakhs is collected by the panchayats by their own efforts in the form of taxes imposed by them. The panchayats will feel encouraged to collect the amount of taxes as they will be paid collection charges by the Government. The Government will be helping the panchayats by paying collection charges to them.

Some of my hon. Friends have remarked that the Government should earmark twenty-five per cent of land revenue for the Panchayats. This amount comes to Rs. 48 lakhs and one-fourth of the receipts of local cess of Rs. 70 lakhs comes to about Rs. 18 lakhs and thus the total amount would aggregate to Rs. 66 lakhs which my hon. Friends suggest should be paid to the panchayats. The question is from where this money is to come? I do not mean that money should not be given to the panchayats. In my opinion ten per cent of the land revenue will be quite a reasonable sum and the Government will manage to meet that expense. Even by giving ten per cent of land revenue the amount will aggregate to about Rs. 19 lakhs. The Government want to give maximum help to the panchayats and intend to place at their disposal whatever money it can spare but at the same time it also expects that panchayats should make efforts to collect the amount themselves. Under Clause 19 of this Bill the administrative duties of Gram Panchayats have been clearly specified. The Government want to render help to the panchayats by giving them collection charges in lieu of their services in the matter of collection of taxes. Some of my hon. Friends have moved an amendment that the amount equal to ten per cent of land revenue be placed at the disposal of panchayats. The Government is prepared to accept this amendment. The Government wants to give adequate financial assistance to the panchayats so that they may be able to stand on their own feet. I hope that within the funds placed at their disposal the panchayats will be able to discharge their duties satisfactorily. Besides this, the money which is now being given to the district boards is also expected to be given to the panchayats. At present the Government is paying Rs. 98 lakhs on account of education as grants to the district boards. This is besides the grants for roads and sanitation etc. If the

[Minister for Finance]

Government entrust the task of primary education to the panchayats then the sum of Rs. 98 lakhs which is now being given to the district boards will automatically be transferred to the panchayats.

The District Boards cannot be abolished all at once. It will take some time before the district boards are abolished. So long as we are not able to set up a new system it will not be possible for us to abolish the institution of district boards. The Government is trying to build up a new system and when it is built up we will demolish the old system. My hon. Friends must know that it is not an easy task to replace the old system by a new one all at once. The functions which are now being performed by the district boards will have to be entrusted to some other institution. The Government is taking steps to fulfil the declaration made by the hon. Chief Minister in regard to the abolition of district boards. The present functions of the district boards will be entrusted to the panchayats and at the same time lakhs of rupees which are now being given to the district boards will also be transferred to them. Moreover, ten per cent of land revenue will also be placed at their disposal. When this is done I am sure the Gram Panchayats will be able to discharge their functions satisfactorily.

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma) (*Hindi*) : Sir, it has become necessary for me to say a few words in regard to this clause. The discussion on this clause has mainly centred round the fact as to what would be the sources of income of the panchayats. Whatever has been said by my hon. Friends has already been repeated several times before. It has been remarked by some of my hon. Friends that whereas the Government has given wide powers to the panchayats it has not given sufficient funds to them. I think that this argument is devoid of any force. The hon. Finance Minister has already made it clear that the Government will provide adequate funds to the panchayats in order to enable them to discharge their administrative duties satisfactorily. When the Government has assigned so many duties to the panchayats it becomes its responsibility to provide necessary funds to them so that their work may not suffer for lack of funds. The Government has not shut its eyes towards the aspect of providing funds to the panchayats. The Government has various departments and the department of Local Self-Government keeps a strict watch and control over the working of the Panchayats. If the Government has given extensive powers to the panchayats it will not hesitate to provide adequate funds to them. It has been further remarked that the Government is spending 12 annas in a rupee on urban areas and only four annas on the rural areas.

And then the Government has been urged to spend at least three annas more on the rural population. This is likely to create a grave misunderstanding. This kind of talk can only have some dubious propaganda value. Some of my hon. Friends would have us believe that out of the total budget of twenty crores a sum of rupees sixteen crores is being expended on the urban population. I wonder how this can be correct. He probably counts money spent on officials whose

sphere of duties is in the rural areas but who have their headquarters in towns as expenditure on towns or urban people. Well, at present, the headquarters of every department are in the towns. Will he be pleased if the Deputy Commissioner and the Superintendent of Police are asked to make villages as their headquarters and the Secretariat is also established in some village? Now that the British have left this country, it does not look proper on their part to raise false issues and controversies such as 'ruralites versus urbanites.' He should not flog the dead horses.

The number of the existing Panchayats is from six to seven thousand. Their total income from taxation is Rs 6 lakhs. The power of levying cesses is their only source of income at present. I admit that this sum of money is not adequate but it should not be forgotten that the Government will also contribute to the extent of 75 per cent of the money realized from cesses by the Panchayats. With the increase in the number of Panchayats, their income from cesses will also increase to rupees ten to twelve lakhs. Besides this, we have agreed to incorporate in the Bill a provision for the allotment of ten per cent of the receipts from Land Revenue of a village to its Panchayat in the form of a grant. Though the proposal that the Lambardar should hand over this percentage of the Land Revenue to the Panchayat of the village concerned there and then is impracticable, we guarantee that the Government will certainly make an allotment of approximately that amount to every Panchayat in the form of a grant. This very procedure is in vogue in Bombay and Madras also.

So far as the proceeds from courts stamps are concerned the procedure at present is that the money realised from this source is deposited for three years in the Government Treasury and then it is given to each Panchayat in the form of a grant. The receipts from this source at present are less than a lakh. These will be doubled or trebled with the increase in the number of Panchayats.

The Government proposes to encourage the rural population in another manner also. A reasonable proportion of the money collected by them from among themselves for schemes for their own welfare will be contributed by the Government. Last year, a sum of rupees fifty lakhs was collected by the villagers by voluntary contributions and the Government has decided to contribute to this fund 75 per cent of this amount in the form of grants. Out of this, a sum of rupees eight lakhs has already been sanctioned. In spite of all this if my friends sitting opposite remain unconvinced we cannot help it.

Moreover, the District Boards are a vanishing concern and will not continue for long. Starting fresh discussion on this subject or asking questions as to when they would be abolished is devoid of any significance. The British did not quit the country the very day they announced their intention to do so. Everything takes time to mature. We have yet to examine the administrative and other implications of this step. The final decision will be taken after going through the report that will be made on this subject. The present practice is that the Government gives grants to the District Boards

[Minister for Local Government]

to enable them to perform their functions. For instance, in connection with education, the District Boards are in receipt of grants to the extent of sixty or seventy per cent and in some cases hundred per cent. When the District Boards will be no more, similar grants will be made to the Panchayats for getting certain functions performed by them.

Another important matter which I want to stress is that the hon. Members should not be under the impression that if they have adequate funds or sufficient money or the powers of taxation the Panchayats will necessarily be able to function successfully. This impression is not correct.

It will in all cases be necessary for the Panchayats to collect the maximum possible amount by voluntary contributions and donations. Without tapping this source they will not be able to achieve much even if double the funds at present proposed are made available to them every year. The Government earnestly desires that the Panchayats should be able to, and it hopes that they would be able to collect crores of rupees every year through voluntary contributions, while on its part, I may assure the House, it will not show any hesitancy in encouraging them by contributing to a reasonable extent to the money thus collected. The hon. Members of this House should also consider it as their duty to give a momentum to the movement for the collection of voluntary contributions so that the Panchayats may be able to achieve the best possible results in the task of opening schools and hospitals, construction of roads and the improvement of sanitation in the vilages of this State. The Government is delegating powers and providing funds to the Panchayats to a reasonable extent. To suggest that the whole of the revenues of the State should be allotted to them is to talk in the air. The success of the Panchayats depends not so much on funds as on the sense of responsibility exhibited by the members of the Panchayats. While we want to delegate the maximum powers to the Panchayats, we also want them to show a high sense of responsibility. I want to make it clear to the House that it is the policy of the Government to take very strict and swift action against those who will abuse these powers. It is determined to be as strict in getting work done by the Panchayats as it has been liberal in delegating powers to them. Only then they will be able to function properly. So far as the allocation of funds to them is concerned, the Government has made the maximum possible provision for this purpose in the Bill itself which is quite adequate, keeping in view the present financial position. The hon. Members should have no worry on this score.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That at the end of the clause the following be added :—

“(d) the Punjab State Government shall give 12½ per cent of its land revenue to the Panchayat every year so that the Panchayat should easily carry on its duties.”

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in part (a), line 1, before the word "all" the following be added :
 "Ten per cent of the land revenue of the State and".

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That for part (a), the following be substituted :—

"(a) the Gram Fund shall constitute (i) 25 per cent of Land Revenue (ii) 50 per cent of the Local Rate (iii) whole of Professional Tax (iv) 50 per cent of Judicial fees and all sorts of fines, of the prescribed Gram Panchayat area"

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That after part (c), the following new part be added :—

"(2) all income from the common land, the trees on the common land, should vest in the Gram Panchayat."

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That at the end of the clause the following be added :—

"(d) not less than ten per cent of the land revenue realized from the Panchayat Area concerned ;

(e) not less than ten per cent of the Local Rates and professional tax realised from the Panchayat area concerned."

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That at the end of the clause, the following be added :—

"(d) the balance and proceeds of Kothi Fund in Kulu Sub-Division and proceeds of Trini Tax in Kangra District."

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That after part (c), the following new part be added :—

"(d) 10 per cent of Land Revenue paid by the Gram Panchayat area to the Government".

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in part (a), line 3, for the words "other than" the word "including" be substituted.

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That for part (a), the following be substituted :—

"(a) the Government shall allot every year to each Gram Panchayat at least one-fourth of all moneys collected in whatever form, i.e., whether land revenue, water-rate, local rate, professional tax or any other tax imposed by the State Government or any local body from the village Panchayat area"

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That at the end of the clause, the following be added :—

“(d) the sale-proceeds of any parcel of common land or any other property which has vested in the Gram Panchayat under the provisions of this Act.”

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 81 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 82.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That sub-clause (1), be deleted.

That in sub-clause (2), lines 2-3, the words “withGovernment”, be deleted.

That sub-clause (3) be deleted.

Sir, this clause decides a basic principle. In the first sub-clause power has been given to impose hearth tax and other taxes. This is based on injustice. I wish to point out that in the villages the well-to-do families have common hearths, whereas the poor families have separate hearths for their members. So the burden of this tax will mainly fall upon the poor. This tax is quite unjust and will cause a great hardship to the poor people in the villages.

The second thing is that in the proviso to sub-clause (1) of this clause it has been laid down that—

...if the Gram Panchayat fails to impose the tax, Government may take necessary steps to impose the tax and the tax so imposed shall be deemed to have been imposed by the Gram Panchayat.

This is also an injustice and the Government should not be given such a power.

The third thing is that in sub-clause (3) this power has been nullified. It is provided—

“Government may at any time withdraw the sanction given under subsection (2) and the tax shall thereupon cease to be levied.”

This is undue interference with the working of the panchayats. In the first instance the panchayats have been given the power of imposing certain taxes and then the same power is snatched from them. My submission is that the Director of Panchayats, sitting in Simla, should not be armed with the provision of withdrawing such a power and interfering with the working of the village panchayats. This kills the initiative of the people and strikes at their dignity. I, therefore, hope that the Government will accept these amendments.

Mr. Speaker : Motions moved—

That sub-clause (1), be deleted.

That in sub-clause (2), lines 2-3, the words "withGovernment", be deleted.

That sub-clause (3) be deleted.

Shri Rala Ram (Mukerian) (Hindi) : I beg to move—

That at the end of the clause, the following be added :—

"(5) Government shall pay to every Panchayat as grant-in-aid $1\frac{1}{2}$ times the amount collected by the Panchayats by imposing the Hearth Tax or any special tax authorised by the Government."

Sir, the grant which the Government is going to give to the Panchayats is not sufficient for the purpose of running the Panchayats. Therefore there is need for the imposition of new taxes. The Government has accepted the principle that the panchayats should be granted a share of the various taxes imposed by it. But what encouragement will the Panchayats get in the collection of the taxes which they may consider necessary to impose? There is no such provision in this Act. The hon. Minister for Finance has admitted and it was also admitted in the last Act that the Government aid would be responsive. If the people collect one hundred rupees the Government would give about sixty or seventy rupees from its exchequer as aid. I am putting forward this amendment because I know that this principle has already been accepted by the Government. I would, therefore, submit that this amendment should be accepted. By accepting it the people in the villages will be encouraged to collect more funds for the panchayats, and in this manner the work of the panchayats will be done more satisfactorily. As the principle of giving the grant has already been accepted there is no reason why this amendment should not be accepted by the Government. I, therefore, hope that the Government will accept it.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That at the end of the clause, the following be added :—

"(5) Government shall pay to every Panchayat as grant-in-aid $1\frac{1}{2}$ times the amount collected by the Panchayats by imposing the Hearth Tax or any special tax authorised by the Government."

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That sub-clause (1), be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (2), lines 2-3, the words "with.....Government", be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That sub-clause (3), be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That at the end of clause the following be added :—

“(5) Government shall pay to every Panchayat as grant-in-aid $1\frac{1}{2}$ times the amount collected by the Panchayats by imposing the Hearth Tax or any special tax authorised by the Government.”

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 82 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 83

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 83, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 84

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 84 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 85

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That the clause be deleted.

Sir, I request that the recovery which is required to be made through the Collector should be made through the Panchayats. I further request that if the defaulters cannot make the payments in lump sum they should be allowed to do so in instalments.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the clause be deleted.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the clause be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 85 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 86

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 86 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 87

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in line 4, for the word "Director", the words "Gram Sabha" be substituted.

That in lines 4-5, between the words "tax" and "on" the following words be inserted :—

"according to the economic status of the families".

That in line 5, the words "on the adult male members" be deleted.

Sir, this clause provides that even the special taxes should be imposed with the consent of the Director of Panchayats, whereas I request that the panchayats should be given powers to levy such taxes themselves. Government has vested all powers in the Director as if some personal estate is to be created for him.

Then, Sir, the provision has been made to levy taxes upon every adult. This is a wrong system of taxation. In villages poor people have larger number of children while the rich have got less number of children. I, therefore, submit, Sir, that every adult should not be asked to pay this tax but the tax should be imposed according to the economic status of every family which is the right system of taxation.

Mr. Speaker : Motions moved—

That in line 4, for the word "Director", the words "Gram Sabha" be substituted.

That in lines 4-5, between the words "tax" and "on" the following words be inserted :—

"according to the economic status of the families".

That in line 5, the words "on the adult male members" be deleted.

Shri Rala Ram (Mukerian) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in line 15, between the words "emergency" and "manual" the following words be inserted :—

"such as a flood, an earthquake, an epidemic or a severe windstorm".

[Shri Rala Ram]

Mr. Speaker, village life has two very common features—party politics and litigation. I, therefore, request that no such loop-hole should exist in this Act as might enable people to derive any undue advantage from these things. There is one word 'emergency' in this clause. There is some possibility of the Panchayats making misuse of this word. In order to avoid this I have brought in this amendment so that this term may be made sufficiently clear and the power may not be misused.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in line 15, between the words "emergency" and "manual" the following words be inserted:—

"such as a flood, an earthquake, an epidemic or a severe windstorm".

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma) (*Hindi*): The object of the inclusion of this clause in the Bill is that in case of an emergency if a special tax is imposed on the ruralites, the people who are not in a position to pay the tax can do some manual work in lieu of its payment. But in the case of some grave emergency, if people like to pay the taxes rather than do the work themselves, it would not be easy for people from other places to come and work in their place. Hence this provision. I may state for the information of the hon. Members that a similar practice was established in Germany during the reign of Hitler. In Russia also this practice is being followed. In fact, our Government wants that the people should develop the habit of working with their own hands.

Mr. Speaker, it has been asked by a friend of mine as to why the word 'Director' has been used here. In reply I would say that the word 'Director' has been used to avoid hardship to the people. It has been used in order to prevent the people being asked to pay the tax as well as do work. The insertion of this word would enable the Government to keep an eye over the working of the Panchayats. I am surprised to find that the hon. Members in Opposition in particular and some other Members in general are afraid of the word 'Director'. Mr. Speaker, my submission is that there must be some Head of the Department. If not 'Director' let there be some other word. I, therefore, cannot see my way to accepting any of these amendments.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in line 4, for the word "Director", the words "Gram Sabha" be substituted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in lines 4-5, between the words "tax" and "on" the following words be inserted:—

"according to the economic status of the families".

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in line 5, the words 'on the adult male members' be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in line 15, between the words "emergency" and "manual" the following words be inserted:—

"such as a flood, an earthquake, an epidemic or a severe windstorm".

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 87, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 88

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (*Punjabi*) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in line 2, for the word "may" the word "shall" be substituted.

Mr. Speaker, There has already been difference of opinion on this point on many occasions during discussion on this Bill. We want that the word 'shall' be substituted in place of the word 'may' but I do not understand why the Government is keen to retain the word 'may'.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in line 2, for the word "may", the word "shall" be substituted.

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma): Mr. Speaker, I want to assure the hon. Member that in actual practice the word 'may' shall always be used in the sense of 'shall.'

Shri Rala Ram (Mukerian) (*Hindi*) : Sir I beg to move—

That in the title, for the word "Tehsil", the word "Thana" be substituted.

That in line 4, for the word "Tehsil", the word "Thana" be substituted

Mr. Speaker : Motions move—

That in the title, for the word "Tehsil", the word "Thana" be substituted.

That in line 4, for the word "Tehsil", the word "Thana" be substituted.

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma):
Sir, I accept the amendments.

Shri Mehar Singh (Hamirpur): Sir, I beg to move—

That for the clause the following be substituted:—

“88. Establishment of Tehsil Union. Government may by notification establish Tehsil Panchayat Union.”

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved—

That for the clause the following be substituted:—

“88. Establishment of Tehsil Union. Government may by notification establish Tehsil Panchayat Union.”

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That in line 2, for the word “may” the word “shall” be substituted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That in the title, for the word “Tehsil”, the word “Thana” be substituted.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That in line 4, for the word “Tehsil”, the word “Thana” be substituted.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That for the clause the following be substituted:—

“88. Establishment of Tehsil Union. Government may by notification establish Tehsil Panchayat Union.”

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That Clause 88, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 89.

Shri Rala Ram (Mukerian) (Hindi): Sir, I beg to move—

That in line 4, for the word “Tehsil”, the word “Thana” be substituted.

That for the operative part of the clause, the following be substituted:—

“The Union shall consist of all Sarpanches of the Gram Panchayats situated within the Thana and if the scheduled castes are not adequately represented in the Union, Government shall in accordance with such rules as may be prescribed in this behalf, nominate such number from amongst the Scheduled Caste Panches so as to give to the Scheduled Castes adequate representation.”

Mr. Speaker : Motions moved—

That in line 4, for the word "Tehsil", the word "Thana" be substituted.

That for the operative part of the clause, the following be substituted :—

"The Union shall consist of all Sarpanches of the Gram Panchayats situated within the Thana and if the scheduled castes are not adequately represented in the Union, Government shall in accordance with such rules as may be prescribed, in this behalf, nominate such number from amongst the Scheduled Caste Panches so as to give to the Scheduled Castes adequate representation."

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma):
Sir, I accept the amendments moved by Shri Rala Ram.

Sardar Gurbanta Singh (Adampur) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That at the end of the clause, the following be added :—

"(2) If the representation of the scheduled caste panches in the Thana Union is not sufficient, nomination from the scheduled caste panches of the Thana shall be made to make the representation of the scheduled castes in the Thana Union adequate."

Mr. Speaker, it is an important fact that neither any village panchayats nor any town committee can function properly unless the scheduled caste residents of that place have been given proper representation. I want to remind the House, that in ancient times too though the scheduled castes had been given a very low status in society by the Brahmins, i.e., they represented the feet of the body of the Hindu society, yet even at that time they held an important position as the whole body could not work in their absence. Similarly no society or body can function properly without our representation. Therefore, Sir, we must be given adequate representation in the union panchayats.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That at the end of the clause, the following be added :—

"(2) If the representation of the scheduled caste panches in the Thana Union is not sufficient, nomination from the scheduled caste panches of the Thana shall be made to make the representation of the scheduled castes in the Thana Union adequate."

Professor Mota Singh Anandpuri (Adampur) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in line 4, after the word "Tehsil" the following be added :—

"including an adequate number of the members of the Scheduled Castes as nominated by the Government—out of the Scheduled Caste Members of the Gram Panchayat within that Thana".

I have not the least doubt that the hon. Minister for Local Government has got every sympathy with the Scheduled Castes but still he has omitted to take into consideration their existence while framing this Bill. Frankly speaking, he has not given them the consideration which they really deserve.

[Professor Mota Singh Anandpuri]

My object in moving this amendment is that an adequate number of Members of Scheduled Castes should be included in the Union. So it is my earnest appeal to the hon. Minister that he should consider the claims of this down-trodden class sympathetically and accept the amendment moved by me.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in line 4, after the word "Tehsil" the following be added :—

"including an adequate number of the members of the Scheduled Castes as nominated by the Government—out of the Scheduled Caste Members of the Gram Panchayat within that Thana".

Shri Mehar Singh (Hamirpur) : Sir, I beg to move—

That for the clause, the following be substituted—

"all Gram Panchayat members in a Tehsil shall form a Tehsil Electoral College. The Electoral College so constituted shall be called upon by prescribed authority to elect members not more than 1/5th of its total number for the Tehsil Union :

Provided that seats shall be reserved for the Scheduled Castes in the same proportion as the ratio of Scheduled Caste members and non-Scheduled Caste Members in the Tehsil Electoral College."

Many hon. Members have already spoken in favour of giving adequate representation to the Scheduled Castes on the Unions. I would also like to say something in this connection.

Seventeen years ago when the Father of the Nation, Mahatama Gandhi, saw that a particular section of the Indian people was being suppressed and subjected to inexplicable miseries, he stressed that adequate safeguards must be provided for this down-trodden class. So it was due to his strenuous efforts, that Harijans got some concessions. Mahatamaji advocated for the uplift of Harijans throughout his life.

The hon. Minister for Local Government is fully aware of the fact that most of the Harijans are living in the villages, but still he has not shown any special consideration to them in this Bill.

Whenever there are quarrels in the villages, the Harijans are the worst sufferers. Sometime back when there was a language controversy in the State, they were harassed and humiliated. When such is the state of affairs in the villages, the hon. Minister should have, while framing this Bill, taken care to safeguard their interests.

If it is really desired that the Harijans should survive and live like other communities, I would submit that they should be given adequate representation on the Village Panchayats and Unions. I hope the hon. Minister will be able to accept my amendment.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That for the clause, the following be substituted :—

"all Gram Panchayat members in a Tehsil shall form a Tehsil Electoral College. The Electoral College so constituted shall be called upon by prescribed authority to elect members not more than 1/5th of its total number for the Tehsil Union :

Provided that seats shall be reserved for the Scheduled Castes in the same proportion as the ratio of Scheduled Caste members and non-Scheduled Caste Members in the Tehsil Electoral College."

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That for the operative part of the clause, the following be substituted :—

“The Union shall consist of all Sarpanches of the Gram Panchayats situated within the Thana and if the scheduled castes are not adequately represented in the Union, Government shall in accordance with such rules as may be prescribed, in this behalf, nominate such number from amongst the scheduled Caste Panches so as to give to the Scheduled Castes adequate representation.”

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : The first amendment of the hon. Member having been carried, his second amendment namely, the substitution of the word “Thana” for the word “Tehsil” has become infructuous.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That at the end of the clause, the following be added :—

“(2) If the representation of the scheduled caste panches in the Thana Union is not sufficient, nomination from the scheduled caste panches of the Thana shall be made to make the representation of the scheduled castes in the Thana Union adequate.”

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in line 4, after the word “Tehsil” the following be added :—

“including an adequate number of the members of the Scheduled Castes as nominated by the Government—out of the Scheduled Caste Members of the Gram Panchayat within that Thana”.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That for the clause, the following be substituted :—

“all Gram Panchayat Members in a Tehsil shall form a Tehsil Electoral College. The Electoral College so constituted shall be called upon by prescribed authority to elect members not more than 1/5th of its total number for the Tehsil Union :

Provided that seats shall be reserved for the Scheduled Castes in the same proportion as the ratio of Scheduled Caste Members and non-Scheduled Caste Members in the Tehsil Electoral College.”

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 89, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 90

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 90 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 91

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (*Punjabi*): Sir, I beg to move—

That in sub-clause (2), lines 3-4, for the words “by Government..... order”, the following words be substituted:—

“as prescribed by the Rules”.

That in sub-clause (3), lines 1—3, for the words “subject.....direct” the following words be substituted:—

“as prescribed by the Rules”.

Mr. Speaker in sub-clause 2 and 3 of this clause, it has been provided that the number of members of the Executive Committee and also their duties will be presented by the Government. I feel that it is not proper. I wish that the number as well as the duties of the members who would constitute the Tehsil or Thana Committees should be prescribed in the rules which are to be framed hereafter.

Mr. Speaker : Motions moved—

That in sub-clause (2), lines 3-4, for the words “by Government..... order”, the following words be substituted:—

“as prescribed by the Rules”.

That in sub-clause (3), lines 1—3, for the words “subject.....direct” the following words be substituted:—

“as prescribed by the Rules”.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (2), lines 3-4, for the words “by Government..... order”, the following words be substituted:—

“as prescribed by the Rules”.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (3), lines, 1—3, for the words “subject.....direct” the following words be substituted:—

“as prescribed by the Rules”.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 91, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 92

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in lines 2—4, the words “with the.....authority” be deleted.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in lines 2—4, the words “with the.....authority” be deleted.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in lines 2—4, the words “with the.....authority” be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 92, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 93

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in line 6, for the word “authority” the word “Rules” be substituted.

Mr. Speaker, the same question is being taken up for the third time. My submission is why should the Government feel the necessity of such a suggestion. Whatever comprehensive steps they wish to take should be taken at one and the same time. When they have to frame the rules, they should not reject such like suggestions.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in line 6, for the word “authority” the word “Rules” be substituted.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in line 6, for the word “authority” the word “Rules” be substituted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 93 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 94

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in line 6, for the word "Director" the words "Executive Committee" be substituted.

That in line 8, for the word "him", the words "the Executive Committee" be substituted.

Sir, when any of its members wishes to resign, the panchayat has necessarily to get the resignation approved by the Director. I wish that the Committee of which a person is a member alone should be empowered to arrive at a decision on his resignation. These new and strange methods make me wonder. I, therefore, hope that this simple suggestion will be accepted.

Mr. Speaker : Motions moved—

That in line 6, for the word "Director" the words "Executive Committee" be substituted.

That in line 8, for the word "him", the words "the Executive Committee" be substituted.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in line 6, for the word "Director" the words "Executive Committee" be substituted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in line 8, for the word "him", the words "the Executive Committee" be substituted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 94, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 95

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 95, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 96

Sardar Achhar Singh (Ajnala) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in sub-clause (1), line 2, for the words "at all reasonable times" the words "twice a year" be substituted.

Sir, the words used in the original clause are "at all reasonable times" and if these words are allowed to remain, there will be the danger of the "reasonable times" becoming unreasonable in practice. In order to remove this fear and such a possibility it has been suggested in the amendment that the words "twice a year" may be substituted for "all reasonable times".

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in sub-clause (1), line 2, for the words "at all reasonable times" the words "twice a year" be substituted.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (1), line 2, for the words "at all reasonable times" the words "twice a year" be substituted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 96, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 97

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That the Clause be deleted.

Sir, this clause lays down that the Deputy Commissioner will have the power to suspend any resolution or order passed by the panchayat. My submission is that when the right of appeal against the decisions and orders of the panchayats have been given where is the justification for giving this power to the Deputy Commissioner? The two provisions are contradictory and, therefore, in my opinion this clause is unnecessary and superfluous.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Clause be deleted.

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma) (Hindi) : Sir, this provision is not unnecessary or superfluous. Not to speak of the panchayats, which are a new institution, this provision exists even in the case of district boards and municipal committees. The working of the panchayats is only at an experimental stage and, therefore, it is very necessary to have such a provision so that if a panchayat takes a wrong decision there may be some machinery to set things right.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the clause be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 97, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 98, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 99

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : (Ajnala) (*Punjabi*) : Sir, I beg to move—

That the Clause be deleted.

Sir, this clause provides that if a panchayat makes a default in the performance of any duty the Deputy Commissioner may appoint any person to perform it and realise from the panchayat the expenses arising from, and incidental to, such performance. I have been under the apprehension that the Government would bring in some provision which will make the panchayats useless and ineffective. Let me warn them that they are, by their own action, opening the way for mischief. This is not a democratic way of doing things. It will divest a panchayat of all its importance and utility. That is why, I request that this clause may be deleted.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Clause be deleted.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Clause be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 99, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 100

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 100, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 101

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (*Punjabi*) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in sub-clause (1), line 2, for the word "Government" the words "Punjab Legislative Assembly" be substituted.

That in sub-clause (1), line 7, for the words "extend to twenty-five" the words "not exceed five" be substituted.

That in sub-clause 2, line 3, for the word "Government" the words "Punjab Legislative Assembly" be substituted.

Sir, the rules made by the Government must be submitted to the Assembly for approval. This is the usual practice everywhere. The U.P. Government has followed it and provided that the rules made under the Act will have to be approved by the Assembly.

My second amendment means that the maximum amount of penalty should be Rs. 5 and not Rs. 25 as provided in the Bill.

The next amendment suggests, like the first one, that everything should not be left entirely in the hands of the Government and the word "Assembly" should be substituted for the word "Government".

Mr. Speaker : Motions moved—

That in sub-clause (1), line 2, for the word "Government" the words "Punjab Legislative Assembly" be substituted.

That in sub-clause (1), line 7, for the words "extend to twenty-five" the words "not exceed five" be substituted.

That in sub-clause 2, line 3, for the word "Government" the words "Punjab Legislative Assembly" be substituted

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (1), line 2, for the word "Government" the words "Punjab Legislative Assembly" be substituted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (1), line 7, for the words "extend to twenty-five" the words "not exceed five" be substituted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause 2, line 3, for the word "Government" the words "Punjab Legislative Assembly" be substituted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 101 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 102

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That sub-clause (1) be deleted.

That in sub-clause (2), line 1, for the word "Government" the following words be substituted :—

"Gram Panchayat after the approval of the Gram Sabha".

[Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut]

Mr. Speaker, this clause gives the power to the Director to suspend or remove a panch. Why not let this power remain in the hands of the panchayats? It is not advisable to hand over everything to the Director. This is an undemocratic policy.

My second submission is that for the word "Government", wherever it occurs in the clause the word "Panchayat" should be substituted. If everything is left in the hands of the Government the panchayats will not be able to do their job satisfactorily.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That sub-clause (1) be deleted.

That in sub-clause (2), line 1, for the word "Government" the following words be substituted :—

"Gram Panchayat after the approval of the Gram Sabha".

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That sub-clause (1) be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (2), line 1, for the word "Government" the following words be substituted :—

"Gram Panchayat after the approval of the Gram Sabha".

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 102 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 103

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 103 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 104

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 104 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 105

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 105 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 106

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 106, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 107

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 107, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 108

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 108, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 109

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 109, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 110

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 110, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 111

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 111, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 112

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 112, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Rai Raghuvir Singh (Seraj) : Sir, I beg to ask for leave of House to introduce the following new Clause:—

That after Clause 112, the following new clause be added:—

“ 113. General meeting of the voters of the Gram Panchayat Area. Every Gram Panchayat shall during the months prescribed in this behalf hold in the manner prescribed general meetings of the voters of the Gram Panchayat Area twice a year in which the report of the working of Gram Panchayat shall be presented and the future programme for the development of the village formulated.”

Mr. Speaker : Has the hon. Member the leave of the House to move the new clause?

The leave was granted.

Rai Raghuvir Singh : Sir, I beg to move—

That after Clause 112, the following new clause be added :—

“ 113. General meeting of the voters of the Gram Panchayat Area. Every Gram Panchayat shall during the months prescribed in this behalf hold in the manner prescribed general meetings of the voters of the Gram Panchayat Area twice a year in which the report of the working of Gram Panchayat shall be presented and the future programme for the development of the village formulated.”

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That after Clause 112, the following new clause be added :—

“ 113. General meeting of the voters of the Gram Panchayat Area. Every Gram Panchayat shall during the months prescribed in this behalf hold in the manner prescribed general meetings of the voters of the Gram Panchayat Area twice a year in which the report of the working of Gram Panchayat shall be presented and the future programme for the development of the village formulated.”

Mr. Speaker : The question is that the clause be considered.

(The question was affirmed).

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (Punjabi) : Mr. Speaker, this new clause has been introduced in order to set up Gram Sabhas. Clauses relating to the establishment of Gram Sabhas which existed in the original Bill and under which these could function effectively have been removed from it. Now a meaningless clause has been brought forward under which the Gram Sabhas will meet twice in a year and hear the reports about the work done by the Panchayats. They will have nothing else to do. These Sabhas will have no functions to perform, no responsibilities to discharge and no funds at their disposal. In the Bill as originally drafted the Gram Sabhas had been given the power of meeting twice a year and removing those Panches who did not perform their duties properly. They could elect new Panches in place of those whom they decided to remove, chalk out the programme of work, criticise the work done by the Panchayats and direct them to do certain things. This Clause has been introduced out of the fear that the public might resent the deletion of provisions relating to Gram Sabhas. The Government wants to tell the people that it has passed a new measure but it would be noticed that the useful provisions have been deleted from it and vast powers have been vested in the Director. We have been repeatedly pointing out the necessity of having Gram Sabhas but the Government has not accepted our suggestion. Now, however, fearing that propaganda might be made in the villages in this connection, a meaningless clause is sought to be incorporated in the Bill.

The Assembly then adjourned till 1 p.m. on Tuesday, the 2nd December, 1952.

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PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

DEBATES

2nd December 1952.

Vol. III, No. 15

OFFICIAL REPORT



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Punjab Legislative Assembly

Tuesday, 2nd December, 1952.

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Simla, at 1 p.m. of the clock.
Mr. Speaker (Dr. Satyapal) in the Chair.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

REPRESENTATION FROM PUNJAB BALMIK SABHA.

***1045. Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether the Government has received any representation from the Punjab Balmik Sabha incorporating copies of resolutions passed at their annual conference held in Ludhiana in September, 1952 under the presidentship of Prof. Yashwant Rai, Ex. M.P. ; if so, the action, if any, taken by the Government on their demands ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : No such copies of resolutions appear to have been received.

SEPARATION OF EXECUTIVE FROM JUDICIARY.

***1047. Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Government has considered the detailed recommendations of the Punjab High Court Bar Association regarding the separation of the Executive from the Judiciary : if so, the decisions, if any, taken by the Government in the matter ;
- (b) when the Government intends to take final and decisive steps to separate the Executive from the Judiciary ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) & (b) The matter is under consideration.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Since when is this question under the consideration of the Government ?

Chief Minister : I have already told the House that this question is under the active consideration of the Government.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Why is the Government delaying this matter when a provision to this effect already exists in the Constitution ?

Chief Minister : I have already told that.....

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** No, he need not reply. It is not a supplementary question.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Let him complete his reply, Sir.

APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL ANTI-CORRUPTION STAFF FOR AREAS UNDER CONSOLIDATION SCHEME.

***1153. Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government has under consideration the scheme for the appointment of a special anti-corruption staff for area where consolidation of holdings is going on; if so, the details thereof ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : *First part* :—A scheme of appointing a special staff for checking is under consideration.

Second part :—The details are being worked out and are not yet ready.

ELECTRICITY, WATER CHARGES AND LOCAL RATE INCURRED BY THE GOVERNMENT ON THE HOUSES OCCUPIED BY MINISTERS.

***1175. Shri Sri Chand :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state the monthly expenditure on Electricity, Water, Local Rate and other items per month incurred by the Government on the houses occupied by the Ministers from May, 1952 to September, 1952 ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : Statements showing the monthly expenditure incurred by the State from May, 1952 to September, 1952, on Electric Charges, Water Tax, Water Meter Rent, Excess Water Charges, Malis and Chowkidars in respect of houses occupied by the Ministers are given below :—

Bill for Electricity consumed during the following months

Name of Place	May, 1952	June, 1952	July, 1952	August, 1952	September 1952
Brockhurst No. 1 residence of I.& P. Minister	Rs AS. PS. 44 6 0	Rs AS. PS. ..	Rs AS. PS. 92 5 0	Rs AS. PS. 59 14 0	Rs AS. PS. 67 11 0
Brockhurst No. 2 residence of P. W. Minister	22 2 0	20 7 0	8 12 0	50 2 0	48 4 0
Brockhurst No. 3 residence of Labour Minister	24 3 0	64 3 0	86 15 0	78 9 0	63 4 0
New Victoria Cottage, residence of Education Minister	16 15 0	26 0 0	37 8 0	50 11 0	33 1 0
Victoria Place residence of Local Government Minister	18 6 0	71 3 0	168 0 0	211 8 0	111 4 0
Allen Bank residence of Chief Minister	138 3 0 One Bill		100 14 0	158 2 0	129 11 0
Boundary residence of Revenue and Development Minister	12 3 0	26 7 0	40 7 0	61 1 0	73 0 0

List of bills for excess water charges and water meter/tax rents in respect of the buildings noted against each

S. No.	No. and date of Bills	Nature of charges	Period	Amount	Name of Buildings
				Rs	
1	2165-XW, dated 4th July 1952.	Ex. W. Ch.	9-5-52 to 9-6-52	15	Brockhurst House No. 1
2	3396-XW, dated 22nd July 1952.	Ditto	9-6-52 to 9-7-52	30	Ditto
3	4479-XW, dated 27th August 1952.	Ditto	9-7-52 to 9-8-52	16	Ditto
4	5516-XW, dated 15th October 1952.	Ditto	9-8-52 to 9-9-52	10	Ditto
5	1689-MR, dated 20th June 1952.	W. M. Rent	For 1952	12	Ditto
			Total	83	
1	4480-XW, dated 27th August 1952.	Ex. W. Ch.	9-7-52 to 9-8-52	8	Brockhurst House No. 2
2	5517-XW, dated 15th October 1952.	Ditto	9-8-52 to 9-9-52	6	Ditto
3	1690-MR, dated 20th June 1952.	W. M. Rent	For 1952	12	Ditto
			Total	26	
1	2166-XW, dated 4th July 1952.	Ex. W. Ch.	9-5-52 to 9-6-52	45	Brockhurst House No. 3
2	3397-XW, dated 22nd July 1953.	Ditto	9-6-52 to 9-7-52	48	Ditto
3	4481-XW, dated 27th August 1952.	Ditto	9-7-52 to 9-8-52	24	Ditto
4	5518-XW, dated 15th October 1952.	Ditto	9-8-52 to 9-9-52	22	Ditto
5	1691-MR, dated 20th June 1952	W. M. Rent	For 1952	12	Ditto
			Total	151	
1	2137-XW, dated 4th July 1952	Ex. W. Ch.	9-5-52 to 9-6-52	72	Allen Bank
2	3362-XW, dated 22nd July 1952.	Ditto	9-6-52 to 9-7-52	45	Ditto
3	4454-XW, dated 21st August 1952.	Ditto	9-7-52 to 9-8-52	50	Ditto
4	5487-XW, dated 29th September 1952.	Ditto	9-8-52 to 9-9-52	34	Ditto
5	1406-MR, dated 28th May 1952	W. M. Rent	For 1952	12	Ditto
			Total	213	

[Chief Minister]

S. No.	No. and date of Bills	Nature of charges	Period	Amount	Name of Buildings
1	2138-XW, dated 4th July 1952.	Ex. W. Ch.	9-5-52 to 9-6-52	6	Guest House at Allen Bank
2	3363-XW, dated 22nd July 1952.	Ditto	9-6-52 to 9-7-52	3	Ditto
3	4455-XW, dated 21st August 1952.	Ditto	9-7-52 to 9-8-52	8	Ditto
4	5488-XW, dated 29th September 1952.	Ditto	9-8-52 to 9-9-52	6	Ditto
5	1407-MR, dated 28th May 1952.	W. M. Rent	For 1952	12	Ditto
			Total	35	
1	2128-XW, dated 1st July 1952.	Ex. W. Ch.	9-5-52 to 9-6-52	18	New Victoria Cottage
2	3352-XW, dated 24th July 1952.	Ditto	9-6-52 to 9-7-52	33	Ditto
3	4446-XW, dated 25th August 1952.	Ditto	9-7-52 to 9-8-52	10	Ditto
4	5479-XW, dated 19th September, 1952.	Ditto	9-8-52 to 9-9-52	8	Ditto
5	1182-MR, dated 22nd June 1952.	W. M. Rent	For 1952	12	Ditto
			Total	81	
1	2129-XW, dated 1st July 1952.	Ex. W. Ch.	9-5-52 to 9-6-52	36	Vic oria Place
2	3353-XW, dated 24th July 1952.	Ditto	9-6-52 to 9-7-52	93	Ditto
3	4447- XW, dated 25th August 1952.	Ditto	9-7-52 to 9-8-52	50	Ditto
4	5480-XW, dated 19th September 1952.	Ditto	9-8-52 to 9-9-52	52	Ditto
5	1183-MR, dated 19th May 1952.	W. M. Rent	For 1952	12	Ditto
			Total	243	
1	2077-XW, dated 1st July 1952.	Ex. W. Ch.	9-5-52 to 9-6-52	45	Boundary
2	3307-XW, dated 24th July 1952.	Ditto	9-6-52 to 9-7-52	84	Ditto
3	4408-XW, dated 25th August 1952.	Ditto	9-7-52 to 9-8-52	44	Ditto
4	5442-XW, dated 18th September 1952.	Ditto	9-8-52 to 9-9-52	38	Ditto
5	462-MR, dated 26th April 1952.	W. M. Rent	For 1952	12	Ditto
			Total	223	

Name of Building	Water Tax for 1952 from 1st January 1952 to 31st December 1952		
	Rs	AS.	PS.
1. Brockhurst No. 1	75	0	0
2. Brockhurst No. 2	80	0	0
3. Brockhurst No. 3	82	8	0
4. New Victoria Cottage	42	8	0
5. Victoria Place	60	10	0
6. Allen Bank	61	4	0
7. Boundary	71	4	0

Details of monthly expenditure incurred on account of pay of Malis and Chowkidars appointed for Ministers' residences and Flowers, etc.

Name of residence	Month	Mali		Chowki-dar		Seeds, etc.	
		Rs	A. P.	Rs	A. P.	Rs	A. P.
1. Brockhurst No. 1.	April 1952	25	0 0	..	..	..	..
	May 1952	40	5 0	..	..	..	..
	June 1952	18	12 0	..	..	..	..
	July 1952	62	8 0	..	..	..	..
	August 1952	67	8 0	..	..	..	..
	September 1952	67	8 0	..	..	..	..
2. Brockhurst No. 2.	April 1952 to June 1952	Nil	..	..	..	..	..
	July 1952	44	6 0	..	..	..	..
	August 1952	67	8 0	..	..	..	..
	September 1952	67	8 0	..	..	..	..
3. Brockhurst No. 3.	April to August 1952	Nil	..	..	..	..	..
	September 1952	38	12 0	..	..	..	..
4. New Victoria Cottage	April to September 1952	..	..	..	..	..	..
	April 1952	27	1 0	..	..	..	..
5. Victoria Place	May 1952	56	7 0	..	..	Flower seeds	4 10 0
	June 1952	62	8 0	..	..	..	..
	July 1952	62	8 0	..	..	..	..
	August 1952	67	8 0	..	..	..	..
	September 1952	67	8 0	..	..	..	..
6. Allen Bank	April 1952	29	3 0	..	..	Flower seeds	4 8 0
	May 1952	62	8 0	..	..	..	..
	June 1952	62	8 0	..	..	..	..
	July 1952	62	8 0	..	..	..	..
	August 1952	67	8 0	..	..	..	..
	September 1952	67	8 0	..	..	..	..
7. Boundary	April 1952	4	8 0	..	..	..	..
	May 1952	19	13 0	..	..	..	..
	June 1952	21	3 0	..	..	..	..
	July 1952	47	13 0	..	..	..	..
	August 1952	67	8 0	..	..	..	..
8. House of Shri Ujjal Singh, Finance Minister	September 1952	67	8 0	..	..	..	..
	September 1952	..	..	14	0 0	..	..

UNEMPLOYMENT IN THE STATE

***1255. Shri Jagat Ram Bhardwaj :** Will the Minister for Labour be pleased to state whether he is aware of the increasing unemployment in the State ; if so, the steps, Government proposes to take in the matter ?

Chaudhri Sundar Singh : No comparative figures of the unemployed are available. Unemployment is being reduced, to a great extent, by the following schemes, amongst others :—

- (i) Technical and Vocational Training Schemes sponsored by the Resettlement & Employment Organisation and the Industries Department.
- (ii) Community Projects Scheme.
- (iii) Scheme for the formation of Labour Co-operatives.
- (iv) Faridabad township is providing employment to a large number of displaced persons. Nilokheri, Panipat, Sonapat and Bahadurgarh are growing into flourishing centres towards the growth of economic activities and industrial development, resulting in minimising unemployment.

Shri Jagat Ram Bhardawaj : It seems the hon. Minister has avoided to give reply to my main question.

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** The hon. Member should not put forward arguments. He can ask a supplementary question, if he likes.

Shri Jagat Ram Bhardawaj : My question is whether the Chief Minister is aware of the increasing unemployment in the State, if so, what step does the Government propose to take in the matter? In reply to this I have been told that unemployment is being reduced by the Technical and Vocational Training Schemes and that Faridabad township is providing employment to a large number of displaced persons. These are all things of the past. I want to know what steps the Government proposes to take to check unemployment.

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** The hon. Member cannot discuss the answer given by the Minister.

TRANSFER OF REVENUE PATWARIS IN THE STATE.

***495. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any Revenue Patwaris were transferred from Ambala and other districts of the State to the Amritsar District during the year 1951 ; if so, their names and the name of the district from where each of them was transferred during the period ;
- (b) (i) whether any of the patwaris referred to in part (a) above was given any travelling allowance; if not, the reason therefor in each case ;
- (ii) the amount claimed by each of them ;
- (iii) the amount paid to each of them ; if not, the reasons therefor ;
- (c) whether any of the Patwaris referred to in part (a) above had put in their T.A. bills ; if so, the dates when each of them put in his T.A. bill ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) Yes. Statement (A) is given below.

(b) (i) Yes. Of them only 18 Patwaris claimed T.A. Claims of 17 Patwaris have already been settled while the claim of the 18th is pending for want of full details.

(ii) & (iii) Statement (B) is given below.

(c) Yes. Refer to statement (B) given below.

STATEMENT A

S. No.	Name of Patwari	Name of the district from where transferred
1	Shri Ram Chand, son of Nirmal Das ..	Ambala
2	Shri Boga Ram, son of Godha Ram ..	Do
3	Shri Chhotu Ram, son of Khan Chand ..	Do
4	Shri Thakar Dass ..	Do
5	Shri Topan Dass ..	Do
6	Shri Joti Ram, son of Attar Chand ..	Do
7	Shri Sardari Lal, son of Wadhawa Mal ..	Do
8	Shri Devi Chand ..	Do
9	Shri Chuni Lal, son of Shunder Dass ..	Do
10	Shri Ram Lubhaya, son of Dhan Raj ..	Do
11	Shri Hans Raj, son of Hari Mal ..	Gurgaon
12	Shri Hem Raj, son of Prabh Dayal ..	Do
13	Shri Krishan Lal, son of Nagar Mal ..	Do
14	Shri Faqir Chand, son of Ram Chand ..	Ambala
15	Shri Om Parkash, son of Shri Gehna Ram ..	Gurgaon
16	Shri Lila Krishan, son of Ram Krishan ..	Do
17	Shri Gopal Dass, son of Shri Bhoja Ram ..	Do
18	Shri Ram Lal, son of Shri Karam Chand ..	Do
19	Shri Ishar Das, son of Shri Duli Chand ..	Do
20	Shri Behari Lal, son of Shri Ishar Das ..	Do

[Minister for Development]

S. No.	Name of Patwari	Name of the district from where transferred
21	Shri Tulsi Ram, son of Shri Tojar Ram ..	Gurgaon
22	Shri Vidya Bhaskar, son of Shri Tulsi Ram ..	Do
23	Shri Dharam Chand, son of Shri Mul Chand ..	Do
24	Shri Talsa Ram, son of Shri Kala Ram ..	Do
25	Shri Ram Diwaya, son of Shri Gurdhan Das ..	Do
26	Shri Talsa Ram, son of Shri Kala Ram ..	Do
27	Shri Ram Diwaya, son of Shri Gurdhan Dass ..	Do
28	Shri Bashamber Dyal, son of Puran Chand ..	Ferozepore
29	Shri Lachhman Das, son of Thakar Das ..	Gurgaon
30	Shri Loku Ram, son of Remal Das ..	Do
31	Shri Lila Ram, son of Tulsi Das ..	Do
32	Shri Haveli Ram, son of Nanak Chand ..	Do
33	Shri Milawa Ram, son of Munshi Ram ..	Do
34	Shri Prabhu Dyal, son of Behari Lal ..	Do
35	Shri Radha Krishan, son of Tharia Ram ..	Do
35	Shri Ram Parkash, son of Kanshi Ram ..	Do
37	Shri Loku Ram, son of Remal Das ..	Do
38	Shri Chhotu Ram, son of Boosha Ram ..	Do
39	Shri Ishar Das, son of Mul Chand ..	Do
40	Shri Pyare Lal, son of Godha Ram ..	Do
41	Shri Hukam Chand, son of Ladha Ram ..	Do
42	Shri Mela Ram, son of Mul Raj ..	Do
43	Shri Nand Lal, son of Mangha Ram ..	Do
44	Shri Chiman Lal, son of Guranditta Mal ..	Do
45	Shri Om Parkash, son of Bur Chand ..	Jullundur
46	Shri Chaman Lal, son of Goverdhan Das ..	Ambala
47	Gurbachan Singh, son of Kartar Singh ..	Ferozepore
48	Arbel Singh, son of Hari Singh ..	Do
49	Mokand Lal, son of Tara Chand ..	Do
50	Sohan Singh ..	Gurgaon

STATEMENT B

Sl. No.	Name of Patwari	(b) (ii)	(b) (iii)	C
		Amount claimed	Amount paid	Date of putting in T. A. bill
1	2	3	4	5
1	Shri Hans Raj ..	76 0 0	108 15 0	19th May 1951.
2	Shri Ram Chand ..	60 3 0	60 13 0	10th August 1951.
3	Shri Malawa Ram ..	164 2 0	126 1 0	27th July 1951.
4	Shri Vidia Bhaskar ..	60 15 0	54 6 0	29th August 1951.
5	Shri Piara Lal ..	231 5 9	152 6 0	31st August 1951.
6	Shri Bishambar Lal ..	140 2 9	80 12 0	14th August 1951.
7	Shri Radha Kishan ..	79 4 0	78 6 0	3rd October 1951.
8	Shri Behari Lal ..	17 12 0	17 4 0	Ditto
9	Shri Mokand Lal ..	50 4 0	58 2 0	Ditto
10	Shri Mela Ram ..	92 12 0	96 6 0	Ditto
11	Shri Hem Raj ..	64 10 0	81 4 0	19th September 1951.
12	Shri Gopal Das ..	29 4 0	44 7 0	4th August 1951.
13	Shri Prabh Dial ..	143 1 0	79 1 0	15th October 1951.
14	Shri Bogha Ram ..	14 15 0	23 13 0	3rd November 1951.
15	Shri Thakrar Das ..	27 15 0	28 2 0	8th November 1951.
16	Shri Topan Ram ..	19 8 6	25 4 0	30th October 1951.
17	Shri Chiman Lal ..	186 7 0	186 7 0	in the first week of October 1951
18	Shri Sohan Singh ..	145 15 9		His claim of Travelling Allowance of transfer has

been returned to the Tehsildar, Tarn Taran, on 29th May 1952, for want of certain particulars and corrections and has now been received on 16th October 1952 again. His bill will be pre-audited by the Accountant-General, Punjab and payment will be made to him in due course.

TRANSFER OF REVENUE PATWARIS FROM AMRITSAR TO FEROZEPUR

***496. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state —

- (a) whether any Revenue Patwaris were transferred to Ferozepur District from the Amritsar District during the year 1951, if so, their names;
 (b) whether these were paid any T.A. on transfer ; if so, the amount paid to each of them, if not, the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) Yes. A list is given below.

(b) Yes. Only four Patwaris who claimed T.A. were paid the amount shown against each in the list which is given below. The remaining patwaris have not yet submitted their transfer T.A. bills and as such no amount has been paid to them.

List of Patwaris who were transferred to Ferozepur District from Amritsar District during the year 1951:—

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Shri Gurbachan Singh. | 11. Shri Geja Singh. |
| 2. Shri Balwant Singh. | 12. Shri Sahib Singh. |
| 3. Shri Jagan Nath. | 13. Shri Daya Ram. |
| 4. Shri Jagat Singh. | 14. Shri Total Singh. |
| 5. Shri Hans Raj. | 15. Shri Hira Lal. |
| 6. Shri Narain Singh. | 16. Shri Ajaib Singh. |
| 7. Shri Chuhar Singh. | 17. Shri Jarnail Singh. |
| 8. Shri Harkishan Lal. | 18. Shri Machi Singh. |
| 9. Shri Munshi Ram. | 19. Shri Harcharn Singh. |
| 10. Shri Fauja Singh. | 20. Shri Arbel Singh. |
| | 21. Shri Ram Saran Das |

List of Patwaris who were paid T. A.

Serial No.	Name of Patwari	Amount paid
1	Shri Jarnail Singh ..	Rs A. P. 49 14 0
2	Shri Machi Singh ..	49 0 0
3	Shri Harcharan Singh ..	65 11 0
4	Shri Arbel Singh ..	57 8 0

ENFORCEMENT OF TENANCY ACT IN DISTRICT KANGRA

***1138. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state —

- (a) whether the Tenancy Act recently passed is not in force in District Kangra ;

- (b) whether he is aware of the fact that many feudal levies are still being charged in respect of land in Kangra District as a result of which the tenant gets only one-fifth of the produce ; if so, the steps Government proposes to take in the matter ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) This Act is in force in the whole of the State of Punjab.

(b) Part (i)—No feudal levies are being charged.

Part (ii)—Does not arise.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Does the Government intend to take action against those landlords, who.....

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** It is not a supplementary question.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : The hon. Minister has just told the House that the landlords cannot charge a feudal levy. Does the Government undertake to take action against certain zamindars, if it is proved that levy had been charged by them ?

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** Disallowed. It is a hypothetical question and it cannot be allowed.

RE-ORGANISATION OF FORESTS IN KANGRA DISTRICT.

*1296. **Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether there is any scheme under the consideration of Government to re-organise the forests in Kangra District with a view to create community forests under the direct control and management of the village community ; if so, the details thereof ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : *Part I.* No.

Part II. Does not arise.

IMPROVEMENT OF AGRICULTURE IN KANGRA DISTRICT.

✓ *1297. **Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether any steps have been taken by the Government to improve agriculture in Kangra District by applying modern scientific methods ; if so, the amount set apart by the Government for the purpose during the year 1952-53 ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : The following steps have been taken by the Government to improve Agriculture in Kangra District:—

(i) Kangra District has its own problems regarding the suitable varieties of various seeds suited for its different tracts. Accordingly Agricultural Research Sub-Stations have been started at various places e.g. Kangra, Gusser, Nagrota, Palampur, Kulu and Katrain. At these Sub-Stations experiments are in progress to evolve the best varieties of wheat, maize, rice, linseed, sugarcane and soyabean etc. Besides this, a Horticultural Sub-Station has been

[Minister for Development]

established at Kulu to find out the most suitable varieties of hill fruits for the tract. This sub-station also maintains a fruit nursery to cater for the demands of the fruit growers of the district for reliable and true type plants.

(ii) Bee-keeping has good scope in the hill areas of the district. Accordingly, Bee Research Sub-Station has been functioning at Nagrota and Katrain to improve this industry. At these stations classes are held annually to impart necessary training and teaching in bee-keeping to the prospective agriculturists.

(iii) To step up production of crops in the district, improved varieties of wheat, rice, linseed, sugarcane and Soyabean are distributed every year amongst the cultivators. District Agricultural Staff are posted in each tehsil of the district to demonstrate better methods of cultivation to the farmers of the district. The staff, to achieve this object, make extensive tours in the villages, deliver lectures, hold talks and meetings, give practical demonstrations and lay out demonstration plots and thus show the cultivators the best methods of increasing the crop yields.

(iv) Pests of crops and monkeys and jackals do a lot of damage to crops and fruit trees. Campaigns are organised to control the pests and save the crops and fruits of the district.

(v) The soil of Kangra District is not only shallow but infertile mostly. Vigorous propaganda is done to bring home to the cultivators the need, urgency and utility of conserving farm yard manure, Demonstrations are given for the manufacture of compost and making of compost pits. The application of properly rotten compost to the land is the cheapest method of increasing the yield of crops.

(vi) Manurial, varietal and cultural experiments have been and are in progress at the various Agricultural Farms in the district. To give an idea as to how much amount is being spent annually on these farms the figures are given below :—

	Rs
1. Agricultural Farm	36,160
2. Horticultural Sub-Station, Kulu	43,290
3. Katrain Bee-keeping Sub-Station	11,550

Considerable amount is being spent at the Rice and Oilseeds Breeding Sub-Station, Nagrota, and the Bee-keeping Research Sub-Station.

Besides this, other schemes are in hand amounting to Rs 19,90,090 or so to augment the existing irrigation facilities. Schemes have also been sanctioned to improve Agriculture and Horticulture in the Lahaul and Spiti area of the district.

IMPROVEMENT IN THE BREED OF COWS AND BULLOCKS IN KANGRA DISTRICT

***1298. Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether any steps have been taken by the Punjab Government to improve the breed of cows and bullocks in Kangra District; if so, what ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : With a view to improving the breed of hill cattle in the Kangra District, a scheme known as Kangra Cattle Breeding scheme was initiated in the Kangra District some 15 years ago. Under this scheme suitable Montgomery bulls are purchased out of State funds and located at various places in the district under the charge of selected breeders. Till October, 1948, these bulls were granted subsidy by Government which was, however, discontinued on account of the lean finances of the State. During the year 1951-52, 3 more Montgomery bulls were purchased out of State funds from the Military Farm, Meerut, and located at various places in the district and on 31st March 1952 there were 58 Montgomery bulls, 45 Suketar and 4 other bulls at stud in the district.

It is now proposed to restart the Cattle Breeding Scheme in the Kangra District by subsidizing approved bulls already at work and to supply and subsidize more Montgomery and Suketar bulls in and round about urban and rural areas, respectively, with effect from 1st April 1953. The scheme is being included in the Schedule of New Expenditure for 1953-54.

 SUPPLY OF GRAM AND WHEAT SEED TO CULTIVATORS IN THE STATE

***1335. Shri Ram Chandra Comrade :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the gram and wheat seed could not be made available to the cultivators in the State this year till the 15th of October 1952 ; if so, the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : Wheat and gram seeds were stocked with the Commission agents well in advance of the sowing season at all places except at Banjor and Outer Seraj tract of Kangra District where wheat seed could not reach before the 30th October 1952, due to lack of transportation facilities.

Shri Ram Kishan : I wish to submit for the information of the Minister that I myself have been to Palampur.....

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** The hon. Member should ask a question and not give information.

Shri Ram Kishan: Sir, the information given by the Minister is incomplete.

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** That may be right but the hon. Member should ask a question about it.

Shri Ram Kishan : Is the hon. Minister aware of the fact that the seed was not supplied at Palampur in time ?

Minister : I have placed before the House the information which I received. However, I am thankful to the hon. Member for the information that he has given.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Is the Government aware of the fact that the seed which was issued from the Stores one month before the sowing operations, did not reach the people in time ?

Minister for Local Government : The seed which was damaged and weevilled could not be issued for distribution to the people.

PURCHASE OF LAND FOR CATTLE BREEDING FARM AT PALAMPUR

***1336. Shri Ram Chandra Comrade :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether the Government purchased any land for a Cattle Breeding Farm at Palampur, District Kangra in the year 1938; if so, the date when the farm was started and the number of cattle it has so far bred ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : *Part first*—No. Thirty acres of crown land and some private buildings were, however, acquired in 1941 by the Civil Veterinary Department, Punjab, for the purpose of establishing a Research Station for investigating the possibility of increasing the milk yield of Kangra hill cows by introducing the Lohani Breed of Cattle which is found in Afghanistan.

Part second—With the outbreak of war the land was taken over by the Military authorities with the result that the Scheme could not be implemented. No farm was, therefore, started nor any animals bred.

Shri Ram Chandra Comrade : Will the Minister be pleased to state when the scheme, which is at present being kept in abeyance, will be taken in hand ?

Minister : This depends upon the availability of funds.

SUPPLY OF FODDER IN HISSAR DISTRICT.

***1355. Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether he is aware of the fact that the Co-operative Bank, Bhiwani, approached the Deputy Commissioner, Hissar on 3rd of May 1952, with the tender rate of fodder at Rs. 3-8-0 as whole sale price and Rs 3-10-0 as retail price ;

(b) whether he is further aware of the fact that the contractor who charged much higher rates was given the contract to supply fodder ; if so, the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) Yes.

(b) *First part*—No.

Second part—Does not arise.

GAUGE READERS

***497. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state—

(a) whether the tail gauge readers of the Sirhind Canal Circle were allowed any cycle allowance during the years 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951 and 1952, if so, the rate per mensem ;

- (b) whether the tail gauge readers of the Upper Bari Doab Cana Circle during the years referred to in part (a) above were given the said allowance ; if not, the reasons therefor ;
- (c) whether in the light of the statement made by the Government in reply to Assembly Starred Question No. 2721 given on 8th March 1951, Government has taken any action in the matter; if so, the nature thereof ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : (a) *Tail gauge readers of the Sirhind Canal Circle* were allowed cycle allowance at Rs 4-8-0 per mensem for the periods stated hereunder :—

Tail gauge readers in Abohar Division were paid for the years 1948-49 and 1949-50. The allowance for the years 1950-51 and 1951-52 is still under sanction.

Tail gauge readers in Ferozepur Division were paid for the years 1948-49, 1949-50, 1950-51 and 1951-52.

Tail gauge readers in Bhatinda Division are being paid with effect from the 1st November 1951.

(b) *Tail gauge readers of the Upper Bari Doab Circle*, whose normal beat exceeded 10 miles one way were paid cycle allowance at Rs 4-8-0 per mensem during the years 1948-49, 1949-50, 1950-51 and 1951-52.

(c) The statement made by the Government in reply to Assembly Starred Question No. 2721 given on 8th March 1951, indicated no action to be taken in the matter by the Government.

—————
TAKING OVER OF GREY CANAL BY THE GOVERNMENT

*1137. **Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Grey Canal water-supply in District Ferozepur was managed previously by an elected Committee of the people concerned;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Government took over the management of the said canal from the people last year ;
- (c) whether he is aware of the fact that the people concerned were not intimated about the taking over of the said canal either through the Patwaris or by the beat of drum and that a circular letter in this connection kept lying in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Ferozepur;
- (d) whether it is a fact that no compensation has been paid to the people for their land under the said canal or the trees growing on its banks ; if so, the steps Government proposes to take in the matter ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : (a) No. The supplies in the Grey Canals were managed by the Deputy Commissioner, Ferozepur, under the Minor Canals Act, which gives powers to the Collector and not to any elected Committee.

[Minister for Irrigation]

The zamindars were, of course, consulted in a Jalsa Bachh for the fixation of water rates only. The Deputy Commissioner could over-rule the findings of the Jalsa Bachh.

(b) The management of the Grey Canals was transferred from the Deputy Commissioner, Ferozepur, to the P.W.D. Irrigation Branch in May 1950.

(c) In a Jalsa Bachh of the Zamindars held under the chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner on the 28th November 1949 at Ferozepur, the intention of the Government for the transfer of the management of Grey Canals to the Irrigation Branch was announced to the irrigators, who unanimously agreed to this transfer.

(d) The Collector (Deputy Commissioner, Ferozepur District) is assessing the compensation for land under the Grey Canals as well as the trees on their banks and payment will be made as soon as compensation is announced by him.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : The Minister has stated that the people were informed of it. May I know how many people attended the gathering ?

Minister : The hon. Member should know that no mention of the number was made in the question. This supplementary question, therefore, does not arise.

Shri Wadhawa Ram : It is a common practice that in such matters announcement is made in every village through the Lambardars and the Chowkidars by the beat of drums. May I know if the Government took that step in this matter ?

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** It does not arise.

Shri Wadhawa Ram : My submission is that prior to the transfer of Grey Canal to the Irrigation Department, the rate of 'abiana' was less, I want to know why this rate has been increased after its transfer to this department ?

Minister : The overall rate of 'abiana' was increased in the year 1950. When the Government spends a lot of money on the management of the Grey Canal then why should it not increase the water rate ?

Shri Wadhawa Ram : Will the Minister be pleased to state if it is not a fact that whereas previously water in the Grey Canal used to flow for six months in a year, this time it flowed for 1½ months only ?

✓ **Mr Speaker :** It does not arise.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Previously the amount of abiana was Rs 8 but it has, now been increased to Rs. 10. May I know whether in view of this increase the Government has made a proportional increase in the expenditure incurred on the Canal ?

✓ **Mr Speaker :** This question does not arise.

DIGGING OF A CANAL FROM RIVER BEAS.

***1275. Shri Rala Ram :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state whether the scheme for digging a Canal from the River Beas at the Ray Head for irrigating a part of Thana Hajipur and the Thanas of Dasuya and Taudar and Jullundur Tehsil is still under the consideration of Government; if so, the date by which it is expected to be implemented.

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : Yes. The scheme for construction of a Canal from the River Beas at Ray Head is under consideration of the Government. It will be taken up when funds permit.

STRIKE BY BAILDARS OF RUPAR HEADWORKS.

***1337. Shri Ram Chandra Comrade :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state whether he is aware of the fact that the Baidars working on the Rupar Headworks went on strike sometimes in the 1st week of August, 1952 ; if so, the reasons therefor ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : The Baidars working on the Rupar Headworks did not go on strike in the month of August, 1952.

DECLARING A DISPLACED PERSON TO BE A COLONIST IN THE STATE

***938. Shri Ram Kishan :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the procedure laid down for declaring a displaced person as a colonist of a certain place in the State, the qualifications required of a displaced person to be declared a colonist of a certain locality in the State ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : A person whose forefathers owned agricultural land or a house or a residential site in a village of the Punjab (I) and also owned land in the colony area in Punjab (P) has been reckoned as a colonist of that village of Punjab (I) irrespective of the fact whether or not he was still living in that village and whether or not he was still owning any landed property in that village.

PROCEDURE REGARDING ALLOTMENT OF LAND UNDER THE QUASI-PERMANENT ALLOTMENT SCHEME

***940. Shri Ram Kishan :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state —

(a) the procedure that has been laid down for determining a bigger allottee for the allotment of land under the quasi-permanent allotment scheme ;

(b) (i) whether procedure referred to in part (a) above is uniform throughout the State ; if not, the reasons therefor ;

(ii) the names of the district in which procedure different from that referred to in part (a) above has been followed ;

(iii) the reasons for following different procedure in each district referred to in part (b) (ii) above ;

[Shri Ram Kishan]

(c) the authority of Law under which different procedures in different districts for one and the same purpose has been followed;

(d) whether the Government proposes to follow a uniform procedure in the whole of the State in this matter; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) The allotment made to an allottee in a particular village has to be reckoned as a unit in determining whether a particular allottee is bigger than the others.

(b) (i), (ii), (iii), No. In Ambala District the allotment of a displaced person made in various villages, suburban belt or garden colony was reckoned as one's entire holding for determining the size of the holding. The adoption of the same procedure as followed in other districts of the State was not only too late for practical reasons but would also have affected practically all the allottees which would have caused a serious dislocation in the Rehabilitation work and hardship to the allottees.

(c) This procedure was approved by Government.

(d) No. It is too late at this stage to enforce uniform procedure in all the districts of the State.

INTRODUCING THE SCHEDULE OF RATES FOR INVITING TENDERS IN THE STATE

***1046. Shri Dev Raj Sethi:** Will the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the year from which the present schedule of rates for inviting tenders was introduced in the State ;

(b) the year from which the rates have been raised by 175 per cent and the reasons for the increase ;

(c) whether the Government is aware of the inconvenience caused to the public, the Department, and the intending contractors in calculations in terms of 175 per cent of various items, and the excess to be tendered ;

(d) whether in view of the stabilised rates of various items used in the construction of buildings and roads, the Government has considered the advisability of having a new schedule of rates ; if so, with what results ?

Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa : (a) Before partition of the Province.

(The schedule applicable to Jullundur Circle is dated 1940 and that of Ambala Circle 1938).

(b) 1948 ; due to after-effects of war, accentuated further by the partition.

(c) No such inconvenience has ever come to the notice of the Government in the P. W. D.

(d) The schedule of rates has been revised in accordance with the present rates of labour and materials and is being finalised in consultation with Irrigation Branch and Capital Administration.

RETRENCHMENT IN THE REHABILITATION DEPARTMENT

***1130. Shrimati Sita Devi :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Government has received any instructions from the Central Government that reasonable retrenchment should be effected in the Rehabilitation Department; if so, how far these instructions have been carried out,
- (b) the extent of retrenchment made since those instructions were received by the Government?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) Yes, these instructions have been carried out as far as possible.

(b) Twenty-seven officers/officials from the Secretariat and Headquarters staff of the Rehabilitation Department, 88 officers/officials from the District Rural Rehabilitation staff and 93 officials from the Land Resettlement staff employed at Jullundur, 10 officers/officials of the Headquarters staff of the Relief Organization and 121 officials of the District Relief staff have been retrenched since the receipt of the above instructions.

Shrimati Sita Devi : The Government has no doubt effected some retrenchment but when is it going to make further retrenchment and when is the department expected to be abolished ?

Minister: Further retrenchment will be made during the course of the next year.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Has the Government received any instructions from the Centre as to when this department is to be abolished ?

Minister: No.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Has the Government prepared any scheme of its own in this connection ? When is it going to abolish this department ?

(No reply was given)

ALLOTMENT OF LAND TO SHRIMATI PRITAM KAUR OF JULLUNDUR

***1131. Shrimati Sita Devi :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether the Government has received any representation from Jatto alias Pritam Kaur of Jullundur, 8-marla Cheap Housing Colony, to the effect that some land allotted to her in Hissar District was later on cancelled ; if so, the reasons for the said cancellation ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : In the absence of complete details of the village or villages, tehsil and district where Shrimati Jatto alias Pritam Kaur abandoned land in the West Pakistan or the name of the village or villages where allotment of land was made to her in Hissar District and the name of her husband, it is regretted, the information cannot be supplied.

CLOSING DOWN THE RELIEF ORGANISATION

***1176. Shri Sri Chand :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India asked the Punjab Government recently to close down the Relief Organization as its work had been finalised in the year 1950 ;
- (b) if the reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, the action Government intends to take in the matter ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

SHORTAGE OF DRINKING WATER IN RORI AND KALANWALI AREAS OF DISTRICT HISSAR

***1136. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether he is aware of the fact that there is a shortage of drinking water in Rori and Kalanwali areas in District Hissar ;
- (b) whether he is further aware of the fact that the people of the said area bring water on train from Sirsa or Rama Mandi ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Government has received many representations from the people of this area in connection with the facts mentioned in parts (a) and (b) above ; if so, the steps Government proposes to take in the matter ?

Shri Jagat Narain : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The question of removing complaint about shortage of water-supply in this area, as also in many other areas in the Hissar District, has been receiving constant attention of Government, but partly on account of paucity of funds and mainly due to the proposed extensions of the Bhakra Canal System, which would ensure a more copious water-supply in this area during the next two years or so, it is not proposed to carry out any scheme which at best would be a palliative measure. So far as Kalanwali town itself is concerned, a scheme estimated to cost Rs. 1,49,008 was, however, forwarded to the Small Town Committee, but so far it has not returned it for obtaining administrative approval.

AYURVEDIC DISPENSARIES IN HOSHIARPUR DISTRICT

***1246. Shri Rala Ram :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state the number of Ayurvedic Dispensaries that have been allotted to Hoshiarpur District out of the total quota for the year 1952-53 together with the names of the places and the thanas where it is proposed to start them ; the conditions, if any, required to be fulfilled by the inhabitants of a locality before an Ayurvedic Dispensary can be opened there ?

Shri Jagat Narain : Out of the 20 Ayurvedic and Unani Dispensaries to be opened in the rural areas of the State, one dispensary has been allotted to Hoshiarpur District. The venue of the proposed dispensary is yet to be decided. No condition has been prescribed.

IMPLEMENTATION OF PUNJAB UNIVERSITY RESOLUTION

***1276. Shri Rala Ram :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the sanction, necessary for implementing the Punjab University resolution for making our own languages the medium of instruction up to the Matriculation standard has been accorded by the Government ; if so, when, if not the reasons therefor ?

Shri Jagat Narain : It is not clear to which resolution of the Punjab University the reference is being made.

It may, however, be added that Government has accorded sanction for making our own languages the medium of examination up to the Matriculation standard in the following forms:—

The medium of examination shall be as under:—

- (a) The questions shall be set in English except in the case of Sanskrit and Hindi in which the questions shall be set in Hindi ; in the case of Arabic, Persian and Urdu in which the questions shall be set in Urdu; and in the case of other Modern Indian Languages in which the questions shall be set in the language concerned.
- (b) The candidates shall write their answers :—
 - (i) in English in the case of English ;
 - (ii) in the appropriate language in the case of Modern Indian and Oriental Languages, except in Sanskrit paper, in which the answers may be written in either Hindi or Punjabi ; and
 - (iii) in English, Hindi, Punjabi or Urdu in the case of other subjects.

SETTING UP OF AYURVEDIC AND UNANI BOARD IN THE STATE

***1322. Shri Ram Parkash :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) the date when the Ayurvedic and Unani Board was set up by the Government in the State ;

[Shri Ram Parkash]

- (b) whether any applications for registration of Hakims and Vaidis were invited by the said Board ;
- (c) the number of applications received and registered so far by the said Board separately ;
- (d) the date by which the work of registration is expected to be finished ;
- (e) the present pay of the Registrar of the Board and the total strength of his staff ?

Shri Jagat Narain :

- (a) 14th June, 1950.
- (b) Yes.
- (c) About twenty thousand applications were received. Of those, about 9,000 have been registered.
- (d) The registration work is expected to be completed in about six months
- (e) (i) Pay of Registrar—Rs. 270 per month.
(ii) (a) Regular staff—4 clerks.
(b) Temporary staff—4 clerks.

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PAYMENT OF WAGES TO LABOURERS WORKING IN FACTORIES AT AMBALA

***1256. Shri Jagat Ram Bhardwaj:** Will the Minister for Labour be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that certain Ambala Factories owners do not make weekly payment of wages to the labourers working in their factories and often 4 to 6 weeks pass before payment is made to them ;
- (b) whether a complaint to this effect was received by him at Ambala recently ;
- (c) if the answers to parts (a) and (b) be in the affirmative, the action Government intends to take in the matter ?

Chaudhri Sundar Singh :

- (a) There were some cases of delayed payments in the past, when the complaints received in this connection were properly investigated and the payments regularised through the Labour Department.
- (b) No. There have been no recent complaints.
- (c) Does not arise.

—————

UNITED SERVICES CLUB, SIMLA

***1320. Shri Ram Parkash:** Will the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the property belonging to the United Services Club, Simla, was purchased by the Government ;

- (b) whether he is aware of the fact that most of the tennis courts belonging to the said Club are in a state of decay ;
- (c) the use to which the said tennis courts are being put by the Government ?

Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa :

- (a) Yes.
- (b) No.
- (c) None—they are all with the East Punjab Club.

REQUISITIONED HOUSES IN SIMLA

***1321. Shri Ram Parkash :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) the total number of cases of requisitioned houses in Simla which have been referred to the Arbitrator for fixation of their rent since the 15th August 1947 ;
- (b) the number of cases in which the rent has been increased from the rent charged in the years 1938 and 1939 ;
- (c) whether the tenants were required in these cases to appear as parties before the Arbitrator ; if not, the reasons therefor ;
- (d) the name of the officers who conduct the cases referred to above before the arbitrator on behalf of the Government and the remuneration paid to him in each case ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar:

- (a) 46.
- (b) 33.
- (c) In the case of a requisitioned house the parties concerned are (i) the State; and (ii) the owner. The allottees of the requisitioned house do not come into the picture.

(d)

S. No.	Name of the Council who conducted the case on behalf of Government	Amount of fee paid to the Council in each case		
		RS.	AS.	PS
1.	Shri Man Mohan Nath, Advocate	37	8	0
2.	Shri Shankar Nath, Advocate	128	0	0
3.	Ditto	200	0	0
4.	Ditto	32	0	0
5.	Ditto	161	4	0
6.	Ditto	32	0	0
7.	Ditto	32	0	0

[Chief Minister]

Serial No.	Name of the Council who conducted the case on behalf of Government	Amount of fee paid to the Council in each case		
		Rs.	AS.	PS.
8.	Shri Hem Raj Mahajan, Advocate ..	50	0	0
9.	Shri Shankar Nath, Advocate ..	33	12	0
10.	Ditto ..	15	0	0
11.	Shri C. L. Surey, Advocate ..	240	0	0
12.	Shri Shankar Nath, Advocate ..	22	8	0
13.	Ditto ..	86	4	0
14.	Ditto ..	20	0	0
15.	Shri Atma Ram, Advocate ..	240	0	0
16.	Shri R. N. Malhotra, Advocate ..	16	0	0
17.	Shri Thakar Dass, Advocate ..	75	0	0
18.	Shri R. N. Malhotra, Advocate ..	16	0	0
19.	Shri Shankar Nath, Advocate ..	55	8	0
20.	Ditto ..	240	0	0
21.	Shri Atma Ram ..	32	11	0
22.	Shri Thakar Dass ..	67	8	0
23.	Shri Atma Ram ..	207	0	0
24.	Shri Thakar Dass ..	16	0	0
25.	Ditto ..	16	0	0

COMPLAINTS OF TORTURE BY POLICE OF KHAZAN SINGH OF NAKODAR
TEHSIL

*1098. Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government has received complaints of torture by Police of Khazan Singh of Nakodar Tahsil in July, 1952 ; if so, the details thereof ;

(b) whether any enquiries were ordered by the Government into the conduct of the police officials responsible for the alleged torture; if so, by whom, together with the names of officials found guilty and the action taken against them ;

- (c) whether he will lay a copy of the report together with a copy of the dying declaration of Khazan Singh on the Table; if so, the same be laid ;
- (d) whether in view of frequency of similar cases of torture by Police, the Government has adopted or intends to adopt special measures to prevent such inhuman acts by police officers for extorting confession ; if so, what ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) Yes. It was alleged by Khazan Singh that he along with some others was brought to Nakodar Police Station for interrogation on 4th July 1952 in connection with a case FIR No. 96, dated 3rd July 1952, under section 392 I.P.C. and that they were handed over to the C. I. A. Staff, Nakodar, and were beaten on the night of 4th July 1952, that the A. S.-I. Incharge went out on 6th July 1952 and left instructions to set Khazan Singh right. That he was again beaten on 6th July 1952 by two Foot Constables and that one of them pushed a small stick inside him.

(b) A magisterial enquiry was held in this case. The District Magistrate, Jullundur, did not consider the case fit for trial in a court of law and directed departmental action against A. S.-I. Gian Singh and three Foot Constables Hukam Singh, Bhagat Singh and Amar Singh. A departmental enquiry is being conducted by a Gazetted Officer. Gian Singh has been reverted to his substantive rank of Foot Constable and suspended. The other three Foot Constables have also been suspended and all transferred to lines.

(c) Copies of the magisterial enquiry and the dying declaration* of Khazan Singh are marked as 'A' is given below.

(d) Instructions already exist preventing the use of force in investigation by Police Officers and men. Any cases requiring the special attention of Government are always duly looked into specifically.

A person named Khazan Singh, son of Sawan Singh, Jat of Village Tanda Hura, Police Station Nakodar, was alleged to have sustained injuries while under interrogation by the Nakodar Police as a suspect. He was later admitted to the Civil Hospital, where his statement was recorded by Ch. Amar Singh, Magistrate 1st Class, Jullundur, which indicated the commission by the Police of a criminal offence in connection with its official relation with the public. I ordered a judicial enquiry to be instituted. A judicial enquiry was held by the Illaqa Magistrate, Shri Onkar Nath, who recorded evidence both produced by the complainant and the Police and has now submitted his report.

2. I have gone through the report of the Illaqa Magistrate and I find myself in general agreement with it. He has held that the case is not strong enough to go to court and that departmental enquiry should be taken against the three Foot Constables Hukam Singh, Bhagat Singh and Amar Singh.

3. I agree that it would be futile to send this case to a court of law as the evidence is not strong enough and that, therefore, it is necessary that some departmental action should be taken against the police officials who have misbehaved.

4. I would like departmental enquiry not only to be held against the three Foot Constables who beat Khazan Singh but also against Gian Singh, incharge of the staff, who had ordered the Foot Constables to set Khazan Singh right.

5. It is clear from the report of the Illaqa Magistrate that the Station House Officer did not take part in this case except that he brought Khazan Singh, his brother and nephew from their village where it is alleged that they were harbouring dacoits. No action, therefore, seems to be necessary against him.

6. I will request the Superintendent of Police, Jullundur, to hold departmental inquiries and to let me know the result of the enquiry.

SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE,
JULLUNDUR

CHAND NARAIN,
District Magistrate, Jullundur

*Kept in the Library.

[Chief Minister]

REPORT

Khazan Singh, son of Sawan Singh, Jat aged 27 years, resident of Village Tanda Hura, Tehsil Nakodar, was taken in a serious condition by police to the Assistant Surgeon In-charge, Civil Hospital, Nakodar at about 10 p. m. on 6th July 1952. The Assistant Surgeon Dr. Kartar Singh, P. C. M. S., found the following injuries on his person—

1. A lacerated wound $1\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{4}$ " in the premium extending backwards from the anal margin and there was bleeding from anus. He complained of pain in abdomen and there was tenderness in Hypogastrium and rigidity of the lower part rectimuscles.

The Assistant Surgeon catheterized Khazan Singh and evacuated blood and urine. Suspecting some deep injuries he ordered the Police to take Khazan Singh to the Civil Hospital, Jullundur, for further treatment. The doctor asked Khazan Singh as to how he had received the injuries but he kept on graning with pain and did not reply. Khazan Singh was taken to Jullundur Hospital that very night by Hukam Singh and Bhagat Singh, Foot Constables,—vide report No. 7 in the daily diary of the C. I.A. Staff, dated 6th July 1952. He was examined by Dr. Ram Dass, P. C. E. S., at about 1 a.m. who discovered the following injuries on his body :—

1. A lacerated wound $1\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2}$ " on the right side of to anus oblique in direction.
2. Urathral portion in bulbus region was tender.
3. Blood-stained glove on rectum examination. No laceraton felt on palpation or seen on naked eye examination.
4. Hypogastric area tender. Both the recti are guarding ; bladder area dull on proussion. On cathetarization first some blood and then blood-stained urine came out. Dr. Ram Dass admitted Khazan Singh as indoor patient. He tried to enquire from Khazan Singh as to how he had sustained these injuries. Khazan Singh did not make any specific reply. He was in a tonic condition and kept crying with pain. Large doses of pencillin injunctions were given to Khazan Singh as a part of the treatment. However at about 2 p.m. on 7th July 1952 the condition of Khazan Singh became serious and Dr. M. S. Ahlawat, Assistant Surgeon Incharge, Civil Hospital, wrote to the city police to get the dying declaration of Khazan Singh recorded. Ch. Amar Singh, Magistrate 1st Class recorded the statement of Khazan Singh, complaining that he was tortured by the C. I. A. Staff at Nakodar and had received the injuries mentioned as a result of Hukam Singh, Foot Constable (attached to the C. I. A. Staff) trying to push a danda in h's anus.

The allegation of torture against the C. I. A. staff Nakodar having come to the notice of the learned District Magistrate, Jullundur, he was pleased to order a judicial enquiry by me into the allegation of Khazan Singh.

