

*Independent  
India of Plenty*

WHAT  
CONGRESS GOVERNMENT  
OUGHT TO DO

BY  
V. RAMIAH

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# INDEPENDENT INDIA OF PLENTY

WHAT CONGRESS GOVERNMENT OUGHT TO DO  
NATION'S WISHES



INDIAN FAMINE—PROBLEMS & SOLUTIONS.



GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

BY

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## PREFACE :

All the points discussed herein are topical. They are long overdue and therefore urgent. The country should be made to feel that they are having a popularly elected Democratic Congress Government and produce a sigh of relief at last. The book is written in haste and therefore there may be many shortcomings. By reading this booklet, every citizen will realise that he owes a duty to the country to exercise his franchise only in favour of those men of grit and intelligence who can rebuild our country and guard it for ever to the pleasures of one and all.

3, Mallikeswarar Lane, G. T., Madras.	} V. RAMIAH of Konerirajapuram, Author.
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## OPINION:

Sriman C. Rajagopalachariar says—".....  
It is valuable.....much I appreciate it all."

# Independent India of Plenty

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**What Congress Government ought to do.**

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## **Nation's Wishes.**

The Indian Nation wants to make India plenty, happy, contented and completely independent of foreign control or domination. What are stated in this booklet are the Nation's desires. They have been propounded by almost all patriots on platforms. Believing and placing full trust upon them, that they will accomplish what they have propounded they have been returned by the Nation to take up the functions of government.

## **Nation's Wishes :**

I. Instructions should issue from the Centre to all Provincial Governments—

(a) to issue orders to the Inspectors of Local Boards etc., to hold forthwith fresh elections to Panchayats in all villages of the Presidency, and to constitute Panchayats in villages where there is none. The work should be completed expeditiously ;

(b) to issue orders to the Registrars of Co-operative Societies, to constitute or re-constitute Co-op-Societies in every village of the whole province. This work also should be completed expeditiously.



(c) that the above named two officers should behave as Public Servants and not bosses over villagers, and they should prove their worth by their work to warrant retention of their services with the goevrnment.

II. Simultaneously, a small committee of our foremost and revered Patriots should frame and elaborate the Programmes and Policies of the Indian National Government in building up a strong, plentiful and independent India, as outlined herein, with any additions and alterations to make the programmes more perfect and complete, and forward the same to all Provincial Ministers to make their own suggestions in the light of their experiences and to direct all their government activities, in conformity to and in furtherance of their programmes.

The following outlines are the Indian Nation's aspirations as to how India should be built up in future for the guidance of the proposed abovesaid committee. These are the forerunners of the final Indian National Constitution.

1. Each village Panchayat should form an Autonomous Unit controlling the destinies of the population of that village, in plenty, poverty and in everything; every Panchayat should prepare its own Census of population, cattle, poultry etc.; it should also prepare the total food-requirements of that village for a year; it should also compute the probable total output of all kinds of foodstuffs of that village in that year, with details of acreage of respective crops, including standing fruit yielding trees, hay and grasses; and it should finally compute its surpluses and demands in food-stuffs.

**Note:** The Census should show:—

(a) men of intelligence, who are incapable of hard manual work;

(b) artisans of various industries ; and

(c) manual labourers

How many, in each category, can be given employment in the village, and how many are available for work, elsewhere :

2. Each man or family should be given an Identity of Citizenship and is bound to his Panchayat which will cater all his needs ; every Panchayat is the court of First Instance to redress the grievances of its citizens ; every man is bound to disclose and register, all his possessions in real property, liquid cash, investments, jewelery and other belongings, with the Panchayat ; otherwise such properties will have no protection throughout India.

3. Procurement control or commanding of anything and everything will devolve on these Panchayats.

4. Groups of village-Panchayats will elect a Firka-Panchayat, and groups of Firka-Panchayats will elect Taluq-Panchayats, and groups of Taluq-Panchayats will elect a District-Panchayat and Districts the Presidency Panchayats.

5. All reports, returns, and revenues will be sent by Panchayats to Firkas, and Firkas to Taluqs and Taluqs to Districts, and Districts to the Presidency. Administrative powers will emanate from the village step by step to the top of the Presidency ; and exercise of powers will come down from the top step-by-step to the villages.

Every Village, Firka, Taluq, District and Presidency Panchayats will have a standardised guide which will be the Administrative Law of the country, under which control of cultivation, irrigation, health and sanitation, education, trade and commerce, capital, and investments, social and religious

customs and usages, civil, criminal and revenue, taxation, defence and general administration, will be carried on.

7. Every Village Panchayat will be authorised to levy taxes and collect its own revenues (including land-revenue, income-tax and excise): Every Panchayat will prepare its own annual budget, get it passed by its own Panchayat and approved of by Taluq and Dt. Panchayats: Provincial Panchayats will have no residual powers to vary or cancel the village budget without the concurrence of the Dt. Panchayat; likewise firkas, taluqs and districts and presidencies will prepare their own budgets:

8. Every Panchayat will retain their budget amount out of the revenues; out of the balance-revenue a lump-sum will be remitted to the Firka, and Firkas to Taluqs and Taluqs to District and Districts to the Presidency, and Presidencies to Central Government; in other words, each Panchayat's Budget will have a first-charge on its revenues, and only the residue will pass on to the next higher unit.

9. All commons and unoccupied porambores will belong to their respective panchayats.

10. For the administration of Provincial and Central Governments, including Defence of India, revenues derived from, roads, railways, waterways, airways, coastal-shippings, posts and telegraphs, customs-duties, and profits by Nationalising all Capital Industries, will form the resources.

11. All the Finances of All-India, and its expenditures shall belong to and be controlled by Indians only; and no sort of interest can a foreigner or a foreign nation have within the boundaries of India;

12. Who is an Indian, and who is an alien should be defined by the Indian Elected Ministers of the Presidency and

Central Governments ; as far as possible, aliens will not be given any temporary or permanent privileges within the bounds of All-India, so that they may not form *Sudetans* and bring war upon India. (Even today Britishers refuse congressites any employment under them: we merely copy it here for security purposes.)

13. The Village, Firka, Taluq, District and Presidency Co-operative Societies, will be the treasury, bank, granery and registration offices in their respective jurisdictions ;

14. All grievances, whether general or individual, of villages will be heard and disposed of by the village Panchayat ; an appeal will lie on the Taluq Panchayat ; and a Second Appeal will lie on the District Panchayat ; and here it ends :

Grievances of Firkas will be decided first by its own Panchayat ; First Appeal lies on Taluq Panchayat and Second Appeal on District Panchayat, and here it ends ;

Grievances of Taluqs will be decided first by its own Panchayat ; First Appeal lies on District Panchayats ; a review may lie on Presidency Panchayats, and here it ends ;

Grievances of Districts will be decided by its own Panchayat and then finally disposed of by Presidency Panchayat.

15. All exports and imports shall cease until India's position is ascertained and evaluated ; exemptions may be made and controlled by popular Indian Central Government ; but in any case, all luxurious articles not useful for maintaining healthy life shall be prohibited entry into India ; the Central Government may import any or all kinds of machineries for the establishment or improvement of National Industries from out of the Sterling Balances of India in England in the meanwhile.

16. *Powers of Government* :—Government here means “Indian Elected Panchayat Government”; ordinarily the period for government will be for 3 or 5 years; but censures of political importance and “no confidence” motions shall terminate their period; all government servants are strictly public servants and not bosses over people; powers of administration will be decentralised and localised.

