

PROCEEDINGS
of
THE TRAVANCORE SRI MULAM ASSEMBLY.

OFFICIAL REPORT.

SECOND ASSEMBLY.

ELEVENTH SESSION.

Tuesday the 21st July 1942/5th Karkatakam 1117.

The Assembly met again at 11 A. M. with the President, Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar in the Chair.

NEW MEMBERS.

The following members took the oath and signed the Rolls:

- (1) Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar (*Director of Agriculture*) and
- (2) Rao Bahadur T. V. Venkateswara Aiyar (*Conservator of Forests*)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Springs near Pechipara Reservoir.

39 * MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR (*Kalkulam cum Vilavankod*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any underground springs within the water-spread area of the Pechipara Reservoir;

(b) whether the water from any of these springs is available for increasing the storage in the reservoir;

(c) whether there is not a perennial spring near the dam; and

(d) whether the same is choked up since the under sluice was closed?

MR. I. C. CHACKO (*Ag. Chief Engineer*): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise in view of answer to part (c).

Pechipara Reservoir.

40 * MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: Will the Government be pleased to state what provisions have been made against the gradual and natural silting up of the Pechipara Reservoir?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: A belt of forest land is maintained round the water spread area of the reservoir and denudation of forests in the catchment area of the reservoir is also prohibited.

Pechipara Reservoir.

41. *MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are any underground springs within the water spread area of the Pechipara Reservoir ;

(b) if so, how many ;

(c) whether there was such a spring near the Dam or thereabout ;

(d) whether these springs have been choked up since the removal of the under sluice at the Dam ; and

(e) what provisions are made against the silting up of the Reservoir ?

MR. I. C. CHACKO : (a) Yes.

(b) Not possible to count.

(c) No, as far as is known.

(d) No.

(e) A belt of forest land is maintained all round the water spread area and denudation of forests in the catchment is also prohibited.

Pechipara Reservoir.

42. *MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) the number and names of mountain streams feeding the Pechipara Reservoir ;

(b) whether any and which of them has a perennial flow of water ; and

(c) whether it is possible by any means to increase the supply of water in these streams ?

MR. I. C. CHACKO : (a) Three streams Chittar, Kallar and Kodayar and their several tributaries.

(b) Yes, all of them, but the flow is scanty during summer and plenty during monsoon.

(c) No.

Water Source for Pechipara Reservoir.

43. *MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR : Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have investigated the extent of the forest that would be necessary to ensure sufficient rainfall in the catchment area of the Pechipara Reservoir and of the streams feeding it, so as to keep up the required storage in the Reservoir ?

MR. I. C. CHACKO : No ; nor is such investigation feasible or necessary.

Circular re Land Conservancy Cases.

44. *MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM (*Muvattupuzha cum Devicolam*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is at present in force a circular or order directing that, during appeals from Land Conservancy Cases, execution of the money-portion of the original court orders should not be stayed, but only the portion of the order relating to eviction wherever necessary;

(b) whether they have reconsidered the matter in view of the assurance given in this House as reported at page 398 of Vol. XVIII of printed proceedings of this Assembly dated the 23th July 1941; and

(c) if so, the wording of that circular as it now stands?

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) After investigation Government find that there are no sufficient grounds for reconsidering the matter.

(c) In view of the answer to part (b) this question does not arise.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: May I know why a distinction should be made in the matter of staying of appeals regarding the money-portion of the original court orders?

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI: Because it will affect the collection of land revenue.

Sea weeds.

45 ***MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR**: Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have investigated the possibility of using sea weeds as manure for paddy crops?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR (*Director of Agriculture*): No.

MR. K. G. GOVINDAN (*Pattanamthitta*): May I know whether Government have investigated the possibility of using sea weed as manure for paddy crops?

PRESIDENT: Investigations on the matter are being made by the University. Attempts are made to get iodine from sea weed and I may say that investigations have proceeded fairly well. Iodine is a very useful substance.

Encroachment on Tanks.

46 ***MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) the number of poramboke cases registered during the year in each of the taluks of Thovala, Agastisvaram, Kalkulam and Vilavankod for encroaching upon tanks or tank beds; and

(b) the number of such tanks in the said taluks which have been encroached upon but regarding which no cases have been taken?

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI:

(a)	Thovala	...	56
	Agastisvaram	...	83
	Kalkulam	...	13
	Vilavankod	...	15

(b) It is reported that cases have been taken up in respect of all encroachments on tanks or tank-beds detected.

Cultivation of lands lying fallow.

47 *MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN (*Kunnatnad cum Parur*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether, in view of the great difficulty in importing rice and other food stuff into Travancore, on account of the present war situation, they have taken any action to encourage cultivation of lands lying fallow and fit for cultivation of food crops; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in the matter?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR (a) and (b). The officers of the Department of Agriculture have been carrying on propaganda among agriculturists on the necessity of augmenting our food production, and inducing them to adopt methods of intensive farming with a view to obtain the maximum yield from their lands.

MR. K. DOMINIC JOSEPH (*Vaikom cum Kottayam*): May I know from Government whether additional lands have been brought under cultivation for the current year?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: Yes, Sir; a small area has been brought under cultivation.

MR. K. DOMINIC JOSEPH: May I know the extent of that land?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: About 200 acres in North Travancore under the Lift Irrigation scheme.

Petrol Rationing.

48 *MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have amended the rule issued by them to say that one unit denoting a petrol coupon is only half a gallon, in view of the later change made in British India to the effect that one unit is equivalent to one gallon?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): Yes.

Construction of a dam and a lock across the thodu in Vengoor pakuthy.

49. *MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether they have received any application from wet land owners in Kunnatnad taluk praying for the construction of a dam and a lock, under the Minor Irrigation rules, across the thodu in S. No. 842/1 of Vengoor pakuthy;

(b) whether they have made any local inspection;

(c) whether any action was taken thereon; and

(d) if so, at what stage is it?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) A detailed estimate for Rs. 3,015 was prepared but the work could not be taken up as the majority of land owners were not willing to pay any cess as required by the Irrigation rules.

(d) This does not arise in view of the answer given to part (c) above.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN : പാർട്ടി സി. വസ്തു ഉടമസ്ഥന്മാരിൽ ഭൂരിപക്ഷവും ഇറിഗേഷൻ സെസ്സ് കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനു സമ്മതമില്ലാത്തവരാണെന്നു പറയുന്നു. ഇതിനെപ്പറ്റി വല്ല നടപടിയും നടത്തിയിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

MR. I. C. CHACKO : വസ്തു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽനിന്നും അന്വേഷണം നടത്തിയിട്ടുണ്ട്.

Village Office of the Rayamangalam Pakuthi.

50. *MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN (*Kunnatnad cum Parur*): Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether the authorities have received any application for shifting the Rayamangalam Pakuthi Cutcherry in Kunnatnad taluk from its present site to a central place of the said pakuthi :

(b) if so, whether they have made any enquiry thereon ; and

(c) if so, at what stage is it at present ?

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI. (a) Yes. A petition was received by the Land Revenue Commissioner.

(b) Yes.

(c) The petition has been recorded.

Lady Clerks in the Anchal Department.

51. *MR. KAVIYOOR K. K. KOCHUKUNJU (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement, by caste, of lady clerks now employed in the Anchal Department?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS : The statement is laid on the table.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU (*Changanachery cum Peermade*): ഇന്ത്യവസമുദായത്തിൽനിന്നും ചില ലേഡി ക്ലർക്കിനെ നിയമിച്ചതായി കാണുന്നു. അവരുടെ പേരുകൾ സഭയം പ്രസ്താവിക്കുമോ?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS : They are P. K. Narayani, P. M. Sarada, and C. K. Geurikutti.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU : ഗൗരവിക്കൂട്ടി എന്ന യുവതി സ്റ്റേറ്റ് കാൺഗ്രസ്സിൽ പങ്കെടുത്ത ഒരുത്തിയാണെന്നു ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു അറിയാമോ?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS : No Sir.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU : അപ്പാരം സ്റ്റേറ്റ് കാൺഗ്രസ്സിൽ പങ്കെടുത്തവരാണെന്നും പങ്കെടുക്കാത്തവരാണെന്നും ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു ബോദ്ധ്യം ഇല്ല എന്നാണോ ഈ മറുപടിയിൽനിന്നു ഞാൻ മനസ്സിലാക്കേണ്ടതു്?

*Vide Appendix I.

MR. C. KUMARA DAS : So far as her political activities are concerned, Government have not received any report against her till now.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN : ഗൗരിക്കുട്ടി എന്ന സ്ത്രീ ഇപ്പോൾ അഞ്ചൽ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിൽ ഉണ്ടോ?

PRESIDENT : What is the fact and what is the suggestion made by honourable members ?

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU : ഗൗരിക്കുട്ടി എന്ന മഹതി സ്റ്റേറ്റു കാൺഗ്രസ്സിൽ ചേർന്നിട്ടുള്ള ഗവണ്മെന്റിനെ ചീത്ത പറഞ്ഞുകൊണ്ടു നടന്ന ഒരുമാണു. അങ്ങിനെയുള്ള ഒരുമാണു പ്രോസോഫിറ്റിങ്ങുണ്ടതു ഗവണ്മെന്റിന്റെ ചുമതലയല്ലെന്നാണു എന്റെ വിനീതമായ അഭിപ്രായം. സ്റ്റേറ്റു കാൺഗ്രസ്സിൽ ചേരുകയെന്നുള്ളതു് ഉദ്യോഗലബ്ധിക്കു് ഒരു പരിഗണനയാ ഹി ഗവണ്മെന്റ് വിചാരിക്കുന്നുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ സ്റ്റേറ്റു കാൺഗ്രസ്സിൽ ചേരുകയാൽ ഇനിയും ധാരാളം ആളുകൾ കാണും.

PRESIDENT : Are the Government aware of any such reports ?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS : No reports have been received about her.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN : ഗൗരിക്കുട്ടി ഇപ്പോഴും അഞ്ചൽ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിൽതന്നെയാണോ ജോലിചെയ്യുന്നതു്?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS : She has been transferred from the Anchal Department to the Registration Department.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU : അഞ്ചൽ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിൽനിന്നു ഈ മഹതിയെ രജിസ്ട്രേഷൻ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിലേക്കു മാറ്റാനുള്ള കാരണം എന്താണ്?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS : I claim notice.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU : സർ, ഞങ്ങൾ എപ്പോഴും ചരതിപ്പെട്ടുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന ഒരു സംഗതി ചോദ്യങ്ങൾക്കു ശരിയായ മറുപടി കിട്ടുന്നില്ലെന്നുള്ളതാണ്. ഏതെങ്കിലും ഒരു ചോദ്യം ചോദിച്ചാൽ അതിന്റെ ഉപചോദ്യങ്ങൾക്കു മറുപടി പറയാൻ അവിഷ്യൽ മെമ്പർമാർ സന്നദ്ധരായി കാണുന്നില്ല.

PRESIDENT : The grievance of the honourable member is easily remedied. If honourable members find that they do not get adequate or what they think appropriate answers to a particular question, they have to pursue the question. In other words, if they make it clear that they want an answer, they will get that. If the Government member wants notice, then the question should be repeated when further notice cannot be claimed. Then Government will make up its mind whether to answer that question. If that is not answered at this meeting, it will be done at the next meeting. That way the problem could be solved.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN : അഞ്ചൽ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിൽ നാല് ഹൗസവസൂികൾ ഉള്ള കൂട്ടത്തിൽ ശ്രീമതി ഗൗരവക്ഷട്ടിയെക്കൂടി ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തിയിട്ടുണ്ട്. ജിസ്രേഷൻ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിലെ ജാതാവിലരപ്പട്ടികയിൽ ഈ സ്ത്രീയെക്കൂടി ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തുകയില്ലേ?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS : She has got a permanent lien in the Anchal Department and therefore she is in that establishment.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU : അഞ്ചൽ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിൽ നിന്നും ഈ സ്ത്രീയെ ജിസ്രേഷൻ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിലേക്കു മാറ്റാനുള്ള കാരണം എന്താണെന്നു സഭയ്ക്കു പ്രസ്താവിക്കുമോ?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS : So far as the Anchal Department is concerned I can answer. I claim notice.

PRESIDENT : Government will make full enquiries on that matter.

Tharisu Lands in Manjapra pakuthi.

52. ***MR. T. T. KESAVAN SASTRI (Nominated) :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are tharisu lands in Survey No. 60/1 in Manjapra pakuthi in Kunnatnad taluk ;

(b) if so, their extent ; and

(c) whether any person from the backward communities has applied for the lands being assigned to him ?

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI : (a) No.

(b) In view to the answer to part (a) this question does not arise.

(c) No.

MR. T. T. KESAVAN SASTRI : ൬൦/൧ എന്ന സർവ്വേ നമ്പർ ഈ പകുതിയിൽ ഉണ്ടായെന്നു സഭയ്ക്കു പ്രസ്താവിക്കുമോ?

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI : ഇപ്പോൾ പറയാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല.

MR. T. T. KESAVAN SASTRI : ഈ പകുതിയിൽ മറ്റേതെങ്കിലും സർവ്വേ നമ്പർ തരിശു സ്ഥലങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടോ?

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI : ഈ പകുതിയിൽ പതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കത്തക്ക തരിശുഭൂമികൾ ഒന്നുതന്നെയില്ല.

Anchal Office at Takazhi.

53. ***MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP (Ambalapuzha cum Shertala) :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Anchal Office at Takazhi has been abolished ;

(b) if so, when ;

(c) the reason for abolishing it ;

(d) the shortest distance to the nearest Anchal Office from Takazhi ;

(e) whether there is an M. M. School at Takazhi ;

[Mr. N. Narayana Kurup]

(f) whether they have received any representation from the inhabitants of Takazhi to reinstate the office ; and

(g) if so, what action has been taken on the same ?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS : (a) Yes.

(b) With effect from 26-8-1117.

(c) The anchal office was abolished as it was working continuously at a very heavy loss to Government.

(d) 3 miles.

(e) Yes.

(f) A petition has been received by the Anchal Superintendent to open an experimental non-departmental anchal office at Takazhi.

(g) It is under consideration.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP : May I know from Government whether they are running the Anchal Office at Takazhi on a commercial basis or for the utility and convenience of the taxpayers ?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS : It is a non-departmental Anchal Office and non-departmental Offices are generally not continued, if they are run at a loss.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP : May I know what Anchal facilities have been provided for the public after the abolition of the Takazhi Anchal office ?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS : The nearest Anchal Office is at Ambalapuzha which is only three miles distant from Takazhi. A separate Anchal runner has been deputed for carrying the Anchal mails for delivery from Ambalapuzha.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP : May I know whether the Anchal Superintendent has visited that locality during recent times ?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS : Yes.

Thonniakavu-Thevarkad Road.

54. *MR. A. K. KUMARAN VAIDYAN (*Kunnatnad cum Parur*) : Will the Government be pleased to state whether the maintenance of the Thonniakavu-Thevarkad Road (*via Thrikkapuram*) in Parur taluk has been taken over by Government and, if so, from what date ?

MR. I. C. CHACKO : No.

Sri Chitra Mills at Alwaye.

55. *MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR (*Karunagapalli cum Kartikapalli*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) when the Sri Chitra Mills at Alwaye was established ;

(b) the work done by the Mills ; and

(c) the number of labourers employed by them in 1114, 1115 and till the end of Edavom in 1116 ?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS : (a) February 1938.

(b) Bleaching and finishing of cotton piece goods such as mulls, dhoties, long cloth etc.

(c)	1114	...	96
	1115	...	85
	1116	...	91

MR. K. G. GOVINDAN: May I know with reference to answer to part (c) of the question whether all the employees are Travancoreans?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: The report is that a large majority of them are Travancoreans.

MR. K. G. GOVINDAN: May I know, if non-Travancoreans are employed there, the reason for it?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: The employment of labourers is in the discretion of the Company. The company are not bound to take only Travancoreans.

Water Cess.

56. ***MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR:** Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are realising water cess at the rate of Rs. 7 per acre from certain garden and dry lands in the taluks of Kalkulam and Agastisvaram?

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI: No; but when dry lands are converted into wet making use of the Kodayar Channel water, water cess at the rate of Rs. 7 per acre is charged on such conversions.

Alkaline Soil.

57. ***MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether the soil of a fairly large portion of the paddy fields in Marungoor and adjacent palkuthies is Alkaline; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to improve these soils?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: (a) Yes.

(b) Extensive investigations have been carried out and the results thereof, including remedial measures, have been published in Bulletin No. 8 (1924) of the Department of Agriculture. The methods of raising crops successfully on Alkaline lands are demonstrated at the Thiruppathisaram Paddy Farm.

Mavelikara-Chunakara Road.

58. ***MR. P. NARAYANA PILLAI (Mavelikara cum Kunnattur):** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether any amount is allotted for the maintenance of the Mavelikara-Chunakara road via Kurathikad in the Mavelikara taluk; and

(b) if so, whether any amount has been spent on the same during the years 1115, 1116 and 1117?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: (a) Yes.

(b) Yes, Rs. 1,025 in 1115; Rs. 698 in 1116; Rs. 401 in 1117.

Karampathippu.

59. ***MR. E. E. PANDARATHIL (Travancore Jermies, South):** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) the approximate number of cases in which "Karampathippu" has been effected in favour of Government; and

(b) the amount that will accrue to Government by way of tax?

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI : (a) and (b) The required information cannot be supplied as the period for which the statistics required has not been specified.

MR. E. E. PANDARATHIL : In answer to part (a) may I know when jenmikaram has been decided in favour of Government and if so the latest statistics available on the matter?

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI : If the number of years for which information is required is furnished, it will be possible to furnish the same.

MR. E. E. PANDARATHIL : Could not the figures up to last year be ascertained now?

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI : I am not in possession of the statistics just now. If the number of years for which information is needed is given, I would have come prepared with full information.

PRESIDENT : If the honourable member wants to know for a certain number of years, then he may give that information just now, and the answer may be furnished during the course of next two or three days.

MR. E. E. PANDARATHIL : I would like to get that information from 1108 onwards.

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI : I will note that Sir.

Supply of rice and paddy.

60 * **MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (Tiruvella) :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) the steps so far taken by Government in the matter of adequate supply of rice and paddy to meet the requirements of the people of the State; and

(b) the steps so far taken by Government with a view to make the country self-sufficient in food materials?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : (a) and (b) Government have informed the Regional Price and Supply Board, Madras, of the requirements of the State, and have obtained the necessary quota from the rice-producing areas in the Madras Presidency. A vigorous "food production drive" is also being carried on by the Department of Agriculture to increase local production by intensive as well as extensive cultivation.

Various other steps such as providing better facilities for irrigation, cultivating two crops on single crop lands, supplying manures, etc., are also being taken.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : May I know the steps taken by the Department of Agriculture or Government in the matter of extensive cultivation?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : Sir, the Department of Agriculture is carrying on intensive campaign to carry out extensive cultivation and over 600 to 700 acres of land have been given to the co-operative societies for the cultivation of tapioca.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : May I know whether any scheme has been inaugurated for leasing out swampy areas in the reserve forests for a prescribed period so that they may be cultivated

under the advice of the Director of Agriculture as was stated on the floor of the House on a prior occasion?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : That question is under consideration. But no scheme has been formulated.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU : ഇപ്പോൾ പരാജയപ്പെടുത്തിയ കോവാപ്പറേറീവു സൊസൈറ്റികളെ മാത്രം ഈ ചുമതല എൽപ്പിക്കാനുള്ള കാരണമെന്താണ്?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : ഒരാൾക്കുതന്നെ വീതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കുന്നതു ശരിയല്ലെന്നു വിചാരിച്ചു അന്വേഷം ആളുകൾ ചേർന്നു കൃഷി ചെയ്യുവാൻ കോവാപ്പറേറീവു സൊസൈറ്റികൾക്കു കൊടുത്തുവെന്നു യുള്ളു.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU : കോവാപ്പറേറീവു സൊസൈറ്റികൾക്കുതന്നെ പരാജയത്തിലാണെന്നു ദിവാൻ പ്രസിഡൻ്റ് അവർകൾ കഴിഞ്ഞ കൊല്ലത്തിൽ പ്രസ്താവിച്ചതായി മെമ്പർക്കറിയാമോ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : അങ്ങിനെയുള്ള സൊസൈറ്റികളെ നേരേയാക്കിക്കൊണ്ടു പരാമെന്നാണു എൻ്റെ പൂർണ്ണമായ വിശ്വാസം.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU : ഈ വിശ്വാസത്തെ അടിസ്ഥാനമാക്കിക്കൊണ്ടു പോകുകയാണെങ്കിൽ അടുത്തയാണ്ടിൽ നെല്ലു കിട്ടുകയില്ലെന്നുള്ള വിവരം മെമ്പർക്കറിയാമോ?

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR : Is it the opinion of the member that every place in Travancore at present has got sufficient area for the cultivation of rice and paddy crops?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : To some extent it is so.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR : May I know whether he has got any complaint from Quilon or its suburbs that they are not getting adequate rice and paddy?

PRESIDENT : I dealt with the matter yesterday. Evidently the honourable member was not present then. The fault is entirely that of the merchants of Quilon. They first made a false statement that railway wagons were not available. That was found out to be a lie. The railway authorities said that sufficient number of wagons are available but the merchants would not give the contract. If they go on and continue such practices, very severe steps will be taken against them.

Road from the Kochar road to the bathing ghat in the Killiyar

61 ***MR. KAVIYOOR. K. K. KOCHUKUNJU :** Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have sanctioned the opening of a road from the Kochar road to the bathing ghat in the Killiyar near the Parachira dam?

MR. I. C. CHACKO : No.

MR. KAVIYOOR. K. K. KOCHUKUNJU : ഈ റോഡിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ച് പൊതുജനങ്ങളിൽ നിന്നും അപേക്ഷകൾ എന്തെങ്കിലും ഗവണ്മെന്റിനു കിട്ടിയിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

MR. I. C. CHACKO : കിട്ടിയിട്ടുണ്ട്.

