

125424

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
TRAVANCORE
SRI CHITRA STATE COUNCIL.

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

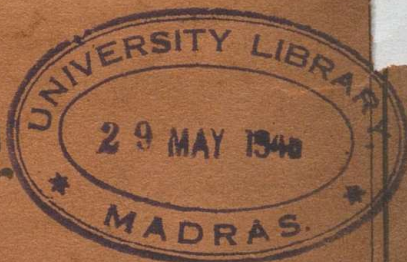
SECOND COUNCIL.

SIXTH SESSION.

16th Makaram, 1115.

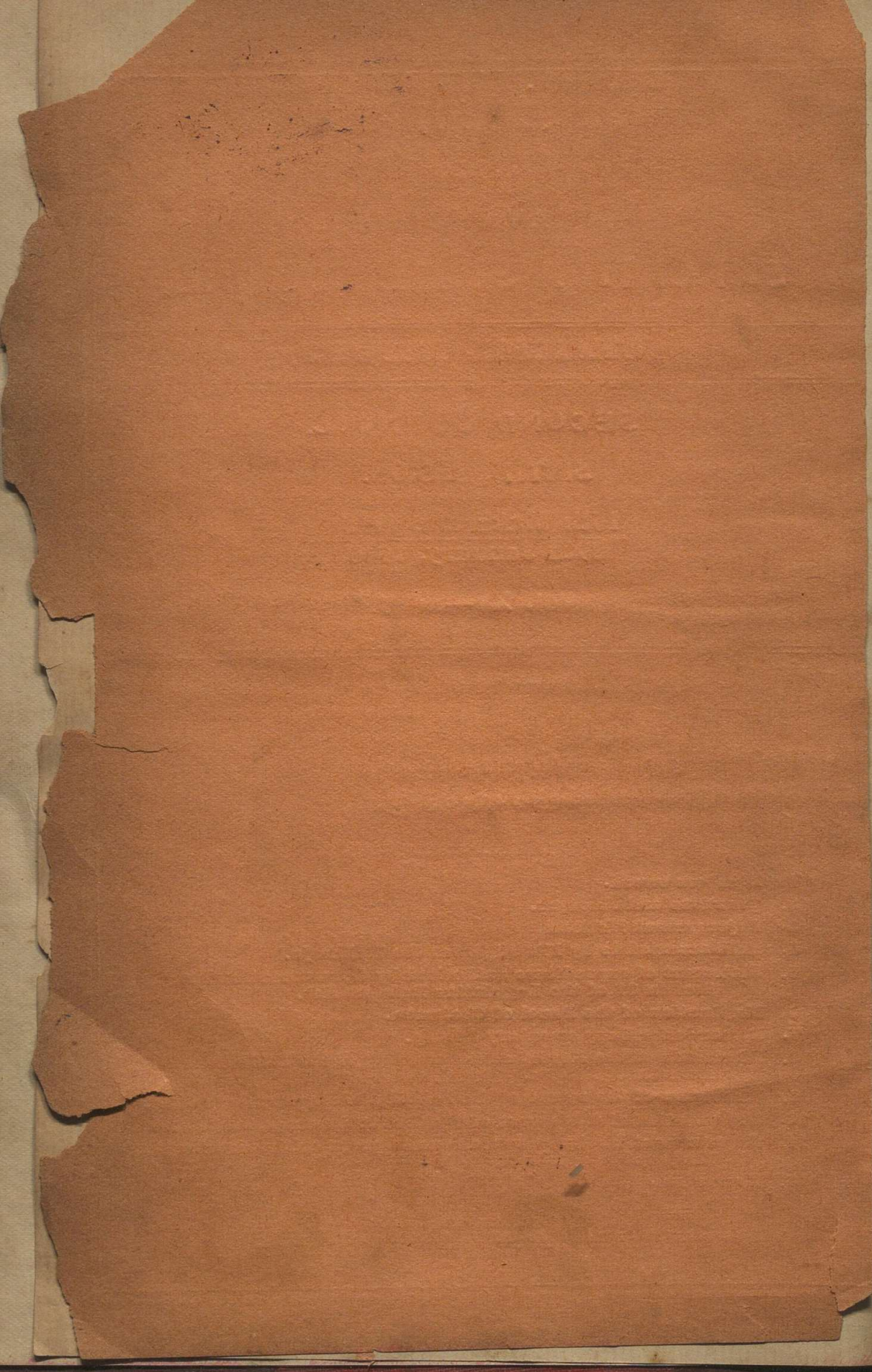
29th January, 1940.

[Vol. XV—No. 1.]



CONTENTS.

1. Members sworn.
2. Questions and Answers.
3. Adjournment Motions.
4. Bills assented to by His Highness the Maharaja.
5. Statement of expenditure authorised by Government under Section 32 of the Legislative Reforms Act.
6. Nomination of the Panel of Chairmen.
7. Demands for Supplementary Grants.
8. Discussion of the Report on the working of the Public Service Recruitment Rules.
9. Discussion of the report of the Debt Relief Enquiry Committee.
10. Presentation of the report of the Public Accounts Committee.
11. Adjournment Motion *re* havoc done to punja cultivation in Kuttanad — debate on.
12. Annexures.





PROCEEDINGS
OF
THE TRAVANCORE SRI CHITRA STATE COUNCIL.

SECOND COUNCIL.

SIXTH SESSION.

Monday, the 16th Makaram 1115/29th January 1940.

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

Vol. XV—No. 1.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
1. Members sworn	1
2. Questions and Answers	2
3. Adjournment Motions	14
4. Bills assented to by His Highness the Maharaja	14
5. Statement of expenditure authorised by Government under Section 32 of the Legislative Reforms Act...	15
6. Nomination of the Panel of Chairmen	16
7. Demands for Supplementary Grants	16
8. Discussion of the report of the working of the Public Service Recruitment Rules	27
9. Discussion of the report of the Debt Relief Enquiry Committee	59
10. Presentation of the report of the Public Accounts Committee	60
11. Adjournment Motion <i>re</i> havoc done to punja cultivation in Kuttanad — debate on	61
12. Annexures.	

125424

✓222:8231mN26

HO

11.11.11

SECOND VOLUME
SIXTH EDITION

(FIFTH EDITION)
Vol. XV-No. 1
CONTENTS

1. Questions and Answers
2. Questions and Answers
3. Questions and Answers
4. Questions and Answers
5. Questions and Answers
6. Questions and Answers
7. Questions and Answers
8. Questions and Answers
9. Questions and Answers
10. Questions and Answers
11. Questions and Answers
12. Questions and Answers
13. Questions and Answers
14. Questions and Answers
15. Questions and Answers
16. Questions and Answers
17. Questions and Answers
18. Questions and Answers
19. Questions and Answers
20. Questions and Answers
21. Questions and Answers
22. Questions and Answers
23. Questions and Answers
24. Questions and Answers
25. Questions and Answers
26. Questions and Answers
27. Questions and Answers
28. Questions and Answers
29. Questions and Answers
30. Questions and Answers
31. Questions and Answers
32. Questions and Answers
33. Questions and Answers
34. Questions and Answers
35. Questions and Answers
36. Questions and Answers
37. Questions and Answers
38. Questions and Answers
39. Questions and Answers
40. Questions and Answers
41. Questions and Answers
42. Questions and Answers
43. Questions and Answers
44. Questions and Answers
45. Questions and Answers
46. Questions and Answers
47. Questions and Answers
48. Questions and Answers
49. Questions and Answers
50. Questions and Answers
51. Questions and Answers
52. Questions and Answers
53. Questions and Answers
54. Questions and Answers
55. Questions and Answers
56. Questions and Answers
57. Questions and Answers
58. Questions and Answers
59. Questions and Answers
60. Questions and Answers
61. Questions and Answers
62. Questions and Answers
63. Questions and Answers
64. Questions and Answers
65. Questions and Answers
66. Questions and Answers
67. Questions and Answers
68. Questions and Answers
69. Questions and Answers
70. Questions and Answers
71. Questions and Answers
72. Questions and Answers
73. Questions and Answers
74. Questions and Answers
75. Questions and Answers
76. Questions and Answers
77. Questions and Answers
78. Questions and Answers
79. Questions and Answers
80. Questions and Answers
81. Questions and Answers
82. Questions and Answers
83. Questions and Answers
84. Questions and Answers
85. Questions and Answers
86. Questions and Answers
87. Questions and Answers
88. Questions and Answers
89. Questions and Answers
90. Questions and Answers
91. Questions and Answers
92. Questions and Answers
93. Questions and Answers
94. Questions and Answers
95. Questions and Answers
96. Questions and Answers
97. Questions and Answers
98. Questions and Answers
99. Questions and Answers
100. Questions and Answers

1924-25



PROCEEDINGS
of
THE TRAVANCORE SRI CHITRA STATE COUNCIL

(OFFICIAL REPORT.)

SECOND COUNCIL.

VOLUME XV—NUMBER 1.
SIXTH SESSION—1115/1940.

Monday, the 16th Makaram 1115/29th January 1940.

The Travancore Sri Chitra State Council met in the Legislative Chamber, Public Offices, at eleven of the Clock, with Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, K. C. I. E., LL. D., Dewan—President, in the Chair.

MEMBERS SWORN.

The following members took the oath and signed the Rolls :—

1. Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan (*Pro-Vice-Chancellor University of Travancore.*)
2. Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar (*Chief Engineer.*)
3. Mr. M. Govinda Pillai (*Financial Secretary to Government.*)
4. Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai (*Legal Remembrancer to Government.*)
5. Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi (*Secretary to Government.*)
6. Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar (*Chief Secretary to Government.*)
7. Dr. G. D. Nokes (*Public Service Commissioner.*)
8. Mr. T. W. U. Park (*Travancore Planters.*)
9. Dr. S. K. Pillai (*Technical Assistant to the Director of Development.*)
10. Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner.*)
11. Mr. K. Sankaran (*Ag. Secretary to Government.*)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Statement by caste of Deputy Tahsildars etc.

1. * **Mr. K. M. Kesavan** (*Karunagapalli, Kartikapalli, and Ambalapuzha cum Shortallai*): Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement by caste of:

(a) Deputy Tahsildars; and

(b) Taluk Supervisors in service on 1-4-1115?

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): The statement *required is laid on the table.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan: With reference to the answer to part (a) may I know why there is not a single Deputy Tahsildar from the Ezhava community?

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao: It is a matter of accident. But it may be noted that there are 4 Revenue Supervisors who belong to the Ezhava community.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai (*Quilon cum Kunnathur*): May I know whether the Deputy Tahsildars are recruited direct or by promotion?

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao: There is no direct recruitment of Deputy Tahsildars.

Mr. E. K. Kuriyppe (*Parur, Kunnatnad and Muvattupuzha cum Devicolum*): ഡെപ്യൂട്ടി സൂപ്പർവൈസർമാരായി ഹവ്വ പേരെ നിയമിച്ചു കാണുന്നു. അതിൽ ഒരു കുത്തോലിക്കനേയും നിയമിച്ചു കാണാതിരിക്കുന്നതിന് കാരണമെന്താണ്?

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao: I have to give the same answer, Sir, that it is a matter of accident.

Kayenkulam-Muttom road.

2 * **Mr. K. M. Kesavan**: Will the Government be pleased to state whether since the last Budget Session of the Legislature any repair was done to Kayenkulam-Muttom road in Kartikapalli taluk?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar (*Chief Engineer*): Yes.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan: May I know the nature of the repairs done on this road?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar: Sometime back a length of one and a half miles of this road was gravelled and the other repairs were in the nature of ordinary maintenance work.

Judges.

3. ***Mr. K. M. Kesavan** : Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a list of (a) Second Judges ; (b) District Judges and (c) High Court Judges, now in service, by caste ?

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai (*Legal Remembrancer to Government*) : A *statement containing the information required is laid on the table.

Chitra Coins.

4. ***Mr. K. M. Kesavan** : Will the Government be pleased to state, in the light of the "Chitra" having been made legal tender :

(a) whether they propose to get down machines to coin them in the Government Mint ;

(b) if they do not, why not ?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai (*Financial Secretary to Government*) : (a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) The machines required for minting all kinds of coins have lately been purchased.

Chitra Coins.

5. ***Mr. K. M. Kesavan** : In view of the fact that the "Chitra" having been made legal tender, will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to get down the necessary machines for minting them ; and

(b) what will be the approximate cost of such machines ?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai : (a) The member is referred to the answer given to Part (a) of interpellation No. 4

(b) This does not arise.

Dr. H. Parameswaran.

6. ***Mr. K. M. Kesavan** : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) when Dr. H. Parameswaran's services were borrowed to the University of Travancore as Professor of Applied Physics ;

(b) when did his term of service end ;

(c) if it ended, when was he appointed Secretary to the Public Service Commissioner ;

(d) what was his salary before ; and

(e) what is it at present ?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : (a) 4th December 1937/19th Vrischigom 1113.

(b) His services in the University terminated on the 3rd December 1939.

[Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar.]

(c) 4th December 1939.

(d) Salary including house rent and leave and pensionary contribution Rs. 1603-3-8 per mensem.

(e) Bh. Rs. 1050 as detailed below :—

Salary as Controller of Stationery and Printing and Ex-officio Secretary, Stores Purchase Committee — ...	Rs. 500-0-0
Salary as Secretary to the Public Service Commissioner — ...	Rs. 568-21-0
	Rs. 1068-21-0

Road from Bhagavathipadikkal to Pathiyur temple.

7. *Mr. K. M. Kesavan: Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether the bad condition of the road from Bhagavathipadikkal to Pathiyur temple (in Karthikapalli taluk) has reached the attention of the Public Works Department ;

(b) if it has, will the Government be pleased to state whether the rain damages caused to the road during the last month of Thulam have been repaired ; and

(c) if not, when are they going to repair them ?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) This does not arise in view of answer to part (b),

Arrears of land tax.

8. *Mr. K. M. Kesavan: Will the Government be pleased to state .

(a) the amount of arrears of land tax at the beginning of 1115 in each pakuthi of the Karunagapalli taluk ;

(b) the area of each pakuthi ;

(c) the number of 'thandapers' in each pakuthi ;

(d) the number of accountants in each pakuthi ;

(e) whether they have noticed that generally the greater the pakuthi the greater is the accumulation of arrears of land tax ;

(f) if the answer is in the affirmative, whether they have thought out any remedy for this state of affairs ; and

(g) if so, what it is ?

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao : (a) to (d) A statement furnishing the information is laid on the table.

(e) No.

(f) and (g) In view of the answer to part (e) this does not arise.

State Transport.

9 ***Mr. K. M. Kesavan** : Will the Government be pleased to state whether they propose to extend the State Motor Transport on the Trivandrum-Kottayam line and on the Quilon-Alleppey line?

Mr. K. Sankaran (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): Yes.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai (*Kalkulam and Vilavankod cum Neyyatinkara*): May I know, Sir, whether any fresh appointments of drivers and conductors were made by the department?

Mr. K. Sankaran : New appointments will be made.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai : May I know whether there is a waiting list of conductors and drivers at present?

Mr. K. Sankaran : I claim notice.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai : May I know, Sir, whether special consideration will be given to those on the waiting list if there is a waiting list?

Mr. K. Sankaran : No such undertaking can be given as the power to appoint vests solely in the Superintendent of the Transport Department.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai : May I know whether an assurance was given to the drivers and conductors in the Quilon, Alleppey and Kottayam line that special consideration will be given to them overlooking the claims of those in the waiting list?

Mr. K. Sankaran : No such undertaking has been given.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla (*Mavelikara and Tiruvella cum Pathanamthitta*): May I know whether any rules are being observed for the selection of drivers and conductors?

Mr. K. Sankaran : No special rules have been laid down.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : Is it not necessary that there should be rules for the purpose?

Mr. K. Sankaran : The Superintendent is expected to bear in mind the necessary qualifications in the matter of selecting the persons.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : Has he any directions from Government?

Mr. K. Sankaran : No particular directions have been issued, but there is a general understanding that only properly qualified candidates will be selected.

Difficulties in treasury remittances.

10. ***Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar** (*Nominated*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether difficulties are being experienced by the officers whose offices are at places where there are no treasuries, in the matter of remittances ;

[Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar.]

(b) what action has been taken by them to avoid such difficulties ; and

(c) have the Government considered the desirability of empowering Anchal Masters to receive such remittances ?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai : (a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) and (c) In view of the answer to part (a) these do not arise.

Constituting Kuttanad as a separate taluk.

11. ***Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether they have received representations from the people of Kuttanad that Kuttanad should be made a separate taluk; and

(b) whether any action has been taken by Government upon such representations ?

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao (a) Yes.

(b) They were recorded as they did not convey a practicable proposition.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar : May I know, Sir, whether Government are aware that the Kuttanad area comes under various taluks ?

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao . Yes.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar : May I know, Sir, whether Government are aware that the physical features also of this area are different from the rest of the portions of the taluk ?

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao : yes.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar : May I know, Sir, whether practical difficulties are being experienced by the Kuttanad people in not having a separate taluk ?

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao : When this matter was brought up once before, it was explained that the question of having a separate taluk for Kuttanad could not be taken into consideration till the next revenue settlement.

Use of milled rice.

12. ***Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar** (*Parur, Kunnatnad and Muvattupuzha cum Devicolam*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether milled rice is being used in Oottupuras and Government managed temples and jails; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) is in the affirmative the total quantity of milled rice used in all the temples under Government management as well as in the Oottupuras and jails under Government in 1113 and 1114 specifying the total amount used in Oottupuras, jails and temples ?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : (a) Milled rice is used for *Sadyas* in temples and Oottupuras. It is not used in the Central Prison.

(b) The average annual quantity of milled rice used in all the Government temples and Oottupuras is about 22,400 paras.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : As regards the answer to part (a) may I know whether milled rice is not being used in sub-jails?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : It is being used in sub-jails.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : What will be the quantity of such rice used in sub-jails?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : About 10,000 paras, in jails.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : May I know whether milled rice has been declared to be not as good for consumption as hand-pounded rice?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : Hand-pounded rice is considered to be more nutritious.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : May I know why milled rice has been used for consumption when it is known that hand-pounded rice is better than milled rice?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : Contractors are engaged for the supply of rice and they supply milled rice.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : May I know whether Government have not got any discretion to compel them to supply the best quality of rice or is it left to the will and pleasure of the contractors to supply whatever rice they chose?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : The supply is made according to the agreement.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : May I know from the member whether according to the terms of the agreement the contractors are bound to supply milled rice or hand-pounded rice?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : They must supply rice of good quality.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : Is it then the view of Government that milled rice is as good as or better than hand-pounded rice?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : It is not a question of comparison at all. Both milled rice and hand-pounded rice may be equally good.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : May I know from the member whether a very large proportion of the population is not engaged in this hand-pounding business?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : It was the case some 30 or 40 years ago but it is not the case now.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : May I know whether other Governments have condemned milled rice and issued orders to use hand-pounded rice ?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : Government are not aware.

Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan (*Pro-Vice-Chancellor University of Travancore*) : I would suggest that the honourable member may consult Dr. Aykroyd who is here,

President : He cannot, as Dr. Aykroyd is not a member of this House.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar : May I know whether there is not a paucity of workmen for hand-pounding rice ?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : That is a fact.

Electric lights for Perumbavoor.

13. ***Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was any requisition from the inhabitants of Perumbavoor town for providing them with electric light;

(b) if the answer to part (a) is in the affirmative when was such requisition made;

(c) whether Government have accorded any sanction for providing the town with electric light;

(d) if the answer to part (c) is in the affirmative when was the sanction accorded and the reasons for the delay in providing the town with light; and

(e) if the answer to part (c) is in the negative what were the reasons for the same ?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : (a) Yes; there was a requisition from Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar.

(b) 6th Chingom 1115.

(c) No.

(d) In view of reply to (c) this does not arise.

(e) The matter is under consideration.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : With regard to the answer to part (c) may I know why the sanction of Government was not accorded yet ?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : It was not applied for.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : What was the nature of the requisition referred to in the answer to part (a) ?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar put in a petition to the Electrical Engineer saying that the supply of electrical energy should be extended to Perumbavoor.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : May I know whether the petition has been pending before Government ?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : The petition has not come up to Government. The Electrical Engineer made the necessary enquiry.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: May I know what was the result of the enquiry?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar: The Electrical Engineer has found that the scheme is worth considering and that when funds are available, steps may be taken to extend the supply of the current to Perumbavoor also.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: May I know whether there is not at present more energy than is necessary at Alwaye?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar: I have no information.

President: It may be so now, but in ten or twelve years more it will be different.

Inspectors and Conductors in the Transport Department.

14. ***Mr. K. M. Kesavan:** Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement by caste of Inspectors and Conductors employed in the State Transport Department?

Mr. K. Sankaran: The member is referred to the answers at pages 100 to 105 of Vol. XII, No. 3 of the Proceedings of the Sri Mulam Assembly.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan: May I know how it is possible to refer to the volume and pages indicated in the answer if the answer is laid on the table only 30 minutes earlier?

Mr. K. Sankaran: Though the reference is given I may for the information of the member say that the Transport Department being essentially a Commercial Department, in the matter of recruitment to that Department, communal considerations do not ordinarily arise.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai: I rise to a point of order. The member in his answer has referred to a document which is not in our possession now.

President: Technically, I think, the Hon. Member's point of order is correct; because references may be made to the proceedings in this House but not to the proceedings in the other House. But there has been a certain amount of relaxation in regard to this.

Statement by caste of Inspectors and Conductors.

15. ***Mr. K. M. Kesavan:** Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement by caste of Inspectors and Conductors in the Transport Department on 1-4-1115?

Mr. K. Sankaran: The member is referred to the answers at pages 100 to 105 of Vol. XII, No. 3 of the Proceedings of the Sri Mulam Assembly.

Siddha Medicines.

16. ***Mr. M. Sultan Muhiadheen :** (*Trivandrum and Nedumangad cum Chirayinkil*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether any medicine prepared as per siddha system is available for sale or distributed in any of the Ayurvedic Departmental sales depots or hospitals ; and

(b) if so, to lay on the table a list of such medicines ?

Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi (*Secretary to Government*) :

(a) No.

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

Appendix 1.

Vide Answer to Question No. 1.

Castewar statement of Deputy Thasildars and Revenue Supervisors in service on 1-4-1115.

Caste.	Deputy Thasildars.	Revenue Supervisors.
I. (1) Brahmin	7	3
(2) Nair	14	10
(3) Other caste Hindu	2	2
(4) Kammala	...	...
(5) Nadar	...	...
(6) Ezhava	...	4
(7) Cheramar	...	...
(8) Other Hindu	1	...
II. Muslim	1	1
III. Christians		
(1) Marthomite	1	2
(2) Jacobite	2	4
(3) Latin Catholic	1	...
(4) Syriac Catholic	1	...
(5) S. I. U. Church	...	2
(6) Other Christian	...	...
Total	30	28

Appendix II.

Vide Answer to Question No. 3.

Statement, by caste, of (a) Second Judges (b) District Judges and (c) 'High Court Judges, now in service.

	Second Judges	Remarks.	District Judges.	Remarks.	High Court Judges.	Remarks.
A. HINDU.						
1. Brahmin	3	1 Temporary 2 Acting	..	..	2	
2. Nair	2	1 Temporary 1 Acting	3	(1 on other duty as Ag. Judge, High Court)	2	1 Acting, 1 on other duty as Federation Special Officer.
3. Kammala	..	..	..	..	..
4. Nadar	..	..	..	..	..
5. Ezhava	1	Temporary on other duty as Ag. Secretary to Government	..	..	..
6. Cheramar	..	..	..	..	..
7. Other Hindu	3	2 Temporary and 1 on other duty as Ag. District Judge.	1	(Acting)		
B. MUSLIM.	1	..	..	..	..
C. CHRISTIAN.						
1. Jacobite	2	(2 Acting)	2	(1 on other duty as Ag. Judge, High Court)	1	(Acting).
2. Marthomite	..	..	..	..	..
3. Syriac Catholic	1	(On other duty as Ag. District Judge)	1	(Acting)	1	
4. Latin Catholic	..	..	1	..	..
5. South Indian United Church	..	..	..	..	..
6. Other Christian	1	(On other duty as Ag. District Judge)	1	(Acting and now on other duty as Chief Conciliation Officer)	2	(1 on other duty as Public Service Commissioner)

Appendix III.

Vide Answer to Question No. 8.

Statement showing the amount of arrears of land tax at the beginning of 1115 in the Karunagapalli taluk with details as to the area, thandapers and the number of accountants in each of the pakuthies.

Pakuthi.	Arrears of tax at the beginning of 1115.			Area in sq. miles.	Number of Thandapers.	Number of Accountants.
	Rs.	Ch.	C.			
1. Thekkumbhagom	1,723	11	3	7.82	6512	1
2. Chavara	6946	23	8	4.62	8972	1
3. Ponmana	11,275	8	12	6.57	12617	2
4. Thevalakara	4,637	24	9	6.23	9853	1
5. Mynagapally	6,079	5	2	7.61	7242	1
6. Thodiyur	5,592	8	13	8.00	8690	1
7. Karunagapally	3,020	27	3	8.20	11229	2
8. Kulasekarapuram	5,598	3	5	7.31	11809	1
9. Thazhava	5,847	24	11	9.18	9449	1
10. Krishnapuram	17,687	24	11	9.61	12444	2
11. Perunad	11,505	10	0	6.06	9396	1
12. Puthupally	10,432	10	4	7.78	9136	1

ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS.

President: I have received notice of two motions for adjournment of the House. One is from Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar, to discuss an urgent matter of public importance, *viz.*,

"The serious and alarming situation caused on account of the havoc done to Punja cultivation in Kuttanad by the unprecedented floods and the rice swarming caterpillar pest."

The motion is in order and it will be taken up this after-noon at the usual time.

The second adjournment motion is from Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai and is for the purpose of discussing,

"The serious situation created by rat falls in the town of Quilon."

I hold that the motion is in order and the discussion will take place to-morrow at the usual time. I trust that the discussion will elucidate the steps Government have been taking and allay any misunderstandings that might have been created in the public mind.

BILLS ASSENTED TO BY HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA.

Secretary: I beg to report that the following Bills received the assent of His Highness the Maharaja:—

1. The Travancore Insurance Bill.
2. The Travancore Telephone Bill.
3. The Travancore Krishnanvaka Marumakathayee Bill.
4. The Travancore Negotiable Instruments Act Amendment Bill.
5. The Travancore Contract Bill.
6. The Travancore Arbitration Bill.
7. The Travancore Partnership Bill.
8. The Travancore Specific Relief Bill.
9. The Travancore Sale of Goods Bill.

STATEMENT LAID ON THE TABLE.

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: Sir, under Rule 76 of the Travancore Legislative Rules, I beg to lay on the table the following statement of expenditure authorised by the Government under Section 32 of Act II of 1108.

Demand.	Amount in Rupees.	Particulars.
IN THE BUDGET FOR 1114.		
III. Public Health and Sanitation.	14,900	For Plague preventive work.
do.	15,000	do.
do.	3,000	For Malaria relief measures in South Travancore.
VIII. Administration of Justice.	1,000	For the continuance of the Special Magistrate's Court at Kottarakara.
XV. Police.	1,147	To meet the additional expenditure under—18-Inspector-General of Police—Travelling allowances.
XXIX. Stationery and Printing.	2,000	To meet the additional expenditure under permanent piece work establishment in the budget of the Government Press.

IN THE BUDGET FOR 1115.

I. Land Revenue	4,730	To meet the expenditure under Land Acquisition charges.
XI. Public Works Department including Water Works and Drainage.	82,000	For works to relieve unemployment due to closing down of factories at Alleppey and Quilon.
XX. Forest.	34,000	To meet the expenditure on account of the purchase of chemicals, timber-slicing machine etc., for the Development Department.
XXVIII. Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments	25,446-12-0	For the purchase of 8 Roerich paintings for the Sri Chitralayam.
XXIX. Miscellaneous Charges.	270	For the payment of allowances to the Punja Loan Officer and staff.
XXXII. Loans—Agricultural—Loans.	50,000	For the grant of special Punja Loans for the ryots of Kuttanad.
XIII. Police.	17,000	For the continuance of the Special Police Force for 3 months from 1-5-1115.

PANEL OF CHAIRMEN.

President : Under Rule 3 (i) of the Legislative Rules I nominate Messrs. V. S. Arumukhom Pillai and G. Narayana Aiyar to the Panel of Chairmen for this session of the Council.

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS.

DEMAND III—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai : Sir, I move for a grant of Rs. 1,675 under Demand III,—Administration of Justice. Honourable members will kindly note that Rs. 800 out of this is for additional grant under T. A. for the Advocate General's Office and Rs. 875 is for the appointment of a temporary Government pleader to conduct the Chengannur riot case in the Quilon Sessions Court.

I may be permitted, Sir, to state that towards the close of 1114 and in 1115 the Government pleaders attached to the Advocate General's Office had to be deputed to various mofussil stations for the conduct of criminal cases. They had to be deputed for various reasons. In the first place the congestion of work in the courts was so great that pleaders from the Advocate General's office had to be deputed for relieving the pressure. Secondly, owing to the peculiar nature of some cases such pleaders have to be deputed. Therefore for their T. A. and daily allowance an additional sum of Rs. 800 is claimed under this demand. Item No. 1 is in regard to that demand.

As regards Item No. 2, the trial of the Chengannoor riot case has already commenced in the Quilon Sessions Court and on account of the fact that there are over 200 accuseds under trial in that case and about 146 witnesses to be examined for the prosecution, one of the two pleaders of the court has to devote his attention entirely to the conduct of this work for 3 or 4 months. During that period for the conduct of the ordinary business of the court only one Government Pleader will be available and this will not be sufficient. There are two courts engaged in Sessions and Civil work. So an additional hand has to be engaged for the period during which the Chengannoor case lasts. These are the circumstances under which this supplementary demand is made.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : Sir, I cannot but place this fact before the House that there are not enough work for the pleaders now as there are more Judges than are necessary. For example in Kottayam, there are more Judges than we need. If that is true we may have more Government Pleaders. So my submission is that the number of Judges may be reduced as a result of which the number of Government Pleaders can also be reduced. If their number is not reduced, at least these pleaders can be engaged for these special works.

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai: Sir, I tried to explain the position with sufficient clearness. The Chengannur riot case has already commenced trial. It is a case in which 200 accuseds and 146 witnesses are involved. The case itself will take at least 4 months. A court and a pleader have to devote their entire time to the conduct of this case. There are already 3 courts in the Quilon District, one of which will be in charge of this case. The other two courts cannot suspend sittings. One Judge will be fully engaged in the sessions work while the execution work and the other civil work will be looked after by the other bench. If that is so, one pleader is inadequate. The honourable member's suggestion that we have more courts than we actually require and therefore more pleaders than are really necessary is worth considering. For every District Court there must be a pleader, and until any court is abolished there is no question of superfluity of Government pleaders. At present the question of abolishing courts and making available the services of any pleader for any other special work could not be dealt with. I have explained why an additional pleader is necessary for the Quilon Court. I request the honourable member will withdraw his objection. The other question to which the honourable member refers is more complex and will be dealt with later.

President: The question before the House is that a sum of Rs. 1,675 under demand III—Administration of Justice—be granted.

The motion was put and carried.

The grant was made.

DEMAND X—PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION.

Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi: Sir, I rise to move for a supplementary grant of Rs. 1,000 under Demand X—Public Health and Sanitation.

The amount is required for payment of rent for the building in which the office of the Director of Public Health is now housed. Till the beginning of Kanni this year, the office had been housed in a Government building near the Collegiate Hostel. That building was requisitioned by the University for the use of the University Union. It was therefore, handed over to the University and the Director's office shifted to another building. As no Government building was available for the purpose, a private building, situated very near the Public Offices, has been hired. The terms are more favourable than those that prevailed when another office had been accommodated in this building. As this is a new service not contemplated when framing the budget, I hope the House will have no objection in sanctioning the grant.

President: The question before the House is that a sum of Rs. 1,000 under Demand X—Public Health and Sanitation be granted.

The motion was put and carried.

The grant was made.

DEMAND XI—PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT INCLUDING WATER
WORKS AND DRAINAGE.

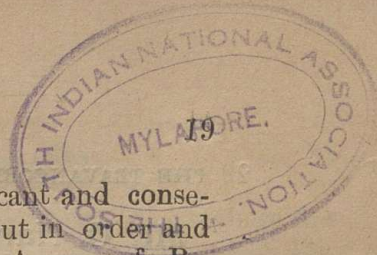
Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar: Sir, I move for a grant of Rs. 4,13,767 under the following heads:

- (i) Repairs to rain damages to tanks and channels in the Kodayar Project—Rs. 18,900.
- (ii) Repairing the buildings at Oolampara for the accommodation of the Armed Reserve—Rs. 17,000.
- (iii) Expenditure on account of the P. W. D. Advisory Committee—Rs. 1,860.
- (iv) Additional grant for the Water Works and Drainage Schemes in the State—Rs. 3,76,007.

In moving this motion I may explain the position relating to each of these items. Government have sanctioned the constitution of a Committee for improvements and restoration of tanks within the area commanded by the Kodayar Project. A sum of Rs. 25,000 was made available in the Budget for 1115 for such works. The Committee *inter alia* earmarked the whole of this amount for improvements of some tanks. It is found during the month of Medom 1114 a lot of rain damages occurred in about 40 tanks and repairs have been undertaken and a sum of Rs. 9,000 is necessary for completing the works in those tanks. Further, during Thulam 1115 many breaches occurred in other Kals and tanks. For effecting the necessary repairs to these a sum of Rs. 5,000 is for the present found necessary. In addition to these, for the acquisition of tank beds, which have to be improved for purposes of irrigation, for meeting compensation charges nearly Rs. 4,900 is necessary. These items account for Rs. 18,900 which has now been asked for under this head.

The next item is repairs to the buildings at Oolampara for the accommodation of the Armed Reserve. The permanent Armed Reserve had to be increased by about 500 men who had to be recruited owing to the political situation and these men were first accommodated in the Police Headquarters. Then they were shifted to the Old Brigade Barracks. But these buildings were required for the use of the Travancore University. The buildings there had therefore to be vacated. Now the buildings which were previously

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS.



occupied by the lepers at Oolampara were lying vacant and consequently these buildings have been proposed to be put in order and made fit for accommodation for these 500 men. A sum of Rs. 17,000 is required for this. A sum of Rs. 11,000 has already been spent and finishing works are in progress.

The third item is the expenditure to be met on account of the P. W. D. Advisory Committee. A committee has been constituted by Government in the year 1115 for advising Government in P. W. D. matters. It was proposed to convene three meetings of the committee during the current year. One meeting has already been held and there are two more meetings to be held. In order to meet the expenditure on account of T. A. to the members and for contingencies of the office, a sum of Rs. 1,860 is required.

With regard to the last item *viz.*, the Water Works, a sum of Rs. 3,76,007 is found to be required. With regard to the Alleppy Water Works, the present allotment of Rs. 82,786 will be only sufficient for the discharge of liabilities incurred on account of supply of pipes and fittings made and the work done during the last year and will not admit of taking up the necessary remaining works for the completion of the scheme this year itself. But this could not be done on account of various reasons. Now, the necessary materials had not so far arrived on account of war conditions, but they are expected to arrive and so it is necessary to continue the staff till the end of the current year. Therefore to meet the charges of the staff for the additional period a sum of Rs. 8,000 is required and for meeting the liability incurred last year and works to be done further, Rs. 1,00,000 is necessary.

A sum of Rs. 37,293 has been provided for Water Works at Shencotta in the Budget. Out of this a sum of Rs. 18,000 has to be set apart for paying off certain liabilities incurred in 1114. The balance available for actual expenditure on works in 1115 is found to be inadequate. An additional amount of Rs. 18,007 is required for completing the works.

Again, the budget provision under the Nagercoil Water Supply is nearly Rs. 3,40,000 out of which a sum of Rs. 65,200 was incurred during 1114. That was not provided for in the budget for 1115. The balance available for actual expenditure on works in 1115 *viz.*, Rs. 2,75,000 is inadequate to maintain satisfactory progress of the works. Owing to the fact that all the minor difficulties which had upset the progress of the work during last year have all been now solved, we are in a better position to make headway with the balance works yet to be done in the dam and in the distribution system. The total amount asked for towards these works and for purchase of tools and plant is Rs. 2,50,000 for Nagercoil Water Works. So, under all these heads the gross total comes to Rs. 3,76,007. I request the honourable House to grant this demand.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : As regards item No. 1 *viz.*, "repairs to rain damages to tanks and channels in the Kodayar Project" may I know whether there was not a provision for the repair of breaches that took place in Medom last in the Budget?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : There was a provision out of which about Rs. 9,000 lapsed at the end of the year.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi (*Karunagapalli, Kartikapalli, and Ambalapuzha cum Shertalla*) : May I know whether the Chief Engineer hopes to give good drinking water to the people of Alleppey during the current year?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : I expect to do so this year. It was hitherto delayed on account of the non-arrival of chlorination plants. But I have this day received news of their arrival in Bombay and I am therefore glad to be able to assure the honourable member to complete the work and distribute water to the people this year itself.

Mr. V. Sankara Menon (*Trivandrum and Nedumangad cum Chirayinkil*) : In regard to item 1, may I know whether any repairs to tanks have been completed or still remain incomplete?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : Some have been completed and the work in connection with some others is in progress.

Mr. V. Sankara Menon : May I know, how many are complete and how many are incomplete?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : Detailed information is not available now.

Mr. V. Sankara Menon : May I know whether the majority of works have been completed?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : The majority of the works have been completed.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : Sir, I rise to propose a cut of.....

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi : Sir, on a point of order. Is this House entitled to cut a supplementary demand?

President : Technically a cut on the whole demand is not permissible under the rules.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : Sir, the object of my cut motion is this. In going over the Audit and Appropriation Report I find that a sum of 20 to 25 thousand Rupees was sanctioned for Water Works for the Kuttanad area. I ask how the money was utilised. It is stated that about Rs. 5,000 was spent in that area for Water Works. I had occasion to pass through the area. On enquiry I

find that no man was able to enlighten me as to the place where this amount was spent. Therefore I submit that this amount of Rs. 20,000 budgetted in 1113 for the Kuttanad area may be utilised for this purpose.

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : Sir, I might explain the position to Mr. Kuruvilla. The idea is to provide deep bore wells in many parts of the Kuttanad area. We want for this some boring plant and we have been corresponding with this object in view from the year 1113. We have got quotations for the boring machinery from responsible firms. The boring plant now received will be immediately utilised in Alleppey in order to make some reserve wells so that the water supply started there once does not get interrupted. After it is started there, we will transfer the boring plant for the use of the Kuttanad area and we will begin a regular programme of work to provide that area with water. This will be done in consultation with the local members as far as possible.

Mr. N. Krishna Aiyar (*Vaikom, Kettayam, and Changanacherry cum Peermade*): As regards item 3, may I know from the honourable member whether the formation of this Advisory Committee was not in contemplation even when the Budget for 1113 was prepared?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : It was announced only during the last session.

President : Towards the end of it.

The question before the House is that Government be granted a sum of Rs. 4,13,767 under Demand No. XI—Public Works Department including Water Works and Drainage.

The motion was put and carried.

The grant was made.

DEMAND XV—INDUSTRIES INCLUDING CLAY REFINING AND
PORCELAIN FACTORY.

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : Sir, I beg to move for a grant of Rs. 20,000 under Demand No. XV—Industries including Clay Refining and Porcelain Factory, for completing P. W. D. works under progress in the Ceramic Factory at Kundara.

In moving this, I must state that in the Budget of the Ceramic Factory for 1115 funds were provided for the completion of the several items of expenditure entrusted to the P. W. D. As details regarding these items of expenditure could not be definitely known at the time of the Budget and as it is now found that the completion of the staff quarters and levelling and certain other works for

[Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar.]

starting the factory are necessary, a sum of Rs. 20,000 is now required under 'capital expenditure not charged to revenue'. Hence, I move for the grant.

Mr. V. Sankara Menon : Can the honourable member give us a brief account of the progress that has been achieved by the Ceramic Factory ?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : Sir, all the works connected with the factory have been nearly completed.

President : The factory will be opened very soon. I am glad to say that all the first class quality clay produced by the factory is practically sold.

The question before the House is that Government be granted a sum of Rs. 20,000 under Demand XV—Industries including Clay Refining and Porcelain Factory.

The motion was put and carried.

The grant was made.

DEMAND XX—FORESTS INCLUDING DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT.

Dr. S. K. Pillai (*Technical Assistant to the Director of Development*) : Sir, I rise to move for a supplementary grant of Rs. 46,705 under Demand XX—Forests (including Director of Development). The sum is made up of expenditure under four items.

The first item is a supplementary demand for a sum of Rs. 3,500 required for the construction of a building for housing the proposed Sports Factory. The Development Department has been in correspondence with certain sports goods manufacturers for more than a year with a view to entering into negotiations for starting sports goods manufacture, such as making tennis rackets, badminton rackets etc., in Travancore. Now, Messrs. Northland Sports Works have come forward with a proposal. They will have to be granted the right to manufacture and sell sporting goods by erecting a factory at their cost. A rent free building for the factory has to be placed at the disposal of the firm for a period of five years and it will be their duty to train Travancoreans in the industry. A sum of Rs. 3,500 is required for this purpose and the building will remain as the property of Government. As negotiations in this matter between Government and the company are complete only now, the amount necessary could not be included in the Budget. Item No. 2 is for a grant required for adjusting the value of machinery ordered from England in 1114. There was a provision of Rs. 10,960 in the Departmental Budget for purchasing venus peeling machine, roller

feed, glue spreading machine and sanding machine. All these were ordered from Messrs. John Pickles & Son, Ltd., Engineers, England, in 1114 itself and payment against shipping documents was arranged through the Imperial Bank, London, in May 1939. There was some delay on the part of the firm in despatching the machines. On the fourth of August they presented the shipping documents relating to the roller feed, glue spreading and sanding machines at the Bank and demanded payment and provided that they would despatch the third machine towards the end of August 1939. As payment for all the three machines was arranged in a Bank it was enquired through their Trivandrum Branch whether part payments for the two machines could be made. By the time our reply reached London and payment was made, the financial year was out and thus payments for all the three machines were made only during 1115. The supplementary grant of Rs. 11,205 asked for is to adjust the value of these three machines.

Thirdly, an additional grant for the Development Department is required for the purchase of Ascu chemicals, etc. The sanctioned provision under this item is only Rs. 8,000. Out of this Rs. 4,071 has been spent for purchasing four tons of Ascu chemicals from the Ascu Supply Agency, Madras as per G. O. R. O. C. No. 8762/39 dated 15-11-39.

President: The honourable member will go a bit slow to enable honourable members to follow.

Dr. S. K. Pillai: Thus, the balance grant available is only Rs. 3,929. 16 tons of chemicals have been ordered from Messrs. Imperial Chemical Industries (India) Ltd., Cochin. Rs. 16,000 is approximately required for making payment to this. The balance provision under the item being only Rs. 3,929 another Rs. 12,000 is required. Also a sum of Rs. 2,000 is required for meeting office expenditure and miscellaneous expenditure, as the provision of Rs. 5,000 in the current year's budget is inadequate to meet the expenditure on account of this item.

The fourth item is for a grant of Rs. 18,000 for construction of rural bridges. At the time of the Budget estimate no information was available as regards the location and the number of rural bridges which have to be put up and therefore no provision could be made. Therefore the necessity for supplementary grant arose. A sum of Rs. 9,000 is required for three bridges. The department also undertook the construction of these three bridges, one at Sambur-vadakara, one at Chanthanthura and the third at Anchal. Hence the demand for the grant. I request the House to sanction the amount.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi : May I know whether Messrs. Northland Sports have agreed to the training of Travancoreans in their factory proposed to be installed in Travancore?

Dr. S. K. Pillai : Yes.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi : Is it a definite understanding or is it for the Travancoreans to pick up as they go along?

Dr. S. K. Pillai : It is agreed that Travancoreans will be trained and after five years the firm is to go away.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi : What are the goods used for the manufacture of sports materials?

Dr. S. K. Pillai : Travancore timber.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi : What variety?

Dr. S. K. Pillai : Angil, (Dysoxylon Meleturni), Poochakuruvu (Celtis tetrandra), Willox, Sagaria Laurina etc. (*Lāughter*)

Mr. N. Krishna Aiyar : Will the honourable member give the list of the rural bridges proposed to be constructed with particulars of the localities where they are to be put up?

Dr. S. K. Pillai : Sir, the list is not ready.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi : Sir, may I know why the construction of the rural bridges comes under the Forest, instead of the P. W. D?

President : The bridges are constructed by the Development Department out of the materials given by the Forest Department.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : Sir, may I know how money can be asked for a thing about which the honourable member has no idea? He does not know where these bridges are to be put up.

Dr. S. K. Pillai : Sir, the demand relates to rural bridges just to be put up.

President : The Chief Engineer will please explain the position.

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : Out of the bridges that are proposed to be built by the Director of Development these bridges cost about Rs. 9,000. The construction of these three bridges was undertaken directly by the Director of Development at Samburvadakara, Chanthanthura and Anchal. The sites for other bridges are being selected by the P. W. D. in consultation with the Revenue Department and the framework for these bridges have been got ready by the Director of Development

in his workshop. These will be transferred to the respective sites when they are fixed. There is an understanding between the P.W.D. and the Director of Development to the effect that the abutment of the bridges and the foundations thereof will be done by the P. W. D. and the superstructure by the Development Department in order to complete the bridges. Under that understanding the bridges are now being got ready by the Director of Development and when we finally fix up the sites the abutment will be constructed by us and the bridges completed in the necessary places by the Development Department.

Mr. N. Krishna Aiyar : May I know how many bridges are proposed to be put up by the additional grant?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : About 12.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : May I know whether the supplementary grant of Rs. 18,000 is for the construction of new bridges or for the transportation of frames, or is it for bridges that have already been finished?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : Rs. 9,000 is for payment towards the three completed bridges at the three places mentioned already, and for the superstructure of about 12 bridges the balance Rs. 9,600 is asked for.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : With reference to part (a), may I know what are the varieties of sports materials that will be manufactured in this factory?

Dr. S. K. Pillai : Tennis rackets, hockey sticks, polo sticks, cricket bats, badminton rackets, etc.

President : It has been found that our timber is good enough for all these and some firm has been found willing to carry on the work in Travancore.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : May I know whether Government have entered into any agreement with that firm for the manufacture of these things?

Dr. S. K. Pillai : Yes, Sir.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : As regards part (ii), may I know the purpose of these machinery proposed to be purchased?

President : Dr. Pillai will please explain the general trend of the tentative agreement arrived at.

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai : Sir, the member only wants to know something about the machinery.

President : I thought it was machinery for the manufacture of sports goods.

Dr. S. K. Pillai : Sir, these three machines are got together for one purpose, that of plying Travancore timber.

President : The question before the House is that Government be granted a sum of Rs. 46,705 under Demand XX—Forests including Director of Development.

The motion was put and carried.

The grant was made.

DEMAND XXVII—STATIONERY AND PRINTING.

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : Sir, I beg to move for an additional grant of Rs. 50,000 under Demand XXVII—"Stationery and Printing", under item "Printing of Malayalam Readers and Copy Books."

In the year 1114, unlike in the previous years, Government took up the printing of forty items of text books on various subjects besides the usual Malayalam readers. This involved an additional expenditure of Rs. 35,438. This amount had to be met from the current year's allotment of Rs. 40,000. The balance left is thus only Rs. 4,000 and odd. At the time when the Budget was prepared Government had no idea as to the amount required since the printing was done mostly in private presses and since the bills were received only late. This year too text books have to be printed. Hence this additional allotment.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : May I know from the Government who is responsible for the reading of proofs of these readers that are printed?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : The Director of Public Instruction.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : Sir, I do not know whether he has the time to go through these readers. Those of us who peruse the pages of these readers know that there are several mistakes in the pages of these readers.

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : There are a number of proof readers in the Government Press and they will do the proof correction work. There is a staff in the Director's Office also to scrutinise the work of the proof readers. Government are aware that some mistakes were committed last time. This was due mainly to want of time. Instructions have been issued to see that such mistakes are not repeated.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : Sir, some of the mistakes committed are tremendous and Government should take care that such mistakes do not occur.

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : Government have issued instructions in the matter.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar : May I know whether the proof readers are able to correct the inconsistencies contained in these books?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : No, Sir.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar : May I know whether the Government are aware that there are inconsistencies in these books?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : Certain mis-statements have been brought to the notice of Government and the attention of the Director of Public Instruction has been drawn to them.

Mr. V. S. Arumukham Pillai (*Tovala cum Agasteeswaram*): Are there not several sub-committees formed for the purpose of preparing these readers?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : Yes. These sub-committees work directly under the Director of Public Instruction.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar : Are they not responsible for the correction?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : The honourable member is correct.

Mr. V. S. Arumukham Pillai : Are they paid any honorarium?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : Yes, they are paid some honorarium.

President : The question before the House is that Government be granted a sum of Rs. 50,000 under Demand XXVII—Stationery and Printing, under item 'Printing of Malayalam Readers and Copy Books.'

The motion was put and carried.

The grant was made.

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai : I request you, Sir, to exercise your powers in effecting some change in the order of the business for the day. I would suggest that the report of the Public Service Commissioner be taken up for consideration first and the report of the Public Accounts Committee taken as the last item.

President : I am in the hands of the House.

The motion was put and carried.

DISCUSSION OF THE REPORT ON THE WORKING OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE RECRUITMENT RULES.

Dr. G. D. Nokes (*Public Service Commissioner*): Sir, I move that the Report on the working of the Public Service Recruitment Rules be taken into consideration.

[Dr. G. D. Nokes.]

In making that motion I have a few preliminary remarks to make. I would remind the House that the Government order of June 1935 provided in its final paragraph that the scheme outlined there should be worked for three years, after which it should be reviewed. The order did not provide that the scheme should be reviewed by the Legislature and in fact the final review must rest with Government. But Government thought it desirable to consult the Legislature, and to give it an opportunity of considering this important matter, and so the Report of the Public Service Commissioner to Government has been printed and circulated among the members of the House. In addition to the information contained in that report and previous administration reports which are in the possession of the members of the House, certain statistics showing at a particular date the number of candidates who having been recruited on the advice of my office, were then in service, have also been prepared by the departments and consolidated by my office. They have been printed and circulated among the members of the House. Further, the Administration Report of the Public Service Department for 1114 was prepared with special expedition so that Government have had an opportunity of passing orders on it. That report has also been printed and circulated for the use of the members of the House. The position therefore is that the members of the House have in their possession all the relevant facts and figures which may enable them to consider the problem before them.

It is a matter of common knowledge that in another place the Report on the working of the Rules has been considered and certain unanimous resolutions have been reached. It is not for me to suggest what resolutions this House should pass. But before Government pass any final order on this matter, it would be desirable that there should be unanimity of opinion not only within both Houses but between both Houses.

From the press and elsewhere it appears that there is some dissatisfaction with regard to the working of the existing Rules. I think, for the purpose of this debate, members might bear in mind the following points. In the first place, the original Rules, as framed, were framed, with the knowledge that it is difficult to satisfy everybody. Therefore I do not regard it as a reflection on the working of my department that it fails to satisfy everybody. Indeed, I should regard it as a miracle if it did so.

Secondly, a great change has occurred in the character of the criticism of the Rules. At one time every speaker was solely interested in communal representation; and nearly all comment was

directed to complaints that inadequate communal representation was allotted to this community or that sub-community. Now the principal criticism abandons the community in favour of the candidate without any apparent realisation of the fact that one may sometimes have to be sacrificed to the other. Hence the fact that the hitherto unrepresented communities have received about 65 per cent. of the available vacancies during the last three years is forgotten; and we hear the stories of the hardships of candidates. It may be that some hardship may be caused to a few candidates by the working of the Rules. But have members considered the hardships before the existence of the Rules which nearly every candidate underwent, by having to wait on numerous appointing authorities, to say no more?

Finally, I may say that the dissatisfaction (if there be any that is justifiable) with the working of the Rules is probably not due to the Rules at all. It is due to factors outside the Rules. If members peruse the figures in the various Reports, they will find that there are over 30,000 candidates registered in my office and all seeking appointments but the number of vacancies in appointments recruited on my advice is approximately 1,500 each year. That means that between 20 and 30 thousand candidates are disappointed not with the general working of the Rules but because they cannot get an appointment. Whatever change is made, you will still have that regrettable economic factor to contend with. But however regrettable it is that thousands of candidates should find it necessary to seek appointments which do not exist and however sympathetic one may be to candidates, the fact remains that there are about 30,000 candidates while the number of annual vacancies (mostly fairly short) is only about 1,500. No fair-minded man could describe that circumstance as a defect in the Rules.

