LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
12 OCT 1951

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Monday, the 20th September 1937.

The Assembly met in the Senate House, Chepauk, at ten of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. MR. B. SAMBAMURTI) in the Chair.

Proceedings commenced with the singing of the Vande Mataram song.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

* 145 *Q.* [a]

* 146 *Q.* [b]

Release of political prisoners.

* 147 *Q.*—MR. B. BHAKTHAVATSALU NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Courts and Prisons be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of political prisoners released after 15th July 1937;

(*b*) the number of political prisoners not yet released; and

(*c*) why they have not yet been released and when they will be released?

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—"(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) (1) The Government have considered the cases of certain prisoners and remitted the unexpired portion of the sentences of 38 prisoners who would fall in the category to which the question presumably refers. A list [c] of persons so released is placed on the table.

"(2) The restrictions placed on the following three Mappilla State prisoners have also been withdrawn:—

Parapurathil Mammunni.

Kuthrithodi Alavi.

Kolleri Kunhalavi Kurikkal."

Inspection of the Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanams by the Hindu Religious Endowments Board.

* 148 *Q.*—MR. K. VARADACHARIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware that the Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanams are contributing to the Hindu Religious Endowments Board an annual amount of about Rs. 16,000; and

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[a] Vide pages 366–368 infra.

[b] Vide pages 368–371 infra.

[c] Printed as Appendix I on page 410 infra.

(*b*) how many times the President or any Commissioner of the said Board visited the said temples and inspected the working of the institution or the proceedings of the Devasthanam Committee during the years 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936 and 1937 and what reports they have made to the Government?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" (*a*) Under section 35 of the Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanams Act, the Committee shall annually pay to the Board out of the funds of the devasthanams a contribution equivalent to one and a half per centum of their income calculated in such manner as may be prescribed. On this basis, the following contributions were made by the Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanams to the Hindu Religious Endowments Board during faslis 1343, 1344 and 1345:—

	RS.
Fasli 1343	10,000
Fasli 1344	10,000
Fasli 1345	21,516

" (*b*) A statement [a] containing the information is appended."

MR. K. VARADACHARIAR:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government are satisfied that the Board has been exercising its power of inspection under the Act regularly and to the satisfaction of the public? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" The Board has been doing the work of supervising the devasthanam; but for the last two years, no member of the Board has visited this devasthanam."

MR. K. VARADACHARIAR:—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to intimate to the Board the necessity for the exercise of its powers under the Act? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" The Board has got the power; there is nothing to intimate to them."

MR. K. VEERARAGHAVASWAMI:—" Are there any complaints that the Board is not exercising its powers? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" As far as the Government are aware, there has been no complaint about it."

MR. G. RANGAYYA NAYUDU:—" Is not the Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanams Act a separate Act from the Hindu Religious Endowments Act? Is it not a fact that a separate committee has been formed for the management of the Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanam? If so, under what authority can the President and members of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board inspect or supervise the management of this devasthanam? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" The Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanams Act is controlled and operated by the Hindu Religious Endowments Board."

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 410 infra.

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Proposals for opening a new channel on the Vamsadhara.

* 149 *Q.*—MR. C. NARASIMHAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government will be pleased to consider the necessity of constructing a new channel on the Vamsadhara near Mokhalingam so as to irrigate many rainfed villages in the Narasannapeta taluk;

(*b*) what the Government have decided regarding the proposals; and

(*c*) whether the Government propose to take up the scheme and when?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The hon. Member presumably refers to the proposal to extend the Nagarikatakam channel beyond Narasannapeta. This channel takes off at present from the left bank of the Vamsadhara river near Karakavalasa and irrigates 3,062 acres. There is a proposal to extend this channel to a point three miles beyond Narasannapeta for the irrigation of 4,816 acres of which 4,042 acres are already irrigated by rainfed tanks and 774 acres will be new irrigation in Narasannapeta taluk. The scheme is under the consideration of the local officers."

* 150 *Q.* [a]

* 151 *Q.* [b]

Particulars regarding the constitution of the bifurcated Dharmapuri District Board.

* 152 *Q.*—MR. V. R. PERUMAL CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the bifurcated Dharmapuri District Board was constituted;

(*b*) what the number of elected members on the Board was at that time; and

(*c*) how many seats were general seats and how many were reserved seats, and to what community each of the members elected to the reserved seats belonged?

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"(*a*) On the 1st December 1936.

"(*b*) Twenty-four.

"(*c*) There were twenty non-reserved seats and four reserved seats. Two of the members elected to the reserved seats belonged to the Muslim community and the other two to the Adi-Dravida community."

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[a] Vide pages 371–372 infra.

[b] Vide page 372 infra.

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MR. P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—"How many have been nominated to the reserved seats?"

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"That is coming in the next question."

KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It will be better if, according to your ruling or instruction, when you call the name of the questioner, the member gives out the number of his question, otherwise, we cannot follow the questions."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The number of this question is 152."

MR. P. T. VENKATACHARIAR:—"Was it not obligatory that the number of members of the board should have been fixed even before the board was reconstituted as such?"

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Just before the presidential election, further nominations were made, and the president's election was conducted."

MR. P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—"How many days before the election of the president were the nominations made?"

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Two days before."

MR. P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—"Was it by wire or was it by written order?"

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The names were published in a Gazette Extraordinary."

MR. P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—"The Gazette Extraordinary would have been published in Madras; how did it reach Salem quickly?"

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"By ordinary post, Sir."

MR. P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—"May I know whether the Gazette Extraordinary reached the hands of the president before the election?"

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"As I said, it reached him by ordinary post."

MR. P. T. VENKATACHARIAR:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that the total strength of the board was not fixed till very long after the date of the president's election?"

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I think so."

MR. P. T. VENKATACHARIAR:—"Would the Hon. Minister be pleased to give the date when the strength of the board was fixed?"

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"At present, I have no information."

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MR. P. T. VENKATACHARIAR:—"Was not one of the nominated members, by name Mr. Muniswami Rao, a person who could not be nominated under the law?"

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"That is coming up in connexion with another question; I shall be able to answer this question when that question is reached."

Particulars regarding the strength of the Dharmapuri District Board after its constitution.

* 153 *Q.*—MR. V. R. PERUMAL CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the strength of the Dharmapuri District Board is as fixed subsequent to its constitution; and

(*b*) how many of them are general seats and how many of them are reserved seats, and to what community the said reserved seats are assigned?

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"(*a*) Thirty-one.

"(*b*) There are twenty non-reserved seats; eleven seats have been reserved for the minority communities and for women as shown hereunder:—

	SEATS.
Muslims	2
Indian Christians	1
Adi-Dravidas	5
Europeans	1
Women	2
Total ...	11"

MR. P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—"What was the total number of seats for the board before the bifurcation was effected?"

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"That question does not arise from this answer."

MR. P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—"I put that question in order to know the proportion that was nominated."

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Perhaps it was one-fourth of the total strength of the board."

MR. K. VEERARAGHAVASWAMI:—"Were these nominations made by the present or the previous Ministry?"

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"They were made by the Ministry which was in Government in December last."

MR. P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—" Is it necessary to nominate persons to eleven seats in a board consisting of twenty general elected seats? "

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—" The then Minister nominated eleven people."

MR. P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—" Does the Hon. Minister think it necessary to rectify such a defect in all the boards where nominations have been made? "

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—" That is under consideration."

MR. P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—" When the Hon. Minister says it is under consideration, may I know what action is proposed to be taken? "

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—" The kind of action to be taken is under the active consideration of the Government."

MR. P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—" In what way is the Hon. Minister taking action, may I know? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" I think the question put by the hon. Member does not come within the sphere of supplementary questions. Supplementary questions must have all the characteristics of the principal question, and therefore such questions relating to action will not be allowed as supplementary questions."

MR. P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—" Sir, when the Hon. Minister says that it is under consideration . . . "

MR. SPEAKER:—" Any other supplementary questions, please? "

MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" Is it a fact that the Government are contemplating to do away with the nominated seats in the Dharmapuri District Board? "

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Not exactly Dharmapuri District Board alone; but as regards all the bifurcated district boards, the suggestion is being considered."

MR. B. VENKATACHALAM PILLAI:—" May I know whether the nominations were based on the qualifications of the nominees? "

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—" What qualifications does the hon. Member refer to? Literacy qualification or property qualification, or what? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" Order, please. The Minister answering questions cannot put a cross-question. He may choose to reply to the questions put, or not."

MR. B. VENKATACHALAM PILLAI:—" Is it necessary that the nominee's name should find a place in the electoral roll? "

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Yes, Sir."

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MR. B. VENKATACHALLAM PILLAI:—" How many of these persons are literate and how many of them are illiterate? "

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I have no information."

Nomination of members to the Dharmapuri District Board.

* 154 *Q.*—MR. V. R. PERUMAL CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) the members nominated to the Dharmapuri District Board, the community each of them belongs to and his native place;

(*b*) whether the Hon. the Minister received applications from the nominated members of the board;

(*c*) what the community is which is mentioned by each of them in his respective application as the one to which he belongs;

(*d*) how many applications for nomination were received in all for the seats to be nominated from the area of the Dharmapuri District Board and the communities they belong to as mentioned in their applications;

(*e*) what the special reasons were for the selection of the present nominated members;

(*f*) what the number is of general and reserved seats after the nominations were announced; and

(*g*) whether the determination of the number of reserved seats is in conformity with section 9 (3) of the Madras Local Boards Act of 1920 as amended?

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—" (*a*) A list [a] of members nominated to the Dharmapuri District Board with information regarding their community and native place is appended.

" (*b*) An application was received by the Government in one case.

" (*c*) The application received from the nominated members by Government and by the Inspector show that they belong to the communities or sex as the case may be, mentioned against them below:—

Mrs. C. Govindammal	Woman.
Mrs. D. Ramaratnammal	Do.
M.R.Ry. S. Seeran Avargal	Adi-Dravida.
,, M. Ramaswami Avargal ..	Do.
,, B. M. Muniswami Rao Avargal	Kuruman.
,, S. Swamidas Avargal, B.A., B.L.	Indian Christian.
The Rev. Duncan S. Stevenson ..	(Community not mentioned).

[a] Printed as Appendix III on page 411 infra.

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"(*d*) Forty-eight applications were received by Government. No useful purpose will be served by furnishing the details regarding the community to which all the applicants belong.

"(*e*) The nominations were made after enquiry as to suitability.

"(*f*) After the nominations, there were 20 non-reserved and 11 reserved seats.

"(*g*) The nominations were made under clause (*cc*) of the Transitional Provisions of Madras Act II of 1934 according to which the number of reserved seats in the bifurcated district boards need not be limited to the maximum number prescribed in sub-section (3) of section 9 of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920."

10-15 a.m. MR. P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—"May I know, Sir, whether any limit has been fixed in the Statute for the nomination of members from the reserved communities?"

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"That is with regard to non-bifurcated districts."

MR. P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—"What is the limit, Sir?"

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"One-fourth of the maximum strength."

MR. P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—"In that case may I know why more than one-third has been given to the reserved communities in that district board?"

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I have already answered the question in my answer to clause (*g*), namely, 'the number of reserved seats in the bifurcated district boards need not be limited to the maximum number prescribed in sub-section (3) of section 9 of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920'."

MR. P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—"Then, Sir, can he go beyond the number of elected seats in that case?"

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I think it has not gone beyond the number of elected seats here."

MR. P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—"Have they not nominated beyond the necessities of the case in so many district boards?"

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It is a matter of opinion."

MR. P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—"May I know, Sir, whether they are not nominating from day to day till the elections were over?"

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I do not understand what the hon. Member means by 'day to day'."

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MR. P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—"The thing is, they have not nominated all the members on one day; they have nominated on one day some five candidates, another five on another day and so on."

KUMARARAJA M. A. MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"On a point of order, Sir. Is that a question, Sir? It is more a statement than a question."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member putting a supplementary question must stick to the original purpose of a question, namely, the obtaining of information. He cannot give information to the House. Supplementary questions are intended to further elucidate the answers given to the primary question, but they are never intended to supply information to the House. Therefore, that question may be put in the proper form."

MR. P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—"Sir, when the Minister says that he has nominated ten members, should I not . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question may be put in the proper form."

MR. P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—"I am submitting to the Speaker . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have given a ruling. The hon. Member may put it in the form of a question. Then there will be no difficulty."

MR. P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—"Is it not a fact that the nominations were not made on one particular day, but on so many occasions to suit the party candidate who was to be set up as President of the board?"

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"In this particular case, my information is they were all made on the same day."

MR. P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—"Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to look into the papers and see whether his answer is correct?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Order, order. Members putting questions cannot impute incorrectness to Ministers. They must put definite questions of fact and seek information on any matter of public concern."

MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask, Sir, whether the Government who are responsible for the large number of nominations have given any special reasons as regards deviating from the general statutory provisions?"

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"There is no statutory provision for these bifurcated boards. I have already stated more

than once that in the case of bifurcated boards, the number need not be limited to the maximum. So, the question does not arise."

MR. P. M. ADIKESAVALU NAYAKAR:—"May I know from the Hon. Minister whether there are any reserved seats for ladies in that board?"

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"No, there are two Muhammadans and two Adi-Dravidas."

MR. E. KANNAN:—"May I know, Sir, whether Kurumbas are treated as Adi-Dravidas?"

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"That is coming in a subsequent question."

MR. K. VENKATA RAO:—"May I ask, Sir, whether the Advocate-General was consulted as regards the interpretation put by the Hon. Minister that for bifurcated district boards one-fourth of the total number shall be nominated afresh?"

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I have no information. I do not think the Advocate-General was consulted, but I think legal opinion was taken."

MR. K. VENKATA RAO:—"Will the Hon. Minister please examine the question and see whether the Advocate-General has given an adverse opinion as regards the matter?"

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I do not think the Advocate-General's opinion can be taken up on the floor of this House. Legal opinion is generally considered to be confidential."

MR. B. VENKATACHALAM PILLAI:—"May I know, Sir, whether these nominations were questioned in a Court of law, and with what result?"

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I do not know, Sir."

MR. P. T. VENKATACHARIAR:—"So far as Mr. Muniswami Rao is concerned, is the Hon. Minister aware that he is a Kurumba and not an Adi-Dravida?"

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"That is coming in another question."

MR. P. T. VENKATACHARIAR:—"So far as Rev. Duncan is concerned, is the Hon. Minister aware that he is not a resident of the locality?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Hon. Members are expected to stick to the main purpose of a question, namely, seeking information; and they are not expected to supply answers to the House."

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MR. K. BHASHYAM AYYANGAR:—" These questions are asked in order to elicit opinion with a view to further action as well? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" So far as the Member putting questions is concerned, I have given my ruling and that is to this effect, that an hon. Member can put a question to seek information and not to supply information to the House."

MR. P. T. VENKATACHARIAR:—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that so far as Muniswami Rao is concerned, his nomination was *ultra vires* of the powers of any Ministry? "

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I am coming to the question of Muniswami Rao in another question."

MR. P. T. VENKATACHARIAR:—" Has the Government thought it fit to set aside his nomination at once? "

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Again I submit that it will come under the subsequent questions."