Khazan Singh Version

Khazan Singh alleged in his dying declaration dated 7th July 1952 and supplementary statement recorded by me on 20th July 1952 at Civil Hospital, Jullundur, that Ch. Khiali Ram S. H. O., Nakodar, had gone to their village on 4th July 1952 and brought him, his brother Bhan Singh and his nephew Gurbaxa Singh to Nakodar in connection with the harbouring of certain dacoits. They were handed over to C. I. A. Staff, Nakodar, for interrogation. On the 4th night they were all given a beating with sticks by the staff police. On 6th July 1952 Gian Singh, Incharge of the staff took away Bhan Singh to his village, leaving instructions to the staff to set him (Khazan Singh) right. He was accordingly beaten on 6th July 1952. Bhagat Singh, Foot Constable caught him and Hukam Singh, Foot Constable pushed a small stick into his anus twice or thrice. Amar Singh Moharrir was instigating them. The whole occurrence took place in the presence of his nephew Gurbaxa.

III. Police Version

The following account of injuries received by Khazan Singh has been recorded in the daily diary report No. 5 of the C.I.A. Staff, dated 6th July 1952. That Khazan Singh came to the staff premises at 4 p. m. on 6th July 1952 to join the investigation of case No. 96/52 under section 392 PS Nurmahal and was waiting for the Thanedar to come. Hukam Singh, Foot Constable was on gate duty. He was talking with Khazan Singh and was reproaching him for his brother Nama having looted him. Bhagat Singh, Foot Constable and Kanshi Ram, Foot Constable were present in staff premises at that time. Dharam Singh Jat of Mahewal and Kartar Singh of Nakodar were sitting near the Moharrir

Amar Singh. All of a sudden at 9-30 p. m. Khazan Singh jumped over the wall of the staff premises and fell down on the 'Chapas' (dried branches of trees) which were lying near the wall as a result of which a projection from the Chapas struck his anus, caused bleeding. He was caught by Hukam Singh.

IV. Evidence

From the very nature of things it is very difficult for a person who is tortured within the four walls of the police station, to prove his allegation by any independent evidence. If he is able to prove that he sustained the injury while he was in the police station the onus will naturally shift to the police to prove beyond doubt as to how he suffered these injuries. It is common ground in this case that Khazan Singh suffered the injuries on his anus and the bulbous portion of his urethra while he was in police custody. I will, therefore, examine the police case first.

According to the police case Khazan Singh:—

1. Came to the thana to join the investigation of case No. 96/52 under section 392 Police Station Nurmahal at about 4 p. m. on 6th July 1952.
2. That Hukam Singh, Foot Constable prevented him from leaving the station.
3. That he jumped over the wall and fell over the chapas below and thus sustained his injuries.

One special feature of this case is that the police has tried to prove their case by the mouth's of Khazan Singh himself and his relatives. In this attempt they have utterly failed. Gian Singh A. S.-I. Incharge of the C.J.A. staff (IW No. 7) stated that the whole incident took place in his absence. He came back to the staff station on 7th July 1952 and learnt about the injuries received by Khazan Singh the previous night. He proceeded at once to Jullundur to report the statement of Khazan Singh, while he died at about 11 a. m. in the presence of Dr. Mitter Singh. That statement is Ex. IW7/5 which endorses the police case as stated above. Dr. Mitter Singh (IW 17) denied the factum of the statement having been recorded in his presence, which was the only guarantee that the statement of IW7/5 was voluntary statement of Khazan Singh. Khazan Singh denied having made any statement to the A. S.-I. In fact he stated in his dying declaration which was recorded by Ch. Amar Singh, Magistrate later in the day, that the Police had got his thumb mark affixed on some paper. It is in the same declaration that he had made serious charge of torture against the police. Under these circumstances, I have no doubt that the statement of Khazan Singh recorded by Gian Singh A. S.-I. to prove the police case was not a voluntary statement and as such I have to discard this piece of evidence as worthless. Gian Singh also produced Bhan Singh, brother of Khazan Singh (I W 8) and Sohan Singh, a cousin of Khazan Singh (I W 14) who stated that they interviewed Khazan Singh at the Civil Hospital Jullundur on 7th July 1952 in the morning and he told them that he had received his injuries as a result of his jumping over the thana wall and falling on the stick of Chappas below. I examined Niranjana Singh, Pupil-Male Nurse (I W 3) attending on Khazan Singh in the Civil Hospital, Jullundur. He deposed that there were only two constables in plain clothes who attended on Khazan Singh and arranged for his medicines and diet. Bhan Singh stated that he stayed with his brother till 9th July 1952 and after that sent his wife to attend on Khazan Singh. Sohan Singh (I W 15) said that he and Sohan Singh returned from the hospital after interviewing Khazan Singh as he was being attended by the constables. I find rather difficult to reconcile all these statements and the conclusion is obvious that both Bhan Singh and Sohan Singh never visited Khazan Singh on 7th July 1952 and they have somehow been prevailed upon by Nakodar Police to fortify the Police Case. I have thus no hesitation in holding this part of the evidence too as false as unnatural. Next there is the evidence of the four Constables Hukam Singh Foot Constable No. 379 (I W 10) Amar Singh, Moharrir Constable No. (IW 11) Bhagat Singh, Foot Constable 422 (I W 12) and Kanshi Ram, Foot Constable No. 350 (IW 3). They are naturally interested parties and the following matters militate against the acceptance of their account of Khazan Singh's injuries.

1. Hukam Singh, Foot Constable states that Khazan Singh had gone to the Thana on a requisition by Gian Singh A.S-I. in connection with some dacoity cases. Amar Singh, Foot Constable has stated in his report No. 5, dated 6th July 1952 in the daily diary of the staff that Khazan Singh had gone to join the investigation of case No. 96/52 under section 392 Police Station Nurmahal. It appears from the statement of Gian Singh A. S.-I. (I. W. 7) that he had never summoned Khazan Singh for investigation in any case. I cannot persuade myself to believe that Khazan Singh would come to the staff of his own accord.

[Chief Minister]

2. The report of the incident recorded in the daily diary does not show that Khazan Singh begged permission from Hukam Singh, Foot Constable, to leave the station which he refused. Statement to this effect before me appears to be an afterthought simply to provide a motive for Khazan Singh's trying to escape. At any rate when Khazan Singh was not wanted in any case and he was not maltreated by the constables, the alleged motive now attributed for the action of Khazan Singh appears to be too weak and I cannot believe that he would be so rash and foolish as to try to escape by climbing over a 6/7 feet high wall in the presence of four constables.

3. If Khazan Singh fell over the chappas from a height of 6 or 7 feet, there should certainly have been bruises on the area round buttocks. There were only two injuries on the anus and bulbous portion of the urethra described above.

4. The attempt on the part of the police to fabricate false evidence.

5. Hukam Singh and Bhagat Singh, Foot Constables who were admittedly attending upon Khazan Singh in the Civil Hospital at Jullundur denied having spent anything from their pockets on the medicine and diet of Khazan Singh. Bhan Singh and Sohan Singh, relatives of Khazan Singh, say that they did not spend any money on his treatment. Niranjan Singh, Pupil-Male Nurse, says that the two constables who attended on Khazan Singh, viz. Hukam Singh and Bhagat Singh, arranged for Khazan Singh's medicines and diet. Thus there is no doubt that these two constables or one of them has spent money from pocket over the treatment of Khazan Singh in Civil Hospital at Jullundur. It is not understood why they should do so, if they were not to blame for Khazan Singh's injuries.

For these reasons, I do not rely on the statements of constables also.

The result is that there is no reliable evidence in support of the Police version and as such I hold that it is not proved.

As regards Khazan Singh's case, the position is that there is no direct evidence. From his statement it appears that his nephew Gurbaksha had witnessed the occurrence but Gurbaksha (I W 9) says that Khazan Singh was not beaten by the police at Nakodar in his presence. The only other independent evidence could be of the doctors who examined him soon after the incident. Dr. Kartar Singh, Assistant Surgeon, Nakodar, as well as Dr. Ram Dass of the Civil Hospital Jullundur, say that they questioned Khazan Singh as to how he had sustained the injuries in question but he did not reply to their question. He was all the time groaning with pain. Khazan Singh had alleged that besides the two injuries on his anus and urethra, he was given stick blows on all parts of his body. It is a pity that all the doctors concerned confined themselves to the examination of injuries on the buckets area only and as such the evidence which could have been material corroboration or contradiction of Khazan Singh's allegation, was not available to me. Thus there is no evidence in support of Khazan Singh's case and I hold that the allegations of Khazan Singh also are not proved.

V. Conclusion

There can be no presumption from the accused failing to prove his case that the prosecution case is true. Prosecution must stand or fall on its own merits. As such, I see no chances of the case being successfully prosecuted in a court of law. I would not, therefore, suggest any formal registration of a case against the alleged assaulter or instigation.

2. As I have stated above, in cases of this type it is very difficult for the injured person to prove his allegations of torture. The onus rests heavily on the police to prove that the injuries received by a suspect in the thana, were not the result of any torture. In the present case, the police have failed to prove their innocence. They have fabricated false evidence. Admittedly there was another constable Kanshi Ram, No. 350, at the time Khazan Singh received the injuries in question. Khazan Singh made allegation of torture against Hukum Singh, Bhagat Singh and Amar Singh, Foot Constables, only. He has not been shown to have any special grudge against them or any special regard for Kanshi Ram. Unless the conduct of Hukum Singh, Bhagat Singh and Amar Singh was really silly, I cannot understand why they only should have been made the targets by Khazan Singh. In my opinion there is a strong suspicion of misconduct on their part. I would humbly suggest that a departmental enquiry into their conduct is called for.

JULLUNDUR :

12th September 1953.

(Sd.) ONKAR NA'RH,

Magistrate, I class.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi: In view of the fact that Khazan Singh died while in police custody, does the Government consider it enough to hold a departmental enquiry against the persons concerned?

Chief Minister: A thorough enquiry was made into this case but it is regretted that sufficient evidence in support of the allegation was not forthcoming and the case is not considered fit for being judicially tried in a court of law.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi: Evidently, the deceased died on account of torture. Did the Government hold an investigation into the matter or take some special action in order to prevent repetition of such occurrences?

Chief Minister: It is alleged that Khazan Singh died on account of torture. I beg to make it clear that the Government takes a serious view of the matter and it has ordered that the investigation should be completed soon. On its completion, maximum punishment permissible under the circumstances will be awarded.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi: After receipt of the report that the death was caused by torture, did the Government consider it enough to degrade the head-constable?

Mr. Speaker: This is not a supplementary question. The Chief Minister has told the hon. Member that the A.S.-I. concerned was degraded and that suitable action would be taken on the completion of the enquiry.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi: No, Sir, my supplementary does arise. I want to know whether adequate steps have already been taken by the Government to prevent the recurrence of such heinous crimes. In his reply, the hon. Chief Minister has stated that departmental action is being taken in the matter.

Chief Minister: I want to assure my hon. Friend that we feel as much in such matters as he does. I am glad that my friend has a feeling which as a matter of fact every body should have. If the allegation is proved to be true, the Government will take suitable action. I have already expressed my helplessness because sufficient evidence is not available. But inspite of this, I can make the whole record of the case available and if my hon. Friend or some lawyer advises me that there is sufficient material for prosecuting the offenders, the Government will have no objection in doing so. Whenever a departmental enquiry is held against a person, he has to be suspended in order that it may not be hampered. After the conclusion of the enquiry, it would be seen as to what punishment should be awarded. As already submitted by me, the Government has ordered that it takes a serious view of the case.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi: This happening took place on the 4th or the 6th of July and it is the 2nd of December today. Why has the enquiry not been completed in such a long time?

Chief Minister: The statement is laid on the Table of the House. If my hon. Friend had taken the trouble of going through the papers which were supplied to him in reply to his question, it would have been easier for him to understand the situation.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi: I have not been supplied any paper in reply to my question.

Chief Minister: I should be excused if I submit that the receipt signed by the hon. Member in token of his having been supplied those papers is here with me. He perhaps means that somebody else signed for him.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut: What departmental action has been taken?

Chief Minister: An enquiry is being conducted.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut: The hon. Chief Minister has stated that an enquiry is being made. Has the officer, against whom the allegations are being investigated into, been suspended?

Chief Minister: Yes, as already submitted by me, he is under suspension.

Minister for Irrigation: The hon. Member does not know what an enquiry is.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut: Let the hon. Minister explain it.

✓ **Mr. Speaker:** There should be no mutual discussions please.

Minister for Irrigation: I just wanted to enlighten him.

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** He should be enlightened through me.

ATTACK ON TENANTS OF CHUDIHAR, DISTRICT KANGRA

***1140. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut:** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether the D.S.P., Kangra, was approached by one Suresh Kumar, General Secretary, District Kisan Sabha, Kangra and Dhani Ram with a complaint that the tenants Chararu and Dhangur of Chudihar, Tehsil Palampur, District Kangra were attacked by the Rana of Cheekh and others who were armed with lathis and guns on 1st August, 1952, at 8 in the morning, if so, the action, if any, taken by the Government in the matter; if not, the reasons therefor?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : *First part.* No.
Second and third parts : Do not arise.

CHALLANS MADE FOR CRUELTY TO ANIMALS IN HOSHIARPUR DISTRICT

***1282. Shri Rala Ram:** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state the number of challans put up for cruelty to animals in Hoshiarpur District during the year 1951-52 together with the number of persons convicted and the number of persons discharged or acquitted separately?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar: No challan for cruelty to animals was put in during the year 1951-52.

ORGANISING OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY IN THE STATE

***1193. Shri Ram Kishan:** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the steps, if any, taken by the Government for organising Animal Husbandry on modern and scientific lines in the State:

- (b) the steps, if any, taken by the Government for preserving and improving the breeds and prohibiting the slaughter of milch and draught cattle?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon: (a) A statement giving the required information is given below:—

(b) Besides the steps indicated in the statement mentioned in (a) above, the question of imposing a ban on the export of milch cattle from this State is under the consideration of Government. As regards prohibiting the slaughter of bovine cattle, it has ceased automatically with the migration of almost all the Muslims to West Punjab and since the British have left the State.

Statement showing the steps taken by Government for organising animal husbandry on modern and scientific lines in the State—

- (a) The Civil Veterinary Department, Punjab is responsible for organising on modern and scientific lines activities relating to different aspects of Animal Husbandry in the State. Its chief activities lie in the direction of—

- (i) control and cure of livestock ;
- (ii) breeding operations ;
- (iii) research in various aspects of animal husbandry ;
- (iv) veterinary education ;
- (v) diary development ;
- (vi) poultry husbandry and
- (vii) development of fisheries.

The main steps taken by Government in this connection are:—

- (i) Establishment of Biological Products Section at the Punjab Veterinary College, Hissar, for the manufacture of biologicals to prevent and control different contagious diseases of livestock. At present Goat Tissue Virus Vaccine (*Goatis*) for Rinderpest, Anti rabic vaccine against Rabies Ranikhet Disease Vaccine for controlling Ranikhet Disease in Poultry and fowl-pox vaccine for poultry are being manufactured and supplied within State, as also to the adjoining States. The manufacture of Haemorrhagic Septicaemia Vaccine is well in hand. It may not be out of place to mention that Rinderpest in cattle which at one time used to be a great menace in the State has practically died out through large scale of vaccination work.
- (ii) For improving the breed of cattle in the State about 600 bulls of the Haryana breed are produced annually at the Government Livestock Farm, Hissar, and supplied at concessional rates to different District Boards. In addition, Sahiwal cattle and Murrah buffaloes are also maintained and bred at the said Farm with a view to supplying bulls and good milking animals to bona fide breeders. Besides donkey stallions rams with high quality clothing wool strain and he-goats are supplied by the Government Livestock Farm, Hissar. The Government subsidies Montgomery (Sahiwal) cattle in the Kangra District to improve the hill breeds of cattle there and the Haryana cattle breeding scheme in the Haryana tract (District of Hissar, Rohtak, Gurgaon, Ambala and Karnal). Again in the Kangra District, the Government gives a cent per cent grant to the District Board towards maintenance of Veterinary Hospitals at Sujampur, Paprola, Nadaun, Manali and permanent outlying Dispensaries at Jowali and Garley and maintains a Provincial Veterinary Hospital at Keylong in the excluded area of Lahaul.

A Key Farm Centre, now merged into the Key Village Scheme has been established at the Government Livestock Farm, Hissar, where artificial insemination work is being pushed on successfully. To encourage this

[Minister for Development]

work, the District Boards of Jullundur, Hoshiarpur, Ludhiana, Khalsa College, Amritsar and the Gowshala at Rewari have been induced to start artificial insemination work. Six Community Project Centres are established at Nilokheri, Jagadhri, Nawanshahr, Batala, Sonapat and Faridabad, where work on different aspects of Animal Husbandry on modern and scientific lines will be done for the benefit of livestock owners of the State.

- (iii) A number of research schemes financed jointly by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and the Punjab Government are being run at the Government Livestock Farm, Hissar.
- (iv) A first rate Veterinary College has been established at Hissar which prepares students for the B. V. Sc Degree of the Punjab University.
- (v) The Dairy Development staff render free technical advice to different dairies and pinjrapoles in the State. The Punjab Government has also advanced loans under the State Aid to Industries Act, 1935, to deserving dairymen.
- (vi) The work carried out at the Government Poultry Farm, Gurdaspur, and its three sub-stations at Ambala, Jullundur and Kangra is being pushed on further progressively reducing the expenditure and income ratio every year. From these poultry farms, eggs, chickens as also pedigree birds are sold to breeders in the State.
- (vii) The Fisheries Section has recouped from the great set back that it suffered from after partition due to migration of muslim fishermen. Fishing parties are organised under Government supervision, sharing sale proceeds of fish caught on 50:50 basis after deducting the incidental charges. Since the last 2 years, this Section has become a paying proposition to the State.

DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARDS IN THE STATE

***1194. Shri Ram Kishan:** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any State and district development advisory boards have been formed to implement the community project schemes in the State; if so, their names and the functions thereof;
- (b) whether any local non-official advisory committees have been formed in the areas of the State where community project schemes have been started; if so, their names, functions and the number of meetings held by them so far?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon: (a) and (b). A State Development Committee, with the Chief Minister as Chairman and all the Ministers and principal officers as members, has been set up at headquarters for the purpose. Steps are also being taken to set up a Project Advisory Committee shortly in each project. In addition to the principal officials serving in the project area, the Project Advisory Committee will consist of—

- (i) Members of Parliament in whose constituency any part of the Project area is situated.
- (ii) Members of the State Legislative Assembly in whose constituency the Project area falls or who reside in it.
- (iii) Members of the State Legislative Council residing in the Project area.
- (iv) All members of the District Board residing in the Project area

- (v) Five representatives from the Village Panchayats in the Project area, to be nominated by the Director of Panchayats in consultation with Deputy Commissioner of the district.
- (vi) Two representatives from the Multi-Purpose Co-operative Societies in the Project area, to be nominated by Registrar, Co-operative Societies, in consultation with the Deputy Commissioner of the district.
- (vii) Two representatives from the Bharat Sevak Samaj to be nominated by the organizers of the Samaj in the State.
- (viii) Five practical agriculturists to be nominated by the Deputy Commissioner of the district in consultation with the Director of Agriculture, Punjab.
- (ix) Seven social workers to be nominated by Government.

It is intended that all the schemes and activities in connection with the development work in the Project should be formulated in consultation with the Project Advisory Committee, which as stated above would be as representative as possible of the non-official elements within the Project area.

ATTACKS BY LOCUSTS IN TEHSIL FAZILKA, DISTRICT FEROZEPURE

***1283. Shri Teg Ram:** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of attacks made by the locusts in Tehsil Fazilka, District Ferozepore during the months of August, September and October, 1952;
- (b) the particulars of villages where the locusts had established themselves together with the extent of damage done to crops ;
- (c) the number of Government employees who were engaged to kill the locusts and save the crops from ruin together with the hours of work that each of them put in;
- (d) the expenditure that the Government had to incur in this connection ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon: (a) The first locust attack in Fazilka Tehsil was reported on 7th July. Later on heavy attack was observed from 17th to 28th August when egg-laying occurred on an extensive scale. Again one or two small swarms invaded this tehsil in the first week of September. Latest report of attack was received on 21st of October :—

Month				No. of villages visited by locust swarms
August	..	..	..	66
September	..	..	..	8
October	..	..	..	6
				80
	Total	..	..	80

[Minister for Development]

(b) Locust laid eggs in 44 villages during August and in 8 villages in September, 1952. No egg-laying was reported in October, 1952.

Practically no damage to the standing crops by locust swarms or hoppers was reported.

(c) No data is available but employees of all the Departments joined hands in carrying out anti-locust operations successfully. Public also extended their help.

(d) 7 ton of BHC worth Rs. 4,900 was used for the destruction of locusts from 28th August to 12th September, 1952.

Shri Teg Ram: Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether the Government appointed certain officers to consider the question of giving compensation to the zamindars of 80 villages where crops were damaged by the invasion of locusts between the period 17th August to 28th August; if so, what report was submitted by them to the Government?

Minister: The grant of compensation to the zamindars depends upon the extent of loss suffered by them.

Shri Teg Ram: The hon. Minister has stated that there was an attack by the locusts on eight villages and that they laid their eggs in forty villages. It clearly indicates that they did heavy damage to the crops.

Minister: When the locusts lay eggs, they do not eat anything for two days before and after. This shows that they did very slight damage to the crops during this period. Anyhow, if the crops have suffered, the Government will take necessary steps to give relief to the peasants concerned.

Shri Teg Ram: Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether the Government incurred any expenditure on petrol in addition to the sum of Rs. 4,900 which was spent for carrying out operations for killing the locusts; if so, the detailed account of such expenditure may kindly be given?

Minister: If the hon. Member gives fresh notice of this question, I shall supply him with the necessary information.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES IN THE STATE

***1323. Shri Ram Parkash:** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state the total number of Co-operative Societies in the State together with the number of Harijans Co-operative Societies amongst them.

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon: The total number of Co-operative Societies in the State as on 31st October, 1952 was 17,623 out of which the number of Harijans Co-operative Societies was 370.

MEMORANDUM FROM THE GRADUATES OF THE PUNJAB VETERINARY COLLEGE

***1377. Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina:** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government has recently received any memorandum from the Graduates of the Punjab Veterinary College; if so, a copy of the same be laid on the Table;

(b) the action, if any, taken by the Government on the above memorandum?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon: (a) Yes. A copy of the same is given below.

(b) The case is under the consideration of Government.

STATEMENT

To

The Hon'ble Minister for Development,
Government of Punjab,
Simla.

(Through Proper Channel)

SIR,

There is great general discontentment and frustration amongst the graduates of Punjab Veterinary College (G. P. V. C.) on account of being low paid and having been given no benefit of length of service in the revision of their grade. I being one of them beg to lay the following facts for your information and favourable consideration :—

1. The G. P. V. C.'s started their career in the Civil Veterinary Department on fixed pay of Rs. 60 per mensem. Their 2nd grade was of Rs. 75 and 1st grade of Rs. 90 which they used to get at about their retirement.

2. The Punjab Government revised the grades of pay of all the subordinates in 1937 but the case of G. P. V. C. was not considered.

3. Their grade was regularised in the year 1947, and the G. P. V. C. were placed in the time-scale of Rs. 60—5—90/5—130/5—160. While giving this grade no benefit of length of service was given to them. A person putting in 20 to 25 years of service and drawing the maximum pay of Rs. 90 then, was given the scale of pay of Rs. 90—5—130 whereas he ought to have been given the scale of Rs. 130—5—160 or more than that considering his length of service. By giving the scale of Rs. 90—5—130 to a person putting in 20 to 25 years of service, he is not only deprived of the benefit of length of service, but he cannot even reach the limit of Rs. 160, i.e. the maximum limit of grade, during his service.

4. Let me draw your kind attention that in the fixed scale of pay, i.e. Rs 60 and Rs 90 as stated above, the person reaching the first grade of Rs 90 after 20 to 25 years service had been earning an increment of Re 1 to Rs 1-4-0 a year which is really an insult to a scientific profession.

5. The Veterinary Compounders having undergone six months' training are given the grade of Rs. 55—3—70/4—90/5—120 whereas we having undergone three years' course are given the start of Rs. 60. The Veterinary Compounders reach at the pay of Rs 90 after 10 years whereas we had been reaching the fixed pay of Rs 90 after 20 to 25 years of service.

6. The Veterinary Compounders having different qualification but performing the same duties are given uniform grade of Rs 55—3—70/4—90/5—120. The Deputy Superintendents, P. V. C. Class II, irrespective of qualifications of L. V. P. or G. P. V. C. are given the grade of Class II. But it is only the poor G. P. V. C. who shares the equal and same responsibilities of L. V. P. and B. V. Sc., is placed on different footings and is paid very poorly i.e. Rs. 60 to 160.

7. There is no difference of duties and responsibilities between the L. V. P.s and G. P. V. C's but the L. V. Ps and B. V. Scs are given the grade of Rs. 100—10—300 whereas the G. P. V. Cs., who are about 29 in all, in whole of the province and are the seniormost, are placed in the scale of Rs. 60—5—90/5—130/5—160 and are deprived of the benefit of length of service.

[Minister for Development] "

8. Let me also add the precedent of the revision of grades of Sub-Assistant, Surgeons of Civil Medical Department, and Sub-Assistant Health Officers of Public Health Department, Punjab, in support of my case. Their pay has been revised and they have been given the benefit of length of service at the rate of one increment for every three years,—vide letter No. 3799-M-49/37504, dated the 13th/15th June, 1949, from the Secretary to Government, East Punjab, Medical and Local Government and Industries Departments to the Director of Health Services, East Punjab.

9. For the sake of information, I beg to state that G. P. V. Cs., number in all is about 29. All have put in 25 years service, 9 will retire in 1953, six in 1954, two in 1955, six in 1956, four in 1957, and two in 1958. From this data, it will cost the Government very little amount while doing justice to the hard hit, poor G. P. V. Cs.

From the above facts it is clear that G. P. V. Cs have not only been ignored and meted out step-motherly treatment in respect of pay, but also are being deprived of their right of benefit of length of service which they rendered to the department most earnestly. They are the builders of the department and they are the most hard hit persons.

So I pray to you, Sir, that their case may be considered favourably, and all these G.P. V. Cs putting in service of 25 years may kindly be given the highest scale of pay, i.e. Rs 160 because had they been given the benefit of length of service at the time of fixation of pay in 1947, every one of them would have reached automatically that limit, i.e. Rs 160 by now.

Dated : 12th May 1952.

Yours faithfully,
(Sd.) RAJINDER SINGH
G. P. V. C.
Incharge, Civil Veterinary Hospital,
Shah Kot, District Jullundur.

RETURN OF DEPOSITS OF CENTRAL INSTITUTIONS OF HOSHIARPUR DISTRICT

*1378. Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina—: Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) the decisions, if any, reached between the Punjab (India) Government and the Punjab (Pakistan) Government regarding the return of the deposits of the Central Institutions of Hoshiarpur District which were with the Provincial Co-operative Bank, Ltd., Lahore;
- (b) whether the depositor Banks were consulted before arriving at the decision referred to above; if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the total amount of securities received from the Provincial Co-operative Bank, Ltd., Lahore, the amount disbursed so far, district wise in the State;
- (d) the steps Government intends taking to realise the remaining amount of securities?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon: (a) The matter of deposits of Central Institutions functioning in Punjab (I) was dealt with in accordance with the Inter-Dominion Banking Agreement of April, 1949 between Government of India and the Government of Pakistan. No separate agreement was entered into in regard to the deposits of the Central Institutions in Hoshiarpur District. As regards the actual decisions arrived at in the light of the Inter-Dominion Banking Agreement of April, 1949, a balance of Rs. 2,26,00,000 odd was found to be in favour of Punjab (I) as a result of the interim balance sheet drawn up between Punjab (I) and Punjab (P). Out of this amount a sum of

Rs 1,45,65,500 was received from Punjab (P) in Government securities. The balance of Rs. 80,00,000 was allowed to be kept back by Punjab (P) pending the drawing up of the final balance sheet.

(b) Since the matter was dealt with at the Dominion level between the Government of India and the Government of Pakistan, the question of consultation with the "depositor banks" did not arise. Each such bank, however, authorised Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Punjab (I) to receive on its behalf its dues from Punjab (P).

(c) The first part of the question does not arise in view of the answer to (a) above. As regards the amount disbursed, securities of the value of Rs 1,45,65,500 which belonged to various Central Institutions in Punjab (I) were returned to them as per statement given below. The balance of Rs 41,00,000 was disbursed to individual depositors displaced from Punjab (P). The question of district-wise disbursement, therefore, did not arise.

(d) Does not arise, since all the securities locked in Provincial Co-operative Bank, Lahore, have been received back. As regards the settlement of other unverified accounts, such as cash, deposits and shares, etc., confernces with Punjab (P) are being held with a view to securing verification of the claims in both the Punjabs.

STATEMENT

Serial No.	Name of Institutions					Total face value
						Rs
1	Ambala	Central	Co-operative	Bank	Ltd. ..	1,50,000
2	Amritsar	"	"	"	" ..	4,900
3	Brayne	"	"	"	" (Rewari) ..	1,00,000
4	Fazilka	"	"	"	" ..	7,50,000
5	Ferozepore	"	"	"	" ..	8,30,000
6	Gurgaon	"	"	"	" ..	5,60,600
7	Gurdaspur	"	"	"	" ..	16,40,000
8	Jullundur	"	"	"	" ..	28,31,400
9	Karnal	"	"	"	" ..	25,000
10	Nawanshahr	"	"	"	" ..	13,25,900
11	Pathankot	"	"	"	" ..	30,000
12	Rohtak	"	"	"	" ..	13,75,000
13	Co-operative Industrial			"	" (Amritsar) ..	4,700
14	Batala Central	"	"	"	" ..	1,18,000
15	Bhaini Nilwan Co-operative Union, Ltd.			"	" ..	2,000

[Minister for Development]

STATEMENT—CONCLD.

Serial No.	Name of Institutions				Total face value
					Rs
16	Batala	Co-operative Union Ltd.	(Amritsar)	..	28,700
17	Bhoranj	" " "	(Kangra)	..	4,000
18	Chalet	" " "	(Hoshiarpur)	..	35,000
19	Elliot	" " "	(Gurdaspur)	..	10,500
20	Kala Afghana	" " "	" "	..	21,700
21	Khujala	" " "	" "	..	10,000
22	Hariana	" " "	(Hoshiarpur)	..	10,000
23	Ramdewali	" " "	(Amritsar)	..	20,000
24	Palwal	" " "	(Gurgaon)	..	10,000
25	Tarn Taran	" " "	(Amritsar)	..	3,80,000
26	Mader	" " "	(Jullundur)	..	1,00,000
27	Anandpur	" " "	(Hoshiarpur)	..	6,000
28	Nakodar Hindu	Co-operative Bank Ltd. Nakodar	(Jullundur)	..	80,000
29	Abohar	Co-operative Commission Shop, Ferozepore		..	1,800
30	Guru Har Sahai	Commission Shop, Ferozepore		..	1,000
			Total	..	1,04,65,500

Minister : Sir, the reply to this question is a lengthy one and I suggest that it may be treated as having been laid on the Table of the House.

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** If that is so, then the reply to Question No. 1378 is treated as having been laid on the Table of the House and the hon. Member putting this question may ask supplementaries on it tomorrow after studying the reply.

REPRESENTATION BY S. SODAGAR SINGH AND OTHERS OF VILLAGE
JAND, DISTRICT AMRITSAR

***500. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur :** Will the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether any representation by S. Sodagar Singh and other cultivators of village Jand, Tehsil Patti, District Amritsar, forwarded by S. Sajjan Singh Margindpuri, ex-M.L.A. under his office letter No. 1158, dated 16th October, 1951 (Registered) to the Executive Engineer, Jandiala Division of Upper Bari Doab Canal Circle, Amritsar, was received by him regarding certain complaints about defective working of the tail outlet Canal minor; if so, the action taken by the Government in the matter?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : Yes. Hydraulic L. Section of Rasulpur minor has been completed. Remodelling scheme is under preparation. The work will be carried out before Kharif sowings of 1953 after completing the scheme in accordance with the rules for remodelling of channels.

INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING REVIEW CASES FILED BY THE MINORS AND WIDOWS IN THE STATE

***501. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur:** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) (i) whether any instructions were issued by the Government during the year 1951 that the review cases in respect of land claims filed by the minors and the widows be reconsidered and that the widows desiring to consolidate their lands with those of their collaterals be allowed to do so; if so, when ;

(ii) the copy of the instructions so issued be laid on the Table ;

(b) whether any representations from certain widows were received by the Deputy Commissioner, Ferozepore, on or about 5th November 1951, regarding the consolidations of their claims with those of their collaterals; if so, the action taken by the Government in the

Sardar Ujjal Singh: (a) (i) Yes. In May, 1951.

(ii) A copy of the instructions is given below :—

(b) In the absence of names and particulars of the applicants, it is not possible to say whether any representation was received from the widows regarding consolidation of their claims with those of their collaterals-matter ?

INSTRUCTIONS

Copy of paragraphs 2(a), 2(b), 5 and 6 of Financial Commissioner Relief and Rehabilitation Inspection Note on rural rehabilitation, District Amritsar

Several points were raised at the three meetings and the following decisions were taken :—

(a) There was a unanimous request that displaced widows, with or without children, who were owners of land, should be accommodated in the village of their husbands' relations (brothers or collaterals) even if it meant the ousting of sitting allottees. They should be allowed to sit with their parents only in cases in which they could prove that the relations between them and their children on one side, and the brothers or collaterals of the husbands on the other side, were bad enough to endanger their existence. This unanimous request was supported by the Deputy Commissioner, the other local officers and the Director-General, Rehabilitation, Rural, and was accepted by me. Similar instructions should issue to other districts also.

(b) As a result of the revisions and reviews the applications of some persons to be given land in certain villages have been accepted and some other allottees of these villages have got to go out. In such cases the incoming allottees have the first right to the land vacated by the outgoing allottees. The latter, if they so desire, can be considered for allotment of the mortgaged lands in these villages at their own risk, otherwise they should be allotted other lands available in the tehsil.

[Minister for Finance]

5. As a general rule whenever some persons have to leave a village to make room for sitting allottees the biggest allottees are required to leave first. It was represented that where a big allottee had died after partition and his holding was divided amongst his sons, the sizes of the holdings of the sons and not of the deceased father should be taken into consideration. On the other side, it was represented that other allottees who may be alive have also got sons and there was no reason why the sons of a deceased father should get preference over the sons of a living father. After discussing the pros and cons it was decided that the general rule should be followed and no preference should be given to the sons of a deceased father. This decision should be circulated to other districts also, and if instructions to the contrary have been issued they should be cancelled.
6. The disposal of applications for revision and reviews in connection with suburban allotments has not yet started. All such applications have been sent to headquarters. Director-General Rehabilitation, Rural, should please see that whatever action has to be taken at headquarters is taken early and the applications are returned to the Deputy Commissioners with as little delay as possible.

No. 3166/LRC, dated 5th May, 1951.

Copy circulated to—

- (1) all Deputy Commissioners in the Punjab,
- (2) all Revenue Assistants, Rehabilitation in Punjab ;
- (3) Director, Rehabilitation, Pepsu, Patiala.
- (4) all Assistant Commissioners, Rehabilitation, Pepsu.
- (5) Under-Secretary Revenue for compliance and for guidance.

M. S. RANDHAWA,
Director-General, Rehabilitation, Rural,
Punjab, Jullundur.

FILING OF REVIEW APPLICATIONS IN AMRITSAR

***605. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any temporary allottees of Village Daudpura, Tehsil Patti, District Amritsar, had filed review applications with the Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar, before 30th November, 1949.
- (b) whether any of the review applications were accepted by the Director-General, Rehabilitation, or the Director, Rehabilitation, Rural, during the year 1950 ; and if so, the names of persons making such applications ;
- (c) whether the petitioners referred to above had been restored in the village of their allotment (Daudpura), if so, their names and the area allotted to each of them, if not, the reasons therefor ;
- (d) whether any of the persons referred to in part (b) above submitted a complaint to the Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar, which was personally handed over to him by S. Sajjan Singh Margindpuri, on 31st March, 1952, stating therein that according to intimation

No. P.B./2182, dated 24th March, 1952, issued by Director Rehabilitation, Rural, to S. Sajjan Singh Margindpuri, this review application was sent to Deputy Commissioner's office after due approval but the same was not traceable, if so, whether any inquiry was ordered by the Government in the matter ;

(e) The result of the inquiry referred to in part (d) above and the action, if any, taken by the Government against the persons at fault.

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. The list of such persons is given below.

(c) Yes, all excepting S. Lal Singh son of S. Sher Singh, for whose restoration in the village in question the orders could not be implemented for loss of the review file in transit.

(d) Yes. Inquiry in the matter was made and it appeared that the papers were lost in transit.

(e) In view of answers to part (d) above it is not possible to fix the responsibility on any body.

List of Allottees whose applications were accepted by the Director Rehabilitation (R), for allotment in Village Daudpura, Tehsil Patti.

Serial No.	Name with parentage	Area	
		Standard acres	Units
	Alloted		
1	Surinder Singh son of Jawahar Singh ..	6	0
2	Boota Singh son of Kehr Singh ..	11	12
3	Gurmej Singh son of Kehr Singh ..	2	7
4	Harbans Singh son of Kehr Singh ..	2	7
5	Harnam Singh son of Kehr Singh ..	2	7
6	Dhara Singh son of Hari Singh ..	6	7½
7	Karnail Singh son of Hari Singh ..	13	7½
8	Gurbux Singh son of Tara Singh ..	2	2½
9	Mohinder Singh son of Tara Singh ..	4	7½
10	Gurdip Singh son of Tara Singh ..	4	14½
	<i>Due for allotment</i>		
11	Lal Singh son of Sher Singh ..	9	3½

PUNJAB FINANCE CORPORATION IN THE STATE

***1075. Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) the date on which the Punjab Finance Corporation in the State will start functioning ;
- (b) the extent of control of the Government on the working of the Corporation ;
- (c) the amount of shares capital subscribed by various banking, insurance, and co-operative institutions and by individuals ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) The date on which the State Industrial Financial Corporation will start functioning cannot be given at present. It may begin to function by the end of this year.

(b) The Corporation is being set up under the State Financial Corporation Act, 1951. Its working will be under the general control of Government but the superintendence, direction and management of the affairs and business of the Corporation shall vest in the Board of Directors.

(c) The proposed allocation of capital of Rs. one crore to be issued in the first instance is as follows:—

	Rs (in lakhs)
(a) State Government ..	30
(b) Reserve Bank ..	20
(c) Scheduled Banks, Insurance Companies, Investment Trusts, Co-operative Banks and other Financial Institutions ..	30
(d) Parties other than those referred to in (a), (b) and (c) ..	20
Total ..	100

No share capital has so far been issued.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : How many members will be nominated by the Government on the Board of Directors ?

Minister : Three.

ALLOTMENT OF LAND TO DISPLACED PERSONS FROM BAHAWALPUR AND SIND

***1233. Shrimati Sita Devi :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of applications for allotment of land so far received from the displaced persons from Bahawalpur and Sind ;

(b) the number of those who have been allotted lands together with the names of places where such allotment has been made ;

(c) the number of those who have not yet been allotted any land so far together with the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) The hon. Member is apparently referring to the number of review, revision and other miscellaneous applications 2,639 from Bahawalpur and 675 from Sind. Of them 2,194 from Bahawalpur and 482 from Sind have been rejected ;

(b) 64 from Bahawalpur and 39 from Sind. Statements "A" and "B" are given below.

(c) 381 from Bahawalpur and 154 from Sind for non-receipt of records from Pakistan and non-verification of areas by the claimants, and non-availability of suitable area in some cases.

STATEMENT 'A' (BAHAWALPUR STATE)

Serial No.	Name of the Allottee	Name of the village and district where allotment has been made
1	Harnam Singh son of Hira Singh ..	Village Alike, Tehsil Sirsa, District Hissar.
2	Surta Ram and Thakar Ram ..	Village Abub, Tehsil Sirsa, District Hissar.
3	Ram Rakha son of Sheraram ..	Village Khera, Tehsil Sirsa, District Hissar.
4	Harnam Singh son of Dalel Singh ..	Village Dhaipur, Tehsil and District Jullundur.
5	Ishar Singh son of Bishan Singh ..	Adat Syedwala, Tehsil Barnala, Bhatinda.
6	Paras Ram son of Karta Ram ..	Khera, Tehsil Sirsa, District Hissar.
	Arjan Das son of Tulsi Ram ..	Kundwala Amarkot, Tehsil Fazilka, District Ferozepur.
8	Attar Singh son of Massa Singh ..	Hinjrawanwala, Tehsil Fatehabad, Hissar.
9	Arjan Singh son of Kishan Singh ..	Bidhai, Tehsil Muktsar, District Ferozepur.
10	Sohana Singh son of Lehna Singh ..	Ditto
11	Chanan Singh son of Attar Singh ..	Ditto
12	Lal Singh son of Sardara Singh ..	Ditto
13	Madan Singh son of Khandara Singh ..	Ditto
14	Kartar Singh son of Kishan Singh ..	Ditto
15	Kartar Singh son of Jai Singh ..	Ditto
16	Arjan Singh son of Sardara Singh ..	Ditto
17	Sohan Rai son of Gulab Rai ..	Shajrana, Tehsil Fazilka, District Ferozepur.

[Minister for Finance]

STATEMENT 'A' (BAHAWALPUR STATE)—CONTINUED

Serial No.	Name of the Allottee	Name of the village and district where allotment has been made
18	Ganga Ram son of Sukh Ram ..	Dewankhera, Tehsil Sirsa, District Hissar.
19	Nihal Singh son of Saudagar Singh Pukka	Pukka, Tehsil and District Bhatinda.
20	Daula Ram son of Tharba Mal ..	District Hissar.
21	Balbir Singh son of Kaka Singh ..	District Ferozepore.
22	Jagir Singh son of Kaka Singh ..	Ditto
23	Lal Singh son of Jiwan Singh ..	Ditto
24	Ishar Mal son of Kassu Ram ..	District Hissar.
25	Roshan Das son of Askaran Das ..	Ditto
26	Toola Ram son of Wassu Mal ..	Ditto
27	Loku Ram son of Bhawani Dass ..	Ditto
28	Ramdittamal son of Sunder Singh ..	District Bhatinda.
29	Ram Rakha son of Ram Dhan ..	Ditto
30	Ram Parkash son of Sant Ram ..	Ditto
31	Parshotam Das son of Sat Narain ..	Ditto
32	Sarwan Singh son of Gurdit Singh ..	Ditto
33	Pritam Singh son of Mahla Singh ..	District Ferozepore.
34	Balbir Singh son of Thakar Singh ..	Ditto
35	Inder Singh son of Thaker Singh ..	Ditto
36	Hardyal Singh son of Mahla Singh ..	Ditto
37	Bhagwan Singh son of Narain Singh ..	Ditto
38	Chet Singh son of Nidhan Singh ..	Ditto
39	Hazari Lal son of Nand Ram ..	Ditto
40	Tulsi Ram son of Nand Ram ..	Ditto
41	Pat Ram son of Nand Ram ..	Ditto
42	Jai Ram son of Nand Ram ..	Ditto
43	Teja Singh son of Jodh Singh ..	District Bhatinda.
44	Chanda Singh son of Jodh Singh ..	Ditto
45	Ram Singh son of Mangal Singh ..	Nangal Pardul, Tehsil and District Jullundur.
46	Gujar Singh son of Mangal Singh ..	Ditto

STATEMENT 'A' (BAHAWALPUR STATE)—CONCLUDED

Serial No.	Name of the Allottee	Name of the village and district where allotment has been made
47	Waryam Singh son of Santokh Singh	Mojgarh, Tehsil Sirsa, District Hissar
48	Mukhtar Singh, Jarnail Singh and Avtar Singh sons of Karnail Singh..	Ditto
49	Parmanand Jaidev, Darbari Lal ..	Raman, Tehsil and District Bhatinda.
50	Lal Singh son of Sunder Singh ..	Sanam, Tehsil Sangrur, District Sangrur.
51	Sucha Singh son of Bachitar Singh ..	Kotkapura, Tehsil Faridkot, District Bhatinda.
52	Dunda Singh, Jail Singh and Kirpal Singh sons of Natha Singh ..	Nabirakalan, Tehsil Sirsa, District Hissar.
53	Thakar Dass son of Bhag Singh ..	Shaniari, Tehsil Sirsa, District Hissar.
54	Inder Singh son of Harnam Singh ..	Ladhudas, Tehsil Sirsa, District Hissar.
55	Harnam Singh son of Khem Singh ..	Alipur Tatukhera, Tehsil Sirsa, Hissar District.
56	Waryam Singh and Harnam Singh ..	Jandwala-Kalan, Tehsil and District Bhatinda.
57	Saudagar Singh son of Hem Singh ..	Sanianwala, Tehsil Muktesar, District Ferozepore.
58	Bhola Singh son of Nihal Singh ..	Ganda, Tehsil Sirsa, District Hissar.
59	Jhanda and Raghbir Singh sons of Jagat Singh ..	Chhawha, Tehsil Pathankot, District Gurdaspur.
60	Gokal Chand son of Sahib Ditta ..	Khori, Tehsil Jagadhri, District Ambala.
61	Bhagwan Das son of Kanshi Ram ..	Kahni, Tehsil Gohana, District Rohtak.
62	Bodhu Ram Padram son of Aya Ram	Ladhawas, Tehsil Sirsa, District Hissar.
63	Milkhi Ram son of Godha Ram ..	Chakhala, Tehsil Jhajjar, District Rohtak.

STATEMENT 'B'

Serial No.	Name and parentage of the allottee	Name of the village, tehsil and district where allotment has been made
1	Fauja Singh son of Jhanda Singh ..	Anayatpur, Tehsil Ajnala, District Amritsar.
2	Mall Singh son of Ganga Singh ..	Manirwal, Tehsil Ajnala, District Amritsar.
3	Labh Kaur widow of Bishan Singh ..	Azimwala, Tehsil and District Ferozepore.
4	Lakha Singh son of Nagahia Singh ..	District Hoshiarpur.
5	Sher Singh Ravel Singh Nasib Singh ..	Galuwal, Tehsil Dasuya, District Hoshiarpur.
6	Shamir Singh and Ajit Singh ..	District Jullundur.
7	Fauja Singh son of Dalip Singh ..	Hoobbowal, Tehsil Batala, District Gurdaspur.
8	Tarlochan Singh son of Narain Singh	Sakhowal, Tehsil and District Gurdaspur.

[Minister for Finance]

STATEMENT 'B'—CONCLUDED

Serial No.	Name and parentage of the allottee	Name of the village, tehsil and district where allotment has been made
9	Mewa Singh son of Harnam Singh ..	Gobindgarh, Tehsil and District Barnala.
10	Jagjit Singh etc., sons of Prem Singh..	Ditto
11	Sadhora Singh son of Bhola Singh ..	Azimshah, Tehsil and District Ferozepore.
12	Mangal Singh son of Wasawa Singh..	Kamalpur Khurd, Tehsil Ajnala, District Amritsar.
13	Shankar Singh son of Bhagil Singh ..	Mahliwala Bodla, Tehsil Fazilka, Ferozepore.
14	Jagjit Singh son of Hakim Singh ..	Bulandpur, Tehsil and District Jullundur.
15	Bahal Singh son of Mangal Singh ..	Budhar, Tehsil and District Barnala.
16	Makhan Singh son of Kala Singh ..	Gorbana, Tehsil and District Bhatinda.
17	Vir Singh son of Sunder Singh ..	Nabipur, Tehsil and District Kapurthala.
18	Bagicha Singh son of Mahnga Singh..	Bodla Kalan, Tehsil Mansa, District Bhatinda.
19	Thakar Singh son of Sona Singh ..	Korianwali, Tehsil Fazilka, District Ferozepore.
20	Sardara Singh son of Sohan Singh ..	Saldapur, Tehsil and District Karnal,
21	Wattan Singh son of Kundan Singh ..	Sahjuwal, Tehsil and District Hoshiarpur.
22	Nand Singh son of Dharam Singh ..	Bhapra Azimshah, Tehsil and District Ferozepore.
23	Jawala Singh son of Inder Singh ..	Ditto
24	Amar Singh son of Jhanda Singh ..	District Gurdaspur.
25	Harnam Singh son of Kahan Singh..	District Bhatinda.
26	Gurbux Singh son of Ganda Singh ..	Kamalpur, Tehsil Ajnala, District Amritsar
27	Ishar Singh son of Hazara Singh ..	District Ludhiana.
28	Sada Singh son of Chandi Singh ..	District Hissar.
29	Kartar Singh, Ram Singh sons of Amar Singh ..	District Jullundur.
30	Kartar Singh son of Jiwand Singh ..	Ditto
31	Inder Singh son of Nanak Singh ..	District Ambala.
32	Avtar Singh son of Nanak Singh ..	Ditto
33	Balwant Singh son of Natha Singh ..	District Karnal.
34	Darbara Singh son of Buta Singh ..	District Kapurthala.
35	Faquir Chand son of Bishan Dass ..	District Ferozepore.
36	Bhagwan Singh son of Thakar Singh	District Hissar.
37	Thakar Singh son of Dhola Singh ..	Ditto
38	Karam Singh son of Bhag Singh ..	District Bhatinda.
39	Jagtar Singh son of Attar Singh ..	District Ferozepore.

Shrimati Sita Devi : The hon. Minister has stated in his reply to part (b) of the question that applications of many persons for allotment of land were rejected by the Government. May I know on what grounds this was done ?

Minister : Their claims were not valid.

Shrimati Sita Devi : The hon. Minister has stated in his reply to part (c) of the question that many persons could not be allotted land for non-availability of suitable land. May I know when the Government propose to allot land to such persons ?

Minister : Only those persons are being allotted land whose claims have been verified and the decision in regard to the remaining cases will be taken shortly by the Government.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Is it not a fact that there are many persons whose claims were verified two years ago but still they have not been allotted any land? May I know when the Government propose to allot land to these persons and at what place ?

Minister : There are very few cases in which persons whose claims though verified, have not yet been allotted land. Out of them there are many such persons whose record has not been received from the Pakistan Government.

Shrimati Sita Devi : May I know whether the Government is taking any steps to get the record of the lands of such persons from the Pakistan Government ?

Minister : We have written several times to the High Commissioner to send the record of lands of the displaced persons coming from Bahawalpur but it has not been received so far.

Shrimati Sita Devi : May I know whether the Government will be prepared to take some strong action if the record is not received after some-time ?

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** This question does not arise.

INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING CHANGES IN THE ALLOTMENT OF LANDS

***1234. Shrimati Sita Devi :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state —

- (a) whether any instructions have been received by the Government from the Central Government directing that changes in the allotment of land be not made ; if so, a copy of the same be laid on the table ;
- (b) whether any changes have been made by the Government in the allotments of land since the receipt of the instructions from the Central Government, referred to above ; if so, the reasons therefor ;
- (c) whether he is aware of the fact that drastic changes were made in the case of allottee named Lt.-Col. Girdhari Singh of Dina Nagar ; if so, the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) Yes. A copy of the instructions is given below.

(b) What has been received from the Central Government is an amendment to Rule 14 6 of the Administration of Evacuee Property (Central) Rules, 1950, whereby the powers of the Custodian to cancel the existing allotment is restricted to certain specified type of cases. Changes necessitated by the orders passed prior to the aforesaid amendment of Rule 14·6 are not prohibited.

(c) No change has been made in the allotment of Lt.-Col. Girdhari Singh.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF REHABILITATION

Dated the 22nd July 1952

NOTIFICATION

No. 14(105) Cus/49. In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 56 of the Administration of Evacuee Property Act, 1950 (XXXI of 1950), the Central Government hereby directs that the following further amendments shall be made in the Evacuee Property, (Central) Rules, 1950, namely :—

In the said rules—

(a) for sub-rule (6) of rule 14 the following sub-rule shall be substituted, namely :—

(6) notwithstanding anything contained in this rule, the Custodian of Evacuee Property in each of the States of Punjab and Patiala and East Punjab States Union shall not exercise the power of cancelling any allotment of rural evacuee property on a quasi-permanent basis, or varying the terms of any such allotment, except in the following circumstances :—

- (i) where the allotment was made although the allottee owned no agricultural land in Pakistan ;
- (ii) where the allottee has obtained land in excess of the area to which he was entitled under the scheme of allotment of land prevailing at the time of the allotment ;
- (iii) where the allotment is to be cancelled or varied in accordance with general or special directions issued by the Central Government ;

Provided that where an allotment is cancelled or varied under clause (ii) the allottee shall be entitled to retain such portion of the land as is not in excess of the land to which he would have been entitled under the scheme of quasi-permanent allotment of land.

(b) After Rule 48, the following rule shall be inserted, namely, "49 Repeal." The rules contained in the following Notifications, namely :—

- (i) the notification of the Government of Punjab, the Relief and Rehabilitation Department No. 8689-S(Reh), dated the 29th August, 1951, and
- (ii) the Notification of the Government of Patiala and East Punjab States Union in the Rehabilitation Department No. 2, dated the 19th February, 1952, are hereby repealed:

Provided that subject to the next succeeding proviso anything done or any action taken in exercise of any power conferred by any of the said Rules shall be deemed to have been done or taken under the corresponding provision of these Rules :

Provided that no order other than an order in an appeal, made in exercise of any power conferred by any of the said Rules shall have effect:—

- (a) if it was made after the 25th May, 1952
or
(b) if it was made on or before the 25th May, 1952, but was not implemented or enforced on or before the 15th June, 1952.

V. D. DANTYAGI,
Joint Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF REHABILITATION

Dated the 4th August, 1952

NOTIFICATION

No. 14(105)Cus/49. In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 56 of the Administration of Evacuee Property Act, 1950 (XXXI of 1950), the Central Government hereby directs that the following further amendments shall be made in the Administration of Evacuee Property (Central) Rules, 1950, namely:—

In rule 49 of the said Rules—

- (a) in the first proviso, the words "subject to the next succeeding proviso" shall be omitted ;
(b) the second proviso shall be omitted.

MANMOHAN KISHAN,
Assistant Secretary to the Government of India.

CHARGING OF LEASE MONEY FROM DISPLACED LAND-HOLDERS

*1257. **Shri Jagat Ram Bhardawaj:** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) whether he is aware of the fact that in the years 1947-48, 1948-49 and 1949-50 the displaced land-holders were charged for evacuee lands $2\frac{1}{2}$ times and 6 times the land revenue as lease money ;
(b) whether it is also a fact that the then Minister for Rehabilitation promised that after quasi-permanent allotment this money will be refunded to the allottees ; if so, whether the said amount has been paid back to the allottees so far, if not, the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) Yes. The rates of rent on which evacuee lands were leased out during these years are given below.

(b) Quasi-permanent allotment is deemed to have been made with effect from Kharif 1949, hence the allottees are eligible to get refund of the lease money after a deduction of 10 per cent on account of collection charges with effect from that harvest. Orders for giving refunds were issued in July, 1950. In some cases refunds have already been made, while in other cases necessary steps are being taken. These amounts could not be paid back in all cases partly because the accounts have not been finalised as yet and partly because allotments were subject to modification as a result of review and revision.

Statemnet showing the rates of rent at which evacuee lands were leased out during the years 1947-48 to 1949-50

Harvest	RATE OF RENT CHARGEABLE FROM DISPLACED PERSONS				Rent chargeable from local residence
	Percentage of area sown by the allottees				
	75 per cent or more of area sown in the last corresponding harvest	50 per cent or more but less than 75 per cent of area sown in last harvest	Less than 50 per cent of the area sown in last harvest	No area sown	
Kharif 1947 ..	Single land revenue	Single land revenue	Single land revenue	Nil	Six times the land revenue or according to the specific orders of the Government
Rabi 1948 ..	Two times Land Revenue	1½ times Land Revenue	Ditto	Nil	Ditto
—	2/3rds or more of area sown in the last corresponding harvest	1/3rd or more but less than 2/3rd of the areas sown	Less than 1/3rd of the area sown	No area sown	
Kharif 1948 ..	3 times Land Revenue	2 times Land Revenue	Single land revenue	No orders	Six times the land revenue or according to the specific order of the Government
Rabi 1948 ..	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto
Kharif 1949 and Rabi 1950 ..	2½ times the land revenue from the displaced persons				Ditto

[Minister of Finance]

(15)50

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

[2ND DECEMBER, 1952

REHABILITATION OF JALLO ROSIN FACTORY

***1278. Shri Rala Ram :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the steps that have been taken by the Government to rehabilitate the Jallo Rosin Factory at Hoshiarpur and the progress, if any, made so far in this connection ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : Attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the *reply given to his Starred question No. 999. As stated therein, the question of starting a Rosin Factory in Punjab was considered by the Industrial Development Sub-Committee of the Cabinet on the 14th August, 1951, and the proposal was dropped, as being financially unsound. There has been no change since then. As before, Government are prepared to consider a scheme for setting up a modern factory jointly with industrialists interested in this industry, if a suitable scheme is put forward.

COTTAGE AND VILLAGE INDUSTRIES IN KANGRA DISTRICT

***1299. Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether the industrial survey of Kangra District was conducted by the Government with a view to organising cottage and village industries in the District ; if so, the steps, if any, taken by the Government towards industrial organisation in the District ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : Yes. The industrial survey of Kangra District was conducted with a view to assessing the potentialities of the district for industrial development, including the scope for cottage and village industries. It was disclosed by the survey that the principal resources of the district which could be utilised for industrial purposes consisted of forest produce, medicinal herbs and plants, wool, fruits and ores of certain minerals. Before any industries can be based upon these materials, considerable further investigations and research are necessary and the work on these lines is now in progress. Besides, a wholtime District Industries Officer has been appointed in the district in order to provide necessary assistance and advice to private enterprise for organising cottage and village industries as well as other types of industries.

GRANT OF STIPENDS FROM GANDHI MEMORIAL FUND FOR
TECHNICAL TRAINING

***1348. Shri Ram Chandra Comrade :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of stipends allowed to the State Government from the Gandhi Memorial Fund for technical training ;
- (b) the names of the trades for the learning of which these stipends have been granted ;
- (c) the number of stipends awarded by the State Government to the trainees ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) No stipend has been allowed to the State Government from the Gandhi Memorial Fund for technical training or for that matter for any other training. The State Government have, however, sanctioned a Scheme for the technical training of Punjabis in India and abroad out of their own Revenues. The name of the Scholarships/Stipends to be awarded under this scheme is " Gandhi Memorial Scholarships for Industrial and Technical Training in India and abroad ".

*Reply to this question appears in the proceedings of 23rd October, 1952, Volume III, No. 3

[Minister for Finance]

(b) A statement is given below.

(c) Ten and five candidates have been selected for the award of Scholarships for training in India and abroad respectively.

STATEMENT

(b) (i) *Trades for training in Foreign countries:—*

- (1) Sericulture and/or Research in Sericulture.
- (2) Manufacture of goods on Cottage basis, for Lady students only.
- (3) Watch and Clock-making.
- (4) Optical Science.
- (5) Manufacture of Electrical goods and Electrical machinery.

(b) (ii) *Trades for training in India.—*

- (1) Manufacture of cycles and their parts.
- (2) Plastic Manufacture.
- (3) Educational Handicrafts (for lady students only).
- (4) Manufacture of Indigenous dyes.
- (5) Enamels.
- (6) Pulp and Paper Manufacture.
- (7) Weights and Measures Manufacture.
- (8) Design and manufacture of H. T. and L. T. insulators.
- (9) Ceramics.
- (10) Woollen Textiles.
- (11) Oil Technology.
- (12) Design and manufacture of oil engines.
- (13) Manufacture of Sewing Machines and their parts.
- (14) Cellulose manufacture.
- (15) General machine Tools and their design.
- (16) Design and manufacture of Automobile Engines.
- (17) Mineralogy.
- (18) Glassware.
- (19) Textile Technology.
- (20) Design of Textile Machinery.
- (21) Repairing and overhauling of Automobiles.
- (22) Tanning.
- (23) Leather goods and shoe manufacture.
- (24) Flaying and utilisation of bodies of dead animals.

ENQUIRY AGAINST SHRI RAM SARUP SARPANCH OF VILLAGE PANCHAYAT,
MUJESAR, DISTRICT GURGAON

***1156. Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht :** Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that in September, 1952, an enquiry was held against one Ram Sarup Sarpanch of Village Panchayat Mujesar, Tehsil Ballabgarh, District Gurgaon ; if so, the findings of the enquiry and the action taken by the Government thereon ?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma : Yes. The matter is under consideration of Government.

COMPLAINTS AGAINST TEHSIL PANCHAYAT OFFICER, BALLABGARH

***1157. Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht :** Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state whether he has received any complaints against the Tehsil Panchayat Officer, Ballabgarh, District Gurgaon; if so, the action taken by the Government thereon ?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma : Yes. The matter is under consideration of Government.

Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht : ²⁸ Does the hon. Minister think that punishment includes transfer also ?

Minister : Yes, transfer before the lapse of the usual time sometimes amounts to punishment.

ELECTIONS TO LOCAL BODIES IN THE STATE

***1277. Shri Rala Ram :** Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state whether it has been finally decided to hold elections to local bodies in the State ; if so, when, if not, the reasons for delay ?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma : Yes. It is intended to hold elections to most of the urban local bodies by about the end of December, 1952 and in the case of District Boards in the first quarter of 1953.

MEMORANDUM FROM THE PROVINCIAL CHAKKI-OWNERS ASSOCIATIONS

***1376. Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina :** Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state whether he has received any memorandum from the Provincial Chakki-Owners Association, dated the 20th April, 1952; if so, the main demands put forward by them ; and the action, if any, taken thereon ?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma : *Ist Part*—No. Probably a reference is to the proceedings of the Punjab Provincial Chakki-Owners Association's meeting held at Ludhiana on the 20th April, 1952, a copy of which was sent to Government.

2nd Part—The demands included a suggestion that rations should be issued in the form of grain only and that the Punjab Control of Milling of Wheat Order, 1950, should be withdrawn. Government did not consider it desirable to withdraw the discretion given to consumers to draw their rations in the form of grain or atta. The Punjab Control of Milling of Wheat Order, 1950, was, however, withdrawn from the entire State, with effect from the 16th July, 1952.

SHIFTING OF MEDICAL DISPENSARY IN DISTRICT KANGRA

***1139. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state —

- (a) whether it is a fact that a medical dispensary has been shifted recently from Indora, District Kangra to Chiri near Dharamsala ;
- (b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, the population of Indora and of Chiri respectively ?

Shri Jagat Narain : (a) No. The Civil Dispensary Indora is still functioning there under the charge of the medical officer and there is no proposal to shift it to another place. However, the Civil Dispensary at Daroka has recently been shifted to Chiri on the recommendation of the local officers.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma : May I know whether any resolution was passed by the District Board, Kangra, recommending that Daroka should be given a dispensary ?

Minister : No such resolution has come to my knowledge.

ENQUIRY AGAINST DOCTOR-IN-CHARGE OF MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL,
HODAL, DISTRICT GURGAON

***1158. Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether an enquiry was conducted by the Government against the Doctor-in-Charge of Municipal Hospital, Hodal, District Gurgaon, if so, the findings of the enquiry and the action taken by the Government thereon ?

Shri Jagat Narain : No enquiry was conducted by Government, as no complaint was received by them against the Medical Officer Incharge of the Municipal Dispensary, Hodal. A complaint against this doctor was, however, received by the Civil Surgeon, Gurgaon, who conducted an enquiry, but no specific instance of illegal gratification or misconduct was brought forth or substantiated by the complainants.

Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht : Will the Minister kindly state whether one of the allegations against this doctor was that he was suffering from paralysis and some infectious diseases and was incapable of performing operations and this allegation was also the subject of the enquiry held against him ?

Minister : No.

FEE CHARGED BY GOVERNMENT PROFESSIONAL COLLEGES IN THE STATE

***1219. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government Professional Colleges in the State charge from the students in a lump sum the fee of six months along with the admission fee ; if so, the reasons therefor ?

Shri Jagat Narain : It is not a fact that fees in Government Professional Colleges under the control of the Education Department are charged

in one lump sum for six months along with the admission fee. The College and hostel fees, are, however, realised in the Glancy Medical College, Amritsar, in lump sum on an annual basis for the following reasons:—

1. That no seat in the 1st year may remain vacant as it is possible that on the realisation of fees on monthly or quarterly basis, many students may leave the college.
2. That full fees for the whole year may be realised.

MOTORABLE TRANSPORT ROAD FROM BODH TO NARHANA, DISTRICT KANGRA

***1309. Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government has declared the road from Bodh to Narhana via Jawali, District Kangra, fit for wheel traffic and have sanctioned a route to one local company for the purpose ;
- (b) whether he is aware of the fact that no motor conveyance runs on this road ; if so, the reasons therefor ?

Shri Jagat Narain : (a) The route from Pathankot to Jawali via Bodh, Nurpur is already in operation. On the recommendation of the Deputy Commissioner, Kangra, to the effect that the road from Jawali to Narhana had been made motorable, the Provincial Transport Authority agreed to the extension of the service from Jawali to Narhana but the matter is under consideration of the Regional Transport Authority, Jullundur. It is not a fact that a route permit for the extended route has been granted to any company.

(b) No motor service has yet been started on the extended route as the question of grant of a permit is under consideration of the Regional Transport Authority, Jullundur.

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma : When did the Deputy Commissioner, Kangra inform the Government that the road from Jawali to Narhana had been completed and made motorable ?

Minister : I require notice for this.

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma : Is it not a fact that the said road is complete for the last one year ?

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Member is giving information instead of seeking it.

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma : May I know whether it is a fact that no motor is being plied on this road despite the fact that it has been complete for the last one year ?

Minister : The hon. Member may give fresh notice for this question.

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma : May I know why the Regional Transport Authority has been sitting tight over this matter for the last one year ?

Minister : This matter is under consideration of the Regional Transport Authority for the last two months.

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE PUNJAB BEOPAR MANDAL AND GOVERNMENT
ON PUNJAB SALES TAX (AMENDMENT) ACT

***1074. Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Minister for Labour be pleased to state whether any negotiations were carried on by the Finance Minister with the representatives of the Punjab Beopar Mandal in Amritsar in September, 1952 over the disputed provision of the Punjab Sales Tax (Amendment) Act ; if so, with what result ?

Chaudhri Sundar Singh : 1. Yes. Negotiations were carried on by the Finance Minister with the representatives of the Punjab Beopar Mandal in Jullundur and not Amritsar in September, 1952.

2. The matter is still under consideration.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Will the hon. Minister kindly tell us the number of matters which have been decided by mutual agreement up to this time ?

Chief Minister : Negotiations have been going on on all the points at issue.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Why does not the Minister, who took part in the negotiations, himself reply ?

Minister for Local Government : Responsibility being joint any minister can reply.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

ADDITIONAL POLICE POSTS AT VILLAGES MAKHI KALAN, KACHA PAKKA
AND SUR SINGH, DISTRICT AMRITSAR

253. Shri Ram Kishan: Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) the costs actually incurred under each item of costs by the Government for the maintenance of the Additional Police Posts of Villages Makhi Kalan, Kacha Pakka and Sur Singh, Tehsil Patti, District Amritsar, respectively, quartered there between 1st November 1949 and 1st May 1950 excluding the costs of contingency reserve police force kept at the District Headquarters;
- (b) the costs actually incurred, including the costs of the contingency reserve police force of each of the additional police posts referred to in part (a) above ;
- (c) (i) the amounts actually drawn by the District Police Authorities, Amritsar in connection with the costs of each of the police posts referred to above excluding the costs of contingency reserve police force under each item on the basis of the sanctioned strength of the police force in each case ;
- (ii) the amount actually drawn for each of these police posts including contingency reserve ;
- (d) which of the amounts referred to in parts (a), (b), (c) (i) and (ii) above have been approved by the Government to be recovered from the inhabitants of each of the villages referred to above.

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) A statement marked 'A' is given below.

(b) A statement marked 'B' is given below.

(c) (i) A statement marked 'C' is given below.

(ii) A statement marked 'D' is given below.

(d) As shown in the statement marked 'B' ; except that in the case of Additional Police Post, Sur Singh, a sum of Rs 11,513-0-9, instead of Rs 11,680-12-9, has been approved by Government to be recovered from the inhabitants concerned.

STATEMENT A

Statement showing the cost actually incurred by the Government for the maintenance of Additional Police Posts Makhi Kalan, Sur Singh and Kacha Pacca excluding cost of contingency reserve

Head of Account	Additional Police Post, Makhi Kalan	Additional Police Post, Sur Singh	Additional Police Post Kacha Pacca
	Rs A. P.	Rs A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Pay of Establishment ..	2,334 9 0	5,161 11 0	5,730 15 0
Dearness Allowance ..	1,391 7 0	3,223 12 0	3,576 0 0
Temporary Allowance ..	..	..	112 7 0
Conveyance Allowance ..	166 15 0	300 0 0	787 6 0
Initial and Annual Charges of Clothing and Equipment ..	581 4 0	893 12 0	1,018 12 0
Boxes and Bedding Charges ..	60 0 0	135 0 0	165 0 0
Rent, Rates and Taxes ..	103 5 0	120 0 0	135 14 0
Pay of IV Class Government Servants ..	236 2 0	240 0 0	229 13 0
Other Miscellaneous Charges ..	..	..	108 15 0
Pensionary Charges ..	323 6 5	573 4 9	906 5 0
Local Allowances ..	..	..	..
Travelling Allowances ..	83 12 0	150 13 0	69 0 0
Total ..	5,280 12 5	10,798 4 9	12,840 7 0

STATEMENT B

*Statement showing the cost actually incurred by the Government for the maintenance of the Additional Police Posts
Makhi Kalan, Sur Singh and Kacha Pacca, including cost of contingency reserve*

Head of Account	Police Post, Makhi Kalan			Police Post, Sur Singh			Police Post, Kacha Pacca		
	Rs	A.	P.	Rs	A.	P.	Rs	A.	P.
Pay of Establishment ..	2,814	9	0	5,557	11	0	6,637	6	0
Dearness Allowance ..	1,691	7	0	3,523	12	0	4,166	13	0
Temporary Allowance ..	..			..			112	7	0
Conveyance Allowance ..	166	15	0	300	0	0	787	6	0
Initial and Annual Charges of Clothing and Equipment ..	643	12	0	956	4	0	1,143	12	0
Boxes and Bedding Charges ..	75	0	0	150	0	0	195	0	0
Rent, Rates and Taxes ..	103	5	0	120	0	0	135	14	0
Pay of IV Class Government Servants ..	236	2	0	240	0	0	229	13	0
Other Miscellaneous Charges ..	..			..			108	15	0
Pensionary Charges ..	372	6	5	622	4	9	1,004	5	0
Local Allowances ..	60	0	0	60	0	0	116	4	0
Travelling Allowances ..	83	12	0	150	13	0	69	0	0
Total ..	6,247	4	5	11,680	12	9	14,706	15	0

[Chief Minister]

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PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

[2ND DECEMBER, 1952]

STATEMENT C

*Statement showing the cost actually drawn from the Amritsar Treasury for the maintenance of Additional Police Posts
Makhi Kalan, Sur Singh and Kacha Pacca excluding the cost of contingency reserve*

Head of account	Police Post, Makhi Kalan			Police Post, Sur Singh			Police Post, Kacha Pacca		
	Rs	A.	P.	Rs	A.	P.	Rs	A.	P.
Pay of Establishment ..	2,627	0	0	5,138	0	0	6,071	4	0
Dearness Allowance ..	1,966	12	0	3,592	8	0	3,866	2	0
Temporary Allowance ..	..			..			112	7	0
House-rent Allowance ..	..			..			24	4	0
Conveyance Allowance ..	300	0	0	225	0	0	787	6	0
Travelling Allowance ..	..			..			..
Initial and Annual Uniform Allowance ..	581	4	0	866	4	0	1,085	0	0
Rent, Rates and Taxes ..	103	5	0	120	0	0	135	14	0
Pay of IV Class Government Servants ..	236	2	0	240	0	0	229	13	0
Other Miscellaneous Charges ..	..			..			23	6	0
Pensionary Charges ..	323	6	5	573	4	9	749	0	0
Beds and Boxes ..	60	0	0	135	0	0	165	0	0
Local Allowances ..	..			..			..
Total ..	6,197	13	5	10,890	0	9	13,249	8	0

STATEMENT D

Statement showing the cost actually drawn from the Amritsar Treasury for the maintenance of Additional Police Posts, Makhi Kalan, Sur Singh and Kacha Pacca including the cost of the contingency reserve

[Chief Minister]

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PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

[2ND DECEMBER, 1952

Head of account	Police Post, Makhi Kalan			Police Post, Sur Singh			Police Post, Kacha Pacca		
	Rs	A.	P.	Rs	A.	P.	Rs	A.	P.
Pay of Establishment ..	3,107	0	0	5,534	0	0	6,977	11	0
Dearness Allowance ..	2,266	12	0	3,892	12	0	4,456	15	0
Temporary Allowance ..	..			..			112	7	0
House-rent Allowance ..	..			..			24	4	0
Conveyance Allowance ..	300	0	0	225	0	0	787	6	0
Travelling Allowance ..	..			..			..
Initial and Annual Uniform Allowance ..	643	12	0	928	12	0	1,210	0	0
Rent, Rates and Taxes ..	103	5	0	120	0	0	135	14	0
Pay of IV Class Government Servants ..	236	2	0	240	0	0	229	13	0
Other Miscellaneous Charges ..	..			..			23	6	0
Pensionary charges ..	372	6	5	622	4	9	847	0	0
Beds and Boxes ..	75	0	0	150	0	0	195	0	0
Local Allowance ..	..			..			..
Total ..	7,104	5	5	11,712	8	9	14,999	12	0

CANAL WATER IN JANDIALA AND MAJITHA DIVISIONS OF THE UPPER BARI DOAB CANAL.

254. Shri Ram Kishan : Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state —

- (a) the quantity of canal water that is allowed for one thousand acres for the canal irrigated area in the Jandiala and Majitha Divisions of the Upper Bari Boab Canal, respectively.
- (b) whether the rates of canal water tax (Abiana) in both the Divisions referred to above are the same ;
- (c) (i) whether there is any difference between the quantity of canal water supplied for thousand acres in the Divisions referred to in part (a) above, if so, to what extent.
(ii) the reasons for this difference ;
- (d) whether he is aware of the fact that in Patti Tahsil villages, the water of wells for irrigation purposes is not suitable and that in Amritsar and Ajnala Tahsils water for irrigation purposes is suitable ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : (a) Statement showing the required information is given below.

- (b) Yes.
- (c) (i) Yes.

(ii) The difference exists since long but Government are contemplating to take steps to set right these inequalities.

(d) Local enquiries show that the well water of Tahsil Patti is saline and not fit for irrigation and that of Amritsar Tahsil is suitable for irrigation.

Statement showing the quantity of canal water allowed per thousand acres for canal irrigated area in Jandiala and Majitha Divisions Upper Bari Doab Canal

MAJITHA DIVISION			JANDIALA DIVISION		
S. No.	Name of Channel	Water allowance per 1,000 acres	S. No.	Name of Channel	Water allowance per 1,000 acres
(1)	MAIN BRANCH LOWER		(1)	KASUR BRANCH LOWER	
1	Doburji	3.3 P	1	Jandiala	3.14 K
2	Vallah ..	4.7 P	2	Talwan ..	3.14 K
3	Amritsar ..	3.00 P	3	Noney ..	3.14 K
4	Jathuwal ..	6.80 P	4	Pakhoke ..	3.13 P
5	Chabal ..	2.77 P	5	Pindori ..	3.17 P
6	Jagatpur ..	3.00 P	6	Tarn Taran ..	3.10 P
7	Lehyan ..	3.00 P	7	Rasulpur ..	3.10 P

[Minister for Irrigation]

MAJITHA DIVISION— <i>contd</i>			JANDIALA DIVISION— <i>contd</i>		
S. No.	Name of Channel	Water allowance per 1,000 acres	S. No.	Name of Channel	Water allowance per 1,000 acres
	(1) MAIN BRANCH LOWER— <i>con</i>			(1) KASUR BRANCH LOWER— <i>concl</i>	
8	Basarke ..	3.00 P	8	Piddi ..	3.13 P
9	Bhughar Kahna ..	2.74 P	9	Jaura ..	3.12 P
10	Doda ..	3.00 P	10	Khem Karan ..	3.10 P
11	Sukar Chak ..	3.00 P	11	Makhi ..	3.13 P
12	Khalra ..	3.00 P		(2) SABRAON BRANCH	
	(2) LAHORE BRANCH		1	Riarki ..	3.14 K
1	Ghukewal ..	4.00 P	2	Dhardeo ..	3.14 K
2	Sarchur ..	4.0 P	3	Athwal ..	3.14 K
3	Majjupur ..	3.2 P	4	Vadla ..	3.14 K
4	Manawala ..	3.2 P	5	Gaggar Bhana ..	3.14 K
5	Ranewali-R ..	4.0 P	6	Bhinder ..	3.14 K
6	Ranewali-L ..	4.0 P	7	Raya ..	3.13 P
7	Pull ..	3.0 P	8	Nagoke ..	3.16 P
8	Kohali ..	3.2 P	9	Khawaspur ..	3.17 P
9	Chogawan ..	3.6 P	10	Patti ..	3.10 P
10	Wagha ..	4.0 P	11	Chak Mehr ..	3.16 P
	(3) MAIN BRANCH UPPER		12	Jamraai ..	3.10 P
1	Fatehgarh ..	6.11 K	13	Sirhali ..	3.13 P
2	Aliwal ..	4.2 P	14	Khara ..	3.10 P
3	Kotla ..	8.13 K		LIST OF NEW CHANNELS	
4	Thriewal ..	8.13 K	1	Gadli ..	3.5 K
5	Majitha ..	4.0 P	2	Qadian ..	3.5 K
			3	Raipur ..	3.5 K
			4	Bishamberpur ..	3.5 K

MAJITHA DIVISION—CONCLD			JANDIALA DIVISION—CONCLD		
S. No.	Name of Channel.	Water allce: per 1,000 acres	S. No.	Name of Channel.	Water allce: per 1,000 acres
(4)	RAMDAS MINOR OF FATEHGARH DISTRIBUTARY	3.50 K	LIST OF NEW CHANNELS—concl'd		
			5	Harpur ..	3.5 K
			6	Batala ..	3.5 K
			7	Bahawal ..	3.5 K
			8	Ditch No. I ..	3.5 K
			9	Ditch No. II ..	3.5 K
			10	Ditch No. III ..	3.5 K
			11	Ditch No. IV ..	3.5 K
			12	Ditch No. V ..	3.5 K
			13	Khujala ..	3.5 K
			14	Tangra Distributary	3.5 K

ROTATION PROGRAMME FOR WARABANDI ON UPPER BARI DOAB CANALS

255. Shri Ram Kishan : Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state—

- (a) (i) whether any rotation programme was made and approved by the Canal Authorities of the Upper Bari Doab Canal Circle, Amritsar, for the warabandi during the month of October, 1952, to be worked out up to 31st March 1953 if so, a copy of the above programme be laid on the table.
- (ii) Whether the Urdu cyclostyled copies of this programme were published and distributed by the Secretary, District Board, Amritsar, in the villages ;
- (b) whether according to the approved rotation programme referred to in part (a) above, Jandiala Division Canals were to get 1st preference in the surplus water after allowing full supply to the Lahore Branch from 9th November 1952 to 17th November 1952 ; and that of the Main Branch of the Lower Bari Doab was to get 2nd preference out of the surplus water from 9th November 1952 to 17th November 1952 ;
- (c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, whether the water was allowed in the Canals referred to in part (b) above according to the approved rotation programme ; if not, the reasons for infringing the same and the action Government proposes to take in the matter ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : (a) (i) Yes. A copy each of Hindi, Urdu and Punjabi programme* is laid on the table.

(ii) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes. After feeding Lahore Branch the available supply at head of Kasur Branch Upper was only 200 cusecs. This could not be utilized in this branch of over 50 miles. To make up this, Kasur Branch Upper was run with 1,000 cusecs at the head in the balancing period from the 17th November 1952 to the 25th November 1952.

*Kept in the library.

SANCTION OF A NEW CANAL OUTLET FROM MANOCHAHAL MINOR

256. Shri Ram Kishan : Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the land-owners of Village Bainke, Tehsil Patti, District Amritsar, applied to the canal authorities of the Upper Bari Doab Canal Circle, Amritsar, few years ago for sanctioning a new canal outlet from the Manochahal Minor to irrigate the barani lands of the above village ; if so, when ;
- (b) the action, if any, taken in the matter by the canal authorities ;
- (c) whether the new canal outlet asked for was sanctioned ; if so, when ;
- (d) whether the outlet referred to in part (c) above has been constructed, if so, when, if not, the reasons for the delay ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : (a) Record for the last 10 years does not show the receipt of any such application.

(b), (c) & (d). Do not arise.

—————

SUBMISSION OF REPAIR BILLS BY THE DISPLACED PERSONS AND OTHER OCCUPANTS OF EVACUEE SHOPS AND HOUSES OF TOWN PATTI.

257. Shri Ram Kishan : Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any displaced persons (allottees) and other occupants of the evacuee shops and houses of Town Patti, District Amritsar had submitted their repair bills of the buildings they were occupying between 15th January, 1951 and March, 1952, to the District Urban Resettlement Officer, Amritsar, if so, their number ;
- (b) whether the bills referred to in part (a) above were received by the Rent Collector of the evacuee property at Patti and forwarded by him to the District Urban Resettlement Officer, Amritsar, if so, the number of bills sent on different dates ;
- (c) (i) the number of bills which were sanctioned within three, four, five and six months of their receipt in the office of the District Urban Resettlement Officer, Amritsar ;
- (ii) the number of bills which were sanctioned within 10, 11 and 12 months of their receipt in the office of the District Urban Resettlement Officer together with the reasons for taking so much time in their disposal ;
- (d) (i) the number of bills which were pending up to 8th November 1952, together with the reasons therefor,
- (ii) the number of bills which were rejected up to 8th November 1952 together with the reasons therefor,
- (iii) whether before rejecting the bills referred to in part (d) (ii) above, the applicants concerned were called upon by the competent authority to put in their evidence in support of the bills, if not, the reasons therefor ;

- (e) (i) The list of the persons whose bills were rejected,
 (ii) the amount of each bill so submitted ;
 (iii) the reasons for rejection in each case ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) Yes. Their number is 829.

(b) Yes. Number of bills with dates on which these were sent is as below :—

<i>Number of bills</i>	<i>Date on which sent to District Rent Officer</i>
194	.. 21st March 1951
260	.. 18th June 1951
65	.. 3rd August 1951
126	.. 1st September 1951
80	.. 9th October 1951
104	.. 21st October 1951
<hr/>	
Total 829	

(c) Sanctioned within

(i)	3 months	.. Nil
	4 months	.. 169
	5 months	.. Nil
	6 months	.. 299
(ii)	10 months	.. 240
	11 months	.. Nil
	12 months	.. Nil

In most of the cases vouchers submitted were without dates and the applications were unstamped. To get them completed, bills had to be returned to applicants time and again.

(d) (i) Number of bills pending up to 8th November 1952 .. 79

In some cases vouchers were incomplete as either these were not dated or were not attested by the applicants. In some cases, applicants failed to file affidavits while in others they did not turn up to reply to the objections which had to be removed before final orders could be passed.

(ii) Number of bills rejected .. 42

Reasons for rejection are contained in the statement given below.

[Minister for Finance]

- (iii) It is desirable that an applicant is given an opportunity to explain his claim before it is rejected, but in view of large number of such applications in every town the procedure of calling them individually is not practical. Most of the applicants would not like to incur extra expenditure if their presence is enforced.

(e) (i) (ii) & (iii) Information is contained in the statement given below.