With these few observations I commend the material before the members to their consideration, and leave it to them to decide as to what should be done in future in regard to Public Service recruitment.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: I wish to get the permission of the Chair to move the following resolution for which the required notice could not be given. The motion is:

"This Council recommends to Government that the motions reported to have been passed in another place regarding the Public Service Recruitment Rules be adopted."

Sir, the Secretary to the Sri Mulam Assembly has placed before us the following motions passed in another place. I wish to move them formally for the adoption by this House.

"1. Public Service may be defined as in the T. S. R. Manual with the following alterations....."

President: The honourable member may take them* as read.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: If this can be taken as read, then I wish to place before the House the salient features of the changes sought to be effected by them which are 15 in number. As the Public Service Commissioner has pointed out, the appointment of the Public Service Commissioner and the promulgation of the rules for the recruitment in the Public Service have been made as an experiment and nobody expected that there will be complete satisfaction or unanimity of opinion regarding their working. That point can be agreed to. But I find it difficult to agree with the Public Service Commissioner——

President: Those honourable members who want to participate in this debate will kindly give their names so that it may facilitate discussion.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: Whether it has been the result of the working of the rules, whether the fault is to be levelled against the individuals or officers, it cannot be denied that there are certain difficulties in the working of the rules and that is the reason why in the light of the experience that we have gained and in the light of the facts contained in the publication by the Public Service Department that the following changes in the Public Service Recruitment Rules have been suggested.

I wish to point out as an example only one instance in which I consider that the Public Service Commissioner's Department has failed, *i. e.*, regarding recruitment to the Intermediate grade. It has been provided under the rules that 60 o/o of the appointments to the Intermediate grade should be by competitive test and 40 per cent recruited from certain communities only on the basis of merit. Certain communities which are considered to be over-represented are excluded from this. We find as a result of the working of the Public Service Commissioner's Department that certain number of vacancies have been indicated by the various departments and it is found that indications given by the departments have been an over-estimate and as a result of the over-estimation of vacancies the Public Service Commissioner, before he was able to completely exhaust the 60 per cent. of the vacancies that have been indicated by the various departments, the whole of the real vacancies have been exhausted. He points out in his report in a way that the responsibility for it rests with the various departmental heads who over-estimated the vacancies. I do not think it is fair to the departmental heads because nobody could give the exact number of vacancies

*The reference is the motion passed by the Assembly—*Vide* Annexure II.

arising out of leave, sickness and other things. So it is likely that the Public Service Commissioner ought to have known that the figures that he will get will not be exact or accurate. Granting that there has been a perceptible over-estimation of the vacancies in the Intermediate grade, I fail to see why the Public Service Commissioner has not given alternative appointments as and when the vacancies occur; one or two candidates chosen for the 60 per cent group and alternating one from the forty per cent. group.

Dr. G. D. Nokes : The rules do not provide for it.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : The Public Service Commissioner could certainly have asked for the change of the rule for the maintenance of the ratio for the representation of the various communities. Many changes have been effected by the Public Service Commissioner when such changes were required in the past. So that, what I am at is that the Public Service Commissioner has not perfectly absolved himself of his responsibility in rectifying this mistake which has now been found to be one of the gravest in the working of the Public Service Recruitment Rules under a single Commissioner and for which the Public Service Commissioner is solely responsible. When we were discussing the changes that we should effect in regard to recruitment in the public service, this question came up and this was a knotty question that we had to tackle with and most of our time was taken on account of the fact that there existed this wrong due to negligence which should have been removed. It is no use saying that it is caused because of the over-estimation of vacancies by the departmental heads. That is a way of avoiding the responsibility. But the responsibility of the Public Service Commissioner and his department cannot be evaded by saying that there was over-estimation.

Dr. G. D. Nokes : Sir, on a point of personal explanation. There is no indication in the report that I find fault with any departmental head for the over estimation of vacancies. I gave two examples of over-estimation in the Report ; but they are comparatively exceptional ; that is to say, they represent a very small proportion of the large number of selective tests, where no difficulty has arisen. The one which I now refer to is the worse of the two, and that relates to vacancies of clerks on Rs 20. For that appointment a second estimate was prepared before the new order was framed permitting departmental heads to make appointments in short vacancies which are less than one month in duration. They are probably twice the number of those to which candidates are recruited on the advice of my office in this particular type of appointment. The result was that both estimates included a large number of such vacancies, and that they could not be omitted or

taken out from the second estimate at the time of the publication of the estimate, because the relevant order was not then passed. There is nothing contained in my Report to suggest complaints against departmental heads, and I may modestly say that I am not prepared to take any blame myself. The occasion for remedying the Rules on major points has been expressly deferred until the present and paragraph 12 of the Report itself refers to an interim remedy.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : That is the impression that I was able to gather from a reading of the report. But I am glad to know that the Public Service Commissioner had no such intention. He may or he may not agree to take the blame on himself. But I wish to point out that the blame can be fixed on him and him alone. It was his duty to point out the necessity for a change in the rules so that the 60 per cent and the 40 per cent in the Intermediate Division could be filled alternatively to avoid any injustice to anybody. It is found as a result of the working of the rules that all the 40 per cent of the vacancies which are to go to unrepresented communities have not been filled and an impression has unnecessarily gained ground that it is done with a design whereas it was done as a result of negligence or want of proper action at the required time. This, I point out as an example. I may be able to point out other examples of patent defects in the working of the Public Service Department. But I do not think it is necessary at this stage because after all we are now considering the question of changing the system as it now subsists and therefore I shall merely indicate the changes completed by the motion moved by me.

Mr. M. Govindan (Nominated) : Sir, may I know whether all these motions are to be taken together ?

President : That is entirely in the hands of the House. If the House wishes the motions to be debated and put to vote one by one, that procedure can be followed. That is entirely for the House to decide. Is it the sense of the House that they may be taken and voted upon one by one ?

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : I think, Sir, that we may have a general discussion.

President : That is what I thought, because judging from what has been spoken elsewhere and also from what may be called general comments in public, these modifications or suggestions which have been moved in the form of resolution more or less, hang together and represent, so far as one can judge, the result of a compromise. Viewed in that line, there may be various difficulties in propositions being voted upon one after the other. If one proposition is thrown out there may be the repercussion relating to some other

aspects. But this House is entitled to take any line of action it chooses. Therefore I leave it to the House. If they want a general discussion and at the end take votes on proposition by proposition, it may be decided upon by the House according to its convenience. If the members so desire, I shall allow a general discussion and then put motion by motion to vote.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : Sir, the main principles adopted here are these. It has been agreed by these motions that the principle of communal representation be extended to what was known as the Intermediate Grade also and that representation should be on the basis of population of each community. The total number of appointments being supposed to be 51, the seats have been divided as one per lakh and as one for any population that is over 50,000. The next change that has been suggested in the scheme is what may be called a concentric rotation if I may say so with regard to the distribution of appointments. First, the communities are divided on the basis of religion *viz.*, Hindus, Christians and Muslims. The Hindus get 31 seats, the Christians 16 and Muslims 4. Nobody has claimed anything more than representation on the basis of population. Then these communities are subdivided into various sub groups and appointments are divided on the basis of population. Finally we have suggested that the whole of the Public Service Recruitment Rules should be worked by a Public Service Commissioner who will be an officer of high status. There will also be an advisory committee consisting of the representatives of the important communities in the State to advise the Commissioner. Sir, it may be asked why there should be a committee to assist the Commissioner who will be an officer of high status. My preliminary criticism regarding the working of the Public Service Recruitment Rules was made with a view to implement the argument with regard to the advisory committee. Everybody has agreed that the present Public Service Commissioner is a man of absolute integrity and impartiality; but all the same defects have crept in. It would be well if representatives of various communities and peoples who are interested in this matter are there to advise the Commissioner, to point out to him, to represent to him the difficulties evidenced as the rules are being worked. The rules cannot be worked without any regard to the local circumstances or to the difficulties attendant on them. Moreover, various charges against the working of the Public Service Commissioner's department are made, I feel Sir, that they are made on account of ignorance, on account of the fact that the real state of affairs have not been understood properly. Much of the criticisms, much of the uncharitable attribution of motives or other things can be avoided if there is a small body of men who would look into the matter and see to the working of the machinery at close quarters.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar : May I ask whether such uncharitable remarks could not be attributed even against such committee also ?

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : Of course it may be made by irresponsible men against any device that we can think of in this world. It is not for such people this machinery is suggested. It is suggested for the satisfaction of the ordinary normal individual in the State, who has genuine and real grievances. Only those persons need be taken into account. We will find that when the machinery is worked under the supervision of such a committee there will be less chance of unfair criticism and people who are in the know of things, who scrutinise closely the working of this committee will be able to remove misunderstandings. It is with a view to create confidence in the working of the department, with a view to avoid unnecessary and avoidable criticism based on misapprehension that the committee has been suggested. This arrangement also cannot be claimed to be perfect. I do not mean to say that it will be worked without any difficulty or that it will be the ideal. It is therefore suggested that the above rules shall be in force for the next three years at the end of which period the position shall be reviewed by the Government in the light of conditions then existing.

So then, we are passing from one experiment to another. We have suggested these changes in the light of the experience we have gained by the working of the rules for the past three years. If this arrangement is worked for the next three years, I think there is enough in this to give the rules a chance of trial, especially because of the fact that this is the result of a compromise that has been arrived at between the various interests who are concerned in this problem. I hope Sir, that the motion will have the same reception that it had elsewhere. With these words I resume my seat.

Mr. M. Govindan : Sir, I support the motion made by Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai on the floor of the House. In doing so I wish to point out that the idea underlying the Recruitment Rules when they were first promulgated was to give equal opportunities to all communities by removing the glaring inequalities in the representation of the various communities in the public services of the county. The rules as they originally stood did not go any great length in removing the real grievances. The objects of giving equal opportunities and to secure fair representation in the services — these could not be achieved by the original set of rules. There were rules and there were certain exceptions. The unsatisfactory result is due partly to the manner in which those rules were worked but the blame cannot be laid at the door of the Public Service Commissioner. The fact that the rules produced very unsatisfactory results is true. It is attributable to the vagueness of

the rules as they stand. The difficulties can be avoided if definite rules are made and they are worked to the satisfaction of the communities concerned. If by the working of the rules opportunities and fair representation to all communities can be achieved, I mean important communities, within a measurable distance of time, everything would be satisfactory. As Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai said, the communities who claimed representation were basing their claim upon their numerical strength and as such a fair ratio based on the numerical strength of the communities—

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi : May I know from the member whether the claim is based on the numerical strength of the educated people of a particular community?

Mr. M. Govindan : No, Sir. I may assure my honourable friend that if there is only one England-returned qualified Pulaya graduate, on the mere ground that there are not other members in that community who are educated he should not be refused appointment. It is not the total number of educated men that counts in this matter. But it is the particular candidate that is forthcoming whether he is qualified or not, that alone should be considered. But the representation of a man's community is based on another ground. Every important community must have a due share in the administration of the country. It is only a claim for a share of power. Desire for power is inherent in man. The claim that is put forward for a share in the administration is based on the total population of the communities. The educated men do not form one community for the purpose of representation. That is my answer to the honourable member's question.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi : May I know whether there is any such classification in England or Ireland?

Mr. M. Govindan : I am not aware.

The point I want to urge here is this. The fact that these rules did not work satisfactorily will be clear from the illustration given by my friend Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai namely the rules relating to 60 per cent. and the 40 per cent. and their working. This 40 per cent. rule was introduced with a view to give adequate representation to certain inadequately represented communities. It so happened that the three years working of the Recruitment Rules has not resulted in a single appointment being given—if I understand the report correctly—to those communities under the 40 per cent. rule. The 60 per cent. rule was able to be worked correctly. It is certainly not the fault of the Public Service Commissioner and there I differ from my friend. The failure of the 40 per cent. rule could not be attributed to the fault of the Departmental

[Mr. M. Govindan.]

Heads either. The fact appears to be that they wanted to be on the safer side. They over-estimated the number of vacancies in every case. The result was that the 40 per cent. rule did not work successfully. We are now directly concerned only with the result. The result has been that the claims of unrepresented communities could not be considered. The main object kept in view in the promulgation of those rules has not been achieved in any measure and as I said before I do not blame the Heads of Departments for the simple reason that the figures could be supplied only in anticipation. No departmental head could be credited with sufficient prophetic vision in arriving at the correct figures of future vacancies with mathematical exactitude. As my friend Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai pointed out, some change could have been made in the practical application of the rules by applying the 60 per cent. and 40 per cent. rule in turns. This suggestion could have emanated from the Public Service Commissioner himself in view of the unsatisfactory working of the rules. I am not aware whether the Public Service Commissioner suggested it and was not carried out by the authorities. But I am sure that it should not have taken three full years for finding out that the 40 per cent. rule has not been working at all satisfactorily.

Dr. G. D. Nokes: Sir, I think, for the benefit of the members of the House, I had better explain the working of the 40 per cent. and 60 per cent. of Intermediate Division appointments, so that the members' apprehensions on the subject may be cleared. The number of selective tests held during the three years is over 300. Among these, there were only two serious cases of over-estimation. By the working of the 40 per cent. reservation for the inadequately represented communities, qualified candidates from these communities have been selected and nominated. As regards the appointment of clerks on Rs. 20, the position is this. There were two lists of selected candidates. The first list has been exhausted. It contained 510 candidates. 60 per cent. of these, namely 306, were first selected and have been advised for recruitment. The remaining 40 per cent. namely 204, (all from the inadequately represented communities) also have been advised for recruitment. From the second list of 348 candidates, which is now in use, about 100 candidates have been advised for appointment. What I have stated in my previous annual reports is that any postponement of recruitment of members of inadequately represented communities by the present Intermediate Division system—that is 60 per cent. of appointments by merit and 40 per cent. by reservation—is being cured in

course of time. So far as clerks on Rs. 20 are concerned, any postponement in giving 40 per cent. of appointments from the first list to unrepresented communities has already been cured; and any postponement in the second list is in process of being cured.

Mr. M. Govindan : With regard to the second list where the sore is only in process of being cured as regards the representation of inadequately represented communities, I accept the statement of the Public Service Commissioner. But there is a sore. That is my complaint. After all, time is of the very essence, in this world. It may take a long time to have the complaint cured. The complaint still remains unredressed. The process is going on indefinitely. We pray that definite rules should be framed to be given effect to straight away so that there can be no misunderstanding with regard to their operation. The standard we have adopted *viz.*, consideration of claims according to numerical strength of the communities, evidently does not satisfy all members as could be seen from the questions put to me by Mr. Thampi. But that is the only practical standard on which some attempt could be made to solve the recruitment problem. Left to myself I would go a little further.

Mr. V. S. Arumukham Pillai : May I ask whether the existing rules are not definite?

Mr. M. Govindan : I have already pointed out one indefiniteness or vagueness which resulted in difficulties in giving effect to the rules. I do not wish to add more instances of that kind.

Mr. Thomas Chandy Mukkadan (Nominated) : നാലു
തും അറുപതും ശതമാനം കണക്കു വച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതുപോലെ നിയമനം
നടക്കാത്തതു രൂപസലന്റെ ഭോഷംകൊണ്ടാണോ വക്തിഗതിന്റെ ഭോഷം
കൊണ്ടാണോ?

Mr. M. Govindan : അതു വക്തിഗതിന്റെ ഭോഷംകൊണ്ടുമാണ്.

Whether it is due to a defect in the working of the rules, or defect in the rules themselves, is an academic question; anyhow, it is a fact that if the rules had been more definite, there would not have been any difficulty in their working. The present attempt is to provide additional safeguards with a view to inspire confidence in the public; it is for that it is suggested that there should be a non-official advisory body, composed of the different communities, to advise the Public Service Commissioner.

Mr. Thomas Chandy Mukkadan : ന്നും ശതമാനവും
നാലുതും ശതമാനവും എന്നുള്ളതു വ്യത്യാസപ്പെടുത്തണമെന്നു മെമ്പർക്കു
ഭിപ്രായമുണ്ടോ?

Mr. M. Govindan : As I have pointed out already, this is a matter which has to be taken as a whole ; for the sake of agreement between the different communities, we have to sink our own opinions however strong they may be. I am sure everyone will agree that special preference should be given to the inadequately represented communities until there is a general equalisation of representation ; and this equalisation has to be brought about within reasonable time. Certainly, if now the over-represented communities are asked to keep out till such equalisation is brought about, it would be a short cut and the inequalities would be remedied quicker ; but that would involve great hardship to the over-represented communities. We cannot punish them for the sins committed by their forefathers. Perhaps, in those days, only members of those communities had the necessary qualifications and the willingness to enter public service ; that was not their fault. It is therefore not fair that we give room for hardship to the members of the over-represented communities.

Sir, it is as a matter of compromise that we have come to the conclusion that numerical strength shall be taken as the standard. I do not deny that there is some hardship caused to the educated members of the better represented communities. But, Sir, in the interests of peace, for the sake of the general progress of the country, something has to be suffered ; some hopes have to be given up, some expectations defeated. Sir, even if we go by numerical strength, it will take about 25 years for equalisation to be reached. Elsewhere, rules have been so framed as to enable equalisation being achieved in 7 years. But, those are matters which the Government may keep in view in making appointments.

In regard to the machinery, my own impression is that if conditions were different one efficient Commissioner like the present one ought to have sufficed ; but, for conditions obtaining in Travancore, that would not suffice ; we do require an advisory board. Because, it is most important that we should inspire confidence in the public mind even in regard to the manner in which the rules are worked. Recruitment is a matter in which every one, every community is so much interested, especially in these days of unemployment. That is the reason why people view everything with suspicion, and attribute motives to every officer, in regard to every appointment. It is therefore better that all appointments are made with the knowledge of the leaders of all communities.

Mr. Thomas Chandy Mukkadan : ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ പബ്ലിക് സർവ്വീസ് കമ്മീഷണറെ ഉപദേശിക്കുന്നതിനായി ഒരു ഉപദേശക കമ്മിറ്റി നിയമിതമായാൽ അത് കൂടുതൽ സമുദായവഴക്കിനെ ഉളവാക്കുന്നതിന് പര്യാപ്തമായി ഭവിക്കയില്ലേ?

Mr. M. Govindan : കൂടുതൽ സമുദായവഴക്കിനെ ഉളവാക്കാൻ പര്യാപ്തമായി തീരുകയില്ലെന്നാണ് ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നത്. എല്ലാസമുദായത്തിലുമുള്ള ആളുകളെ അതിൽ സഹകരിപ്പിക്കുയാണെങ്കിൽ എന്തെല്ലാമാണ് അവിടെ നടക്കുന്നതെന്ന വിവരം ശരിയായി ധരിക്കാനും ആ വിവരം ജനങ്ങളുടെ ഇടയിൽ പ്രചരിക്കാനും ഇടയാകും. അങ്ങിനെ വരുമ്പോൾ കൂടുതൽ കുഴപ്പമുണ്ടാകാനിടയില്ല.

Mr. Thomas Chandy Mukkadan : ഇപ്പൊഴത്തെ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ വർഗ്ഗീയ ചിന്തകൂടാതെയും കൂടുതൽ കാര്യക്ഷമമായും ജോലി നിർവഹിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ട് അവരെ പബ്ലിക് സർവീസ് കമ്മീഷണരുടെ ഉപദേശക സമിതിയിൽ നിയമിച്ചാൽ കാര്യക്ഷമതയ്ക്കു മതിയാകുമെന്ന് വിചാരിക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ?

Mr. M. Govindan : പോളത്തിന്റെ ദൈർഘ്യം കൊണ്ട് എനിക്കു മനസ്സിലാക്കാൻ സാധിക്കുന്നില്ല.

Mr. Thomas Chandy Mukkadan : ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെന്റ് ഓഫീസറാരെ ഉപദേശകസമിതിയിലെ അംഗങ്ങളാക്കിയാൽ കാര്യക്ഷമതയ്ക്കു മതിയാകുമോ?

Mr. M. Govindan : കാര്യക്ഷമതയുണ്ടെന്നു ജനങ്ങളെ ധരിപ്പിക്കേണ്ട ചുമതലകൂടി ഉള്ളതുകൊണ്ട് അത് തീരെ മതിയാകയില്ല.

Sir, one of the important features of the changes now introduced, is the abolition of the competitive test. This competitive test is a very dangerous thing. The sooner it is abolished the better; because, as I have stated already, there is so much interest involved in the matter that it is very difficult to have a really fair competitive test under the conditions obtaining in this country.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar : May I know the special difficulties involved in holding competitive tests?

Mr. M. Govindan : I would rather not go into ugly details in this House; everybody knows them; Mr. Ananthasiva Aiyar himself knows them. As I said, the fact remains that, in the case of almost every appointment, all manner of motives are attributed to the appointing authorities. That is the difficulty in this country. At least to overcome such unfounded accusations made against responsible officers, these tests deserve to be abolished.

Now the question will arise as to how selection is to be made when, from the same community, there are many forthcoming with identical examination qualifications. I would suggest that the marks obtained by the candidates, at the School Final Examination or the University Examination as the case may be, should guide the choice.

[Mr. M. Govindan]

Then, the further question will arise whether it would be fair to compare marks obtained in one year with those obtained in another year.

President: Ultimately it will all end in some discretion being exercised in the choice ; because, it is not practicable to get the marks obtained in some German University or American University—

Mr. M. Govindan: I am now dealing with appointments below Rs. 150.

President: Even for those appointments, men with foreign qualifications are applying.

Mr. M. Govindan: Those are matters of detail which perhaps Government can solve by providing supplemental rules.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: Are there not such competitive tests held in other places ?

Mr. M. Govindan: I am not aware of the conditions obtaining elsewhere ; but, the conditions in Travancore do not warrant a competitive test.

As for the question put by the Chair about the difficulty in our getting the marks obtained by the candidates in foreign Universities.

President: There will be difficulty even in regard to the Punjab and other Universities in India, so that some kind of *viva voce* or competitive test is necessary for choice among members of the same community. And there again, it has been put to me that some very profoundly educated people do not get on well in *viva voce*.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: Is the honourable member suggesting any recognised intelligence test ?

President: Psycho-analysis (*Laughter.*)

Mr. M. Govindan: I should gladly welcome some kind of meter if one could be devised, especially for measuring character ; because, that is the main trouble here. (*Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: Hear, hear.*) There are people who stoop to take bribes of just a few chuckrams, but are easily able to secure first mark in any competitive examination. That is the practical difficulty.

Sir, let us not attempt to solve all our difficulties now, in one stroke. In view of the conditions now obtaining in Travancore, the present agreed solutions are good enough.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla: Sir, it was only after I came to Trivandrum last evening that it was possible for me to see most of the papers connected with this question. I am personally grateful to all those who have sincerely tried to solve this knotty problem. I will go further and congratulate the communities which have

taken a lead in this matter. But, my only feeling is that all communities should have been consulted. The honourable member Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai said that this resolution is the result of a compromise. Between whom, I do not know? Sir, there are several communities which have not been consulted on this important matter. My first request to Government, therefore, is that no action should be taken even on the unanimous conclusions arrived at on this matter, until and unless all communities are given an opportunity to have their say on the matter.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: On a point of personal explanation, Sir. The honourable member stated that I referred to some 'compromise'. I did not refer to any compromise between any two or more communities; I was referring to the compromise arrived at, in another place, between the various communities represented in the Legislature. That was the idea which I wanted to note when I used the word 'compromise'; not compromise between any two communities.

Mr K. K. Kuruvilla: I thank the honourable member for the explanation.

In regard to the basis adopted for representation, namely, one post for one lakh, I am sorry that that rule has not been uniformly applied; for, in the case of 'other Hindus' who number about $4\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, they have been given only 3 posts.

The House adjourned for lunch at 1 p. m. and reassembled at 2 p. m. with the President in the Chair.

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar, Director of Agriculture and Fisheries, took the oath and signed the rolls.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla: I was saying, Sir, that the 'other Hindus' numbered about $4\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs and according to the basis for apportionment of seats in the service they should have five representatives.

President: Order, order. Fourteen honourable members have declared their intention to speak on this and I think it will conduce to convenience if I fix ten minutes for each honourable member. I hope that it will be generally agreed to.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla: I hope that the time already taken by me will not come under this limit.

President: It will not have retrospective effect.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla Another point that I want to raise is about the sub-division of religious communities and the place given to them. My criticism about it is that if a particular section in a religious community has five representatives and another section in that community has only one representative, the fair thing to do is to see that each section gets its chance and then start again. Take for instance the Syrian Catholic or the Jacobite

[Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla.]

Syrian. The rotation goes on and it is only after all these people are finished that other communities come. At page 3 we find that in the rotation the S. I. U. C. has only one chance and comes as No. 13. Marthoma has only one chance and comes as No. 14. In fairness, I think that each one of these communities should have regular rotation and then we must start again.

I started by saying that if a suggestion is to be acceptable, even if it is sincerely made, it must be based on strict justice and sympathy to all the communities. In fact, what I want to suggest is that, as far as possible internal divisions in these communities may be left to the communities themselves which will conduce to greater unity among them. I am anxious that there should be harmony between the different communities so that in the end all the communities may come together on a common ground. I believe that these communal problems are only temporary in the history of our country and of India and that we will ultimately come to be non-communal in our out-look. Several communities such as "other Hindus", Nadars, Jacobites, S. I. U. C. and Marthoma are placed at a disadvantage when other communities are at an advantage. This must be very carefully sifted.

In regard to what we call the advisory board and the Commissioner, it depends very much on the personalities of the men who compose the committee. The criticism that I have to offer in regard to the Commissioner's work is that if he sent a man to a departmental head, he did not enquire what happened to his man. One who got into the service would be relieved after a few weeks and he would not have a chance to re-enter afterwards. The departmental heads may put in persons whom they like afterwards. If the committee consisted of persons who could understand the technicalities and who could give constructive suggestions to the Commissioner, then I think the committee would be helpful. But a committee which has not got that capacity may create communal troubles. Therefore I would appeal to those who are responsible for the appointment of the committee and the selection of the members of the committee to use their right judgment in selecting proper men. As for the Commissioner if we have the right kind of a man, he by himself can do the thing very well.

Finally, I have to say that 50,000 instead of 100,000, 25,000 instead of 50,000 and 99 instead of 51 should be made the basis. I am submitting this only for the consideration of the House. As I said before, I am at one with all public men in this country in wishing for the development of harmoniousness in the appointments to the public service. But that must be satisfactorily done through harmony on the basis of justice and sympathy.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: Sir, very reluctantly I support the motion of Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai because I confess that it is very difficult to understand the highly technical formulae of communal rotation which is perhaps much more difficult than Einstein's Theory of Relativity. Anyway it is with a defeatist attitude that I support it, because I know that we have to accept this. Although there is no use being idealistic after all, I am inclined to believe that the whole communal representation must go by the board. It is a paradox; when we say we do communal justice, justice to communities, we do very great individual injustice, injustice to individuals. The situation is piquant with humour, when half a dozen peoples, calling themselves representatives of certain organisations, or 'gangs' as they may be called, sit around the table, and dispose of the claims of thousands and thousands, or even lakhs, of individuals. Very well, I have realised that it is folly to be wise where other conditions prevail. Anyway, I am one with the mover of the motion in believing that at least to avoid multiplicity of interpellations regarding castewar statements of appointments and about communal injustice, the acceptance by this House of the resolution is necessary and I will certainly support it. The connotation and the denotation of the word 'community' also have undergone changes in common parlance with the agitation of certain peoples for Governmental appointments. There is no use one feeling superior to his neighbours. We have to go with the tide. I do not forget that there is some point in the view that appointments to State offices mean some influence. Perhaps we have to pay the penalty for the sins of some officers who have been guilty of nepotism in the past. If only the officers had adhered strictly to the spirit of one of the earliest Proclamations on the Statute Book that no relations should be appointed, certainly members would not have got up and spoken in such a tragic vein that their particular 'community was neglected' in the appointment say, of Sub-Registrars. I do not at all question the sincerity of their representations. By dint of repetition, by auto-suggestion, or some subtle psychological process, the gentlemen representing their grievances do really feel very much. It is another question whether they are logical. After all, has any particular man any community as such? Does any particular community exist as such? Accidentally I belong to a community which at *kalyana pandals* is represented as a Nair community and which I have not seen, not even envisaged. To me, my neighbours, Mr. Kuruvilla and Mr. Park, may more properly form one community. What in fact have I in common with the Nairs living in the northern part of Parur? Very little except in the matter of perhaps sentiment and sentiment encouraged by endless repetition

[Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi.]

of men who have some pretence to education and who have not been adjudged to be otherwise by any competent board or by any mental hospital. Well, Sir, has any Nair as such the right to any particular office, say a medical officer? Anyway, it is a very sad state of affairs that we have to lay down a rule that the man with the minimum qualification should be taken into the public service. The proof of the pudding is in the eating of it. For public service we want the very best men. I do not find any harm in the members of any one community monopolising—again I am imbibing the language of those people—all the appointments in the service. If I had been transformed to the Government benches I would have had no hesitation to say that hereafter appointments to the services will be considered only on efficiency and character. But that is a far off cry. Till the end of time I am sure that all these so-called communities will never be agreed as to the number of appointments or the quality of appointments because by the Government recognising these communities an impetus is given to the growth of further new communities. For instance it is only during the past two or three years that I hear of one community, the Varnava community which has been voicing its grievances in regard to how Varnavas are treated by the Public Service Commissioner. Suppose a newspaper “say the Varnavas’ friend” is started by them. I am sure that in fifteen years time they would very seriously believe that they have been badly treated because no person from that community has been appointed, say, an Executive Engineer. The whole thing therefore is perfectly illogical. But as I said before it is folly to be wise where other conditions prevail. It is in that spirit that I support the motion of my friend Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai. I never knew that he was such a past master in the matter of inventing terms. Not only in politics but in public administration also one thing which will appeal to the public imagination is the invention of terms, some catchwords, some formulae. He said very seriously without as much as moving his facial muscles about “concentric rotation”, and from the way he uttered it, it would appear I was inclined to think that it was a very well understood, commonly accepted form all over the world, a perfectly normal thing even in distant China or Canada and which I alone out of ignorance could not understand. My final appeal to this House is that so long as we claim to be educated, so long as we are members of a representative institution, it must certainly be considered as beneath our dignity to say that any particular community as such should be represented in the services or in the legislature.

Now in the heat of all these discussions we forget that we are accepting exactly what we have been fighting against all these years the claim by birth to some office. It is true that there might be some satisfaction in some places. But there may be some other "communities" which may not be quite satisfied with the present agreement. These communities may bring forth trouble.

President: That preliminary process has already started.
(Laughter.)

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: I was saying that at least hereafter we must make definite vows that we would not talk about these ugly affairs any more. I can understand a new honourable member coming here and speaking rhetorically, about the so-called justice and the injustice of ages in apportioning public services. But to hear experienced honourable members of an afternoon like this speaking against selective tests and competitions, to hear first rate men like my honourable friend, Mr. Govindan to speak... ..

Mr. M. Govindan: I don't quite follow, Sir.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: Now under the agreement, a really efficient candidate but unfortunately born in a particular community, must pay the penalty for the sins of others. But we sit around the table and seem to be happy over the decisions arrived at. I am not talking against the resolution. "Fed up" to use slang, sufficiently with the talk about 'communal justice' and 'communal injustice' I am as in duty bound, to support the resolution brought forward by my honourable friend Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai.

Mr. T. Mahommed Ismail (Nominated): I do not think it is necessary for me to discuss the report placed before us by the Public Service Commissioner especially because we are at a change and a new scheme is placed before us for consideration. The present resolution has been brought over here as passed by the Assembly, wherein, it is stated, certain motions were moved and passed. The question of public service was one of great controversy and noisy agitation for the last so many years and I am very thankful to the honourable members who brought forward these suggestions after consulting among themselves. My thanks are specially due to those honourable members who hated the word communal representation till now and who have come round to accept it. In spite of Mr. Tampi's humorous remarks, I am glad to find that he supported this motion at least very reluctantly.

Sir, in supporting this motion, some observations have to be made because several of these provisions may have to be modified in future, As stated by the mover himself this scheme is not ideal.

[Mr. T. Mahommad Ismail.]

After all, there will come a time when Mr. Tampi and his friends who cannot think of communal representation will come forward with a suggestion to throw open all the appointments on the basis of communal representation. At that time, I think, nobody will oppose that suggestion on the ground that efficiency will be impaired. Efficiency will not be impaired, Sir, if proper selection is made from particular communities. In spite of the fact that we have had Public Service Recruitment Rules working for the last three years, what was desired by the Government was not achieved. And the result was disappointing. It is nobody's fault. Rules were framed, added, altered and amended and sometimes ignored. These were necessitated by circumstances and I think it is better not to deal with the past because we have got a workable programme before us now. As stated elsewhere, it shows the maximum agreement reached between various communities.

As Mr. Kuruvilla pointed out, I think it would have been better if Government considered it proper that before consultations were made and conclusions arrived at all communities were consulted about the matter. It is true that my honourable friend Mr. Kottur stated that the motion before the House is the one which has been already passed by the Assembly; but the fact remains that only certain communities were consulted.

President : I think there has been a certain amount of misconception which I sought to clear elsewhere. Government did not take any initiative in this matter. Members of two communities approached Government and asked for permission to discuss the matter and wanted to know if Government would supply those members, so discussing, with facts, figures and information. In order to put them completely at ease, the Head of the Administration stated that they could meet in his own place, and, at any time he would be willing to give any information and would ask the officers to give all necessary information. It was made clear to the members who came to Government that Government did not regard those discussions as final or decisive. Those communities were asked to get into touch with other communities, if they agreed among themselves. If there was initial agreement between the two communities who approached Government, Government thought that there is a possibility of what is called concentric rotation. But if those two people did not agree there was no use of rotating further. They came to an agreement. Then it was suggested, taking advantage of the circumstance that another House of the Legislature was meeting, that others might also be taken in to consultation. It was not restricted to the members of the Legislature either. It was left open to the communities to choose

those who should come together. Anyhow, what was done in another House of the Legislature was that they went into some kind of Committee and everybody discussed with everybody else informally, and this is the result of it. I want to guard the administration against any suggestion that they took into account only two communities and they are going to dragoon other communities into acceptance of those agreements reached by those communities alone. It was the least intention of Government to have the decisions reached, binding upon other communities or to force them upon any other community or communities.

Mr. T. Mahommad Ismail: I am thankful to the Chair for the explanation. Anyhow, whether it is the result of agreement reached between two communities, or it is a formula arrived at and accepted by the Assembly, I am very glad to say that there is a reasonable and workable programme before us. But this scheme is not without defects. It will be seen that several desirable provisions are omitted from the scope of the scheme, several departments are excluded from the operation of the rules; communal consideration has to be adopted in one form or another in the matter of promotions and in the case of selections to the Travancore Civil Service, etc. So it is open to the Government to make the necessary alterations in consultation with members of various communities. The defective working of the Public Service Recruitment Rules for the last 3 years is due to the rules themselves. Therefore I would request the Government that the rules to be framed under the new scheme should be done in consultation with members of all important communities if it should result in success. It will be better if the rules are approved by the Legislature or by a committee appointed by the Legislature or at least by the contemplated Advisory Board. In this connection one thing I have to remind the House, especially the President, in the matter of constituting an Advisory Board. All the trouble in our State is due to the fact that members are chosen for these committees and boards irrespective of certain fundamental considerations. There are some people who are called public men of the State. I may assure you, Sir, that these gentlemen have no business of their own. They are neither agriculturists, nor merchants, nor representatives of any profession. They live by exploiting the masses. The House will excuse me when I say, that these people will make a living out of these nominations. So in nominating members to this Board it must be borne in mind that men of sterling character alone should be selected. The question of public service is the most important question in the State. If this problem is to be satisfactorily solved, those selected to this responsible office must be persons above suspicion whom people can depend and believe. With these words I support this motion.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar : Even though I have great mind to support the resolution brought forward by Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai, my conscience does not allow me to agree to the conclusions arrived at. The first thing is, that in the matter of recruitment, certain qualifications are required for the candidates. All the five millions of Travancoreans are not equally eligible for public service. We have to take into account that number from the population eligible for public service. If such a census is taken of each community, allotment can be made in accordance with their proportion of eligibility for public service.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi : Is Mr. Ananthasiva Aiyar a believer of the "share doctrine"?

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar : Yes. Subject to certain conditions. With these words I oppose the resolution.

Mr. V. S. Arumukham Pillai : In the course of his speech my honourable friend Mr. Govindan was stating that communities which are not adequately represented should be given equal opportunities in the matter of public service. I submit, Sir, if that policy is not given effect to by making a provision whereby over-represented communities are prevented from getting appointments for a certain definite period there will still be this great communal injustice. Unless there is a provision to that effect justice cannot be meted out to other communities in the matter of public service.

Another point that I wish to point out to the honourable members of this House is this. We find a distinction made between Malayala Brahmins and non-Malayala Brahmins. Based on this, I submit there ought to be a distinction between the Vellala community and the Nanjinad Vellala community. Similar rules must be given in the case of Vellalas and Nanjinad Vellalas. There is a mistaken impression that this Nanjinad Vellala community is a sub-sect or rather a branch of the Vellala community. That is why I have to speak on this motion. If Brahmins can be divided into Malayala Brahmins and non-Malayala Brahmins, I believe that there are stronger grounds why there should be a division between Vellalas and Nanjinad Vellalas. In the first place, as I have often pointed out, these two communities are governed by entirely different laws and manners. Further as between these two communities there is no inter-dining and inter-marriage. What other elements are necessary to distinguish one community from another? I do not want to deal at great length with that distinction. Suffice it to point out that these two communities are entirely different and that because of the population it was not possible to allot different seats to them and therefore though the community is classified as Vellalas, there is a distinction between the two communities and this distinction ought to be given effect to in the matter

of their appointments to public service. That is the important matter that I would bring to the notice of the Government.

Then, with regard to the communal rotation, I had no time to study these things, because these papers have reached me only this morning. But, so far as I can see, the interest of two communities is specially safeguarded. I am glad that these two communities have agreed upon this question and I do not wish to talk on that too, at great length. The Nairs and the Ezhavas are the major communities. I do not quarrel with the communal rotation, but I would submit these two observations, *viz.*, that there must be a provision barring the entry of already over-represented communities and another provision for the.....

Mr. M. Govindan May I know from the honourable member the respective population of the Vellalas and the Nanjinad Vellalas?

Mr. V. S. Arumukham Pillai : According to the last Census the Nanjinad Vellalas come to about 25,000. Now it would be not less than 30,000. The other Vellalas come to about 40,000. Why I want a separate group for the Nanjinad Vellalas is first on account of its historical importance. It has been contributing to the coffers of the State to a large extent, perhaps to a greater extent than other communities in the State. And further, this is entirely confined to Travancore. The other Vellalas included here have got scope outside the State. A serious handicap to this community is that they are entirely confined to this State and so it is that I suggest there must be a sub-group.

Mr. James Fletcher : (*Kalkulam and Vilavankod cum Neyyattinkara*): Sir, a time there was when there was no question of communal representation in Travancore. But fortunately or unfortunately it led to this state of affairs— a particular community or one or two communities came to monopolise all public services. Then, people thought that it was high time to effect a distribution of this right at least among those people who had the necessary qualifications. Unfortunately, many of the communities had not the advantage of going for higher education *viz.*, English education. English education was the necessary qualification for getting into Government services. And again, these particular communities who have the monopoly tried to keep up the service among their own people. Lately, Government thought it worth while to bring about a reasonable distribution of Government service to various communities and appointed a Public Service Commissioner with a staff. He had to work under very many handicaps. He had many disabilities. He had to bring order out of chaos. To some extent he has succeeded and brought about reasonable order. On the foundation that has been laid by the present Public Service

[Mr. James Fletcher.]

Commissioner we are going to build up something better or higher. That is the object at present. The idea is that distribution of Government services among the people should be in such a way that it could be just, fair and equitable to all communities. Now, the Public Service Commissioner has divided the people in Travancore into various communities as they exist and tried to do them communal justice. There are still some friends who would say that distribution of government services to all communities will be wrong or undesirable. Regarding that, a few words may be said.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: May I know whether the member is aware of the views of the all-India Conference regarding communal representation?

Mr. James Fletcher: We are not in India, I mean, we are in Travancore and so we would consider the problems of Travancore more at present than problems affecting all India. So far as Travancore is concerned, we know there are different communities and every community claims that their right should be safeguarded and that they should be given representation in Government service. It is the refusal to recognise the principle of communal representation that has led to communal bickerings and strife. It is no use to brush aside this great problem with the contemptuous observation that the same is created by a few job hunters. I may say in reply to the honourable member Mr. Tampi, what do we see when service lists are produced on the floor of the House regarding representation of communities in certain branches of Government service.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: May I ask the honourable member whether he is aware that his fellow religionists in China, Japan and Russia claim communal representation in Legislature?

Mr. James Fletcher: I am not speaking of what is happening in China or Japan; I am thinking of Travancore and Travancore alone. Let my friend ask questions about Travancore.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: Does he say in general or with reference to a particular appointment?

Mr. James Fletcher: In general.

When the list is produced here to show how the Government appointments are given to members in different communities, we find that certain communities have got all the monopoly. Those who are fortunate to have been born in that particular community will be glad that such a chance is given to them alone. However, my friend would say that if 12 talented men are born in the Pulaya or Chermamar community what are we to do under the present rules? Under the present rule they all cannot get Government service except

a small proportion. Now, he is very sorry for those people. He is very anxious about their condition. Of course, he would shed crocodile tears for their sake. He is very anxious about these 12 persons who may be born in that unrepresented community which might fail to get full representation. Twelve people may be born and out of them two may get Government service. Talented men will get their share in other services. Let him not be sorry that these rules will stand against these 12 people.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: Let me say that I meant only euphemistically to say that in some communities there will not be talented people. (*Laughter.*)

Mr. James Fletcher. Yes.

One of the causes for the cry of communal representation is that, in a country like Travancore the income from Government service is considered to be better than what is got from outside.

President: Order, order. As there are some more members who desire to speak, the honourable member will abbreviate his remarks.

Mr. James Fletcher. Yes Sir. At least this resolution has got the appearance of recognising that communal justice will be done to all people. Then, Sir, I may state that this is to be passed only as an experimental measure to be worked out for a certain number of years. Now 51 which is taken as the unit will have to be changed when the next Census comes and there will be proportionate changes in other respects. However, as an experimental measure these resolutions can be worked out and if they are found to be inadequate changes may be brought in due time.

Mr. T. K. Kittan (Vaikam, Kottayam and Changanacherry cum Peermade): ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട മെമ്പർ മി. കോട്ടൂർ കണ്ടു കൃഷ്ണപിള്ള ഇവിടെ അവതരിപ്പിച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന പ്രമേയത്തിൽനിന്നും ഫർ-റവകുപ്പ് എടുത്തു കളഞ്ഞു ബാക്കിയുള്ള എല്ലാത്തന്നോടും ഞാൻ യോജിച്ചു കൊള്ളുന്നു. ഫർ-റവകുപ്പിൽ പറയുന്നത് കമ്മീഷണർ അവർക്കുള്ള ഉപദേശിക്കുന്നതിനു നു പുരുഷന്മാരും ഒരു സ്ത്രീയും ഉൾപ്പെട്ട ഒരു കമ്മിറ്റി വേണമെന്നാണ്. ആരു പുരുഷന്മാരുടെ ജാതിയും മതവും പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ട്. എന്നാൽ സ്ത്രീ മെമ്പറിന്റെ ജാതിയും മതവും പറഞ്ഞിട്ടില്ലാത്തതുകൊണ്ടു അവരെ തിരഞ്ഞെടുക്കുന്നതിൽത്തന്നെ അഭിപ്രായപൂർവ്വതാസവും ബഹുവ്യഞ്ജനായേക്കാം. ഉപദേശക സമിതിയെക്കൊണ്ടു ഉപദ്രവം ബഹുവ്യഞ്ജനാകുവാനാണധികമെടുപ്പിച്ചുള്ളത്. ആയതുകൊണ്ടു ഉപദേശകസമിതിയെ കൂടാതെത്തന്നെ ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ കമ്മീഷണർ അവർക്കും അടുത്ത മൂന്നു വർഷങ്ങളിലെ നിയമനം നടത്തുന്നതെന്നായിരിക്കുമെന്നുള്ള എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം രേഖപ്പെടുത്തിക്കൊണ്ടു പ്രമേയത്തെ പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നു.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : Sir, I also like to make a few observations on the motions under discussion. First of all, I wish to point out that responsible men have openly stated that several mistakes are to be found in the last Census Report as regards figures of certain communities. So, to act on the figures of last Census is not proper. Another Census is expected very shortly. Under those circumstances I would suggest whether it is not advisable to wait for a year or more and frame proper rules after the next Census so that we may not have the necessity of correcting the rules now proposed to be passed. If such a position is acceptable, it may give lesser room for complaints. So, I submit that the consideration of this matter may be postponed to some other future date, soon after the coming Census.

President : That matter has been engaging the serious attention of Government. The next Census may be completed in 1941 and the result would become available in 1942 or probably in the early part of 1943. Is that not so, Mr. Govinda Pillai ?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai : It will not be improbable. Latest communications from the Imperial Census Commissioner indicate that they are considering whether it is not economically advisable to postpone the Census for the present moment.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : If there is not the possibility of the Census being taken in the immediate future, I do not press that point.

As regards recruitment from various communities to the public service, I would suggest that literacy should be the test for the distribution of various appointments and not mere population basis. If that is done, it will be an incentive for the illiterate backward communities to become literates as early as is possible and get their quota.

As regards suggestion 1 (a), the employment of Munsiffs, I take serious objection to that recommendation. First of all, the peace and prosperity of a nation depend upon the proper administration of justice. The major part of the work of the administration of justice is being done by Munsiffs. We have seen from the report on the Administration of Justice for the last half a dozen years that Government had to remark continuously that the work of the Munsiffs was generally unsatisfactory throughout. Year after year we find the remarks becoming stronger thus showing that the position has not improved. That being the case even after we have taken all the safeguards in the matter of appointment of Munsiffs to say we should give up all those safeguards and follow communal rotation, I think, is not right or proper. At least in

the employment of Munsiffs, Government should take efficiency as the sole test and no other consideration should be taken in that matter.

I would also oppose the suggestion for the abolition of competitive tests. They are safe tests in very many ways and should not be abolished. The most deserving from all communities have a chance for entrance if competitive tests are conducted. These are the only relevant observations that I wish to make.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan : I also heartily support the motion brought forward by Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai. But I fear in supporting the motion I stand the danger of being questioned about the capacity of my intellect according to the criterion adopted by the honourable member Mr. Tampi. Representation in public service has been the bone of contention among the different communities in the State for a long time. Much was said here in the name of efficiency. I fear there is absolutely nothing in the motion before the House which takes away efficiency altogether. It is provided clearly that when there are more hands than are necessary, with the minimum qualification, in the same community, the best may be taken. I do not think therefore there is any sacrifice of efficiency. With regard to recruitment to the higher grade, efficiency is made the only test. So, I do not think, the "twelve talented men" of backward communities referred to by an honourable member will suffer. As a result of the working of the Public Service Recruitment Rules, there has been much heart-burning and a situation has arisen over which we cannot close our eyes. It was replied by the honourable member concerned that nothing has been done against the provisions of the rules. I believe him and I presume that he is a man of perfect integrity. But, nevertheless, I do not think, a man of his position and the departmental heads are mere machines. There is nothing wrong in our assuming that the departmental heads and the member concerned have a certain amount of common sense and discretion and they are not inanimate materials. If there is anything wrong, if some serious injury was being done in regard to the working of certain schemes, certainly, it stands to reason that such defects might have been rectified and such recommendations for rectification would have been allowed by Government. There have been ever so many instances of that kind. So I do not think I can absolve the honourable member or the departmental heads or the Public Service Commissioner from the sins into which they were consciously or unconsciously entrapped. However, if the motion before the House is carried, I think it will pave the way for the restoration of communal concord and harmony.

Mr. E. K. Kuriyppe : സർ, കൂടുതൽ ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങൾ കൈവശം വച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന നായർ സമുദായത്തിൽപെട്ട ഒരു മെമ്പർ തന്നെ ഇങ്ങനെ ഒരു പ്രമേയം അവതരിപ്പിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതിൽ എനിക്കു വളരെ സന്തോഷമുണ്ട്. അനേകകൊല്ലമായി പല സമുദായക്കാരും ചേർന്ന് മുറുവാളി കൂട്ടിയതിന്റെ ഫലമായാണ് പബ്ലിക് സർവീസ് കമ്മീഷണറെ നിയമിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളത്. എന്നാൽ അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ ഇന്നുവരെയുള്ള പ്രവർത്തനത്തെ പരിശോധിക്കുന്നതായാൽ സിറിയൻ കത്തോലിക്കർക്ക് അതുകൊണ്ട് പറയത്തക്ക പ്രയോജനമൊന്നും കിട്ടിയിട്ടില്ല എന്ന് ബോദ്ധ്യമാകുന്നതാണ്. പ്രമേയത്തിൽ പറഞ്ഞിരിക്കുന്നത് പോലെ വളരെ സ്റ്റാറ്റസ് ഉള്ള ഒരു പബ്ലിക് സർവീസ് കമ്മീഷണരേയും ഒരു അഡ്വൈസറി ബോഡും നിയമിച്ച് എന്തെല്ലാം ചട്ടങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടാക്കിയാലും അതിനെ പ്രവർത്തിപ്പിക്കാൻ വരുത്തുന്നതിനു കർശനമായ നടപടികൾ നടത്താത്തപക്ഷം യാതൊരു പ്രയോജനവും സിദ്ധിക്കുന്നതല്ല. പബ്ലിക് സർവീസിൽ ന്യായമായി ലഭിക്കേണ്ട അവകാശം ചില സമുദായക്കാർക്ക് സിദ്ധിക്കാത്തതിനാലാണ് സമുദായങ്ങൾ തമ്മിലുള്ള മൽസരത്തിന് കാരണമെന്ന് ഇന്നത്തെ ഭരണാധികാരികളുടേതെന്ന ബോദ്ധ്യപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ട്. എല്ലാ സമുദായപ്രമാണികളും യോജിച്ച് റിക്രൂട്ട്മെന്റ് വിഷയത്തിൽ ഒരു തീരുമാനം ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്നതിന് അവരെ ഉത്സാഹിപ്പിച്ചു എന്നുള്ളതുകൊണ്ടുതന്നെ അത് സ്പഷ്ടമാകുന്നുണ്ട്.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi : ഈ സമുദായ പ്രമാണികളെ നാട്ടിന്റെ ഏതു ഭാഗത്തു ചെന്നാൽ കാണാം?

Mr. E. K. Kuriyppe : യോഗ്യന്മാരെ എല്ലാ സ്ഥലത്തും കാണാം.

Mr. P. R. Godavarma Raja (Edavagai) : I support the motion before the House. We owe a deep debt of gratitude to the other House for evolving a formula of recruitment to the public service of the State. It may be that the present scheme is not an ideal one. There is of course scope for improvement. Nevertheless, after working the present scheme for some time we may hope that a still more satisfactory solution of the communal problem will be arrived at. Our public life has been to a large extent, tainted by this canker of communalism. Unless we root out this disease we cannot succeed in our national advancement. So far as the suggestion that competitive tests should be abolished, I am not at all at one with the honourable member who advocated that. However bad may be the system of recruitment by competitive examination, that is the only method by which you can test the intelligence or efficiency of a person. In other countries also that system has been found

to be the only practical method. As regards the Advisory Committee proposed in the present scheme, I am of opinion that the personnel of the Committee determines how far it can be successful. People who have got sterling character alone should be appointed to function in the Advisory Committee. With these words, I support the motion before the House.