Publication by a Gazette Extraordinary of the names of members nominated to the Dharmapuri District Board.

* 155 *Q.*—MR. V. R. PERUMAL CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the nomination to the Dharmapuri District Board was announced on a public holiday by the issue of an extraordinary gazette; and

(*b*) what the extraordinary circumstances were that led to such notification in an extraordinary gazette?

THE HON MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—" (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*b*) The nominations were published in an extraordinary issue of the *Fort St. George Gazette* on 3rd January 1937 so as to enable the nominated members to take part at the election of the President of the Dharmapuri District Board which had been fixed for 5th January 1937."

MR. P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—" May I ask, Sir, what was the necessity for publishing the nominations in an extraordinary issue of the gazette? "

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—" The answer is quite clear in (*b*) wherein it is stated, ' to enable the nominated members to take part at the election of the President of the Dharmapuri District Board which had been fixed for 5th January 1937 '."

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Inclusion of the 'Kurumba community' under the 'Adi-Dravida' community.

* 156 *Q.*—MR. V. R. PERUMAL CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state whether 'Kurumba' community is classed in the 'Adi-Dravida' community?

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The 'Kurumba' community has not been prescribed under section 3 (1) of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, and section 3 (1) of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, as a community within the meaning of the term 'Adi-Dravida'."

MR. E. KANNAN:—"If Kurumbas do not come under 'Depressed Classes,' how can any member of that community be nominated to a seat reserved for Scheduled Castes?"

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"No member belonging to the Kurumba community has been nominated."

MR. E. KANNAN:—"May I ask, Sir, whether the previous Government have nominated several members other than the Depressed Classes to the seats, they said, are reserved for these classes?"

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I am not aware."

MR. P. T. VENKATACHARIAR:—"Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state that, as a Kurumba does not come under 'Adi-Dravida,' the nomination of Muniswami Rao as an Adi-Dravida is against law?"

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Mr. Muniswami Rao does not belong to the Kurumba community, but he belongs to the 'Kuruvan' community which is included in the list of Scheduled Castes."

MR. M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I ask the Hon. Minister whether there is any community by that name in the Salem district?"

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I have no information, Sir."

MR. M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I ask the Hon. Minister whether in several district boards, seats reserved for Scheduled Classes have been filled up by persons not belonging to those communities by the previous Government?"

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I have no information."

MR. P. T. VENKATACHARIAR:—"Is the Hon. Minister not aware that Muniswami Rao is a caste Hindu and not an Adi-Dravida and does not belong to the Scheduled Castes?"

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"My information is that Muniswami Rao belongs to the Kuruvan community and that particular community is included in the Scheduled Castes."

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Appointment of the sanctioned number of overseers in the Dharmapuri District Board.

* 157 *Q.*—MR. M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the President, District Board, Dharmapuri, has given effect to the G.O. No. 1025, L.S.G., dated 13th March 1937, fixing the strength of engineering subordinates (overseers); and

(*b*) when the Government Order was despatched to the President, District Board, Dharmapuri?

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"(*a*) The Government are not aware that the President, District Board, Dharmapuri, has not given effect to the orders in G.O. No. 1025, L.S.G., dated the 13th March 1937.

"(*b*) On 23rd March 1937."

Alleged misuse of the funds of the Dharmapuri District Board by its President for contesting an election suit against him and the vice-President.

* 158 *Q.*—MR. M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the President of the Dharmapuri District Board used and uses the funds of the district board for the purpose of contesting an election suit against the President and Vice-President of the Board without the sanction of the District Board, Dharmapuri, till now;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the President sought the sanction of the Government for such expenses to contest his election suit;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the Government refused such sanction for expenditure from the funds of the District Board;

(*d*) whether the copy of the order refusing to grant such sanction will be placed on the table;

(*e*) what steps have been taken against the President for using the funds of the Board without the sanction of the Board and the Government; and

(*f*) what the total amount expended is by the President to contest the election suit and on what dates?

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"(*a*) The Government have no information.

"(*b*) & (*c*) The answer is in the affirmative.

"(*d*) A copy [a] of G.O. No. 1059, L.S.G., dated 16th March 1937, is placed on the table.

"(*e*) & (*f*) In view of the answer to clause (*a*), the question raised in these clauses does not arise."

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[a] Printed as Appendix IV on page 411 infra.

MR. M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Hon. Minister is aware that the president has been using the funds of the bifurcated board later on? "

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—" In answer to clause (*a*) of the question I have stated that the Government have no information."

MR. K. P. YEGNESWARA SARMA:—" Will the Government call for the information, Sir? "

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Yes."

MR. M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" After calling for the information, will the Hon. Minister investigate into the matter? "

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—" If found necessary."

Reduction of water-rate in the Godavari deltas.

* 159 *Q.*—MR. K. VENKATA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government issued a communiqué in October 1936 reducing water-rate for the fasli in the Godavari deltas;

(*b*) whether the concession was made to apply to the second crop; and

(*c*) if not, why not?

THE HON. MR. T. PRAKASAM:—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) The concession was made to apply to the water-rate on second crop.

" (*c*) Does not arise."

Proposals for opening a paper factory at Papanasam in the Tinnevelly district.

* 145 *Q.*—MR. K. P. YEGNESWARA SARMA: Will the Hon the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether numerous representations have been made to the Government to investigate the question of the opening of a paper factory at Papanasam in the Tinnevelly district; and

(*b*) whether any and what steps the Government propose to take for that purpose?

THE HON. MR. V. V. GIRI:—" (*a*) Some representations have been received by Government.

" (*b*) The establishment of a paper factory at Papanasam depends for its success on a hydro-electric scheme in conjunction with the Tamparaparni river. Private enterprise having failed so far to come forward for the development of water power from the river,

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the Government are considering the possibilities of a Government hydro-electric scheme. If and when a paper factory is established, Government will consider with sympathy any application on its behalf for State aid."

MR. P. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—" May I know whether this load is contemplated in the proposed hydro-electric scheme for Papanasam? " 10-30 a.m.

THE HON. MR. V. V. GIRI:—" I shall be glad to have notice, Sir."

MR. P. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government will put through the Papanasam scheme next year? "

THE HON. MR. V. V. GIRI:—" It will be considered."

MR. P. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—" Are the Government aware that some of the oil engines, etc., used by the various mills in the Tinnevelly district are about to be scrapped and if the scheme is to be put through, it has to be done as early as possible? "

THE HON. MR. V. V. GIRI:—" I am afraid that this question ought to be addressed to the Hon. Minister for Public Works."

MR. G. KRISHNAMURTI:—" May I know whether it is a fact that the Government are investigating into the possibilities for the manufacture of paper out of sugarcane pith and if so, will the result of such investigation be made available to the hon. Members of this House? "

THE HON. MR. V. V. GIRI:—" It will be possible to know the result only after the investigation has been made."

MR. G. KRISHNAMURTI:—" Are the Government aware of the fact that the prices of paper generally and imported newsprint in particular have risen very high within the last six months and whether the Government will take this opportunity to enquire into the possibilities of starting early a paper factory for the manufacture and production of indigenous newsprint paper? "

THE HON. MR. V. V. GIRI:—" The matter will be considered."

MR. G. KRISHNAMURTI:—" Pending enquiry and investigation into the possibility of the manufacture of newsprint in this province, may I ask whether the Government will be pleased to enter into correspondence with the Mysore and Travancore Governments and also with the existing paper manufacturers in this and other parts of British India to secure the manufacture of newsprint at considerably cheaper rates? "

THE HON. MR. V. V. GIRI:—" The suggestion of the hon. Member will be considered."

MR. G. KRISHNAMURTI:—" Are the Government aware of the fact that the Rajahmundry Paper Mills has been closed down for some time and will they be pleased to state whether the Government will

investigate the possibility of taking over the mill and running it themselves in view of its geographical position and easy and cheap access to raw-materials such as bamboo pulp and forest grass, etc? ''

THE HON. MR. V. V. GIRI:—'' This is too long to be answered as a supplementary question.''

MR. SPEAKER:—'' Will the hon. Member put it concisely? ''

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—'' It cannot be put more concisely.''

MR. SPEAKER:—'' I am sure he can so put it as to make it more brief and direct.''

MR. G. KRISHNAMURTI:—'' Is the hon. Minister aware that the Paper Mills at Rajahmundry have been closed for some time past? ''

THE HON. MR. V. V. GIRI:—'' Yes, Sir.''

MR. G. KRISHNAMURTI:—'' Have the Government considered the feasibility of taking it up and running it themselves? ''

THE HON. MR. V. V. GIRI:—'' I cannot say anything at present until the matter has been investigated.''

MR. K. P. YAGNESWARA SARMA:—'' May I know whether the Government have investigated the availability of raw-materials in the Papanasam Hills? ''

THE HON. MR. V. V. GIRI:—'' The suggestion will be considered.''

MR. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—'' May I know whether the Government would consider the question of taking over the Rajahmundry Paper Mills as a business proposition? ''

THE HON. MR. V. V. GIRI:—'' I have already stated that the matter will be considered.''

MR. P. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—'' Are the Government satisfied that proper raw-materials are available in Papanasam for the starting of a paper factory? ''

THE HON. MR. V. V. GIRI:—'' It is too early to say anything about it until a complete investigation is made.''

Extension of electric power-supply into the interior parts of the Chittoor district.

* 146 *Q.*—MR. R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether power is being supplied now in the Chittoor district for any purposes; if so, from when and for what purposes;

(*b*) what the arrangements the Government are making for extending the lines into the interior of the Chittoor district; whether the Government intend to construct any such lines throughout the district and, if so, what they are and when the work is to be taken up;

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(*c*) whether it is the intention of the Government to continue the private agency in Chittoor town and, if so, how long, or whether they intend establishing their own agency and, if so, when;

(*d*) what the rate is at which power is being supplied to the Chittoor Electric Supply Corporation and what the rate charged by the Corporation for supply to the consumer is;

(*e*) whether it is a fact that the Government expect a return of 12½ per cent on the outlay for extending a line and that power will not be supplied except under a special agreement providing for such a rate; and

(*f*) whether the Government have prepared any comprehensive leaflet dealing with the scheme explaining its advantages and giving all the necessary details and information for propaganda and, if so, whether they will be pleased to place it on the table and if not, whether the Government intend doing it and when?

MR. K. R. KARANT (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Mr. Yakub Hasan:—"(*a*) Power is being supplied in the Chittoor district by the licensees at Chittoor and Tirupati from March 1935 and January 1932 respectively for domestic, agricultural and industrial purposes.

"(*b*) A proposal for extension of the transmission line from Chittoor to Tirupati via Pakala is under investigation. Feasibility of the extension of supply to Madanapalle, Palamner and other places has been investigating and the report is under the scrutiny of the Chief Engineer for Electricity.

"(*c*) A licence was granted to Messrs. The Chittoor Electric Supply Corporation, Limited, in 1932 and they will continue to supply electric energy within their licensed area for a period of 20 years as provided for in their licence. The Government have no intention of establishing their own agency to serve in that licensed area.

"(*d*) Power is supplied to the licensees in accordance with clause I of the standard high tension tariff which is set out in clause 14 of the form of agreement for supply of power in bulk to distributing licensees in the Mettur Hydro-electric area. The form of agreement was placed on the Table of the House with reference to the answer to clause (*c*) of Legislative Assembly Starred Question No. 76. The rates to be charged by the licensees for supply to their consumers are contained in Part II of their booklet of conditions and rates of supply, copies of which can be had from the licensees.

"(*e*) In the case of Government distribution schemes, extensions of existing lines and feeders are undertaken only when the additional investment does not exceed eight times the estimated average annual *gross* revenue over the first eight years of operation, i.e., a minimum revenue of 12½ per cent on the capital cost of the extention should be earned. In calculating the gross revenue, no deduction is made for interest, operation and maintenance expenses and depreciation.

Similarly, in order to develop load in hydro-electric licensed areas the Government adopt the procedure of constructing high tension lines and supplying energy in bulk to the licensees concerned, subject to the main condition that they guarantee a minimum revenue of 12½ per cent on the capital cost of extension.

" (*f*) The Electricity department does commercial work for popularizing the use of electricity and for educating the public in the matter. The department has issued pamphlets which give all particulars regarding the uses to which electricity can be put. A separate pamphlet entitled ' Electricity in Agriculture ' has also been issued which gives particulars about the use of electricity on farms, quantity of water required for different crops, type of pump sets, cost of pumping with electricity and how to get supply to the farms. Copies of the pamphlets can be obtained from the Chief Engineer for Electricity."

MR. R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU :—" Sir, regarding answer to clause (*a*), I think that the question has not been properly understood, because the question has been separated. What I wanted to know is . . . "

MR. SPEAKER :—" Will the hon. Member please put the question without arguments? "

MR. R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU :—" May I know, Sir, for what purposes power is being supplied from Mettur? "

MR. K. R. KARANT :—" Power is being supplied for all purposes contemplated in the agreement."

MR. R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU :—" What I want to know is whether power is being actually supplied to industrial and agricultural purposes in Chittoor district? "

MR. K. R. KARANT :—" Yes, Sir. The agreement contains all such clauses."

MR. R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU :—" The agreement no doubt contains such clauses. But is power really being utilized for such purposes in Chittoor district? "

MR. K. R. KARANT :—" I require notice of that question, Sir."

MR. R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU :—" Arising out of answer to clause (*b*), may I know if the Government intend to survey the eastern portion of this district also? "

MR. K. R. KARANT :—" That will be considered after the report of the Chief Engineer for Electricity is received."

MR. R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU :—" With reference to answer to clause (*c*) are we to understand that the present arrangement is to continue for another 20 years? "

MR. K. R. KARANT :—" Yes, Sir, the licence has to continue and there is no option."

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MR. R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU:—"Are the Government aware that the rates charged by the present agency are abnormally high?"

MR. K. R. KARANT:—"The rates were initially higher; but subsequently they have been slightly reduced. The question of still further reduction will be considered if objections in that behalf are received."

MR. R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU:—"May I know whether the expected return of 12½ per cent will conduce to the extension of electricity in Chittoor district?"

MR. K. R. KARANT:—"That has been the policy in the past. But if any case is made out for a change, it will be considered."

MR. R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU:—"We know it is the policy. But I want to know whether the Government will consider the desirability of a lowering of the expected return?"

MR. K. R. KARANT:—"They will do it."

MR. B. T. SESHADRI ACHARIYAR:—"When the Government have raised loans at the rate of 3 per cent, will not the Government reduce their expected return on the outlay from 12½ to 3 per cent?"

MR. K. R. KARANT:—"That may not be possible. But the question will be considered."

MR. B. T. SESHADRI ACHARIYAR:—"May I know whether it will be possible for the Government to supply electric power for agricultural purposes at cost price in villages through which the transmission lines from Mettur Hydro-Electric Project actually pass?"

MR. K. R. KARANT:—"The present rate of one-anna per unit for agricultural purposes is sufficiently low; and as the load develops sufficiently, Government will consider the position. But I may state for the information of the hon. Member that the rates have been reduced from time to time in the past five years."