S. No.	Unit No.	Name	Amount of repair-voucher			Reasons for rejection of the vouchers
			Rs	A.	P.	
1	6/9	Assa Ram ..	25	6	0	No previous sanction
2	415/8	Sodagar Singh ..	134	0	0	Alterations done
3	249/8	Hamkim Singh ..	32	0	0	No previous sanction
4	463/6	Anant Ram ..	18	12	0	Ditto
5	41315/6	Surjan Singh ..	102	0	0	Ditto
6	246/6	Inderjit Singh ..	42	0	0	Ditto
7	154/6	H. R. Bhandari ..	..	..	..	Not on prescribed form
8	102/6	Gulab Singh ..	16	8	0	Time-barred
9	95/6	Jawand Singh ..	21	0	0	Without court fee stamp
10	166/6	Behari Lal ..	30	0	0	No previous sanction
11	85/5	Atma Ram ..	19	7	0	Ditto
12	37/5	Kishan Chand ..	40	0	0	Ditto
13	15/5	Khushi Ram ..	30	0	0	Ditto
14	456/3	Balli Singh ..	500	0	0	Ditto
15	331/4	Sawan Singh ..	25	8	0	Ditto
16	308/3	Hukam Singh ..	46	0	0	Ditto
17	184/3	Mehnga Singh ..	25	8	0	Ditto
18	161/3	Surain Singh ..	40	8	0	Ditto
19	30/3	Fauja Singh ..	72	8	0	Ditto
20	5/3	Munshi Ram ..	18	0	0	Ditto
21	586/2	Guranditta Mal ..	32	0	0	Ditto
22	585/2	Lachman Singh ..	25	0	0	Ditto
23	564/2	Gurbachan Lal ..	16	0	0	Ditto
24	557/2	Teja Singh ..	38	12	0	Ditto
25	556/2	Inder Dass ..	121	1	0	Ditto

Serial No.	Unit No.	Name	Amount of repair voucher			Reasons for rejection of the vouchers
			Rs	A.	P.	
26	46/1/2	Jhanda ..	37	13	0	No previous sanction
27	296/2	Sujjan Singh ..	25	0	0	Ditto
28	227/2	Ram Singh ..	38	4	0	Ditto
29	225/2	Thakar Singh ..	45	0	0	Ditto
30	112/2	Gurdit Singh ..	40	0	0	Ditto
31	79/2	Udam Singh ..	10	0	0	Ditto
32	671-72/2	Amar Nath ..	52	0	0	Ditto
33	556/1	Hakim Kundan Lal	17	0	0	Ditto
34	555/1	Babu-di-Hatti ..	49	9	0	Ditto
35	530/1	Dalip Singh ..	23	0	0	Time-barred
36	516/1	Dalip Singh ..	43	0	0	Ditto
37	386/1	Babu Ram ..	82	0	0	No previous sanction
38	378/1	Bali Ram ..	13	8	0	Ditto
39	298-99/1	Kewal Krishan ..	86	0	0	Ditto
40	287/1	Sohan Datt ..	40	2	0	Ditto
41	131/1	Labhu Ram ..	50	0	0	Ditto
42	8/1	Sohan Lal ..	..	..	..	No court fee stamp

REALISATION OF THE COST OF ADDITIONAL POLICE POSTS QUARTERED IN THE STATE

258. **Shri Ram Kishan** : Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state —

- (a) whether any instructions have been issued by the Government to all the District Magistrates in the State to realise only the actual cost from the inhabitants of the locality where additional police post is quartered under section 15 of the Police Act ; if so, a copy of the instructions so issued be laid on the Table ;
- (b) whether in the instructions the meaning of the actual costs has been explained ; if so, the details thereof ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) Yes, a copy of the instructions is given below.

(b) No.

Instructions

Copy of Memorandum No. 1809-38/C, dated the 18th June 1948, from the Inspector-General of Police and Joint Secretary to Government, East Punjab, Home (Police) Department, to all District Magistrates, etc.

Reference instructions contained in Punjab Government memorandum No. 750-HG-47/10474, dated the 21st February 1948, a copy of which was forwarded to all Superintendents of Police and Deputy Inspectors-General of Police,—vide Inspector-General of Police, Punjab's endorsement No. 990-1025/C, dated the 25th February 1947.

It has been observed that recoveries of punitive tax are made in excess of the estimated cost of Additional Police Posts located in disturbed areas. Refunds of amounts realized in excess of the estimated cost have to be given because it is wrong in principle to recover more than what Government actually spends. It is, therefore, requested that care should be taken to ensure that actual expenses incurred are realised from the inhabitants of the disturbed areas.

REVENUE PATWARIS

259. Shri Ram Kishan : Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the arrears of the revenue Patwaris which were due to them as a result of the revision in their scales of pay have been paid to them, if not, the reasons therefor ;
- (b) since when these arrears are due ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) The arrears of pay of the revenue Patwaris which are due to them as a result of the revision in their scales of pay have been paid to them in the Jullundur and Gurdaspur Districts. As regards other districts the reasons for non-payment of arrears are as follows :—

- (i) Some members of the establishment are displaced persons whose records from Pakistan have not yet been received. They have now been asked to supply fresh past history of their service along with affidavits to enable Government to complete their service books.
- (ii) Some Patwaris have not cared to supply blank service books.
- (iii) Some cases have been referred to Accountant-General for pre-audit and fixation of pay.
- (iv) Owing to large scale reshuffling of revenue Patwaris firstly following the partition of the Province in 1947 and secondly as a result of their district-wise absorption in 1951.

Instructions to the local officers have been issued asking them to get these cases expedited.

(b) Since 1st August 1949.

ALLOTMENT OF HOUSES AT VILLAGE GHARYALA, DISTRICT AMRITSAR

260. Shri Ram Kishan : Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the allotment of the houses at Village Gharyala, Tehsil Patti, District Amritsar, was approved by the District Authorities during the year 1952; if so, when ;
- (b) whether the possession of the houses referred to in part (a) above has been delivered to the rightful allottees up to now, if not, the reasons for delay ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) Yes. On the 16th August, 1952.

(b) Almost all the allottees have been delivered possession. Only in four disputed cases, allottees have not been delivered possession. Efforts are being made to deliver the possession to them with police aid.

TOUR BY MINISTERS

261. Shri Ram Kishan : Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) (i) whether any of the Ministers had gone on tour in the month of August 1952, if so, a copy of their tour programme be laid on the Table ;

(ii) The places visited by each of them during the month of August 1952 ;

(b) the amount drawn by each of them as daily allowance for the visits referred to in part (a) (i) and (ii) above ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : The desired information is contained in the statement given below :—

Tour programme of Shri Bhim Sen Sachar, Chief Minister, Punjab

STATEMENT

—	Leave	Arrive	REMARKS
August—1952 9th	Simla (12-30 p. m.)	Delhi	By Car
10th	Halt at Deihi		
11th	Delhi (10-30 p. m.)	Kalka (6-20 a. m.)	By train
12th	Kalka	Simla	By Car
17th	Simla (12 noon)	New Delhi (8-00 p. m.)	All journeys by car
18th	Halt at Delhi		
19th	Delhi (8-15 a. m.)	Gurgaon (9-00 a. m.)	
20th	Halt at Gurgaon		
21st	Gurgaon (10-00 a. m.)	New Delhi (10-45 a. m.)	
	New Delhi (3-00 p. m.)	Karnal (5-30 p. m.)	
22nd	Halt at Karnal		
23rd	Halt at Karnal		
24th	Karnal (1-00 p. m.)	Simla (7-00 p. m.)	
Daily Allowance charged Rs 180			

[Chief Minister]

*Tour programme of S. Partap Singh Kairon, Minister for Development,
Punjab, for the month of August 1952*

31st July 1952 .. Simla to Ambala Cantt .. Circuit House

August, 1952

1st .. Ambala Cantt to Nilokheri
Nilokheri to Hoshiarpur)

2nd and 3rd .. Halt at Hoshiarpur

4th .. Hoshiarpur to Simla

9th .. Simla to Delhi

10th and 11th .. Halt at Delhi

12th .. Delhi to Simla

14th .. Simla to Ambala

15th .. Attended Independence Parade at Ambala
Ambala to Ludhiana

16th and 17th .. (Attended village conference in the dis-
trict) Halt

18th .. Ludhiana to Amritsar

19th .. Amritsar to Simla

23rd .. Simla to Jullundur

24th .. Halt

25th .. Jullundur to Patti

26th .. Halt

27th .. Patti to Valtoha

28th .. Valtoha to Harike

29th .. Harike to Patti

30th .. Patti to Simla

Daily Allowance charged Rs 345

*Tour programme of Chaudhri Lahri Singh, Irrigation and Power Minister,
Punjab, for the month of August 1952*

August 1952			
9th	(Afternoon)	..	Leave Simla Reach Ambala
			By car
10th	.. 8-00 a. m.	..	Leave Ambala
	.. 11-00 a. m.	..	Reach Harike
11th	..	..	Leave Harike Reach Jullundur
12th	.. 8-00 a. m.	..	Leave Jullundur
	.. 9-30 a. m.	..	Reach Mukerian
	(Afternoon)	..	Leave Mukerian Reach Jullundur
13th	.. 8-30 a. m.	..	Leave Jullundur
	.. 12-00 noon	..	Reach Ambala
	.. 4-00 p. m.	..	Leave Ambala
	.. 8-00 p. m.	..	Reach Simla
19th	.. 2-30 p. m.	..	Leave Simla
	.. 8-00 p. m.	..	Reach Ludhiana
20th	.. 8-00 a. m.	..	Leave Ludhiana
	.. 10-00 a. m.	..	Reach Amritsar
21st	.. (Morning)	..	Inspection of Government Central Workshop
	(Afternoon)	..	Meet M. L. A., M. L. C.s, Industrialists, Members, District Boards, Municipal Commissioner, etc., in connection with matters concerning <i>electricity</i>
22nd	.. 8-00 a. m.	..	Leave Amritsar
	.. 10-00 a. m.	..	Reach Malikpur
	.. (Afternoon)	..	Leave Malikpur Reach Batala Leave Batala Reach Jullundur
23rd	.. 10-00 a. m.	..	Inspection of Jullundur Electric Supply Co., and discussion with M. L. A.s, M. L. C.s, Members Dis- trict Boards, and Municipal Commissioners, on matters concerning <i>electricity</i> .
24th	.. 8-00 a. m.	..	Leave Jullundur Reach Daudhar
25th	.. 8-00 a. m.	..	Leave Daudhar Reach Asabutar, Mile 91, Abohar Branch
26th	.. 8-00 a. m.	..	Leave Asabutar Reach Abohar
27th	.. 8-00 a. m.	..	Abohar to Bishnapur, Waryam Khera, Jandwala, Hanumanta and back
28th	.. 8-00 a. m.	..	Leave Abohar Reach Fazilka
29th	.. 8-00 a. m.	..	Leave Fazilka Reach Ferozepur
30th	.. 8-00 a. m.	..	Leave Ferozepore
	.. 9-00 a. m.	..	Reach Moga
	(Afternoon)	..	Leave Moga Reach Ludhiana
31st	.. 8-30 a. m.	..	Leave Ludhiana
	.. 2-00 p. m.	..	Reach Simla

Daily Allowance charged Rs 270

[Chief Minister]

Tour programme of S. Ujjal Singh, Minister for Finance, Punjab, for the month of August 1952

August 1952

13th	.. Simla to Ambala Cantt	
14th	.. Leave Ambala Cantt	.. 9-00 a. m.
	.. Arrive Delhi	.. 5-00 p.m.
15th	.. Leave Delhi	.. 7-00 a. m.
	.. Arrive Sonapat	.. 8-00 a. m.
	.. Leave Sonapat	.. 1-00 p. m.
	.. Arrive Delhi	.. 2-00 p. m.
16th	.. Leave Delhi	.. 7-00 a. m.
	.. Arrive Gurgaon	.. 8-00 a. m.
	.. Leave Gurgaon	.. 1-45 p. m.
	.. Arrive Rewari	.. 3-00 p. m.
	.. Leave Rewari	.. 7-00 p. m.
	.. Arrive Delhi	.. 8-30 p. m.
17th	.. Leave Delhi	.. 10-00 a. m.
	.. Arrive Jullundur	.. 4-00 p. m.
28th	.. Leave Simla	.. 1-00 p. m.
	.. Arrive Delhi	.. 8-30 p. m.
29th	.. Leave Delhi	.. 8-00 a. m.
	.. Arrive Panipat	.. 9-30 a. m.
	.. Leave Panipat	.. 12 noon
	.. Arrive Delhi	.. 1-30 p. m.
30th	.. Halt at Delhi	
31st	.. Leave Delhi	.. 7-30 a. m.
	.. Arrive Rohtak	.. 9-00 a. m.
	.. Leave Rohtak	.. 12 noon
	.. Arrive Delhi	.. 1-30 p. m.

Daily Allowance charged Rs 240

Tour programme of Pandit Shri Ram Sharma, Minister for Local Government and Civil Supplies, Punjab, for the month of August 1952

August 1952

8th	.. Leave Simla	.. 8 a.m.
	.. Arrive Rohtak	.. 9 p. m.
9th	.. Halt at Rohtak	
10th	.. Rohtak, Beri, Jhajjar, Delhi and back	
11th	.. Leave Rohtak	.. 8 a. m.
	.. Arrive Hissar	.. 10 a. m.
12th	.. Hissar, Hansi, Bhiwani, Loharu, Rohtak	
13th	.. Leave Rohtak Arrive Gurgaon	.. 10 A. M.
14th	.. Gurgaon, Rohtak (via Delhi)	
15th	.. Leave Rohtak, Asmaila, Sampla and Bahadurgarh and back to Rohtak	
16th	.. Rohtak, Karnal (via Sonapat and Patgaon)	
17th	.. Halt at Karnal	
18th	.. Karnal, Tajewala	
19th	.. Halt at Tajewala	
20th	.. Tajewala, Simla (via Rajpura)	
23rd	.. Leave Simla Arrive Jullundur (24th by rail)	
25th	.. Leave Jullundur Arrive Urmar Tanda	
	.. Jullundur City Arrive Ludhiana	
26th	.. Ludhiana, Arrive Simla	

Travelling Allowance charged Rs 255

*Tour programme of Shri Jagat Niran, Education Minister, Punjab, for
the month of August 1952*

August 1952

8th	..	Simla to Jullundur
9th to 22nd	..	Halt at Jullundur
23rd	..	Jullundur to Khilchian and back
24th and 25th	..	Halt at Jullundur
26th	..	Jullundur to Simla
28th	..	Simla to Delhi
29th	..	Halt at Delhi
30th	..	Delhi to Simla

Daily allowance charged Rs 345

*Tour programme of Chaudhri Sundar Singh, Labour Minister, Punjab, for the
month of August 1952*

August 1952

8th	..	Leave Simla Arrive Ambala Cantt
9th	..	Leave Ambala Cantt Arrive Gurdaspur 7-00 p. m.
10th	..	Dinanagar and back
11th	..	Dhariwal and back
12th	..	Halt
13th	..	Kalanaur and back
14th	..	Daurangala and back
15th	..	Halt
16th	..	Leave Gurdaspur Arrive Jullundur City
17th	..	Leave Jullundur City Arrive Ludhiana
18th	..	Leave Ludhiana Arrive Simla

Daily allowance charged Rs 165

[Chief Minister]

Tour programme of Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa, Public Works Minister, Punjab, for the month of August, 1952

August 1952

8th	..	Leave Simla	3-30 p.m.	..	By car
	..	Reach Ludhiana	11 p.m.		
9th evening	..	Leave Ludhiana			
	..	Reach Jullundur			
10th	..	Inspect encroachment on P. W. D. lands			
10th evening	..	Leave Jullundur			
	..	Reach Qadian			
11th morning	..	Leave Qadian for Pathankot			
11th evening	..	Leave Pathankot			(Journey from Pathankot to Jammu to be treated as private)
	..	Reach Jammu			
12th and 13th	..	Halt at Jammu			
14th evening	..	Leave Jammu			
		Reach Batala			
15th morning	..	9 a. m. Flag Hoisting Ceremony at Batala			
15th afternoon	..	Leave Batala			
		Reach Nurpur (District Kangra)			
16th	..	Inspect water scheme station			
17th morning	..	Leave Nurpur			
		Reach Gurdaspur			
17th evening	..	Leave Gurdaspur			
		Reach Batala			
18th	..	Halt at Batala			
19th	..	Leave Batala			
		Reach Simla			

Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa, Public Works Minister, Punjab, is leaving for Chandigarh on the 21st August 1952, and will be back on the same evening.

25th	..	Leave Simla (Afternoon)			
		Reach Chandigarh			
26th	..	Leave Chandigarh (Evening)			
		Reach Jullundur			
27th	..	Leave Jullundur (Morning)			
		Reach Batala	(8 o'clock)		
28th	..	Leave Batala (Morning)			
		Reach Qadian by train		(9-10 a.m.)	
		Back to Batala the same evening			
29th	..	Leave Batala (Morning)			
		Reach Amritsar		(8 o'clock)	
30th	..	Leave Amritsar (Morning)			
		Reach Simla	(8 o'clock)		

Daily allowance charged Rs 228-7-0

✓ **Mr. Speaker:** The Question hour is over and the remaining questions on the list of Starred Questions, intended to be asked today will be asked tomorrow.

FOOD POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT

Chief Minister (Shri Bhim Sen Sachar) : Sir, with your permission I would like to make a short statement on the food policy of the Punjab Government.

There has been considerable speculation about the food policy of the Punjab Government in the last few months. I have had a full discussion about the matter with the Food Minister of the Central Government recently at Ambala. I would, therefore, like to take this opportunity to make an authoritative statement regarding this policy.

As a whole, the Punjab Government naturally follows the policy of the Government of India in the matter of food, which has been and which is of control. This control has substantially consisted of control on the movement, prices and, to the extent necessary, distribution of foodgrains. There is no truth in the news which has appeared in some newspapers that the Food Minister, on the occasion of his visit to Ambala, asked this Government to remove controls.

As far as wheat and rice are concerned, it is not proposed to make any change in the existing system of control, procurement and distribution. This means a full monopoly of purchase at the market by Government at fixed prices. A change of emphasis in the administration of this control will, however, be required owing to the crying need for rice in other parts of the country. Rice is not our staple food, but it is so in a majority of other States. As a whole, the country is deficit in rice and, even in foreign markets, it is scarce as well as prohibitive in cost. It is, therefore, the imperative duty of a non-rice-eating State to make practically every grain of its rice available to other areas. We have agreed to do so. We have so far, during the current financial year, placed at the disposal of the Government of India 36,000 tons of rice. The Food Minister of the Government of India has asked us for one lakh tons of rice. Our estimated total production during the year is 155,000 tons. It is doubtful, therefore, if we shall be able to procure one lakh tons, but we have assured the Government of India that we will make every possible effort to secure the same quantity. I would take this opportunity to make a fervent appeal, through the Members of the Legislature, to all my fellow Punjabis to assist me in this matter by confining their use of rice to the minimum and by marketing the largest possible quantity. I can assure them that this will not involve the reduction of their ration as plans have been made to make good any short-fall in rice by wheat. We are also taking steps to see that the small number of habitual rice-eaters in this State get an adequate quantity of this grain. I may add in this connection that we have already supplied 40,000 tons of wheat also during the year, to the Government of India.

As far as *bajra*, *jowar*, and maize are concerned although inter-State barriers have been allowed to stand, control on the movement of these commodities within the State has ceased. A ceiling on their prices has been fixed. This represents a small relaxation in the existing control, which the Central and State Governments consider safe as well as advisable in view of the supply position of the country as a whole.

In regard to gram, the position has been one of relaxation of controls since 1950. Except for Hissar and Rohtak districts, where, owing to scarcity conditions special protective measures were necessary, gram is decontrolled,

[Chief Minister]

in regard to both price and movement throughout the country. The Punjab Government has suggested to the Centre that it should now be brought under the same system as millets. The acceptance of this suggestion would lead to a reduction in the present abnormal price of gram.

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** This statement is immune from discussion.

Shri Dev Rāj Sethi : I would request the Government, through you, Sir, to give the House an opportunity to discuss its Food Policy. This will help the Government to know the views of the House as also provide an occasion to it to elucidate the position still further.

Chief Minister : It is for the Chair to give an opportunity or not.

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** No discussion on the statement can take place now. The Chief Minister can allot a separate day for discussion on this topic, if he so desires. I have no authority on this point.

THE PUNJAB GRAM PANCHAYAT BILL.

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** The other day the House was considering the new Clause moved by Shri Raghuvir Singh. The House will now resume consideration.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move the following amendment to the new Clause :

That at the end of the clause, the following be added :—

- “(1) The general meetings of the electors of a Gram Panchayat area be held at the time of Sawani and Hari crops. Sawani meeting of the general electors of the Gram Panchayat Area shall pass the budget and lay down plans for the following year and also consider the accounts and review the work of the preceding year. At each Hari meeting, it shall discuss the progress made during the preceding six months and the plans, if any, to be adopted for the rest of the year.
- (2) At any of the two meetings or at any meeting specially convened for the purpose the general meeting of the electors of the Gram Panchayat area may remove a panch, panches or the whole panchayat if the majority of the electors so desire and pass.”

Sir, the fact is that clause 113 has been proposed to deceive the people. Originally there was a provision in this Bill for the setting up of Gram Sabhas in the villages and, as a matter of fact, this was the only good point in the new Bill which distinguished it from the old one. It was to give the adults in the villages a right to decide their own destiny. The report of the Select Committee gives a death blow to this object of the Bill. After the deletion of the clause providing for the Gram Sabhas, the new Bill does not seem to contain anything different from the existing Act on this subject. Sometime ago the hon. Minister for Development announced that the Government intended to bring forward a revolutionary Bill relating to Panchayats. The Bill has come but there is nothing revolutionary about it. My feeling is that it would not improve the lot of the masses in any manner. In reality unless the Panches are under the direct control of the voters, it cannot be called a Panchayat Bill. If the Government wishes to give to the people the power of deciding their own matters, I do not think there is any need of keeping the Panches under the supervision of Government officers. Officers will interfere in the work of the

Panchayats and if, in any case, their objects are not achieved, they would threaten the Panches with disqualification. We requested the Government to give these powers to the voters but it had not agreed to it. We are not entirely against the provision of this clause but the required end will not be achieved through it. The voters being the local people would be able to understand the facts much better than the officers sitting at Simla. If the clause regarding election after every six months is allowed to continue, the Panches would not do any act which may injure the interests of the ruralites. Mr. Speaker, when we gave this suggestion, the Minister concerned replied that the people would unnecessarily hinder the working of the Panchayats. But, Sir, I think that if the Panches would discharge their duties honestly nobody would put any obstacle in their working. I, therefore, request that the present amendment be accepted so that it may serve the required purpose.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved—

That at the end of the clause, the following be added :—

- “(1) The general meetings of the electors of a Gram Panchayat area be held at the time of Sawani and Hari Crops. Sawani meeting of the general electors of the Gram Panchayat area shall pass the budget and lay down plans for the following year and also consider the accounts and review the work of the preceding year. At each Hari meeting, it shall discuss the progress made during the preceding six months and the plans if any, to be adopted for the rest of the year.
- (2) At any of the two meetings or at any meeting specially convened for the purpose, the general meeting of the electors of the Gram Panchayat area may remove a panch. panches or the whole panchayat if the majority of the electors so desire and pass.”

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi): Mr Speaker, it is gratifying that the Government has at last endeavoured to include this clause in the Bill. We have been pressing hard for it in the House as well as in the Select Committee, but it was not agreed to by the Government. The only new provision in this Bill was that relating to the formation of Gram Sabhas. I feel that our Chief Minister acts on the advice of the Officers and that is why this Bill has been drafted on these lines. It does not contain any provision for the benefit of the people. If the Government really wishes to give wide powers to the Panchayats, it becomes imperative that the people should take interest in their working. At present they have no interest in the working of the Panchayats. Therefore, the Government should incorporate such provisions in the present Bill as may help to create their interest in the working of the Panchayats.

Mr. Speaker, the next point is that the Panchayats are a source of party-politics in the villages and they do not work to achieve the required object. Due to mutual dissensions and bickerings in the Panchayats, they injure the interests of the people in place of benefiting them. Sir, it was the best possible suggestion that the Panchayats should be asked to place their progress reports before their voters after every six months and get them approved. In that case, the Panchayats could do useful work even in the absence of a Gram Sabha. The Budget could have been passed in an easier way and the cases could have been decided more judiciously and more easily. As a result of that procedure the number of appeals against their decisions would have been very small. Sir, what I want to submit is that unless the masses are taken into confidence, Panchayats would not be able to discharge their duties efficiently.

At first it was announced by our Chief Minister that the Government wanted to organise Gram Sabhas, but it is not known whether he himself decides the policies of the Government or somebody else does this work for him.

[Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut]

He changes his decisions very quickly. The Minister for Local Government has argued that if the people are given these powers they will unnecessarily hinder the working of the Panchayats. I feel that this fear of his is imaginary. In the end, I again request that this amendment may please be accepted.

Sardar Mohan Singh Jathedar (Tarn Taran) (*Punjabi*): Mr. Speaker, the amendment moved by Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina appears to be very useful but in fact it is not possible to put it into practice. While moving this amendment he has not taken into consideration that the so-called Gram Sabha will include not only the male adults but also the womenfolk. The latter will attend the meetings of Gram Panchayats with their faces veiled, and babies in their arms. The babies will cry and disturb the proceedings of the Panchayats. Sir, I therefore, say that this amendment is not practicable.

Next, Sir, it has been said that the Panchayats should place their work before the voters every six months. People who have even very minor complaints against the Panches will vote against them and the Panchayats would not be able to work efficiently. Therefore, Sir, I feel that it is not possible to accept this amendment.

Shri Wadhawa Ram (Fazilka) (*Punjabi*): Mr Speaker, the other day, when I requested the Government to allow the provision regarding Gram Sabha to remain in the Bill, the hon. Chief Minister was pleased to assure the House that there was no reason why it should be deleted. But we are surprised to find that it is being deleted for reasons not known to us. We fail to understand who has led him to do so. Moreover, now he is not in his seat otherwise we would have requested him to explain the reasons which have led him to change his view.

I want to submit that in reality the new clause will not result in the setting up of a Gram Sabha, because according to it this Sabha is being debarred from the right of voting on the budget of a Panchayat when it is presented before it for discussion every half year. I find that our Government has very shrewdly tried to give the name 'Panchayat' to the institution of Zaildari. Now, there does not seem to exist any vital difference between a panchayat and a zaildari. Therefore, Sir, I request the Government, if it is at all anxious to transfer some powers to the people, to do so honestly. There is no sense in giving certain powers to four or five persons in a village when these persons too will have to work under the directions of a Director.

Then, Sir, Sardar Mohan Singh Jathedar has said that though the amendment moved by Sardar Achhar Singh appeared to be very attractive yet it would be difficult to put it into actual practice. According to him, women who have given birth to many jathedars like him are not human beings. It means that he looks upon women with contempt. In case, he has hatred for them.....

M. Speaker: He had not used the word 'hatred'. Therefore, I request the hon. Member to refrain from making a misstatement.

Shri Wadha Ram: What he said, conveyed hatred for women. He was not justified in doing so. He said that in the meeting of a Gram Sabha, there will be children and a lot of hue and cry would be raised on account of which it would not be able to discuss the budget properly. I want to point out to him that without the co-operation of the women it would not be possible to keep a village neat and clean. It will bring great good if women are allowed to work with the men. Then only will they realize their responsibility for keeping their villages neat and clean. Therefore, Sir, the argument put forward by Jathedar Mohan Singh does not carry any weight. He has simply tried to support the policy of the Government. I may tell him that it ill-behaves him to hold such retrograde views about women.

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma) (Hindi): Mr. Speaker, my hon. Friend has not pointed out any new thing in the speech which he has made on this clause. He has simply repeated those points and placed those arguments before the House which he advanced four or five times during discussion of this Bill. I want to submit to this House that it would not be practicable to allow the budget of a Panchayat to be discussed by the Gram Sabha. It is known to them that there is a number of large villages in our State and it will not be possible to place the budget of a Panchayat before a gathering of two or three thousand men and women.

An hon. Member: There is absolutely no possibility of such a large number of people assembling there.

Minister for Local Government: But I may tell the hon. Members that there are certain villages in our State whose population varies from five to seven thousand and ordinarily their voting strength would be 2½ to 3 thousand, as generally the voting strength of a place is one-half of its population. Further, they would not gather in a Gram Sabha in any regular manner as in the case of a Legislative Assembly, where the entrance is regulated by certain rules. They would sit there in quite an indisciplined way. For these reasons, Sir, these things are not practicable. It shall be quite impossible to place the statement of income and expenditure of a Panchayat before such a gathering. It would be impracticable to explain the details about the income and expenditure of a Panchayat to every individual member of a Gram Sabha. However, it is possible to lay before it a detailed report of its working and its new schemes. Therefore, Sir, we have decided to make this provision through a new clause.

Then, an hon. Friend has pointed out that in the absence of a provision for placing the budget of a Panchayat before the Gram Sabha for its approval, the position of a Panchayat becomes similar to that of the institution of 'Zail-dari'. I personally do not find any force in the argument that the position of panches becomes similar to that of zaildars simply because the budget of a Panchayat does not come before their Gram Sabha. Therefore, Sir, this argument does not hold water and hence the amendment moved by my hon. Friend is not acceptable to the Government.

Mr. Speaker: Questions is—

That at the end of the clause, the following be added:—

- “(1) The general meetings of the electors of a Gram Panchayat area be held at the time of the Sawani and Hari Crops. Sawani meeting of the general electors of the Gram Panchayat shall pass the budget and lay down plans for the following year and also consider the accounts and review the work of the preceding year. At each Hari meeting, it shall discuss the progress made during the preceding six months and the plans if any, to be adopted for the rest of the year.
- (2) At any of the two meetings or at any meeting specially convened for the purpose, the general meeting of the electors of the Gram Panchayat area may remove a panch, panches or the whole panchayat if the majority of the electors so desire and pass.”

The motion was lost

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That after clause 112, the following new clause be added to the Bill.

113. General meeting of the voters of the Gram Panchayat Area. Every Gram Panchayat shall during the months prescribed in this behalf hold in the manner prescribed general meetings of the voters of the Panchayat Area twice a year in which the report of the working of the Gram Panchayat shall be presented and the future programme for the development of the village formulated.

The motion was carried.

(Schedule 1-A)

Shri Sadhu Ram (Naraingarh) (Hindi): Sir, I beg to move—

That against parts (j) and (k) of Schedule 1-A the word and figure "and 33" be added after the figure '26' in the column headed "Sections".

That at the end of Schedule 1-A in the column headed "Offence" the following be added :—

"(1) Under the Punjab Land Preservation (Chos) Act, 1900 (Punjab Act II of 1900), as modified up to the 1st July, 1944"
and against this in the column headed "sections" the figure "19" be added.

Mr. Speaker, the object of my moving this amendment is that when the Panchayats have been vested with the right to decide cases falling under Section 26 of the Indian Forests Act, some more difficulties of the people should also be removed. It has been observed that the officials of the Forest Department do not realise the necessities of the people living in the areas which fall under their control with the result that they are put to many hardships. This difficulty is faced to a still greater extent by the people who reside near the forests. I would like to draw the attention of the House to the hardships which the people have to suffer on account of section 36 of the Indian Forest Act and also on account of the forests which are close under Section 38. Section 38 which relates to the voluntary closure of forests is applied in an altogether different way. Then, Sir, under section 30 of the Forest Act a Deputy Commissioner can order the closure of an area on the receipt of a request from the owners of land. But the circumstances obtaining at present are such that there are only a few persons in the villages who have got ownership rights in land and the majority of people are those who have no proprietary over the land. Such people have no access to the big officers. The second point is that generally, where there are big landlords, there are lakhs of tenants under them. These landlords are not interested in the condition of the tenants. What do the landlords do? They get the 'shamilat lands' which do not yield any income, closed under Section 38 and consequently these go under the control of the Forest Department whose officials challan the people for nothing. Moreover, the conditions are such that if some people are fined Rs 50, they have to incur an expense of more than Rs 100 in order to attend the court. Besides they have to spend a good deal in order to engage a counsel and tip the clerks. Again, corruption is also prevalent and it is very difficult for the people to get justice.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved—

That against parts (j) and (k) of Schedule I-A the word and figure "and 33" be added after the figure '26' in the column headed "sections".

That at the end of Schedule I-A in the Column headed "Offence" the following be added :—

"(1) Under the Punjab Land Preservation (Chos) Act, 1900 (Punjab Act II of 1900) as modified up to the 1st July, 1944"
and against this in the Column headed "sections" the figure "19" be added".

Sardar Mohan Singh Jathedar (Taran Taran) (Punjabi): Sir, I beg to move:—

That after the offence "voluntarily causing hurt on provocation" in the column headed "offence" in schedule 1-A against section 334 the following be added :—

"Theft or dishonestly receiving or possessing stolen property where the value of the property stolen does not exceed Rs 50 : Provided that no Gram Panchayat shall take cognizance of any such complaint if the accused—

(i) has been previously convicted of an offence under Chapter XII or XVII of the Indian Penal Code punishable with imprisonment of either description for a term of three years or upwards, or

- (ii) has previously been fined for theft or receiving or possessing stolen property by any panchayat ; or
- (iii) is a registered habitual offender under any law for the time being in force ; or
- (iv) has been bound over to be of good behaviour in proceedings instituted under section 109 or 110 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, or V of 19
- (v) has had an order of restriction passed against him under the Restriction of Habitual Offenders (Punjab) Act, 1918, or V of 19
- (vi) has been previously convicted for gambling :
and against this in the column headed " sections " the figures and word "379 and 411 " be added.

Sir, my object in submitting this amendment is that the Panchayats should be delegated the power to decide those cases also which fall under Sections 379, 411 and 504 I.P.C. When this Bill was referred to the Select Committee, the provision with regard to these Sections did exist, but now it has been deleted. It is not understood whether it has been done by mistake or intentionally. Sir, I think it necessary to incorporate these sections in the Schedule. For instance, if a man plucks a few ears of maize from someone's field, that offence will be governed by the provisions contained in Section 379. In such a case, I do not find any justification in his having to attend a court for standing his trial. Similarly, if under Section 411 he is fined Rs 50 by a court, he has to spend over Rs. 100 for attending the court. In the circumstances, I feel that the power of trying cases falling under these Sections should be transferred to the Panchayats so that the people may be saved the inconvenience of going outside their villages. The third offence which I want to be included in the Schedule is that falling under Section 504. In this respect, if in any village an altercation takes place between two persons, they will be required to go to a court and not to the Panchayat for getting their dispute settled. I think it essential that the power to decide cases falling under this section, namely, 504 I.P.C. should also be given to the Panchayat.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That after the " offence voluntarily causing hurt on provocation in the column headed " offence " in schedule 1-A, the following offence be added :—

"Theft or dishonestly receiving or possessing stolen property where the value of the property stolen does not exceed Rs 50 : Provided that no Gram Panchayat shall take cognizance of any such complaint if the accused—

- (i) has been previously convicted of an offence under Chapter XII or XVII of the Indian Penal Code punishable with imprisonment of either description for a term of three years or upwards, or
- (ii) has previously been fined for theft or receiving or possessing stolen property by any Panchayat ; or
- (iii) is a registered habitual offender under any law for the time being in force ; or
- (iv) has been bound over to be of good behaviour in proceedings instituted under section 109 or 110 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, or V of 1918
- (v) has had an order of restriction passed against him under the Restriction of Habitual Offenders (Punjab) Act, 1918, or
- (vi) has been previously convicted for gambling, V of 1918

and against this in the column headed " sections " the figures and word " 379 and 411 " be added.

Minister for Local Government: Sir, I accept the amendments, moved by Shri Sadhu Ram and Sardar Mohan Singh.

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That against parts (j) and (k) of Schedule 1-A the word and figure "and 33" be added after the figure '26' in the column headed "sections"

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That at the end of Schedule I-A in the column headed "Offence" the following be added :—

"(1) Under the Punjab Land Preservation (Chos) Act, 1900 as modified up to the 1st July, 1944."
and against this in the column headed "sections" the figure "19" be added.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That after the offence "voluntarily causing hurt on provocation." in the column headed "offence" in schedule 1-A against section 334 the following be added :—

"Theft or dishonestly receiving or possessing stolen property where the value of the property stolen does not exceed Rs' 50. Provided that no Gram Panchayat shall take cognizance of any such complaint if the accused—

- (i) has been previously convicted of an offence under Chapter XII or XVII of the Indian Penal Code punishable with imprisonment of either description for a term of three years or upwards, or
- (ii) has previously been fined for theft or receiving or possessing stolen property by any Panchayat ; or
- (iii) is a registered habitual offender under any law for the time being in force ; or
- (iv) has been bound over to be of good behaviour in proceedings instituted under section 109 or 110 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, or
- (v) has had an order of restriction passed against him under the Restriction of Habitual Offenders (Punjab) Act, 1918 ; or
- (vi) has been previously convicted for gambling ;
and against this in the column headed "sections" the figures and word "379 and 411" be added.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That Schedule I-A as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

SCHEDULE I-B

Sardar Mohan Singh Jathedar (Taran Taran): I move—

That the words in the "offence" column beginning with "Theft or dishonestly receiving stolen property" and ending with "(vi) has been previously convicted for gambling" be omitted.

This has already been included in Schedule I-B.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved—

That the words in the "offence" column beginning with "Theft or dishonestly receiving or possessing stolen property" and ending with "(vi) has been previously convicted for gambling" be omitted.

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Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That the words in the "offence" column beginning with "Theft or dishonestly receiving or possessing stolen property" and ending with "(vi) has been previously convicted for gambling" be omitted.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That schedule I-B, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That Schedule II stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That Schedule III stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That Title be the Title of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 1

SUB-CLAUSE (1)

Sardar Iqbal Singh: Sir, I beg to move—

That in sub-clause (1), line 3, for the word "Gram" the word "Village" be substituted.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved—

That in sub-clause (1), line 3, for the word "Gram" the word "Village" be substituted.

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

That in sub-clause (1), line 3, for the word "Gram" the word "Village" be substituted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker: Question is—

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

The motion was carried.

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Sri Ram Sharma): Sir, I beg to move—

That the Punjab Gram Panchayat Bill be passed.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Gram Panchayat Bill be passed.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi): Sir, it has been remarked in connection with the Bill which is going to be passed today that it is a revolutionary measure and it will bring about a radical change in the village set-up. Keeping in view the powers which the Congress Government has transferred to the ruralites through this Bill, we have to judge whether it will really bring about any revolution. It is true that it embodies some provisions which will prove beneficial to the people. There is no denying the fact that some powers have been transferred to the Panchayats but the restrictions and checks which have been imposed on their powers and the authority which has been vested in the officers reduce the significance of the Bill.

But if you look at the practical side you will find that so far as democratic rights are concerned people will not gain anything from it. The Chief Minister was pleased to remark in connection with these democratic rights that the Government had embarked on decentralisation of power and that power was now going from Simla to villages. But really everything points out that power is leaving the villages and concentrating at Simla. Again, it has been declared with the beat of drum that the Government is going to introduce in the State, a "panchayat raj" like the one obtaining in the Soviet Union. It is true that more powers to the panchayats will mean strength to the Government and progress of the country but the pity of it is that no real power has been given to them. To judge the value of the boast of bringing about a revolution so often indulged in by the Government, I would draw your attention to one of our proposals. We suggested that a person of 18 years of age should have the right of vote under this Bill, but instead of accepting that very reasonable and democratic proposal the Ministers started a senseless talk about the wisdom-tooth. They are of the opinion that the wisdom-tooth takes a long time to appear in this country, but I would submit that India being a country with a warm climate the people here cut the wisdom-tooth at a comparatively earlier stage in their life. It was in the fitness of things that a person aged 18 years should be regarded as an adult for the purposes of this law. By refusing to accept this proposal, the Government has deprived a very large number of people of the right to vote. Then, the right to vote for the election of Panches has been given to the voters for the Legislative Assembly belonging to the panchayat area. You know, Sir, that if someone finds that his name has not been entered as a voter on the Electoral rolls for the State Legislative Assembly and he wants to get the mistake rectified he has to pay Rs 50 for the purpose. My submission is that nobody would care to spend Rs 50 for becoming a voter for the panchayat and thus a large number of people will be deprived of the right to vote simply because in the matter of the electoral rolls the Government has thought fit to tie the panchayats to the tail of the State Legislative Assembly.

Then, the Government thinks that by making a provision for nomination in the case of untouchables it has done a great favour to those poor people.

An hon. Member: Is it permissible to use the word "untouchables" (Achhuts)?

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut: Alright, I will say Scheduled Castes because even the word Harijan is not acceptable to you in the rural areas. What I want to point out is that this method of nomination is a legacy from the British Government in whose footsteps the Congress Government is treading. This provision will create so many sychophants and toadies. A nominated person can never be a true representative of the people and thus the nomination is not for the benefit of the Scheduled Castes but of the Government. The members belonging to the Scheduled Castes may be feeling jubilant on this "concession" but they should understand that the nominated person will not be their true representative but just a henchman of the Government thrust upon them.

Again, the Panchayats are to be established by notification by the Government. This means that the right of the people to ask for their establishment has been snatched from them and now it will depend on the sweet will of the Government to establish or to refuse to establish a Panchayat in any area. Similarly, instead of giving powers to the Panchayats, all their rights and powers have been handed over to the Director. Even those powers which should have been given to the Unions which are to be formed have been entrusted to the Director, thus making him all powerful and an overlord. By giving to the Deputy Commissioners the power to suspend any order or resolution of a panchayat you have deprived the people of so many valuable rights. This would amount to placing the Panchayats entirely at the mercy of the Deputy Commissioners. By giving the Director a large number of powers under the various clauses of the Bill you have made him an embodiment of the revolution which you want to bring about. Our Government has no faith either in the rural population or the Panches. All its faith and trust have been reserved for the Director. In the matter of the removal of a Panch, in case he is convicted by a court of law in a criminal case, or is declared insolvent and in all other cases in which a Panch can be removed, the Director has been made the final authority and thus the Panches will be mere puppets in his hands. Even the Panchayat will not be able to remove its Sarpanch without the approval of the Director. If the Sarpanch refuses or fails to call a meeting of the Panchayat the other Panches will not be competent to call it without the permission of the Director. Not only that. A Panchayat will not have the authority even to reward any one of its servants unless the Director is pleased to accord his approval to such a proposal. I am telling you all this to show what sort of democracy they are giving us. In addition to these things 'choolah' tax is going to be levied on the people. While levying taxes the financial state of the village is not taken into consideration. The Panchayats can examine this aspect but under this Bill the Director will levy taxes while the people will think that the Panchayat had done so. An examination of the different clauses of the Bill will reveal that almost all the powers have been given to the Director. He will delegate these powers to the Deputy Commissioners or to the Panchayat Officers. These officers will interfere at every step and the Panchayats will not be able to carry on their work successfully.

The Government has no doubt accepted the principle of giving a part of the land revenue to the village panchayats, but this amount will be so small that the panchayats will not be able to perform their functions properly. The Government says that it would give them grants but this method will be conducive to more harm than good. It will lead to more interference by the Government. It is noticed that a person not liked by the officers is not allowed to become the member of a panchayat. In my district, a certain gentleman was not made the member of a panchayat merely because he was not a supporter of the Congress Party. The funds which the Panchayats will have at their disposal will not be sufficient to enable them to discharge their responsibilities and duties. This will naturally make them dependent upon the Government. The Panchayat Officers will become the leaders of the people. The bureaucracy of the Punjab Government from which the villagers had escaped up till now will spread to the rural areas also and the ruling party will try to keep itself in power with the help of Panchayat Officers. On account of these things, the panchayats will not be able to work properly for the good of the villagers.

Shri Sri Chand (Bahadurgarh) (Hindi): Mr. Speaker, by passing this Panchayat Bill we want to set up those traditions and establish those panchayats which existed in the villages in olden days. We want to revive the

[Shri Sri Chand]

Panchayat System which came to an end during the British rule and will try to establish panchayats of the same type as were set up by our ancestors. I want to remind the hon. Minister that about fifty or sixty years ago, ideal conditions prevailed in the Indian villages but now the life in those places has become very miserable. Rivalries have taken the place of love. Whereas formerly people lived there like brethren, now they quarrel among themselves over trifling matters. Our ancestors had developed the villages in such a way that there were grazing grounds for the cattle, fields which the farmers ploughed and the Harijans also helped in farming. The weavers wove cloth, sweepers collected the manure and ironsmiths, carpenters and other people living in the villages helped each other. All of them got their share of the produce at the time of harvest. In short, the village used to be a self-sufficient unit and nobody felt the necessity of going out of it for anything. The conditions these days are quite different. Everybody is opposed to others and instead of there being any mutual love there are enmities between different groups. I beg to submit that if the provisions of this Act are acted upon in the true spirit, the conditions which prevailed in the olden days can be revived. If these are not acted upon in the true spirit and party factions in the villages increase, these will do harm in place of doing any good. In the beginning these panchayats will need help and guidance. In addition to the power of raising taxes these will need financial assistance from the Government. If the panchayats feel that unnecessary burden has been cast upon them, this Bill will yield no useful results.

As already submitted, these panchayats will need guidance at the initial stage. If these are properly guided, I am sure that with the amount which the Government is now spending on them it will be possible for us to introduce compulsory primary education in the villages. If every child living in the village receives education up to the fifth standard, the lives of the villagers will considerably improve and the State will be able to make progress. If, however, the regime of officers is set up under this Bill and the Deputy Commissioners and the Director interfere unnecessarily, the people will begin to think that these officers had been made their masters and they will start hating the panchayats as much as they hate the police. At present, the members of panchayats are not elected but nobody has any objection against the Panches. The people present themselves before the panchayat whenever it desires them to do so. Nobody can dare call the decision of a panchayat as being unjust. As a matter of fact the panchayats do not give unjust decisions. It is no doubt necessary that Panches should be elected by the people but this should not be done in a manner which may lead to undesirable results. The village panchayats at least should be kept free from the evil of party factions. If different parties begin to set up their candidates in the elections of panchayats, as is done in the case of other elected bodies, it will lead to undesirable results. If the Congress Party, Communist Party and other political parties begin to interfere in the work of panchayats, I am sure that not only will those parties be doomed but the villages will also suffer heavily. If the political parties do not interfere, I am sure that the villagers have sufficient sense to elect suitable members to the panchayats. I shall, therefore, request once again that at least the villages should be kept free from party factions and no political party should be allowed to dabble in the affairs of the poor villagers. The election of panches should be conducted in such a way that voting may as far as possible be avoided. If the Government were to make efforts to see that the Panchayats function on the right lines we can uproot many of the evils that are prevalent in the rural areas. Although this Bill has received our careful consideration for the last few days yet there may remain some flaws in it which would eventually be removed if the Government is earnest in working the Act in a proper manner.

The hon. Chief Minister has given an assurance that the panchayats would have full powers to enforce compulsory primary education in the rural areas and that for this purpose the government would provide necessary funds to the panchayats. Moreover, the hon. Chief Minister and the Minister for Local Government have given assurances that panchayats would get the money which is now being given to the District Boards. Before this, too, the Congress had made high sounding promises to the people that it would ameliorate the lot of the common man but all that has proved to be an idle talk and those promises have remained unfulfilled. Now again the Government is making loud professions with regard to this Bill but it will be seen after five or six months as to how far they turn out to be true.

Sardar Nidhan Singh (Mehna) (Punjabi): Sir, the panchayats and the Gram Sabhas form the general topics for discussion among the rural population these days. We now find that the provision relating to Gram Sabhas has been deleted from the Bill. The retention of that provision was very necessary and the Government has done great injustice to the people by deleting it. According to this Bill the Gram Panchayats would be under the Director who would in fact exercise all powers. If the government had established Gram Sabhas, they would have kept close supervision over the working of gram panchayats and at the same time there would not have been any difficulty for the panchayats to work independently. Their position would not have been so derogatory under the Gram Sabha as it would be under the Director. Now the panchayats would be reduced to the position of a person who is asked to swim with his hands and feet tied. If panchayats are to be established in villages, the government should allow them freedom of action without leaving any scope for the Director to impose his decisions upon them. The age limit for becoming a voter should be reduced to 18 years so that young men in villages may have an opportunity of voting in the elections. As a matter of fact the object of establishing panchayats in villages is to help the people by providing them the boon of Local Self-Government. It is, therefore, necessary for the Government to allow the panchayats to work independently and the Director should not act as a boss over them. Besides this, I would suggest that the meeting of Sarpanches should be called twice a year so that they may devise ways and means to keep the panchayats free from all undesirable elements and remedy the defects if there be any. In the end, I would again request the Government that it should allow the panchayats to perform their duties independently with the least interference from the Director.

Sardar Uttam Singh (Sri Gobindpur) (Punjabi): Sir, my hon. Friend Sardar Chanan Singh and some other Members of the Opposition have said many things in support of and against this Bill while discussing it. Their main objection has been that women have been denied the right of becoming members of the panchayats. But I may point out to them that every person who is entitled to exercise the right to vote, be a man or a woman, can become a member of a panchayat. Women are not debarred from becoming members of the panchayats on the basis of sex.

Besides this, it has been remarked that Harijans have been exploited in the past and their interests will not be safeguarded by making a provision for nomination. I have not been able to understand the attitude of my hon. Friends as, on the one hand, they try to demonstrate their vehement opposition to them and, on the other hand, they pose to safeguard their interests with ardent zeal. In this Bill, the Government has tried to help the backward classes. Every effort has been made to uplift them and they will now be able to get cheap and speedy justice. There is no denying the fact that by enacting this measure the Government has tried to give substantial help to the Harijans.

[Sardar Uttam Singh]

Although the Deputy Commissioners and the Director have been given powers, yet they will be under the control of the panchayats. I think that unless some officer is deputed to look after the working of the panchayats, the illiterate persons will not be able to carry on the work satisfactorily. In order to work this Act properly, it is necessary that the Director should exercise his hold over the panchayats. The Deputy Commissioners have been authorised to distribute prizes among the members of such panchayats which perform their duties efficiently. Besides this, the hearth tax should not be considered a tax as the income realized from this will be utilized for the benefit of the residents of the villages. As regards the grant which would be made available to the panchayats I may submit that the government has decided to give ten per centum of land revenue to them. With this sum the panchayats will be able to make villages economically strong. Schools and hospitals will be opened by the panchayats and thus the people living in the villages will derive great benefit.

Sardar Hari Singh (Dasuya) (Punjabi): Sir, this is the third reading of the Bill. From the speeches that have been delivered so far, it appears that some Friends have still doubts about the revolutionary character of this Bill. God knows what they mean by the term 'revolutionary'. Perhaps according to them, nothing revolutionary can happen in the world so long as the whole structure does not topple down. In my opinion, it is no small thing that the democracy of the Rig Vedic age and the age of the Mauryas is going to be established very soon for the benefit of the people of our State and every one of them is being given the right to vote and strive for his uplift.

An hon. Friend has taken exception to the provision made in the Bill providing for the nomination of the Harijans to the panchayats. To my mind, this provision is very necessary as the people belonging to this community are generally overawed by others and are not allowed to stand in the elections. Without a provision for their nomination, the members of the Harijan community will not be able to get any representation in the panchayats.

The provision conferring powers on the panchayats to levy Hearth Tax has also been criticised. I wonder why this provision has been made the target of criticism since every body knows that the money collected on this account will be utilized by the Panchayats and will not be drained away to some foreign country and will definitely be spent for promoting the welfare of the villagers. If anyone takes exception to the name of this tax, let it be called the Village Welfare Tax. I think the funds that are proposed to be put at the disposal of the Panchayats are quite adequate.

The foremost need of the hour, as Chaudhari Sahib has rightly pointed out, is the creation of an atmosphere of love and amity in the villages and it is the duty of every hon. Member of this House to make strenuous efforts in this direction. Unless there is love for each other among the rural folks the panchayats will not be able to function successfully. With these words, I congratulate the Government on its effort to revive ancient democratic institutions.

Principal Iqbal Singh (Jagraon) (Punjabi): Sir, I congratulate the Government and the Congress Benches on having brought forward this Bill when it was needed most, that is, at the time when we were laying the foundations of a new Punjab. The real Punjab lives in the villages and this Bill is aimed at the uplift of those very people who live in the rural areas.

I, however, feel that this Bill does not go so far as it should. In some respects, the powers given with one hand have been taken away with the other. Instead of allowing the maximum number of people to have a voice in the election of the Panches, this Bill seeks to deprive a very large number of people of the right to vote by raising the minimum age limit of a voter from 18 years to 21 years.

No representative body having members elected by the people should be made subject to the control of the civil servants. But it is a matter for regret that in the case of the Panchayats this principle has been deviated from and instead of making them responsible to the people the provision relating to the Gram Sabhas has been omitted and the Deputy Commissioner and the Director of Panchayats have been substituted. When the Legislative Assembly is not subordinate to any civil servant nor are the District Boards, there is no reason why the Panchayats should be subject to the control of the Director or for that matter any other officer. In this way, the people living in rural areas are being denied the opportunity of developing a sense of responsibility.

Then, Sir, no provision has been made in this Bill to safeguard the interests of the Panches and to protect them from any possible harm being done to them by the persons against whom they might give a decision in a particular case. Arrangements similar to those that exist in towns to ensure the personal safety of the judges should also be made for the personal safety of the Panches. Secondly, I cannot help pointing out that the effect of the provision delegating powers to the Panchayats has been nullified as a result of the insertion of the proviso. They should have been invested with maximum powers.

The provision relating to the representation of the Scheduled Castes should have been more liberal.

In the end, I once again congratulate the Government on bringing forward such a splendid piece of legislation. At the same time, I am not oblivious of its shortcomings after the removal of which I am sure the Panchayats would become really useful bodies.

Sardar Darshan Singh (Tarn Taran) (*Punjabi*): Sir, after its introduction this Bill was referred to a Select Committee since it was found to be riddled with defects and shortcomings. The net result of the changes made in it by this Committee has been that its shortcomings have increased. When they move about among the people, the Congressite members claim many achievements for the Government and credit it with the intention of establishing *Ram Rajya* in the villages by free delegation of powers to the rural people. This is, however, all empty talk since the form in which this Bill is being passed has proved beyond the possibility of a doubt that it has not the least intention of transferring power to the *demos*. To such an extent have the powers of the Panchayats been curtailed that they will not be able to work independently. The Director of Panchayats would be no less than a dictator set over them. Our past experience is that whenever the Panchayats dared to go against the wishes of the officers, their members were harassed by being prosecuted under section 307 or some other section of the Indian Penal Code. Even after the passage of this Bill, they will be treated in a like manner.

I want to make it clear that Sardar Chanan Singh never said that the Harijans should not be given any representation in the Panchayats. What he was advocating was that they should not be appointed to the Panchayats through nomination but on the strength of the votes secured by them in the elections. What he apprehended was that a nominated Harijan would not be their true representative and in all likelihood those Harijans who could not succeed in entering the Panchayats through election would be nominated. I am also of the view that a nominated Harijan would not guard the interest of the Harijans properly nor fight for their due rights. Notwithstanding their opposition to the principle of nomination, the Communist party is in every way prepared to help them.

[Sardar Darshan Singh]

In our opinion, the real object behind the move to have this Bill passed in its present form is to create an organisation for having the orders and measures passed by this Government observed by the ruralites. It will not lead to the well-being of the people.

Shri Bhagat Ram (Haripur) (Hindi): Sir, I had no intention of speaking today, but certain things have been said on the floor of the House which have compelled me to say a few words. It has been stated that this Bill is not revolutionary, that the existing Act is of the same nature and that the panchayats which are already in existence have the same civil and criminal powers as are provided for in the new Bill. I do not agree with those who say that this Bill has nothing new in it. I think that there are many new things in this Bill. If the provisions of this enactment are faithfully put into practice they can be really useful to the State. I congratulate the Government and the Minister-in-charge of this measure on bringing forward such a useful piece of legislation.

The first new thing which this Bill introduces is the recognition of the principle of community service. It has been provided in this Bill that for the development of villages the services of the residents can be utilized by the panchayats in certain cases. Clause 23 provides that the villagers can be asked to co-operate in doing certain work for the betterment of the villages. This is quite a new thing. I think that our villages can be developed to a great extent if we take it upon ourselves to do so.

There is yet another new thing in this Bill which affects mainly the mountainous *ilagas* of our State. I am referring to the provision regarding community forests. The Forest Act is an old measure. In it there is a Section under which a forest can be declared a village forest. But so far this provision has remained a dead-letter. No steps have been taken to put it into actual practice. The net result of it has been that there are no forests left in the villages. Without such forests the villages cannot have full scope for development. In this Bill a new thing has been introduced by way of Community forests which will encourage the villagers to work for their mutual good. The villagers will get certain forests which they will be in a position to use for the good of their villages. The income from such forests can be utilised for the betterment of the villages. This is quite a new thing in this Bill.

The principle of adult franchise which has been accepted for elections to the village panchayats is another departure from the old Act. Some of the hon. Members have expressed doubts regarding this and they have stated that because of the factions prevailing in the rural areas it will be impossible to put it into practice. Some of the hon. Members think that there is too much of such factionalism in our countryside. I beg to point out that if elections on the basis of adult franchise are held in a proper manner and the right type of persons are elected there will be no trace of the so-called factionalism. Although the villagers are illiterate persons, are not well-dressed and do not know how to talk much, yet they know their interests well. Now-a-days the villages are pulsating with a new life. The villagers are demanding more schools for themselves. When they start an institution, they consider it as their own and try to make it a success. Take the case of hospitals and other useful institutions. They take interest in them.

So far as the progress of the countryside is concerned it is not correct to say that this Act would give rise to factions. I do not agree with this view. Adult franchise is good for elections to the panchayats. Because I have no more time to speak and the bell has been rung, I resume my seat.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (Punjabi): Sir, it has been contended that this Bill will establish real democracy in the State. This contention is quite wrong. In my opinion this Bill is not going to introduce direct democracy here. In this connection I am prepared to quote the example of some other countries if the Government is not willing to lend their ear to instances from China and Russia. In fact, some of my friends here feel uneasy if instances from countries like Russia, China or Burma are quoted. Therefore it would be better to take the case of Switzerland. Although it is a capitalist country, yet we have direct democracy there. It has been stated that in our country efforts will be made to introduce direct democracy through the panchayats, but I find that this Bill does not contain any provision which may lead to the establishment of anything of that kind. In fact, no powers are sought to be given to the people at large. What is being done is that the authority of the officers is being increased.

The second thing which has been stated here on the floor of this House is that after the passing of this Bill the villagers will be saved the trouble of going to the courts. It is a good thing if these people will not have to go to the courts and their disputes are settled in the panchayats but will such a thing come to happen in actual practice? Now-a-days law has become very complicated and even commas and full-stops make all the difference in the meaning of a statute. The help and assistance of the lawyers cannot be completely dispensed with. Can the Congressmen who have been crying from house-tops that they would usher in the era of *Ram Rajya* succeed in their efforts? I think that such dreams which they entertain will always remain dreams. In fact, they cannot do anything practical.

Mr. Speaker, the Minister for Local Government is of the opinion that the Panchayats should be given grants when they approach the Government for this purpose. This idea will not serve any useful purpose. The Panchayats are part and parcel of the Government and we, therefore, want that they may be given some share out of the land revenue. If not more, they may be given 10 per cent of it and grants may be given afterwards. Without a share of the land revenue, grants would not be of any use to them.

Shri Som Datta Bahri: Sir, I move—

That the question be now put.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, it will be put after Shri Wadhawa Ram has spoken.

Shri Wadhawa Ram (Fazilka) (Punjabi): Mr. Speaker, I wish our Chief Minister had been in his seat so that he could hear our suggestions. I can well presume that after passing his Bill the Ministers would go from one village to another and claim having achieved the greatest object. But the fact is that the circumstances have forced the Government to give such powers to the people though in their heart of hearts they are extremely reluctant to part with them. In this age of democracy about half of the countries of the world have given powers in the hands of their people and our Government also has brought this Bill simply to tell the people that they are giving them maximum powers. Otherwise there is no difference between the present and the old Gram Panchayat Bill. It would have been better if some real powers had been given in the hands of the people so that they could decide their own matters according to their own will as is the case in other countries of the world. How can we boast of our so-called independence when we have not the powers to even discuss the salaries of the I.C.S. officers on the floor of the House? By concentrating all the powers in the hands of the Director of Panchayats, Government has simply given a rod in his hands so that he may make the

[Shri Wadhawa Ram]

Panchayats work according to his whims. Sir, I can say with confidence that even if all the elected Members of the Panchayats are Harijans, they would continue to remain suppressed by other zamindars unless they are allotted lands and provided suitable work like the others.' Mr. Speaker, although we should not be overjoyed with the enactment of this Bill, yet I admit that after all our Government has started paying attention to the Panchayats. No new and useful clause has been added in this Bill. Government will come to know the real position after some period when the Harijans will say that no real power has been given to them. Sir, although nothing useful has been done yet it is a step forward. Hereafter the people will themselves fight for their rights and will not leave these powers with the Government.

Mr. Speaker: Now I call upon the hon. Minister for Local Government to give a reply.

Minister for Local Government (Pandit Shri Ram Sharma) (Hindi): Mr. Speaker, many speeches have been made on the third reading of the Gram Panchayat Bill. At the time of the second reading also the hon. Members discussed this Bill thoroughly. As a result of these speeches only two decisions can be taken—it may be rejected or it may be passed and no third decision can be expected.

Mr. Speaker, it has been said that the present Bill does not include any revolutionary provision or any useful provision for bettering the lot of the people. This is the essence of all the speeches made by the Communist members. In reply, I would like to state that the Panchayat Raj is not a new or an alien system for India. It was the oldest system of Government in our country. But whereas this system was adopted by the other countries of the world the same was taken away from our people during the period of our serfdom. Due to this Panchayat System our people lived a happy and prosperous life in the olden days. But this system was abolished by the foreign rulers. Now the present Panchayat Bill is being given its third reading. The question arises as to what improvement has been made in it over the Gram Panchayat Act in force for some years in our State and in other States of India.

For the sake of mere criticism it can be described as a bad and worthless measure. But if we give it a careful consideration, we will see that the first good point in this Bill is that all the male and female adults have been given the right to vote. The second good point is that in every village with a population of not less than five hundred and if a village has a population of less than five hundred then in a group of villages having a total population of not less than five hundred, a Gram Panchayat will necessarily be established. The Panches will be elected by the people themselves. This system does not provide any chance of undue influence or pressure being exerted over anybody. The idea of Gram Sabha does exist because it has been provided that all the voters will elect their Panches and get things done according to their will. And, if even then the Panches do not perform their duties honestly and in accordance with the will of the voters, the Government will not sit with their eyes shut.

A provision has been made to enable the villagers to table no-confidence motions against the Panches.

On examining the Bill minutely, we will find that an attempt has been made to remove all the shortcomings which were found to exist in the panchayats. As a matter of fact a better measure could not be thought of.

For the sake of criticism only it is easy to say that such and such power of the Deputy Commissioner or the Sessions Judge is not being transferred to the Panchayats. While saying so, my hon. Friends failed to examine whether these things are at all practicable. I want to point out that all such things which can be beneficial for the people have been provided for in this Bill. Further, the Government will transfer responsibilities concerning beneficent works to these Panchayats so far as their finances permit. A good deal of criticism has been levelled on the ground that in the absence of sufficient funds the panchayats will not be able to perform all such duties which may bring good to the people. I want to inform them that the Government will transfer to the Panchayats the powers of deciding criminal, revenue and civil cases for which the poor ruralites have to run to the courts, keeping in view the position of their finances.

Moreover, according to the provisions of this Bill, the panchayats will be authorised to decide criminal, revenue and civil cases only to a very limited extent but those Panchayats whose work is commendable will be given more powers.

Then, Sir, according to the Gram Panchayat Act of Uttar Pradesh every Panchayat is not given judicial powers. There, for this purpose, Court Panchayats are constituted from among the ordinary panches and only such persons are allowed to be members of these Court Panchayats, as are considered to be above party-politics of the villages. For the sake of experiment, we have also provided in this Bill that representatives of four or five Panchayats shall be able to form a Court Panchayat. This will enable us to find out whether these Court Panchayats prove more useful than the ordinary Panchayats.

Mr. Speaker, I am trying to be brief in my reply to these points. As regards the points raised in connection with the powers of Panchayats, my submission is that more powers have been provided in the present Bill than those provided in the previous one and we hope that these will prove very useful in actual practice. The people will learn to feel their responsibilities and it is bound to have a good effect on them. We are rather keen that these representatives of people should even replace the Lambardars. We have also made a provision in this Bill that the Panchayats may take up the task of realizing land revenue or other taxes, which are at present being realized by the District Boards. It is our keen desire that Panchayats should get the 'Panchotra' which at present is being paid to the Lambardars.

Besides this, we have made a provision for 'Thana Unions' in this Bill. According to it the Sarpanches of ten to twenty villages falling in the jurisdiction of a Police Station will meet together, discuss their common difficulties and try to find out their solution. They will also try to find out means to make the working of the Panchayats more simple and successful. Along with it, we have also made provision for the Tehsil Union Panchayats. The representatives of all the Panchayats falling in a Tehsil will form a Union and they will be able to discuss their common problems.

Besides these things, the problem of finances of the Panchayats is most vital. I think that with the exception of the States of Madras and Bombay nowhere in our country does a share of land revenue or 'abiana' go straight to the Panchayats. We are not behind any other State in this respect. We have made provision for the allotment of ten per cent of land revenue to the Panchayats despite our weak financial position and our having taken in hand the construction of very big projects.

I was surprised to hear the objection raised by certain hon. Members that the Government would be giving this financial aid to the Panchayats in the form of grants. I want to point out to them that according to the general practice, all the money realized from the people in the form of taxes first goes

[Minister of Local Government]

into the Government Treasury and it is utilized in the ordinary way. According to this practice some persons cannot sit together and distribute the money realized as land revenue between the Panchayats and Government. The system of realization of one-fourth of the agricultural produce was in existence during the Mughal rule. Now, there are set rules for the Government finances and separate procedure is laid down for their realization and utilization.

Further, I want to inform the House that the Panchayats would get at least rupees twenty lakhs through this provision of ten per cent of land revenue. Besides this, they will be free to raise funds by imposing certain taxes. Then, the Government will have no objection to allotting them more money according to their needs. I wish to submit that these Panchayats shall not be able to work successfully with the financial aid which the Government may give them or which they may get from the District Boards, unless they themselves try to improve their finances by their own efforts. I disagree with the view that it will be through the Government Grants, Local Rates or other taxes that the panchayats will be able to function. The hon. Members who have said that the availability of such means only will result in the proper functioning of the panchayats are, according to my opinion, mistaken. I feel that the people will have to collect through their own efforts more than ten or even twenty times the normal revenues of their panchayats at the hour of need. I am confident that this is not a tiring task. For instance, I would like to tell you that two years ago the Government suggested to the panchayats to collect money in order to finance their schemes. Further the Government undertook to contribute from its own funds a sum equal to the amount collected by them. I am aware of this experiment which was carried out in my own district, i.e. Rohtak. In that district, the people raised fifty lakhs of rupees through their own efforts. Even in the olden days the people used to collect money for works of collective utility through personal endeavours. So far as our Punjab is concerned, I have full confidence that the people of our State will raise hundreds, thousands or rather lakhs of rupees and the Government will also not fail to discharge its duty. It will also provide 10 per cent of the Land Revenue to the panchayats. It should, however, not be taken to mean that it will discontinue other grants. Nay ; it will be in addition to these grants. Besides, in order to achieve their object, the panchayats will have to impose taxes. I hope that in addition to the taxes and grants, they will have to raise money through voluntary contributions since it is only then that the panchayats will succeed in managing their affairs.

It is the foremost duty of the Government to keep supervision over the panchayats. When they have been vested with so many powers, we have to see how they discharge them. Sir, I think that it will take a good deal of time if I reproduce all the clauses which refer to these powers. Therefore, without taking much time of the House I wish to submit that it is impracticable for the Government to keep aloof from the affairs of the panchayats after having delegated these powers to them. The Government is anxious that with the transfer of so many powers to them, it should impart them training in order to make them exercise these properly and also to help them explore ways and means to raise their income. In the circumstances, the Government will have to maintain continuous supervision and take steps which the circumstances demand. During the course of their speeches many hon. Friends repeatedly referred to the powers of the Director. I wish to submit that it is possible that in view of the smooth running of the administration we may have to delegate more powers to the district officers than those always vested in the Director. When we are going to hand over to them the reins of administration, responsibilities and funds, we should not remain under the delusion that the Government will discontinue supervision over them.

Then, Sir, it has been remarked that when there will be so many officers, there is no necessity of retaining the local bodies. To these hon. Friends I would like to say that if the existence of any such institution is not worth-while then what is the use of this legislature? Let it be abolished. But I think that such a thing cannot be done. The functions of the local bodies are to inculcate political sense in the masses and to teach them the principles of democracy. If local affairs could be managed without these institutions then there would be established a classless and governmentless society according to the doctrines of the Communists. But to me it appears to be an impracticable thing.

One thing more. It is this that in case of emergency panchayats will be empowered to impose taxes with the approval of the Government. In case somebody is not in a position to pay such taxes, the Panchayats will be allowed to get manual labour from him instead of the amount of the tax. Moreover, in case it is necessary to complete a particular work of public benefit within the shortest possible time, we will force upon the people to undertake manual work for the service of their fellowmen. This experiment had been tried in Russia also. The idea is that the work of the panchayats and the villages cannot be successfully conducted so long as the Government do not possess the power of asking people to contribute labour.

So far as the question of nomination of Harijans, who are very backward and poor is concerned, this Bill embodies a very adequate provision. It will not be an exaggeration of facts if it is said that it is more than adequate. During the general elections of the panchayats it will be a good thing if someone from amongst the Harijans is elected but in case none of them is elected the Bill embodies a provision that wherever the population of the Scheduled Caste people in a Gram Panchayat Area is up to 10 per cent of the total population. I think that such a position exists in 99 per cent of our villages—it will be essential to have one Harijan Member in the panchayat consisting of six or less panches and two Harijan Members in case the Panchayat consists of more than six panches. Besides, special attention has been paid towards this aspect even in the constitution of the Thana Unions. It has been made clear that in case no Harijan Member is nominated to that Union, one from amongst the panchayats under the Thana Union concerned will be taken in addition to the other members. In view of all these facts, I fail to understand why some of the Members tried to instigate the Harijan Members by saying that they had been deprived of the right of representation by the inclusion of the clause relating to nomination. I can say with full confidence that the nominations which they have been ensured through this Bill hardly exist in other States. Lest it should be misconstrued, I wish to make it abundantly clear that we have not done any special favour to them. We were duty-bound to protect their interests.

In the end, I wish to submit that I am really grateful to all the hon. Members of the House for the spirit in which they were pleased to discuss this Bill and also for the constructive suggestions which they put forward. This Bill is definitely the first of its kind after the general elections and after its passage we will be able to say to the people that we have transferred to them as many powers as they wish to be entrusted with. They will now have to share those powers which we succeeded in getting from the Britishers. (*Cheers*). I take this opportunity to assure you, Sir, that if the ruralites successfully discharge the functions entrusted to them by this Bill, the Government would not feel any hesitation in investing them with still more powers. In order to give a practical shape to this announcement, I shall bring an amending Bill before the House in the next or the following session if necessary, and will be prepared to give them more powers than those embodied in this Bill (*Cheers*).

Mr. Speaker. Question is :

That the Punjab Gram Panchayats Bill be passed.

The motion was carried.

THE PUNJAB NEW CAPITAL (PERIPHERY) CONTROL BILL.

Minister for Public Works (Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa) : Sir, I present the Report of the Select Committee on the Punjab New Capital (Periphery) Control Bill.

Minister for Public Works: Sir, I move—

That the Punjab New Capital (Periphery) Control Bill as reported on by the Select Committee be taken into consideration.

Mr. Speaker, all my hon. Friends are aware of the fact that the Punjab Government wishes to construct its new Capital at Chandigarh. After some time this town may have to be extended beyond the boundaries which have now been fixed. It has generally been observed that many people like to reside near the towns but outside the Municipal limits so that they should be exempted from the restrictions imposed by the Municipal Committees and at the same time, avail of the facilities available in the towns. They construct their houses outside the Municipal limits. While constructing such houses no attention is paid as to where the roads should be constructed, what will be the width of the streets and what will be the system of drainage. Experience shows that whenever the boundaries of a city are to be extended a large number of difficulties crop up and the Committee concerned finds itself in a fix. It cannot demolish houses built by the people. Similarly, if some excavation has been made or a thoroughfare or road has been constructed the Committee finds itself absolutely helpless. It is feared that people will build houses and start making excavations in the area in question and that is why this Bill has been brought forward.

But we have not been harsh in preparing this measure. Its operative sections will not come into force immediately after the Bill is passed. No doubt, the measure extends to an area up to five miles on all sides from the outer boundary of the land acquired for the Capital, but the Government will notify its intention to declare the area to be a controlled area not less than three months before actually declaring it as such. Again, even after the declaration has been made there is not going to be a complete ban on all sorts of constructions and excavations. We shall prepare a plan and people will be able to make constructions, etc., in accordance with the plan with the permission of the Deputy Commissioner. A zamindar will be allowed to construct a "haveli" in his fields for purposes subservient to agriculture. Similarly, if there is a temple, a Gurdwara or a Samadhi in this area there will be no restriction on its erection or re-erection. What I want to submit is that this measure has been brought forward for a good and important purpose and all efforts have been made to avoid unnecessary hardship or trouble to anybody. Therefore, I hope that my hon. Friends will accord their approval to the Bill.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved—

That the Punjab New Capital (Periphery) Control Bill as reported on by the Select Committee be taken into consideration.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Sir, although there does not appear to be anything very wrong with this Bill, yet there are many doubts and apprehensions. The Government wants to control the area within five miles from the boundaries of the Capital so that there may not be any difficulty, if its boundaries have to be extended at some time in the future, but we have grave doubts about the completion of the Capital itself. I think even the Government is not very sure of it. Even if it is completed at all, it will not be before some ten years and, therefore, it is not advisable to place restrictions on the people just yet. If we were assured that the Capital is going to be completed as scheduled we would not have said a single word against this Bill. But we know what usually happens in respect of the works undertaken by official agencies. What is happening in the case of the Bhakra Project and other such schemes will repeat itself here also. Sometimes the work will be impeded by the paucity of funds while at others the engineers will refuse to work or the machinery will go wrong. That is why I have submitted that this is too early a stage to place on the people the restrictions mentioned in the Bill.

Then, I agree that the Capital should have decent surroundings and, also, I realise that the Government is anxious to make them as beautiful as possible, but we are afraid lest the history of the Moghal Garden might be repeated here. It is said that a very beautiful garden was planted near Kalka some time in the Moghal period but when the people, who had planted it, took up their residence there the water of the area afflicted some of them with goitre and they ran away as one man. My submission is that there is the danger of so many diseases in this area also and this Government of ours may also have to take to its heels (*Laughter*).

Then I would like to draw your attention to the powers that have been given to the Deputy Commissioner. The Government has entrusted him with a large number of powers without any justification. You should have provided that a plan will be prepared and notified to the people who will be allowed to erect buildings, etc., according to it. After all, the Deputy Commissioner is not an engineer who would be able to advise the people as to where they should build a Gurdwara and where a road can be constructed. My suggestion is that this function should be entrusted to Panchayats. But even they will be helpless without the plan already mentioned by me.

We are agreeable to the idea of making Chandigarh a beautiful city, but the methods adopted by the Government will disturb the life of the people of the area very seriously. You will have to appoint an engineer as Deputy Commissioner there or else his orders and decisions will be similar to those we so often come across in connection with a number of other functions entrusted to these officers.

Arbitration should also be made a function of the Panchayats. I know that the Panchayats Bill had not been passed into law when this Bill was prepared but now that it has been passed you can very well entrust this function to the Panchayats.

In the end, I earnestly request you not to deprive those poor people of all the charm in life simply for the sake of the beauty of your Capital.

Shri Sri Chand (Bahadurgarh) (Hindi) : Sir, it was only the other day that the Government brought forward a certain Bill relating to the Capital, and to-day we are confronted with another feat of jugglery. If you go by their

[Shri Sri Chand]

professions of sympathy for the rural population you would think that those people had no better champion of their cause than this Government, and also that if the Government had its own way this world would become a veritable Garden of Eden for those poor creatures. But in actual practice, a paradise is being brought into existence in this hell of the Punjab for the sake of the rich people and for that purpose means are being devised for the ruination of the poor. But let me warn the Government that the wails and curses of those hapless creatures will foil all its efforts to erect this paradise. You have already destroyed no less than 17 villages for building this paradise of yours and now this measure will ruin even those poor people living round about that area who hope to eke out their livelihood by supplying milk, cow-dung cakes, etc., to your rich friends in the Capital. They will not be allowed even to build houses on their own lands. The pity of it is that while you are depriving them of all the benefits of their lands no reasonable compensation will be paid to them. They have had a very bitter experience already. You snatched away their lands at no more than Rs 200 per acre which were subsequently sold at a very high price, sometimes rising to the tune of thirty-seven thousand rupees per acre. Now you are going once again to bring ruination on them. You want to snatch their lands so that you may construct on them cosy ball-rooms for the daughters of the favoured rich to dance in. Mr. Speaker, I was submitting that there was no need of making this provision with regard to the area lying within a radius of five miles from the Capital. Doing so would be tantamount to an onslaught on the rights of the people. This Bill will ruin the people. According to this Bill, the Government will have the power of imposing restrictions regarding the style of houses and roads to be built within the radius of five miles from the site of the Capital. The people are not so rich as to be able to fulfil the conditions laid down by the Government. There is no other town in the world of the kind which the Government wants to construct at Chandigarh. Plans have been brought from Paris, England and America. How can the people living at places within five miles of the Capital construct houses of the type demanded by the Government? This Bill should not be passed under any circumstances. It will take another ten or fifteen years for the Capital to be built. After the Capital has been built it can be seen whether there is any necessity of a Bill of this kind or not.

Shri Prabodh Chandra (Gurdaspur) (*Hindi*): Mr. Speaker, when the hon. Minister-in-Charge of this Bill expressed a hope that the members of the Opposition would not deliver speeches on this innocent Bill, I thought that he had expressed a very small and simple wish. Since the coming into existence of this House I have been seeing and it must have been noticed by you also, Sir, that most of the speeches which are delivered here are not intended for making constructive suggestions but are made for the sake of mere opposition. I requested my friends of the Opposition once before also to let me know if there is any Bill which if brought forward by us would not be opposed by them.

Shri Sri Chand: On a point of order, Sir. Is the hon. Member relevant?

Shri Prabodh Chandra: If Chaudhri Sahib, who rose on a point of Order just now to know if my speech was relevant, had paid a visit to the Capital site and taken the trouble of seeing for himself the construction work which is going on there he would not have made the remarks which he made. Those of my Friends who have visited the Capital site will bear me out when I say that during the last five years the construction work

was not done with that speed with which it is going on now. The Government was not to blame for the slow progress of work during the last five years. My friends sitting opposite who carried on propaganda against building the Capital at Chandigarh were responsible for the delay. If the country, whose ideology my hon. Friends support, considers it necessary to have an 'iron curtain' around it for the sake of its existence or it thrusts its ideology on other countries, this Government also thinks that the new houses that are constructed round the new Capital should be beautiful and conform to certain standards so that these might not make the town look ugly. There is nothing in this Bill which should be opposed. As the hon. Minister-in-Charge has already made clear there will be no difficulty in the matter of construction of paths, etc. The aim of this measure is to prevent the exploitation of people by the sale of plots around the Capital site at an exorbitant price. It is intended to prevent the construction of ugly houses or shops around the Capital. If my hon. Friends take the trouble of visiting Chandigarh they would find that a heavy price is being charged for ordinary shops built across the road.

Then, Sir, it was said that the Government obtained land from the zamindars at the rate of two hundred rupees per acre. I beg to submit that this is not the case. The Government acquired land at the rate of rupees one thousand per acre and the oustees were rehabilitated at places of their choice. The Government is not making any profit from the sale of plots. A part of the money being realised from the purchasers of plots will be utilised for the development of the Capital. One of the hon. Members said that dancing halls for the women of rich families were being built there. I beg to submit that if instead of delivering such emotional speeches my hon. Friend had paid a visit to Chandigarh he would have found that not dancing halls or coffee houses but peons quarters of a type which did not exist anywhere else were being constructed there. A peon would be able to live in a quarter costing Rs 3,200 by paying only two rupees per mensem as its rent. The quarters which are being constructed there for the clerks will in no respect be inferior to the houses of the capitalists. I hoped that my hon. Friends who profess to be friends of the poor would not oppose this Bill. The Government wants to keep the Capital quite neat and clean and it does not wish the surrounding localities to be such as would make a beautiful town look ugly. I hope that my friends of the Opposition would allow this innocent measure to be passed without much discussion and would thus save the time of the House.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Punjab New Capital (Periphery) Control Bill as reported on by the Select Committee be taken into consideration.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Now the House will proceed to consider the Bill clause by clause.

CLAUSE 1, SUB-CLAUSES (2) AND (3)

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That sub-clauses (2) and (3) of Clause 1 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 2

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 3

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 3 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 4

Mr. Speaker : Now Clause 4 is before the House for discussion.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (*Punjabi*): Sir, I beg to move—

That in sub-clause (1), lines 1-2, for the words "Deputy Commissioner" the following words be substituted:—

"Panchayat or Notified Area Committee of Chandigarh".

Mr. Speaker, it is such an innocent and simple amendment that it should be accepted by the House. It has been said that this Bill aims at ensuring that the houses and roads which are built in the suburbs around Chandigarh should also conform to a certain plan. It is feared that the people will have to suffer for want of any plan. I beg to submit that at first the plan should be prepared and then the Panchayats should be empowered to see that the construction is done according to the plan. The Panchayat Bill was passed only a short time ago and the Government claimed that it would lead to the establishment of *Ram Rajya*. The Government should give powers to such institutions. The Deputy Commissioners should not be given more powers as has been the practice in the past. It is with this object that I have moved this amendment.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in sub-clause (1), lines 1-2, for the words "Deputy Commissioner" the following words be substituted:—

"Panchayat or Notified Area Committee of Chandigarh".

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (1), lines 1-2, for the words "Deputy Commissioner" the following words be substituted:—

"Panchayat or Notified Area Committee of Chandigarh."

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That Clause 4 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 5

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 5 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 6

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 6 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 7

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 7 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 8

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 8 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 9

Mr. Speaker : I call upon Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut to move his amendments to Clause 9.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in sub-clause (1), lines 2—4, for the words “an arbitrator appointed by the State Government in this behalf” the following be substituted:—

“a Committee in which people of the locality be fairly represented”.

That in sub-clause (2), lines 3-4, for the words “District Judge or an Additional District Judge” the words “Sessions Judge” be substituted.

Sir, I have moved these amendments because according to clause 1 applications for compensation will have to be submitted to the Deputy Commissioner from whom one can hardly expect justice. He is mainly responsible for the preservation of law and order and if he is given the powers of an arbitrator then such applications will generally be rejected by him. I would, therefore, suggest that instead of appointing Deputy Commissioner or Additional Deputy Commissioner as an arbitrator, a committee may be set up in which people of the locality may be fairly represented. Such a committee will assess the value of land properly and sanction the grant of compensation speedily.

[ardar hananSing Dhut]

My second amendment is that instead of appointing the District Judge or the Additional District Judge as an arbitrator such powers may be given to Sessions Judges because they have seldom any interest in the party politics of villages, and can thus decide such cases independently. The District Judges generally have attachment with one party or the other in the villages and for this reason one cannot expect even-handed justice from them. I would, therefore, request the Government that instead of appointing a District Judge or an Additional District Judge as arbitrator such powers may be given to Sessions Judges.

Mr. Speaker : Motions moved—

That in sub-clause (1), lines 2—4, for the words “an arbitrator appointed by the Stat Government in this behalf” the following be substituted:—

“a Committee in which people of the locality be fairly represented”.

That in sub-clause 2, lines 3-4, for the words “District Judge or an Additional District Judge” the words “Sessions Judge” be substituted.

Minister for Public Works (Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa) (Punjabi): Sir, I may point out to my hon. Friend Sardar Chanan Singh in order to remove his misunderstanding that if the Deputy Commissioner grants the permission subject to any condition or refuses to grant permission then the person who is aggrieved or affected by the order of the Deputy Commissioner can submit an application for arbitration to the District Judge or Additional District Judge. My hon. Friend has remarked that the power of arbitration should be given to Sessions Judge instead of District Judge or Additional District Judge. But I may make it clear to him that there is no distinction between the District Judge and the Sessions Judge. When this officer decides civil cases he does so in the capacity of a District Judge and when criminal cases are disposed of by him then he does so as a Sessions Judge. It appears that some misconception has been created in the mind of my hon. Friend and he is thinking of District Magistrate and Additional District Magistrate. I may tell him that District Judge and Sessions Judge is one and the same officer.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (1), lines 2—4, for the words “an arbitrator appointed by the State Government in this behalf” the following be substituted:—

“a Committee in which the people of the locality be fairly represented”.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : I rule out of order the second amendment moved by Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 9 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 10

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 10 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 11

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 11 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 12

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (*Punjabi*): Sir, I beg to move—

That in the last para of sub-clause (1), lines 2—10, for the words “five hundred in the contravention” the following words be substituted:—

“ fifty rupees and shall be asked to demolish and on refusal the Government should do so at the cost of the offender”.