Mr. Thomas Chandy Makkadan : സർ, ഈ സഭയുടെ പരിചിന്തത്തിന് വിഷയമായിരിക്കുന്ന ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നതിന് എനിക്ക് പല കാരണങ്ങളാലും സന്തോഷമുണ്ട്. നിയമസമിതികളുടെ പരിഷ്കരിച്ച കാലം മുതൽ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിന്റെ നാനാഭാഗങ്ങളിൽ നിന്നുമുണ്ടായ മാവിളി സമുദായപ്രാതിനിധ്യത്തെ സംബന്ധിച്ച് ശാശ്വതമായും ശരിയായും ഉള്ള പദ്ധതികൾ അതിന്റെ കാര്യക്ഷമമായ നിർവ്വഹണത്തിനുവേണ്ടി സ്വീകരിക്കപ്പെടണമെന്നതാണ്. വിദ്യാഭ്യാസാഭിയാഗ്യതകളാൽ ഒരോ സമുദായങ്ങളിലേയും ഗണനീയ വഭാഗങ്ങൾക്കുള്ള നിലയനുസരിച്ച് രാജകാര്യസംബന്ധമായ കാര്യങ്ങളിൽ അവരുടെ പങ്ക് നിർവ്വഹിക്കണമെന്നുള്ള അവകാശബോധവും താല്പര്യവും പൊതുവെ ഉണ്ടാകത്തോടുകൂടി ഉദ്യോഗാത്മികർ സമുദായങ്ങളുടെ പ്രാതിനിധ്യം വഹിച്ച് ഗവണ്മെൻറു സമക്ഷം ഇതിലേക്കുവേണ്ടി വാദം തുടങ്ങി. ഈ വാദത്തിന് പ്രാബല്യം ഉണ്ടാക്കിയതു വിനാശകാരികളായ ഏതാനും ചിലരുടെ വിക്രിയകളായിരുന്നു. സമുദായപ്രാതിനിധ്യവാദത്തിന് ശരിയായ ഒരു തീരുമാനം വരുത്തുന്നില്ലെങ്കിൽ മറ്റു യാതൊരു കാര്യമായുള്ള സംഗതികളിലും ജനപ്രതിനിധികൾക്കോ ഗവണ്മെൻറിനോ സ്വൈരമായി ചിന്തിക്കാനും കാര്യമായി പ്രവർത്തിക്കാനും നിവർത്തിയില്ലെന്ന മട്ടായി. മനുഷ്യരുടെ സാമാന്യീകമായ ജീവിരംഗത്തെ സ്വൈരമായ നിലയിൽ നയിക്കാൻ സാധിക്കാത്തവിധം സമുദായപ്രാതിനിധ്യത്തിനും ഉദ്യോഗസമ്പാദനത്തിനും വേണ്ടി ഉദ്യോഗാത്മികളായ പലരും മുന്നോട്ടുവന്നു വിഷമിപ്പിച്ചു തുടങ്ങി എന്നു സാമുദായികമായ പരിവർത്തനങ്ങളേയും രാഷ്ട്രീയമായ പരിപാടികളേയും സംബന്ധിച്ച് ശരിയായ അറിയുന്ന രാജകാര്യവിചിന്തകന്മാർ സമ്മതിക്കുമെന്നു ഞാൻ വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നു. അടുത്തകാലത്തു മതപരിവർത്തനം തന്നെയും, നടത്തിക്കൊണ്ടു സമുദായത്തിന്റെ നാമത്തിൽ—മതത്തിന്റെ നാമത്തിൽ—ഉദ്യോഗത്തിനുപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നതു ഇവിടെ കാണാനായി. ഒരു പ്രാട്ടസ്റ്റന്റുകാരൻ കത്തോലിക്കനായിതീർന്ന് അവന്റെ മതസംബന്ധമായ കാര്യങ്ങൾ ഏങ്ങിനെയെന്നാലും, അവന്റെ സമുദായത്തിന്റെ സ്ഥിതിഗതികൾ എങ്ങിനെയെന്നാലും, അവന്റെ വിശ്വാസപരമായ സ്ഥിതിഗതികൾ എങ്ങിനെയെന്നാ

[Mr. Thomas Chandy Mukkadan.]

ചും—ഇവിടെ ഒരു സമുദായത്തെ ആക്ഷേപിക്കണമെന്നോ ആക്ഷേപിച്ചാൽ മനോവേദന ഉണ്ടാക്കണമെന്നോ എനിക്കുശേഷം ആഗ്രഹമില്ല—അവന്റെ കുടുംബജീവിതം, സ്വാതന്ത്ര്യം ഇവയെ സ്വൈരപ്പെടുത്തിയിരിക്കുകയും ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥാദികളെ ശ്രമിച്ചു വരുന്നു. യഥാർത്ഥത്തിൽ രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ നന്മയെ മോഹിക്കുന്ന രാഷ്ട്രീയ ചിന്തകന്മാർ സുസമ്മതമായ ഒരു തീരുമാനം ഈ വിഷയത്തിൽ വരുത്തിവെച്ചത് ഈ വാദം തുടർന്നുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നത് രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ ഐക്യവും മുന്നോട്ടു പോകുന്നില്ലെന്നുള്ള ബോധ്യത്തോടുകൂടിയാണ്.

സർ, വർഗ്ഗീയപ്രാതിനിധ്യത്തിന് എതിരായി പ്രവർത്തിച്ചവനവർ തന്നെ അതിലേക്കു ഒരു ശരിയായ മാർഗ്ഗം നിർദ്ദേശിക്കാനിടയായതു തന്നെ വിതാംകൂറിലെ ഭാവിജനതയുടെ ഭാഗ്യമെന്നു ഞാൻ കരുതുന്നു. അങ്ങിനെ ഒരു പ്രമേയം അവതരിപ്പിക്കാൻ പ്രേരകമായിനിന്നു സർവസമുദായമെതിർത്തായി പ്രവർത്തിച്ചവരെ ഞാൻ അനുമോദിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥാദികളെ ഒരു സമുദായത്തിനുമായിരിക്കേണ്ട സകല യോഗ്യതകളും തികഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ള സിറിയൻ കത്തോലിക്കർക്കു നൽകിയിട്ടുള്ള പ്രാതിനിധ്യമെന്തെന്നു ചിന്തിക്കുമ്പോൾ കഴിഞ്ഞ മൂന്നു സംവത്സരക്കാലമായി പബ്ലിക് സർവീസ് കമ്മീഷണർ നടത്തിയ നിയമനങ്ങളെപ്പറ്റിയും അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ ആഫീസിൽ നടന്ന അഴിമതികളെപ്പറ്റിയും വളരെക്കുറച്ചു പ്രസ്താവിക്കേണ്ടതായിട്ടുണ്ടായിരുന്നാലും ഒരു പരിവർത്തനത്തിനായ് ശ്രമിക്കുന്ന ഈ ഘട്ടത്തിൽ ഞാൻ ഈ സംഗതികളെ വിട്ടുകളയുന്നു. ഇന്നത്തെ പബ്ലിക് സർവീസ് കമ്മീഷണർ ഒരു പാശ്ചാത്യനായിരിക്കട്ടെ എന്ന് പ്രാപ്തമാണെന്നു നീതിന്യായവകുപ്പിൽനിന്നു പേരുസ്ഥാപിച്ചു കൊള്ളാമെന്ന്. ഇങ്ങിനെ മഹായോഗ്യനായിരിക്കുന്ന പബ്ലിക് സർവീസ് കമ്മീഷണറുടെ അധീനതയിലുള്ള ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റുതന്നെയും ഉദ്യോഗവിതരണത്തിൽ എത്രത്തോളം ഭ്രഷ്ടിച്ചു പോയിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നുള്ള വസ്തുത മറച്ചുവെക്കുന്ന ഒരു പരമാർത്ഥമല്ല. ഇവിടെത്തെ സ്ഥിതിഗതികൾ നേരിട്ടറിയാൻ കഴിയാത്ത അദ്ദേഹത്തെ ഉപദേശിക്കുന്ന ചില ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ പല വിക്രിയകൾ നടത്തിയിട്ടുണ്ടെങ്കിലും അവകളെ ഈ ഘട്ടത്തിൽ വിസ്മരിക്കേണ്ടത് ഒരു രാജ്യസ്നേഹി എന്ന നിലയിൽ എന്റെ കടമയാണെന്നാണ് ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നത്. ഇങ്ങിനെയുള്ള ഉപദ്രവങ്ങൾ ഇനിയും ആവർത്തിക്കാതിരിക്കണമെങ്കിൽ ഓരോ സമുദായത്തിന്റെയും യഥാർത്ഥമായ ഒരു സ്ഥിതിയും അതാതു സമുദായത്തിന് നൽകേണ്ട സ്ഥാനവും ഇന്നതാണെന്ന് ഉപദേശിക്കുന്ന കവിധമുള്ള ഒരു സ

മിതി ഇന്നത്തെ പബ്ലിക് സർവീസ് കമ്മീഷണർ ഈ വകുപ്പിന്റെ അദ്ധ്യക്ഷനായിരിക്കുന്ന കാലത്തോളമെങ്കിലും ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കണം. ഈ രാജ്യത്തെ സമുദായങ്ങൾ തമ്മിലുള്ള വഴക്കമേലാൽ തുടൻ രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ ഉത്തമ താല്പര്യങ്ങൾക്കു കഴുപ്പു വരാതിരിക്കണമെന്നുള്ള ആഗ്രഹം ഈ പ്രമേയപ്രയോക്താവനുണ്ടെന്ന് എനിക്കു വിശ്വാസമുള്ളതിനാൽ ഞാൻ ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ ആത്മദർശനമായി അനുകൂലിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

Mr. N. Krishna Aiyar : Sir, I beg to differ in one or two fundamental points. I agree with my honourable friend Mr. Narayana Aiyar in thinking that, at least, the employment as Munsiffs, should not be brought under the Public Service Recruitment Rules. Efficiency and character alone should be the sole and main tests in the recruitment of Munsiffs, as the chief function of the Government is the administration of law and justice. Therefore, I repeat that in the selection and recruitment as Munsiffs, the choice must be left to the honourable Judges of the High Court.

Mr. T. Mahomed Ismail : May I know from the member whether the Magistrates are also not administering justice ?

Mr. N. Krishna Aiyar : It is true. But they are already being recruited both from the bar as well as from certain departments. Now, as a matter of fact we all know that Munsiffs are recruited both from the bar as well as from the members of the ministerial service of the Judicial Department. It is the Judges of the High Court who are the best and most competent body to judge the merits and demerits of particular individuals so chosen as Munsiffs in the Judicial Department.

Secondly, recruitment to public services being made from the literate or educated classes and not from the masses as a whole, I am of the view that the mass population or total strength should not be the basis, but the literate or the educated population of each community should be the basis for recruitment.

Though the observation from the Dewan President and the Census Commissioner have enlightened us that the Census which is now under contemplation may be farther off than we expected, still whatever rules may be framed now may be made operative only up to the time when the results of the next Census are known, because, the population which is now held as the basis of ratio, should not be the population of a decade ago, but what it is when the rules are made operative.

Lastly, I find that in the composition of the advisory committee one of the enlightened communities in the State, the Brahmin community, though a minority community, is excluded altogether. Either the rules must be framed and the Public Service Commissioner be asked to administer them according to the spirit of the

[Mr. N. Krishna Aiyar.]

rules or the committee must consist of representatives of persons chosen from all the different communities mentioned in the recruitment rules. With these exceptions or modifications I support the motion:

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: I am very happy to find that there has been general agreement with regard to the proposition before the House. Only, one or two points have been raised here regarding the details. I wish to refer to one point especially and that is the one raised by my honourable friend Mr. Kuravilla regarding the representation of "other Hindus." In the proposition before the House "other Hindus" have been divided into 'forward Hindus' as well as 'backward Hindus.' In the grade 'forward Hindus' certain communities like the Kshatriyas, Mudaliyars, Ambalavasis etc., are included and those come to just less than 50,000, and a seat is given to them. If they are clubbed together with the 'backward class Hindus' the backward class Hindus will suffer. There is no reduction in the number of seats given to other Hindus as a whole. My friend did not take into account special representation given to the Kurava and the Paraya and other backward Hindus. Those together will come to 5 seats and five seats alone are claimed by my friend on behalf of other Hindus.

With regard to the order of rotation of the various communities, any arrangement can be criticised because some community has to be put first. But after all the advantage, if any, is only till the first round is over. I do not think there is much in that. An arrangement must give equitable chance to all communities. That point can be agreed to.

A word about the recruitment of Munsiffs. It has to be pointed out that even the honourable High Court had adopted some kind of communal rotation for recruitment to the cadre of Munsiffs till recently. That fact has to be borne in mind by my honourable friends Mr. Narayana Aiyar and Mr. Krishna Aiyar who by the way have signed a memorial almost on identical lines with these resolutions just now before the House. Then with regard to the efficiency criterion which should be observed in recruiting Munsiffs, the Laws Delays Commissioner, who suggested methods for the recruitment of Munsiffs, has admitted the difficulty in choosing Munsiffs on the basis of efficiency test, because, if the best material should be recruited, they must be got while they are still young and while they have not established themselves sufficiently in the profession. For, if they have established themselves sufficiently in the profession, the best among them will not be available for appointment as Munsiffs in the Munsiff's cadre. Practically speaking, nobody says that inefficient people should be appointed. In any event

efficiency will not suffer more than it does now. Indeed, we do not say that we are providing rules for recruitment for the selection of the very best. That does not mean that there is no consideration for efficiency. For the sake of harmony, a workable minimum of efficiency shall be fixed.

I do not wish to say anything regarding the bantering speech of my honourable friend Mr. Balakrishnan Tampi. It is very easy, nay even tempting, to venture in that direction. You cannot make a very attractive speech in support of communal representation. But it is very easy to make a speech full of humour and sarcasm if you stand for the ideal of efficiency. My friend is in a happy position to continue in that direction; but he himself has realised that he is an "ineffective angel, beating his luminous wings in the void" when he was attempting to oppose the motion. All the same, Sir, I thank him for giving his general support to the motion.

With these words, I commend the motions for the acceptance of the House.

The motions were put to vote and carried.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS.

DISCUSSION OF THE REPORT OF THE DEBT RELIEF ENQUIRY COMMITTEE.

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai : I rise to introduce the Report of the Debt Relief Enquiry Committee : In doing so, I may be permitted to put it to the House whether they would now think it worth while to discuss in detail the recommendations of the Committee, in the light of the assurance already given by Government... ..

President : I might inform the honourable members of this House that, after careful consideration of this matter, having regard to the general feeling on this matter which has made itself felt and which has been expressed publicly, Government have decided to summon a Joint Session of the two Houses, during the first week of March, for the purpose of considering this matter.

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai : In view of that announcement, I do not wish to add anything. It is entirely left to the House whether they would discuss the Report now or not.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi : May I know from the Legal Remembrancer, whether, under the present constitution, it is permissible to call together a Joint Session except for the Dewan-President to address?

President : The matter has been looked into. In the Assembly and Council Rules, provision has been made for Joint Committees composed of an equal number chosen from both the Houses. But, there is pr



[President]

procedure, even in respect of Houses so disparate as the House of Lords and the House of Commons, for joint meetings of both the Houses; that is within parliamentary practice, although, on account of the unwieldiness of the Houses of Parliament, on account of the architectural deficiency of the Westminster Hall, such a joint meeting has not often happened.

Apart from the architectural deficiency in London there is authority for a Joint Session of the two Houses being held. I would invite the attention of the honourable members to pages 603 and 604 of Erskine May's "Parliamentary Practice." It is stated there—

"Such addresses are presented either by both Houses in a body, or by two peers and four members of the House of Commons; and they have been presented also by committees of both Houses; by a joint committee of Lords and Commons....."

The subjects upon which addresses are presented are too varied to admit of enumeration. They have comprised every matter of foreign or domestic policy; the administration of justice, the confidence of Parliament in the ministers of the Crown.....in short, representations upon all points connected with the government and welfare of the country;.....

The only exception is.....

".....they ought not to be presented in relation to any bill depending in either House of Parliament."

In other words, if a bill has already been introduced in a House it is considered a trespass upon its jurisdiction to have a joint address; subject to that, a joint meeting is possible.

And, there are many conveniences attending upon a joint meeting. I trust honourable members will have no objection to make history; because, we are going to have it for the first time in India.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: We are not anxious to discuss the details of the Report now; we only want the matter to be disposed of expeditiously.

President: It is for that, that we are thinking of a joint session.

I take it that the House agrees to that course,

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE.

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: I beg to move that the Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Audit and Appropriation Accounts of 1113, may be taken up for consideration.

As no motion had been given notice of, the President called upon Mr. Ananthasiva Aiyar to move his motion for adjournment of the House.

ADJOURNMENT MOTION.

HAVOC DONE TO PUNJA CULTIVATION.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar : Sir, I beg to move for the adjournment of the business of the House to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, namely, the serious and alarming situation caused on account of havoc done to Punja cultivation in Kuttanad by the unprecedented floods and the rice-swarming caterpillar pest.

Sir, for a clear understanding of the havoc done to the Punja cultivation this year, and to give the Government and the House a correct idea of the extent of damages suffered by the cultivators concerned, I think it better to classify Punja lands into *kayal* lands and *karappadoms*.

Sir, these lands are cultivated only in alternate years, except small plots here and there. Cultivation in these lands has to begin after the north-east monsoon and should be over before the south-west monsoon sets in ; because, these Punja lands are always under water, and the water has to be pumped out for cultivation ; and that is possible and easy only during the period I have mentioned.

As a preliminary to the draining of the water, bunds have to be put up all round, sufficiently early. That work generally has to be done in Chingam ; in the case of the lands nearer the Cochin bar, it has to begin even earlier. The pumping out of water begins early in Tulam and takes 30 to 35 days.

This year, after the bunds were put up and part of the water drained, unfortunately, on account of unprecedented floods, all the bunds were destroyed, and the whole area again got inundated ; and, naturally, the water had again to be pumped out and bunds put up in order that cultivation could be started. Representations were made to Government, and, they were eager to come forward to our rescue. The Land Revenue Commissioner who has already become famous for his special kindness towards the agriculturists, submitted a report on the flood havoc. As a result of that report and the representations made to Government, an amount of Rs. 50,000 was kindly sanctioned by Government, as special loan to be distributed among the Punja cultivators. A good portion of it has actually been distributed already.

President : I think the whole of it has been distributed.

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : No, Sir, only about Rs. 25,000.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar : Sir, the loan was sanctioned at the most opportune moment, and it was of immense help to the Punja cultivators. I take this opportunity to express on behalf of these cultivators, their heartfelt thanks and deep sense of gratitude to Government.

Now, Sir, in spite of that generous help by Government, on account of the necessity to re-do the bunds and to bale out the water once again, the cost of cultivation has been doubled.

In the case of the kayal lands near the Cochin bar, the water generally gets saltish by Makaram. The water in the third period of the Vembanad reclamation area has already become saltish.

To add to all these difficulties, there is also a pest, the rice-swarming caterpillar. The Agricultural Department has been trying its level best to eradicate this pest, but it has not so far succeeded. The havoc done by these caterpillars is unimaginable. They have eaten practically all the leaves of the plants in the *padoms*; and the old method of attempting to sweep out the pest has cost us a good deal. However much we may try to remove the pest from the land, a few of them still remain. Some remedy has to be found out to exterminate the pest from the area. Now that we have got the University with a research section attached to it, I hope that Government will be able to solve the problem through the University. The history of this rice-swarming caterpillar has to be studied.

Mr. M. Govindan : May I know whether the Agricultural Department has been approached to find a remedy?

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar : It has been approached and it has been working at it. But it has not been able to find out a remedy. Every year some Entomologist will come there and give us some suggestion. Experiments will be conducted upon our lands resulting at times in very great loss to us. That has been the practice. Anyhow we find after long experience that sweeping out with the broom is the best remedy. Thousands of coolies are engaged for the purpose. One difficulty which we felt this year unlike in ordinary years was that on account of the floods, all the lands in the Kuttanad area had to be cultivated in the very same season and the rice-swarming caterpillar came into existence in all these places simultaneously. There was paucity of labourers so that we could not remove the pest in time. If an officer is deputed all at once to see the Kuttanad area, he will report that considerable havoc has been done to that area. As an agriculturist, it has been my experience that whenever this caterpillar pest occurs, the yield will be very poor as the plants that have been attacked by the caterpillar will take a longer time to bear fruit. At the time of the

harvest, some will be green, others will be ripe and all will not be even. Thus there will be another difficulty also. I would even go to the extent of saying that it may not be safe to leave the matter unnoticed for long. In this connection I would invite the Head of the Administration himself to come and see the area so that our real difficulties could certainly be appreciated by him. If, on account of multifarious duties, he finds that he will not be able to visit the area, I submit that he may depute Mr. Ramachandra Rao himself to go and see the place so that our real difficulties in the matter of harvesting may be studied by him on the spot. This year the harvesting season is held at the very same time in all the places in the area. Generally it will be earlier in the *kayal padoms* than in the *kara padoms*. For harvesting, we get down people from Karthikapalli, Karunagapalli, Mavelikara, Chengannur and other neighbouring places.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : May I know from the honourable member what all this has to do with the adjournment motion ?

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar : All these people from the various places have to be hired for the harvesting season. This year on account of the floods the cultivation season was extended a little to the close of the year.

President : On account of the floods the time for harvesting has been postponed and therefore, he could not get necessary labour. The connection is rather distant. The honourable member may proceed.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar : As a result of the havoc done by the floods we had to postpone the date for harvesting.

Mr. Thomas Chandy Makkadan : പുഴക്കളുടെ ഉപദ്രവം ഉണ്ടാകുന്നതുകൊണ്ട് കായ്ത്തുകാരും ഒരാളു പിൻവ അയിപ്പോകയില്ലേ ? അങ്ങനെ വരുമ്പോൾ കുറെ അധികം നിലങ്ങൾ ഒന്നിച്ചു കൊയ്തേണ്ടിവരികയില്ലേ ?

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar : വരും. So we cannot get the required labour at that time. In Mavelikara and other places the harvesting is to be done in Medom. In Kuttanad area also it has to be done in the same month. So we cannot get labourers from outside. Hence, some labour-saving device has to be introduced for conducting the harvest properly. With these words I commend the motion for the acceptance of the House.

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai : What is the honourable member's suggestion for that ?

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar : Threshing machines.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi : Sir, I support the resolution. I do not know what I should suggest. Whether the Entomologist should go or the Land Revenue Commissioner should go is the question. After all, at this part of the year, the Entomologist can be of little help. It is the Land Revenue Commissioner who must eventually render us the help. Not even a sudden trip is necessary. At the close of the year when the ryots have to pay tax I think some consideration may be shown to them, especially to those whose crops have been damaged by this pest.

In this connection, Sir, I may express the grateful feeling of the people of Kuttanad for the timely attention bestowed on the area during the last flood. I shall be failing in my duty, Sir, if I do not place on record the very valuable services rendered by the officer who was deputed to distribute the loans. Sir, if there had been half a dozen officers like him in the Travancore service, I am sure that today there would not have been so much clamour for communal representation. Sir, It is a pleasure to know that in every work that he has been entrusted with he has shown an ability rarely to be found. My friends might be wondering why I am talking so much about this officer. It is more in the nature of a valedictory address. That officer is about to retire or has retired. I would request Government to send that officer or, if it is not possible to send that identical officer, to send any other officer who will approximate to him, in virtues, to look into this grievance. With these words, I support the resolution.

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): Sir, the honourable mover of the motion has referred in the second part of the motion to the occurrence of the rice-swar-ming caterpillar pest. Before stating in detail the nature, the incidence and the ravages of this pest, it would perhaps be better if I were to enlighten the House on the very peculiar features of the occurrence of this pest. The rice-swar-ming caterpillar pest is not a pest, Sir, which is prone to attack only the areas in Kuttanad. It occurs in large areas in Cochin, the Northern Circars, certain parts of Malabar, Ceylon, Java and many other places. The difficulty about it is its sudden appearance. The adults come all of a sudden and lay eggs ranging from 500 to 2500 on a single day and the caterpillars multiply rapidly and within 20 to 25 days considerable havoc is done.

There are certain known remedies of controlling this pest, of which the most important is flooding the area and washing out the swarms. That is the remedy which is adopted everywhere. The second remedy is sweeping with a broomstick the whole lot of the pest into a basket and then destroying them. The third remedy is the introduction into the area of ducks which feed upon the caterpillars and thereby control the pest. As I said, the chief difficulty is the sudden nature of the occurrence of the pest. During its duration of 20 to 25 days, it causes ravages over a vast area. This problem has been very carefully considered, not only here but also in Madras. I have had a series of correspondence with the experts in Madras faced with similar difficulties. They have stated that there is a correlation between the climatic conditions and the occurrence of the pest. The appearance of a cloud, or a change in the humidity of the atmosphere will help the spreading of the pest.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar : How do they migrate?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar : They take to nocturnal flights like the locusts. They fly very fast.

The Department of Agriculture has been doing its best to control the pest by known methods. I have reports from the Agricultural Inspectors at Mavelikara and Monkompuzha who are working hard and I am sure the honourable mover of the motion will bear testimony to that. It is very necessary that the pest should be tackled. It is no doubt of a very serious nature. In regard to conducting investigations as to how the pest should be controlled and at what stage, the University, since the transfer to it of the Entomological section, has taken up the problem in right earnest. The Council of Research has constituted a committee of applied biology of which I am a member and a scheme for the investigation of the pest has already engaged the attention of this Committee. Their attempt will be to find out how the pest could be eradicated. At present all that is possible is being done. Known measures are being put into operation and the officers are doing their best to bring the pest under control. This morning I had a talk with the Director of Research with a view to coordinating the efforts of the officers on spot and he has deputed a few hands from the Entomological section. All that is possible will be done. That is all I have to say.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar : May I know whether the honourable member refers to controlling this year or in the coming year?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar : With the co-operation of the people of the area and by putting into operation known measures all that is possible will be done this year itself.

Mr. Thomas Chandy Mukkadan : സർ, ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നതിൽ എനിക്കു വളരെ സന്തോഷമുണ്ട്. പഴുവിന്റെ ഉപദ്രവത്തെ സംബന്ധിച്ച് പറയുമ്പോൾ അതു നെൽച്ചെടിക്കു വരുത്തുന്ന ദോഷം മാത്രമല്ലാ ഞാൻ ഇവിടെ വിവരിക്കുവാൻ ഉദ്ദേശിക്കുന്നത്. പ്രമേയപ്രയോക്താവു പറഞ്ഞതുപോലെ പഴുക്കളുടെ ഉപദ്രവം ഉണ്ടാകുന്ന നെൽച്ചെടി പ്രായത്തിൽ കുറഞ്ഞതും മരിച്ചവസം മുന്നോട്ടു പോകുന്നു. അതായതു, വിളവെടുപ്പിനു മരിച്ചവസത്തെ താമസം ഉണ്ടാകും. ഇതിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു മറ്റു ചില കാര്യങ്ങൾക്കു ഗവണ്മെന്റിന്റെ സത്പരശ്രദ്ധയ്ക്കു വിഷയമാക്കണമെന്നാണ് ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നത്.

മി. എം. കെ. അനന്തശിവയ്യർ പറഞ്ഞതുപോലെ ഓരിന്റെ ഉപദ്രവം വളരെയുണ്ടാകുന്നുണ്ട്. വേമ്പനാട്ട് കായലിന്റെ തീരത്തുള്ള കട്ടനാടൻ വടക്കൻ പ്രദേശങ്ങളിൽ ഓട് ആദ്യം കയറുന്നുണ്ട്. പുറക്കാട്ടു തുടങ്ങിയ തെക്കൻ പ്രദേശങ്ങളിൽ ഓട് വളരെ താമസിച്ചാണ് വരുന്നത്. പഴുവിന്റെ ഉപദ്രവമുണ്ടാകുന്ന നെൽച്ചെടികളുടെ വിളവെടുപ്പിന് താമസമുണ്ടാകുമെന്ന് പറഞ്ഞുവല്ലോ. ഈ താമസത്തിന്റെ ക്രമമനുസരിച്ച് വെള്ളത്തിന്റെ ആവശ്യത്തിനുള്ള സമയവും നീളുന്നു. ഇക്കൊല്ലത്തെ അപ്രതീക്ഷിതമായ വെള്ളപ്പൊക്കം മൂലം കൃഷിക്കുണ്ടായ, താമസത്തിന് പുറമെ പഴു വീഴ്ചകൂടി സംഭവിച്ചപ്പോൾ വിളവെടുപ്പിന്റെ കാലം വളരെ നീളുകയും തന്മൂലം ഓരിന്റെ ഉപദ്രവത്തെക്കുറിച്ച് കൃഷിക്കാർ നേരിടേണ്ടിവരികയും ചെയ്തിരിക്കുന്നു. മുൻകാലങ്ങളിൽ ഓരിൽനിന്നു കൃഷിക്കാരനു രക്ഷകിട്ടാൻ ഗവണ്മെന്റിന്റെ ചെലവിൽത്തന്നെ ഓരുമുട്ടകൾ ഉണ്ടാക്കിക്കൊടുത്തിരുന്നു. കൃഷി വർദ്ധിച്ചു ആ തൊഴിൽ ആദായകരമായും തീർന്നതോടുകൂടി ഓരുമുട്ടകൾ പ്രായേണ കൃഷിക്കാർ തന്നെ ഉറപ്പിച്ചു തുടങ്ങി. കൃഷിക്കാരന്റെ വരവ് അനേക കാരണവശാൽ കുറഞ്ഞും ചെലവു വർദ്ധിച്ചും ഇരിക്കുന്ന നിലക്ക് കൃഷിക്കാരനെയൊക്കെ മാത്രം ഇക്കാലത്ത് ഓരുമുട്ടകൾ ഉറപ്പിക്കാൻ സാധ്യമില്ല. റവന്യൂ ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെന്റ് ഈ വക സംഗതികളിൽ അപേക്ഷ സപ്ലൈ ചെയ്താൽ ഓരു നീങ്ങി വിളവെടുപ്പു കാലമാകുമ്പോൾ മാത്രമെ എന്തെങ്കിലും ഒരു തീരുമാനം ചെയ്യാറുള്ളൂ. പഴുവിന്റെ ഉപദ്രവം മൂലം വിളവെടുപ്പുകാലം നീങ്ങിപ്പോകുന്ന കൃഷിക്കാരന്റെ രക്ഷയ്ക്കു ഇപ്പോൾ ഉണ്ടാകുന്ന ഓട് ബാധകമാകാതിരിക്കത്തക്കവണ്ണം യഥാവസരത്തിൽ

യഥാസ്ഥാനത്തു ഓരുമുട്ടുകൾ കെട്ടാൻ കർഷകരെ സഹായിക്കണം. കർഷകർ നേരിട്ട് ബന്ധപ്പെടാത്ത പൊതുസ്ഥാനങ്ങളിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നുതന്നെ ഓരോ തടഞ്ഞു നിർത്തക്കുവണ്ണം ശരിയായ മുട്ടുകൾ ഉറപ്പിച്ചു കൊടുക്കണം. കഷ്ടിച്ച് നൂറു രൂപാകൊണ്ടു തീക്കാവുന്ന ഒരു മുട്ട് യഥാകാലം തീക്കാതിരുന്നാൽ അനേകായിരപ്പറ നിലങ്ങളുടെ വിളവിന് ദോഷം വരുന്നതാണ്. ഗൗരവമായ ഈ സംഗതിയിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറ് കാര്യമായി ശ്രദ്ധപതിക്കുന്നില്ലെങ്കിൽ പഞ്ചകൃഷി ഇനിയും കൂടുതൽ അധഃപതിച്ചു പോകുമെന്നുള്ള വസ്തുത കട്ടനാട്ടിലെ ഒരു പ്രതിനിധിയെന്ന നിലയിൽ ഞാൻ ഗവണ്മെൻറിനെ അറിയിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട കൃഷി ഡയറക്ടർ പ്രസ്താവിച്ച പ്രകാരം അല്ലാ പഴുവിന്റെ ഉപദ്രവം ഉണ്ടാകുന്നതെന്ന ഒരു യഥാർത്ഥ കൃഷിക്കാരന്റെ നിലയിൽ—പഴുവിന്റെ മദ്ധ്യത്തിൽ ൨൪ മണിക്കൂറിനു മുൻപു വരെ കഴിച്ചു കൂട്ടിക്കൊണ്ടിരുന്ന കട്ടനാട്ടിലെ ഒരു കൃഷിക്കാരന്റെ നിലയിൽ—എനിക്കു പ്രസ്താവിക്കാൻ കഴിയും. കാളേജ് വിദ്യാഭ്യാസം അവസാനിച്ചശേഷം കഴിഞ്ഞ ൨൫ കൊല്ലക്കാലത്തോളം കഷ്ടവൃത്തിയിൽ ഏർപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്ന എന്റെ കൃഷി പ്രവർത്തനത്തിന്റെ ഫലമായി പഴുക്കളുടെ ഉപദ്രവം എങ്ങിനെ തടയാൻ കഴിയുമെന്ന് അനുഭവങ്ങൾ പ്രസ്താവിക്കാം. കൊയ്ത്തു കഴിഞ്ഞശേഷം ഭൂമിയിൽ ഉരവും കുമ്മായവും ചേർത്തു ന്യായമായി ഉഴുകയും ഇളക്കുകയും ചെയ്താൽ അടുത്തകാലത്തു പഴു ഉണ്ടാകയില്ല. ചില ഭൂമിയുടെ പ്രകൃതിവിശേഷം കൊണ്ടാണ് പഴു കൂടുതലായി ഉണ്ടാകുന്നത്. ദുഷ്കാന്തമായ പരയുകയാണെങ്കിൽ രണ്ടു നിലങ്ങൾ എടുത്തു ഒന്നിൽ ഉരവും കുമ്മായവും ഇട്ടു ഉഴുത്ത് വിതയ്ക്കുകയും മറ്റൊന്നിൽ അങ്ങിനെ ചെയ്യാതെ വിതയ്ക്കുകയും ചെയ്താൽ ആദ്യത്തേതിൽ പഴു വളരെ കുറവായിട്ടെ കാണുന്നുള്ളു. രണ്ടാമത്തേതിൽ പഴു അധികം വന്നുചേരും. പഴു വീഴുന്ന സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ എല്ലാ കാലത്തും പഴു വീഴുന്നുണ്ട്. പഴു വീഴാത്ത സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലും കൂമേണ പഴുവിന്റെ ആക്രമണം ഉണ്ടാകാതിരിക്കത്തക്കവണ്ണം ശരിയായ പരിശോധനചെയ്തു മണ്ണിൽ ഏതെങ്കിലും പ്രവർത്തനങ്ങൾ ചെയ്യേണ്ടതാവശ്യമാണ്.

President : Does the honourable member suggest that the worm resides in the soil?

Mr. Thomas Chandy Mukkadan : Yes, Sir.

പ്രകൃതം വിട്ടു ഇത്രയും പ്രസ്താവിക്കാൻ ഇടയായതു ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട കൃഷി ഡയറക്ടർ അവർകളുടെ പ്രസ്താവന കേട്ടുകൊണ്ടാണ്. പരീക്ഷണ

[Mr. Thomas Chandy Mukkadan.]

ങ്ങൾ നടത്തണമെന്നും അതിലേയ്ക്കു വേണ്ട സഹായങ്ങൾ ചെയ്യാൻ സന്നദ്ധതയുള്ള ഒരാളാണ് മി. എം. കെ. അനന്തശിവയ്യർ. അദ്ദേഹം ഒരു ഒന്നാന്തരം കൃഷിക്കാരനും ശാസ്ത്രീയമായ ഗവേഷണങ്ങൾ നടത്തുന്നതിനു വേണ്ട ഒത്താശകൾ ചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കാൻ തയ്യാറുള്ള ഒരു ദേഹവുമാണ്. അതുപോലെയുള്ള മറ്റൊരാളാണ് മി. എൻ. കൃഷ്ണയ്യർ. അദ്ദേഹവും മി. അനന്തശിവയ്യരെപ്പോലെ കർഷക രക്ഷയ്ക്കു വേണ്ട നടപടികളിൽ ഗവണ്മെന്റിനോടു് സഹകരിച്ചു പ്രവർത്തിക്കാൻ സന്നദ്ധതയുള്ള ഒരു ക്ഷേമനാണ്. കുട്ടനാട്ടിൽ വലിയ ഭൂസ്വത്തും കർഷകവൃത്തിയിൽ നേരിട്ടു് പഠിച്ചവരുമുള്ള ഇവർ ഈസഭമുമ്പാകെ കൊണ്ടുവരുന്ന അഭിപ്രായങ്ങളും നിവേദനങ്ങളും യഥാർത്ഥമാണെന്നും അവ രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ ഭാവിനന്മയെ സാരമായി സ്पर्ശിക്കുന്നതാണെന്നും ഗവണ്മെന്റിന്റെ സത്പരവും അവഗാഹവുമായ ശ്രദ്ധയ്ക്കു അവ വിഷയീഭവിക്കേണ്ടതാണെന്നും ഞാൻ അറിയിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

മി. അനന്തശിവയ്യർ പൂഴിവിനെ ചൂലുകൊണ്ടു അടിച്ചു മാറ്റണമെന്നു പറഞ്ഞു. അതതു സഗമമായ ഒന്നല്ല. സാധാരണ പൂഴിവിനെ നശിപ്പിക്കാൻ അവിടെ ആദ്യമായി ചെയ്യുന്നതു വെള്ളം കയറി നിറുത്തുകയാണ്. ഒന്നരണ്ടുദിവസം ഇങ്ങനെ വെള്ളം കയറി നിറുത്തുമ്പോൾ പൂഴി പോയേക്കൂ. ചിലപ്പോൾ അതുകൊണ്ടു പ്രയോജനമില്ലെന്നുവന്നേക്കൂ.

President : Do these caterpillars swim ?

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar : They cannot live in the water, Sir.

Mr. Thomas Chandy Mukkadan : വെള്ളം ചൂട്ടു പിടിച്ച് ഒന്നു രണ്ടുദിവസം കിടക്കുമ്പോൾ നെൽച്ചെടികൾ കമ്പുകൾകൊണ്ടു വീശി ഇളക്കിയാൽ ചെറു ക്രിമികൾ വെള്ളത്തിൽ വീണ് ഏറക്കുറെ നശിക്കും. ചൂലുകൊണ്ടു അടിച്ചു മാറ്റുന്നതിനായാലും വെള്ളം കയറി നിറുത്തേണ്ടതാണ്. പെള്ളം കെട്ടിനിറുത്തണമെങ്കിൽതന്നെ പുറത്തുള്ള വരമ്പുകളെപ്പോലെ ഇടവരമ്പുകളും കണ്ടെത്തിയിരിക്കണം. വരമ്പുകളുണ്ടെന്നതിനാലത്രമുള്ള ചവറ, കാട് മുതലായവ ചവറ മുതലായ ഭൂമിയിൽനിന്നു വേണം കൊണ്ടുവരാൻ. എന്റെ ചെറുപ്പകാലത്തു നൂ രൂപയോ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ ഇരുപത്തിയഞ്ചോ മുപ്പതോ പന്റ നെല്ലോ കൊടുത്തു കൊണ്ടിരുന്ന ഒരു വള്ളം കാടിന് ഇപ്പോൾ 90 മുതൽ 100 പന്റ നെല്ലു പരെ കൊടുക്കേണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നു. പൂഴി അടിച്ചു വരുന്ന ആവശ്യത്തിലേക്കു് മാത്രം ഇടവരമ്പുകൾ ഉയർത്തുന്നതിനു് കുട്ടനാട്ടിൽ ആകെയുള്ള

പത്തിരപതു ലക്ഷപ്പറ നിലത്തിലെ അധികച്ചിലവുതന്നെ വളരെ ഭീമമായ ഒരു സംഗ്രഹമാണ്. ഈ ജോലി നടത്തുന്നതിനു പ്രധാന കൃഷിക്കാർ ഒഴികെ മറ്റുള്ളവർക്കു ശക്തിയില്ല. പല്ലിന്റെ കുറവു വളരെയുണ്ട്. ഇക്കൊല്ലത്തെ വെള്ളപ്പൊക്കംകൊണ്ട് ആ പ്രദേശങ്ങളിലുള്ള കാടിന്റെ അഥവാ പല്ലിന്റെ ഒരു വലിയഭാഗവും നഷ്ടപ്പെട്ടുപോയിരിക്കുന്നു. ഇങ്ങിനെ വെള്ളപ്പൊക്കംകൊണ്ടുള്ള നഷ്ടം ഒരു പ്രകാരത്തിലും, പുഴവീണിട്ടുള്ള നഷ്ടം മറ്റൊരു പ്രകാരത്തിലും കട്ടനാട്ടിലെ കൃഷിക്കാരെ വിഷമിപ്പിച്ചു കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നു. മേൽ പ്രസ്താവിച്ച പല സംഗതികൾ ഒന്നായി ആ ലോചിക്കുമ്പോൾ പുഴവീഴ്ചയുടെ ഭയങ്കരാവസ്ഥയും തൽകാരണത്താലുള്ള ഗണ്യമായ നഷ്ടവും എത്രമാത്രമുണ്ടെന്നു വിശദപ്പെടുന്നുണ്ട്. പുഴബാധ വിളവു കുറയുന്നു. വിളവെടുപ്പു കാലം നീട്ടി ഓമിന്റെ ഉപദ്രവം അനുഭവപ്പെടാൻ ഇടയാക്കുന്നു. അധികച്ചിലവു വരുന്നു. പഴയ കാലങ്ങളിൽ പഴുവിനെ ഒരു തരം കുട്ടികൊണ്ടു വീശിയെടുക്കയാണു പതിവു്. ഇപ്പോൾ അവകളൊന്നും ഫലപ്രദമാകുന്നില്ല. ശാസ്ത്രീയമായ പരിശോധന ചെയ്യാൻ ചുമതലപ്പെട്ടവർ ചെയ്യാത്തതിന്റെ ഫലമാണ് പരമാർത്ഥത്തിൽ കട്ടനാട്ടിൽ ഇന്നുണ്ടായിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന വിപത്തുകൾ. ആരേയും വ്യക്തിപരമായി ഭോഷാരോപണം ചെയ്യണമെന്ന് എനിക്ക് ആഗ്രഹമില്ല. കട്ടനാട്ടിലെ അവശതകളെപ്പറ്റി പറയുവാൻ കടമപ്പെട്ടവൻ എന്ന നിലയിൽ, ഒരു കൃഷിക്കാരന്റെ നിലയിൽ, കട്ടനാട്ടിലെ ആവശ്യങ്ങളെപ്പറ്റി പറയുന്നതിനാണു അവിടെനിന്നും ഒരാളെ നാമിനേർ ചെല്ലിട്ടുള്ളതെന്ന നിലയിൽ, ഈ വക സംഗതികൾ ഞാൻ ഗവണ്മെന്റിന്റെ ട്രഷ്യറിയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരിക മാത്രമാണ് ചെയ്യുന്നത്. കൃഷിഡയറക്ടർ അവർകളും ലാൻഡ് റവന്യൂ കമ്മീഷണർ അവർകളും കട്ടനാടു സന്ദർശിക്കണമെന്നു ഞാൻ അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു. ചീഫ് സെക്രട്ടറി ആ നാട്ടുകാരനായാൽ അദ്ദേഹത്തിന് അവിടത്തെ സ്ഥിതിഗതികൾ അറിയാം. അതുകൊണ്ട് അദ്ദേഹം അവിടെ വരണമെന്നു ഞാൻ ആവശ്യപ്പെടുന്നില്ല. സർ, അങ്ങ് അവിടെ വന്നു ആ സ്ഥലങ്ങൾ ഒന്നു കാണേണ്ടതാണ്.

President: But when I go there there will be no caterpillars. (*Laughter.*)

Mr. Thomas Chandy Mukkadan: തെക്കൻതിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ കഴിഞ്ഞകൊല്ലം മഴയില്ലാതെ വന്നപ്പോൾ സമതാപചിന്തയോടു കൂടി അവിടെച്ചെന്നു സന്ദർശിച്ചു ഫലപ്രദ മാർഗ്ഗങ്ങൾ നടപ്പാക്കിയ അങ്ങ് തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ ഏറ്റവും പ്രധാന കർഷകകേന്ദ്രമായ കട്ടനാട്ടിൽ

[Mr. Thomas Chandy Mukkadan.]

ഈ വാപൽപ്പട്ടത്തിൽ വരുന്നപക്ഷം അവിടത്തെ സ്ഥിതിഗതികൾ കണ്ടു മനസ്സിലാക്കിവേണ്ട രക്ഷാമാർഗ്ഗം ഉണ്ടാക്കി തരുന്നതിന് സാധിക്കുമെന്ന് എനിക്ക് വിശ്വാസമുള്ളതിനാൽ അവിടുന്ന് കർഷകരുടെമദ്ധ്യത്തിലേക്ക് വരണമെന്ന് ഞാൻ വീണ്ടും അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു. കട്ടനാട്ടിലെ കൃഷിക്കു പഴു വാഴ്ചമൂലം വന്നിട്ടുള്ള ദോഷങ്ങൾക്കു തക്കതായ പരിഹാരം വരുത്തണമെന്നുള്ള അപേക്ഷയോടുകൂടി ഈ പ്രസംഗത്തെ അവസാനിപ്പിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

Mr. N. Krishna Aiyar : Sir, I strongly support the motion. This pest has been a long—standing evil, doing considerable havoc in the Kuttanad area. This year their havoc has been very severe, and more keenly felt, on account of the heavy loss to the agriculturists caused by the unprecedented and unexpected floods during the last Vrischikam. The cultivator is put into considerable difficulties and with his shrunk credit and limited resources it is impossible for him to overcome these pests in time. During the growth of the crop, at different stages, these caterpillars appear in myriads and cause considerable ruin. It is quite true, it may not be possible to combat at once the pests which spread throughout the whole area simultaneously. It is high time, however, for the matter to receive the earnest and serious attention of the Agricultural Department and the Government and a concerted action in this direction by the Department of Agriculture and Research Departments of the University is highly necessary. The Land Revenue Department has also got a duty to fulfil in this. They must see that some remission of tax is granted to the ryots when it comes up for their consideration.

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar : Sir, the honourable member Mr. Thomas Chandy Mukkadan stated that one of the chief reasons for the occurrence of the pest is the poverty of the soil. I concede that where the soil has been properly fertilised the havoc done by these pests is lessened to a considerable extent. The position that the pests live in the soil has no scientific foundation at all since the soil in this area is submerged under water during six to seven months of the year. A considerable amount of investigation has been pursued with great interest and anxiety and I can assure the honourable member that the problem lies in finding out as to what happens to the pest after its activity in the area is over. The whole period of its activity is estimated to be 20 to 25 days. After the first 20 to 25 days, the leaves of the paddy plant become sufficiently strong and the caterpillars are not able to eat them up. They

change colour, undergo 4 or 5 moultings and nobody knows about their existence after 50 or 60 days. The investigation tends to show that they migrate and live on hosts of plants elsewhere. During the wet season they sweep down on the paddy crop all of a sudden and do havoc.

Secondly, there is also a feeling among the cultivators with whom I have very often moved—that the pests come when the clouds overhang the sky. There is no doubt of a co-relation between the clouds and the pests because clouds tend to bring humidity in the atmosphere.

One fact that has been raised by the mover of the motion, a fact which is not covered by the motion is the paucity of the labourers. I can inform the members that we have already arranged to get down threshers and hay-presses for use in Kuttanad.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : May I know, Sir, who pays for them?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar : Government will pay for them.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : May I know whether Government realise the cost of it from rich agriculturists?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar : One set of appliances bought by the department will be kept for demonstration purposes and they will be available to the ryots on payment of money.

President : What Government proposes is to demonstrate and then make the people buy this if they are satisfied. It is a question of experiment.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar : Sir, it appears the Land Revenue Commissioner wants to speak.

President : The honourable member Mr. Ananthasiva Aiyar will go on with his speech.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar : Sir, in view of the exposition made by the Director of Agriculture, I do not press the motion.

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

President : The House will now adjourn and meet again at 11 O'clock to-morrow morning.

The House adjourned at 4-5 P. M.

A. GUNAMONY,
Secretary to the Sri Chitra State Council.

Annexure I.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STANDING FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON THE 20TH JANUARY 1940/7TH MAKARAM 1115.

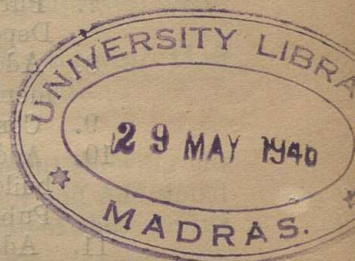
The first meeting of the Standing Finance Committee of the Sri Chitra State Council and the Sri Mulam Assembly was held in the Dewan's room, Public Offices, at 12 noon on Saturday, the 20th January 1940/7th Makaram 1115. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar Esq., B. A., B. L., Chief Secretary to Government presided, under authorisation by the Dewan.

The following members were present:—

1. M. L. Janardhana Pillai Esq.,
Member, Sri Mulam Assembly.
2. Varkala K. Madhavan Esq., B. A., B. L.,
Member, Sri Mulam Assembly.
3. Kallur Narayana Pillai Esq.,
Member, Sri Chitra State Council.
4. M. Govinda Pillai Esq., B. A.,
Financial Secretary to Government.
5. G. Narayanan Tampi Esq., B. A., B. L.,
Secretary to Government.

The following proposals relating to Demands for Supplementary Grants in the budget for 1115 were scrutinised and approved by the Committee:—

	Rs.
1. Repairing rain damages to tanks and channels in the Kodayar project ...	18,900
2 Repairing the buildings at Oolampara for the accommodation of the Armed Reserve ...	17,000
3 Expenditure on account of the P. W. D. Advisory Committee ...	1,860
4. Additional grant for the Water Works and Drainage schemes in the State ...	3,76,007
5. Additional grant for completing the P. W. D. Work under progress in the Ceramic Factory at Kundara ...	20,000
6. The proposal relating to the construction of a building for housing the proposed Sports Factory at a cost of Rs. 3,500 was next considered by the Committee. Mr. M. L. Janardhana Pillai wanted to know the terms of the agreement proposed to be entered into with Messrs. The Northland Sports Works of Sailkot. The Chairman read out the terms. Thereupon Mr. Janardhana Pillai observed that he could approve the proposal only if the firm would waive one of the conditions in the agreement	



viz., that Government should indemnify the firm against loss. He said that Government may also waive their rights to a share of the profits. The other two non-official members also agreed in the view expressed by Mr. Janardhana Pillai.

The Committee next considered the following proposals and agreed to the provision of the amounts noted against each in the budget as supplementary grants :—

	Rs.
7. Purchase of machinery for the Development Department ...	11,205
8. Additional funds for the Development Department for the purchase of Ascu chemicals etc. ...	14,000
9. Construction of Rural bridges ...	18,000
10. Additional grant for payment of rent for the building in which the office of the Director of Public Health is now housed ...	1,000
11. Additional grant under T. A. for the Advocate General's office ...	800
12. Appointment of a temporary Government Pleader to conduct the Chengannur riot case in the Quilon Sessions Court ...	875
13. Additional grant under the item 'Printing of Malayalam Readers and copy books' ...	50,000

A statement of expenditure authorised by Government under Section 32 of the Legislative Reforms Act, since the last session of the Legislature was placed before the Committee.

The Committee adjourned at 12:45 P. M.

Huzur Cutcherry,
Trivandrum, 3rd February 1940.

G. NARAYANAN TAMPI,
Convener,
Standing Finance Committee.

Annexure II.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE ON THE AUDIT REPORT AND APPROPRIATION ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 1113 M. E.

1. The Committee on Public Accounts for the year 1115 M. E. constituted under Government Order D. Dis. No. 2053/39/Legis., dated 8-9-1939, held its sitting on the 16th December 1939.

2. The Audit Report and Appropriation Accounts for the year 1113 prepared by the Accountant General was examined in detail.

APPROPRIATION ACCOUNTS (VOTED.)

3. *Comparison of actuals with grants.* A statement showing the total grant voted by the Legislature, Supplementary and Additional grants sanctioned during the year, the expenditure against these grants and the savings, is given below :—

Particulars.	Expenditure charged to revenue including working expenses.	Capital expenditure and investments on reproductive works.	Loans and Advances	Total.
Amount voted by the Legislature	1,63,60,724	81,61,712	15,60,600	2,60,83,036
Supplementary grants voted	1,24,761	1,00,000	..	2,24,761
Additional grants sanctioned under Section 32 of Act II of 1108	4,54,868	3,69,000	..	8,23,868
Reappropriations	150	..	..	150
Surrenders	2,500	..	..	2,500
Final aggregate grant	1,69,37,703	86,30,712	15,60,600	2,71,29,015
Final aggregate expenditure	1,64,87,235	62,73,288	15,99,861	2,43,60,384
Savings	4,50,468	23,57,424	—39,261	27,68,631

4. *Savings.* A statement showing the savings during 1112 and 1113 M. E. is given below for comparison :—

Year	Expenditure charged to revenue including working expenses.	Capital Expenditure and investments on reproductive works.	Loans and Advances.	Total.
1112	8.08	33.62	5.16	46.86
1113	4.51	23.57	—.39	27.69

The savings amounted to Rs. 27·6 9 lakhs or 10·21 per cent of the final aggregate grant during 1113 against 18·35 per cent. during 1112. Thus it may be seen that there is considerable improvement in budget forecasting even though the expenditure slightly exceeded the final grant under Loans and Advances. A list of the budget heads under which savings occurred is given on pages 62 to 64 of the report. The reasons for the savings are explained in the respective appropriation accounts.