MR. B. T. SESHADRI ACHARIYAR:—"Will not the Government consider the possibility of using wooden beams, instead of the iron pillars they are now using, as in many parts of Mysore State?"

MR. K. R. KARANT:—"An hon. Member of Government has answered that point recently on the token cut that the matter will be considered."

Protest against the withdrawal by the Revenue Divisional Officer, Chandragiri, of the kist remission concession.

* 150 *Q.*—MR. K. VARADACHARIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the remission granted in March 1937 to the ryots of the ayacut under the Peddacheruvu and Chinnacheruvu in

Thukkivakkam village, Chandragiri taluk, by the Jamabandi officer was subsequently cancelled by the Revenue Divisional Officer of Chandragiri;

(*b*) if so, for what reasons;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the ryots of the said Thukkivakkam village petitioned the Revenue Divisional Officer, Chandragiri, praying for the remission being given effect to;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that the same was dismissed on 21st April 1937;

(*e*) whether it is a fact that the ryots petitioned thereafter to the Collector of Chittoor for the cancellation of the order of the Revenue Divisional Officer of Chandragiri;

(*f*) if so, with what result; and

(*g*) what the reasons recorded by these officers are for refusing to grant the remission and whether the Government will be pleased to lay the same on the table?

MR. T. VISWANATHAM (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Mr. T. Prakasam:—"(*a*) *to* (*g*) The Government have no information."

MR. K. VARADACHARIAR:—"Will the Government be pleased to call for information?"

MR. T. VISWANATHAM:—"With great pleasure, Sir."

Appeal against the order of the Revenue Divisional Officer, Chandragiri, withdrawing the kist remission concession.

* 151 *Q.*—MR. K. VARADACHARIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the ryots of the ayacut under the Peddacheruvu and Chinnacheruvu in Chandragiri taluk have petitioned the Board of Revenue praying for granting the remission;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the ryots were never granted an opportunity to make their own representations before the remission was cancelled by the Revenue Divisional Officer of Chandragiri; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that on account of the withdrawal of the said remission, the ryots of the said village have been forced to incur a loss of nearly Rs. 780 during the fasli 1346?

MR. T. VISWANATHAM (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Mr. T. Prakasam:—"(*a*) *to* (*c*) I am sorry, Sir the Government have no information; but they will call for it?"

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[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

(9) DEMAND IX—LEGISLATIVE BODIES.

II.—DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1937-38—*cont.*

* THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I beg to move that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,86,000 under Demand IX—Legislative Bodies. 10-45 a.m.

" I do not think I need say anything further except this that a number of cut motions have been given notice of to discuss matters under this head which deal with the procedure in the House with reference to interpellations, time of meeting and such other matters. I wish to bring to the notice of the hon. Members, Sir, that the rules that we are now working under strictly are the old rules now in force. The modified rules are now being considered by you, Sir, in connexion with the committee which has been appointed under statute by you and after you make the recommendations, Sir, the Government will bring proposals with regard to these and they will be before the House and the proper time to consider amendments will be then, and enough time and opportunity would be available to all sections of the House to discuss all these matters. I wish that the time that we have, be not taken for consideration of such matters. If there are any other matters which the cut motions are intended to deal with, we intend to answer after we hear the debate. I therefore move that the Government be granted the sum mentioned by me for this demand."

KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the allotment of Rs. 8,86,000 for Legislative Bodies be reduced by Rs. 100 (to discuss policy).

" I may say to begin with that I will not take more than the minimum time allotted by you. (Mr. Speaker: ' Five minutes is the maximum time.') I think the mover has ten minutes and the others five minutes. However, I have given notice of this cut motion in order to bring to the notice of the Government certain difficulties and also to bring to their notice some matters which require their urgent attention. First of all I may mention, Sir,—it may appear to be a trivial matter but it is a thing which goes to the very root of the usefulness of these legislative bodies—I mean, Sir, the hours of attendance. Now we have to come to this House at 10 and be here till 2 o'clock. This, I submit, Sir, is a very inconvenient time and you will, Sir, see that even some of the Ministers are not able to come so early as that. Many of us have been coming late. At any rate those of us who have not got their own houses and are living in hotels are not able to get our food so early as that. In fact one day I had to come without food. The Indian custom is to have the midday meal between 10-30 and 12 and the next meal which is called the night meal in the night. But even those who

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are accustomed to take coffee in the morning find it difficult to remain till 2 without taking their breakfast. I submit, therefore, that the time may be suitably changed. In this connexion, I may say, Sir, that we have no objection, of course, if the former time is restored, i.e., from 11 o'clock to 5 o'clock with an interval of an hour. Otherwise it may be fixed between 2 and 6. If there is a meeting of the Upper House I do not think they require much time and that may be held between 11 and 1. So there is an interval of one hour between 1 and 2. So this House may sit between 2 and 6. This is my suggestion, Sir, with regard to the sitting of the House."

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" It looks as if my appeal has not been either heard by the hon. Member or he does not agree with my suggestion. I do not know if he has adverted to this matter on any other ground. I suggest that there is going to be an opportunity for the whole House to discuss the question of time, procedure and all that when we pass the rules. These matters might then be taken up."

KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—" The next thing that I want to refer to is that I do not find any provision for the Parliament House. You know, Sir, and the Government is well aware that the present building is not at all suitable for a Parliament House. You are obliged, Sir, instead of spending your valuable time in giving rulings, to ask the Members every now and then to go to the microphone. So much time has been wasted on its improvements and yet we are not able to hear well on account of the bad acoustic properties of the House. I do not know why no provision has been made for a Parliament House. It may be perhaps for want of funds. But this is a matter which is so important that it is worth while raising a loan for this purpose. The rent paid for this building now can very well be utilized for giving interest for the loan. Such a large amount has been unnecessarily wasted in the improvements and other things for this building. We do not want a very costly or luxurious building. A simple and plain building may not cost more than a lakh of rupees. It will be quite sufficient. I hear a site has been selected on the Island Ground close to the Bodyguard lines adjoining the tramway and bus road. If that is a fact I do not think the site is a suitable one at all; because there will be too much disturbance, owing to the noise and the horn of the buses and the tramway and so it will be very difficult to carry on our work there. Moreover if a site cannot be got within the Fort it may be as near the Secretariat as possible. Even if it is the island, the eastern side of the island close to the bridge between the building for the military mess house and the bridge will be more suitable. Instead of taking to the other side of the island it may be taken this side which is nearer the Secretariat so that we may be enabled to use the excellent Secretariat Library and to get any information necessary from the Secretariat and we will be also able to attend and watch the meetings of the Council if it is near the Secretariat where the Council meeting is held.

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" Then about the salaries of Members I have said enough, Sir, last time and I do not think there is very much to say now. However it was not clear to me when last time the Premier said while speaking about the Salaries Bill that those of us who do not want to draw the salaries, may draw the old rate of allowances. I do not know whether I am correct in interpreting it like that. It was not also clear whether Members who do not want to draw salaries, have to make their statements at the very beginning or whether they can do so whenever they like whether they prefer salary or the old rate of allowance. I had something to say about interpellations; but as Government is going to consider the matter fully I am not going to say anything now."

* MR. SPEAKER :—" I will alternately call Members from either side of the House. Hon. Members have already been informed that new Members would be given a chance. A new Member who has not previously spoken is generally under Parliamentary practice called upon to speak by courtesy in preference to other members standing at the time. So if new Members stand up I will call them alternately from this side as well as that side so that the discussion may have life."

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, in deference to the appeal made I will not refer to the hours of the Assembly. In order to draw the attention of the Government in regard to the information that is generally obtained in regard to the location of the new Assembly Chamber I wish to say that I agree with my hon. Friend, Mr. Schamnad, that if the new Chamber is to be constructed in the portion of the island, triangular piece which is very adjacent to the Body Guard Lines, it will cause a good deal of disturbance and I am afraid we will not be able to carry on the work of the Assembly without disturbance from outside. As it has been pointed out, buses are running on both the sides and the place is too small to locate all the buildings, the chamber, the library and many other buildings that will be required for the Assembly as well as the Legislative Council. Therefore, Sir, I draw the attention of the Premier to these things with regard to the building of the chamber.

MR. SPEAKER :—" I would like to put the question to the vote of the House, unless Members are very anxious to speak. I have already informed the House that Members should rise in their places if they want to speak, and if so, they must rise immediately after a speech is finished." 11 a.m.

* MR. T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR :—" May I be permitted to state, Sir, that I have already risen in my seat? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" At present, the hon. Member will be permitted. Hereafter, unless Members rise in their seats, the Chair will look this side and that side, and if no hon. Member stands up, the question will straightaway be put to the House."

* MR. T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR :—" I thank you, Sir, for the indulgence given to me in spite of the fact that I did not stand up at the proper time. I wish to take this opportunity to raise two or three

questions which will not be dealt with in the rules that are to be brought forward for discussion on the floor of this House later on, as the Hon. the Leader of the House mentioned just now. My points are intimately connected with the rights and privileges of the Members of this House, and I cannot see a better occasion to deal with them than on this demand. In the first place, I wish to enquire of the Leader of the House whether it is the intention of the Government to introduce legislation in this House under section 71 (2) of the Government of India Act, regarding the privileges of this House. I submit that it is within the power of this House to adopt all the privileges enjoyed by the House of Commons in England, by an enactment. It is not necessary for me to read section 71 (2) of the Government of India Act, here, because every Member of the House, I believe, has a copy in his possession. It is well-known that in similar circumstances, according to the Acts of Parliament in regard to other Dominions, the Dominions have made enactments assigning to themselves powers and privileges similar to those enjoyed by the House of Commons. In this connexion, I can suggest to the Government a reference to Prof. Keith's 'Responsible Government,' Part III, Chapter 5, which gives a clear indication of what an infant democracy has to do in these matters.

"I next proceed to point out the importance of having on the Statute Book a comprehensive enactment with regard to the privileges of this House. The immediate necessity to raise this question here was the unhappy incident which happened some time back on the floor of this House. It has brought firmly to my mind and to the minds of those who are of my way of thinking, that there should be without the least possible delay, on the Statute Book, an Act embodying the privileges of the Members of this House. It also places on you an embarrassing responsibility, Sir, for the reason that while the privileges of the House are not definite, it is not possible for you, Sir, to give a ruling on an issue which may, by reference to the custom obtaining in other and similar Parliamentary institutions, be considered as an infringement of the privileges of the House. Your position now, Sir, as the custodian of the interests of the House, nevertheless, does not give you a position which is superior to the custom which can be embodied in an Act defining the privileges of the House. I say, Sir, that in order to prevent any inadvertent curtailment of the power of the House on your part, it is necessary that this Bill should be brought forward without the least possible delay. The House in a case of such possible errors, so common to human beings, has no alternative except to resort to an extreme measure which nobody will think of, where the issue that has risen was a matter of simply a mistake. I will state a hypothetical case, with regard to the privileges of the House which might come up for discussion some time later on. The House, I contend, is entitled to discuss all subjects which are not forbidden to us by the Government of India Act of 1935. The exceptions are clearly mentioned there. It might be that the Government might take cover under one or two exceptions mentioned there. But it is definitely a matter of

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opinion. I will say this, for instance; if the House wants to discuss the advice tendered by the Ministry that is responsible to this Legislature to the Head of the Executive, I think it is entitled to do so. It may be that the Executive is not willing to vouchsafe an answer; that is also in their power. But the right of the House to raise the question on the floor of the House and to discuss it in the interests of the public is there. So I earnestly recommend to the Government that they should place on the Statute Book as early as possible a comprehensive enactment on the privileges of the House.

"The second point that I am taking the opportunity to mention here is also in relation to what has taken place in the past. But the excuse that I offer for bringing it again is that this demand covers the entire range of legislative activity. The Hon. the Leader of the House in the course of a discussion which I happened to initiate on Saturday last made a point which luckily you did not take into account, but which has an intimate bearing on the proper scope and work of the legislature. I am speaking from memory, and I will refer to what the Hon. the Leader of the House said that the House cannot discuss a question . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member cannot bring up for discussion what has passed on previous Demands."

MR. T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—"No, Sir, I am not discussing what has passed on the previous Demands."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is requested not to refer to the speeches on previous Demands made on the floor of this House, in the course of this discussion."

MR. T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—"May I be permitted to state that I am speaking on the powers of the legislature, and I shall not refer to the previous demands at all. I am merely referring to an opinion which is held by the Members of this House that the Government view is that the House cannot discuss a question which cannot be submitted to the vote of the House. You will see that the Government of India Act provides innumerable instances in regard to which a discussion can be initiated but a vote cannot be taken on the same. If that elementary right is denied to us, Sir, what shall we do when we want information?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"That right has not been denied by the Chair. The hon. Member is requested to proceed to his next point."

MR. T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—"The next point, Sir, is also a matter with which the House is seriously concerned. There must be some definite idea in the minds of the Members of the House as to what the powers of the House are in relation to the Executive. I think it is only fair that I should request the Government that they should enlighten the Members of this House about their views on this matter, whether the House can discuss acts of the Government in their day to

day administration. It may be, Sir, that the House has no control over the executive acts. It may be for particular reasons that the Government would not give the information required. But nevertheless, the power of the House in regard to checking the Executive in their acts in the course of their administration is there, so that the House claims the right to discuss the acts of Government. I would therefore like to have a statement from the Government on this matter. I thank you, Sir, very much for giving me this opportunity for raising a matter which to my mind is a rather serious infringement of the privileges of the House."

* MR. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I feel constrained to observe, that my hon. Friend, Mr. Krishnamachariar, has made out a very strong case to urge upon the Government to bring in a Bill to define the privileges of this House. Sir, after what has been going on during the deliberations during the last day we met here and this day, I feel honestly that some cut and dry limits should be prescribed within which the Members can talk on the floor of this House. I do realize, Sir, in order that the dignity of this House and the dignity of the Chair may be maintained that every Member of this House must bow to the ruling of the Chair. It is only then that the dignity of the Chair can be maintained. Every Member of the House is alive to the fact that it is that attitude on the part of the Members that will conduce to it. At the same time, Sir, the privileges of this House might not by any means, by even any oversight, be not curtailed by an infringement. I do not mean to say that I am attacking your finding or ruling given the other day. However, I really feel that sometimes we are in a helpless condition. It may be we are wrong, and the Chair is always right. But what I urge on the Government is that in order that the dignity of the Chair may not be affected and at the same time the privileges of this House also may be set on a definite understanding and within clear and definite limits, legislative action, such as my hon. Friend, Mr. Krishnamachariar, referred to, is necessary. Under section 79 of the Government of India Act, the salaries of the Governor and under section 86 of the Act, the conduct of the High Court Judges, according to my reading of the Act, Sir, are the only two things . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member is not entitled to comment on the salaries of the Governor and the powers that have been given to him."

MR. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—" I was going to say that, Sir, beyond that, the other items mentioned in section 79, I am sure cannot be voted upon but can be discussed. For instance, the salaries of the Ministers cannot be voted upon; I do agree. But section 79 does not prevent the House from discussing any matter connected with the salaries of Ministers."