MR. KAVIYOOR K. K. KOCHUKUNJU : പൊതുജനങ്ങളുടെ ഗതാഗത സൗകര്യത്തിനായി ഇവിടെയൊരു വഴിതുറന്നു കൊടുക്കുവാൻ ഗവണ്മെന്റിനു ഭയവുണ്ടാകുമോ?

MR. I. C. CHACKO : ഇത് കാർപ്പൊറേഷൻ ചെയ്യേണ്ട ജോലിയാണ്. അതുകൊണ്ട് അതു അവർക്കയച്ചിരിക്കുകയാണ്.

Level Crossing across the Railway line near Nilakkamukku.

62 *MR. VARKALA K. MADHAVAN (*Chirayinkil cum Nedumangad*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have decided to provide a level crossing across the railway line in the new road from Nilakkamukku to Kaikara landing?

MR. I. C. CHACKO : Yes.

MR. VARKALA K. MADHAVAN : May I know when the level crossing will be completed?

MR. I. C. CHACKO : The work is now progressing.

Sale of Salt.

63 *MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether their sale of salt from the salt depots is as per weight;

(b) whether the sale of salt by such purchaser licensees to others is generally as per measure;

(c) whether in the sale of salt any measure is fixed to correspond to any weight;

(d) if so, the corresponding weight for each measure; and

(e) whether sellers of salt in sacks sell them for a uniform price irrespective of the differences in their contents?

MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : (a) Yes.

(b) Retail sale of salt in the market is usually by measure, but sale by bag is by weight.

(c) No.

(d) In view of the answer to part (c), this question does not arise.

(e) Government do not control sale of salt by merchants. The weight of salt bags is generally uniform, as no salt can be removed from factories or depots except in bags holding two maunds each.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM : May I know whether the Government is helpless in the matter of sales?

MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN: No, Sir. That is not the position. Rules have not provided for controlling the market price of salt. The issue price from factory and depots is controlled.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN: കച്ചവടക്കാർ കണ്ടുമനം വില കൂട്ടുന്നതിനെ ഗവണ്മെന്റിന് നിയന്ത്രിക്കാൻ സാധിക്കുകയില്ലേ?

MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN : സാധിക്കും. പക്ഷെ സാധാരണ റൂൾസ് അനുസരിച്ച് സാധിക്കുകയില്ലെന്നാണ് ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞത്.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN : ഡിഫൻസ് റൂൾസനുസരിച്ച് സാധാരണക്കാർ വില നിയന്ത്രിക്കാൻ ഗവണ്മെന്റിന് സാധിക്കുകയില്ലേ?

MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN : അതിനുതക്ക സങ്കടം ഉണ്ടായാൽ നിയന്ത്രിക്കാൻ സാധിക്കുന്നതാണ്.

Veterinary Vaidyasala at Anchal.

64 * **MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI:** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether representations have been received by the Director of Agriculture from the public of Anchal and the surrounding villages in Pattanapuram taluk and also from one Mr. Gopala Pillai, Veterinary Vaidyan conducting a Veterinary Vaidyasala at Anchal praying for grant to the Vaidyasala; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) is in the affirmative, the action taken on the same?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: (a) Yes.

(b) No action has been taken on the representations as the question of awarding grants-in-aid to Veterinary Vaidyasalas in general is being re-examined by Government.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know whether in pursuance of a representation, the Vaidyasala referred to in the answer has been inspected by the Veterinary Superintendent?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: Yes.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know whether he has submitted a recommendation in favour of a grant being given to that Vaidyasala?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: Yes, Sir.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know whether the Vaidyasala at Ayrur was either abolished or its grant reduced?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: No, Sir. There is still a Vaidyasala there.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know whether the grant that is being given to that Vaidyasala stands reduced in recent years?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: Yes, the grant has been reduced slightly.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : May I know the monthly grant that is given to that Vaidyasala?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : Rs. 15 per month.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : May I know the grant that was given before to that institution?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : Rs. 25 per mensem.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : May I know the reason for the reduction of this grant?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : Government thought it necessary to effect a general reduction in the matter of grants.

Working of the Debt Relief Acts of 1116.

65 ***MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM :** Will the Government be pleased to state with reference to the High Court, the District Courts and the Munsiffs' Courts :

(a) the total amounts involved in appeal cases and original petitions filed till 15-8-1117 in each grade of those courts under the Debt Relief Acts of 1116; and

(b) the total amount of court fees realised till 15-8-1117 in such appeal cases and original petitions in each grade of the said courts?

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Legal Remembrancer to Government*): (a) The amounts involved in appeal cases cannot be ascertained as appeals are based against orders in which amounts are not specified.

	Rs.	Ch.	C.
District Courts	91,27,034	12	4
Munsiff's Courts	1,34,89,414	18	10
(b) High Court	600	14	0
District Courts	23,459	20	14
Munsiff's Courts	3,184	17	0

Circulars re: extension of service of public servants.

66 ***MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM :** Will the Government be pleased to place on the table recent orders relating to extension of service for two years after the fifty-fifth year in the case of certain class of public servants?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There is no order granting extension of service for two years after the 55th year. The * circular issued by Government in the matter of extension of service is placed on the table.

MR. K. R. NARAYANAN : ഇങ്ങനെ സർവീസായവർക്കൊക്കെ എക്സ്റ്റൻഷൻ കൊടുക്കുന്നപക്ഷം പ്രാതിനിധ്യം കുറവുള്ള സമുദായങ്ങൾക്കു പ്രാതിനിധ്യം കിട്ടാൻ വിചമമുണ്ടെന്നുള്ള സഹതീ ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്നറിയാമോ?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI : Sir, the question has not been finally decided and it is to elicit information on this subject that the Circular in question has been issued restricting the period to six months in 1118.

"Kari nilam" in Ambalapuzha.

67. * MR. P. S. MUHAMED (*Quilon cum Kottarakara*): Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is large area of paddy field known as "Kari nilam" in the Ambalapuzha taluk, the yield of which is very poor ;

(b) whether they have done anything to improve the land after the commencement of the war ; and

(c) if so, the steps taken ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : (a) Yes.

(b) & (c) Arrangements have been made for the stocking of manures for sale to the Agriculturists. The owners of Kari Nilam can purchase manures from the depot at Tanapadikkal (Haripad).

MR. P. S. MUHAMED : കരിനിലങ്ങൾക്കു ഉള്ള ദോഷങ്ങൾ എന്താണെന്നു അന്വേഷിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : അന്വേഷിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്.

MR. P. S. MUHAMED : ഇതിൽ പറയുന്ന വളം ഉപയോഗിച്ചാൽ ഈ ദോഷം പരിഹരിക്കപ്പെടാമോ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : ഏറെക്കുറെ പരിഹരിക്കപ്പെടും.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU : കരിനിലങ്ങൾക്കുള്ള ദോഷമെന്താണത്?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : മേല്പടി നിലങ്ങളിൽ ഓരവെളളം കയറുന്നു. അതായതു സോഡിയം ക്ലോറൈഡും സോഡിയം സൽഫേറ്റും ഉള്ള ഓരവെളളം കെട്ടിനിന്നു നിലത്തിൽ ആദ്യം (അഡിഡിറ്ററി) വർദ്ധിക്കുന്നു. അതു മാറണം. പിന്നെയൊരു ദോഷം വളത്തിന്റെ പോരായ്മ.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU : ഇതിലേക്കു എന്തെങ്കിലും പ്രതിവിധി മെമ്പർ നിശ്ചയിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : ആദ്യത്തിനെ കുറയാൻ കുമ്മായം ചേർക്കണം; വളത്തിന്റെ കുറവിനെ പരിഹരിക്കാൻ വളങ്ങൾ കൂടുതൽ ചേർക്കണം.

Production of food-stuffs.

68. * MR. E. E. PANDARATHIL : Will the Government be pleased to state the steps which they have taken to increase the production of food-stuffs within the State?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : A vigorous "food production drive" is being carried on by the Department of Agriculture, and the adoption of improved and scientific methods of cultivation is recommended to cultivators. The Department has also opened depots for the sale of manures to the agriculturists.

Second Class Magistrate's Court at Mavelikara.

69. *MR. P. NARAYANA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pakuthies in the Mavelikara taluk which are under the jurisdiction of the Second Class Magistrate's Court at Mavelikara; and

(b) the number of criminal cases on the file of the Second Class Magistrate's Court at Mavelikara during the years 1116 and 1117?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: (a) Seven.

(b) 160 criminal cases in 1116 and 213 cases till 19-11-1117 M. E.

MR. P. NARAYANA PILLAI: May I know whether any action has been taken to bring the remaining pakuthies also of the Mavelikara taluk under its jurisdiction?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: The matter is under consideration.

Petitions under Debt Relief Acts.

70. *MR. P. NARAYANA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) the number of petitions filed under Section 16 of the Debt Relief Acts II and III of 1116 in each of the Munsiffs' Courts in the State; and

(b) the number of such petitions in each of the District Courts in the State?

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI: A † statement containing the required information is laid on the table.

Fee concession to Varnaava students.

71. *MR. KAVIYOOR K. K. KOCHUKUNJU: Will the Government be pleased to state the decision they have come to on the report of the sub-committee appointed by the Advisory Board for the Uplift of Backward Communities to consider the question of granting fee concession to Varnaava students as well?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: The question is under consideration.

MR. KAVIYOOR K. K. KOCHUKUNJU: ഇതിനെപ്പറ്റി അനുകൂലമായ ഒരു തീരുമാനം ചെയ്യാൽ സാധുക്കളുടെ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിന് കൂടുതൽ സൗകര്യമുണ്ടാകുമെന്നു ഗവണ്മെന്റിനറിയാമോ?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: ഇത് വിദ്യാഭ്യാസ ഡയറക്ടർക്കു അയച്ചു തിരികെയാണ്. അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം വന്നയുടനെ ഇതിനെപ്പറ്റി ചേണ്ട തീരുമാനം ചെയ്യും.

†Vide Appendix III.

Export of Tapioca.

72. *MR. A. K. KUMARAN VAIDYAN: Will the Government be pleased to state whether the export of tapioca from Travancore to Cochin and other foreign territories is prohibited?

MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN: No.

MR. VARKALA K. MADHAVAN: May I know whether it is possible to know the quantity that is exported from Travancore?

MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN: Yes, Sir, figures are available.

Public Service Advisory Board.

73. *MR. KAVIYOOR K. K. KOCHUKUNJU: Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have received resolutions or memorials from "Other Hindus" requesting Government to nominate one more representative to the Public Service Advisory Board, on behalf of more than sixty Hindu minority communities?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: Yes; One of the communications is from the honourable member himself.

Select Committees of the Legislature.

74. *MR. KAVIYOOR K. K. KOCHUKUNJU: Will the Government be pleased to state the total number of bills referred to Select Committees from 1112 up to date, and the number of persons who have respectively been selected to more than fifteen of them, to less than ten of them and to less than five of them as also the number of those selected the least number of times?

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI: The attention of the member is drawn to the printed proceedings of the Legislature, copies of which are supplied to the members and are also placed in the Legislative Library.

War Allowance.

75. *MR. VARKALA K. MADHAVAN: Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have obtained representations from the peons of various offices stating that they require a war allowance?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: Yes, from the peons of some offices.

MR. VARKALA K. MADHAVAN: May I know the minimum amount of allowance claimed by the peons?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: They have not specified any amount. But Government have decided to grant them an allowance of Re. 1 per mensem for the present.

Kollakadavu Bridge.

76. *MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is provision in the current year's budget for the construction of the Kollakadavu Bridge on the Chengannur-Mavelikara Road; and

[Mr. I. C. Chacko.]

(b) the amount spent for the same and the nature of the work done, during the current year?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: (a) Yes.

(b) Rs. 1,374-18-8 for investigation and Rs. 245 for preliminary works.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know from the Government whether out of this amount a single pie has been spent for the construction of the bridge during the course of this year?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: No amount has been spent this year.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: My question was whether any amount was spent for the construction of the bridge and the nature of the work done, during the current year. May I know why this answer is given?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: No amount is spent this year. The amounts given show the up-to-date expenditure.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know from Government whether there was a budget allotment for the construction of the bridge for the current year?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: Yes there has been.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know whether out of that amount even a single pie has been spent for the construction of the bridge this year?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: No Sir.

DISTINGUISHED VISITOR.

Sir Henry Craik, Political Adviser to His Excellency the Crown Representative, arrived at 11.20 A. M. and was received by the President and seated on the dais.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.—(contd.)

Travancore Civil Service.

77 *MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU: Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement, by caste, of the probationers hitherto admitted to the Travancore Civil Service?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: The required statement is given below:—

Brahmin	2
Nayar	1
Other Hindu	1
Ezhava	1
Anglican	1
Syriac Catholic	1
Marthomite	1
Muslim	1

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU : തിരുവിതാംകൂർ സിവിൽ സർവ്വീസിലേക്കു ആളുകളെ തിരഞ്ഞെടുക്കുമ്പോൾ വർഗീയപ്രാതിനിയ്യം പരിഗണിക്കുന്നുണ്ടോയെന്നു സഭയ്ക്കു പ്രസ്താവിക്കുമോ?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI : ഉണ്ട്. അതനുസരിച്ചു കൂടിയാണു ഈ സെലക്ഷൻ ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളതു്.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU : അങ്ങനെയൊന്നുകിൽ ആയിരക്കണക്കിനു ജനസംഖ്യയുള്ള ബ്രാഹ്മണർക്കു രണ്ടുജ്യോഗവും, ലക്ഷക്കണക്കിനു ജനസംഖ്യയുള്ള സിറിയൻ കത്തോലിക്കർക്കു ഒരുജ്യോഗം മാത്രവും ആകാനുള്ള കാരണം എന്തു് ?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI : ജനസംഖ്യാനുപാതികമായിട്ടല്ല ഈ സെലക്ഷൻ നടത്തിയതു്.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU : ഈ സെലക്ഷൻ ജനസംഖ്യാനുപാതികമായിട്ടു നടത്തിയെന്നല്ലെ മെമ്പർ പറഞ്ഞതു്?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI : അല്ല. ജനസംഖ്യാനുപാതികപ്രാതിനിയ്യത്തിനും വർഗീയപ്രാതിനിയ്യത്തിനും വ്യത്യാസമുണ്ട്. വർഗീയപ്രാതിനിയ്യം ഈ സെലക്ഷനിൽ പരിഗണിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നാണു ഞാൻപറഞ്ഞതു്.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU : ഈ സംഗതിയിൽ വർഗീയപ്രാതിനിയ്യമൊ ജനസംഖ്യാനുപാതികപ്രാതിനിയ്യമോ എന്താണു അനുഷ്ഠിച്ചതെന്നു പ്രസ്താവിക്കാൻ ഭയമുണ്ടാകുമോ ?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI : May I explain the position, Sir? Recruitment to Public Service under the Travancore Civil Service Examination system has been recently introduced with a view to see that the best candidates are made available for the Civil Service. At the same time Government have taken into account the circumstance that adequate provision should also be made for unrepresented communities. In the first year, four candidates were selected in the order of merit, and two others were nominated although they were not eligible for the place in the order of merit. Their selection was mainly due to the circumstance that they belonged to unrepresented communities and they stood comparatively high among those who competed. During the last year also, the same principle was adopted and one place was given to a member of the unrepresented communities, while two others were selected in the order of merit.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU : ഇതേവരെ നടത്തിയിട്ടുള്ള സെലക്ഷനിൽ ഏതെല്ലാം ജാതിമതവിഭാഗങ്ങളിൽ പെട്ടവർ ഉൾപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നു പറയാമോ ?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: Sir, the examination is conducted by a Committee of eminent men both from inside and outside the State.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU: 'എമാനൻറ്' മെൻ' എന്ന് പറഞ്ഞതുകൊണ്ടായില്ല. ഏതെല്ലാം വർഗീയവാദാഗങ്ങളിൽപ്പെട്ടവരെ സെലക്ട് ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നാണ് എന്റെ ചോദ്യം.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: A European was then the Public Service Commissioner.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU: 'യൂറോപ്യൻ' എന്നു പറയുന്നതു ഒരു മതവിഭാഗമാണോ?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: I do not wish to classify the community in the case of Europeans. Mr. C. R. Reddy from the Andhra University also was a member of that Committee.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU: അസമതപ്രസമുദായത്തിൽപ്പെട്ടവരെക്കൊണ്ടും ഈ സെലക്ടൻ ബോർഡിൽ പരിശോധകന്മാരായി ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നോ?

PRESIDENT: I think I ought to make the position clear. The Travancore Civil Service Examination was instituted for the purpose of finding out the most meritorious candidates available for Public Service within the State. That merit can be decided only, in the present imperfect state of human knowledge and experience, by some kind of competitive examination. In order to get rid of the evil effects of a purely competitive written examination, a *viva voce* is also indicated as a suitable method. The *viva voce* is also included and in order to get rid of the suggestion that local bias may also operate, it has been the policy of this Government to invite eminent men from outside the State in order to work at this task of making the selection after they have made the choice which will be entirely based on the merits in the examination. When it is found that certain communities who, owing to traditional or historic considerations, are more apt in answering papers than others, then steps are taken to choose the best man amongst the other communities. For instance, an Ezhava or a Muslim is the tenth in rank, but he is the first amongst the Ezhavas or the Muslims, he is also taken. That is the principle we have been adopting. That is a concession for satisfying communal claims.

Something was said about religion. It is not the intention of the Travancore Government to choose people according to religion but according to community. For instance, if you say that a Marthomite or an Ezhava should be taken, somebody may say that the Seventh Day Adventists should be taken. They are a fairly large section in South Travancore. There are about 2000 people, larger than anywhere in India. They would claim some sort of representation. But that is not the idea of Government. The major communities are well known.

The Syrian Catholic Community is known to be well educated. I am glad to know that they are doing very well in this examination. So they cannot ask any concession just as the Brahmins or the Nayers. They can take their rank in these examinations. That is the principle upon which this Government have proceeded.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUJNU : ആകപ്പാടെ ഒമ്പതു പേരെ നിയമിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതായി കാണുന്നു. ഓരോരുത്തരെയും ഏതെതു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിൽ നിയമിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതെന്നു പറയാമോ ?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G PARAMESWARAN PILLAI : അവർ ഇപ്പോൾ ട്രെയിനിംഗിൽ ഇരിക്കുകയാണ്. അതു കഴിഞ്ഞു നിയമനം നടക്കുകയുള്ളൂ.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN : ഏതെല്ലാം സമുദായത്തിൽ നിന്നുമാണ് നോമിനറു ചെയ്തിരിക്കുന്നത് ?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI : ഒരു മുസ്ലിം, ഒരു ഇന്ത്യൻ, ഒരു ചാലിയൻ.

MR. KAVIYOOR K. K. KOCHUKUNJU : മറ്റു ഹിന്ദു ഒന്ന് എന്നു കാണുന്നു. അത് എത്ര സമുദായത്തിൽപ്പെട്ട ആളാണ് ?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI : അതുതന്നെയാണ് ചാലിയൻ എന്നു പറഞ്ഞത്.

The Government Zoo.

78 * **MR. G. VELU PILLAI** (*Karunagapalli cum Kartikapatti*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount got by selling tickets for entering the Government Zoo from the date when that system was introduced till 15-11-1117;

(b) the date when it was introduced; and

(c) the average daily collection therefrom?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI : (a) S. Rs. 1647-25-0.

(b) 5-5-1117 / 20-12-1941.

(c) S. Rs. 8-16-0.

Work of the High Court.

79 * **MR. A. K. KUMARAN VAIDYAN :** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases disposed of by the High Court between 1-1-1117 and 15-11-1117; and

(b) the number of appeals filed before 1110 now pending disposal in the High Court?

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI : (a) *A statement containing the information is laid on the table.

	1108	1109
(b) A. S.	4	36
S. A.	1	8

* *Vide Appendix IV.*

Lift Irrigation Scheme.

80 *MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) the area of paddy lands actually irrigated in the State under the Lift Irrigation Scheme in 1117; and

(b) the additional area that is proposed to be brought under the scheme in 1118?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: (a) 81.31 acres in 1117 M. E.

(b) An additional area of 209 acres at Karumalloor, 245 acres at Kuthiathodu and 53 acres at Eloorakara during the Mundakan season.

It is also hoped to bring in a large acreage during the Punja season at Keezhmad and later on in the Myal area of Cheranallor pakuthi in Kunnathnad taluk after the high tension line to Kodanad is completed and necessary pumps are received.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: May I know whether any area has been ear-marked in Muvattupuzha Taluk for this purpose?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: No.

Results of Lift Irrigation.

81 *MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN: Will the Government be pleased to state the highest, the lowest and the total average yield per para of paddy land, obtained as a result of the demonstrations conducted by the Special Officer for Lift Irrigation at Keezhvadu in Thottumuku, near Alwaye?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: 14.2, 9.9 and 11.6 respectively.

Transfer of officers.

82 *MR. A. K. KUMARAN VAIDYAN: Will the Government be pleased to state whether there is any rule or understanding that the transfer of an officer from a station before he has completed three years' service at that place is to be considered as a warning?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: There is no such rule or understanding.

Irrigation works recommended by the Water Supply Committee, Kalkulam.

83 *MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: Will the Government be pleased to place on the table:

(a) a list of tanks and other irrigation works recommended to be executed by the Kalkulam Taluk Water Supply Committee during the years 1116 and 1117; and

(b) a list of works so far done in accordance with such recommendation?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: (a) and (b) The lists are placed on the table

Supply of rice.

84 *MR. A. K. KUMARAN VAIDYAN: Will the Government be pleased to state whether, in view of the difficulty of obtaining rice from Cochin, arrangements have been made to ensure adequate supply of rice to the inhabitants of Parur and Kunnatnad taluks?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: Necessary arrangements are being made for the supply of rice to these and other taluks.

Importation of Rice.

85 *MR. P. NARAYANA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether they have taken steps to facilitate the importation of rice from outside the State; and

(b) if so, the measures adopted by the Government in this connection?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: (a) Yes.

(b) A quota has been secured for the State from the available surplus production in the Tanjore area, and arrangements have been made for the issue of permits under the Madras Government Grain Control Ordinance to importers in this State for removing stocks from the said areas. Steps have also been taken for procuring Railway facilities for the transportation of the rice purchased for consumption in the country.

