years a resettlement is to be held and the object is to raise the taxation. In our part of the country resettlement was held twice and every time they raised the tax by 12½ per cent and 18 per cent respectively. So what I request the Government to do is to take up this question and see that a legislation is introduced soon placing the land revenue system on a statutory basis.

" The other important question which has been agitating the mind of the public is the reduction of land-tax which is very heavy now. Not only in the former Councils, but also in public meetings, and also in their recent election manifesto the Congress Members held out a hope that, the land tax would be reduced. This was the chief reason why people came out in large numbers to support the Congress candidates in their elections. At any rate, that was one of the chief reasons that induced me to support the Congress Member who stood in my district. (' Hear, hear.') This I can prove, Sir, and the Congress Member from my constituency will, I hope, bear me out in my statement. So the least thing that Government can do is to reduce the land tax by 33 per cent. Now the peasants are groaning under this heavy burden and it is a well-known fact that in our part of the country not only movables but also the lands have been sold for arrears of land revenue. There is an instance in our district where a ryot was imprisoned for his inability of paying assessment. This shows how heavy the burden of land tax is in South Kanara. Though all these things were put before the Government before, the then Revenue Members could not do anything or were not capable of doing anything, though the previous Revenue Member was very profuse in his sympathetic replies. There is a proposal now to give a remission of Rs. 75 lakhs. But I think this proposal was made by the previous Government themselves and we hoped that when this Government came into power much more would be done. Of course I do not blame the Governmnt for not having done so soon, because I feel that they have not had sufficient time to adjust matters as only very recently they took up office. However I submit that what we want is not remission, but reduction. Remission was made year after year by the previous Government. Some remission would be given one year and then people would higgle next year also and something again would be given and so on. In that way remissions were being given. But that is not what we want now. We want a permanent reduction and that soon before a legislation is launched leisurely for systematizing or regularizing the land revenue system. If Government should do so, it would show the earnestness and sincerity of the present Government in giving relief to the people.

" May I speak about the second group, Sir? "

* Mr. SPEAKER:—" If you want to speak and if you have got anything definite to speak about the second group you can move it now. I have classified all the cut motions under three heads so as to give opportunities to Members for specific suggestions being made and specific discussion being carried on under these three heads. If hon.

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Members do not want to exercise their right but want to take the opportunity of expressing their views in one speech, they are entitled to do so."

KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—" So, I shall move the next motion which stands in my name and which runs as follows:—

' To reduce the allotment of Rs. 27,09,700 *for Land Revenue by Rs.* 100.

(To discuss the survey and settlement policy of Government especially with reference to South Kanara as settlement rates were imposed there on a faulty calculation.)'

" Sir, the assessment in South Kanara as fixed by the former Rajas was only one-sixth of the gross income. Later on the Vizianagaram Rajas raised it to one-fourth. The Muhammadan Kings Hyderali and Tippu Sultan doubled it, of course to suit their own needs for the time being. Without following any system or anything like that, the British Government took up that system and continued that system and Sir Thomas Munroe, the first Collector of South Kanara, introduced the system of tharavu and according to that system land tax was to be levied permanently. But the Government slowly introduced survey and settlement and confiscated the right of the people in forests and to make the matter still worse, darkhast rules were also introduced by which the people lost their proprietary right altogether for the waste lands which they had been enjoying along with the people of Malabar. Now, Sir, in Malabar, people need not pay tax for the waste lands unless they cultivate them. Only for the lands they have brought under cultivation, they have to pay assessment. In South Kanara even if the land does not yield one pie, being waste lands, they will have to pay for that, because the Government have confiscated their proprietary right to waste lands. The people of South Kanara sent in memorials that they should be treated just as the people of Malabar but in vain. Now there is a glaring mistake that has been committed in the settlement and if Government are not able to set right this mistake, the faith of people in South Kanara at any rate will be very much shaken; because the Government have not only increased the tharavu rate but also during the resettlements in 1902 adopted a false principle and made mathematical mistakes in the calculations of net outturn per acre and also in calculating the commutation price of paddy. So, I suggest that it will be very easy for the Government to find out the mistake made in fixing the net outturn and the commutation prices; because they have as one of their Parliamentary Secretaries a gentleman who has made a special study of these matters and he will be available for them to find out whether what I have said is correct or not. I do not want a reply to this question just now; because the other day a deputation waited on the Government and represented the grievances of the people concerned and the Government after listening to the deputation sympathetically has promised to consider the matter. I only hope that the Government will consider the suggestions and do what is necessary.

12-30 p.m.