17. *Conditions of Public Service* :—Only men of merits in character and education shall be appointed; character in public life and private life shall be same; to avoid glamour for power and prestige (there is actually none in Panchayat Government) only men of merits over 35 years will be selected for government appointments; the total service tenure will be only 15 years; no pensions.

18. *Standards of Life* :—There will be about “fifty models of modest houses with a garden” to suit every family man’s standard of life; the smallest house-owner must maintain a cow or buffaloe, a small number of cocoanut trees bananas, mangoes, jack and bread-fruit, citrons, and a small space for vegetable cultivation; owners of larger houses must maintain proportionately larger numbers of these;

Every man’s savings is controlled by Panchayat government; for no man will have any scope to spend any of his savings without the knowledge or approval of his Panchayat (for trade is controlled by Panchayat); necessities of life are sold only by Panchayat co-op-societies; bad days of every man and woman will be well looked after by the Panchayats according to the family’s savings invested with Panchayats;

Secret saving is criminal to the Nation; and therefore liable to punishment leading to confiscation;

Devices will be formulated for quick rotation of money without stagnation, even for a day ; thus inflation by paper can be reduced to nil, and all National Debts can be redeemed in the course of about 20 years ;

Money being *only a media of exchange*, it becomes useless during idle stagnation ; if quickly rotated, money caters the needs of every man thro whom it passes, and still remains the same money and never vanishes to any extent :

Money going out of India is a loss to India ;

Money entering into India is a gain to India.

Money is in terms of gold and silver value, which will be decided hereafter by our National Panchayat Central Government ;

Therefore Panchayat Government is badly in need of its population's savings to utilise them in more productive work, and make India become plenty ;

(19) *Pooling of India's Resources for Promoting National Industries*: India should have one and only one *National Bank*. All the other existing Banks' assets and liabilities should be taken over by this "*National Bank*." Uniform rate of Interest, and dividend should be given to one and all. This *National Bank* should also be the Government Treasury, and will have a Branch throughout India, where a Government Treasury now exists.

*National Insurance*: There should be only one *National Government Insurance* in which all the assets and liabilities of all the existing Insurance Companies should merge.

Each man who saves and invests his savings with the Panchayat Government will have a stake, status and responsibility in the Panchayat Government.

The object is that every man should have all his needs—not freely for his 'idleness'!—but according to his services rendered to his motherland :

20. *Industries and Productions*: All existing industries will be Nationalised ; new National Industries will be found ; every man or woman can earn only upto his or her energy and intelligence, which is unlimited ; woman's energies will be industrialised at their own houses ; highest reverence will be given to the modesty and chastity of woman :

All productions will be standardised and certified by the *Indian National Society of Standards* composed of eminent Indian Scientists and Engineers, as fit for sale to the public at fixed prices ; only such certified products will be available for human consumption : all un-necessaries of life and fed-up goods will vanish ; tobacco-opium, ganja and other intoxicants will not be available for human consumption :

21. *Agriculture*: All available man-power will be utilised to improve agriculture and yield ; the formations of fields, and irrigation systems will be re-alligned, re-shaped and re-assigned to cultivating families ; land owners who lose their lands will get compensation, computing the value at its lowest cost ; these will be decided, in course of time, by Panchayat Government :

Produces will be cheapest in the producing villages. Surplus produces will be sold only by Panchayats at a higher rate to the Purchasing Panchayats ; these profits will be the revenue of the producing villages.

Producing villages are entitled to know to whom their surpluses are intended and at what prices they are sold. District Panchayats may refuse exports or imports, if they



were detrimental to their interests ; Provinces can have on say in these matters, except offering advices :

Production, procurement and control of prices will rest only with the local panchayats from bottom to top ; only reasons and not power of the top will prevail :

22. *Military, Air and Naval - Defences*: Every Panchayat will provide a percentage of intelligent young men, every year, for Police, Military, Air and Naval training ; at the end of 30 years the whole nation should have had some kind of education in relation to the security of the country, in addition to the general education on agriculture, industries, productions and Indian Administration. Villages should possess mud fortresses ; rural and urban towns should have fairly stronger fortresses, and cities should possess strongest fortresses ; all hills should possess defence and offence fortifications. Every fortress and fort should have two rings of Pill-boxes, which in peace time will be the residences of Kothwals. Air-war will never minimise the importance of fortifications.

23. *Standing National Army*: There should be a well trained Standing National Army. During peace-time a section of this Army will do Police Duties for a period of 3 years, and afterwards they will go to their native places and do some National Service locally. Then another section will do the Police Work for 3 years and return to their localities. Thus the whole National Army will do police work and refresh their military practices during this period, Unlike now, every sepoy should be given good education and civilization, and a peace time avocation. He should be

well taught about the difference of bravery, chivalry, and brute force.

Under National Congress Government, there will be no necessity for being a criminal or for being a seditionist or traitor.

22. *Education*: Upto 3rd Form or 8th standard, education should be made free, compulsory and universal to all of school age; higher education will be, for those who get over 60% marks, in agriculture, industries, productions, trade and commerce, defence and general administration of India; geography, history, elementary science and mathematics will be relative to the abovesaid education; college education will be, for those who get 60% of the marks, on Engineering (building, mechanical, electrical, chemical, physical, nautical and aeronautical) as applied to every kind of Indian industry and productions as well as the general administration and defence of India.

At each stage of education, unfits, misfits and aptitudes should be determined, and further education and employments should be given only to such deserving students according to their aptitudes and merits.

23. *Communal Questions*: No Communal question of any sort need be raised in Panchayat Administration. Justice in life is equal and functional to one and all, rich or poor.

24. *Language and Linguistic Provinces*: The All-India Government language will be "Hindi." Provinces will be on linguistic basis; in provinces, local vernacular and Hindi will be the official languages; media of instructions will be in local vernacular. Any additional international language may be studied to help higher studies.

27. *Congestion of towns and revival of villages:* In order to relieve congestion of towns and revive village life, all amenities of towns, as far as possible, will be extended to villages. Decentralisation and localization of administrative powers will help to this end. Since District Courts will be the final court of appeal in a District, the abolition of High Courts in provincial headquarters should be considered. Or two Districts may have one High Court Judge.

Congestions in towns like Madras, Calcutta, Bombay, Karachi, Cochin, etc., should be relieved by improving and reopening all sea coast ports of olden days. Factories and Industries should be allowed only to locate in suitable sea-coast villages having railway connections, or near any village railway stations. They should be at least ten miles apart. All the preliminary stages of industrial productions of capital industries, should be assigned to women to work in their own homes in spare-times, and only finishing touches should be done in factories.

28. District Panchayats shall take up all the functions of the Revenue Boards; all the Revenue Boards and all their subordinate Directorates in Presidency towns should be abolished, as Secretariat can function these duties.

29. *Morality of Indian Nation:* Truth and honesty will be held in high esteem. Simple but high life will be for everybody. Every individual by his nativity to India, is bound to be of some service to the Indian Nation, in which he is one. All luxuries like motor cars, wrist watches, gaudy dresses, shaping a man's personality to that of a foreigner, smoking, alcoholic addictions, gambling, racing, wastefully wasting time and money in clubs, card and chess-playing and cricketing will all go for the time

being: All the energies of Indian Population will concentrate to make India plenty.

30. Under Congress Panchayat Government, secrecy in general administration can only exist with regard to the Security of India's Defence. In day-to-day administrations what is going on with the government, the Nation is entitled to know and the ministers and their subordinates are bound and liable to let the Nation know. Secrecy in common administration is immoral and corrupt. Secrecy and corruption go hand in gloves. Indian Nation will refuse to tolerate this. Its aim is to put a stop to corruption entirely.