MR. P. NARAYANA PILLAI: May I know whether any quantity has been imported after the quota has been settled?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: I have received intimation that permits have been issued by the Trichinopoly Food Grains Controller for the transport of 85,000 bags of rice to Travancore.

MR. K. KUNJU PANICKER: May I know whether Government have made any arrangements on their own accord under their direction and control for securing rice?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: All these arrangements are made by Government. Licenses are issued by Government to the merchants and only those merchants who have got licenses will be given permission to transport rice from British India to Travancore.

Appendix I.

Vide Answer to Question No. 51

Statement, by caste, of lady clerks in the Anchal Department.

Nair	...	6
Ezhava	...	4
Jacobite	...	2
Marthomite	...	1
S. I. U. C.	...	3

Appendix II.

Vide Answer to Question No. 66

R. O. C. No. 3172/42/Genl.

CIRCULAR.

(Not for publication)

Recommendations are being received by Government from Heads of Departments and Offices for extension of service of employees in their establishment while others are being retired from service on the completion of their 55th year in accordance with the provisions of the Travancore Service Regulations. The question of granting a general extension of service to certain classes of employees is under the consideration of Government. Pending final decision of the matter, Government consider that permission for extension of service may be granted till the end of Makaram 1118 to all employees who, not being on the executive service of the Police, Excise and Forest Departments, are drawing a monthly salary of Rs. 100 and below, and who will not be completing their 57th year on that date, provided the Heads of Departments and Offices recommend such extension on the ground that the subordinates concerned are efficient and physically fit.

(By Order)

G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Huzar Cutcherry,
Trivandrum, 26th May 1942.

To

All Heads of Departments and Offices.

Appendix III.

Vide Answer to Question No. 70

Statement showing the petitions under Section 16 of the Debt Relief Act filed in the District Courts and Munsiffs' Courts.

Serial No.	Name of Court.	No. of petitions filed under Section 16 of Debt Relief Act up to 16-11-1117.
1	Nagercoil Principal Munsiff's Court	23
2	Do. Additional do.	28
3	Padmanabhapuram Principal do.	30
4	Do. Additional do.	27
5	Kuzhithura Munsiff's Court	18
6	Neyyattinkara do.	155
7	Trivandrum Principal do.	16
8	Do. Additional do.	14
9	Do. Temporary do.	...
10	Nedumangad Munsiff's Court	8
11	Attingal do.	34
12	Quilon Principal do.	34
13	Do. Additional do.	48
14	Karunagapally do.	32
15	Kottarakara do.	74
16	Shencottah do.	9
17	Adoor do.	34
18	Mavelikara do.	78
19	Pathanamthitta do.	54
20	Chengannur do.	55
21	Thiruvella do.	75
22	Haripad do.	74
23	Alleppey Principal do.	44
24	Do. Additional do.	51
25	Vaikom do.	34
26	Shertalai Principal do.	16
27	Do. Additional Temporary do.	17
28	Changanacherry do.	28
29	Kottayam Principal do.	30
30	Do. Temporary do.	...
31	Kanjirapally do.	34
32	Ettumanoor do.	7
33	Meenachil do.	49
34	Parur do.	49
35	Do. Temporary do.	22

APPENDIX III—(contd.)

Serial No.	Name of Court.	No. of petitions filed under Section 16 of Debt Relief Act up to 15-11-1117.
36	Perumbavoor Principal Munsiff's Court	29
37	Do. Additional Temporary do.	...
38	Muvattupuzha do.	19
39	Todupuzha do.	15
40	Devicōlam do.	...
41	Nagercoil District Court	68
42	Trivandrum do.	86
43	Quilon do.	89
44	Mavelikara do.	115
45	Alleppey do.	200
46	Kottayam do.	146
47	Parur do.	92

Appendix IV.

Vide Answer to Question No. 79.

Number of cases disposed of in the High Court from
1-1-1117 to 15-11-1117.

Civil.

Appeals	567
Special Appeals	443
Review Petitions	56
Review petitions after notice issued to opposite side	31
C. M. Appeals	246
Civil Revision petitions	598
Civil Miscellaneous petitions	1358

Criminal.

Referred cases	25
Criminal Appeals	184
Criminal Miscellaneous petitions	295
Criminal Revision petitions	461
Criminal Reference	7
Calendars	1036
Calendars in which records have been called for	30

Appendix V.

Vide Answer to Question No. 83.

List of tanks and other irrigation works recommended to be executed by the Kalkulam Taluk Water Supply Committee during the years 1116 and 1117 M. E.

Pakuthy.	No.	Name of Tank.	Survey No.	Remarks.
Thiruvithamcode	1		2106	Taken up for execution.
	2	Kattukulam	585	Do.
	3	Mampalliconam kulam	535	Do.
	4	Kizhvilakonathu Puthukulam	3869	Estimate sanctioned. But not taken up for want of funds
Colachel	5	Kakarampallathu Pottakulam	10831	Taken up for execution.
	6	Gnarakottukulam	5611	Do.
Valvechaghoshtam	7	Erayankulam	4221/B	Do.
	8	Kizha Thachakottukulam	1862	Pending approval of Standing Committee.
Kothanalloor	9	Kallachimankottukulam	9	Work to be arranged.
	10	Maruthencottukulam	5310	Pending approval of Standing Committee.
Kalkulam	11	Appattukulam	5581/15	Estimate Pending sanction.
	12	Pallathumulakulam	5581/11	Do.
	13	Pattarkonathukulam	5581/7	Do.
	14	Charottukulam	278	Do.

APPENDIX V—(contd.)

Pakuthy.	No.	Name of Tank.	Survey No.	Remarks.
Thuckalai	15	Kanjirakuzhikulam	230/A	Taken up for execution.
	16	Kochukattukulam	2567	Estimate pending sanction.
	17	Kuzhimannarkulam	88/A	Taken up for execution.
	18	Pottakulam Puthukulam	113	Do.
	19	Palakottukulam	4373	Estimate pending sanction.
Eraniel	20	Edakottukulam	3056	Do.
Thalakulam	21	Allenkulam	545	Pending approval of Standing Committee.
	22	Pallakulam	7094	Do.
	23	Melakulam	526	Taken up for execution.
Aloor	24	Pappankulam	4620	Do.
	25	Aloor kulam	5475/3/1	Do.
Thripparappu	26	Venkottukulam	2964/A	Pending approval of Standing Committee.
	27	Machikulam	8/A	Do.
	28	Puthukulam	982	Do.
	29	Arasukulam	513	Do.
	30	Olikulam	1788	Do.
	31	Kavukulam	2205	Do.
	32	Poolamkottukulam	529	Do.

APPENDIX V—(contd.)

Pakuthy.	No.	Name of Tank.	Survey No.	Remarks.
Kadiapatnam	33	Edavilakulam	2095/B	Pending approval of Standing Committee.
Ponmana	34	Mallukuzhikulam	1353/A	Taken up for execution.
	35	Vaniankulam	396/1	Do.
	36	Erattakulam	1102/1	Do.
	37	Mannankottukulam	1447	Pending approval of Standing Committee.
	38	Pathirikulam	1800	Do.
	39	Thudicottukulam	1522/23	Do.
	40	Azhankal kulam	1533	Do.
Thiruvattar	41	Annuvattikulam	1522/8	Do.
	42	Naduvilakulam	1538	Do.
	43	Chettikulam	2170	Taken up for execution.
	44	Machaykulam	741	Pending approval of Standing Committee.
	45	Palcolam	1691	Estimate pending sanction.
	46	Thittamathukulam	1370	Pending approval of the Standing Committee.

APPENDIX V-- (contd.)

Pakuthy.	No.	Name of Tank.	Survey No.	Remarks.
Thiruvattar	47	Kuttichirakulam	1483/2	Pending approval of Standing Committee.
	48	Kunnikulam	523/B	do.
	49	Kunnicutukulam	1104/B	do.
	50	Chenkottukulam	859	do.
	51	Mulakulam	2125	do.
Attoor	52	Edakottuvariakulam	420/2	Taken up for execution.
	53	Nediancottukulam	988	do.
	54	Puthucherikulam	1010	Estimate pending sanction.
	55	Maniakulam	2188	do.
	56	Kaikakulam	2198	do.
	57	Aruvikottukulam	1207/A	do.
	58	Kythakulam	459	do.
	59	Nagerkulam	2547	Pending approval of Standing Committee.
	60	Palachakulam	4620	Taken up for execution.
Meycode	61	Irumankulam	1969	do.
	62	Nagacottukulam	2109	do.
	63	Pachathukulam	684	do.
	64	Chengamangalathukulam	365/1	Estimate pending sanction.
	65	Kunnicutukulam	1626	Taken up for execution.

APPENDIX V—(contd.)

Pakuthy.	No.	Name of Tank.	Survey No.	Remarks.
Aruvikara	66	Thachankottukulam	1283/1	Taken up for execution.
	67	Karadikulam	57	Estimate pending sanction.
	68	Puthucottumelakulam	1318/1	do.
	69	Vyakathazhakulam	1088	do.
	70	Cherupalornedumkulam	1303/1	Taken up for execution.
	71	Othamethukulam	892	Pending approval of Standing Committee.
	72	Construction of a flume across Kuzhithura river to lead Themanoor yelah Surplus water to Chithral.		Pending orders of Government.
<i>List of works done during 1116 and 1117 out of the above list.</i>				
Ihruvithameode	1	(Tank)	2106	Completed.
	2	Mampalliconamkulam	535	do.
	3	Kattukulam	585	do.
Colachel	4	Kakarampallathu Pottakulam	10831	Almost completed.
	5	Gnaracottukulam	5611	do.
Thalakulam	6	Melakulam	526	do.
Thackalai	7	Pottakulam and Puthukulam	113	do.
	8	Kuzhimannarkulam	88/A	Completed.
	9	Kanjirakuzhikulam	230/A	do.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

APPENDIX V—(contd.)

Pakuthy.	No.	Name of Tank.	Survey No.	Remarks.
Aloor	10	Aloorkulam	5475/3/1	Completed.
	11	Pappankulam	4620	do.
Valvechaghoshtam	12	Erayankulam	4221/B	In progress.
Ponmanai	13	Mellukuzhikulam	1353/A	Almost completed.
	14	Vaniankulam	396/1	do.
	15	Erattakulam	1102/1	do.
Thiruvattar	16	Chettikulam	2170	do.
Attoor	17	Edakottuvariankulam	420/1	do.
	18	Nediankottukulam	988	do.
	19	Palachakulam	4620	do.
	20	Irumanakulam	1969	Completed.
Meycode	21	Kunnicottukulam	1626	do.
	22	Pachathukulam	684	Almost completed.
	23	Nagacottukulam	2109	do.
Aruvikara	24	Thachankottukulam	1283/1	do.
	25	Cheruppaloor Nedumkulam	1303/1	Completed.

**STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT REGARDING
THE PROCEDURE FOR DISCUSSION OF
THE BUDGET.**

PRESIDENT : Under Rule 69, the debate on the Budget will begin with a general discussion and be followed by the voting of Demands for Grants. Two days have been allotted for the general discussion and the maximum of seven days has been set apart for the voting of Demands for Grants. The Demands will be taken up in the order in which they are printed in the list of Demands, copy of which has been already furnished to honourable members. The Demands under II—Land Revenue and Taxes on Income—and VII—Public Works may each be discussed for one whole day; and not more than half a day will be allotted for each of the remaining Demands.

Every member, other than the Financial Secretary, will be allowed during the general discussion stage, not more than *fifteen minutes* as usual. But I hope honourable members will, while not unduly restraining themselves, allow as many non-official members as possible to participate in the discussion and also render it possible to give the Government members adequate time for reply.

I find on scrutiny of the names furnished by the Secretary that there are 22 members of the National Congress Party, 11 members in the People's Party and 28 members who belong to no party. My endeavour will be, as far as possible, to give the members of these parties in proportion to their numbers opportunity for speaking. Roughly speaking 10 members of the National Congress Party, 5 members of the People's Party and 13 members of no party, will be allowed to take part in the general discussion of the Budget. I shall be glad if honourable members of each party who wish to speak will kindly give their list to the Secretary sufficiently early so that they may be called up as they stand and catch the eye of the President.

When voting on the Demands for Grants, every mover and the official member who has the right of reply will be allowed ten minutes each and the other members five minutes each. Standing Order No. 59 requires notice of every motion to be given to the Secretary two clear days before the day on which the Demand comes up for consideration. Late motions will not be accepted. It will facilitate business if honourable members giving notice of token motions which can most conveniently be for a reduction of one rupee will also specify the purpose underlying the proposed cut and take care to see that the cut motions are confined to amounts entirely votable.

In this connection, I may also invite the attention of honourable members to my predecessor's ruling regarding budget motions, given on the 30th of July 1935, reported on pages 705 to 707 of Volume VI of the Proceedings of the Sri Mulam Assembly.

In calculating the number of hours to be allotted for the voting of Demands, I propose to follow the procedure which has been followed during the previous years. A day will be taken as from 11 A. M. to

[President.]

5 P. M. One hour being available for question time, and another hour (1 to 2 P. M.) as lunch interval, the remaining four hours will be treated as one full day and two hours as half a day. If the whole of the first hour is not taken up for questions and answers, the time left over will be available for the voting of Demands for Grants. Such available time will not go to increase the time allotted for any particular Demand but will be available to the House and thus enable them to reach more Demands.

The general discussion of the Budget will now commence and I call upon the Deputy President.

GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Palhnanapuram cum Shen-cottah*): Sir, it is a matter of deep gratification and pride for us to know that the revenue of the State has reached the peak level of Rs. 3 crores, at level which has not been reached in the past. This has now placed the State in a very pre-eminent position among the States of India. It gives us the third rank, Hyderabad and Mysore alone being above us.

Sir, the Revised Estimates that have been placed before us anticipate a substantial surplus of about Rs. 24 lakhs and estimates for the coming year are expected to yield a surplus of about Rs. 5 lakhs. That it will be possible for us to realise a substantial surplus of about Rs. 24 lakhs during the present year is a remarkable tribute to the wise and able handling of the finances and financial transactions of the State by the Head of the Administration and also to the innate soundness of the finances of the State. But we should not on this ground give ourselves up to undue optimism. If you look at the figures that have been tabulated in the Budget Memorandum presented along with the Budget, it will be found that although we have been able to realise a surplus this year and to budget for a surplus during the coming year, our revenues have been subject to wide fluctuations during the past quarter of a century so much so it is a warning to us that we must be very careful about the future. I am suggesting that it should be possible for us to create a substantial revenue surplus. I therefore welcome the decision of the Government to add to the Revenue Reserve Fund that has been created, by the allocation of the anticipated surplus of Rs. 24.32 lakhs for the year, thus raising it to about Rs. 33 lakhs.

I hope, Sir, that this policy of building up a substantial reserve fund will be steadily pursued, particularly in view of the uncertain conditions of the present international situation which are likely to have very serious repercussions on the finances of a maritime State like ours.

Sir, coming to the Budget Estimates presented to us, I shall now refer to a few salient features of the estimates, and of the programme and policy that have been adumbrated in the speech of the Financial Secretary introducing the Budget Estimates. In the first place my attention has been drawn to the fact that the working of the Travancore

section of the South Indian Railway has begun to yield a substantial revenue to the State after a very long period of deficits. This year it is expected that the contribution to our revenue by the railway will be about 3.5 lakhs of rupees and it is estimated that we shall be getting another 3 lakhs of rupees during the next year. I hope, Sir, that the working of the railway will continue to yield a substantial recurring revenue to the Exchequer of the State and the railway will not be a source of burden or liability to the State hereafter.

The next item of revenue which catches my eye is the Forest revenue. After a number of years our Forest revenue has begun to grow steadily. The Forest revenue which stood at Rs. 16.98 lakhs in 1115 shot up to Rs. 18.95 lakhs in 1116. It is expected to reach Rs. 26 lakhs during the current year. This shows that the revenue from the Forest is growing steadily. But, Sir, I was surprised to learn the other day from the speech of the Financial Secretary that the Government have under contemplation proposals to re-organise the Department with a view to tapping new sources of revenue under Forest and also to bring about a re-distribution of the territorial jurisdiction of the divisional officers and to cut down the number of divisions. I am afraid, Sir, that this is not the time to bring about a re-distribution with a view to reducing the number of divisions when the revenue from this source shows a tendency to rise. This is just the time for expansion of the department so that the revenue may be safeguarded, if possible, by increasing the number of divisions and by increasing the staff as well.

I am glad to find in regard to the Medical Department that it is proposed to decentralise the administration by the appointment of a few District Officers. This is a very welcome decision on the part of the Government. This is the natural outcome of the policy steadily pursued by the Government in the past of creating a net work of Hospitals and Dispensaries in the State. I am sure this decision of the Government to decentralise the Medical Department will be conducive to increased efficiency of the Department.

I note, Sir, that it has been decided to make a provision of 2 lakhs of rupees for the payment of a dearness allowance of one rupee per mensem to lower subordinates in Government service and I also note that there is a provision of one lakh of rupees for Distress Relief. These two provisions must be very welcome to this House as they are designed to meet the requirements of the present situation.

Now, Sir, I shall refer to another question, *viz.*, a serious problem confronting the State. One of the chief problems with which this State has been faced even in normal times is the problem of food supply. We have to a very great extent depended upon rice and paddy imported from Burma and Siam even in normal times. The outbreak of the war has created a rather unprecedented and serious situation in this respect and the problem has been further aggravated by the Japanese aggression in the East, so much so the supply of rice and

[Mr. S. Chattanatha Karayalar.]

paddy has practically come to a dead stop. But it is reassuring to find that the Government have taken very wise and prompt steps in this matter and have secured the co-operation of the Madras Government and of the Cochin Government and have also made arrangements for getting adequate supplies from Tanjore and the Northern Circars. We are very happy to learn also that the State of Cochin has been co-operating with us to the fullest extent possible in securing the supplies and the State is working in close concert with us in this matter. The other day, Sir, in your address you referred to the problem of petrol and kerosene supplies and the various difficulties with which people are confronted in getting supplies. You said, Sir, that people will have to go without petrol within a very short time and they will have to adjust themselves to the new situation. In this connection, Sir, I am reminded and forcibly reminded too, of the fact that the number of motor vehicles in the State has been steadily on the increase and the number is out of all proportion to the needs of the country. It is a serious drain on the resources of this country especially now when all available supplies of petrol are needed for essential purposes. Therefore, Government ought to take steps to cut down the number of vehicles available in the country. Government should make a start by restricting in the first place the number of vehicles owned by their officers to a very limited minimum. In this connection I wish to refer to the question of tolls.

Tolls have been giving us a very substantial revenue. About 7.5 lakhs of rupees are expected to be received this year. But in consequence of the reduction of the motor traffic it is expected that the revenue may fall to Rs. 4.5 lakhs, and there may be further fall later. I suggest in all seriousness, that the present moment ought to be availed of by Government to do away with this revenue from tolls as several other Governments have done and resort to a system of taxation on motor vehicles to reimburse themselves to the extent of the loss suffered on account of the abolition of tolls. Sir, this is a serious matter and the system of collecting tolls is not at all popular. It may be described as a system of revenue based upon a nuisance allowed on the public road. I think, Sir, that this is a very opportune time for doing away with tolls and for resorting to taxation of vehicles. It will have a double effect: it will reduce the number of vehicles and stop the drain and at the same time secure the revenue of Government.

I wish to advert to another subject. Sir, the banking system prevailing in the country does not adequately serve its purpose. It is well known that a banking crisis developed in Travancore in 1937. I may say that we have not yet emerged from the crisis. The commercial banks have been subjected to a very severe strain on account of the crisis which enveloped the country in 1937 and the recent developments in the international situation have aggravated the situation. The commercial banking system cannot be said to be very sound at the present moment. The commercial classes of the country are seriously

affected by the dwindling down of the credit facilities afforded by the commercial banks and the situation shows no signs of improvement. It is high time for the Government to step in and find out ways and means to re-organise the whole system of commercial banking on a very sound footing. They must take the initiative by organising a system of sound commercial banking in the country or a system of giving subsidies to commercial banks either here or outside. This is a very essential matter affecting the economy of the State, to which I wish to draw the serious attention of the Government.

Now, Sir, before concluding, I am very happy to say that Sir Henry Craik, Political Adviser to His Excellency the Viceroy has paid a visit to our country at this important time when we are discussing the budget and is in our midst. There is a saying, Sir, that "Dilli dur ast." It signifies not only the fact that geographically Travancore is situated far away from Delhi. It is also a figurative way of saying that the problems and difficulties we in South India are confronted with do not receive adequate degree of attention at the hands of the central authorities as in the case of North Indian States. It is a matter of happy augury that the Political Adviser to His Excellency the Viceroy should have found it possible to come down to the South at an important time in the history of this land and to be able to get first hand information concerning our problems, particularly those touching Travancore as a maritime State. We hope that he will impress the central authorities with the first hand knowledge of our problems which he will be able to gain during his sojourn here. We welcome him, Sir, in our midst with great pleasure.