11-15 a.m. MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member will please note that under section 79 (1), paragraph (*a*) of sub-section (3) of the preceding section relating to the salary and allowances of the Governor is taken away

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from discussion, while the others are not taken away and on them discussion is permitted. So he should not labour the point any further; but he may go on to the next aspect of the question."

MR. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—" So also under section 86, 'No discussion shall take place in a provincial legislature with respect to the conduct of any Judge of the Federal Court or of a High Court . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member may proceed to the next point."

MR. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—" Therefore, Sir, the rules and interpretation of the Statute are that where certain acts are specifically prohibited, those acts only are prohibited and none others. I therefore submit, with due deference, Sir, that there might arise in the minds of Members . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" As and when questions arise, they will be decided by the Chair, and no discussion need be made upon questions that might in the opinion of the hon. Member arise in future. Such arguments need not take up the time of the House. The hon. Member is requested to proceed to the next point."

MR. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—" I am making out a case for legislation; I am not discussing whether this topic is within the province of this House or not. I am just laying a foundation for my proposition, that it is absolutely necessary that legislation must be made in order that each one of us, including you, Sir, may proceed on definite lines, within the limit prescribed by the Statute. That is my purpose. As I submitted, Sir, the question of salaries of Ministers may not be voted upon, but it can be discussed.

" May I submit, again, Sir, whether or not . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Details as to the privileges of the House need not and ought not to be discussed on this motion. The policy of the Government with regard to such a Bill may be dwelt upon, but the details of a Bill that may come up in the future should not be taken up on this motion."

MR. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—" I bow to your ruling, Sir, but what I submit is, in what aspects this question of legislation could be viewed by Government and this House and how necessary it is from certain aspects legislation must be brought forward before this House; for instance if, instead of ten Ministers only one or two have been appointed, is it or is it not the privilege of this House or the duty of this House to raise the question that so many subjects cannot be managed by one or two Ministers; taking the other case, supposing 20 persons are appointed as Ministers; although we may not vote on their salaries we are privileged to discuss the advisability of appointing 20 Ministers or two Ministers only; or taking another instance, supposing there are two portfolios—I am not transgressing any limits . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member is certainly transgressing his limits in elaborating a point which is so clear; he is paraphrasing the same arguments."

MR. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG :—" It is sometimes difficult, Sir, for the Industries portfolio and the Labour portfolio to go together; but according to me and according to some members here, the two portfolios must be combined in order that there may be no conflict. Now, the question is, is this House not privileged to praise the Government for putting these two portfolios in the hands of one Minister? If it is intended to praise the Government . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The House is quite at liberty to praise the Government or criticize it. So the hon. Member is requested not to take up the time of the House on this point but to proceed to substantial arguments."

MR. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG.—" I think, Sir, I have made out a very strong case (Laughter) for the legislation which has been moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Krishnamachariar."

MR. SPEAKER :—" May I point out that the hon. Member, Mr. Krishnamachariar, has not moved it; he has only suggested to Government to consider the bringing in of a privileges Bill in the near future; there is no such motion before the House."

MR. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG :—" I am supporting his view that urgent legislation in this respect is necessary. I am glad, Sir, that it has been realized, according to me that there is an urgent necessity for it. Beyond this, I do not want to speak anything. This topic was uppermost in my mind, and spontaneous too and I thank you, Sir, for having given me this indulgence to speak on it at some length."

* THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" Sir, as to the points referred to in the debate, so far as the procedure goes, it has been agreed to be dropped for the present from this debate. The hon. Member from South Kanara referred to the Assembly buildings. This building, Sir, is exceedingly beautiful, and we must thank the department that made it as comfortable as possible within the limitations that they had to work under. Even if the new building work be started now on the lines expected, I do not think that the lifetime of this House is long enough to get to the completed building. However, all that I submit on behalf of the Government is that every attention will be paid to the suggestions made and I need not take up the time of the House over any points that arose in my mind in the course of the debate, because the whole thing will have to be considered by experts and in a very much fuller measure than can be done on the floor of this House. I do hope that we shall not put too heavy a burden on the tax payer in order to get the best House possible for our deliberations. That is all I wish to say in this connexion. About the site, Sir, I may say that the Government of India want exorbitant prices for some of the grounds belonging to them, but that is really taking up a matter which must be considered later.

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" As regards the main question that was raised in the debate as to the privileges of the House, I am sorry that the debate took a turn which looked as if we are sitting in revision over a ruling of the Chair given the other day, but I believe that the idea is that something should be done to make legislation under the provisions of section 71 of the Government of India Act. If hon. Members who referred to this point will kindly examine that section, they will see that nothing that could be done by a provincial Act passed under that section would really cover the ground which was in their mind and which was definitely referred to in the course of the debate. A Bill in terms to regulate the rulings of the Chair with respect to what matters are relevant or permissible and what are not, is more than I can possibly imagine. At the same time, the privileges of the House might no doubt under section 71 be covered by a Bill. It is not the privileges of the House really but privileges of the members of the House. The privileges of the members of the House are well known; they are both inside the House and outside it, and in a subordinate legislature like the one our legislature is, the question is really a moot point, whether it is desirable to put down our privileges in black and white in terms of the Government of India Act, or whether it may not be preferable to allow the privileges of the members of the House to grow, as they have grown in certain other parliaments. I am not sure at all in my own mind whether it will not be wiser to leave the privileges of the members of the House to grow. It is possible that grown up men may wear tight clothing and not suffer thereby but babies ought not to be allowed to wear tight clothing; and we are in this position, and an Act of the legislature will be like tight clothing. Once we begin to put down our privileges in black and white they will be reduced to a minimum and not defined at the maximum, whereas if we allow privileges to grow they may grow up to the maximum that political development can permit. Therefore, I think at the moment it is not desirable to launch as one of the earliest steps of the legislature on reducing to writing the privileges which we desire the members should enjoy under the Government of India Act. At the same time, I submit, Sir, that it does not mean that we shall not or cannot have any Act of the legislature under section 71. If most members feel that it would be desirable to enact a measure like that, to define the privileges of the members of the House, in course of time it will be duly drafted and all sections of the House will have the right and the liberty to consider the measure in full and to put it before the House. But I feel very strongly that it would not be desirable.

" Apprehensions were expressed over an observation of mine. The procedure of the House is different from the privileges of the members of the House. The procedure of the House cannot be taken away from the Speaker and taken over into an Act. Something was said about the liberty of the individual members being curtailed. Even with reference to the executive operations of the Government, the members' right of expression of opinion is not curtailed. The right of interpellation, the

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right of general discussion on the budget, and the right of public discussion are not taken away by any ruling given with reference to cut motions on the Budget. In the general discussion over the Budget, members have the right to discuss general matters of policy and administration. What I refered to is their relevancy with reference to a cut motion. When a cut motion is taken and when a point is reached under that head, certainly whether the House can give a vote is a safe and proper guide for finding out whether a point is in order or not. What I wish to say is that such a matter can never become part of a Bill that we can introduce under section 71."

11-30 a.m.

MR. T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" I did not make any reference to section 71. Probably the Hon. the Premier has somebody else in his mind."

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" I am glad that the hon. Member says he made no such reference. If the statement of the hon. Member is correct I cannot see what the point was that was referred to by him. The only thing he could possibly refer to was that, and if that was not the thing that was referred to, I have no observations to make.

" On the general question that it would be desirable to lay down the privileges of the House, I have already stated my views. With these few words I request that the House may grant the Demand that was made and that the cut motion may kindly be withdrawn because there is no substantial point under discussion."

The cut motion was by leave withdrawn.

The Demand was then put and carried and the Grant was made.

(10) DEMAND X—DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION AND MISCELLANEOUS.

* THE HON. MR. T. PRAKASAM:—" Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,24,64,200 for District Administration and Miscellaneous.

" Under this Demand there are five heads. The first relates to the cost of the District Administration and the cost is Rs. 20,29,000; the second is for the Subdivisional Establishments and costs Rs. 16,68,900; the third relates to Taluk and Village Establishments and costs Rs. 1,79,52,300; the fourth relates to Discretionary Grants by Collectors and amounts to Rs. 24,000 and the fifth is for Miscellaneous expenditure, Rs. 7,82,200. These do not include a sum of Rs. 14,65,400, charged on Revenue. I would like to say a few words in this connexion.

" The Revenue Department is the backbone of the administration and the cost which I have demanded is sufficiently big. The question that has been engaging the attention of the Government, as has been already pointed out, is, how to meet this cost. Is it by raising fresh taxation or by reducing the cost? I do not refer in this connexion to the cut in the salaries or the abolition of some appointments and so on. Taking

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the administration as a whole, it is the District Administration which costs us the most. We are spending on it nearly Rs. 3 crores. Of this amount, Sir, village officers' salaries and other expenses come to nearly one crore of rupees. Our problem is to see how we can reduce the cost. We have to see whether the cost can be reduced without a change in the system that has been adopted until now in the Revenue department. The hon. Members of the House are aware that before the present system was started, developed and built up, the system prevailing in the country was rather different. Before the present system was started, it is an acknowledged fact that the village administration in our presidency, as in other parts of the country, was autonomous. What is meant by autonomy? How did it work in those days? The rulers or the Government of those days did not look to each cultivator for the payment of his share of the assessment. They looked to all the people of the village as a whole. The villagers had their organization known as the Village Panchayat consisting of elected members. The whole administration was carried on by that panchayat which was an elected body. It had civil and criminal jurisdiction too. It had power to levy taxes; it had power to control water distribution and every other thing connected with their existence. So far as the Government were concerned, they got their money from that representative body which made itself responsible to pay. If only that foundation had been maintained and the present system had been built upon that foundation, there would not have been so much trouble as I see now. But that was not what was done. The old foundation, the old nucleus of village autonomy was practically abandoned and a system was built up without a real foundation as it were. The deterioration of village autonomy began with the establishment of civil and criminal courts and also the establishment of revenue courts and police organizations by the British Government. Ever since these courts and other organizations were started the cost of the establishment increased enormously. If only hon. Members will take the trouble to look into the past state of affairs with regard to the expenditure of Government, they will find that even in 1919 it was about 9 crores. Now it is as much as 15 crores. If we go further back we will find a different state of affairs altogether. Within our memory we have known how the Government of Madras was run by the Governor and one or two Executive Councillors. We have known how this number was increased to seven, how the departments increased gradually and how the cost also has increased. All these were built up at the cost of village autonomy. If that had been sustained and linked up with the Central Government here in Madras, the affairs would have been quite different. The village was not left to itself and the cultivators were not left to themselves. The departments were built upon them and the result is that the villagers are in law courts always with factions among themselves. They have to go to distant places to get water from the Engineering department or to get redress from the Revenue or other departments.

" They have been divorced completely from what they had in their own hands. That is how the whole of the present system has been built 11-45 a.m.

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up. Now the question is when we have come into office on behalf of the people after 150 years British rule, what is the thing that we have to do in regard to the Revenue department if we wish to reduce the cost of its administration and make people masters of their property in their own villages? With regard to what I have stated I may say that this is not a new thing or any inspiration which I am getting from any outside place or from outside Madras. There was a Commission, the Decentralization Commission, appointed to investigate into these matters and a report was submitted by that Commission in or about 1919. What that Commission wrote in it I would like to place before this House. This is what they wrote:—

'We are of opinion also that the foundation of any stable edifice which shall associate the people with the administration must be the village as being the area of much greater antiquity than the administrative creations such as Tahsils and one in which people are known to one another and have interests which converge and define well recognized objects like water-supply and drainage. It is probable indeed that the scant success of the efforts hitherto made to introduce a system of rural self-government is largely due to the fact that we have not built up from the bottom.'

"That is what the Commission wrote after recording evidence and after giving their careful consideration to the matter. The village had been abandoned for nearly 100 years—no doubt some efforts were made to reintroduce rural self-government in villages and each time these efforts failed. It was while referring to these efforts that the Decentralization Commission wrote those lines which I have just now read to the Members of this House. Notwithstanding all these happenings, the villagers have not lost their spirit, their power and their interest to maintain their ancient corporate life. During the last twenty years every one in the House knows, how the people in the villages struggled hard to carry on the constructive programme that they had been called upon to carry out by the Indian National Congress. In the beginning, i.e., in the year 1920–21, the constructive programme was carried out almost to perfection. I can tell you there were villages, model villages, where the constructive programme was almost carried to perfection in 1921. I know of villages where panchayats were established and both civil and criminal jurisdiction was exercised without allowing a single case to cross the limits of the village for decision outside. In every respect they made the programme a perfection but unfortunately for them in those days the Government were not in favour of carrying out the constructive programme chalked out by the Congress as they saw some danger in it. So these organizations were broken up and in the end there was complete stoppage of the constructive programme attempted in those days. But I say that the spirit of the people is there even now, the patriotism is there and their interest for a corporate life to carry on the administration is there. Now, only if the present system goes we can think of village autonomy. When village autonomy is established and all these departments are re-established in village areas, not in cities or districts, I have every hope that the cost of administration would not be so high, and people would not be in trouble in future. That is how I look at the things as they exist to-day. For the introduction of autonomy in villages, we require the services and co-operation of all

experienced persons. More than once a point was raised here whether the Revenue Board could not be abolished or whether the post of the Deputy Collectors could not be abolished or some other department could not be abolished. While these questions were put we were always thinking whether all these departments and the existing services and all the officers that have gained experience in building up the present system, could be abolished, or whether their services could be utilized for building up village autonomy. No doubt it is a different point of view altogether whether all these establishments would be required to reconstruct the village autonomy. But I say it is not merely by counting rupees, annas and pies that the success or the failure in the attainment of provincial autonomy can be estimated. It is only by undertaking to effect a fundamental change that it can be done. And that change must be a correct one and a change for the better. You must remember that not long ago, the leader of this country, who has brought this country to this stage to-day, cut himself off from politics. He said 'hereafter I am going to live in villages and I am going to work for villages.' I submit, therefore, in this connexion that it is not merely the village industries, but every other department, wealth, health, credit, water and every other department, must be taken nearer the village. The villager should not be compelled to leave the village for either legal relief, or for medical relief or any other thing. That is the picture I have in my mind. We have not discussed this subject in the Cabinet yet. Of course I may tell you that the future policy of the Government will be to work on these lines. Let me tell you if this is followed up and if it meets with success the whole cost of the administration of the Revenue department would be minimized. I have no doubt about it. Now look at the number of village establishments. There are karnams, village munsifs, monigars, talaiyaris and vettis numbering 80,024 in ryotwari villages and 27,610 in the proprietary villages. I am not going to take you into the figures of higher services or the Civil Services or the services of Sub-Collectors or Assistant Collectors or District Collectors. The total cost on account of these officers charged to Revenue is comparatively a very small amount when compared with the total amount that I have mentioned in the Demand that I am moving. In the Demand I have made just now, I have mentioned Rs. 2,24,64,200 as the charges for District Administration, without taking into account the charges for the higher services. I think that, in future, when we are able to introduce the scheme of autonomy and when that policy matures, we will be able to minimize the cost and I hope in later years I will not be making a demand of this magnitude for District Administration and Miscellaneous."