Sir, if any person acts in contravention of section 5, 7 or 11, he shall be punishable with fine which may extend to Rs 500 and in case of a continuing contravention, with further fine which may extend to twenty rupees for every day. I think that this punishment is much too excessive. I would suggest that the fine be reduced from Rs 500 to Rs 50. The fine of Rs. 20 for every day the wrong continues is most unreasonable. If any person fails to pay fine, his house can be demolished and the cost of such demolition can be recovered from him.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in the last para of sub-clause (1), lines 2—10, for the words “five hundred in the contravention” the following words be substituted:—

“fifty rupees and shall be asked to demolish and on refusal the Government should do so at the cost of the offender”.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in the last para of sub-clause (1), lines 2—10, for the words “five hundred in the contravention” the following words be substituted:—

“fifty rupees and shall be asked to demolish and on refusal the Government should do so at the cost of the offender”.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 12 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 13

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 13 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 14

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 14 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 15

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 15 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 16

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 16 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 1, SUB-CLAUSE (1)

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

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

The motion was carried.

TITLE

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Title be the Title of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Minister for Public Works : Sir, I beg to move—

That the Punjab New Capital (Periphery) Control Bill be passed.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Punjab New Capital (Periphery) Control Bill be passed.

Chief Minister (Shri Bhim Sen Sachar) (Hindi) : Sir, I had no desire to intervene in the debate on this Bill but certain statements have been made which are likely to create a misunderstanding in the mind of the public with regard to it and that is why I feel I should say a few words. For instance, an impression has been sought to be created that this measure will be used as an instrument for the ruination of the zamindars and the destruction of their properties and so on. To me it appears as if the hon. Member who has made such statement does not care to read the various clauses of the Bill or does not

keep them before him while taking part in the debate. Now I may read out clause 15 which has just been passed by the House to dispel his doubts. It is like this :—

Nothing in this Act shall apply to—

- (a) any building for residential purposes or for purposes subservient to agriculture in the abadi area of any village as defined in the revenue records ;
- (b) excavations including wells or other operations made in the ordinary course of agriculture ;
- (c) the construction of an unmetalled road intended to give access to land solely for agricultural purposes .

From this, it is clear that as a result of the enforcement of the proposed measure there will be no interference with the lives of the people who are engaged in agriculture. They will be free to repair their damaged houses and construct roads and pathways as they like. There will be no control even after the enactment of this measure over any kind of structure connected with agriculture, or forming a part of the *abadi deh*. What we are aiming at is the imposition of control over the freedom of those whom friends sitting opposite dub as capitalists to sell the land or erect bungalows on it. This measure instead of doing any harm to the zamindars will help enrich them. Do these friends want that no money should go to the pockets of the zamindars ?

The provisions made in this Bill are analogous to those found in the Municipal Acts. Let my friends go through them. It is far from us to think of doing harm to any section of the people (*Cheers*).

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Punjab New Capital (Periphery) Control Bill be passed.

The motion was carried.

**THE CAPITAL OF PUNJAB (DEVELOPMENT AND REGULATION)
BILL, 1952, AS AMENDED BY THE PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE
COUNCIL.**

Minister for Public Works (Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa) (*Punjabi*):
Sir, I move—

That the amendments made by the Punjab Legislative Council in the Capital of Punjab (Development and Regulation) Bill, which was passed by the Punjab Legislative Assembly on the 31st July 1952, be taken into consideration.

Sir, with regard to the Bill concerning the Capital Project that was passed by this House in the last session, several members of this as well as the other House were of the opinion that some of its clauses were very rigorous and stringent. When it was presented to the Legislative Council, it had thought fit to refer it to a Select Committee. The Select Committee had recommended alterations in some of the clauses. The Bill as amended by the Council on the basis of the report of the Committee is now before this House.

The Council has recommended that the provision relating to the punishment of imprisonment for offences committed under the proposed Act should be deleted and that appeals against the decisions of Administrator should lie with the State Government. These are the chief amendments recommended by the Council.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the amendments made by the Punjab Legislative Council in the Capital of Punjab (Development and Regulation) Bill, which was passed by the Punjab Legislative Assembly on the 31st July 1952, be taken into consideration.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the amendment made by the Punjab Legislative Council in the Capital of Punjab (Development and Regulation) Bill, which was passed by the Punjab Legislative Assembly on the 31st July, 1952, be taken into consideration.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Now the House will proceed to consider the amendments made by the Legislative Council one by one.

CLAUSE 10

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That for sub-clause (4), the following be substituted:—

“(4) Where a person is aggrieved by any order of the Chief Administrator, deciding a case under subsection (2) or subsection (3), he may, within thirty days of the date of communication to him of such decision, make an application in writing to the State Government for revision against the said decision ; and the State Government may confirm, alter or rescind the decision of the Chief Administrator”.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 14

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in the proposed sub-clause (1), line 5, for the words “five hundred” the words “one hundred” be substituted .

That in the proposed sub-clause (1), lines 10—13, the words “and to a further date of conviction” be deleted.

The Council has done well in recommending to the Assembly the deletion of the provision relating to the punishment of imprisonment though it is a matter for regret that a similar amendment when moved in this House was not accepted by the Government. We, however, wonder as to wherefrom has our Government learnt the wording ‘fine which may extend to rupees five hundred’. We are amazed to find that these words are incorporated in every Bill that is introduced these days. We want that the fine for offences committed under the proposed Act should not exceed rupees one hundred and that the provision relating to the penalty of twenty rupees a day should be deleted as it is too harsh.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in the proposed sub-clause (1), line 5, for the words “five hundred”. the words “one hundred” be substituted.

That in the proposed sub-clause (1), lines 10—13, the words “and to a further date of conviction”, be deleted.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in the proposed sub-clause (1), line 5, for the words "five hundred", the words "one hundred" be substituted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in the proposed sub-clause (1), lines 10—13, the words "and to a further..... date of conviction" be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That for the existing sub-clauses (1) and (2) the following be substituted:—

"(1) If any person contravenes any provision of the Trees Preservation Order or of the Advertisements Control Order, he shall, on conviction, be punishable with fine, which may extend to five hundred rupees, and whoever after having been convicted of the contravention of any provision of either of the said Orders continues to contravene the said provisions, shall, on a subsequent conviction, be punishable with fine as aforesaid and to a further fine which may extend to twenty rupees for each day of continued contravention, after the previous date of conviction.

"(2) The court while passing an order under subsection (1) may direct that any tree or part thereof or any material used for advertisement, which is the subject of the contravention, shall be forfeited to the State Government, or impose a fine of an amount which shall be equivalent to the value thereof."

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 15

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (*Punjabi*) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in the proposed clause, line 4, for the words "five hundred" the words "one hundred" be substituted.

That in the proposed clause, lines 4—8, the words "and in the case.....first conviction" be deleted.

Sir, I have no intention to make a long speech because arguments which I have already advanced in connection with clause 14, are equally applicable here.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in the proposed clause, line 4, for the words "five hundred" the words "one hundred" be substituted.

That in the proposed clause, lines 4—8, the words "and in the case.....first conviction" be deleted.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in the proposed clause, line 4, for the words "five hundred" the words "one hundred" be substituted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in the proposed clause, lines 4—8, the words “and in the case.....first conviction” be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That except the provisos the following be substituted for the existing clause :—

“15. Except as otherwise provided for in this Act, any contravention of any of the rules framed thereunder shall be punishable with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees, and in the case of a continuing contravention, with an additional fine, which may extend to twenty rupees for each day during which such contravention continues after the first conviction; and the court while passing any sentence on conviction of any person for the contravention of any rule, may direct that any property or part thereof in respect of which the rule has been contravened shall be forfeited to the State Government.

Illustration. Where an unauthorised structure has been constructed or any obnoxious material or substance is collected or heaped on a site in any unauthorised manner or where an advertisement board has been set up in contravention of the Advertisements Control Order, such structure, material, substance or board shall be liable to forfeiture, and not the site or building on which the same may be located or fixed.”

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 22

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That after sub-clause (2), the following new sub-clause be added :—

“(3) All rules made under this Act by the State Government shall be laid before each House of the State Legislature for a period of fourteen days as soon as possible.”

The motion was carried.

Minister for Public Works : Sir, I beg to move—

That the Capital of Punjab (Development and Regulation) Bill, 1952, as amended be passed.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Capital of Punjab (Development and Regulation) Bill, 1952, as amended, be passed.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Capital of Punjab (Development and Regulation) Bill, 1952, as amended, be passed.

The motion was carried.

The Assembly then adjourned till 1 p.m. on Wednesday, the 3rd December, 1952.

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES

3rd December, 1952

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OFFICIAL REPORT



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PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Wednesday, 3rd December, 1952

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Simla, at 1 p.m. of the Clock. Mr. Speaker (Dr. Satyapal) in the Chair.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

PROHIBITION IN THE STATE.

*1230. **Shri Teg Ram :** Will the Minister for Labour be pleased to State :—

- (a) the date when the law relating to prohibition was enforced in the State ;
- (b) the number of shops and clubs licensed to sell Country-made spirits and liquor respectively on the date mentioned in part (a) respectively ;
- (c) the total number at present of liquor shops, clubs and bars permitted to sell spirits and liquor in the State ;
- (d) the total income from excise accruing to the Government during the year preceding the enforcement of the law relating to prohibition referred to in part (a) above and the income accruing to the Government from the same source in the year ending the 31st March, 1952 ?

Chaudhri Sunder Singh :

(a) 2nd October, 1943 (in the district, viz. Rohtak, in respect of liquor only).

(b) 514, as under :—

(1) For Country Spirit	458
(2) For Indian-made foreign spirit	56
(3) Clubs	—

Total 514

[Minister for Labour]

(c) 526, as under :

(1) For Country Spirit	445
(2) For Indian-made foreign spirit	46
(3) Clubs	27
(4) Bars	8
Total	526

(d) The excise statistics for the whole of the financial year 1947-48 are not available. The total excise income of the Punjab Government before and after the introduction of prohibition in respect of liquor in the Rohtak district, is given below :—

Serial No.	Period	Income
1.	From the 15th August, 1947 to the 31st March, 1948.	Rs. 1,01,54,036/-
2.	From the 1st April, 1948 to the 31st March, 1949.	4,29,87,931/-
3.	From the 1st April, 1951 to the 31st March, 1952.	2,59,10,521/-

CONSTRUCTION OF ROADS IN KANGRA DISTRICT.

*1300. **Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma** : Will the Minister for Public Works be pleased to State whether the Government has any scheme under consideration to supply the interior of Kangra District with roads and adequate means of communications ; if so, the details thereof and the extent to which this scheme has been implemented ?

Shri Gurbachan Singh Bajwa : The Mandi-Kulu-Manali Road is being improved as an unmetalled road and the work of improving and metalling the unmetalled portions of miles 54 to 89 of Jullundur-Hoshiarpur-Dharamsala Road is in hand.

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma : Sir, may I point out that the reply given by the hon. Minister does not cover the first part of the Question wherein it has been asked :

“Whether the Government has any scheme under consideration to supply the interior of Kangra District with roads and adequate means of communications;”

Minister : These are the only two schemes which I have mentioned in my reply.

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma : Sir, I draw your attention to the second part of the Question. It is like this :—

“If so, the details thereof and the extent to which this scheme has been implemented.”

You will find, Sir, that the reply given by the Minister covers only this part and the first part remains unanswered.

Minister : As I have already stated, there are only two schemes which have been taken in hand and which are being implemented.

POLICE LATHI-CHARGE AT LUDHIANA.

*1119. **Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to State :—

- (a) whether the police lathi-charged on a crowd near the clock tower at Ludhiana on the 2nd or 3rd October, 1952, when it was proceeding towards the Rest House where he was staying, to express their resentment against the arrests made earlier, at a public meeting addressed by him ; if so, the details thereof and the circumstances which compelled the police to use force ;
- (b) whether there was any resistance from any one of the demonstrators ;
- (c) the slogans, if any, used by the demonstrators ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar :

- (a) No.
- (b) and (c) Do not arise.

Brief facts, however, are that at the Gandhi Jayanti Meeting held at Ludhiana on 2-10-52, some persons caused disturbance and obstructed the police in the discharge of their duty, as a consequence of which 8 persons were arrested on the spot, whereas 5 slipped away. They were pursued and one of them was arrested by the police in Chaura Bazar. The remainder made good their escape. After the meeting small groups of people while passing through the main Bazars kept on creating noise. No pro-

[Chief Minister]

or group marched to the Rest House. Police parties kept patrolling in the town but nowhere did any party resort to lathi-charge on the public.

On 3-10-52, again about 500/600 persons paraded through the main street, reached the Municipal garden and then dispersed. They shouted the following slogans :—

- (1) Hitler Shahi Nahin Chalegi ;
- (2) Sachar Wuzarat Murdabad ; and
- (2) Congress Murdabad.

CASES OF ILLICIT DISTILLATION OF ALCOHOLIC DRINKS IN FEROZEPURE DISTRICT.

***1120. Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Minister for Labour be pleased to State :—

- (a) the number of cases of illicit distillation of alcoholic drinks in Ferozepur District discovered during the years 1950-51 and 1951-52.
- (b) the number of cases of unlicensed firearms discovered and seized during the years 1950-51 and 1951-52 in the said district ?

Chaudhri Sunder Singh :

	1950	1951	1952 (up to 30-9-52)
(a)	—	—	-----
	910	776	1014
(b)	830	987	457

MURDERS IN DISTRICT JULLUNDUR.

***1203. Shri Ram Kishan :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to State :—

- (a) the total number of murders committed, Tehsil-wise, in Jullundur district in the year 1951 and in the year 1952 upto 30th September respectively ;
- (b) the number of murderers who have remained untraced so far ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar:

(a) The number of murders Tehsil-wise in Jullundur district are as under :—

	Jullundur	Phillaur	Nawanshahar	Nakodar
1951	11	11	7	3
1952	12	3	2	1

upto 30-9-52.

(b) The number of murderers which remained untraced :—

	Jullundur	Phillaur	Nawanshahar	Nakodar
1951	3	2	1	—
1952	1	—	1	—

upto 30-9-52.

Shri Ram Kishan : The Chief Minister has said that in the years 1951-52 in each of the various Tehsils one, two or three cases remained untraced. Will he kindly State why, inspite of the lapse of two years, these murders could not be traced ?

Chief Minister : I cannot say anything except that inspite of best efforts the murders in these cases remain still untraced.

DEATH OF SHRI RAJA RAM OF VILLAGE TELHERI IN POLICE STATION BILAS PUR, DISTRICT AMBALA.

***1339. Sardar Chanan Singh :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to State :—

- (a) whether he is aware of the fact that one Shri Raja Ram of village Telheri died in police station, Bilaspur District Ambala ; if so, the reasons therefor ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the person mentioned in part (a) above died due to repression at the hands of the Assistant Sub-Inspector of Police ;
- (c) whether the body of the person mentioned in part (a) above was handed over to his relatives; if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the action, if any, Government proposes to take in the matter ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar :

- (a) This is not a fact.

[Chief Minister]

- (b) No.
 (c) Does not arise.
 (d) Does not arise.

ACCIDENTS IN FAZILKA SUB-DIVISION.

***1345. Shri Teg Ram :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to State :—

- (a) The total number of crimes that took place from 1-8-52 to 31-10-52 in Fazilka Sub-Division, District Ferozepore ;
- (b) the sections of the Indian Penal Code under which the police registered cases on account of the said crimes ;
- (c) the number of culprits arrested up to now ;
- (d) the total number of murders committed during the above mentioned period in the same Sub-Division as well as during the corresponding period during the last year ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar :

- (a) The total reported crime in Fazilka Sub-Division, District Ferozepore, during the period from 1-8-52 to 31-10-52 was 322 cases.
- (b) Of these 176 cases were registered under the various sections of the I.P.C. as below :—

8	u/s	302	IPC
3	u/s	307	IPC
4	u/s	304	IPC
13	u/ss	325/326	IPC
7	u/s	324	IPC
1	u/s	392	IPC
1	u/s	395	IPC
3	u/s	148	IPC
1	u/s	309	IPC
1	u/s	428	IPC
1	u/s	376	IPC
1	u/s	364	IPC
1	u/s	406	IPC
1	u/s	304-A	IPC

3	u/s	452	IPC
2	u/s	337	IPC
2	u/s	429	IPC
21	u/s	430	IPC
1	u/s	420	IPC
2	u/s	411	IPC
3	u/s	447	IPC
5	u/s	354	IPC
62	u/s	457	IPC
29	u/s	379	IPC

176

The remaining 146 cases were registered under the various sections of local and special laws.

- (c) Number of culprits arrested so far in all cases=324.
- (d) 8 cases of murder were reported against 7 in the corresponding period of the last year.

**CONFISCATION OF THE PROPERTY OF SARDAR
GURCHARAN SINGH SON OF S. TEJA SINGH OF VILLAGE
SANSEHRA, DISTRICT AMRITSAR.**

***1390. Shri Wadhawa Ram :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether it is a fact that during the year 1941-42, the movable and immovable property of Sardar Gurcharan Singh S/o S. Teja Singh of village Sensehra, Tehsil Ajnala, District Amritsar was confiscated by the Government on account of his political activities ; if so, whether the said property has been restored to him ;
- (b) whether the said Sardar Gurcharan Singh has applied for the restoration of his land ; if so, when and the action taken by the Government in the matter ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar :

- (a) S. Gurcharan Singh's land measuring 40 kanals and 16 marlas was attached in 1940. Government had ordered the detention of S. Gurcharan Singh under the Defence of India

[Chief Minister]

Rules, and on receiving a report that he had absconded or was concealing himself so that the order of detention may not be executed, Government confiscated the said land. The property has not yet been restored to him.

- (b) S. Gurcharan Singh applied to Government for the restoration of his land on the 15th May, 1952. The property can be restored to him only when it is proved to the satisfaction of Government that it was confiscated on account of the applicant's participation in a national movement. The case is under investigation.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Will the Chief Minister kindly tell us whether the property of the communists will be returned in this case too as it has been done in other cases ?

Chief Minister : Yes, provided it was confiscated on the plea of national activities.

CHEMICAL MANURES.

***1162. Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether there is any Government factory in the State producing Chemical Manures ; if so, the details of its production ;
- (b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative what alternative arrangements exist for the supply of Chemical Manures from sister States or foreign countries together with the total quantity imported and the value in rupees of the same in the year 1951/52 ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon :

- (a) No.
- (b) The State requirements of Chemical Manures are forwarded to the Government of India who allocate the Chemical Manures from the imported material or from the Sindri production at the pool price. No Ammonium Sulphate was imported in this State during the year 1951-52 as the balance of stocks already available was sufficient to meet the requirements.

BORING OF TUBEWELLS IN THE STATE.

***1164. Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that after a preliminary survey some 36 tehsils have been selected for tubewell boring in the State ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Palwal, Ballabgarh and Gurgaon tehsils are among those selected ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the work has already begun in certain tehsils ; if so, whether there is a list of the order of priority for the commencement of this work ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon :

- (a) and (b) } Yes.
- (c) Yes. There is no order of priority for the commencement of work in any particular tehsil, regarding sinking of tubewells. The work is undertaken when a landowner deposits the estimated cost of the tubewell, in advance, and completes all formalities. The work is executed according to turn.

—————

**INCLUSION OF COW PROTECTION IN THE ACTIVITIES
OF COMMUNITY PROJECT IN THE STATE.**

***1210. Shri Ram Kishan :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether the Government has received any suggestions or instructions from the Union Government for including cow protection in the State among the activities of the Community Project ; if so, the steps that are being taken by the Government to implement those instructions ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon :

First Part. No.

Second Part. Does not arise.

—————

COMMUNITY PROJECTS CENTRES IN THE STATE.

***1340. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state :—

- (a) the names of centres where Community Projects have been started district-wise in the State together with the capital at present as well as the total authorised capital thereof ;

[Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut]

- (b) the details of the powers of the Community Projects Officers appointed under the scheme ;
- (c) the number of Americans who are working under this scheme in the State together with privileges, if any, allowed to them ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon :

- (a) The following Community Projects in the Punjab have since been started :
 - (i) Sonapat Project, Rohtak District.
 - (ii) Jagadhri Project, Ambala District.
 - (iii) Nawanshahr Project, Jullundur District.
 - (iv) Batala Project, Gurdaspur District.
 - (v) Nilokheri (One Development Block), Karnal District.

According to the Model scheme prepared by the Community Projects Administration, Government of India, on which the Project budgets have been based, the estimated expenditure on one Community Project comprising three development blocks of about 300 villages, comes to Rs. 65 lakhs spread over a period of three years.

(b) A statement is given below.

(c) One American National is working as Agricultural Extension Adviser, Punjab, under the Indo-U.S. Technical-Co-operation Agreement-Point 4-Programme. This Government has to provide the Expert with the following :—

- (i) Suitable office space, Office equipment, Stenographic, Secretarial and Translation Service and such furnishings, supplies and technical equipment as may be necessary and available for the purpose of the Scheme ;
- (ii) Cost of his official communication ;
- (iii) Cost of transportation.

Delegation of powers to the Project Executive Officers.

- | | | |
|--|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| (1) To sanction the purchase or manufacture of tools and plants excluding live-stock, tents, and office furniture. | Project Executive Officer. | Upto Rs. 500/- each case. |
| (2) To sanction repairs and carriage of tools and plant. | -do- | -do- |
| (3) To purchase mathematical instruments except levelling staves against sanctioned estimates. | -do- | -do- |

- (4) To purchase new levelling staves against sanctioned estimates from the Government Central Workshop Amritsar and failing that from Mathematical Instrument Office, Calcutta. -do- Upto Rs. 200/- in each case.
- (5) To order, from a Govt. Workshop material, stores, or manufactured articles for which due provision has been made in a sanctioned estimate. -do- Full powers.
- (6) To accept tenders. -do- Upto Rs. 5000/- subject to the conditions that (1) approval of the next higher authority is obtained if a tender other than the lowest is accepted. (2) No higher rates are paid than those contained in the Schedule of Rates prescribed by the P.W.D. B & R. Branch.
- (7) To create posts of work charged establishment while the work is in progress under the sanctioned estimates. -do- Upto Rs. 50/- p.m. for each post.
- (8) To sanction earned leave including leave without pay and allowances. -do- Full powers in respect of non-gazetted Government servants.
- (9) To fix wages of daily rated workers. -do- Upto maximum of Rs. 4/- per day subject to the usual rates permitted by the D.C.

[Minister for Development]

- | | | |
|---|------|---|
| (10) To fix the piece-rate of individual workers on work other than constructional. | -do- | Full powers within the sanctioned estimate subject to the usual rates permitted by D.C. |
| (11) To sanction expenditure on purchase of miscellaneous stores for office use such as tumblers, waterpots etc. | -do- | Full powers subject to the conditions that the rates should be according to those prescribed by Govt. |
| (12) To sanction expenditure on repairs to erection and removal of machinery equipment and repairs to furniture and fixtures. | -do- | Upto Rs. 15/- p.m. in each case on repairs to furniture and fixtures. |

All these powers are subject to the condition that necessary funds exist in the Budget to meet expenditure involved.

These powers will remain in force for one year or till modified by Government earlier.

ALLOTMENT OF HOUSES IN VILLAGE GHARYALA.

***616. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur:** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether the allotment of houses in village Gharyala Tehsil Patti, District Amritsar has been completed ; if not, the reasons for this delay;
- (b) whether the allotment of land of village Gharyala mentioned in part (a) above has been completed and the possession given to allottees ; if so, the date when this possession of land was given ;
- (c) the reason for not allotting the houses along with the allotment of land in the village or soon thereafter ;
- (d) whether there is any other village in Amritsar district where land has been allotted but where the allotment of houses has not so far been completed ; if so, the reasons for the same ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh :

- (a) No. Gharayala is a very big village. At the time of allotment of houses this village was included in the Model village

scheme. All plans were prepared but subsequently the model scheme had to be dropped on the request of the residents of that village.

- (b) The allotment of land has been completed. Possessions were transferred before 15-6-52.
- (c) Since the village has been recently reallocated, action is being taken to complete the allotment of houses as early as possible.
- (d) No.

EVACUEE HOUSES IN VILLAGE MARGINDPURA.

***617. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

- (a) the number of the evacuee houses which were intact upto January, 1948 in village Margindpura, tehsil Patti, district Amritsar ;
- (b) the number of evacuee vacant sites in the same village upto January, 1948 ;
- (c) whether any of the evacuee houses and the vacant sites were allotted to the displaced persons upto 31-3-52 ; if so, their number respectively ;
- (d) whether any sites and houses belonging to the evacuees have been let out to the non-displaced inhabitants of the village ; if so, their number respectively and the terms on which these have been let ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh :

- (a) 132
- (b) 19
- (c) Yes. 32 houses.
- (d) No.

TEMPORARY ALLOTTEES OF PATTI, DISTRICT AMRITSAR.

***618. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased be State :—

- (a) whether the claims of any displaced persons who were the temporary allottees of Patti town of Amritsar district and were

[Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur]

entitled to allotment of between 5 to 15 standard acres of land in Patti have been placed in the overflow ; if so, their list and the reason therefor ;

- (b) whether any persons of village Chhatianwala, Tehsil Kasur, entitled to less than 14 standard acres of land, who were the temporary allottees of Patti town have been refused allotment in Patti though their review applications were accepted ; if so, their names and the reason therefor ;
- (c) whether any displaced persons other than the local colonists who were entitled to more than 14 standard acres of land have been fitted into the rural section of Patti evacuee area ; if so, their names and the area allotted to each of them ;
- (d) the reasons for giving preference to those entitled to more than 14 standard acres mentioned in part (c) above over those entitled to less than 14 standard acres referred to in parts (a) and (b) above ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh :

- (a) Yes. A list marked "A" is given below. These were ousted since they were allottees not forming a blood relation group in the village, before those who were included in groups of blood relations ;
- (b) Yes. A list marked "B" is placed below. Reasons for non-restoration are given in the statement ;
- (c) Yes. A list marked "C" is also given below ;
- (d) The reasons have been recorded against each allottee in answer to part (c) above.

(A)

S. No.	Name of the allottee.	Pakistan Particulars.	Area due in Standard Acres.	Unit.
1.	S. Sher Singh s/o Hakim Singh.	Badarpur Kasur, Lahore	13	9
2.	S. Narinjan Singh s/o Hukam Singh.	Maidman, Kasur Lahore. ?	13	4½
3.	S. Talok Singh s/o Sudagar Singh.	Chhatianwala, Kasur, Lahore.	11	14

4.	S. Ganga Singh s/o Sudagar Singh.	-do-	11	14
5.	S. Gurbachan Singh s/o Didar Singh.	-do-	12	14½
6.	S. Amar Singh s/o Dinar Singh.	-do-	12	14½
7.	S. Kehr Singh s/o Jagat Singh.	Rajajung, Kasur, Lahore.	14	13
8.	S. Kehr Singh s/o Wadawa Singh.	Raikalan, Kasur, Lahore.	12	8
9.	S. Arjan Singh s/o Ujagar Singh.	Kankoki, Kasur, Lahore.	11	12½
10.	S. Joginder Singh alias Tara Singh s/o Ujagar Singh.	-do-	11	12½
11.	S. Jiwan Singh s/o Surain Singh.	Nagroki, Kasur, Lahore.	14	5¾
12.	Sohawa Singh s/o Assa Singh.	Chak No. 123, Pakpattan, Montgomery.	14	4¾
			Total	155
				15

‘B’

No.	Name and parentage of the allottee.	Particulars of West Pakistan.	Area due in Std. Acres.	Reasons under which allotment could not be made in Patti.
1.	S. Tilok Singh, s/o S. Saudagar Singh.	Chhatianwala, Kasur, Lahore.	11-14	In view of the amended rule 14. (6) of the Administration of Evacuee Property Act XXXI of 1950, restoration to village Patti at the cost of other allottees has been denied.
2.	S. Ganga Singh s/o S. Saudagar Singh.	-do-	11-14	
3.	S. Gurbachan Singh s/o S. Didar Singh.	-do-	12-14½	They were also single unattached allottees.
4.	S. Amar Singh s/o S. Didar Singh.	-do-	12-14½	
			Total	49-9

[Minister for Finance]

(C)

S. No.	Name of parentage and the allottee.	Area allotted in Std. acres.	REMARKS.
1.	S. Bahal Singh s/o Budha Singh.	19-1 $\frac{1}{4}$	} Allotted as a group.
2.	S. Tahl Singh s/o Budha Singh.	16-9	
3.	S. Jarnail Singh s/o Dalip Singh.	19-3	} Allotted as a group, Shri Fauja Singh and Hardyal Singh being minors.
4.	S. Fauja Singh s/o Mangal Singh.	28-4 $\frac{1}{2}$	
5.	S. Hardyal Singh s/o Mangal Singh.	15-1	
6.	S. Jbanda Singh s/o Chattar Singh.	29-4	Allotment made as a group. His two sons Inder Singh and Ganga Singh already allotted. His brother already allotted. Allotment made as a group.
7.	S. Santa Singh s/o Mit Singh.	16-9	
8.	S. Autar Singh s/o Vir Singh.	24-12 $\frac{3}{4}$	Allotted as a group.
9.	S. Manjit Singh s/o Vir Singh.	24- $\frac{1}{4}$	
10.	S. Bhagwan Singh s/o Kartar Singh.	34-2	His brother allotted 17-8 $\frac{1}{2}$ allotment made as a group.
11.	S. Tara Singh s/o Hukam Singh.	48-3 $\frac{1}{2}$	Allotment made as a group. They have been declared as sub-urban claimants and their allotment has been cancelled on 18-4-52.
12.	S. Makhan Singh s/o Hukam Singh.	48-3 $\frac{1}{2}$	
13.	S. Hazara Singh s/o Hukam Singh.	48-3 $\frac{1}{2}$	
14.	S. Dula Singh s/o Kapur Singh.	29-8	His son allotted 1-12 $\frac{1}{2}$. Hence all allotted as a group.
15.	S. Surat Singh s/o Nand Singh.	40-9	Allotment made as a group. Their allotment has been cancelled on 18-4-52.
16.	S. Kartar Singh s/o Nand Singh.	40-3	

S. No.	Name and percentage of the allottee.	Area allotted in Std. acres.	REMARKS.
17.	S. Gopal Singh s/o Bur Singh.	25-11 $\frac{1}{4}$	Allotted as a group. Their
18.	S. Labh Singh s/o Bur Singh.	24-13 $\frac{1}{2}$	allotment has been cancelled on 18-4-52.
19.	S. Mohinder Singh s/o Bur Singh.	25-14 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Total		558-7 $\frac{1}{2}$	

COMMUNICATION DISALLOWING CANCELLATION OF ALLOTMENT OF LANDS.

***1118 Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to State :—

- (a) whether the State Government has received recently any communication from the Union Government, Ministry of Rehabilitation, directing the State Government, not to cancel allotment of lands, excepting in exceptional cases ; if so, a copy of the same be laid on the Table ;
- (b) the action, if any, taken by the Government on the above directive from the Union Government ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh :

- (a) Yes. A copy* of the Notification is given below.
- (b) Copy of the Notification has been forwarded to all the Deputy Commissioners in the State and the Administrator, Simla, for strict compliance. These instructions are being rigidly followed.

*GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, MINISTRY OF REHABILITATION.

Dated the 22nd July, 1952.

Notification.

No. 14 (105) Cus/49. In exercise of the powers conferred by Sec. 56 of the Administration of Evacuee Property Act, 1950 (XXXI of 1950) the Central Government hereby directs that the following further amendments shall be made in the Evacuee Property (Central) Rules, 1950 namely ;

In the said rules—

- (a) for sub-rule (6) of rule 14 the following sub-rule shall be substituted, namely ;

[Minister for Finance]

- (6) notwithstanding anything contained in this rule, the Custodian of Evacuee Property in each of the States of Punjab and Patiala and East Punjab States Union shall not exercise the power of cancelling any allotment of rural evacuee property on a quasi-permanent basis, or varying the terms of any such allotment, except in the following circumstances :—
- (i) where the allotment was made although the allottee owned no agricultural land in Pakistan ;
 - (ii) where the allottee has obtained land in excess of the area to which he was entitled under the scheme of allotment of land prevailing at the time of the allotment ;
 - (iii) where the allotment is to be cancelled or varied in accordance with general or special directions issued by the Central Government ;

Provided that where an allotment is cancelled or varied under clause (ii) the allottee shall be entitled to retain such portion of the land as is not in excess of the land to which he would have been entitled under the scheme of quasi-permanent allotment of land.

(b) After Rule 48, the following rule shall be inserted, namely, 49 Repeal. The rules contained in the following Notifications, namely :—

- (i) the notification of the Government of Punjab, the Relief and Rehabilitation Department No. 8689-S (Reh.) dated the 29th August, 1951 and
- (ii) the Notification of the Government of Patiala and East Punjab States Union in the Rehabilitation Department No. 2, dated the 19th February, 1952 are hereby repealed :

Provided that subject to the next succeeding proviso anything done or any action taken in exercise of any power conferred by any of the said Rules shall be deemed to have been done or taken under the corresponding provision of these Rules :

Provided that no order other than an order in an appeal, made in exercise of any power conferred by any of the said Rules shall have effect—

(a) if it was after the 25th May, 1952.

Or

(b) if it was made on or before the 25th May, 1952, but was not implemented or enforced on or before the 15th June, 1952.

Sd/-V. D. Dantiyagi,
Joint Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, MINISTRY OF REHABILITATION.

Dated 4th August, 1952.

Notification.

No. 14 (105) Cus/49. In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 56 of the Administration of Evacuee Property Act, 1950 (XXXI of 1950), the Central Government hereby directs that the following further amendments shall be made in the Administration of Evacuee Property (Central) Rules, 1950, namely :—

In rule 49 of the said Rules.

- (a) in the first proviso, the words "subject to the next succeeding proviso" shall be omitted ;
- (b) the second proviso shall be omitted.

(Manmohan Kishan)

Assistant Secretary to the Govt. of India.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : What steps have been taken to apprise the people of the rules which will be adhered to ?

Minister : Notifications to this effect have been issued in the newspapers.

**REALISATION OF BATAI BY THE LANDOWNERS FROM
THE ALLOTTEES OF THEIR LANDS.**

*1389. **Shri Wadhawa Ram :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to State whether he is aware of the fact that the landowners whose occupancy tenants were Muslims and whose land has been allotted to refugee landowners, are still getting batai from the allottees of these lands ; if so, the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh :

Yes ; because the new legislation vesting proprietary rights in occupancy tenants does not apply to evacuee property.

**SHRIMATI SARASWATI DEVI, TEACHERESS OF GOVERNMENT
GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL, JULLUNDUR.**

***1239. Shrimati Sita Devi :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to State :—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Shrimati Saraswati Devi, a teacheress of the Government Girls High School, Jullundur retired in the year 1949 ;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that she has not yet been granted any pension ; if so, the reasons therefor ?

Shri Jagat Narain :

- (a) Yes.
- (b) No. She is in receipt of anticipatory pension of Rs. 28/- p.m. It has not been possible to grant her full pension as her service record was not available. Now that it has been received from Punjab (Paskistan), she is being granted pension when verification is complete.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Will the Minister kindly state when the verification of the service record of the teacheress in question is likely to per completed ?

Minister : Very soon. I may, however, inform the lady member that that teacheress is already in receipt of an anticipatory pension of Rs. 28/- per mensem.

**RUNNING OF DISPENSARIES BY THE DISTRICT BOARD,
FEROZEPURE.**

***1346. Shri Teg Ram :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to State :—

- (a) the number of dispensaries run by the District Board, Ferozepur, in each of its thanas ;

- (b) the number of patients, indoor and out-door that came to each of these dispensaries during the year ending 31-3-1952 for treatment ;
- (c) the amount of expenditure incurred by the said District Board in each of the dispensaries during the above mentioned year, together with the details of expenditure, under each head separately ?

Shri Jagat Narain : The data as to the compilation of statistics relating to hospitals and dispensaries in the State are collected as from the 1st January to the 31st December each year and as such it is regretted that it is not possible to supply the immediate information asked for in respect of the financial year 1951-52. However, a statement containing the requisite information for the calendar year 1951 is given below.

RUNNING OF DISPENSARIES BY THE

Names of Thanas in Ferozepore District.	Names of dispensaries run by the District Board Ferozepore in each of its Thanas.	No. of patients came to dispensary during the year 1951.		EXPENDITURE INCURRED.	
				Pay of M. O.	Pay of Estt.
		Out-door	In-door		
1. Ferozepore	.....	...	...	...	...
2. Mamdot.	1. Mamdot. (Civil)	9445	81	1896	952
3. Ghall Khurd.	1. Ferozeshah (Rural)	30498	1070	2995	799
	2. Mudki. (Rural)	8177	104	2543	771
4. Nathana.	1. Nathana. (Rural)	10023	89	3427	660
	2. Mehraj. (Civil.)	10835	166	1920	601
5. Zira.	.....	...	...	...	...
6. Makhu.	1. Makhu. (Rural)	12710	116	2472	679
7. Dharmkot.	1. Dharmkot. (Civil)	17718	359	3057	787
	2. Kot Ise Khan (Rural)	4984	35	2267	824
8. Mallanwala.	1. Mallanwala (Rural)	9290	109	1873	669
9. Moga.	1. Moga (Civil)	79490	2845	7461	1728
	2. Daroli Bhai (Rural)	11219	136	3115	315
10. Mehna.	1. Kokri Kalan (Rural)	14364	146	2759	679
11. Baghapurana.	1. Baghapurana (Civil)	19856	120	1876	629
	2. Chirak. (Civil)	10080	...	1162	...
12. Nihalsingh-wala.	1. Patto Hira Singh (Rural)	13246	123	2848	740
	2. Badhni Kalan (Civil)	15937	134.	1785	632
13. Muktsar.	1. Chaksherwala (Rural)	7442	99	2490	680
	2. Lakhewali (Rural)	7834	63	2473	630
14. Kot Bhai.	1. Doda (Rural)	11087	87	1617	804
15. Guruharsahai.	1. Guruharsahai (Civil)	16623	195	2989	735
	2. Sohargarh (Rural)	11319	271	3755	641
	3. Kannianwali (Rural)	5928	47	2772	785
16. Jalalabad.	.....	..	...	...	...
17. Fazilka.	1. Khuikhera (Rural)	10439	159	2652	505
	2. Ladhuka (Rural)	7489	160	2472	690
	3. Jandwala Bhome Shah (Rural)	12358	96	2472	672
18. Malout.	1. Malout (Rural)	27868	607	3803	681
	2. Sarawan (Rural)	11132	229	2472	686
	3. Ram Nagar (Rural).	9042	72	3411	655
19. Abohar.	1. Sittoganoo (Rural)	8075	81	2349	446
20. Lambi	1. Lambi (Rural)	12981	277	2052	687
21. Khuian Sarwar.	1. Panjkesi (Rural)	8678	41	2472	275

N. B.—Total expenditure shown in the statement including Govt. grant shown in Remarks Column.

DISTRICT BOARD FERROZEPORE.

BY THE DISTRICT BOARD UNDER THE VARIOUS HEADS.								Remark
Other Estt.	Medicines.	Diet	Cost of new Apparatus.	New Bldgs	Repair to Bldgs	Misc.	Total Expenditure.	Amount of Govt. Grant received if any.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.
.....
2159	2287	.....	.....	.....	207	528	8029	.....
4006	2463	.....	.....	.....	412	1003	11768	3100
1727	810	.....	.....	.....	220	1135	7215	3100
2634	1490	.....	.....	.....	412	1177	9800	3100
2553	837	.....	.....	.....	.....	216	6221	.....
.....
1399	1398	.....	.....	.....	.....	912	7460	3100
3018	670	.....	.....	.....	1000	670	9202	.....
3112	1339	.....	.....	.....	.....	1834	9376	3100
2152	1039	.....	.....	.....	218	949	7490	3100
24206	7465	.....	.....	.....	3576	6045	53481	.....
2074	493	.....	.....	.....	1066	1035	8598	3130
2006	652	.....	.....	.....	292	3773	7265	3100
2922	979	.....	.....	.....	.....	1112	7213	.....
2276	570	.....	.....	.....	5836	544	10398	.....
2855	428	.....	.....	.....	833	946	8650	3100
1739	1131	.....	.....	.....	.....	249	5536	.....
2089	735	.....	.....	.....	.....	1627	7627	3100
2567	954	.....	.....	.....	364	499	7477	3100
2280	995	.....	.....	.....	1248	1104	8048	3100
3546	1636	.....	.....	.....	.....	352	9258	.....
2989	2490	.....	.....	.....	.....	954	10829	3100
2063	1030	.....	.....	.....	.....	995	7645	3100
.....
2378	956	.....	.....	.....	.....	1001	7492	3100
2677	723	.....	.....	.....	.....	1013	7575	3100
2211	668	.....	.....	.....	.....	1069	7092	3100
4063	2913	.....	.....	.....	194	1199	12853	3100
2297	958	.....	.....	.....	.....	1548	7961	3100
2038	799	.....	.....	21033	.....	815	28751	3100
2445	939	.....	.....	.....	.....	723	6902	3100
2711	1731	.....	.....	.....	.....	1103	8284	3100
1553	332	.....	.....	.....	.....	665	5297	3100

REALIZATION OF SALES TAX.

*1204. **Shri Ram Kishan:** Will the Minister for Labour be pleased to state :—

- (a) the total amount of Sales Tax realized by the Government in the years 1950-51 and 1951-52 ;
- (b) the amount of such tax realized for two quarters separately during the current year ?

Chaudhri Sunder Singh :

(a) (i) 1950-51	Rs. 1, 77, 19, 622/-
(ii) 1951-52	Rs. 1,66,99,011/-
(b) (i) 1st quarter ending the 30th June, 1952.	Rs. 38,16,980/-
(ii) 2nd quarter ending the 30th September, 1952.	Rs. 44,80,731/-
Total of (b) (i) and (ii)	Rs. 82,97,711/-

ROADS IN GURGAON DISTRICT.

*1163. **Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht :** Will the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state :—

- (a) the total mileage of roads, metalled, unmetalled and katcha, constructed by the Government in Gurgaon District since partition ;
- (b) the proposals, if any, made by the District Board, Gurgaon for the taking over by the Government of certain roads, together with the details of such roads and the reasons for acceptance or rejection of the said proposals ;
- (c) the total mileage of different classes of roads now proposed to be constructed in Gurgaon District under the Five Years Scheme ;
- (d) the proposals, if any, under the consideration of the Government for the taking over of some District Board roads within the period of next five years ?

Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa ;

(a) The total mileage of roads constructed by Government in Gurgaon District since Partition is	
Metalled	17 miles
Unmetalled	Nil
Katcha	Nil

- (b) No such proposal has been made by the District Board.
- (c) The Five Year Plan does not provide for construction of any road in Gurgaon District.
- (d) Proposals for the taking over of the following roads by the Government from District Board Gurgaon, during the next five years, are under consideration :—
 - (i) Faridabad North South Branch.
 - (ii) Hodal Bhadas Road.

PROVINCIALISATION OF ROADS

***1313. Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma :** Will the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether he has received any representation with respect to the provincialisation of the following roads :—
 - (i) Gagret to Hamirpur via Amb Jawar ;
 - (ii) Hoshiarpur to Jahoo Via Una ;
 - (iii) Bharwainto Mukerian Via Jor Bar and Kotla ;

(b) the action ; if any, taken by the Government in the matter ?

Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa :

- (a) Yes.
- (b) A proposal for provincialising some roads in Kangra District is under consideration of Government.

ADDRESSING OF A PUBLIC MEETING BY THE FINANCE MINISTER AT LUDHIANA.

***1099, Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether the Finance Minister addressed a public meeting at Ludhiana on or about the 15th September, 1952 ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Finance Minister had to leave the public meeting due to the unruly conduct of a section of the audience, and that the police force arrived after the Minister had left; if so, the action ; if any, taken by Government against the police officers concerned for not making timely arrangements ;
- (c) the action taken by the Government against the individual members of the unruly section of the audience ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar :

- (a) Yes ; on 15-9-1952.
- (b) No.
- (c) Does not arise.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Did the news which appeared in the press come to the notice of the Government; if so, what steps were taken by the Government to contradict it ?

Mr. Speaker : It does not arise out of the main question.

— — —

POLICE TORTURE CASE IN THANA SARHALI, DISTRICT
AMRITSAR.

***1100. Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to a police torture case in Thana Sarhali, distrit Amritsar during July, 1952 when one Chanan Singh son of Sham Singh, village Ghurka, Thana Sarhali arrested under Sec. 109 is alleged to have died as a result of third degree methods used by the Police Officers on him for extorting a confession ; if so, the details thereof, and the action taken or intended to be taken by the Government in the matter;
- (b) whether any special measures have been taken or are proposed to be taken by the Government for preventing such third degree methods being employed in future ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar :

- (a) It came to the notice of Government, through a news item which appeared in the "Naya Zamana" dated 22-7-52, that one Chanan Singh s/o Shiam Singh of village Ghurka, Thana Sarhali, was alleged to have been tortured to death by Sairhali Police and his dead body thrown in the River Beas. Detailed enquiries made in the matter, however, revealed that Chanan Singh was never brought to the Police Station, but that he has been missing from his village since 1949.
 - (b) Instructions already exist that Police Officers should not use any violence while investigating cases.
- — —

SHRIMATI LAKHSHMI DEVI WIFE OF LALA BHAGAT RAM
OF NAWANSHAHR.

***1101. Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether the Government has received a report about the slapping of Shrimati Lakhshmi Devi wife of Lala Bhagat Ram of Nawanshahr on 27-7-52 by ASI Ch : Ram Rachhpal Singh of Thana Rahon, district Jullundur, and about his abusing the respectable lady ; if so, whether any enquiry was made, and the result of the enquiry ;
- (b) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar :

- (a) Yes ; on an enquiry a prima-facie case was established.
- (b) A departmental enquiry has been ordered against the Assistant Sub Inspector Ram Rachhpal Singh.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : This thing happened on the 27th of July. If any enquiry into this matter has been held by upto now, then will the Chief Minister kindly tell us the result ?

Chief Minister : The report has not come to my notice so far.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : This happening took place four or five months back. Does the Government propose to take some special steps in such cases where a prima facie case has been established ?

Chief Minister : Yes, the investigation will be expedited.

—————
PROMOTION TO P. C. S. CADRE.

***1324. Shri Rala Ram :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether the Clerks of the Civil Secretariat and other Government offices in the State are eligible for promotion to the P. C. S. Cadre ;
- (b) whether the Inspectors of the Civil Supplies and Weights and Measures Departments are also eligible for promotion to the P. C. S. ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar :

- (a) The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to rule 8 of the P. C. S. (Executive Branch) Rules, 1930 (as amended up to date).

[Chief Minister]

- (b) Under rule 6 (d) and 12 of the said rules, the Inspectors, of the Civil Supplies are eligible for promotion to the P. C. S. (Executive Branch). The case of the Inspectors of Weights and Measures who belong to a temporary branch of the permanent Industries Department is not covered by these rules. They are not eligible even under rule 8 mentioned in (a) above as it applies to ministerial Government servants and the Inspectors of Weights and Measures do not belong to that class. Inspectors can look forward for promotion to higher posts in their own department whereas a large majority of Ministerial Government servants cannot expect such promotions.

— — —
GRANT OF ADVANCE INCREMENTS TO GOVERNMENT
SERVANTS IN THE STATE.

***1386. Shri Wadhawa Ram :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether it is a fact that before Partition, Government servants getting less than Rs. 100/- per mensem as their pay were given two advance increments and those getting more than Rs. 100/- per mensem were given one advance increment ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that after Partition the advance increments in the case of Government servants getting less than Rs. 100/- per mensem as their pay have been totally stopped, while those getting over Rs. 100/- per mensem are given two advance increments; if so, the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh :

- (a) Government servants drawing pay upto Rs. 150/- per mensem (and not Rs. 100/- p.m.) were given a temporary allowance equal to two increments while those drawing salaries exceeding Rs. 150/- per mensem, but not exceeding Rs. 400/- per mensem (with marginal adjustments), were given this allowance equal to one increment.
- (b) Yes. This concession is not given to Government servants drawing pay not exceeding Rs. 100/- per mensem, as on the introduction of the revised rates of dearness

allowance, after the partition, the rate of their dearness allowance was more than the dearness allowance plus temporary allowance before partition. The Government servants drawing pay upto Rs. 100/- per mensem have, however, with effect from 1st August, 1952, been given an adhoc increase of Rs. 5/- per mensem in dearness allowance.

Shri Wadhawa Ram : Is the hon. Minister aware that the employees getting less than one hundred rupees per mensem, who according to the Government are receiving more dearness allowance are dying of pneumonia ?

Mr. Speaker : Disallowed.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS SCHEME IN THE STATE.

***1195. Shri Ram Kishan :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state :—

- (a) the progress made so far in the implementation of the Community Projects Scheme in the State ;
- (b) the names of development blocks so far selected;
- (c) the number of villages in each block, their population and the area surveyed ;
- (d) the names and duties assigned to the Assistant Project Officers appointed so far;
- (e) the number and names along with dates of Village Level Workers ; if any, appointed in the area concerned ? .

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon :

- (a) After setting the necessary preliminaries, actual field work in all the Projects was inaugurated on the 2nd October, 1952, the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi. The project Executive Officers have since then been busy contacting the villagers and explaining to them the aims and objects of the scheme and impressing upon them the responsibilities which the people must shoulder in order to make the scheme a success. Cleansing and repairing of village wells, including those meant for Harijans, construction of drains and School buildings, adult education, anti-malaria measures, distribution of improved rabi seeds, construction of culverts on village roads and other such practical works have already been under taken and some progress made within this short period.

[Minister for Development]

(b) The names of the Community Projects established so far are as follows :—

- (i) Sonapat Project (3 Development Blocks).
- (ii) Jagadhri Project (3 Development Blocks).
- (iii) Nawanshahr Project (3 Development Blocks).
- (iv) Batala Project (3 Development Blocks)
- (v) Nilokheri Project (1 Development Block)

It has since been decided to take up development work in two blocks around Faridabad comprising the whole of the Ballabgarh Tehsil in the Gurgaon district. Preliminary arrangements for the purpose are being made.

The development work in the first instance is to be taken up in one block in each Community Project. The survey, therefore, is in regard to one block of each Project. The number of villages and population of such blocks are given below :—

S. No.	Name of the Project.	Number of Villages.	Population.	Area.
(i)	Sonapat Project (First Block)	80	75,652	98,276 acres
(ii)	Jagadhri Project (First Block)	125	90,386	77,168 acres
(iii)	Nawanshahr Project (First Block)	95	89,563	60,743 acres
(iv)	Batala Project (First Block)	134	76,341	69,825 acres
(v)	Nilokheri Project (One Block)	134	69,014	1,57,852 acres

(d) (i) Only one Assistant Project Officer has so far been appointed for the Nilokheri Block.

(ii) He is incharge of the Nilokheri Block and works under the supervision of the Deputy Administrator, Nilokheri Township. His main duties are to encourage the development of agriculture, irrigation, sanitation, health, communications, education, livestock and a better standard of living in the villages of the Block.

(e) 100 Village Level Workers have been posted to the five Community Projects, namely twenty for each. Five Village

Level Workers were appointed from about the middle of July, 1952. The number increased to 20 from the 20th September, 1952, and 100 from the 29th September, 1952.

Shri Ram Kishen : According to the statement supplied by the hon. Minister, only one Assistant Project Officer has been appointed. Why have the remaining officers not been appointed ?

Minister : One such officer was appointed without referring the case to the Public Service Commission because he was required immediately for work in a certain village. The remaining officers will be appointed by the Public Service Commission. The names have been sent to them and they have to make the selection. Appointment letters will be issued shortly and those who are appointed will take over charge.

Shri Ram Kishen : Does the survey referred to in the statement include the economic survey of these areas also ?

Minister : During the course of the survey it has naturally been examined as to what is the type of the land and what crop it can yield.

Shri Ram Kishen : Will the hon. Minister be pleased to lay on the Table of the House a copy of the survey report with regard to the blocks whose survey has been completed ?

Minister : But will the hon. Member kindly state what he means by an 'economic survey' ?

EXCLUSION OF KANGRA DISTRICT FROM THE CONSOLIDATION OF HOLDINGS SCHEME.

***1310. Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state the reasons for the exclusion of Kangra District from the Consolidation of Holdings scheme of the Government ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon :

143 Villages of Kangra District are already under consolidation. This district can not however, be placed at par with others because the difficulties of the terrain render the work of consolidation out of question.

REGISTRATION OF TRACTORS IN TEHSIL FAZILKA.

***1344. Shri Teg Ram :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state :—

- (a) the total number of Tractors registered in Fazilka Tehsil, District Ferozepore, up-to 31-10-52 ;
- (b) whether the Government has maintained any record as regards the area cultivated with the aid of the said tractors ;
- (c) whether the land cultivated by the said tractors was under the cultivation of the owners thereof or whether it was land from which tenants had been ousted together with the area of land in each case ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon :

- (a) 159.
- (b) No.
- (c) Information is not available.

KARNAL FARM TRACTORS CULTIVATION SCHEME.

***1379. Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina:** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether he is aware of the fact that a loss of Rs. 30 lakhs has been sustained by the Government in connection with the Karnal Farm Tractors Cultivation Scheme, if so, the reasons therefor and the action taken by the Government in this connection ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon :

The Land Reclamation and Mechanical Cultivation Scheme which is being run in this state has resulted in a loss, but it is very difficult to separate the loss on Karnal Tractor Cultivation Farms.

The reasons as reported by an enquiry often constituted by Government were of a general nature. The Scheme is being thoroughly overhauled to avoid such losses in future.

ENFORCEMENT OF THE PUNJAB TENANTS (SECURITY OF TENURES) AMENDMENT ACT, 1951 IN DISTRICT GURDASPUR.

***1381. Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether the Punjab Tenants (Security of Tenures) Amendment Act, 1951 has been enforced in the District of Gurdaspur ; if so, the number of cases that have occurred of

breach of the above mentioned Act by the tenants and the landlords respectively together with the number of arrests so far made in this connection ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon :

First Part— Yes.

Second Part— The information has not yet reached me in full.

BHAKRA AND NANGAL PROJECTS.

***1159. Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state :—

- (a) the number of Engineers working at present on the Bhakra and Nangal Projects together with their names, qualifications and pay on first appointment ;
- (b) the total expenditure incurred by the Government up to 30.9.1952 on the above Projects since the inauguration of the said Projects ;
- (c) the total anticipated expenses required to complete the above Projects after 30.9.52 ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh :

- (a) The time and labour involved in collecting the information will not be commensurate with the benefit likely to accrue.
- (b) Rs. 40.4 crores.
- (c) Rs. 115 crores.

NUMBER OF CORRUPTION OR EMBEZZLEMENT CASES IN IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT.

***1160. Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state the number of cases of corruption or embezzlement in the Irrigation Department that have come to his notice since April, 1952, together with the nature of action taken by the Government in each case ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh :

The requisite information is as below :—

[Minister for Irrigation]

Number of corruption and embezzlement cases that came to notice since 1-4-52.			Nature of action taken against each.
Cases of corruption.	Cases of embezzlement	Total	
11	8	19.	Sentenced to rigorous imprisonment = 1
			Dismissed = 3
			Compulsorily retired. = 1
			Increment stopped = 1
			Transferred. = 1
			Suspended. = 3
			Entry in qualification report. = 1
			Cases under Investigation. = 8

CHANGE IN THE SITE OF BIST DOAB CANAL IN VILLAGE MANDI, DISTRICT JULLUNDUR.

***1221. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the site of the Bist Doab Canal in village Mandi, Tehsil Phillaur, District Jullundur, has been changed twice; if so, the reasons therefor?

Chaudri Lahri Singh : The alignment of Nawanshahr Branch of Bist Doab Canal in village Mandi had to be changed at the preliminary stage for reasons of engineering and economy.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state if it is a fact that the residents of this *itaga* represented to the Government that the change in decision was the result of the efforts of an hon Member?

Minister : Yes, a representation was received and it was examined.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Did a deputation on behalf of the residents of that area meet the hon. Minister and did he promise to hold an enquiry into the matter? Was such an enquiry made?

Minister : Yes, a deputation waited on me and an enquiry was held.

IRRIGATION BY SHAH CANAL.

***1222. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut ;** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state :—

- (a) the total area irrigated by Shah Canal (Mukerian, District Hoshiarpur) in the year 1945-46 ;
- (b) the total amount of abiana collected by the Government, in the year 1945-46 ; together with the rate so charged ;
- (c) the total area irrigated by Shah Canal (Mukerian, District Hoshiarpur), in the years 1950-51 and 1951-52 ;
- (d) the total amount of abiana collected by the Government in the period mentioned in part (c) above ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh :

- (a) The total area irrigated by Shah Canal in the year 1945-46 was 15,853 acres.
- (b) The total amount of abiana collected in the year 1945-46 was Rs. 26,047/-. The rate for rice was Rs. 1/6/- per Ghumaon or Rs. 1/12/- per acre. The rate for other crops was 12 annas per Ghumaon or 15 annas per acre.
- (c) The total area irrigated by Shah Canal in the year 1950-51 was 35,692 acres and in 1951-52 was 26,936 acres.
- (d) The total amount of abiana collected during 1950-51 was Rs. 1,01,546/- and during 1951-52, Rs. 2,00,835/-.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : The hon. Minister has stated that the amount realised in the form of water-rate amounted to twenty six thousand rupees in 1945-46 while during 1951-52 it ranged between one and two lakhs of rupees. Is this increase in the amount of water-rate due to the supply of more water or has the same produce been taken into account twice while determining it ?

Minister : More water was supplied and the rate of water-rate had also been increased. In addition to these factors, the area irrigated had also been extended.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Formerly the amount realised on account of water-rate was to the tune of twenty six thousand rupees while now it has increased considerably. May I know if the additional amount is being spent on the increased strength of the canal staff ?

Minister. I cannot say anything off hand.

— — —

SOWING OF BAJRA CROP IN TEHSIL FAZILKA, DISTRICT
FEROZEPUR.

***1284. Shri Teg Ram :** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state :—

- (a) the area of land in acres, where *bajra* crop was sown in Tehsil Fazilka, District Ferozepur this year, as well as last year with canal water ;
- (b) whether there is any difference in the sown area; if so, the reasons therefor ?

Chaudhri Lahri Singh :

- (a) In 1951, 18009 acres. In 1952, 23809 acres.
- (b) Yes. It is due to failure of rains after July, 1952.

Shri Teg Ram : The Irrigation Department had promised the zamindars to give them an additional 10 per cent quantum of water. May I know why that promise has not been fulfilled ?

Minister : It was proposed to make the increased supply of water during the rainy season.

Mr. Speaker : The question does not really arise. The hon. Minister need not reply.

— — —

CUTS IN ARNIWALA OUTLET ABOHAR DIVISION.

***1387. Shri Wadhawa Ram:** Will the Minister for Irrigation be pleased to state:—

- (a) the number of cuts that occurred from September, 1952 to 10th November, 1952 in Arniwala Outlet, Abohar Division together with the reasons therefor in each case;
- (b) the number of villages where the Kharif Crops became dry and Rabi Crops were not sown at the proper time, due to the cuts referred to in part (a) above;
- (c) the number and names of places where punitive police has been posted by the Government in connection with the above cuts in the Arniwala Outlet ?

Chauhdri Lahri Singh :

- (a) 5 cuts were made by irrigators in Arniwala Distributary in an unauthorized manner, mostly during night.
- (b) Fourteen villages lying on the tail of Arniwala Distributary suffered on this account.
- (c) Punitive Police has been posted in only one station in this area.

Shri Wadhawa Ram : Is the Minister aware of the fact that the zamindars do not resort to making cuts in the *Rajbahas* if a regular water supply is made available to them ?

Shri Wadhawa Ram : Has it come to the notice of the Minister that the zamindars tried to make breaches in the *Rajbaha* at various places; if so, what steps does the Government propose to take in this direction ?

Minister : The Government has stationed police posts at these places and have warned the zamindars that severe action will be taken against them if they again tried to make breaches in the *Rajbaha*.

Shri Teg Ram : May I ask the hon. Minister what action has been taken by the Government to see that no cuts are made in the *Rajbahas* in future ?

Minister : The Government is imposing the maximum punitive fines on these people and police posts have been stationed at these places. The police men are also patrolling in these villages. Zamindars have been warned that if they again act in this manner their water supply will be stopped. If the hon. Member has any other suggestion to offer the Government will be too glad to accept it.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Will the hon. Minister kindly state what action has been taken against those officials who have been found guilty of dereliction of duty ?

Minister : Those officials have been challaned.

Shri Wadhawa Ram : Is it a fact that the zamindars who make breaches in the *Rajbahas* give the produce of 12 or 13 acres of land to the Government officers ?

Mr. Speaker : Disallowed.

INSTRUCTIONS RE ALLOTMENT OF LAND TO DISPLACED
PERSONS IN TEHSIL PATTI.

***611. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether instructions were issued by the Government during 1948 that no displaced person from Lahore Tehsil be allotted land in Patti Tehsil ; if so, the reasons therefor and a copy of the letter be laid on the Table ;
- (b) whether the instructions contained in the letter referred to above were acted upon and the displaced persons from the villages of Lahore Tehsil were deprived of their temporary allotment in Patti Tehsil during the year 1948, if so, the approximate number of the persons thus affected.
- (c) whether in village Daudpura in Tehsil Patti, certain displaced persons from Lahore Tehsil were allowed to hold their land temporarily ; if so, their names and the names of the villages to which they originally belonged ;
- (d) whether any list of temporary allottees of the village Daudpura referred to above was prepared by the authorities, if so, copy of the list be laid on the Table ;
- (e) whether in this list certain displaced persons from village of Lahore Tehsil have been shown as residents of certain Kasur Tehsil villages ; if so their names :
- (f) whether later on the Government decided to allot 3000 acres (standard) of land to Lahore Tehsil displaced persons and thereupon the persons referred to in part (e) above were allowed to get the lands allotted to them on the basis of their being temporary allottees, if so, the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh :

- (a) Yes. Government had decided that colonists should be given preference over all the displaced persons and settled in their home districts. Because Patti formed a part of Kasur Tehsil the displaced persons therefrom were taken at par with the colonists new Tehsil Patti and consequently settled in Patti in preference

to all other displaced persons was anticipated that their demand would be heavy and it would not be possible to accommodate displaced persons from other areas including Lahore Tehsil.

A copy of the letter containing general instructions regarding allocation of areas for temporary settlement and a copy of the press note issued in 1948 are given below.

(b) Yes. The number of such persons, however, is not available. The time and labour involved in collecting this information will not be commensurate with any possible benefit to be achieved.

(c) Yes. The list of such persons is placed on the Table. These persons had received allotment in a group headed by Shri Chanan Singh of V. Urara, Tehsil Kasur and as at the time of receiving temporary allotment they did not specify their original residence in Pakistan, therefore, it could not be detected that they were from Lahore Tehsil.

(d) Yes list is given below.

(f) Yes. Government decided to allot 3000 standard acres to displaced persons from Lahore Tehsil for the following reasons :-

1. Large number of representations had been received from displaced persons of Lahore Tehsil, who had not obtained temporary allotment any where in the hope of settling in Patti ;
- (2) some displaced persons of Lahore Tehsil having obtained temporary allotments in Patti were keen to retain their allotments there ; and
3. area to the extent of meeting the pressing demand of these displaced persons was available.

No. 1158/R.

From

P.N. Thapar, Esquire, C.I.E, I.C.S., Financial Commissioner,
Rehabilitation, East Punjab, Simla.

To

All Deputy Commissioners (Rehabilitation),
in East Punjab.

[Minister for Finance]

Dated, Jullundur, the 27 May, 1948.

Subject :—Scheme of allocation of areas for temporary settlement for Kharif 1948.

MEMORANDUM.

The question of allocation of areas for allotment of evacuee lands for Kharif 1948 has been under the consideration of Government in consultation with the East Punjab States. The enclosed communique sets out the allocations which are to be followed. It will be observed that most of the existing allocations in East Punjab are retained. It has been decided that for the time being refugees from Shorkot Tehsil should be accommodated along with refugees from Jhang Tehsil and Chiniot Tehsil in Rohtak and Gohana Tehsils. Further, new allotments in respect of refugees from Sheikhpura and Gujranwala districts are to be made only in Patiala, Jind, Nabha and Faridkot States, and for Lahore district refugees in Ferozepur, Zira and Moga Tehsils.

Sd /—Tarlok Singh.

for Financial Commissioner, Rehabilitation.
No. 1159/R.

Copy forwarded to :—

1. The Secretary to H.E. the Governor, East Punjab.
2. All Hon'ble Ministers, East Punjab.
3. Financial Commissioner, Revenue, East Punjab.
4. All Heads of Departments.
5. The Additional Secretary to Government of India, Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation, New Delhi.
6. The Deputy Secretary to Government of India, Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation, New Delhi.
7. The Secretary to Government of India, Ministry of States, New Delhi.
8. The Regional Commissioner (Additional) East Punjab States, Jullundur.
9. The Commissioners, Jullundur and Ambala Divisions.
10. All Deputy Commissioners in East Punjab.
11. Finance Secretary to Government East Punjab, Simla.
12. Assistant Secretary Finance Department, Jullundur.
13. Liaison Officer, U.P. Lucknow.
14. Director General Public Relations, East Punjab, Simla.
15. Director General, Rehabilitation (Urban), Jullundur.
16. Additional Custodian, East Evacuee property, East Punjab, Jullundur.

Sd./—Tarlok Singh

for Financial Commissioner, Rehabilitation.
No. 1160/R.

Copy also forwarded to :—

1. Revenue Minister, Patiala.
2. Rehabilitation Minister, Patiala.
3. Revenue Minister, Nabha.
4. Rehabilitation Minister, Jind.
5. Revenue Secretary, Kapurthala.
6. Chief Revenue Officer, Faridkot.

Sd./—Tarlok Singh

for Financial Commissioner, Rehabilitation.

سرکار، اعلان

پوربی پنجاب کی سرکار اراضی متروکہ کو (جو کہ مسلمان پوربی پنجاب میں چھوڑ گئے ہیں) خریف ۱۹۳۸ء میں زیر کاشت لانے کے لئے اپنی تجاویز کا پہلے اعلان کر چکی ہے -

اب پوربی پنجاب کی ریاستوں کے ساتھ مل کر اس بات پر بھی غور کیا گیا ہے کہ مختلف اضلاع سے آئے ہوئے شرنارتھیوں کو عارضی طور پر کن کن علاقوں میں بسایا جاوے - شرنارتھیوں کی سہولیت اور اطلاع کے لئے لوگوں کے بسانے کی علاقہ وار تقسیم جیسی کہ اب مقرر ہوئی ہے حسب ذیل درج کی گئی ہے - یہ تقسیم اس موقع پر صرف انہی کے لئے لاگو ہوگی جن کے پاس پہلے عارضی کاشت کی زمین نہیں ہے - اور جو کہ نئے طور پر عارضی کاشت کے لئے زمین لے رہے ہیں -

تفصیل علاقہ جہاں رقبہ عارضی طور پر دیا جاوے گا	ضلع جہاں سے شرنارتھی آئے ہیں - تفصیل تحصیل
پوربی پنجاب یا پوربی پنجاب کی ریاستوں میں ان کے پرانے اضلاع میں -	۱. آبادکار جن کے اصلی گھر پوربی پنجاب یا پوربی پنجاب کی ریاستوں میں ہے -
ضلع فیروزپور کی تحصیل فیروزپور - موگا ارد زیرہ میں -	۲. ضلع لاہور کی تمام تحصیلیں -
ریاست پٹیالہ - ریاست جیند - ریاست فرید کوت -	۳. ضلع گوجرانوالہ تحصیل گوجرانوالہ تحصیل وزیر آباد تحصیل حافظہ آباد
ریاست نابھہ - ریاست پٹیالہ - ریاست پٹیالہ	۴. ضلع شیخوپورہ تحصیل شیخوپورہ تحصیل نکانہ صاحب تحصیل شاہدرہ

[Minister for Finance]

تفصیل علاقہ جہاں رقبہ عارضی طور پر دیا جاوے گا -	تفصیل ضلع <u>تحصیل</u> جہاں سے شرنارتھی آئے ہیں -
<p>ضلع گرداسپور -</p> <p>ریاست کپورتھلہ -</p>	<p>۵. ضلع سیالکوٹ</p> <p>شکرگڑھ اور ناروال تحصیل . اور</p> <p>ٹوگرہ شرنارتھی -</p> <p>تحصیل ڈسکہ</p>
<p>ضلع ہوشیارپور</p> <p>ضلع جالندھر - (نوٹ) آباد کار جن کا اصلی وطن ضلع امرتسر تھا اور اس ضلع میں ان کو زمین نہیں مل سکی بھی ضلع جالندھر میں آباد کئے جاویں گے -</p>	<p>تحصیل پسرور اور ٹوگرہ شرنارتھی جو ضلع گرداسپور میں آباد نہ ہو سکیں اور کانگڑہ ضلع کے آباد کار شرنارتھی جو کہ اپنے ضلع میں آباد نہ ہو سکیں -</p> <p>تحصیل سیالکوٹ</p>
<p>ضلع حصار کی سروسہ تحصیل - اور ضلع فیروزپور کی فاضلکا اور مکتسر تحصیلیں -</p>	<p>۶. ضلع لائل پور کے اصلی باشندے اور پچھمی پنجاب کے آباد کار -</p>
<p>ضلع فیروزپور کی فاضلکا اور مکتسر تحصیلیں -</p>	<p>۷. ضلع منٹگمری کے اصلی باشندے اور پچھمی پنجاب کے آباد کار -</p>
<p><u>ضلع حصار</u></p> <p>تحصیل حصار -</p>	<p>۸. <u>ضلع ملتان</u></p> <p>تحصیل ملتان</p>
<p>تحصیل ہانسی - باقی ماندہ تحصیل حصار میں آباد ہو سکتے ہیں -</p>	<p>تحصیل خانیوال و کھیروالہ</p>
<p>تحصیل فتح آباد -</p> <p>تحصیل بہوانی و ریاست لوہارو -</p>	<p>تحصیل پلسی و وہاڑی</p> <p>تحصیل لودھراں</p>

تفصیل علاقہ جہاں رقبہ عارضی طور پر دیا جائے گا -	جہاں سے شرنارتھی ضلع تفصیل تحصیل آئے .
ضلع کرنال -	تحصیل شجاع آباد
ضلع روہتک کی تحصیل گوہانہ و تحصیل روہتک -	۹. ضلع جھنگ کی تمام تحصیلیں -
تحصیل گورگاؤں -	۱۰. ضلع مظفرگڑھ تحصیل مظفرگڑھ
ضلع روہتک کی تحصیل سونی پت -	تحصیل علی پور
ضلع روہتک کی تحصیل جھجر -	تحصیل لیہ اور کوت ادو
ضلع گورگاؤں کی پلول - بلب گڑھ اور فیروزپور جھرکہ کی تحصیلوں میں -	۱۱. ضلع تیرہ عازینخان
ضلع گورگاؤں کی دیواڑی اور نوح تحصیلوں میں - اور ریاست نابھہ کا ضلع بادل -	۱۲. ضلع میانوالی
ضلع انبالہ -	۱۳. راولپنڈی - جہلم - گجرات کے ضلعے -
ضلع لدھیانہ -	۱۴. اتک اور شاہ پور کے ضلعے -
پوربی پنجاب اور پوربی پنجاب کی ریاستوں کے آبادکار اپنے پرانے ضلعوں میں اور پچھمی پنجاب کے اضلاع کے آبادکار اپنے پرانے ضلع کے لوگوں کے ہمراہ -	۱۵. سندھ - ریاست بہالپور - صوبہ سرحد اور بلوچستان کے آبادکار -

جیسا کہ پہلے کہا گیا ہے - یہ واضح رہے - کہ علاقہ وار بسانے کی تقسیم جو کہ اس اعلان میں شائع کی گئی ہے موجودہ وقت پر صرف عارضی طور پر بسنے کے لئے ہے - جب یکے طور پر زمینیں ملیں گی تب تمام رقبہ اور قسم زمین کی کمی بیشی درست یا صحیح ہو جاوے گی - ہر ضلع کے شرنارتھیوں کو اس امر کی تسلی دلائی جا سکتی ہے - کہ زمین کی تقسیم میں انصاف ہوگا -

محکمہ ری ہیبیلی ٹیشن ایسٹ پنجاب

تاریخ ۲۷ مئی ۱۹۴۸ -

[Minister for Finance]

सरकारी एलान

पूर्वी पंजाब की सरकार अराज़ी मतरूका को (जो कि मुसलमान पूर्वी पंजाब में छोड़ गए हैं) खरीफ सन् १९४८ में जेरे काश्त लाने के लिए अपनी तजार्बीज़ का पहले एलान कर चुकी है।

अब पूर्वी पंजाब की रयास्तों के साथ मिल कर इस बात पर भी गौर किया गया है कि मुख्तलिफ़ इज़ला से आए हुए शरणार्थियों को अराज़ी तौर पर किन किन इलाकों में बसाया जाए। शरणार्थियों की सहूलियत और इत्तलाह के लिए लोगों के बसाने की इलाकावार तकसीम, जैसी कि अब मुकर्रर हुई है। हसब जैल दर्ज की गई है। यह तकसीम इस मौका पर सिर्फ़ इन्हीं के लिए ल गू होगी जिन के पास पहले अराज़ी काश्त की ज़मीन नहीं है और जो कि नए तौर पर अराज़ी काश्त के लिए ज़मीन ले रहे हैं।

तकसील ज़िला/तहसील जहाँ से शरणार्थी आए हैं।	तकसील इलाका जहाँ रकबा अराज़ी तौर पर दिया जाएगा।
१. आबादकार जिन के असली घर पूर्वी पंजाब या पूर्वी पंजाब की रयास्तों में हैं।	पूर्वी पंजाब या पूर्वी पंजाब की रयास्तों में इन के पुराने इज़ला में।
२. ज़िला लाहौर की तमाम तहसीलें	ज़िला फ़िरोज़पुर की तहसील फ़िरोज़पुर, मोगा, और जीरा में।
३. ज़िला गुजरांवाला	रयास्त पटियाला
तहसील गुजरांवाला	रयास्त जींद
तहसील वज़ीराबाद	रयास्त करीदकोट
तहसील हाफ़िज़ाबाद	
४. ज़िला शेखुपुरा	रयास्त नाभा।
तहसील शेखुपुरा	रयास्त पटियाला
तहसील ननकाना साहिब	रयास्त पटियाला
तहसील शाहदरा	

तहसील ज़िला/तहसील जहाँ से शरणार्थी आए हैं ।	तहसील इलाका जहाँ रकबा आर्जी तौर पर दिया जाएगा ।
<p>५. ज़िला सयालकोट शकरगढ़ और नारोवाल तहसील और डोगरा शरणार्थी तहसील डसका तहसील पसरूर और डोगरा शरणार्थी जो ज़िला गुरदासपुर में आबाद न हो सकें और काँगड़ा ज़िला के आबादकार शरणार्थी जो कि अपने ज़िला में आबाद न हो सकें । तहसील सयालकोट</p>	<p>ज़िला गुरदासपुर कपूरथला रयास्त ज़िला होशियारपुर ज़िला जालन्धर (नोट) आबादकार • जिनका असली वतन ज़िला अमृतसर था और इस ज़िला में उनको ज़मीन नहीं मिल सकी भी, ज़िला जालन्धर में आबाद किए जावेंगे ।</p>
<p>६. ज़िला लायलपुर के असली बाशिंदे और पश्चिमी पंजाब के आबादकार</p>	<p>ज़िला हिंसा की सिरसा तहसील और ज़िला फ़िरोज़पुर की फ़ाज़िलका और मुक्तसर तहसीलें ।</p>
<p>७. ज़िला मिटगुमरी के असली बाशिंदे और पश्चिमी पंजाब के आबादकार</p>	<p>ज़िला फ़िरोज़पुर की फ़ाज़िलका और मुक्तसर तहसीलें ।</p>
<p>८. ज़िला मुलतान तहसील मुलतान तहसील खानेवाल व कबीरवाला तहसील भैलसी व विहाड़ी तहसील लोधरां तहसील शुजाहाबाद</p>	<p>ज़िला हिंसा तहसील हिंसा तहसील हांसी, बाकी मांदा तहसील हिंसा में आबाद हो सकते हैं । तहसील फ़तेहाबाद तहसील भिवानी व रयास्त लोहारू तहसील करनाल</p>

[Minister for Finance]

तकसील ज़िला/तहसील जहाँ से शरणार्थी आए हैं ।	तकसील इलाका जहाँ रकबा आर्जी तौर पर दिया जाएगा ।
<p>६. ज़िला भंग की तुमाम तहसीलें</p> <p>१०. ज़िला मुजफ्फरगढ़</p> <p>तहसील मुजफ्फरगढ़</p> <p>तहसील अलीपुर</p> <p>तहसील लैया और कोट अह</p> <p>११. ज़िला डेरा गाज़ी खां</p> <p>१२. ज़िला मियांवाली</p> <p>१३. रावलपिंडी, जेहलम गुजरात के ज़िले</p> <p>१४. अट्टक और शाहपुर के ज़िले</p> <p>१५. सिंध, रयास्त बहावलपुर, सूबा सरहद और बलोचिस्तान के आबादकार ।</p>	<p>ज़िला रोहतक की तहसील गोहाना व तहसील रोहतक ।</p> <p>तहसील गुड़गावां</p> <p>तहसील सोनीपत ज़िला रोहतक</p> <p>ज़िला रोहतक की तहसील भभर</p> <p>ज़िला गुड़गावां की पलवल, बल्लभगढ़ और फ़िरोज़पुर भिरका की तहसीलों में ।</p> <p>ज़िला गुड़गावां की रीवाड़ी और नूह तहसीलों में और रयास्त नाभा का ज़िला बादल ।</p> <p>ज़िला अम्बाला</p> <p>ज़िला लुधियाना</p> <p>पूर्वी पंजाब और पूर्वी पंजाब की रयास्तों के आबादकार अपने पुराने ज़िलों में और पश्चिमी पंजाब के इज़ला के आबादकार अपने पुराने ज़िलों के लोगों के हमराह ।</p>

जैसा कि पहले कहा गया है यह वाज़ेह रहे कि इलाकावार बसाने की तकसीम जो कि इस इलान में शाण्या की गई है मौजूदा वक़्त पर ख़िरक आर्जी तौर पर बसाने के लिए है । जब पक्के तौर पर ज़मीनें मिलेंगी तब तमाम रकबा और किसम ज़मीन की कमी बेशी दुरुस्त या सही हो जावेगी । हर ज़िला के शरणार्थियों को इस अमर की तसल्ली दिलाई जा सकती है कि ज़मीन की तकसीम में इनसाफ़ होगा ।

तारीख़

२७ मई १९४८

मैहक़मा रीट्टेबीलीटेशन, ईस्ट पंजाब ।

ਸਰਕਾਰੀ ਇਲਾਨ

ਪੂਰਬੀ ਪੰਜਾਬ ਕੀ ਸਰਕਾਰ ਆਰਜ਼ੀ ਮਤਰੂਕਾ ਕੋ (ਜੋ ਕਿ ਮੁਸਲਮਾਨ ਪੂਰਬੀ ਪੰਜਾਬ ਮੇਂ ਛੋੜ ਗਏ ਹੈਂ) ਖਰੀਫ ੧੯੪੮ ਮੇਂ ਜ਼ੋਰੇ ਕਾਸਤ ਲਾਨੇ ਕੇ ਲੀਏ ਅਪਨੀ ਤਜਾਵੀਜ਼ ਕਾ ਪਹਿਲੇ ਇਲਾਨ ਕਰ ਚੁਕੀ ਹੈ।

ਅਬ ਪੂਰਬੀ ਪੰਜਾਬ ਕੀ ਰਿਆਸਤੋਂ ਕੇ ਸਾਬ ਮਿਲ ਕਰ ਇਸ ਬਾਤ ਪਰ ਭੀ ਗੌਰ ਕੀਆ ਗਿਆ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਮੁਖਤਲਿਫ ਇਜ਼ਲਾ ਸੇ ਆਏ ਹੂਏ ਸ਼ਰਨਾਰਥੀਓਂ ਕੇ ਆਰਜ਼ੀ ਤੌਰ ਪਰ ਕਿਨ ਕਿਨ ਅਲਾਕੋਂ ਮੇਂ ਬਸਾਇਆ ਜਾਵੇ। ਸ਼ਰਨਾਰਥੀਓਂ ਕੀ ਸਹੂਲੀਅਤ ਔਰ ਇਤਲਾ ਕੇ ਲੀਏ ਲੋਗੋਂ ਕੇ ਬਸਾਨੇ ਕੀ ਅਲਾਕਾਵਾਰ ਤਕਸੀਮ ਜੈਸੀ ਕਿ ਅਬ ਮੁਕਰਰ ਹੂਈ ਹੈ, ਹਸਬ ਜੈਲ ਦਰਜ ਕੀ ਗਈ ਹੈ। ਜਿਹ ਤਕਸੀਮ ਇਸ ਮੌਕਾ ਪਰ ਸਿਰਫ ਇਨ੍ਹੀ ਕੇ ਲੀਏ ਲਾਗੂ ਹੋਗੀ ਜਿਨ ਕੇ ਪਾਸ ਪਹਿਲੇ ਆਰਜ਼ੀ ਕਾਸਤ ਕੀ ਜ਼ਮੀਨ ਨਹੀਂ ਹੈ ਔਰ ਜੋ ਕਿ ਨਏ ਤੌਰ ਪਰ ਆਰਜ਼ੀ ਕਾਸਤ ਕੇ ਲੀਏ ਜ਼ਮੀਨ ਲੇ ਰਹੇ ਹੈਂ।

ਤਫਸੀਲ ਜ਼ਿਲਾ/ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਜਹਾਂ ਸੇ ਸ਼ਰਨਾਰਥੀ ਆਏ ਹੈਂ।	ਤਫਸੀਲ ਅਲਾਕਾ ਜਹਾਂ ਰਕਬਾ ਆਰਜ਼ੀ ਤੌਰ ਪਰ ਦੀਆ ਜਾਵੇਗਾ।
੧. ਆਬਾਦਕਾਰ ਜਿਨ ਕੇ ਅਸਲੀ ਘਰ ਪੂਰਬੀ ਪੰਜਾਬ ਯਾ ਪੂਰਬੀ ਪੰਜਾਬ ਕੀ ਰਿਆਸਤੋਂ ਮੇਂ ਹੈ।	ਪੂਰਬੀ ਪੰਜਾਬ ਯਾ ਪੂਰਬੀ ਪੰਜਾਬ ਕੀ ਰਿਆਸਤੋਂ ਮੇਂ ਇਨ ਕੇ ਪੁਰਾਨੇ ਇਜ਼ਲਾ ਮੇਂ।
੨. ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਲਾਹੌਰ ਕੀ ਤਮਾਮ ਤਹਿਸੀਲੋਂ	ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਫਿਰੋਜ਼ਪੁਰ ਕੀ ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਫਿਰੋਜ਼ਪੁਰ, ਮੋਗਾ ਔਰ ਜ਼ੀਰਾ ਮੇਂ।
੩. ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਗੁਜਰਾਂਵਾਲਾ ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਗੁਜਰਾਂਵਾਲਾ ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਵਜ਼ੀਰਾਬਾਦ ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਹਾਫਿਜ਼ਾਬਾਦ	ਰਿਆਸਤ ਪਟਿਆਲਾ ਰਿਆਸਤ ਜੀਂਦ ਰਿਆਸਤ ਫਰੀਦਕੋਟ
੪. ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਸ਼ੇਖੂਪੁਰਾ ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਸ਼ੇਖੂਪੁਰਾ	ਰਿਆਸਤ ਨਾਭਾ

ਤਫਸੀਲ ਜ਼ਿਲਾ/ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਜਹਾਂ ਸੇ ਸ਼ਰਨਾਰਥੀ ਆਏ ਹੈਂ।	ਤਫਸੀਲ ਅਲਾਕਾ ਜਹਾਂ ਰਕਬਾ ਆਰਜ਼ੀ ਤੌਰ ਪਰ ਦੀਆ ਜਾਵੇਗਾ।
<p>ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਨਣਕਾਣਾ ਸਾਹਿਬ ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਸ਼ਾਹਦਰਾ</p> <p>੫. ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਸਿਆਲਕੋਟ ਸ਼ਕਰਗੜ੍ਹ ਔਰ ਨਾਰੋਵਾਲ ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਔਰ ਡੋਗਰਾ ਸ਼ਰਨਾਰਥੀ। ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਡਸਕਾ ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਪਸਰੂਰ ਔਰ ਡੋਗਰਾ ਸ਼ਰਨਾਰਥੀ ਜੋ ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਗੁਰਦਾਸਪੁਰ ਮੇਂ ਆਬਾਦ ਨਾ ਹੋ ਸਕੇਂ ਔਰ ਕਾਂਗੜਾ ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਕੇ ਆਬਾਦਕਾਰ ਸ਼ਰਨਾਰਥੀ ਜੋ ਕਿ ਅਪਨੇ ਜ਼ਿਲੇ ਮੇਂ ਆਬਾਦ ਨਾ ਹੋ ਸਕੇਂ। ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਸਿਆਲਕੋਟ</p>	<p>ਰਿਆਸਤ ਪਟਿਆਲਾ ਰਿਆਸਤ ਪਟਿਆਲਾ</p> <p>ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਗੁਰਦਾਸਪੁਰ</p> <p>ਕਪੂਰਥਲਾ ਰਿਆਸਤ ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਹੋਸ਼ਿਆਰਪੁਰ</p> <p>ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਜਾਲੰਧਰ (ਨੋਟ) ਆਬਾਦਕਾਰ ਜਿਨਕਾ ਅਮਲੀ ਵਤਨ ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ ਥਾ, ਔਰ ਇਸ ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਮੇਂ ਉਨ ਕੋ ਜ਼ਮੀਨ ਨਹੀਂ ਮਿਲ ਸਕੀ ਭੀ ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਜਾਲੰਧਰ ਮੇਂ ਆਬਾਦ ਕੀਏ ਜਾਵੇਂਗੇ। ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਹਿਸਾਰ ਕੀ ਸਿਰਸਾ ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਔਰ ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਫਿਰੋਜ਼ਪੁਰ ਕੀ ਫਾਜ਼ਿਲਕਾ ਔਰ ਮੁਕਤਸਰ ਤਹਿਸੀਲੇਂ।</p>
<p>੬. ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਲਾਇਲਪੁਰ ਕੇ ਅਸਲੀ ਬਾਸ਼ਿੰਦੇ ਔਰ ਪੱਛਮੀ ਪੰਜਾਬ ਕੇ ਆਬਾਦਕਾਰ।</p> <p>੭. ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਮਿੰਨਟਗੁਮਰੀ ਕੇ ਅਸਲੀ ਬਾਸ਼ਿੰਦੇ ਔਰ ਪੱਛਮੀ ਪੰਜਾਬ ਕੇ ਆਬਾਦਕਾਰ।</p>	<p>ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਫਿਰੋਜ਼ਪੁਰ ਕੀ ਫਾਜ਼ਿਲਕਾ ਔਰ ਮੁਕਤਸਰ ਤਹਿਸੀਲੇਂ।</p>
<p>੮. ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਮੁਲਤਾਨ ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਮੁਲਤਾਨ ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਖਾਨੇਵਾਲ ਵਾ ਕਬੀਰ ਵਾਲਾ। ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਮੈਲਸੀ ਵਾ ਵਿਹਾੜੀ ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਲੋਧਰਾਂ ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਸੁਜਾਆਬਾਦ</p>	<p>ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਹਿਸਾਰ ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਹਿਸਾਰ ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਹਾਂਸੀ-ਬਾਕੀਮਾਂਦਾ ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਹਿਸਾਰ ਸੇ ਆਬਾਦ ਹੋ ਸਕਤੇ ਹੈਂ। ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਫਤਹਿਆਬਾਦ ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਭਿਵਾਨੀ ਵਾ ਰਿਆਸਤ ਲੁਹਾਰੂ ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਕਰਨਾਲ</p>

<p>ਤਫਸੀਲ ਜ਼ਿਲਾ/ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਜਹਾਂ ਸੇ ਸ਼ਰਨਾਰਥੀ ਆਏ ਹੈਂ ।</p>	<p>ਤਫਸੀਲ ਅਲਾਕਾ ਜਹਾਂ ਰਕਬਾ ਆਰਜ਼ੀ ਤੌਰ ਪਰ ਦੀਆ ਜਾਵੇਗਾ ।</p>
<p>੯. ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਝੰਗ ਕੀ ਤਮਾਮ ਤਹਿਸੀਲੋਂ</p>	<p>ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਰੋਹਤਕ ਕੀ ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਰੋਹਾਨਾ ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਰੋਹਤਕ ।</p>
<p>੧੦. ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਮੁਜ਼ੱਫਰਗੜ੍ਹ ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਮੁਜ਼ੱਫਰਗੜ੍ਹ ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਅਲੀਪੁਰ ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਲੈੱਯਾ ਔਰ ਕੋਟ ਉਦੂ</p>	<p>ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਗੁੜਗਾਂਵਾਂ ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਰੋਹਤਕ ਕੀ ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਸੋਨੀਪਤ ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਰੋਹਤਕ ਕੀ ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਝੱਜਰ</p>
<p>੧੧. ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਡੇਰਾ ਗਾਜ਼ੀਖਾਨ</p>	<p>ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਗੁੜਗਾਂਵਾਂ ਕੀ ਪਲਵਲ, ਬਲੂਬਗੜ੍ਹ ਔਰ ਫਿਰੋਜ਼ਪੁਰ ਝਿਰਕਾ ਕੀ ਤਹਿਸੀਲੋਂ ਮੇਂ ।</p>
<p>੧੨. ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਮੀਆਂਵਾਲੀ</p>	<p>ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਗੁੜਗਾਂਵਾਂ ਕੀ ਰਿਵਾੜੀ ਔਰ ਨੂਹ ਤਹਿਸੀਲੋਂ ਮੇਂ ਔਰ ਰਿਆਸਤ ਨਾਭਾ ਕਾ ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਬਾਦਲ ।</p>
<p>੧੩. ਰਾਵਲਪਿੰਡੀ, ਜੇਹਲਮ, ਗੁਜਰਾਤ ਕੇ ਜ਼ਿਲੇ</p>	<p>ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਅੰਬਾਲਾ</p>
<p>੧੪. ਅਟਕ ਔਰ ਸ਼ਾਹਪੁਰ ਕੇ ਜ਼ਿਲੇ</p>	<p>ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਲੁਧਿਆਣਾ</p>
<p>੧੫. ਸਿੰਧ, ਰਿਆਸਤ ਬਹਾਵਲਪੁਰ ਸੂਬਾ ਸਰਹਦ ਔਰ ਬਲੋਚਿਸਤਾਨ ਕੇ ਆਬਾਦਕਾਰ</p>	<p>ਪੂਰਬੀ ਪੰਜਾਬ ਔਰ ਪੂਰਬੀ ਪੰਜਾਬ ਕੀ ਰਿਆਸਤੋਂ ਕੇ ਆਬਾਦਕਾਰ ਅਪਨੇ ਪੁਰਾਨੇ ਜ਼ਿਲੋਂ ਮੇਂ । ਔਰ ਪੱਛਮੀ ਪੰਜਾਬ ਕੇ ਇਜ਼ਲਾ ਕੇ ਆਬਾਦਕਾਰ ਅਪਨੇ ਪੁਰਾਨੇ ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਕੇ ਲੋਗੋਂ ਕੇ ਹਮਰਾਹ ।</p>

ਜੈਸਾ ਕਿ ਪਹਿਲੇ ਕਹਾ ਗਿਆ ਹੈ ਯੇਹ ਵਾਜ਼ੇਹ ਰਹੇ ਕਿ ਅਲਾਕਾਵਾਰ ਬਸਾਨੇ ਕੀ ਤਕਸੀਮ ਜੋ ਕਿ ਇਸ ਇਲਾਨ ਮੇਂ ਸ਼ਾਏ ਕੀ ਗਈ ਹੈ ਮੌਜੂਦਾ ਵਕਤ ਪਰ ਸਿਰਫ ਆਰਜ਼ੀ ਤੌਰ ਪਰ ਬਸਨੇ ਕੇ ਲੀਯੇ ਹੈ। ਜਬ ਪੱਕੇ ਤੌਰ ਪਰ ਜ਼ਮੀਨੋਂ ਮਿਲਿੰਗੀ ਤਬ ਤਮਾਮ ਰਕਬਾ ਔਰ ਕਿਸਮ ਜ਼ਮੀਨ ਕੀ ਕਮੀ ਬੇਸ਼ੀ ਵਰੁਸਤ ਯਾ ਸਹੀ ਹੋ ਜਾਵੇਗੀ। ਹਰ ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਕੇ ਸ਼ਰਨਾਰਥੀਓਂ ਕੋ ਇਸ ਅਮਰ ਕੀ ਤਸੱਲੀ ਦਿਲਾਈ ਜਾ ਸਕਤੀ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਜ਼ਮੀਨ ਕੀ ਤਕਸੀਮ ਮੇਂ ਇਨਸਾਫ ਹੋਗਾ ।

ਤਾਰੀਖ
੨੭ ਮਈ ੧੯੪੮

ਮਹਿਕਮਾ ਰੀਹੈਬੀਲੀਟੇਸ਼ਨ
ਈਸਟ ਪੰਜਾਬ ।

[Minister for Finance]

List of persons from Lahore tehsil who were allowed temporary allotment in village Daudpura, Tehsil Patti.