As in 1112, the major portion of the savings occurred under Capital Expenditure and Investment on Reproductive Works. The main items of capital expenditure under which the savings occurred with brief explanations for the same are given below :—

	Lakhs of rupees.
Town Planning Scheme	0·51
The Council Chamber	0·77
Extension of the Public Offices Building—	
South Wing	1·50
University Buildings	0·88
Construction of Tobacco Bankshall	0·50
Trivandrum Electric Supply	0·21
Pallivasal Hydro-Electric Scheme	7·92
Telephone—Trunk Line	0·56
Broadcasting	1·45
Willingdon Water Works	0·80
Water Supply to the Municipal Towns of	
Alleppey, Shencottah, &c.	4·68
Trivandrum Drainage Scheme	2·70

The savings under Town Planning Scheme are stated to be due to short outlay on works consequent on the delay in getting sanction to estimates, delay in the acquisition of lands, &c. Under Council Chamber the savings resulted on account of the fact that though the work was practically finished during the year payments were not made as some finishing works then remained to be done. The extension of the Public Offices South Wing was not taken up, as Government ordered that it might lie over and as such the full provision made therefore lapsed. The savings under University Building occurred due to the fact that no substantial works could be taken up during the year as the University began to function only from the middle of the year. The provision made for the construction of a Tobacco Bankshall at Trivandrum lapsed as the revised estimate for the work was not ready.

Under Trivandrum Electric Supply the savings occurred under (i) Purchase and Erection of a 7th Generating Set, (ii) Extension of overhead lines and (iii) service connections. Under item (i) it was due to the low rate of the accepted tender and under items (ii) and (iii) due to the fact that the requisitions for connections, &c., on which the expenditure was dependent did not come up to the anticipated level.

Under Pallivasal Hydro Electric Scheme: the savings were partly under Civil Works controlled by the Chief Engineer and partly under Electrical works carried out by the Electrical Engineer. The savings

under Civil Works are stated to be due to the fact that works could be taken up only during certain months of the year, while under the Electrical Works, the savings resulted on account of the delay in the completion of the Civil Works. The savings under Telephone was due to the fact that though the grant under this head was augmented by diversion of Rs. 1.48 lakhs expecting the receipt of certain materials ordered, the addition proved wholly unnecessary. Under Broadcasting the savings were due to the fact that the works could not be taken up until the staff deputed for training at Delhi returned.

Under the Willingdon Water Works the short outlay was due to non-payment in respect of certain works as the claims could not be finally settled during the year. In the case of the water supply schemes in the Municipal towns of Alleppey, &c., the savings are stated to be due to the delay in the supply of pipes and specials, disbursement of certain claims for works done and also due to the unusual rains during certain months of the year which prevented much progress being made with the works. Under Trivandrum Drainage scheme, savings occurred as a result of the delay in the acquisition and handing over of lands required for the work, the non-payment of awards by the Revenue Department during the year, etc.

5. *Additional expenditure authorised under Section 32 of Act II of 1108.* A statement showing a list of expenditure authorised by Government under Section 32 of Act II of 1108 is given as Annexure A. It may be seen therefrom that a sum of Rs. 8,23,868 was authorised by Government under this section during the year under report as against Rs. 2,47,133 in the previous year. The purposes for which these amounts were sanctioned, detailed in the statement on pages 53 to 57 of the Audit Report and Appropriation Accounts were examined and we found that such authorisation was resorted to only under extremely emergent circumstances. We noted that statements of expenditure authorised by Government under Section 32 during the period between two meetings of the Legislature were placed before the House at the next meeting by the Financial Secretary to Government for the opinion of the House.

6. *Reappropriation.* During the year a sum of Rs. 150 was reappropriated from the grant under Administration of Justice-Civil and Sessions Courts to the non-votable item "Batta to witness". We noted that this was admissible under the rules. There was no irregular re-appropriation during the year.

7. *Excess Expenditure under voted grants.* A statement of grants under which the actual expenditure exceeded the final aggregate grant during the year is appended to the report as Annexure B. It may be seen therefrom that excess expenditure occurred during the year under 7 grants as against 5 during 1112. These were examined and the reasons for the excess are given below :—

The excess expenditure under grant No. XIII General Administration, Heads other than the Financial Secretariat, Account Office, &c., occurred chiefly under Huzur Office Contingencies-Telephone charges, Improvements to the Huzur Tower Clock, Office expenses and miscellaneous, &c., and partly under Revision of the State Manual. Under 22 Industries, the excess was largely due to the expediting of the P. W. portion of the works connected with the Ceramic Factory and the adjustment of a share of expenditure incurred on establishment and tools and plant under 31-Buildings, Communications, &c. to this head. The excess under Registration occurred on account of the payment of leave allowances to Sub-Registrars and their establishment for which no separate provision was made in the budget. The adjustment during 1113, of the value of yarn supplied from the Sales Depot, Trivandrum, to the Central Prison in 1111, resulted in the small excess expenditure under Jail Manufactures. Under Stationery and Printing the excess was mainly under Printing due to heavy expenditure incurred in connection with the printing of the Malayalam Readers, copy books &c. The excess under Anchal was due to the payment of leave allowances to the Anchal Office establishment. Under Mint Advance the excess was due to the fact that silver coins worth Rs. 2 lakhs were obtained during the year. The apparent excess is due to the adjustment of the gain by debit to this advance head and credit to gain on silver coinage. The actual expenditure for minting silver coins for the face value of Rs. 2 lakhs was well within the original budget grant.

8. *Unnecessary Supplementary grants (voted).* The various items under which the grants originally voted were supplemented by additional grants either voted by the Legislature or sanctioned by Government under Section 32 of Act II of 1108 and where the additions proved to be wholly unnecessary are given in Annexure C. The Financial Secretary to Government had obtained from the Heads of Departments concerned detailed information regarding the circumstances under which the additional grants were sought for when the expenditure was capable of being accommodated within the original sanctioned grant. These were scrutinised and we found that these additional grants were mostly obtained during the early part of the year under report when the Departmental Heads were not in a position to estimate any savings in the sanctioned grants. In certain cases we observed that the items for which the supplementary grants were obtained related to "new services" for which funds could not be found by reappropriation from the sanctioned grant. For further details *vide* para 7 of the proceedings.

9. *New Service.* Under Rule 10 of the Public Accounts Committee Supplemental Rules, the Financial Secretary to Government had placed before the Committee a list of supplementary grants obtained by the Government for schemes of new expenditure treated as "New Services" for the opinion of the Committee as to whether they are "New Services" or not (*vide* Annexure D). The list was scrutinised and approved by the Committee.

AUDIT REPORTS.

10. This part of the report deals with the cases of financial irregularities in the several departments detected in audit or reported to Government by the Departmental Officers. The cases of defalcations, misappropriations, &c., excepting those involving amounts less than Rs. 10 are detailed on pages 194 to 209 of the Audit Report and Appropriation Accounts. We noted that exemplary punishments were meted out to the persons responsible for the defalcations and irregularities.

11. The irregularities on works outlay are dealt with in a separate chapter on pages 210 to 224 of the Audit Report and Appropriation Accounts. The principal types of irregularities found are detailed on page 210 and instances supporting these are given on the subsequent pages.

12. Chapter IV of the Audit and Appropriation Report deals with the audit activities of the Accountant General's Office during 1113. It may be seen therefrom that the accounts of 136 offices and institutions were audited by the Outside Audit Branch of the Accountant General's Office and that the irregularities detected were brought to the notice of the authorities concerned or Government. It is stated that during the year 9 P. W. Offices, 2 Divisional treasuries and 6 Sub Treasuries were taken up for audit besides the special audit of 9 institutions ordered by Government. In the matter of revenue receipts it is stated that monthly statements were sent as usual to the Heads of Departments concerned to enable them to exercise a proper control over the revenue collections and to reconcile the difference between the figures received from the District Officers and the demand statements.

13. As in the previous year we append to our report the minutes of our proceedings which we consider should be treated as part of this report.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE
PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE
DATED SATURDAY THE
16TH DECEMBER 1939.

PRESIDENT : —

1. M. R. Ry. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar, Avl.,
Chief Secretary to Government.
2. „ M. Govinda Pillai, Avl.,
Financial Secretary to Government.
3. „ N. Krishna Aiyar, Avl.,
Member, Sri Chitra State Council.
4. „ M. G. Kesava Pillai, Avl.,
Member, Sri Mulam Assembly.
5. „ P. Narayana Pillai, Avl.,
Member, Sri Mulam Assembly.

M. R. Ry., S. Sundararajan, Avl., Ag. Accountant General was also present.

1. The Committee met in the Dewan's room, Public Offices, at 11-30 A. M.

2. Under authorization by the Dewan, the Chief Secretary to Government presided.

3. The question, as to whether it would not be more useful to have the Audit and Appropriation Report of a year ready for review before the presentation of the next Budget was first raised. The President pointed out that, although the Report regarding the accounts of 1112 was ready for the Committee's consideration even in August last year, the report regarding the accounts of 1113 had been delayed till December this year. The Financial Secretary assured that the Report regarding the Accounts of 1114 would be got ready earlier and said that the new Accountant General would see to it.

4. *Kuttanad Water Supply.* Mr. N. Krishna Aiyar referred to page 112 of the Report and asked for details as to the sum of Rs. 5776 expended in 1113. He was informed that the members of the Committee had the right, if they considered it necessary, to request Government to summon the Heads of Departments whom they would like to interrogate for purposes of information or explanation of points which needed elucidation according to them and that, in the absence of such previous requisition, the only possibility was to get the information from the Head of the Department concerned.

5. *Survey of Minor Circuits.* Mr. P. Narayana Pillai referred to page 82 of the report and asked whether the work of Survey of Minor Circuits was completed and if not, why a portion of the provision made for the purpose was allowed to lapse. He added that the work could have been pushed through further by the appointment of additional hands for the purpose.

The President explained the nature of the work, and stated that the work had to be done very carefully and that by experienced surveyors as otherwise it would lead to further complications. It was pointed out that the normal staff of the department could not attend to this special work and that therefore fresh staff had to be appointed for the purpose, and that the nature of the work was such that it could not be hurried through.

6. *Irrigation Fund.* Mr. Narayana Pillai also referred to the lapsing of funds under the Irrigation Fund and asked whether the works could not be proceeded with more vigorously so as to utilise all the funds provided for the purpose. The Financial Secretary to Government pointed out that the unspent balance in the allotment under this head would not lapse but was added on to the corpus of the Irrigation Fund so that the delay would not prejudice the work.

7. *Unnecessary Supplementary grants (voted).* The Financial Secretary to Government informed the Committee that he had obtained information from Heads of Departments on all matters on which the non-official members of the Committee would like to have further information. For instance he read out the explanation furnished by the Heads of Departments in regard to the circumstances under which unnecessary supplementary grants were obtained by them when the expenditure was capable of being met from the sanctioned grants for the departments. He stated that it was clear from the information furnished that the additional grants were sought for by the Departmental Heads during the early part of the year when it was not possible for them to anticipate any savings under the sanctioned grants. He then cited as an instance the additional grant of B. Rs. 1 lakh under 20 Education—Excluding Travancore University and All India Oriental Conference, sanctioned for meeting the expenditure on account of His Highness the Maharaja's donation to the Andhra University and stated that the Department could not have anticipated savings in the sanctioned grant to meet the same.

The Committee passed the Audit Report and Appropriation Accounts and adjourned at 11-45 A. M.

ANNEXURE A.

Supplementary and additional grants sanctioned during 1113 M. E.

Name of Major Head.	Sanctioned under non-voted Heads.	Voted by the Legislature.	Sanctioned under Section 32 of Act II of 1108.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Land Revenue	11,488	1,891	1,568	14,947
2. Taxes on Income	6,600	4,230	6,541	17,371
6. Forest	8,700	..	16,800	25,500
12. Panivagai	85,810	..	..	85,810
13. H. H. the Maharaja's Garage and Stables	4,628	..	..	4,628
15. General Administration	...	..	2,000	2,000
16. Administration of Justice	2,175	61,430	5,000	68,605
20. Education	..	..	1,01,786	1,01,786
21. Agriculture and Fisheries	..	6,594	5,707	12,301
22. Industries	..	1,200	500	1,700
24. Uplift of Backward Communities	..	..	10,000	10,000
25. Medical, Public Health and Sanitation	..	5,316	1,59,752	1,65,068
26. Devaswoms	4,478	..	..	4,478
29. Stationery and Printing	..	..	56,700	56,700
30. Scientific and Miscellaneous departments	..	4,100	17,793	21,893
31. Buildings, Communications etc.	1,00,127	40,000	45,721	1,85,848
33. Maramat	3,220	..	..	3,220
35. Miscellaneous Political Expenditure	1,53,397	..	..	1,53,397
41. Miscellaneous	11,405	..	..	11,405
XXV. Productive Irrigation Working Expenses	...	..	25,000	25,000
Capital expenditure not charged to Revenue	..	..	..	...
The Travancore House, Madras	11,770	..	..	11,770
Debt Heads—Investments on Reproductive works	..	1,00,000	3,69,000	4,69,000
Total	4,03,798	2,24,761	8,23,868	14,52,427

Accounts and adjourned at 11-15 A.M.

ANNEXURE B.

Excess expenditure under voted grants.

Grant No.	Name of Grant.	Original Grant.	Supplementary and additional grants Voted.	Supplementary grant sanctioned under Sec. 32 of Act II of 1108.	Diversions and surrenders.	Final Grant.	Actual Expenditure.	Excess over final Grant.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
XIII	15. General Administration — Heads other than Financial Secretariat, Account Office, Legislative Bodies and Public Service Commissioner	2,62,273	..	2,000	..	2,64,273	2,66,940	2,667
XVIII	22. Industries	1,53,726	1,200	5500		1,55,426	1,49,892	
	D. H.—Investments on Reproductive works—The Clay Refining and Porcelain Factory	2,25,000	1,00,000	19,000	...	3,44,000	3,59,383	
	Do. Rubber Factory	..	..	..	...	..	1,660	
	Total of Grant No. XVIII.	3,78,726	1,01,200	19,500	..	4,99,426	5,10,935	11,509
XXI	8. Registration	3,22,673	..	..	...	3,22,673	3,25,796	3,123
XXII	17. Jails	99,975	...	...	..	99,975	1,00,388	413
XXVII	29. Stationery and Printing	2,63,466	...	56,700	..	3,20,166	3,42,610	22,444
XXX	XXIX Anchal-working expenses	3,82,436	...	...	..	3,82,436	3,86,836	
	36. Anchal—Capital Account	6,880	..	..	..	6,880	5,791	
	Total of Grant No. XXX	3,89,316	...	...	...	3,89,316	3,92,627	3,311
XXXVIII	Debt Head—Coinage Account—Mint Advances	1,00,000	..	..	..	1,00,000	2,01,175	1,01,175
	Total	18,16,429	1,01,200	78,200	..	19,95,829	21,40,471	1,44,642

ANNEXURE C.
Unnecessary Supplementary Grants.

Grant No.	Name of Grant.	Original Grant.	Supplementary Grant voted.	Additional Grant sanctioned under Sec. 32.	Final Grant. Expenditure.	Actual Expenditure.	Savings compared with original grant.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
I	1. Land Revenue						
	2. Taxes on Income and Capital Expenditure—Survey of Minor Circuits	10,08,917	6,121	8,103	10,23,147	9,92,062	16,855
III	20. Education excluding Travancore University and All India Oriental Conference	48,42,680	..	1,01,786	49,44,466	47,67,336	75,346
IV	20. F. Travancore University, All India Oriental Conference and 24. Uplift of Backward Communities	1,08,790	..	10,000	1,18,790	79,666	29,124
XIX	21. Agriculture and Fisheries	2,37,181	6,594	5,707	2,49,482	2,32,923	4,258
	Total	61,97,568	12,715	1,25,602	63,35,885	60,71,987	1,25,581

ANNEXURE D.

Under Rule 10 of the Public Accounts Committee Supplemental Rules, I beg to place before the Public Accounts Committee the following list of supplementary grants obtained by the Government during 1113 for schemes of new expenditure treated as "new services" for the opinion of the Committee whether they are "new services" or not.

Name of Major Head.	Amount Rs.	Particulars.
1 Land Revenue.	1,891	For appointment of a special officer and staff for investigation of the different varieties of Oodakur tenure obtaining in the various taluks of the State.
2. Taxes on Income.	4,230	For the reorganisation of the Income Tax Department temporarily with effect from 1st Kumbhem 1113.
16. Administration of Justice.	11,250	For the recruitment of and remuneration to Government Pleaders under the new rules.
21. Agriculture and Fisheries.	1,844	For the appointment temporarily of two Veterinary inspectors and staff at Meenachil and Perumbavoor for carrying on a campaign against anthrax.
22. Industries.	1,200	For the purchase of two drill-motion power-looms for manufacture of drill and twill cloths in the Central Technological Institute, Trivandrum.
25. Medical, Public Health and Sanitation.	900	For entertainment of a specialist in Tubercular diseases.
Do.	3,927	For opening an out-patient dispensary on the eastern side of Alleppey town.
Buildings, Communications, etc.	3,000	For investigation for supply of fresh water on the coastal regions of the State by taking deep boring.
Debt—Head Investments on reproductive works.	1,00,000	For purchase of new machinery and for electrification of the Ceramic Factory, Kundara and for construction of buildings.

Trivandrum,
16th December 1939.

M. GOVINDA PILLAI,
Financial Secretary to Government.

Annexure III.

MOTIONS PASSED BY THE SRI MULAM ASSEMBLY REGARDING THE TRAVANCORE PUBLIC SERVICE RECRUITMENT RULES.

1. Public Service may be defined as in the T. S. R. Manual with the following alterations:—

(a) The employment as Munsiffs should be included in Public Service.

(b) Appointments in the University and the institutions under it should be excluded.

(c) Employment in state-aided schools should be excluded from Public Service provided however that in future when sanctioning new schools preference must be given to applications from communities having fewer schools other conditions being satisfactory.

2. These rules apply to initial recruitments only and not to promotions, and confirmation shall be determined by the date of first recruitment.

3. Public Service may be divided into:—

(a) Higher Division.

(b) Lower Division.

i. Inferior Service as defined in the Travancore Service Regulations.

ii. Superior Service.

(1) Ministerial.

(2) Executive.

The Higher Division comprises all appointments of which the actual initial salaries, exclusive of all allowances, at the time when any recruitment thereto is made, are Rs. 150 or more per mensem.

The Lower Division comprises all appointments of which the actual initial salaries, exclusive of all allowances, at the time when any recruitment thereto is made, are less than Rs. 150 per mensem.

4. Appointments to the Higher Division shall be by fresh recruitments and promotions in the proportion 1: 2.

No change need be made in the Rules regarding the T. C. S. Examination. But the claims of those communities that fail to get representation through the competitive examination may be considered when making nominations.

Recruitment to the cadre of Munsiffs from Service and the Bar shall be in the ratio of 1: 3.

Even though the cadre comes under the Higher Division the recruitments shall be made according to the communal rotation shown below in the case of the Lower Division.

5. Recruitment to inferior service and to the ministerial and executive branches of the superior service respectively in the Lower Division of Public Service shall be made by rotation on the basis of the population of communities; provided that the candidates selected possess the minimum qualification prescribed.

When there are more than the required number of candidates from any particular community the best qualified among them may be chosen.

If there is no suitable candidate available from any community which should be selected in compliance with the rules the said community shall be ignored in making the said selection.

6. The minimum qualifications prescribed in schedules I B and C of the T. S. R. Manual may be accepted.

7. Communities, for the purposes of the above rules shall be divided into three main religious groups *viz.* Hindus, Christians and Muslims. Out of every 51 appointments 31 appointments shall be given to Hindus, 16 to Christians and 4 to Muslims.

8. The recruitments from these three religious groups may be made according to the following rotation :

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| 1. Mus lim | 27. Muslim |
| 2. Christian | 28. Christian |
| 3. Hindu | 29. Hindu |
| 4. Hindu | 30. Hindu |
| 5. Christian | 31. Christian |
| 6. Hindu | 32. Hindu |
| 7. Hindu | 33. Hindu |
| 8. Christian | 34. Christian |
| 9. Hindu | 35. Hindu |
| 10. Hindu | 36. Hindu |
| 11. Christian | 37. Christian |
| 12. Hindu | 38. Hindu |
| 13. Hindu | 39. Hindu |
| 14. Muslim | 40. Muslim |
| 15. Christian | 41. Christian |
| 16. Hindu | 42. Hindu |
| 17. Hindu | 43. Hindu |
| 18. Christian | 44. Christian |
| 19. Hindu | 45. Hindu |
| 20. Hindu | 46. Hindu |
| 21. Christian | 47. Christian |
| 22. Hindu | 48. Hindu |
| 23. Hindu | 49. Hindu |
| 24. Christian | 50. Christian |
| 25. Hindu | 51. Hindu |
| 26. Hindu | |

9. Hindus may be sub-divided into the following communities and each sub-section given the number of appointment noted against it:—

1. Brahmin	1
2. Nair	9
3. Ezhava	9
4. Visvakarma	2
5. Nadar	2
6. Vellala	1
7. Other forward Hindus	1
8. Pulaya (cheraman)	2
9. Kurava	1
10. Paraya (Sambavar)	1
11. Other backward Hindus	2

10. The Hindu vacancies in the rotation shown in clause 8 may be filled up in the order shown below:—

1. Pulaya (Cheramar)	17. Nadar
2. Nadar	18. Paraya (Sambavar)
3. Ezhava	19. Ezhava
4. Nair	20. Nair
5. Kurava	21. Kammala (Visvakarma)
6. Brahmin	22. Ezhava
7. Kammala (Visvakarma)	23. Nair
8. Ezhava	24. Other forward Hindu
9. Nair	25. Ezhava
10. Pulaya (Cheramar)	26. Nair
11. Ezhava	27. Other backward Hindu
12. Nair	28. Ezhava
12. Vellala	29. Nair
14. Other backward Hindu	30. Ezhava
15. Ezhava	31. Nair
16. Nair	

N. B.—After every two non-Malayala Brahmin one Malayala Brahmin must be appointed.

11. Christians may be sub-divided into the following communities and each sub-section given the number of appointments noted against it.

1. Syrian Catholics	5
2. Latin Catholics	4
3. Jacobite Syrian	3
4. Marthomites	1
5. S. I. U. Church	1
6. Anglicans	1
7. Other Christians	1

12. The christian vacancies in the rotation shown in clause 8 may be filled up in the order shown below :—

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Anglican | 9. Syrian Catholic |
| 2. Jacobite Syrian | 10. Jacobite Syrian |
| 3. Latin Catholic | 11. Latin Catholic |
| 4. Syrian Catholic | 12. Syrian Catholic |
| 5. Jacobite Syrian | 13. S. I. U. Church |
| 6. Latin Catholic | 14. Marthomite |
| 7. Syrian Catholic | 15. Latin Catholic |
| 8. Other Christians | 16. Syrian Catholic |
13. There shall be a Public Service Commissioner who will be an officer of high status.
14. There shall also be an advisory committee consisting of not more than seven non-official members, consisting of a Nair, an Ezhava, a Backward class Hindu, a Catholic, a non-Catholic Christian a Muslim and a lady to advise the Commissioner.
15. The above rules shall be in force for the next three years, at the end of which period the position shall be reviewed by the Government in the light of conditions then existing.

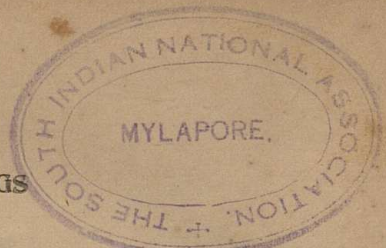
12. The Christian vacancies in the position shown in clause 2 may be filled up in the order shown below —

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------|-----|--------------------|
| 1. | Anglican | 10. | Syrian Catholic |
| 2. | Jacobite Syrian | 11. | Jacobite Syrian |
| 3. | Latin Catholic | 12. | Latin Catholic |
| 4. | Syrian Catholic | 13. | Syrian Catholic |
| 5. | Jacobite Syrian | 14. | S. I. U. Christian |
| 6. | Latin Catholic | 15. | Marthomite |
| 7. | Syrian Catholic | 16. | Latin Catholic |
| 8. | Latin Christian | 17. | Syrian Catholic |

18. There shall be a Public Service Commissioner who will be an officer of high standing.

19. There shall also be an advisory committee consisting of not more than seven non-official members consisting of a Native, an Ex-serviceman, a Backward class Hindu, a Christian, a non-Christian Christian, a Muslim and a lady to advise the Commissioner.

20. The above rules shall be in force for the next three years, at the end of which period the position shall be reviewed by the Government in the light of conditions then existing.



PROCEEDINGS
OF
THE TRAVANCORE SRI CHITRA STATE COUNCIL.
SECOND COUNCIL.
SIXTH SESSION.

Tuesday, the 17th Makaram 1115/30th January 1940.

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

Vol. XV—No. 2.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
1. Members sworn	73
2. Questions and Answers	73
3. Adjournment Motion	83
4. Legislative Business:—	
(i) The Travancore Rubber Control Bill— consideration and passing of	83
(ii) The Travancore Bankers' Books Evid- ence Bill—consideration and passing of	84
(iii) The Travancore Reformatory Schools Act (Amendment) Bill—consi- deration and passing of	85
(iv) The Travancore Census Bill—consi- deration and passing of	86
5. Adjournment motion to discuss the serious situation created by rat-falls in the town of Quilon	87



PROCEEDINGS

OF

THE TRAVANCORE AND COCHIN STATE COUNCIL

SECOND COUNCIL

SIXTH SESSION

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

VOL. XV—No. 2

CONTENTS

Page

Members sworn	1
Questions and Answers	2
Adjournment Motion	3
Negative Business	4
The Travancore Rubber Control Bill— consideration and passing of	5
The Travancore Bankers' Bills— second reading—consideration and passing of	24
The Travancore Preliminary Scheme for (a) Land Revenue (b) Land Revenue decision and passing of	33
The Travancore Cattle Bill— decision and passing of	36
Adjournment motion to discuss the serious situation created by malaria in the town of Quilon	37



PROCEEDINGS
of
THE TRAVANCORE SRI CHITRA STATE COUNCIL.
(OFFICIAL REPORT).
SECOND COUNCIL

Volume XV—No 2.
SIXTH SESSION—1115/1940.

Tuesday, the 17th Makaram 1115/30th January 1940.

The Council met again in the Legislative Chamber at eleven of the clock, with Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, K. C. I. E., LL. D., Dewan-President in the Chair.

MEMBERS SWORN.

The following members took the oath and signed the Rolls: -

1. Mr. A. Gopala Menon (*Director of Public Instruction*).
2. Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai (*Director of Public Health*).

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Graduate teachers in the English and Malayalam schools.

17. * **Mr. K. M. Kesavan** (*Karunagapalli, Kartikapalli and Ambalapuzha cum Shertallai*): Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement by caste of graduate teachers entertained in departmental English and Malayalam schools?

Mr. A. Gopala Menon (*Director of Public Instruction*): The statement* is placed on the table.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan: May I know why the graduates from the Ezhava community get only a small number of appointments?

Mr. A. Gopala Menon: The principle of communal representation in Government service was brought into effect only recently.

Grant-in-aid to Ayurveda Vaidyasalas.

18. ***Mr. K. M. Kesavan**: Will the Government be pleased to state by caste :

(a) the number of applications received for grant-in-aid to Ayurveda Vaidyasalas in 1114 ; and

(b) the number of Vaidyasalas to which grant-in-aid was sanctioned ?

Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi (*Secretary to Government*) :

(a) It is too numerous to be listed. There were about 200 applications.

(b) Six.

Bridge at Pathiyoor.

19. ***Mr. K. M. Kesavan**: Will the Government be pleased to state whether since the last budget session of the Legislature the putting up of a bridge at Pathiyoor to the west of the temple and another at Evoor to the east of the Sri Krishnaswami temple has engaged the attention of Government?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar (*Chief Engineer*) : An estimate has been prepared for the Pathiyoor bridge. No action has been taken in respect of the Evoor bridge.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan: It is said that an estimate has been prepared for the Pathiyoor Bridge. May I know what the estimated amount is and when the bridge will be put up ?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar: The previous estimate was for a bridge of 25 feet span costing about Rs. 3,300.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan: May I know the probable time during which the bridge will be completed ?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar: We are now considering another cheaper type of bridge known as 'rural bridge'. It is being scrutinised by the local officers. If we are able to reduce the amount, probably the construction of the bridge will be completed this year.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan: May I know why nothing has been stated about the Evoor Bridge ?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar: It is proposed to take up that bridge as soon as the construction of the Pathiyoor bridge is over.

Pakuthi Cutcherries

20. ***Mr. K. M. Kesavan**: Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Pakuthi Cutcherries in the State ;

(b) the number of rented buildings for the same ;

(c) whether it is the policy of Government to have Government buildings for Pakuthi Cutcherries ;

(d) if so, how many buildings were built last year for the purpose ; and

(e) how many do Government propose to build this year ?

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao (*Land Revenue and Income tax Commissioner*) : (a) 410.

(b) 244.

(c) Yes ; as far as possible.

(d) 1.

(e) 3.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan : Sir, it has been declared as a policy of Government to house Pakuthi Cutcherries in Government buildings. But in the answer it is stated that only one building was constructed during the last year and three are proposed to be constructed during this year. May I know from the member, in view of this slow progress, whether it will not take many more years to attain the object of Government.

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao : Sir, there is a standard design sanctioned by Government for the Pakuthi Cutcherries, and the cost of each building will come to about Rs. 2,000. So, it will not be possible to take up many buildings in one year. The work is taken up with due regard to the amount budgeted for each year.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan : May I know whether at least five new buildings can be constructed in an year ?

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao : Yes, Sir, that may be tried.

Mr. Kochikkal P. Balakrishnan Tampi (*Karunagapalli, Karthikapalli and Ambalapuzha cum Shertalla*) : May I know the average rent for these hired buildings ?

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao : From two to four Rupees, Sir.

Mr. Kochikkal P. Balakrishnan Tampi : May I know then, whether it is not more economical to have rented buildings ?

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao : May be so, Sir ; but it is the policy of the Government to have their own buildings as far as possible.

Recruitment and promotion of teachers.

21. * **Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar** (*Nominated*) : Will the Government be pleased to state

(a) whether candidates with M. A. qualifications are given preference to graduates in the matter of recruitment to and promotions in the Education Department ;

(b) whether candidates with M. A. qualifications are preferred to those with B. A. qualifications in the matter of recruiting them for training in the Training College, Trivandrum ;

[Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar.]

(c) have the Government fixed the minimum salary that ought to be given to teachers in private managed schools ;

(d) have they made any distinction between teachers with M. A. qualifications and teachers with B. A. qualifications, in fixing the minimum salary ;

(e) is there any rule that teachers with higher qualifications should be declared senior to those with lower qualifications when they both work in the same school ;

(f) if the answer to part (e) is in the negative, do the Government consider the desirability of making rules in regard to giving seniority to men with higher qualifications ; and

(g) are the Government aware that ordinary graduate teachers and teachers with M. A. qualifications are being treated alike in the matter of promotions, pay, etc., in private educational institutions ?

Mr. A. Gopala Menon: (a) No.

(b) No, service is the criterion for selection in departmental schools. In private schools preference is given to schools where there are not sufficient number of trained teachers.

(c) Yes, for purposes of calculation for maintenance grant.

(d) No

(e) No.

(f) No.

(g) Yes.

Recruitment of teachers in private schools to public service.

22. * **Mr M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar:** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether a teacher 35 years old and with 10 years' teaching experience is considered as a trained teacher and exempted from appearing for the training examination ;

(b) whether teachers so exempted from undergoing training course and examination are eligible for recruitment to public service in cases where trained teachers are required ;

(c) if the answer to part (b) is in the affirmative, has the Public Service Commissioner refused to consider such people as eligible ; and

(d) can the teachers who have got such exemption appear for the L. T. examination of the Travancore University without undergoing the usual course of training ?

Mr. A. Gopala Menon: (a) No.

(b), (c) and (d). Do not arise in the light of the answer to (a) above.

In-patients.

23. ***Mr. M. Sultan Muhiadheen** (*Trivandrum and Nedumangad cum Chirayinkil*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) the number of in-patients treated in the Grant-in-aid Ayurveda hospitals during the year 1114;

(b) the number of in-patients treated in the Vaidyasalas during the said period; and

(c) the number of in-patients treated in the Marma Vaidyasalas during the said period?

Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi: (a) 243.

(b) Nil.

(c) Nil.

Vaidyasastra Granthams.

24. ***Mr. M. Sultan Muhiadheen**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) the annual expenses incurred by the Ayurveda Department in collecting *Vaidyasastra granthams*;

(b) whether any such *grantham* relating to *siddha vaidyam* has been collected;

(c) if so the name of such *grantham*;

(d) the date of its publication; and

(e) the language in which it is published?

Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi: (a) Nil.

(b) Yes.

(c) *Vaidyachintamani* and *Nayanavidhi Sutram*.

(d) These *granthams* have not yet been published.

(e) This does not arise in view of the answer to part (d).

Abolition of P. W. D. Tolls.

25. ***Mr. T. Krishna Pillai** (*Kalkulam and Vilavankod cum Neyyattinkara*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount realised by Government from P. W. D. tolls during the last three years; and

(b) whether the Government have considered the question of the abolition of the P. W. D. tolls?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar: (a) Rs. 16,50,700.

(b) The question is being considered in all its aspects.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai: May I know, Sir, with reference to part (b) of the answer, how long this question has been engaging the consideration of Government?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar: This question has been raised and discussed during a number of years, and Government are considering it.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai: May I know whether the member is aware that resolutions have been passed by this House on former occasions?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : Yes, Sir.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai : May I know whether there are officers or any set of officers exempted from payment of tolls ?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : Certain P. W. D. officers who directly deal with tolls are exempted from payment, But they make half yearly lump sum payments to Government in lieu of tolls.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai : May I know whether the Police officers who travel on duty are exempted from payment of tolls ?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : Some officers are exempted as per Notification issued by Government, while publishing the invitation for tenders.

Report of the Oodukur Special Officer.

26. ***Mr. T. Krishna Pillai :** Will the Government be pleased to state whether the 'Oodukur Special Officer' appointed by Government a few years back has submitted any report ; if so, what action has been taken thereon ?

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao : Yes ; the Oodukur Special Officer has submitted his report. The same is under the consideration of Government.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai : May I know Sir, when the Special Officer submitted his report ?

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao : Some time last year.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai : Will the honourable member be definite about the date ?

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao : In 1114.

Buses in the Nagercoil-Trivandrum line.

27 ***Mr. T. Krishna Pillai :** Will the Government be pleased to state ;

(a) the number of buses plying in the Nagercoil-Trivandrum line ;

(b) the number of buses that were running on the above route when the Pioneer Motor Service was conducting the service ; and

(c) whether the travelling public are put to great hardship and inconvenience due to the paucity of buses in regular service ?

Mr. K. Sankaran (*Ag Secretary to Government*) : (a) 20.

(b) 110 buses belonging to different bus owners were permitted to run on alternate days.

(c) Government are not aware of any such hardship.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai : May I know Sir, whether the traffic has increased after the State Transport Buses began to ply ?

Mr. K. Sankaran : There is not any appreciable increase.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai : Sir, with reference to answer to

part (b) am I to take it that only 55 buses are permitted to ply daily on the route?

Mr. K. Sankaran : 110 buses were given permit to conduct services in the route. But certain time-limit was prescribed. It was not obligatory on the part of the owners to run all the 110 buses.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai : May I know the number of buses that actually ply on the road?

Mr. K. Sankaran : The figure has not been ascertained. It varies from day to day.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai : May I know whether it cannot be ascertained from the checking registers kept by the Police officers?

Mr. K. Sankaran : Registers are kept by them but the required figures have not been collected.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai : In answer to part (a) of the question it is stated that 20 buses alone ply on the route. May I know whether that is sufficient to cope with the requirements of the travelling public and whether more private buses will be allowed to ply on the route?

President : That is one of the reasons for starting the Transport Service. A number of unnecessary buses running on the road ruin themselves by competition. One of the main reasons why the State Transport system was started is this.

Mr. James Fletcher (*Kalkulam and Vilavankod cum Neyyattinkara*) : With reference to part (c) of the question may I know whether any enquiry was made regarding the hardship?

Mr. K. Sankaran : Government did not receive any representation that there was hardship and so no enquiry was made.

Mr. James Fletcher : Even after this question was sent to Government may I know whether they made any enquiry into the matter?

Mr. K. Sankaran : Sir, no representation was made and Government thought that there was no hardship.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : (*Quilon cum Kunnamthur*) ; May I know whether Government will make enquiries only on representations directly made to them?

Mr. K. Sankaran : The department feels that there is no such hardship existing.

Mr. Kottoor Kunjukrishna Pillai : Are the Government aware that there have been complaints in the Press regarding the paucity of buses causing difficulties to the travelling public?

Mr. K. Sankaran : For every 20 minutes a bus is starting from Trivandrum to Nagercoil and *vice versa* and as such there is no cause for any hardship.

Mr. Kottoor Kunjukrishna Pillai : My question was, whether Government are aware that there have been complaints ventilated through the Press?

Mr. K. Sankaran : I am not at present aware of that, Sir. I claim notice.

Crude Oil Buses.

28. ***Mr. T. Krishna Pillai :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of crude oil buses purchased by Government for the State Transport Service till date 1-10-1938 ; and

(b) the number of crude oil buses in regular service at present?

Mr. K. Sankaran : (a) & (b) No crude oil buses were purchased ; but seventy-one buses operating on High Speed Diesel oil were purchased. Of these, forty buses are now in regular service.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai : May I know Sir, what has happened to the 31 buses which are not plying now?

Mr. K. Sankaran : They are not put in service owing to the absence of some spare parts. At present there is difficulty of getting these spare parts on account of war conditions in Europe.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai : Am I to take it that these buses would remain out of service for ever?

Mr. K. Sankaran : Attempts are being made in the W. D. Workshops to manufacture some of these parts.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai : May I know whether there is any idea of having petrol driven engines instead of crude oil engines?

Mr. K. Sankaran : Experiments are being conducted to run these buses with charcoal gas.

Mr. V. Sankara Menon (Trivandrum and Nedumangad cum Chirayinkil) : May I know whether these 31 buses which are kept idle will not become useless in course of time?

Mr. K. Sankaran : Government are attempting to make them serviceable as far as possible.

Vacancies in Primary Schools.

29. ***Mr. E. K. Kuriyppe (Parur, Kunnatnad and Muvattupuzha cum Devicolam) :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are several primary schools where two or three long leave vacancies exist without substitutes being appointed in them, and the reason why substitutes are not being appointed in vacancies consequent on the grant of leave to teachers for one or two months ; and

(b) whether consequent on such places being left vacant two classes have to be combined and taught by a single teacher ?

Mr. A. Gopala Menon : (a) No information is available.

(b) Does not arise in view of answer to part (a).

Mr. E. K. Kuriyppe : മൂവാറ്റുപുഴ താലൂക്കിൽ പല സ്ഥലത്തും അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാരില്ലാതിരിക്കെ അതിനെപ്പറ്റി അറിവില്ലെന്നു പറയുന്നത് എന്തുകൊണ്ടാണ് ?

Mr. A. Gopala Menon : ഒന്നും രണ്ടും മാസത്തെ ഒഴിവുകൾക്കുപറ്റി ഡയറക്ടറുടെ ആഫീസിൽ റിപ്പോർട്ട് ചെയ്യുക പതിവില്ല. അവിടെയുള്ള ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർക്കുതന്നെ അതിലേക്കുള്ള നിയമനം നടത്താവുന്നതാണ്.

Grant to Parimattam Desabhivardhini school.

30. ***Mr. E. K. Kuriyppe :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether grant is given for the Parimattam Desabhivardhini school for all the classes ;

(b) whether those in charge of the management of the school have complained of the non-receipt of the grant ; and

(c) if so, the action taken on the matter ?

Mr. A. Gopala Menon : (a) No ; only class I is in receipt of aid.

(b) Yes.

(c) The manager was informed that the question of sanctioning aid to the unaided classes would be considered when funds were available.

Appendix.

Vide Answer to Question No. 17.

Statement, by caste, of graduate teachers entertained in
Departmental English and Malayalam schools.

Brahmins	...	130
Nayar	...	65
Other Hindu	...	13
Kammala	...	1
Nadar	...	1
Ezhava	...	8
Muslim	...	4
Jacobite	...	24
Marthomite	...	25
Latin Catholic	...	6
S. I. U. C.	...	17
Other Christian	...	27

 321

ADJOURNMENT MOTION.

President : I have received notice of an adjournment motion from Mr. T. Krishna Pillai to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.,

“the serious situation that has been created in South Travancore due to the sudden fall in the number of State Transport Buses plying in the Trivandrum-Nagercoil route.”

This is not a matter of urgent public importance as has been demonstrated by a series of interpellations and their answers on the floor of the House a few moments ago. Therefore, I rule it out of order.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS.

THE TRAVANCORE RUBBER CONTROL BILL.

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai (*Legal Remembrancer to Government*): Sir, I move that the Travancore Rubber Control Bill as passed by the Sri Mulam Assembly be taken into consideration.

Sir, I may be permitted to explain briefly the principles contained in this Bill. The existing Rubber Control Act II of 1112 was found inadequate from various points of view. The export and import of rubber is at present controlled by notifications published under Section 18 of the Sea Customs Act. Experience has shown that the provisions of the Sea Customs Act are inadequate to meet the special necessities arising from transactions relating to rubber. It is also found that the existing Act does not declare the right of every estate owner to have a quota in the general allotment of rubber quota. The defect has led to some litigation. Therefore, it was found that a specific provision like that which is contained in the Indian Rubber Control Act has to be made in our Act also. It was also found that in view of the international agreement regarding allotment of new-planting rights the provisions of the existing act require modification. The Indian Rubber Control Act was also amended for this purpose. At present the Committee's actions are being questioned in the Civil Court. Government have felt that it was necessary to free the Committee altogether from litigation in our courts. But at the same time Government have found it necessary to exercise some sort of control over the actions of the Committee. Therefore, provisions have been made to the effect that appeal shall lie to Government against certain orders passed by the Committee. These are the main objects of the Bill. The Bill was published sometime back and it was being subjected to close and searching scrutiny by the Select Committee of the other Chamber. The Controller of the Indian Rubber Licensing Committee was also invited to take part in the deliberations and with

[Mr. Puthupalli S. Krishna Pillai.]

his help all these provisions were fully discussed, and slight alterations made. The Bill was passed by the Assembly without further amendments. It will be noticed by the honourable members that this is a Bill which is quite essential for the well-being of the rubber planting industry in the State.

Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai: I second it.

President: The question before the House is that the Travancore Rubber Control Bill be considered.

The motion was put and carried.

The Bill was taken into consideration.

The question whether clauses 1 to 30 stand part of the Bill was put to the vote of the House and carried.

Accordingly clauses 1 to 30 were added to the Bill.

The question whether the Preamble and Title do stand part of the Bill was next put to the vote of the House and carried.

The Preamble and Title were added to the Bill.

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai: Sir, I move that the Rubber Control Bill be passed.

Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai: I second it.

The question whether the Bill be passed was next put to vote and carried.

The Bill was passed.

THE TRAVANCORE BANKERS' BOOKS EVIDENCE BILL.

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai: Sir, I move that the Travancore Bankers' Books Evidence Bill as passed by the Sri Mulam Assembly be taken into consideration.

Sir, it is a small Bill consisting of only 7 sections. It corresponds to the British Indian Bankers' Books Evidence Act.

Honourable members might remember that there is no Evidence Act in force in the State. Still the rule of law is well laid down that secondary evidence of a debt is admissible only under certain circumstances. This necessitates the production of the original books of accounts kept by banks where such evidence is relevant. These are books which are maintained for the use and benefit of the public and it is not in public interest that such books should be made to be kept in courts till the case is disposed of. This Bill enables filing of certified copies in cases where the original itself has to be filed at present. At the same time power is reserved with the court to call for the original.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : What about the Evidence Act ?

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai : There is a law relating to evidence in force in our State. Our courts are administering the law relating to evidence.

Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai : I second the motion.

The question that the Travancore Bankers' Books Evidence Bill as passed by the Sri Mulam Assembly be taken into consideration was put and carried.

The Bill was taken into consideration.

President : The question is whether 'clauses 1 to 7 stand part of the Bill.

The question was voted and clauses 1 to 7 were added to the Bill.

The question whether the Preamble and Title do stand part of the Bill was next put to vote and carried.

The Preamble and Title were added to the Bill.

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai : Sir, I move that the Travancore Bankers' Books Evidence Bill be passed.

Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai : I second it.

The motion that the Travancore Bankers' Books Evidence Bill be passed was put and carried.

The Bill was passed.

THE TRAVANCORE REFORMATORY SCHOOLS ACT (AMENDMENT) BILL.

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai : Sir, I move that the Travancore Reformatory Schools Act (Amendment) Bill as passed by the Sri Mulam Assembly be taken into consideration.

This is only for the purpose of amending the existing Reformatory Schools Act with the object of conferring power on Government to frame rules for the purpose stated therein. At present, the young convicts of the Reformatory School are not allowed to leave the premises on short leave or short vacation. The rule elsewhere is different, that is, in British India and other places. There, the principle is that they ought not to be treated as mere convicts, but should only be put under some restraint and should be enabled to live a better life. It was suggested that the inmates of the school should be given freedom to avail themselves of occasional leave from the Reformatory School under the control either of the parents who are willing to guarantee their good behaviour or under the supervision and control of officers of Government who will be nominated for that purpose. This Bill is merely to enable Government to frame rules for the purpose.

Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai : I second it.

The question that the Bill be taken into consideration was put to vote and carried. The Bill was taken into consideration.

The question that clauses 1 and 2 stand part of the Bill was put to vote and carried.

Clauses 1 and 2 were added to the Bill.

The question that the Preamble and the Title stand part of the Bill was put and carried.

The Preamble and the Title were added to the Bill.

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai : Sir, I move that the Travancore Reformatory Schools Act (Amendment) Bill be passed.

The motion was accepted by the House and the Bill was passed.

THE TRAVANCORE CENSUS BILL.

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai : Sir, I move that the Travancore Census Bill as passed by the Sri Mulam Assembly be taken into consideration.

Sir, it corresponds to the last Census Act which was in force when the last Census was taken. A new census is proposed to be taken in 1941. Certain preliminary steps have been taken and a Commissioner has been appointed. It is necessary that he should be armed with the requisite powers for proceeding vigorously with the work. The only difference between this Bill and the previous Act is in respect of the penalty that is provided for in this. Whereas an offence committed under the provisions of the previous Act was liable to be punished with a fine of Rs. 50, a penalty of Rs. 200 is proposed under the present Act and slight verbal alterations have been made here and there for bringing out the purpose and intention of the law clearly. I move that the Bill be taken into consideration.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : Sir, will this Act be useful for future Census also?

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai : Sir, the question whether we cannot have a permanent Statute for all Census to come has been raised. It has been found that Census is only a temporary matter. Census was being taken every ten years. There is no statutory obligation that a Census shall be taken every ten years. It may be taken in fifteen years or even much earlier than that.

Then again, each Census appears to be more comprehensive than the previous one and every time that we undertake this work some new feature not so obvious before has to be dealt with. It has been found, for example, now that we require a greater penalty because people do not seem to take seriously the queries of the Census investigators and supply false information to the Census officers. Throughout British India the penalty has been increased. Honourable members might know that in Mysore the penalty is Rs. 500 although in British India it is only Rs. 200. I think that it will be more convenient to pass a Census Act before each Census. There is no permanent Census Act in any State so far as I know. In England this is being done by an Order-in-Council.

President : The tendency is to have a permanent organisation for statistics. That has been done in some countries.

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai : Yes, Sir, but this is slightly different.

Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai : I second it.

The motion that the Bill be taken into consideration was put to vote and carried. The Bill was taken into consideration.

The motion that Clauses 1 to 14 stand part of the Bill was put and carried. The clauses were added to the Bill.

The motion that the Preamble and the Title stand part of the Bill was next put and carried.

The Preamble and the Title were added to the Bill.

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai : Sir, I move that the Travancore Census Bill be passed.

The motion was put and carried.

The Bill was passed.

President : There are two matters which I wish to bring to the notice of the honourable House. The first is, does the honourable member who has given notice of the adjournment motion wish to take it up now instead of waiting till 3.30? The next point is with regard to the non-official day. It is for the House to decide whether it will have the non-official business to-morrow or the day after.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar : I think it will be better to have it to-morrow.

Mr. V. Sankara Menon : Yes, Sir, I too agree.

President : The non-official business will be taken up to-morrow.

ADJOURNMENT MOTION.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : Sir,—

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai : Sir, on a point of order. The business of the House is now over. We are now taking up the adjournment motion which says 'the business of the House be now adjourned' etc.

President : Technically, I think it is correct.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : But practically the motion will be that the House do now adjourn.

President : In the usual Parliamentary procedure, there is no difference made between the various motions for adjournment of debate. All debates on matters of importance in Parliament are generally initiated by motions for adjournment for the day or for a recess. Every day the House meets at 2.45 and by law the sitting goes on till 11 o'clock and if they want to have a discussion on an important matter, a private member or minister moves for adjournment, asking that 'the House do now adjourn' and thereupon they discuss any topical question. All foreign debates are generally on motions of adjournment.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : Sir, I beg leave to move the adjournment of the business of the House to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, *viz.*, the serious situation created by rat falls in the town of Quilon.

Sir, I am sure that the House is aware of the serious situation that has arisen in Quilon.

President : I am glad to inform the honourable member that according to the latest information there have been no rat falls yesterday.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : I ventured to bring forward this adjournment motion specifically on the ground that there is some idea in the minds of some people that because the rat falls are decreasing, the stringent measures that ought to be continued to prevent rat falls may be relaxed. The ill-informed public opinion also thinks and often expresses their chagrine at the enforcement of the rather irksome control measures. It is to point out to the public that this is a matter which cannot be left like that and to bring to the attention of the Government that the strenuous endeavours that they are now making should be continued for a sufficiently long time to eradicate completely the danger that the motion has been brought in. Sir, I find that our people, not accustomed to the dangers of this fell disease are not prone to take it very seriously and they are not able to understand the serious consequences arising out of negligence in this matter. We have

not heard of plague anywhere in Travancore till recently ; but it made its appearance first in Alleppey in 1112 and we find its recurrence again after three years in 1115 in Alleppey. Quilon, which was thought to be one of the healthiest towns of the State, has also come in for the attack. Such an important industrial and commercial centre as Quilon, if it is affected by this epidemic, will lose its trade and commerce considerably. More than that, it will be a source of danger to the capital of the State which is nearer to Quilon than Alleppey. Rat falls began this year in Quilon between the 15th and 28th of Dhanu as reported by the authorities. But, my personal enquiries in Quilon led to the knowledge that, as a matter of fact, there were rat falls even before that which was either intentionally or unconsciously not brought to the notice of the Government. Some people who came to do their business in the town of Quilon, it seems, got infected and died when they returned to the mofussil and these were not brought to the notice of the authorities. It was said that they died because of the malefic influence of some ghost. At last there was some suspicion regarding a few cases, which was brought to the hospital authorities and on their advice a further scrutiny into these matters was made. One rat was examined and positive signs of plague were observed in it.