31. (a) Immediate steps should be taken to enquire into the atrocities, committed by government servants in the name of Law and Order, on public, during 1942 Disturbances, and when such atrocities were brought to the notice of officers how they were ignored by them.

(b) Immediate steps should be taken to enquire into the atrocities and corruptions by government servants in the discharge of their duties, in abusing various Defence of India Regulations and Rules, or in getting supplies or controlling supplies and prices for war or civil purposes.

(c) Immediate steps should be taken to invite complaints as to how Nation's Food Stuffs and other stores purchased for war or civil supplies were allowed to go rotten and be destroyed owing to negligence in duties.

(d) People should be invited to make complaints as to how their grievances were not redressed, when represented before responsible officers, which amount to dereliction of duties in addition to other corruptions.

(e) Those who have been found guilty should be expelled from services.

# Life or Death! Indian Famine!!

## PROBLEMS & SOLUTIONS.

i	Cultivators,	is constant and continue to be same-as before.	Continue to be same—in yield, in quantity, and quality.	Should feed about
ii	Cultivable Lands, Irrigation Facilities, & Water for Irrigation,			400 million human beings, as well as at least about 100 million living beings, such as elephants, c a m e l s, horses, cows, goats, sheep, pigs, fowls, and birds of plains and forests and air.
iii	Ploughs, Bullocks and Implements,			
iv	Available Manures,			
v	Seeds and Modes of Cultivation,			
vi	Monsoonic Conditions,			
vii	Duration of Cultivation.			

i. *Cultivators* are—(a) Cooly cultivators, who are mostly Adi-Dravida men, women and children;

(b) Small-owner-cultivators with the aid of the above-said cooly-cultivators;

(c) Cultivators-on-Lease, with the aid of the abovesaid cooly-cultivators

(d) the Idle Land-owners, with the aid of cultivators-on-lease who engage cooly-cultivators;

(a) *Cooly-Cultivators* are mostly Adi - Dravidas who are untouchables and unapproachables to higher castes. They are of a substantial number in Indian population and live in ill-thatched huts, in swampy, filthy and mosquito breeding outskirts of well-to-do localities of villages or rural towns. Their cooking utensils are country earthenware pots

and shells of cocoanut. They are all worst toddy-drinkers and beedy-smokers; every infectious disease will first find a warm welcome with them before finding its way to well-to-do people. They relish and are content with their state of life, and are averse to other modes of reformatory life.

*Character and Outlook*: When engaged as a cooly, he will do his work indifferently and clumsily, only to half of his capacity to his assigned work. He will always demand more cooly and a lump-sum advance under a threat of a prospect of getting same elsewhere. He will take the advance, but will not keep up his word on the very next day. He will be seen working elsewhere. When questioned, he will reply he works for a prior advance and will give a number of other vague excuses. He possesses no such intelligence to know his dishonesty. He is sure that that mode of life is their community's honesty.

Sometimes he is given a plot of land to cultivate and fully enjoy its produce, as an incentive to better cultivate the other lands. His given land will bear a luxurious bumper crop while the other lands he cultivates will bear poorer crops.

He will refuse to go to work until all his reaped or earned produce or income is spent away and hunger again pinches him.

One or two anglicised men of their community are insistently advocating to the government that they should be given English education and government employments. They induce their community men to revolt against land-owners and capitalists, pointing out that their life is an abject slavery and serfdom. They advocate that their community men should not cultivate for others. They insist

the government should find lands for their community to own for themselves.

Christian Missionaries and Muhammedans easily convert these men to their religions. Then, they are supposed to have been elevated from untouchability and unapproachability. So far, their economic lot remains same as before, even after conversions.

They are largely being recruited as indentured coolies for Indian and foreign estates. They are also recruited as Military labourers. When they return to their homes they are wretches in morality, poverty, and health. In most cases they could not find their homes, nor their wives nor children.

Thus, this agricultural community is fast shrinking in numbers. This is one of the innumerable causes of the present famine. Congress Democracy should rectify these state of things.

(b) *Small land owner-cultivators* : Among agriculturist classes, there are a substantial number of cultivators who own lands, cattle and fowls ; these are mostly non-Brahmins with a sprinkling of Adi-Dravidas and Muhammadans everywhere ; these men with their wives and children always toil and sweat over their lands and they derive their due rewards ; in former days, these incomes would have been sufficient to maintain their families until their next harvest ; but the present day anglicised civilization consume all their incomes so soon as they get ; further their small possessions are being split up into fragments among their progenies, which afterwards become worthless to possess, and therefore, either sold away or are allowed to go fallow or poramboke. In the end, within a generation, the original small land owners'



progenies again become poverty stricken coolies and live miserably as described above.

(c & d) *Cultivators-on-Lease: The Idle Land Owners:*

A very large number of the population are agriculturists who do not work as coolies, but take lands of the idle and absentee land-owners on lease. The lease consideration will be—half for the cultivator, if he would defray all the expenses of cultivation; half for the idle land owner, who should pay the heavy government kist; or  $\frac{2}{3}$  rds or  $\frac{3}{4}$  ths of the yield would go to the land-owner if he is to bear any of the cultivation expenses, as the case may be:

The cultivation expenses are—

(a) tilling the soil by several ploughings and levelling the fields;

(b) manuring, seed-bed preparing, sowing, transplanting, irrigating, weed-removing, watching, harvesting, thrashing, winnowing, drying the grains and hay, and apportioning the produce:

*Cultivation Unprofitable:* The cultivators-on-lease would not take so much interest as if they were owner-cultivators; but would only be content to share what nature would help him to produce on the land; invariably during harvest, they will always fight with the land-owners to reduce his share by screening the output by many surreptitious ways; if the land-owner happened to be an absentee, the lessee will be more fortunate to rob as much as he could by putting forward so many pleas as monsoon failed, rats, pests and disease have spoilt the crops and so on.

In no year the cultivators will give the land-owners, the lease considerations in full. They will execute bonds for the balance which they will promise to give during the next year's

harvest. Thus these bonds will only be *an insurance* for the cultivators to get the same lands for cultivation during next year. In the next year also the cultivators will play the same old tactics to decieve the dues of the land-owner, and year after year the cultivators' indebtedness to the land-owner will go on swelling. The cultivators will own nothing substantial to satisfy a court-decree for their indebtedness. If a land-owner proceeds against a cultivator in court, no other cultivator will take up his lands for cultivation in subsequent years. If at all any cultivator accepts the land for cultivation it will be only for a very low rental, unprofitable to own lands; for, the cultivators know the weaknesses of land-owners. The Revenue Officers and Labour Officers will always side with the cultivators as a matter of policy, and will never be helpful to the land-owners who fatten the officers by their kists. The interference of Revenue Officers and Labour Officers in disputes between cultivators and land-owners will always aggravate and worsen the relationship of these two, in which the land-owners' security of property and life will be at stake.

The idle land-owners could not maintain their families in these days of anglicised civilization, of higher standard, with the meagre incomes they get from their lands, after paying the heavy government kist and other social-welfare taxes of the village as well as marriage and other feast or religious expenses. In course of time, the village-residing idle land-owners will become debtors, and laterly the town-residing land-owners will find that their lands are great drags upon their resources, and both these categories will ultimately sell away their lands. This is how a village land-owner comes to towns in search of other profitable walks of life. In all probability, the cultivators themselves or some

other retiring gentlemen of fortune with fantastic plans and schemes will purchase the lands. When men become owners of lands, they and their generations style themselves as landlords, and become easy-going anglicised gay gentlemen of the day, and will, in their turn and in course of time, sell away their lands to their cultivators or to some other new retiring gentlemen of fortune. So the cycle rotates !