S. No.	Name of allottee.	V. & Tehsil of Pakistan.
1.	Harnam Singh s/o Dula Singh.	Kanah, Teh. Lahore.
2.	Ram Singh s/o Nanda Mal.	Kanah, Teh. Lahore.
3.	Sadah Singh s/o Tara Singh.	Jahman, Teh. Lahore.
4.	Lal Singh s/o Sher Singh.	Keerka, Teh. Lahore.
5.	Thakar Singh s/o Kehar Singh.	Kanah, Teh. Lahore.
6.	Thakar Singh s/o Partap Singh.	Keerka, Teh. Lahore.

List of temporary allottees of Village Daudpura Tehsil Patti,
District Amritsar.

S. No.	Name of allottee.	V. & Tehsil of Pakistan.
1.	Chanan Singh s/o Hal Singh.	Urar, Teh. Kasur, Distt. Lahore.
2.	Bahal Singh s/o Lal Singh.	"
3.	Ram Singh s/o Dula Singh.	"
4.	Ram Singh s/o Hazara Singh.	"
5.	Sunder Singh s/o Tehl Singh.	"
6.	Natha Singh s/o Khushal Singh.	"
7.	Gurmukh Singh s/o Khushal Singh.	"
8.	Gurmukh Singh s/o Jhanda Singh.	"
9.	Gurdeep Singh s/o Jhanda Singh.	"
10.	Baga Singh s/o Jhanda Singh.	"
11.	Kartar Singh s/o Daya Singh.	"
12.	Tara Singh s/o Daya Singh.	"
13.	Labh Singh s/o Kala Singh.	"
14.	Jagat Singh s/o Kala Singh.	"
15.	Khyal Singh s/o Surjan Singh.	"
16.	Budha Singh s/o Suman Singh.	"
17.	Sadha Singh s/o Tara Singh.	"
18.	Lal Singh s/o Sher Singh.	"
19.	Thakar Singh s/o Kehar Singh.	"
20.	Shangara Singh s/o Baga Singh.	"
21.	Bahal Singh s/o Mangal Singh.	"
22.	Gopal Singh s/o Mangal Singh.	"
23.	Kapur Singh s/o Saudagar Singh.	"
24.	Atma Singh s/o Saudagar Singh.	"
25.	Gurdeep Singh s/o Saudagar Singh.	"
26.	Hazara Singh s/o Mangal Singh.	"
27.	Sohan Singh s/o Mangal Singh.	"
28.	Tara Singh s/o Mangal Singh.	"
29.	Ujagar Singh s/o Jaimal Singh.	"
30.	Dula Singh s/o Jaimal Singh.	"

S. No.	Name of allottee.	V. & Teh. of Pakistan.	
31.	Amir Singh s/o Behal Singh.	Raja Gango, Teh. Kasur, Distt. Lahor	
32.	Alian Singh s/o Pardeep Singh.	Teh. Kasur, Distt. Lahore.	
33.	Jaimal Singh s/o Inder Singh.	Matta.	
34.	Hari Singh s/o Chanan Singh.	Rai	Kasur.
35.	Mohan Singh s/o Chanan Singh.	"	"
36.	Dalip Singh s/o Hira Singh.	Lalyani	"
37.	Gurdeep Singh s/o Mangal Singh.	"	"
38.	Kartar Singh s/o Sher Singh.	Lakhu	"
39.	Bhajan Singh s/o Sher Singh.	"	"
40.	Kala Singh s/o Jhanda Singh.	"	"
41.	Ujjagar Singh s/o Jhanda Singh.	Kadiwind	"
42.	Dalip Singh s/o Ujagar Singh.	"	"
43.	Surain Singh s/o Kala Singh.	"	"
44.	Inder Singh s/o Surain Singh.	"	"
45.	Jhanda Singh s/o Surain Singh.	"	"
46.	Megh Singh s/o Kala Singh.	"	"
47.	Mangal Singh s/o Kala Singh.	"	"
48.	Udham Singh s/o Tej Singh.	"	"
49.	Samunder Singh s/o Tej Singh.	"	"
50.	Joginder Singh s/o Tej Singh	"	"
51.	Narain Singh s/o Anand Singh.	"	"
52.	Jawala Singh s/o Isher Singh.	"	"
53.	Thakar Singh s/o Jawala Singh.	"	"
54.	Chanan Singh s/o Kulfa Singh.	Raj Jang. Teh. Kasur, Lahore.	
55.	Mohinder Singh s/o Faga Singh,	"	"
56.	Sadhu Singh s/o Tara Singh.	Jaman Teh. Lahore.	
57.	Lal Singh s/o Sber Singh.	Kerka Teh. Lahore.	
58.	Thakar Singh s/o Partap Singh.	"	"

**REVIEW APPLICATIONS FILED BY THE DISPLACED PERSONS
IN THE STATE.**

***612. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur:** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state:—

- (a) the number of the total review applications filed by the displaced persons in each district in the State about the allotment of lands;
- (b) whether any instructions were issued by the Government to the district authorities that legal practitioners should not be allowed to appear in the review cases; if so, the date when these orders were issued and the reasons therefor; if not, the number of such cases in each district in which lawyers were allowed to appear;
- (c) whether any instructions were issued by the Government to the district authorities that before taking up the review cases

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the applicants may be informed personally about the date of the hearing of their cases; if not, the reasons therefor;

- (d) whether it was necessary for the Resettlement Officers (Revenue Asstts to the D.C's) to satisfy themselves about the personal service of notices on each applicant before deciding the cases ; if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether any information was sent to the applicant by each D.C. about the decision arrived at in each case; if not, the reason therefor;
- (f) the process adopted in each district for communication of the required information to the applicant ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh :

- (a) A statement is given below.
- (b) Yes. On 22-8-1950. It was done with a view to saving the displaced land owners from un-necessary expenditure. However, in land right cases where documents were to be produced and the cases were of a complicated nature pleaders were allowed to appear. A statement of such cases is given below.
- (c) Yes. R.A. Rs were directed to draw up village-wise programme and to give sufficient publicity and to hear applicants at the Tahsil Headquarters or at convenient places nearest to the village concerned.
- (d) Yes.
- (e) & [f] Yes. By service post-cards.

Statement showing the total number of review applications filed by displaced persons in each district and the number of cases in which lawyers were allowed to appear.

Serial No. & district.	Total number of review applications filed by D. Ps.	Total number of cases in which lawyers were allowed to appear.
1. Jullundur.	6565	213
2. Ludhiana.	4039	—
3. Hoshiarpur.	7977	16
4. Ferozepore.	10958	50
5. Kangra.	70	—
6. Amritsar.	9438	50
7. Gurdaspur.	9740	2372
8. Ambala.	6824	180
9. Karnal.	8903	400
10. Hissar.	6591	1640
11. Rohtak.	6663	375
12. Gurgaon.	4189	6
13. Simla.	—	—
Total	81957	5302

DEPUTATION OF JULLUNDUR INDUSTRIALISTS.

***1196. Shri Ram Kishan :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a deputation of Iron and Steel industrialists of Jullundur met him at the Secretariat on the 6th September, 1952 and submitted a memorandum about the Iron and Steel Industry ; if so, the steps Government has taken to redress the grievances of these traders; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : As far as I recollect, no deputation of Iron and Steel industrialists of Jullundur met me on the 6th September, 1952. A representation dated the 13th September, 1952 was, however, submitted to me by the East Punjab (I & S) Stock Holders' Association, Jullundur City, regarding the price of steel charged from Punjab consumers. I have taken up this case with the Minister of Industry and Commerce, Government of India and the matter regarding the fixing of uniform selling price for steel all over India is receiving the consideration of the Central Government.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE STATE.

***1202. Shri Ram Kishan :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether the Government has prepared any plan for the industrial development of the State ; if so, the details of such plan and the machinery devised for its implementation ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : Attention of the hon member is drawn to the reply, to starred Assembly Question No. 419, given to him during the last session of the Assembly. The number of Industrial Schools for Boys and Girls should, however, now be taken as 27 instead of 24 and that of Demonstration Parties as 12, instead of 13, under the head (a) **Industrial Education.**

REFUGEE LAND-OWNERS IN THE STATE

***1388. Shri Wadhawa Ram :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the total number of those Refugee Land-owners who have not been allotted any land so far in the State together with the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : 1,03,606. Most of these claims relate to persons who did not take possession of their allotments. The rest of the claims were prepared from the *jamabandis* but the persons concerned or their heirs have not applied for allotment. Government consider that it is no use giving allotments to persons who are not traceable. Only such of the claims are being allocated against which applications are received.

Shri Wadhawa Ram : Is it a fact that some refugees were allotted land, in the first instance, in some village but later on the allotment made in their favour was cancelled on the ground that their claims were not traceable? I am prepared to cite the names of some such persons.

Minister : If my hon. Friend brings any such complaint to my notice, the matter will be enquired into.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Is the hon. Minister aware of the fact that there are many cases in which allotment was made at the time of temporary allotment but the allottees were ignored while making the quasi-permanent allotment?

Minister : The reason was that while making temporary allotment, the claims of the allottees were not tallied with the entries made in the *jamabandis* relating to their lands. But the quasi-permanent allotment was made on the basis of verified claims.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Is it a fact that there are many such cases in which the allotment has not been made even after the verification of the claims?

Minister : Yes, there are some cases in which due to paucity of land it has not been possible to make any allotment. However, allotment is now being made to such claimants.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Has the hon. Minister issued instructions to the Department to complete such cases within six months or at the most a year?

Minister : Such instructions have been issued not once but several times. Allotment in cases in which the land has not yet been allotted will be made very soon.

NON-PAYMENT OF SALARIES OF EMPLOYEES OF MUNICIPAL
COMMITTEE, SIMLA.

***1220. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut :** Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state whether he is aware of the fact that the

employees of Municipal Committee, Simla have not been paid their salaries for the last four months ; if so, the reasons therefor ? -

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma : It is not correct that all the employees of the Municipal Committee, Simla, have not been paid their salaries for the last four months. The facts are that at the time of scrutiny of the budget for the year 1952-53 the payment of salaries of new incumbents of the posts created by the Committee, which are hardly ten in number was stopped by the Commissioner till the report asked for by him was submitted. The Committee failed to supply this information in a satisfactory manner to the Administrator till October last. The salaries of the employees in question were paid in October, 1952 with Commissioner's sanction.

Sardar Chanan Singh : The hon. Minister has stated that the pay of these employees was withheld owing to the orders of the Commissioner. Will he kindly tell us how these employees managed to pull on without being paid anything ?

Minister : As I have just stated, about ten new posts had been created and the Commissioner wanted to know whether these were in order, So he sent for some information from the Committee with regard to the budget. But the Committee delayed the sending of this information and hence the delay in the payment of the salaries. The arrears in respect of the pay of these employees have since been cleared.

GOVERNMENT GRANTS GIVEN TO DISTRICT BOARD
SCHOOLS IN THE STATE.

***1161. Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state the measures Government takes to verify and check that the educational grants given to District Boards in the State are actually utilized by them for education and for no other purpose ?

Shri Jagat Narain : The Inspecting Officers are required to furnish certificates every year to the effect that the grants-in-aid sanctioned to local bodies in the preceding year were utilized on the specific objects and in accordance with the prescribed conditions. A consolidated certificate is thereafter furnished by the Director of Public Instruction to this effect to the Accountant General, Punjab.

Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht : May I know whether after adopting measures for checking and verification of educational grants to the District

[Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht]

Boards, any instances have come to the notice of the Government that certain District Boards failed to make a proper use of these grants ?

Mr. Speaker : This supplementary does not arise. The hon. Member wanted to know about the measures to verify the grants and the hon. Minister stated them. If the hon. Member is keen to pursue this matter he can do so by giving a fresh notice of this question.

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma : May I know whether it is the policy of the Government to shift dispensaries from rural areas to suburban areas ?

Mr. Speaker : This does not arise. Next question, please.

DAILY TRIPS BY GOVERNMENT OWNED BUSES FROM
JULLUNDUR TO AMRITSAR.

*1236. **Shrimati Sita Devi :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state :—

- (a) the number of daily trips which the Government owned buses have made from Jullundur to Amritsar and *vice versa* from January, 1952 to September 30, 1952 ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the number of trips has been decreased ; if so, the reasons thereof ;
- (c) the fare charged by Government owned buses from Jullundur to Amritsar ?

Shri Jagat Narain :

- (a) The number of average daily trips between Jullundur-Amritsar during January to September, 1952, was as under :—

January	58
February	64
March	68
April	66
May	65
June	63
July	65
August	60
September	56

- (b) Yes. The reasons are as follows :—

- (i) General trade slump.
- (ii) Imposition of Passenger Tax.

(iii) Opening up of direct rail link between Jullundur-Mukerian-Pathankot.

(iv) Running of a large number of additional rail services between Jullundur and Amritsar.

(v) The difference of fares in the two modes of transport ; the Railway III class fare being Rs. 1/5/- and the bus fare, inclusive of passenger tax, is Rs. 1/11/-.

(c) The fare charged is Rs. 1/9/- plus -/2/- passenger tax.

Shrimati Sita Devi : Is the hon. Minister aware of the fact that while the railway fare is Rs. 1-5-0, the bus fare (inclusive of tax) is Rs. 1-9-0 and this difference is one of the causes of the fall in the income ?

Minister for Development : I cannot say anything off hand. The hon Lady Member should give a fresh notice of this question.

SHRIMATI THAKAR DEVI TEACHERESS OF GOVERNMENT
GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL, JULLUNDUR.

***1237. Shrimati Sita Devi :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that Shrimati Thakar Devi, teacheress of Government Girls High School, Jullundur retired in July, 1947 ;

(b) whether it is fact that her Provident Fund has not been paid by the Government so for inspite of so many representations ; if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether he is aware of the fact that she died in May, 1952 ?

Shri Jagat Narain

(a) Yes.

(b) Yes. Shrimati Thakar Devi retired from Government service before partition and as such the liability for the final payment of the G. P. Fund at her credit devolves on the Punjab (Pakistan) Government (under para 8 of the Punjab Partition Apportionment of Assets and Liabilities Order, 1947). The

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Pakistan Government having failed to discharge their liability, the Punjab (I) Government with a view to providing relief to the Indian Nationals, have ordered provisional payment of 50% of the balance to such subscribers or their dependants on executing an Indemnity Bond and furnishing a surety provided the balance at their credit is confirmed by the Accountant General, Punjab (Pakistan), Lahore. This case was taken up by the Accountant General, Punjab, (I) with Accountant General, Punjab (P) as early as May, 1948, but the latter has not so far reported the balance at her credit, despite repeated reminders. In accordance with the decision arrived at in the Implementation Committee, the Accountant General, Punjab (Pakistan) Lahore has agreed to intimate balance standing to the credit of the subscribers on 14-8-47, in case an application is made to him. Accordingly the nominee of the deceased subscriber, Shri Manmohan sent an application to the Accountant General, Punjab (I) which was forwarded to the Accountant General, Punjab (Pakistan) Lahore on 20-9-52, with the request to intimate the balance at the credit of the subscriber. His reply is still awaited. Necessary action to pay 50% of the balance will be taken on receipt of a reply from the Accountant General, Punjab (Pakistan) Lahore.

(c) Yes.

MRS. L.M. DAVID, TEACHERESS OF GOVERNMENT GIRLS
HIGH SCHOOL, JULLUNDUR.

*1238. **Shrimati Sita Devi** : Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Mrs. L. M. David, teachress of the Government Girls High School, Jullundur retired on November 8, 1951 after putting in 31 years service ;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that so far no pension has been sanctioned to her despite so many representations on her behalf ; if so, the reasons therefor ?

Shri Jagat Narain :

- (a) Yes. Mrs. L. M. David retired on the 9th November, 1951 (forenoon).
- (b) Yes. She has not been granted pension so far. This is due to the reason that certain information asked for by the Accountant General, Punjab regarding her officiating service, that she had before her confirmation in Government Service, is being collected to determine whether or not that service counts for pension under the relevant rules. She put in only two representations regarding her pension case—one on 2-6-52 and the other on 2-7-52. She could be granted pension on the basis of her service from the date of her confirmation, but in her second letter dated 2-7-52, she stated that she is willing to wait till her whole service is counted for pension. Information is being collected.

SUPPLY OF DRINKING WATER TO VILLAGES BHATOLI
PHAKORIAN AND BANGOLI DISTRICT KANGRA.

*1311. **Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether he is aware of the fact that villages Bhatoli Phakorian and Bangoli, Tehsil Dehra, District Kangra have no drinking water ; if so, the steps, if any, taken or intended to be taken by the Government to supply drinking water to the inhabitants of these villages?

Shri Jagat Narain : Government are aware that there are no satisfactory arrangements for drinking water supply in these villages. Repairs to a rain water tank in village Bhatoli Phakorian were carried out in 1944, but this has not served the purpose fully. No steps have so far been taken in respect of village Bangoli in connection with drinking water supply and the villagers too never applied for the same. However, an estimate for Rs. 6023/- only has been sanctioned by the Punjab Sanitary Board for the construction of 8 diameter well at Tika Mangoli Mauza Bhatoli Phakorian and the work is in progress.

2. As the problem of water supply in these villages needs investigation, Government propose to direct the District Board, Kangra, to have the necessary plans and estimate prepared and to apply subsequently for grant-in-aid, if necessary.

SHIFTING OF THE DISPENSARY FROM DAROKA TO CHARI IN
DISTRICT KANGRA.

***1312. Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state the reasons, if any, that necessitated the Government shifting the dispensary from Daroka to Chari in District Kangra ?

Shri Jagat Narain : The Rural Dispensary at Daroka had to be closed down and shifted to village Chari in the Kangra District on the recommendation of the Deputy Commissioner and the Civil Surgeon, Kangra, as the dispensary at Daroka was located in a *katcha* building, which could accommodate only the out-patients department and the local residents failed to provide suitable indoor accommodation, cook house and godown etc. while the residential accommodation for the staff was unsuitable.

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma : May I know whether the District Board called upon the local residents to provide suitable accommodation for housing the dispensary and the Doctor ?

Minister : Although this does not arise out of the question, yet I think the District Board ought to have done that.

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma : My question is whether any requisition by the District Board was made or not ?

Minister : I cannot say off hand.

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma : May I know whether the District Board was consulted by the District Authorities while deciding to shift the dispensary from Daroka to Chari ?

Minister : I think the Deputy Commissioner is also the Chairman of the District Board. If that is so, then he must have consulted the District Board. But if not, then the District Board should have put in a representation that it was not consulted in the matter. It is, however, taken for granted that the District Authorities did call upon the local residents to provide accommodation for housing the dispensary and facilities to the Doctor.

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma : May I know whether the Deputy Commissioner took the decision for shifting the dispensary in his capacity as Deputy Commissioner or Chairman of the District Board *i.e.* in his representative capacity ?

Mr. Speaker : This does not arise. Besides, the Minister is not in possession of the details.

Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma : Is the hon. Minister aware that village Chari is practically a suburb of Dharmsala and Daroka is in rural area and it has a population of about 30 thousand people ?

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Member is giving information instead of seeking it.

OPENING OF GIRLS SCHOOLS IN HOSHIARPUR DISTRICT.

*1325. **Shri Kala Ram :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state the number of Girls Schools that have been opened in the Hoshiarpur District during the period from April, 1951, to September, 1952 and the proportion they bear to schools opened in the said district for boys during the same period ?

Shri Jagat Narain : Five schools for girls and eighty nine schools for boys were opened in Hoshiarpur District from April, 1951, to September, 1952.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Will he kindly give separate figures of expenditure incurred on these schools ?

Minister : Separate figures are not available as the expenditure was incurred out of a lumpsum provision made for the purpose.

CASES OF ILLICIT DISTILLATION OF LIQUOR IN TEHSIL FAZILKA, DISTRICT FERROZEPURE.

*1285. **Shri Teg Ram :** Will the Minister for Labour be pleased to state:—

- (a) the number of cases of illicit distilling of liquor and its sale that were handled by the police during the years 1947-48, 1948-49, 1949-50, 1950-51 and 1951-52 respectively in Tehsil Fazilka, district Ferozepore.
- (b) the particulars of punishments that were awarded in each of the cases mentioned above ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the cases of illicit distillation of liquor have been on the increase during the last five years ; if so, the steps, if any, taken by the Government in the matter ?

Chaudhri Sundar Singh :

(a) Part I. The number of cases of illicit distillation of liquor in Tehsil Fazilka was as follows :—

3 in 1947
22 in 1948
20 in 1949
14 in 1950
10 in 1951
44 in 1952 upto 31-10-52

Part II. There was only 1 case of sale of illicit liquor in 1949.

(b) Part I. In these 83 cases ending in convictions, the punishments were as under :—

5 ended in fines.

In 2 cases 1 months' R.I. was awarded.

In 5 cases 3 months' R.I. was awarded.

In 9 cases 4 months' R.I. was awarded.

In 19 cases 6 months' R.I. was awarded.

In 21 cases 9 months' R.I. was awarded

In 18 cases 1 year's R.I. was awarded.

In 3 cases 1½ years' R.I. was awarded.

In 1 case 2 years' R.I. was awarded.

Part II. In the case of illicit sale, the accused got one month's R.I.

(c) There has been no progressive increase of cases of illicit distillation of liquor during the last five years.

In 1952, however, more cases have been detected.

Government have already asked all Deputy Commissioners to pay special attention to this form of crime in all districts and to award suitable punishments to the delinquents. A nucleus of Special Police Staff also exists in each district.

Mr. Speaker : Now we proceed with the next item on the agenda since all the questions included in the lists for to-day have been exhausted.

TRANSACTION OF GOVERNMENT BUSINESS ON THURSDAY.

Minister for Development (Sardar Partap Singh Kairon) : Sir, I beg to move—

That Rule 23 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Punjab Legislative Assembly be suspended and Govern-

ment business be transacted on Thursday, the 4th December, 1952.

Sir, this is a simple motion which speaks for itself. Briefly speaking it has been brought forward with a view to transacting Government business instead of private business tomorrow because we are keen to expedite the disposal of legislative measures that we intend to bring on the Statute Book.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That Rule 23 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Punjab Legislative Assembly be suspended and Government Business be transacted on Thursday, the 4th December, 1952.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Sir, it pains me to say that whenever the Government or for the matter of that the party in power likes to deprive the non-official Members of their non-official day, it invariably does so. Similarly, if the elections of delegates are to take place non-official day is taken in order to finish the Government business and adjourn the House earlier than scheduled. The Government should know that Thursdays are the only days on which the Opposition can move its motions and give expression to their views freely. It was on last Thursday that the unpalatable truth about the futility of maintaining the Upper House was put before the House by the Members of the Opposition during the debate on the resolution regarding abolition of the Upper House. I am sure that that resolution has scared the Government and that is why they have brought forward this motion for taking away the non-official day tomorrow for official work. I feel that it is a mistake to utilise the non-official day for transacting Government business. May I say that when so many days of the House have been wasted on account of the party elections, what difference would it make to allow Thursday to be used as a non-official day. With these remarks I oppose this motion.

Shri Wadhawa Ram (Fazilka) (Punjabi) : Sir, the hon. Minister has moved that tomorrow, the non-official day, should be utilised for the transaction of official business. He has moved his motion in a wonderful style when he stated that it is a minor and ordinary matter. My submission is that during this and the last session many days were wasted in party elections. In the first instance, the hon. Members are summoned to meet here and before any tangible work is accomplished the members of the party in power run down for their party elections. Why don't they take these things into consideration beforehand and hold their elections earlier or later? Whenever the members go down or come up

[Shri Wadhawa Ram]

the burden of expenditure incurred on their travelling allowance falls upon the poor people. Since the financial position of our State is not satisfactory, I request the Government not to make it still worse. In fact, the Members should be given the right of utilising this day for non-official business. If the Government does not accede to our request, we cannot compel it. But it would be a grave injustice to deprive the Opposition of its just rights.

Shri Prabodh Chandra (Gurdaspur) (*Hindi*): Mr. Speaker, objection has been raised by two hon. Members of the Opposition that if Rule 23 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business is suspended and in its place Government business is transacted tomorrow then no other non-official day would be available to the Opposition. They are perhaps under the impression that if this Thursday is taken away from them, they would be deprived of the opportunity of moving certain resolutions. I submit, Sir, that if they just have a look at the list of business to be transacted on Thursday they would find that the first three resolutions stand in the name of Members belonging to the Congress Party. It is very likely that the whole day may be spent in discussing these resolutions. So it was thought proper to transact Government business only on this day. I would, therefore, request them, Sir, to desist from making sentimental speeches. I may also state for their information that Government saved lakhs of rupees by adjourning the meetings of the Assembly on certain dates.

Minister for Development (Sardar Partap Singh Kairon) (*Punjabi*): Mr. Speaker, the hon. Members of the Opposition are labouring under a wrong impression that Thursday only is meant for the Members of the Opposition to make speeches. It is a non-official day and most of the members of the Ministerial Party are non-officials who have to take part in the discussion. Although we have full regard for their feelings, yet, considering the paucity of time at our disposal, I would request them to agree to the suspension of rule 23 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in this Assembly and transact official business tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That Rule 23 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Punjab Legislative Assembly be suspended and Government Business be transacted on Thursday the 4th December, 1952.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker. Now the Secretary will make an announcement.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SECRETARY.

Secretary. Under Rule 2 of the Punjab State Legislature Communication Rules of 1952, I have the honour to inform the House that the Punjab Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 1952 passed by the Punjab Legislative Assembly on the 28th of November, 1952 and transmitted to the Punjab Legislative Council has been agreed to by the said Council without any recommendations.

THE PUNJAB BETTERMENT CHARGES AND ACREAGE
RATES BILL.

Minister for Irrigation (Chaudhri Lahri Singh) (*Hindi*): Sir, I beg to present the Report of the Joint Select Committee on the Punjab Betterment Charges and Acreage Rates Bill.

Minister for Irrigation. Sir, I beg to move—

That the Punjab Betterment Charges and Acreage Rates Bill as reported on by the Joint Select Committee be taken into consideration.

Mr. Speaker, this Bill has not been introduced in the House all of a sudden. Nor is it a Bill about which hon. Members are not fully conversant. I, therefore, do not intend to dwell upon this subject at length but would like to make a few observations only.

The first point is that this Bill was introduced in this House during the last Session. It was considered proper that it should be referred to a Joint Select Committee so that it may be thoroughly examined by the representatives of the public. Accordingly, it was sent to a Joint Select Committee. But the Members of that Committee have made no radical change in it. However, they have added a clause to it and the rest of the Bill is the same. The Joint Select Committee in question consisted of the representatives of every party, and the subject was thoroughly discussed by them. As I wanted to place all facts and figures relating to the subject before the hon. Members of the House, I got them printed in the shape of a brochure and sent it to all the M.L.As. to enable them to understand the reasons for and procedure of levying the Betterment Charges. I am particularly grateful to the Members of the Joint Select Committee which consisted of both Congress and the Opposition Members for they have not made any substantial change in the Bill. They were fully explained the circumstances which compelled the Government to levy the Betterment Charges.

Mr. Speaker, you will agree with me that it is very easy to criticise,

but mere criticism leads nowhere. It does not improve the lot of the

[Minister for Irrigation]

poor *kisans* who do not get water for irrigation purposes. As a matter of fact the supply of water is one of the most important problems confronting the Government. You will remember, Sir, that the undivided Punjab was considered to be the granary of India. Its lands were very fertile. But alas, after the partition things have changed ! Out of the two crores of population one crore came to this side but out of 1,34 lakhs of acres of irrigated land only 32 lakh acres fell to our share. Jullundur and Ambala Divisions which now form our State were all the time ignored by the British Government and its whole attention was concentrated on the development of Western districts of the Province. How painful it is that the Head Works should be constructed at Madhopur by us but the water should be supplied to districts other than Gurdaspur. Similar was the case with Ferozepore Head Works, the whole water from which flows to Pakistan. Then most of the water of the Jamuna River is reserved for Uttar Pradesh. As a result of inadequate irrigation facilities the Ambala Division had to face the calamities of famine after every few years. I remember how a good many promises in this regard were held out by the British Government to the people of this area during the first World War in order to get recruits for the Army. The then Government promised that if the people co-operated with it in giving good recruits, it would see that proper arrangements were made to irrigate their lands. But nothing practical was done. Afterwards, when the Unionist Government came into power, the late Sir Chhotu Ram tried his level best to make arrangements for the supply of water to this *ilaqa*. But due to the opposition of the Mohammadan majority, interested in another *ilaqa*, he failed to achieve his object.

Then, Sir, our people generally live upon wheat and maize. Obviously, in place of wheat and maize, empty hopes cannot satisfy the hunger of the people. The empty stomachs can be satisfied only if the quality of land is improved and the yield is enhanced. But the quality of the land is increased only by an adequate supply of water and without water no substantial scheme can be implemented for the benefit of the *kisans*. If the supply of water is sufficient, every kind of crop can be grown and if the water supply is not sufficient the value of the land is just equal to nil. It is clear that the provision of irrigational facilities is bound to raise the value of land. So the Government wants that out of the immense benefit that the peasants would receive as a result of the water supply, they should pay something to it in the form of a levy known

as Betterment Charges. As I stated earlier, practically no canals were left on this side of the Punjab. The lands of Jullundur, Ludhiana and Bikaner were without any irrigation facilities. We had no other alternative to adopt except undertake the consideration of Bhakra Project and the installation of tube-wells in our State. We had to adopt these measures particularly when we found that the population had very much increased and also lakhs of people had migrated to this State after being uprooted from Pakistan. How to arrange funds, was a great problem for us at that time, as our State's Budget hardly amounted to Rupees seven crores whereas this project had to cost us Rupees 156 crores. How could we hope to arrange for such a colossal amount ?

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : On a point of order, Sir. The House cannot now discuss the report of the Joint Select Committee, since according to the rules it should have been sent to the Members earlier and this has not been done.

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Minister should continue his speech. I will give my ruling afterwards.

Minister for Irrigation : To complete the Bhakra Project was very essential, especially when the refugees were being re-settled and when the people stood in urgent need of canal water. But the question which baffled the Government was how to arrange funds for the purchase of machneiry and other building material when these were very costly. Our Government approached the Central Government for funds for this purpose. Some other State Governments like our Government had also approached the Central Government for funds for financing their huge projects like Hiraakud which are now under construction in different parts of the country. At this the Government of India had to decide on a policy. It laid down a condition that those State Governments which wanted to take loans from the Centre for completion of the Irrigation projects, must levy a betterment fee on land brought under irrigation in their States. The Punjab Government agreed to this principle. It is clearly given on the first page of 'A Note on the Punjab Betterment Charges and Acreage Rate Bill, 1952.' There it is given—

“The Government of India loaned money from 1947 to 1950 but communicated after protracted correspondence on October, 28, 1950 their decision to all States in India that before any further sums of money could be advanced as loans for River Valley Projects, the State Governments should arrange for :

- (1) the levy of a betterment fee on land brought under irrigation through such projects, the proceeds of such levy being specially earmarked for the repayment of Central loans;

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The Central Government had not so much money to spare to meet the demands of all the State Governments and therefore, it had imposed this condition. The measure, which is now before the House in the form of a Bill had been promulgated as an ordinance during the President's rule in our State when the Constitution here stood suspended. Now that ordinance is before this House for enactment because of the requirement of Article 357 (2) of the Constitution of India. It was considered proper by our Government to levy this betterment fee on the lands of the zamindars because the circumstances were such that it could not finance these projects. Well, Sir, I make it clear to the House that Rupees 156 crores are required for the Bhakhra Project. But it is not the Government of our State alone which has to meet the whole of this expenditure. Rajasthan and Pepsu Governments have also to share it. Our Government has to pay to the extent of Rupees sixty six crores. This amount is required only for irrigation purposes while Rupees 27.19 crores are needed for electricity i.e., in all Rupees 93.19 crores are required. This will be the principal and the interest on it will be Rs. 41 crores, an amount which will perhaps surprise all the hon. Members. This will be the compound interest. This amount represents the interest on the amount required for irrigation purposes while the interest on the amount required for electricity will be Rs. 9 crores. In other words, our State Government will have to pay in all Rs. 143 crores. How can our Government hope to arrange such a big sum especially when it is being run on the ideology of Mahatma Gandhi. (interruptions.)

We feel that it will be very difficult to recover this huge amount by small collections from the poor zamindars and for this reason we have decided to realize from them only Rs. 56 crores for irrigation and Rs. 10 crores for electricity out of the total sum of Rs. 93.47 of principal and Rs. 50 crores of interest. In other words, we want to recover in all Rs. 66 crores through this levy and, therefore, we are levying this betterment fee for this purpose. We will recover it in 30 instalments. My hon. Friends will certainly, ask wherefrom do we hope to arrange for the balance. I may tell them that we will meet the balance of this expenditure from income accruing from these canals and the electricity. We will make them productive. We have decided to recover only Rs. 66 crores from the zamindars and make up the balance from the income from these productive projects. The places where the instalments of betterment fee will be charged at the rates of Rs. 5/12/-, Rs. 4/8/-, Rs. 2/4/- or Rs. 2/8/- per annum have been mentioned in detail in the pamphlet. My

submission is that we want to recover Rs. 66 crores in this way and if we fail to repay this money according to the schedule, then we will have to pay more interest.

Mr. Speaker, now I want to apprise the House of the income which is expected to be derived from these projects. The hon. Members would be pleased to know that we expect a handsome income from this project and full details regarding this have been given at page 11 of this pamphlet. So we will have an additional annual income of Rs. 73 crores and increased production of foodgrains will result in 40 percent reduction in their imports into the country. Naturally this additional income to the tune of rupees seventy three crores will go into the pockets of the zamindars which will help them to increase production in the State. Then with the help of electricity, the economic position of our State will certainly improve to a considerable extent. The electric energy will be utilised for working the tubewells, running of factories and so on. I feel that we, in this State are fortunate in securing so much money and having engineers who are of a very high calibre. We will be successful in generating 4,00,000 K.Ws of electricity in the near future. We should feel delighted at the prospect that before long nobody would have any cause of complaint against non-availability of electricity. It affords me great pleasure to inform this House that we would be getting electricity from Nangal by the year 1954. We wish to supply this electric power even to Delhi and Uttar Pradesh. As I have already stated that various kinds of industries will run with the help of electricity in our State. In fact we plan to develop the State of Punjab on a large scale. We want the lands of Zamindars to become completely fertile so that they may live in peace and plenty. The whole of our programme aims at increasing the production of our State. Consequently an income of rupees seventy three crores will accrue to the people of this land. This will give incentive to them to establish industries.

Another thing which I wish to mention is that at those places which will not receive Bhakra waters, the Government have installed a large number of tube wells. So far 763 tube wells have been constructed and an area of $6\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs acres will be irrigated by them. Besides, an amount of about 135 lakhs of rupees will also be spent on other minor irrigation projects to cover such areas.

Then, an objection may be raised whether such a measure is to be enforced in the Punjab alone or whether such measures exist in other States also. In this connection it may be stated, Sir, that during the zamindara

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regime in the Joint Punjab a levy of this type was imposed by enacting a similar Act regarding the Thal Project. You will be surprised to know that at that time this fee was imposed at the rate of Rs. 30/- per acre even on the lands whose face value was only annas 4. A heated discussion took place in the Assembly on this point as to why a levy of Rs. 30/- per acre should be imposed on a piece of land whose intrinsic value in terms of production was only annas 4. The matter did not end here. The Unionist Government later on raised this fee to Rs. 60/- per acre. Similarly, the Government of Bombay passed a Bill on this subject in the year 1950, that of Hyderabad in 1952 and in Madras it is on the anvil. A Bill of this nature is going to be introduced in our neighbouring States of Pepsu and Rajasthan. Therefore, it is not true that other States are not going to enact similar measures. As I do not wish to take much time of the House, I would only request the hon. Members to abstain from creating obstacles in the the passage of this Bill. They should only make constructive criticism and discuss this Bill in a spirit of co-operation, harmony and goodwill and in the same manner in which the members of the opposition expressed themselves during the deliberations of the Joint Select Committee. In addition to the members of other leading parties, Sardar Jodh Singh was also a member of this Committee. The Joint Select Committee has agreed to a unanimous report which is before you. I, therefore, hope that not taking much time, all my hon. Friends will try to throw light only on the important points.

Mr. Speaker : Sardar Chanan Singh has raised a point of order to the effect that this motion is out of order because the Report of the Joint Select Committee, as provided in the Rules, ought to have reached the Members a week earlier. In this connection, the primary thing is that the objection now raised by him should, in fact, have been raised before the commencement of the speech of the Minister Incharge, Shri Lahri Singh and not after the motion had been moved. The provision made in the Rules no doubt emdodies the same procedure but he should have objected to the admissibility of this motion, the moment the Minister stood up.

Besides, there is another technical aspect. Enquiries made from my Secretariat reveal that Sardar Chanan Singh received a copy of this Report on the 29th November. In order to support this fact, his signatures indicating the receipt of the same can be produced. In other words, it means that he received this Report five days ago. I do not think if a delay of two days would cause any material difference.

Then, an important point about this matter is that the very first amendment, received on this Bill, stands in the name of Sardar Chanan Singh himself. It means that he was prepared for the discussion of this Bill. Besides, he gave notice of this amendment under his own signatures obviously after recognising the fact that it was immaterial whether the copy of the Report reached him 7 days or 5 days before its presentation in the House. Then, I also possess discretionary powers in this regard. I, therefore, over-rule this objection and allow the Bill to be taken into consideration by the House.

Mr. Speaker. Motion moved—

That the Punjab Betterment Charges and Acreage Rates Bill as reported on by the Joint Select Committee be taken into consideration.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi): Sir, I beg to move—

That the Punjab Betterment Charges and Acreage Rates Bill as reported on by the Joint Select Committee be circulated for eliciting public opinion thereon by the 31st March, 1953.

Sir, the Bill which is going to be discussed today is such as would cause a heavy burden on the peasants. This burden will fall on those who are already groaning under the heavy weight of so many other taxes. The enactment of this Bill will add yet another burden of tax amounting to the tune of Rs 5,50,00,000. Since the Congress Government assumed office, the revenues of the State derived from taxes have increased from Rs. 8,00,00,000 to Rs. 17,00,00,000. The matter does not end here. Still more taxes were levied even in the previous Budget Session when the budget was presented. That has also resulted in an additional burden of so many crores of rupees upon the poor masses. The result is that whereas in the Joint Punjab the Budget used to be of rupees twenty eight crores, now the Budget of this small truncated Punjab is fast nearing this limit. Well, Sir, when our Minister for Finance presented the last Budget he said certain things about which I would like to remind him now. If he abides by his words, then I think he should honour them. In case he does not wish to stick to them, the masses at large will feel that whatever the Ministers say cannot be relied upon because it would never materialise. At page 51 of his Budget speech, he said that :

“This State has come out of this test in some respects almost better than the most optimistic prophet could have foreseen. Our proportionate revenues from the joint Punjab for this part of it were in the neighbourhood of Rs. 8 crores as against which we are able this year to work on the basis of over Rs. 17 crores. This is an enormous achievement and financially is a conclusive tribute to the resilience and determination of our people. Nevertheless, this position has been achieved at the cost of taxation”

[Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut]

of considerable severity. I am convinced that we have now got to a position where both in urban and rural areas any substantial increase in taxation is just not practical".

These are the words of our Minister for Finance. He himself has admitted that they have already imposed so many taxes that there is hardly any scope left for further levy of taxation. Now he should recall to his memory the number of various kinds of taxes which had been levied after the above mentioned observations were made by him. God knows how many taxes are still up his sleeve but my feeling is that the tax contemplated in the Bill under discussion, is the most harsh. I cannot say whether the hon. Minister remembers his own words or not but I want to tell him frankly that the incidence of new taxes has broken the back of the people for whom he claims to have got a soft corner. The Ministers should remember that the masses have lost all their patience. They are not going to tolerate the existence of this Government. In the circumstances I would counsel them not to make indecent haste to pass this measure. Let them, in the first instance, obtain the opinion of the people whether they are prepared to bear the burden of this tax? If they are unwilling, then the Bill should be dropped. In this connection I may point out that it is the talk of the day that instead of honouring its words of bringing about a decrease in the rate of *abiana* this Government is going to increase it by levying the Betterment Fee. It is, therefore, in the interest of the Government itself to elicit public opinion on it. I would like to remark that this Bill can, in no way, benefit the people. The Bill clearly reveals that the hon. Minister Incharge is entirely devoid of any humanitarian feelings.

Mr. Speaker. The hon. Member should withdraw these words.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Alright Sir, I withdraw these words. Generally speaking whenever any Bill seeking to impose certain taxes, is brought before the House, it is invariably argued by the Government that money is required for purposes of financing various beneficent projects. Some gentlemen have also spoken of the ways and means which can be explored to raise more funds. My submission is that there is enough money provided the Government has the will to get it. For instance, enormous sums of money are being paid to the *Rajas* in the form of privy purses. These may be stopped and the money utilised for public benefit. Besides, there is another source of revenue. The Jagirs may be extinguished and the saving thus effected, made use of in meeting our pressing needs. The Jagirdars had all along been acting treacherously with the Country. These people in Faridkot and Kapurthala are selling their properties out of arfe lest the same be confiscated

under the pressure of public opinion. This money should be taken over by the State. Besides there are two factories, namely, the Dhariwal Woollen Mills and the Amritsar Carpet Factory. These industries belong to Englishmen who committed so many atrocities on us and brought about our ruination. These industries should be taken over. Similarly, there are Tea Estates. Although, Indians have also a share in them yet the lion's share of the proceeds of these concerns goes to the Britishers. I think that heavy taxes should be imposed on them. Besides, there are Apple gardens at Kulu.....

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Member is going wide of the mark. He should please speak to the motion.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Very well, Sir, I would not make a mention of these things. But the Government can take into account the income derived by the people through black-market. After exercising a check on the accounts of the capitalists who indulge in black marketing it can seize this money from them. Then, Sir, the Central Government has ordered scrutiny of the personal accounts of the Government Officials. The Government should also adopt this method and confiscate the money from its employees secured by them through corrupt practices.

Mr. Speaker : Is the hon. Member determined to be irrelevant ?

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : No, Sir. You will kindly excuse my irrelevancy. My submission is that Government should examine the expenditure that is being incurred on the schemes about which the Ministers indulge in tall talk so often. Then comes before us the question of interest on loans that are being obtained from the Centre. It is a pity that the rate of interest charged is even higher than that prescribed by the Reserve Bank of India. In this way the interest alone amounts to Rs. 87,000. Besides, a good deal of wastage is taking place in the execution of these projects. If a check is put to that wastage, I am confident, that the saving thus effected would go a long way in helping the successful execution of these projects. Then, Sir, every day we come across published accounts of various scandals in the administration of the Bhakra Dam. Sometimes there are cases of mis-appropriation of funds and at others there are reports of Indian and American Engineers being at logger heads.

Mr. Speaker : I have to remind the hon. Member again to be relevant.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Very well, Sir. At present the position is that the Government again and again puts forward the plea of

[Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut]

want of funds. I want to point out that our Budget is so framed and so many unnecessary expenses are incurred that there is a great scope for economy. As the hon. Minister was pleased to state a sum of eighty lakhs of rupees is spent on the border police and as remarked by him this should be paid by the Central Government. In addition to that, eight Ministers have been appointed in this small State. In my opinion the work can be efficiently carried on with three Ministers. There are many other items of expenditure in the Budget which can be reduced. The money thus saved can be utilised for the execution of projects. All the money required for these projects is available with the Government and the amount saved by avoiding wastage can be used for that work. Besides, whereas formerly machinery and engineers required for Bhakra Project were imported from England, now these are being obtained from America. Those who are incharge of the work now do not like the old machines and so this has resulted in a waste of money.

It has been said that the prices have risen three or four times. I however, notice that these are again falling. The scheme referred to by the hon. Minister is nothing but Utopian. There is a story that a dreamer dropped his can of oil while thinking of his would-be wife and daughter. The hon. Minister has stated that electricity would be produced, the production of cotton would increase, the income of the people would rise and so many other things would be done, but I want to submit in this connection that the prices are falling. The rate of sugarcane has gone down from Rs. 1/14 per maund to Rs. 1/3 per maund and that of cotton has fallen from Rs. 25 to Rs. 13 per maund. The hon. Minister has stated that after ten years the income of the State would increase by 73 crores of rupees. While arriving at this figure the price of wheat has been taken at twelve rupees and that of cotton at sixteen rupees per maund. It appears to have been forgotten that the economic conditions are undergoing rapid change. The prices are falling and the hon. Minister's idea about the conditions ten years hence is not based on real facts.

Then, Sir, as regards the water-rate, we brought a resolution in this House and propaganda is carried on outside also that it should be reduced. It is said that the canals have to be repaired and various other expenses have to be incurred. All this expenditure is met out of the water-rate and after deducting it the Government is making a net profit of over eighty four lakhs of rupees. In view of this where lies the necessity of levying these betterment charges? The farmers have already got to pay land-revenue and water-rate. When according to the figures given by

the Government, it is making a huge profit out of the water-rate then where is the necessity of levying new taxes? In addition to other taxes the farmers have to pay *chaukidara* and local rate too. The expenditure incurred for the opening of new schools or the construction of roads is met out of the amount realised as local rate. If the hon. Minister for Irrigation is asked to get a few channels dug or to get the holdings consolidated he asks for more money. If the villagers want a primary school to be opened they have to pay a thousand rupees in advance. Now upto what limit can the people, whom it is proposed to burden with more taxes, be subjected to the additional taxation? Does it not look iniquitous that in the execution of the Bhakra Project, while no tax is being levied on those people whose factories will benefit by the electricity produced from it, more taxes are, however, being imposed on those who are already groaning under their heavy weight?

The lands which became productive seventy years ago, when the canals were dug, have undergone constant fragmentation and the holdings have become very small and uneconomic. The financial condition of the people on whom this tax is proposed to be levied is very weak. The condition of a peasant does not improve simply because more water is made available to him. In order that the land may yield better produce the peasant has to plough it, manure it and to work hard on it. Those people whose holdings are uneconomic and who are the proprietors of three, four or even ten Ghumaons of land find it very difficult to make their both ends meet. So while levying this tax, the Government has not kept in mind the financial condition of the people and their capacity to pay it. It is nothing short of a tyranny to impose a tax on those people who have not the means even to feed and clothe themselves. It is true that the people of the Doaba will have to pay this tax at the rate of four and a half rupees per acre, but has the Government cared to examine as to what is the income of those people? Large families have to be supported with meagre incomes. The imposition of this tax will ruin the peasants of this State. This would be highly tyrannical and the Bill under discussion should be withdrawn.

Mr. Speaker. Motion moved—

That the Punjab Betterment Charges and Acreage Rates Bill, as reported on by the Joint Select Committee, be circulated for eliciting public opinion thereon by the 31st March, 1953.

Shri Sri Chand (Bahadurgarh) (*Hindi*): Sir, I am thankful to my hon. Friend Chaudhri Lahri Singh for trying to impress us by quoting

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facts and figures in this connection. I am surprised to find that there is no statement of objects and reasons attached to this Bill and thus we are unable to understand the object for which this Bill has been brought forward by the Government. The hon. Minister has repeatedly remarked in his speech that our Punjab has been ruined after the partition and our Government wants to rebuild it by speeding up the execution of Bhakra and Nangal Projects with the aid of loans from the Central Government. I would ask the hon. Minister whether Punjabis are responsible for the ruination of Punjab? Did Punjabis demand the partition of the country? Was this State ruined with the consent of the Punjab Government? Whether the death and destruction of Punjabis brought freedom to Punjab alone or to the rest of the country also? Sir, the entire responsibility for all this rests on the Central Government. Then, Sir, the Congress Party held out extravagant promises to the people that in case it came into power it would never allow the vivisection of the country. The people took these promises at their face value and reposed their confidence in this party but ultimately the Congress became a willing party to the partition and it was thrust down the throats of the Punjabis much against their wishes. The responsibility for this immeasurable human misery falls upon the Central Government.

Shri Sadhu Ram : On a point of order, Sir. I would like to know whether the hon. Member is relevant.

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Member is an eminent lawyer and he should know that the partition of Punjab and the conduct of the Government of India are not at present under discussion. He should confine his remarks to the present Bill.

Shri Sri Chand : I was submitting that the effect of the partition was that the Punjab was ruined and if the Congress had forcibly resisted the proposed partition, it would have been economically strong and would not have stood in need of getting loans from the Central Government. The Punjab now is an impoverished State and that is why the Punjab Government has been driven to the necessity of getting loan from the Central Government on account of its meagre financial resources. The Government of India has dragged Punjab towards ruin, and is still playing the role of a money-lender, because it is definitely a paying proposition for the Government of India to get money on loan from other sources at an interest of 2 or 3 per cent and advance it to the Punjab Government on an interest at the rate of 4.5 per cent. The Punjab Government has taken a loan of 41 crore rupees for Bhakra Dam and 9 crore rupees for

schemes of electricity from the Government of India. I think that the Government of India has in no way obliged the Punjab Government by advancing it the loan at an enhanced rate of interest of 4.5 per cent. My hon. Friend has stated that our Government has given an assurance to the Government of India that the Punjab would derive great benefit from this loan. I wonder why it did not strike our Government that it was very easy for any person to get a loan at the rate of 4.5 per cent interest.

Sardar Gurdial Singh Dhillon : Is the hon. Member relevant in discussing the question of getting loan from the Government of India ?

Shri Sri Chand : Sir, I would submit that some of the hon. Members are in the habit of raising "fazul" / absurd points of order and they do so in order to cause interruption in the speech of the member.

Mr. Speaker : If a point of order is raised by any hon. Member then it is for me to decide whether it is right or wrong. The hon. Member has used the word 'fazul' which is highly objectionable and I would ask him to withdraw that remark.

Shri Sri Chand : I withdraw my remarks, Sir. But the pity of it is that sometime the points of order are raised to interrupt the member who is speaking. I was submitting that it is a profitable proposition for the Government of India to advance loan at the rate of interest of 4.5 per cent. It is really strange that our Government agreed to accept this loan at such a high rate of interest when it could easily get loan from other sources at a much lower rate. As a matter of fact, it was the duty of the Government of India and not the Punjab Government to have spared funds for the construction of Bhakra-Nangal project and thus enabled the truncated State of Punjab to stand on its feet once again. But on the other hand our Government has levied a new tax on the poor *kisans*. It has been stated on behalf of the Government that in lieu of these betterment charges the peasants will be supplied electricity and thus the value of their land would considerably increase. In fact, the supply of electricity would be a positive gain to the factory-owners but these betterment charges are being recovered from the poor *kisans* of the State alone. The Government is afraid of the factory-owners because they are an organized body and can launch a vigorous agitation against it through the press if their pockets are touched. So the Government intends to recover the expenditure incurred on the scheme to electrify the State from the poor *kisans*. The factory-owners will be able to derive benefit to the largest extent from the supply of electricity and more income will

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accrue to the Government of India in the form of income tax. I would ask the Government what benefit would accrue to the peasants by the development of industries? It is quite absurd to recover betterment charges from the peasants on the ground that electricity is being made available to them. The Government wants to recover 66 crore rupees from the zamindars by the levy of betterment charges on them. I cannot think what else can be a more profitable scheme for the Government of India than this. Its investment is quite safe and it would get 4.5 per cent by way of interest. My hon. Friend, the Minister for Irrigation, thinks that the sum of Rs. 66 crores is a nominal sum. The Government recovers annually two crores of rupees as land revenue from the zamindars and three crores by way of 'abiana'. This amount aggregates to Rs. five crores which the zamindars can ill-afford to pay to the Government. Now the Government proposes to recover 66 crores of rupees by levying betterment charges on them in 15 years. But I would ask, how will these poor people be able to pay this enormous sum to the Government? My hon. Friend has remarked that there will be a progressive increase in the price of lands of the zamindars but he must be aware as he himself hails from the country side that every now and then the Government is passing such measures which aim at putting a heavy burden in the form of one tax or the other on the zamindars. The prices of land have registered a downward trend with the result that nobody is prepared to pay Rs. 200 per acre of the land which was previously sold at Rs. 1,000 per acre.

On the one hand, the Government is responsible for a fall in the prices of land and on the other it wants to impose betterment charges on the land-owners. Again, on the one hand it wants to vest the ownership of land in the tenants or at least to safeguard their tenancies for ten years, and on the other it wants to realise the betterment charges from the real owners. In view of the fact that such agrarian laws are tending to reduce the price of land, I wonder how the owners who have leased out their land to tenants on a nominal rent would be able to pay these charges. To pass over everything to the tenants and to demand Betterment Fees from the owners is highly improper proceeding, and the Government will find it difficult to realise this money.

Then, Sir, the Government has not given any reason as to why it proposes to levy Acreage Rates for which purpose a provision has been made in this Bill, especially when such a fee has already been realized in connection with the consolidation operations. The work for which the provision to levy Acreage Rates has been made should be got done along

with the consolidation proceedings.

Minister for Irrigation : On a point of information, Sir. The Joint Select Committee has made the following provision in clause 6 :—

The recoveries now being made or likely to be made from the land-owners for consolidation of holdings will be deducted from the total amount due from them under clause 6.

Shri Sri Chand : Just read the next sentence also.

Minister for Irrigation : Yes, it reads thus :—

If rectangulation, sub rectangulation or killabandi to be done in connection with consolidation of holdings does not serve the purpose and has to be done over again, no deduction shall be made.

Shri Sri Chand : I am afraid, Sir, this rider will not be acceptable to the officers concerned. They will definitely put forward the plea that the 'Murrababandi' done by the Consolidation Department cannot serve their purpose *i.e.* the purpose of the Irrigation Department.

Sir, there is another shortcoming in this Bill which has come to my notice. It does not specify as to who will be responsible for the payment of Betterment charges levied on the evacuee land. No permanent settlement has been made so far as this category of land is concerned. What will, for instance, be the position of an allottee who is shifted from such land in respect of which he has already paid the Betterment Charges? After all, it has to be stated clearly as to who will be responsible for the payment of Betterment Charges levied on evacuee land. The Bill is quite silent on this point. In the eyes of law, the allottees are not the holders and then by virtue of another Act the Government is competent to shift any allottee from one place to another. Such things are in fact frequently done by the Government. Legally speaking the holder of evacuee land is still the custodian and the Betterment Charges in respect of this land should in fact be realized from him because he is the real owner.

Thirdly, it is rather strange to find all the powers being vested in the Government in the matter of levy of betterment charges. The Government may mean any officer from the Canal Overseer to the Chief Engineer. The papers will perhaps never reach the Minister incharge. The objections will be heard by the same officer who compiles the Schedule and perhaps the final Schedule will also be compiled by him. It is a fundamental principle of democracy that every taxation proposal should be approved by the representatives of the people in the Legislative Assembly. The assent of the Assembly must be obtained even if a tax equal to a single pie has to be imposed. The poor peasants, therefore, should not be made

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to pay this tax without the Assembly approving of its rate.

Then, Sir, the hon. Minister has cited the case of Thal Project and has stated that the Betterment Fees levied there were 240 times the price of land but he conveniently forgot to tell us that the price of that land at that time was four annas per acre and that in fact no money was realized on account of the Betterment Fees. Here, the fees are not being levied on the existing prices of land but on the level the price will reach as a result of the enhanced value. So far as the Punjab is concerned, it is not proper to give the analogy of other States in this matter. It is a ruined State ; half of its population has no source of income ; so many of its residents are living on the pavements unable to find any shelter. The uprooted Punjabi peasants had hardly any respite ; one tax has followed close on another.

Sir, my chief argument against the levy of these charges is that in the year 1950 no less a person than Sardar Partap Singh Kairon Minister for Development, had himself opposed such a proposal in this very House. This speech of his may be seen in official record of the proceedings of 1950.

Minister for Irrigation : At the time he was not a Minister and used to make speeches like the hon. Member.

Shri Sri Chand : Sir, are the Ministers such irresponsible persons that when they are on the Opposition Benches they say one thing and have one type of conscience but when they occupy the Treasury Benches they are corrupted to such an extent that they absolutely forget what they used to say before. (Cheers from the Opposition Benches). So far as Sardar Partap Singh Kairon is concerned, I think, he is a man of such a high character that he will not change his beliefs however high the office he may assume.

Shri Prabodh Chandra (Gurdaspur) (Hindi) : Sir, ordinarily the speeches from the Government Benches would give replies to the points and objections raised by friends from the opposition benches. But in spite of my efforts I have not been able to know what relevant objections have been raised from their side on the floor of the House to-day. One of my hon. Friends has remarked that the Ministers can be purchased. Perhaps he has not been able to understand things. When a person becomes a Minister, he has to face a lot of administrative difficulties. While in Opposition a person can see only one side of the picture. He cannot see the other side, howsoever, honestly he may try. But the hon. Ministers have to look to both the sides. My hon. Friends have tried

to dub this Bill as a taxation measure by repeating that the levy of a Betterment Fee is a burden on the poor people. As a matter of fact, it is not a tax. It is a simple affair. To-day if the value of land is rupees one hundred, then the farmers have been asked to share a part of the expenditure to be incurred by the Government on the construction of canals required to increase the value of their lands to five hundred rupees. The people are prepared to agree to this. But my hon. Friend, Chaudhri Sri Chand has tried to keep alive the old traditions of raising the question of ruralites and urbanites. No effort has been made to realise the fact that in the cities if the value of a house goes up on its being fitted with electricity and water the owner increases its rent.

It has been complained that Betterment charges have not been levied on the factories which will consume electricity generated by this project. Perhaps the gentleman complaining this does not know that the millowners have to pay a large number of taxes as compared with the zamindars. Then there is no tax on agricultural incomes but the factory-owners pay income tax besides other taxes in various forms. If all the rates of taxes which they have to pay are put together then it comes to paying ten annas in a rupee for them. As compared with this the zamindars and *kisans* have to pay hardly two annas in a rupee.

There is another thing towards which I wish to draw the attention of the House. In 1940 there was no Congress Government here. The Punjab was governed by the Unionist Government which professed to be the champion of the cause of the zamindars. Originally there was a tax to the extent of 120 times the value of land. But this Government raised it to 240 times, so that the expenditure incurred on raising the value of land may be met out of it.

Then it has been remarked that the salaries of the Secretaries should be reduced. Is it possible to collect 156 crores of rupees by doing so? If we take the whole of the revenues for a decade even that will hardly solve this gigantic problem. When the Upper Bari Doab and Thal projects were executed the wages of a labourer did not exceed six annas but now the Government has to pay one and a half rupee per diem to a labourer. If we consider this aspect of the problem even then we will find that the expenditure which the Government has to incur on this project goes up six times. In those days the price of wheat was rupees two or three a maund, to-day it has increased considerably. We intend to work in the direction of getting this price fixed at about ten rupees a maund in ten years. What I mean to drive at is that today the farmer

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is in a much better position to pay the taxes as compared with the farmer of ten years ago when the price of wheat was only two and a half rupees per maund.

Sir, it has also been said on the floor of this House that in other States no Betterment charges have been levied. Let us take the case of our neighbour State where Akalis and the Communists have formed an alliance. There also it is proposed to bring in a Bill for the levy of Betterment charges. It is wrong to say that such a thing is happening only in this State. No Government which intends to better the lot of the peasants can do without it. If it is desired that hospitals should be opened for the poor and more schools should be started in the State it is but natural that money should be raised for the purpose. The Government is not in possession of the *Aladin's lamp* with which it can accomplish the task without any money.

It has been alleged that the present Government is run by the urbanites, and it looks after their interest only. If such an allegation has been made deliberately then it is another thing. But every one knows that eighty percent members of this House come from the rural areas. If we peruse the budget of the State we would notice that about seventy percent of the revenues are being spent on the betterment of the rural areas. With the assistance of the Government of India community projects have been launched for the benefit of the villagers. I have made repeated requests that the hon. Members should not be carried away by sentiments. They should see things in their true perspective. When the hon. Minister mentioned the name of Mahatma Gandhi, one of the hon. Members tried to smile sarcastically and began to say that the blood of Chaudhri Sahib—

Shri Sri Chand : On a point of Order, Sir.

Mr. Speaker : (Addressing Shri Prabodh Chandra) Please don't mention that.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Very well, Sir.

Shri Sri Chand : Do I take it that he has withdrawn that ?

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Sir, the hon. Member tried to ridicule Mahatma Gandhi.....

Mr. Speaker : No, he never ridiculed Gandhi Ji.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : He made mention of Gandhi Ji's name with a view to ridiculing him.

Mr. Speaker : No, please.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Sir, I would submit that if those who

live in India and eat food-grains produced from the Indian soil, raise slogans in favour of a foreign country and then take shelter under the name of Mahatma Gandhi, it ought to be a matter of shame for them.

Mr. Speaker : Please don't mention that.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : My submission is that we should not go on mere words ; we should consider the actions. The leaders of this party said that.....

Shri Sri Chand : That is absolutely irrelevant, Sir.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Is it for the hon. Member to decide that or the Chair ? Sir, when he makes an assertion I have a right to contradict him.

Mr. Speaker : No, it is my right to contradict him.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Sir, it is certainly my right to reply to the criticism made against my party.

Sir, I want to remind them that when Mahatma Gandhi was observing fast unto death their leader had said that they would not care if Mahatma Ji died but they could not tolerate that the Britishers should quit India.

I want to make it clear to them that the public can now no longer be betrayed by them. On the other hand people love truth. If they are sure that.....(interruptions).

Shri Sri Chand : Is it relevant, Sir ? I want to say that.....

Shri Prabodh Chandra : I do not give way, Sir.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Order, Order. Sit down.

Mr. Speaker : Order, Order. The hon. Member Sardar Chanan Singh has no right to ask another Member to sit down. He cannot arrogate this right to himself. Please finish your speech.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Sir, I cannot be made to give way by my friends opposite. They have themselves been talking all sorts of irrelevant and nonsensical things and we have tolerated them.

Shri Sri Chand : Sir, is the word 'nonsense' parliamentary ?

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Well, Sir, I can establish that the word 'nonsense' is not unparliamentary.

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Member should try to finish his speech.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Sir, having due regard for your orders I would not prolong my speech and would finish it soon. I would like to request those friends of mine, to please go through the original Bill, who say that the 'Betterment charges' is a sort of tax which is being imposed by the Government. Its object is clearly laid down in the Bill. They

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would come to know that the Government is not burdening the people with a new tax but wants to raise some money from them which is to be spent on the construction of new dams, excavation of new canals and ultimately supply sufficient water to the *kisans* for irrigational purposes. As this policy of the Government aims at increasing the production of foodgrains in the country, I would appeal to them not to play with the passions of the people and always keep the reality in view.

Mr. Speaker : Now I call upon Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina to speak. But before he starts making a speech, I would ask him to please speak on the Bill now before the House and refrain from repeating the arguments already advanced by the previous speakers.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (*Punjabi*) : Mr. Speaker, I am constrained to remark at the very outset that the speech made by the hon. Member preceding me was almost nonsensical.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Sir, it was sensible for sensible people and non-sense for nonsensible people. (Interruptions).

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : Mr. Speaker, in the speeches made by the Treasury Benches about the Bhakra Dam many alluring hopes have been held out to the *kisans* that new canals will be dug for them, that their income will increase and that ultimately they would grow very prosperous. Now when the Bhakra Project is half completed, Government has introduced this Bill in the House. It appears, particularly from the brochure supplied along with the Bill that our Government has met the same fate with which the Panama Company had met while excavating the Panama Canal. When the Company was about to be liquidated, the Directors started to sell false shares. They gave many false hopes to the French people that the canal was to be completed very soon. But what did happen? The Company went into liquidation and the Directors were arrested. So, Mr. Speaker, the hopes that the prices of foodgrains and other crops will increase, are all false. It is just like the assertion of a doctor, who standing by the road side claims, that the medicine in his hand is a panacea for all diseases. The hon. Members daily read in the news-papers that the Pakistan Government is crying that the price of its cotton produce has gone down considerably. Same is the case with the American and the Egyptian Governments. But it makes me feel all the more surprised to hear that our Government presumes that the prices will go up. (Interruptions).

Mr. Speaker : Order, Order.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : Mr. Speaker, after a few months this Act will not remain worth the paper on which it is printed. Government wants to make the zamindars shareholders in the Bhakra Scheme. My request is that Government should only charge *Abiana* from the people after the water is supplied to them and nothing should be charged before that. Even after the supply of the water the produce cannot be increased unless the kisans work hard in their fields. It is a different matter that consequent upon the increase in population of a town the price of a particular house may increase. But this principle does not apply in the case of a zamindar. It would be an act of highhandedness and injustice on the zamindars if the Government imposes water tax upon them on the mere assumption that it intends to supply water to them. Even after the supply of canal water a farmer and his family will have to work very hard in the matter of tilling the soil and providing manure etc. Therefore the idea that the zamindars will receive unearned income is wrong from the economics point of view. They would not receive any unearned income. On the other hand they themselves will increase their own income by dint of hard work. I, therefore, suggest that the Government should only charge *abiana* from them and not the interest on the *abiana* also. Mr. Speaker, this scheme will end in a fiasco. No zamindar wants to become a share-holder in it. It appears to me that its expenditure is increasing day by day and it will not be brought to a successful conclusion. What has already been said by my friend preceding me is that the expenditure is on the increase and the Government wants to sell its shares to the zamindars by raising false hopes in them.

The next thing that I want to submit is that the acreage rate which our Government is going to charge from the zamindars for re-ctangulation of lands is not proper. The Government re-ctangulises the lands for its own convenience and I see no reason why the zamindars should pay for it. It passes my comprehension how the zamindars stand to gain by the re-ctangulation of their lands for which they will be required to pay an acreage rate. We do admit this much that undoubtedly a zamindar is benefited by the consolidation of lands and for that he is already paying fee at the rate of Rs. 4 per acre for it.

Minister for Irrigation : Since it is a Government of the people, this money will have to be paid by them.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : I request the hon. Minister to try to understand the position and he should not simply give false hopes to the masses.

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Member should come forward with some fresh argument. He should not simply go on repeating the same point.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : I am telling the House quite a new thing. Now, I want to impress upon the Government that it should levy a betterment fee on the factory-owners who would utilize the electric power since it is also spending a lot of money on its generation.

Rao Gajraj Singh (Gurgaon) (Hindi) : Mr. Speaker, many speeches have been made by the hon. Members of the Opposition but none of them was based on any principle. The Bill which the hon. Minister has introduced in the House is based on a sound principle but the pity of it is that these hon. Members have tried to criticise it unnecessarily. This would not serve any useful purpose.

Sir, it is quite a simple thing to consider whether there is any necessity for constructing Bhakra Dam. I want to tell those hon. Friends who feel that they have the monopoly of looking after the interests of the people of Hariana Prant, that in a short period of one year the people of that *ilaga* have disowned them. Now they do not command any influence there but it is strange that inspite of all this whatever they say or do, they presume themselves to be the representatives of the ruralites. I want to impress upon them that they do not represent the ruralites any more. In the first place their party lacks any significant strength and secondly they have lost their prestige among the masses.

We now hope to be successful in giving a practical shape to our dreams of Bhakra project which we had been cherishing for the last so many years and for the construction of which we have been constantly yearning. Such a huge project cannot be executed without sufficient funds. Now, these hon. Friends wish that its construction should be stopped.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : We simply want that the money which is being wasted there should be saved.

Rao Gajraj Singh : I am not afraid of such interruptions.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : Why does the Government not check the wastage that is going on there ?

Mr. Speaker : Please do not make any interruptions.

(To Rao Gajraj Singh) Please go on with your speech and take no notice of this interruption.

Rao Gajraj Singh : I want to draw the attention of the House to a general principle that when some Bill is referred to a Select Committee and if a member of that Committee who does not see eye to eye with the principle underlying that legislation, then he should submit a minute of

dissent. We, however, find that the Leader of that party had been taking part in the proceedings of that Select Committee, but did not record a minute of dissent. Besides this, the representatives of all the parties of this House who were represented on the Committee were in complete accord with the basic principle of this Bill. This can be verified from the introductory part of the report itself of the Joint Select Committee on this Bill. However, if the leader of that party knew that some members of his party did not agree to that principle then..... (Interruptions).

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Member need not mind the interruptions but should continue his speech.

Rao Gajraj Singh : Now the question before us is, whether the Bhakra project be executed or not. I may tell the House that now a great awakening has come to the zamindars and the rural people. It is no longer true about them that they go on adding to their population and care little for the education of their children. Now the people of Haryana Prant are fully conscious of their rights. They are very keen that Bhakra Dam must be constructed and that too at a very high speed.

Sir, I am of the view that this project, which we have been cherishing for a long time, should be executed without any loss of time and for doing so we should have no hesitation in accepting loans on any terms at which they are available.

In this connection, I want to remind the House that in Joint Punjab when there was a proposal about the execution of a river project, the people of Mianwali were successful in getting the 'Thal Project' executed. Now when the work connected with the Bhakra Project has progressed considerably, it would not be wise to stop this work. That will be against the interests of Haryana Prant. There is no doubt about the fact that in order to recruit soldiers for the Army from the Haryana Prant, the British followed a policy of keeping the people of that area backward.

Then an hon. Member has said that the rate of Rs. 4/8/- of compound interest which is to be recovered from the zamindars is very high. I want to remind him that in the Joint Punjab, the Co-operative Societies whom the Government had advanced loans at one per cent interest, used to loan out that money to the zamindars at an interest of $18\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. Will he tell me whom does he consider a Shylock—our Government or that Government? (Cheers).

Mr. Speaker, the principle of my Friends opposite is that on the one hand they do not want the people to make contributions to the State

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Exchequer so that the Government may be put hard financially and on the other hand they instigate the people saying "Well, see. This Government is doing nothing for you". In fact they wish to create an ill feeling among the people against the Government by saying that the Congressmen who used to hold out high hopes of getting the canals built and electricity supplied, have gone back on their promises. And making a capital of this situation, they would then claim that it was they who upheld the welfare of the masses and not the Congress. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, so far as the question of simple arithmetic is concerned, had my hon. Friends sitting opposite learnt it and then read the Bill minutely, they would have understood that the amount of Rs. 66 crores was covered by the proposed levy. I assure them that this is not at all a taxation measure. It is a measure for the levy of Betterment charges. There is no reason why this should be treated as a tax. Perhaps my hon. Friends have never read any book on Economics. If they had some knowledge of this subject, they would have known that there was a great difference between a tax, and a levy.

Sir, it is a matter for gratification that the gentleman entrusted with the task of bringing about the completion of these projects and schemes, is our esteemed colleague—the Minister Incharge of these works belonging to the district of Rohtak. He is determined to see these works through at the earliest possible time and is going ahead with their completion.

Then, Sir, an expenditure amounting to Rs. 42 or 43 crores is going to be met from the general revenues and this is perhaps the first time that our friends hailing from urban areas who have equal claims on the general revenues, have readily and gladly given their assent to it so that the people of Haryana Prant may be benefited. Therefore, I am of the view that the gentlemen who are opposed to this thing are not justified in doing so.

It is true that a peasant or a man in the street does not take kindly to this Bill but to understand it fully and the principles underlying it, one must read it minutely. When this Bill was referred to the Joint Select Committee my learned Friends after a thorough consideration added another proviso to Clause 3 which makes the position still clearer. The purport of the whole of this Clause is that if the things could be managed with the money raised through 'abiana' or other taxes, the Betterment charges would not be levied. I think before making any speech, my hon. Friends in the Opposition ought to have meticulously considered this principle which clearly enunciates that the levy of not a

single penny will be made provided the expenditure could be met from other sources. So far as the question of the reduction in the prices of the lands is concerned, I am to submit that if the price of a land which today stands at Rs. 1000/- is reduced to Rs. 200/- tomorrow, not a single penny of Betterment Fee would be levied on it. These charges would be levied only in case there is an increase in its production-an increase in its value. (Interruptions). There is absolutely nothing to wonder about in this. This is simply a question of Arithmetics. A book on mathematics can be obtained at a nominal cost of five or six pice. It is only after studying that book that my hon. Friends can understand all these things in their right perspective.

Besides, Mr. Speaker, many Communist Friends observed that they would discontinue the construction of Bhakra if the 'peoples' Government was established. That is true. How can they change their nature? Their only object is to sabotage and, in this way, disturb the peace and tranquillity of the country. In the circumstances they would, of course, discontinue its construction, for it is in their interest to create anarchy.

I wish to make a submission to my hon. Friend, Chaudhri Lahri Singh. It is this that at the time of preparing the schedule he should take into confidence the members of this House and in particular the various parties because it has been observed that generally the officers over-estimate the things with the result that it involves loss to the people. Now a few words about my district and I have done. My submission is that if the water from Bhakra canals was to be supplied to my district, too, I am confident, the zamindars would have been prepared to pay this levy in advance, but, to our ill luck, this has not come to our share. I, therefore, wish to say that after the passage of this Bill, Chaudhri Sahib should not forget the existence of Gurgaon district. He is aware of all the conditions prevalent there. Therefore, I hope that he will particularly keep them in mind.

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** The habit of making continuous interruptions is very undesirable. I wonder why the hon. Members do not exercise patience. I, therefore, wish to request you that in case an hon. Member says such things as do not appeal to you, you may keep a note of them and instead of making an interruption at once, give a reply in your own turn. The habit of interrupting in between is neither justified, nor dignified. I would, therefore, request particularly Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut to get rid of this habit but if he does not do that then others would be impelled to retaliate.

Sardar Shamsheer Singh (Ludhiana Sadr) (*Punjabi*): Sir, the Treasury Benches have given such an interpretation to the discussion that it would appear that the Opposition was not in favour of the Bhakra Dam being constructed. Sir, we wish that rather than being completed in the year 1958 it should be ready by this very December.

Within the short period it has been in power, the Government has imposed so many taxes on the rural population that they can bear it no longer. According to a Punjabi proverb—

“ਝੰਠ ਦੀ ਕਮਰ ਤੋੜਨ ਲਈ ਆਖਰ ਤਿਨਕਾ ਕਾਫੀ ਹੁੰਦਾ ਹੈ।”

ਉਠ ਦੀ ਕਮਰ ਨੂੰ ਤੋੜਨ ਲਈ ਆਖਰੀ ਤਿਨਕਾ ਕਾਫੀ ਹੁੰਦਾ ਹੈ।

i.e. even an extra straw is sufficient to break the back of an already overburdened camel. But our Government is out to crush the peasants, who are already groaning under the heavy weight of so many taxes. May I ask how does the Government account for the income accruing to it from the old Canals? There is no denying the fact that the Government is spending the entire income for the benefit of the urban areas. Mr. Speaker, all the electricity produced from the previously constructed dams has been utilised to provide comforts to the people living in towns. On the other hand why a peasant who, in order to relieve the country of the crisis of food shortage remains ill-clad, ill bread and works very hard, has not been supplied electricity to enable him to run his tubewells etc? There is a case of my own village. For the last three years we have continuously been endeavouring to get electric supply for the village wells by preferring applications together with recommendations to the Minister for Agriculture, the Director of Agriculture and the Deputy Commissioner. The officers of the electricity department always advance only one stereotyped argument that there is a shortage of electricity in Ludhiana. But, on the other hand, hundreds of electric connections have been given in the Ludhiana City during the last three years.