* Mr. H. B. ARI GOWDER:—"I beg to move the motion that stands in my name and which runs as follows:—

'*To reduce the allotment of Rs.* 2,24,64,200 *for District Administration and Miscellaneous by Rs.* 100.
(To discuss policy.)'

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" Sir, before I discuss the policy, I wish to assure you that I shall not be anxious to inflict a speech on the House on every cut motion of mine except one or two. This is a department in which the expenditure is very heavy. The Hon. the Minister has promised that the expenditure in this department would be considerably reduced. I am grateful to him for giving that assurance, but I regret I have not been able to find out from his speech, though I have closely followed it, what details he has got to work upon. The generalization on which he waxed eloquent is an illustration of the fact that he has no details to work upon. I do admit that the Ministry has had no time to get into details but I hope that will not be the case even at the next session of the Assembly. By that time the estimates will be revised and I trust that they will show that there is a considerable amount of expenditure which is quite unnecessary from an economic point of view. But that is only one side of the picture. There is also the administrative side. My Hon. Friend the Minister promised that the present administration by district officials would be replaced by village autonomy. No one is more anxious to attain village autonomy than the villagers like myself. It is not a question of a few rupees which will be saved to the people. The question is, what I may call, one of national honour. It is national honour that is involved in the administration of the villages. At present the village is administered by representatives of a foreign country and they claim to be the representatives of the greatest of the civilized nations in the world. The question arises whether the representatives of one of the greatest nations in the world could not have had enough time in a period of about 200 years—I believe it is more in the case of Madras—to train a backward people such as the Indians to look after their own affairs or at least to look after themselves even in small matters concerning their villages and districts. I think it is not proper for our foreign rulers to say now that they have not been able to educate us to look after ourselves. The Collectors are there in the districts, managing the affairs of the district and keeping a watch on everything and everybody like watch-dogs. This thing has been going on for years, decades, generations and even centuries. How long will this continue, I ask? That is the natural question put by the villager. My Hon. Friend the Revenue Minister has not been able to say how long it will take to introduce village autonomy. I dare say he will declare it soon. It is not a matter of people not caring whether Rama or Ravana ruled; it is a matter, as I said, of our national honour and it must be considered very seriously. I suggest, Sir, that the Collectors may be asked to retire; I regret, Sir, when I made a suggestion in connexion with another department that the administration of that department might be handed over to the villagers themselves, that suggestion was not well received by the Government. I was then making a suggestion with regard to one department only, so that it may be followed by other similar suggestions with regard to other departments, so that

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the villages may become autonomous by degrees. I do not know how the Government are going to reconcile their statement that autonomy would be introduced in the villages with their reluctance to accept my suggestions. I hope they would reconsider that question, and I do not want to labour that point further.

" Sir, some hon. Members doubted whether we have enough competent men in the localities concerned to administer our local bodies and they have suggested that the local bodies might be abolished and their administration entrusted to an agency like the Collectors. I do not know whether they have any authority behind them to put forward that proposal; anyhow I think they are irresponsible statements. Sir, we want autonomy for the villages and the districts and we want more power than we have now for the local bodies. The power need not be given to the local bodies as they are constituted at present. I do understand the Hon. Minister's objection on the score that some of the present local bodies are not working satisfactorily and that it is not advisable to entrust them with more responsibility. What I do say is that these bodies may be reconstituted so that they may be made as good as possible and be the best agencies for administering the various departments that may be entrusted to their care. The objection that there are not suitable men to be found in the villages or the districts to administer the affairs of the local bodies properly will not hold good. You can select or elect or do whatever you like. You may abolish the present local bodies and reconstitute better ones in their places. But, whatever you do, I do request you to kindly see that the administration is carried on through popular institutions.

" Then there is the other question, the vexed question which has been agitating the minds of the leaders of the people for generations, for more than a century at least and that is the separation of the judicial and executive functions. Sir, the statement of the Premier the other day that under the changed circumstances with a popular Government run by Ministers such a separation was not necessary has come to the people as a keen disappointment. Personally, as a representative of some of these people in one corner of the province the reply of the Government has come to me as a great disappointment. I believe it has not convinced anybody. Any other party in power more conservative than the Congress would have said just the same thing. I should say that the people laugh when you tell them that they have a popular Government; they have full control over their villages and that they can administer the affairs of their villages and districts, while the real power vests in the Collectors. We are practically ruled by them while we have a nominal provincial autonomy. I trust, Sir, that the question of separation of the judicial from the executive functions would again be looked into. I need not say much more on this point, because I know that the gentlemen in charge of the administration

do understand, perhaps much more than I do, how important this question is and how necessary it is that this separation should be made."

Mr. G. B. READE:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise for the purpose of drawing the attention of hon. Members of this House to the anxiety with which the group for whom I speak view the proposal to reduce the salaries of the provincial and subordinate services. I want to make it clear, at the outset, Sir, that we are not questioning the advisability of reducing the scales of pay for new entrants into the service. A new entrant about to enter the service will know what he is going to be paid, can weigh the pros and cons, and if he thinks that he can do better elsewhere, there is no need for him to enter Government service. There is no hardship in that, Sir, though some of us taking a long view may think that Government may lose in the long run. However, if it is the definite conviction of this Government that the salaries of all new entrants into the provincial and subordinate services shall be reduced, as I have already said, we on these benches are not likely to raise any objection. On the other hand, Sir, we do view the suggestion for the reduction of salaries of people who are already in Government service with considerable alarm. I think, Sir, when the Hon. Minister in charge who spoke earlier in the debate comes to look into this question in detail, he will find that it is not right. One point which I have heard mentioned on the floor of this House is that many of these officers in these services, thinking that the Government would not break faith with them in this manner, have already committed themselves financially either in respect of life insurance policies or for the purchase of houses or land on instalment systems. I ask you, Sir, what is the position of these Government servants if for no fault of their own they find themselves unable to meet their financial commitments? The Government cannot liquidate them on their behalf. Another point, Sir, is the question of education. I think that almost all people wish to give their children as good an education as they can possibly afford to give. I am afraid, Sir, that many of these unfortunate gentlemen would be forced to take away their children from school, college or university and they will find the children instead of being an asset, to be a liability. As the leader of our group pointed out the other day, I think, Sir, the main thing about Government service from the point of view of the employees is that a man knows or could know where he stands and look forward to a pension on the completion of his service to Government. I submit, Sir, that this cut, if put into force, would strike at the root of the fundamental terms under which a man goes into Government service. The repercussions thereto will last for a generation. I do not want to labour this point, Sir, but I do hope that the Hon. Minister in charge of this portfolio may be able to reassure the House on some of the points I have raised and that he may be able to re-establish that feeling of security in the provincial and subordinate service which, I am afraid, at the moment is greatly impaired if not almost altogether lacking."

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* MR. R. M. PALAT:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I desire to call the attention of the Government to the absolute necessity of increasing the salaries of the lowest-paid servants of Government and quasi-Government servants. I refer to the village officers, constables, peons and the employees of local bodies. I am of opinion that a minimum pay of Rs. 30 at least per mensem should be given to them. A living wage must be guaranteed to everyone. In my opinion this is more important than the excise policy of the Government, and the payment of salaries to Members of this House. Nor can I understand why a Government which professes that equality is its goal and that the care of the poor is its chief concern, should make any differentiation in the pay and allowances of any Minister or Member or Secretary or for the matter of that of any official be he an Indian or be he an European? I would of course exclude from this the class of experts who could always command a higher rate of pay; but they need only be a few and need be for limited periods of time only. No one will deny, Sir, that at present the ill-paid clerk or the peon finds it difficult to obtain the necessary family comforts. Therefore, I would suggest that immediate steps should be taken to increase their salaries as well as the salaries of the local board employees, including the elementary school teachers. 12-15 p.m.

" Next, Sir, all the schemes that have been placed before the House about salaries cut affect only the Indian services. I am definitely of opinion that no discrimination should be shown by the Government in this respect as between race, creed and caste. Though the Europeans themselves some time ago voluntarily submitted to a salary cut, the Government now seem to be more anxious to save them than they are themselves. It seems to indicate that the Government wish to retain large numbers of Europeans still in service by making this cut not to apply to the salaries drawn by the European services. Or is it because they still believe in what a Secretary of State called the 'steel frame'; or is it because they are of opinion that the Indians themselves are not able to administer this country? Sir, the Hon. the Leader of the House mentioned in a speech, I believe, made outside this House, that the reason why the Europeans should be paid a higher rate of pay, or why their salaries should not be touched is that they have generally to maintain two households. If I am wrong, I hope the Hon. Gentleman will correct me. Two households they have to maintain, one in England for the education of their children and one in India for themselves. Sir, so have many Indian officers. It has become a habit with certain classes of Indians also, both official and non-official, to send their children to England or to European countries for purposes of education. Will the Hon. Minister make an exception in the case of such people? I may refer, Sir, to a very prominent case, the case of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru who has sent his daughter to England for purposes of study.

" Then, Sir, when the question of the salaries of the Ministers was discussed in the Upper House, the Hon. Mr. Rajagopalachariar stated . . . "

* Mr. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member is requested not to refer to any proceedings of the other House in his speech."

Mr. R. M. PALAT:—" Well, Sir, I shall not refer to it."

The Hon. Mr. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Do I also lose the right to reply to the statements already made? "

* Mr. SPEAKER:—" If the attention of the Chair was drawn to the matter previously, those statements would have been prevented."

Mr. R. M. PALAT:—" Anyway, Sir, I believe the salaries of the Hon. Ministers were fixed under the impression that they were ample, considering the salaries paid to the members of the cabinets of other Asiatic countries. But, have the Government made enquiries into the salaries which are paid to European employees in other Asiatic countries such as Afghanistan, Persia or China? There also the European employee presumably has to face the same difficulties as in India. There also the Europeans should be presumed to have to maintain two households. In fact, in India the position of the European employee is far more secure in that he is serving in an Empire of which the head is a European State. At the same time, Sir, I realize that, under the Government of India Act, the salaries of services which are mainly European could not be touched by this Legislature; so also, under the Act, the emoluments of the present incumbents of the provincial services could not be touched by this Government. The Hon. the Leader of the House however told us that he has addressed the Secretary of State with reference to the latter. Why has the Government not addressed the Secretary of State with reference to the former as well and for the necessary change in the Act? Sir, it is notorious that England is now in a defeatist mood. We have seen this in Abyssinia where Italy was concerned, then with reference to Spain and with reference to Japan in China; and not the least we have seen this in India also. Sir, is this a case of two extremely timid people getting frightened at each other's shadows? The fact that the Cabinet has not addressed the Secretary of State for a change in the Act shows that it is unwilling, even in small matters, to combat the Act. Therefore, Sir, I believe that they have come here to work the Act most loyally and wholeheartedly, and this is contrary to a resolution which was recently passed by this House about the constituent assembly. Sir, I believe this is definitely against the pledges given by the Congress Party during the recent elections, when they promised that they would wreck the Act. I consider that their addressing the Secretary of State on the question of the salaries of the present incumbents of the provincial services does not amount to combating the Act; on the other hand,

they are simply following the procedure laid down under the Act. Sir, it seems to me that the only straight course is that such members as support the Government should resign and stand for re-election on this definite issue as to whether they should work this Act or wreck this Act."

* Mr. B. RAJA RAO:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I gave notice of a cut motion for the purpose of discussing questions relating to acquisition of waste lands under the Land Encroachment Act. In respect of waste lands occupied by the poor ryots, Sir, the ryots are put to considerable difficulties and troubles merely on account of their ignorance and poverty. Whenever members of this class apply for land on darkhast, in almost all cases, their applications are rejected on some ground or other through the mischief of karnams and other lower grade revenue subordinates. The ryots are therefore forced to occupy the lands in anticipation of formal assignment. They then cultivate the land for a year or so, pay the assessment in addition to penal fees, etc., which they are charged; and after remaining some time in occupation and making the land fit for cultivation and after effecting improvements thereto at the cost of considerable labour and money, the poor ryots concerned are very often driven out of the land under the Land Encroachment Act. This is their real grievance. When the Land Encroachment Act is applied to poor ryots, the poor ryots are forcibly evicted, the crops which they have raised are seized and sold in auction. It is a pitiable sight to see these poor ignorant people suffering such difficulties. They are driven to occupy lands in the first instance not out of mere pleasure but only for the purpose of eking out a livelihood, since they have no other means of living. If it is objectionable really to assign these lands to the poor, there is no object in keeping them on the lands for some time and ousting them subsequently. There should be some improvement in this matter. In this connexion, Sir, I would like to mention that large tracts of land are locked up on the ground that they are required for use as grazing ground, cattle-stand, water-spread, etc., while, as a matter of fact, only a very small portion of the land will be required for such purposes. A major portion of the land remains vacant from year to year. There must be some remedy for this state of affairs. An enquiry should be set on foot to find out how much of the waste lands which are fit for cultivation are now kept idle. Human beings, Sir, need more attention than cattle and if lands are not provided for them, where else will they go to get a living? Emigration has attracted large population of our agricultural classes and able-bodied men have been lost to the country. It is really regrettable that while a large portion of our agricultural population is suffering for want of lands, a good portion is kept locked up in the name of cattle. I appeal, therefore, that attention should be paid to this aspect of the question.

" I thank you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity."

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12-30 p.m. * DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, history repeats itself, and retrenchment in public services, Sir, offers the best illustration of this statement. From time to time, this question of retrenchment has been looming very large in the eyes of the public. In 1922-23 there was a large scheme of retrenchment, a great deal of consideration was bestowed on the subject and a great deal of retrenchments were effected and salaries of public servants were cut to an appreciable extent. Again in April 1931, Sir, about ten years later, the question of retrenchment was taken up and a very representative committee was appointed under the presidency of no less a person than Sir Hopetoun Stokes, a very senior financier and a person who relentlessly handled the scissors that were placed in his hands. That committee took up the question in April 1931, but before they could enter upon their duties, the Government of their own accord considered that very urgent measures were necessary to retrench the salaries of officials and an emergency cut was therefore introduced in July 1931, whereby they effected a flat-rate cut of 10 per cent on the salaries of all officials, either high or low. Meanwhile, Sir, the Retrenchment Committee held its meetings and after due deliberations, they considered the question for a year; they went very leisurely over it examining a lot of accounts and a mass of details, so that they might be in a position to offer to the public and to the House then functioning, a cut and dried programme which might be acceptable to all. Sir, in March 1932, the Retrenchment Committee placed their report before the Government, and the Government, in their turn, took a year to examine the scheme, and to scrutinize it in all its aspects. Then in 1933 the Government laid their scheme before the Legislative Council for its consideration and the Legislative Council examined the various aspects of the scheme and its implications and then finally decided on a certain line of action which was later on given effect to by Government in G.O. No. 311, dated 13th April 1933. Sir, it was the intention of the Retrenchment Committee that the pay of officers drawing Rs. 25 and below ought not to be touched, but the Government was insistent upon it, and applied the axe to all classes of officers irrespective of the fact whether they were provincial, subordinate, ministerial or menial, so much so they effected a saving of about 57 lakhs to be spread over a series of years. The Retrenchment Committee anticipated a saving of 1 to 7 per cent when they started the work, whereas it really turned out to be 11·7 per cent of the then existing salaries. Sir, 11·7 of the total expenditure was the saving that was effected by the Retrenchment Committee and it was upheld by the Legislative Council. But in going about this retrenchment, the committee very rightly laid down one or two broad principles under which retrenchments were considered justifiable. One of them was whether it would bring about financial equilibrium between revenue and expenditure. That was the main consideration on which the Retrenchment Committee proceeded to examine this question. They then found that revenue considerably fell and that it was necessary, in

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order to bring about equilibrium between revenue and expenditure, the salaries of officials should be cut down appreciably. In all questions of retrenchment, it is this principle that should be observed. Further the Retrenchment Committee considered that there should be two factors before any retrenchment is considered necessary. In its words 'an employer of labour may justify a reduction in the pay of his employees by one or both of two general grounds, either that he cannot afford to pay as much as before, or that there has been a fall in prices.' Sir, the committee went into this question separately in detail and held that the Government were not, as then circumstanced, in a position to pay as before, and that there has been a considerable fall in prices. Therefore the action of the Retrenchment Committee was amply justified. Now, applying those two principles to the present circumstances, do we find that the employer is not in a position to pay as before, or that the prices have fallen? Sir, the prices have not fallen, nor has the revenue in any way shrunk. We find from the statement of the Hon. the Premier placed before the House at the time of the introduction of the Budget, that this was a very prosperous revenue year and that we get 32 lakhs in the shape of revenue in excess of anticipations. The normal expenditure amounted to 15 crores and odd leaving a balance of 16 lakhs and odd; and we cannot therefore say that this retrenchment has been brought about in order to effect equilibrium between revenue and expenditure, nor can the Government say that they are not in a position to pay their employees as before or that the prices have fallen to an extent necessitating retrenchment.