MR. KAINIKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Changanacherry cum Peermade*): Sir, the House has been presented with what may be called the third war time budget. The political agitation that had forcibly distracted the attention of Government from more useful and constructive activities and had consequently caused a slight unsettlement of the pre-planned financial schemes had subsided towards the close of 1114 and Government went into the question of preparing the budget for 1115 in the hope that normal conditions would prevail. But those hopes were frustrated and the small domestic storm gave place to a tremendous international tempest. Since then a regular tussle was going on the Financial Administration of the State and the innumerable new and ever varying difficulties and handicaps presented by the war. The peculiar situation of the State made our problems particularly melancholy. Ours is a maritime State and one that depends for its revenue mainly on indirect taxation. On account of a wise and equitable policy of taxation followed by the Government of Travancore, land tax, which at one time contributed mainly to the resources of the State, contributes now only 13 per cent of the State's revenues today. When we were trying to dig into th

[Mr. Kainikara M. Padmanabha Pillai.]

ears of the British Government that the dumping of the Ceylon Copra in the Indian markets was practically smothering the poor cocoanut planter in Travancore, the British Government retorted by saying that we ourselves were imposing an export duty on copra. But they did not take the trouble to understand that even including the export duty the tax per acre of cocoanut garden stands below the land tax alone in Malabar and Cochin. It has been the policy of the Travancore Government to keep the land tax at a minimum and to resort to indirect taxation which would automatically fluctuate with the fluctuation in production and price. When it is said that 70 per cent of our revenue is derived from indirect taxation and of all the various items that go to contribute the revenue, the customs stands uppermost, the effect on our revenue of a world war and the loss of our sea borne trade would be self-sufficient. Therefore in 1115 and 1116 Government had to strain their resources to the utmost and to scrupulously economise their expenditure to maintain the financial equilibrium. In 1116 the actuals fell by 9 lakhs below the Budget Estimate. It was by economising the expenditure to the tune of 6 lakhs Government were able even approximately to achieve the anticipated results. But, Sir, this year, at least for the present, we seem to have won the struggle. The Revised Estimate stands 20 lakhs above the Budget Estimate. The revenue receipts have reached the peak point *viz.*, 30 lakhs and in the matter of revenue the State has been pushed on to the third rank in the order of Indian States. These are matters about which the Administration can feel a legitimate pride even in normal conditions.

Though the revenue has reached the peak point the Administration has been commendably cautious in preparing the budget for the next year. This is a moment when nobody can be too cautious. This unexpected rise in our revenue may be after all a passing phenomenon. A few good convoys might have reached the Cochin harbour to keep up the volume of our sea borne trade. The income from the forest is decidedly a transitory phenomenon. Therefore there is every reason for moderation in regard to anticipations. I am glad to note that Government have realised the fact.

This is a war time budget. The one topic that occupies the focus of our attention today is the war. So it is natural that the budget of every State, especially a maritime State, would be a war time budget. The most important function of any State today is to see how they can face the direct and indirect reactions of the war. First of all there is the question of the conduct of the war; the speedy and effective pushing forward of the military operations to a victorious conclusion. Secondly there is the question of protecting the life and property of the people, especially from air raids. Thirdly there are the numerous indirect repercussions of the war, for example, the loss of employment, the cessation of regular trade and commerce, the scarcity of food etc. The Financial Secretary has reminded us that we have

already contributed 15 lakhs of rupees towards war expenditure. We have also sent two battalions from the State Forces. In the matter of war supplies I am sure that Travancore stands behind no part of India. We have also given a large number of labourers, a considerable number of trained technicians and about 150 young men to receive King's Commissions. We have also sent about 15,000 people as soldiers, clerks, etc. Not one train leaves Trivandrum today which does not resound with cheers proposed by our young men who are joining the Army. Nor have they been drawn from the lower strata. My honourable friend Mr. T. P. Velayudhan Pillai's son has already gone to Poona to be trained as a King's Commissioned Officer and I may say that one of my own brothers is waiting his memo. I am only saying these things to show that we are giving our best. And we are about to make the greatest of our contributions, a contribution which money cannot purchase, force cannot coerce and temptation cannot win. We are about to offer Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar himself.

So much for the direct contribution to the war. Coming to the second aspect of the question I need not say that it is not within our power to prevent or to oppose any possible attack by any of our enemy nations. There was a time when every man—for the matter of that almost every woman—in this country had a spartan training and discipline. That was a time when at a call from our Ruler the whole country would have taken up arms. But that age is gone and gone so soon. We have been so effectively disarmed and disorganised. Our kalaris and Asans have disappeared. Our military tradition has been forgotten. I am afraid that we had even our military instinct. But no, thank God. The spontaneous enthusiasm with which our young men are rushing to the recruiting booths shows that the spirit is still living and unquenched. Given the opportunity, given the necessary arms and above all given the freedom, Travancore shall supply not merely 15,000 recruits, not one or two battalions, but I say that within six months or one year we shall be able to mobilise a force strong enough to protect the whole of the Malabar coast. Leaving that aside, even under the present circumstances, there is much we can do. We can train our people to face danger boldly like men and women, face danger calmly like disciplined citizens. We can see that ignorance does not aggravate danger and cowardice does not add disgrace to disaster. There was a moment of extreme tension when people were tried. When the Japanese danger was near, when Colombo, Trincomali and Coconada were bombed and when we were expecting to be bombed at any moment the people were cool and courageous. The inspiration given by the Royal Family which did not even go to the Hills as usual, but true to the ancient Hindu Rajadharma remained in the midst of their subjects and at the spot of greatest danger and the stirring appeal made by you, Sir, had immediate and full response. It is gratifying to note that steps are also being taken to train people to face all possible dangers.

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Coming now to the third aspect, namely, how to meet the indirect effects of war, it is in this aspect that the Government and the people have got the greatest scope for constructive activity. If your appeal to the people to be bold has had satisfactory response, the response to your other appeal, namely, not to leave one inch of land uncultivated has had even fuller and prompter response. The other day when addressing the joint sitting of the two Houses, you said that the Government are thinking even of confiscating the lands left uncultivated. I say, Sir, there is no necessity for such a drastic step. Even under normal circumstances, the mere prospect of getting better prices for an article makes people cultivate it, if to it is added the necessity for food no compulsion will be needed to persuade them.

One thing that any Government must do now is to adopt preventive measures to control prices and to prevent profiteering by merchants. Travancore Government has been extremely prompt and rigorous in taking these steps. It is this promptness that has saved us from a repetition of the experiences that we had during the last war. But you have told us that no steps are being taken in British India to control prices. If that is so the situation is really hard. With the loss of Burma, the British Indian rice producer has got a sort of monopoly. If the price is not controlled there, the control of prices here will be useless. If the cost price is left uncontrolled there are only two alternatives for our importers, namely either to fix a proportionately high sale price or not to import at all. Therefore I appeal to Government to move the British Government to see that prices are controlled in British India also so that the quota that is allowed to us is made available at reasonable rates.

The Financial Secretary has told us of the relief measures undertaken in the famine stricken coastal areas and the help rendered to evacuees. These are highly commendable activities. But there is no denying the fact that this is not going to touch even the fringe of the problem. We require about 3 lakhs of tons of rice a year. We were producing about 2½ lakhs and getting 3½ lakhs from outside. Now Burma is gone. Due to the earnest endeavour of this Government it has been possible for us to get some rice from Tanjore and other districts of Madras. But we are told that our ratio is 1.80 lakhs of tons. Thus we are face to face with the mathematical fact that our supply falls short of our demand by about 1.70 lakhs of tons or by about 30 per cent of our needs. The prospect is gloomy. There is also scarcity of kerosene oil. We are told that the kerosene oil supply has been cut down by fifty per cent. But if kerosene oil is stopped we can at least take back to coconut oil or we can have a black-out. There is scarcity of clothing. But we have been always simple in our dress and we may try to make it simpler. But the question of food supply stands on a different footing.

Something can be done by the introduction of scientific cultivation. I am glad to note that Government have opened several new manure depots and provision has been made for the supply of manure on credit system on the security of crops. This will to some extent increase the output. But I do not think it will substantially do it. It is not possible to make a country scientifically minded by a moment's notice and our agriculturists are not only conservative. If this problem is to be tackled successfully it can only be done by expanding the area under cultivation to the maximum limit. The annual cultivation of punja lands the cultivation of the high level wet lands and the lands under lift irrigation would substantially increase the output of paddy. I am glad to find that the Agricultural, Public Works and Electrical departments are co-operating to see what could be done in this direction. Last year a proposal was made in the Assembly that the hill areas covered with grass might be registered for the cultivation of paddy. I opposed that proposal then. I still oppose it. I also consider that what remains of our lakes must not be registered. But the grassy lands in the hilly areas might be leased out for one or two years on the *tangya* system and combined with the cultivation by the lessees of suitable and valuable timber so that the output of paddy may be increased for the present and the hills may be converted into rich forests. One other suggestion I would make in this connection is a change in diet. Even under normal circumstances the Travancorean eats too much rice. There must be propaganda for a change of diet. It would be best if people made a virtue of necessity and used this opportunity to make any necessary change in our diet by reducing the consumption of rice and introducing other items.

I have done. I am glad to find that Government have been able not only to balance their budgets but they have done and are doing everything possible to meet the various, direct, indirect and actual and possible reactions of the war. As I have said before, this is a time when nobody can be too sure of anything. All that a Government can do is to be resourceful and watchful and promptly react to the varying circumstances. All that people can do is to be bold and to be united. This is a supreme moment in the history of the world, the darkest and the most tragic crisis that humanity had ever to face. It is the duty of the State and of the people to stand bold and united. The other day we heard with extreme regret that even this moment of life and death is being exploited by some misguided young men. I take this opportunity to appeal to the House and through the House to the people to stop for the moment all child's play with fire. This is not the moment to experiment with theories and dogmas. This is a time when everything noble, good, human, and superhuman in us should rise and converge towards a united, consolidated and concentrated effort for the deliverance of mankind. I hope and trust that my country will not be found wanting.

MR. M. L. JANARDANAN PILLAI (*Nominated*): Sir, friends and critics of Government just a few months before the introduction of the Budget were doubtful whether in view of the unsettled conditions in the world Government will be able to present a prosperity budget. I am glad that Government have after all been able to present a prosperity budget. Indeed Government have at the same time ensured that necessary provisions have been allotted for the continuance of the nation-building activities of a progressive State. In fact, there is one circumstance about which I wish to congratulate the Government and that is for the provision of Rs. 24 lakhs which they have kept in reserve to meet the conditions of lean years. While I am prepared to congratulate Government on the forethought they have exercised in this matter and the provision they have made in the Budget, I must at the same time say that in view of the experience some of us had during the depression period which followed immediately after the last war, we are afraid whether the sum of Rs. 24 lakhs will be sufficient to meet the difficulties which may confront us after the present war is over. I would therefore take this opportunity of requesting Government to realise in advance the difficulties of the situation, remembering the experiences this country had on the previous occasion, and be prepared with necessary funds to meet any eventualities during the post-war period.

Government have also to be congratulated on the cess they propose to levy on rubber. It is an industry which can now afford to bear this small cess. At the same time it is not a cess on the general agriculturist but it is only a cess on an industry which is prospering well. I therefore congratulate the Government on their decision to levy this cess at present which is a most satisfactory aspect of this budget. In past years the method of balancing the budget was by imposing some sort of new tax on the ordinary tax-payer. For the last few years it has been the feature that it is not the ordinary tax-payer that is taxed but indirect taxes are looked forward to by Government for augmenting its income.

The Financial Secretary points out in his speech that the fall in income under Electricity in 1117 is due to the fact that the Aluminium Factory is expected to start work only in August next. I do not know why it is so. The rumours in the country are to the effect that licenses are not obtained by those who are in charge of the factory for importing the necessary machinery.

PRESIDENT: Order, order. The shoe is pinching elsewhere. It is not possible for us to import machinery for electric supply.

MR. M. L. JANARDANAN PILLAI: This is an important item which will greatly help our war efforts and I request Government to use their earnest endeavours to help the importation of the necessary machinery.

Under income tax Government have wisely budgetted only for Rs. 15 lakhs for the coming year. This is as it should be because of the uncertain conditions that we are likely to pass through next year.

At the same time, may I utter a warning to Government that they should not frighten away the commercial or industrial enterprises that are just beginning to settle in this country by introducing excess profits tax. I think this aspect will receive the serious consideration of Government.

I have also to congratulate Government for having provided funds liberally for the opening of a Show Room where machinery can be exhibited for the purpose of acquainting the people with the existence and working of such machinery. This is a step in the right direction and a desideratum which has been felt for a long time. In this connection, Sir, the members of this Assembly had repeatedly brought to the notice of Government the desirability and urgency of opening a department of Commerce. We are certainly aware of the help given by you to the commerce and industries of Travancore by personally undertaking the responsibility of getting orders from the Supply Department and by giving financial guarantees. The price of coir has as a consequence risen from Rs. 28 per candy to Rs. 52 per candy. We are very grateful for that and several similar help.

The increase in the price of coir is not only the one aspect of that, but it also relieved unemployment and distress in very many parts of the country. At the same time, Sir, I am sure you will agree that very many problems are likely to arise especially after the war. As it now stands we are practically deprived of all the foreign markets that we were having, and even with regard to British Indian markets, we are not able to secure sufficient wagon space in the railways to export the commodities which are purchased from this country. Various other difficulties are likely to confront us after the war, and I will therefore, take this opportunity to bring this matter to the notice of Government. The Economic Adviser to the Government of India has been already deputed on special duty by the Government of India to inquire into post-war possibilities of development of trade and industries and to find out and suggest to the respective Governments the measures necessary for ensuring a satisfactory state of affairs during the post-war period. Other countries like South Africa, Australia and Canada have done the same thing. We have our own problems and they are not like the problems of other countries. We have our peculiar problems to be discussed and understood and I think it behoves the Government to understand these difficulties now and at once and to formulate measures as to how and in what manner we have to tackle those questions in order to be sure our industries and trade do not suffer from another economic blizzard as we experienced, to our terrible cost, immediately after the last war. Sir, Government deserve the thanks of the country for having made it possible for us even in spite of the war to obtain sufficient and adequate supply of rice at a very reasonable level of price. We certainly are fully aware of the fact that soon after the war started this Government even went to the extent of losing a few thousands of rupees in the initial stages.

PRESIDENT: More than that. Nearly a lakh.

MR. M. L. JANARDANAN PILLAI: Well, Sir, that was what made it possible for Government to keep down the level of prices by about 35 to 40 per cent. We are also aware that Government have used their best endeavours to influence the Government of India and the Madras Government to secure for us a fairly good quota of rice for use in this country. But that is not enough. In the first place, as was pointed out by my friend Mr. Kainikara M. Padmanabha Pillai, the quota itself, I am afraid, is inadequate to meet the needs of the country. So long as price control is not effectively brought into operation in the Madras Presidency wherefrom we have to get our supplies it will be impossible to control prices here and if prices are not controlled there is likely to be serious trouble and discontent.

Let me sum up. Government have to be congratulated sincerely on the very careful attention they have paid to every detail in the budget under receipts and under expenditure. It shows that very careful scrutiny has been conducted by the Government in regard to each item. We have several small industries and some big industries. Our commerce requires careful watching and guidance by Government during these troublesome times and we have our own difficulties also. The President had remarked that we have to find our way out for ourselves, and be self-reliant and Government can only supplement our efforts. I trust, Sir, that when you are away in Delhi, *Delhi du ast* will not any longer be an impediment to us. We have the consolation that your absence is only for a short period and that you will return to us soon and this House has unmistakably expressed itself yesterday. The whole country prays that the best of blessings and the best of luck will attend you in the great mission on which you leave us, so that you may be enabled by Providence, to return to us very soon and be enabled to prepare much more prosperous budgets in the years to come.

MR. J. W. TOLSON (*Travancore Planters*): Sir, I wish to congratulate the Government and the Financial Secretary on a Budget which shows progress and prosperity in spite of the difficult times we live in. Travancore is indeed fortunate in the third year of a world war to be able to show increased revenue to undertake further progressive works.

Now, Sir, I would like to make a few remarks on the subject of food supplies and to the lack of information relating to the procedure to be followed especially with regard to districts on the eastern frontiers. During the past months or so supplies have been prohibited from British India and when it is realised that on that frontier the distance may be only 10 or 20 miles with easy communications, the position becomes altogether acute when distances and transport increase by having to obtain supplies from such places as Kottayam and Muvattupuzha. In view of these difficulties may I be permitted to ask the aid of Government in helping in every way the small cardamom owner working in isolated areas.

I also wish to draw the attention of Government to the present arrangements by which prices are fixed by the Food Control Committee and in order to show the difficulties I will quote the position with regard to Kerosene Oil.

Cost of one four gallon tin Kerosene Oil in Munnar; rate fixed by M/S. Burmah-Shell	Rs.	5	9	0
Refund rate on tin, fixed by M/S. Burmah-Shell	..	0	10	0
Bulk rate for Kerosene per 4 gallon fixed by Messrs. Burmah-Shell	..	4	15	0
Each tin is supposed to contain 24 bottles (although in many cases, I have only managed to get 23 1/2 bottles)—24 bottles at Government rate of As. 3 and Ps. 3 only.	..	4	14	0
Assuming that there are 24 bottles per 4 gallon tin a merchant loses one anna per 24 bottles on the bulk selling rate				

From the figures it will be observed that what may be possible in Trivandrum and District is impossible in Districts with a long carriage.

Might I suggest that more power be given to the Food Control Sub-Committee in order that transport costs may be taken into account and the market from which supplies are being drawn.

I would also like to bring to the notice of Government the necessity if possible of obtaining supplies of quinine as I have seen a notice in the press stating that if care is taken supplies are sufficient for five years. If this is correct then may I be allowed to point out that any supplies that can be obtained to-day are now costing Rs. 150/200 per lb. The growing of Cinchona I know was tried out many years ago and perhaps it might be possible to find that there are still certain areas which still have trees growing on them.

Now may I refer to the latest Government order with regard to the opening up of new areas in rubber. This order states that only 100 acres may be allowed to any individual. This order in my opinion is detrimental to the war effort and a distinct handicap to anybody of Travancoreans who may wish to form a Company and with money coming into the State surely it is in the interest of Travancore to encourage the public to invest their money in Rubber which will not only help the war effort but be a source of revenue to the Government.

One other matter, Sir, I would like to touch on is the "Grow More Food Campaign" which you referred to the other day. This, I feel sure, Sir, has the whole-hearted support of the planting industry and to-day every endeavour is being made to produce more food. May I suggest, Sir, that as regards bringing in more areas, a new approach may be made from the co-operative point of view in many places. It is impossible to ask one, two or three individuals to live there and make

[Mr. J. W. Tolson.]

progress, whereas by an organised, co-operative effort, for the purposes of a Grow More Food Campaign, I feel great progress would be made. Further, I feel that at a time such as this, it is necessary that the direction of Government should turn to guiding and definitely controlling the efforts. In regard to this, I have in mind a good portion of land which, up to the present year has been growing hill paddy but has now been planted with lemon grass. It is a pity, to put it mildly, that such an abuse should be allowed to go on.

May I, in conclusion, Sir, be permitted to congratulate you on your appointment to the Government of India and say how much your determination to succeed in so difficult an undertaking is appreciated and to wish you health and strength to complete to your own satisfaction a settlement which is so desired by us all.

SRY. T. NARAYANI AMMA (*Nominated*): Sir, as one, who has had the privilege of making a somewhat careful study of and offering my humble comments on the budgets of the State for over eight years, and as a Travancorean who is proud of my country, I rise to-day to speak on the budget presented by the Financial Secretary with feelings of particular gratification. At no time in the history of the world has every country been so much shaken by a devastating world war and its crushing repercussions as it is now and doleful tales are being heard from everywhere regarding the financial effects of this world-wide catastrophe. Travancore's position is peculiar, since it is a maritime State depending to a very great extent on its customs for a steady increase in its revenue; we are therefore feeling the effects of this second world war to an even greater extent than other places which have been brought into the orbit of its saturnine influence, and in the words of the Financial Secretary 'the war has come nearer to the shores of India and we are not far from the danger zone'. That at such a time the financial position of the State should be what it is, as disclosed by the budget presented, is a matter on which Travancoreans have every reason to feel proud and I hasten to offer my hearty congratulations to the Financial Secretary on the ability and the far-sightedness with which he had handled the financial resources of the State at this critical period in the world's history. His statements are full and frank and he has taken the members of the Legislature, as represented by the public, into his confidence by the lucid explanations given by him in the budget memorandum and also in the further elucidations given in his speech presenting the budget. Critical as the times are, and difficult as the position is, they have to be faced and the Government of His Gracious Highness the Maharaja have ably, done this, thanks to the ardent devotion to the interests of the State displayed by a Sovereign "young in years but old in wisdom", and to the unnerved drive, inspiring personality, the never-failing resourcefulness and unlimited sympathy of a Dewan, and whose lieutenants, prominent among whom, in this connection, is the Financial Secretary, are making strenuous endeavours to copy his example and rise equal to the occasion.

Coming to the salient features of this budget, it is very gratifying to note that the current year as well as the ensuing year are supposed to close with a surplus, a surplus, as stressed by the Financial Secretary, "obtained not by starving the normal requirements of a progressive administration or crippling the usual measures of amelioration in relief of distress, but by the careful conservation of our resources without imposing on the poor ryot the burden of any new taxation and the exercise of due economy in all possible directions without impairing efficiency." We are particularly glad of the steps taken by the Government in the field of agriculture, industries and co-operation and we are thankful to the Government for their decision to grant a loan of one lakh of rupees to the Central Co-operative Bank, and also for the increased provision made for affording better help to the members of the backward communities. The special provision made for giving dearness allowance to subordinates receiving a pay of less than Rs. 15, is very much appreciated by us. In this connection, Sir, I feel it my duty to praise the timely steps taken by the Government to deal with the matter of food and we are very grateful to you, Sir, for the assurance given by you that there will absolutely be no shortage of rice in this State. Your fore-sight and resourcefulness have stood the State in good stead in regard to the price and availability of yarn also. And your appeal to the people to grow more food, will, I am sure, meet with a ready and enthusiastic response.

In conclusion, I once again congratulate the Financial Secretary on the budget presented by him. It is our earnest prayer, Sir, that the hope you gave expression to, in bringing to a close your inspiring address the other day, namely that when you return to Travancore after the brief period of your absence, you hope to find an all-round progress in the matter of food, raiment, and morale of the people, will be abundantly realised.

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): Sir, the guardians of the finances of many anxious nations in a disturbed and unstable world will cast their envious eyes on Travancore's sound economic position, as outlined by the Financial Secretary, when he introduced the Budget on Friday last. Excepting the proposal to increase the cess on Rubber from Re. 1 to Re. 1-8 per cent. and the doubtful proposal to impose an export duty on timber, the Financial Secretary has, without adding anything to the tax-payers' burden, which he realises is already enough, found it possible to hand to us a surplus budget.

Sir, it is satisfactory and gratifying to note from the budget that the Financial Secretary has given all interests a generous deal. It must be clear to all, who are not blinded by political prejudice, that the finances of Travancore are not only being handled carefully, economically and efficiently, but with a definite and sound policy as their guide. The Travancore Budget, Sir, like the Budgets of all the world over, has received and will continue to receive vehement criticisms in regard to many of its aspects, but there is one feature, Sir, which is very satisfactory and that is that Travancore's credit stands high and that the present Budget is calculated to maintain that credit unimpaired.