Since the cultivators have to defray very heavy cultivation-cooly expenses, the return they get is so poor that it will not maintain their families to suit the anglicised fashions of the day until the next harvest. Since the income for the land-owner too being too poor and the kist and other cultivation expenses being too heavy, it will not work out even  $2\frac{1}{2}$  or 2% interest on the outlay of the land, and coupled with the great vexation to get his share from the cultivators will compel him to sell away his lands and be scot-free to squander his monies.

To sum up, agriculture—a life maintaining profession—has become an ugly drudgery and unprofitable, when compared with other professions ; and that is why men who have earned big fortunes shun to invest their fortunes on lands and go to their native villages, where anglicised civilization does not exist. For these very reasons, our learned educated gentlemen of depressed, oppressed and untouchable classes advocate their community people, not to cultivate for idle land-owners, and to seek other and more fortune bringing walks of life.

Unless and until the Congress Government settles the liabilities and shares of cultivators, land-owners and government, the *grow more food* cry will only be a cry in the wilderness. The coolies working in the harbour, railway and other industries, bazaars and Kothwal-chavadi-basket-bearers

and rickshaw-wallahs were all originally cultivators, who have chosen other walks of life, taste something of the anglicised civilization of the day, and they do taste it now. They will, if asked, refuse to go back to cultivation of lands. Shrinkage of cultivating population is one of the causes for food shortage. Bringing in extensive areas under cultivation by big schemes and projects will equally suffer from want of cultivators. But many cultivators may take up lands under canal-irrigation leaving off their old well-irrigated lands to go fallow. Assigning lands to ex-military men and other poor cultivators will also become fruitless. For, the government should also provide these new cultivators with funds to build houses, and purchase ploughs, bulls and manure and maintenance till the next harvest of their labours.

The past government have created many presumptuous, high officials who would ironically mock at the cultivators, that "on looking into a regularly well-kept cultivation accounts, in which none of the items could be false or exaggerated, and which also show nil or too poor return to investors on lands, the government should, instead of squeezing kists from land-owners, sympathise them and make 'presents' for their labours" And, they frequently never fail to ask the cultivators, "Then, why should you all stick on to keep lands, when they yield you nothing but loss! How can a government run and fattily pay officers like us, if government are to compensate every agriculturist! Perhaps Coimbatore or Pusa should be asked to evolve *Pagoda* yielding trees!" One of the hearers used to answer—"No Sir! They evolve plants out of Sovereigns to yield coppers." The fun is that some of those high officials when they retire, unfortunately happen to own lands. The self-same grievances which he refused to accept when he was an

official would continue to arise, and this gentleman would induce the other land-owners to agitate for redress, himself evading to subscribe his signature in petitions, for fear of being accused by the then official, as fomenting an agitation against government and his pensions threatened.

So far till date, the government failed to prove practically in any manner whatsoever that agriculture is so profitable that the government is justified in exacting the present rate of kist (land-tax, water-rate and other cesses). Let the Ministers for Revenue, Agriculture, Food and Irrigation along with some of the City Editors make a visit to the much advertised "Farm" within the Government House Compound, Mount Road, Madras, and observe whether the labourers plough the lands with the same ploughs as the Agricultural Department advocate, whether the specially selected seeds sown in scientifically prepared and manured lands, produce diseaseless healthy plants of higher productivity bearing such beautiful and size of produces as appear in the advertisement pictures, and what are the incomes and expenditures of such a demonstration farm. Let the same Ministers and Editors go to Madras Kothwal-Chavadi, observe the best varieties of vegetables, and trace the lands which produce such beautiful vegetables, and make enquiries of the farmers whether they took any lessons from the Agricultural Department to produce such beautiful vegetables, and what are the incomes and expenditures, and whether the profits can ever be universal for all lands and for all the times and what relief or help the government should give farmers to produce more and enjoy profits of such productions. At any rate, the Agricultural Department, as a distinct unit, is of no use to cultivators. Panchayatdars may be given some training in agriculture, and all the functions of the Agricul-

tural Department may be asked to be performed by land-owning Panchayatdars. The department may be abolished as the present agriculture and productions are not due to the existence and teachings of the department. Likewise, the Fisheries Department! What earthly benefit the fishermen or the nation derive commensurate to the public monies spent thereon!

ii. Cultivable Lands,  
Irrigation Facilities and } are—  
Water for irrigation,

(a) *Wet*, irrigated by channels from rivers or tanks;

(b) *Wet-Dry*, partly irrigated by river or tank water and partly by well-water.

(c) *Wet Dry-Waste*, fertile and suitable for wet and dry cultivation, (left waste owing to the ignorance of people and Agricultural Department);

(d) *Dry-Wet*, actual dry-land on which wet-cereal-crops are grown by well-water and rain-help;

(e) *Dry-Dry*, root and other vegetable crops are grown solely depending upon well-irrigation and rains;

(f) *Dry-Dry-Plantations*, where trees like casurina, cashew, cocoanut, palmyrah are grown;

(g) *Dry-Dry-Wastes*, are similar to (f) but nothing is grown, and forms unoccupied-common-wastes or occupied fallows;

(h) Village and railway margins, swamps, ditches, dirty ponds and filled up tanks:

India's Food Crops are now grown in (a) (b) (c) (d) and (e) in a sliding scale from the top; (f) (g) (h) are either wholly or partly neglected or ignored; past government and

its staffs have been either misfits or unfits or indifferents to bring these lands into intensive vegetations.

(a) *Wet, irrigated by channels from rivers and tanks;*  
The yield from these lands must always be constant, unless they are improved by—

i. re-shaping all lands into uniform one-acre fields, square or rectangular in shape ;

ii. putting strong, wide and uniformly thick barriers or bunds, longitudinally and latitudinally, to meet in straight lines at right-angles, to prevent manure decoction of one land flow into another land : this will put a stop to land grabbing by strong over the weak, and avoid village feuds and litigations :

iii. making all irrigation channels to run in straight lines with uniform breadth and depth and thickness of bunds, in conformity to the formation of fields, to irrigate fields on both sides ; irrigation from land to land is very bad and destructive, and leads to feuds and litigations :

iv. digging a well, in the centre, for every four acres, as an insurance for any failure of monsoon or water and also to grow a subsidiary crop, if possible, during scarce or in summer ; this can be done even in delta wet-lands ;

The above described improvements will reclaim about 5 or more acres of land for every 100 acres area ; a number of benefits, including the easy calculation and control of yield, kist and allotments to cultivators, can be got ; single or double crop lands can be made to yield a subsidiary crop ; roots like sembu, (arhar), turmeric, and vegetables like bendi, bunch beans, dhall-grain, fodele-green can be grown on the slopes of the bunds ; lemon, citronella or khus-khus grass can be



planted in place of wild *vizhal* inside the slopes of channel bunds either for fodder or for distilling essential oil as a cottage industry.

*Water for Irrigation:* i. Delta Regions;

ii. Dry Wild River Regions

iii. Tank-fed Regions

iv. Rain-fed Regions

v. Water-logged-swamp Regions.

i. *Delta Regions* have fairly good water supply and failures are rare; but if all channels are sufficiently and uniformly narrowed in breadth and depth and their bunds uniformly strengthened and straightened and planted with money-yielding crop trees, like silk-cotton trees, cork-trees, lime, mita-neem, castor, etc., combined with green manure shrub-plants like Erukku, Kattamanakku etc, they would be of immense help to produce more:

*Notes:* *Silk-Cotton*, an essential commodity, and easily grown without care or expense is very rare: its seeds are oil-producing with edible small kernels; the value of these kernels should be examined and tested; *cork-trees* produce very fragrant flowers; lime-trees profusely yield fruits; mita-neem gives fragrant edible leaves; fragrant essential oils can be extracted as a cottage industry from out of cork-tree flowers, leaves and flowers of lime-trees, and leaves of mita-neem; the value of castor seeds need not be much impressed; they are medicinally and industrially gold: their leaves and residues are good manures.