"Now, Sir, let us take the two main heads of revenue that have contributed to the total collection of 16 and odd crores. In the case of land revenue, as we all know, the amount of revenue comes to nearly 9 crores, and that the whole of this 9 crores has been collected at a cost of about 227·10 lakhs; out of this amount about 119·60 lakhs or 120 lakhs in round figures has been taken up by the village establishments and 107 lakhs is taken up by the other establishments consisting of collectors, divisional officers, tahsildars and a host of other revenue officials. Sir, taking this 107 lakhs into account, as compared with the 9 crores that has been collected by this establishment, we get a percentage of 13 per cent. Sir, if an employer like the Government spends Rs. 13 to collect Rs. 100, I question whether it should be considered excessive. Sir, 13 per cent is an amount which any employer will be prepared gladly to invest if the whole of the collections are expected to come in.

"Now, let us take the other big head of revenue, the Excise. Under this head, we find that the total receipts are 4·10 crores collected by an establishment costing 8·6 lakhs including other items of expenditure. Confining ourselves to the main item of expenditure, viz., pay of establishment and their allowances, we find that the cost of collecting 4 crores and odd is only 25 lakhs and the percentage comes to only 6, and an employer incurring an expenditure of Rs. 6 to get

a revenue of Rs. 100 would not consider that his establishments' cost was very high. If it is possible to reduce the cost of establishment still further, I think other measures should be thought of, for as we all know the Madras Government has been proverbially parsimonious in the matter of their establishments.

"But, then, Sir, besides these public considerations, there are what are known as personal considerations. My hon. Friend, Mr. Reade, who spoke before me very pointedly brought to the consideration of this hon. House the enormous commitments which the officers have already undertaken. Sir, from the point of view of education, insurance, provident fund, and from the point of view of getting a house to live in and the purchase of motor cars to keep themselves in tune with modern conditions and requirements of life, officers, both provincial and subordinate, have committed themselves to reasonable items of expenditure. To call upon them all of a sudden without notice to surrender a portion of their pay on grounds other than the grounds which have been laid down by the administrators and the public on previous occasions, namely, the question of financial equilibrium, and fall in prices, is a question for serious consideration.

"Secondly, Sir, there is also the indefiniteness of the cut. We have not been taken into confidence as to how the cuts are proposed to be applied. It is stated in the introductory remarks of the Hon. the Premier that there will be a graded cut from 2½ to 30 per cent, but where the 30 per cent would be applied and where the 2½ would begin, we have no information. Sir, the indefiniteness of the cut and the ever-present idea of a cut being effected in the salaries of these unfortunate officials from time to time, have its own embarrassing effect on the efficiency of their work. The Retrenchment Committee expected that there would be a graded cut ranging from 1 to 7 per cent and it thought that it would be a very reasonable cut. As I have already stated, Government went to the length of effecting a 10 per cent cut, and the Retrenchment Committee went to the length of effecting a 11·7 per cent cut. If, Sir, the present Government think of going beyond this limit and introducing a cut not only in the case of future entrants but also in the case of officers in receipt of the present scales of pay, I think considerable hardship would be involved.

"Sir, on the last occasion in connexion with the general discussion of the Budget, I mentioned that recourse might be had to the abolition of some of the supernumerary posts in the several departments of administration in preference to a cut in the salaries. Sir, it was explained that it was less cruel to effect cuts in the salaries of officials than sending away members which would directly or indirectly affect their families. Sir, it was not my intention when I said that supernumerary posts could be abolished, that all the existing officials should be sent away bag and baggage. My intention was only that as and when occasion arises, owing to retirement, casualties and such like, supernumerary officers, as determined as a result of the deliberations of

a committee which goes into the matter very carefully, might be dispensed with. I cannot do better than invite the attention of the present Government to the broad principles laid down by the last Retrenchment Committee in its closing remarks. The Committee stated:

"The Committee on the other hand considers the reduction in the pay of existing incumbents, however intrinsically justified, as in the nature of a breach of contract and must therefore be regarded as a most serious step. 12-45 p.m.

"I would respectfully call the pointed attention of the Hon. the Minister in charge of the portfolio to kindly bear this observation of the Committee in mind. The Retrenchment Committee went a step further and stated that 'in view of the paramount need for security in Government service, the disadvantages of the present proposal outweighed the possible advantages.' The question of the contract and the question of the security of Government service which have been engendered for the last so many years should not be jeopardized with a stroke of the pen. I would appeal earnestly to the Hon. the Minister in charge of the portfolio who is contemplating a cut in the salaries of officials, provincial and subordinate, to kindly bear these remarks in mind and give them their best consideration before they finally give effect to their proposals."

* Mr. B. BHAKTHAVATSALU NAYUDU:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have only to say a very few words regarding the cut motion I have given notice of. The demand for the separation of the judicial and executive functions is as old as the Congress. Ever since its inception, the Congress had been demanding it and the greatest men of the land have spoken in support of the demand. But the alien power would not heed it. They were probably afraid that with the separation of the executive and judicial functions they would be deprived of the only power they possessed to misuse authority to keep political ferment in check. But they could not give it out as the reason for not carrying out the demand. An examination of the position that had existed in this country for the last 50 years, notably during the last 20 years, is more than enough to show how justice had failed in the hands of the executive officers so far as they related to political offences. In the year 1925, a question was raised by the late Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu in the Montagu Reformed Council and the reply was that the question was engaging the attention of the Government of India. Later on, Sir William Vincent, the Home Member of the Government of India, stated that if any Provincial Government wanted a reform in this direction, the Government of India would not stand in their way and two Secretaries of State for India stated in the House of Lords that they were prevented from carrying out this reform for want of funds. This was before 1927. The advent of Provincial Autonomy and the acceptance of office by the Congress had raised considerable hopes in the minds of the public that this much-needed

and long-delayed reform would be considered without any delay. This reform had already been introduced in the premier state of Hyderabad and from all accounts, it appears that the reform is a great success. The Congress which had all along been pleading for this reform is, I believe, still of the same opinion. Any change in the system of administration cannot in any way alter the position. And it is in that sense that the Congress Government of Bihar have accepted a resolution moved in the Assembly for the separation of the judicial and executive functions; and in the United Provinces also they have taken the first step in the direction by transferring for trial cases of one district to another district. What about the Ministry in Madras? In reply to an interpellation some time back in the Assembly the Hon. the Premier stated that this reform is no longer called for in view of the changes introduced in the system of Government. No wonder that this reply of the Premier has given rise to a good deal of agitation in this province. Even the Congress Committees which have been directed to keep mum over the activities of the Government would not put up with such an astounding statement. The Andhra Congress Committee resolution, though mild in language, is yet a vote of censure upon this Government. (The Hon. Mr. C. Rajagopalachariar: 'Question'). Let us coolly examine the reason advanced by the Premier. It is true that the system of Government has changed. It is equally true that the power has now been transferred to the hands of the elected representatives of the people. But the introduction of party Government has only made the reform all the more necessary. At least in the pre-Reform era, except in political cases there was no distinction between man and man. In a party Government where civil servants have to carry out the orders of the Ministry, what is the guarantee that the Ministry will not use the officials to tyrannize the minorities to enable them to remain in power without any hindrance? I request the Hon. the Premier to consider the views of the public regarding this demand and to take all possible steps to bring about this reform. Regarding the other cut motions which I have moved about village officers, I have only to say a few words."

* Mr. SPEAKER:—"I suppose the hon. Member means the motions of which he has given notice."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"That is what he means."

Mr. B. BHAKTHAVATSALU NAYUDU:—"Village officers are being summoned to taluk headquarters unnecessarily by the taluk staff and by other departmental heads. They are summoned for flimsy and trivial reasons; and they are not paid any travelling allowance and batta for the days for which they are to stay at the taluk headquarters and they have to remain one or two days there by spending their pocket money. The village officers have represented their grievances many times through their associations and conferences, but the Government have not taken any action upon them. I request the Hon. Minister to

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issue necessary instructions to the Revenue Officers not to summon village officers to taluk headquarters frequently and put them to considerable hardship.

"Jamabandi is nothing else but a tamasha and for these functions the village officers are summoned and are to stay at the jamabandi for one or two months to prepare the accounts and this thing should be put an end to. The village officers were paid a small allowance but this allowance had been stopped as a measure of retrenchment. During land revenue collection season, village munsifs are summoned to headquarters at least half a dozen times in a month and they have to bear unnecessary expenditure from their own pockets. I request the Hon. Minister to issue instructions to the officers of the concerned department not to summon the village officers to headquarters frequently. With these few words, I commend the motion for the acceptance of the House."

* Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Mr. Speaker, I am not going to detain the House for any great length of time. I am going to say a few words only to express surprise when I heard what the Revenue Minister said, some time ago, namely, that the Government do not consider the question of the separation of the executive from the judiciary as of immediate importance."

The Hon. Mr. T. PRAKASAM:—"I never made any such statement."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Sir, if my memory does not fail me—and I am sure it will not fail me—in an answer to a question the other day, the Hon. the Revenue Minister said that the Government . . ."

* Mr. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member will have to accept the statement made by the Hon. Revenue Minister that he has never made such a statement."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"That is what my memory tells me and I have no option but to depend upon it. In addition to that I have heard what the Premier has stated, namely, that since there is a change in circumstances of the Government, there is no need for considering this question now. May I ask whether the Hon. Premier and the Revenue Minister have considered the utterly pernicious effect that has been caused upon the minds of the general populace in the country by the continuance of this system of combining the judicial and revenue administrations. Do they realize that there is any 1 p.m.
the least chance of the spirit of freedom and independence growing in the country among the masses as long as this system of combination of judicial and executive functions continued? Do they realize that there is a permanent fear among

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the general masses in the villages and in the taluks that at the hands of the ' Bada Sahibs ' like the district collectors, the sub-collectors, the tahsildars and the magistrates they are not able to get their just grievances redressed, by shaking off their fear of these big officials and putting their case before them in a fair and fearless manner and getting the relief that they justly deserve? Sir, the first, second and third-class magistrates who are also often the executive officers in the district move about clothed with this judicial power and very often the poor ryot and the poor cultivator who stand in great need of personal contact, personal acquaintance and personal enquiries, are afraid to approach them because of these powers. Do the Government think, there may be few exceptions, or feel from their experience in the past, I mean the present party in power, that these officers who have been hitherto and are likely to continue to be bureaucratic, do really serve the people in the spirit of public servants? There is an absolute and thorough want of the spirit of public service in these district and sub-district officials and administrators. If the President of the Congress is anxious that a revolution should come about in this country in the mentality of the people with a view to achieve freedom and independence, it is necessary that that spirit should be infused in the lowest masses with whom we have to rely upon. They are now subjected and cowed down because of the combination of the judicial and executive functions in the same man and in the same authority. So the Government should look at it from that aspect.

" Then what about the enormous inconvenience caused to persons who have legitimate grievances to be redressed by persons in the judiciary or the magistracy? Let me say without fear of contradiction that 90 out of 100 of these magistrates who are given first, second and third-class powers have no legal training whatever. All the legal training they have is only departmental and administrative training. They look upon issues from narrow points of view. They are never able to appreciate points of law. They are unable to see questions of fact as distinct from questions of law. They are unable to appreciate the sections of the Evidence Act and they are unable to get rid of that atmosphere of a revenue official and office mentality. So long as that continues the discontent among the public will continue to be what it is. So long as the administration of criminal justice is in the hands of those revenue officials in whom the executive and the judicial combine, so long there will be a general failure of criminal justice. It has been very often the case that the I.C.S. who is unfit to hold executive functions is shoved on to the judiciary. Some training is only latterly being given to the officers who are ultimately to be Sessions Judges and District Judges. If the I.C.S. officers are also to be sub-magistrates and sub-deputy magistrates, then certainly there is every justification for some legal training being given to them. The training that is being given to the magistrates is nothing but what is made available by the revenue officers. The training is insufficient in quality and insufficient in quantity. So criminal justice suffers, and seriously too.

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" Then, Sir, there is another inconvenience caused by this combination which I want the Government to take into account. The sub-magistrates, the taluk magistrates and the district magistrates are touring officers and they post the cases of parties wherever they happen to be at the time. What about the enormous cost to the witnesses and parties, not to speak of the inconvenience which is least justifiable? Is it not fair that the litigant should be given the facility to see that he gets proper and speedy dispensation of justice? Besides, several written complaints have been received by me that the magistrates post certain cases in certain places at certain hours and never turn up at that hour or at that place. Is it fair for the officer to post the case at 11 o'clock and then turn up at 4 o'clock and then say 'I have been detained by some revenue works, kindly excuse me'? The parties have had to wait there without attending to their work and without attending to their physical needs, not caring even for the ill-health of their children and relatives. Is that the system that the Congress Government would perpetuate in this country?