I take this opportunity publicly to acknowledge with gratitude the very sincere and strenuous efforts made by the District Magistrate of Quilon and the Director of Public Health who came to the spot and energetically prosecuted the necessary preventive measures and also the Quilon Municipality and the staff that gave able assistance to the preventive work. If plague has not spread and if rat-falls today are less in Quilon, it is due to the combined and co-operative activities of all these departments and the prompt measures taken by them. My only intention in moving this motion is to bring to the attention of Government that the efforts now made by the various departments as well as Government should not slacken so soon as the rat-falls have either ceased or diminished. On the other hand, the special staff that has been recommended as a result of the conference of the Municipal authorities and others ought to be sanctioned and there should be no niggardliness with regard to it. It is not enough to keep quiet as soon as we see that the rat falls cease for the moment. We have to continue the watch over this for at least three years. If you are to be sure that this disease has been absolutely eradicated, you must continuously watch over it for a long period. It will be penny-wise-and-pound-foolish policy if we stop all endeavour so soon as we find the diminution of rat-fall and do not continue the preventive measures any longer. One of the reasons for the outbreak of plague in Alleppey, I am told, is

[Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai.]

because of the Government having stopped all the measures taken on a former occasion when it broke out in 1112 so soon as it subsided. It is on account of the apprehension that there should not be any such thing happening in regard to Quilon that I brought forward this motion for the acceptance of the House.

Sometimes plague breaks out as soon as the rains commence. Therefore they say that we have to keep a vigorous watch till the rains begin to fall. We have to take stringent measures specially with regard to certain go-downs which I understand are the source of the infection and which have been responsible for the breaking out of the disease. I think Sir, that it is not necessary for me to labour the point very much because the House will realise the seriousness of the situation and the absolute necessity of seeing that everything possible is done not merely now but continuously so that it will be possible for us to have a cent per cent safety from this fell disease. With these words I commend the motion for the acceptance of the House.

Mr. V. Sankara Menon : What does the member mean by saying that the measures should be continued for three years more? Does the member suggest that relaxation should not be made for a further period of three years?

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : What I meant was that the efforts made by Government should be such as to prevent the recurrence of the plague at all possible costs. If it is necessary to continue the efforts for three years, then that has to be done for that period. If it is necessary to continue the efforts for ten years, then they must be continued for that period. The meaning of what I said is that strenuous efforts must be continued till the danger of recurrence of plague is completely eradicated.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi (*Karunagapalli, Kartikapally and Ambalapuzha cum Shertallai*): I second the motion and in doing so I wish to congratulate my honourable friend on his commendable sense of public duty which prompted him to draw the attention of this House to this important problem. At the same time I wish to point out that neither the Government nor the honourable members of this House would be doing a real service to the trade and commerce of this country by making this a huge issue and advertising that there is plague in this part of India. I know that many foreign ports have declared Alleppey and Quilon as plague infected area. Of course it is quite another thing to point out to the authorities that Quilon and Alleppey should be protected against plague infection. The foreign ports have stated that—

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: May I know whether the member would suggest the suppression of these facts for the advancement of commerce and industry?

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: That needs no answer.

I need only say that we should take all precautions in good time and there are occasions when the non-officials have to be as much politic as the Government are sometimes. It is very good to draw the attention of the Government to remedy the evils. But at the same time we have to see that such things are not given unnecessary publicity. The fact is that there is no great danger of plague in this country, thanks to the efforts of the Public Health Department and also the different municipalities.

It is also most miraculous and providential that plague did not spread further, because of the adoption of killing the rats in the old way and getting rid of the rodent enemies either by getting them into cages or otherwise. In Alleppey, it had a wonderful effect. I have only to say that our finances did not allow for going in for more modern contrivances such as rat-proof go-downs or rat-proof houses and all the list of requirements given out by public health pandits, to effectively stop the possibility of plague. In a way, we are particularly lucky in so far as plague showed signs of subsiding in Alleppey. As my honourable friend Mr. Kottur pointed out, owing to one of those not-very-wise steps of the Government of effecting economy, they retrenched the staff and allowed the rodents with a vengeance on Dr. Gopala Pillai, to multiply in larger numbers.

Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai: It is not the Government's fault. As a result of repeated representations from the municipality there, the preventive work at Alleppey had to be stopped.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: Whatever it may be, the eventual responsibility lies with the Government in that matter.

I would also in this connection suggest that we on this side of the country should not be troubled by these rodents and in good time the Public Health Department may take good steps in consultation with the local municipality to guard public health against this fell disease.

President: I think the best plan would be for Dr. Gopala Pillai to explain exactly what the position is. Then in the light of those facts the other honourable members might speak. I will now ask Dr. Gopala Pillai to place the full facts in connection with the motion before the House.

Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai : Sir, I should thank the honourable member who moved the adjournment motion for enabling me to bring to the notice of this House and the Government the various anti-plague measures that have been launched forth by the Public Health Department. Before proceeding further I have to state that the sin is not that of Travancore. Plague was transmitted to us by the merchants of Mattancherri. Mr. Bristow, Administrative Officer and Harbour Engineer-in-Chief, who obviously could not bear any malice towards the Cochin merchants, says that plague has been endemic in Mattancherri for the past 50 years. Mr. Bristow in his note says that the Port Health Officer of British Cochin who too could not have any malice towards the Cochin merchants has given him a history of plague at Mattancherri. There is an article by Mr. Bristow in the "Madras Mail" dated 20th January 1938.

He observes :—

"For the past 50 years there have been four epidemics and for the past ten years three according to the Health Officer of British Cochin".

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi : Is the member in order in reading out from a newspaper article ?

President : The information that is supplied by Mr. Bristow who is the Administrative Officer and Harbour Engineer-in-Chief of Cochin is a very important one. The suggestion made by the Director of Public Health is also equally important because only yesterday the Cochin newspaper enjoying the patronage of Government stated that there is no plague in Cochin and that there has been a kind of deliberate attack on the part of the head of the administration to suggest that there is plague there. The suggestion made by the Director of Public Health in Cochin that plague in Mattancherri had been endemic for the past 50 years and it has been an epidemic very often during the last ten years are important points. Therefore the allegation that has unfortunately been given wide currency, *viz.*, that cyano-gassing in Alleppey is resorted to because there is plague in Travancore, and that the rice coming from Cochin is not actually cyano-gassed in Alleppey, is a very serious allegation. It is only to enlighten the House about this matter that the Director of Public Health has referred to the observations of the Director of Public Health, Cochin.

Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai : Sir, I may be permitted to quote a few extracts from the note on Public Health Organisation in Cochin, by the Public Health Commissioner with the Government of India. This is important because there is a misconception

about the various anti-plague measures that have been introduced by the Travancore Government.

"Travancore State territory at no point touches the port area, but the Government of Travancore are intimately concerned with its trade and health conditions, since 90 per cent. of all the imported grain eventually passes into Travancore territory."

Sir, this actually means that we are getting not only 90 per cent. of the rice, but also cent per cent of the plague infection from Cochin. I read this because this is a special report by the Public Health Commissioner with the Government of India. Again he says :—

"The repeated appearance of plague in Mattancherri, however, is a serious matter to this new port, if, as the Administrative Officer says, it is desired to preserve her ancient role of rice depot. There is no doubt that it would suffer gravely if the rice trade were to drift elsewhere because of the failure to take adequate steps to stamp out this infection."

To us it is not only a rice depot but also a plague depot. We have been getting plague from Mattancherri for the last few years. Till now the infection was only in Alleppey and now it has begun to appear even in Quilon. When this is the state of affairs how can the Government relax any plague control measures? He says that the action taken by the Travancore Government is perfectly justified. Incidentally he again observes :—

"The Director of Public Health, Travancore, who was present at the conference, stated that friction was caused because of the Travancore Government's action in continuing fumigations of grain for a period of three months after the port was declared free from plague. Article 6 of the International Sanitary Convention would seem to justify this precaution and recent events would also support the Travancore Government's decision. The appearance of plague in different parts of Travancore has compelled the Public Health authorities of that State to take stringent measures and, in the circumstances, this seems to be reasonable."

In the face of these statements and impressions of an eminent Public Health Officer intimately connected with the Government of India and who is also a Sanitary authority, how can any Government who owe a duty to their subjects relax any control measures?

He also says :

"The important question to be decided is whether or not the development of the Port and the public health of the two Indian States and a British Indian province are to be subordinated to vested private interests. In my view, there is no doubt how that question should be answered."

Sir, Dr. A. J. H. Russel again remarks that the measures that were being taken in Cochin, were not effective at all and he was dissatisfied with the insanitary and unsatisfactory condition of Mattancherri.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: May I ask whether the Port Trust authorities at Cochin moved in the matter.

Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai: Yes, Sir. Their suggestions were not of any value because they were not carried out in good time. This is what Dr. Russell says :

“From what I was told I believe that during the recent plague outbreak, deliberate concealment of plague cases and deaths occurred.”

President. This is what the report says :

“During my visit I attended a conference of the Dewan of Cochin, Municipal Chairman, Mattancherri, Municipal Chairman, Ernakulam, Civil Surgeon, Ernakulam, Civil Surgeon, British Cochin, Health Officer, Mattancherri, Director of Public Health, Cochin, Director of Public Health, Travancore, Director of Public Health, Madras, District Health Officer, Malabar. The Dewan of Cochin presided. From what I was told I believe that during the recent plague outbreak deliberate concealment of plague cases and deaths occurred. Only five plague deaths were recorded during that outbreak, an impossibly small number when there was in existence such a high incidence of plague amongst the rats.”

Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai: We suspended certain arrangements at Arukutty on the understanding that Cochin Government would do cyanide work more effectively. In fact *vallams* laden with rice bags require fumigation at least for three hours. But they have been doing it only for ten or fifteen minutes and the greater the number of boats the shorter was the duration of the cyano-gassing. That might have been one of the reasons why plague again broke out in Alleppey. After investigation, it was seen that rat-fall occurred in go-downs where rice bags obtained directly from Mattancherri were stored. In Quilon also the same thing happened. I inspected certain go-downs outside the affected area and also go-downs where a number of rice-bags have been stored. There were no rat-falls anywhere outside the affected area. Such being the case it is not at all charitable on the part of any authority, or, for that matter, on the part of even newspaper correspondents, to attribute motives for the effective measures taken by any controlling authorities. In Travancore, there are about 60 lakhs of people which is nearly four or five times the population of Cochin. We import 90 per cent of rice, i. e. about 95 to 99 per cent of plague infection. Because the destinations of imported rice into Travancore are numerous, we disseminate infection in so many parts of Travancore. Some towns in North and Central Travancore *viz.*, Kottayam, Changanacherry, Kayencolam, Quilon and a few other stations deal direct trade with Cochin. A rat-flea survey conducted a few years ago revealed the fact that Cheopis is very common in these places and in shops that store rice from Mattancherri you will find

that the rate of flea incidence will be very high. Formerly the rate stood at .04. But recently it was found as high as .6. This is indeed very high. Such conditions prevail in almost all the places that directly deal in rice trade with Mattancherri. We are faced with the danger of importing plague and spreading it to all parts of Travancore, unless Government take adequate and rigorous measures immediately. I had in my own mind cherished the desire of requesting Government for diverting rice trade from Mattancherri to Quilon or some other port because, as long as Mattancherri continues to exist in its present unsatisfactory condition and also imports plague into Travancore, rice should not be got down from Mattancherri. The Public Health Commissioner, Dr. Russel, has foreseen this danger that is likely to befall Travancore. He has repeatedly emphasised how Travancore Government and also the British Government should take due precautions against the importation of plague. In spite of repeated requests, it has not been found to be a practical proposition to take effective preventive measures in Mattancherri. The merchants in Mattancherri belong to various places outside Cochin. They have no local interest or any interest in regard to the health or other conditions of the people of Cochin or Travancore; much less for the health of the people of Travancore than for the health of the people of Cochin. That they do not mind about the health of these two big States can be seen from the fact that plague was imported a few years back into Kunnencolam where there were eleven attacks and ten deaths. So infection is showing a tendency of spreading in places extending from Kunnencolam to Quilon. With the foci of infection thus distributed it is very easy in these places for plague to spread out in an epidemic form at any time. The chances are greater for the spread of this disease, because soon after the rat-fall in a particular place the authorities concerned are not notified about the occurrence. If notified early, we can easily institute control measures. But the difficulty, as Sir Russel pointed out, is because of the concealment of cases. We come to know of the occurrence of a rat-fall or the case of a death only after it has grown up in the form of an epidemic. If effective measures are taken soon after the first rat-fall, then it is easy for control. All these factors put together form a very grave menace that Travancore has to face in future.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: In view of the fact that Cochin is anxious to conceal death, may I know what ratio does the ten or eleven deaths reported bear to the actual number of deaths? Can the Director of Public Health make any guess on that point?

Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai: We cannot make any guess in regard to deaths that are taking place outside this State.

[Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai.]

Conditions existing at present do not permit the authorities in Travancore to make any relaxation in the control measures in any of the Observation Stations in the Travancore State. The honourable mover of the resolution said that stringent measures should not be relaxed. It is the idea of Government to continue stringent measures as long as they apprehend rat-falls. Soon after the report of rat-falls, effective control measures were adopted in Quilon. A special Plague Officer with powers of a Division Peishkar, was appointed to control the plague outbreak there. The Director of Public Health and the District Health Officer camped at Quilon and took effective control measures immediately. The District Health Officer halted there for nearly two weeks. The chief control measures instituted in Quilon are trapping of rats, inoculation of people in the affected localities, disinfection of shops in the neighbourhood of places where rat-falls occurred and cyanogas fumigation of grains. These are the most effective methods for controlling plague, and these measures were instituted immediately.

Sahib Bahadur Abdul Tayeb Shaikh Kaderbhoy (*Commerce and Industry South*): May I know whether he is aware that in Quilon inoculation is carried on on several persons with the same needle without sterilizing it? Is it advisable to do like that?

Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai: The needle is sterilized immediately after each inoculation.

Sahib Bahadur Abdul Tayeb Shaikh Kaderboy: There are only one or two doctors in Quilon going about from one place to another, and they do not sterilize the needles.

Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai: I very much doubt whether that could have occurred.

Sahib Bahadur Abdul Tayeb Shaikh Kaderbhoy: I have received very many complaints on the matter.

President: It is a statement difficult to understand; because if a doctor actually inoculates one man and without sterilizing the needle inoculates another, he is liable to be punished. I trust that the honorable member will see whether there is any foundation in that statement.

Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai: It could not have occurred. It is due to aversion for inoculation that such complaints arise. I also have received some such complaints. In Quilon about 2000 people including children who frequent the affected localities, have been inoculated. Till now there has been only one death reported in Quilon. An intensive propaganda with the help of public health cinema was carried out literally in every nook and corner of Quilon.

I am glad to inform the mover of the resolution that there has been no rat-fall yesterday or the day before. This department has acted very promptly. I am very thankful to the member for the tribute of appreciation that he has paid to the Public Health Department for the control measures taken in Quilon. These measures will be continued for some time.

I have to answer certain other questions. Eradication of plague from Quilon, I doubt, is not possible as long as rat-falls continue in Mattancherri.

With regard to the stopping of plague work in Alleppey, I may inform the House that it was as a result of repeated representations from members of the municipality or citizens of the locality that Government were forced to stop work there. A member was boasting recently that he was responsible for stopping the work at Alleppey.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi : Is the nearness of Alleppey to Mattancherri in any way responsible for that state of affairs?

Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai : The mover of the motion suggested that measures will have to be continued till the onset of rains. But the onset of rains is the best season suited for the spread of plague. The early showers in April and May help the advent of plague. The non-epidemic period is between February and March. I assure the mover of the resolution that all preventive measures will be effectively carried out in Quilon and there is no need for any apprehension as to the possibility of the spread of plague in Quilon.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla (*Mavelikara and Tiruvalla cum Pattanamthitta*): I also support the motion that stringent measures should be taken to eradicate this nuisance throughout the State. But while stringent measures are being adopted, men who want to take their goods from Cochin and Mattancherri should not be vexed in their ordinary business. I understand that there is great deal of delay for merchants in Travancore to take their goods from Cochin. If that is true, I believe it is a great hardship. I have heard from several merchants in Kottayam that they have been stopped in several places for a very long time and that some of the subordinates of the department have not always been polite. It may not be possible for us to expect that the subordinates of the department shall be always polite. But I hope that those who are responsible for controlling these measures should look into this matter and make all possible arrangements so that it may be possible for merchants to carry their goods to Travancore with the least possible delay and inconvenience. I read in the newspapers that in another place, you, Sir, made some announcements

[Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla]
about the taking of goods from Cochin to Travancore. I have not been able to get any clear idea about it from the newspapers.

There is another point which has frightened me and that is with regard to the diversion of trade, especially rice, from Cochin to Quilon even when conditions are normal. I understand that there is a difference of 4 to 6 annas per bag of rice between the price in Cochin and Quilon.

President : That matter is not really within the scope of the adjournment motion.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : If rice trade is to be diverted from Cochin to Quilon which will mean the additional payment of 6 annas per bag, that will be a very great hardship to so many merchants.

President : Before this debate closes, I think, in view of certain deliberately fomented agitation, it is necessary that the position of Government in this matter should be elucidated. I am glad that reference has been made to the authoritative publication of the Public Health Commissioner of the Government of India. That document was prepared as a result of that officer's visit to Cochin. The status of the Public Health Commissioner of the Government of India, Col. Russell, in regard to public health matters, is not only of national importance but has been internationally recognised by bodies like the Singapore Epidemiological Bureau. I also happen to know what position Col. Russell holds in international bodies on matters of public health.

Now, let it be clearly understood that Travancore is vitally and fundamentally interested in the prosperity of the Cochin Harbour. Our income is to no small extent derived from the customs receipts of the Cochin Harbour. Under the arrangement that exists between the British Government, the Travancore Government and the Cochin Government, normally speaking, we get every year between Rs. 18 lakhs and Rs. 22 lakhs as our share of the Cochin Harbour revenues. It is therefore in the highest degree unlikely that the Travancore Government would cut off its nose to spite its face ; and it is equally unlikely and impossible to conceive that the Travancore Government would, in a fit of malice or pique, mention plague where really it does not exist. This is what has actually appeared in a newspaper—

“ We do not know whether even the plague bacilli bear malice towards Sir. C. P. No one has complained except the Travancore Government of plague in Cochin.”

It is not a question of the plague bacilli bearing any malice towards Sir C. P. The Government of Travancore are very keen indeed that the prosperity of Cochin should be maintained and enhanced if for no other reason than that they want their revenue also to be maintained and enhanced ; and it would be with the utmost

reluctance that any step would be taken or countenanced by the Travancore Government which would result in the shrinkage of trade in Cochin.

Having said that, let me bring to the notice of this honourable House exactly what Col. Russell has said ; and the House will bear with me if I read one or two sentences from the report, parts of which have already been placed before the House by our Director of Public Health. This document, issued by the Government of India, came into the hands of the Travancore Government on the 9th of November 1939. One of the first points raised in the report is the rice trade of Cochin.

“The rice trade of Cochin port is almost wholly located in Mattancherri, one of the most overcrowded towns in India. The great majority of the grain godowns are situated along the water front on a strip of land which by statutory definition lies in the port area.”

“The repeated appearance of plague in Mattancherri, however, is a serious matter to this new port, if, as the Administrative Officer says, it is desired to preserve her ancient role of a rice depot.”

The suggestions that are made in the Report are—

- “(1) the construction of rat-proof granaries on Willingdon Island, these to be rented to the present traders for grain storage purposes and their use to be made compulsory ; or
- (2) complete reconstruction in accordance with approved rat-proof designs of all godowns lying along the two miles of water front in Mattancherri municipality.”

These measures have so far not been effectively taken.

“My inspection of the grain godown area made it obvious that the anti-plague measures being practised in Mattancherri are unlikely to be effective.”

“During my visit I attended a conference.....From what I was told I believe that during the recent plague outbreak, deliberate concealment of plague cases and deaths occurred.”

“Whilst the Director of Public Health, Travancore, was not prepared to accept everything that the Cochin Officers reported in connection with plague, he said that, during the previous outbreak, he has accepted without much demur the fumigation certificates issued in Cochin after the *valloms* had been treated with cyanide in the harbour before they left for the customs stations on the borders of the Travancore State.....The appearance of plague in different parts of Travancore has compelled the Public Health authorities of that State to take stringent measures and, in the circumstances, this seems to be reasonable.”

That is the considered judgment of a person unbiassed either in favour of Travancore or in favour of Cochin in relation to this matter, an officer whose main duty is to look after the public health

[President]

of India. The conclusions he draws are that Mattancherri is a potential source of plague, that adequate and effective measures have so far not been taken there and that reasonable and stringent precautions must be taken in Travancore to avoid the spread of plague. The Director of Public Health reported to this Government—and this must be borne in mind—that the cyano-gassing that was done at Mattancherri was not sufficient in his opinion ; because, cyano-gassing has, in order to be effective, to take place for about three hours, whereas, in Mattancherri, only 15 minutes were being allowed. Therefore it was not a case of the Travancore Government acting *suo motu* or with any inherent malice or cussedness. It was in their effort to preserve the public health of Travancore that, on the report of their Director of Public Health, they decided that, in the circumstances reported by him, the only alternative was that on all frontiers cyano-gassing should be effected by Travancore authorities ; and that was done. It so happened that, at that time, there were a number of *valloms* or other vessels in the back-water and canals. There is no gainsaying the fact that a certain amount of delay occurred. There is no point in concealing these matters ; it is better to make things absolutely clear so that a campaign of lies need not go on. It has been alleged.

“.....that the Travancore Government as per the advice of Sir C. P. had imported and stored at Alleppey or some other place a large number of rice bags some months before at a high price and that since the price of rice fell down afterwards the rice bags are lying there unsold. We should ask whether Sir C. P. is sure that these symptoms of plague do not start from the godowns where these bags rot or not ”

That has been the kind of attack that has been going on ; and it has sometimes found vocal expression and has otherwise been repeated from place to place and from person to person.

Some facts had better be borne in mind. Cochin sends into Travancore, and Travancore consumes, nearly Rs. 2½ crores worth of rice roughly every year. The total cost of the rice that the Travancore Government purchased recently comes to Rs. 13 lakhs, just less than fifteen days' supply for Travancore ; and the suggestion is that, in order to safeguard their interests involved in this Rs. 13 lakhs worth of rice, the whole of the import trade from Cochin was disorganised and dislocated by the Travancore Government. Moreover, that rice was not purchased at a high rate and is not sought to be sold at a profit. The directions of Government are that that rice, if sold, should be sold at one anna less than the retail market rate of the locality. That is the order of Government, *viz.*, far from making a profit Government came to the conclusion in public interests to sell rice at a favourable rate. The rice

so purchased was simply to be kept by way of precaution so that if, during the war scare the traders began to put up the price of rice, Government may combat it by storing some rice and tell the merchants that if they unreasonably raised the price, Government would sell this rice to frustrate their efforts at lower and more reasonable rates. As a matter of fact, that did bring down the price. It was a very effectual measure. Government are not particular as to selling this rice and there is no particular reason why they should adopt any special measures to facilitate the sale of this rice.

I may say at once that the circulation of this very foul accusation has been going on for some time. The whole point is that very little is heard of any plague in Cochin; nobody wants to make these things public. And the public health of Cochin is as much a matter of importance for Travancore as it is for Cochin because we are partners in the port of Cochin. If there is any default in taking the necessary steps to eradicate plague in Mattancherri, and accusations are made against the Travancore Government for taking measures to prevent the importation of plague into Travancore, it behoves this Government to make the position clear.

I am, however, in a position to say that, very fortunately, on account of the efforts made by Government and our Director of Public Health an arrangement has now been almost concluded between Travancore and Cochin to the effect—I hope that it will be implemented by the Cochin Government shortly—that hereafter the fumigation and the cyano-gassing should be conducted at Mattancherri in the presence of a *Travancore* Public Health official and that only after that process rice and other products could come from Cochin into Travancore. That would make it superfluous hereafter to have any cyano-gassing or fumigation of the *valloms* or at the frontiers. That is a tentative agreement and I hope that it will be implemented. It is hoped that, if, in a spirit of mutual accommodation, relevant and pertinent facts are mutually revealed and the measures taken in Cochin and the measures necessary and indispensable in Travancore are also continued, this very great menace will be combated successfully.

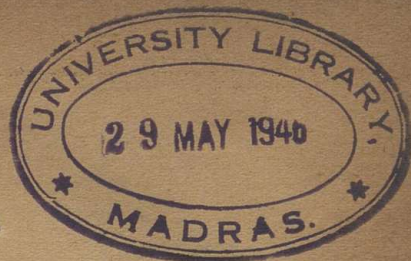
Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: In view of the statements made by the Public Health Director and the Dewan-President, and of the assurance given that the measures will be continued, I withdraw the motion.

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

The House adjourned at 12-33 P. M.

A. GUNAMONY,

Secretary to the Sri Chitra State Council.



PROCEEDINGS
OF
THE TRAVANCORE SRI CHITRA STATE COUNCIL.
—
SECOND COUNCIL.
—
SIXTH SESSION.

—
Wednesday, the 18th Makaram 1115/31st January 1940.
—

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

—
Vol. XV—No. 3.

—
CONTENTS.

	PAGE
1. Members sworn ...	103
2. Questions and Answers ...	103
3. Legislative Business:—	
(i) The Travancore Child Marriage Restraint Bill —consideration of ...	123
(ii) The Travancore Hindu Gains of Learning Bill —introduction of ...	166
4. Resolutions:—	
(i) <i>Re</i> modification of Travancore currency— withdrawn ...	167
(ii) <i>Re</i> restoration of public holidays that were abolished—discussion <i>not concluded</i> ...	170
5. Annexures:—	
(i) The Travancore Child Marriage Restraint Bill (as passed by the Sri Mulam Assembly).	
(ii) The Travancore Hindu Gains of Learning Bill.	

PROCEEDINGS

OF

THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SECOND SESSION

1855-56

IN SENATE

APRIL 10

1855

CONV. 1855

1855

1856

1857

1858

1859

1860

1861

1862

1863

1864

1865

1866

1867

1868

1869

1870

1871

1872

PROCEEDINGS
of
THE TRAVANCORE SRI CHITRA STATE COUNCIL

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SECOND COUNCIL.

VOLUME XV—NUMBER 3.
SIXTH SESSION—1115/1940.

Wednesday, the 18th Makaram, 1115/31st January, 1940.

The Travancore Sri Chitra State Council met again in the Legislative Chamber, Public Offices, at 11 A. M with Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, K. C. I. E., LL. D., Dewan-President, in the Chair.

MEMBERS SWORN.

The following members took the oath and signed the rolls:—

1. Khan Bahadur G. S. Abdul Karim Sahib Suhrawardy (*Inspector-General of Police*).
2. Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*).
3. Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan (*Excise Commissioner*):
4. Mr. V. R. Sankaranarayana Pillai (*Secretary to Government*).
5. Mr. V. Subba Aiyar (*Nominated for the purpose of the Travancore Child Marriage Restraint Bill*).

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Manufacture of cement.

31. * Mr. K. M. Kesavan (*Karunagapalli, Kartikapalli and Ambalapuzha cum Shertellai*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether they have finished their investigation into the possibilities of manufacturing cement in Travancore; and

(b) if so, what is the result?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (a) No.

(b) The question does not arise.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan: May I know the probable period within which the investigation will be made complete?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar: The department is now solely engaged in mica and graphite required for war purposes. As soon as that work is over it will be taken up.

Cardamom plants.

32. * **Mr. K. M. Kesavan**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) the centres where cardamom plants are affected by disease;

(b) the total area covered by it; and

(c) the places where any remedy has successfully combated the disease?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): (a) Cardamom plants in the following *thavalams* of the Peermade taluk have been reported to be affected by pests and diseases.

1. Vazhaveedu thavalam
2. Chathanoda do.
3. Chakkupallom do.
4. Karuvakulam do.
5. Kanavakuzhi do.
6. Mali do.
7. In portions of Pampadumpara.

(b) About 10,000 acres.

(c) Spraying with a solution of fish oil soap and waste tobacco is found to be a successful remedy in almost all the affected localities.

Mr. E. K. Kuriyppe (*Parur, Kunnapinad and Muvattupuzha cum Devicōlam*): എത്ര ഏക്കർ സ്ഥലത്തു് ഈ പരിക്കുണം നടത്തിയിട്ടുണ്ടു്?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar: 60 ഏക്കർ സ്ഥലത്തു പരിക്കുിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്.

Mr. E. K. Kuriyppe: അതിലേക്കു് എന്തു ചെയ്തവായിട്ടുണ്ടു്?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar: എക്കരൊന്നിനു എകദേശം മൂന്നു രൂപ വീതം ചെയ്തവായിട്ടുണ്ടു്.

Mr. E. K. Kuriyppe: എത്രപ്പോൾ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലാണു് ഈ പരിക്കുണം നടത്തിയിട്ടുള്ളതു്?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar : പാമ്പാടംപറ, വാഴവീട് മുതലായ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലാണ് പരീക്ഷിച്ചു നോക്കിയിട്ടുള്ളത്.

Duty on Tobacco.

33 * **Mr. K. M. Kesavan :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

- (a) the duty per pound on Coimbatore tobacco ;
- (b) the duty per pound on Jaffna tobacco ;
- (c) the price per pound of Coimbatore tobacco ; and
- (d) the price per pound of Jaffna tobacco at present ?

Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan (*Excise Commissioner*) : (a) As 3 pies 2.

(b) As. 5 pies 4.

(c) 1st quality (കൊണ്ടൈ കുട്ടുപടക്കൻ) Chs. 18 per lb.

2nd quality do. Chs. 16 per lb.

3rd quality (പടക്കൻ) Chs. 14 per lb.

4th quality do. Chs. 12 per lb.

(d) 1st quality Rs. Chs. C.

2nd quality 1 10 8

3rd quality 1 7 0

4th quality 1 3 8

1 0 0

Mr. K. M. Kesavan : When the difference in the duty on Jaffna Tobacco and Coimbatore Tobacco is not much, may I know why this great disparity is seen between their prices ?

Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan : Sir, the price depends not only on the duty of the different varieties of tobacco but upon the cost price of the article also.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan : Very recently, when duty on Jaffna tobacco was increased was there any strike from the *Mel-labham* licensees who had the monopoly of importing that variety of tobacco ?

Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan : Sir, there was no strike.

Mr. E. K. Kuriyppe : ഇവയുടെ റേറ്റ് വർദ്ധിപ്പിച്ചത് ഏതു വർഷത്തിലാണ് ?

Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan : നികുതിയുടെ റേറ്റിനെപ്പറ്റിയാണോ ചോദിക്കുന്നത് ? അതു കഴിഞ്ഞവർഷത്തിലാണ്.

Mr. E. K. Kuriyppe : അതിനു മുൻപിരുന്ന റേറ്റിനെക്കാൾ കൂടുതലാണോ കുറവയാണോ ഇപ്പോഴുള്ളത് ?

Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan : കോമ്പത്തൂർ പുകയിലയ്ക്കു അതേ റേറ്റ് തന്നെയാണ് ഇരിക്കുന്നത്. ജാഫ്നാ പുകയിലയെ സംബന്ധിച്ചിടത്തോളം ഇപ്പോൾ കൂടുതലാണ്.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan : Is it a fact that a few *Mel-labham* licensees are alone given licenses to import the Jaffna tobacco and thus they enjoy a monopoly over it ?

Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan : Licenses are given in accordance with the Tobacco Act and rules passed thereunder.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan : If these licenses can be issued to all those who desire to carry on the importation of Jaffna tobacco, will the Government be able to bring down the price of that variety of tobacco ?

Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan : There is a maximum quantity beyond which Jaffna tobacco could not be imported into Travancore ?

Mr. K. M. Kesavan : Yes. Even for the importation of that limited quantity, could not competition be encouraged and the prices brought down ?

Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan : Under the rules, separate rooms have to be provided in the Tobacco Bankshalls, for the wholesale licensees. It may not be worth while to give licenses to more people for other reasons also and for other difficulties that might arise.

Research in the Agricultural and Industrial Departments.

34. ***Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla** (*Mavelikara and Tiruvalla cum Pattanamtitta*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) how far the results of research in the Agricultural and Industrial departments have been made use of by the ryots in the State ; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) is in the negative will they be pleased to state why ?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar : (a) The Department of Industries is concerned only with researches on industries and industrial problems, which are in their very nature not of much use to the ryots. The results of the researches carried on by the Agricultural Department have been translated into actual practice by the ryots in the State in so far as they relate to ;

- (1) reclamation of alkaline and kari soils ;
- (2) selection of better strains of paddy and other crops which are high yielding and disease resistant ;
- (3) conversion of dry leaves and other organic material into rich and valuable compost manures ;

(4) applications of chemical manures to crops ; and

(5) control of crop pests by suitable measures.

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

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : May I know how many acres of alkaline and kari soil lands have been reclaimed ?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar : About five to six thousand acres in South Travancore.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : May I know how many people actually got better strains of paddy and were able to apply chemical manure to their lands ?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar : With regard to the selection of better strains of paddy, I may say that a very large number of cultivators are using these improved strains in the paddy lands of South Travancore.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : May I know the acreage ?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar : There are over two thousand acres where these seeds are now used.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : May I know who are using them ?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar : It is not possible to give the names of the people who use them. The acreage is about two to three thousand.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : May I know how far the waste materials in the tank beds and other composite manures are used by the ryots ?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar : With regard to this, I may state that artificial manure to the value of about a lakh of rupees is being purchased by the Travancore ryots every year. Compost making is being carried on in almost every household.

Transfers in the Anchal Department.

35. ***Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla :** Will the Government be pleased to give a list of the names of those in the superior service of the Anchal Department who were transferred more than three times in 1114 and to state how many among those were given travelling allowance ?

Mr. V. R. Sankaranarayana Pillai (*Secretary to Government*): Only one person, namely, J. Yohannan, clerk, Adoor, was transferred more than three times in 1114.

He was not given travelling allowance.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : May I know why he was not given travelling allowance ?

Mr. V. R. Sankaranarayana Pillai : Transfers were due more to his faults.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai (*Kalkulam and Vilavankod cum Neyyattinkara*): May I know why this officer was alone transferred by the Department?

Mr. V. R. Sankaranarayana Pillai: His transfers were in public interests.

Collection of land tax.

36 ***Mr. K. M. Kesavan**: Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table in a tabular form a list of taluks with the following particulars:

- (a) the total annual land tax to be collected;
- (b) the arrears of land tax accumulated at the end of 1113;
- (c) the amount of arrears collected at the end of 1114; and
- (d) the amount of current tax collected in 1114?

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*):

A statement* containing the required information is laid on the table.

Appointments in the Anchal Department.

37 ***Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the matter of promotion and confirmation, Intermediates were preferred to School Finals;

(b) whether that system is still continued; and

(c) whether juniors in service were appointed when seniors in service were waiting for confirmation in service?

Mr. V. R. Sankaranarayana Pillai: (a) No.

(b) The question does not arise in view of answer to part (a)

(c) No.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar (*Nominated*): May I know whether Government recognise that School Finals are better qualified than unqualified men in the matter of appointments?

Mr. V. R. Sankaranarayana Pillai: They are.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla: May I know the reason why no distinction is made in the matter of promotion and confirmation between Intermediates and School Finals?

Mr. V. R. Sankaranarayana Pillai: The distinction is made only in the case of first appointments.

Sugar from cocoanut jaggery.

38 ***Mr. K. M. Kesavan**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether they have finished their investigation into the possibility of making sugar from cocoanut jaggery;

**Vide* Appendix I, page 173..

(b) palmyrah jaggery; and

(c) if so, the result thereof?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : (a) & (b). No investigation has been made by the Industries Department to find out the possibility of making sugar from jaggery. It is known that sugar can be made from both cocoanut and palmyra jaggery.

(c) The question does not arise.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan : Will the Government be pleased to direct the Director of Industries to carry on the investigation to find out the possibility of manufacturing sugar from jaggery?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : The Travancore Sugars and Chemicals Ltd., are experimenting on this matter.

Promotions in the Anchal Department.

39. ***Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar :** Will the Government be pleased to state

(a) whether the subordinates of the Anchal Department with B. A. degree are given preference to undergraduates for promotion; if so, the ratio in which they are given;

(b) whether subordinates with Intermediate qualifications are given preference to subordinates with School Final qualifications;

(c) whether School Final passed subordinates are given preference to subordinates who hold V. S. L. certificates and with people without any qualifications, in the matter of promotions; and

(d) if the answer to part (c) is in the negative, what is the reason for not giving them the preference?

Mr. V. R. Sankaranarayana Pillai : (a) Yes, in the ratio of 3 : 1.

(b) No.

(c) No.

(d) Except graduates, all are treated alike.

Statement, by caste, of Ayurvedic Physicians.

40. ***Mr. K. M. Kesavan :** Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table;

(a) a list, by caste, of Ayurvedic physicians, including those who have passed 'Visha Vidya Visarada' test, who have applied for grants-in-aid to their vaidyasalas in 1113; and

(b) a list of physicians to whose vaidyasalas grants-in-aid were awarded?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : (a) It is too numerous to be listed. There were more than 150 applications.

(b) A statement* giving the information is laid on the table.

*Vide Appendix II page 174



Irrigation in Neyyattinkara, Vilavankod and Kulkulam.

41. ***Mr. T. Krishna Pillai**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount allotted for irrigation works in the taluks of Neyyattinkara, Vilavankod and Kulkulam by the Irrigation Executive Engineer in 1112, 1113 and 1114 respectively;

(b) the total expenditure for works actually executed during these years; and

(c) the reasons for abolishing the Irrigation Division?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar (*Chief Engineer*):

(a) & (b) A statement* furnishing the information is laid on the table.

(c) As a measure of retrenchment, the Irrigation Division office alone was abolished.

Lock-up for Nemom Police Station.

42. ***Mr. T. Krishna Pillai**: Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have taken any step in providing the Nemom Police Station with a lock-up; if not, why not?

Khan Bahadur G. S. Abdul Karim Sahib Suhrawardy (*Inspector-General of Police*): Yes.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai: May I know the nature of the steps taken by Government in the matter of providing the lock-up?

Khan Bahadur G. S. Abdul Karim Sahib Suhrawardy: After the examination of the question, I have drawn the attention of the Government to this and the Government have entrusted the subject to the Public Works Department.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai: May I know how long this question was pending with Government?

Khan Bahadur G. S. Abdul Karim Sahib Suhrawardy: The honourable member raised this question during the last session and I went to the station the same day in August 1939.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai: May I know why there is so much delay in this matter?

Khan Bahadur G. S. Abdul Karim Sahib Suhrawardy: Does not the honourable member know.....

President: Order, order. The honourable member should answer questions and not ask questions.

Khan Bahadur G. S. Abdul Karim Sahib Suhrawardy: Sir, I was suggesting that Government move slowly but cautiously in all matters and schemes which involve expenditure.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai: May I know whether the member has drawn the attention of Government to move urgently in this matter?

Khan Bahadur G. S. Abdul Karim Sahib Suhrawardy: Well, I said that Government machinery moves at its own speed. (*Laughter.*)

Mr. M. Sultan Muhiadheen (*Trivandrum and Nedumangad cum Chirayinkil*): May I ask the honourable member whether the State Congress is not dead now and so whether there is any need for additional lock-ups?

Khan Bahadur G. S. Abdul Karim Sahib Suhrawardy: Well, I am not sure whether the State Congress is dead. But like the reptile which when overpowered lies low and pretends to be dead and raises its head and tries to bite you if you are not watchful—

President: I do not think it necessary to mention the peculiarities of any animal.

Khan Bahadur G. S. Abdul Karim Sahib Suhrawardy: Sir, that reptile is known in Hindusthani as *Doe Moo Chaklan* and in Tamil “*ஹெட்டைவாலை*”, double headed snake... ..

President: Order, order.

Khan Bahadur G. S. Abdul Karim Sahib Suhrawardy: Sir, like that, the State Congress is raising its head in Ernakulam, Madura and at other places.

President. Order, order.

Khan Bahadur G. S. Abdul Karim Sahib Suhrawardy: Excuse me, Sir.

New Insurance Act, XIX of 1114.

43. ***Mr. V. Sankara Menon** (*Trivandrum and Nedumangad cum Chirayinkil*): Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement by category (Life, Fire, Marine, Accident Motor car, Workmen's Compensation etc.) of:—

(a) insurers who have applied for registration under Act XIX of 1114;

(b) those registered till now:

(c) the amount of deposit sanctioned by Government in the respective cases;

(d) the amount of deposit made by insurers and their respective names; and

(e) the amount of registration fees paid by the respective insurers?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar: *The statement containing therequired information is laid on the table.

Mr. V. Sankara Menon: In regard to part (e) it is stated in the statement appended that the 8th number paid a registration fee of Rs. 10 whereas the Act compels a minimum of Rs. 100. How is it explained?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : It is a printer's devil.

President : It is obvious. The Secretary will see to this and report to Government every instance of such mistakes. It may be taken as a general rule that every instance of such mistakes may be punished. A large number of mistakes have occurred this time.

Mr. V. Sankara Menon : Sir, in regard to the amounts deposited by the respective insurers I find some of them have deposited amounts more than sanctioned by the Government. May I know the reason for this?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : No, Sir. The initial deposit has been fixed by the Government. Whatever excess there is, will be credited towards the deposits still due.

Mr. V. Sankara Menon : I find from the tables that different amounts are sanctioned for different insurers. May I know from Government the criterion for judging the amount of the deposits?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : Deposit amounts have been finally fixed only yesterday and a communique is being issued on the subject. For Life Insurance, the deposit is Rs. 12,500 and the total amount is Rs. 50,000. For fire, marine and accident insurance the lowest deposit is Rs. 2,500 and the total is Rs. 10,000.

Mr. V. Sankara Menon : May I know from Government why, when a concession is sanctioned under Section 98 of the Act, in the case of mutual life societies there is no difference made in the amounts sanctioned for the deposit?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : I claim notice.

Malaria.

44. ***Mr. V. Sankara Menon :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether any adjournment motion was moved in the Council in Mithunam 1114 regarding the immediate necessity of taking effective measures to check the spread of malaria to Trivandrum and other places ;

(b) whether effective measures have been taken to check the fury of the disease since then and with what result ;

(c) the monthly death rate from malaria in the affected pakuthies of Neyyattinkara and Nedumangad taluks for the last eight months ; and

(d) the names of pakuthies in Trivandrum taluk affected by malaria, number of deaths if any due to malaria and the nature of measures taken to combat the disease :

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Separate figures for malaria are not available.

(d) There are only stray cases in the Trivandrum taluk so that no pakuthi in the taluk can be said to be malaria-infected.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai : With reference to answer to part (b) of the question may I know from the member the result of the measures taken ?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : There is decided improvement.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai : May I know whether those measures are being taken even now or whether they have been stopped ?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : They are being taken even now.

Mr. T. W. U. Park (Travancore Planters) : With reference to the answer to part (c) of the question, if separate figures for malaria are not available, may I know how it is known that the measures are effective ?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : There are Sanitary Inspectors who send up their reports and from these reports it is seen that the measures are effective.

Mr. T. W. U. Park : Is it not the intention of Government to keep correct statistics in regard to malaria ?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : Yes. Government have appointed an officer and instructions will be given to him to prepare correct statistics.

Undergraduate Clerks in the Judicial Department.

45. ***Mr. V. Sankara Menon :** Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a list showing :

(a) the number of undergraduate clerks in the Judicial Department who have put in more than ten years' service in the department with their present pay ; and

(b) the number of undergraduate clerks who have passed the pleadership test examination and who have put in more than ten years' service with their present pay ?

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai (Legal Remembrancer to Government) : (a) Government do not propose to call for the information as the time and labour involved in the collection of the statistics is out of all proportion to its possible utility.

(b) (i) No. of undergraduate clerks in the Judicial Department who have passed the Plead-ship Test and who have put in more than ten years service.

(ii) Their present pay :—

		Rs.		Rs.
1	on	100	in the scale of	75-100
6	on	65	do.	40-70
1	on	55	do.	40-70
1	on	50	do.	25-50
1	on	35	do.	25-50
6	on	40	do.	25-40
1	on	37	do.	25-40
13	on	30	do.	20-30*
1	on	24	do.	20-30*

*Personal scale.

*Graduate and undergraduate clerks in the
Judicial Department.*

46. ***Mr. V. Sankara Menon :** Will the Government be pleased to state whether there is any special rule governing the promotion or confirmation of :

(a) the undergraduate clerks with pleadership or other law qualifications in the Judicial Department ;

(b) those without such qualifications ; and

(c) graduate clerks in the same department ?

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai : (a) & (b) Under Rule 542 of the Civil Courts' Guide, concessional service is allowed for promotion for subordinates possessing the Pleadership or other Law qualifications and those with Sheristadars and Head Clerk's Tests.

(c) Those in the subordinate courts are governed by the standardisation G. O. except in regard to the Sheristadars of District Courts the posts of which are reserved for B. Ls. and those in the High Court are governed by G. Os. R. Dis. No. 1446/38/Judl., dated 23-5-1938 and R. Dis. 155/40/Judl., dated 10-1-1940.

Disbanded Anchal volunteers.

47. ***Mr. E. K. Kuriyppe :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Anchal men volunteers who were disbanded from the department during 1108 ;

(b) whether any of the disbanded men have been re-entertained in service ; and

(c) whether after disbanding the volunteers fresh men have been entertained ?

Mr. V. R. Sankaranarayana Pillai : (a) No volunteers were disbanded in the year 1108.

(b) and (c) In view of the answer to part (a) these questions do not arise.

Auction of Toddy.

48 * **Mr. E. K. Kuriyppe** : Will the Government be pleased to state whether the toddy shops in the Piravom, Kothamangalam and Muvattupuzha Excise Ranges were auctioned in 1114 and 1115 for greater amounts as compared to those of 1112 and 1113?

Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan : Yes. The total bid amount for the three Ranges in 1114-1115 contract was higher than in the 1112-1113 contract.

Lorry drivers in the Cochin Munnar line.

4). * **Mr. E. K. Kuriyppe** : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) the names of persons appointed as lorry drivers in the Cochin Munnar Transport Lorry service, from the places along which the above lorries pass ; and

(b) the number of persons from those who have long experience as drivers in the above line that has been appointed, the names of such persons, and the posts to which they have been appointed ?

Mr. K. Sankaran (*Ag. Secretary to Government*) :

- (a) 1. P. V. Manuel
2. P. I. Thomas
3. N. D. Raju
4. P. V. Mohamed
5. S. Parameswaran Pillai
6. K. T. Abraham
7. K. Sankunni
8. V. K. Kumaran
9. Ouseph
10. M. Uthup
11. V. A. Kuttappan
12. Pylee
13. J. John

- (b) (i) 13
- (ii) *Vide answer to part (a)*
- (iii) Reserve staff.

Reservation of compartment in buses for Anchal and Tapal articles.

50. * **Mr. E. K. Kuriyppe** : Will the Government be pleased to state whether there is any rule that a separate compartment should be set apart for keeping Anchal and Tapal articles in the buses carrying them ?

Khan Bahadur G. S. Abdul Karim Sahib Suhrawardy : There is no rule ; but one of the conditions of the contract for the conveyance of mails in buses is that an enclosed space measuring not less than 4ft. by 3ft. should be provided in the buses for keeping the mails.

Accidents due to drivers' inexperience.

51. * **Mr. E. K. Kuriyppe :** Will the Government be pleased to state whether several accidents take place owing to want of experience on the part of the drivers of Government lorries in the Alwaye-Munnar line ?

Mr. K. Sankaran : No.

Appendix I.

Vide Answer to Question No. 36.

Taluk war statement re : collection of land tax.

Taluk.	Demand under current Land Revenue for			Balance under Land Revenue pending at the end of			Collection under arrears of Land Revenue during			Collection under current Revenue for		
	1114.			1113.			1114.			1114.		
	(a)			(b)			(c)			(d)		
	Rs.	ch.	c.	Rs.	ch.	c.	Rs.	ch.	c.	Rs.	ch.	c.
Thovala	159920	25	7	8384	5	13	7020	9	12	117334	1	8
Agastiswaram	201743	15	4	29754	15	12	22590	18	3	143976	5	12
Kalkulam	169329	21	10	53591	5	6	31583	3	11	108825	24	4
Vilavankod	120810	13	14	30901	1	14	16392	27	10	64133	10	10
Neyyattinkara	137581	19	11	64566	3	1	32517	17	8	71588	12	10
Trivandrum	95251	10	1	28981	19	13	16322	14	9	58974	17	11
Nedumangad	156738	4	12	59624	22	9	28003	15	11	94035	18	9
Chirayinkil	90496	26	9	32935	4	10	2 566	16	11	62614	16	1
Quilon	108041	2	13	34345	10	13	18252	19	15	63292	4	1
Karunagapally	157682	16	8	85036	2	14	45181	3	3	97690	13	6
Kartigapally	127410	24	0	21516	14	14	17503	8	13	95284	20	8
Kunnattur	108859	5	14	44210	23	15	21537	8	6	64463	6	0
Kottarakara	138267	14	10	34108	27	12	14628	26	6	91235	6	10
Ambalapuzha	171096	0	5	51299	23	15	25627	24	12	122958	25	15
Mavelikara	134454	9	6	27863	9	3	18365	27	3	96 44	19	13
Thiruvalla	151982	6	6	19962	11	1	15264	14	14	118618	4	14
Pathanamthitta	113304	4	1	23856	12	0	7597	2	8	86423	16	9
Pathanapuram	99444	14	6	17311	8	7	9354	17	14	71568	16	9
Shencotta	91964	15	12	4745	22	1	2459	18	11	69029	19	7
Shertalla	145466	0	15	39059	19	13	27921	8	4	99945	13	1
Changanacherry	150555	13	14	20581	12	8	14023	18	15	118067	17	2
Kottayam	164530	21	5	45535	22	14	33485	1	0	110700	26	0
Vaikom	118800	25	0	6398	25	2	5017	26	13	100633	27	13
Meenachil	131985	22	13	15365	12	6	9644	1	1	98836	26	8
Muvattupuzha	167957	12	7	6784	3	2	4962	23	4	136601	18	11
Thodupuzha	91856	25	6	20757	21	2	6503	25	7	69358	11	13
Kunnatnad	154305	1	0	19934	3	14	10133	5	10	124532	2	8
Parur	148873	8	12	22148	7	3	15290	25	2	116450	1	13
Devicoolam	174266	3	0	55386	0	13	9336	20	13	123664	3	7
Peermade	136907	23	13	6726	20	2	4218	1	8	118623	9	2

Appendix II.

Vide Answer to Question No. 40.

List of Ayurvedic physicians to whom grants were
awarded during 1113.

Messrs.

M. P. Krishnan.
John Samuel.
N. V. Varkey.
K. Kochurama Kaniyar.
K. K. Sankunni.
K. Kunjarappan Kartha.

Srinathi K. N. Padmakshi.

Appendix III.

Vide Answer to Question No. 41

Statement showing Taluk-war allotment and expenditure on Irrigation works in Neyyattinkarai, Vilavankod and Kalkulam Taluks during the years 1112, 1113 and 1114.

Year.	Neyyattinkarai.		Vilavnacod.		Kalkulam.	
	Allotment.	Expenditure.	Allotment.	Expenditure.	Allotment.	Expenditure.
1112	12,028	7,183	22,414	12,222	3,285	3,186
1113	17,335	13,930	27,355	12,930	5,585	5,082
1114	9,281	6,586	28,743	18,963	11,821	5,346

Appendix IV

Vide Answer to Question No. 43.

Serial No.	Names of Insurers who have applied for registration.	Amount of deposit sanctioned by Government allowing registration.	Deposit made.	Amount of Registration fee paid.	Kinds of business transacted in Travancore.	Remarks.
1	The Oriental Government Security Life Assurance Company Ltd., Bombay.	...	Rs 50,000 in the 5 per cent Loan 1945 to 1955.	S. Rs. 100	Life.	Registered as No. 1 of 1115.
2	The New Guardian of India Life Insurance Company Ltd., Madras.	Rs. 12,500	Rs. 12,500 in cash.	B. Rs. 100	Life.	Registration pending receipt of certain documents under Section 3 (2) of the Act.
3	The National Indian Life Insurance Company Ltd., Bengal.	Rs. 13,000	Rs. 13,000 in the 4 per cent Loan 1960-1970	B. Rs. 100	Life.	Do.
4	The New India Assurance Company Ltd., Bombay.	...	Rs. 2,00,000 in the 5 per cent Loan 1945-1955.	B. Rs. 400	Life, Fire, Marine and Accident and Miscellaneous.	Do.
5	The Lakshmi Insurance Company Ltd., Lahore.	...	Rs. 12,500 in cash.	B. Rs. 100	Life.	Registration pending receipt of certain documents and orders regarding exemption.
6	The United India Life Assurance Company Ltd., Madras.	Securities to the value of Rs. 14,000	Rs. 14,000 in the 3½ per cent Government of Travancore Loan 1956.	B. Rs. 100	Life.	Registration pending receipt of certain documents.
7	The Bharat Insurance Company Ltd., Lahore.	Rs. 13,000	Rs. 13,000 in (1) 3 per cent Loan 1951-1954, (2) 3½ per cent Loan 1842-1843. (3) 3½ per cent Loan 1900-1901.	B. Rs. 100	Life.	Do.
8	The Hindustan Co-operative Insurance Society Ltd., Calcutta	Rs. 5,000	Rs. 6,000 in Travancore Government 3½ per cent Loan 1956.	B. Rs. 100	Life.	Do.