All rivers of Delta Regions empty more than 90% of their water into sea. Some steps should be taken to stem this waste and conserve a substantial quantity of water over the plains. This can be safely done by constructing a number of

causeway-anicuts at proper distances. To prevent sand inundations each anicut may have a number of openings. To conserve sufficient quantity of water within the catchment area, devices to put wooden or iron shutters may also be fixed over the said anicuts. The bunds of these rivers should be strengthened, and where possible straightened also. The undue breadth of the rivers may also be narrowed. During heavy floods these anicuts will overflow down, and during waning days, these anicuts can be made to conserve a vast sheet of water in their catchment area. These water stag-nations will be of immense value including fish culture and luxurious growth of vegetations. If down-flows are so regulated, cheap power for grinding cereals could be got. By keeping these damp areas clean, mosquito breeding can be minimised. People must be educated to keep clean all their lands. These suggestions will make India Plenty.

ii. *Dry-Wild-River-Regions*: These rivers are almost always dry. Since there are no sufficient number of tanks in their upper regions, the rain waters are completely drained and wastefully emptied into sea: There is no time for the rain water to percolate and moist the lands in full, to keep the climate and vegetations healthy. So much so, these regions, especially the slope-tracts of hilly-regions, are too hot for human and animal habitations, and vegetations too are scrubby and too poor in flourish. Water will not percolate quickly in wells of these regions to the detriment of cultivation. The improvements suggested to Delta Rivers to conserve water storage will be much more suitable to these rivers, if adopted, and the benefits will be immeasurable.

iii. *Tank-Fed Regions*: These regions are of higher level than plains and full of slopes, ups and downs and rugged everywhere. Tanks have been formed, in olden days, not by

students of the Guindy or other Engineering Colleges, but by the settling villagers, just at the head of a small stretch of silted plains for cultivation of cereals. Above these tanks are vast areas of hilly, shrubby or scrubby forest water-slopes. The catchment capacities of these tanks had deteriorated by the neglect of the minor irrigation department, for long long years. The government exacted water-rates but refused to spend this tax on the maintenance of irrigation in good condition. So much so, every tank has now become filled up by silt, and storage capacity has been reduced. But, the extent of the irrigated lands under each tank has been permitted by Government to extend beyond the capacities of these tanks. For, the Tahsildars only wanted to show increase of revenue to prove their merits for promotions. No wonder for the poor yield of the lands.

During rainy seasons, rains will be universal. But very little of these rain waters are caught by the above described tanks; might be 1/20th. 19/20ths go to the sea. Further, each year the bunds of these tanks will become thinner and distorted. The villagers will refuse to repair these bunds as it is the duty of the government that collect water rates. Some sort of patch-ups will be attended to rough-shod by the minor-irrigation staffs, only on successive petitions. There will be wide disparity in the expense as against the work done. Nobody, except some superior staffs of the same department will inspect the work done after several months and after a few rains, when the works could not be identified which is which. Sums may also be certified as spent properly without any inspection.

Coming again to the point, all tanks should be made now to hold more water by strengthening its bunds. To replenish the waters spent upon irrigating the crops, one or two tanks in the

upper regions of the main irrigation tank should be constructed with strong bunds to catch and retain water to its capacity. The effects of these reserve tanks are innumerable. The rains are for short periods, and before the earth gets fully moistened the rain stops and the bright sun evaporates the surface moisture of the earth. Hence, in these upper slopes only scrub trees grow. If waters are stagnated in these small reserve tanks, the waters will percolate deep into the earth in all surrounding areas and all vegetations will grow luxuriously and profusely. Further, in tank-fed regions, it is usual for the farmers to construct several wells to irrigate their crops when the tank goes dry. Usually these wells, take too much time to regain its water level by percolation, some wells taking even two days' time. If the earth is enabled to absorb as much water as possible from the stagnation of water of these reserve tanks, the percolation in these wells will be quick and plentiful and sometimes inexhaustible. The Congress Government should now consider the sensibility of these suggestions and do the needful.

Again, men possessing agricultural acumen can observe that the vast catchment areas of the existing tanks are of level ground and silt covered, for long long years and therefore the capacity of storing water have been diminished. To compensate this deficiency, the engineers, if they had been true to their duties, should have raised the bunds and the level of the *Kalingu* which drain superfluous water, to keep up and maintain the irrigable capacity of every tank's *ayakut*. But, instead of weeping over spilt milk, now, let the Congress Government remodel that department and set right all tanks to enable grow more food.

Again, in many of these tanks, the catchment areas have been assigned to agriculturists. In other innumerable tanks, such areas have not been brought under cultivation. This

shows, there had been no uniform policy in 'tank-maintenance and land assigning policy' with the officers of the Revenue Department. If we enquire into these matters deeply only filths will come out. Now, let the Congress Government bring these lands under cultivation, when the water of these tanks go down in level. Instead of assigning lands in out-of-the-way outskirts of villages for cultivation, first beginnings may be made here, as suggested.

With regard to the keeping up of irrigation channels in good condition, there exists conflict of duties between the Revenue Department and the cultivators. When the government exacts a water-rate, in equity, it is the bounden duty of the government to see the water reaches the lands, fairly easily. Under the cover of a term "Kudi-maramath", the government have raised many unfounded and illegal justifications in refusing their duties and throw the burden on cultivators. The author of this booklet knows occasions, when the Tahsildar, knowing fully well the injustice, compelled the villagers to clear the river sands of the channel head, beyond the shutters of the channel, which would cost about more than Rs. 1000/-.

The causes of the present famine are not the aftermaths of the war. War has only accelerated the famine to come earlier and cause deaths. The agricultural population, for several decades, vainly agitated for land Revenue and other Agricultural Reforms in many directions, and many Commissions and Committees and even the Secretary of State have recommended that certain grievances should be remedied. The past government not only deliberately flouted every one of them, but aggravated and still continue to aggravate the grievances and introduce new and unexpected grievances also. The Revenue Board composed of I. C. S. people and their

mercenary subordinate staffs to dance to the tunes of their superiors are the main and sole cause for the present pandemonious state of affairs.

In order to infuse confidence among the agricultural population in the future government, and to grow more food and enjoy the profits of their labours in their own way, the present Congress Government should now make a definite announcement that the whole village administrations which are now controlled by the Revenue Board and Government, will be handed over to Panchayats, and their administrative budget amounts will be allowed to be deducted from the Government Kist. Only this kind of reform and village autonomy will end this famine.