Whereas no heed has been paid to our demand in respect of electric energy even upto now, electricity generated from the previously constructed dams has made the urban life very comfortable and cheap. What is required is that the Government should raise funds by imposing such taxes on the urban capitalists so that our new dams could be completed. They should not extract blood out of the half-dead peasants and inject it into the well-fed '*shahukars*'. Rather they should take out blood from them and transfuse it in the peasants and thus try to save them. Sir, it is an old dictum that on seeing a jat thrashing corn in the scorching heat of the month of Jeth, two delicate urbanites exclaimed that they would have

starved if the jat had not been there. It is no exaggeration to say that the peasant leads a life no better than that of an animal while producing food for the consumption of others.

Then, Sir, our Government has increased abiana by $1\frac{1}{2}$ times with the result that the amount of irrigated area has decreased. The peasant's endeavour is that more water should be consumed in a smaller area so that the produce may increase and, at the same time, the payment of abiana should also be economical. This view is supported by the entries recorded by the patwaris in this regard. Now another tax in the form of Betterment Fee is being imposed for the same water supply. I have serious apprehensions that our Government would bring in another measure in the next session levying some sort of tax on this water on the plea that it abounds in phosphates, and then in the next session still another one in view of the presence of nitrates in the water.

Then, Sir, our Government was forced to consider the question of Sales Tax and that of Passenger and Goods Tax twice or thrice as a result of one day strike by the businessmen and transport operators respectively. But I would counsel the Government not to compel the peasants to go on strike. If unfortunately such an eventuality comes to pass then I apprehend that our economy will be completely shattered, particularly when the peasants decide not to produce even a single foodgrain over and above their personal requirements. In that case, Sir, the imported wheat from America would not help us any longer. The ruralites only demand milk and "Son" from God. They do not need bungalows and cars. As a matter of fact the peasant is so much frustrated and impoverished that he has been forced to deprive his children of whatever milk he has and sell it in the market in order to pay the land revenue. You are aware, Sir, that the milk is brought to the town by the peasants after traversing long distances. This indicates the extent of their poverty and inability to pay any more tax.

Now I come to another point. Our Government has invested two crores of rupees in the establishment of the Industrial Finance Corporation which is solely meant for the capitalists. My submission is that, on similar lines, it should set up an Agricultural Finance Corporation for the purpose of providing facilities to the ruralites to improve the agricultural industry. Besides a sum amounting to one crore of rupees should be set apart for the establishment of a Finance Corporation intended to give impetus to the Cottage Industries like the shoe making industry etc. started by our rural 'Ram Dasia' brethren. When this is done, I think,

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nobody would object to the raising of taxes from these people because then they would have developed the capacity to pay them.

Then, Sir, the Minister for Development, during the course of his speech on the topic of Industrial Finance Corporation, remarked that the peasants would also stand to gain if the income of the factory owners increased. It passes my comprehension how the Minister arrived at this conclusion. Sir, how can my hunger be satisfied if the food instead of being served to me, is actually served to Shri Wadhawa Ram ?

In the end Mr. Speaker, I would submit that the Government should not add to the miseries of the poor zamindars by bringing in new taxation measures. Rather, it is its duty to uplift them from the state of penury in which they are steeped.

Minister for Finance (Sardar Ujjal Singh) (*Punjabi*) : Mr. Speaker the principle underlying the Bill, which has now emerged in the form of the Report of the Joint Select Committee, has already been accepted. But my hon. Friend has now tabled a motion seeking to circulate it for eliciting public opinion thereon. He has done so despite the fact that he knew full well that an identical law had been in force for the last eight or ten months in the shape of an Ordinance. Had this Bill been introduced all of a sudden, then the purport of his motion could have been understood. But when this Bill has already been before the public who are well aware how much they would be required to pay in the form of the Betterment Fee, I fail to see any reason why it should be postponed for a period of seven or eight months more. We have already taken a lot of time prescribing the form and the amount of Betterment Fee to be levied on the zamindars. However, if there were some doubts, my Friends could get them clarified from us. The object which the circulation motion seeks to achieve has already been attained because this measure has been before the public for a considerable period in the form of an Ordinance. In the circumstances, no useful purpose will be served by circulating the Bill for eliciting public opinion ?

Then, Sir, my hon. Friends complain that the Betterment Fee as proposed in this Bill would prove a great burden on the peasants, and despite the fact that their back is already bent owing to the heavy weight of taxes, everyday new taxes are levied on them. An extract from my speech has also been quoted wherein I stated that we had already imposed so many taxes that there was no scope for any further tax. I admit that I did say that there was no scope for any fresh tax-

ation. But my hon. Friends have, perhaps, misconstrued it. In fact, what I stated was that the powers which the Constitution conferred upon us in the matter of imposing taxes had been fully exercised and that we had no further powers for levying any more tax. My complaint was that the Constitution did not invest such wide powers in the States as they could exercise and fulfil the responsibilities entrusted to them by levying more taxes. This was, in fact, the thing which ought to have been criticised.

But I would like to enquire of those gentlemen opposite who claim to possess expert knowledge of economics and say that the incidence of this fee would fall directly on the peasants, as to how does this fee fall within the definition of a tax? This is not at all a tax but, as a matter of fact, these are "Betterment Charges". The value of the land which is to be supplied water from the Canals under the Bhakra project, is bound to increase considerably. What we wish is to get some part of the increased value so that land may be further developed. This amount of money will be spent in order to accomplish that scheme and make it a productive one. Out of this amount, I may assure you, we are not desirous of spending even a single pie on any other project. This is only a "charge" and not, in any way, a tax. It will be realised only from those people who are to be benefited from this scheme. Furthermore, it will be charged in proportion to the gain accrued. It means that the people who will get water for two crops will have, naturally, to pay more whereas a lesser amount will be charged from the people who will get less water on account of their lands being in the jurisdiction of restricted perennial areas. I would again like to make it clear that this amount would be utilised for the accomplishment of this scheme and that we would get only that much money which is actually required for this purpose.

Despite all these things, it has persistently been remarked by the Opposition that Government has run bankrupt and this is why it has been levying new taxes. I wonder on what grounds they have formed such a wrong impression. In this connection I am only to say that there was no money in the coffers of this Government when it took over the reins of administration but everybody knows how much and what remarkable progress has this State made since then in all spheres of life. If the Government had not raised any funds through various taxation measures or otherwise, nothing could have been accomplished. But we have to

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explore ways and means to find out sources from which money has to be raised for financing the schemes that have been taken in hand for the benefit of the people and the progress of the State. All our efforts have been focussed on the execution of the gigantic Bhakra Dam. I am convinced that the economic conditions of our State cannot improve very much before the completion of this Dam. It is, therefore very necessary to mobilise all our resources for its completion. The schemes which were executed prior to it cost much less because of cheap availability of labour and less cost of material. Besides, there were many crown lands in the United Punjab. Those schemes were financed out of the sale proceeds of the crown lands. Sir, if you just look at the budgets of those times, you will find an item "extraordinary receipts". That income was raised from the sale of crown waste land. Now those lands do not exist here. Only small tracts of land are owned by the Government now and those, too, of a low quality. Therefore, they cannot serve any fruitful purpose. Posing himself as a great economist, one of my hon. Friends said that we had the necessary funds and could get these by effecting economy in our expenditure. Another hon. Member suggested that we should end the princely order and confiscate the property of rulers. As a matter of fact there is no *Raja* left in the Punjab. Moreover we have not the power to end princely rule anywhere or to confiscate the property of any prince. As regards other minor suggestion made by my hon. Friend, I am at a loss to understand as to how the Government can obtain the necessary funds without resorting to taxation. It was suggested that the tea estates should be confiscated. In this connection, I want to tell the House that no Britisher owns any tea estate in the Punjab. Some of these estates belong to the local residents while others are evacuee property on which displaced persons have been settled. The condition of the tea business is not satisfactory in these days as the owners of tea estates are crying that they are suffering heavy losses. Reference was made to the fruit gardens of Kulu also, but I want to point out that there is no British owner of those orchards whose estate might be confiscated. Mr. Bevan, who was probably being referred to is not an Englishman. I do not know what led my hon. Friend to believe that the necessary funds could be raised within the State. My hon. Friend Chaudhri Sri Chand said that large sums of money could be raised at 4½% interest. I know a large number of industrialists and businessmen and I can say that the Banks are reluctant to advance loans even at 9½%. We require at least twenty crores of rupees annually.

Sometime back the Governments of some States raised loans at four per cent. The Government of Bombay where big industrialists and rich people live could raise only three crores of rupees. It will have to be conceded that our refugee State is very poor as compared with Bombay. Similarly, the Madras Government succeeded in raising only five crores of rupees when it floated 4 per cent loan. No Bank would be prepared to advance us a loan of twenty crores of rupees annually on our credit only. I admit that the Central Government should charge lower rate of interest from us because we are not in a position to pay at a heavy rate. I want to assure the House that the Ministry will try its best to get this rate of interest reduced. Only recently the Government of India raised the rate of interest to $4\frac{1}{8}$ per cent. Previously it used to be much less. We will try our utmost to get the rate of interest reduced but still I want to point out that sufficient money cannot be raised from the public even at this rate.

The statement that the income of the peasants would increase by seventy-three crores of rupees was described as imaginary. In my opinion the gentleman who said so did not know the rates on the basis of which that figure had been calculated. We did not arrive at that figure on the basis of increased rates. The increase in income from cotton had been calculated at the rate to which it had fallen. The price of wheat had also been taken at a rate less than that of the controlled price. In fact we made our calculations by taking the price of wheat at twelve rupees per maund. I want to tell the House that the production from land to which water will be supplied, will increase by fifty or hundred per cent. All the land in those areas will come under cultivation. Another outstanding thing which should not be lost sight of is this that the production of long staple cotton of which there is a shortage in the country will increase to a very large extent. Many other valuable commodities would also be produced. We have not taken all these things into account. A large quantity of sugar-cane and oil-seeds would also be produced. I beg to submit that the estimated increase in the annual income by seventythree crores of rupees was a very conservative and minimum estimate. The sum which we will collect in thirty years will be earned by the peasants in one year. It is not correct that the peasants will be heavily burdened and crushed under the weight of this tax. Betterment fee will be charged in proportion to the benefit derived from the land. At first, the present value of the land will be calculated. Then, the price of the land when it gets water would be calculated.

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If the peasants have any objection to the evaluation, they will have the right of filing objections against it and appeal will lie against the decision on those objections. The peasants will be able to file objections at the time of the first valuation as well as the one made after the supply of water. The Government will not realise more than half of the difference between those prices. This will show that nobody will suffer even in the case of a fall in prices. In my opinion the prices will not come down for at least another ten or fifteen years. The wheat which we import from other countries costs us twenty two or twenty three rupees per maund. While making our estimates we have taken the price of wheat to be twelve rupees per maund. Even if the prices fall the Government will charge not more than half the difference between the estimated values of land before and after the supply of water.

Well, Sir, there is nothing in this Bill which may cause apprehensions in the minds of the peasants. In my opinion the betterment charges are not heavy. Supposing there is a decline in the prices of the lands, then the betterment charges will not exceed one-half of the difference between the estimated values of the lands with reference to such date prior to and after the commencement of the irrigation scheme. Then some of my hon. Friends have asked why the Government is levying these betterment charges on the poor peasants for providing electricity to them. I may tell them that the Government is in a way getting a loan of Rs. 10 crores from the peasants by levying betterment charges on them. When the Government would begin to get profit out of this then the amount of profit would be added to the Development Fund. This Development Fund, as has been pointed out in the report of the Joint Select Committee, would be utilised for the betterment of those *kisans* from whom the Government would recover betterment charges. This money will not be spent on any other purpose. My hon. Friends who pose themselves as the champions of the cause of zamindars are only misleading these people. In fact the Government want to provide water and electricity to those *ilaqas* which are invariably visited by famine every year, in order to increase food production in the State. The electricity would be provided to industrialists for setting up small and large scale industries and this will help improve the economic condition of the people. The Government expenditure incurred on the execution of schemes for electrifying the State will be to the tune of Rs. 10 crores. My economist friend should know that the Government is to be guided by the principle of supply and demand. If the Government were to increase the rates of

electricity then the demand for electricity will be less and thus the investment of the Government is likely to go waste. The Government will fix the rates of electricity in such a way that the demand for electricity is increased resulting in profit to the Government. It is a matter of common knowledge that many murders are committed by the zamindars on the turns of watering their fields. I can only conclude that my hon. Friends do not fully realize the need of zamindars in the matter of supply of water to them. These people only try to mislead the public by criticising the Government. In case there is a heavy demand for electricity then the Government will consider the question of increasing the rates. If the Government increases the rates at this stage it is quite possible that there may be very little demand for electricity which may result in the fall of income to the Government. I, however, assure the House that the amount of profit which the Government would derive from the supply of electricity would be spent on the betterment of those zamindars from whom the betterment charges are recovered by the Government.

Professor Sher Singh (Jhajjar) (Hindi) : Sir, in connection with the Punjab Betterment Charges and Acreage Rates Bill we should see why the Government has thought it necessary to levy these charges on the zamindars for providing irrigation facilities to their lands through Bhakra Dam. Before this, the British Government and then the Zamindara League Government had decided that Haryana Prant would not be included in the boundary of Bhakra Canal system. The British Government had been talking much about this ambitious scheme of Bhakra Dam after the year 1914 and continued feeding the people on exuberant and alluring promises of attaining ordered development of the State after the completion of this project. After this the Unionist Government also harped on the same tune but this project could not be completed. The excuse that was put forward by the Government at that time was that the Raja of Bilaspur was not agreeable and demanded compensation for his land. It was stated on behalf of the Government that it was prepared to pay rupees 40 lakhs by way of compensation to him but he was not willing to accept less than one crore of Rupees. I would say that if the British Government could very easily depose the Raja of Bharatpur then how the Raja of Bilaspur could have the temerity to refuse giving his land to the Government. This was only an excuse which was trotted forth by the Government to throw dust into the eyes of the public. At that time it was estimated that this scheme would involve an expenditure of

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15 crores of rupees. If this money had been spent at that time then there would not have been any need for levying betterment charges on the zamindars today and the whole amount thus spent could have been easily recovered from 'abiana' in a few years time.

Shri Maru Singh Malik : I may draw the attention of the Chair that there is no Minister in the House.

Professor Sher Singh : I think that if the Government at that time had spent rupees 15 crore on the Bhakra Project then the Government today would not have taken recourse to this unpleasant task of levying this fee on the people. Today my hon. Friends who pose themselves to be the champions of the rights of zamindars are in fact trying to mislead them by saying that the Government is out to ruin them. // I may point out to them that barring Amritsar district and the *ilaga* of Sampla where the people may not be anxious to get water for their fields, the people in Gurgaon, Ferozepore, Hissar and Jhajjar are prepared to get supply of water by paying some charges to the Government. We know that Gurgaon and Hissar districts come continuously under the grip of devastating famines and the zamindars of these *ilagas* therefore cry for immediate supply of water. Sometime back the hon. Minister for Irrigation paid a visit to Jhajjar tehsil and asked the residents of that *ilaga* that the Government would recover 62½ percent of the estimated cost of digging a canal in that *ilaga* from the zamindars. // They readily expressed their willingness to pay this amount in easy instalments. The betterment charges will be recovered from the zamindars by the Government in 30 instalments commencing from a year after the supply of water. In spite of this my hon. Friends' contention is that the Bill be circulated for eliciting public opinion thereon. I emphatically assert and challenge anybody who asserts to the contrary that every zamindar in Jhajjar Tehsil is anxious to get supply of water and is prepared to pay charges to the Government in instalments. If anybody in that *ilaga* refuses to pay these charges I will bow my head before my hon. Friends.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : I accept this challenge.

Mr. Speaker : I would not allow the hon. Members to indulge in throwing challenges to each other.

Professor Sher Singh : Well, Sir, I was saying that the peasants were yearning for water and were quite willing to pay the Betterment Fee. Both the Government at the Centre as well as this Government are determined to supply water for irrigation purposes to the peasants. Those who want to put this matter into cold storage by raising the question of

ascertaining public opinion on the subject are not the well-wishers but the enemies of the peasantry.

Clause 3 of the Bill lays down that as soon as a sum of money equal to the actual expenditure has been realized, the recoveries of Betterment Charges will be stopped. It is on this very principle that minor irrigation schemes such as the lift irrigation, flow irrigation etc., are being executed in Tehsil Jhajjar. The peasants will be called upon to meet the actual expenditure. The proviso to the proposed clause 3 lays down that if it is possible to meet the expenditure from the money realized as Abiana, Betterment Charges will not at all be levied. So, Betterment Charges will be levied only to the extent necessary to cover the difference between the actual expenditure and the money realized in the form of Abiana during the period specified for the recovery of the money spent. No peasants can have any objection to such a proposal. It was on my request that the Joint Select Committee decided to recommend the insertion of another proviso on this subject.

Then an objection has been raised that since we want to help the tenants to acquire all rights on land, the betterment charges should not be realized from the landlords. Friends sitting opposite seem to have forgotten that the period during which these fees will be realized is to extend over thirty years. It stands to reason that the tenant who will come to assume the status of an occupancy tenant or a land-owner in a period of, say, ten years will have to pay these charges. So, the fears of these friends that on the one hand we are protecting the interests of the tenants and on the other exempting them from the payment of the betterment charges are unfounded. Let them not be under the impression that this kind of talk on their part will dissuade us from helping the tenants. The Government is determined to protect and help them (Cheers) ; and it will do so with all its heart.

Now, Sir, through you I want to make a submission to the Government of India. After the completion of the Bhakra Dam, the Punjab will be able to supply foodgrains for the whole country and I am quite confident that the Government of India will then not feel the necessity of importing them from foreign countries and hence the drain of money to foreign countries will come to a stop. I am quite sure that after the completion of this Dam, the Punjabi peasants will be able to wipe out the existing deficit of our country in foodgrains with the help of the water that will then be made available to him. It is in view of this that I want to request the Government of India through you, Sir, that the peasants of this

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State should not be burdened with the entire expenditure of this Dam. They are not in a position to shoulder this immense burden and so it should also come to their rescue and help them to some extent. Not that they want to lay down any condition ; they can and will make every possible sacrifice for the well-being of their countrymen. However, they are laying a great store by this hope that the Government of India will continue to contribute its money for irrigation schemes with the same large-heartedness with which it has been contributing money for this purpose in the past.

Shri Prabodh Chandra. Sir, I beg to move—

That the question be now put.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That the question be now put.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker. Now the hon. Minister for Irrigation will reply to the criticism.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut: Sir, I want to make just one submission and it is this. Since my motion is not being accepted by the House, I want to make a statement by way of protest.

Mr. Speaker : There is no occasion for it ; therefore, you are not allowed to make any statement. Please, resume your seat.

Minister for Irrigation (Chaudhri Lahri Singh) (Hindi) : Sir, I have no mind to take much time of the House; I just want to clarify one or two points. Some of the hon. Friends do not seem to realise the feelings of poor peasants on the subject. Professor Sher Singh was quite right in saying that in fact the feelings of those who are yearning for water should be ascertained in the matter of levy of betterment charges i.e. whether they are willing to pay these charges or not.

I have not been able to understand what the friends sitting opposite meant by saying that there would be a people's Government in power by 1954. I wonder in what kind of paradise, they think they are living. May I remind them that the Bhakra Dam when completed would be one of the wonders of the world and people from all corners of the world will come to have a look at it ? The lake which will be built to impound the waters of a mighty river will be spread over an area of 47 square miles. The coming generations will wonder as to who were the persons responsible for executing such a grand project. It will be one of the greatest achievements of the Congress rule. There will be three Power Houses which will together generate four lakh kilowatts of electric power. Is

there any other place in the world where a project generating so much electric energy exists? What is the value of electricity and what benefits will accrue from its availability? This question, the hon. Friends sitting opposite should put to the uprooted traders living in Jullundur and Ludhiana who once again are anxious to establish a net-work of industries in this State. Without electricity, there can be no industrialization in the Punjab.

It has been remarked that this was an ordinary work. The hon. Members should understand that this project is of no small magnitude. The bed of 321 miles long canal is to be cemented. There are many small streams and rivulets in the way. It is a wonderful work which the Engineers are doing. A very long channel of canals is being constructed and plastered with cement. All this is being done for the ultimate benefit of the poor zamindars and the petty traders in the State. It is, therefore, wrong to say that this is a work of ordinary nature. The day is not far off when the opening ceremony of such a big project will be performed. The future generations of our State will bless the Congress Government for executing such a big project in the interest of the poor. To-day the farmer of the Punjab is crying for water which it is our duty to supply to him for his crops. That is why we are digging this canal with such speed. It is a mistake to say that Bhakra Project is a joke that is being played with the *kians*. We fully realise that the poor people are naked for want of cloth and they are dying of starvation because they are not getting water for their crops. We are trying to give them water at the earliest possible opportunity so that the *kisans* may produce more sugarcane, wheat and cotton. It has also been said that it is wrong to say that this project, when completed, will give us an income of seventy three crores of rupees. I beg to submit that if the income is even fifty crores it is no small achievement. Even if the price of wheat goes down to five or six rupees a maund the income of rupees fifty crore per annum is bound to accrue to the zamindars after the completion of this project. It is desired to recover from the zamindars rupees sixty-six crore out of the total expenditure to be incurred on this scheme, by instalments. Now if an enormous increase is effected in the income of the people, will it amount to a joke with them? In fact, it was the Unionist Government which played jokes on the people for twenty years when it went on making promises of doing this thing and that but did nothing substantial. Then it was the British Government which played such a joke on the people of Rohtak and Hissar when it went on

[Minister for Irrigation]
getting recruits for the Army from this area but paid no attention to their pressing needs. They used to hold big *durbars* but did nothing for the good of the poor people. In fact, a fraud was being played upon them for twenty years without anything useful being done. Now some of us blame the Central Government for the partition of the country and allege that it is responsible for the destruction of everything in the Punjab. My submission is that even if there had been no partition of the Punjab there was no water and no electricity in the eastern parts of this State. The previous rulers as I have stated already had been playing a hoax upon the people for nearly two decades and did not accomplish anything tangible for them. Instead of doing something useful they had been merely going about in processions on elephants. In fact the Unionist Government was a Government of the zamindars in name only as it did not do anything useful for them. The supporters of the Unionist regime and those who claim to espouse the cause of the zamindars should, in fact, feel gratified at the Congress Government giving a practical shape to a thing with which the Unionists expressed merely their lip sympathy. When this project is completed the people will come to know what the achievements of the Congress Government are. I assure the House that if the work goes on without any untoward interruption and the Engineers continue doing it with the same speed as at present the work on this project is likely to be completed by 1954 and the farmers will be able to get water by that time. Then a *darbar* will be held and the people will know what good work the Congress Government has done. It is then that all will realise that this Government is in fact the Government of the peasants and that it always works for the betterment of the lot of the poor people. (Interruptions)

Mr. Speaker : I warn you (Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut) not to interrupt, as you have been repeatedly doing, the Member, who is speaking, otherwise I will have to take a very serious action against you.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : You can do so, if you like.

Mr. Speaker : I would request the House to declare Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut who has been interrupting all through to have incurred its displeasure. In this connection, I would quote an order from May's Parliamentary Practice :

“Members are not to disturb a Member who is speaking, by hissing exclamations or other interruptions, and the resolution of the House, 22nd January, 1693, enjoins that “Mr. Speaker do call upon the Member by name, making such disturbance and that every such person shall incur the

displeasure and censure of the House.”

I have warned Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut about a thousand times not to interrupt any Member but it seems he is bent on doing so. It does not behove an hon. Member to disobey the Rules. I again warn him that if, in future, he interrupts any Member, who is speaking, I shall have to take a very stern action against him.

The motion has not been voted upon by the House as yet. Therefore, to say that it has not been accepted is wholly wrong. If any hon Member wishes to withdraw, he is very much welcome to do so.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That the Punjab Betterment Charges and Acreage Rates Bill as reported on by the Joint Select Committee be circulated for eliciting public opinion thereon by the 31st March, 1953.

The motion was lost.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut. Now that the motion sponsored by me has been rejected, I may be allowed to make a statement.

Mr. Speaker. No, I cannot allow that.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut. Then as a protest, we stage a walk out.

(At this stage Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut and his other colleagues left the Chamber.)

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That the Punjab Betterment Charges and Acreage Rates Bill as reported on by the Joint Select Committee be taken into consideration.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker. Now the House will proceed to consider the Bill clause by clause.

Clause 1

Sub clauses (2) and (3).

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That sub-clauses (2) and (3) of clause 1 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Clause 2

Shri Maru Singh Malik (Sampla) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in part (d) lines 7-15, the words “the cost of maintenance..... to be discharged” be omitted.

[Shri Maru Singh Malik]

Sir, part (d) of Clause 2 reads as follows :—

“Cost of an irrigation scheme,” means
the total financial liability accruing from the loan contracted or the investment made, the interest thereon, the cost of maintenance and operation of the scheme or of any extension thereof or of an extension as a result thereof, with reference to the period during which the said liability has to be discharged.”

Now the amendment moved by me seeks the exclusion of the cost of maintenance after the completion of the scheme from the cost of irrigation. Such cost may be included upto the time of the completion of the schemes, but not after that. This, in short, is the purpose of the amendment I have moved.

Mr. Speaker. Motion moved—

That in part (d), lines 7-15, the words “the cost of maintenance..... to be discharged” be omitted.

Minister for Irrigation. Sir, I accept the amendment.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That in part (d), lines 7-15, the words “the cost of maintenance..... to be discharged” be omitted.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That Clause 2, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Clause 3

Shri Maru Singh Malik (Sampla) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in para 2, lines 6-7, between the words “Gazette” and “and” the following words be inserted :—

“a copy of which shall be posted at a conspicuous place in the village affected.”

Sir, it is an innocuous but an essential amendment and I hope that it will meet with the approval of the hon. Minister. I need not make a long speech over it as it speaks for itself.

Mr. Speaker. Motion moved—

That in para 2, lines 6-7, between the words “Gazette” and “and” the following words be inserted :—

“a copy of which shall be posted at a conspicuous place in the village affected.”

Minister for Irrigation. Sir, I accept the amendment.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That in para 2, lines 6-7, between the words “Gazette” and “and” the following words be inserted :—

“a copy of which shall be posted at a conspicuous place in the

village affected."

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That clause 3, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Clause 4

Shri Maru Singh Malik (Sampla) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in sub-clause (1), line 3, between the words "the" and "notification" the following words be inserted :—

"publication of the"

That in sub-clause (3), line 4, between the words "Gazette" and "and" the following words be inserted :—

"a copy of which shall be posted at some conspicuous place in the area affected."

Mr. Speaker. Motions moved—

That in sub-clause (1), line 3, between the words "the" and "notification" the following words be inserted :—

"publication of the"

That in sub-clause (3), line 4, between the words "Gazette" and "and" the following words be inserted :—

"a copy of which shall be posted at some conspicuous place in the area affected."

Minister for Irrigation. Sir, I accept the amendments.

Shri Sri Chand (Bahadurgarh) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in sub clause (4), line 7, between the words "Gazette" and "present" the following be inserted :—

"or from the date of its publication in the village, whichever is later."

That in sub clause (4), lines 8-9, between the words "Government" and "stating" the following words be inserted :—

"through the Collector"

Sir, as regards the first amendment, I need not say much about it as it is self-explanatory. So far as the second one is concerned, I want that the people should be allowed to submit their petitions to the Government through the Collector and not merely hand them over to the clerical staff for consideration of the Government. Since these are not very radical amendments, I hope the same will be acceptable to the hon. Minister.

Mr. Speaker. Motions moved—

That in sub clause (4), line 7, between the words "Gazette" and "present" the following be inserted :—

"or from the date of its publication in the village, whichever is later."

That in sub clause (4), lines 8-9, between the words "Government" and "stating" the following words be inserted :—

"through the Collector"

Minister for Irrigation : Sir, I accept the first amendment and express my inability to accept the other.

Shri Sri Chand (Bahadurgarh) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That for sub-clause (5), the following be substituted :—

"(5) After considering the objections and after such further enquiry as the Government may think fit the Government shall prepare the final Schedule of betterment charges and lay the same for approval before the Legislative Assembly.

(6) The Legislative Assembly may, if it considers necessary, call further objections and make any further enquiry, if it considers necessary and may either approve the said Schedule or make any changes therein as it deems proper. The Schedule thus approved or amended shall be published in the Government Gazette and in such other manner as may be prescribed."

Sir, as a rule all the taxes are imposed with the approval of this House. But in this case only the officers of the Canal Department will get the schedule passed without the consent of this Assembly. I, therefore, submit that the final schedule must be presented in this House for final approval.

Mr. Speaker. Motion moved—

That for sub-clause (5), the following be substituted —

"(5) After considering the objections and after such further enquiry as the Government may think fit, the Government shall prepare the final schedule of betterment charges and lay the same for approval before the Legislative Assembly.

(6) The Legislative Assembly may, if it considers necessary, call further objections and make any further enquiry, if it considers necessary and may either approve the said Schedule or make any changes therein as it deems proper. The Schedule thus approved or amended shall be published in the Government Gazette and in such other manner as may be prescribed."

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That in sub-clause (1), lines 3-4, between the words "the" and "notification" the following words be inserted ;—

"publication of the"

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That in sub-clause (3), line 4, between the words "Gazette" and "and" the following words be inserted :—

"a copy of which shall be posted at some conspicuous place in

the area affected."

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That in sub-clause (4), line 7, between the words "Gazette" and "present" the following be inserted :—

"or from the date of its publication in the village whichever is later."

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That in sub-clause (4), lines 8-9, between the words "Government" and "stating" the following words be inserted :—

"through the Collector"

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That for sub-clause (5), the following be substituted :—

"(5) After considering the objections and after such further enquiry as the Government may think fit, the Government shall prepare the final schedule of betterment charges and lay the same for approval before the Legislative Assembly.

(6) The Legislative Assembly may, if it considers necessary, call further objections and make any further enquiry, if it considers necessary and may either approve the said Schedule or make any changes therein as it deems proper. The Schedule thus approved or amended shall be published in the Government Gazette and in such other manner as may be prescribed."

The motion was lost

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 4, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 5

Mr. Speaker : Now Clause 5 is before the House for consideration.

Shri Maru Singh Malik (Sampla) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in sub-clause (1), line 5, for the word "one half" the word "one fourth" be substituted.

That in sub-clause (1), lines 7-8, for the words "with reference...prior to" the following words be substituted :—

"during the year preceding"

That in sub-clause (1) lines 10-12, the words "as the Government...in this behalf" be omitted.

That in sub-clause (1), lines 13-16, for the words 'with reference..... similarly fix" the following words be substituted :—

"within a year from the date of the coming into operation of the scheme."

Sir, it is given in the Bill that :—

[Shri Maru Singh Malik]

The amount of the Betterment Charges leviable in respect of any lands included in an irrigation scheme shall not exceed one half of the difference between the value of the lands.

In this connection I suggest that the provision should be so amended as not to allow the betterment charges to exceed one fourth of the difference between the values of the lands. Furtheron, it is laid down,

To such other date after such commencement as the Government may similarly fix.

I request that the period for purposes of fixation of the price of the land should be put at three years before the coming into operation of this Bill. And then the Betterment Charges should not exceed one fourth of the difference of the prices prevailing in those three years and during one year after the supply of water to the people.

Mr. Speaker. Motions moved—

That in clause (1), line 5, for the word "one-half" the word "one-fourth" be substituted.

That in Sub-clause (1), lines 7-8, for the words "with reference..... prior to" the following words be substituted.

"during the year preceding"

That in sub-clause (1), lines 10-12, the words "as the Government... in this behalf" be omitted.

That in sub-sub-clause (1) lines 13-16, for the words "with reference... similarly fix" the following words be substituted.

"within a year, from the date of the coming into operation of the scheme".

Sardar Partap Singh (Mallanwala) (Punjabi) : Mr. Speaker, while the hon. Members of Opposition insist that no Betterment Charges should be levied in the State, the Treasury Benches are of the opinion that the amount of the Betterment Charges leviable in respect of any lands included in an irrigation scheme should not exceed one half of the difference between the values before and after the commencement of an irrigation scheme. But Sir, I, as an independent member, feel that there should be some via media acceptable to both sides of the House. I hope the House would be agreeable to the proposal that the betterment charges should not exceed one fourth of the difference of the values of the land. This is a fair and just suggestion and should be accepted by the hon. Minister.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in clause (1) line 5, for the word "one-half" the word "one-fourth" be substituted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That in sub-clause (1), lines 7-8, for the words “with reference prior to” the following words be substituted.
“during the year preceding”

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That in sub-clause (1), lines 10-12, the words “as the Government..... in this behalf” be omitted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That in sub-clause (1) lines 13-16, for the words “with reference..... similarly fix” the following words be substituted :—
“within a year from the date of the coming into operation of the scheme”.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker. Question is —

That Clause 5 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 6

Shri Maru Singh Malik (Sampla) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move —

That in sub-clause (2), line 4, between the words “Gazette” and “and” the following words be inserted—

“a copy of which shall be posted at some conspicuous place in the area affected”.

That in sub-clause (3), lines 6-7, the words “in the official Gazette” be omitted.

That in sub-clause (3), lines 8-9, between the words “Government” and “stating” the words “through] the Collector” be inserted.

Mr. Speaker, it has been provided in this clause of the Bill that no court shall have the authority to challenge the acreage rates fixed by the Government for purposes of charging betterment fees. But my amendment will enable the courts to question such schedules of rates. According to the proposed Clause of the Bill a zamindar is not permitted to seek the protection of a Civil Court even when the acreage rates of his lands have been wrongly fixed and he cannot get these corrected through it. Therefore, I appeal to the Government to accept my amendment.

Mr. Speaker. Motions moved—

That in sub-clause (2), line 4, between the words “Gazette” and “and”, the following words be inserted :—

“a copy of which shall be posted at some conspicuous place in the area affected.”

[Mr. Speaker]

That in sub-clause (3), lines 6-7, the words "in the official Gazette" be omitted.

That in sub-clause (3) lines 8-9, between the words "Government" and "stating" the words "through the Collector" be inserted.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That in sub-clause (2), line 4, between the words "Gazette" and "and", the following words be inserted :—

"a copy of which shall be posted at some conspicuous place in the area affected".

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That in sub-clause (3), lines 6-7, the words "in the official Gazette" be omitted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That in sub-clause (3), lines 8-9 between the words "Government" and "stating" the words "through the Collector" be inserted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That Clause 6, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 7

Mr Speaker. Clause 7 is before the House for consideration.

Shri Maru Singh Malik (Sampla) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in lines 11-19, the words "or the determination...betterment charges" be omitted.

Mr. Speaker. Motion moved—

That in lines 11-19, the words "or the determination...of betterment charges" be omitted.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That in lines 11-19, the words "or the determinationbetterment charges" be omitted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That Clause 7 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 8

Mr. Speaker. I invite Shri Sri Chand to move his amendments.

Shri Sri Chand (Bahadurgarh) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in sub-clause (1), line 12, between the words "occupancy" and "tenant" the words "or other" be inserted.

That in sub-clause (2), lines 1-2, between the words "occupancy" and

“tenant” the words “or other” be inserted.

That in sub-clause (2), line 12, between the words “appeals” and “as” the words “or revision” be inserted.

Mr. Speaker, there is a class of people in the villages, who according to the definitions given in this Bill neither qualify as Occupancy tenants nor as land-owners. Therefore, I want to request the Government that it should insert the words ‘or other’ in this Clause so that it may become applicable to that class of the people also. I hope, the Government will agree to this amendment.

Mr. Speaker. Motions moved—

That in sub-clause (1), line 12, between the words “occupancy” and “tenant”, the words “or other” be inserted.

That in sub-clause (2), lines 1-2, between the words “occupancy” and “tenant” the words ‘or other’ be inserted.

That in sub-clause (2), line 12, between the words “appeals” and “as” the words “or revision” be inserted.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That in sub-clause (1), line 12, between the words “occupancy” and “tenant” the words “or other” be inserted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

“That in sub-clause (2), lines 1-2, between the words “occupancy” and “tenant” the words “or other” be inserted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That in sub-clause (2), line 12, between the words “appeals” and “as” the words “or revision” be inserted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That Clause 8 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 9

Mr. Speaker. I call upon Shri Maru Singh Malik to move amendments standing in his name, to Clause 9.

Shri Maru Singh Malik (Sampla) (Hindi): Sir, I beg to move—

That in the Proviso, line 6, between the words “rates” and “may” the following be inserted :—

“not exceeding the rate of interest paid by the State Government on the work raised for the Irrigation Scheme”.

That in the Proviso, line 6, the words “as may be prescribed” be deleted.

Mr. Speaker, it is laid down in the proviso to this Clause that where

[Shri Maru Singh Malik]
the betterment charges or acreage rates are paid in instalments, interest shall be charged by the Government in respect of such instalments at such rates as may be prescribed. But the object of the amendment suggested by me is that Government should charge interest only at the rate paid by it on such loans and nothing more than that.

Mr. Speaker. Motions moved—

That in the Proviso, line 6, between the words "rates" and "may" the following be inserted :—

"not exceeding the rate of interest paid by the State Government on the work raised for the Irrigation Scheme".

That in the Proviso, line 6, the words "as may be prescribed" be deleted.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That in the Proviso, line 6, between the words "rates" and "may" the following be inserted :—

"not exceeding the rate of interest paid by the State Government on the work raised for the Irrigation Scheme".

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That in the Proviso, line 6, the words "as may be prescribed" be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker. Question is—

That Clause 9 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

*The Assembly then adjourned till 1 P.M. on Thursday, the 4th
December, 1952.*

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES

4th December, 1952

VOL. III—No. 17

OFFICIAL REPORT



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CHANDIGARH :

Printed by the Controller of Printing and Stationery, Punjab

1953

Price : -/6/-

Punjab Legislative Assembly

Thursday, 4th December, 1952

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Simla, at 1 p.m. of the clock. Mr. Speaker (Dr. Satyapal) in the chair.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

CASES CHALLANED UNDER INDIAN PENAL CODE IN GURDASPUR, AMRITSAR AND FEROEZPORE DISTRICTS.

*693. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur : Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state:—

(a) the number and broad description of the cases challaned by the police under the Indian Penal Code, between January, 1948 and 15th June, 1952, in the districts of Gurdaspur, Amritsar and Ferozepore, respectively, against members of the Police Force;

(b) the number of the cases in which the accused were convicted and acquitted, respectively, in each year in each of the districts mentioned above?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) The number of cases challaned is:—

Gurdaspur	...	12
Amritsar	...	35
Ferozepore	...	33

A statement giving a broad description of the cases is given below.

(b) Year	Gurdaspur		Amritsar		Ferozepore	
	Convicted	Acquitted	Convicted	Acquitted	Convicted	Acquitted
1948 ..	2	..	7	4	2	1
1949 ..	3	1	4	..	1	4
1950 ..	1	..	3	3	9	2
1951 ..	..	1	5	5	3	3
Up to June 1952	1	1	1	..	1	3
	7	3	20	12	16	13
	Pending in Court.. 2		Pending in Court.. 3		Pending in Court.. 4	

[Chief Minister]

Statement showing the number and broad description of cases challaned by the police under the Indian Penal Code.

Serial No.	Description of cases challaned by the Police under the I.P.C.	Result of the cases
1	2	3

GURDASPUR DISTRICT

Year 1948

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1 | F.I.R. No. 7, dated 5th January, 1948, under section 325/324/323, I.P.C., P.S. Sadar, Gurdaspur. | F.C. Pritam Singh, No. 635, was convicted under section 325/324/323, I.P.C. and sentenced to 18 months, 12 months and 6 months R.I., respectively, on 22nd May, 1948.

F.C. Kundan Singh was acquitted on 22nd May, 1948. |
| 2 | F.I.R. No. 210, dated 22nd October, 1947, under section 302, I. P.C., P.S. City Batala. Accused Tej Bhan, F.C. | On 8th May, 1948, by Sessions Judge, Gurdaspur, was convicted and sentenced to transportation for life. |

Year 1949

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 3 | F.I.R. No. 31, dated 10th February, 1949, under section 457/302/379, I.P.C., P.S. Dinanagar. Accused F.C. Hans Raj. | Accused discharged under section 253, Cr.P.C., on 17th May, 1949, by Dewan Kesho Dass, Magistrate, 1st Class, Gurdaspur. |
| 4 | Under section 233, I.P.C. Accused F.C. Santokh Singh. | Convicted and sentenced to 6 months' R.I. on 20th January, 1949, by A.D.M., Gurdaspur. |
| 5 | 223, I.P.C. Accused Pritam Singh, F.C. | Convicted to 6 months' R.I. on 23rd June, 1952, by Dewan Kesho Dass, Magistrate, 1st Class, Gurdaspur. |
| 6 | F.I.R. No. 496, dated 23rd December, 1948, under section 376, I.P.C., P.S. Pathankot. Accused Khem Singh, A.S.I. | On 3rd December, 1949, by A.D.M., Gurdaspur. Convicted and sentenced to 4 years' R.I. |

Year 1950

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 7 | F.I.R. No. 219, dated 31st October, 1949, under section 363, I.P.C., P.S. City Batala. Accused Gurcharan Singh, F.C. | On 28th April, 1950, accused convicted and sentenced to 2 years' R.I. by S. Amolak Singh. |
|---|--|---|

Serial No.	Description of cases challaned by the Police under the I.P.C.	Result of the cases
1	2	3

GURDASPUR DISTRICT—concl'd

Year 1951

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 8 | F.I.R. No. 18, dated 24th June, 1950, under section 363, I.P.C., P.S. Dalhousie. Accused F.C. Chet Ram. | Discharged under section 253, Cr. P.C., by A.D.M., Gurdaspur, on 17th July, 1951 and case has been cancelled. |
|---|---|---|

Year 1952 (up to June, 1952)

- | | | |
|----|---|--|
| 9 | F.I.R. No. 244, dated 18th September, 1951, under section 420, I.P.C., P.S. Gurdaspur. Accused Sadhu Singh, F.C. | On 31st March, 1952, accused was fined Rs. 150 or six months R.I. by Dewan Kesho Dass, Magistrate, 1st Class. |
| 10 | F.I.R. No. 326, dated 24th December, 1951, under section 380, I.P.C., P.S. Sadar, Gurdaspur. Accused Ajit Singh, Recruit. | On 1st March, 1952, the accused was discharged under section 253, Cr. P.C., and the case has been cancelled by Dewan Kesho Dass, Magistrate, 1st Class, Gurdaspur. |
| 11 | F.I.R. No. 451, dated 13th November, 1951, under section 354/451, I.P.C., P.S. Pathankot. Accused Didar Singh, F.C. | Pending in court. |
| 12 | F.I.R. No. 40, dated 13th May, 1952, under section 307/326, I.P.C., P.S. Kalanaur. Accused Amarjit Singh, F.C. | Pending in court. |

AMRITSAR DISTRICT

Year 1948

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | F.I.R. No. 35, dated 2nd February 1948, under section 394/452/170/382, I.P.C., P.S. 'D' Division. | F.C.s Gurmej Singh, Kesar Singh and Banta Singh. F.C. Gurmej Singh along with other two F.C.s posing himself to be a head constable robbed some persons of Rs. 250 and some clothes. Convicted. |
| 2 | F.I.R. No. 51, dated 7th February, 1948, under section 409/213/166, I.P.C., P.S. Civil Lines, Amritsar. | A.S.I. Mangat Singh. The accused during the investigation of a theft case misappropriated the recovered property. Acquitted. |
| 3 | F.I.R. No. 159, dated 2nd September, 1948, under section 376, I.P.C., P.S. Bhikhiwind. | F.C.s Sawarn Singh, Chanan Singh and Om Parkash. The F.C.s were alleged to have committed rape on a Muslim girl who was kept in the P.S. for being sent to Pakistan. All the three constables discharged. |

[Chief Minister]

Serial No.	Description of cases challaned by the Police under the I.P.C.	Result of the cases
1	2	3

AMRITSAR DISTRICT—*contd*Year 1948—*concl*

4	F.I.R. No. 396, dated 15th September, 1948, under section 380, I.P.C., P.S. Sadar, Amritsar.	F.C.s Tara Chand and Ram Parkash. These two F.C.s were alleged to have stolen bales of cotton yarn. Acquitted.
5	F.I.R. No. 188, dated 24th October, 1948, under section 380, I.P.C., P.S. 'A' Division, Amritsar.	F.C. Ashok Kumar. The accused is alleged to have stolen a khes of his companion from the barrack. Acquitted.
6	F.I.R. No. 291, dated 3rd July, 1948, under section 379, I.P.C., P.S. Valtaha.	F.C. Milkha Singh. The accused stole the cycle of an A.S.I. from the Police Station. Convicted.
7	F.I.R. No. 96, dated 9th July, 1948, under section 376/161/342, I.P.C., P.S. 'D' Division.	F.C.s Kirpal Singh, 816 and Karam Chand. Both the accused raped a Muslim woman and got Rs. 10 from her Hindu husband, Bawa Singh. Convicted.
8	F.I.R. No. 183, dated 16th July, 1948, under section 234, I.P.C., P.S. Gharinda.	F.C.s Jagan Nath, 1813, Hans Raj, 883 and Devindar Singh, 134. The accused were responsible for the escape of an accused person from the Police Lock-up. Convicted.
9	F.I.R. No. 242, dated 27th May, 1948, under section 380/411, I.P.C., P.S. Civil Lines, Amritsar.	F.C. Sohan Lal. The accused is alleged to have sold a stolen cycle. Convicted.
10	F.I.R. No. 278, dated 3rd October, 1948, under section 379, I.P.C., P.S. 'B' Division, Amritsar.	F.C. Kirpal Singh, No. 1328. He committed theft. Convicted.
11	F.I.R. No. 95 of 1948, under section 161, I.P.C., P.S. Civil Lines, Amritsar.	F.C. Krishan Lal, 1103. He got illegal gratification. Convicted.

Year 1949

12	F.I.R. No. 95/1949, dated 12th April, 1949, under section 161/201, I.P.C., P.S. Jandiala.	F.C. Lal Singh, No. 768. The accused took Rs. 50 as illegal gratification. Convicted.
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Serial No.	Description of cases challaned by the Police under the I.P.C.	Result of the cases
1	2	3

AMRITSAR DISTRICT—*contd*

Year 1949—concl'd

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| 13 | F.I.R. No. 232/49, dated 5th December, 1949, under section 161/225/201, I.P.C., P.S. Lopoke. | F.C. Mohinder Singh. He and Ajai Singh, N.V.C., captured a working still. While they were taking the accused to Police Station with the help of Jagir Singh, Lambardar, they let off the accused after taking Rs. 250. Convicted. |
| 14 | F.I.R. No. 53, dated 7th March, 1949, under section 283, I.P.C., P.S. Valtaha. | F.C. Tara Singh. This F.C. facilitated the escape of an accused who was in his custody. Convicted. |
| 15 | F.I.R. No. 192, dated 31st May, 1949, under section 223, I.P.C., P.S. Civil Lines, Amritsar. | F.C.s Ajit Singh, Harbans Lal, Joginder Singh and Gurmukh Singh. The four F.C.s were responsible for the escape of the prisoner, Sadhu Singh. Convicted. |

Year 1950

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| 16 | F.I.R. No. 38, dated 29th January, 1950, under section 392, I.P.C., P.S. Sadar, Amritsar. | F.C.s Pavittar Singh, Pritam Singh and Gurcharan Singh, No. 80. These F.C.s along with another unknown culprit robbed a beldar on Amritsar-Ajnala Road. Acquitted. |
| 17 | F.I.R. No. 325, dated 26th October, 1950, under section 224, I.P.C., P.S. Civil Lines, Amritsar. | F.C.s Surinder Singh, No. 54 and Ram Singh, No. 621. Both the F.C.s took two accused from Judicial Lock-up. After producing them before the Duty Magistrate they let them off. Convicted. |
| 18 | F.I.R. No. 109, dated 29th May, 1950, under section 409/420, I.P.C., P.S. Lopoke. | A.S.I. Jeeta Singh, F.C.s Gurbachan Singh, Lachhman Singh, Ramu Ram, Harbhagwan, Asa Ram, Puna Lal, Harbans Lal, Sohan Singh, Sewa Singh, Partap Singh, Tika Singh, Amar Singh, Mahabir Singh, Amar Nath and Bhagirath Ram. In all 16 accused P.A.P. personnel. All the 15 F.C.s along with A.S.I. Jeeta Singh caught hold of a smuggler and recovered certain property. They did not deposit it with any police station but misappropriated it. Acquitted. |

[Chief Minister]

Serial No.	Description of cases challaned by the Police under the I.P.C.	Result of the cases
1	2	3

AMRITSAR DISTRICT—*contd*Year 1950—*concl*

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| 19 | F.I.R. No. 70, dated 25th February, 1950, under section 224/223, I.P.C., P.S. Civil Lines. | H.C. Bakhtwar Singh, No. 386 and F.C.s Pashauri Lal, 976, Mohinder Lal, 1467, Mehr Singh, 1361 and Gurumukh Singh, No. 1243. Roshan Lal, accused, who was admitted in V.J. Hospital was in the custody of these police officers. He escaped from their custody. |
| 20 | F.I.R. No. 147/50, dated 20th July, 1950, under section 302, I.P.C., P.S. Patti. | F.C. Joginder Singh, No. 1443. Joginder Singh and his brother killed Maluk Singh as they had dispute over the ownership of a joint house. Convicted. |
| 21 | F.I.R. No. 187, dated 24th November, 1950, under section 409, I.P.C., P.S. Bhikhiwind. | F.C.s Manohar Lal, No. 844 and Lal Chand, No. 422. By making wrong entry in the cattle pound register and in the daily diary, the accused misappropriated a sum of Rs. 114. Acquitted. |

Year 1951

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| 22 | F.I.R. No. 60/51, dated 11th March, 1951, under sections 376/116/354/347/148, I.P.C., P.S. Lopoke. | A.S.I. Sohan Singh, F.C.s Bhagat Singh, 1089, Jarnail Singh, No. 748, Rajinder Singh, 1806. Gian Chand, 454, Sohan Singh, 384 and Baldev Raj, No. 954. On information that A. S. I. Rakha Singh has been assaulted by 20 men, A.S.I. Sohan Singh reached the spot and tortured, maltreated and insulted the relations of the accused. Acquitted. |
| 23 | F.I.R. No. 53, dated 3rd May, 1951, under section 394, I.P.C., P.S. 'C' Division, Amritsar. | F.C. Santa Singh, No. 598. He forcibly removed golden bangles from the wrist of Mst. Piari, w/o Natha Singh. He was arrested at the spot when she raised an alarm. Convicted. |
| 24 | F.I.R. No. 246, dated 12th July, 1951, under section 364/201/304, I.P.C., P.S. Sadar, Amritsar. | H.C. Sain Dass, F.C.s Santokh Singh, No. 1408, Des Raj, No. 509 and Sawaran Singh, No. 989. Ruldu, the deceased, was brought in the Police Station (Sultanwind Post) as a suspect. H.C. Sain Dass along with other four F.C.s committed torture on him as a result of which he died. All convicted. |

Serial No.	Description of cases challaned by the Police under the I.P.C.,	Result of the cases
1	2	3
AMRITSAR DISTRICT— <i>contd</i> Year 1951— <i>concl</i>		
25	F.I.R. No. 175, dated 3rd August, 1951, under section 347, I.P.C., P.S. 'E' Division.	F.C.s Mukhtiar Singh, 1934 and Sawaran Singh, 455. The accused accepted an illegal gratification of Rs. 40 from a goldsmith. Convicted.
26	F.I.R. No. 103, dated 3rd August, 1951, under section 109/161/162, I.P.C., P.S. Jhabal.	A.S.I. Banarsi Dass and F.C. Sohan Singh. A.S.I. Banarsi Dass on information that a woman had committed abortion extorted the sum of Rs. 800 with the help of a Lambardar. Acquitted.
27	F.I.R. No. 212, dated 29th September, 1951, under section 380, I.P.C., P.S. Patti.	F.C. Puran Chand. Theft of Roznamcha from the Police Station. Convicted.
28	F.I.R. No. 154, dated 7th September, 1951, under section 325, I.P.C., P.S. Valtoha.	M.C. Balbir Chand, No. 425 and Gurbachan Singh, No. 1542. The accused on the pretext of searching for a culprit attacked Bhagat Singh, s/o Kehar Singh, on the right arm which was fractured. Acquitted.
29	F.I.R. No. 78, dated 31st March, 1951, under section 302, I.P.C., P.S. Beas.	H.C. Darbara Singh, F.C. Jaswant Singh, F.C. Surat Singh, Gurdip Singh and Swaran Singh. One Pritam Singh, s/o Ishar Singh, Mazhbi, during interrogation, was tortured to death and the dead body was disposed of. Discharged.
30	F.I.R. No. 280/51, dated 20th October, 1951, under section 386, I.P.C., P.S. 'D' Division.	F.C. Harbans Lal, No. 1129. The accused Harbans Lal struck his cycle against a girl while he was driving rash and negligently. Acquitted.
31	F.I.R. No. 325/51, under section 224, I.P.C., P.S. Civil Lines, Amritsar.	The accused facilitated the escape of a culprit (accused). Convicted.
Year 1952 (up to June, 1952)		
32	F.I.R. No. 14, dated 10th January, 1952, under section 337/304-A, P.S. Civil Lines, Amritsar.	Shri P.A. Roshia, I.P.S., Superintendent of Police, Border, Amritsar. The accused is alleged to have run down a cyclist while driving his jeep. Pending in Court.

[Chief Minister]

Serial No.	Description of cases challaned by the Police under the I.P.C.	Result of the cases
1	2	3
AMRITSAR DISTRICT—concl'd		
<i>Year 1952 (up to June, 1952)—concl'd</i>		
33	F.I.R. No. 24, dated 4th February, 1952, under section 332/355, I.P.C., 'E' Division, Amritsar.	F.C. Baldev Sahai, No. 834. Accused gave beating to the Lines Officer as he thought he was responsible for getting him punished. Convicted.
34	F.I.R. No. 72, dated 29th March, 1952, under section 409, I. P. C., P. S. Beas.	S.I. Munshi Ram, No. 7/PAP. He was posted at Beas Bridge. As he was called in P.A.P. Lines, Jullundur, for some enquiry against him, he deserted with Government revolver and some ammunition. Pending in court.
35	F.I.R. No. 85, dated 29th April, 1952, under section 376/342, I.P.C., P.S. Lopoke.	Recruit Jagir Singh at Jehan Khelan. He committed rape on a girl, Mst. Jito. Pending in court.
FEROZEPURE DISTRICT		
<i>Year 1948</i>		
1	F.I.R. No. 34, dated 18th March, 1948, under section 392, I.P.C., P.S. Kot Bhai.	F.C. Harchand Singh. On 30th November, 1948, acquitted by A.D.M., Ferozepore.
2	F.I.R. No. 69, dated 11th July, 1948, under section 457, I.P.C., P.S. Mahna.	F.C. Sadhu Singh, No. 226. On 31st December, 1948, sentenced to 1½ years, R.I. by Shri Krishan Lal, M.I.C., Moga.
3	F.I.R. No. 169, dated 23rd August, 1948, under section 161, I.P.C., P.S. Sadar, Fazilka.	F.C. Bogha Ram, P.A.P. On 28th April, 1949, was acquitted by Capt. P.L. Sohndhi, M.I.C., Ferozepore.
4	F.I.R. No. 171, dated 31st August, 1948, under section 409, I.P.C., P.S. Sadar, Ferozepore.	F.C. Santa Singh, 1631-P.A.P. On 1st June, 1949, sentenced to one month's R.I. by K. Balbir Singh, M.I.C., Ferozepore.
5	F.I.R. No. 291, dated 9th November, 1948, under section 338, I.P.C., P.S. Jalalabad.	F.C. Sohan Lal, No. 853-P.A.P. On 7th February, 1951, acquitted. Case was compromised.

Serial No.	Description of cases challaned by the Police under the I.P.C.	Result of the cases
1	2	3

FEROZEPURE DISTRICT—*contd*

Year 1948—concl'd

6	Under section 161, I.P.C.	F.C. Roop Lal, No. 563. On 30th October, 1948, was fined Rs. 100 or one month's R.I. by S.D.M., Moga.
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Year 1949

7	F.I.R. No. 21, dated 4th February, 1949, under section 394, I.P.C., P.S. Mamdot.	Hans Raj, A.S.I.-P.A.P. On 16th July, 1949, acquitted by S. Kulwant Singh, M.I.C.
8	F.I.R. No. 28, dated 19th February, 1949, under section 380, I.P.C., P.S. Railway, Ferozepore.	A.S.I. Mohinder Singh, Railway Police, Ferozepore. On 10th June, 1951, the accused was discharged and the case was cancelled by Shri P.L. Sondhi, M.I.C., Ferozepore.
9	F.I.R. No. 54, dated 10th March, 1949, under section 409, I.P.C., P.S. Sadar, Ferozepore.	F.C. Shamsher Singh. No. 2150-P.A.P. On 9th April, 1949, was discharged.
10	F.I.R. No. 189, dated 5th October, 1949, under section 378/366, I.P.C., P.S. Kot Bhai.	F.C.s Mukhtiar Singh, No. 214, and Chand Singh, No. 1314. On 18th March, 1950, were sentenced to five years' R.I. under each section by M.I.C., Gidder Baha.
11	F.I.R. No. 138, dated 17th October, 1949, under section 338, I.P.C., P.S. Railway Cantt. Ferozepore.	F.C. Balwant Singh, No. 199. On 3rd December, 1949, was acquitted and the case was compromised by Shri P.C. Behl, M.I.C., Ferozepore.
12	F.I.R. No. 204, dated 19th October, 1949, under section 409, I.P.C., P.S. Cantt. Ferozepore.	F.C. Mukhtiar Singh, No. 1288. On 15th July, 1950, was sentenced to two years' R.I. by S. Mohinder Singh, M.I.C., Ferozepore.
13	F.I.R. No. 337, dated 20th January, 1949, under section 304/201/342/333, I.P.C., P.S. Sadar, Ferozepore.	A.S.I.-P.A.P. Kashmira Singh and F.C.s Swarn Singh and Rattan Singh. On 26th July, 1950, Swarn Singh to 3 years' R.I., Rattan Singh to 1 year's R.I. and Kashmira Singh was acquitted by S. Kashmira Singh, M.I.C., Ferozepore.

[Chief Minister]

Serial No.	Description of cases challaned by the Police under the I.P.C.	Result of the cases
1	2	3

FEROZEPORE DISTRICT—*contd**Year 1949—concl'd*

14	F.I.R. No. 247, dated 28th October, 1949, under section 420, I.P.C., P.S. City Ferozepore.	F.C. Nidhan Singh, No. 432. On 29th May, 1950, the accused was discharged by P.C. Behl, M.I.C., Ferozepore.
15	F.I.R. No. 509, dated 26th December, 1949, under section 363/376, I.P.C., P.S., Muktsar.	F.C. Gurdip Singh. No. 654. On 30th November, 1950, the accused was acquitted by M.I.C., Muktsar.

Year 1950

16	F.I.R. No. 4, dated 6th January, 1950, under section 147/325, I.P.C., P.S. Malout.	F.C. Arjan Singh, No. 1220. On 25th August, 1950, was sentenced to 1 year's R.I. under each section by S.D.M., Fazilka.
17	F.I.R. No. 87, dated 2nd June, 1950, under section 354, I.P.C., P.S. Cantt. Ferozepore.	F.C. Jhangi Ram, No. 234. On 27th July, 1950, sentenced to 4 months' R.I. by A.D.M., Ferozepore.
18	F.I.R. No. 166, dated 9th September, 1950, under section 380, I.P.C., P.S. Cantt. Ferozepore.	F.C. Kalip, No. 1282. On 27th December, 1950, sentenced to 6 months' R.I. by S. Mohinder Singh, M.I.C., Ferozepore.
19	F.I.R. No. 150, dated 23rd October, 1950, under section 454, I.P.C., P.S. Khuyan Sarwar.	F.C. Rattan Chand, No. 3551-P.A.P. On 3rd November, 1950, sentenced to 1½ years' R.I. by M.I.C., Fazilka.
20	F.I.R. No. 213, dated 25th November, 1950, under section 411, I.P.C., P.S. Cantt. Ferozepore.	F.C. Mani Ram, No. 937. On 20th December, 1950, was bound down for Rs. 1,000 for one year, S&B under section 562, Cr. P. C., by Shree I.E.N. Chuhan, M.I.C., Ferozepore.
21	F.I.R. No. 207, dated 6th December, 1950, under section 411, I.P.C.	F.C. Mani Ram, No. 937. On 20th December, 1950, was bound down for Rs. 1,000 for one year, S & B under section 562, Cr. P.C., by Shree I.E.N. Chuhan, M.I.C., Ferozepore.
22	F.I.R. No. 46, dated 3rd April 1950, under section 436/109, I.P.C., P.S. City Ferozepore.	H.C. Ram Narain, No. 848. On 15th March, 1951, was sentenced to 7 years' R.I. and fined Rs. 10,000 or 1½ years' R.I. by A.D.M., Ferozepore.

Serial No.	Description of cases challaned by the Police under the I.P.C.	Result of the cases
1	2	3

FEROZEPORE DISTRICT—*contd*

Year 1950—concl'd

- 23 F.I.R. No. 61, dated 27th April, 1950, under section 409, I.P.C., P.S. City Ferozepore.
- H.C. Ram Narain, No. 848.
- (1) On 15th March, 1951, 3 years' R.I.
 - (2) On 15th March, 1951, 1½ years' R.I.
 - (3) On 15th March, 1951, 3 years' R.I.
 - (4) On 15th March, 1951, 1½ years' R.I.
 - (5) On 15th March, 1951, 1½ years' R.I.
 - (6) On 15th March, 1951, 3 years' R.I.
 - (7) On 15th March, 1951, acquitted.
 - (8) On 15th March, 1951, 1½ years' R.I.
- under section 409, by A.D.M., Ferozepore.
- 24 F.I.R. No. 79, dated 24th May, 1950, under section 471/409, I.P.C., P.S. City Ferozepore.
- H.C. Ram Narain, No. 848.
- (1) On 15th March, 1951, sentenced to 6 years' R.I. and fined Rs. 5,000 or one year's R.I. under section 409, I.P.C.
 - (2) On 15th March, 1951, to 4½ years' R.I. under section 471, I.P.C., by A.D.M., Ferozepore.
 - (3) On 15th March, 1951, to 5 years' R.I. under section 5, P.C. Act.

Year 1951

- 25 F.I.R. No. 139, dated 5th October, 1951, under section 452/354, I.P.C., P.S. City Ferozepore.
- F.C. Harchand Singh, No. 237. On 27th October, 1951, was discharged by Captain P.S. Sondhi, M.I.C., Ferozepore.
- 26 F.I.R. No. 233, dated 5th October, 1951, under section 447, I.P.C., P.S. Moga.
- F.C. Baldev Raj, No. 32. On 31st March, 1952, was acquitted by S.D.M., Moga, and the case was cancelled.
- 27 F.I.R. No. 221, dated 1st November, 1951, under section 364, I.P.C., P.S. Sadar, Ferozepore.
- F.C. Partap Singh, No. 176 GRP/Ajmer. Challaned on 29th April, 1952.
- 28 F.I.R. No. 119, dated 9th November, 1951, under section 342/193/211/213/323, I.P.C., P.S. Mallanwala.
- S.I. Ujagar Singh, A. S. I. Narain Singh and F.C.s Ram Lubhaya, No. 452, Maghar Singh, No. 1126, Naurang Singh, No. 640, Kashmiri Lal, No. 372. On 30th March, 1952, all the accused were discharged by A.D.M., Ferozepore.

[Chief Minister]

Serial No.	Description of cases challaned by the Police under the I.P.C.	Result of the cases
1	2	3

FEROZEPORE DISTRICT—concl'd

Year 1951—concl'd

29	F.I.R. No. 182, dated 23rd December, 1951, under section 379, I.P.C., P.S. City Ferozepore.	F.C.s Gian, Singh, No. 231 and Malkiat Singh, No. 217. On 29th February, 1952, Gian Singh was sentenced to 6 months' R.I. and Malkiat Singh was discharged by A.D.M., Ferozepore.
30	F.I.R. No. 118, dated 25th December, 1951, under section 354/342/323, I.P.C., P.S. Makhu.	S.I. P.A.P. Ch. Sarup Singh. Challaned on 28th December, 1951.

Year 1952 (up to June, 1952)

31	F.I.R. No. 15, dated 4th February, 1952, under section 337/279, I.P.C., P.S. Sadar Ferozepore.	F.C. No. 298, Punna Singh. On 29th March, 1952, was acquitted by P.L. Sanghi, M.I.C., Ferozepore.
32	F.I.R. No. 62, dated 9th March, 1952, under sections 161, I.P.C. and 5, P.C. Act, P. S. Dharamkot.	H.C. Kartar Singh. Challaned on 4th April, 1952.
33	F.I.R. No. 80, dated 31st March, 1952, under section 161, I.P.C., P.S. Dharm Kot.	Rattan Chand, No. 1340. Challaned on 11th April, 1952.

CONFLIT BETWEEN TENANTS AND LANDLORDS IN DISTRICT FEROZEPORE

***1121. Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state:—

(a) whether any cases of conflict between the tenants and landlords over the distribution of farm produce in Ferozepore District, especially Jalalabad area, have recently come to the notice of the Government;

(b) whether the S.P., Border under the orders of the S.S.P., Ferozepore District, made investigations in this connection; if so, the result thereof?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) Yes. As a result of this conflict, 4 cases were registered in Ferozepore District.

(b) The Superintendent of Police (Border) investigated only 2 of these cases under orders of the S.S.P.—F.I.R. No. 170, dated 3rd October, 1952, under section 379, I.P.C. and F.I.R. No. 174, dated 6th October, 1952, under section 379/406, I.P.C.—both registered at Police

Station Jalalabad. In the first case, 23 accused tenants and their accomplices in all were involved, of whom 20 have been arrested; whereas in the second all the 17 accused tenants and their accomplices have been placed under arrest. Both the cases have been sent to court for trial.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : May I know whether the quarrels mentioned in the question took place between the refugee landlords and the old tenants ?

Shri Wadhawa Ram : Is the Minister aware of the fact that the challans were made after the parties had compromised ?

Chief Minister : I require notice for this question.

GRANT OF GUN LICENCES TO MINISTERS AND M.L.A.S

***1166. Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state the number of licences for firearms granted to Ministers and M.L.A.s during the period from 1st April, 1952 to 30th September, 1952, together with the description of the arms for which the said licences have been granted ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar :

Number of licences granted to Ministers during ..	Nil
the period 1st April, 1952 to 30th September, 1952, together with description of arms	
Number of licences granted to M. L. A.s during the ..	Pistols 2
period 1st April, 1952 to 30th September, 1952, to- gether with description of arms	Revolvers 6
	Rifle 1
	DBBL Gun 1
	Total .. 10

POLITICAL PRISONERS IN THE STATE.

***1167. Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state the total number of political prisoners in all the Jails of the State at present together with the number of those placed in A and B classes separately and the recreative facilities, if any provided to them in each case ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : No political prisoner is at present confined in any of the Jails of the Punjab.

THEKRI PEHRA IN TEHSIL JAGADHRI.

***1341. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state:—

(a) whether it is a fact that Thekri Pehra exists in the whole of Jagadhri Tehsil ;

[Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut]

- (b) whether any persons belonging to Villages Sher Garh and Kul Chudoo, Tehsil Jagadhri, were recently punished for refusing to take part in the Thekri Pehra ; if so, the nature of punishment awarded in each case ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) Yes.

(b) No.

ATTACHMENT OF THE PROPERTY OF COMRADE GURBUX SINGH DAKOTA, OF
VILLAGE SANTA MARJA, DISTRICT AMBALA.

***1342. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut :** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state:—

- (a) whether the property of Comrade Gurbux Singh Dakota, a Communist worker of Village Santa Majra, Tehsil Kharar, District Ambala, was attached on 1st August, 1949 ; if so, the contents of the attached property ;
- (b) whether the Government intends releasing his property ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : (a) Yes, the following property of Shri Gurbux Singh Dakota, a Communist worker, was attached on 14th June, 1950 and not on 1st August, 1949:—

1. Two bighas of land and occupancy rights in 32 bighas and 4 biswas of land out of which 13 bighas 17 biswas is mortgaged.
2. One house.
3. One frame of an easy chair.
4. One Ada for weaving Azarband.
5. One scale.
6. One trunk of tin (broken).
7. One crude spinning wheel.
8. Two boxes (broken).
9. One wooden churner.
10. One iron bucket.
11. One buffalo.

(b) Necessary steps are being taken to release his property.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS IN THE STATE.

***1122. Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state:—

- (a) the steps, if any, taken by the Government to start field operations of Community Projects in the various centres of the State;
- (b) the number of villages in each centre where work has actually started;
- (c) the names of non-officials from amongst the public associated with these activities, together with the manner and method of co-ordination of work in this connection?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) According to the model scheme prepared by the Government of India, development work in the first instance is to be taken up in the first block of each Community Project. All the necessary steps for the purpose, such as employment of staff, provision and allocation of funds, preparation of tentative schemes, etc., in respect of the Projects established in this State, have been taken. Actual field work in all the projects was inaugurated on the 2nd October, 1952, the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi.

(b) As laid down in the Community Projects Scheme, development work will be carried on in the first development block comprising about 100 villages of each Project.

(c) To begin with, Project Advisory Committees, which in addition to the principal officials serving in the Project area, would also consist of the following non-officials are being constituted in all the Projects :—

- (i) Members of Parliament in whose constituency any part of the Project area, is situated.
- (ii) Members of the State Legislative Assembly in whose constituency the Project area falls or who reside in it.
- (iii) Members of the State Legislative Council residing in the Project area.
- (iv) All members of the District Board residing in the Project area.
- (v) Five representatives from the village Panchayats in the Project area, to be nominated by the Director of Panchayats in consultation with the Deputy Commissioner.

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- (vi) Two representatives from the Multipurpose Co-operative Societies in the Project area to be nominated by the Registrar, Co-operative Societies, in consultation with the Deputy Commissioner.
- (vii) Two representatives from the Bharat Sevak Samaj, to be nominated by the organizers of the Samaj in the State.
- (viii) Five practical agriculturists, to be nominated by the Deputy Commissioner of the district in consultation with the Director of Agriculture.
- (ix) Seven Social workers, to be nominated by the Government.

It is intended that all the schemes and activities to be taken up in connection with the development work in the Project should be formulated in consultation with the Project Advisory Committees, which as stated above would be as representative as possible of all the non-official elements within the Project area. The same pattern may be reproduced in gradual stages in the blocks and the villages as the respective local elected bodies become operative in these lower units. In fact the object of the Community Projects scheme is to enthuse the people with the spirit of self-help and all the schemes are in fact to be implemented with the help of the villagers' contribution and Government have only to provide technical assistance and also financial assistance up to the prescribed limit.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : In part (c) of the question I had asked the names of those non-official persons associated by the Government in this behalf but the Minister has not given this information. Will he kindly inform the House about this point?

Minister : They have not been associated yet.

REINSTATEMENT OF EJECTED TENANTS IN THE STATE

***1165. Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state:—

- (a) the number of ejected tenants in the State who have been reinstated under the Legislation passed in the July Session of the Assembly district-wise ;
- (b) the number of cases for reinstatement pending and the number of cases rejected, respectively, district-wise ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that Government has recently issued some instructions for reversing these reinstatements ; if so, what, together with the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) and (b) A statement is given below.

(c) *First part.* No.

Second part. Does not arise.

Statement showing the reinstatement of ejected tenants in the State

Serial No.	District	Ejected No. of tenants who have been reinstated under the Punjab Prevention of Ejection (Temporary Powers) Ordinance, 1952	No. of cases for restoration	
			Pending	Rejected
1	2	3	4	5
1	Hissar ..	54	..	64
2	Rohtak ..	411	3	88
3	Gurgaon ..	111	..	..
4	Karnal ..	110	..	29
5	Ambala ..	70	9	68
6	Simla ..		Nil	
7	Kangra ..	62	..	50
8	Hoshiarpur ..	29	13	43
9	Jullundur ..	5	Nil	1
10	Ludhiana ..	17	..	51
11	Ferozepore ..	103	28	192
12	Amritsar ..	36	..	68
13	Gurdaspur ..	6	7	..

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state the reasons for the rejection of a number of applications.

Minister : No, I am sorry I cannot state the reasons at this time.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : What action is the Government taking in respect of ejection notices which are being served now ?

Minister : What connection has this question got with the main question ? The hon. Member might as well ask about things which will happen fifteen days hence.

KEY VILLAGE FARMS IN THE STATE

*1211 **Shri Ram Kishan** : Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state:—

- (a) whether the Government has prepared any scheme to establish Key Village Farms for the general improvement and upgrading of cattle in the State; if so, the details of that scheme;
- (b) whether the Government has under consideration any scheme to establish Segregation Camps for useless or unproductive cattle; if so, the steps that are being taken by the Government in this connection?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) A statement giving the required information is given below.

(b) The proposal to establish Segregation Camps in the State was considered in the past but it was dropped on account of lean resources of the State and the fact that no suitable land was available for the purposes. The Government of India are now prepared to finance this scheme on 50 : 50 basis and, therefore, this proposal is again under the consideration of Government. Steps are again being taken to find suitable place within the State for the purpose. In case it is not possible to acquire some land in the State, then there is an alternative Scheme of setting up Concentration Camp in the Terai area of U.P., cost of which is being worked out.

Statement giving the details of the scheme regarding establishment of Key Village Farms for the general improvement and upgrading of cattle in the State

A "Scheme for the Establishment of a Key Farm Centre for cattle improvement" at the Government Livestock Farm, Hissar, for upgrading the State Cattle was started from 1st December, 1951. as a Grow-More-Food Scheme, under the charge of a qualified Veterinary Assistant Surgeon, one Laboratory Assistant, one Milk Recorder, one Stock Assistant and 2 Cattle Attendants. This Scheme aimed at locating superior bulls possessing potentialities for protection of a very high order and utilising the same in a planned and systematic manner so that their kind may be progressively multiplied and thereby to make good the present shortage of cow and buffalo bulls with superior germ plasm in as short a time as possible through natural/artificial insemination. Necessary preliminary arrangements including selection of 10 suitable bulls (5 Murrah buffalo-bulls and 5 Haryana cow-bulls), their stabling and feeding arrangements, their training as doners of the semen for artificial insemination work, survey of the ilaqa, preparation of necessary records, purchase of necessary equipments etc., were completed by the end of December, 1951. The number of villages taken was 18 round about Hissar City. In all 476 artificial inseminations have been done up to 30th September, 1952, and all serub bulls in the area served by the scheme and other male calves have been castrated or reserved so that only the approved bulls with good potentialities may

be used for breeding purposes. Further all animals in the *ilaqa* were vaccinated and inoculated against the common contagious diseases as a prophylactic measure and no outbreak of any contagious disease has so far occurred as a result. The budget grant for the year 1951-52, was Rs. 10,520 and that for 1952-53, is Rs. 18,000, dated 30th June, 1952, the total expenditure incurred from the inception of the scheme to the end of June, 1952, was Rs. 8,883-14-6.

With effect from the 1st April 1952, this Scheme ceased to exist as a Grow-More-Food Scheme and was merged into the Key Village Scheme under the auspices of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research with the costs to be shared by the Council and the State Government 50:50 basis. In order further to stop up artificial insemination work and to utilise agencies other than the Government Live-stock Farm, Hissar, the co-operation of other selected private farms and gaushalas with satisfactory administrative machinery, expert management, economic stability, etc., in the State was sought for establishing similar centres and Amritsar Khalsa College, Dairy and Gaushala, Rewari, have been approved as supplementary agencies to be brought into the scope of the Key Farm centre scheme.

AREA OF LAND IN RUPI JAGIR, KULU SUB-DIVISION

***1397. Rai Raghuvir Singh :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) the total area in bighas and biswas of the waste land found to be encroached upon in Rupi Jagir, Kulu Sub-Division, during the revenue settlement held recently ;
- (b) the list of persons found to be in possession of the waste land phati-wise, i.e., revenue estate-wise together with:—
 - (i) the area of the land encroached upon by each of them ;
 - (ii) the rate of compensation leviable per bigha ;
 - (iii) the total sum of money that each of them is required to pay as compensation ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) 4,189 bighas.

(b) The time and trouble involved in collecting the information will not be commensurate with any possible benefit to be obtained.

PAYMENT OF LAND DUES BY THE TALUQDARS

***1399. Rai Raghuvir Singh :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether the holder of a Taluqdari land in Jagir Rupi has to pay heavier land dues than a similar holder on a similar type of land in a Non-Taluqdari area adjacent to the Jagir Rupi ; if so, the difference in the dues on a unit of 25 bighas of such land ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : The holder of Taluqdari land in Jagir Rupi pays land revenue at the same rate as in the neigh-

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boursing Phatis outside Taluqdari area but in addition pays Taluqdari dues equal to 1/7th of the land revenue to Jagirdar Rupi being Alamalik.

CONFISCATION OF JAGIRS IN THE STATE

***1400. Shri Ram Chandra Comrade :** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Government have decided to confiscate all Jagirs in the State ;
- (b) the date from which this decision is to be given effect to ;
- (c) the acreage of land in each district thus confiscated ;
- (d) the use to which this land is to be put ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon : (a) Yes—except the military Jagirs and those granted for religious and charitable institutions.

(b) A Bill is being brought before the Assembly. The decision will be given effect to from the date the Bill is passed.

(c) This decision about Jagirs has no concern with the confiscation of land.

(d) In view of reply at (c) this does not arise.

ALLOTMENT OF EVACUEE LANDS.

***619. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) the names of the districts in which the allotment of evacuee lands has not been completed as yet; if so, the reasons therefor ;
- (b) the total number of allotment sanads distributed to the refugees up to 31st May, 1952, for each district ;
- (c) the number of displaced persons district-wise who have been given possession of the land up to 31st May 1952 in the districts referred to in part (a) above and the total area put under their possession ;
- (d) whether there is any area of evacuee lands which has not been allotted or allotted but not given possession of till now in each of the districts referred to in part (a) above; if so, the total of such area for each district mentioned in part (a) above according to grades of allotments ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) The work excepting implementation of orders held in abeyance owing to the issue of *ad interim* stay orders by the Custodian-General and the State High Court or where

areas have become available consequent upon cancellation of excess allotment, has been completed in all the Districts of the State.

(b) and (c) A statement marked "A" is given below.

(d) Statement marked 'B' showing the area of evacuee land which has not been allotted till now in each of the districts because of its being of the most inferior quality is given below. Figures of area allotted but not given possession till now are not readily available.

Statement 'A'

Serial No.	Districts	Total number of allotment orders, distributed up to 31st May, 1952	Total number of D.Ps. given possession of the land up to 31st May, 1952	Total area put under possession of D.Ps. in column 3, up to 31st May, 1952, (St. acres)
1	2	3	4	5
1	Jullundur ..	23,325	23,320	197,083
2	Ludhiana	18,696	17,975	107,414
3	Hoshiarpur ..	35,405	35,205	155,979
4	Ferozepore ..	64,257	59,200	452,483
5	Kangra ..	242	197	2,952
6	Amritsar ..	29,050	20,957	158,810
7	Gurdaspur ..	44,791	43,848	166,724
8	Ambala ..	39,385	38,190	111,873
9	Karnal ..	37,053	36,363	248,075
10	Rohtak ..	23,620	23,620	86,379
11	Hissar ..	35,410	31,552	225,522
12	Gurgaon ..	26,353	23,651	53,535
	Total ..	377,587	354,078	1,966,829

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Statement 'B'

Serial No.	District	Area remaining unallotted as on 9th September, 1952		
		In bits	In river beds sand dunes or of most inferior quality	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1	Jullundur ..	..	2,645	2,645
2	Ludhiana ..	..	3,000	3,000
3	Hoshiarpur ..	156	2,344	2,500
4	Ferozepore ..	3,499	9,099	12,598
5	Amritsar ..	..	3,122	3,122
6	Gurdaspur ..	1,049	4,397	5,446
7	Ambala ..	288	2,684	2,972
8	Karnal ..	..	2,986	2,986
9	Hissar ..	..	8,548	8,548
10	Rohtak ..	..	416	416
11	Gurgaon ..	22	43	65
12	Kangra ..	..	..	..
	Total ..	5,014	39,284	44,298

ALLOCATION OF AREAS FOR DISPLACED PERSONS

*620. **Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur** : Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether any allocation has been fixed for urban and suburban area in the State for the displaced persons from various districts of Pakistan; if so, the list of allocation fixed regarding each town and city in each district of the State have been fixed for the displaced persons;

(b) the names of towns and cities in Amritsar District in which urban and suburban areas are available along with the names of the towns and cities of Punjab districts for which each town and city in Amritsar District has been fixed?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) For allotment of land in suburban areas, the same scheme of allocation is followed as in the case of rural lands.

In the urban areas of the State, agricultural lands are leased out to urban landholders in accordance with the grades of towns in which lands were held by them in Pakistan. In 'A' class towns of Amritsar, Jullundur, Ludhiana and Ambala and 'B' class town of Ferozepore, leases are granted to displaced persons who held land in 'A' or 'B' class towns of Pakistan. If some area remains surplus after meeting the demand of 'A' and 'B' grade claimants in these towns, claimants of other than these two grades are also considered in C. D. & E. class towns of the State and leases are granted without any restriction of such grades.

A statement marked 'A' showing the names of 'A' and 'B' grade towns of West Pakistan is given below.

(b) The statement marked 'B' of towns of Amritsar in which suburban and urban exacee lands were availbale is given below. No area is now available in these towns as the same has either been allotted or leased out. Colonists of Amritsar District and displaced persons from Lahore District have received allotment in the sub urban area of the various towns in the district.

Statement 'A'

Serial No.	Name of district	Name of town
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'A' Grade Towns

1	Lahore	.. Lahore and Lahore Cantt.
2	Sialkot	.. Sialkot City and Sialkot Cantt.
3	Rawalpindi	.. Rawalpindi and Rawalpindi Cantt.
4	Multan	.. Multan and Multan Cantt.
5	Karachi	.. Karachi
6	Hydrabad	.. Hydrabad
7	Peshawar	.. Peshawar and Peshawar Cantt.

'B' Grade Towns

1	Lahore	.. Kasur
2	Gujranwala	.. Gujranwala
3	Lyallpur	.. Lyallpur
4	Jhang	.. Jhang Maghiana

Statement 'B'

Towns in which urban area was available

Towns in which suburban area was available

1	Amritsar	1	Amritsar
2	Jandiala Guru	2	Tarn Taran
3	Tarn Taran	3	Patti

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Serial No.	Name of district	Name of town
	<i>Towns in which urban area was available—concl'd</i>	
4	Patti	
5	Majitha	
6	Sultanwind	
7	Ramdas	
8	Khemkaran	
9	Cherata	
10	Sur Singh	
11	Khalra	

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state when the permanent allotment of these urban lands, which have been given on lease, is expected to be made ?

Minister : The question of permanent allotment of urban lands does not arise. The question of these lands will be decided along with other urban property.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : What has been given to those persons whose claims in respect of urban agricultural lands have been admitted ?

Minister : The question of lands situated within municipal areas will be settled along with that of claims relating to other urban property.

HOUSE BUILDING LOANS

***1123. Shri Dev Raj Sethi :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any allocations have been made for building loans for the construction of houses in the new townships at various places in the State for 1952-53 if so, how much;
- (b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, the approximate date by which such loans are intended to be sanctioned by the Government ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) No. Necessary funds are still awaited from the Government of India.