APPENDIX IV —(contd.)

Serial No.	Names of Insurers who have applied for registration	Amount of Deposits sanctioned by Government allowing registration.	Deposit made.	Amount of Registration fee paid.	Kinds of business transacted in Travancore.	Remarks.
9	The Indian Mutual Life Association Ltd., Madras	...	Rs. 25,000 in the 3½ per cent. Loan 1865	B. Rs. 100	Life.	Registration pending receipt of certain documents and orders regarding exemption.
10	The Bombay Mutual Life Assurance Society Ltd., Bombay	Rs. 12,500	Rs. 50,000 in the 5 per cent loan 1945-1955	B. Rs. 100	Life.	Registration pending receipt of certain documents.
11	The Jupiter General Insurance Co. Ltd., Bombay	Rs. 12,500	Rs. 15,000 in the 4 per cent Loan 1943	B. Rs. 300	Life, Fire and Marine	Do.
12	The Bombay Life Assurance Company Ltd., Bombay	...	Rs. 12,500 in the 4 per cent Loan 1960-1970	B. Rs. 100	Life.	Registration pending receipt of certain documents and orders regarding exemption.
13	The Tropical Insurance Company Ltd., Delhi	..	..	B. Rs. 100	Life.	Registration pending receipt of certain documents and deposit under Section 7.
14	The New Asiatic Life Insurance Co. Ltd., New Delhi	..	..	..	Life.	Do.
15	The National Insurance Company Ltd., Calcutta	...	..	B. Rs. 200	Life and Miscellaneous.	Do.
16	The Asian Assurance Company Ltd., Bombay	..	..	B. Rs. 100	Life.	Do.
17	The Liverpool and London and Globe Insurance Co. Ltd., England	..	..	B. Rs. 200	Marine and Accident and Miscellaneous	Do.
18	The Triton Insurance Company Ltd., Calcutta	..	..	B. Rs. 100	Marine.	Do.
19	The Atlas Assurance Company Ltd., England.	..	..	B. Rs. 100	Fire.	Do.

UNSTARRED QUESTION AND ANSWER.

List of places affected by Malaria.

Mr. E. K. Kuriye : Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the places largely affected by malaria?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : A statement is laid on the table.

Statement showing malaria-affected places in the State.

1. Thovala taluk	Arumanallur Chiramattam
2. Kalkulam taluk	Tripparappu Ponmana Estates bordering on Kothanalloor pakuthi
3. Vilavankod taluk	Kaliel Arumana Edacode
4. Neyyattinkara taluk	Ottasekharangalam Kunnathukal Perumkadavila Maranallur Kollayil Neyyattinkara—parts of Marukil and Vilappil
5. Nedumangad taluk	Palode Vamanapuram Pullanpara Aryanad Uzhamalakkal Vellana Mannurkara Perumkulam Veerankavu Kulathummel Kummil
6. Kottarakara taluk	Pathanapuram pakuthi
7. Pathanapuram taluk	Estates and Kani settlements bordering that pakuthi
8. Shencotta taluk	Puliyara Thenmala Aryankavu and Kalthuruthy villages and nearby estates
9. Pathananthitta taluk	Ranni
10. Thodu uzha taluk	Karikodu Kerumanur Manakkadu
11. Kunnatnad taluk	Vengoor Manjapra
12. Devicolan taluk	Marayur Nachivayal Keelanthur Poopara Udumbaanchola Pallivasal
13. Peermade taluk	Peermade Vandiperiyar Kumili Thekkadi

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS.

THE TRAVANCORE CHILD MARRIAGE RESTRAINT BILL.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai (*Quilon cum Kunnatur*) : Sir, I move that the Travancore Child Marriage Restraint Bill as passed by the Travancore Sri Mulam Assembly be taken into consideration.

Mr. James Fletcher (*Kalkulam and Vilavankod cum Neyyattinkara*) : Sir, I second the motion.

Mr. V. Subba Aiyar (*Nominated for the purpose of the Child Marriage Restraint Bill*) : Sir, I beg to oppose the motion. Before I state my grounds, I thank the Government for having nominated me for the purpose of this Bill. I think I owe an explanation to this House as to why Government have nominated an old person like myself whose memory is failing and whose brain is becoming less active.

President : The honourable member hardly does himself justice.

Mr. V. Subba Aiyar : I am the person aggrieved, Sir.

When the Select Committee of the Sri Mulam Assembly sent up its report, a meeting of the Brahmins at Trivandrum was held and I unfortunately happened to be the president at that meeting. There I stated my view that there was no necessity for a Bill of this kind in Travancore. That statement of mine evidently influenced them to suggest to Government that I should be co-opted as a member of this House. I declined, but to pacify me they suggested that Mr. N. Subramonia Aiyar who is much younger and more vigorous would also be co-opted. I wish he were here instead of myself.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : I rise to a point of order, whether all the circumstances that led to his being co-opted as a member of this House can be adverted to when opposing a motion for the consideration of the Bill.

President : I take it that they are introductory remarks.

Mr. V. Subba Aiyar : Yes, Sir. I thought Mr. Subramonia Aiyar would be here to fight out the matter ; but Government thought that one member would do, and therefore I have no one to help me.

To come to the matter on hand. I must say that the learned mover of the Bill in the Lower House was evidently very much interested in seeing that the position of women in the State is considerably improved and therefore was impelled to do her best in that direction. With reference to that I beg to submit that I am not in the least averse to any such measure. I know Srimati Narayani Amma, as the wife of an intimate friend of mine, who has

[Mr. V. Subba Aiyar.]

come to me to take advice on matters such as the "Widow Re-marriage Bill." I have given the needed advice. Similarly it must be taken that I am prepared to help her in any necessary piece of legislation. The reform, such as it is, must be beneficial to the State and must be necessarily in the interest of the State. Without that, I beg to submit, no legislation is necessary. Therefore I promised by saying that I am not in the least against any reform being made in regard to women. But, on the other hand so far as this piece of legislation is concerned, my humble suggestion and view is that when a legislation has to be passed by the legislature, there must be a proved necessity, that is to say, a proved evil to be remedied against; or there should be a demand, for such legislation, by the people affected. Either the one or the other may be enough; but in this case, there is neither the one nor the other. Therefore my point is that no necessity has arisen for a legislation of this kind. In the words of the mover, it is intended to adopt the conditions obtaining somewhere else, not in British India or other States which are not so advanced, but in other countries. The second object seems to be that in the interests of the future generation such a Bill is necessary. Thirdly, the matter has to be prevented on other grounds also. I shall deal with these one by one.

Before I go into these matters I may say that this Bill seems to have been adopted from the measure passed in British India. In British India the conditions are totally different, calling upon the legislature there to pass such a measure. From the figures available to me I find that in the whole of India as per census of 1921 there were 218,453 marriages between the ages 1 and 5 and of these, 15139 married women became widows. Between the ages of 5 and 10 2,016,607 were married of whom 2,79,124 became widows. In British India, therefore, the condition was very appalling and there was the necessity for such a legislation. Going to particular provinces in British India, we find in Bombay that between the ages of 1 and 2 years, there were 1,671 marriages, between 2 and 3 years, 4,378, between 3 and 4 years 7,219, between 4 and 5 years 12,834 and between 5 and 10 years 193,582. From these figures it would appear that girls began to be married between the years 1 and 2, long before they had anything to do with the world. Therefore, in that province and other provinces similarly situated there was a necessity. In Guzerat I understand that there was a system of mass marriage, something like the old *Thaliket* ceremony in Travancore when some girls in a particular family or tarwad were married. Other people also were allowed to undergo that ceremony simultaneously in the same pandal. In Guzerat what happened was that there was a marriage season when many girls were married whether they were of marriageable age or not. Otherwise, they will have to

remain unmarried till the coming of the next marriage season; so much so, girls between 3 and 4 years were married; and if they miss one season, they might have to wait for another 12 years. In Bengal also child marriage was prevalent. In the United Provinces I find that out of 18,633 girls married below 5, 12,233 became widows; out of 306,618 girls married between 5 and 10, 12,223 became widowed. The same is the case with the Central Provinces and other provinces for which details are unnecessary to be cited. But it may be stated that in Bihar and Orissa 19 persons were married below 5 years and 154 per mille between 5 and 10. Thus from the statistics for those places we find that it was absolutely necessary that there should be such a legislation so far as British India was concerned, because marriages took place under 5 years even between the years of one and two, the earliest possible period of one's life. It is fortunate that there was no marriage when the children were in the womb. Such a condition does not exist in Travancore.

Now the mover of the Bill herself has admitted in the statement of objects and reasons that child marriage is not a very serious evil in Travancore, the number of girls getting married up to the age of 15 being fewer in the State than in other parts of India. In her speech introducing the Bill she said "while I admit that conditions in Travancore with respect to child marriage are better than in British India they are still bad enough." Hence I will plead before the House that she is not to be supported on that ground.

I may read for the information of the House the following extracts from the Census Report, Volume I, (page 187).

"In the age period 0-5, there is none married in Travancore, whereas in India six males and twelve females per thousand are married. In the next period 5-10, only one in 1,000 boys and eight in 1,000 girls are married in Travancore against 34 boys and 93 girls in India. It is noteworthy that out of eight girls in 1,000 that are married in Travancore, Hindus and Muslims have the smallest number, viz., seven in 1,000, while the Christians have nine; but the insignificance of the problem of child marriage in this State will be brought out more clearly by the actual figures. Out of a total population of over 2½ million females, of whom over a million are married, there are only 2,484 married girls at the age-period 5-10. Of these, the Hindus number 1,362, Christians 942, Muslims 177 and primitive tribes 3. Of the Hindus, the highest proportions are found among the Brahmins and the Kudumis, among whom pre-puberty marriage of girls is compulsory. The point that deserves special mention is that the Christians show a higher proportion of married girls between the ages of 5 to 10 than the Hindus taken as a whole, though the proportion is naturally lower than that of the castes like the Brahmins and the Kudumis who are bound to marry their girls before they attain puberty".....

[Mr. V. Subba Aiyar.]

In paragraph 237, the Census Commissioner says —

“The conclusions to which the figures discussed above lead are that child marriage is much rarer in Travancore than in India, that comparatively it is more common among the primitive tribes than among the civilized communities, that of the latter the Christians are more addicted to the practice than the Muslims or the Hindus, and that it is least prevalent among the Hindus taken as a whole. Of the different castes of the Hindus, the few among whom pre-puberty marriage of girls is compulsory, no doubt marry a larger proportion of their children; but they form such a small percentage of the total Hindu population that *their practice does not materially affect the general position.*” (Italics mine.)

“It is interesting to know that child marriage is decreasing from census to census.”

At para 241, the report continues :

“The Sarda Act of British India prescribing the age limit for the marriage of girls at 14 and for boys at 18 is not in force in Travancore. There is no general demand from the people as yet for the enactment of a similar law in this State nor does there seem to be any urgent necessity for it. We have seen that child marriage is far less common in this State than in India and that it is declining with the spread of education.”

So that then, from the Census Report it will be found that child marriages are not as common here as in British India. Then, there is no demand for the legislation, or any necessity for the same. I say this because, in a matter of this kind, legislation is not the proper method. The evil, if any, should be left to the free volition of individual persons to be removed; it must be left to the people to remedy. As I have said at the outset, I am not against social reform at all. Nor am I against this particular reform. It must be done by the people themselves, not certainly by the compulsory process of legislation. It is that difference that I want to impress on the House, namely, that such a reform should be left to the individual persons concerned. Therefore I say legislation is not desirable in this matter. I myself can testify that my daughters were married at the age of 11 and 12 whereas my grand daughters were married at ages before and after 14. So that then, I say, I am not against that reform. But all that I say here and now is that that reform must come from the people themselves through education, through propaganda and other allied things; and even that is not necessary for Travancore, because I find that from statistics that the Brahmins and the Kudumis are the only persons among whom pre-puberty marriage of girls is compulsory. On a reference to the figures given in the second volume of the Census Report the facts would be clear. My remarks particularly would apply to Brahmins among whom alone pre-puberty marriage exists. In the

second volume of the Census Report, page 42, there is one portion. It is said that there are 28,908 females and about 27,000 males among Brahmins in the State. Altogether there are about 50,000 Brahmins out of which, at and before the age of 6, there is absolutely no marriage anywhere in Travancore. Between the ages of 7 to 13, 3 marriages have taken place. Even of these we do not know how many were married at 12 or 13. That, I beg to state, is too small a number to require any legislation for that purpose. Therefore, as far as that matter is concerned, there is no necessity for any legislation, nor do I see the demand for it.

Then it may be said "If people themselves have marriages performed at 13 or 14 what is the serious objection to the Bill?" This aspect of the question is foreign to the point. Legislation in a particular state is an index of the culture, of civilization, of education in the State. Admittedly we are all proud of the high level of education in this State. Therefore, when people themselves have begun to adopt higher ages for marriages—when there is not a single instance of marriage below the age of 6 and very few between the ages of 7 and 13, I dare say, my friends on the other side will not insist on legislation being thrust upon us.

Next, it may be suggested that medically, child marriages may affect children. That again Sir, is begging the question. Are there materials to say that the health of the girls has been vitally affected? I have given the figures of marriages from the age of 1 to 13, and we have found that there are only very few cases. That being the case, there is nothing to show that a girl married before 14, conceived a child before 14 and brought forth an unhealthy child. The point is, she might have conceived and brought forth a child after 14. The question then is, will it be objectionable to a girl married at 12 or 13 or say even at 14, to conceive a child? In my opinion it is not a case where it is necessary to legislate simply because the children of some conceived after 14 may not be healthier. Anyhow that is not the point. There is nothing to show that any girl married before 14, conceived and brought forth a child not quite healthy. Unless therefore there are materials to justify the inference I boldly say there is no necessity for any legislation in that behalf. The health of the mother is not at all the exact point. It may be said that a healthier child may be due to the girl having conceived at a particular age. It is not the age of the girl at the time of marriage that is important. It all depends on the nourishment, the condition in which the girl has been brought up and so forth. Such a girl will have a healthier child than a sickly, economically destitute girl married at the age of 15 or 16. The healthiness of a child depends on the nourishment of the mother irrespective of the age, the condition in which the child is born, and the way the mother has been brought up.

[Mr. V. Subba Aiyar.]

There is one other thing which so far as my experience goes has to be noted in this connection. On account of the health of the mother, on account of the frequency of conception and delivery almost once every year, the mother becomes subject to various diseases; so also the child.

So, it does not depend upon the age of the mother; it depends upon certain other conditions; I believe, upon the tradition and practice of the family. It depends upon the circumstances of a particular family. From all these things we can see that the health of the mother does not depend upon the age of the marriage but on ever so many other things as for instance, the economic condition of the family. Therefore such a legislation is not necessary. Even on the question of health, doctors are not unanimous in their opinion. There are ever so many doctors who say that Hindu early marriage is the best for the health of the child. No doubt, there are others opposed to this view. When medical science is changing from day to day, there is no guarantee that one set of medical men must be preferred to another set. I may cite an instance. In Burma where there is no child marriage infantile mortality is greater than in any province in India. So, infantile mortality does not depend upon child marriage. Therefore, I would not advocate any legislation for this.

Then again, the ultimate point upon which Sry. Narayani Amma relied upon in introducing this Bill is this She says —

“In matters like the evil of child marriages, we have to compare conditions in Travancore not with what they are in less advanced States and Provinces in British India, but what they are in more advanced and more progressive countries.”

Whatever I may agree to so far as Sri. Narayani Amma's Bill is concerned, I strongly object to that observation, *viz.*, that we may imitate foreign countries with a view to changing conditions here. So evidently, she has not read any legal report or other proceedings in connection with the subject in various parts of Europe and other countries. I may state that the Upper House is always there to check the eccentricities and excesses of the Lower House. I may be accused of using the term ‘excesses’. The question is this, when there is no sufficient necessity for the present Bill, why encumber the Statute Book with it? The conditions in Europe, America and other places speak for themselves about the undesirability of passing such a piece of legislation.

Above all, there is such a thing as climate. It is common knowledge that a girl attains maturity at about 13 in the tropics, much earlier than in cooler countries. Sex impulse is greater in

tropical countries than in cold countries. I do not want to quote any statistics in support of the statement. Everybody knows it. The habits, manners and customs of foreign countries are not to be imitated in this respect. Various books have been written up in the subject by eminent persons and I do not wish to refer to them. Indian ladies however much educated have not as yet begun to move freely in society. Our women, whatever may be their position, will not move freely with a stranger. They are still reserved. Then why import the foreign customs here? Further, as Mr. M. K. Acharya remarked in the Central Assembly, marriage is a sacrament and it ought not to be a matter to be settled after the ecstasies of a ball room or the ethics of a divorce court. In other words, when girls are married at the age of 13, the parent or other guardian is the best person to look after their interests. According to us, pre-puberty age is 13. I do not say that there are no marriages of girls who have passed the age of 14; but that cannot be helped. Such marriages also take place. But all the same, it is a sacrament.

Lastly I may read a passage. I take the responsibility for what is contained therein and I adopt it as my argument.

Mr. M. Govindan (*Nominated*): Sir, can a written argument be read here?

President: Honourable members are entitled to refresh their memory from written notes from which arguments can be developed.

Mr. V. Subba Aiyar: Although when I was a member of the House, not of this House, about 12 years ago, I did not refer even to notes in connection with Legislative Enactments, nor even as Deputy President now I sometimes.....

President: I do not think the honourable member need explain his position. We can fully realise it. The honourable member will proceed.

Mr. V. Subba Aiyar: A gentleman like Mr. Satyamurti says like this:—

“I am not one of those who opine that secular legislatures shall undertake no social legislation. But I do claim that secular legislatures must walk very warily in respect of social legislation. Legislation opposed to the deepest religious and social feelings of the people is bound to prove *brutum fulmen*. Moreover, it will seriously affect the prestige of the legislature. From that point of view, any legislation which compels people to commit what they sincerely and on reasonable grounds believe to be a gross sin will be resented throughout the country, and will in practice be disobeyed until the law is laughed out of the statute book. I maintain that South Indian Brahmins, for whom alone I speak in this article, have reasonable grounds to, and do sincerely believe according to the Parasara Smrithi which is the supreme authority

[Mr. V. Subba Aiyar.]

for the Kali Yuga for them, that they must marry their girls on their attaining their twelfth year, and that otherwise they commit a very heinous sin. I then ask what moral or other right any secular legislature has to tell these people that they must choose between committing a sin and going to Jail. This is an intolerable dilemma, which no responsible legislature ought to place before any section of the people for whom it professes to legislate. The cheap sneer that Brahmins generally do not observe the injunctions of Parasara nowadays is no answer. Can a legislature tell those who want to observe their religious injunctions, that they shall not observe them, except on pain of going to prison?"

I beg to state that so far as this legislation is concerned, some other legislation must have precedence. In every country, the age of consent is always higher than the age of marriage.

Although under this Bill, a man may not marry a girl before the age of 14, he may have consummation before that. Still he may not commit rape because, even now, under the Penal Code it is not rape to have sexual intercourse with a girl under 14. There is that anomaly now.

President : I do not know whether that is a very relevant argument.

Mr. V. Subba Aiyar : It may not be, Sir, but I want to bring to the notice of this House that anomaly between the provision in the Bill and the provision in the Penal Code. But the age of consent can be raised. Because in these days, every average man may be presumed to have sufficient self-restraint not to interfere with the rules of marriage. If you take the Brahmins as they are, even after the betrothal, there have been no cases of pre-puberty unions. So much so, they pay greater attention to the age of consent. So far as the south Indian Brahmins are concerned, this is particularly the case with them. This is referred to in the Age of Consent Committee Report. But the age of consummation is not announced. That may be due to the fact that consummation would only take place after the age of 14. What I say is that, in the case of Brahmins, consummation is effected only after the age of 14. If that is so, nobody will be aggrieved, and there is no need to fix the age for marriage. If the betrothal takes place before 13, consummation may take place after 14 or even 15. An young man may marry a girl before 13 and may go for higher studies to England or some other place and come back when the girl is above 14, and then he may effect consummation. Here we do not find anything improper or harmful to the young man or to the girl. What we want to do is to make provisions to see that consummation takes place only later. If consummation results in pregnancy that cannot be hidden, so that

there will be no difficulty of establishing a prosecution. Hindu marriage is an ideal form of marriage. If it is absolutely necessary, suitable provision may be made to have the age of consummation fixed at 16 or 18 without interfering with the age of marriage. With regard to the boys, the age of marriage can be made 18; and with regard to the girls, it does not require any legislation. I have so far met the arguments of Sry. Narayani Amma. Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai has not advanced any argument, and he is not entitled to.....

President: The honourable member need not bother about it. His arguments are fairly well known by this time.

Mr. V. Subba Aiyar: Sir, with these words I oppose the motion.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar (*Parur, Kunnatnad and Muwat-tupuzha cum Devicolam*): Sir, I also oppose the motion. After the instructive, exhaustive and able speech delivered by my honourable and learned friend who preceded me there is very little left for me to say against this motion. Any how, I shall make one or two observations as briefly as possible. The grounds alleged by the mover for bringing forward a Bill of this kind is stated in the statement of objects and reasons like this: "To prevent the serious social evil which tends to undermine the health and vigour of the future generation".

Marriage, as understood by certain communities especially the Brahmin community does not include consummation or nuptials. So far as the Brahmin community is concerned, the marriage is only a betrothal settling the parties to it once for all as husband and wife and making their relationship irrevocable. It is a religious sacrament and not a contract which could be put an end to by both or either of the parties as is the case with some of the other communities. The only community that will be affected by this Bill is the Brahmin community excepting of course the Nambudiries who follow a totally different system so far as marriage is concerned. Sir, we have to respect the religious sentiments of all communities even though it is not possible to explain the same. No community has any right to dictate to other communities to follow a different line of conduct opposed to their religious sentiments. And so far as Travancore is concerned, our State is famous for its religious toleration and respect for the religious sentiments of the people. So, whenever a legislation is being introduced which would affect the religious sentiments of a particular community however small its strength may be, I submit that the opinion of that community should be the guiding factor in passing or not passing that piece of legislation. It should also be seen whether any demand for such a legislation has been made by that community. In short, it should

[Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar]

be done with the consent of the community affected. I make bold to state not only there was no demand from that community for such a piece of legislation but there was very strong protest against it on sentimental as well as religious grounds. So far as the Brahmin community is concerned, their total strength as per the census report of 1931 is only 68,700. Out of this there are 848, Malayali Brahmins and 5450 Potti Brahmins.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi (*Karuntagapally*): *Kartikapally and Ambalapuzha cum Shertalai*: May I know whether Parasara's smirthies do not apply to the Malayali Brahmins?

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: Not exactly. They have modified it by custom. Deducting these two communities in which pre-puberty marriage is prevalent there are only thirty seven thousand and odd persons in the Brahmin community and all of them object to this piece of legislation. They form only 75 per cent. of the total population. The smallness of the community is not the test in such matters. As has been observed by the learned speaker who spoke before, I ask, Sir, was there any demand from any member from this community for a social legislation of this kind? And I ask again, was there not sufficient protest from them against it? In this connection, I may be permitted to submit that there are only about 28 Samoochams in this State and all the Samoochams have entered emphatic protests and opposition to this legislation. They have submitted their protests and opposition to the Government, have sent in memorials and resolutions objecting to this piece of legislation which affects them very seriously in practice as well as on principle.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: Will there not be fractional points in each of the Samoochams in favour of this Bill?

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: No Sir, so far as I am aware of. It is not possible to ascertain the views of each and every member of the community. We have full belief in our religious tenets. Everybody has got respect for his religious sentiments.

It may not be out of place in this connection to quote a few authoritative texts binding upon us as regards the object of marriage, the time of marriage, effects of the non-observance of texts and marrying girls after they attain puberty.

The object of marriage is thus described.

“ദൈനം പുർവ്വേഷം, ദശാനപരേഷം, ആരമഭ്യം,
ഏകവിംശതികം, ഉത്തരണചാര, നിത്യനിരതിയ ആനന്ദ
ശാശ്വത ബ്രഹ്മലോക അവസ്ഥാപ്തം, ബ്രഹ്മേനവിധിത
കന്യകാദാനം മഹാദാനം”

Latest period of marriage of girls

“കുമാരവർദ്ധിതാംഗാതി, കുമാരപുരഷസന്നിധൗ

..... താപക് കന്യാം വിവാഹേയൻ”

Effects of marriage after puberty.

“കന്യാം ദേൻ ബ്രഹ്മലോകം രൗരവതുരജസ്വല”

“മാതാഭവയ് വ പിതാഭവയ് വഭൃഷ്ടഭൂതാഭമേവചഃ

“തൃയസ്ത നരകം യാതി ഒഷ്ടാകന്യാം ജജസ്വല”

The idea involved in this *Kanyaka Danam* is not the satisfaction of sexual pleasures but it is for the elevation of the past, present as well as the future generation and for reaching the eternal *Brahma lokam*. When marriages are performed these high ideals are kept in view. When marriages are performed with such high ideals is it just to prohibit such marriages and ask the community to perform it according to the wish of the majority in the land? Sir, I ask, is it a fair behaviour towards minority communities? In this connection I would bring to the notice of this House that the so called democracy for which there is agitation can never be a success so long as the wishes and requests of the minority are disregarded and flouted. Here is a majority community dictating to the minority community that the minority community should abide by the command of the majority community.

Again, the mover of the Bill says that child marriage will undermine the health and vigour of future generations. By raising the age of consummation as my learned friend has said, health and vigour may be safe-guarded. According to *smrithies* the latest age, fixed for marrying girls, if it was not possible to marry them earlier at 8 or 9, is the period when girls feel shy to appear before males *i. e.*, their 12th year. The Bill goes farther and directs that marriage should not be conducted before girls have completed their 14th year. As for those who do not act up to the *smrithies* in the matter of marriage of girls, the punishment laid down in the authoritative text cited above is രൗരവലിതം. In the face of these mandates, to legislate against these provisions is unauthorized. The Bill is uncalled for, opposed to sacred texts of Sanathana Dharma and subversive of beliefs, customs and usages of the Brahmin community whom it vitally affects. Passing this Bill in the teeth of opposition is unjustifiable.

There are many young men and girls in other communities nowadays who continue to remain unmarried, and they are a source of much trouble to society and if a legislation is passed that every male should get married before completing 25, that would save a good number of young girls who find it difficult to get married. Very aged persons marrying young girls may also be prohibited by legislation. Those are the matters in which one would like the champions of women's rights to bring forward legislative enactments.

[Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar.]

I would invite the attention of the House to another important feature in the communities in which pre-puberty marriage is observed. Practically all the girls in such communities get married and have their husbands ready to look after them, and to maintain them as soon as they attain puberty where as in communities where marriages are conducted after puberty, we find a number of grown up young girls remaining unmarried and waiting indefinitely for marriage. They are a source of much anxiety to parents.

As has been pointed out by my predecessor, our climatic condition is such that girls here attain puberty between 12 and 13; naturally they then get the instinct for sex. Some may be able to withstand it; others may not be able. It is the duty of the head of every family to see that the girls in the family are properly married and at the proper time without leaving the choice to girls. Unless that is done, there is the very great danger of some girls being misled.

Sir, there is also the other anomaly referred to by my learned predecessor. Section 375 of the Travancore Penal Code says that if a man commits sexual intercourse with a girl who has not completed 12, with or without her consent, it would be rape; in other words, it is no offence for a man to have sexual intercourse with a girl who has completed 12. For sexual intercourse the girl need not be past 14 but for marriage she must be past 14.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: May I ask whether that provision in the Penal Code has not been amended?

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: It was originally fixed at 10; it was after the amendment that the age of consent was raised to 12.

What I am submitting therefore is that, reading this Bill together with the provision in the Penal Code, the position would be that while you prohibit legal marriages, before the girl completes 14, you encourage concubinage before she is 14. That is one anomaly which I want to point out to the House, in case the Bill is passed as it is.

Then, Sir, the proper remedy for the evils which the mover apprehends exist in Travancore also, would be to raise the age of consent; that would not affect or wound the religious susceptibilities of this section of the people who object to this Bill.

Another point raised by the mover is that the vigour of the future generation would be affected by child marriage. Sir, where is the guarantee that child marriage would always end in child-motherhood, or that later motherhood would not affect the health of the mother injuriously? Has the mover any scheme in view which

would guarantee the vigour of the girl married after 14? As I said, the fact that a girl is married before she is 14, does not always mean that she will become a mother as soon as she completes 14, or earlier. I could have very well appreciated any practical scheme from the mover which would permanently improve the health of our womanhood.

So, viewing the position as a whole, this enactment is not needed and cannot cure the ills contemplated by the mover. Therefore, I would earnestly appeal to the House to respect the religious sentiments of a minority community and not to trench upon their family life and family conduct, especially when there is no serious social evil involved. The so-called exemption provided in the Bill is a discretionary one and may depend upon the mentality of the officer for the time being who has to sanction the exemption and various other considerations. If such officer happens to be unsympathetic or has no belief in religious rites, exemption may in certain cases be disallowed and that is risky. I would therefore oppose the motion.

Mr. M. Govindan : I support the principle of the Bill. In doing so, I feel that I have to make reference to the speeches made by my friends who belong to the communities which will be directly affected by the Bill.

Sir, their point, as I understood it, is that marriage among them is a sacrament and that therefore any change or alteration made by the Legislature in regard to marriage will prejudicially affect the solemnity of the marriage. May I ask my friends whether when infants are married and *manthrams* are chanted—*manthrams* such as *सम हृदये ते हृदयं*, 'Our hearts shall be one', the infants would be able to know the significance of the *manthrams* they utter? It is clear that the whole sanctity of the ceremony would be lost and it would be reduced to a mere farce, so far as child marriages are concerned.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar : Are there not people aged 50 who are not able to understand *manthrams*?

Mr. M. Govindan : That is quite possible.

President : Even at the age of 60 or more, if a person does not know Sanskrit, he cannot understand any *manthram*.

Mr. M. Govindan : My point is that a boy of twelve, even if he knows Sanskrit, can understand *manthrams*.

President : There are some vedic *manthrams* which even Sanskrit scholars find difficult to understand.

Mr. M. Govindan : *सम हृदये ते हृदयं*, Such simple Sanskrit, anybody who knows Sanskrit can understand.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : May I point out to my honourable friend that what he has just now quoted does not form part of the marriage manthrams?

Mr. M. Govindan : I am quoting from marriage manthram.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : What is his authority to show that?

Mr. M. Govindan : I am quoting Vachaspathi.

President : The passage is from Valsyayana and relates to one of the methods by which Brahmin marriages are performed. The manthram quoted is used by certain classes of Brahmins.

Mr. M. Govindan : I heard my friend Mr. Narayana Aiyar quoting from a smriti. May I quote from Manu?

President : That would be rather dangerous ; because if the honourable member would quote the whole of Manu he would find that he should support child marriage.

Mr. M. Govindan : Manu Chapter IX Verse 90.

തൃണി വർഷാന്തമിക്ഷേപത കമാതൃ മുമതീ പ്രമതീ ന തീ ।

ഉർദ്ധ്വം യു കൗശാലേന മോമിന്ദേദശത ന ശ്ലോ പതിം ॥

What is said is that a girl should wait for three years after attaining puberty, and then choose and marry a suitable husband. That, I submit, would be very much like the provisions of the present Bill,

Mr. V. Subba Aiyar : May I ask my honourable friend whether the passage that he quoted from Manu does not relate to girls who had lost their father and mother and therefore could not be given in marriage by the parents.

President : There may be very legitimate arguments to support the Bill ; but the particular passage relates to the case of a girl who having neither father nor mother or other person entitled to give her away in marriage, is asked to wait for a certain period after attaining puberty, and then make her own choice. I would once again warn the honourable member, Mr. Govindan, not to quote too much from Manu ; because, subsequently, he will find all the arguments in favour of child marriage (*Laughter*).

Mr. M. Govindan : There is another passage in Manu which says that a man of thirty must marry a girl of twelve. The word used is *Dwadasa Varshakeem* : my idea is that it is a mistake in the edition and it ought to be *Dwi dasa* and not *dwadasa*.

President : That is rather doubtful, because the metre will be affected,

Mr. M. Govindan I have looked into the matter carefully. The metre will not be affected. It is not Manu alone that has made this injunction. In Mahabharatha Anusasana Parva Chapter 40, it is stated

त्रिणि वर्षाण्युदीक्षेत कन्या क्रतुमती सती ।

चतुर्थे त्वय सम्प्राप्ते त्वयं भर्तारमार्जयेत् ॥

After waiting for three years, the girl must choose her husband in the fourth year.

Mr. V. Sankara Menon : Who says that ?

Mr. M. Govindan : Vedavyasa, of course ; it is well known that he is the author of the Mahabharatha,

Mr. V. Sankara Menon : Everybody knows that ; what I want to know is the name of the hero in the Bharatha who has said that (*Laughter.*)

Mr. M. Govindan : Sir, may I go on without answering that question ? (*Laughter.*)

President : The honourable member yielded his place voluntarily.

Mr. M. Govindan : Now, finding the question inconvenient, I propose to go on. (*Laughter.*)

In Vasishta smriti, Chapter VII—

कुमार्युतमती त्रिवर्षाण्युपासीतोऽर्षं त्रिभ्यो वर्षेभ्यः पतिं विन्दत ॥

Whether any emergency of the kind mentioned is the condition precedent to the injunction in the smriti, can be decided by reference to Ayurveda.—Susrutha, the greatest authority on Ayurveda, says—I shall not quote the Sanskrit—that a man of twenty-five should marry a girl of sixteen, and that then alone the children would be healthy and long-lived.

There is also another sloka in Susrutha, which says that if the injunction is violated there will be degeneration of the offspring and the senses will become weaker and not fully developed. If the injunction is violated, the sloka proceeds to say, there will be even abortion. The Ayurveda is accepted as a safe guide in matters of health in a Hindu country like ours. I submit that my friends should concede that for the health of the nation, it is necessary to pass a legislation of this kind.

Another argument of my friend Mr. Subba Aiyar was that there is no need, because after all there is not much of infant marriage in our State. If there is not much of infant marriage, if the evil is not so rampant, and if the people have developed to such an extent that they would adopt post-puberty marriages voluntarily, that is all the more reason why a few violations of this that we notice here and there and which may perhaps be repugnant to the sense of the community, be removed by this legislation.

[Mr. M. Govindan.]

Another argument that strikes me is this. Travancore is a small place compared to the rest of India. The community which follows this custom is spread all over India. It so happens that the progressive sense of the leaders of the community elsewhere has passed a similar piece of legislation prohibiting the system of infant marriages. Now, let us not incur the odium of those who have taken a lead in this matter and let our country be not a rendezvous for the people who fly from British India to conduct infant marriages here.

Mr. V. Subba Aiyar : Sir, he refers to people coming and going back. I do not know whether it is to perform the marriage that these men come and go. Even then it is an offence.

Mr. M. Govindan : Yes, it is an offence. But there are many people who take shelter here for the purpose. The fact is that it has come to my personal knowledge that persons come from outside because conditions elsewhere are not congenial to infant marriages and such marriages are not prohibited by Travancore Statute.

I submit that, everything considered, we should make ourselves strong at least to follow British India in this matter. Sir, there are many matters in which Travancore has led, as for example in the case of legislation regarding the Marumakkathayis, where our State had led and British India had followed. I strongly advise my friends to withdraw their objections.

Mr. V. Subba Aiyar : Was there not representation from the communities concerned?

Mr. M. Govindan : Yes, there was representation from communities concerned. I grant that the two members who are here and who have spoken, have spoken against it. What I say is that the consideration which should weigh with us is that this piece of legislation should be enacted to bring our laws into harmony with the rest of India. After all, is it possible for us to get isolated and remain in a corner? We form part of India. The community is the same throughout India. We have to fall into line with other parts of India.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar : Are we not governed by our Highness?

Mr. M. Govindan : My loyalty to the Sovereign is not below that of my friend. What I submit is only this. When legislation is such an innocuous thing, when everybody feels that there is nothing revolutionary in this piece of legislation why not add it to our law? I hope that my pleading will serve to persuade my friends to withdraw their objections.

Mr. Thomas Chandy Mukkadan : സർ, ഈ ബില്ലിനോടു യോജിക്കുവാൻ ഒരു പ്രകാരത്തിലും എനിക്ക് നിവൃത്തിയില്ലാത്തതിനാൽ ഞാൻ ഇതിനെ എതിർക്കുകയത്രേ ചെയ്യുന്നത്. ലോകജീവിതത്തിൽ ഏറ്റവും പരിപാവനതയും സന്മാർഗ്ഗനിഷ്ഠയും നിലകൊള്ളുന്നത് വൈവാഹിക ജീവിതത്തിലത്രേ. അതിലേയ്ക്ക് ശരിയായിട്ടുള്ളതും ശക്തിമത്തുമായ നിയമങ്ങൾ മതസിദ്ധാന്തപ്രകാരം നിലവിലുണ്ട്. ഞാനറുപ്പെട്ട കുടുംബത്തിൽ സമുദായത്തെ സംബന്ധിച്ചിടത്തോളം വിവാഹം എന്നു പറയുന്നത് പരമപരിശുദ്ധമായ ഒരു സേവനമെന്റാണ്. അവിടെ അനിഷേധ്യമാവണം വിവാഹപ്രായത്തെ കുറിക്കുന്ന നിയമങ്ങൾ സ്വീകരിക്കപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ട്. പക്ഷെ കാലദേശാവസ്ഥകൾക്കനുരൂപമായി മതാദ്ധ്യക്ഷന്മാർ വിവാഹപ്രായത്തെ മാറ്റുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നുണ്ട്. ലോകത്തിന്റെ ഏതു ഭാഗത്തുമുള്ള മറ്റു ഏതു മതവിഭാഗത്തേക്കാളും മതാത്മകമായ നിഷ്ഠയോടുകൂടി വിവാഹത്തെ സംബന്ധിച്ച നിയമങ്ങൾ കത്തോലിക്കാ സഭയിൽ ഉണ്ടെന്നിരുന്നാലും വിവാഹം കഴിക്കുന്നതിനു വൈദികന്മാരുടെ സമക്ഷത്തിൽ സമ്മതിക്കപ്പെട്ട യുവതീയുവാക്കന്മാർ ഹാജരായി മതസിദ്ധാന്തപ്രകാരമുള്ള കർമ്മങ്ങൾ കൂടാതെതന്നെ അവർ വിവാഹം ചെയ്തിരുന്നാലും, മതാദ്ധ്യക്ഷന്മാരുടെ അനേചക്ഷണത്തിൽ അവർ പരസ്പരം ദാമ്പത്യജീവിതത്തിൽ പ്രവേശിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള നൈസർഗ്ഗികമായ പ്രേമത്താൽ യോജിക്കപ്പെട്ടവരാണ് എന്നു ബോദ്ധ്യപ്പെട്ടാൽ, നിയമപ്രകാരം അതു സാധ്യകരിപ്പിക്കാൻ പാടില്ലെന്നിരുന്നാലും, അതു സാധ്യകരിച്ചു കൊടുക്കുന്ന പതിവുണ്ട്. സമ്മാഗ്നജീവിതത്തിനും സദാചാരപാലനത്തിനും പ്രണയബന്ധരായ സ്ത്രീപുരുഷന്മാർ ഉഭയസമ്മതപ്രകാരം വിവാഹത്തിനു കുറിക്കുന്ന സമയത്തിനു നിയമം വഴങ്ങിക്കൊടുക്കണമെന്നാണ് ഇതിൽനിന്നും വ്യക്തമാകുന്നത്. ഒന്നുകൂടി ഗാഢമായി ആലോചിക്കുമ്പോൾ ഇപ്രകാരം ഒരു നിയമം നടപ്പാക്കുന്നത് ഓരോ സമുദായത്തിലും നില ഉറച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതും മതസംബന്ധമായി മാറ്റപ്പെടാൻ പാടില്ലെന്നു വിശ്വസിക്കപ്പെടുന്നതുമായ മൂലപ്രമാണങ്ങളിലേക്കു കൈകടത്തുകയല്ലേ എന്നുള്ള ഭയവും ഇല്ലാതില്ല. അതുകൊണ്ട് ഈ ബില്ലിന്റെ തത്വത്തെപ്പറ്റി ആലോചിക്കുമ്പോൾ ഇതിനെ ശക്തിയായി എതിർക്കാതെ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല.

പരിഷ്കൃതമായ നില, വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിന്റെ ഉയച്ചു ഇവയിൽ ഇതര രാജ്യങ്ങളുടെ മുന്നണിയിൽ നിൽക്കുന്ന തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ ഈ അവസരത്തിൽ ഇതുപോലുള്ള ഒരു നിയമം ഉണ്ടാക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യമില്ല.

[Mr. Thomas Chandy Mukkadan.]

ആ ആവശ്യത്തെപ്പറ്റി ചിന്തിക്കുമ്പോൾ നിലവിലിരിക്കുന്ന ദുഷ്ടത പരിഹരിക്കുന്നതിനേക്കാൾ കാണ്മാൻ പാടില്ലാത്ത ഭാവിയിലുള്ള ദുഷ്ടതയ്ക്കെ ദർശിക്കുകയത്രേ ഞാൻ ചെയ്യുന്നത്. മതാചാരങ്ങൾക്കു വിധേയമായി ശൈശവവിവാഹം ചില സമുദായങ്ങളിൽ നടപ്പുണ്ടെങ്കിലും, ബില്ലിൽ പറയുന്നപ്രകാരമൊ ബില്ലിന്റെ അവതാരക ചൂണ്ടിക്കാണിച്ചതുപോലെയൊ ഉള്ള ഭോഷങ്ങളൊന്നും ഇവിടെ വരുന്നില്ലെന്നു പറഞ്ഞതു പരമാർത്ഥമായിരിക്കെ, കാണ്മാൻ പാടില്ലാത്ത ആരോഗ്യസംബന്ധമായൊ മറ്റു പ്രകാരത്തിലൊ ഉള്ള ഭോഷങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടെന്നും അവയെ പരിഹരിക്കുന്നതിന് നിയമം ആവശ്യമാണെന്നും മറ്റു സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ ഇത്തരം നിയമം ഉണ്ടെന്നും പറഞ്ഞ് ഇവിടെ ഒരു നിയമം പാസാക്കിയാൽ തിരുവിതാംകൂർ മറ്റു രാജ്യങ്ങളുടെ ദൃഷ്ടിയിൽ ഒരു പരിമാസപാത്രമായിത്തീരും. മതസംബന്ധമായ കാരണങ്ങളെവിട്ട് ഒരു തിരുവിതാംകൂർ കാരൻ എന്ന നിലയിലും ഞാൻ ഈ ബില്ലിനെ എതിർക്കുകയത്രെ ചെയ്യുന്നത്.

മി: എം. ഗോവിന്ദൻ പ്രസ്താവിച്ച നിയമപ്രകാരം നോക്കുകയാണെങ്കിൽ ഒരു യുവതി ഋതുവായി മൂന്നുകൊല്ലം കഴിയുമ്പോൾ വിവാഹത്തിൽ പ്രവേശിക്കണം എന്നു കാണുന്നു. ഒരു സ്ത്രീ എപ്പോൾ ഋതുവാകുമെന്നു യാതൊരുത്തർക്കും പറയാൻ കഴികയില്ല. ഋതുവാകുന്നുള്ളത് സാധാരണ ഇന്നുസമയത്തു സംഭവിക്കുന്നു എന്നു വൈദ്യശാസ്ത്രങ്ങൾ ഉൽഘോഷിക്കുന്നു പക്ഷെ, ശീതോഷ്ണസ്ഥിതിയനുസരിച്ച് ഓരോ സ്ഥലത്തും വ്യത്യസ്തമായിട്ടാണ് ഇത് സംഭവിക്കുന്നത്. അങ്ങിനെ നോക്കുമ്പോൾ മറവയസ്സിൽ താണു പെൺകുട്ടികളും ഋതുവായതായി ഉദാഹരണങ്ങൾ ധാരാളമുണ്ട്. ചില പത്രങ്ങളിൽ കാണുന്ന പ്രസ്താവനകൾ വിശ്വസിക്കാമെങ്കിൽ പത്തു വയസ്സിൽ പ്രസവിച്ചതായി ദുഷ്ടാന്തങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ട്. ശീതോഷ്ണസ്ഥിതിയുടെ കൂടുതൽകുറവുകൊണ്ട് എന്തെല്ലാം സംഭവിക്കുമെന്നു അറിയാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല. മി: ഗോവിന്ദൻ പ്രസ്താവിച്ചതുപോലെ മനുവിന്റെ നിയമപ്രകാരം ഇത്ര വയസ്സിൽ വിവാഹം കഴിയണം എന്നും നിശ്ചയിക്കുവാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല. സാമ്പാർത്ഥികനിയമപ്രകാരവും മതസിദ്ധാന്തങ്ങളെ അവലംബിച്ചും നാം ചിന്തിക്കുകയാണെങ്കിൽ വിവാഹത്തിനു പുതിയ നിയമം അത്യാവശ്യമാണ്. ഇതുകാലത്തേനോ

ക്കിട്ടാണു് മതസിദ്ധാന്തങ്ങൾ വിവാഹപ്രായത്തെ കുറിക്കുന്നതു്. ഈ വായിക്കുവാനുള്ള ഒരു സ്ത്രീ ഒരു പുരുഷനെ വരിക്കാൻ മോഹിക്കുന്നു. അക്കാലത്തു വിവാഹം അനുവദിക്കപ്പെടേണ്ടതാണു്. അന്നു് വിവാഹം നടയപ്പെടുന്ന പക്ഷം അതു് രോഗഹേതുക്കമായി ഭവിക്കും. മാത്രമല്ല അസാമാന്യീകനടപടികൾക്കും അതു് ഒരു പ്രേരകമായി തീരാൻ ഇടയുണ്ടു്. തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ വിവാഹം ചെയ്യാത്ത പല സ്ത്രീകളുടേയും ശരീരപരിശോധന ചെയ്താൽ അനേകം സ്ത്രീകൾ രോഗികളായിരിക്കുന്നതു് കാണാൻ കഴിയും. അതിനുള്ള പ്രധാന കാരണം ഇന്നതാണെന്നു പലർക്കും ബോദ്ധ്യപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ടു്.

ഇങ്ങനെ നോക്കുമ്പോൾ ശരിയായ പ്രായത്തിൽ വിവാഹം നടത്താതിരുന്നാൽ പാശ്ചാത്യദേശങ്ങളിൽ ഇന്നനുഭവിച്ചുവരുന്ന പലവിധ ദുരവസ്ഥകളേയും തിരുവിതാംകൂർ അഭിമുഖീകരിക്കേണ്ടിവരും. ഇൻഡ്യയിലെ വിശേഷിച്ചും തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ സ്ത്രീകൾ ചാരിത്രത്തിലും സമ്പ്രദായത്തിലും മെച്ചമുള്ളവരായി കാണപ്പെടുന്നതിന്നു് പ്രധാനകാരണം യഥാകാലം നടത്താപ്പെടുന്ന വിവാഹം ആണു്. ഹിന്ദുമതശാസ്ത്രങ്ങളും കൃസ്തീയ മതസിദ്ധാന്തങ്ങളും അനുസരിച്ചുള്ള ആചാരങ്ങൾ അനിഷേധ്യങ്ങളാണു്. അവകളിൽ ഒരു നിയമസമിതി ഇപ്പോൾ കൈകടത്തേണ്ട ആവശ്യമില്ല. മതാത്മകമായ മനോവേദനയെ ഉളവാക്കുന്നതു് തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ ഇന്നത്തെ നിലയ്ക്കു ആവശ്യമില്ലാത്തതെന്നു പ്രഥമദൃഷ്ടിയിൽ കാണാവുന്നതും ആയ ഈ മാതിരിയുള്ള നിയമങ്ങൾ എതിർക്കപ്പെടേണ്ടവയാകുന്നു.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : Sir, I rise to support the Bill. In attempting to do that, I do not propose to quote from scriptures as I cannot do as my friend Mr. Govindan has done.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi : I rise to a point of order. Is it parliamentary to refer to the other person who quotes scriptures?

President : I do not think that any such implication was in Mr. Kuruvilla's mind.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : Sir, I did not refer to misquotation. Looking at the question from the commonsense point of view, I personally feel that it is atrocious to marry a girl at the age of 12 or less. I feel that a girl at that age should sing, should play with other girls and should study. I am surprised to think that my honourable friend wants a girl at that age to think of a man as a husband. I am sorry for all girls at that age to have to think of men in that way.

[Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla.]

I was surprised to hear my Christian friend speak against the Bill, and express the fear that many men and women may remain unmarried. One of the things I appreciate most, though I belong to another denomination, is the large number of unmarried men and women in the Roman Catholic church who have devoted their lives to public service; and in point of intellect and health I do not think they are inferior to others. I will be sorry if I find a girl's attention drawn away from play, from music and from her study at this age.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: May I know whether the member is aware of any provision in the Hindu scriptures for the marriage of girls before they reach a certain age?

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla: Sir, I am not an expert in Hindu scriptures and therefore I cannot answer the question.

The question has to be considered from the economic point of view also. One of the great problems for solution in any country as well as in Travancore is the question of population. The earlier the marriages are celebrated, I think the larger will be the population. Instead of resorting to the artificial methods of restriction, I would much rather enforce birth control by the postponement of marriages. It has been suggested that there will be immorality if late marriages take place. I ask whether that is not immorality even if we insist on early marriages. It is due to the vitiated instincts and tastes of individuals that there are aberrations in sex. It does not depend upon early marriages. I therefore submit, Sir, that even from an economic point of view, late marriages are conducive to economic development as it will tend to the restriction of population.

As regards religious sentiments, I would submit that in a truly democratic country minorities should be taken along with the majority so that there might be ultimate harmony. There is a provision in the Bill providing for the religious sentiments of the people concerned. In the last clause of the Bill it is provided that any particular individual who wants an exemption in this matter may ask for it and the marriage may be allowed. I do not agree therefore that this Bill really affects the religious sentiments of communities or of individuals.

The last point I have to say is that in all cases, when 90 per cent of the people entirely agree to a piece of legislation, that is the exact time when the legislation should be passed. We cannot expect every individual to support any piece of legislation. But if we have the sympathy of a large majority of people for it, then is the

time for the legislation to be passed, while giving at the same time due respect to the sentiments of the minorities. I therefore very heartily support the Bill.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: Sir, I also support the motion. But when such a very eminent member as Mr. Subba Aiyar opposes it, it is the duty of the House to examine very carefully the aspects presented before the House. I can understand that the great lawyer as he is, has spoken as the representative of the body who has sent him to present before the House the orthodox view, if there is such a view in the country. I am inclined to think, I mean no disparagement to any of the honourable members of this House, that most of those who have opposed the measure have done so with their tongues in their cheek. The legislation has been passed in British India. In spite of the original opposition, things have quietened down there and I wish and I hope that there are indications of a brighter generation of Brahmin young men and young women in British India. I also hope that this legislation will tend to improve from an eugenic point of view the racial stock. As my friend Mr. Kuruville hinted, it is not so much for improving the stock either, it is not so much purely from the point of view of physiology or eugenics that we urge this legislation, because every man and every woman should have the period of adolescence left unhampered by considerations of domestic responsibilities of a husband or wife. I do not at all refer to the physiological aspect.

I am always in sympathy with several of my friends who think of the Parasara Smriti which has provided them with excellent cooks, excellent bathers of children and excellent housewives, but who are certainly deprived of those companionable wives which some of us, non-Brahmins, can boast of. Therefore, just to give them the proper training, so that in the India of to-morrow they may play their true part in social life also, it is highly essential that young women should be given the necessary training before they are burdened with the responsibilities of a married life.

Mr. V. Subba Aiyar: Does the member know that girls who have been married before puberty were competent to manage household affairs?

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: I am afraid I have not made myself clear. My point was that they are much too good housekeepers and housewives and that they are less companionable.

As Mr. Govindan suggested, when the greater number of them reside in British India and when they have a similar legislation, there is no particular reason why their relations on this side of the Ghats should take protection behind the Parasara Smriti.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : Does the honourable member know that in British India the legislation is respected more in its breach than in the observance?