[Mr. K. C. Karunakaran.]

Sir, I congratulate the Financial Secretary. This time last year, I brought to the notice of the Government certain difficulties and hardships of the Industrial and commercial community in the execution of the orders from the Supply Department. The Government have been successful in negotiating with the Government of India to open an Ordnance Inspection Depot at Alleppey. The Government have kindly placed certain number of customs godowns at the disposal of the Government of India. Sir, the establishment of this Depot at Alleppey has solved many of the financial, storing and transport difficulties hitherto experienced in connection with the supply of war materials from Travancore. The commercial community is indeed grateful for the endeavours of the Government in this direction. Sir, you have been very anxious to see that the Travancore coir interests work in close conjunction with those of Cochin and British Malabar. With this end in view, you have used your influence for the formation of the Malabar Coast Coir Rope Association which, I confidently trust, will go a long way in materially assisting those who are engaged in the rope making industry on the coast. I may mention here, Sir, that the Dewan of Cochin was of great help and assistance to the organisers of this Association.

With the establishment of the Technical Advisory Committee to the Defence Department on Coir consisting of the representatives of the Coir Interests in British Malabar, Cochin and Travancore and the representatives of the Supply and the Ordnance Inspection Departments, we can now definitely take it that coir has come to stay as an important item in the war materials.

PRESIDENT: Don't you be too sure!

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN. Sir, the part the Government played to get coir substituted for many of the war requirements, where other fibres were used, is sufficiently known to all of us. These are some of the material and substantial achievements of this Government during the past twelve months.

Travancore is a maritime country with a growing internal and external trade. When we slowly began to experience that, owing to the shortage of freight, our well established external trade is bound to suffer sooner or later, we turned our attention on your advice to the vast internal market in British India. Sir, at present even this trade cannot be regularly and systematically carried on due to the lack of railway transport. The goods traffic other than those covered by priority certificates have very little chance.

Sir, we are living under abnormal conditions and it may be necessary for us to move our population from one place to another in time of unexpected emergency. If ample and convenient transport facilities are not provided for in good time for human traffic, there will be utter confusion and misery. This is an important problem which should engage the serious and immediate attention of the Government.

Year after year even during the normal period, we bring to your notice the growing difficulties in respect of shipping at our ports. Even last year, Sir, I drew the attention of this Honourable House to the fate of the port of Alleppy and showed how that natural port lies at the mercy of the representatives of the Conference Lines and those who generally handle freight from this coast. The situation has become more aggressive recently, when the responsibilities of a manufacturer and producer, of an exporter, of a representative of a Conference Line combined with the authority and duties attached to the office of the Deputy Controller of Shipping on this coast were handed over to a single individual. The danger to our ports must be apparent to all thinking men. Possibilities with which the situation is fraught reveal themselves. I do not propose, Sir, to pursue this matter any further at the moment, except reminding this Honourable House and through this House to the outside world that the exercise of a right which could inflict injury on another without provocation is immoral and unlawful. Sir, good faith is one thing; nasty developments are another.

Sir, I should like to take this opportunity to draw the attention of the Director of the Research Section of the University of Travancore to the concluding paragraph of a "Report on the Attributes and Preparation of Coconuts" published by the Empire Marketing Board. About the future prospects of coir, the Report concludes—

"There is probably no industry in the world with greater wealth of raw materials untapped, no industry so ripe for the application of scientific method and research, no industry, where economic production of manufactured articles could be so accelerated by more careful treatment of raw materials."

I confidently trust that these findings will open the eyes of the Head of the Research Department of the University and that he will henceforth devote a part of his precious time on coconut and its products, as I feel that it is high time for us to realise that a very large proportion of the industrial labour of Travancore—whether cottage, workshop or factory—depends upon the coir industry for their every day demands.

Owing to the peculiar economic conditions of this maritime State, our postwar economic problems are going to be of such a character, which should be solved by ourselves and ourselves alone. The postwar economic Travancore expects and demands conclusions, which, by removing the present and future apparent and real difficulties and drawbacks, will enable her to settle down to constructive work with confidence. Government with the close co-operation of all economic interests should tackle this question and be prepared to face a very difficult postwar economic world.

MR. S. KRISHNA AIYAR (Nominated): Sir, I comment this Budget for two reasons, first as a conservative budget and second as the Financial Secretary has had the courage to carry to reserve the surplus of Rs. 24 lakhs of revenue. No doubt the taxpayer might grumble. He

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has a right to say—I am paying over much. Whether he pays directly or indirectly, the money goes from his purse. He would naturally be entitled to demand some sort of return. But, however, the Financial Secretary thinks, and rightly so, that our future position must be made secure. I therefore have very great pleasure in commending that part of the Budget to this House.

But, however, though it is a prosperity budget, though we have a surplus, the Financial Secretary has thought it necessary to impose an additional cess upon the Rubber industry. There seems to be some misconception or misunderstanding about the position of the rubber industry in Travancore. The Financial Secretary seems to suppose that the burden would fall on the capitalist. Mr. Janardanan Pillay seems to think that the increased burden would be borne by the buyer. The price of rubber was fixed by Government, originally at 61 cents per pound and later at 71. The cost of production is very high and the possible profit that the grower might receive would be near six annas per pound. Certainly it is the grower that has to bear the burden for the simple reason that prices have been fixed and controlled. The Financial Secretary seemed to suppose that rubber growers are all capitalists. If he goes into facts and figures he will find that the majority of the growers are not capitalists but are only holders of one, two or at most ten acres and these certainly cannot be classed as capitalists.

In considering the question as to whether the taxpayer is getting any adequate return, I find that there is an increase of about a lakh of rupees for Education i. e., on lands and buildings—for Public Health and Sanitation very little, towards Medical and Ayurveda still less, towards Water Supply almost next to nothing.

But the main point for consideration now is the food problem. Last year at budget time I called the attention of the House to the fact that at any time, our line of supply from Burma might be cut off. We find now that it has become an actual fact. From a calculation on the basis of the proportion you gave us the other day, I find that Travancore and Cochin together are entitled to about 220,000 tons of rice from the Madras Province and Travancore's share might be about 165,000 tons and not more as has been supposed. In 1115 we imported about 285,000 tons of rice and about 20,000 tons of paddy. In 1116, as our harvests were good, we imported about 225,000 tons of rice and about ten or fifteen thousand tons of paddy, so that any way we shall have a shortage of not less than 75,000 tons. We have once again to appeal to the Madras Government to allow us an adequate quota.

(At this stage the President and Sir Henry Craik left the House and the Deputy President took the Chair.)

MR. S. KRISHNA AIYAR : With a deficit of 75,000 tons how are we to carry on? We have to eke it out with our tapioca. It may be gratifying to the House to learn that every available piece of land in the State where tapioca can be grown has been taken up. If it is not grown every where it is not because there is not land enough but because there are not enough cuttings. Such cuttings as exist have been utilised. The rains too have been bountiful and we may expect a very fine crop in the course of the next six or seven months.

While on this subject, I wish to refer to the export trade in tapioca flour which has arisen. The current is very slow now, but it may gather momentum and at any time our food problem might be dangerously affected. It has been pronounced by the Dewan that at present he is not going to think of stemming the tide as it has great future potentialities. But I would advise Government that at least they may watch and wait. If the export current becomes strong and gathers force and endangers the food problem, then Government is bound to step in and at least plaster it with an export duty sufficient to conserve adequate food supply within Travancore. But that again is nothing. With a few hundred or even a few thousand tons of tapioca our food problem cannot be solved.

We have been neglecting the greatest food asset we have in Travancore. I have called the attention of this House on more than one occasion to our fisheries. With our long sea board, our inland waters, our rivers, streams and swamps, if we take to pisciculture i, e., production of fish on a large scale, there is no possibility of Travancore facing a shortage of food. Starvation will be impossible. Two years back we had a Fisheries Department. Even now on paper we have a Department of Agriculture and Fisheries. But where are the fisheries now? From being a department of production, it seems to have dissolved, evaporated and pisciculture has been transmuted into a Chair of Ichthyology in the University. An expert was got down and soon after, it was found that pisciculture was not possible in Travancore and the expert himself took shelter within the seclusion of the University. That certainly is not a commendable state of things. Countries like Nova Scotia and Newfoundland have been and are entirely dependent on their fisheries. Japan makes up a major portion of its food from fish. Countries like Norway and the United Kingdom are also dependent on their fisheries to a large extent. This is one of the great assets we have and it is going undeveloped and unexploited. If, therefore, starvation faces us at any time we have only ourselves to thank.

Passing on to the Agricultural Department, this is the one department that has to be more than encouraged at present. Yet we find that it has been starved with a bare Rs. 1,60,000. There has been a lot of talk about extensive and intensive cultivation. How is intensive cultivation possible without fertilisers and wherefrom are we to get them now? We want potash, nitrates and phosphates. We cannot import these from outside and we produce little. No doubt the

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honourable Financial Secretary says that sixteen manure depots have been opened for the sale of manure. But what do these depots contain? I would ask him in his reply to tell us definitely what they contain and how much. And what does the department propose to do after the existing stocks are consumed? Something has got to be done. We want more than depots. We want factories for the manufacture of fertilisers. Not one or two but a good number; and if only the Financial Secretary would be good enough to think of investing some of his surplus on reproductive schemes like these, and on short term credit for agriculture, he would help to find a solution of the food problem and the problem of finding investment for reserves.

The House rose for lunch at 1 P. M. and re-assembled at 2 P. M., the Deputy President presiding.

Sir, I was at the subject of intensive cultivation and fertilisers. I put the question, how are we to get the necessary nitrates and phosphates needed for the manufacture of fertilisers. There are one or two sources open to us for nitrates. We have oil cakes in our country. Tons of oil cakes are available all over Travancore. These have been allowed to be exported duty free. It is the duty of the Government, as well as of this House to press upon Government, the absolute necessity of placing an export duty on oil cakes so that this, the only source of nitrates we have, may be conserved within Travancore. Coming to phosphates, Sir, there are plenty of bones here from which phosphates could be derived. The one thing wanted is the establishment of a factory. It may not be necessary for the Financial Secretary to find funds. If only Government would provide the necessary technical help and machinery, private agencies may easily be found to finance and take up the work. In this way, the problem of phosphates could be satisfactorily solved.

In this connection, I should like to say a word about the non-responsive attitude attributed to the Peermade Planters. It was said that the Peermade Planters could have taken to the cultivation of potatoes and like tubers and thereby added to the food resources of the State. Some of us in fact tried and failed. "It is better to have tried and lost than never to have tried at all". We were up against an advancing hoard of invaders against whom we had no weapons—I mean wild pigs. We tried and tried but they were too many for us. We were also up against our friends the Game Warden and the Conservator of Forests. One other fact is that when large areas are taken up and the sod broken, the miasmatic vapours bring malaria of a virulent kind against which we have no remedy. The Public Health authorities tell us that they have no quinine. My friend the honourable member Mr. Tolson referred to this aspect of the matter. The only countries that produce quinine in large quantities are Java and Sumatra. They are now enemy territory. The British Government relied on these islands—they placed all their eggs in one basket—and now we can't get quinine even if we pay ten times the old price. Nevertheless, we are prepared to try again.

Passing from that subject to the immediate future, it was observed by the Financial Secretary that we may have lean years before us, though now we are getting boom prices. A boom is always followed by a slump. How far the present boom is going to carry us, no one can say. This boom is the result of frenzied purchases on account of the war. The issue of large quantities of paper money in British India might also be one cause. Though we are only at the beginning stage now, a real boom in prices may manifest itself. A boom in prices spells the release of a lot of purchasing power and that means higher prices all round. The cost of living would go up. The services which are paid in money would be the worst sufferers. It is at times such as these that we might feel the absence, though temporary, of a discerning statesman from our midst.

I come next to the future. It is absolutely certain that after the war, there will be a long period of depression, not the ordinary depression such as we faced in the post-war period after the last great war. It is going to be a deeper depression. The last war touched only the fringe of Europe. The present war ranges over the whole world. It is not a mere case of the shattering of wealth but the utter devastation and destruction of wealth, so much of it as to be very difficult, if not impossible of restoration. When so much of wealth has been devastated where is the purchasing power of the world? Who will be able to purchase our commercial crops? Our trade is dependant on international conditions. The foundations of International trade have been shaken. Economics has got to be re-written. The Trade cycle and similar theories have been exploded. The value of metallic currency becomes doubtful. Very recently America has been considering the question of utilising silver and gold for industrial purposes. What about the exchange problem of the future? Can we say that the capitalist state of society of the present day might survive? All that will be treading on dangerous ground. I would leave these matters with great diffidence to the consideration of wiser heads—to our elderly Finance Secretary who no doubt will keep a watchful eye on passing conditions.

If there be one thing we can do for the moment, it is to turn to methods of economy towards the future. This leads me to the subject of the Civil Service. It swallows more than one-third of the revenues of the State. I do not grudge high salaries where necessary. The services are certainly overmanned, if not overpaid. It requires three men to do the work of one. I can illustrate it by referring to my own department the department with which I have been connected for over forty-four years. What one officer was doing is now done by several. Let us start by putting our own house in order. We should not wait for a Geddis axe or an Incheape knife. All possible economy must be started early. Economy must be the watchword in all spheres of activity. By so doing it may be possible for Travancore to keep within bounds and expend only as much as is required from the income. The question arises how are we to get 280 lakhs for the expenses of the future. Customs revenue will have dwindled. So also Excise revenue and

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many other items. How are we to meet "the growing needs of a progressive administration?" We find the same or similar terms in every Budget. It can only mean that no definite reasons can be assigned for additional expenditure. In future, the smaller the political unit, the greater will be its economic difficulties. We shall have to think in terms of self-sufficiency. We shall not be able to find markets for our Tea, Pepper, and like commercial crops. We shall have to fall back on our Rice and Tapioca. Such is our position.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: May I know whether the honourable member has any idea of the export duty levied on rubber in Ceylon?

MR. S. KRISHNA AIYAR: I have.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: May I know what the rate will be?

MR. S. KRISHNA AIYAR: I am not now in a position to give the exact figure.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Sir, let me, in the first place, offer my sincere congratulations to the Financial Secretary for the very lucid exposition of the Budget estimates and the programme of expenditure for the ensuing year. At this critical juncture of alarming international situation, it is a matter for sincere gratification to find that the Government have been able to present a surplus budget for an amount of Rs. 5.90 lakhs. My congratulations are due not because that a surplus budget is presented to us but because of the fact that Government have been able to do so not by starving the normal requirements of a progressive administration or by crippling the usual measures of amelioration in relief of distress, but by the careful conservation of our resources without imposing on the poor tax payer the burden of any new taxation and also without impairing efficiency. Sir, the only proposal for additional taxation during the next year is by increasing the cess on rubber from B. Rs. 1 to B. Rs. 1-8 per cwt. from 1-1-1118. It is expected by Government that this would bring in an additional revenue of about Rs. 2 lakhs. According to me there is every justification for this additional imposition and I fully trust that the rubber industry will accept this new imposition without any demur.

It is seen from the Financial Secretary's speech that the Government are considering whether a new duty may not be levied on timber exported from the State.

Sir, for more reasons than one that is a move in the right direction—whether further development in the present situation would necessitate such a course or not and I would only request that the Government may be pleased to bring this proposal under contemplation into effect next year itself.

The proposal to open an Industrial Machinery Show Room deserves commendation by the poor and the rich alike in so far as it will certainly give a practical stimulus to all those who are anxiously interested in the development of small scale as also the advanced cottage industries in the State. The specimens of machinery that will be exhibited in this show-room will be of substantial help in the selection and starting of suitable type of industries in accordance with one's own peculiar conditions and other environments.

While congratulating the Government on their having been pleased to make a provision of Rs. 2 lakhs in the next year's Budget for a grant of dearness allowance of one rupee per mensem to the low paid subordinates in the public service drawing a pay of less than Rs. 15 I am constrained to observe that this is not at all a satisfactory or adequate provision in the present circumstances. I think that all will admit the fact that the adverse effects of the last war were not so acutely and directly felt or experienced by the people of Travancore, as in this great perilous war. So my submission is that at least a similar provision may be made now also. I would suggest that a suitable provision may be made for the grant of a dearness allowance to all the low-paid subordinates in the public service who are drawing a monthly salary of up to Rs. 50. I am not unaware of the financial implications of this proposition. But Sir, as this is an unavoidable contribution to the relief of distress, I request the Government that they may be pleased if necessary to draw upon the reserve of Rs. 5 lakhs which the Government have ear-marked for emergency.

I may be permitted in this connection to bring to your pointed attention a very important fact, namely, that the Dewan of Mysore while introducing the budget on the 1st June 1942 in the Representative Assembly there made a very strong plea for the remission of tribute that is paid by that State to the Government of India. You are well aware that our position is entirely different. We are paying the annual subsidy to British Government not as the result of any conquest. The payment of tribute by this State to the Government of India originated in the shape of consideration for stationing a British Regiment in this State and it is known to all of us that it is many many years since that Regiment was withdrawn from the State without our asking for the same. My submission is that the consideration for the payment of subsidy by this State has ceased to exist.....

MR. K. G. GOVINDAN: Sir, I rise to a point of order. I would like to know if the member is entitled to speak on this subject.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The honourable member will proceed.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Since it is only a civil contract between two Governments and since the consideration of the contract has ceased to exist, I would request that Government may be pleased to take the earliest step for making a legitimate demand to the British Government for the refund of the whole amount that was paid by the State from the time of the withdrawal of the British Regiment from this State and also for the abolition of the subsidy in its entirety in future. By making this observation I do not at all wish to embarrass the Government of India in any way at this critical juncture. But I am compelled to make this statement on account of my anxiety to bring this aspect of the question to your pointed attention for taking the necessary action in the interests of the State.

Another point which I wish to urge upon your attention is this. I wish to make it perfectly clear that a serious situation has been brought about in the country by the extension of service to certain class of Government servants who have attained the age of fifty-five.

70 [Mr. Puliyoor T. P. Velayudan Pillai]

The proposal has created unrest and dissatisfaction in the minds of the educated unemployed youth and also in the minds of those already in service who are waiting for promotions. I see no justification for this extension of service which, as it is, is lacking both in principle and equity. Therefore, Sir, I would request that Government will be pleased to cancel this order and to restore the old order of things.

It is seen from paragraph 26 of the Financial Secretary's speech that provision has been made in the next year's budget for a scheme for the better and more efficient administration of the Medical Department by the appointment of District Officers. According to me this has now become an indispensable necessity on account of the exclusion of the Sub Assistant Surgeons in charge of the District Dispensaries in the State from the list of the Gazetted Officers, and thus making it obligatory that the salary bills of these officers from one end of the State to the other, should be passed by the Surgeon General alone. Moreover I welcome this measure because by periodical inspection of these institutions by the District Medical Officers, I fully believe that the administrative efficiency of these institutions will be enhanced considerably.

But Sir, connected with this proposal, I may be permitted to remark that the policy of Government in bringing into existence new schemes and abolishing the same after some time for reasons quite unknown to the public very often in accordance with the whims and fancies of Departmental Heads due to personal or communal considerations or hatred.....

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : The honourable member has got three minutes more.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : Let us look back to the history of the creation of the separate Maramath and Irrigation Divisions and the appointment of the Maramath and Irrigation Executive Engineers for the better carrying out of the Maramath and Irrigation works. Let us also look back to the history of the creation of a separate specialists' cadre in the Medical Department and its successful working for a number of years. What has become of these schemes subsequently. One fine morning the Surgeon-General was able to abolish the specialists' cadre. So my submission is that before bringing into effect any new scheme, the Government must be fully aware of its consequences and they should be prepared to maintain the continuity of the policy which they have adumbrated once.

I am constrained to remark that the affairs of the Ceramic Factory at Kundara are most hopelessly mismanaged by the Ceramic Expert. This is a very serious matter as it is a scheme on which the capital investment at the end of 1117 will be Rs. 11,21,800 and also as the scheme is one which has bright future in point of revenue. For elucidating my point, I may be permitted to read a paragraph from page

119 of the Audit Report and Appropriation Accounts for the year 1115. It says —

“Irregularities in the Ceramic Factory. In respect of the Ceramic Factory works the following points were raised : —

- (i) In the case of one particular work the actual expenditure till the end of 1115 was nearly double the estimate sanctioned by Government. Nearly double the quantity of rubble required was stocked. Though the contractor for this work agreed to execute the work at a rate which was 5 per cent less than the rates as per his agreement, no reduction was made from his bills on this account.
- (ii) Another work with a total estimate of Rs. 38,967-21-1 was carried out mainly on “Petty job system”. More bricks than were actually required were supplied and transport charges were incurred for bringing bricks to the site.
- (iii) Fire bricks were manufactured for the construction of furnaces for the factory. But no out-turn account was kept for the same. No register or Inventory of Plant and machinery was kept.
- (iv) In general, heavy payments were made by the Ceramic Expert in the absence of sufficient balance as per the cash book. These were explained to have been met from private funds with a view to defray the the cost of labour employed departmentally. On verification it was found that payments were, however, made to contractors also on the same dates.

These have been pointed out to Government and the explanation of the Departmental Officer is awaited.”

When I raised this question in the Public Accounts Committee the answer given by the Chairman of that Committee was that the whole question was under the active consideration of Government. It is high time for the Government to take the whole matter into their serious consideration and see that at least the administrative control of the Ceramic Factory is taken away from the present Expert. I am equally at a loss to understand how long this matter is going to be under the *active consideration* of Government. So I request that Government will be pleased to place the management of this Factory on a better and satisfactory footing immediately.

As the Financial Secretary has characterised the budget as a war budget, I do not at all wish to complain about the insufficiency of the provisions made therein for nation-building activities during the next year. But, Sir, we have got very serious complaints against the deliberate omission to carry out the works for which there are provisions made in the current year's budget. We have also got very serious complaints against the deliberate omission for not including in the next year's budget any provision for works for which there is provision in the current year's budget but which were not yet taken up on account of the dereliction of the duties of the Departmental officers concerned. As it is a matter that was sufficiently discussed on the floor of the House yesterday, I do not wish to speak much about that matter. As an instance of the kind I would refer to item 13 in appendix (e) of the current year's budget.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : Your time is up.

PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: My submission is that Government be pleased to make it a point to see at least those works for which provision is made in the budget are carried out during that year itself. With these observations I close my remarks.

MR. N. NARAYANAKURUP : സർ, മനുഷ്യക്കണപോലെ രാജ്യങ്ങൾക്കും ഭഗ്യാസന്ധികൾ ഉണ്ട്. വഞ്ചിരാജ്യത്തിന്റെ ശുഭദശയാ രംഭിച്ചിട്ട്, കൊല്ലം ആറു കഴിഞ്ഞു. ൧൧൧൧-മാണ്ടു ൨,൩൧, ൦ വുവു ലക്ഷം രൂപാ വരവും, ൨൩൦.൯൪ ലക്ഷം രൂപാ ചിലവു ഉണ്ടായിരുന്ന നമ്മുടെ ബഡ്ജറ്റ്, ൧൧൧൧-മാണ്ടിൽ ൩൦൧.൪൧ ലക്ഷം രൂപാ വരവും, ൨൭൭ ലക്ഷം രൂപാ ചിലവു ഉള്ളതായിരുന്നു. ഈ യുദ്ധ പരിതഃസ്ഥിതിയിൽ പോലും ൨൮൦.൧൩ ലക്ഷം രൂപാ ചിലവു ചെയ്യത്തക്കവണ്ണം നമ്മുടെ വരവ്, ൨൯൦.൨ ലക്ഷം രൂപയാണു്. ആറുകൊല്ലംകൊണ്ടു ൭൦ ലക്ഷം രൂപയോളം വരവു വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കത്തക്കവണ്ണം രാജ്യത്തെ ഭരണം നടത്തുന്ന ദിവാൻജി എന്തെക്കും നമ്മുടെ കൃതജ്ഞത അർഹിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. ൧൧൧൧-നുശേഷം വരവ് ൭൦ ലക്ഷം വർദ്ധിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടെങ്കിലും, ഭൂനികുതി ഒട്ടുംതന്നെ വർദ്ധിച്ചിട്ടില്ലെന്നുകാണുന്നതു് ചാരിതാർത്ഥ്യജനകം തന്നെ.

ശുഭദശാകാലത്തിൽ ആറുകൊല്ലം നീക്കി, ശേഷിച്ച ൧൪ കൊല്ലം കൂടി ഇപ്പോൾ ശുഭദശയനുഭവിക്കുന്ന ഇന്നത്തെ ദിവാൻജി നമ്മെ ഭരിക്കുന്നപക്ഷം, മുതലെടുപ്പിൽകൂടി നമ്മുടെ രാജ്യം നാട്ടു രാജ്യങ്ങളിൽ പ്രഥമസ്ഥാനം അലങ്കരിക്കുമെന്നുള്ളതു് നിർവിവാദമാണു്. ൧൧൧൧-ലെ ബഡ്ജറ്റ് ഉണ്ടാക്കിയതിൽ ഫിനാഷ്യൽ സിക്രട്ടറിയെ അനുമാദിക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യമില്ല. വരവുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ ചെലവിനു കണക്കുണ്ടാക്കാൻ ആർക്കും അറിയാവുന്നതാണു്.

൧൧൧൧-ൽ ൩൦൧.൪൧ ലക്ഷം രൂപാ വരവുവന്നതിന്റെ കണക്കു ബഡ്ജറ്റു പ്രസംഗത്തിൽ കാണുന്നു. ൧൧൧൧-ലെ ആദ്യപത്തുമാസത്തെ വരവായ ൨൨൮.൩൪ ലക്ഷം രൂപയും, ൧൧൧൩ അവസാന രണ്ടു മാസത്തെ വരവായ ൭൨.൭൧ ലക്ഷം രൂപയും ചേർത്തുണ്ടായതാണു ൩൦൧.൦൫ ലക്ഷം രൂപാ. ൧൧൧൩-ലെ ബഡ്ജറ്റിലവസാനം, പല ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റുകളിൽനിന്നും ചിലവാക്കാതെ ലാപ്സാക്കിയതുകയാണു് ൭൨.൭൧ ലക്ഷം രൂപയെന്നും, ആ നിലയിലാണു്, ൩൦൧.൦൫ ലക്ഷം രൂപാ കാണിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതെന്നും തോന്നുന്നു.

പബ്ലിക്കുവർക്സ് ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റുതന്നെ ൨ ൫ ലക്ഷത്തിൽപരം രൂപാ തിരിയെ കൊടുത്തിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഈ നിലയിലാണു വരവു കാണിക്കുന്നതെങ്കിൽ, ഈ ൧൧൮ അമ്പസാനത്തിനു ൪ ൦ ൦ ലക്ഷംരൂപാ വരവു കാണിക്കാവുന്നതാണ്.

൧൧൧-നുശേഷം ൭ ൦ ലക്ഷം രൂപാ വരവു കൂടിയിട്ടുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ, ചിലവിലും ൭ ൦ ലക്ഷം രൂപാ കൂടിയിട്ടുണ്ട്. വരവുചിലവുകൾക്കു പൊരുത്തമെയില്ല. ചിലവു കുറച്ചുകൂടി കുറച്ച്, മിച്ചംവയ്ക്കുകയോ, പൊതുവാവശ്യത്തിനു ചിലവാക്കി ജനങ്ങളെ സഹായിക്കുകയോ ചെയ്യേണ്ടതാണ്.

ഭക്ഷ്യസാധനങ്ങൾക്ക് വില ഇരട്ടിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതിനാൽ താഴ്ന്ന ശമ്പളക്കാരുടെ ൪ ൦ രൂപയിൽ കുറഞ്ഞ ശമ്പളക്കാരുടെ ശമ്പളത്തിന്റെ ൨ ൫ ശതമാനംകൂടി, അലവൻസായി കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനെപ്പറ്റിയും ൧൧൮-ലെ പുഞ്ചകൃഷിക്കാവശ്യമുള്ള കൂഡായിൽ സമയകാലത്തു മിതമായ വിലയ്ക്കു കിട്ടുകയില്ലെന്നുള്ള വിശ്വാസത്തിൽ കൃഷിവേലകൾ നടത്താതിരിക്കുന്നതിനാൽ നെല്ലു കിട്ടുമൊ എന്നുള്ള കാര്യത്തെപ്പറ്റിയും പറയുന്നതിനു ഞാൻ രണ്ടു അടിയന്തിരപ്രമേയങ്ങൾ അയച്ചിരുന്നു. കൂഡായിൽ സംഭരിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നു ടിവാൻപ്രസിഡൻറ് പറഞ്ഞതുകൊണ്ടു, അതിനെപ്പറ്റി ഞാൻ ഒന്നുതന്നെ പറയുന്നില്ല. എന്നാൽ ൧ ൫ രൂപയിൽ കുറഞ്ഞ ശമ്പളക്കാർക്കു, നാലു ഇടങ്ങളി അരിയുടെ വിലക്കുള്ള ഒരു രൂപാ കൊടുക്കാമെന്നുള്ള ഗവണ്മെൻറു മനോഭാവം നന്നല്ല. അതുകൊണ്ടു പ്രയോജനമില്ല. പത്തുലക്ഷം രൂപാ ചെലവുവന്നാലും ആവശ്യാനുസരണം അവരെ സഹായിക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. ചിലവിനതക്കവണ്ണം വരവുണ്ടാക്കാനറിയാവുന്ന ടിവാൻജി ഇക്കാര്യത്തിൽ പിന്തുടർന്നു കാണിക്കുകയില്ലെന്നു വിശ്വസിക്കുകയും അവസരമറിഞ്ഞു താഴ്ന്ന ശമ്പളക്കാരുടെയും, ഉയരമായ തുക ഗ്രാൻറു വാങ്ങുന്നവരേയും സഹായിക്കണമെന്ന് അഭിപ്രായപ്പെടുകയും ചെയ്തുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

MR. T. G. KESAVA PILLAI : ൪ ൦ രൂപാ പ്രതിമാസം കിട്ടാത്ത വക്കീലന്മാർ എത്രയുണ്ടെന്നറിയാമോ ?

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP : ഇല്ലെന്നാണുവിശ്വാസം. അപ്രകാരം ഉണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അവർ സർക്കാർ സേവനം ചെയ്യുന്നവരല്ലാത്തതുകൊണ്ട് അവരാവശ്യപ്പെട്ടാൽ കൂടുതൽ ആദായം കിട്ടുന്ന മറ്റു വക്കീലന്മാർ അവർക്കു വേണ്ടത്ര സഹായം ചെയ്യുമെന്നു ഞാൻ വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നു.

[Mr. N. Narayana Kurup.]

ഭക്ഷണസാധനങ്ങൾ സൃഷ്ടിക്കുമാക്കുകയെന്നുള്ളതാണ് ഇന്നു ഗവണ്മെന്റിന്റെ ലക്ഷ്യമെന്നു കാണുന്നതു സന്തോഷകരമാണ്. ആ ലക്ഷ്യത്തിലെത്തണമെങ്കിൽ, വനം വകുപ്പും, കൃഷി വകുപ്പും, സഹകരണ വകുപ്പും, പബ്ലിക്കുവർക്ക്സിലെ ഇറിഗേഷൻ വകുപ്പും, ഭൂനികുതി വകുപ്പും ഏകോപിച്ചു ശ്രമിക്കണം. ജലസേചന മാർഗ്ഗങ്ങളിൽ പ്രവേശിച്ചവരെ ഒഴിപ്പിച്ച്, ശരിയാക്കുന്നതിനും, ഒഴിപ്പിച്ചാൽ ഉടൻ അവ പ്രയോജനപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതിനും ഭൂനികുതി വകുപ്പും ഇറിഗേഷൻ വകുപ്പും ശ്രദ്ധിക്കണം. പലവിധത്തിൽ ജോലിയുള്ള എക്സിക്യൂട്ടീവ് ഇൻജിനീയറന്മാർ ഇപ്പോൾ ഇറിഗേഷൻ കാര്യങ്ങളിൽ ശ്രദ്ധപതിപ്പിക്കുന്നില്ല. ഇറിഗേഷൻ വകുപ്പു പ്രത്യേകം ഒരു എക്സിക്യൂട്ടീവ് ഇൻജിനീയറുടെ കീഴിലാക്കി വിഭജിക്കപ്പെട്ടിരുന്നപ്പോൾ നടത്തിയിട്ടുള്ള ജോലികളുടെ പത്തിലൊരംശം ഇപ്പോൾ നടത്തുന്നില്ല. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഇറിഗേഷൻ വകുപ്പു പ്രത്യേകം ഒരു എക്സിക്യൂട്ടീവ് ഇൻജിനീയറുടെ കീഴിലാക്കി തീർക്കണം. എന്തു ചിലവുവന്നാലും അതുടനടി നടപ്പിൽ വരുത്തണം.

ഇതിനും പുറമെ, കുമിളി-വണ്ടൻമേട്ട റോഡിന്റെ പാർശ്വത്തിലും പള്ളിവാസലിലും വട്ടവടയും ഉള്ള ചതുപ്പനിലങ്ങളും മറ്റും നെൽകൃഷിക്കു പാടുത്തിനുകൊടുക്കണം. വട്ടവടയിൽ ഗോതമ്പു മരമേനി വിളയുമെന്നും മറ്റു സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ നെല്ലു മരമേനി വിളയുമെന്നും അപ്രകാരം ഒരു ലക്ഷം ഏക്കറിൽ വിളയിക്കാമെന്നും പറയുന്നു. ആ സ്ഥലങ്ങൾ അപ്രകാരം കൊടുക്കണം. കൃഷി ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിൽ നിന്നും വളവും വിത്തും കൊടുത്തു സഹായിക്കണം. സഹകരണസംഘങ്ങൾ മുഖം പ്രചരണവും കൃഷിയും നടത്തി സാധാരണ ജനങ്ങളുടെ വരുവു വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കണം. സഹകരണസംഘങ്ങളുടെ സജീവമായ പ്രവർത്തനത്തിനു ഒരു പ്രത്യേക ഷിഫ്റ്റ് ഓനെ മേഖലയുണ്ടാക്കണം. ഇന്നത്തെ ഡയറക്ടർ ഉൾപ്പെടെയുള്ള സമസ്തരും ആണെങ്കിലും ജോലിയുടെ കൂടുതൽകൊണ്ടു ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റു ഭരണത്തിനുകൂടി മതിയായ സമയം കിട്ടുകയില്ല.

ഇതിനും പുറമെ നമ്മുടെ ഉല്പന്നങ്ങൾ ശരിയായ തുറമുഖങ്ങളിലും വിപണികളിലും എത്തിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള ഗതാഗതസൗകര്യങ്ങൾ ചിലവു നോക്കാതെ ഉണ്ടാക്കണം. മലബാറുകക്കരം ആലപ്പുഴയിൽ എത്തിക്കുന്നതിനു എളുപ്പമുണ്ടാക്കുന്ന അമ്പലപ്പുഴ-തിരുവല്ലാ റോഡു പണിതുടങ്ങിയിട്ടു പതിനഞ്ചുകൊല്ലമായി. ഇനിയും ൧,൩൦,൦൦൦ രൂപകൂടിയുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ ശേഷിച്ച ൩ മയിൽ കൂടിതീരും. അപ്പോൾ ചങ്ങനാശേരി

യിൽനിന്നും ൨ ൭ മയിൽ ഭൂരംകൊണ്ടു കരമാർഗ്ഗം സാധനങ്ങൾ ആലപ്പുഴയെത്തും. ആ ചിലവു വഹിക്കുന്നതിനു സമ്പന്നസ്തു തോന്നാതെ ഉദ്ദേശം ൧൩ ലക്ഷം രൂപാ ചിലവു വരുന്നതും പത്തുകൊല്ലംകൊണ്ടു പോലും തീരാത്തതുമായ ആലപ്പുഴ ചങ്ങനാശേരി റോഡും തോടു മുൾപ്പെട്ട ഒരു ജോലിക്കു ൧൦,൦൦൦ രൂപ തൽക്കാലമായിട്ടുനവദിച്ചു ൨൦,൦൦൦ രൂപാ ൧൧൮-ലെ ചിലവിൽ ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തിയിരിക്കുന്നു. ആലപ്പുഴയിൽനിന്നും ചങ്ങനാശേരിക്കു ൨൨ മയിൽ ദൂരമുള്ള ഒരു ജലമാർഗ്ഗം ഇപ്പോഴുണ്ട്. പുതിയ സ്കീംപ്രകാരം റോഡും തോടും വന്നാൽ ഭൂരം ൧ ൭ മൈലുകും ൧൩ ലക്ഷം രൂപാ ചെലവാക്കി എടുമയിൽ ഭൂരം കുറയ്ക്കുന്നതിൽഭേദം ഒന്നര ലക്ഷം രൂപാമാത്രം ചിലവാക്കി ഒരു പഴയ റോഡു ശരിപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതാണ്. എന്റെ ഭവനത്തിനടുത്തുകൂടി പോകുന്നതാണ് ചങ്ങനാശേരി—ആലപ്പുഴ റോഡുംതോടുമെങ്കിലും അമ്പലപ്പുഴ—തിരുവല്ലാ റോഡു പൂർത്തിയാക്കുന്നതാണ് ആവശ്യവും ലാഭകരവും എന്നും ആയതു പൂർത്തിയാക്കുന്നതിനടുൻ തന്നെ തുകയനുവദിക്കണമെന്നും അതിൽ വൈമനസ്സും പാടില്ലെന്നും ഗവണ്മെൻറിനെ ധരിപ്പിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

കുട്ടനാട്ടിൽ ഉള്ള പുഞ്ചനിലങ്ങളെല്ലാം ഒരുപ്ലൂ നിലങ്ങളാണ്. അടിക്കടി ഉണ്ടാകുന്ന വെള്ളപ്പൊക്കംമൂലം മേടക്രഷി കഴിഞ്ഞുള്ള ചെമ്പന്നല്ലക്രഷി നടത്താൻ സാധ്യമല്ല. തോട്ടപ്പള്ളിയിൽ ഒരു പൊഴിയുണ്ടാക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള സ്കീം നടപ്പിൽ വരുത്തിയാൽ വെള്ളപ്പൊക്കത്തിന്റെ ക്യാമ്പും കുറയുന്നതും പലസ്ഥലത്തും ചെമ്പന്നല്ല കൃഷിയിറക്കി കൂടുതൽ നെല്ലു വിളയിക്കാവുന്നതും ആകുന്നു. ഈ മാതിരി കാര്യങ്ങൾക്കു പണം ചിലവാക്കുന്നതു ഒരു നഷ്ടമാകുകയില്ല. പുഞ്ചക്രഷിക്കു ശരിയായ വളം നിലങ്ങളിൽ വെള്ളത്തിന്റെ ഒഴുക്കിൽകൂടി കയറേണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നു. തലവടിയാറിന്റെ സ്ഥിതി അതിനു തടസ്സം നേരിടുവിക്കുന്നു. പല ഇടത്തോടുകളും ഉണ്ടാക്കിപ്പോകുന്നു. ചക്കളംമുക്കു മുറിച്ച് ആ നദിയുടെ ഒഴുക്കു വിഷ്ണുപ്പെടുത്താതെ അയക്കുന്നങ്കിൽ കുട്ടനാടൻ പുഞ്ചകളിലെ വിളവു വർദ്ധിക്കുന്നതാണ്. അതിലേയ്ക്കു ൨൦,൦൦൦ രൂപയുടെ ഒരുങ്കൽ ഉണ്ടാക്കിയിട്ടുണ്ട്. അതിനാൽ ഈ രണ്ടു കാര്യങ്ങളിലും വേണ്ടത്ര നിഷ്കർഷ ചെയ്യേണ്ടതു് ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ കടമയും ചുമതലയുമാകുന്നു.

കുട്ടനാട്ടുകാർക്കു കടിക്കുന്നതിനു ശുദ്ധജലമില്ല. അവർക്കു റോഡില്ല. ശിശുസംരക്ഷണകേന്ദ്രങ്ങളില്ല. തോടുകളിൽകൂടി യാത്രചെയ്യുന്നതിനു രാത്രി കാലങ്ങളിൽ വെളിച്ചമില്ല. അവർ കൊടുക്കുന്ന കരത്തിനു കുറ

[Mr. N. Narayana Kurup]

വുമില്ല. അവരുടെ ജലാശയങ്ങളിൽചേരും ബോട്ടുകൾ സഞ്ചരിക്കാൻ അനുവദിച്ചു കഴിക്കുന്ന ജലം മലിനപ്പെടുത്തുന്നു. അവരുടെ നില ഭേദപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതിനും ശുചീകരണത്തിനും കട്ടനാട്ടിൽ ഒരു പബ്ലിക്കുഹെൽത്ത് യൂണിറ്റും ഓരോ പകുതികൾക്കും ഓരോ വില്ലേജ് യൂണിയനും സ്ഥാപിച്ചു സഹായിക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. അവർക്കു അടുത്തടുത്തു ഗ്രാൻറു വൈദ്യശാലകളെങ്കിലും അനുവദിച്ചുകൊടുക്കേണ്ടതാണ്.

ഗവണ്മെന്റിൽനിന്നും അവൾ സമുദായോല്പാദനാർത്ഥം ചെയ്യുന്ന സഹായങ്ങൾ ഗ്ലോബലീയങ്ങളാണെങ്കിലും അവ മതിയാകുന്നില്ല. സമർത്ഥനായ ഒരു സംരക്ഷകന്റെ അദ്ധ്യക്ഷതയിൽ സചിവോത്തമന്റെ നിർദ്ദേശാനുസരണം ശരാശരി ഒന്നരലക്ഷം രൂപാ ൧൧൩ മുതൽ ചിലവാക്കണമെന്നെങ്കിലും അതിൽ ഒരു ലക്ഷത്തിനകവും വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിനാകയാൽ അയൽ രാജ്യങ്ങളിൽ കാണുന്നതു പോലുള്ള ആകർഷണീയങ്ങളായ സ്ഥാപനങ്ങൾ കാണുന്നില്ല. ഏതായാലും അവരുടെ നില ഉയർത്തുന്നതിനു കൂടുതൽ ഫോസ്ഫേറ്റുകളും കാളനികളും പല മാറ്റങ്ങളിൽ ഉണ്ടാക്കേണ്ടതാണ്.