Many of the Engineering and Minor Irrigation Staffs are worthless. In spite of so many statistics and mathematical calculations and drawings, these people are not able to measure and gauge the eccentricities of monsoons from experiences of over 150 years. So much so, either breeches or draughts will always take place throughout India, every year, almost in the same localities, in spite of huge expenses in previous years. The people of this department seems always bent upon creating some work and prepare plans and estimates for the next year. These people are queerly titled as experts in their line, and men of other departments are not allowed to assess these people's worth or work. The Congress Government should take immediate steps to filter all misfits and unfitts. The villagers are much better engineers for their own works, and economy requires that these people's functions should be vested in Village Panchayats as far as possible.

iv. *Rain-Fed-Regions*: The slopes, ups and downs of rugged hilly tracts, and the sandy sea-shore tracts, and all these plains where irrigation tanks could not be formed, are

rain-fed-regions. In the ups and downs of hilly tracts, if the reservoir tanks previously mentioned are formed, good trees of timber and fruit value could be grown. Kattumambalam for saraipparuppu, kasaan for fuel, cashew for edible kernels of proteinous value, and bamboos, could be grown without much expense or efforts. Only diggings and seed plantings are required just before beginning of the monsoons. They will grow of their own accord. In sea-shore sandy tracts, casurina, cashew, cocoanut, palmyrah, tamarind, margosa, mangoe and the like could be grown. Casurina and bamboo, as fuel and for military building purposes are well known now. Cashew kernels are very nutritious and costly which are in great demand locally and in Americas. The value of cocoanut, palmyrah, tamarind etc., need not be told, as the scarcity and high cost of these commodities will speak for themselves. Palmyrah jaggery is a cottage industry in Tinnevely and South Travancore. That jaggery is produced so abundantly to feed a sugar factory of good size. Why the past government did not encourage this cottage industry elsewhere where palmyrahs grow abundantly? Let the Congress Government get explanations from Industries Department, and mend matters.

v. *Water logged and Swamp Regions*: There are large tracts of water logged swamps along the sea-coasts, which can be reclaimed for salt-manufacture, fish-culture, and cocoanut plantations. The Viceroy now says India is short of salt. What are the motives of the government to ignore Indian resources and import salt from Aden and Liverpool! How could Indians have confidence with those people who were responsible for these shameful affairs. Let the Congress Government purge out these unfits and drags on Indian Finances.



#### IV. Ploughs, Bullocks and Implements :

*Ploughs* ; The common ploughs of Indian cultivators are small and light. They are incapable of ploughing more than 4" deep. In order to break plough lumps and turn the earth upside down, and also to plough a little more deep than 4 inches, second and third course of ploughing is adopted ; in certain lands more ploughing is required.

Every cultivator will not possess a plough ; if one exists with him, it would be out of repair. The common carpenter and black-smith of the villages who were attending to the repairs of agricultural implements in ancient days of yore have all vanished. Since the agricultural season is common for all the cultivators, ploughs on loan could not be got from possessors. One has to wait for some days to get it on loan. A good plough may exist with a cultivator, but he may not have a good pair of animals to draw it. In the end, many cultivators are compelled to plough and transplant out of time in haphazard manner, which is also the cause for famine. Cows and bulls have been depleted, by slaughter, in this war and the Congress Government have to make it up hereafter.

*Agricultural Demonstrators and Implements* : Now, there is an agricultural demonstrator in every important rural centres of the presidency. His department has provided him with a set of different ploughs and other agricultural implements both for sale and lending to agriculturists. He is also given a quantity of cereal and vegetable seeds, annual calendars, pamphlets and leaflets. Alas ! All these do not attract the attentions of common cultivators ! Why the common cultivators do not find any profitable or practicable suggestions from these demonstrators ? They are merely clerks of some department ! The ploughs are too heavy. No doubt they will plough deeply. But they should be drawn by

elephants or horses. Finest breeds, big and costly bulls could be goaded to draw these ploughs, but they will soon die of fatigue. The Demonstrators' services are rarely being availed of by cultivators. Thus, the Madras Agricultural Department is a great burden on public resources without any beneficial results to warrant its continuance in the form in which it continues now. Its functions can, hereafter, be better functioned by Panchayats under Congress Government.

*Tractor Ploughs:* In order to overcome these difficulties, and to prepare the lands for more yield, each village should possess a few tractor-ploughs. These tractor-ploughs should be of a small size, of not more than 10 B. H. P., and should run on crude-oil, and should be capable of turning sharply within an acre; or it should be capable of running forward and backward, and in this case the plough-blades should be capable of being tilted to the other side when the tractor runs backward. In that case the tractor need not turn, and by driving it slantingly backward the whole one acre could be ploughed.

But tractor-ploughs are only suitable to plough the fields when dry. If they could be so made to plough wet lands all the more better. But, if not, our country-ploughs would fill up that gap. Thus more deeper and better ploughings could be had and better yield will be the result.

*Portable-Pumping Sets:* Likewise, every village should also possess a few Portable-Pumping Sets, to run on crude-oil, mounted on 4 wheeled troillies, with strong flexible hose-pipes for sucking and delivery. These will aid productions more and also be helpful during draughts. At times, these will be the "Fire-Brigades" of the villages.

India's Sterling Balance could be used to get these equipments for India.

v. *Available manures*: The availability of manures and composting them for use is a great problem. But by regular and concerted efforts, Panchayats can solve it. If every family is enforced to maintain a limited number of animals, for himself and the Commons, and if the Panchayat would increase the growing of wild-green manure plants in all available waste spaces, this problem can be solved to a great extent. New methods of preparing the soil to absorb nitrogen from air, and converting water-hyacinths and mosses into manure should also be taught to cultivators, in addition to the growing of hemp and indigo in fields for green manure. Gathering and converting dried leaves into manure should be induced. Every family should know how to use their own night-soil and gutter-water as manure for vegetable gardening.

The advocacy of Agricultural Department to purchase ready made foreign chemical manures, is nothing more than that of cajoling their employer-races by their advertisement propaganda.

In the back-yard of every family house, a concrete-built, manure-pit should exist, and be covered. Panchayats should educate the people as to how they can increase and preserve the manure-value of all wastes.

vi. *Seeds and modes of Cultivation*: The cultivators themselves know how to select seeds and preserve them. To add to their knowledge any new or improved methods can also be taught by local Panchayats.

In these schemes, since common cultivation and division of yields are advocated, it would be desirable if local Panchayats select seeds and preserve them to be sown in the Panchayats' common Seed-Bed-Lands and distribute the seedlings to the whole village.

The modes of cultivation should also be improved by intelligent apportionment and distribution of one, two, three, four, five, six, nine and twelve months cereal and vegetable crops, interspaced throughout every village.

Greens like amaranthus, spinach, agathi, roselle, lajja-gutta, gongura or pulicha-keerai should be compulsorily grown and consumed by every family house. These greens should mitigate the shortage of cereals; and different kinds of rich preparations, by mixing salad greens like coriander, cumin, mitta neem etc., can be made out of these greens. Rich as well as poor relish these.

vi. *Monsoonic Conditions*: Elsewhere in these schemes, readers can find how Congress Government could conserve monsoon waters, which would be useful to make India plenty, from going waste into sea.

vii. *Duration of Cultivation*: Some greens like spinach, lajja-gutta, agathi and so on, will produce leaves for daily consumptions; amaranthus of several varieties will become consumable from 30th day till 60th or 75th day (afterwards they begin to flower). These are tasty and proteinous and liked by one and all. These will mitigate the shortages of food to a substantial extent. Every family or the Panchayat, for the whole village, should cultivate these greens. After clearance, the land should again be remanured and cultivated with bunch and French beans. Cultivation of all varieties of gourds should not be ignored. Panchayats of every village should so distribute their lands, for the cultivations of short and long term crops. They should begin now to grow all varieties of fruit yielding trees in all available spaces. These trees will yield fruits afterwards without much care or effort, or watering. Thus, efforts should be taken by village Panchayats to get some sort of productions throughout the year.

## General Observations.

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Congress ministers should never forget that they are commoners and they would have to return again as common men. They should never pose themselves to possess much more knowledge and intelligence than that of a commoner and should avoid demonstrating power or prestige. Common-sense, persuasions by reasonings, toleration and humble service to their country and countrymen should be the ministers' mottoes. Never should they allow words to creep in their official communiques to estrange people into hatred. As far as possible, all central powers and administrative functions should be decentralised and localised to be functioned by Panchayats. Ministers should note that their day to day work is closely being analysed and weighed by the Nation.