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi : As a dutiful member of an Indian State Legislature I do not want to speak disparagingly of British Indian legislation.

Another aspect is this. The Malayali Brahmins, the Nambudiris, who have also religious feelings, are performing post-puberty marriages and when that is the case, I do not see any reason why our Smartha friends alone should oppose this piece of legislation.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : May I know whether the honourable member is aware that the Culine Brahmins of Bengal are also accustomed to the post-puberty marriages?

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi : I am glad my friend has referred to the existence of the postpuberty marriages among a section of the Brahmins in Bengal. That is one more argument why the Tamil Brahmins should follow the example of the most enlightened Brahmins in the whole of India who are nearer the Ganges and the Himalayas than the Smartha Brahmins here.

President : They are not supposed by the rest of the Brahmins to belong to their community at all and they are not allowed to interdine with any other Brahmins in Northern India.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi : I am not despairing of the Tamil Brahmins either. They are the most wonderfully accomplished people on earth.

President : Order, order. The more we go into details as between sub-communities, the more troubles and controversies may arise. The comparison between the Malayala Brahmin and the Smartha Brahmin does not really arise, because the former is not governed by the Hindu law on that matter but by his own *acharam* laid down under the guidance of certain religious preceptors. So also the Culine Brahmins in Bengal are governed by their *kulachara*. That is analogous to what is pursued by the Nambudiri Brahmins. To go into these discussions will take us very far afield.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi : I did not want to raise any controversies regarding the comparative precedence of any of the Brahmin classes. All that I say is that the members of that community would be decidedly the better and the happier if this Bill is passed into law.

The House adjourned for lunch at 1 p. m. and re-assembled at 2 p. m.

Mr. Kalloor Narayana Pillai (*Mavelikara and Tiruvalla* cum *Pathanamthitta*) : ഈ ബില്ലിനെ ഞാനും എതിർക്കുന്നു. ഒരു സമുദായത്തെ സംബന്ധിച്ച് ഒരു നിയമം ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്നത് അതിലുള്ള ഭൂരിപക്ഷം ആളുകളുടേയും അഭിപ്രായമനുസരിച്ചു ആയിരിക്കണം. ഏതു സമുദായത്തിന്റെ ആവശ്യത്തെ അടിസ്ഥാനമാക്കിയാണ് ഈ ബിൽ ഇവിടെ അവതരിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതെന്നാണ് നമുക്കു നോക്കേണ്ടത്. തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ തമിഴ് ബ്രാഹ്മണർ ധാരാളം ഉണ്ട്. അവരുടെയിടയിൽ പെൺകുട്ടികൾക്ക് പ്രതുവാകുന്നതിനു മുൻപ് വിവാഹം ചെയ്യിക്കണമെന്നുള്ളത് നിർബന്ധമായ ഒരു വിഷയമാണ്. അങ്ങനെ പ്രതുവാകുന്നതിനുമുമ്പ് വിവാഹം വേണമെന്നു നിശ്ചയിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ട് ആ സമുദായത്തിൽ അവിവാഹിതകളായ യുവതികൾ വളരെ കുറവാണ്. എന്നാൽ മരുമക്കത്തായികളുടെ നില നോക്കുകയാണെങ്കിൽ ഇത്ര വയസ്സിനുമുമ്പ് വിവാഹം ചെയ്യണമെന്ന ഒരു നിർബന്ധം ഇല്ലാതിരിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ട് ആ സമുദായത്തിൽ അവിവാഹിതകളായ യുവതികൾ ധാരാളം ഉണ്ട്. കൃസ്ത്യൻ സമുദായത്തെ പരിശോധിക്കുന്നപക്ഷം അവരുടെയിടയിൽ അവിവാഹിതകളായ യുവതികൾ ധാരാളം ഉണ്ടെന്നു കാണാവുന്നതാണ്. തമിഴ് ബ്രാഹ്മണരുടെയിടയിൽ പൂബർട്ടിക്കു മുൻപ് വിവാഹം നടത്തണമെന്നു വ്യവസ്ഥയുണ്ടെങ്കിലും അവരുടെ പ്രതുശാന്തി (നെപ്ഷ്യൽ) കഴിയുന്നതിനു മുൻപ് വധുവരന്മാർ തമ്മിൽ ദർശിക്കാൻ പാടില്ലാ എന്നു വ്യവസ്ഥ ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ട്. അതുകൊണ്ട് പതിനാലു വയസ്സിനു മുൻപ് വിവാഹം നടന്നിരുന്നാലും വധുവരന്മാരുടെ ചേച്ച് അവർക്ക് പ്രായമായതിനുശേഷമേ നടക്കുകയുള്ളൂ. മലയാള ബ്രാഹ്മണരുടേയും തമിഴ് ബ്രാഹ്മണരുടേയും ആചാരങ്ങൾക്കു വളരെ വ്യത്യാസമുണ്ട്. പൂബർട്ടി ആകുന്നതിനു മുൻപ് വിവാഹം കഴിക്കാൻ സാധിച്ചില്ലെങ്കിൽ വിവാഹകാലത്തു് അതിലേക്കു പ്രായശ്ചിത്തം നടത്തിയാൽ മതിയാകും.

സ്കൂൾ ചൈനൽ ക്ലാസിൽ പഠിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന ഒരു വിദ്യാർത്ഥിയെ കണ്ട് നല്ലനിലയിൽ വരുന്ന ഒരാളാണെന്നു കരുതി അയാളെക്കൊണ്ട് തന്റെ മകളെ വിവാഹം ചെയ്യിക്കാൻ ഉദ്ദേശിക്കുന്ന ഒരു പിതാവിന് ഈ ബിൽ വളരെ തടസ്സമായിട്ടാണ് കാണുന്നത്. പന്ത്രണ്ടു വയസായ ഒരു നായർ പെൺകുട്ടിയെ പത്തൊൻപതു വയസ്സായ ഒരു യുവാവു വിവാഹം ചെയ്തശേഷം അയാളെ ഇംഗ്ലണ്ടിലേക്കയച്ച് ഐ. സി. എസ്. നു പഠിപ്പിച്ച് അതു പാസായി തിരിയെ വന്ന് ഇപ്പോൾ അവർ ഭാര്യാഭർത്താക്കന്മാരായിരിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്.

[Mr. Kalloor Narayana Pillai]

നും വയസ്സ് പ്രായമുള്ള ഒരുത്തൻ തന്റെ പെൺകുട്ടിയെ താൻ മരിക്കുന്നതിനു മുൻപ് വിവാഹം ചെയ്തു കാണണമെന്ന് വിചാരിക്കുകയാണെങ്കിൽ ഈ ബില്ലുകൊണ്ട് അതുസാധിക്കാതെയാണു വരുന്നത്. അതുകൊണ്ട് ഇത്ര വയസ്സിനുമേൽ മാത്രമേ വിവാഹം നടത്താൻ പാടുള്ളൂ എന്ന് ഒരു വ്യവസ്ഥ ഉണ്ടാക്കുകയാണെങ്കിൽ ഇത്ര വയസ്സ് കഴിഞ്ഞ അവിവാഹിതകളായ സ്ത്രീകളെ ഈ രാജ്യത്തു കാണാൻ പാടില്ല എന്നു ഒരു വ്യവസ്ഥയും കൂടി ഉണ്ടാക്കേണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നു. അത് നടക്കത്തക്ക ഒരു സംഗതിയാണ്.

ശൈശവവിവാഹംകൊണ്ട് ആരോഗ്യത്തിനു ദോഷം വരുമെന്നാണ് ചിലർ പറയുന്നത്. പൂർണ്ണ ആരോഗ്യം ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ളവരുടെയും വിവാഹം നടത്തണമെന്ന നിർബന്ധമുള്ള സമുദായത്തിൽപ്പെട്ട പലരും നല്ല ആരോഗ്യമുള്ളവരും നല്ല ബുദ്ധിമാന്മാരുമായാകത്തക്കവണ്ണം കാണുന്നുണ്ട്. അതുകൊണ്ട് ആവക ഭൂഷ്യങ്ങൾ ഇത്തരം വിവാഹംകൊണ്ടുണ്ടാകുന്ന ഭൂഷ്യങ്ങളാണെന്നു പറയുവാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല. ശൈശവവിവാഹനിരോധനബിൽ മുൻപ് ഇപ്പാതിരുന്നതാണല്ലോ. നമ്മുടെ പൂർവ്വികന്മാരുടെ ആരോഗ്യത്തെ നോക്കുമ്പോൾ നാം എത്ര ക്ഷീണിച്ച ശരീരത്തോടു കൂടിയവരായിട്ടാണ് കാണപ്പെടുന്നത്. ഈ മാതിരിയുള്ള പ്രതിബന്ധങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടാക്കിവയ്ക്കുന്നത് ആ സമുദായത്തിനു വളരെ ദോഷകരമാണെന്നാണ് എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം.

മന്ത്രങ്ങളുടെ അർത്ഥം മനസ്സിലാക്കത്തക്ക പ്രായമാകുന്നതിനുമുൻപ് വിവാഹം നടത്തിയാൽ മന്ത്രത്തിന്റെ ശക്തി കടിക്കുക മനസ്സിലാവുകയില്ല എന്നു പറയുന്നു. മതസംബന്ധമായ പൂജ, പൂജാഞ്ജലി, ലളിതാസമസ്രനാമം, മുതലായവ നാം ഇപ്പോൾ നടത്തിച്ചുവരുന്നത് അവ എന്താണെന്നു കേൾക്കാതെയും മനസ്സിലാക്കാതെയും ആണല്ലോ. ആ വിഷയത്തിൽ നമ്മുടെ വിശ്വാസമാത്രമേ നോക്കേണ്ടതുള്ളൂ. മന്ത്രങ്ങളുടെ അർത്ഥം അത്ര എളുപ്പത്തിൽ ഗ്രഹിക്കത്തക്ക ഒന്നല്ല. ഗ്ലോക്കങ്ങളോ മറ്റോ ആണെങ്കിൽ ചിലതു മനസ്സിലാക്കാൻ സാധിക്കുമായിരിക്കാം. അതുകൊണ്ട് മന്ത്രങ്ങളുടെ അർത്ഥം ഗ്രഹിച്ചില്ല എന്നുള്ളതുകൊണ്ട് യാതൊരു ഭൂഷ്യവുമുണ്ടാകാനില്ല. പന്ത്രണ്ടു വയസ്സിൽ വിവാഹം കഴിച്ചിട്ട് ഐ. സി. എസ്. ന് ഇംഗ്ലണ്ടിൽ അയച്ചു പഠിപ്പിച്ച് വരുത്തിയുള്ള രണ്ടു മൂന്നു സ്റ്റേജിതന്മാരെ എനിക്കറിയാം. അങ്ങനെ ചെയ്യുന്നതിനു സൗകര്യപ്പെടാതിരിക്കത്തക്ക സന്ദർഭമുണ്ടാക്കിവയ്ക്കുന്നതു സമുദായത്തിന്റെ നടപ്പിനു വളരെ പ്രതിബന്ധമായി തീരുന്നതാണ്. ഇപ്പോൾ നടപ്പിലാക്കുന്ന ആചാരങ്ങളെ ഭേദപ്പെടുത്തി അതിൽ വിശ്വാസിച്ചിരി

കുന്നവരുടെ മനസ്സിനെ പ്രണപ്പെടുത്തുന്ന ഒരു ബിൽ പാസാക്കാൻ പാടില്ലെന്നാണ് എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം.

Mr. T. Mahomed Ismail: (*Nominated*): Sir, I wish to speak a few words on the subject. I do not wish either to support or oppose the Bill under discussion. But, in doing so I must make my position clear. I do sympathise with the members who opposed this Bill. Their principle is that they should not be asked to follow a compulsory law against their religious sentiments. They do not want it and I will be the last person to impose a law on persons who do not want it. At the same time it is clear that some of the communities do want a Bill of this kind. By all means they must be given the law they want. From a perusal of the Bill as a whole, I think the Bill is intended to satisfy both sets of persons and in pursuance of that, the necessary provision is made in Section 11 by which the Government is given the power to exempt any marriage in Travancore from the operation of this Act, on application made in that behalf by the legal guardian of the bride or bridegroom whoever is a child. This is a discretionary power and this can be availed of at any time by the party who wants it. Therefore, those who oppose it can legitimately be safe under this provision even if this bill becomes law. As far as Muslims are concerned their position is very clear. Islam does not compel us to perform marriage before 14 and 18. At the same time it does not prohibit us from doing so. So if we want to effect a marriage, we are permitted to do so under clause 11 of the Bill. The provision is only an enabling one. If clause 11 is not satisfactory to us, of course we may have to oppose the Bill. Though the Act does not affect the principles of Islamic law on the subject, still I do not wish to be a party to a piece of legislation which affects the religious principles and sentiments of certain communities who oppose it on that ground. Therefore we, the Muslim members, have decided to be neutral in this matter.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai: Sir, I also oppose the Bill. At first, I never wanted to participate in the discussion of this Bill, but after hearing the instructive and convincing arguments of our revered friend, Mr. Subba Aiyar, I felt that I would be failing in my duty if I do not oppose this Bill. As has been adverted to by Mr. Narayana Aiyar, the mover of the Bill was actuated by the main motive namely, to eradicate the social evil which she believes to exist in the absence of such a measure, and which tends to undermine the health and vigour of future generations. Sir, from my experience of the Brahmin families both within and without Travancore who have contracted pre-puberty marriages, I know as a matter of fact, that parents as well as their children are keeping robust health and are superior in intelligence than the families

[Mr. T. Krishna Pillai]

who have contracted post-puberty marriages. I may even go to the extent of confining myself to this House itself. Sir, the honourable members of this House who belong to the Brahmin community offer ocular proof, indeed, of the hollowness of this sort of argument by the supporters of this Bill; for, Sir, who can doubt or question the youthful enthusiasm, the vigour and health, as well as the intellectual stamina of the Brahmin gentlemen who are happily with us in this House?

The honourable member Mr. Balakrishnan Tampi was saying that their families are lacking in companionable wives. If by the word companionability my friend means the existence of a happy, agreeable connubial relationship between the husband and the wife born out of chastity of the wife and fidelity of the husband, then I must say that the families who have contracted pre-puberty marriages are not at all lacking in 'companionableness', and I may, Sir, even go to the extent of saying that such a state of life is woefully lacking in families who have contracted post-puberty marriages. The honourable member Mr. Govindan was saying that we must take the lead as we have done in so many social legislations and that therefore we must naturally adopt this reform because it has been passed in British India. Sir, I am for crying halt to the sickening imitation of Acts and Regulations from British India. Here, let us take the lead in not adopting what British India has done. After all, we do not find any necessity for such a measure nor a clear case of necessity has been proved by the sponsors of the Bill; it would, indeed be a legislative absurdity to enact such a measure and disfigure our statute book simply because our brethren in British India enacted such a measure. With these words I oppose the Bill.

Mr. V. Sankara Menon: I too oppose the Bill both on principle and on a consideration of the merits. In the first place, I do not understand the necessity for a Bill when that necessity is not explained to me sufficiently by anybody who wants to pass this Bill. Though mention of a particular community is not made in the Bill, it is evident that it affects the Brahmin community to a large extent, and I find that responsible and influential members of that community are not only against the passing of this Bill but they even suggest that this Bill has been moved with a purpose to check the prosperity and advancement of that community. I understand from certain influential members of that community that it has been moved with a purpose not to raise the status of that community but to lower the condition of the community from its present stage. Anyhow, under the present circumstances, I do not think that it is necessary to pass such a Bill when the persons to be benefited by the same are against it.

In regard to the merits also, one or two grounds mentioned here for the passing of this Bill appear to be quite unsatisfactory. In the first place, it is said that for the health of the future generation, the passing of a Bill of this nature is quite essential. I do not think that a community which has thrived well so long, can in any way be handicapped by the absence of a legislation like this. I think that the passing of this Bill will in no way improve the health and the physical or economic condition of any community.

Another ground advanced is that we will be going backward, if we do not pass this Bill in the eyes of the other parts of the world. What I beg to submit is that the passing of this Bill is not the criterion of the prosperity of the country. We are more advanced than many other countries in many respects. The passing of a Bill against the will of the Brahmin community as a whole will not help to raise the position of our country. On these grounds I oppose the Bill.

Mr. James Fletcher : Sir, the Child Marriage Restraint Bill only restrains or prohibits marriages of girls below the age of 14 and of boys below the age of 18. Child marriage has been, or is even now prevalent not only among one community but among most of the communities living in Travancore. We know of child marriages among Muslims among Christians, among other Hindus and among the Brahmins; so much so that it does not affect one community alone; but it affects many communities. Of all those communities, only one community raises objection to this Bill. So far as that one community is concerned, if it wants the right to continue its old customs, the legislature has been careful enough to allow the necessary exemption when required. Section 11 of the Bill grants them necessary exemption. Considering the matter from the point of merits, I must say that this bill is highly necessary.

From the point of view of the health of the citizens, legislation of this kind is a necessity. Though some of my friends said that the community which follows the custom of marriage before puberty keeps up the best health and strength I may say that if this advantageous Bill, *viz*, marriage after the age of 14, is introduced, I am sure, they will be far better than what they now are. You cannot say that the custom alone is responsible to the strength and intelligence which we see among the members of that particular community. I am sure that if this reform is introduced, it would be very advantageous to them. For one thing, you may know, that whenever marriage is compulsory before the age of 12, the girl is unable to continue her studies after that age or to continue other intellectual accomplishments and she is soon sent to a husband to whom she becomes a servant or a slave. In very large instances

[Mr. James Fletcher]

she becomes overburdened with many responsibilities. Otherwise she could have continued, her studies and her body would have well developed. As a result of early marriage, all these things become restrained. All sorts of responsibilities are thrown on her. The poor girl child groans under all sorts of responsibilities.

Mr. Thomas Chandy Mukkadan: ചെറുപ്പത്തിലെ കല്യാണം കഴിയാൻ ശരീരം തടിക്കുമെന്നുള്ള വിവരം അറിയാമോ?

Mr. James Fletcher: I am not aware of that. My idea is that early marriage is injurious to her physical condition.

Secondly, it is said, that just because marriage has not been conducted before puberty, the number of women who are unmarried becomes very large in certain communities. Some of my honourable friends referred to that and said that other communities also should adopt the post-puberty system. Surely not. The fact that a number of women are not married in certain communities is not due to that reason. There are so many other causes that lead to the compulsory maidenhood of women.

Then some other honourable members said that late marriage is a custom which is followed in countries of Europe and so we should not follow the custom. My reply is that whatever is good whether of the East or of the West should be adopted by us. Just because a custom is current elsewhere, we should not say that it is unfit for our country. As a matter of fact, so long as any custom is good, so long as we feel that a custom is useful and advantageous to this country, let us adopt it.

Then it was said, why should there be legislation for this purpose. I may say, that the Brahmin community, at least those who represent the Brahmin community's views, themselves admitted that practically they follow what is stated in the Bill, viz. their children or children's children are married after 14. In such cases, when practically this law is followed, why not put it in the form of a bill so that it may be helpful to others and to other communities which have not yet made it a practical issue in their life in their community. Therefore, I would suggest that a legislation is necessary.

With regard to climatic condition, some honourable members said that it compels early marriages. Of course, I would say marriage at an early age is necessary, but what is the age? Is it before 14 or after 14? Our raising the age limit up to 14 itself shows that climatic conditions in India need marriages to be conducted at an early age. In cooler climates marriages are contracted at the age of 25 or 30. But here, we have raised the age only to the limit of 14 so far as girls are concerned. Perhaps a time may come when the age may have to be raised to 16. However, we have taken only a more considerate view of the matter.

Then with regard to respect for religious sentiments and susceptibilities. Every community's religious sentiments ought to be respected. I am sure, no member of this Council would desire to force this law by the legislature until and unless they are sure that religion does not stand in the way. So far as I have learnt, religion does not stand in the way. When their sisters and brothers on the other side of the Ghats have passed the Bill and when there are inter-marriages between the members of the community in this part of India and the other part of India, religion cannot be said to have stood in the way. If religion stood in the way, surely, a law like this would not have been passed in British India.

The chief party that ought to be consulted in passing this law is the woman herself. The All India Women's Conference supported this Bill. That is a very strong point in favour of passing this Bill. The All India Women's Conference considered all the aspects of the case and came to the conclusion that such a bill is necessary so far as women are concerned, all over India. To those who are very particular to be exempted, there is clear provision for it in the Bill and therefore I would request my friends to support the Bill as it is.

Mr. N. Krishna Aiyar (*Vaikam, Kottayam and Changancherry cum Peermade*): Sir, I strongly oppose this Bill. It seems to be an oppressive piece of social legislation thrust upon a community which does not want it; a legislation against their religious sentiments, tradition and immemorial custom. The community intended to be benefited, if at all, has not come forward, as my honourable friends who opposed the Bill said, for such a piece of legislation. On the other hand, they strongly resent it. It is unfair for any legislature to push on such a legislation which would only harm the interests of those who are intended to be protected. Those who have brought in this Bill and those who are solicitous of the welfare of the community would have done much better if they had consulted beforehand the leaders of the community intended to be protected. Even after knowing the sentiments of a large section of the community with regard to this legislation, it is, as I said, very unfair on the part of the movers of this motion in passing this into law. I fully endorse the views expressed and the arguments advanced by the previous speakers in opposing this Bill. So I do not wish to repeat one by one the arguments put forward by them. But I shall make one or two observations with regard to some points raised by some of the speakers in support of this Bill. Mr. Govindan, and Mr. Fletcher raised the point that this legislation would not only benefit the present generation but the future generations as well. But, Sir, proof of the pudding is in the eating of it. We see as a matter of fact that the members of the community who are the products of this child-marriage

[Mr. N. Krishna Aiyar.]

which has been in practice from years past are not less healthy, less intelligent or less equipped in any standard of life than the members of other communities who have not been following this practice. They certainly stand equal to others in all these factors.

The second argument advanced by Mr. Govindan was that so long as this law has been passed in British India and so long as we do not find our way to enact it here, Travancore would become a rendezvous for law-breakers in British India. It is a misconception. It seems that my honourable friend is not aware of the fact that the law has been suitably amended in British India so as to get a law-breaker in that territory who goes over here to be punished. And, my honourable friend has not been able to point out any specific instance where persons took refuge here after breaking the law there. Such instances, if any, are very rare and there may be one or two exceptions.

Another point raised by my honourable friend Mr. K. K. Kuruville was on economic grounds. He said that this legislation would be a check on the growth of population. Sir, the Census Report of 1931 would be the best testimony to prove that the proportionate growth of the population of this community is not at all more than the growth of population of the other communities who practise in the other way. But with particular reference to the Brahmin community I have to say that child marriage is all the more necessary and should be encouraged, because the one great grievance of the community is under-population and unrepresentation. In the light of the recent rules made for the recruitment to public service which are coming into operation, it has become the elemental necessity of the Brahmin community to increase their population and show a better record during the next census. Then, at least one more may be added to the number either in the Advisory Committee or in the matter of appointments. Sir, other members seem to be solicitous about the welfare of the Brahmins. And what they should do for this is, that they should ask the Brahmins to multiply themselves by marrying early.

Mr. M. Govindan: May I ask the honourable member whether he is willing to include the children of *anuloma* marriages in his community?

Mr. N. Krishna Aiyar: As far as I am concerned I have no objection.

President: The object sought by my honourable friend does not include such marriages in its scope.

Mr. N. Krishna Aiyar: If child marriages would lead to the multiplication of the population of the community then it must

be encouraged on national grounds as being done by Signor Mussolini. Another objection pointed out by my honourable friend Mr. Tampi was that the system will not give us companionable wives. If my honourable friend would consult his Brahmin friends he would be satisfied that in point of companionableness or in point of constancy or continuity of married life we stand equal to anybody in the world. Another point stressed was that the Sanatanists in British India fretted and fumed when this legislation was enacted there. I can assure the honourable member that such a thing will not take place here in Travancore, because, essentially, even the Sanatanists here would bow down to the law though all of them will feel the oppression which lies behind it. But in the interests of fairness and justice it ought to be the duty of all people to see that such a contingency does not arise.

Then, on general grounds, it would be seen that this practice has been going on for ever so many years. We cannot say from what period. And in point of longevity of life or in robustness of health, in character, in efficiency, nay, in all standards of human life and human endeavours the communities which have been following this practice have been holding themselves on a par with anybody else in the world. So, there is very little justification for pushing forward such a piece of legislation against the very sentiments and interests of the community whom it is sought to protect. I therefore, appeal to the members of this House, to be fair to the members of this community whom it will obviously affect and request the honourable members to consider these aspects also when they vote for the passing of this Bill.

Mr. P. R. Godavarma Raja (Edavaga) : After hearing the many points of argument advanced by the previous speaker, I fail to be convinced of the necessity of opposing this Bill. Therefore, Sir, I do strongly support the principle involved in this Bill. In this connection I would refer to a famous saying embodied in a Sanskrit verse in answer to those who say that child marriage is against Smrithis. The verse runs as follows :—

ശ്രുതിവിധിനാ സ്മൃതയശ്ച ഭിന്നാഃ

നൈകൈ മനിയന്ത്യ മതം പ്രമാണം

ധർമ്മസ്തത്ത്വം നിശ്ചിതം ഗുഹാരാ

മഹാജനൈ യേന ഗതഃ സ പന്ഥാഃ

This verse means that in these matters, the Srutis are different, so also the Smrithis. There are many sages who differ from one another as regards authoritativeness. The principle of Dharma rests in impenetrable caves. Hence we should follow that path trodden by the elite of the enlightened in the country. Moreover,

[Mr. P. R. Godavarma Raja.]

even supposing that this Bill is against Smrithis there is still a method to get over the difficulty by performing *Prayaschitha* which is also enjoined by the Smrithis themselves. So the argument that this piece of legislation does not conform to the Smrithis does not also hold ground.

With regard to the point advocated by some of my friends, that because in British India a piece of legislation like this was passed it is not necessary that we should also have one like that here, I would say that we should consider how that piece of legislation came to be passed there and what is the principle underlying the same. If that principle is acceptable to the people here, we should surely adopt it.

So far as these matters are concerned a certain amount of compulsion is necessary and I wish to refer the honourable members to some other pieces of legislation which are now in the statute book and which are expropriatory in character. I refer to the Jenmikudiyan Act. That legislation is an expropriatory legislation. When laws of such character have been passed by the legislature, I fail to see why this piece of legislation alone is opposed on the ground of its compulsory nature.

Mr. Thomas Chandy Mekkadan: ഈ ബില്ലിന്റെ പരിധിയിൽ നിന്നും ഏതെങ്കിലും സമുദായത്തെ ഒഴിവാക്കുന്നതിൽ വിരോധമുണ്ടോ?

Mr. P. R. Godavarma Raja : അങ്ങിനെ ഒഴിവാക്കിയാൽ ബില്ലിന്റെ ശക്തികുറഞ്ഞു പോകുമെന്നാണ് എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം.

Mr. M. Govindan : Is there not provision in this Bill for exceptional exclusions?

Mr. P. R. Godavarma Raja: Yes. There is the last Section. Sir, considering all the aspects, I think there is no harm done to any community in passing this legislation. Therefore, I strongly appeal to the House to adopt it.

Mr. E. K. Kuriyppe : സർ, ഏതെങ്കിലും ഒരു സമുദായത്തിന്റെ പാരമ്പര്യത്തിനു വിപരീതമായി ഒരു ബിൽ പാസ്സാക്കുന്നത് മതവിശ്വാസത്തിൽ അടിച്ചുറപ്പുനിൽക്കുന്ന തിരുവിതാംകൂറിനു ഒരിക്കലും യോജിച്ചതല്ല. ഒരു സമുദായത്തിലുള്ള ഭൂരിപക്ഷം ജനങ്ങളുടെ അഭിപ്രായം അനുസരിച്ചുവേണം ബില്ലു പാസ്സാക്കേണ്ടത്. ചൈൽഡ് മാർച്ചുകൊണ്ട് ആരോഗ്യമുള്ള സന്താനങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടാവുകയില്ലെന്ന് ചില ഡാക്ടർമാർ പറയുമായിരിക്കാം. നാം വയസ്സ് തികഞ്ഞ സർ. സി. പി. രാമസ്വാമിഅയ്യരും ഉദ്ദേശം നാം വയസ്സുവരുന്ന ശ്രീ. ഈ. സുബ്രഹ്മണ്യ

Mr. K. M. Kesavan : In spite of the arguments advanced against the Bill, I feel constrained to support it. There is no doubt that the best well-wishers of a child are its parents ; and there is provision for exemption from the operation of the Bill to those who desire it and the guardian has only to apply for that. In view of the provision for exemption, I should think it is waste of energy and time to discuss the two sides of the question.

Hitherto, it was man that was bringing in Bills and steering them in the Legislature; this is the first instance in which a woman has introduced a Bill and got it passed by the Lower House. I should think that, from vedic times, this is the first instance of the kind. I should also think that that fact itself should have moved some of my honourable friends here, as it has touched them to the quick, to their manliness.

Mr. V. Sankara Menon : Was it a woman that introduced the Bill here ?

Mr. K. M. Kesavan : Not here, in the other House ; I said it clearly.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar : May I ask the honourable member whether he supports the Bill because it has been brought in by a lady ?

Mr. K. M. Kesavan : Not at all. The main consideration which should weigh with us in seeing this Bill passed into law as early as possible, is in the interest of the future generation. There is also the question of equality of rights and privileges as between man and woman. Therefore, irrespective of any other consideration, this Bill must be supported and passed.

My honourable friend Mr. Krishna Aiyar was arguing that if child marriage was encouraged and if as a result, the population of of the communities concerned would increase, he would only welcome it since the Brahmins, who alone are concerned in this matter, would then be able to get better representation in the public service and representation in the legislature. From his own point of view, that may be right. But, I would ask him to consider the other aspect of the question. At present, in spite of the fact that the Brahmins number only about 50,000, there is over population in Travancore, actual over-crowding. As the Dewan-President rightly observed the other day, barring Java, Travancore is the most densely populated country in the world. In view of that fact, I would ask my honourable friend whether he would still recommend further multiplication of population. I was surprised when he recommended that we should follow Sgr. Mussolini in this respect. The conditions in Italy are entirely different from the conditions here. There, on account of the recent war, there is

paucity of population. We have no war here, and yet the country is already overcrowded. Any further increase in our population would lead us to one of the most menacing problems, over-population and further unemployment. We are already over-populated, and our unemployment problem is not easy of solution. Therefore any suggestion consistent with morality and religion to reduce birth rate would be quite welcome for Travancore.

It was argued by another honourable member that certain principles have been laid down in the Sruthis and Smrithis. Sir, those Smrithis and Sruthis were written centuries ago to suit the conditions then obtaining in India.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Thampi: They were never written. (*Laughter.*)

Mr. K. M. Kesavan: "Sruthi" means what is heard, and "Smrithi" what is remembered. I know they were not written originally. But subsequently what was heard and what was remembered were written down. Hence the reference "written". Let me quote a sanskrit stanza in support of my principle:—

“നിന്നതു നീതിനിപുണഃ യദിവാ സുവതു
ലക്ഷ്മീ സമാവാശതു ഗച്ഛതു വാ യഥേഷ്ടം
അദ്വൈത വാ മരണമസ്തു യുഗാന്തരേ വാ
നൃായാൻ പഥഃ പ്രവിചലന്തി പദം ന ധീരാഃ”

Mr. V. Sankara Menon: May I have the meaning of that verse?

Mr. K. M. Kesavan: Unless I explain it in Malayalam, my friend may not be able to understand it; I may be permitted to explain the meaning in Malayalam.

President: The honourable member may explain it in Malayalam or in English, as he likes.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan: I shall give the substance in English—

Let Legislators condemn or praise,
Let prosperity come or go,
Let death come at once or a century hence;
Firm-willed people will not budge an inch from the right path.

Therefore, scriptures have to be interpreted to suit present day condition.

Mr. M. Govindan: May I ask whether the Smrithis characterise infant marriage as *apat dharma*?

Mr. K. M. Kesavan: May be. There are several stories in Puranas to show that pre-puberty marriage is the best and that it was considered a sin to desist from joining one's wife after her

[Mr. K. M. Kesavan.]

menses. I shall give one instance. "Kamadhenu" cursed Dileepa when he went away without bowing before her on his return to his queen "Sudekshina," because, on the fourth day after her menses, it is enjoined in the Sastras that the husband should join the wife immediately after the menses. If he did not do so it will be construed as equal to a child murder. But now I would once again repeat the necessity for us to check the growth of population; and certainly the prevention of child marriage is one step in that direction.

Mr. N. Krishna Aiyar: Are there not scientific methods to check the growth of population?

Mr. K. M. Kesavan: I am aware of those nasty devices. But I denounce all those methods, except self-restraint as they are immoral and even unmoral.

President: I would draw the attention of the honourable members to the fact that the question now before the House is child marriage restraint. (*Laughter.*)

Mr. K. M. Kesavan: Yes Sir, and therefore I strongly support the motion.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: Sir, I must confess that I was not prepared for so much of conservative opposition to this piece of innocent reform, and therefore did not think it necessary to explain, at the outset, the objects of the Bill. I thought that because the attempt of this beneficial reform began as early as 1922 in British India, it would have had its effect in this House also and there would be no necessity for me to anticipate time-old opposition and arguments in support of it, and then answer them.

I shall be pinning my faith, Sir, on the fact that in another place this piece of legislation has been passed as the result of a compromise between the various interests concerned with it. I lay much stress on the agreement or compromise that has been arrived at in another place between the opposing points of view. As it will be seen, the Bill itself is the result of a compromise which has been accommodated to such an extent, which may perhaps not satisfy the ordinary reformist, because, after all, the last clause, No. 11 provides that any man who has got any reasonable objection can be exempted from the provisions of this Bill and the right to grant that exemption has been given to Government. No reasonable opposition can be raised on the ground that the Bill seeks to force through unwilling throats, this dose of reform.

Sir, as we find, many an old argument has been raised here, and there has been a good deal of opposition, whipped up so much

so, I am obliged to answer some of them. Because, whatever might be the fate of my motion regarding this Bill, it must not be said that, here, all that has to be said against the points raised has not been said. So, I hope Sir, and I crave for the indulgence of the House to say a few words regarding some of the salient and relevant points that have been raised. I do not wish to raise controversies that are lying dormant nor do I want to raise fresh ones. I will leave them alone and shall confine myself with certain principal objections that have been raised.

The honourable member Mr. Subba Aiyar raised a very familiar objection. But the practical reformist that he is, he admitted and he did not try to controvert the point, by seeking to justify child marriage. He is too shrewd and too intelligent and too much aware of the circumstances of the world that he did not think as some others thought that it will be good at this time of day to promulgate the proposition that child marriage is a good thing, that it is conducive to the health and prosperity of a community. He conceded that this principle of reform is good as he himself pointed out that he is not averse to the following of such a system. But, he asserted that there should be no legislation regarding this. However beneficial the reform might be it should not be forced by legislation.

Mr. V. Subba Aiyar : I never said that. I have said that I am not against any reform.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : Yes, Sir. He is not against any reform. That is enough for my purpose. I do not think that he will contend that he is not against any harmful reform. So my point remains that he is in favour of all beneficial reforms. That is enough for my purpose.

The objection that there should be no legislation concerning the social life or the custom or the religious injunctions applying to certain communities, has been raised at almost at every stage a reform has been sought to be introduced. That is an objection which deserves to be patiently heard and patiently answered. I do not deny that, Sir, unless there is a case made out that there is a proved evil no legislation is justified. I concede that. The question is whether this is not a proved evil, whether legislation has been found necessary elsewhere, whether this question of the right of the individual in matters of religion and social habits to be free from interference has not been considered? It cannot be argued, and I hope it will not be argued, that under no circumstances legislation pertaining to the social or religious aspect of the individual or group of individuals can be permitted. That point will not

[Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai]

stand the scrutiny of experience even for a moment. Because what do we find in British India itself? Have we not legislation in regard to matters of social and religious usages and customs? What about the Hindu Inheritance Act which has been passed? Can it be said that it is not an inroad into the religious tenets of the people? What about the Civil Marriage Act? Is it not an inroad into the religious custom of the Hindus?

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: What about Sati?

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: Yes, exactly. The prohibition of Sati, which was considered to be the right of the 'pathivritha' has been carried into effect in British India. There have been cases in which legislation was thought necessary even though individuals and groups on the ground of religion or individual freedom opposed it but public policy and common weal demanded it.

Sir, it was said by my learned friend, Mr. Subba Aiyar, that there is not so much prevalence of child marriage in Travancore, and so this legislation will be an insulting encumbrance in the statute book. He himself controverted that argument and said that if there is not the prevalence of that evil to such a large extent in Travancore, it, *ipso facto* follows or means that there will be no considerable interference with the liberty of the individual. He himself answered that. It is not in the number of cases that the necessity or otherwise of a legislation depends. I ask my learned friend whether he knows that there were only very few cases of Sati at the time when the legislation prohibiting Sati was passed. It was then a very rare thing indeed. But, yet the communal conscience of the reformers was shocked at the suffering of the burning widow and legislation was thought necessary. It was not thought then that it is unnecessary to prohibit it because the practice of Sati was so rare throughout India at that time. The fact is, that in the case of Sati, the utter hideousness of the incident shocked the conscience; in the case of the child marriage and the evils that arise out of it the familiarity of the evil blinds us to its ghastly results. If legislation was justified for preventing Sati there is ample justification for legislation to prevent early maternity both on grounds of humanity and in furtherance of social justice.

Mr. N. Krishna Aiyar: Did sati ever exist in Travancore at any time?

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: That is not a very relevant point so far as my argument goes, because whether it existed in Travancore or not it did exist in India. It was a custom

among the Hindus which had the sanction of religion and yet legislation has removed that though the number of cases where sati took place was very small. Sir, there is one difference indeed between the custom of sati and that of child marriage. With regard to sati, after all, it affected only the individual. It did not affect society. The individual suffered, the individual perished and with that the whole thing ended. There is some compensation for the individual even though she had to suffer a good deal because she was deified after her death and there was at least such a compensation and there was thus less justification for preventing sati than there is in the matter of preventing legislation regarding child marriage. Child marriage, on the other hand, affects society, not merely individuals. Who can say that without legislation they will stop the evil which, due to the unwillingness to change, blind orthodoxy has practised till now. The fact is that child marriages are deleterious to the health of the future generation. That is not a point for assertion on my behalf and denial on the other side. It has to be decided by investigation and that has been done by the Age of Consent Committee. The Age of Consent Committee's Report has gone into the question deeply, taken evidence from all over India, consulted doctors, looked into statistics made available from various hospitals and eminent doctors and they have come to the conclusion with the aid of irrefutable statistics that early marriage is an evil so far as the mortality of the wife is concerned, so far as the degeneration of the health of the women is concerned and so far as infant mortality is concerned. If statistics can be any guide, I shall, if necessary, place all the statistics that is available and prove to the hilt that this is a point which cannot be controverted.

Let us see that the Bill is taken up for consideration and the principle of the same accepted. We will come to amendments or changes with regard to the provisions of the Bill afterwards. We will think over the matter, we will consult each other and listen to all arguments with regard to this matter. But let us come to a decision on this crucial question whether this is an evil or not.

Mr. M. Govindan: Sir, may I know whether the degeneration in the health of the present generation is not due more to evils such as drinking than to the practice of child marriage?

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: Sir, let me not allow myself to be drawn into irrelevance. Let me not be side-tracked into arguments relating to hygiene or the longevity of life; I am not at that point. I am at this. Does this House seriously consider that child marriage is beneficial for the health of the mother and child? Do you want to controvert the irrefutable evidence drawn up by the patient labour and enquiry of an expert committee,

[Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai]

drawn up after the result of an enquiry conducted throughout India which says with the aid of statistics, texts and with the aid of sciences like Ayurveda and Allopathy, that the continuance of such a practice is not healthy to the community as a whole, and they have come to that conclusion, taking things as a whole and not taking exceptional cases and pointing out an individual or two.

Mr. V. Subba Aiyar : Is not the report of the Committee made from statistics available all over India?

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : My honourable friend knows that inferences from statistics ought to be taken not from isolated instances but as a whole if they should be correct. It is enough for my argument to say that as a rule it has been found in a majority of cases and on a comparison of a sufficient number of cases where marriage took place at an early age, the mortality of the child was at a greater percentage and the health condition of the wife was at a lower ebb. If that proposition is granted, my proposition should be granted. I may grant that certain portions of South India, or Cochin or Idapalli may be an exception to the general inference that may be drawn from the statistical results. But we have to consider the question of giving our support to a proposition regarding social reform from a general point of view and if we do that, I do not think that it could be seriously urged that however much light-heartedly we may say, without considering the suffering of the women or the conditions of the women, that child marriage is a good thing, that it does no harm, that the community in which the child marriage is prevalent is healthy and it is for others to adopt the custom of child marriage.

I do not want to refer to the argument of my honourable friend Mr. Krishna Aiyar who dragged in the public service recruitment ratio, the increase of population and all that. For my part, I know too much, I am too conscious of the serious and tragic results arising out of this custom, to indulge in cheap humour or any other kind of remark. This is a serious matter which we have to consider seriously. Sir, it has been said by Mr. Subba Aiyar that in olden days, in the Hindu family, even though the marriage was performed early, the consummation did not take place all at once and that there was a check on the early consummation of the marriage, and that consequently the evils of early maternity did not happen. I concede that for the sake of argument. When the joint family system was in its full strength, when the joint family influenced its members effectively the evils of early marriage and the consequent consummation was not in evidence.

But can anybody say at this moment that the influence of the joint family system is as strong as it was a decade or two ago on the individuals constituting the joint family? I do not think that anybody will contend that point.

Mr. V. Subba Aiyar : Which joint family?

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : The Hindu joint family. In spite of the comparative orthodoxy of the Hindu joint family and its members, the inroad of individualism has affected it and this cannot be controverted. If we admit that, when the influence of the joint family and the sacredness of religious injunction was strong and had a great influence on individuals, it might be unnecessary perhaps for such a legislation because the moral influence, the influence of society and the influence of the joint family, controlled the actions of the individuals and would have acted as a corrective check, so far as we are concerned, that has now gone. It has disappeared. That fact cannot be denied. So for that very reason, whether such a controlling measure was necessary or not a decade or two ago, it has become absolutely necessary in the interests of those communities at the present moment. Sir, it has been found as a matter of fact that there have been cases in which on account of economic conditions, on account of the poverty of the parents, the girls were compelled to live with their husbands before the normal period of consummation. There have been cases in which the husband, a boy, has been found to go astray, and as a corrective the girl was sent to safeguard the marriage tie. There have been cases in which the girl has been sent for economic reasons because the parents wanted that the child should be maintained by the husband. It is all very well to say that child marriage is according to the Srutis and the Smritis and that it is not for sexual enjoyment but for getting progeny for the benefit of the future generations and to save the soul.

Mr. V. Subbā Aiyar : May I know wherefrom the honorable member got all this information?

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : I have gathered it from the evidence collected by the Age of Consent Committee. Specific instances have been pointed out there in which consummation became imperative on account of these factors that I have enumerated.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : May I know the number of such cases?

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : Considerable enough to warrant legislation. It was thought to be considerable

[Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai]

enough for British India and they passed a legislation there in spite of the fact that there were greater champions of orthodoxy in British India.

Sir, I think that the controversy of checking population should not be introduced with regard to this matter. That is a very fruitful field for divergence of opinion and alternative suggestions and all the rest of it. I am not concerned just now with the question of population at all. I am here in this Bill concerned more with the health of the women, with the health of the progeny and with the vitality of the nation as a whole.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : May I know from the honourable member whether it would not be sufficient if the age of consummation is fixed?

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : These are points that have already been raised, Sir. Everybody knows how difficult it is to restrict the period of consummation, how difficult it is to find out cases in which there has been a breaking of the rule regarding consummation. Everybody knows that if we fix a particular age for consummation and if anybody breaks the rule, it cannot be detected, the evasion cannot be proved. It is impracticable. That is merely a roundabout method of torpedoing this legislation. Why should Mr. Narayana Aiyar attempt such a thing? I would prefer the straightforward attack of Mr. Subba Aiyar who said that he did not want this legislation, that he would be satisfied with the reform that is effected by propaganda, by education and by social consciousness. That is an argument that one can understand. Let us not try to get round things which we cannot do straight. There is no use saying consummation can be restricted to a particular age. Nobody is particular to have placed on the statute-book a piece of legislation which is ineffective and which does not bring about the intended reform. All of us can understand things. All of us are living in this world and there is no use in trying to get round by stealthy devices.

I do not wish to add more though very many points have been raised. They have all been raised throughout and they have been answered here and elsewhere by friends who supported the motion. But I wish to mention one fact and that is that this legislation has been passed as we find it as a result of a compromise, as a result of an agreement brought about by yielding certain points in respect of orthodox sentiments and I, for my part, Sir, do not expect that there will be such wholesale opposition to the Bill even after that compromise between the representatives of both points of view.

But that has been done. Let us not try to smother the Bill. Let us consider the provisions of the Bill one by one and see whether the evils are so great that this Bill should not be placed on the statute book.

Sir, for the uniformity of legislation regarding the communities following the same system of law, this legislation ought to be adopted because after all the life of the communities in which the child marriage is prevalent is not confined to Travancore alone. They have got relations beyond the Ghats. They should not be divided and their homogeneity destroyed by different pieces of legislation. It does not mean that we are merely imitating all legislation in British India. It means that we are working for the homogeneity of the communities following the same system of law. It has been brought forward as an argument in favour of many a legislation and it can be brought with greater justification with regard to this legislation than for many others.

Sir, with these words, I commend the motion for the acceptance of the House. I must say what I have to say regarding the various other points raised as and when the amendments are moved.

Mr. V. Subba Aiyar: Sir,—

President: Order, order. The honourable member has no right of reply.

The motion that the Child Marriage Restraint Bill be taken into consideration was put to vote and declared carried.

On a poll being taken the House divided as follows:

AYES—9.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Mrs. Abernam Gnanasikhamony | 5. Mr. T. W. U. Park |
| 2. Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi | 6. „ James Fletcher |
| 3. „ P. R. Godavarma Raja | 7. „ K. M. Kesavan |
| 4. „ M. Govindan | 8. „ Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai |
| | 9. „ K. K. Kuruvilla |

NOES 12.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar | 7. Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar |
| 2. „ V. S. Arumukham Pillai | 8. „ Kallur Narayana Pillai |
| 3. „ T. K. Kitan | 9. „ V. Sankara Menon |
| 4. „ N. Krishna Iyer | 10. „ Thomas Chandy Mukkadan |
| 5. „ T. Krishna Pillai | 11. Miss Thressia Kora |
| 6. „ E. K. Kuriyppa | 12. Mr. V. Subba Aiyar |

NEUTRALS - 14.

1. Sahib Bahadur Haji Hassan	8. Mr. K. Sankaran
Yacoob Sait	9. „ P. G. Narayanan
2. „ Abdul Tayeb	Unnithan
Shaikh Kaderbhoy	10. „ Puthupalli S. Krishna
3. „ T. Mahomed	Pillai
Ismail	11. „ V. R. Sankaranarayana
4. Mr. P. I. Simon	Pillai
5. Sahib Bahadur M. Sultan	12. „ M. S. Doraswami
Muhiadheen	Aiyangar
6. Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar	13. „ K. R. Narayana Aiyar
7. „ M. Govinda Pillai	14. „ M. Ramachandra Rao

The motion was declared lost, 9 voting for, 12 voting against and 14 remaining neutral.

THE TRAVANCORE HINDU GAINS OF LEARNING BILL.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : Sir, I beg to introduce the Travancore Hindu Gains of Learning Bill. The object of the Bill is given in the statement of objects and reasons. Under the principles of Hindu Law as administered by our courts, the earnings of any member of a Hindu coparcenary acquired with the help of the nucleus of joint family property, even though it is very small, will have to be divided with the other members of the family.

That system has been found to be not in consonance with the altered and changing sentiments of the Hindu community. The law in British India in this respect has been amended and the existing doubts have been removed by the passing of the Gains of Learning Act XXX of 1930. Our High Court probably want a legislation of this kind so that their decisions could be in accord with the changing sentiments of the Hindu community. There have been persistent attempts to see that acquisitions of property are held in tact by the 'acquirer' as defined in the enactment in British India. On account of the intimate relationship of the Hindus of the State with their brethren in British India, it is very necessary to have a similar legislation in our State removing all the existing difficulties. By adopting the proposed Bill, the position of the female members of the Hindu family would be improved thereby. I hope the Bill will be accepted by the House.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi : I second it.

SECRETARY : The title of the Bill should be "THE TRAVANCORE HINDU GAINS OF LEARNING BILL."

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : I now move that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee composed of the following members :—

Messrs :

Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai,

James Fletcher,

V. Sankara Menon,

Kallur Narayana Pillai,

P. R. Godavarma Raja,

N. Krishna Aiyar,

K. M. Kesavan,

M. Govindan,

T. Mahomed Ismail,

M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar,

T. Krishna Pillai,

P. I. Simon,

Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi,

myself and the Legal Remembrancer,

and the report to be submitted within four months.

The motion was put and carried.

RESOLUTIONS.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : Sir, I move the following resolution :

"This Council recommends to Government that the Travancore currency be so modified and adjusted as to prevent loss during the process of conversion and exchange to British Indian coins."

The loss incurred by such conversion is great and it affects Travancoreans heavily. The loss sustained by people here could no longer be ignored by Government. An anna is equivalent to 1 Ch. 12½ cash. There is no half cash available as a coin. In actual conversion, there is terrible loss incurred and both the rich as well as the poorest of the poor are hard hit in the matter of exchange. Then, the customs duty in Travancore is realised in British Indian currency and not in Travancore currency. There also, a lot of difficulty and loss is occasioned in conversion. Something like an amount of Rs. 1,200 or so is received yearly by this Government as *priyavasi* as could be seen from the Administration Report of the Excise Department, on account of payment in Travancore coinage. According to strict calculation one anna is equivalent to 28½ cash. We have no half cash as currency. So in cases where we have to pay one anna we have to pay more in Travancore coins. In the Post Offices, in the Railway stations and in the customs houses we are forced to pay more than what is legally due. Though the anna is not a Travancore coin it is current here and the same has to be accepted in all business transactions.

The existence of one anna receipt stamps in our State is an anomaly since we have no coin as Travancore one anna. Daily the public are losing heavily during exchange for no fault of theirs and the same has to be remedied as early as is possible.

Again, Sir, the tourists who visit this country from outside are increasing daily and they also are badly affected owing to payments in Travancore coins. They find it very difficult to prevent loss in the matter of exchange. They deserve sufficient encouragement and accommodation. The conversion of Travancore currency into British currency and *vice versa* is a source of immense trouble to tourists also and as such deserves to be seriously tackled by Government without delay. The student population in lower classes of the High School department have always felt it very taxing and difficult to study and apply the principle of conversion of Travancore coins into British coins and *vice versa*. It has to be admitted by all that conversion is still a complicated matter as it unduly taxes the brains of all persons. In view of the fact that for no fault of the people conversion of Travancore coins into British entails great loss to us and because it tells heavily from the point of view of incidence, it is high time that the Travancore currency is so amended as to prevent loss to the unfortunate Travancoreans, though it has to be admitted that it is a prestige and privilege to have our own coins.

President : Then what system would the honourable member recommend?

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : One British Rupee may be made equivalent to 32 chuckrams and corresponding gradations effected for half and quarter rupees and the value of one anna would be 2 chuckrams and one chuckram be valued as 12 cash. Some such definite arrangement may be adopted for conversion.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan : At that rate, what will be the value of a pie?

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : It must be made equal to 2 cash.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan : I second the proposition.

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai (*Financial Secretary to Government*) : Sir, fraction of a cash is involved only in the conversion of a pie or anna. According to the laws in force in Travancore today, a pie or anna is not legal tender. All British Indian coins below the denomination of 2 annas are not legal tender. Government have not at all recognised an anna or a pie as legal tender, and all denominations of British coins from 2 annas upwards do not involve fraction of a cash. One pie is equivalent to 2.37 cash

and an anna is equal to 1 ch. $12\frac{1}{2}$ cash. If the proposal of the mover is that a pie should be considered as equivalent to 2 cash, then a rupee will be six fanams, while our equivalent for a rupee is $7\frac{1}{8}$ fanams.

President: His proposition would really involve a re-minting of the coins already in force here, followed by considerable loss.