(b) The allocation is expected to be made by the middle of December, 1952, on receipt of funds.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : What is the Government doing for those persons who had been occupying certain lands as allottees for the last five or six years but are now being ousted from them on the pretext of building model towns thereon ?

Minister : Landless persons will not be ousted.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Has the Government received representations to the effect that even landless labourers and tenants who had been occupying lands for the last five years are being ejected?

Minister : Complaints have been received but on their examination it has been found that these relate to owners of land. These are not with respect to non-proprietors.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Is it not a fact that a large number of persons who were living in houses built or repaired by them, have been ousted from them?

Minister : If the hon. Member brings some particular case to my notice, I shall remove the hardship in that case.

ALLOTMENT OF HOUSES IN THE VILLAGES OF THE STATE

***1356. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut :** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether any houses have been allotted to the Refugee tenants and agricultural labourers in the villages of the State under the Rehabilitation Scheme, if not, the reasons therefor?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : Under the standing Government instructions, houses abandoned by non-land holding evcauees have invariably been allotted to landless displaced persons including Harijans, tenants, and labourers. Big landlords have also been allotted additional houses for their tenants and agricultural labourers.

DECONTROL OF FOODGRAINS IN THE STATE

***1212. Shri Ram Kishan :** Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state whether the State Government has received any instructions from the Food Ministry, Government of India, regarding progressive decontrol of foodgrains in the State; if so, the steps, if any, taken by the Government to implement those instructions; and if no steps have been taken, the reasons therefor?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma : *1st Part.* Yes, only in respect of millets and coarse grains.

2nd Part. The Government of India have made the movement of millets and coarse grains free within the State. Movement of headloads is also to be permitted in the case of producers in one State wishing to sell their produce in the neighbouring markets outside the State. Other States will also be permitted to purchase millets and coarse grains from the surplus States subject to the approval of the Centre. These relaxations are being put into effect.

In addition to this, the deficit States can purchase millets and other foodgrains from surplus States like the Punjab. For this, the sanction of the Government of India has to be obtained and this is accorded subject to the condition that it does not disturb the prices.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : ^{vo} What is the position with respect to gram ?

Minister : There is complete freedom about gram except in the districts of Rohtak and Hissar in the Punjab. There is no control either on the price or the movement of gram. The Punjab Government has requested the Food Minister of the Government of India to have the same policy with respect to gram as is being followed in the case of other foodgrains, so that the prevailing hardship may be removed.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : ¹¹ What reply has been received to the representation made by the Punjab Government about Rohtak and Hissar ?

Minister : A request was made when the Union Food Minister visited Ambala. The matter is likely to take some time and a reply cannot be expected so soon.

Shri Teg Ram : ¹¹ What steps does the Government propose to take regarding the existing control on Bajra and Barley and the resulting disparity in their prices in different markets ?

Minister : A uniform price has been fixed everywhere and there is no restriction on the movement of these commodities.

Shri Teg Ram : ¹¹ There is a great disparity in the prices of Bajra in villages and mandis. May I know whether the Government proposes to take any steps to remove this disparity ?

Minister : I regret that the Government cannot take any action in this behalf. The Government has fixed the prices and has also made certain recommendations to the Government of India in regard to the fixation of prices. I think that there should be no cause of complaint from any quarter if any commodity is sold at a lower price than that fixed by the Government.

Shri Sri Chand : ¹¹ Is it a fact that people are allowed to take Bajra from Rohtak and sell it at Delhi ?

Minister : The Government of India have made some relaxations in regard to the movement of certain commodities and such relaxations, I think, are quite reasonable.

Rai Raghuvir Singh : ¹¹ Is the Government aware of the fact that there is one tehsil in Gurgaon District from where access can be had to Delhi State: if so, has the Government taken any steps to prevent smuggling of foodgrains through that route ?

Minister : It is not a new thing. Such routes also exist in other States. If any case of smuggling is brought to the notice of the Government, it will make necessary arrangement in this behalf.

Rai Raghuvir Singh : ¹¹ The hon. Minister has stated that any person can carry foodgrains on his head from one place to another.

May I know whether this permission is valid in the case of maize also ?

Minister : There is restriction on the movement of foodgrains except on wheat and rice. The producers are allowed to take with them a certain quantity of foodgrains for their own consumption from one State to another. But there are restrictions on the movement of foodgrains by the petty zamindars to the mandis of other States. If it were not so, then they will be tempted to carry fully loaded trucks of foodgrains from one State to the other.

Shrimati Sita Devi : May I know how much quantity of foodgrains a person can carry on his head from one place to another ?

Minister : No quantity has been prescribed by the Government but anyhow any person can carry on his head as much quantity of foodgrains as is possible for him.

Shrimati Sita Devi : May I know whether this permission, to carry foodgrains on one's head is valid throughout the year or for certain particular periods in a year ?

Minister : They are at liberty to carry foodgrains on their head everyday from morning to evening.

Shrimati Sita Devi : May I know whether this is the hon. Minister's personal view of the matter or whether the Government has issued any orders in this behalf ?

Minister : If any difficulty is felt by the public in this behalf, then the Government will issue orders.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Is it a fact that the Government of India asked our Government to remove control over foodgrains; if so, what decision has been taken by our Government ?

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Is it a fact that our Government received a communication from the Government of India asking for its views on the matter of decontrol ?

Minister : It is the order of the Government of India that we must obtain its concurrence before relaxing control over the foodgrains. We have, therefore, asked for its permission and its decision is being awaited.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : In view of the fact that the prices of Bajra have gone up, may I know whether the Government proposes to take any steps to make Bajra available to the people at cheaper rates ?

Minister : The Government has fixed its ceiling price and there are no restrictions over its movement from one place to another.

REGISTRATION OF DISPENSERS IN THE STATE.

***1359. Shri Teg Ram :** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) the date when the law requiring the registration of dispensers was enforced in the State ;
- (b) the number of dispensers whose names have so far been registered ;
- (c) the registration fee that has been prescribed by the Government for this purpose ;
- (d) the qualifications that are required for the registration of a dispenser ;
- (e) whether any representation of the Dispensers was received by him to the effect that the conditions imposed in connection with their registration were hard to fulfil ; if so, the action, if any, taken by the Government in the matter?

Shri Jagat Narain : (a) 4th March, 1948.

(b) 2,445.

(c) Previously the registration fee was Rs. 10 but it has been reduced to Rs. 5.

(d) The qualifications for registration as a Pharmacist are given in sections 31 and 32 of the Pharmacy Act, 1948;

(e) Yes. Under section 32 of the Pharmacy Act, 1948, only those pharmacists are eligible for registration who have passed the Matriculation Examination. This Government have recommended to the Government of India to amend the Pharmacy Act, 1948, to enable qualified pharmacists, who are not Matriculates, to secure registration. The matter is under the consideration of the Government of India.

Shri Teg Ram : Before the law for registration came into force there were many dispensers who did not possess the necessary qualifications for registration. May I know whether the Government proposes to make any relaxation in their qualifications in order to enable them to become registered dispensers ?

Minister : The answer to this question has been given in part (d) of the question. We have submitted our recommendations to the Government of India regarding this matter which is now under their consideration.

PACCA ROAD BETWEEN BHIWANI AND LOHARU.

***1401. Shri Lajpat Rai :** Will the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

- (a) the total length of the Pacca Road between Bhiwani and Loharu, the construction of which has been sanctioned, together with the length of it that has so far been constructed and the amount of expenditure incurred thereon;
- (b) the term by which it is expected to be completed ?

Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa : The total length of the road is 37 miles which is all unmetalled. Earthwork has been completed on the entire length ; expenditure incurred up to 30th September, 1952, being Rs. one lac.

(b) The road is included in the 5-year Plan and will be metalled gradually as funds permit.

Shri Dev Raj Sethi : Will the Government make any provision in this behalf next year also ?

Minister : Yes.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

EJECTION OF TENANTS IN THE STATE

262. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of tenants served with ejection notices, district-wise, in the State during the last six months as counted back from November 1st, 1952;
- (b) the steps, if any, taken by the Government to stop these ejections ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon (Minister for Development) : (a) A statement is given below.

(b) An Ordinance called the Punjab Prevention of Ejections (Temporary Powers) Ordinance, 1952, was promulgated to stop ejection of tenants during the period from 1st May to 15th June, 1952. Since this Ordinance has lapsed necessary provision has been made in the Punjab Security of Land Tenures Bill, 1952, which is proposed to be enacted in the ensuing session of the State Legislature.

[Minister for Development]

Statement showing the number of Tenants served with ejectment notices district-wise, in the State during the last six months as counted back from November 1, 1952.

Serial No.	Name of District	Number of tenants
1	2	3
1	Hissar ..	1,735
2	Rohtak ..	606
3	Gurgaon ..	55
4	Karnal ..	108
5	Ambala	7
6	Simla ..	1
7	Kangra ..	375
8	Hoshiarpur ..	530
9	Jullundur ..	450
10	Ferozepore ..	4,352 (These figures are up to 15th November, 1952.)
11	Ludhiana ..	Nil
12	Amritsar ..	57
13	Gurdaspur ..	434

PAY OF PATWARIS

263. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether there is any difference in the pay of patwaris working in connection with the consolidation of land holdings and those working in connection with land revenue in the State ; if so, the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Partap Singh Kalron : There is no difference of scale of pay of Patwaris working in connection with Consolidation of Holdings and those working in connection with land revenue (Mahal side), except that the Patwaris of Consolidation of Holdings side are given Rs.5 per mensem extra for irksome and arduous nature of work they are required to perform.

SUBMISSION OF THE REPORT OF SPECIAL INQUIRY AGENCY

264. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state the details of the report of "Special Inquiry Agency" submitted to the Government,—vide Home Department No. 516-ACC-52/200, dated 20th February, 1952, together with the action taken by the Government on that report ?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar : The report referred to summarised action taken in 61 cases of corruption. No action was called for on the report.

—————

**SARDAR JARNAIL SINGH AND OTHERS OF VILLAGE GHARYALA,
DISTRICT AMRITSAR.**

265. Shri Ram Kishan : Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any notices to attend his office on the 25th July 1952, were sent by post by the Director, Rehabilitation, Rural, at Civil Secretariat, Jullundur, on 21st July, 1952, to Sardar Jarnail Singh son of Gajjan Singh and several others of Village Gharyala, District Amritsar; if so, the particulars of the case in which their attendance was required;
- (b) whether any of the persons referred to in part (a) above attended the office of the Director, referred to in part (a) above; if so, their list;
- (c) (i) the name of the petitioner or plaintiff in the case in which the said persons were summoned;
- (ii) the date when the case under reference was presented before the Director, Rehabilitation, Rural?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) No. However, notices were sent, by post, on 25th July, 1952, to the persons mentioned in the statement "A" requiring them to attend the Court of the Additional Custodian (Rural)-cum-Director, Rehabilitation, Rural, Punjab, on the 18th August, 1952, in connection with the disposal of the revision petitions of—

- (1) Gurdip Singh son of Dharam Singh.
- (2) Dial Singh son of Saudagar Singh.
- (3) Harcharan Singh son of Hardit Singh.

(b) Yes. On 18th August, 1952. Statement "A" is given below.

- (c) (i) Statement "A" is given below.
- (ii) 18th July, 1952.

" A ".

Statement showing the names and parentage of persons who were summoned for appearance in the Court of the Additional Custodian (Rural)-cum-Director, Rehabilitation, Rural, on 18th August, 1952.

In the matter of disposal of revision petitions of Gurdip Singh, Dial Singh and Harcharan Singh seeking restoration to Village Gharyala, District Amritsar

Petitioners—

- (1) Gurdip Singh son of Dharam Singh.
- (2) Dial Singh son of Saudagar Singh.
- (3) Harcharan Singh son of Hardit Singh.

[Minister for Finance]

Respondents—

- (1) Boor Singh son of Sant Singh.
- (2) Jassa Singh son of Mangal Singh.
- (3) Gharag Singh son of Gajjan Singh.
- (4) Pala Singh son of Amar Singh.
- (5) Boor Singh son of Bahadur Singh.
- (6) Natha Singh son of Hari Singh.
- (7) Ram Narain son of Kesho Das.
- (8) Inder Singh son of Ram Singh.
- (9) Amar Singh son of Boota Singh.
- (10) Mangal Singh son of Kala Singh.
- (11) Vir Singh son of Godar Singh.
- (12) Prit Paul son of Krishan Chand.
- (13) Bhagat Singh son of Sunder Singh.
- (14) Narain Singh son of Sher Singh.
- (15) Gopal Singh son of Lakha Singh.
- (16) Harnam Singh son of Kesar Singh.

REPRESENTATION BY SARDAR SURAIN SINGH AND OTHERS REGARDING
EXCESS ALLOTMENT OF EVACUEE AREA AT VILLAGE GHARYALA,
DISTRICT AMRITSAR

Shri Ram Kishan : Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) (i) whether any representations by Sardar Surain Singh son of Sardar Run Singh and others were received by the Registrar, Land Claims, at Civil Secretariat, Jullundur, during the months of July and August, 1952, regarding the excess allotment of evacuee area to certain allottees at Village Gharyala, District Amritsar; if so, when;
- (ii) the list of the persons alleged to be holding the area in excess ;
- (b) (i) whether any enquiry was made in this connection ; if so, with what result ;
- (ii) the date when the orders ; if any, cancelling the excess area were passed ;

- (c) whether the area found in excess was allotted to the first complainant on the completion of enquiry as laid down in the Government communique, dated 14th July, 1952, published in connection with complaints and allotments of excess areas; if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether any information regarding the cancellation of the excess area was sent to the persons concerned; if so, when?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) (i) Yes. Received by D.R.R. One from Surain Singh on 24th July, 1952. Two from Gurdip Singh on 18th and 19th August, 1952.

(ii) Shingara Singh son of Surain Singh, Narinjan Singh son of Surain Singh, Jarnail Singh son of Gajjan Singh. Hari Singh son of Saudagar Singh, Dalip Singh son of Surain Singh, Arjan Singh son of Lal Singh, Udham Singh son of Lal Singh.

(b) (i) Yes. The allottees, referred to in part (a) (ii) above, were found to be holding excess allotment to the following extent :—

	S.A.	U.
Shingara Singh	... 10	5½
Narinjan Singh	... 9	15½
Jarnail Singh	... 15	14½
Hari Singh	Nil	
Dalip Singh	Allotment not traceable.	
Arjan Singh	... 10	15½
Udham Singh	Nil.	

(ii) Shingara Singh and Narinjan Singh...On 21st October 1952. Jarnail Singh...On 2nd September 1952, Arjan Singh...Action is still being taken.

(c) Yes. 9 SA. 3 Units to Ujagar Singh brother of Bishan Singh another informer in the case of Shri Jarnail Singh. 6 SA. 11½ U. to Gurdip Singh.

(d) Yes. On 6th November 1952.

COMPLAINT FROM SARDAR GURDIP SINGH REGARDING EXCESS AREA OF LAND AT VILLAGE GHARYALA, DISTRICT AMRITSAR

267. Shri Ram Kishan : Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) (i) whether any complaint dated 8th September 1952. under registered cover regarding the excess area by Sardar

[Shri Ram Kishan]

Gurdip Singh son of Dharm Singh, against certain persons at Village Gharyala, District Amritsar, was received by the Director, Rehabilitation, Rural, at Civil Secretariat, Jullundur, on or about the 10th September 1952; if so, the date thereof;

(ii) the names of the persons alleged to be holding the area in excess;

(iii) the names of the places in Pakistan where the persons referred to in part (a)(ii) above were holding lands;

(b) (i) whether any enquiry was ordered in this complaint; if so, with what result;

(ii) whether the area allotted in excess was cancelled; if so, when;

(iii) whether the area in excess was allotted to the complainant; if so, when, if not, the reasons therefor?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) (i) Yes; on 21st August 1952.

(ii) Jarnail Singh son of Gajjan Singh, Narinjan Singh and Shingara Singh sons of Surain Singh, Hari Singh (Name of father not known).

(iii) Jarnail Singh, Village Daftu, Tehsil Kasur, District Lahore, Narinjan Singh and Shingara Singh, Village Raja Jang, Kasur, Hari Singh, Village Kotlohi Kalan, Tehsil Kasur.

(b) (i) Yes. They were found to be holding excess allotment to the extent noted against each :—

	...	SA.	U.
Jarnail Singh	...	15	14½
Narinjan Singh	...	9	15½
Shingara Singh	...	10	5½

Hari Singh...As full particulars were not supplied, his case could not be scrutinized.

(ii) Yes; Jarnail Singh...On 2nd September 1952, on a previous complaint.

Narinjan Singh...On 21st October 1952.

Shingara Singh...On 21st October 1952.

(iii) Yes. 6 SA. 11½ Units on 2nd September 1952.

ALLOTMENT OF LAND AT VILLAGE JHURAR KHERA, DISTRICT FEROZEPURE

268. **Shri Ram Kishan** : Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any allotments of lands were made to the displaced land holders of Village Chathianwala, Tehsil Kasur, District Lahore, during the quasi-permanent allotment at Village Jhurar Khera, Tehsil Fazilka, District Ferozepore; if so, their list together with the area allotted to each of them ;
- (b) (i) whether any information about the allotments referred to in part (a) above was communicated to the persons concerned to get their allotment sanads ; if so, when ;
(ii) the numbers and dates of the notices of letters so issued,—*vide* despatch register ;
- (c) (i) whether the allotments referred to in part (a) above were cancelled; if so, when and the list of the persons concerned ;
(ii) the reasons for such cancellations ;
(iii) whether any notices to the allottees, referred to in part (a) above were given before the cancellation of their allotments ; if so, when, if not, the reasons therefor ;
- (d) (i) the total area that was available for allotment in the village referred to in part (a) above on 15th June 1952 ;
(ii) the persons to whom it was allotted ;
(iii) whether the cases of the persons referred to in part (c)(i) above were taken into consideration at the time of the allotment of area referred to in part (d)(i) above ; if not, the reasons therefor ;
- (e) whether the persons referred to in part (c)(i) above have been allotted any lands so far ; if so, where, if not, the reasons therefor ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) Yes. Statement "A" is given below.

(b) (i) Yes. Date is not available;

(ii) The information is not available.

(c) (i) Yes. On 25th June 1952. Statement "A" is given below.

(ii) For their failure to take possession of the area.

[Minister for Finance]

(iii) All the allottees were warned by a Press Note issued on 18th November, 1950, that they should take possession of the allotted lands by 31st January, 1951, failing that their allotments would be resumed.

(d) (i) 27 Standard Acres and $7\frac{1}{2}$ Units.

(ii) Statement 'B' is given below.

(iii) No: because they did not apply for allotment.

(e) No allotment has so far been made to the persons mentioned at serial Nos. 1 to 6 and 8 of the statement "A" because none of them has so far applied for allotment and as such it cannot be definitely said whether or not they are even traceable; Parcha Claims of Shrimati Attar Kaur, widow of Shri Bhagat Singh, have been forwarded to the Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar, on 13th November, 1952, for allotment in Amritsar District.

STATEMENT "A"

Serial No.	Name and parentage of the allottee	Area allotted		Date of allotment
		S.A.	Units	
1	Ujagar Singh son of Khushal Singh	22	8	15th September 1950
2	Prem Singh son of Surmukh Singh	6	$14\frac{1}{2}$	Ditto
3	Tara Singh son of Buta Singh	3	15	Ditto
4	Surjan Singh son of Khushal Singh	7	$15\frac{1}{2}$	Ditto
5	Sulakhan Singh son of Khem Singh	3	$7\frac{1}{2}$	Ditto
6	Karnail Singh son of Khem Singh	3	$7\frac{1}{2}$	Ditto
7	Attar Kaur widow of Bhagat Singh	26	$9\frac{1}{2}$	Ditto
8	Maharaj Singh son of Suba Singh	36	1	Ditto

Note. Allotment of all the above allottees was cancelled on 25th June, 1952, for their failure to take possession of the allotted land.

STATEMENT "B"

Serial No.	Name of the allottee and parentage	Area allotted
1	Laleh Singh, Karam Singh, sons of Hardit Singh	S. A. Units 13 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
	The rest of the area has been ear-marked for allotment to the oustees from Village Marj, Tehsil Ajnala, District Amritsar	13 13 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Total	27 $\frac{1}{2}$

SPEAKER'S OBSERVATIONS *re* WALK-OUT STAGED BY COMMUNIST (17)37
MEMBERS.

SPEAKER'S OBSERVATIONS *RE* WALK-OUT STAGED BY
COMMUNIST MEMBERS.

Mr. Speaker : Before we proceed with the discussion of the next items entered on today's agenda, I would like to make a few observations in the House.

As you are all aware, hon. Sardar Chanan Singh and his colleagues staged a walk-out from the House Yesterday. I think that after attending the meeting for some time every member of this House is within his rights to leave the House but on a perusal of the reports published in the newspapers I find that they had walked out as a protest as I had not allowed Sardar Chanan Singh to make a statement. As a matter of fact, this is not the case because in the statement which he made before leaving the House he said that as his motion for circulation of the Bill was not accepted he was leaving the House. I had then remarked that his motion had not been put before the House as yet because the Minister-in-charge was replying to the debate. I wonder on what grounds Sardar Chanan Singh, who has got plenty of parliamentary experience at his back, asked for my permission to make such a statement. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Members to the Rules of Procedure according to which a member has a right to make a statement by way of personal explanation when some insinuation or reflection has been made against him. It is necessary in such a case for him to say something by way of personal explanation. It is only under these circumstances that the hon. Members can ask for the permission of the Chair, provided the statement is to be made by them by way of personal explanation. (1)

Again, when a motion has been fully debated upon and the time for voting on it has come, the question of making a statement by way of a personal explanation does not arise. (2)

The rules on this subject are quite clear.

No member of the House excepting the mover of a resolution or a bill or a minister can speak on the same motion twice for any reason whatsoever.

Under these circumstances the hon. Member having already spoken could not be allowed to speak again. Nor was then any occasion for making a statement by way of personal explanation. In support of this ruling of mine, I need not refer the members to any other authority besides the Rules of Procedure of this very House.

No member shall have the right to speak twice on any motion or amendment or anything before the House.

This rule is being observed in the Parliament also.

It is a rule strictly observed in both the Houses that no member shall speak twice on the same question.

[Mr. Speaker]

Besides this, I may read out to the House a very interesting ruling given by the late Chaudhri Shahab-ud-din, ex-Speaker of the Punjab Legislative Assembly, on this subject.

No member shall be allowed to make a statement because I think it is unparliamentary and it shall not be allowed so long as I am in the Chair.

From this it appears as though he had taken a vow not to allow such a statement to be made so long as he was in the Chair, so strong were his feelings on the subject. What I mean to say is that my refusing to give him the permission to make a statement by way of personal explanation was strictly regular, constitutional and in accordance with the Rules and so he cannot have any grouse on this score. It is just possible that he may be feeling aggrieved at my repeatedly asking him not to interrupt the speakers. If the hon. Members themselves do not observe the rules, who else will? The Rule regarding interruption is quite unambiguous. It says that—

No member should interrupt any member while he is speaking.

They should realise how dignified and disciplined this House is expected to be as it has to frame rules and enact laws for the whole State. If such atmosphere is created in the House in which several members stand up together and try to express their points of view, will any one be able to apply his mind properly to the issue before the House? And if the very dignity of the House is not maintained would its deliberations have any meaning? I had quoted May's 'Parliamentary Practice' to the effect that if any member even after having been warned, again interrupts any member 'he will incur the displeasure of the House.'

The thought of encroaching upon the rights of any member has never crossed my mind. The record of the proceedings of the House is there to testify to the fact that the Communist Members have been making more speeches than all other members of the House put together. If in spite of all this, they become impatient and show unwillingness to listen to anyone else, I am forced to insist upon the strict observance of the Rules. Let there be a thousand 'walk-outs,' the Rules have to be obeyed.

The Chair is here to maintain the dignity of the House. Here is another warning and I hope that it will not have to be repeated. If any member of the House interrupts another member, while speaking, he shall be strictly and severely dealt with, regardless of whether he is a Communist or a Congressman or a Minister or an ordinary member of the House.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : On a point of order, Sir.

Mr. Speaker : I disallow it. The hon. Member can walk out, if he so desires.

PUNJAB BETTERMENT CHARGES AND ACREAGE RATES BILL
RESUMPTION OF DISCUSSION

Mr. Speaker : Now the House will resume consideration of the Punjab Betterment Charges and Acreage Rates Bill.

CLAUSE 10

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 10 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 11

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 11 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 12

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : (Ajnala) (*Punjabi*) : Sir, I beg to move—

That the clause be deleted.

The Government should not be under the impression that the peasants are prosperous people. What we want to suggest is that if, for instance, a peasant has incurred a debt for promoting the cause of agriculture by spending on the purchase of bullocks, seeds or manure—things very essential for agriculture, then the discharging of such a debt should be given the same priority over the realisation of betterment charges as is given to the clearing of arrears of land revenue.

With these words, I urge that this clause should be deleted.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the clause be deleted.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the clause be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 12 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 13

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 13 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 14

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (*Punjabi*) : Sir, I beg to move—

That the clause be deleted. •

⑥ Sir, to put this heavy burden on the peasantry and to shut the doors of the courts upon them is not a trifling matter. We are told that this is not a tax but in our opinion this is really a tax, no matter what name the hon. Friends may give it. The method of its assessment has not been clearly laid down in the Bill itself and, therefore, our apprehensions about the officers not making a proper use of this provision are not unfounded. If a peasant has a genuine grievance and really feels that justice has not been done to him in the matter, he will not be able to seek redress in the courts by filing an appeal against the decision of the officers concerned. To put such a heavy burden on the peasants in the form of this tax and then to deny them the right to approach a court for the redress of a wrong is to cause a great hardship to them.

The result of this restriction will be that they will be liable to be treated in a highhanded manner and, therefore, we urge that this clause should be deleted.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the clause be deleted.

⑦ **Shri Maru Singh Malik** (Sampla) (*Hindi*) : Sir, I rise to support this amendment. As a matter of fact I had also given notice of a similarly worded amendment. Since my hon. Friend has moved it, I don't feel the necessity of moving my amendment. I have, however, to offer a few remarks in support of it. In all the progressive countries of the world, more and more powers are being given to the judiciary. Therefore, we should not give all the powers in this matter to the executive, because otherwise democracy will not be safe. I feel that the Government is putting restrictions on the fundamental rights of the citizens by making this provision under clause 14. There can be no more serious inroad on their rights than this. Therefore, I beg to submit that this clause should be deleted.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the clause be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 14 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 15

Sardar Partap Singh Rattakhera (Mallanwala) (*Punjabi*) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in line 2, for the words "No claim shall", the words "A claim can" be substituted.

Sir, I beg to submit that when the Government is going to supply water to the people and is also going to charge them to the last pie for the same, it is only fair that it should give compensation to the persons who may be deprived of the supply of such water at any time due to the inefficiency of any of the officers of the Government. If no compensation is paid, it would mean that the officers would become corrupt and inefficient. In order to make them ever vigilant it is necessary that this amendment should be accepted. On the other hand, if it is rejected it will amount to an injustice to the Zamindars.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in line 2, for the words "No claim shall", the words "A claim can" be substituted.

Shri Maru Singh Malik (Sampla) (*Hindi*) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in line 8, for the words "or by" the words "due to" be substituted.

That in line 10, for the word "by" the word "to" be substituted.

That in line 13, between the words 'officer' and 'or', the following words be inserted :—

"or any other Officer"

That in line 13, for the word "by" the word "to" be substituted.

That in line 19, between the words 'officer' and 'considers' the following words be inserted :—

"or any other Officer"

That at the end of the clause the following be added :—

"Provided such loss was not due to the misconduct, neglect or carelessness of the Officer concerned".

Sir, the first five amendments are of ordinary nature but the purport of my last amendment is that if due to the misconduct, carelessness, or neglect of a certain Government official, a loss is occasioned to a person on account of stoppage or failure of water-supply in a canal such a person should have the right of making a claim against the Government for compensation because the officers concerned would be responsible for such a loss. As a matter of fact, the Government should take upon itself the responsibility for the acts of omission and commission of its officials.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in line 8, for the words “or by” the words “due to” be substituted.

That in line 10, for the word ‘by’ the word ‘to’ be substituted.

That in line 13, between the words ‘officer’ and ‘or’, the following words be inserted :—

“or any other Officer”

That in line 13, for the word “by” the word “to” be substituted.

That in line 19, between the words ‘officer’ and ‘consider;’ the following words be inserted :—

“or any other Officer”

That at the end of the clause the following be added :—

“Provided such loss was not due to the misconduct, neglect or carelessness of the Officer concerned”.

Shri Rala Ram (Mukerian) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in line 8, between the words “Canal” and ‘or’, the following words be inserted :—

“for a short period of time”

That at the end of the clause, the following be added :—

“Provided the quality of land held by a proprietor or proprietors has not been adversely affected or considerably lowered thereby for ever”

Sir, if there is a temporary stoppage of water there may not be a sufficient ground for complaint. But if such stoppage is for a sufficiently long time it is but meet and proper that the person who suffers on account of such stoppage should either be compensated or be exempted from being charged for it. In cases where a change is brought about in the system of water-supply itself by which the value of a certain piece of land gets depreciated, then the Government should give a proportionate compensation to the owner of such land. Therefore I request that this amendment may be accepted.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in line 8, between the words “Canal” and ‘or’, the following words be inserted :—

“for a short period of time”

That at the end of the clause, the following be added :—

“Provided the quality of land held by a proprietor or proprietors has not been adversely affected or considerably lowered thereby for ever”

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (*Punjabi*): Sir, I beg to move—

That for the clause the following be substituted :—

“ 15. Compensation and Refund. A land-owner on whom betterment charges or acreage rates have been levied, shall be entitled to claim compensation from the Government and refund of betterment charges and acreage rates on account of the loss occasioned by the failure or stoppage of water in a canal or by any repairs, alterations or additions made to the canal.”

Sir, it is a strange irony that those who serve, are also saddled with liability. Such conditions prevail in the railways also. I have visited several countries of the world and I can say that such a state of affairs does not prevail there. In our country, the Government does not ask those officials to pay compensation to the sufferers, through whose negligence there is stoppage or failure of water-supply. In America, if there is a breach in some canal the officers at once run to the spot to make efforts to stop it. But in our country the officers are often careless in this matter. The employees of the Canal Department consider themselves officers and not public servants. They start repairs at a time when the farmers crops are in need of water. They do not inform them in time.

It appears that our Government has recruited such persons in this department who behave like officers of the law and order departments, and who do not care for the interests of the *kisans*. If such officers indulge in carelessness and on account of that the poor farmers are put to a loss, is it not the duty of the Government to give compensation for the same? Should not the Government keep watch over the actions of such officers? ①

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That for the clause the following be substituted :—

“ 15. Compensation and Refund. A land-owner on whom betterment charges or acreage rates have been levied, shall be entitled to claim compensation from the Government and refund of betterment charges and acreage rates on account of the loss occasioned by the failure or stoppage of water in a canal or by any repairs, alterations or additions made to the canal.”

Shri Wadhawa Ram (Fazilka) (*Punjabi*): Sir, I support the amendment moved by Sardar Achhar Singh. In this connection, what I have to submit is that it is really strange that the officers gain both ways. If there is no breach they stand to gain and if there is any breach even then they stand to gain. In the villages when breaches occur in the minors of the canals, the officers of the Irrigation Department earn a lot and taking full advantage of the misery of the poor *kisans* make thousands. Therefore, my submission is that if any breach occurs due to the negligence of such officers, the responsibility for it should be put on their shoulders, and the *kisans* should be compensated for the losses suffered by them. With these words I support this amendment. ②

Shri Sri Chand (Bahadurgarh) *(Hindi)*: Sir, of course, the officials of the Government are entitled to have more powers than ordinary persons. But there should be some limit to it. If such a limit is exceeded, people begin to lose patience. In this Bill, it is laid down—

No claim shall lie against the Government for compensation or for the refund of Betterment Charges or Acreage Rates.

Sir, I admit that the Government can make laws to realize Betterment Charges and Acreage Rates. But it is quite strange that a provision should be made prohibiting the bringing of cases for the refunds of money, before the courts and the Government.

3 Sir, supposing the Government promises to excavate a new canal and supply water to the people and for this purpose they levy Betterment Charges. Then, if the Government cannot fulfil this promise and does not return the money realised through Betterment Charges, then this act of the Government would tantamount to high-handedness and injustice to the people. The hon. Minister is an experienced gentleman. He has been practising law and, as such, is well aware that whenever a breach or a cut takes place in a canal, Government imposes lakhs of rupees on the people as *Tawan*. In this Bill again, people have not been given the right of preferring an appeal against the arbitrary orders of the officers. If the officers of the Irrigation Department are given such wide powers they will not spare any land from the levy of Betterment Charges. I, therefore, request, Sir, that where Government intends to supply water and levy Betterment Charges there should be provision that if Government fails to supply water people should be authorised to go to the courts and get back their money. Thus alone 4 can people be saved from injustice. The officers of the Irrigation Department already possess wide power—probably much more than the officers of any other Department. I think it will not be fair if these powers are still further widened. Government must not lose sight of the fact that the poor people also have certain rights and if they are deprived of those rights they may revolt against the Government. I, therefore, reiterate the necessity of their being given the right of preferring an appeal in the courts.

5 **Minister for Irrigation** (Chaudhri Lahri Singh) *(Hindi)*: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the spirit of the complaints which have been made in connection with the treatment meted out to the people in cases of breaches and cuts in the canals. I may, however, state for the information of the hon. Members that an Executive Engineer is appointed by the Government to decide cases of breaches and cuts in the canals. If he shows any negligence in the discharge of his duties, action will be taken against him. Law on the subject was passed in 1875 when the Government deemed it proper to delegate these powers to the officers of the Irrigation Department. I do admit, Sir, that people are justified in making these complaints and in feeling that these powers should not be in the hands of the officers of the Irrigation Department. For this very purpose, our Government intends to bring a new Bill in March next by which the old Act will

be repealed. These powers will be vested in some other authority. I, may, therefore, tell the hon. Members of the Opposition that they would be at liberty to discuss that Bill in the Budget Session. At the same time, I may assure them that Government would certainly keep in view the difficulties of the people while drafting that Bill. But this clause has no concern with that Bill.

Shri Sri Chand : I cited it only as an instance.

Minister for Irrigation : Then, Sir, it has been suggested by X an hon. Member that in case of loss occasioned by negligence or misconduct on the part of the officials of the Irrigation Department, people should have the right to proceed against them in a court of law. I may state, Sir, that the Government does not forbid them to do so in cases where the loss has been occasioned by any cause within the control of the Government. It has been clearly laid down that:—

No claim shall lie against the Government for compensation or for the refund of Betterment Charges or Acreage Rates on account of loss occasioned by the failure or stoppage of water in a canal or by any cause beyond the control of the Government.

It implies that if something untoward happens which is beyond the control of the Government, then no claim for any loss will lie against the Government. If, however, some loss is occasioned due to any cause within the control of the Government, then people will be at liberty to proceed against the Government. My friends must not overlook the phrase 'beyond the control' in this clause, I may state, Sir, that it is their own Government—a Government of the followers of Mahatama Gandhi. What have they to say against such a Government? (7)

Mr. Speaker, another friend of mine has taken exception to the following words:—

Alterations or additions made to the canal by the Divisional Canal Officer or by any measures taken by him for neglecting the proper flow of water—

I may state, Sir, that the carrying out of repairs to canals is very essential. A particular period in a year is fixed for the giving of water in the canals. However, if in the remaining period the repairs are not completed due to any cause beyond the control of the Government, it should not be held responsible. Sometimes, it becomes essential to make additions and alterations and they are always carried out in good faith. It is a question of 'good faith'. The words 'beyond the control' are also in good faith. Mr. Speaker, this matter is similar to that where a doctor operates upon a patient in good faith. But if even then the patient dies, the Doctor is not considered to be guilty because an operation is always performed in good faith. In the end, I would again tell my hon. friends that they would be at liberty to discuss that Bill in March next. But that matter has nothing to do with the clause now before the House. In this connection, I may inform the hon. Members that some such incidents have taken place in the districts of Karnal and Rohtak in which the Government is considering the question of giving compensation to the people. That is why I say, that now that a democratic form of government has been established in India, no Minister can afford to see injustice being done in any case or any complaint being ignored.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in line 2, for the words "No claim shall" the words "A claim can" be substituted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in line 8, for the words 'or by', the words 'due to' be substituted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in line 10, for the word 'by', the word 'to' be substituted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in line 13, between the words 'officer' and 'or' the following words be inserted :—

"or any other officer".

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in line 13, for the word 'by' the word 'to' be substituted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in line 19, between the words 'officer' and 'considers' the following words be inserted :—

"or any other officer".

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That at the end of the clause the following be added :—

"Provided such loss was not due to the misconduct, neglect or carelessness of the officer concerned."

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in line 8, between the words "Canal" and "or" the following words be inserted :—

"for a short period of time".

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That at the end of the clause, the following be added :—

Provided the quality of land held by a proprietor or proprietors has not been adversely affected or considerably lowered thereby for ever."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That for the clause the following be substituted :—

"15. *Compensation and refund* A land-owner on whom betterment charges or acreage rates have been levied, shall be entitled to claim compensation from the Government and refund of Betterment Charges and acreage rates on account of the loss occasioned by the failure or stoppage of water in a canal or by any repairs, alterations or additions made to the Canal."

After ascertaining the votes of the House by voices, Mr. Speaker said "I think the Noes have it." This opinion was challenged and Division was claimed. Mr. Speaker, after calling upon those members who supported the claim for Division and those who challenged his decision to rise in their places, declared that the Division was unnecessarily claimed.

The motion was declared lost.

COMPLAINT OF THE PRESS GALLERY COMMITTEE

Mr. Speaker : I have received a letter from Shri A. C. Bali, President of the Press Gallery Committee, wherein he has drawn my attention to the remarks that I made earlier in connection with the press reports about the walk-out staged by Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut and others. The sum and substance of the letter is that I said that the Press had wrongly reported the incident. The Press Gallery has taken objection to these remarks. I am sorry to say that my remarks have been misunderstood. I never meant that the incident as reported in the press was wrong. Nor did I say that the Press Reporters had deliberately misstated the facts. What I said at that time was that it was not clear as to why Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut and others staged a walk-out. I think, therefore, that the Press should have no grievance against my remarks.

PUNJAB BETTERMENT CHARGES AND ACREAGE RATES BILL—RESUMPTION OF DISCUSSION

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 15 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 16

Mr. Speaker : I invite Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut to move his amendment to Clause 16.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : : Sir, I beg to move—

That the Clause be deleted.

[Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut]

Mr. Speaker, a short while ago the hon. Minister for Irrigation remarked that the Government had no intention to put more restrictions but what it was doing, it was doing in all good faith. I want to point out to him that under Clause 14 of this Bill, the Civil Courts have been debarred from questioning the justification or otherwise of a thing done by the Government under this Act. Then, according to Clause 15, no case can be lodged against the Government and further according to the clause under consideration it is going to make a provision for the protection of the Government officials. The words used in that clause are 'any thing done or intended to be done in good faith under this Act'. In other words, the actions of a Government official shall not be challenged in a court of law. It is quite apparent that this provision is being made to protect the Government officials and thereby an attempt is being made to make the hands of the Executive strong. It is clear that our Government is still anxious to keep Judiciary under the influence of the Executive. Mr. Speaker, the restriction which is now being provided in this clause will encourage corruption in this already corruption-ridden Department. Again, another right of the people is being taken away from them and that is the main reason for the prevalence of corruption in the services. This will not bring forth good results. For these reasons, I feel that this clause is unnecessary and I request the House to drop it.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Clause be deleted.

Shri Maru Singh Malik (Sampla) (Hindi) : Sir, the hon. Minister for Irrigation has stated that the people are at liberty to file suits against the Government, but the purport of the provisions made in clauses 14th to 16th is to encroach upon the right of the people to go to the courts. Even yesterday, Chaudhri Sahib made a reference to Mahatama Gandhi and today also he has repeated the same. It so appears that he has lost self-confidence and that is why he repeatedly recites the name of Gandhiji.

Mr. Speaker : People repeatedly recite the name of God; what is the harm in reciting the name of Mahatamaji ?

Shri Maru Singh Malik : This is what I wish to submit. Had Mahatamaji been alive today, I am confident, he would not have tolerated or allowed the incorporation of the clauses which are calculated to encroach upon the rights of the people.

Shri Prabodh Chandra (Gurdaspur) (Hindi) : Mr. Speaker, while pleading for the deletion of this clause, my hon. Friends of the Opposition have remarked that this clause has been provided in order to increase corruption and to shield the corrupt officials. They further apprehend that this clause will be misused and that it indicates bad intentions. Sir, my submission is that if they had tried to see the facts, they would have come to know that such a provision is definitely contained in all legislations. This is a basic principle and the Government incorporates such clauses only to provide a safeguard for its officers committing a bona fide error in the

discharge of their official duties. Such a provision, i.e. "if an officer acts in good faith in the discharge of his duty, no suit shall lie against him in any court in respect of that official act", has not only been made in this particular Bill but is to be found in all the Bills already passed. I, therefore, want to tell my hon. Friends of the Opposition that any question of corruption does not arise in this matter.

True, the hon. Members on our side, of course, repeatedly utter the name of Mahatamaji but the hon. Friends sitting opposite always talk in terms of corruption and dishonesty. I feel that there is no such thing in this clause which may be made an instrument for perpetrating high-handedness on the people. I wish to assure you that this provision is not at all intended to commit oppressor upon the people but is only there to protect the honest officers for things done in good faith. In the circumstances, it is quite an innocent clause, in the absence of which no scheme of the Government can be put through. I, therefore, hope that our Friends in the Opposition would not oppose it.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Clause be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 16 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 17

Mr. Speaker : Clause 17 is before the House for consideration.

Shri Maru Singh Malik (Sampla) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That in sub-clause (1), line 5, between the words "Collector" and "may" the following be inserted:

"of first or second grade".

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That in sub-clause (1), line 5, between the words "Collector" and "may" the following be inserted:—

"of first or second grade".

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That in sub-clause (1), line 5, between the words "Collector" and "may" the following be inserted:

"of first or second grade"

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 17 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 18

Sardar Darshan Singh : (Tarn Taran) (*Punjabi*): Sir, I beg to move—

That the Clause be deleted.

Mr. Speaker, this clause provides that in case a peasant after having been summoned by any Canal Officer fails to appear before him, he can be punished with fine which may extend to fifty rupees. We wonder why our Minister does not consider anything without making a provision for imposing fines. It will lead to further increase in corruption. I apprehend that if some officer summons a peasant to attend at a certain time but owing to certain reason he is unable to reach there, even then he will be subjected to a fine. I feel that this will be tantamount to another burden on the farmers and, therefore, request that this clause be deleted.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Clause be deleted.

Sardar Ajmer Singh (Samrala) (*Punjabi*): Mr. Speaker, this clause is objectionable from so many points of view. Why? You may peruse any Act. It will be found to contain a provision to the effect that wherever a person commits a breach of the orders of an Executive Officer or an Executive Authority, the case is always sent to the civil court for the trial of that offence. Besides, the Criminal Procedure Code also lays down that if a person commits contempt of the court and the court concerned wishes that case to be proceeded with at once, then a notice to that effect should be issued by some other court. I challenge my learned Friend, the Minister for Irrigation, to quote any law in which a court tries its own contempt.

Minister for Irrigation : My hon. Friend is a lawyer and so am I. He should minutely study the Land Revenue Act or the Tenancy Act. It will reveal whether or not such a provision exists there.

Sardar Ajmer Singh : I agree that the Minister is also a lawyer. But I ask him to cite any such provision from any Code in which powers to try a case of non-compliance of its orders may have been left at the discretion of the summoning authority itself. If he feels that such-like provision exists in any Act, then I would like to remark that it is objectionable and against the principles of Jurisprudence. In the circumstances, if such powers are delegated to the officers, then there cannot be any hope of justice being done to the people. I, therefore, wish to submit that powers to try such cases should not be left at the discretion of the summoning

authority. This is not only objectionable but also an encroachment on the rights of the people. I wish to stress once again that this undemocratic provision should be deleted because I feel that it is ill-intentioned.

Minister for Irrigation : (Chaudhri Lahri Singh) (*Hindi*) : Sir, I may point out that there is neither any ill-intention in this clause nor is there any likelihood of its being misused. If you may go through the Land Revenue Act or any other Act, you will find that powers have been delegated to the Revenue Assistants to the effect that they can summon the people concerned to decide certain cases or for some other purposes whenever they deem it fit. Moreover, their functions are of such a nature that they have to summon the people on the spot and in cases of default they have been empowered under section 149 of the Land Revenue Act to impose fine which may extend to rupees fifty. The same is the position with regard to the Betterment Fees. If any officer summons somebody, he does so because it forms a part of his duties. He would not summon him for any private work. If in spite of the summons having been received by the person concerned, he fails to attend and repeatedly defies the summons, then the officer must have the power to punish him. I myself feel that when an intentional defiance of summons by somebody causes delay in the official work, then proceedings should definitely be instituted against the defaulter. Such a provision finds a place even in the Tenancy Act. I, therefore, wish to make it clear that this is just a safeguard for the smooth running of the official business. I assure you, Sir, that no bad intention underlies it. I would like to know as to how many cases have occurred wherein powers have been misused. I have not come across any such case during my twenty years' experience. However, if somebody is summoned time and again but he ignores the orders, then what else should be done? Since the officers have to perform multifarious duties, they are compelled to take action against that defaulter. This amendment, therefore, is unnecessary.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Clause be deleted.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 18 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 19

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina : (Ajnala) (*Punjabi*): Sir, I beg to move—

That at the end of sub-clause (1), the words "after the approval of the Punjab Legislative Assembly" be added.

Sir, this Act is much more important than even the laws relating to Land Revenue and Abiana from the point of view of the Government because this is likely to bring more money to the Exchequer

[Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina]
 than any other measure. But it has been provided in this Bill that the bye-laws will be framed by an officer of the Government. No doubt, the word used in the Bill is "Government" but every one knows how these rules and bye-laws are made. Some officer sitting in his room in the Secretariat will frame these bye-laws according to his sweet will. Under the circumstances, it is very necessary that the bye-laws be submitted to this Assembly for approval.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That at the end of sub-clause (1), the words "after the approval of the Punjab Legislative Assembly" be added.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That at the end of sub-clause (1), the words "after the approval of the Punjab Legislative Assembly" be added.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 19 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 20

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 20 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 1, SUB-CLAUSE (1)

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

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

The motion was carried.

TITLE

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Title be the Title of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Minister for Irrigation (Chaudhri Lahri Singh) : Sir, I beg to move—

That the Punjab Betterment Charges and Acreage Rates Bill be passed.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Punjab Betterment Charges and Acreage Rates Bill be passed.

Sardar Partap Singh (Mallanwala) (*Punjabi*) : Mr. Speaker at the very outset I would like to remove the misunderstanding in the mind of the Government that the Opposition is not favourably disposed towards the Bhakra-Nangal Project. I assure the Government that we are not at all opposed to it. On the contrary, all of us want it to be completed with the utmost speed and expedition so that the cultivators may get water for their crops, the agricultural produce may increase and the State may make rapid strides on the road to progress and prosperity. Our grouse is that the poor zamindars of the Punjab are being made to shoulder the whole burden of the expenditure on a project, the benefits from which are to be shared by the whole of India. At present, our country is faced with scarcity of foodgrains, with the result that the poor are starving and the rich are compelled to purchase their requirements in the black-market at very high prices. This trouble does not affect the zamindars. The real sufferers are the people living in cities and the non-agriculturist section of the population. If the Bhakra project is completed, agricultural produce will increase, with the result that controls will go, people will be able to buy their requirements in the open market and all the difficulties attendant upon the scarcity of foodgrains will disappear. All these benefits will go to the non-agriculturists. It may be said that the zamindar will be benefited, too, because he will get more water for his crops and there will be a very appreciable increase in the yield from his land. But I would submit that the increase in the yield does not depend on the supply of water alone. This is the age of machinery. We will also require machinery for our fields necessitating expenditure of thousands of rupees. Rich people can afford such expenditure but the poor zamindars will have to form co-operative societies for the purpose and those who are too poor to spend anything on machines will be compelled to toil day and night with all the members of their families.

Then, there is another aspect of the matter. The increase in the production of a commodity is always attended by a fall in its price and, therefore, when agricultural produce increases, prices must fall. This means that the zamindars will be deriving very little benefit from this project and the real benefits will go to the general public of the country, to the poor section of the population and to the non-agriculturists all over India. At present, we are compelled to send crores of rupees to foreign countries by importing food grains from abroad. We will not only save this money but also a lot of money and energy which have to be spent in connection with the procurement of foodgrains. These will be available to be spent on constructive schemes and again the benefits will be shared not only by the zamindars but by all sections of the people. This would mean that the project will indirectly benefit the general public of the country as a whole and especially the non-agriculturist section of the population and, therefore, it is sheer injustice to saddle the zamindars of the Punjab with the entire expenditure.

A still greater injustice has been done to the zamindars by putting them under the crushing weight of ten crores of rupees to be spent on the generation of electric power. Why not ask the

[Sardar Partap Singh]

prospective consumers of this power to shoulder the burden? The Minister for Finance was pleased to remark that his apprehension was that if he imposed some tax in connection with generation of electric power on the actual consumers, then there was a likelihood of their going on a "no-consumption-of-electric-power" strike. This means that the Government is afraid of agitation and that perhaps is the only method to make it see reason.

Then, Sir, the hon. Minister stated yesterday that the Government was raising ten crores of rupees as loan from the zamindars and that this amount would be utilized for the good of the people. This is a strange method of raising loans. Zamindars would be forced to pay the amount and the land of the person not paying it would be attached by the Government. Why should a person who is not in a position to pay the amount be forced to pay it?

Then, Sir, my hon. Friend, Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut, said that the amount which was proposed to be raised by way of taxation from the zamindars could be obtained by effecting economy in the execution of the Bhakra Project. In reply to it Shri Prabodh Chandra stated that such a huge sum could not be got by effecting economy. I beg to submit that it is still our duty to economise as much as possible and to reduce the burden of taxation on the zamindars. The good of the country lies in this thing alone.

In the end, Sir, I beg to submit that we are repeatedly told that this is a people's Government. Such a Government always acts on the principle 'all for one and one for all'. Here the Government party acts on the principle that if a project is for the benefit of the zamindars, they alone should bear its cost. It would mean that for every development scheme which is on the programme those people will have to bear the burden who are to benefit by it. This is a wrong principle and it creates distinction between the ruralites and the urbanites. We should not enact such retrogressive measures. This thing is creating differences between the agriculturists and the non-agriculturists. Our Government is following the policy of oppressing the rural people as it knows that they will go on bearing all this oppression quietly. The villagers should not be crushed by such a heavy burden. If the rural people become weak the whole State will become weak and it will mean a loss to all of us.

Professor Mota Singh Anandpuri (Adampur) (Hindi) : Mr Speaker, the Betterment Charges and Acreage Rates Bill has been discussed in detail but still I would like to say a few words about it. I want to discuss in detail some clauses of this Bill but the time at my disposal is very short. In brief, what I beg to submit is that three or four clauses of this Bill are such as amount to a negation of democracy. This is particularly true about those clauses which deprive the zamindars of the right of obtaining the help of courts of law. In this age of independence and democracy, it would be an act of repression to pass a measure which deprives some persons of the right of seeking protection of the courts of law. The clause to that effect should, therefore, be deleted from the Bill. Such clauses also have been incorporated in other measures which this Government has

passed. It appears that our Government has taken it into its head that in all the measures passed by it the right of going to courts of law should be taken away from the people concerned.

Then, Sir, the rate of Betterment Charges proposed to be levied is so high that it would ruin the zamindars. In addition to the Report of the Joint Select Committee on this Bill, we have been supplied copies of a pamphlet entitled 'The Betterment Charges and Acreage Rates Bill, 1952'. In this pamphlet, it is stated at one place that a sum of money totalling fifty-six crores of rupees would be realised in thirty half-yearly instalments. The exact words of the relevant passage are—

That the amount of betterment charges shall not exceed half of the difference between the value of the land before the project was conceived and the value of the land after the project has become fully productive.

I beg to submit that this amount is too much. This is six times the charge of thirty rupees per acre made at the time of the execution of the Thal Project. The zamindars are being saddled with this burden at a time when they need some relief. Is this the reward which the Government wants to give to those poor people who sacrificed their all and bore great hardships for achieving independence? During the British regime, a betterment fee at the rate of thirty rupees per acre was charged on lands likely to benefit from the Thal Project but now our Government is going to charge at the rate of Rs 180 per acre. It is stated in the pamphlet already referred to by me:—

On the analogy of canal-irrigated land in the Punjab, it would be quite reasonable to assume that the value of land will appreciate to Rs 1,000 per acre on extension of perennial irrigation in 1958-59. It is, however, proposed to levy betterment charges at Rs 180 only.

I wonder how the poor peasants would be able to bear such a heavy burden. The second thing which I consider objectionable is clause 15 which relates to the provision of indemnity. It has been provided in this clause that—

No claim shall lie against the Government for compensation or for the refund of betterment charges or acreage rates on account of loss occasioned by the failure or stoppage of water in a canal.

The Government has made such a provision in the Bill that in case the zamindars do not pay the betterment charges in time, severe punishment may be awarded to them. The recovery of such charges will have precedence over all other recoveries except land revenue. If any zamindar suffers a loss on account of failure or stoppage of water in a canal then he cannot claim any compensation or the refund of betterment charges. Such a provision relating to the indemnity was seen in the year 1919 during the British regime when the Britishers had wanted to protect their own officers. A provision was then made that no claim for compensation would lie against the Government for any loss occasioned on account of a wrong action on the part of any of its officers. Now our Government is also towing the same line and still says that justice is being done to every body and that its efforts are directed to the mitigation of the hardships of the people.

Sardar Ajmer Singh (Samrala) (Punjabi) Sir, before I say anything, I must congratulate my hon. Friend, Sardar Mota Singh, as we feel that there are still some friends in the Congress Party who have sympathy for the poor zamindars. If I were to indulge in plain-speaking, then I must say that this Bill which is at present under discussion in the House, has been brought up owing to the weakness of the Congress Government itself. As a matter of fact, the Punjab is being made to pay a penalty by way of a compulsory contribution to the Government of India. My feeling is that if the Government of India was influenced by the consideration that there was acute food shortage in our country then it could very easily depend upon the brave Punjabis who would strive hard to increase the produce of land and from that India as a whole could derive great benefit. But if the production of land does not increase even by levying such a tax on the people, then recovery of crores of rupees in the form of this tax would not appear to be in conformity with any principle of taxation.

The principle of income-tax is that its assessment is made according to an individual's income. The income first accrues to a person and then assessment of income-tax is made. But under this Bill it has been estimated beforehand that the value of land will appreciate to a certain extent and therefore the Government is justified in recovering so many crores of rupees on account of Betterment Charges. There is no provision in the Bill to the effect that the betterment charges will not be recovered in case the value of the land is diminished. It will be remembered that when wheat was sold at Rs. 3 per maund and the peasants were very much hard-pressed as their income did not enable them to make both ends meet, the Government was not moved to grant them remission of land revenue. But now the position is that if the value of land falls tomorrow and the zamindars fail to get any profit out of their land, even then the Government will recover betterment charges from them.

The principle of income-tax is that its assessment is made according to the Punjab Government, it is not a favour to the Punjabis because I think it is the duty of the Government of India to take necessary steps to increase the production in our country. Our Government should have frankly told the Government of India that increase in production from these irrigation projects will be a gain for the whole of India. There appears to be no justification for imposing such a levy on the vague presumption that the value of land will considerably increase. I would say that the present levy is the result of the weakness of our Government which has not lodged any protest with the Government of India.

Our Punjabi brethren, though they have lost much of their zeal and enthusiasm in their adversity due to the after-effects of partition, have cleared the forests in Uttar Pradesh and turned them into cultivable lands. The hon. Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh was full of praise for the hard labour put in by the Punjabis for turning the forest lands into fertile pieces of land. Our Government, on the other hand, is trying to weaken them by levying new taxes on them. Our hon. Minister has made a provision in Clause 18 of this Bill that if any person who is summoned by the Revenue Officers fails to

attend he will be punishable with a fine of Rs. 50. In fact, the words 'without good cause' should be inserted in this clause. There ought to be some protection for those persons who are prevented from attending the office of the Revenue Officers for reasons of ill-health. This clause should be amended in this way—

Fails to comply with the requisition without any good cause, he shall be liable, at the discretion of the summoning officer, to a fine which may extend to fifty rupees.

This clause will inflict a great hardship on the people. After the passage of this measure, the Government will recover 56 crores of rupees as betterment charges. I think that it is no exaggeration to say that this tax will be realized from the people just like *jeziya* of olden days.

Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma (Haripur) (*Hindi*): Sir, I had no mind to speak today because I was under the impression that there will be no opposition to this Bill and it will be passed in a few hours. But I find that some of my hon. Friends have opposed this measure and there appears to be very little force in the arguments that have been advanced by them. I belong to that *ilaqa* where the area of cultivable land is very small and that too is lacking in irrigation facilities. I think that in this age of science, it is not very difficult to make arrangements for the supply of water to the land and we find that the Government has undertaken a very ambitious scheme of providing irrigation through the Bhakra Dam Project. Some of my hon. Friends have remarked that there will not be any appreciable gain to the zamindars even after water-supply is made available to them through the Bhakra Dam. I would like to tell them that in case the Government is prepared to take steps to supply water from Bhakra Dam to our *ilaqa* we are willing to pay $2\frac{1}{2}$ times the betterment charges the Government now proposes to levy. We would feel jubilant if the Government were to accept our offer; and such a step will give us encouragement to strive hard for increasing the productivity of our land. Some of my hon. Friends have remarked that whereas the whole of India is to derive benefit from these irrigation schemes, the betterment charges are proposed to be levied on the poor *kisans* of our State. I would only say that if my brethren do not like to avail of the benefit of this water-supply then they may refuse and the people of my *ilaqa* are prepared to pay double the betterment charges provided the Government is willing to take a decision to provide water to our *ilaqa* from the Bhakra Dam.

Sardar Darshan Singh (Tarn Taran) (*Punjabi*): Sir, before the elections whenever our Congressite friends toured the countryside they used to promise that in the very first session of the Assembly they would vote for a reduction in the rate of the abiana and thus lighten the burden of the peasants. That session began and ended but the promise was not fulfilled. Some time back, when a resolution recommending a reduction in the rate of the abiana was moved by a Member of the Opposition, Sardar Waryam Singh and Jathedar Mohan Singh had stated that in reality the Opposition did not want the rate of abiana to be reduced. I wonder why they are keeping mum now. So far as we are concerned, everybody knows that we do not let slip any opportunity of placing before the Government the

[Sardar Darshan Singh]

difficulties of the peasants. The fact cannot be gainsaid that the economic condition of the peasants has gone from bad to worse. So many taxes have been imposed upon them that they cannot do their work with anything like zest.

Then, Sir, it has been stated that with the availability of water for irrigation purposes the value of their land will increase. If water alone could raise the value of land then the land under the pools would be most valuable. (*Cheers from Opposition Benches*) Water itself cannot affect the value of land. It does not yield anything unless somebody puts in hard labour.

Some Congress friends had yesterday expressed the view that the income of the cultivators will increase manifold. I wonder how this is going to happen especially when every pie spent on the construction of a bridge and the excavation of a distributary is going to be realised from the peasants. When they are paying the land revenue and the water rates, I see no reason why they should be made to pay any other levy.

The Minister-in-charge perhaps thinks that the peasants are not at all sensible people. He should not forget that they are the same people who fought in our national movements shoulder to shoulder with other nationalists. They will certainly rise against the persons who have not fulfilled the promises held out to them.

Shri Daulat Ram (Kaithal)(*Hindi*) : Sir, the greatest objection that the Opposition has raised against the passage of this Bill is that the poor are already overburdened with taxes. They have pleaded that there should be no increase in the tax-burden of the people. If for a moment I draw their attention to the basic principles of taxation, it would not be improper. Every civilized country has improved its economic condition through taxation.

Mr. Speaker : We are not here to listen to a dissertation on taxation.

Shri Daulat Ram : Since the Opposition is treating this Bill as a taxation measure, I think it my duty to clarify this point.

Mr. Speaker : No, the hon. Member should speak on the Bill.

Shri Daulat Ram : Very well, Sir. I shall cut short the whole matter. For the economic advancement of a country, it is essential for its Government to levy taxes on its people. If we want to see our country occupy its rightful place among the advanced countries of the world, there is only one way open to us, i.e. to strive for improving the economic condition of the people. There is no country in the world today which can be called advanced in which ninety-five per cent of the people are not paying taxes.

With regard to the generation of electricity, these friends have expressed the view that since the urbanites will benefit from it the money required for the execution of hydro-electric schemes should be

① realised from them. My submission is that with the help of agricultural produce alone our State will not be able to become self-sufficient. We need industries badly for the improvement of the condition of the people, for the eradication of unemployment and for augmenting our national wealth. It is with the help of electricity that we can start industries which will absorb and provide employment to thousands of our jobless young men both in villages and towns. It is through the growth of industries that we can raise the standard of living of the people. Without the power supplied by electricity, there can be no industrialization in the State. By spending ten crores of rupees on the generation and supply of electricity we can enable these jobless people to earn crores of rupees.

② Then, it has been argued that the value of land is dwindling and if these Betterment Charges are levied the Zamindars will be put to a considerable loss. The fundamental point is not the enhancement or diminution in the price of land. What is of fundamental importance is as to whether with the availability of water the agricultural produce will increase or decrease. Nobody can deny that the availability of water for irrigation purposes will lead to increased production and will not only make us self-sufficient in the matter of food but will also enable us to spare foodgrains for other countries. So in this way the whole country will benefit.

Lastly, I have to say something with regard to my own *ilaga*. The condition of the people living in the *ilaga* of Kaithal Tahsil is miserable indeed; much of the land is barren, educational facilities are not available and the poverty of the people knows no bounds. If their opinion is asked, they will be found ready to foot the entire expenditure that the Government may have to incur to supply water to them. (Cheers).

With these words, I congratulate the hon. Minister-in-charge for bringing forward such an important and reasonable Bill as the one now before the House.

③ **Sardar Nidhan Singh (Mehna) (Punjabi)** : Sir, we have time and again tried to assure the Friends sitting on the Government Benches as also the hon. Ministers and we assure them once again that if they continue to labour under the obsession that the Communists are here only to create a nuisance they will be doing us a wrong. It is also an erroneous impression that the leftist parties do not have the interests of their country at heart or that they do not want to see it progress and prosper. I may assure them once again that what these parties aim at is the progress of the country. Sir, we also want that our country should prosper and that the progress should be by leaps and bounds. In about eight countries of the world there are really democratic Governments.

Mr. Speaker : Please don't be irrelevant.

Sardar Nidhan Singh : Sir, we want that the hardships suffered by the poor labouring class should be removed and all possible help should be given to them. I am reminded of a story and if the hon. ④

[Sardar Nidhan Singh]

Minister does not get angry I can relate it. A poor farmer went to a shopkeeper to buy ghee. He asked him to give him ghee worth two pice. The shopkeeper put some ghee on his finger. The poor kisan thought that the ghee given on the finger was by way of sample to be seen. He tasted it and spreading the sheet before the shopkeeper asked him to put the ghee in it. The shopkeeper told him that he has already given him ghee worth two pice. On this the farmer sat down before his shop and refused to budge. When he was asked by the passers-by the reason for his squatting he told them that he had given the money to the shopkeeper but that he was refusing to give him the ghee.

Mr. Speaker : Please be relevant.

(5) **Sardar Nidhan Singh :** Sir, my submission is that we wish to see our country prosper. What we want to see is that the wealth of our country should remain in it. It should not be frittered away.

Shri Ram Kishan (Jullundur city, North-West) (*Hindi*). Sir, varying opinions have been expressed on the floor of the House in connection with the construction of the Bhakra Dam. Some of the hon. Members have spoken against the levying of the Betterment Fees and Acreage Rates. In this connection, I would like to quote here the remarks made by Mr. Chester Bowles on this subject. At present, work on about one hundred and two projects is going on in India. Out of all these, there are three big schemes—Damodar Valley, Bhakra and Mirakund. About Bhakra, Mr. Chester Bowles recently remarked—

Three groups of big Dams modelled on our T.V.A. or Boulder Dams systems are now being built at Damodar, Hirakund and Bhakra Nangal—the last named alone to irrigate 3,300,000 acres annually. This is 70 per cent more than is serviced by Grand coulee, at present the largest irrigation system in the world.

(6) This shows the importance of the Bhakra Project. Some of the hon. Members have said certain things. For instance, it has been stated that the kisans will stand to lose if Betterment Fees are charged. I don't wish to go into all these things at this time. But I would like to point out that during the last sixty or seventy years the southern districts of the Punjab have always been suffering from famines. We see that from 1861 to 1952 this part of the State has often witnessed famines. During the last fifty years there have been thirteen such famines in this part. Every year three to five crores of rupees are spent by the Government on famine relief. Now for the first time we hope to put an end to such a state of affairs by the implementation of the scheme of the Bhakra Project. May I ask the hon. Members whether it is not their wish to see Hariana free from the curse of famine? Famines can be stopped only if this scheme is completed and agricultural production is increased. If we compare the conditions prevailing in India with those in other countries of the world we will find that the *per capita* income in India, according to the National Income Report, is Rs. 256. In U.S.A. such income is Rs. 6,539; in Canada it is Rs. 3,915; in U.K. Rs. 3,478; in France Rs. 2,169 and in Russia Rs. 1,386. I beg to submit

that even in small countries like Newzealand and Switzerland the national income *per capita* is higher than that of India. If Bhakra scheme is implemented it will lead to an increase in our national income. Every land-owner stands to gain by its implementation. As a matter of fact, every citizen—agriculturist or non-agriculturist—will benefit if the national income goes up. The completion of this project will raise our agricultural production by five lakh tons. About fifty lakhs of people will benefit from this project. The income will be doubled or trebled and, therefore, the farmers will be in a better position to pay the Betterment Fees etc. and contribute to the national finances which are so badly needed for various schemes of development.

There is another thing which I wish to bring to the notice of the hon. Members. Betterment Fee is not being charged in our State only. It is being levied in other States of India as well as in other countries of the world. In Russia, China and many other countries, various schemes of irrigation and construction of dams are being proceeded with. Bhakra is smaller than none of them. If we consider it we cannot resist the conclusion that money is necessary for financing such schemes. Money can come only in two ways—either by inflating the currency or by taxing the people. The after-effects of the first of these methods are not desirable. Therefore the only way open to us is to resort to taxation for the purpose of getting money for such schemes. But the taxes can only be imposed if along with them there is development and increase in national income. The Bhakra project will lead to an increase in agricultural production. So far as the production of cloth in the country is concerned we find that nearly 26 lakh bales of cotton are being produced in the country whereas we need 40 lakh bales. This means that there is a shortage of 14 lakh bales. The Bhakra project will increase the production by 8 lakh bales. This will give a fillip to the handloom industry in our country. Therefore, my appeal to the House is that this Bill should be passed unanimously, because the early completion of the Bhakra scheme will remove the shortage of food in our country, and we will not have to look to other countries of the world for our requirements in foodgrains.

Mr. Speaker, the Bhakra Dam Scheme was prepared in 1908 but the then Government did not implement it. Even after that the Government did not deem it proper to start the work. It is only our Government which has taken this effective step with a view to ameliorating the lot of our masses and to build the State afresh. I would, therefore, request the hon. Members opposite not to oppose this Bill and pass it unanimously.

Shri Prabodh Chandra : Sir, I move—

That the question be now put.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the question be now put.

The motion was carried.

Chaudhri Lahri Singh : (Minister for Irrigation and Power) (*Hindi*) : Mr. Speaker, the present Bill has been thoroughly discussed and, therefore, I would not like to dwell upon this subject at length. However, I would like to mention one point which has pained me a lot and that is this. It has been alleged in the House that the poor zamindars would not be able to tolerate the injustice and high handedness that has been meted out to them in the form of levy of betterment charges and that the whole benefit of this scheme would go to non-zamindars. If my brethren happen to go to a place where drinking water both for men and cattle is not available and where the zamindars get water for sowing purposes from rains only, they would realise that a more beneficial scheme cannot be conceived or prepared than that of the Bhakra Dam. The Government of our truncated State has taken a very bold step which aims at bettering the lot of the zamindars. The zamindars possess land and their betterment lies in developing its productivity by supplying them water. It is only water that can improve the quality of land and ultimately increase production. Without water, cotton, maize, wheat and other cereals cannot be grown. If even then the hon. Members think that the implementation of the Bhakra Dam Scheme is for the benefit of the non-agriculturists only, I do not understand what loss will the agriculturists have to bear? Will they be deprived of their lands?

Mr. Speaker, it really pains me to think that the hon. Members in the Opposition have jaundiced eyes which do not let them see things clearly and properly. Let them imagine for a minute that the non-agriculturists have also the same feelings as they themselves have. A non-agriculturist also wishes to possess wealth, get good education and own land. He has also the right to living a comfortable life. I, therefore, submit that the hon. Members should congratulate the Government on having brought this Bill before the House rather than criticise it. They should also try to see the amount of money, set apart for this purpose, the number of foreign engineers employed in our State and the amount of work being done. But, alas, they are harping on the same tune that the zamindars are being ruined. I may state for the information of the hon. Members that our Government wants to do away with any such slogan which creates discord amongst the agriculturists and non-agriculturists, and the ruralites and the urbanites. This slogan has disappeared with the Britishers who created these differences in order to gain their own ends. If my hon. Friends happen to visit Jullundur and Ferozepore Districts they will find that the water in wells has gone down and the people are in great distress. The implementation of the Bhakra Dam Scheme is to remove their difficulties.

Then, they have raised an objection that like the imposition of betterment charges, a tax for the supply of electricity should also be levied on the people. But from where this amount of 10 crores of rupees should be realised? It is a question of demand and supply. The cheaper the supply of electricity the greater would be its demand. And if the rate of electricity is raised by imposing a tax upon its supply nobody would purchase it. Then, they claim to have studied Economics! They even do not know that

if the demand is high the profit will be more and if on account of high rate the demand is less the profit also will be less. I do not know whether they have studied even the Communist philosophy. Sir, I want to make it clear to them that 10 crores of rupees would be realised afterwards and not at this time.

Mr. Speaker, I got those brochures printed so that by going through them the hon. Members may understand the whole position and realise that a sum of Rs 1-8-0 as betterment charges for a katcha bigha would not be too much. If by paying this paltry amount, their lands get water for irrigation, the zamindars would not lose anything. Had Chaudhri Chhotu Ram been alive at this time he would have congratulated this Government. I can safely claim that if there is any Government which will irrigate the lands of this State and benefit the zamindars, it is this Government. I would, therefore, advise them not to deliver such speeches in the House as they would be published and when the coming generations will read them they will decry such Members who put obstacles even in the implementation of very useful schemes. It is, therefore, in their own interest not to prolong this matter. I assure them that at the time of drafting rules and preparing the schedule, the Government will take into confidence the leading Members of the Opposition. It is a fact that that process is very lengthy and it cannot be discussed in the House. But at the time of drafting the rules, the hon. Members and the public will be consulted and the people will have every right of preferring an appeal. In the end, Sir, I would request them to pass this Bill immediately.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Punjab Betterment Charges and Acreage Rates Bill be passed.

(After ascertaining the votes of the House by voices, Mr. Speaker said, "I think the Ayes have it". This opinion was challenged and Division was claimed. Mr. Speaker after calling upon those Members who supported the claim for Division and those who challenged his decision to rise in their places, declared that the Division was unnecessarily claimed.)

The motion was declared carried. (Cheers)

THE EAST PUNJAB REFUGEES AND REHABILITATION (BUILDINGS AND BUILDING SITES) (AMENDMENT) BILL.

Sardar Ujjal Singh (Minister for Finance) : Sir, I beg to introduce the East Punjab Refugees and Rehabilitation (Buildings and Building Sites) (Amendment) Bill.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : On a point of order, Sir, I object to the introduction of this important Bill, because neither any agenda pertaining to it was supplied to us, nor was this Bill circulated earlier to enable us to prepare and give notice of amendments about it.

Mr. Speaker : The objection is overruled.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Sir, I would request you to state the reasons for rejecting my request.

Mr. Speaker : The objection made by the hon. Member is not in order and he should resume his seat.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Sir, this is our right that the agenda should be supplied to us in time and that the Bill be circulated giving us sufficient time to prepare ourselves for its consideration. Nothing has been done and to crown all the Chair is reluctant to state the reasons for not granting our request.

Mr. Speaker : If the hon. Member wants any ruling on the point, it has already been given. He should know that the ruling of the Speaker cannot be questioned.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Sir, I feel that the attitude of the Chair is wrong.

Mr. Speaker : I have given the ruling and the hon. Member can do anything he likes.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : I assert that this is a wrong attitude that has been adopted by the Chair and in protest I and my party will be compelled to stage a walk-out.

Mr. Speaker : My ruling is there and the hon. Member may go if he so desires.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Then we all walk out. (*Uproar*)

Mr. Speaker : Please walk out quietly, if you so desire.

Mr. Speaker : Honourable Members, an objection was raised that these gentlemen, who have walked out, did not get notice in time. We have got in writing that the relevant papers were supplied to them yesterday and that the Bill was circulated on 27th November 1952. The agenda was supplied to them yesterday at their residences and their signatures were obtained in receipt of the same. And yet Sardar Chanan Singh and his friends said that they did not get the agenda, etc. Therefore, the objection raised by him was overruled.

Minister for Finance ; (Sardar Ujjal Singh) : Sir, I move—

That the East Punjab Refugees and Rehabilitation (Buildings and Building Sites) (Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration at once.

Mr. Speaker, this is quite a small piece of legislation and contains only four clauses. I would, therefore, explain briefly its contents to the House. It goes without saying that this is quite a simple Bill and does not require any deep study. My hon. Friends have unnecessarily created unpleasantness in the House.

According to the East Punjab Refugees Rehabilitation (Buildings and Building Sites) Act of 1948, the Government could charge only

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BUILDING SITES) (AMENDMENT) BILL

three per cent interest on loans. So it was charging interest at this rate on the cost of houses or plots of land which it had been selling to those refugees who had not paid their price in cash. Now, since the Government of India wants to charge interest from our Government at the rate of 4½ per cent on loans given to it, therefore, we have felt the necessity of bringing in this piece of legislation. Although we are trying hard to persuade the Government of India to reduce this rate of interest, yet we cannot say with confidence that it would at all agree to any reduction. For this reason, we intend to authorise our Government through this Bill to charge interest at a rate higher than three per cent on such loans. However, I want to make clear one thing to the House and that is that our Government would charge interest on the cost of those houses and plots which it would now sell at the same rate at which it will have to pay to the Government of India while the rate of interest which it is already charging on the cost of those houses and plots which it has already sold would remain unaffected. According to the provisions of this Bill, the Government shall be authorised to charge a higher rate of interest on this type of loans, which it may advance in future.

The second thing that we want to achieve through this Bill is that we intend to wind up the Urban Rehabilitation Department step by step. Therefore, through this Bill we want to authorise the Deputy Commissioners to effect the sale of plots and houses to the people and authorise the Commissioners to hear appeals against the decisions of the Deputy Commissioners, which authority previously vested only in the Financial Commissioner, Rehabilitation. Now this authority will no longer vest in him.

Therefore, Sir, I request the House to pass this legislation without much discussion.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the East Punjab Refugees and Rehabilitation (Buildings and Building Sites) (Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration at once.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the East Punjab Refugees and Rehabilitation (Buildings and Building Sites) (Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration at once.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Now the House will proceed to consider the Bill clause by clause.

CLAUSE 2

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 3

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 3 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 4

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 4 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 1

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 1 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

TITLE

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Title be the Title of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Minister for Finance (Sardar Ujjal Singh) : Sir, I beg to move—

That the East Punjab Refugees and Rehabilitation (Buildings and Building Sites) (Amendment) Bill be passed.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the East Punjab Refugees and Rehabilitation (Buildings and Building Sites) (Amendment) Bill be passed.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the East Punjab Refugees and Rehabilitation (Buildings and Building Sites) (Amendment) Bill be passed.

The motion was carried.

THE EAST PUNJAB AYURVEDIC AND UNANI PRACTITIONERS
(AMENDMENT) BILL.

Minister for Finance : (Sardar Ujjal Singh) : Sir, I beg to introduce the East Punjab Ayurvedic and Unani Practitioners (Amendment) Bill.

Minister for Finance : Sir, I move—

That the East Punjab Ayurvedic and Unani Practitioners (Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration at once.

EAST PUNJAB AYURVEDIC AND UNANI PRACTITIONERS (AMENDMENT) (17)67
BILL

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the East Punjab Ayurvedic and Unani Practitioners (Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration at once.

Shri Lal Chand Prarthi (Kulu) (Hindi) : Mr. Speaker, two years ago, i.e. in the year 1949, this Assembly passed the Ayurvedic and Unani Practitioners Act and the Board which was accordingly constituted consisted of nominated members. The term of the Board was fixed at two years because it was felt that within this period the work of registration will be completed. But, after the expiry of two years, it has been observed that the work of this Board is still lying incomplete. This is why the amending Bill seeking to increase the term of the Board from two to three years had to be brought forward. In this connection, my submission is that the registration work does not seem to have been completed in spite of two years having elapsed. We have, of course, decided to extend the term but I apprehend that since it is in the interest of the members of the Board, they may try to cause more and more delay in the registration work with the result that more amending Bills may have to be brought forward again and consequently the object for which this Bill has been framed may not be accomplished. As a matter of fact, I wanted to table an amendment to it but I was given to understand that the acceptance of that amendment would be tantamount to amending the original Act. Therefore, I did not give a notice of it. However, Mr Speaker, through you I wish to submit to the Government that if an amendment to that effect could not be made in this Bill, the Board should, at least, be directed to finish the whole of its work within this period so that the elected representatives of the Vaidis and Hakims should conduct this business, for I feel that the elected members will take more pains in their work and will encourage the old science of Ayurvedic system of medicine through their endeavours.

Minister for Finance : (Sardar Ujjal Singh) (Punjabi) : Mr. Speaker, I just want to submit that my hon. Friend might have read in the Statement of Objects and Reasons that this Board had got 18,000 registration cases. It was, therefore, a very arduous work which could not be completed in two years. This must not be construed to mean that the work was not completed intentionally. I wish to submit that we should not doubt the honesty of the Board. I am fully confident that this work will be completed this year and the elections, with a view to constituting a new Board, will follow soon after.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the East Punjab Ayurvedic and Unani Practitioners (Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration at once.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Now the House will proceed to consider the Bill clause by clause.

CLAUSE 2

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 1

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 1 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

TITLE

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Title be the Title of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Minister for Finance : (Sardar Ujjal Singh : Sir, I beg to move—

That the East Punjab Ayurvedic and Unani Practitioners (Amendment) Bill be passed.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the East Punjab Ayurvedic and Unani Practitioners (Amendment) Bill be passed.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the East Punjab Ayurvedic and Unani Practitioners (Amendment) Bill be passed.

The motion was carried.

The Assembly then adjourned till 1 p.m. on Friday, 5th December, 1952.

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES

5th December 1952

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OFFICIAL REPORT



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CHANDIGARH :

Printed by the Controller of Printing and Stationery, Punjab
1953

Price : 0-4-0

Punjab Legislative Assembly

Friday, 5th December 1952

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Simla, at 1 p.m. of the Clock. Mr. Speaker (Dr Satyapal) in the Chair.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

CRIME IN THE STATE.

*1180. Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht: Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state:—

- (a) the total number of murders, of dacoities, of highway robberies committed in the State in the year 1950, 1951 and in the period January to September, 1952, separately;
- (b) the names of the districts where crimes referred to in part (a) above were the highest and the lowest respectively together with the number of such crimes?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar:		(a)	1950	1951	1952 (upt o 30th September 1952)
Murders	..		607	574	459
Dacoities	..		85	78	39
Highway robberies	..		453	377	241
(b)			<i>Highest in</i>		
		1950	1951	1952	
Murders	..	Amritsar (116)	Amritsar (116)	Ferozepore (105)	
Dacoities	..	Gurdaspur & Ludhiana (13 each)	Ambala (14)	Ferozepore (9)	
Highway robberies	..	Amritsar (70)	Ferozepore (61)	Ferozepore (39)	
			<i>Lowest in</i>		
		1950	1951	1952	
Murders	..	Simla (Nil)	Simla (Nil)	Simla (1)	
Dacoities	..	Simla (Nil)	Simla (Nil)	Simla & Kangra (Nil)	
Highway robberies	..	Simla (Nil)	Simla (Nil)	Simla (Nil)	

ARREST OF SHINGARA SINGH, S/O KESAR SINGH OF VILLAGE
GHOREWALA, DISTRICT HOSHIARPUR.

***1374. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut:** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state:—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Shingara Singh s/o Kesar Singh of Village Ghorewala, Tehsil Dasuya, District Hoshiarpur was arrested on the 21st May 1952; if so, on what grounds;
- (b) whether the S.H.O., Tanda kept the man mentioned above for 15 days in police custody; if so, the reasons therefor ?

[Shri Bhim Sen Sachar: (a) Shri Shingara Singh s/o Kesar Singh of Village Ghorewala, Tehsil Dasuya, District Hoshiarpur, was not arrested on the 21st May 1952 or on any other date.

(b) Does not arise.

RAIDS CONDUCTED BY THE ILAQA MAGISTRATE, JULLUNDUR.

***1375. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut:** Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that during the month of October 1952, some raids, in connection with anti-corruption were conducted by the Ilaqa Magistrate in the District of Jullundur along with an M.L.C., if so, their number together with the results thereof?

Shri Bhim Sen Sachar: There have been no raids in connection with anti-corruption by the Ilaqa Magistrate in the month of October, 1952, in the district of Jullundur.

Sardar Chanan Singh: In what connection was the house of the Superintendent Police raided?

Chief Minister: That had nothing to do with the anti-corruption drive.

Sardar Chanan Singh: Will the Chief Minister kindly tell us the purpose for which the residence of the Superintendent of Police was raided?

Chief Minister: No such raid was made. His residence was visited in order to see the distribution of duties among police constables.

TACCAVI LOANS FOR SINKING OF WELLS.

***839. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur:** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state:—

- (a) whether it is a fact that about the beginning of the year 1949, taccavi loans were given to the peasants in the State for the sinking of wells with a condition that these taccavis will not be recovered from those who paid less than Rs 25 annually as land revenue provided that they completed the sinking of wells and put them to use within a year from the receipt of the loans;
- (b) whether he is aware that a taccavi loan of Rs. 875 was given to one Mahn Singh, son of Lahna Singh, Caste Jat of Village Dial

Bharang in Ajnala Tehsil of Amritsar District about February, 1949, on the condition mentioned in part (a) above;

- (c) whether the conditions attaching to the grant of taccavi loan have been changed; if not, the reason why recovery is being made in the case referred to in part (b) above?

Sardar Partap Singh: (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) No, but the conditions were not fulfilled in this case and this is why the loan is being recovered in instalments according to the instructions on the subject.

REVISION IN THE SALARIES OF PATWARIS.

***840. Shrimati Dr. Parkash Kaur:** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether the salaries of the revenue and canal patwaris have been revised; if so, when and with what result;
- (b) the date since when this decision has been given effect to;
- (c) whether the arrears of the Patwaris referred to in part (a) above which were due on account of this revision in their salaries have been paid in Amritsar District and other districts of the State; if not, the reasons therefor?

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon: (a) Yes. The scale of pay of the revenue and canal patwaris was revised from Rs. 25—1—35/1—45 to Rs. 30—1—40/1—50 with effect from the 1st August 1949.

(b) Since 1st August 1949.

(c) While in Jullundur, Gurdaspur and Kangra Districts, the arrears have been paid to all patwaris, in the remaining districts the pay of some of the patwaris has yet to be re-fixed in the revised scale and the arrears will be paid to them as soon as this has been done. It could not be done earlier because the service books had to be prepared afresh and the *amalnamas* of some of the displaced patwaris had not been received from Punjab (Pakistan).

CROP COMPETITION IN THE STATE.

***1168. Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht:** Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state:—

- (a) the number and names of persons who secured first and second prizes on the State and District levels for crop competition in the State together with the record of produce of particular crops included for competitions, in the years 1950-51 and 1951-52;
- (b) the total amount spent on such prizes in the years 1950-51 and 1951-52;
- (c) the total entry fees collected from the contestants separately in the years 1950-51 and 1951-52?