As far as possible, all Panchayats should be autonomous in their own spheres of jurisdiction. Each Panchayat should have in its establishments all the categories of all the departments of the present-day government. The Presidents of respective Panchayats should function the duties of Collectors, Dy. Collectors, Tahsildars and village officers. The other Panchayatdars should be the head of each department.

The other servants of the government should be as far as possible local men and shall draw local rates of pay. After 15 year's service government servants should be discharged. No pensions should be granted for their services. Intelligent men of over 35 years only should be given appointments. Men of over 60 years shall not be government servants, except school masters, and certain other special appointments of temporary nature requiring experience.

Compulsory Police and Military training should be given to all men of under 40 years. Women should also be given

some sort of training in Defence, and be of some service to the country.

All complexities of life should be eliminated. The schemes are only tentative, subject to modifications and perfections according to experiences gained.

The final drafting of the Government of India Constitution should be on the basis of experiences gained from Village Autonomy ascending to the top.

*Village Autonomy* : The Indian Nation now insists that the Congress Government, being democratic, should revive the ancient autonomous village republics, as constitutional industrial and agricultural units. Almost all villagers had been producers of all life maintaining commodities and they were self-sufficient and contented. The rest also rendered some kind of service to the village commune. Every village had its own Panchayat which controlled and looked after its own revenue, justice, police, irrigation, communication, trade, education, health and sanitation, religion, labour and productions. Every village possessed its own blacksmiths, coppersmiths, goldsmiths, carpenters, potters, barbers, washermen, medical-men, nurses, weavers, masons, oilmen, chuckler, school-masters, musicians, acrobats, jugglers and wizards.

The past British Government, in order to enrich their own nation, have disintegrated the old village system, and usurped its republican governmental powers, by introducing their own education, civilization, standard of life, and individual outlook as against community welfare. They manipulated their government in such a way to drain off the country's wealth which they have accomplished now.

Now, as a result, rich, poor, middle class, artisans and agricultural labourers, have all migrated to towns and far off

places in search of more lucrative walks of life than their ancestral and hereditary agriculture, production and service. What wonder is there for Indians to die of famine, now! The people, in order to curry the favours of employers or in taking pride by westernising themselves have modified and demoralised their identity of Indian Nationality, by cropping their heads, by wearing suits, collars, neckties, hats and boots, by salaaming instead of *namasthe* and indulge always in talking in English having a cigar, cheroot, cigarette or beedi between their teeth and purposely puff on the face of the front man and take pride in it,—and by what all other western imported nonsenses of the kind.

So much so, the impoverishment of India, demoralisation and denationalisation of Indians in character and outlook, and dependency in almost everything to maintain life and peace on foreign nations, are now so complete, that persistent and prolonged herculian efforts are required from our patriots to overhaul, pull down and remodel India back to its own. Still, formidable oppositions from many anglicised fools "that the clock and calendar cannot be set back" may also be confronted. The Congress Government should assert *that* grit of confidence and conviction to rebuild India on modern and yet on sanctoral lines of purity and truth. Let God help us to this end!

*Prices of Gold and Silver are the Factors for Producers:* Every producer possesses his inherent and godly right to evaluate and price his products in terms of the prices of gold and silver; and no moral government can have any right to infringe these inherent rights of producers. It will especially be immoral and corrupt for the National Democratic Congress Government to prohibit the evaluation of prices, of life maintaining produces proportionately to that of



the prices of gold and silver which have no life-value. It will certainly be immoral and corrupt, of the worst type, for any government to limit and control the value of produces or of services, between twice and thrice of prewar value, while the prices of gold and silver had shot up five or six times the prewar value. It was immoral and corrupt in the past and will also be the same in future, to compel a nation to accept a coin as legal tender when it is not of pure gold or silver and adulterated with metals of no value by merely subscribing to it a king's or country's insignia to that spurious adulteration.

A life must live with food. Without "Food" all other commodities or conveniences are of no use to a hungry life. Therefore, the prices of "Foodstuffs" should be the basis for calculating or fixing the prices of all other commodities.

Worldly transactions have so adjusted, that barter has been eliminated and coins of gold and silver have been introduced as media of exchange. Next to the importance of food, gold and silver became the necessities of a man's life. Because, if a man had gold or silver he could readily get "Foodstuffs" and other commodities of life. The producer of "Foodstuffs" was too happy and energetic in those days when he could get silver rupees and gold coins for his labours.

Now, the silver rupee and gold coins have completely vanished from the country. Who hoards these precious metals? Such civilised countries as Europe and America. If Europe and America would have such a craving for gold and silver, why not an Indian peasant-producer of food-stuffs? Now, Europe and America value their commodities in terms of the prices of gold and silver. Therefore, where is the

wrong if an Indian producer fixes his price in terms of the prices of gold or silver? It is now clearly evident that the basis for fixing the prices of "Foodstuffs" first, and other commodities next, should be the basis of the prices of gold and silver. Then the question comes, who should fix these prices? Is it the producer-farmer or the man who possesses gold and silver and also power and guns to protect that gold and silver from going out of his hands? This simple question is the cause for the labour trouble in the whole world.

In the world, there are the following categories of people.

- i. The actual labourer who produces Food :
- ii. Supervisors and owners of land who gaze at the production of Food :
- iii. The actual labourers who produces, commodities other than Food,
- iv. Supervisors and owners of establishments, who gaze at the productions.
- v. Clerks and satelites who come round ii and iv.
- vii. Series of middlemen who purchase and sell commodities for profits.
- vii. Actual labourers in handling, loading and transporting goods.
- viii. Servants of government, railways etc., local bodies etc.,
- ix. The Bania and the like money-lenders :
- x. Local and Exchange Banks.

(a) No gold or silver can be found among the actual labourers. They earn their living by the evening of every day and spend at once. No savings with them.

(b) Supervisors and owners of land and industrial establishments possess huge surplus monies to expand their businesses or to spend in luxuries, and purchase gold and silver utensils and ornaments.

(c) The Bania, Local and Exchange Banks, and other usurious money lenders hoard the largest lot of gold and silver.

(d) The servants of government, railways etc., possess some gold and silver, and money-savings to pass on the days.

There are innumerable clerks, who although lead an easy going life, yet live hand to mouth and with no gold or silver.

Now, who is to fix the prices of gold, silver and other commodities? Why he now finds the necessity of fixing prices? Because, without any exception, everyman wants to pocket the other man's money by foul means. People are hiding commodities, creating scarce, and raising prices. The government get a "substantial share" in these profits. What will these people do with the huge money profits? To purchase gold and silver! Marwaris, Mooltanies and other upcountry Banias have innumerable ingots of gold and silver.

Now, the Congress Government cannot allow these pandemoniums to prevail any longer. It should fix the prices of Commodities. The basis of calculation should be the pre-war peace time prices. The most Reverend Queen Victoria's time and prices may be taken as basis. A family of the producer of food with a husband, wife and two children may be taken as basis. How much produce of food a producer should possess in a year to meet the food-requirements of his family and purchases of other necessities should be computed.

Then again, the rich man's family's requirements and his productions—life's necessities only—should be evaluated, beginning with the cost of raw materials upto finished product. Either the family of the producer should be raised to the standard of the rich family, or rich man's family should be reduced to the standard of the producer. All gold and silver should be taken over by the government for fair distribution, by sales at equitable prices. Greedy hoarders and delinquents should be brought to the level of labourers.