അവശസമുദായക്കാരായ വാലന്മാരുടെയും മുക്കവന്മാരുടെയും കൗശ്ലത്തിലും ഗവണ്മെന്റിന്റെ ദയാദൃഷ്ടി പതിയേണ്ടതുണ്ട്. ചേർത്തല, പള്ളിപ്പുറം ഈ പ്രദേശങ്ങളിൽ ഉന്നിവല പതിപ്പിച്ചു ചെമ്മീൻ പിടിച്ചു വിറ്റുപണിവിച്ചുവരുന്ന ൧൦൦൦-ൽപരം കുടുംബക്കാരുണ്ട്. ചെമ്മീൻ വിപണിയായ റംഗ്രൺ ശതകൈവശമായതോടുകൂടി ചെമ്മീൻവിൽപ്പനയില്ലാതായി, മുൻപറഞ്ഞ പാവങ്ങൾ പട്ടിണിയായി; കരംകൊടുക്കാനും മാറ്റമില്ലാതെവന്നു. അവരുടെ ഉന്നിവലകൾ പതിവു റട്ട്ചെയ്തു ലേലത്തിൽ വിറ്റുതുടങ്ങി; കരത്തിനു കർശന നടപടിയുമായി. അയൽരാജ്യമായ കൊച്ചിയിൽ അവരുടെ കരം പകുതി ഇളവുചെയ്തു. ഇവിടെ അവരുടെ കരം മുഴുവൻ ഇളവുചെയ്തുകൊടുത്തും, അവരുടെ ഉന്നിവലകളുടെ ലേലം അസ്ഥിരപ്പെടുത്തിയും വലകൾ പന്തസ്ഥാപിച്ചും അവരെ സഹായിക്കേണ്ടതാണെന്നു ഞാൻ പ്രത്യേകം അറിയിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

തിരുവിതാംകൂറിനു മണ്യവ്യവസായത്തിൽനിന്നും ഒരു നല്ല വരുമാനമാക്കാൻ കഴിയുന്നതാണ്. ആ വകുപ്പു യൂണിവേഴ്സിറ്റിയുടെ കീഴിലാക്കിയതിൽ ഗവണ്മെന്റിനു വലുതായ ഒരുതെറ്റു പററിയിട്ടുണ്ട്. യൂണിവേഴ്സിറ്റിക്കു വാണിജ്യപരമായ പ്രവർത്തനമില്ല. ഒരു പക്ഷെ മത്സ്യ

സംബന്ധമായ ഗവേഷണങ്ങൾ യൂണിവേഴ്സിറ്റിയിൽ വിട്ടുകൊടുത്തിരുന്നാലും അതിന്റെ ഭരണത്തിന് യൂണിവേഴ്സിറ്റി പ്രാപ്തമല്ല. മത്സ്യവകുപ്പ് പ്രത്യേകം തിരിച്ച ഒരു വിഭാഗംകൊണ്ട് കീഴിലാക്കി പ്രവർത്തനം തുടങ്ങിയാൽ ആ വ്യവസായം മൂലം കുറഞ്ഞതു രണ്ടുലക്ഷം രൂപയെങ്കിലും നമുക്കുണ്ടാക്കാൻ സാധിക്കുന്നതാണ്. ആ കാര്യത്തിലും ചിലവു നോക്കാതെ ഗവണ്മെന്റ് വേണ്ടതു ചെയ്യണമെന്നാണിന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം.

ഇന്നു അതി മണ്ണെണ്ണ മുതലായ അത്യാവശ്യസാധനങ്ങൾ കിട്ടുന്നതിനു സാമാന്യ ജനങ്ങൾക്കു വളരെ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടുണ്ട്. ഇതു കൂടുന്നതിനല്ലാതെ മാർഗ്ഗവും കാണുന്നില്ല, ആ നില മാറണമെങ്കിൽ, സാമാന്യ ജനങ്ങളെ സഹായിക്കണമെന്നു ഗവണ്മെന്റിനു ഉദ്ദേശമുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ പ്രധാനപ്പെട്ട പല സ്ഥലത്തും അതി, മണ്ണെണ്ണ ഇവ വിൽക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള ഡിപ്പോകൾ ഗവണ്മെന്റ് തുറക്കുകയും അവ സ്റ്റാക്കുചെയ്തും, കച്ചവടക്കാരോടു വാങ്ങിയോ വിൽക്കുകയും ചെയ്യണമെന്നാണ്. അതിനു തൽക്കാലികമായി വരാവുന്ന ചിലവും നഷ്ടവും, അതു ചെയ്യാലുണ്ടാകുന്ന ലാഭവും പുണ്യമായി ഒരന്തരവുമില്ലാത്തതാണ്. ഓരോ പകുതികളിലും ഓരോ ഡിപ്പോകൾ സ്ഥാപിക്കുന്നതു ഉത്തമമായിരിക്കും. മണ്ണെണ്ണ വില നിർദ്ദേശിച്ചതിനു ഗവണ്മെന്റിനു ഒരു തെറ്റു ചുറ്റിയിട്ടുണ്ട്. മണ്ണെണ്ണ പാട്ടുകൂടാതെ ട്. രൂ. ൧൪ അ. നു ചൈസക്കു വിൽക്കണമെന്നും ചില്ലറക്കച്ചവടക്കാർ ൨൪ ഭൗണസുകപ്പിക്കു അഞ്ചരപത്രം വച്ചു വിൽക്കണമെന്നും നിർദ്ദേശിക്കുകയുണ്ടായി. ആ വിൽപ്പനയിൽ ചില്ലറക്കച്ചവടക്കാർക്കു ഒരു പാട്ടു എണ്ണ വിറ്റാൽ കിട്ടുന്നതു ൧൩൨ പത്രമാണ്. എന്നാൽ എണ്ണവില നിർദ്ദേശിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതു ൧൪൦ പത്രമായിട്ടുമാണ്. ഇപ്രകാരമുള്ള നിർദ്ദേശം യാതൊരു കണക്കും നോക്കാതെ ആരോ പറഞ്ഞതു വിശ്വസിച്ചു ചെയ്തതാണെന്നു പ്രത്യക്ഷമാണ്.

(Deputy President's bell)

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP : Sir, I beg to submit that yesterday the President was pleased to tell us that those who have tabled adjournment motions will be given some more time.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : He said that they will be given preference.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP : I will finish in five minutes.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : I can allow you one minute more.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP : Then I rise to a point of order.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : There is no point of order.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP : മറ്റു പല ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റുകളെപ്പറ്റിയും പ്രതിപാദിക്കാനുണ്ടെങ്കിലും സമയമില്ലെന്നു സൂചിപ്പിക്കുന്ന മണിനാദം തുടരുന്നതുടരെ അദ്ധ്യക്ഷപീഠത്തിൽനിന്നും പുറപ്പെട്ടതിനു ശേഷവും വാക്കുമൂലം നിരോധനംകൂടി വന്നിരിക്കുന്നതിനാൽ തൽക്കാലം പ്രസംഗം അവസാനിപ്പിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI (Tiruvella) : Sir, first I may deal with the subject on which I had given notice of an adjournment motion, namely, putting a stop to the export of tapioca from Travancore. The Dewan-President said that.....

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI : A point of order. Is it permissible to refer to the President of this House as Dewan-President? If it is the Council I can understand that, because under Rule 5 the Dewan is ex-officio President.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : The President here is usually referred to as Dewan-President. There is no harm in referring like that.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI : The Dewan-President said the more tapioca that is exported, the more money will come into the country. We are often told by Government officers here that we should supplement the supply of food stuffs by cultivating tapioca on every inch of available land. Newspapers sounded *encore* with appropriate headlines and catching captions on these pronouncements of eminent statesmen like Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar. The use of fish with tapioca was also widely canvassed. Along with these articles and speeches on the qualities of tapioca and fish there came the news that Kottarakara was going to have a tapioca flour factory.

(At this stage 2-50 P. M. the President resumed the Chair.)

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI : The result was that tapioca, an essential article of local food, became a common commodity for export abroad. The talk here is that tapioca flour to the tune of 200 tons per day is being exported from Travancore. Of course, we should not forget that there is another side for the picture. That is money comes into the country as price of what we export. As far as I know, never has Travancore lived on nickel, copper, silver or currency notes.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI : Is there any other country which has lived on that?

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI : Sir, I am sorry that the Legal Remembrancer's general information is so poor.

PRESIDENT : Copper is used for medical purposes sometimes.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI : There is no greater travesty than man's food being converted for use as starch and size for the textiles of the mills in Ahemadabad and other places.

Tapioca which used to be sold to the poor at six pounds per chuckram now sells at the rate of one and a half to three pounds per chuckram. The low-paid Government servant with an income of

Rs. 10 a month and having a wife and a family of two or three children to maintain, is feeling the pinch very severely. The day-labourer earning 7 or 8 chs. a day feels the pinch very severely. The Pariahs and the Pulayas whose toil fills the coffers and the granaries of the rich heave deep sighs and shed tears of blood. That is really the condition prevailing in many parts of Travancore. Tempting prices are offered to allure wholesale cultivators of tapioca by middle men who reap large profits. This really leads the country to famine, starvation and utter destruction. When there is scarcity of food in the country, there will arise here and there, cries of unrest and discontent, followed by rioting and even looting. There will be huge crowds coming out into the field carrying red flags and crying revolutionary communistic slogans. Sir, when the masses feel the real pangs of hunger and starvation, no police, nor any armed reserve, nor even the military, will be able to pacify them unless they resort to wholesale shooting or lathi and bayonet charges. Resorting to such courses is to give cause for revolution in the State.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI (*Tovala cum Agastisvaram*) மெம்பருடைய அபிப்பிராயம் மரச்சீனிக்குக்கூட வழியில்லாதவர்களா போலீஸிலும் பட்டாளத்திலும் சேர்ந்திருக்கிறார்கள்:

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: Leaving the country to revolution is not the aim or policy of any good Government and particularly not of our Government.

Our Government which claims to have anticipated events for months and even years ahead have committed one blunder—and a gross blunder too.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: Sir, may I know from the member if he means that if the export of tapioca is not stopped it will be leading to revolution?

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: I am not a revolutionary.

Our Government which claims to have anticipated events even for months and even years ahead has committed one blunder, for they actively induced every man in the country to cultivate tapioca, and even sent round a circular asking for the cultivation of tapioca on all available space in the premises of all Government offices even. There is also a provision in one of the departments for an allowance of Rs. 5 for a Duffadar for supervising cultivation of tapioca in the office compound.

MR. DOMINIC JOSEPH: What is the mistake the Government committed?

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: I am glad and thankful to have been reminded. The mistake committed was in their actively inducing the cultivation of tapioca as an article of local food and then passively allowing its export to countries abroad.

MR. DOMINIC JOSEPH: Is the member against the export of tapioca from the country?

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: Yes, Sir, one word about the shortage of food. We have a Government which is managing a University on very good motives and running on excellent lines too, a Government which runs a commercial transport service, whether with a profit or at a loss we are not concerned with for the instant, a Government owning a clay factory whether for the sale of clay or for the manufacture of porcelain articles, a Government, which has an Agricultural department about whose real activities we hear something occasionally in those beautiful long speeches of its Director on the floor of the House often; such a Government must undertake to bring as much land as possible under cultivation and under its own auspices.

PRESIDENT: Does the honourable member suggest that Government should cultivate these lands and grow paddy?

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: That is exactly what I suggest. When we can have such departments as the Transport and the Clay factory spending money on them, my suggestion is that we can have also a department for the cultivation of paddy. If Government does that, they can have some real profit unlike the minus figures of the Transport and Clay undertaking. We have electricity and enough labour. We can make materials here or get them from outside. As much labour as is available could be employed and starvation and famine in the country avoided. As I have once before said on the floor of the House peace and prosperity at home are more important than publicity and prestige outside.

Sir, in short, what I suggest is that the export of tapioca from this country should be restricted, it should be stopped forthwith at least so long as the supply of food-stuffs remains as at present. If the Government does not have any sympathy with these suggestions particularly with regard to the export of tapioca, I can say it cannot justify its existence even for one moment.

I have a word about the Transport Department. There appears an excellent paragraph in the Financial Secretary's speech. That is paragraph 33, page 12.

PRESIDENT: The honourable member has one minute more.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: I cannot even finish one sentence, within that time, Sir.

MR. G. VELU PILLAI: Sir, it is gratifying to note that the revenue of the current year has reached the peak point of Rs. 3 crores. We must congratulate ourselves that our State has reached the third place in the matter of revenue, among the Indian States. The current year is expected to close with a surplus of Rs. 24.32 lakhs. The main increase in revenue is expected to be from customs, forests, taxes on income, railway etc. This is, as the Financial Secretary has said, due to a temporary phenomenon on account of the war situation. We are glad, Sir, that the Financial Secretary has realised this and has earmarked the surplus to be transferred to the revenue Reserve Fund to be utilised in case of emergency. Really speaking, I think it is not the Financial Secretary but it is the present war condition that is to be congratulated, if at all, for this year's increase in revenue.

With regard to the Budget estimate for next year, the Financial Secretary has been cautious enough to estimate a moderate revenue. The total revenue is expected to be Rs. 290 lakhs and the total expenditure Rs. 285 lakhs, thus leaving a surplus of Rs 5 lakhs. This is estimated on the supposition that the conditions of to-day will continue throughout the next year. But in these times, when the war is coming nearer home, one cannot be sure how our finances will stand at the close of the next year. But let us hope, Sir, that at the end of next year our finances will reach another peak point, *i. e.*, more than Rs. 3 crores.

Sir, the most vital need of our country at present is the increased production of food-stuffs. Two adjournment motions were moved in this Assembly this year urging upon the necessity for adopting immediate measures for the increased production of paddy and other food-stuffs in the State so as to make the State self-sufficient if possible. Still, I am not sure whether the Agricultural Department has done all that is possible in this direction. It is not at all sufficient if a few meetings are asked to be held or a few speeches delivered or few manure depots started in some corner of the State. Sir, the Director of Agriculture is himself, if I may say so, an over-worked officer. He has to run to Madras, to Cochin, to Trichy, to Tanjore etc. to attend Rice Conferences: he has to run to Parur to attend a Co-operative Conference, and deliver lectures, and then again run to Nagercoil the next day to preside over a conference of agriculturists. He has to do all these things. I may suggest, Sir, that at least during the time of the present emergency when we require the full-time energies of an efficient officer like the present Director of Agriculture, he may be spared from his duties as the Registrar of Co-operative Societies. The agricultural population is generally inert and lazy and it is only through sustained effort, guidance and encouragement that they can be asked to go forward. We have only to ask a few questions ourselves, to see whether we have made any advance in our agricultural policy. Has the size and distribution of the holdings become more effective? Does the agriculturist resort to intensive cultivation and the use of scientific manures? Does the agriculturist work more or less than he did formerly? Has his efficiency and skill increased? If these questions are satisfactorily answered, I think we can congratulate ourselves that we have made some headway. But with all our efforts, I doubt whether we can still make the country self-sufficient in the matter of rice. The 286,000 tons of rice that we used to import from Burma and Siam cannot be easily made up for, by any feeble attempt at extensive or intensive cultivation. We may be able to import some quantity from Tanjore, but that will not be sufficient for our needs.

In this connection I may say a few words about Soya Beans. Sir, you have been repeatedly telling us about the usefulness of the Soya bean. I am sorry that the agricultural department has not taken it with the seriousness that it deserves. Soya bean which has been recently introduced into India may form a valuable addition to the

[MR. G. Velu Pillai.]

Indian dietary. This bean is the magic crop of the Chinese agriculture and has recently expanded extraordinarily into the United States and Soviet Russia. In India the bean is now grown successfully in Gujerat and in Sind. The protein content of the Soya bean is about twice that of meat and eggs and six times that of bread. It contains the three vitamins A, B, and D, all of which are deficient in the Indian vegetarian dietary. No pulse, gram or oil-seed contains fats and proteins to the same extent as the Soya bean. Certain biological tests have revealed that it is the best pulse known so far. It contains more digestible fat than linseed meal. Sir, recently the cultivation of Soya bean has grown to such a large extent in China that almost one-fourth of the Chinese total export trade is in Soya bean at present. Thus it is high time to try whether a large scale cultivation of Soya bean cannot be usefully adopted in Travancore also.

Next Sir, I wish to say a few words upon the exorbitant increase in the price of foodstuffs. I had also given notice of an adjournment motion about this subject. Sir, the prices of all essential commodities are increasing daily. They have already increased enormously. Fights between buyers before kerosene shops are a matter of frequent occurrence. It is at this time that Government should come to the rescue of the poor man.

PRESIDENT : How? Would the member kindly explain? I am anxious to learn how Government may be expected to help in the matter of kerosene.

MR. G. VELOO PILLAI : I would suggest Sir, that the Agricultural department should make a country-wide propaganda about using other oils instead of kerosene and Government must take particular care to see that oil trees are not destroyed at least in future. Price control measures should be strictly enforced. My suggestion is that rice depots should be opened by Government if and when necessary. Hoarding and profiteering of all sorts should be drastically dealt with. Some two days back I remember to have read in the papers about an incident in Afghanistan where profiteers were drastically dealt with. The President of the Kandahar Municipality, it was reported, punished some butchers who were found overcharging their customers, by nailing them by their ears to the doors of their shops and allowing them to remain there for about two hours. Let it be what it is. This profiteering is a matter which requires serious consideration by Government.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR : Is it suggested that the same punishment should be meted out here also?

MR. G. VELOO PILLAI : Not exactly the same punishment.

PRESIDENT : The moral counterpart of that physical punishment.

MR. G. VELOO PILLAI : Yes Sir. Next I congratulate the Government about the provision made in the Budget for dearness allowance to Government servants drawing a pay of less than Rs. 15. In this connection I should like to make another suggestion to Government and it

is this. They should pass early and necessary orders that Government servants drawing a pay of Rs. 2 or less should as far as possible be posted to their own native places and that they should not be transferred to any place far away.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR : Sir, after wading through several years of deficit budgets, for the first time we launched on a surplus in 1116. In 1117, the revised estimates show that we will have a surplus of Rs. Twenty four lakhs and odd. For the last six or seven years we never had a surplus. My honourable friend Mr. Narayana Kurup, speaking before me, said, that the revised estimate for this year is based on Rs. 220 lakhs, calculated till the end of Edavom 1117 including Rs. 78 odd lakhs calculated for Mithunam and Karkadakom 1116 as also the amount lapsed during that year. Sir, based on this year's revised estimates, Financial Secretary has placed before us a surplus budget, having a surplus of over Rs. 4 lakhs odd. It is a privilege and satisfaction to have a surplus budget at this critical juncture. But, Sir, unfortunately I differ from him in his optimistic speculations. I differ in saying that this budget can be a surplus one because I find he bases his figures and estimates on high hopes even amounting to optimistic speculation. Weighing the international figures at his full weight he himself admits that he expects only a lower revenue under all principal heads. He anticipates only 11.89 less revenue for 1118 than for 1117. I can grant, Sir, that he may get under Land Revenue the peak figure of Rs. 43 lakhs, under Income-tax, Rs. 16 lakhs, and under Excise, Rs. 40 lakhs which he expects for 1118. But I do not for a moment ignore that the realisation of these taxes depends both upon the prices of the commodities which have suddenly gone up and the conditions of trade which, even if a little altered, will alter the position greatly. But he consoles himself in that his speculative expectations of increase under commercial services will offset that fall if it comes. Under sea customs the Financial Secretary has budgeted for an income of Rs. 6 lakhs in 1117. But even the revised estimate shows only a lakh and odd rupees. Yet the Financial Secretary very optimistically expects Rs. 1,40,000 for 1118 probably hoping that the situation will brighten up. That too, I may admit. So also he expects Rs. 11.51 lakhs from the Cochin Harbour Scheme. If the prospect of the harbour is bright enough—an uncertainty—he may get it too. Under Stamps and Registration he expects Rs. 27.3 lakhs. Here I have to disagree with him positively in all respects of hopes and calculations. We never had such a peak figure of Rs. 27 lakhs under this head after 1112. In 1112 the Debt Conciliation Act was passed. After that the income was steadily falling. In 1115 we passed another Act, the latest Debt Relief Act, by virtue of the application of which last year, the Registration Department got an income of nearly Rs. 28 lakhs. Based on that calculation the Financial Secretary has worked out that for 1118 the income will be the same as that secured in 1117. But this will never be the case because litigation has to go down and has gone down naturally as the result of the working of the Debt Relief Act. Still the Financial

[Mr. Kannanthodath Janardanan Nair.]

Secretary expects Rs. 3 lakhs more than that can be expected in normal years. The biggest speculation he makes in calculating the budget figures is under the item Commercial Concerns where he expects a peak figure of 57.17, never attained before. In Mysore, Sir, 19 per cent. of the State revenue comes from commercial concerns. But unfortunately even though we have introduced the State Transport Scheme, even though we have introduced the Clay Refining and Porcelain Factory, even though we had been working the Rubber Factory and the Sugar Factory wherefrom we expected a good profit, even though the Government undertook to industrialise the whole country by these enterprises, unfortunately these enterprises could not give us even two per cent. of the total revenue.

Now Sir, I shall take these commercial concerns one by one.

Rubber Factory. In 1117 we have budgetted for an income of Rs. 40,300. Even in the revised estimates the figures expected to be realised come only to Rs. 22,000. Let me remind this honourable House that for the whole of this year the Rubber Factory has been working in its full strength almost. For 1118 the Financial Secretary again expects Rs. 50,000.

Sugar Factory. In 1117 the anticipated income was Rs. 40,700 but the amount realised was only Rs. 14,500. Yet for the next year also the Financial Secretary expects the same Rs. 40,700.

PRESIDENT : That is because we shall have to be the monopolists of sugar in India, now that Java is no longer in Dutch hands.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR : Let us hope for the best, Sir. From the Pallivasal Scheme even though we expected a big income in 1116, we got only Rs. 1.84 lakhs. In 1117 though we budgetted for Rs. 6.5 lakhs, even in the revised estimates the amount is only Rs. 1.88 lakhs. For the next year also the Financial Secretary asks us to believe that we can get Rs. 7.9 lakhs. Probably he may get that amount according to his hopes. But my forecast is that we are not going to get Rs. 7.9 lakhs promised by the Financial Secretary, because of the international situation and because of the difficulty of procuring the materials necessary to put the Pallivasal Scheme to the maximum use.

PRESIDENT : That does not depend upon it. The materials that we have already got must give us that amount.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR : In regard to the Ceramic Factory, though hopes were held out from 1113 onwards, every year the receipts ended in a minus. Next year also the Financial Secretary expects Rs. 4.5 lakhs from this concern. From past experience I can assure the honourable House that we are not going to get Rs. 4.5 lakhs with the factory under the present management and control. So also is the case with the Transport Department. Next year he has provided for Rs. 0.98 lakhs. Without having recourse to these aids

the Financial Secretary could very easily have balanced the budget or produced a surplus budget by applying the axe of retrenchment to the expenditure that is soaring up unrestrained. In 1116 we spent Rs. 103.28 lakhs under salaries but in 1118 it is proposed to spend Rs. 107.58 lakhs - several lakhs in excess of what was spent in 1116. Under T. A. when we spent Rs. 4.55 lakhs in 1117 he proposes to spend 5.4 lakhs in 1118. Under other items, the expenditure has gone up from Rs. 154.92 lakhs in 1117 to Rs. 177.26 lakhs in 1118. This is the way he has applied the axe of retrenchment in that direction. Even if he has applied it in a place or two places, unfortunately he has not applied it at the right place. I find from the budget that when for the development services we spend Rs. 35.10 lakhs in 1116, the present Financial Secretary proposes to spend only Rs. 28.43 lakhs in 1117. That is a reduction of Rs. 7 lakhs under development services. So also Sir, in this critical international situation, in these unsettled times we are still having the old house rent and other allowances and the continuance of personal pay and such favours granted to officers in normal times. If he could have avoided these payments I think he could have saved at least 5 or 6 lakhs of rupees to be utilised for Nation Building Schemes. In spite of the fact that the Development department failed to prove the worthiness of its existence the Financial Secretary still wants to continue it spending 10,000 year after year. So also with the chief Inspectress and her staff under the Education Department for which we spend 15,000 every year.