" There is again enormous delay in the administration of justice with regard to criminal affairs. Cases which could be decided within a fortnight with a separate judicial officer take considerably longer than they should ordinarily, though there seem to be orders that cases should be disposed of within a prescribed period. Well, I contend that the period will be certainly minimized if there is a separate magistrate to inquire into those cases. Sir, by reason of this combination, for one thing there is the failure of justice in revenue affairs, and for another there is enormous delay in the matter of the dispensation of criminal justice. Consequently there have been numerous revisions and appeals against several decisions and a good number of them usually get reversed by the superior courts. If these criminal matters are dealt with only by a trained man, if only a trained man is to dispose of these criminal matters, if a man with judicial training is allowed to do that work and not revenue administrators then certainly the cost of the litigant, the cost of courts and the cost of Government can be avoided and there will be an easier, speedier and more satisfactory system of judicial administration brought into existence, in this country. Therefore, Sir, on these grounds it is but necessary that this Government should not brush aside their own scheme of judicial and executive functions being separated as being unnecessary at the present moment. The justification still exists and if really they want to strengthen the stamina of the people in the rural parts, if they are to get a spirit of independence, if they are to get a spirit of fearlessness and if they are to breathe the air of freedom, these revenue officials must be rid of their judicial functions at the earliest moment. These powers must be taken away from them. There are many men with legal training available. Government can start a scheme to recruit people with five or six years' training at the bar. (At this stage the bell was rung.) Does it mean that I must close the speech, Sir? "

* MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member has had so long a time that he has been elaborating very small details. He will close his speech in one minute."

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" I will briefly refer to one other point which I would like to and that is cut motion No. 133 which refers to the cut in salaries of Government servants. I have already said in general what exactly should be the attitude of the Government in this matter. In the first place to be brief I must ask the Government to say what is the emergency that has arisen that prompts them to cut the salaries. I can understand the revision of the general scale of salaries because there is some justification for their view that the cost of administration is high and out of all proportion to the standard of life that the tax-payer is living to-day. That will not be tantamount to a necessity for an immediate cut in the salaries, which they have proposed. First of all there must be some emergency and that emergency may be the reason for a cut. I would like to know as to what exactly is the amount of salary that they are going to exempt from the operation of cut. Even during the time of the bureaucratic Government we have been agitating that there was need for minimum wage being fixed in the country and at least this representative Government should fix it up now at Rs. 100. A person drawing Rs. 100 should be exempted from this cut. If the Government is serious they ought not to consider what profit or what saving is got by cutting all salaries below Rs. 100. I want the Government to fix the lowest rate at Rs. 100."

(At this stage an hon. Member was noticed speaking to Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed.)

* MR. SPEAKER :—" There should be no conversation amongst hon. Members. Hon. Members should not converse with a Member who is making a speech and he must be enabled to finish his speech as early as possible."

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" There is another aspect that I would refer to and that is a question of detail. There is a great deal of wastage and leakage in Government spending departments. It cannot be claimed that the tax-payer realizes 16 annas worth of the amount spent by the Government. On the other hand it is nearer the truth if I were to say that not even 8 annas worth of return is got by the tax-payer. There are departments where a committee can go into and suggest enormous retrenchment, and the prevention of leakage and of wasteful expenditure is of paramount concern. That should be done before they proceed with the cut of salaries. The rate that they propose to levy uniformly is not just and is not warranted. They must have a graded cut and the salary taken into distinct slices and each slice must be brought under the respective rate in the grade. That would afford a certain amount of relief to the Government servants."

* MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member may finish his speech."

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" Only one more point, Sir, and I am done. I would urge on the Government, if they want to get the imprimatur of a popular opinion, if they want the support of the

entire House with regard to their proposals, that it is necessary that they should appoint a committee to investigate how far retrenchment is possible and by what means it should be given effect to. By further economy they can abolish supernumerary and unnecessary posts. That also would effect a larger amount of saving. I would submit these to the Minister for his consideration and examination."

* Mr. R. RAGHAVA MENON :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to place my opinion before this House about the low pay that is given at the very bottom of the administration. I mean the village officers who collect all the revenue and who are subjected to very hard work throughout the year and especially the collection season. Village munsifs and karnams are one of the lowest paid classes in this category. It is true that the Government may suffer for finding the necessary finance. But the Congress Government, which wants to look after the poor, low paid employees, especially at the foundation or at the bottom rung of the heirarchy of services in a country where the payment is very much high in the higher stages, must remember the condition of the village officers.

" In a country where everybody is paid only according to the need and according to the standard that is necessary for a decent life, nobody will have to contend against the salaries given. But in a country like ours where the pay of the higher services is quite out of proportion to the necessities of a decent life, whether it is judged by the national standard or individual standard, certainly the case of the poorly-paid village officials must command and arrest the attention of this Government. I think the party in power that is interested in the lot of the poor people will certainly take immediate steps to improve the pay that is being paid to the village munsifs and village karnams. I need not state that there are an innumerable set of people, or in fact there are as many village munsifs and karnams as there are villages in this Presidency. As far as I know, these are not a body of people who are paid even at the rate of 8 annas per day. Especially the village munsifs have to dance attendance on a number of officials above them and to administer to the needs of the officials who tour through the villages, and at the same time when they are commanded to go to these officials, they are not paid anything. So also is the village karnam who has to maintain a number of accounts and who has to work both day and night. So I emphasize that this aspect of the matter has to be taken into account when any comprehensive scheme regarding the pay of the services is to be introduced by the Government. 1-15 p.m.

" Then as regards salary cut, it is said that it is a breach of contract. Certainly the services can never be taken seriously as based on contract, nor could there be any breach of contract in respect of them. If it is a question of breach of the contract, the officers will be liable for it almost every hour. The service is not governed by any specific contracts under the Contract Act. It is only a matter of holding office so long as the Government can afford to pay, and national considerations may well justify the Government to impose cuts in salaries. One hon. Member

representing Malabar said something about the cutting of salaries of Indians letting off Europeans. He also referred to the salaries of district board officials. I tried my best to follow him, but I could not understand what he wanted to convey. I suppose he is very sympathetic to the district board officials just now."

MR. R. M. PALAT:—"On a point of explanation, Sir. What I meant was that if the salaries of the Indians are cut, then the salaries of the Europeans also should be cut. If not, neither should be cut. There should be no distinction made between one set of people and another."

MR. R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"Very good, Sir. We are for cutting the salary of everybody. We want that every officer's salary should be reduced to the necessary national standard. They are paid more than what is necessary. Certainly for exigencies of State, they should surrender a part of their salary and submit to this cut. My hon. Friend wanted that we must combat the Act on this point. I do not understand what he meant by combating the Act. Every Government, especially the Congress Government, must impose a cut in the salaries, and if they cannot do it in the case of salaries of certain officials whose interests are safeguarded, it is no argument to say that the salaries of the other officials also should not be touched. An attempt will have to be made to bring these others also within the purview of this cut.

"I find that abundant sympathy was shown by one of the hon. Members for district board officials now, whom he classed as lower paid officials. I only want to remind him that it is a happy augury, when he pleaded for equal wages. That is a very good proposition, for the party for which I speak is for equal wages. But where was the question of equal wages in his own case a few months ago? I do not know what he has in mind when he spoke of equality of wages now. I think my hon. Friend would have done well if he had this idea in view, that we must only take what we are entitled to. Anyhow it is a happy augury though late for him. As regards the cut, he has exhibited unusual enthusiasm for district board officials, though it has come a little too late. My only submission to the hon. Members of this House is that the case of the petty officials, especially the village officers, may kindly be remembered by the Government in any scheme regarding the pay of officials."

* MR. K. ABDUR RAHIMAN KHAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will only offer just a few remarks on the question of the separation of the executive and judicial functions. This question, as has been pointed out by several hon. Members of the House, has been a moot question for a very long time. It has been talked about on various platforms, and has also been raised in the various Legislatures. So the question we are discussing to-day is not a new one, and I am sure the Ministry will pay proper attention to this question and it is not for them to postpone the solution of this problem to a distant date.

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" Sir, as we are all aware, the administration of criminal justice in our province is vested in the hands of the first, second and third-class magistrates who are the subordinates of the District Magistrate. The District Magistrate is also the Executive head of all branches of administration in the district as District Collector, and in the interest of the Executive administration he often issues circulars about the general administration of criminal law. It is these circulars which are proving an impediment in the way of the administration of criminal justice. I may point out to the Ministry the immediate necessity of withdrawing all such circulars. Unfortunately, these circulars are not available to us. They are very confidential. They are said to restrict the discretion of the magistrates in according punishments in cases like illicit distillation, where the magistrates are at discretion to either award imprisonment or impose a fine. But so far as I have seen, the magistrates have always shown an inclination to resort to the punishment of imprisonment not because of the Criminal Code but because imprisonment is made imperative by the Executive.

" Again in cases of criminal tribes, who are registered under the Criminal Tribes Act, it is said that when they fail to give information to the village officer and leave the village, the punishment inflicted must be imprisonment, though the law provides fine or imprisonment. In the case of criminal tribes it sometimes happens that at the time when they leave the village, the village officers are absent from the village. If a member of the criminal tribe who is always a rustic informs some relative of the village magistrate and goes to attend a marriage or to see his sick relative and returns home, and though all these facts are proved, still for this small breach or technical offence, he is sent to prison. Even there, the magistrate does not think it enough to confine himself to the four corners of the Act and to impose a fine. He takes the other reports against him and then gives him imprisonment. Therefore we apprehend that perhaps there are circulars issued to this effect, and that the hands of the magistrates are fettered in this way. Thus, the administration of criminal law by means of confidential circulars very often restrains the discretion of courts. Sometimes, offences in penal law like causing grievous hurt or simple hurt with dangerous weapon which are compoundable with the permission of the court are opposed by the police. In my opinion, in matters like this the discretion of courts must be absolutely unfettered. People who go to court in such cases are close relatives in most cases, and it is not good to see that the inimical relations existing between them are allowed to continue. But unfortunately the magistrates are fettered in their discretion and they have no option of allowing such cases to be compounded. So, my request is that the Ministry will be pleased to see that these circulars in force in this province are immediately withdrawn and the magistrates are given full discretion to act within the four corners of the law. It must be noted that the magistrates are primarily bound by the provision of the law as laid down by the Codes, Acts and Statutes. But those circulars being confidential,

people cannot know where they stand and which course the administration of justice is going to take.

"The other point I wanted to speak about is the conduct of the prosecution in magisterial courts, and we find here that the police is entrusted with this task. It is the police that investigates the case and it is the police that conducts the prosecution. I am afraid, Sir, in doing so the police people may not be able to take a disinterested view of the whole matter as a Public Prosecutor does. So, just as the Government appoints public prosecutors for sessions cases, it should appoint additional public prosecutors to carry on this work in magisterial courts. In contrast to the administration of justice by the magistracy, the administration of criminal law by the Sessions Judge stands on an entirely different footing. The discretion of Sessions Judges is not fettered, and the whole administration is not affected by external influence. I am sure the difficulties which exist at present in the magisterial courts will soon disappear when the suggestions that I have given are followed.

"The Hon. the Premier gave a disappointing reply that this question will not be taken up at present. Sir, I am afraid the circumstances which demand this kind of reform have not vanished. They exist there in spite of the fact that the Congress has chosen to accept office. It is not possible for any one to say how long the present Government is going to be there. They may be there to-day and they may not be there to-morrow. Then, why should they postpone a reform which will protect the rights of the public? I must say that the postponement of this reform will be a great hardship to the people at large. There will be thousands of criminal cases, and I am sure no Ministry will be able to go into each of them. It may be possible for us to point out a particular case to the Premier or the Minister in charge. But it is not possible for the Ministry to have in view all the criminal cases that are going on in this Presidency, and they cannot possibly understand what amount of hardship is being worked out.

"Another suggestion that I would throw out is that all the subordinate magistrates must be made subordinate to the Sessions Judges, and they must have nothing to do with the existing head of the executive administration. The powers of the District Magistrate must be retained as at present for emergency sections of the Criminal Procedure Code like sections 144, 145, 107 and 106, and this is necessary in the interests of the administration.

"I hope these words of mine will receive the attention of the Ministry."

* MR. SPEAKER:—"There is still a desire on the part of a large number of members on the opposition benches to speak on this motion. For the last five days I have been giving very great indulgence to the members of the opposition. They have been in possession of the House and they have been making very long speeches without affording, even after my reminding them of their duty in the matter, opportunities for

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new members to speak. I will therefore say that members are entitled to speak on this demand for four hours, and if at this rate it is the desire of hon. Members that each demand should be discussed for four hours, then the guillotine will have to be placed on most of the Demands. It seems to me to be the desire of many members of the opposition, including the Leader of the Opposition, that the Government should be given the opportunity to state their policy on all the 37 Demands, and members sitting on the left will have to help the discussion in such a manner that their desire for speaking on each Demand must be consistent with a desire to discuss all the Demands, and they should also be pleased to give opportunity, once again I tell them, for new members of the House to speak."

(Mr. M. G. Natesa Chettiyar rose to speak.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member will set an example by speaking only for five minutes." 1-30 p.m.

* MR. M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"Mr. Speaker, I thank you very much for the opportunity given and also the indulgence for allowing me to speak and the kindness with which you have advised me to finish my speech within a short time. I am speaking here on behalf of the village headmen, village officers and karnams in the zamindari areas. I have experience of their work in zamindari areas. I myself have been managing my own estate, and I know the difficulties of the village officers. I may say our village officers were very happy and contented when they were getting only Rs. 3 per mensem and were doing their work very satisfactorily also. Now, they are getting very much more but their work is very slack. The collection work is very unsatisfactory. This I may say is due to the increased interference on the part of the Government with the work of these officers, so much so the help given to the zamindars by these people in the matter of collection is much less than before and outstandings are very large. The village officer is not available for evidence in courts on behalf of the zamindar. The tahsildar utilizes the services of the village officers for sending tapals and other things. Two days in a week are taken up by them for this work. The zamindar not only spends his money to summon the village officers, but he has also to take process of summoning, through the revenue authorities to see that these village officers are present on the hearing date of the summary suits. I therefore request the Government to which I have also the honour to belong to arrange a new system of payment like the one I suggest. That is, each village headman may be given a piece of land which he may cultivate and take the produce as remuneration for his service. He may be exempted from payment of anything to the Government or zamindar. Then he will be quite happy and render service very willingly also. The same concession may be extended to the village officers also. Direction may also be issued to the revenue officers not to interfere with the zamindari village officers. This will also result in less number of suits being filed against the tenants and less burden to the headmen.

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"I earnestly appeal to the Government to give some consideration to this my suggestion and also see that the village officers are not interfered with by the revenue officers in respect of the zamindari areas."