No doubt, economists will be confronted with innumerable difficulties in calculation. But yet, poor labourers and hand-to-mouth living clerks, should be protected to the fullest extent possible, as they are the people who bear the brunt of India's well-being and security. Every rich man's pooled money-wealth can be paid at 1 or 2% interest per annum. If all industries and establishments are run by government controlled local popularly elected assemblies, all difficulties will vanish.

These forced circumstances can remain only for a period—say 20 years, until India rebuilds herself in internal economics and external security.

*Deterioration of General Moral Character in all Walks of Life:* The present, almost universal deterioration of general moral character in all and every walk of life of the nation has been due to the predetermined and well-planned and legalised manipulations or corruptions and immoralities to enrich the ruling nations. Now, every Indian in the street knows, who has got all the gold and silver of the peasants at present! and how has he been impoverished to death, now!! Even in the present famine days, gold and silver do not come out to meet the cost of cereals.

The wages of labourers and clerks of government and other trades and professions have not been raised equal to five or six times rise of price of gold and silver. Innumerable other life maintaining products which are in the hands of capitalists and industrialists, are five to six times costlier and are not available to the common folks of villages and towns. Thus, every man is being forced to become an arch-rogue if he wanted to live among rogues; and the whole country now gets on only by practising immorality, corruption and roguery.

It is imperative, therefore, that the Congress Government should bring down and control the prices of all commodities including gold and silver, and distribute them equitably to the Nation. Otherwise the future of India will be still more worse.

India has now got the chance of being a world teacher! Many corruptions are known to the government, and are allowed to continue because they bring money into government coffers. Over-loading a railway train to jamming and suffocation is one among them. An overloaded jutka or bus will be prosecuted and punished, and the same is not the case with railways.

*No Protection to Government or its Servants for Immoral Acts:* The Congress Government should note, that immorality and corruption have the same meanings whether practised by the people or by government servants "in the name of the government or discharge of duties" The former produces a local and limited bad effect, while the latter produces widespread and unlimited evil effects. The laws which punish immorality and corruptions of a man should become equally applicable as against government and their servants with all severity, and no protection should be available to them, and no previous "Executive Sanction"

need be got before launching proceedings. It should be enough that the presiding judge finds a *prima facie* case against the government or its servants to proceed with it.

*Work for all and pride in Service*: Nationalisation of all industries, trade, commerce, transports, army, services etc., including the localisation and decentralisation of National Congress Government will completely relieve unemployment. Every local section of the Democratic Government will have ample means and time to attend to the individual and collective welfare of the population. India can be transformed into utopia, and people will have no grievances. If people had any grievances, they will have ample means of rectifying them. The Central Government should only frame uniform laws, and guide and educate the people to exercise such laws for themselves and be contented.

*Taxation*: When all the National Resources are being nationalised and controlled and enjoyed by the Nation itself, for maintaining National Peace, and National Security, all taxes will go, and human greed to corruptions will also go.

*Laws*: Does a common man in the street know how is he governed now by Central and Provincial Governments? By millions of case laws, a thousand central and by another thousand provincial laws! Shameful!! The Democratic National Congress Government should consolidate all these laws into a few simple ones.

A "National Grievances Redressing Institution" should be found either as a wing to one of the Nation Building Programmes of the Congress Government or as a wing to the Congress Committee Offices. This Institution should freely invite people to narrate their grievances, due to the dereliction of duties or highhandedness or corrupt motives of

government, local bodies, railway and other transports and communications, industries, trades and professions or any other institutions of whatever nature or of their respective servants, for taking drastic, deterrent and effective steps to stop them and redressed.

Communiques should be issued thro' press the details of how such corruptions have been redressed, so that people in charge of public duties may take lessons and correct themselves.

*Colour Distinctions* : In railway and police departments whites and half-whites are shown partiality, in pay and qualifications. Less qualified whites, for the same or less responsibilities are paid considerably more, and too much indulgence are also shown. Congress Government should put a stop to this. In private Companies also, exorbitant pay and other emoluments are given to whites, by selling their commodities at an exorbitant high prices. This also should be prevented.

At any rate the prices of gold and silver should be the basis in computing the prices of all other commodities. Service is also a commodity of exchange for money.

The Congress Government should prohibit all attempts to private exports. Surplus and exportable commodities should be purchased at the lowest local prices by government. The government only can sell goods to foreigners on payment through gold and silver. The basis should be, Rs. 50/- for hundred tolas of pure silver, and Rs. 10/- for a sovereign weight of pure gold. The Congress Government may mint these into rupees and Sovereigns. Rs. 15/- may be made equivalent to a Sovereign, as a source of National Income.

The profits should be devoted to Nation Building Programmes. People need not bewilder at these proposals.



For money will not build the Nation. Only men receiving monies will build. Therefore, every man will rotate monies in spite of these proposals. The greatest benefit in these proposals are, that everyman will be forced to render some service to the mother-land, and there will be no gluttonous idlers.

If reforms of this kind are ignored, then survival of the fittest through rebellion and civil wars will be the result. Hence, wisdom should immediately prevail. The struggles of mankind in India have reached the ignition point.

The greatest boon India will get is, that when all human activities are nationalised, all taxations will vanish, and happiness will be universal to one and all.

Every Indian has, without prejudice to his personal liberty, the moral duty so to use his intellectual and physical powers, as is demanded by the welfare of the community, and earn his living by economic labour. If suitable employment cannot be procured, his maintenance should be provided for by local authorities.

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## APPENDIX

### *List of Standard Cottage Industries and Education :*

1. Cotton—cultivation, gathering and storing of pods, ginning, sliver making, spinning, winding, loom-attaching, warping and sizing, weaving, bleaching, printing and finishing for markets:

2. Mat—Korai—cultivation up to reaping, sorting and curing, splitting, colouring, mat-weaving, hem-stitching, and finishing for markets.

Mat—Bamboo—as above upto mat-weaving for markets.

Mat—Plantain-fibres — do. do. (as packing mats).

(All wastes of cellulose fibres should be pressed and sent to paper factories).

3. Narmady-fibre plants should be introduced, from Bengal, in villages where weaving is predominant and silk-worm could not be reared.

4. Clay and Ceramic Works—selection and preparation of clays, making of house hold utensils, toys, etc., glazing, baking and finishing for markets.

5. Basket-Making—out of palmyrah leaves and fibres, and bamboo splittings.

6. Bamboo and cane splitting to make fancy coloured terracota utensils of utility.

(Burma rattan canes should be introduced in suitable places of India).

7. Food-Preserving, dehydrating, salting and drying
- „ in salt, chilly & oil;
  - „ candying and honey-pickling;
  - „ fruit dehydrating, candying and jam-making ;

Food-Preserving,—fruit juice powdering and juice bottling,  
 " macaroni, spaghetti and vermicelli  
 " making;  
 " malted and salted flours for ready  
 " baking;  
 " sweet-making (flavoured like  
 " chocolates;  
 " starch making for industrial and  
 " edible uses;  
 " butter making and preserving;  
 " egg producing, drying and powder-  
 " ing;  
 " curry and spice and flavour  
 " powders;  
 " pickles of varieties.

8. Essential—oils—cultivation of smell producing  
 flowers, leaves, roots and barks, and extraction of essential  
 oils by distillations;

(These crude oils should be sold to bigger factories)

9. Dairy-farming
10. Poultry-farming
11. Cattle-farming.
12. Bee culture.
13. Sericulture.
14. Fish-culture
15. Metal vessels making.
16. Agriculture in all its aspects.

and so on, and so on.

Each subject should be taught to boys of relative  
 aptitude.

OME THATH SATH.