Now, Sir, coming to the question of my adjournment motion, about the supply of rice, it is fortunate that this State began controlling the supply and distribution of rice at various centres in the State. It was ordered early enough that the Division Peishkars should go round, take stock of the rice and control the price at which it was to be sold. Prices were also fixed later on by notifications issued by Government. Government also issued a notification that people who stock above a particular quantity must place their accounts with Government. I ask you, Sir, how many have given their accounts to Government. If any body has given such an account, what has Government done to take the surplus from such people and to distribute it in the centres which were always complaining of paucity of rice? Sir, commenting on my adjournment motion you yourself said that it was the fault of merchants and that they were "playing fast and loose with Government," at one time complaining that they did not have stocks, at another time that they do not get enough trucks to bring their stocks and somehow evading to distribute the rice at the notified rates though they usually hold large stocks. I remember that some food control committees were also constituted. I know of one instance in which when the Division Peishkar, Quilon decided that rice should be sold on a particular day at a particular rate, the Merchant's Association at that place met and decided that rice should be sold at some other price which was different from the price decided by the District Magistrate and the District Magistrate had to pocket the arrogance of these merchants and had to put up with it. I know not how or why?

PRESIDENT : Order, order. I think I shall now take the liberty to make one statement. One honourable member came to me and pointed out that a particular merchant was selling rice at a rate much higher than that fixed by Government. But when I said to him "will you please give the name of the merchant immediately so that I may give instructions to the Inspector General of Police to have that man arrested within the next fifteen minutes," he said he would prefer not to give that name. If the honourable member can give the name of that particular merchant I shall be glad to have it so that I can take action this evening or tomorrow morning. The whole trouble is that unless one or two people who do these acts are punished, the situation will never improve. I have never got a person who has complained of a merchant selling at a rate higher than the rate fixed by Government, to give the name of the merchant. And I ask honourable members to co-operate with Government, because if one or two of these people are locked up immediately for disobedience of Government instructions, such a thing will not happen. Otherwise the merchants remain confident because they know that their names will never be disclosed.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR : Sir, there is one unfortunate incident at Quilon to quote. I am prepared to give out the name and the incident. I read in the paper that a merchant was first prosecuted and then the case was withdrawn. His name is Mr. Srinivasa Pai. It pained me to read it from the papers.

PRESIDENT : That case was a case in which a young boy of sixteen was put in charge of the shop and he used either wrong measures or did something of the kind. He stated that he was a young man who had just come out from College and that he was not aware of what he was doing. He apologised to Government and the prosecution was withdrawn because his age was sixteen. I am only saying that if a man who knows his business does this kind of expropriatory and wrong thing and if that is brought to the notice of Government, action will immediately be taken.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR : Sir, so the impression is gaining ground among the merchants that whatever Government may say, however enthusiastic they may show themselves to be to take strong action against them, Government are not going to bring them to book.

Now I come to a personal matter. The other day speaking on the Budget you said—in the speech you, Sir, made at the Joint Sitting two days ago, you referred to an unfortunate feature and said that there are turbulent and mischievous elements in this State. You, Sir, also said that those elements called themselves as 'Pro-Soviet' or 'Anti-Jap' to suit occasions. You also said that they adopted any colour they liked. Sir, as an important organiser of these movements I may assure you Sir, that we have not the least intention in subverting any Government effort. We are not out to subvert anybody. We are out for an attempt for a reform—a social cultural, economic and political reform—of the whole world.

PRESIDENT : I am very glad indeed to get that assurance and I may thank the honourable member for that assurance.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR : As was rightly stressed by you, Sir, there will be difference of opinion and there may be difference in methods. But all our goal is only one and that is to work for the paramount interest and welfare of the State. In pursuing that ideal we are actuated by our conscience to follow a certain path whether it pays us or not. We follow a path which according to us is a right one. In the pursuit of that path, that ideal, we are bold, frank and outspoken. Sir, we do not want to make this platform of ours a cover for any agitation; you who have known us for some time know that we do not require a cover if we want so start one. Sir, we are also fighters and when we fight we do not hit below the belt. The last attributes myself and my colleagues want are cowardice and weakness. We don't mind any abuse being showered upon us. I could boldly say that in every one of my efforts whether I have succeeded or not I have done it boldly and according to the dictates of my conscience. We all work for one paramount interest—the welfare of the State.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN : Sir, when we are going through a most critical period in the world's history and when there is hardship and suffering all over the world, it is highly gratifying to note that our economic position is as sound as ever and that our revenue for the current year is expected to mount up to Rs. 301.41 lakhs, a peak point not reached so far in the history of the State and second only to that of Hyderabad and Mysore among Indian States. The main heads under which increased revenues are expected are those which have caused the least hardship on the masses of the people. On the expenditure side it is estimated that the actual expenditure at the close of the year will stand only at Rs. 277.08 lakhs and we are assured that this has been made possible by the exercise of economy in all possible directions. The year is expected to close with a Revenue Surplus of Rs. 24.32 lakhs against that of Rs. 1.5 lakhs anticipated in the original estimate.

Coming to next year's budget estimates, the Revenue anticipated is Rs. 11.19 lakhs less than the revised estimate for the current year and the programme of expenditure is Rs. 8.04 lakhs in excess of the revised estimates. But even in that case we will have a surplus of Rs. 5.09 lakhs. The estimates have been made on a moderate scale making provisions for all contingencies and unexpected variations. The list of items under which Revenue is expected to fall is indeed a long one. But this need not dishearten us. There are other items under which Revenues are expected to rise and what is to be borne in mind particularly is that these are war items and we are at a war time budget and any extravagant anticipations on our Revenues will be futile and hence we have to cut our expenses accordingly. We find that scrupulous care has been given to see that the poor man is spared. To make up the deficiency in revenues without increasing the burden of taxation on the poor, the cess on Rubber is proposed to be increased. This is a welcome sign. Similarly imposition of export duty on timber would not be a burden on the masses of the people.

[Mr. P. Kunjukrishnan.]

Now, going through the Budget, one finds that items intended to give a fillip to various branches of Administration and also to add to the well-being of the general public have been provided for. Similarly the special provision for grant of dearness allowance of Re. 1 per mensem to low paid subordinates is praiseworthy. But after all is said, one doubts whether enough has been done to alleviate the present economic distress to the full. What are the main problems that confront the masses of the people? They are the problems of food and clothing. Even in normal times we had to depend upon other countries for these two primary needs. But now that those sources are practically cut off, it is up to us to strive and see whether we can make ourselves self-supporting in these matters. True, Government have earnestly set upon the task. But there are very many difficulties on the way. First of all there must be a definite well-planned scheme pivoted by Government and then there must be the funds and the lands, and above all effective propaganda among people so as to "enthuse" them in this most vital national aspect of our life. I think if we work on these lines we can solve the food problem in a speedier time than most people would think. So also the question of clothing. In speaking of the question of food, I may refer to the situation that has arisen in Quilon recently due to the abrupt stoppage of rice supply and the consequent hardship to the people about which I had given notice of an adjournment motion yesterday. The position is almost like this. The authorities in Quilon asked for statements and invoices of merchants, which the merchants though at a belated time produced and the authorities after going through the accounts ordered that rice should be sold at the price fixed, to which merchants took objection and they closed down the shops. Thus the shops remained closed for about a week with the consequent miseries to people not only of Quilon but of adjoining taluks. I doubt whether the situation has cleared even at present. Similarly there is a wide spread outcry that during this Onam Season when weavers are to remain day and night at their looms, they are not in a position to get the amount of yarn that each one is entitled to get as per his ration card. I have referred to these facts to show how the best intentions of Government can be frustrated or can even become futile at a time like this when things are very easy to get unsettled. So naturally we will have to give our best attention both to the effective production as well as to the effective and well balanced distribution of essential commodities.

Again we have to take stock of the advantages deriving to our indigenous industries and our agricultural products from the war situation and make all efforts to a speedy and all round development of the same. Again the question of secondary education is a matter in which the ordinary man finds himself in a fix. He cannot afford to lose it. I would strongly plead for a general and substantial reduction in School fees.

A word about the Public Services of the State. The Public Service Department has been found to be useful, and it has done considerable justice to the under-represented communities so far as the Lower division is concerned. But so far as the direct appointments to the Higher Division of the Public Service of the State are concerned, the Ezhava Community, for example is in a state of acute under representation. I do not propose to go into details at present. Again, the number of Departments exempted and the Government notifications from time to time exempting certain classes of candidates and other alterations made, have all worked great hardship to the Ezhava Community. Even in the matter of admission to the Engineering and other Colleges there is considerable hardship. It is hoped, Sir, that these grievances will be remedied as speedily as possible.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM : Sir, ours is a prosperity budget with a surplus of Rs. 5.09 lakhs and the Financial Secretary is to be congratulated for his rather short but quite intelligible speech in presenting such a budget. The Financial Secretary concludes his speech thus :—

“ We will thus have at the end of next year a cash balance of more than Rs. 60 lakhs, short term deposits in Bank to the extent of Rs. 50.45 lakhs besides other safe and fluid investments amounting to more than 2 crores of rupees. The cash position will therefore be as strong as ever and there will be no necessity to resort to any borrowing during the current year or the next”.

It is extremely gratifying to learn that the financial position of our State is absolutely stable and indeed very satisfactory. Regarding the revenue for the current year, we find that a revenue of Rs. 301.41 lakhs could be realised,— a figure which is the highest so far reached— a figure which, I now remember, was anticipated by the Dewan about five years back. How happy it is to find that by the time he is to depart, though only for the time being from the State, he has been able to see the realisation of his anticipated amount, which he made deliberate efforts to secure.

As for the budget for 1118, it is properly described as a War-budget, indicating thereby that it is subject to all the uncertainties that may happen during a war time. A peak point in our revenues has been reached, Sir, under your able guidance and supervision, and we feel nervous about the future without your direct and immediate supervision. Anyhow when we think of the offer made by His Gracious Highness the Maharaja to place at the disposal of the Allies all the resources of the State, we feel that by giving you to the services in the Executive Council of His Excellency the Viceroy, Travancore is giving her very best, making a valuable contribution to the present fateful struggle, which contribution is more valuable than that in money or in man power. I am reminded in this connection, Sir of the well-known Biblical story of Abraham and Isaac, where a father, true and faithful to God, never hesitated to sacrifice his only beloved son in obedience to such a demand.

[Mr. Kottalil P. Abraham.]

Coming to the Budget, it has to be noted with satisfaction that the additional taxation which is proposed does not affect people who are unable to pay. It affects only those who are really able to pay. The export duty on rubber is proposed to be increased to Rs. 1½ per cwt. I learn that the duty on rubber in Ceylon is about 3½ Rs. per cwt. The other proposed duty is on the export of timber and that only in case of exceptional necessity. That is what is said by the Financial Secretary. In that respect also, no complaint has to be made.

War conditions have been scrupulously kept in view in the preparation of the budget. A dearness allowance of Re. 1 per mensem is allowed to the subordinates of the public service drawing less than Rs. 15. That is provided for in the budget. Indeed it is satisfactory to the extent it goes. But to my mind that amount is not at all adequate. The allowance has to be increased to Rs. 2 per mensem to public servants who draw Rs. 25 and less. Yesterday, you, Sir, compared the pay of the clerks in Travancore and Mysore. It was stated that the lowest pay of clerks in Travancore is Rs. 20, while it was Rs. 25 in Mysore. In Mysore, the dearness allowance is extended to salaries up to Rs. 25. It is on that basis that I make the suggestion to include those who get Rs. 25 and below in this category. The present increase in price per bag of rice is also more than Rs. 2. It is gratifying to note that there is provision for distress relief to the extent of Rs. one lakh. Besides, for the annual investment for the help of the distressed another lakh is set apart as was decided in the previous year. It was decided last year to set apart about a lakh of rupees every year from the surplus in aid of the distress relief fund.

As has been stated by several of my predecessors, the most important problem is that of food. I am glad to see that Government have made arrangements to secure the necessary quantity of rice for the people of the State. In this connection what I have to remind the Government is that the supply of rice by rail from outside Travancore should be so arranged as to be distributed via Alwaye also as it is done via Quilon. If it is possible to supply rice through Quilon, it is equally possible to bring rice through Alwaye also because in both places the transport is by rail.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI : Sir, may I inform the honourable member that 35,000 bags of rice, coming by rail are destined for Alwaye and the Kunnathnad taluk up to Kottayam?

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM : I am thankful for that, Sir.

Then a word about the increasing of food crops in the country. Intensive method of cultivation was referred to here. As regards intensive cultivation several methods have been suggested; for extensive cultivation throwing open of the forest swampy areas and grassy lands, as well as forest lands covered up with reeds (reed) will be expedient.

PRESIDENT : The honourable member has only two minutes more.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM : It was said that tapioca cultivation is to be encouraged. One who travels from Parur to Trivandrum will see on both sides of the road plenty of tapioca plantations. To supplement the tapioca and to make it a nutritious food some arrangements must be made to take the fish from our coastal regions conveniently to the rural and interior areas.

About the Medical Department, I have to make one suggestion. I had brought in an adjournment motion yesterday about the numerous deaths now occurring on the Munnar-Kothamangalam road of coolies in Kallar and adjoining places. There are cardamom estates in those hilly places and coolies in large numbers go and work there. They invariably and frequently get malaria and are forced to walk out of the estates with the fever and die in numbers on the road side. I am glad to find that provision is made next year for starting a dispensary at Kallar next year. But the present and existing troubles have to be attended to forthwith.

PRESIDENT : Has any investigation been made about this ?

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM : My appeal is that an investigation should be made in the first place. I may however suggest certain remedies also. Immediately some quinine should be supplied to the coolies of these estates. Then people who die on the road side must be attended to. Some arrangements, for example, some ambulance cars must be provided for. No body is willing to attend to those people who die on the road side because of the fear of the Police. Some arrangements are made by the Proverthicars to remove the dead bodies. But they complain that no adequate amount is given to them for the purpose. The motor-bus drivers who come by the way are also not in a position to give any help because of the objection from the passengers, and also because of the possible inconvenience from and fear of the Police. It is sometimes thought and said that it is on account of cruelty and starvation that those things are happening. My submission is that due investigation has to be conducted by a special officer or a special committee appointed for the purpose.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : May I know the number of coolies who have died on the roads last month ?

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM : My information is that it is about 50.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : May I know whether the member has made any personal enquiries into the matter ?

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM : Yes, I have.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : May I know the result of that enquiry ?

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM : That is what I have already stated.

PRESIDENT : The figures are startling. Enquiries will be made. It may be necessary for the House to rise at 4 o' clock to make certain arrangements. I hope honourable members will forego the inconvenience and will consent to sit one more hour tomorrow.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI : May I be permitted to speak in Tamil, Sir ?

PRESIDENT : The honourable member is allowed to speak in any language he likes, provided he is understood by his fellow members.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI : Thank you, Sir. 1118-ம் மாண்டு வரவுசிலவு திட்டம் ஒரு மிச்சவாரமாக சமர்ப்பித்திருக்கும் விதத்தைப்பார்த்து பொருளாதாரமெம்பரை நான் மிகவும் மெச்சுகிறேன். அவர்களை நான் மனமாரப்பாராட்டுகிறேன். அதற்குப் பல் காரணங்களுண்டு. இந்த வருஷ பட்ஜெட் திட்டமானது வரவுகள் சரிவரக்காணப்படுகின்றன. சாதாரணமாக சிலவுகளை மூடிவைக்கவும், பின்பு அவைகளுக்குப் பலவிதமான வியாக்யானங்கள் கொடுக்கவும், பின்னால் அவைகளுக்குப் பலவிதமான சமாதானங்கள் பகர்வதும் வழக்கம். ஆனால் தற்போதுள்ள திட்டம் அப்படியல்ல. எல்லா டிப்பார்ட்டுமென்றுகளையும் தமது கவனத்தில் வைத்துக்கொண்டு ஒரு சரியான வரவுசிலவு திட்டம் பகுத்துக் கூடுதலாக மிச்சமும் காட்டியிருக்கிறார்கள். அதனால் எனக்கு ரொம்பவும் சந்தோஷம். அவர்களை நான் மெச்சுகிறேன். முதலாவது நான் சொல்வது எனக்கு அதிகமாக வரவுசிலவுகண்களுகளைப் பற்றித்தெரியாது. கனம் கிருஷ்ணய்யர் அவர்கள் சொன்னார்கள் சில சட்டங்களை பாராட்டவேண்டியதாகயிருக்கிறதென்றும், ஆனால் பப்ளிக் ஸர்வீஸ்களில் சில இனங்களை குறைக்கவேண்டிய விஷயத்தில் கவர்ன்மென்று அதிகமாக கவனம் செலுத்தியதாகக்காணப்படவில்லை. அதில் அனேகமாக சில உத்தியோகங்களை குறைக்கலாமென்றும் சொன்னார்கள். அதை நான் ஒப்புக்கொள்கிறேன். உதாகரணமாக, நாகர்கோவிலில் ஒரு இரண்டாம் கிளாஸ் மஜிஸ்ட்ரேட்டுகோர்ட்டு இருக்கிறது. இந்த மஜிஸ்ட்ரேட்டுகோர்ட்டு என் வீட்டின் பக்கத்தில் தானிருக்கிறது. சரியாக 11 மணிக்கு அந்த மஜிஸ்ட்ரேட்டுகோர்ட்டுக்கு வருகிறார். 11.5 மணிக்கு வேலைமுடியும். உடனே வீட்டுக்குப்போகிறார்கள்.

Sir, I do not find anybody taking down my speech. I have a right to insist that a Tamil Short-hand Reporter should be provided to report Tamil speeches.

PRESIDENT : There is a Tamil Reporter now reporting the honourable member's speech and he can know that when he sees the report.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI : I do not see any Tamil Reporter among the Reporters in front of me. That is the treatment meted out to Tamil, Sir.

PRESIDENT : Order, order. Tamil is now translated to the proper place.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI : ஸர், அதைப்பற்றிப் பின்னால் சொல்லுகிறேன். அந்த அதிர்ந்தியில் களவுகுற்றங்கள் 13 கேஸ்கள் தானிருக்கின்றன என்ற கேள்விப்பட்டேன்.

ஸர், தற்போது தக்கலையில் ஒரு First Class Magistrate's Court இருக்கிறது. நாகர்கோவிலிருந்தும், அதன் பக்கத்திலிருந்தும் பொது ஜனங்கள் தங்கள் கேஸ்கள் நிமித்தம் தக்கலைக்கு வந்து போவதில் ரொம்ப பசங்கடங்கள் அனுபவிக்கிறார்கள். அதனால் நாகர்கோவில் ஒரு First Class Magistrate's Court ஏற்படுத்தினால் பொதுஜனங்களுக்கு ரொம்ப சௌகரியமாயிருக்கும். தற்போது தக்கலைக்கோர்ட்டுக்குப் போகவேண்டிய விளவரப்பு முதலிய வழக்குகள் Cr P. D. 428-ஐ வகுப்புப்பிரகாரம் எடுக்கக்கூடிய கேஸ்கள் எல்லாம் இந்தக்கோர்ட்டில் அடிபடும். ஏதோ சில பேப்பர்களில் பார்த்தேன், ஏதோ ஐந்து First Class Magistrate களை புதிதாக நியமிக்கப்போவதாகவும், அவர்களை நாகர்கோவிலுக்கு அல்லாமல் மற்ற ஐந்து ஸ்தலங்களில் நியமிக்கப்போவதாகவும் அறிந்தேன். இது உண்மையானால், அப்படிச் செய்வது சரியல்ல. நாகர்கோவிலுக்கும் ஒரு First Class Magistrate's Court தந்தால் ரொம்ப நல்லது, கஷ்டிக்காமல் களுக்கும் ரொம்ப சௌகரியமாயிருக்கும். மஜிஸ்ட்ரேட்டுக்கும் போதிய அளவு வேலையிருக்கும். அல்லாமல் இப்போதைப்போல் தினம் ஒன்றுக்கு ஐந்து நிமிஷ நேரம் மட்டில் வேலை செய்வேண்டியதாக இருக்காது. இந்த பட்ஜெட்டில் இதைச்சேர்த்திருக்கிறார்களோ என்று எனக்குத் தெரியாது. அப்படி ஏதாவது சிறுஷ்டிக்கப்படுமானால் நாகர்கோவிலுக்கு ஒரு First Class Magistrate's Court கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். சம்பளத்தைக்கூட்டிக்கொடுத்து First Class Magistrate's power யும் கொடுத்து ஒருவரை நாகர்கோவிலில் நியமித்தால் சரியானபடி வேலை வாங்கலாம்.

ஸர், சில நாட்களுக்குமுன் நாகர்கோவிலில் இரண்டு ஜட்ஜுகள் தானிருந்தார்கள். தற்போது மூன்று ஜட்ஜுகளிருக்கிறார்கள். எனக்குக்கேசில்லை, உனக்குக்கேசில்லை என்று அவர்களுக்குள்ளேயே வழக்குகள். அப்படி அவர்களுக்கு வேலை கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கவர்மெண்டு எண்ணினால் அவர்களுக்கு வேறு வேலை கொடுக்கலாம். தற்போது நெல் உற்பத்தி செய்யவேண்டியது அவசியமென்று காணப்படுகிறது. ஏராளமாக நெற்கிருஷி செய்தால் நலம். அதேயிட்டு ஏதாவது ஒரு திட்டம் செய்துகொண்டு, அவர்களில் ஒருவரை அந்த வேலைக்கு ஏற்படுத்தினால் மிகவும் நலம்.

The House rose for the day at 4 P. M.

V. S. ARUMUKHOM PILLAI,
Secretary to the Sri Mulam Assembly,