* MR. V. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak regarding the proposals to raise the salaries of the village servants. I congratulate the hon. Member (Mr. Palat) for the sympathy he has shown to the village servants. But I feel that in the present circumstances it will not be practicable. It is a trap set for the Congressmen. My friend wanted that the giving of a living wage to all servants was the watchword of the Congress and that they should give effect to it at once. Of course it is the watchword of the Congress to raise the salaries of low-paid servants and to give a living wage to every labourer; and no Government is worth the salt, least of all the Congress Government, if it does not work up to these ideas. But, let us remember our limitations. Everyone knows that the funds at the disposal of the Government are not as much as we should desire, and what little power we have in the matter of cutting down the salaries of higher officials is also known. We have not got power to suspend or abolish a single post which has been created in recent times. With all these limitations before us, to say now that we should raise the salaries of the village establishment to Rs. 30 is a thing which cannot be easily understood, for as I have already pointed out the increased salaries if given effect to would nearly amount to 1·15 lakhs. We know that in the villages a 'karnam' or a village munsif gets Rs. 15 a month. Besides, there are a number of 'vettis' and 'talayaris' numbering five to seven in each village. If we are to raise the salaries of these people to Rs. 30 the amount would mount up to more than 4 crores. Now, to ask that this increase in pay should be made at this time of the day when the Government have set its heart on the prohibition programme is really quite ununderstandable. I think that this is a trap set for Congressmen. But, I am sure that they will not fall into it. I am sorry to see that one Congressman has given support to this proposition for increasing the pay for the village establishment. However much we may sympathize with the low-paid servants of the village this is not the time for it but it will be the first duty of the Congress Government when it gets into power to give effect to it, and translate that sympathy into action. Still at this time of the day the Congress has got power and vitality enough to oppose any such proposal because it is utterly impossible now. Congress has enough faith in the electorate. They know that Congress has always been on the side of the village officers and low-paid men and these people also know what service the Congressmen have done for them, and are still doing for them.

"Then, about the salary cut there has been still some objection. It is too late in the day to raise any such objection. My hon. Friend Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed asks, what is the urgency? Everybody knows the urgency of cutting down the salaries of high-paid officials.

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It is not a question of yesterday or to-day. It has been there for a long time. The prohibition programme is one emergency; then the raising of the salaries of the village establishment is another, and then the amenities we will have to provide for the villages in the way of drinking water-supply, hospitals, roads, schools and such other things. And everyone knows that these could not be done now from want of funds, and this money should come not only from the ryots alone but also pleaders, lawyers, doctors—everyone must take up the burden according to his measure and the capacity to pay. These officials have got commitments. What are those commitments? They say that they have been accustomed to a high standard of living. I ask, 'Have not the thousands of men and women who have joined the Congress ranks also commitments? Have they not been accustomed to living princely lives getting princely incomes? Have they not abandoned it all, given up their professions at the call of the country and joined the Congress ranks for serving the cause of the motherland? Everyone of them had commitments. Commitments or no commitments we have all to remember that we have a great cause before us and that great causes require great sacrifices. Sir, what greater cause can there be than the cause of Swaraj, the cause of liberty for India, independence for India and the liberation of 350 million inhabitants of this hoary nation who are living in bondage? Viewed in that way, all people should do their duty and help the cause; because the fight is for Swaraj and independence. I submit that everyone should contribute to that cause. All must join the sacrifice; irrespective of one's profession or occupation, all people should help the cause and prepare for the salary cut. Not only that. People should induce their brethren in the services to consent to the salary cut and also ask to effect voluntary cuts in their salaries. Recently there has been an agitation among the officials to form associations and send deputations and representations to Ministers asking for increase in salaries. I hope the officials will view the matter in a more just and equitable light and refrain from adopting these courses to preserve their standard of living, or maintain their status."

1-45 P.m.

* MR. SPEAKER:—"Mr. Rangayya Nayudu will now speak in Telugu."

MR. G. RANGAYYA NAYUDU:—"Mr. Speaker, I wish to speak. . . ."

* MR. SPEAKER:—"Will the hon. Member come to the microphone and speak in Telugu in which he is very proficient?"

MR. G. RANGAYYA NAYUDU:—"Sir, I wish first to speak a few words on the question . . ."

* MR. SPEAKER:—"Perhaps the hon. Member has not understood me. He is a very proficient orator in Telugu and, as such, he could speak in Telugu very much more effectively, beautifully and intelligibly too." (Laughter.)

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MR. G. RANGAYYA NAYUDU :—"జీతముల తగ్గింపు సమస్యపైన నేను కొలది మాటలు చెప్పదలచియున్నాను. ఉద్యోగస్థుల జీతములు తగ్గించినచో వారు జీవించుటకు కష్టమని యెందిరి పక్షమున కూర్చున్న సభ్యులు మనవిచేసిరి. ప్రపంచమునందలి తక్కిన దేశము లన్నింటికంటెను గూడ భారతదేశమున స్వల్పవ్యయముతో జీవనము చేయవచ్చును. ఎంత గొప్పవాడైనను, ఎంతటి విద్యావంతుడైనను, ఎంతేసి జమీందారైనప్పటికిని నెలకు రూ 500 లు జీతముతో సుఖముగా జీవించవచ్చును. ఈ దేశములో నూరు రూపాయిలు సంపాదించువారు సుభిక్షముగా జీవించుచున్న విషయము నేనెరుగుదును. ఈ చెన్నపట్టణమున నే నొక బహుకుటుంబీకుడను. పిల్ల, జల్ల, నౌకరులు అందరు కలసి ముప్పదిమందికి అన్నవస్త్రములిచ్చి అనుదినము నేను పోషించవలసినవాడను. వీరుగాక, అతిథి, అభ్యాగతులు, చుట్టుపక్కము లనేకులు వచ్చుచుపోవుచుందురు. వారినందర నాదరించవలెను. ఇందరనిన్నిధిక్షముల పోషించుటకు నాకు మాసమునకు రూ 300 లు ఖర్చుచున్నవి. కాబట్టి యెంత గొప్పవారికైనను రూ 500 లతో జీవనము గడపుటకు సాధ్యమని నేను చెప్పగలను. నా బిడ్డలు చాలామంది చదువులు చదువుచున్నారు. వారింకను సంపాదించుటలేదు. ఇంత సుఖముగ నేను జీవనము చేయుచున్నప్పుడు యెందుకయ్యా వేయి రూపాయిలు, వేయిన్నీ ఐదువందలు, ఆరువందలూను? ఇంతకుముందు ప్రభుత్వం ఆక్రమించుకొన్న పెద్దమనుష్యులందరు నాలుగు వేలు, ఐదు వేలు తీసుకున్నారు. ఆది అంతా ప్రజల ద్రవ్యము కాదా? కష్టపడి, చెమటబూడ్చి పనిచేసిన రైతుల భన్ను రూపేణ వెల్లించిన ద్రవ్యము కాదా? సుఖంగా చక్రసీడను కూర్చుని రోజుకు పది కాగితములపైన చేవ్రాలుపెట్టిన పెద్దమనిషికేచా ఆ ద్రవ్యము నుండి వేలకొలది వేతనము ముచ్చటొన్నది? మరొక మంత్రిముహాశయుడు తన కార్యభారమికి పనినంతను వొప్పగించి ఆమాంతముగా ఆఫీసుకు వస్తుండేవాడు.

"మన ప్రభుత్వం వచ్చేవరకు, మనవారు మంత్రులయ్యేవరకు యిదంతా మనం చూస్తూనేవున్నాము. ఏమి సంపత్సరాలు మంత్రులుగా వున్నవారు నీడు లక్షలు సంపాదించి ధనవంతులై లక్షణంగా మోటారుకార్లల్లో తిరుగుతూ, విర్రవీగుతున్నారు. తోటి మొదలు హైకోర్టు జడ్జీవరకు ప్రభుత్వ నౌకరులంతా ప్రజల నౌకరులే. ప్రజల నౌకర్లు ప్రజలను మించి వుండరాదు. నా డబ్బు తినే నౌకరు మోటారుకారులో తిరగటము నేను క్రింద నడవటమూనా?

"నా సేవచేయటానికి పెట్టుకున్న నా నౌకరు మోటారుకారులో తిరుగుతుంటే, నేను తాట్టి రిక్షాలో పూలుతాడుటమా? ఎక్కడైనా ఈ న్యాయం వున్నదా? భారతదేశ చరిత్ర తీసుకోండి. వేదకాలంనుండికూడ చరిత్ర చదివిచూడండి. ఇట్టిదుండే ఈ జీతములు, ఈ దుర్వ్యయాలు పూర్వముండేవా? జీతాల తగ్గింపుకు విచారపడవలసిన పనే లేదు.

"వేయి రూప్యములు సంబళం తీసుకుంటే తన భార్యకు, కొడుక్కు, కూతురుకు, అల్లుడుకి ఆందరికీ దక్షిణ్యూరు చేస్తాడు. ఉద్యోగంనుండి రిటైరయిన తరువాత హాయిగా యిదంతా మూటకట్టుకొని వెళ్లతాడు. యెవడి అబ్బసొమ్మండీ యిది? కాబట్టి ఈ జీతాల తగ్గింపునుగూర్చి యెవరుగాని విచారింపవలసిన పనిలేదు.

"Our country is the cheapest country in the world."

* MR. SPEAKER :—"I take it that the hon. Member is finishing his speech."

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MR. G. RANGAYYA NAYUDU :—"రెండు నిముషములలో ముగిస్తున్నాను. నేను ఒకప్పుడు గ్రామ మునసబుగా వున్నవాణ్ణి కాబట్టి నాకు కరణము, మునసబుల కష్టములు తెలియును. గ్రామోద్యోగులు సంపాదించే డబ్బుతోటి ఈ రెవిన్యూ ఉద్యోగస్థులు భోజనంచేస్తారు. గ్రామోద్యోగులు పన్ను వసూళ్లచేయకపోతే ఈ కలెక్టరులు, తహశీల్దారు లందరూ గోళ్లు గిల్లుకుంటూ కూర్చోవలసిందే. గ్రామోద్యోగులే లెక్కలన్నీ తయారుచేయాలి. వీ రేమీ చేయలేరు. కలెక్టరు, డిప్యూటీ కలెక్టరు, సబ్-కలెక్టరు, ఎందరెందరు ఉద్యోగులు! అబ్బా! ఎవడబ్బ సొమ్ముండీ? ఎందుకండీ యిదంతా? నా చిన్నతనంలో తహశీల్దారుకు నెలకు రూ 75 లు. ఇప్పటి జీతాలా; అన్యాయం! అన్యాయం!! అన్యాయం!!! ఇప్పుడు గ్రామోద్యోగులకు ఇచ్చేజీతం చెన్నపట్టణంలో ఒక జవానుకు యిచ్చేంతకూడాలేదు. ఈ విషయమై చెప్పటానికి చాలావున్నది కాని యిప్పుడు సమయంచాలదు. ఈ అవకాశం యిచ్చినందుకు అధ్యక్షులకు నమస్కరిస్తున్నాను."

* MR. SPEAKER :—"Hon. Members must be aware that there are dozens of Members in this House, including most of the Harijan Members, who do not know English. They want to follow the debates in the House, but it is not possible to have the English speeches translated into the mother-tongue of those Members.

"There is no obligation upon people who know some English to speak in that language, if they are able to speak more effectively, efficiently and lucidly in their own mother-tongue. Just a while ago, there was an example. There was a certain amount of speaking in broken English. On the other hand the hon. Member, Mr. Rangiah Nayudu has made a most eloquent speech in Telugu and some who have a knowledge of Hindi or Hindustani may be able to express themselves better in that language than in English. I know there are members who are able to make beautiful speeches in their own mother-tongue and so, I am only reminding them that there is no obligation upon them to speak in English when they are not so well acquainted with English as to be able to express themselves very clearly and effectively. With these observations I adjourn the House till 10 a.m. to-morrow."

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 147 asked by Mr. B. Bhakthavatsalu Nayudu at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 20th September 1937, page 353 supra.]

1 Munipalli Ramarao.
2 Kambam Satyanarayana.
3 Mylavarapu Ramarao.
4 C. P. Elango.
5 Alluri Satyanarayanaraju.
6 Uttararaju Suraparaju.
7 Ravi Adiseshaiah.
8 Sakiri Krishnaswamy.
9 Beeram Ramanatham.
10 Pusapati Narasimharaju.
11 Kosuru Subbaraju.
12 Kalidindi Bangarurju.
13 Sagiriraju Satyanarayana.
14 Kota Abbayi Chetti.
15 Thimmavajjhula Narasimhamurty.
16 Vasireddy Narayanarao.
17 Yusuf Meharally.
18 S. Mikundalal Sircar.
19 Kakarala Kameswara Sastri alias Kameswara Rao.
20 Puchalapalli Sundarayya alias Venkatasundararama Reddi.
21 Gam Nallu Dora.
22 Sankoji Moogadu.
23 K. A. Kesaleeyan alias Kunhappa Nambiar.
24 K. P. Gopalan.
25 Chandroth Kunhi Raman Nair.
26 A. K. Gopalan Nambiyar.
27 Chinnappan.
28 Gnanapragasam Pillai.
29 Vellayan alias Souriappan.
30 Ponnuswami.
31 Sundaram.
32 Koyitha Abdulla.
33 Pottayil Ayidru Musaliar.
34 Mecheri Thazhathveetan Marakkar.
35 Palliyal Kunhali.
36 Panampuzha Moideen Molla.
37 Manichathodi Uthan.
38 Ossan Ali.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 148 asked by Mr. K. Varadachariar at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 20th September 1937, page 354 supra.]

Year. (1)	Number of times the temples were visited and inspected by President or any Commissioners of the Board. (2)	Number of times President or any Commissioners inspected the proceedings of the T.T.D. Committee. (3)	Number of reports submitted by president or Commissioner to Government. (4)
1933	Two times, i.e., on 21st June 1933 and 29th July 1933 by the then President.	Two times, i.e., on 21st June 1933 and 29th July 1933 by the then President.	Nil.
1934	One (16th August 1934 to 19th August 1934 by the then President.)	One, i.e., on 16th August 1934 by the then President.	Nil.
1935	One, i.e., on 10th October 1935 to 12th October 1935 by the President.	Nil.	Nil.
1936	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
1937	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

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APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 154 asked by Mr. V. R. Perumal Chettiyar at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 20th September 1937, page 359 supra.]

List of Members nominated to the Dharmapuri District Board.

	Name.	Community or sex.	Native place.
	(1)	(2)	(3)
1	Mrs. C. Govindammal	Woman	Karur.
2	Mrs. D. Ramaratnammal	Woman	Krishnagiri.
3	M.R.Ry. S. Seeran Avargal	Adi-Dravida ..	Krishnagiri.
4	M.R.Ry. M. Ramaswami Avargal ..	Adi-Dravida ..	Dharmapuri.
5	M.R.Ry. B. M. Munisami Rao Avargal..	Adi-Dravida ..	Krishnagiri.
6	M.R.Rv. S. Swamidas Avargal	Indian-Christian ..	Krishnagiri.
7	The Rev. Duncan S. Stevenson ..	European	Krishnagiri.

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 158 asked by Mr. M. G. Natesa Chettiyar at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 20th September 1937, page 365 supra.]

G.O. No. 1059, L.S.G., dated 16th March 1937.

[Election—President—Dharmapuri District Board—Objection petition—Expenditure—District Board Funds—Sanction—Refused.]

READ the following:—

From the President, Dharmapuri District Board,
R.C. No. 280–37–A2, dated 4th February 1937.

Order—No. 1059, *L.S.G., dated* 16*th March* 1937.

The Government decline to sanction any expenditure from the funds of the Dharmapuri District Board on the petition filed before the Election Commissioner, Salem, questioning the validity of the election M.R.Ry. D. Krishnamurti Avargal as its President.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

M. V. SANKARA VARIAR,
Assistant Secretary to Government.

To the President of the Dharmapuri District Board.
,, Examiner of Local Fund Accounts.