...	390	640
at ...	1,555	20
m ...	45	20
atoes ...	375	1,700
Total	3,455	

CASES OF CORRUPTION IN VILLAGE BODAL, DISTRICT HOSHIARPUR

***57. Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut:** Will the Minister be pleased to state:—

- (a) whether any cases of corruption in Village Bodal, District Hoshiarpur in connection with the year 1952 have been brought to his notice;
- (b) whether he has received any representation from the villagers of the said village regarding the action taken by the Government.

Sardar Partap Singh Kairon: (a) I have received information regarding corruption and the misbehaviour of a person in Village Bodal, District Hoshiarpur.

(b) I have passed orders for the investigation of the complaints regarding corruption in Village Bodal, District Hoshiarpur.

ALLOTMENT OF LAND IN VILLAGE BODAL, DISTRICT HOSHIARPUR

***838. Shrimati Dr. Parvati Devi:** Will the Minister be pleased to state:—

(a) whether it is a fact that the land in Village Bodal, District Hoshiarpur has been allotted to **Singh s/o T...**

Singh s/o Sulakhan Singh, Fauja Singh s/o Ulakhan Singh, Ujagar Singh s/o Nihal Singh, Sunder Singh s/o Nihal Singh, Basant Kaur widow of Inder Singh, Bachan Singh s/o Mangal Singh, Shingara Singh s/o Mangal Singh, Kishan Kaur w/o Jawala Singh and Sher Singh s/o Jawand Singh and few other persons from Village Dhalor Cheema of Tehsil Shadhara, District Sheikhpura were allotted land in Village Bhore Sayadan in Tehsil Kaithal, District Karnal at the end of the year 1949 or during the first couple of months in the year 1950 ;

- (b) whether he is aware of the fact that at the end of the year 1951 or during the first couple of months in the year 1952 they were allotted additional land in lieu of the shamilat (common land) which they had left in their village in Pakistan in which they had a share in the shamilat ;
- (c) whether in other cases also land in lieu of shares in Shamilat left behind in villages in Pakistan has been allotted ; if so, the names of the persons to whom such allotment has been made together with the names of the villages in Pakistan in which they had a share in the Shamilat;
- (d) the authority of law under which the steps mentioned in part (b) above have been taken;
- (e) the number and names of the widows from the village referred to in part (a) above in whose names land has been allotted as referred to in parts (a) and (b) above;
- (f) the number and names of the widows referred to in part (e) above who were alive at the time of the allotment of the land;
- (g) the number and names of the minor children, if any, of the widows referred to in part (e) above who had died before the allotment of land;
- (h) whether he is prepared to lay on the Table copies of the orders of the D. G. R. and F. C. R. R. under which the allotment mentioned in part (b) above has been made ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : (a) Yes. The name of village is Dharar Hinduan and not Dholar Cheema Tehsil Shahdara, District Sheikhpura.

(b) Yes.

(c) The time and labour involved in collecting the information will not be commensurate with any possible benefit to be obtained.

(d) The allotment was made under the order of Government.

- (e) 1. Shrimati Basant Kaur widow of S. Inder Singh.
- 2. Shrimati Kishan Kaur widow of S. Jawala Singh.

With a view to accommodate smaller sitting allottees the allotment of Shrimati Kishan Kaur, being the biggest allottee was subsequently shifted to Village Sehun Nazra, Tehsil Kaithal, District Karnal.

(f) One. Shrimati Basant Kaur.

(g) Nil.

(h) A copy is given below:

[Minister for Finance]

D. R. R. will kindly recollect that a few widows of a joint family made a request to the D. R. R. at Thanesar, District Karnal regarding allotment of Shamilat land, left by them in Pakistan. The original case was filed on 22nd September 1951,—*vide* D. R. R.'s order. It has now been re-examined under D. R. R.'s order, dated 8th September 1951 as below:—

Jammabandi of Village Dharor Hinduan, Tehsil Shahdara, Distt. Sheikhpura received from Pakistan reveals that the entire land of this village was owned by non-Muslims. There are only ten khewats in this village. Shajra Nasab of the village shows that the entire village is owned by Jat Cheema who descend from the same ancestor.

The area claimed relates to Khewat No. 7, the entries of which are,

Shamilat Deh hasab hisas zail Mussammat Kishan Kaur waghaira mandarja Khewat Number 1—Nisaf $\frac{1}{2}$ —Shingara Singh waghaira mandarja Khewat Number 4—Nisaf $\frac{1}{2}$.

cultivated area of this Khewat comes to 4,730 kanals 8 marlas which has not been taken into account for purposes of allotment for the word Shamilat Deh. According to Re-settlement Manual Shamilat Area was not reckoned as allottable owing to administrative difficulties. But in this case the entire shamilat area was owned by non-Muslim evacuees and the shares of the owners are defined and clear. Apparently the words

Shamilat Deh hasab hisas zail

only show that the holding was a joint one. The Claim Assistant has made Chhant Jamabandi and has also calculated area in the name of each owner (at A).

It may also be pointed out here that major portion of area in the proprietary Khewats is Banjar while in this joint Khewat No. 7 area cultivated is about 4,730 Kanals.

Since the shares of the owners are defined and simple in the joint Khewats, in my opinion the area under reference should not be left out of allotment for its being designed as Shamilat Deh.

Submitted for orders.

(Sd.) A. S. BEDI.

11th October 1951.

D. R. R.

I strongly recommend allotment to be made to widow applicants and others in lieu of the cultivated area for reasons stated *in this office note*. The shamilat of Village Dharar Hinduan, Tehsil Shahdara, District Sheikhpura, is being distinguished from general type of shamilat in three respects.

1. The entire shamilat belonged to the non-Muslims;
2. The shares of the proprietors in the shamilat are clearly defined;
3. The cultivated area of the village is almost entirely included in the Shamilat while khewats of the individual proprietors have mostly banjar lands.

It seems the proprietors of this village are all near collaterals descended from common ancestor, who settled in the village and have partitioned the bad area but kept the rest of the area for joint cultivation.

Permission may kindly be accorded to the above proposal.

(Sd.) VIKRAM SINGH,
D. R. R. 22.10.52

F.C./R./R.
Approved.

(Sd.) P. N. THAPAR,
F.C.R.R.
24.10.52.

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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES COMMITTEE.

***1214. Shri Ram Kishan:** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether he has received the recommendations of the Weights and Measures Committee appointed by the Government during the Budget Session 1952-53; if so, the steps, if any, taken by the Government to implement those recommendations?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : First part—Yes.

Second part—These are under consideration of Government.

Shrimati Sita Devi: Will the hon. Minister please tell us when final decision would be made about this report, which was ready about a month and a half back?

Minister for Development: It is true that the report has been submitted to the Government. I assure the hon. Lady Member that a decision will be made soon.

RESOLUTION PASSED BY THE PURSHARTHI CONFERENCE HELD AT JULLUNDUR.

***1215. Shri Ram Kishan:** Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether he has received any resolution passed by the Pursharthi Conference held on the 20th and 21st September, 1952 at Jullundur; if so, the action, if any, taken by the Government in this connection?

Sardar Ujjal Singh: Yes. It is proposed to make a representation to Government of India supporting demands for the postponement of the recovery of rural loans of displaced borrowers to the extent of 10 per cent of the verified claims of urban immovable properties left by such borrowers in West Pakistan. As regards the vesting of proprietary rights in evacuee houses and lands the matter is under the consideration of the Government of India. Regarding loans advanced by R. F. A., it is understood that the Administration has already extended the period for repayment of its loans. It is regretted that the other demands cannot be acceded to.

Shri Ram Kishan: May I know why old methods are still being adopted for the realization of rehabilitation loans and why their recovery has not been postponed?

Minister : I shall bring this matter to the notice of the Minister concerned.

Shri Ram Kishan: What has been done about the resolution regarding the construction of a memorial at Chandigarh?

Minister: I shall bring that thing also to the notice of the Minister concerned.

* * * * *

REALISATION OF CHHAPPAR AND THE BAZARI TAX BY THE MUNICIPAL
COMMITTEE, JULLUNDUR.

*1216. **Shri Ram Kishan:** Will the Minister for Local Government be pleased to state whether a deputation of the shop-keepers Panchayat, Rainak Bazar, Jullundur met him in Jullundur during this tour and placed before him their grievances regarding Chhappar and Teh Bazari Tax being realized by the Municipal Committee, Jullundur; if so, the action taken by the Government to redress their grievances?

Pandit Shri Ram Sharma: Yes. The matter is still being pursued.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN THE STATE.

*1179. **Shri Dharam Vir Vasisht:** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state:—

- (a) the number of primary schools in the State at the end of the year 1951;
- (b) the number of primary schools in the State on 30th September 1952;
- (c) the number of branch schools opened since April 1, 1952;
- (d) the conditions, if any, attached by various District Boards in the State individually for the opening of a primary or of a branch school?

Shri Jagat Narain: (a) The number of primary schools in the State on 31st March 1952 4,591

(b) The number of primary schools in the State on 30th September 1952 4,890

(c) The number of branch schools opened since April 1, 1952.. 56

(d) *Conditions attached by district boards for the opening of a primary or of a branch school—*

Ambala .. None.

Gurgaon .. *Boys Schools—*

Contribution of Rs 1,000 and provision of a rent-free building.

Girls Schools—

Provision of a rent-free building and a suitable playground.

Hissar .. None.

Karnal

.. *Boys Schools*—

A cash donation of Rs 600 and a rent-free building provided the need is genuine.

Girls Schools—

None.

Rohtak

.. *Boys Schools*.—

To put up a school building and to contribute Rs 2,800 to District Board funds.

Girls Schools—

To deposit Rs 1,200 and provide a rent-free building.

Amritsar

.. None.

Ferozepore

.. The village Panchayat should provide—

- (1) A free school building consisting of two rooms of 30' × 15 with a verandah measuring 60' × 8'
- (2) One acre of land for playground.
- (3) Furniture and equipment for the school.
- (4) Repairs to school building and supply of drinking water at public expense.

Gurdaspur

.. Provision of building, water facilities and furniture by the village.

Hoshiarpur

.. None.

Jullundur

.. (1) Application to be received before 1st October each year.

(2) Provision of a rent-free building to the satisfaction of the Department.

(3) There is no school within 2 miles of the new school.

(4) Rs 1,000 are deposited by the villagers.

(5) Board can close a new school if it proves a failure.

Boys—

Provision of a standard building and playground.

Kangra

.. *Girls*—

Suitable building and to deposit Rs 1,000.

Ludhiana

.. Suitable rent-free building and Rs 300 for equipment.

ROYALTIES FROM PUBLISHERS OF TEXT-BOOKS.

*1247. **Shri Dev Raj Sethi:** Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Government has received from the publishers of text-books, any amount as royalties after 30th November 1951; if so, the details of such amount received from each publisher and the dates thereof;
- (b) the amount actually due from these publishers under the rules, and the steps taken by the Government to realise the arrears;
- (c) the measures adopted by the Government to audit and check the actual total publications and sale-proceeds of the various publishers;
- (d) a copy of the agreement on the authority of which royalties are demanded be laid on the Table?

Shri Jagat Narain: (a) Yes. A statement giving particulars of royalty received is given below.

(b) The amount of royalty due from all publishers at 5 per cent on the sale price of each book has been received from all publishers.

(c) Government asked the publishers to furnish statement of accounts duly checked by a chartered accountant. On the basis of these statements, royalties accruing from them have been determined.

(a) A copy of the agreement is given below:—

Serial No	Name of the firm.	Period up to which royalty paid.	Amount deposited.	Date of payment in the Government Treasury.
			Rs A. P.	
1	M/s Gurdas Kapur & Sons, Delhi	31st December 1951	12,886 11 0	11th January 1952
			502 4 6	25th May 1952
			2,362 12 0	11th August 1952
2	M/s Lahore Bookshop, Ludhiana	Ditto	4,303 6 3	28th December 1951
			148 12 0	17th June 1952
3	M/s Amarjit Printing Press, Jullundur	Ditto	3,155 3 0	27th December 1951
			1,035 6 3	17th June 1952
4	M/s Orient Longmans Ltd., Bombay	Ditto	2,443 15 0	4th January 1952
			15 10 0	10th May 1952
5	M/s Rajpal & Sons, Delhi	..	5,766 7 0	11th January 1952
6	M/s Uttar Chand Kapur and Sons, Delhi	..	21,700 15 3	17th January 1952
7	M/s Gulab Singh & Sons, Delhi	..	16,513 7 0	15th January 1952
8	M/s Indian Press Ltd., Allahabad	..	2,339 14 0	19th January 1952
9	M/s Swadheen Sahitya Ltd.	Date not specified	218 4 0	25th March 1952
10	M/s New Education Book Depot, Jullundur	31st December 1951	3,376 5 3	9th April 1952
			595 13 0	17th July 1952

FORM OF AGREEMENT

This agreement made on the _____ day of _____ between _____ (hereinafter referred to as the publisher _____ of the one part and the Governor jointly and severally referred to as the publishers) of Punjab (hereinafter referred to as the Government) of the other part witnesses as follows :—

1. The publisher/publishers _____ agrees/agree to print and publish the books, maps, charts and illustrations (hereinafter called the books, etc.) specified in the list below on the quality and size of paper and according to the style and manner of the samples kept in the office of the Director of Public Instruction, Punjab (I, **HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE 'DIRECTOR'** and his successors in office, from time to time for a period of four years from the 1st of April 1951 to 31st March, 1955.

Name of the book	Pages and lines per page	Price
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2. The publisher/publishers agrees/agree to print and publish the said book/books etc., at the price/prices specified in the list and to pay to Government the royalty of 5 per cent on the sale of the book/books in addition to the royalty payable to the authors in December each year except that in 1954-55 the accounts will be settled by 15th March, 1955.

3. The publisher/publishers agrees/agree that the lithography, printing, point-type, binding, stitching and general get-up of the books, colouring, mounting, varnishing and finish of maps, of the books, colouring, mounting, varnishing and finish of maps, accuracy and finish of illustrations, character and clearness of impressions; and weight, quality and colour of paper, shall not be in any case, inferior to the standard samples approved by the Director and to be kept in his office and to be signed both by the publisher/publishers and the Director. The publisher/publishers agrees/agree that the size of of the page and number of lines in a page shall be in every case those approved by the Director.

4. The publisher/publishers agrees/agree that before printing or publishing any edition the size of the edition shall, in every case, be fixed in writing by the Director and that without the written sanction, first obtained of the Director, the publisher/publishers shall not print any copies of the books, etc. and that he/they shall not print off any edition of any work included in the list till the final proofs of the same have been passed by the Director.

5. The publisher/publishers agrees/agree to sell, or place and maintain on public sale immediately the books, etc specified in the list by the publisher/publishers at the rates specified therein. The publisher/publishers further agrees /agree to allow a discount of fifteen (15%) per cent to the trade. And the publisher/publishers further agrees/agree that when any failure, to carry out this undertaking cannot be shown to be due to any fault on his/their part, such failure shall be deemed a breach of the contract liable to be dealt with as provided under the provisions of this agreement.

6. The publisher/publishers agrees/agree that before placing the book/books, etc. printed or published by him/them on sale, he/they shall submit two copies of each edition free of cost, for approval of the Director and that in the event of the same being disapproved, he/they shall deliver up to the Director the whole edition for destruction and shall have no right to any compensation for any loss or damage caused to him/them by such destruction.

[Minister for Education]

7. The publisher/publishers agrees/agree to give prompt notice to the Director when his/their stock of any book, etc. is reduced to one-fourth of the total number of copies comprised in the last edition printed and published and the publisher/publishers further agree/agrees, when applying for permission to print a new edition, to state the number of copies he/they has/have on hand.

8. The publisher/publishers agrees/agree to give all and any information regarding any book/books, etc., or any matter relating to the contract, whenever required to do so by the Director. The publisher/publishers further agrees/agree to allow any agent of the Director to inspect his/their stock of the book/books with respect to which he/they hold contract with the Director and to submit full details of accounts duly audited by a chartered accountant in September each year.

9. The publisher/publishers agrees/agree that the Government shall be under no obligation to purchase or take over any stock of the book/books, etc., that may be or remain on his/their hands after the termination of the contract and that he/they shall have no claim whatever on account thereof.

10. The publisher/publishers agrees/agree that the Director shall have power, during the currency of the contract and with regard to any of the book/books etc. specified by him/them in the list, to revise such book/books or to remove it/them from the list or to substitute another in its/their place or to add another as an alternative ; provided that six months' notice of such action shall be given to the publisher/publishers :—

Provided further, that in the event of any action taken by the Director in authorising the use of books not published by the Government of the Punjab resulting in a reduction in the sale of any of the books published by the publisher/publishers, the publisher/publishers shall be entitled to such reduction from the amount of the royalty as the Director may determine.

11. The publisher/publishers agrees/agree that a breach of the contract with respect to any book/books, etc. will make him/them liable to liquidated damages of Rs 5,000 (Rupees five thousand) per book and to the removal of the book/books in question from the approved list.

12. The publisher/publishers agrees/agree that the protection of the copyright of the book/books, etc. from piracy shall rest with him/them and that he/they shall take all steps necessary for the institution and for the conduct of all legal proceedings to protect the copyright.

13. The publisher/publishers agrees/agree that he/they shall not be a party, directly or indirectly, to the printing, publishing, or offering for sale of any book/books, map/maps, chart or illustration which constitutes, in the opinion of the Director, piracy or infringement of copyright.

14. The publisher/publishers sends/send herewith a receipt of the Imperial Bank of India for Rs _____ (Rupees _____) for the prescribed book/books deposited at call in the name of the Director of Public Instruction, Punjab, as earnest money for the contract of the book/books etc. specified by him/them in the said list. The publisher/publishers agree that the said sum of Rs _____ shall remain at the credit of the Director as a security deposit to be refunded to him/them on the completion of the contract and that he/they shall not be entitled to any interest on this deposit and that in the event of any portion of the said security being forfeited by the Director, owing to any breach or failure on his/their part, the publisher/publishers shall replace the same on demand, and the publisher/publishers further agrees/agree that the Director may in the event of his/their refusal to take up, or failure to perform the contract retain the said earnest money or royalty without prejudice to any other relief to which the Government may be by law entitled.

15. The publisher/publishers agrees/agree that failure to pay or replace the amount stipulated in the foregoing paragraph within one month of the due date shall in itself be deemed a breach of the contract on his/their part and shall render him/them liable to the consequences provided thereunder.

16. The publisher/publishers agrees/agree that he/they shall not assign, sublet or transfer the contract and that any such assignment or attempt to do so will constitute a breach of the agreement.

17. In the event of any dispute or difference arising between the parties regarding any matter arising out of these presents or proper construction thereof, such dispute or

difference shall be referred to the Director of Public Instruction, Punjab, acting as such at the time of reference whose decision thereon shall be final and binding on parties.

Dated _____

Tenderer _____

GENERAL RULES AND DIRECTIONS TO BE FOLLOWED IN FILLING THE AGREEMENT

1. When agreement is made by a firm, the name and address of each individual member of the firm (if not a company incorporated under Act VII of 1913) shall be stated in full, and the agreement shall be signed by each individual member of the firm. An agreement purporting to be made by a firm which does not comply with this condition, will be liable to rejection at the discretion of the Director.
2. No addition or alteration may be made in the agreement form.
3. Seals only of person entering into agreement will not be accepted ; if a person is illiterate, his mark should be attested by two witnesses.
4. It may be noted that these publications will not be on the approved list after 31st March 1955, and the Director takes no responsibility at any stage with regard to the unsold stock.

Agreed

Tenderer _____

Shri Dev Raj Sethi: May I draw the attention of the hon. Minister to part (b) of my question and that of his reply? What I asked was the 'amount actually due' and the hon. - Minister has stated that the amount has been realised at the rate of 5 per cent. Will he kindly give the actual amount due from the publishers?

Minister for Development: I cannot add to what I have already stated in the reply. If the hon. Member wants to seek more information on the point, he may give fresh notice of a question.

REMARKS BY THE SPEAKER *RE* THE CONDUCT OF CERTAIN
MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY.

Mr Speaker: Before we proceed with the next item on the Agenda, I would like to refer to a sad incident which occurred yesterday in this House. An hon. Member raised an objection that a copy of the Agenda had not been supplied to him. This statement was not correct. As a matter of fact the List of Business is prepared under instructions from the Leader of the House. As soon as he decides that a certain business is to be taken up on a certain day, he intimates to the Secretary of this Secretariat who immediately takes steps to inform the Members of the same. So it is impossible for my Secretariat to give intimation to the hon. Members a couple of days before as to what business is going to be transacted on a certain date, because sometimes the business posted for a particular day is finished sooner and sometimes, as in the High Court, it is to be carried over to the next day available for it. Then, under the rules, a bill is circulated five days before it is brought on the List of Business fixed for a day. Similarly the Bill, on the introduction of which objection was raised, was circulated on the 27th November 1952; so making the Agenda available a few hours or a few days before to the Members made no difference. I am really very sorry that the staging of walk-outs

[Mr Speaker]

has become rather cheap. In any case, I have no authority to prevent any gentleman or any group from walking out of the House, and I know it is a constitutional measure. But my deep regret is that the manner in which this walk-out by certain hon. Members was staged, does not add to the honour and dignity of the House of which we all are members. I am also sorry that very filthy language was used regarding myself and other members in this very Chamber by a certain member while he was leaving it. I could not take notice of it being otherwise busy with the disposal of the Agenda. I would sound a note of warning that if any hon. Member stoops so low as to degrade himself by using such language as does not befit a member of this House and reflects on the Chair, let him clearly understand that not only no indulgence will be shown to him but very serious and stern action will be taken against him. Let every member of the House, as a custodian of his own honour and respect, know that use of any expressions as are derogatory to the dignity of the Chair or the House will in no case be tolerated.

Chief Minister (Shri Bhim Sen Sachar) : Sir, with your permission, I would like to express myself in a sentence or two in respect of the point which the Chair has been pleased to raise. I am really very sorry to hear from the Chair that a certain member of this hon. House has conducted himself in a manner which is not befitting the dignity of this House. I, on behalf of the House, seek this opportunity to assure the Chair that it will do and will always do anything that can be done to keep up and maintain the dignity of the Chair (*Cheers*). I, as Leader of the House, also avail of this opportunity to declare that this House totally dissociates itself from the conduct of the Member who failed to conduct himself consistently with the dignity of the House (*Cheers*).

ANNOUNCEMENT BY SECRETARY.

Mr Speaker : Now the Secretary of the Legislature will make an announcement.

Secretary : I have the honour to submit that the East Punjab Refugees Rehabilitation (Loans and Grants) (Amendment) Bill, 1952, which was passed by the Punjab Legislative Assembly on 25th July 1952 and transmitted to the Legislative Council on the same day and laid on the Table in the Council on 28th July 1952, has not yet been returned by the Council with or without amendments.

ADJOURNMENT OF ASSEMBLY.

Chief Minister (Shri Bhim Sen Sachar) : Sir, I beg to move—

That the Assembly at its rising this day shall stand adjourned *sine die*.

Sir, while making this motion, I would like to thank the Opposition for having agreed to take up two more Bills of which notice could not be given but which all the same were circulated. Their co-operation will enable the House to complete the business today.

Mr Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Assembly at its rising this day shall stand adjourned *sine die*.

Mr Speaker : Question is—

That the Assembly at its rising this day shall stand adjourned *sine die*.
The motion was carried.

Minister for Development (Sardar Partap Singh Kairon): Sir, I introduce the Punjab Security of Land Tenures Bill.

Minister for Development: Sir, I beg to move—

That the Punjab Security of Land Tenures Bill be referred to a Joint Select Committee of both Houses of the Legislature consisting of the following M. L. A's and seven M. L. C's:—

- (1) Sardar Partap Singh, Minister for Development.
- (2) Chaudhri Lahri Singh, Minister for Irrigation.
- (3) Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa, Minister for Public Works.
- (4) Sardar Ajmer Singh, M.L.A.
- (5) Sardar Achhar Singh, M.L.A.
- (6) Shri Mool Chand Jain, M.L.A.
- (7) Shri Lajpat Rai, M.L.A.
- (8) Shri Teg Ram, M.L.A.
- (9) Shri Sarup Singh, M.L.A.
- (10) Rao Gajraj Singh, M.L.A.
- (11) Shri Mehr Singh, M.L.A. (Kangra).
- (12) Comrade Ram Chandra, M.L.A.
- (13) Pandit Bhagat Ram Sharma, M.L.A.
- (14) Jathedar Mohan Singh, M.L.A.
- (15) Shri Gorakh Nath, M.L.A.
- (16) Sardar Gurbanta Singh, M.L.A.
- (17) Shri Badlu Ram, M.L.A.
- (18) Dewan Jagdish Chandra, M.L.A.
- (19) Shri Abdul Ghaffar Khan, M.L.A.

Sir, though it seemed important to enact this measure in this very session yet in view of the complications and difficulties inherent in the problem, it has seemed all the more necessary to have the considered opinion of the maximum number of members with regard to it.

The report of the Select Committee is expected by 31st March 1953, and it is hoped that in the next session we shall be able to enact a very sound and wise piece of legislation providing the best possible solution to this problem. We are not oblivious of the fact that a very large number of tenants have been served with notices of ejection but I may assure the House that till May 1, 1953, it will not be possible for any landlord to effect the eviction of any tenant. Before that time, a new law will be placed on the Statute Book. Besides this, instructions will also be issued for saving the tenants from being put to unnecessary expense on litigation. The landlord who dares harass a tenant will himself be hard put to it.

There should not be any doubt about our intentions. We are anxious to evolve a sound and an enduring solution of this problem but it is so complex that its satisfactory solution cannot be found in a hurry. We haven't got at

Minister for Development]

present the necessary information without which it is not possible to find such a solution. At present we do not know how many notices have been served and on whom, how many tenants who have been served with notices by landlords owning ten acres of land and how many of them have been served with notices by landlords owning twenty, thirty, forty or more than fifty acres of land. Besides collecting this information, we have to resolve a number of complications. For instance, we have to see what is to be done in cases in which we know that the big landlords have parcelled out their land into holdings of fifty acres each and transferred them to the names of their relatives with a view to escaping any law that might be enacted to protect the tenants. We could get a Bill passed even in this session but we want to find a wise and abiding solution of this problem and that can be done only after knowing the views of all the parties and collecting the necessary information and giving due consideration to the opinions of all the members. It is with this object in view that we have decided to refer this Bill to a Joint Select Committee of both the Houses, consisting of representatives of all the political parties. We have also to ascertain the number of refugee and local tenants and the number of tenants of big and small landlords respectively. All this information will be placed before this Select Committee. We earnestly hope that the members of the Select Committee will rise above party politics and be able to find a solution of the problem calculated to benefit the tiller of the soil and consistent with the general progress of the State.

So far as the question of circulating it for eliciting public opinion is concerned, I think it will serve no purpose except unnecessarily delaying the matter. Its reference to a Select Committee is the best way to consider it thoroughly. I may assure the House that after the receipt of the report of the Committee, the Bill will be promptly passed and there will be no more delay. It is our fervent desire that in the Select Committee this Bill may be considered from the point of view of the whole House and the tenancy problem may be looked at from the point of view of the interests of the whole State. (*Cheers*).

Mr Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Punjab Security of Land Tenures Bill be referred to a Joint Select Committee of both Houses of the Legislature consisting of the following M. L. A's and seven M. L. C's—

- (1) Sardar Partap Singh Kairon, Minister for Development.
- (2) Chaudhri Lahri Singh, Minister for Irrigation.
- (3) Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa, Minister for Public Works.
- (4) Sardar Ajmer Singh, M.L.A.
- (5) Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina, M.L.A.
- (6) Shri Mool Chand Jain, M.L.A.
- (7) Shri Lajpat Rai, M.L.A.
- (8) Shri Teg Ram, M.L.A.
- (9) Shri Sarup Singh, M.L.A.
- (10) Rao Gajraj Singh, M.L.A.
- (11) Shri Mehar Singh, M.L.A. (Kangra).
- (12) Comrade Ram Chandra, M.L.A.

(13) Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma, M.L.A.

(14) Jathedar Mohan Singh, M.L.A.

(15) Shri Gorakh Nath, M.L.A.

(16) Sardar Gurbanta Singh, M.L.A.

(17) Shri Badlu Ram M.L.A.

(18) Dewan Jagdish Chandra, M.L.A.

(19) Shri Abdul Ghaffar Khan, M.L.A.

Sardar Ajmer Singh (Samrala) (Punjabi): Sir, I beg to move—

That the Punjab Security of Land Tenures Bill be circulated for eliciting public opinion thereon by 31st March 1953.

Sir, I am glad that the hon. Minister for Development has admitted at least two things. The first is that this problem is complicated and, therefore, it affects both the tillers and owners of land. It also has an effect on the economy of our State. It has been stated that this Act will bring about a revolution in the rural areas. Let us hope that it proves successful. The second thing which he has said is that the Government desires to solve this problem once for all, and, therefore, nothing should be done in haste. In my opinion there are several provisions in this Bill which can be considered as objectionable and undesirable. There are of course some provisions upon which the Select Committee can rightly take a decision after giving them their careful thought. But there are certain provisions on which it is necessary to elicit public opinion in the State, because it is the people who are directly affected by them. It may also be mentioned that this Bill affects the displaced owners as well. The original inhabitants of East Punjab can transfer land but the displaced owners cannot mortgage or sell their lands. There is a restriction upon their doing so. In my opinion, those persons who suffered a lot and lost their all in the cause of Indian independence should be treated at par with the inhabitants of the East Punjab. In fact, the proper thing to do would be to let the ordinary people have an opportunity of expressing their view on this Bill before it is passed. This is what is sought to be achieved by this motion.

The next point to which I wish to draw the attention of the House is about the ceiling which is going to be fixed under this Bill. The land-owner has been asked to keep not more than fifty acres of land for self-cultivation. Under fifty acres no land-owner can eject the tenant for three years, and over fifty acres for ten years. The result of this would be that ultimately no one will have more than fifty acres of land. The other objectionable thing about it is this. Supposing a person has five sons, some in the military and others in the civil service. If all or any of them wish to come back and work on land, there is no provision in this Bill under which the father cannot withdraw any more land from the tenants for cultivation by his son. He cannot go beyond the ceiling already fixed for self-cultivation, viz. 50 standard acres. This is obviously unfair because in the case of urban property no such restriction has been put on the owners. In fact, urban and rural properties should be treated alike in this respect. Now under the Urban Rent Restriction Act, a house can be got vacated for personal use, but the agricultural land in the rural areas cannot be got back for self-cultivation by the land-owners. Under this Bill, no opportunity has been given to the sons of a cultivator to get land vacated for their self-cultivation. In other words, ceiling has been fixed for the holdings. I, therefore, beg to submit that this Bill should be circulated for

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eliciting public opinion because the urban and rural properties have not been treated on an equal footing, as no ceiling in the case of urban property exists. Apparently, this Bill does not do justice to those young men from the villages in Punjab who join the army.

The matter does not end here. Clause 8 is also objectionable. It seems that while drafting this Bill great prejudice against the agriculturists has been shown. Clause 8 lays down that a tenancy will be heritable. Now what will happen if a person has only one daughter and she is married. How will she be in a position to cultivate the land? This may be possible in countries like England but not here.

Then, Mr Speaker, this Bill provides that if a tenant fails to pay rent regularly to the land-owner he should be asked to show sufficient cause to this end or if a tenant refuses to execute a Qabuliat or a Patta in respect of his tenancy without good cause he may be ejected. There is no provision for any fine or punishment being inflicted upon him. There are some other defects also in this Bill. For example, it says that every land-owner shall on demand by a tenant give or cause to be given a valid receipt for the rent received by him or on his behalf and if any land-owner fails to give or cause to be given such receipt he shall on conviction be punishable with fine which may extend to one hundred rupees. May I ask, Sir, why has he not been given a chance to show good cause for his failure to issue a receipt? Again, if a land-owner curtails the supply of water enjoyed by a tenant immediately before the commencement of this Act, a breach of this provision shall constitute a cognizable offence punishable with imprisonment which may extend to six months. This treatment is high-handed which is being meted out to the land-owner. He should also be asked to show good cause for his failure to do so. I, therefore, request, Sir, that while drafting this Bill Government should see that all the parties get even-handed justice from it. Again the Bill provides that —

a tenant who has been in continuous occupation of the land comprised in his tenancy for a period of ten years, shall be entitled to purchase from the land-owner the land so held by him even after several years.

Shri Chand Ram: The hon. Member has started to discuss the Bill. Is it relevant, Sir?

Mr Speaker: Yes. It is relevant.

Sardar Ajmer Singh: I was submitting, Sir, that there are so many provisions in this Bill which are linked with the lot of the people. For example, this Bill provides that—

on an application being made by the tenant, the Assistant Collector, after giving notice to the landowner and to all other persons interested in the land and after making such enquiry as he thinks fit, shall fix the value of the mortgaged land.

Mr Speaker, supposing a certain piece of land is mortgaged for 500 rupees and the Assistant Controller fixes its price at 100 rupees, how will the difference of 400 rupees be made good? My submission is that the Select Committee may be asked to make its report within 15 days. At the same time I would also request the Government that the members of Opposition should be given adequate representation on the Select Committee so that they should also make their contribution in finding out an equitable solution of the tenancy problem confronting our State. Only two names have been suggested by the hon. Minister—one mine and the other that of Sardar Chanan Singh. In this connection I would suggest the inclusion of Chaudhri Sri Chand in the Joint Select Committee.

Mr Speaker: You want to win the heads and not to lose the tails.

Mr Speaker: Motion moved—

That the Punjab Security of Land Tenures Bill be circulated for eliciting public opinion thereon by 31st March 1953.

Shri Sri Chand (Naraingarh): Mr Speaker, this Bill is so important that it seems absolutely necessary to circulate it for eliciting public opinion thereon. Today, our Government wishes to establish a new convention in our State. So far our society has been working on the basis of individual property and no individual could be deprived of his property without sufficient cause.

In connection with the fundamental rights, Section 19 of our Constitution provides that

‘everybody shall be entitled to acquire, to hold, transfer and sell any property’.

Mr. Speaker, even in the case of exceptions a provision has been made that no private property can be acquired by Government unless it needs it for public purpose. But now our Government is making a departure from this healthy provision and its next step will be to make a departure in respect of urban properties also. At the moment some hon. Members are under the impression that it will only apply to the rural properties and that is why they are not opposing it. But they should not forget that when an act is passed it applies to the whole population of the country.

Mr. Speaker, as a matter of fact the Congress party got the previous Act passed in our State simply to grind its own axe. It knew that general elections were covering and it wanted to proclaim itself as the champion of the cause of the tenants. Sir, if you just go a little deep into the matter you will find that the President's ordinance was promulgated on the 24th December 1951, while the elections were to be held on the 26th December. Since the Congress party wanted the support of the tenants in contesting the elections it got it issued at the nick of the time. But the Ordinance relating to Betterment Charges and Acreage Rates, although issued by the President earlier was enforced on the 18th January i.e. after the elections had taken place because through it Government aimed at raising money from the people. Now it has become essential for the Government to get it passed by this House.

Mr. Speaker, a perusal of the Bill has reminded me of a proverb which is to the effect that when evil days are approaching one strays from the path of wisdom. Well, Sir, this is a Bill which does not contain anything beneficial for the public; rather I feel that it will shatter the economy of our State. My hon. Friends have forgotten that they have been able to secure Ministerships only with the help and support of those people who are economically not well off. I think a State wherein discrimination is rampant and even handed justice is not administered to one and all, rich and poor alike, must go to dogs, be it today or tomorrow.

Sir, the Zamindars have not yet been given the actual possession of their lands but the Government is thinking of taking away those rights from them. Sir, through you I ask the Government to let me know the difference between the words ‘evacuees’ and ‘allottees’ and why has this difference been created? Now if a local resident has a right of selling his property why has an allottee been deprived of such a right and again when an original resident of East Punjab is authorised to transfer his property to his son why

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has this privilege not been extended to an allottee? The Government should know that Section 4 of the Central Act passed in 1950 on this subject prohibits it from enacting any law in connection with the evacuee property.

Then, Sir, you will perhaps remember that only the other day, the Central Government (Ministry of Law) refused to accord its approval to that piece of legislation which this House had recently passed. I think that no useful purpose is served if our Government passes a legislation simply to put up a show that it has passed it even though the Centre may not approve of it. A short while ago, I drew the attention of the Government to the fact that it was *ultra vires* of this Legislature to pass any legislation which might affect evacuee property. On the last occasion, too, I had pointed out to my hon. Friends sitting on the Treasury Benches that they would fail to obtain the assent of the President to that piece of legislation which they were going to pass at that time. It appears that they feel that their duty is done when they pass a certain legislation and after that they are the least concerned about it. It makes no difference to them whether the Government of India approves it or not.

I may tell the House that there are cogent reasons in view of which the provision of this Bill should not be made applicable to the evacuee property. The first reason is that of which I have already made a mention, i.e. because the refugees have not so far acquired any proprietary rights over these lands. Secondly, a cut ranging from 60 to 95 per cent has already been applied to their lands varying from 60 to one thousand acres during the previous allotment. These poor refugees have been given only a very small proportion of their lands left by them in Pakistan and now they will be subjected to a further cut in their lands under the provisions of this Bill. My feeling is that there is no justification in making this Bill applicable to them as they have not been able to settle properly. Besides this, since they have not been given any proprietary rights over their lands, they cannot sell them. For these reasons, Sir, the provisions of this Bill should not be made applicable to the evacuee lands.

Then, Sir, it is all the more essential to elicit public opinion on this Bill because in India the holdings are generally very small. Many such cases often come to our notice, when in a family out of four brothers, three go out for employment and one works on the lands and the people take him to be a big land lord. I want to point out to my hon. Friends that if this Bill is passed even the soldiers who are always prepared to sacrifice their lives for the country, will begin to think whether they should continue to serve in the army or go back to their lands. This measure will have serious repercussions on the recruitment to the army the pace of which will be very much hampered. Furthermore, we cannot expect anything except dacoities from those persons whom our Government wants to render idle in the villages, because their lands are not capable of affording them a good living as the soldiers mostly own holdings varying from four to five 'bighas' in area.

Mr Speaker, I would submit that my suggestions can definitely prove very useful, if the hon. Ministers care to hear them attentively. I find they are busy talking to other members.

✓ **Mr Speaker:** The hon. Member need not worry about that. The hon. Minister concerned is noting down his points.

Shri Sri Chand: Mr. Speaker, I want to tell the House that on examination of the census figures we find that whereas previously sixty per cent of the village population of the Punjab depended upon land, now the whole population

of villages has to eke out its living from it. As a result of the brick-kilns being run on a large scale, the potters have lost their business, the weavers too have become unemployed by the working of the cloth mills and similarly the village shoe-makers have lost their business by the establishment of shoe factories in our country. When this Bill becomes law and comes into force even those ruralites who are at present employed in the towns, will at once leave their jobs and return to their lands. Similarly, those people of the rural areas, who are now serving in the police or the army, will also come back to their villages after resigning from their posts.

Further, it also appears from this legislation that the Government is determined to follow the policy of appeasement. Formerly they tried to appease the Harijans and for that reason the latter were allowed access to the temples. Now, when they have become free from the work of social upliftment of Harijans, they have begun to devote their energies to the upliftment of tenants.

Mr Speaker, it is strange that the Government has become lenient to the tenants to such an extent that it has even made a provision in this Bill, according to which neither a tenant's widow will be ejected after the death of her husband nor a tenant who falls ill will be ejected even though he may not be fit to work in the fields. On the other hand the landlords have been deprived of a similar concession. Their lands will not remain safe with their widows after their death. Then, Sir, the hon. Ministers will blame me for raising a question of urbanites and ruralites, if I point out to them that they are leaving the properties of the urbanites untouched. In the towns we find that certain people owning properties worth crores of rupees have not, in the least, to bother themselves about their livelihood. No one is going to touch their properties while every attempt is being made to snatch away the lands of the poor zamindars.

✓ **Mr Speaker:** Please wind up.

Shri Sri Chand: Mr Speaker, I request you to kindly allow me some more time as I have yet to tell many things to the House.

✓ **Mr. Speaker:** I cannot allow you any more time. Please wind up your speech.

Shri Sri Chand: I was submitting, Sir, that Our hon. Ministers were not touching the properties of the urbanites, while they were out to parcel the lands of the Zamindars into small holdings. I want to point out to them that no one shall be able to live well on small holdings. This will make the ruralites still more poor and it shall not be possible for a zamindar to use a tractor or install a tubewell in his small holding of thirty or fifty acres. Further, he will not be able to afford good education for his children out of the meagre income from his land. The landholders will become still more backward and the chances of their getting into Government services will be reduced. From this, it is obvious that the Government is pursuing a retrograde policy which is bound to take us back and not forward.

My hon. Friends should bear this fact in mind that production falls in the same proportion in which the size of a holding is reduced. In other countries efforts are made to increase production by increasing the sizes of the holdings whereas in our State the case is quite the reverse. I, therefore, feel that great injustice is going to be done to the zamindar community through this legislation simply because our Government wants to appease the tenants,

[Shri Sri Chand]

A study of this Bill reveals that the purpose of the Government is to provide relief to the tenants but the manner in which this problem has been tackled does not appear to be the right one. Sir, I am not against the protection of the rights of the tenants. I wish that the honest tenants should be afforded the maximum possible help but the way in which this Bill has been framed is totally wrong. Through you, Mr Speaker, I would request the ministers that instead of harassing these petty landlords, they should enact laws to exercise strict control over those big " bugs " who dominate the tenants and who with the connivance of the patwaris prevent the latter from acquiring the right of occupancy. I assure you, Sir, that we shall have no objection whatsoever if any step against these people is contemplated to be taken. With these words I resume my seat.

Sardar Shamsheer Singh (Ludhiana Sadr) (Punjabi): Sir, with this Bill the Government is going to open a new era in the Punjab. This measure will result in depriving the landowners of their lands in the rural areas. Not only this, Mr. Speaker, it is being provided that a landowner cannot eject, for ten years, even those tenants who are working on the remaining 50 acres of land reserved by him for self cultivation. Then, after the expiry of these ten years, the tenants can purchase the land if they are in a position to do so. As regards assessment of price for a certain piece of land, necessary powers are also being delegated to the Revenue Officers. In this way an effort is being made to take away the lands from the landlords. Mr Speaker, had this Bill been introduced for the benefit of the rural masses or for the improvement of the lot of the State in the real sense of the word, all of us would have supported it. But now we find that the only object which the Government wishes to achieve through this Bill is to create two antagonistic parties one of the tenants and the other of the landlords and to use them for its own political ends. I, therefore, feel that in this way it is going to perpetrate a grave injustice on the people.

Sir, in connection with the previous Bill concerning the land, my hon. Friend Shri Chandni Ram had observed that the lands are a national gift. If that is so, then I think all the things, buildings, gold, silver, etc., come under the same category and can be considered as national gifts. If the lands are to be converted into small fragments in this way, then why do the Government not make all these other things the property of the State ? However, my submission is that if the Government is anxious to pass this Bill relating to lands in the rural areas then why should not a similar law be also passed to control the buildings in urban areas ?

Then, Sir, even the garden colonies have also been brought under the purview of the Bill. There is already a good deal of scarcity of fruits in our State. I, therefore, request the Government to exempt the garden colonies from the provisions of this Bill. The provisions relating to these should be amended in such a way that the landlords can retain the areas under gardens in addition to the fifty acres of land reserved for self-cultivation.

Then, Sir, the refugees are being hit hard by this Bill. I know of so many refugees whom the patwaris have not so far given the 'Khasra numbers' with the result that they have not yet got the complete possession of the land. The position is that the people are being dispossessed of the lands even before they have actually received the possession of the same. I am, therefore, of the opinion that this Bill be circulated for eliciting public opinion thereon.

Shri Ram Chandra Comrade (Nurpur) (Hindi): Mr Speaker, I have to congratulate the ministers because since they assumed office the exploited

and the downtrodden have received greater consideration at their hands than before and steps have been taken to ameliorate their lot. The Bill now before the House is also a step forward in this direction. Before this the Government adopted bold but timely measures to alleviate the sufferers of the Hissar famine and later on took to the policy of nationalisation of transport and what is more, the nationalisation of text-books ; these are the steps which I reckon to be wise and feel that the Government really merits congratulations. Today again this very Government is planning to launch another important step forward for safeguarding the interests of the poor and backward classes inhabiting our villages in large numbers. Our society has been passing through a period of turmoil and I believe that this measure is a great contribution to the moral uplift of the community as a whole because today every one of us feels that the class which has been working hard and at the same time has been exploited from times immemorial, must be given due share of national income in order to reward them fully for the work which they put in to make the community stronger. So to achieve this object, the Government has brought forward this Bill. And I once again congratulate the Government for this.

Then, Sir, my hon. Friend preceding me observed that through this measure the Government wanted to perpetrate grave injustice on the villagers and then he said that he did not know whether any steps on these lines would be taken by Government for urban population or not. Sir, I would like to say—

“खुआजा अज खूने रगे मजदूर साजद लाहलेनाब
अज जफ़ाए देहखुदायां किश्ते दहकानां खराब
इनकिलाब, इनकिलाब, ऐ इनकिलाब”

and through it I want to make it clear to him that we are pledged to root out exploitation whether of the urban or the rural population. We are committed to raise the downtrodden, irrespective of whether they live in villages or towns. The statement that we are burdening our lands with more men is incorrect. The truth is that this Bill has been introduced to help and protect the interests of those who themselves work on the land and plough it with their own hands. Sir, I would rather lay emphasis on the proposition that only that man should have a right to possess land who himself tills the soil. I want to go a step still further and say that the true justice will be brought to the doors of the tillers of the land only when they are declared the owners of the land. An hon. Friend has remarked that injustice is being done to the landlords. My submission is that today a revolution is in process and is overtaking the whole world. This revolution supports every human being's right to two square meals a day and clothes to put on so that a reasonable standard of living is ensured to one and all in all respects. I, therefore, submit that this Bill is only the first step that is being taken to benefit some of the people who have been exploited for long. I, however, maintain that even this Bill does not fully solve the land problem. But since the Congress wants to bring about gradually a complete change in agrarian conditions obtaining in State, it is preparing the people for the same end. The Congress wishes that the land problem should come to a satisfactory solution and landlordism should be abolished altogether as early as possible. I think that with the passage of this Bill people will definitely heave a sigh of relief but, at the same time, I would impress upon the ministers the desirability of appointing a Land Reforms Committee which should go into this problem very minutely and submit a comprehensive report.

[Shri Ram Chandra Comrade]

Mr. Speaker, it has also been said that the Government is altogether ignoring the interests of the ex-servicemen as also of those people who sacrificed their all to achieve the independence. I think this is not the proper way of thinking. Today I would like to make it clear before the House on behalf of the Congress Party that the support which the I. N. A. gave us in achieving our cherished goal of Independence, was really commendable and the Congress, in particular, and the country, in general is really proud of the sacrifices made by them for this noble cause. I avail myself of this opportunity to pay my humble tribute to the glorious services rendered by them. I, therefore, want to assure all my comrades that the ministry will make every endeavour to help those people even and they would never be ignored.

Shri Teg Ram (Khuian Sarwar) (Hindi): Mr. Speaker, it is now more than five years since our country achieved independence. If we admit that we have achieved independence through the untiring efforts and able guidance of the Great man whose portrait is hanging in this Hall just behind you then it is our duty to keep in view the noble principles set forth and followed by him. To what high status Mahatma Gandhi wanted to raise the kisans can be judged from the desire he expressed just one day before his death. He said that it was his earnest desire to see a kisan become the Prime Minister of India. Since India is a country of kisans, Mahatmaji was anxious to see that everything possible was done to improve their lot and that they should make so much progress that even the Prime Ministership of the country should be within their reach. If, therefore, we want to fulfil Mahatma Gandhi's wishes and are really sincere in our desire to follow his principles then we must take all steps for the uplift of kisans, of the poor and downtrodden section of the population and the Harijans. The British Government in India was a Government of the brute force. The British wanted to keep us suppressed and they suppressed the kisans, the Harijans and other poor people of this country so that we might not be able to raise our heads at any time. But now this Government of our own does not like that they should remain suppressed and downtrodden for ever. On the contrary, it is trying its utmost to make them stand upon their own legs and make progress along with all sections of the population. It feels that although the country has now been free for well nigh six years these poor people have not received proper help and consideration. Even now thousands of tenants are under notices of ejection. In my own tehsil, Fazilka, some two thousand and five hundred kisans have been served with these notices. Thus this measure is very urgently needed and while supporting it I would request the hon. Members to let the past bury its dead and forget the so-called good old times. Those days are gone, never to return and now we have to work in the light of Mahatma Gandhi's principles.

As regards the use of machinery for agricultural purposes, we do not say that machinery should not be used. Use tractors by all means and take all possible advantage of modern implements for the improvement of agriculture. But these tractors should not be used to ruin the kisans. There can be no justification for using tractors to throw the kisans out of employment and snatch away their means of livelihood. Nobody can approve of such use of machinery.

Sardar Nidhan Singh (Mehna) (Punjabi): Mr Speaker, first of all I wish to request you to hold the scales even in the matter of allowing time to members of all parties.....

Mr Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Member cannot be allowed to say such things. This is a reflection on the Chair.

Sardar Nidhan Singh: Then I do not want to make a speech.

Chief Minister (Shri Bhim Sen Sachar) (Hindi): Mr Speaker, I regret that the Government is not in a position to accept the amendment moved by my hon. Friend. The reason is very simple. The reservation of lands or the limit prescribed, as also the security enjoyed by the tenants, at present are there by virtue of an Act passed by the Parliament and called the President's Act. Now that Act will lapse on the 16th of April and if no law is made in respect of this matter before that date all the facilities and concessions will come to an end too. The security enjoyed by the tenants, the rate of land revenue and the reservation allowed under the President's Act, everything will go leaving behind a chaotic atmosphere which no one would like. Thus it would not be advisable to circulate the Bill for eliciting public opinion thereon. However, we will so arrange things that the report of the Select Committee may be received and action taken thereon by the end of the winter. You know, Sir, that the matter will not come to an end just with the passing of the Bill by this House. After we have passed it, it will have to go to the Council and whether or not the Council makes any amendment in it, not less than a week will elapse before it comes back. And then it will have to go up for approval by the Governor. Therefore, if we fail to go through all the stages by the 31st of March the work will not be completed in time. Thus the circulation motion is fraught with much risk and may do a lot of harm, if accepted.

Then, Sir, some hon. Members have made certain remarks in the course of their speeches. Since I had to rise to make a reply in respect of speeches made on this Amendment I might as well take notice of those remarks. I do not wish to bring in my speech any heat or unpleasantness but I should like to make one thing clear to my hon. Friends. Let them realise that we are not living in the year 1850 or 1900 or even 1910. This is the year 1952. My Friends were not right in saying that this Bill was an election stunt. The elections are now a thing of the past and the next elections are a very far-off cry as yet. Therefore, if this measure were only an election stunt as stated by those gentlemen we should have now sat tight putting it in cold storage, to be brought out at the proper time. But that is not the actual position. As I have said, we are living in the year 1952 and have to think and act according to the conditions obtaining to-day. The days are gone when the proprietor of the land could be a "Shahji" or a "Chaudhri" lording over every body. The time has come when you have to give to the actual workers all their legitimate rights.

Now-a-days everybody demands fair return for his labour and for this the Government cannot suppress or gag any body. Everybody is free and is therefore, well within his rights to put forward his legitimate demands. I beg to submit that this Government, which in fact, is your own Government is not making any stunt nor is it resorting to any excuses. A person should get his just rights. The application of this principle should not be limited to a few spheres of life only. I feel that people in all walks of life should get their rights.

Shri Sri Chand: Will similar steps be taken in the case of urban people also?

Mr. Speaker: I won't allow the hon. Member to interrupt.

Shri Sri Chand : Sir, I was not interrupting. I was asking a question.

Chief Minister: If some people think that a person in possession of certain things should continue to possess them, then, Sir, I request you to tell them that the pace with which things are moving in this world will compel such persons to part with them and to give to everybody that to which he is entitled.

[Chief Minister]

I want to make it clear that the Government is following this policy. It would be noticed that every measure passed by this House or any other step taken by the Government is intended for strengthening those people who are the back bone of the State and on whom depends our very existence. The policy of the Government with regard to this piece of legislation should be clearly understood. It is very simple. After the 15th August 1947, when power passed into the hands of the Congress, its manifesto was before the people. Now a study of the history of other countries would show that two things have mainly been responsible for bringing about successful revolutions. These were the lack of agrarian reforms and the existence of corruption. When the people realised that the Congress would not tolerate corruption or be satisfied with half-hearted agrarian reforms, they began to transfer their lands. I want to tell those landlords who have deprived their tenants of their rights simply because they are the owners of land, that this Bill is not a new measure, it is rather a part of the constant effort made by the Congress Government, since the 15th August 1947, to restore the tenants to the lands from which they had been ousted. It is essential that the person who tills the land with his own hands, works on it day and night and ploughs it in the scorching heat of the sun, should be given security. Some people say that the Government is following the policy of appeasement. I want to tell them that this allegation lacks foundation. The Government rather wants to rescue poor tenants from the clutches of those people who have oppressed them for long. The tenants had to bow before the landlords and if the latter sat on a charpoy the former had to sit on the ground. Now with the dawn of Independence the tenants have ceased to regard themselves as inferior to the landlords and they demand equal treatment. It is only he, who wears the shoe, knows where it pinches. So we are determined to give protection to the tenants. I want to make it clear beyond any doubt that if a person wants to break the law simply because he is an owner of land, the Government will not allow him to do so. So far as observance of the law is concerned no distinction will be made between the landowner and the tenant. Whosoever acts in violation of law is an offender and will be dealt with according to law. A person possessing wealth and having influence with the officers cannot be permitted to oppress the tenants. We have warned the officers that if it comes to our notice that injustice was done with a person simply because he had less influence while favour was shown to the one having greater influence, the Government would take action against the officer acting in that manner. The trend of the times demands that a person who tills the land should not be deprived of his just rights by the absentee landlord who does no work. A person owning 500 acres of land complains that only fifty acres of it were going to be left for him. Now what is being done is that if a landowner wants to reserve land for self-cultivation, he can do so. On the other hand there are those people who want to till with their own hands and claim to be in no way inferior to the landlords. We want to give these people their just rights. A person who does not work with his own hands and gets his lands cultivated through tenants will not be affected by this measure. We want to give security to the tenants of lands other than those reserved by the landlords for self-cultivation. If no reservation is made there is no reason why security should not be given to tenants on the whole of the land. A concession is being given to those people who cultivate themselves. It is complained that no reservation has been allowed to be made for the minors. If clause 9 of the Bill is carefully studied, it would be noticed that the provision with regard to reservation is quite clear. If my hon. Friends have some suggestion with respect to this, the Select Committee will consider it. If there is some lacuna in the Bill it will be removed by it.

Besides this, there is one thing more on which a great stress has been laid and for that I am very thankful to those hon. Members who have shed tears in sympathy for us. They spoke in an emotional tone and said what is this Bill ? According to them this Bill does not at all serve the interests of the displaced persons. Sir, they have tried to confuse the issues. They say that Government has applied a cut even on the allotment of land to the displaced persons. I may tell them that whatever cut has been imposed is not based on any economic programme of the Government but because we had not as much land here as the displaced persons had left behind in Pakistan. I would, therefore, submit that we were compelled to take such a step in order to eliminate any possibility of complaints of inequitable distribution, viz., that one person be allotted one thousand acres of land and another not even 20 acres of land. The imposition of cut does not, however, mean that their rights and interests in the remaining land have been extinguished but I would submit that they continue to enjoy such rights and their claims are quite valid. The distribution of land has been made in such a manner as to give a reasonable share of the land to every displaced person. Besides, it has also been remarked that the displaced persons who have not yet been able to resettle themselves properly are being ejected out of their land. Sir, you will find that a provision has been made in this Bill that no landowner, who has been allotted an evacuee land, will be liable to ejection for a period of two years from the date on which such land was taken possession of by him provided the land is intended to be brought under self-cultivation by him. Supposing any land is allotted to me as a displaced person then I can make use of it in two ways. One is that I may get the land cultivated through tenants or I may get myself behind the plough and gird up my loins to work in the fields. If I resort to self-cultivation then I have the same rights of making reservation of land as others have. If I like to get the land cultivated through tenants then may I ask you, Sir, why a displaced person should be entitled to recover more by way of "Batai" from the tenants than others? The Bill makes no discrimination between the tenants and the landowners—whether displaced persons or not. Besides this, an objection has been raised that the landowners of East Punjab can sell their land whereas the displaced land owners are not entitled to exercise such a right in respect of the land allotted to them. Consequently owing to this disability the tenants of the displaced landowners will be under a great disadvantage, which the tenants of a landowner, who is a resident of East Punjab, are entitled to pre-empt the sale of land. I would say that it suits the Opposition to raise such objections. They would find out one argument or another to bring a bad name to the Government. They can easily say that the present Bill is against the interests of the displaced persons. In this Bill a provision has been made as to how a landowner can give his land to the tenants for cultivation and get his share of 'Batai'. I hope that the House will carefully take note of these facts.

I am sorry to say that my hon. Friend Chaudhri Sri Chand appeared to be seriously perturbed when he had quoted a Sanskrit Sloka in his speech saying "when bad days come, man loses his senses". If helping the tenants is unfortunately taken to mean as confused thinking on the part of the Government then I would surely welcome such so-called 'confused thinking' in great measure. I think that the exploiter must meet his ignoble death and nobody should feel the least distressed over his lot.

Then my hon. Friend has remarked that the Government always places such measures on the Statute Book which affect the landlords and tenants of agricultural land and that it would be better if the

[Chief Minister]

Government also thought of enacting such measures which affected the landlords and tenants of urban property in order to bring about a uniformity in this field. My hon. Friend is very well informed and daily reads newspapers. He must be knowing that the Death Duty Bill has been introduced in the Parliament. If anybody thinks that the income of the country is being distributed very unevenly among the various sections of society and that there can be any difference in the incomes of agriculturists and non-agriculturists, businessmen and persons in Government service then I should say that he is sadly mistaken. At this stage when we are dealing with one problem we cannot at the same time deal with the others.

Besides, a mention has been made of the factories and I may, in this connection, inform the House that we have enforced the system of division of labour in the factories and have also fixed the maximum and minimum wage limit. Not only this. Certain important provisions have been made in connection with the grant of bonus to the workers and fixation of hours of work and holidays.

Sardar Ajmer Singh: What about the urban property?

Chief Minister: I may point out to my hon. Friend that income-tax and property-tax is being charged on the income of urban property. I may assure the House that our policy is uniform and that we never follow different policies towards different sections of the society. I will request the hon. Member that he should avoid making a reference to such things as do not exist at all.

Dewan Jagdish Chandra: Sir, I move—

That Question be now put.

Mr Speaker: Question is—

That Question be now put.

The motion was carried

Minister for Development (Sardar Partap Singh Kairon): Sir, I do not feel the necessity of making any speech as the hon. Chief Minister has exhaustively dealt with the matter.

Mr Speaker: Question is—

That the Punjab Security of Land Tenures Bill be circulated for eliciting public opinion thereon by the 31st March 1953.

The motion was lost.

Mr Speaker: Question is—

That the Punjab Security of Land Tenures Bills be referred to a Joint Select Committee of both Houses of the Legislature consisting of the following M.L.A. and seven M.L.C.s :—

- (1) Sardar Partap Singh Kairon, Minister for Development.
- (2) Chaudhri Lahri Singh, Minister for Irrigation.
- (3) Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa, Minister for Public Works.
- (4) Sardar Ajmer Singh, M. L. A.

- (5) Sardar Achhar Singh, M.L.A.
- (6) Shri Mool Chand Jain, M.L.A.
- (7) Shri Lajpat Rai, M.L.A.
- (8) Shri Teg Ram, M.L.A.
- (9) Shri Sarup Singh, M.L.A.
- (10) Rao Gajraj Singh, M.L.A.
- (11) Shri Mehar Singh, M.L.A. (Kangra).
- (12) Shri Ram Chandra Comrade, M.L.A.
- (13) Shri Bhagat Ram Sharma, M.L.A.
- (14) Sardar Mohan Singh Jathedar, M.I.A.
- (15) Shri Gorakh Nath, M.L.A.
- (16) Sardar Gurbanta Singh, M.I.A.
- (17) Shri Badlu Ram, M.L.A.
- (18) Dewan Jagdish Chandra, M.L.A.
- (19) Shri Abdul Gaffar Khan, M.L.A.

The motion was carried

THE PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (ALLOWANCES
OF MEMBERS) (AMENDMENT) BILL

Chief Minister (Shri Bhim Sen Sachar) (*Hindi*): Sir, I introduce the Punjab Legislative Assembly (Allowances of Members) (Amendment) Bill.

Chief Minister: Sir, I beg to move—

That the Punjab Legislative Assembly (Allowances of Members) (Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration at once.

Sir, let me just explain to the House the reasons why it has been considered necessary to bring forward this Bill. You know how many times and for how many days in this short period of seven or eight months the Members have been called to meet in this Assembly. If you compare the number of days for which the Members have to be present at Simla now with the period they used to be here in the time of the previous Government, you will find that the difference is considerable. It is, of course, evident to all that the cost of living at Simla is very high. The Government accepts it and it is on the basis of this thing that they have sanctioned Compensatory Allowance for Government servants serving at Simla. It is in view of the fact that the Legislature has now to meet for longer periods in connection with its work, that it is proposed to allow to the Members a halting allowance at the rate of rupees ten per diem for the days they are present at Simla for purposes of attending the meetings of the Assembly. I may make it clear that this allowance will be admissible to them so long as the Assembly remains in session at Simla and as we hope it will not be long before we meet in the plains this allowance will also be abolished soon.

Then, Sir, it is a well known fact that the Members who have to come to Simla or go to some other specified place in order to attend the meetings of

[Chief Minister]

various committees appointed by the House have to put in additional work. So, the second provision made in this Bill seeks to allow to the Members of such committees to draw an allowance at the rate of rupees ten per diem when they attend meetings at Simla and at the rate of Rs 7-8-0 per diem when they attend meetings at other places. This allowance will definitely not be a source of income or profit for the Members. When an hon. Member comes to Simla to attend the meetings of the Assembly, he has surely to spend rupees ten to get accommodation in some hotel and that too he succeeds in getting with a great difficulty. Now we hope such brethren will be able to stay at Simla without proving burdensome to anybody.

There is another point for the House to consider. Now, the Assembly sits on Saturdays also and the Members cannot leave Simla but even if they do leave, they cannot draw any travelling allowance under the rules. Formerly, they could visit their homes by leaving Simla on Fridays and thus attend to their private work. The Government had to incur an expenditure to the extent of rupees fourteen thousand on account of every such break. So, now there will be a saving so far as this expenditure is concerned. I do not mean to say that we want to save on one account in order to spend on the other. Sir, you are quite aware of how much one has to spend during one's stay at Simla. So far as we know, even the commercial concerns give extra allowances to their officers stationed at Simla.

This is not a type of measure over which there should be any quarrel or controversy as that would be lacking in propriety.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Punjab Legislative Assembly (Allowances of Members) (Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration at once.

Sardar Shamsher Singh (Ludhiana Sadr) (Punjabi) : Sir, the Chief Minister has stated that the Government has made some saving in expenditure by Saturday being turned into a working day. In my opinion, this saving should not have been effected. This is a province of cultivators and November is the month in which sowing operations are undertaken. If Saturday were kept as an off-day, we would be in a position to visit our homes and supervise the sowing operations. It would have been better if Saturday had not been made a working day and instead the Members had been allowed to draw the actual expenses as travelling allowance. The members would then have been able to attend to their private work.

It appears as though the Ministers and the Members have entered into an alliance to sanction additional allowances for each other.

✓ **Mr Speaker :** No reflection on the conduct of any Member, please.

Sardar Shamsher Singh : In the end, I would again submit that the House should not give its approval to this allowance. Instead, Saturday should be made an off-day and Members should be allowed to draw travelling allowance at the reduced rate as provided in the rules.

Shri Sri Chand (Bahadurgarh) (Hindi) : Sir, it is not at all proper to give this allowance to the Members. So far as I know, this allowance is not being given to the Members of any Assembly who are in receipt of a regular remuneration for their work. The Chief Minister has stated that the Members have to spend a lot during their stay here at Simla. Sir, my submission is that

the Members have to attend the meetings of the Assembly for two or three months only but they get pay for the whole year. In view of the fact that for the rest of the year the Members have no work to do, it does not appear to be a reasonable proposal to give them an allowance to meet the expenses they have to incur while staying at Simla for official work.

I think that the grant of allowances, sometimes to the Members and sometimes to the Ministers will turn the Assembly into a limited company, and my feeling is that this is in no way in the interests of the people at large. It has been stated by the hon. Minister that the policy of the present Government is to bring the rich people down. This may be true, but my submission is that the Government should do something substantial for the uplift of the poor people also. May I know if the policy of the Government is only to elevate the Members of this House by granting additional allowances? I think this item of expenditure is wholly unnecessary.

Then, Sir, it has been contended that the hon. Members have to incur a lot of expenditure on their stay at Simla. My submission is that when a person seeks election to the Assembly, does he not know that he would be required to spend a lot while attending the Assembly Sessions? Does he not consider all these matters when he stands as a candidate? I wish to tell the House that personally I stand to lose when I come here. But because I myself sought the election to this House I consider it my duty to do this public work even at the risk of some financial loss.

One thing more which I wish to bring to the notice of the Government and that is that Saturday should be kept as an off-day as before. I do not say that the Members must be paid travelling allowance, but my point is that the Session of the Assembly should not be held on this day. The reason for this is that generally there are certain affairs to which the hon. Members have to attend in their constituencies. If the Government agrees to this suggestion of mine it will be making a nice gesture to the Opposition.

Sardar Partap Singh (Rupar) (Punjabi) : Sir, I beg to submit that Saturday should not be utilized for purposes of holding Assembly Sessions simply because the Government is afraid that the hon. Members would run to their places and draw travelling allowance if it is allowed to remain as an off-day. I think that there are cogent reasons for keeping Saturday as an off-day. Every Member has to visit his constituency in order to hear to the complaints and grievances of the people and then to put them before the House. For this purpose Saturday must be kept as an off-day. Of course, it involves some expenditure but the Government should compare this amount with that large expenditure which it is going to incur on Members by passing this Bill. Why not spend this amount as before and let the hon. Members have Saturdays as off-days?

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut (Tanda) (Punjabi) : Sir, the grant of this daily allowance of rupees ten to a Member means that he would get rupees three hundred per month more during the Assembly Sessions. While in Parliament the allowances are being converted into salaries, it is rather strange that our Government should feel the need to introduce such a measure. Only the other day it was stated on the floor of this House that Government wanted more money to ameliorate the lot of the people of the Punjab. It could not do much in that direction because it lacked funds. But today we are surprised to hear from Government that since hon. Members are unable to meet their expenses at Simla; they must be paid a daily allowance of Rs 10 during the

[Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut]

Assembly Session. As a matter of fact this Bill seeks to put yet another unnecessary burden on the poor tax-payer. The Government should realise that this House is not a business company. The hon. Members should remember the promises that they held out to the people. They said that they would try to bring in new and better measures with a view to raising the standard of living of the people. But here quite a different thing is happening. While on the one hand, more and more taxes are being imposed on the people at large to augment revenues, on the other, wasteful expenditure is being increased. The other day, the hon. Minister stated that since in Simla the Government was incurring a lot of expenditure it wanted to shift to Chandigarh at an early date. This Bill does not indicate whether this allowance is meant to be given to the hon. Members while they hold sessions at Simla or it would be continued at Chandigarh also.

✓ **Mr Speaker :** The hon. Member should read the Bill. It is clearly laid down—

“for each day of attendance of a meeting at Simla”.

Sardar Chanan Singh Dhut : Sir, my submission is that this expenditure is wasteful. We also come to Simla and stay here comfortably in one hundred rupees. It is wrong to say that the Members cannot pull on here within rupees ten a day. During the whole year the total number of days when the Assembly remains in session does not exceed two or three months, yet the hon. Members get salary for all the year. Why can't they manage to pull on with this amount ? It is quite another thing if they wish to have whisky and brandy, etc. The Government should consider the state of things under which the low-paid employees living in Simla are eking out their existence. Why does it not increase their salaries ? Why does it not provide medical facilities to them and make arrangements for cheap shops for them ? It is a thousand pities that for them the Government has no money but it has no difficulty in finding out money to grant a daily allowance to the Members of this Assembly. There are such employees of the Government here as do not receive more than fifty rupees per mensem and are unable to support their families. Under these circumstances, it does not go to the credit of the Government to get this Bill passed.

Chief Minister : I cannot say what the standards of my hon. Friend are. But so far as my standards are concerned, I can say that whisky and brandy are not good things. Therefore, I beg to submit that this is a reflection on this House and so the hon. Member should be asked to withdraw this remark.

✓ **Mr. Speaker :** Why is the Chief Minister upset by this ?

Sardar Wazir Singh (Delhon) (Punjabi) : Sir, when the question of increasing the salaries of the subordinate low-paid employees, opening of new schools and hospitals etc., is put before the Government, it pleads lack of funds and blames the Opposition for not extending its co-operation in the matter of imposing increased taxes on the people. But when the question of paying rupees 1,500 per mensem to a Minister comes up before the Government then no such consideration stands in the way. The Government rather says that the Ministers are unable to meet their expenses on the existing salaries, although they are allowed the use of government cars and free petrol. The hon. Members are asked to give them all facilities. But when the latter begin to cry they are silenced by the grant of an allowance of rupees

ten per diem. *Mr Speaker:* This is not in good taste.) Sir, I am submitting that this is an unwholy alliance. In my opinion rupees three hundred per month are sufficient for the maintenance of the hon. Members. I think they can pull on on this amount. How is it that while they are regularly paid throughout the year they cannot pull on with this amount for short periods for which they stay at Simla in connection with the Assembly work ?

Then, Sir, it is common knowledge that the poor Chaprasis and the Clerks who draw very low salaries are ill-fed and ill-clad. When we ask the Government to give them more pay we are told that the Government is short of funds. But when the question comes of the Ministers' own salaries and the car allowances they happily agree to sanction such heavy amounts of money. I must tell them that the people take a very serious view of such things. Mr Speaker, when we go to our constituencies people ask us whether we actually travel in first class because we charge first class railway fare. I make no secret of it, Sir, that our heads hang low with shame because people know we travel in third class. This daily allowance of Rs 10/- proposed for the hon. Members is too much. Even the salary of Rs 300/- per mensem is not justified. I may sound a note of warning to the hon. Members sitting on the Treasury Benches that the people will not forget what they are doing here. Today they are no doubt in a majority and, as such, can pass any measure they like out they will have to explain their conduct before their voters. They get Rs -300 per mensem as their salaries, Rs 10/- as daily allowance and if still they are not satisfied they may distribute all the revenues of the State amongst themselves.

Minister for Irrigation : Sir, I move—

That the Question be now put.

Mr Speaker : Question is—

That the Question be now put.

The motion was carried.

Mr Speaker : Question is—

That the Punjab Legislative Assembly (Allowances of Members) (Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration at once.

(After ascertaining the votes of the House by voices Mr Speaker said, "I think Ayes have it". This opinion was challenged and a division was claimed. Mr Speaker after calling upon those Members who supported the claim for division and those who challenged his decision, to rise in their places, declared that the division was unnecessarily claimed.

The motion was declared carried.

Mr Speaker : Now the House will proceed to consider the Bill clause by clause.

CLAUSE 1

SUB-CLAUSE (2)

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

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

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 2

Shri Prabodh Chandra (Gurdaspur) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That the following proviso be added to part (ii) of the proposed sub-clause (b):—

“Provided that if a Member has been ordered to absent himself from a meeting or meetings of the Assembly, under the rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Punjab Legislative Assembly for the time being in force, he shall not be entitled for such period of absence to the allowance”.

[Shri Prabodh Chandra]

Sir, it is a very simple amendment. Its object is that the hon. Members who do not maintain the dignity of the House within the Assembly Chamber and who, in spite of being ordered by the hon. Speaker to leave it, flout his orders, should be taught a lesson. Previously, if any hon. Member was asked by the Chair to leave the Chamber, his absence was condoned. But in the interest of the dignity of the House, which must be maintained, I wish that the defaulting Members should suffer so that in future they may desist from doing anything undesirable in the House and should obey the rulings of the Chair. I, therefore, hope that the House will accept this amendment unanimously.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the following proviso be added to part (ii) of the proposed sub-clause (b):—

“Provided that if a Member has been ordered to absent himself from a meeting or meetings of the Assembly, under the rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Punjab Legislative Assembly for the time being in force, he shall not be entitled for such period of absence to the allowance.”

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the following proviso be added to part (ii) of the proposed sub-clause (b):—

“Provided that if a Member has been ordered to absent himself from a meeting or meetings of the Assembly’ under the rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Punjab Legislative Assembly for the time being in force, he shall not be entitled for such period of absence to the allowance.”

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 2, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 1

SUB-CLAUSE (1)

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

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

The motion was carried.

TITLE

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Title be the title of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Chief Minister (Shri Bhim Sen Sachar) : Sir, I beg to move—

That the Punjab Legislative Assembly (Allowances of Members) (Amendment) Bill, 1952, as amended, be passed.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Punjab Legislative Assembly (Allowances of Members) (Amendment) Bill, 1952, as amended, be passed.

Sardar Achhar Singh Chhina (Ajnala) (Punjabi) : Mr Speaker, I think that when the present salary of Rs 300/- of the hon. Members was fixed

their standard of living was also kept in view. The public whom we represent here are also of the view that a daily allowance of Rs 10/- is quite sufficient for us. This in other words means that we are being paid five times more than the average wage of Rs 2/- paid to an ordinary labourer. Mr. Speaker, it is our keen desire that expenditure should be curtailed as far as possible and for this purpose the Assembly should even meet on Saturdays so that we may be able to do more work in the shortest possible time. Since we have to work only for two to three months in a year to accomplish our legislative work, I think we can pull on here with the present emoluments without experiencing much difficulty, particularly when we have to spend the rest of the nine months in our villages where living is very cheap. Besides this, it would not matter much even if we have to spend daily Rs 20/- instead of Rs 10/- for two or three months because we can earn our own livelihood from our own businesses during the rest of the year. I, therefore, feel that if this Bill is passed, burden on the finances of our State will increase still further. I think no justification will be left for us to criticise the administration for its high expenditure, if we go on increasing our salaries and allowances like this.

Then, Sir, we will not mind if no travelling allowance is paid to us for journeys undertaken on Saturdays which must be kept as off-days. We will go to our constituencies at our own expense and we can do that by travelling in third class. Even now, many hon. Members travel in third class but they charge travelling allowance for first class. We represent poor people and we have great sympathy for them.

Shri Prabodh Chandra (Gurdaspur) (Hindi): Sir, you will excuse me if I go off the point a little while making a reply to the objections raised by the Opposition. It has been argued that since a labourer's daily wage does not exceed Rs 2/-, the hon. Members of this House should not be granted the allowance of Rs 10/- per diem. In this connection I would just refresh the memory of my hon. Friends when they themselves insisted upon a daily allowance of at least Rs 3½/- being paid to them although they were staying in a Government institution. Sir, I am compelled to make these remarks simply to enlighten the public that the hon. Members sitting opposite do not really mean what they say. Their actions belie their professions. At that time they felt that the provision of electric fans was also essential for them.

✓ **Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member is going very wide of the mark. He should speak to the motion now before the House.

Shri Prabodh Chandra: Sir, what I wanted to impress upon my hon. Friends over there, was that they should refrain from opposing this measure on frivolous grounds. That is all, Sir.

Shri Abdul Ghaffar Khan (Ambala City) (Hindi): Mr Speaker, much has been said about the provisions of the Bill, now before the House. My hon. Friends of the Opposition have tried hard to prove that in the whole of the Punjab they are the only persons who are imbued with a spirit of sacrifice. They are, of course, free to please themselves with this false notion; but, Sir, we have to find out whether or not in actual practice, they are sincere in what they say. In my opinion none of them comes up to the mark. I do not take pride in making this remark. But I most humbly enquire of them if there is any hon. Member in the whole of the Opposition, who can say that he has not drawn his travelling allowance. I want to inform them that I have neither drawn any travelling allowance so far nor have I submitted any bill for it. I am one of those who are not in favour of drawing too many allowances

[Shri Abdul Ghaffar Khan]

(*cheers*). I may tell those hon. Friends who are thumping at their tables that they will be utterly disappointed when they have heard my speech. I may tell them that we do not welcome the grant of this allowance but there are certain members who find it exceedingly difficult to pull on with their present allowance during their stay at Simla. I know that some of the hon. Members sitting on the Treasury Benches do not welcome so many allowances but there are some amongst them who had to leave their all in Pakistan after partition. Though they have never begged for anything, yet we feel that since it is hard for them to meet their expenses at Simla, something should be done to help them in the form of a daily allowance.

Now, I would ask my hon. Friends sitting on the Opposition Benches, who have so vehemently pleaded the cause of the public, that for God's sake they should also refuse to accept these allowances as is being done by some hon. Members occupying Government Benches.

Sardar Wazir Singh (Delhon) (Punjabi) : Mr Speaker, I was of the impression that the Members occupying the Treasury Benches would no more rise to defend their indefensible actions but I am surprised at hearing the speech of my hon. Friend, Shri Khan Sahib. I fail to understand the attitude adopted by some of my Friends occupying Government Benches, who though in their heart of hearts do not support many actions of the Government yet at the time of voting cast their votes in favour of the Government and at the same time try to vehemently criticise the Opposition. They want to accept the daily allowance of Rs 10/- in addition to their compensatory allowance of Rs 300/- per mensem and yet while doing so hurl accusations on the Opposition for nothing. Sir, I wish to make it known to everybody that the Opposition has voted against this Bill. I know that the Bill will be passed in view of the commanding majority enjoyed, at present, by the Government. However, my hon. Friends should realise that the responsibility of squandering away public money will be wholly theirs because the Opposition has registered its vote against this measure. When the speech of Khan Sahib will be published in the newspapers, the people will come to know that these people do not act upon what they say. Sir, you will perhaps remember that when the budget was discussed in this House, 95 per cent of the hon. Members were evidently against it. They bitterly criticised it but when the time for voting came, all of them notwithstanding their opposition stood up to support it. Even now all of them realise that the acceptance of the allowance of Rs 10/- per diem would tantamount to putting an additional burden on the State exchequer. If they really feel so, they should be courageous enough to come forward and cast their votes against the measure. But that would not happen. At the time of voting on this Bill they will again extend their support to it. I, therefore, feel that it is futile to indulge in mere criticism as they have done.

Chief Minister (Shri Bhim Sen Sachar) (Hindi) : Mr Speaker, I would take only a minute to say a few words. Some of my Friends have stated that only for three months they stay and work here and yet for the remaining months of the year, they continue to draw the compensatory allowance. To them, I have simply to say that they are not paid by the Government for squandering the money on personal comforts but it expects of them to tour their constituencies, meet their constituents, observe their difficulties and get them redressed by the Government. They are not paid any travelling allowance for purposes of touring their constituencies. It is a different matter that arrangements even for the meals and clothings for some members are made by their party, but generally the members have to spend

THE PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (ALLOWANCES (18)37
OF MEMBERS) (AMENDMENT) BILL

from their own pocket even for touring their constituencies. Therefore, this salary is paid to them so that they should spend it and not accumulate it.

Mr Speaker : Question is—

That the Punjab Legislative Assembly (Allowances of Members) (Amendment) Bill, as amended, be passed.

The motion was carried.

THE PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL (ALLOWANCES OF
MEMBERS) (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1952.

Chief Minister (Shri Bhim Sen Sachar) : Sir, I beg to introduce the Punjab Legislative Council (Allowances of Members) (Amendment) Bill, 1952.

Chief Minister : Sir, I beg to move—

That the Punjab Legislative Council (Allowances of Members) (Amendment) Bill, 1952, be taken into consideration at once.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Punjab Legislative Council (Allowances of Members) (Amendment) Bill, 1952, be taken into consideration at once.

Sardar Wazir Singh (Delhon) (Punjabi) : Sir, the Chief Minister has just now stated that the Members are given a compensatory allowance of Rs 300/- so that they should spend it on touring their constituencies. He has further remarked that they should visit their constituencies in order to listen to the complaints of the people and bring the difficulties of the persons concerned to the notice of the officers so that the latter might remove them. True. But may I request the Chief Minister to enlighten us about the constituencies represented by the Members of the Legislative Council ? What for is the sum of Rs 300/- per mensem being paid to them ? A majority of them constitute those members who have been nominated by the Governor and the Assembly. I do not understand why they should not be satisfied with a monthly compensatory allowance of Rs 300/- besides the travelling allowance they draw ? Why should they be paid an additional allowance of Rs. 10/- per diem ? I feel that the grant of daily allowance as proposed under this Bill is not at all justified. The previous statement of the Chief Minister goes counter to the principle of this Bill. I, therefore, wish that saving should be effected at least in this allowance meant for the Members of the Council and the money thus saved be utilized for the betterment of the poor.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Punjab Legislative Council (Allowances of Members) (Amendment) Bill, 1952, be taken into consideration at once.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Now the House will proceed to consider the Bill clause by clause.

CLAUSE 1

SUB-CLAUSE (2)

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

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

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 2

Shri Prabodh Chandra (Gurdaspur) (Hindi) : Sir, I beg to move—

That the following proviso be added to part (ii) of the proposed sub-clause (b):—

“Provided that if a Member has been ordered to absent himself from a meeting or meetings of the Council, under the rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Punjab Legislative Council for the time being in force, he shall not be entitled for such period of absence to the allowance.”

Mr. Speaker, I made a few observations in regard to the amendment that I moved in connection with the Punjab Legislative Assembly (Allowances of Members) (Amendment) Bill. The same are equally applicable to the amendment I have just now put forward. I do not think, I would be able to add anything more to them. It is simply the question of the dignity of the House—whether it is this House or the Upper House. This amendment seeks to put a little restraint upon the members so that they should conduct themselves in such a way that the dignity of the House is fully maintained. Therefore, with these words I move this amendment and hope that the House will accept it unanimously.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the following proviso be added to part (ii) of proposed sub-clause (b):—

“Provided that if a Member has been ordered to absent himself from a meeting or meetings of the Council, under the rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Punjab Legislative Council for the time being in force, he shall not be entitled for such period of absence to the allowance.”

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the following proviso be added to part (ii) of proposed sub-clause (b):—

“Provided that if a Member has been ordered to absent himself from a meeting or meetings of the Council, under the rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Punjab Legislative Council for the time being in force, he shall not be entitled for such period of absence to the allowance.”

The motion was carried.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Clause 2, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

CLAUSE 1

SUB-CLAUSE (1).

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

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

The motion was carried.

THE PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL (ALLOWANCES (18)39
OF MEMBERS) (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1952

TITLE

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That Title be the title of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

Chief Minister (Shri Bhim Sen Sachar) (*Hindi*) : Sir, I beg to move—

That the Punjab Legislative Council (Allowances of Members) (Amendment) Bill, as amended, be passed.

Mr Speaker, my Friend, Sardar Wazir Singh, has asked how is the compensatory allowance such as that paid to the Members of the assembly utilized by the Members of the Council. Sir, perhaps my learned Friend does not realise that the Members of the Council have also to perform certain duties. I am aware that many Members of the Legislative Council who in spite of not having been elected like the Members of the Legislative Assembly, are doing very useful public work in their respective constituencies. You will be glad to know that they meet the people, listen to their grievances and bring their complaints to the notice of the Government. In the circumstances, it is wrong to think that they do not have any work to do.

Then my hon. Friends found it convenient to forget that there are a number of elected members in the Council and they have to go to and work in their constituencies. It is beside the point to say that some Members do not go to their respective constituencies. This does not prove that the hon. Members of the Council have nothing to do with their constituencies, nor do they have to come into contact with their electors and that, therefore, they do not have to go anywhere.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved—

That the Punjab Legislative Council (Allowances of Members) (Amendment) Bill, as amended, be passed.

Mr. Speaker : Question is—

That the Punjab Legislative Council (Allowances of Members) (Amendment) Bill, as amended, be passed.

The motion was carried.

The Assembly then adjourned sine die.

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