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: Yes, Sir. Further a serious set back to the financial position would ensue if the assets and liabilities which have been valued on the present basis are disturbed. Supposing a pie is made equivalent to 3 cash, that means 'loss' to the public.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: Sir—

President: This is a matter engaging the attention of Government. It would be to the advantage of Government if all the vulgar fractions in the matter of calculations are avoided. But the trouble is that Chitra coins and other coins have been minted and are under circulation on a certain basis and in dealing with this matter, the question of making some kind of harmonious arrangement between the British coinage and the Travancore coinage will have to be considered. It is only last year that powers were taken by this Government with the concurrence of His Excellency the Crown Representative of the Paramount Power for enabling the Chitra coins to be unlimited legal tender. Thus, therefore, we have from last year a right which we did not have for a long time, namely, that our coins are unlimited tender throughout the State. This scheme is being worked and, very probably when the occasion arises—I think that occasion would arise much sooner than many of us would have expected—we may have to recall some of the coins and re-issue them. That would be the proper time for considering this question. Honourable members may feel sure that if there can be an arrangement which would avoid very complicated calculations either within the State or between the State and the neighbouring State, such an arrangement would be thought of by this Government. More than that I cannot say at present.

As honourable members may well know, the silver content of the Chitra is different from the silver content of the rupee and half Rupee. Therefore, the question of approximating Chitra and the rupee involves certain modifications and certain regulations. It may be that the silver content of the Chitra rupee may have to be appreciated a little so as to make it possible for calculations in Chitra actual rupees to take place without fractions. These matters will be kept in mind. However, I may say that appreciation of the currency may lead to some unexpected complications just as

[President.]

depreciation leads to other difficulties. Honourable members will realise that the problem is an extremely complicated one. At the same time I may assure the members that Government do not want to keep aloof in all these difficult mathematical calculations longer than absolutely necessary, consistently with the national financial position.

Mr. Abdul Tayeb Shaikh Kaderbhoy (*Commerce and Industry South*): May I request that if we make one rupee equivalent to 24 chuckrams and corresponding gradations downwards, a pie would be equivalent to 2 cash, then, will not that be an advantageous arrangement for us?

President: That is quite understandable. But that would involve a recalling of the currency just now. The new coins are actually now under circulation. This is not the proper time for recalling them for obvious reasons.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: In view of the complicated problem involved in the matter of conversion of Travancore currency into British currency and *vice versa* and the difficulty and loss to the Government and in view of the assurance from Government that the question would receive its proper and due attention as early as is possible, I beg to withdraw the motion.

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

At this stage the Dewan-President vacated the Chair which was then occupied by Mr. V. S. Arumukham Pillai, one of the Panel of Chairmen.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: Sir, I move the following resolution.

"This Council recommends to Government that the public holidays recently abolished be restored in view of the importance of the holidays".

We have been enjoying the abolished public holidays for the past 50 years and more and practically 28 of them have been abolished all on a sudden. Most of these holidays, of course, are not days of ease or concord, but they are days to be observed on religious principles. Some are days of fasting and some others puja days and days of engagements. The abolition of the holidays in question is a matter which vitally affects the religious sentiments of all communities in Travancore. It is very regrettable to find that when the Government are taking all steps to respect the religious sentiments of all communities and are effecting very salutary reforms, to pass an order in derogation of such a position in utter disregard of the sentiments of the Hindu community which forms the major part of the population, is not quite proper. This is a matter in which the Government ought to have ascertained the sentiments and views of all the communities in the State long before. In so far as that had not been done, and in so far as the

notification for the abolition of the holidays have been brought about all on a sudden, the same have to be restored at once and it also shows that due regard has not been paid by Government to respect the religious sentiments of the communities. We do not know what the justifications are for such a notification abolishing the holidays that existed.

The number of general holidays that is now allowed in this State comes to 16 only. Out of this one, *i. e.* eclipse day may be deducted for economic reasons, because that particular holiday may or may not happen. Deducting that, the other general holidays number 15, barring of course all Sundays. Out of that, holidays for the Empire day, His Majesty the King Emperor's Birthday, His Highness the Maharaja's Birthday, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, which total five, are exclusively enjoyed by all. They are common holidays even otherwise. No special appellation "general" is necessary. So, taking that away, the general holidays number only ten. We will now see the number of holidays existing in British India. There on a reference to the Fort St. George Gazette, it is seen that general public holidays for all communities under the Negotiable Instruments Act besides Sundays come to 28. Besides that, there are other common public holidays declared as such by the Government which are available for enjoyment to all communities. This is the reference.

FORT ST. GEORGE GAZETTE, OCTOBER 5TH.

"Under the explanation to section 25 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881 (Act XXVI of 1881), read with the notification of the Government of India, Home Department (Public), No. 228/37, dated 1st April 1938, His Excellency the Governor is hereby pleased to declare that in addition to the public holidays, expressly defined as such in the said explanation *viz.*, Sundays, Monday, the 2nd January 1939 (New Year's Day, the 1st January 1939 falling on a Sunday), Christmas Day (Monday the 25th December 1939) and Good Friday (Friday, the 7th April 1939), the following days shall be public holidays in the year 1939 :—

Friday the 13th January	}	Pongal
Saturday, the 14th January		
Wednesday, the 1st February		Bakrid
Friday, the 17th February		Mahasivarathri
Thursday, the 2nd March		Last day of Muharram
Wednesday, the 22nd March		Telugu New Year's Day.
Saturday, the 8th April	}	Easter
Monday, the 10th April		
Friday, the 14th April		Tamil New Year's Day.

[Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar,]

Wednesday, the 3rd May
Thursday, the 8th June

Saturday, the 1st July

Tuesday the 29th August
Thursday, the 7th September
Saturday, the 16th September
Thursday, the 12th October
Saturday, the 21st October
Friday, the 10th November
Monday, the 13th November
Friday, the 22nd December
Tuesday, the 26th December
Wednesday, the 27th December
Friday, the 29th December
Saturday, the 30th December

Meeladi Nabi
Official observance of His
Majesty the King
Emperor's Birthday.
Half-yearly closing of bank
accounts.

Avani Avittam
Sri Jayanti
Vinayaka Chaturthi
Mahalaya Amavasi
Ayudha Puja
Dipavali
Ramzan
Vaikunta Ekadasi

Christmas

Besides that there is the further order No. 2.

"His Excellency the Governor further notifies that on the following days, which are not declared to be public holidays under Statutory provision, all public offices in the Presidency Town and in the mofussil will be closed with the exception of (1) the Customs office, (2) the Port Office, (3) the General Stamp office (which will be open from 11 A. M. to 1 P. M.)

Penultimate Saturday in each month	except March.
Wednesday, the 29th March	Sri Rama Navami
Thursday, the 6th April	
Tuesday, the 11th April	} Easter
Wednesday, the 24th May	Empire Day.
Thursday, the 28th December	Christmas

Thus it can be seen that besides Sundays the total number of general holidays that is enjoyed by all communities in British India including Christmas and Easter comes to 45 whereas the total number of holidays that we enjoy except special holidays and Sundays, comes to only 10. In this connection the setting up of communal holidays is against the policy of Government. It should be the policy of Government that communal harmony and concord are maintained. There should be common holidays for all the communities. That is the way in which Government can attain communal unity. Setting apart certain days as holidays for particular communities is tantamount to an admission on the part

of the Government that they do not want communal harmony. I doubt very much whether that policy of the Government should be encouraged.

Coming to the number of half holidays, I may submit that it is attendant with ever so many practical difficulties in their observance. Take the case of a half holiday, say, New Moon day which is a half holiday for Brahmins alone. Suppose the Presiding Officer in a court is an Ezhava, one of the Vakils and one of the parties are Brahmins and the other party is a Nair. The Court has to assemble at 11 O'clock as per existing orders. The summons to the party as well as to the witnesses direct that he has to appear before the court at 11 O'clock. Munsiffs are bound to come to the Bench at 11 O'clock but not the Munsiffs who are Brahmins. The Vakil or the party who is a Brahmin need not come to the court at that time because it is a special half holiday for him. Can the Munsiff declare that the defendant who is a Brahmin is absent and that he is ex parte and proceed to decide the case in the face of the fact that the party who is a Brahmin need not attend court before 12? Or can the Munsiff go on with the case in the absence of the Brahmin Vakil who is not bound to attend court before 12 on that day? Is the Munsiff to keep quiet till 12? Is the Brahmin party or Brahmin Vakil bound to apply for time? Or take the case of a Narayana Guru holiday for Ezhavas or any other sectional holiday. Can any business be transacted in courts or offices where the joint presence of sectional holiday enjoying servants is absolutely necessary for satisfactory work? Such confusion exists in all departments. No greater confusion can be imagined. It is better, if the holidays are given, they are given in full and not half holidays. Sectional holidays are objectionable in principle, difficult to observe in practice and it is a source of serious hardship. I understand that when the Judicial Department Officers were asked to give their opinion about the retention of the half holidays, and the abolition of other holidays every one of them have recommended strongly to Government the difficulty or the impossibility of doing anything on those days and the desirability of restoring all holidays. It is doubtful whether before the said Government order was passed, the High Court or any responsible officer or any departmental head was consulted. The order is not defensible either in principle or practice. I have heard it said that in our State the number of public holidays enjoyed is too much. I doubt whether that is a fact. Taking 366 days as the possible number of days in a year, there are 53 Sundays, 10 New Moon days and 16 general holidays. Thus the total number of general holidays in a year even if New Moon days are declared general holidays come to 88 days and the remaining 277 are working days. Thus nearly

[Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar.]

80 per cent. of the number of days in a year will be working days. I would suggest that at least 7 more important days may also be declared as general holidays in view of the religious importance of those days. • Holidays are not as a rule days of rest. Most of the holidays are utilised for turning out substantial work for which there may not be sufficient time to be devoted on ordinary working days. All New Moon days may also be declared as general holidays. Holidays are utilised by officers to finish all the arrears. They are the days in which officers can devote their time for disposing of important work. With the increase in the volume of litigation, judicial officers find very little time to attend to writing judgment in important cases. As a rule judicial officers use these holidays for writing judgment in difficult and important cases. A hard-worked officer requires enough of rest to recoupe his health after hard work. But those honest hard-worked officers will be completely upset by the sudden stopping of holidays. It is highly undesirable to allow holidays on communal consideration. In British India and Cochin, Krishna Jayanthi, Vinayaka Chathurthi, Vaikunta Ekadasi, Mahasivarathri, Makara Samkramam, Karkatakasamkramam and Mahalaya Amavasi are declared as general public holidays for all communities alike. It will be seen that the Hindu population in the State comes to 61.6 per cent. of the total population and the general sectional holidays they enjoy at present is only about 10 while other smaller communities enjoy far greater number of holidays. I do not say that other communities should not be allowed to enjoy more number of holidays. More Hindu holidays have to be sanctioned as general holidays. The sectional holidays work great hardship even in the case of officers who have to hand over and take charge of their duties. There are practical difficulties in it. I would therefore recommend to the House to support the resolution and request the Government to see that at least the abovesaid 7 days as well as all New Moon days are restored within the shortest time possible as general holidays. These days are holidays for schools. In view of the importance of the days and the difficulties it may cause to the public as well as to the Government, I submit that these days may be restored as early as possible.

Mr. M. Govindan : I rise to support the resolution moved by my friend Mr. Narayana Aiyar. He has already detailed the grounds on which the resolution is based. Great inconvenience will be felt by courts if there are different sets of holidays for different people. My own impression is that in the law courts there should not be any distinction between one community and another in the matter of holidays. Let us take for instance Sundays. That

has become a universal holiday. To some religious sections, it is a very important day. We are also given the benefit of enjoying it. We are thankful to the Government for that. Similarly, there are some other important days for other sections. They may also be treated as holidays for all the sections of the people. Otherwise inequalities will arise even in questions of limitation. A suit will have to be filed by an Ezhava on a particular day, by a Christian on another day and so on. Such difference there should not be. I would therefore strongly recommend that the same set of holidays should be prescribed for all. It may be that it may add to the number of holidays. But I may point out to the House from my own experience that the more the number of holidays given to the Judicial Department, the more work will be turned out. The presiding officers will have more time to write their judgments. Their tables will not be groaning under the weight of cases and number of holidays will considerably relieve them. That is one thing.

The busy practitioners will have more time to look up and prepare their cases on holidays. So, in both ways, the granting of more holidays would be conducive to more work being done. It will be a great relief to the overworked gentlemen engaged in the profession of law and to the presiding officers. I think it is on that principle that vacations are allowed. On the same principle, holidays may also be given. I think the resolution does not confine itself to the Judicial Department alone. So far as the Judicial Department is concerned, this is my experience. In respect of other departments also, it is quite necessary that the holidays should be restored. There is no need to curtail the number of holidays. I am sure the experience of other departments must be that there is no commensurate amount of work turned out by reason of greater number of days being working days. The whole thing depends upon the vigour with which we can attack our files. Therefore I whole-heartedly support the resolution brought forward by Mr. Narayana Aiyar.

Mr. Kallur Narayana Pillai : സർ, ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ ഞാൻ ഹാർട്ടമായി അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നു. ഷ്രീവുദിവസങ്ങൾ കുറവുചെയ്തുകൊണ്ടും ചില സാമുദായിക ഷേ വുകൾ നൽകുന്നതുകൊണ്ടും പലവിധത്തിലുള്ള കുഴപ്പങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടാകാനിടയുണ്ട്. അധികം കുഴപ്പം വരാവുന്നതു ജൂഡീഷ്യൽ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിലാണ്. ഒമ്പതാം ഫയൽ ചെയ്താൽ അതിലെ ഒരു പ്രതി ബ്രാഫണനായിരിക്കും, ഒരു പ്രതി ഇഴുവനായിരിക്കും, ഒരു പ്രതി കൃസ്ത്യാനിയാക്കിരിക്കും. ആദ്യം വിചാരണ നിശ്ചയിക്കുന്ന തീയതി ബ്രാഫണക്കു ഷ്രീവുള്ള ദിവസമോ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ ഇഴുവന് ഷ്രീവുള്ള ദിവസമോ ആയിരിക്കണമെന്നുവരും. കക്ഷി ഹാജരാവുകയില്ല. കേസു വിധിച്ചുകഴിഞ്ഞാൽ ഷ്രീവുദിവസത്തിൽ വിധിച്ചു എന്ന

കാരണപറഞ്ഞു എക്സ്പാർട്ടി മാറാൻ ഫജി കൊടുക്കും. കേസു നീണ്ടുപോകയുംചെയ്യും. കൂടാതെ, വിധിനടത്തിൽ ഒരു വസ്തു ലേലം സ്ഥിരപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതിനു വച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന ടിവസം പ്രതിഷ്ഠ ഒഴിവുള്ള ടിവസമായിരിക്കും. ഉടനെ ആ കാരണപറഞ്ഞു ലേലം അസ്ഥിരപ്പെടുത്താൻ നോക്കും. തക്കം കൊടുക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ട് സാധാരണ വ്യവഹാരങ്ങൾ വളരെക്കാലം നീണ്ടുനിൽക്കുന്നു. അതുപോലെതന്നെ പ്രിസൈഡിംഗ് ആഫീസർക്ക് ഒഴിവുള്ള ടിവസം മറ്റുള്ളവർക്ക് ഒഴിവുള്ള ടിവസമായിരിക്കയില്ല. അന്നും കേസു നടക്കയില്ല. അതുകൊണ്ട് ഇവകൾ ലാസ് ഡിലേഷൻ ഒരു പ്രധാനകാരണമായിത്തീരും എന്നാണ് എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം.

ഈ ഒഴിവു ടിവസങ്ങൾ കുറവുചെയ്യുന്നതിനുമുമ്പ് ഒരു ഡിപ്രീഷൻ മുൻസിഫ് രംഗം കേസുകൾ തീർക്കുമെന്നു വ്യവസ്ഥ ചെയ്തിരുന്നു. ഒഴിവു ടിവസങ്ങൾ കുറവുചെയ്തിട്ടും തീർക്കേണ്ട കേസുകളുടെ എണ്ണം കുറച്ചിട്ടില്ല. ജഡ്ജ്മെന്റുകൾ എഴുതുന്നതിനു ഒഴിവു ടിവസങ്ങളിൽ മാത്രമേ സാധിക്കുകയുള്ളൂ. എഡ്യൂക്കേഷൻ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിനും ജൂഡീഷ്യൽ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിനും മിഡ്സമ്മർ വെക്കേഷൻ കൊടുത്തിരിക്കുന്നത് എന്തിനാണെന്നു നോക്കാം. കൊച്ചുകുട്ടികളെ കാര്യം പറഞ്ഞു മനസ്സിലാക്കുന്ന സംഗതി വളരെ വിഷമമുള്ള ഒന്നാണ്. അതുകൊണ്ട് തലച്ചോറുകൊണ്ട് നല്ലവണ്ണം ജോലി ചെയ്യണം. വക്കീലന്മാരുടെ സ്ഥിതിയും ഏകദേശം ഇതുപോലെ തന്നെ. അതുകൊണ്ടാണ് ഈ രണ്ടു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിലേക്കും മിഡ്സമ്മർ വെക്കേഷൻ കൊടുത്തിരിക്കുന്നത്. ജൂഡീഷ്യൽ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിലേക്കു ഈ ഒഴിവു ടിവസങ്ങളെല്ലാം വളരെ അത്യാവശ്യമായിട്ടുള്ളതാണ്. അതുകൊണ്ട് ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ ഞാൻ പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നു.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: Sir, I rise to oppose the resolution. In doing so, Sir, I am really not very glad in not agreeing with my good old friend Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar. For the second time today before the sun goes down I am disagreeing with him. The question of holidays is not one of sentiment. It should not be viewed with a school-boy enthusiasm or in a half holiday mood. From the point of view of public economy, holidays should be as small in number as possible. I certainly endorse the views of Mr. Narayana Aiyar, Mr. Govindan and Mr. Kallur Narayana Pillai that the judicial officers are put to difficulties due to the reduction of holidays. Certainly the matter must be looked into. It does not mean that the number of holidays in the aggregate must be increased.

Sir, in these modern times, every thing is calculated in terms of money value. Let us calculate the amount of work a clerk in the Public Offices does in terms of calory or some such unit and then see whether holiday is needed or not. In this matter let us see what the private firms do. Are they granting so many holidays? Are they not getting adequate work for the money they pay? By this, I do not suggest for one moment that conditions should be made harder. My point is, that maximum work under the best living condition should be got. I would strongly recommend another resolution if brought forward, that a cup of tea should be served in the afternoon to the clerks, *gratis*. That will only gladden them and make them work more efficiently and cheerfully. That will be an escape from the tedium of the office and it will be only modern and as the expression goes, American, to give them a cup of tea in the afternoon.

In the matter of holidays we are not to trouble ourselves very much about how they came into existence. Sir, Sunday is surely a holiday for the Hindus when they do the "Suriyanamaskar". It is also a holiday for the Christians being the sabbath. Anyway Sunday is the day set apart for rest. But to ask for setting apart, Mattupongal, Yugadipandika as holidays for Public Offices shows a kind of undergraduate enthusiasm for holidays. As members of the Upper House, we hope to view things from a detached point and not from the point of view of college students.

With regard to the re-grouping of holidays I may suggest 7 or 8 days should be given to Onam and the Christmas as the summer recess is enjoyed only by a small fraction of people employed in Government service. I appeal to the House not to view this from any sentimental point of view.

Now, there is the cropping up of communal holidays. Government have made a mistake in giving communal holidays. I am a Hindu myself. But I am not worried about the future of my soul in the other world for not performing *tharpanams* on New Moon days. In the case of those who do this they finish the whole business before 10 in the morning. So a holiday for New Moon day is not necessary. Therefore I appeal to Government to look into the question of these holidays, even by appointing a committee with my honourable friends like Mr. Narayana Aiyar as members who could help it in the matter of re-grouping of holidays.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla: Sir, I rise to support this resolution. In supporting it, I have to make a few observations. Sir, in my opinion, re grouping of holidays is essential. We had 6 days as holidays for Easter and now it is reduced to two days. It is especially difficult for us to work during Easter holidays because Christians devote those days for religious purposes.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: Do all the Christians observe Easter holidays?

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla: There is difference in the matter of holidays between the Eastern and the Western Church. So, my submission is, that if we could get 7 days for Easter it will be advantageous to the Christians. Therefore, a re-grouping of the holidays is necessary so that all may be benefited.

Mr. T. Mahomed Ismail: Sir, I strongly support this resolution. I am of opinion that the classification of holidays as general and special is not at all necessary. I do not understand what the Government is going to gain by taking away the general holidays. I would ask the Government whether work is slackened due to the granting of holidays. Whenever there is more work, the clerks and officers sit up late in the evening after 5 and finish it. But they read novels and newspapers in the office if there is no work for them to do. So, work they must do, in spite of holidays or no holidays. I do not think that Government are going to gain anything by converting the general into special holidays.

Mr. Balakrishnan Tampi raised the question of economy in stopping general holidays. But I ask, are the employees paid more or less by granting or not granting these holidays?

Then, about communal holidays, some points were raised. The 3 Muslim holidays, now changed as special holidays were general holidays. I must say that these holidays are observed throughout India and outside for the last so many years.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: May I know whether there is a greater number of holidays in British India than in Travancore?

Mr. T. Mahomed Ismail: I am not concerned about the number of holidays. I am speaking about the importance of the holidays. The special holidays such as the Prophet's Day and the "Id" days should be made general so that all people can gather together and utilise those days for exchanging views on the religion of sister communities, thus promoting inter-communal harmony. Again, it is a privilege. While our Muslim brethren living outside Travancore are enjoying this privilege why should it be denied to us? So, I would request Government to reconsider their decision in regard to the granting of the abolished holidays.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: Sir, I am sorry that I cannot find my way to support the resolution brought forward by my honourable friend Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar, as it is worded. The resolution reads thus:

"This Council recommends to Government that the public holidays recently abolished be restored in view of the importance of the holidays."

Mr. Narayana Aiyar seems to want only to restore the holidays. But what the Government has done by the recent arrangement is that they have not merely abolished certain holidays but have classified them as special and general. While I cannot agree to the wording of the resolution, I cannot at all appreciate the change made by Government by classifying the holidays. My objection to the change is not on the number of holidays. But I take objection to the way in which holidays are arranged. Certain holidays are given to certain communities and certain other holidays to some other communities. Some communities in the Hindu fold get some special holidays and others do not get the benefit of them. I can very well understand the statement of Mr. Tampi that there are many who do not very much care for the souls of the departed, and who do not really perform *tharpanam* on the New Moon day.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi : Honourable member is not accurate ; I had included also the souls of the living, in my observation. (*Laughter.*)

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : Whatever that be, such indifference towards important religious ceremonies is not confined to any particular community. I take objection to differentiation among the Hindus themselves in the matter of religious holidays ; if among Brahmins there are people who are very particular in observing the New Moon as a holiday, there are many in the other communities also who are equally anxious in observing the New Moon *Sradha*. This fundamental point does not seem to have been placed before the Government sufficiently clearly. Sir, in the mofussil, I know there are many non-Brahmins going as far as Warkala and Tiruvallam, with greater faith than any other Hindus, and performing *tharpanams* and *Sradhas* on New Moon days, so that it cannot be claimed on behalf of any community that religious observances are their exclusive privilege. The Hindus cannot be divided in that manner, at any rate in the matter of religious holidays. That is a point about which I feel very strongly. There should be no such distinction like that between community and community in the Hindu fold.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar : May I ask whether any non-Brahmin has anything to do with the performance of *gayatri japam* ?

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : It is not for Mr. Ananthasiva Aiyar to say whether the non-Brahmins can perform *gayatri japam* or not ; it is left to the non-Brahmins entirely. There may be some non-Brahmins inclined to perform *gayatri japam*. Who can say that they should not ?

[Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai.]

Sir, I am going to put forward a suggestion which will avoid all these difficulties, and which will also conform to the grounds of economy raised by my honourable friend Mr. Tampi. I am not at all for increasing the number of holidays, if that can be avoided. I am equally strong also against any separatist tendency being introduced in the shape of separate treatment, in the matter of holidays, of different communities and castes. My simple suggestion is that all holidays given by Government shall be general holidays, and Government can prepare a list of such holidays without going into the question of the communities or castes who usually observe them as holidays or as religious days. Anybody who wants to perform *gayatri japam* must take casual leave on that day and perform it. If anybody wants to enjoy *mattu pongal* on behalf of the quadrupeds, by all means let him take casual leave and enjoy. No one should be given a holiday on the basis that he belongs to a particular community. Then, having granted a fixed number of general holidays, let the Government increase the number of casual leave days so that anybody anxious to celebrate something on a particular day may take casual leave on that day and satisfy himself.

Sir, the argument was advanced that we should have more holidays because, especially for judicial officers, unfinished judgments could be written on holidays; it was argued, on that ground, that more holidays would mean more work.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: May I ask whether that is not an index of inefficiency on the part of the officer concerned; because, all efficient officers would finish their work during the working days?

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: I agree that a tolerably efficient officer can finish all his work during working days.

Mr. M. Govindan: Is it incapacity or inefficiency to enjoy a holiday and to recoup health for better and more expeditious work?

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: Sir, I do not quite understand the question. I am not now arguing as to how best holidays could be utilised or how best one's health could be recouped. Certainly, that is not a point on which Government have any reason to be anxious. If, as a matter of fact, more work is done on holidays than on working days, it would be better that we have the whole year as holidays leaving a few days here and there as working days; I do not know if it is going to be argued like that. That is an argument which cannot take us very far. I should think that proper amount of work will be done on working days.

Coming to my point, I am strongly of opinion that all holidays should be general holidays available to all communities and castes. Otherwise, as has been pointed out by Mr. Kallur Narayana Pillai, there is sure to be a lot of confusion, especially in our Courts. With regard to schools also, Government themselves have found that the half-holiday for the Brahmins alone, on New Moon days, is not workable in practice.

Therefore, Sir, to get over all these difficulties, as I have already suggested, the best method would be to allow a few more casual leave days, so that anybody who wants to avail a holiday on a particular day can take casual leave and enjoy the holiday.

Mr. Abdul Taeib Shaikh Kaderbhoy : While I understand the honourable member's suggestion so far as the officials are concerned, may I ask what the non-officials belonging to the various communities are to do if they are summoned by Courts on days which they consider sacred and should be observed as holidays?

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : That is very easily solved; the party can apply to the Court, and he will be summoned on some other day again.

Mr. N. Krishna Aiyar : Sir, I support the resolution. I agree with my honourable friend Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai in that all holidays must be only general holidays, available for the entire public of the State without any communal or caste distinction. The difficulties on account of these sectional holidays have been very clearly pointed out by my honourable friends Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar and Mr. Kallur Narayana Pillai; and I do not want to repeat them.

As regards the quantum of work turned out by officers, I am sure it does not depend upon the number of working days; it depends upon the nature of the work and the character and efficiency, and sense of responsibility of individual officers. Any increase in the number of working days will not, I submit, increase the volume of work turned out. I have seen several officers—also legal practitioners who have a sense of responsibility—working on holidays; in fact, some of them turn out more work during holidays than during working days, because, after all, they get only 5 hours for work on working days. Most of our responsible officers sit up late at night and get up very early in the morning, and work throughout even on holidays. The same is the case with regard to judicial officers and legal practitioners. In the interests of good turn over of work, it is better we leave it to the officers concerned to adjust their work according to their convenience. It is no use increasing the number of working days. Mr. Tampi dealt with what he called

[Mr. N. Krishna Aiyar.]

financial or economic grounds. So long as each officer is allotted a particular work, he has to finish it within the time allotted. Once he does that, it is immaterial if he is given a few more holidays in the year.

My honourable friend Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai made the counter suggestion, *viz.*, that all the special holidays might be abolished and the number of casual leave days increased instead. Sir, even for the casual leave days, officers have to be paid; so that what is it that the tax-payer gains whether the days on which officers remain at home are called casual leave days or holidays?

Sir, the honourable member Mr. Tampi was referring to 'school-boy enthusiasm' in the matter of holidays. Those who work must have rest; officers and non-officials doing serious work do want rest. Those who are incapable, those who do not like to work, will not work, whether you reduce or increase the number of working days or holidays. Those who have work to do and who are capable and efficient, will do their work whether you increase the number of working days or reduce them. It all depends on the character, capacity and efficiency, the sense of responsibility above all, of the individuals concerned.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: Is not the honourable member aware that the Travancore Service Regulations and Rules do not allow slackers to flourish?

Mr. N. Krishna Aiyar: That is supposed to be so.

Sir, as has been pointed out by my lawyer friends, the inconvenience due to the special holidays is most keenly felt in our courts of law. At first, Government would not grant us even the Christmas holidays; but, later, on account of the motions made by the members of the legal profession and also by the officers of the Judicial department, they were restored. I admit, Sir, that the restoration of the Christmas holidays was received with a certain amount of boyish enthusiasm at which Mr. Tampi was scoffing. Sir, holidays are a matter of necessity to those who work. In fact, in other countries, the agitation is for reduction in the number of working hours.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: Will the honourable member kindly enlighten the House with the name of the country where there is agitation for reducing the number of working hours?

Mr. N. Krishna Aiyar: America, for instance.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: Will the honourable member kindly state whether there is any other country or province where they have a greater number of holidays than Travancore?

Mr. N. Krishna Aiyar : I have only to refer my honourable friend to the book from which Mr. Narayana Aiyar quoted the list of holidays in vogue in British India, holidays which were in vogue here but which have recently been abolished.

Mr. M. Govindan : Is there any other province or State where the number of holidays is less than it is in Travancore?

Mr. N. Krishna Aiyar : I do not know. I have not studied the position with special reference to the figures on the matter. But, I do believe that most of the holidays which have recently been abolished here, are still holidays throughout the rest of India.

In regard to the question of saving more of public funds by increasing the number of working days I think that any increase in the number of working days would also mean further increase in expenditure, in the shape of more electric and other charges. The Government has been getting on quite well all these years, in spite of the holidays which were recently abolished; I do not think work has suffered in any respect. In any event, the special reasons why the Judicial Department should have all these holidays have been clearly pointed out; and they do exist.

With these words, I commend the resolution for the acceptance of the House.

The House adjourned *sine die* at 4—30 P. M.

A. GUNAMANY,
Secretary to the Sri Chitra State Council.

Annexure I.

THE TRAVANCORE CHILD MARRIAGE RESTRAINT BILL.

(As passed by the Sri Mulam Assembly.)

Whereas it is expedient to restrain the solemnisation of child Marriages; it is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. (i) This Act may be called "The Travancore Child Marriage Restraint Act of 111."

Short title and extent. (ii) It extends to the whole of Travancore, and shall come into force at once.

2. In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,—

(a) "child" means a person who, if a male, is under eighteen years of age, and if a female, under fourteen years of age;

(b) "child marriage" means a marriage in which either of the contracting parties is a child;

(c) "contracting party" to a marriage means either of the parties whose marriage is or is about to be thereby solemnised; and

(d) "minor" means a person of either sex who is under eighteen years of age.

3. Whoever, being above eighteen years of age and below twenty-one, contracts a child marriage shall be punishable with a fine which may extend to one-thousand rupees.

Punishment for an adult below 21 years of age marrying a child.

4. Whoever being above twenty-one years of age, contracts a child marriage shall be punishable with simple imprisonment which may extend to one month or with fine which may extend to one-thousand rupees or with both.

Punishment for person above 21 years of age marrying a child.

5. Whoever performs, conducts or directs any child marriage shall be punishable with simple imprisonment which may extend to one month, or with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees, or with both, unless he proves that he had reason to believe that the marriage was not a child marriage.

Punishment for solemnising a child marriage.

6. (i) Where a minor contracts a child marriage, any person having charge of the minor whether as a parent or guardian or in any other capacity, lawful or unlawful, who does any act to promote the marriage or permits it to be solemnised, or negligently fails to prevent it from being solemnised, shall be punished with simple imprisonment which may extend to one month, or with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees, or with both;

Punishment for parent or guardian concerned in a child marriage.

(ii) For the purpose of this section, it shall be presumed unless and until the contrary is proved, that, where a minor has contracted a child marriage the person having charge of such minor has negligently failed to prevent the marriage from being solemnised.

Provided that no woman shall be punishable with imprisonment.

(ii) For the purpose of this section, it shall be presumed unless and until the contrary is proved, that, where a minor has contracted a child marriage the person having charge of such minor has negligently failed to prevent the marriage from being solemnised.

7. Notwithstanding anything contained in Section 170 of the Code of Criminal Procedure no court other than that of a Magistrate of the First Class shall take cognizance of, or try, any offence under this Act.

Jurisdiction under this Act.

8. The court may take cognizance of an offence under this Act, either upon complaint made, or information laid before it, within one year from the date on which the offence is alleged to have been committed.

9. (i) When the Court takes cognizance of any offence under this Act, upon a complaint, it may, at any time after examining the complainant and before issuing process for compelling the attendance of the accused, for reasons to be recorded in writing require the complainant to execute a bond, with or without sureties, for a sum not exceeding one hundred rupees, as security for the payment of any compensation which the complainant may be directed to pay under Section 227 of the Code of Criminal Procedure and if such security is not furnished within such reasonable time as the court may fix the complaint shall be dismissed.

Power to take security from the complainant.

(ii) A bond taken under this section shall be deemed to be a bond taken under the Code of Criminal Procedure and Chapter XL of that Code shall apply accordingly.

10. (i) The Court may, if satisfied from information laid before it through complaint or otherwise, that a child marriage in contravention of this Act, has been arranged or is about to be solemnised, issue an injunction against any of the persons mentioned in Clauses 3, 4, 5 and 6, prohibiting such marriage ;

Provided that no injunction under the sub-clause shall be issued against any person unless the Court has previously given notice to such person and has afforded him an opportunity to show cause against the issue of the injunction.

Provided also that the Court may on the application of any person aggrieved rescind or alter any order made under this sub-clause.

(ii) Whoever knowing that an injunction has been issued against him under sub-clause (i) of this clause disobeys such injunction, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description, for a term which may extend to three months or with fine which may amount to one thousand rupees, or with both.

Provided that no woman shall be punishable with imprisonment.

11. Our Government may, by notification in the Government Gazette exempt any marriage in Travancore from the operation of this Act, on application made in that behalf by the legal guardian of the bride or bridegroom whoever is a child.

Annexure II.

THE TRAVANCORE HINDU GAINS OF LEARNING BILL.

An Act to remove the doubts as to rights of a member of a Hindu undivided family in property acquired by him by means of his learning.

Whereas it is expedient to remove the doubt, and to provide an uniform rule as to the rights of a member of a Hindu undivided family in property acquired by him by means of his learning :

It is hereby enacted as follows :—

Short title, extent and Commencement. 1. (1) This Act may be called the Travancore Hindu Gains of Learning Act.

(ii) It extends to the whole of Travancore.

(iii) It shall come into force at once.

Definitions. 2. In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,—

(a) “Acquirer” means a member of a Hindu undivided family who acquired gains of learning ;

(b) “Gains of learning” means all acquisitions of property made substantially by means of learning whether such acquisitions be made before or after the commencement of this Act and whether such acquisitions be the ordinary or the extraordinary result of such learning ; and

(c) “learning” means education whether elementary, technical, scientific, special or general, and training of every kind which is usually intended to enable a person to pursue any trade, industry, profession or avocation in life.

3. Notwithstanding any custom, rule or interpretation of the Hindu Law, no gains of learning shall be held not to be the exclusive and separate property of the acquirer merely by reason of—

(a) His learning having been, in whole or in part, imparted to him by any member living or deceased of his family, or with the aid of the joint funds of his family, or with the aid of the funds of any member thereof ; or

Gains of learning not to be held not to be separate property of acquirer merely for certain reason.

(b) himself or his family having, while he was acquiring his learning, been maintained or supported wholly or in part by the joint funds of his family, or by the funds of any member thereof.

4. This Act shall not be deemed in any way to affect :—

Savings. (a) the terms or incidents of any transfer of property made or affected before the commencement of this Act ;

(b) the validity, invalidity, effect or consequences of anything already suffered or done before the commencement of this Act ;

(c) any right or liability created under a partition or an agreement for a partition of joint family property made before the commencement of this Act ; or

(d) any remedy or proceeding in respect of such right or liability or to render invalid or in any way affect anything done before the commencement of this Act in any proceeding pending in a court at such commencement; and any such remedy and any such proceeding as is herein referred to may be enforced, instituted or continued, as the case may be, as if this Act had not been passed.

OBJECTS AND REASONS.

The habits and customs of persons following the Hindu system of inheritance in Travancore are more or less the same as those in the neighbouring British India. So far as the devolution of gains of learning of Hindus in British India is concerned, existing doubts have been removed by the passing of the "Gains of Learning Act XXX of 1930." In Travancore the decisions of our High Court even from the earliest times cannot be said to be in conformity with the altered and changing sentiments of the Hindu community. In VI T. L. J. 21 it was held that the "presumption in Hindu law is that property standing in the name of any member of a Hindu coparcenary possessing a nucleus of joint family property belongs to such family." This decision was followed in 17 T. L. J. 693 at 701. Later on in 3 T. L. J. 657 also, it was held that where there is a nucleus of ancestral property capable of yielding an income the presumption is "that the acquisition in question is joint family property." This question was the subject matter of discussion in our courts even from earlier days could be seen from the ruling in 2 T. L. R. 14 at 16, 8 T. L. R. 135, 17 T. L. R. 10 etc. In view of the close relationship of the Hindus of this State with their brethren in British India it is highly necessary to have a similar legislation in our State removing the existing difficulties. The important result of the proposed Bill, if passed, will be that it will immensely improve the position of the female members of Hindu family. The widow and the daughter of the acquirer, often left helpless will, in the absence of a male issue take by inheritance the deceased's gains of learning in preference to distant male members, who can, under the present law lay claim to the same by survivorship.

To remove such hardships and to be on an equal status with our Hindu brethren in the neighbouring British India this Bill is proposed to be introduced. This Bill is a reproduction of the Hindu Gains of Learning Act XXX of 1930 with no alterations.

G. NARAYANA AIYAR,
Member, Sri Chitra State Council.



PROCEEDINGS
OF
THE TRAVANCORE SRI CHITRA STATE COUNCIL
—
SECOND COUNCIL.
—
SIXTH SESSION.
—

Monday, the 4th March 1940/21st Kumbham 1115.

—
(OFFICIAL REPORT)
—

Vol. XV—No. 4.
—

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
1. Members sworn ...	185
2. Bills assented to by His Highness the Maharaja ...	185
3. Legislative Business:— The Travancore Agriculturists' Relief Act (Amendment) Bill ...	185
4. Joint Sitting of the Council and the Assembly— Dewan's Address ...	186

PROCEEDINGS

OF

THE NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL

SECOND SESSION

1893

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF THE LAND OFFICE

(CONTAINING)

VOL. XV—No. 1

CONTENTS

1	Members sworn	163
2	Rolls presented to the Hon. the Governor	163
3	Regulations of the Board	163
4	The Commission on the Land Office (Continued)	163
5	Joint Sitting of the Council and the Assembly	163
6	Dewey's Address	163

PROCEEDINGS
of
THE TRAVANCORE SRI CHITRA STATE COUNCIL.

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SECOND COUNCIL.

SIXTH SESSION 1940/1115

VOLUME XV—NUMBER 4.

Monday, the 4th March 1940/21st Kumbhom 1115.

The Council met in the Legislative Chamber, Public Offices, at 11.30 A. M., Sachiottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, K. C. I. E., LL. D., Dewan-President, presiding.

MEMBERS SWORN.

The following members took the oath and signed the rolls :—
Mr. Jacob Cherian (*Nominated for the purpose of the Travancore Agriculturists' Relief Act (Amendment) Bill.*)

Mr. S. Veeraiyah Reddiar Do.

Mr. U. Padmanabha Kukillaya (*Advocate General*)

BILLS ASSENTED TO BY HIS HIGHNESS
THE MAHARAJA.

Secretary : I beg to report that the following Bills received the assent of His Highness the Maharaja :

1. The Travancore Bankers' Books Evidence Bill.
2. The Travancore Census Bill.
3. The Travancore Reformatory Schools Act (Amendment) Bill.
4. The Travancore Rubber Control Bill.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS.

THE TRAVANCORE AGRICULTURISTS RELIEF ACT (AMENDMENT) BILL.

Mr. Thomas Chandy Makkadan (*Nominated*):
മൻമൻ ചെണ്ടുവരി മന്ത്രിയുടെ കീഴിൽ ശ്രീ ചിത്തിര സ്റ്റേറ്റ് കൗൺസിലിൽ വെച്ച് മി. പടിയറ ജോസഫ് കഞ്ഞിൻ അവതരിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനെക്കുറിച്ച്.

G. P. T. 2087. 350 3-9-1115.

"Here we would only say that provisions for scaling down existing debts should be supplemented by provisions for future credit to the workers."

Reading this as a whole it will be seen that here and on pages 38 and 39, this Committee, composed as it is of men eminent in several walks of life, have undoubtedly realised that the problem would have to be solved on the lines of the interference with contracts, and what has been called the sanctity of contracts. That they realise and they say that that interference with the sanctity of contracts should be and would be justified on special grounds. There has been a considerable amount of agitation and discussion on this subject. But there has been much less of agitation and discussion on the part of persons who are really hard hit than on the part of persons who are not so hard hit.

One of the points which the Government would wish to ascertain is as to who are the persons who are to be benefited by any such legislation? In regard to this, at page 9 of their report the Committee say :

"The main ground on which the claim for relief is based is the sudden and abnormal increase in the burden of debt due to the steep fall in prices. This increase equally affects the small man and the big man and makes it necessary to relieve both from the inequitable burden."

Speaking for myself, I find it difficult to subscribe to that proposition, and I do not wish to disguise this from the assembled members of the two Houses of Legislature. Why is any such relief provision necessary? It is necessary for the purpose of helping the otherwise helpless man, the debtor who is in the clutches of the money-lender or the capitalist and who cannot really bargain on equal terms with the creditor and not for the purpose of relieving the speculator, the man who has a considerable amount of money or property and has also incurred losses and debt and who has not been at the mercy of the creditor. Supposing a man with 1,000 acres goes to a creditor and asks for money and the creditor says that he will give it only at 12 per cent. interest, it is open to the former not to borrow the money but to sell 500 of those acres and deal with the situation and he is not at the mercy of the creditor; whereas the man with one acre is at the mercy of the creditor if he desires to raise money thereon and is entirely amenable to his influence. Are such relief measures to be applicable to persons who are able to deal with creditors more or less on an equal footing and are able to bargain with them? At the present moment I say that Government have not made up their minds on this matter but they do feel that it is in many senses very difficult for them to deal with the question of large capitalists—they are after all capitalists themselves—dealing with other large capitalists. At page 10 of their report the Committee say:

"It must also be remembered that there are several ways in which relief may be granted to the debtor, short of finding money to discharge his debt. Reduction in the rate of interest and the concession to repay the debt in instalments spread out over a number of years are substantial advantages of which there can be no justification to deprive the man with the burden of a big debt."

How and why did he get that big debt?

In regard to that matter let me refer to reports of the Banking Enquiry Committee and the Economic Depression Enquiry Committee. The statistics collected by them prove that 77 per cent. of the debts were incurred at that time in respect of the discharge of prior encumbrances. In the Banking Enquiry Committee Report at page 48, paragraph 60 gives the purposes for which loans were secured in the year 1928-29. Loans for payment of prior debts formed 71.7 per cent. while those for improvement of lands formed 4.8 per cent. Therefore, if it is asserted that these moneys were borrowed for improving the agricultural holdings of the large debtors, this contention is belied by these figures. Apart from that, is it the duty of the public, is it the duty of the Legislature or is it the right of the Legislature to help the people who are or must be otherwise able to help themselves? That is a point on which Government would like to have instruction and enlightenment from the assembled members of the two Houses. If a person lends say Rs. 50,000 to another person who is able to get enough credit for the purpose either of speculation or for the purpose of increasing an already large holding by making it larger, on what principle or precedent or practice or legislative convenience is it that Government and the Legislature should intervene? Should they help the rich man who has tried to become richer and who has not succeeded in becoming so? At pages, 18 and 19 of the Debt Relief Committee's report it has been stated that reasonable relief should not be unfair to either party. That is exactly the position that Government wish to take and that is a matter on which also Government would like to get full and comprehensive advice from the assembled members of the two Houses.

As I said, there are many matters in regard to which there is no controversy. On the question of the compartmental treatment of agricultural and other debts, the Government are at one with the Committee. With regard to making these measures not available to the agriculturists alone the Government are entirely with the Committee. With regard to the question of reducing the rate of interest and the question of the period of repayment, the Government are at one with the Committee. On the question of banks and co-operative societies, the Government are at one with the Committee subject to what I shall say later as to the co-operative societies. In

regard to the question of lowering the minimum to be advanced by the Credit Bank to Rs. 100 and the raising of the advances to be made to 60 per cent. of the holdings, the Government are at one with the Committee.

The points on which the Government wish to get elucidation are only a few. One of those points as I have already stated is the question as to whether the remedy is to be extended to all persons irrespective of their pecuniary status or is it to be confined in some other manner? In regard to this various suggestions have been made. It has been suggested for instance that the majority of the debtors in this State owe practically small amounts of money. It is proved that about 95·2 per cent. of the debtors in the State are those whose debts are below Rs. 5,000. If Government and the Legislature are going to help the debtors, should they not confine themselves to attending to those persons and their needs rather than to attending also to those who have been able to obtain larger advances and have availed themselves of those advances? Of the small debtors it could readily be said that their present plight is due to the phenomenal fall in prices. But with regard to the other people with large debts, could it or could it not be said that they have had a good time, that they made large incomes some time ago, that they have not been making equally large incomes now and that they not unnaturally desire relief? The matter has been put to me like this--that people who pay Rs. 100 or more as land tax and those who are assessed to income tax of Rs. 100 or more should be outside the scope of relief and that only others should be within the scope of this Bill. That is a matter on which opinion has to be gathered. It is also a self-evident fact that those who get their income in money have not been affected by the depression.

The next point is about the Co-operative Societies; that is another important matter that has arisen for solution. On that, Government have not only not made up their minds but fully realise that there is a good deal to be said on both sides. There is no doubt that the Co-operative Societies in Travancore have been functioning—or have been reported to be functioning—more or less like usurers; in other words, they have been making advances on terms not very different from and conditions not dissimilar to those adopted by ordinary money lenders, so that there would be nothing unjust in the same treatment being meted out to them as will be meted out to the money-lenders. But there is another aspect with regard to the Co-operative Societies, which will have to be borne in mind. Government started these societies with a certain purpose, and armed them with certain powers and privileges; they were given the powers to make their own bye-laws and rules. In fact,

Government, when they started these societies, gave them a send off as it were in order that their avowed object might be fulfilled. The question has to be considered whether the Government should do anything which may lead to the collapse of many societies or rather the majority of the existing societies.

Then, another point on which too certain doubts have been expressed is this. The Debt Relief Committee has not dealt with what may be called the small creditor, apart from the small debtor. I am referring to a person whose sole asset in this world is a sum of say, Rs. 1,000. As honourable members are aware, there are many such persons, many of them widows or helpless old men who have invested small amounts with capitalists on whom they rely to maintain themselves. I know of such cases very well. Invariably, such persons choose the wealthiest man in the village and deposit the money with him. It will then happen that many of these wealthy men become debtors to these widows, these helpless women with only a thousand rupees to their credit in the whole world, and no other asset. Now the question is, are you going to allow the scaling down in favour of these rich men of the villages and against the poor widow who has only Rs. 1,000 to her credit. That is a matter which the House will have to consider. Are the poor widow with her Rs. 1,000 to her credit, and the millionaire who is debtor to the widow to be treated on the same footing as other creditors and debtors? That is the point that the House has to consider.

Then comes the question of trade debts about which also a great deal can be said on both sides. Again I may say, that Government have not come to any conclusion on this point either although the question is intimately bound up with the maintenance of the commercial credit of the country without which industrial progress will be rendered difficult. The observations of the committee on this point are contained in paragraph 111, at page 38 of their report. They say that the choice lies between the wholesale merchants and the retail trader, and state that, as between them, the former could better bear the loss than the latter. The same rule, I submit, should be applied to the debtor also. If the question is as to who could bear the burden better as between the big debtor and the small debtor, certainly it is the former; because, it is possible for him, by selling the bulk of his properties if need be, to pay off all his debts, and still have something left with him for keeping body and soul together; that is out of the question so far as the small debtor is concerned since he owns just enough for pulling on

Another point on which there is or can be some doubt is with regard to the agency to settle these disputes between the creditor and the debtor. I may say as the head of the administration that, generally speaking, Government are now agreed that what may be called a voluntary agency through conciliation courts—the course that has been tried here—has not been successful; and Government are perfectly willing to take these disputes back to the courts. It cannot but be admitted that the problem originally arose entirely on account of the Civil Courts in the country, on account of the delays in the courts, notwithstanding the efficiency of our Judicial officers. It cannot but be admitted that the delays in the disposal of suits, especially of execution proceedings, have been so great that both the creditor and the debtor really lost heart over this matter. Unless in the future Government and the court can do something to avoid such inordinate delays, we shall really be in a very bad position indeed. Our courts seem to have thought that speed and expedition do not matter in relation to efficiency of judicial work; and that has led to inordinate delays and this difficult problem now confronting us. If within six months or a year of the date of filing a suit a decree was passed, and within the next six months it is executed, there would have been no trouble at all. Now, the delay has led to such great accumulation of interest that new factors have come into operation. I am sorry to have to say that much of our trouble arising out of agricultural and other indebtedness has been due to the dilatoriness of the courts of this country. I make this observation in the hope that courts will do their work more expeditiously and not grant frequent adjournments either to suit the convenience of the lawyers or of the judges themselves, or for other considerations, and will not lend themselves to misplaced doctrinaire propositions in favour either of the debtor or of the creditor.

Now, I hope it will be clear to the House that the Government are at one with the committee on most points.

As at present advised, Government feel great practical difficulty in extending help to the rich debtor. Are we to bring in the legislation merely because a set of rich, influential debtors have successfully organised public opinion and set up a strong agitation in their support? This is what the Committee state in paragraph 54, at page 19 of their report:

“It is also feared, and not without reason, that the compulsory reduction of debts will make borrowers reckless in the hope that agitation would always bring about legislation easing the burden of debt. If by the nature and frequency of debt legislation such an idea was likely to be encouraged, the result would certainly be deplorable. Any material benefit that debtors might occasionally derive therefrom would be more than counterbalanced by the moral deterioration caused by the systematic disregard of the

pledged word. That is a contingency that Governments and Legislatures have to provide against. It must be made plain beyond any doubt that mere agitation by the debtors for the purpose would not result in legislation relieving them from the obligation to carry out their contracts."

Assuming for a moment that the whole problem has been due to agitation on the part of certain rich and influential persons in the country who happened to borrow huge sums of money and are therefore now in the position of debtors, should the Legislature help rich debtors and speculators by a scaling-down legislation in their favour. Assuming that we take such steps, what is there to prevent the agitation being repeated some time hence, and another attempt being made to scale down further even the scaled-down debt? If the idea gains ground that influential and well-to-do people who have money and resources at their command can go about and get a legislation of this kind enacted, credit will stop and no industrial progress will be possible. I hope the Legislature will make it clear that agitation of any kind will not give rise to legislation of this kind in future. Any step that we now take must be of such character that it will have the element of finality. It must be made perfectly clear to the country at large that after the debts are scaled down now, there will be no other chance of further agitation started for the purpose of any further relief. I feel very strong on that particular aspect of the matter, because I know that in countries which have enacted legislation of this kind, credit has notably shrunk and money is moving from certain localities where such legislation has come into being, because of the uneasiness of creditors. I am absolutely not in sympathy with the money-lender who, taking advantage of the necessity and the circumstances of the borrower, pushes him to a corner, files a suit against him, gets a decree against him and after some time threatens execution and gets into an agreement with him adding some more money and getting a new document. The question is whether relief is to be given only to such persons against whom all those ways and arts can be used, or also to people who are more or less on an equal status with the creditors, and who do the same thing with *their* debtors-for, many of these debtors are creditors too. Such information as Government have in their possession indicates that, while they were very anxious to have their debts scaled down, such big debtors have not been equally merciful to *their* debtors and have continued to indulge in expensive pre-occupations. These aspects must be borne in mind by the members of the two Houses. It is because Government feel that they cannot take up a definite position, on all these topics fraught with very grave consequences, without a full discussion of the subject by the Legislature, that Government have taken the step of regimenting the combined wisdom of the two Houses of the Legislature.

How the Legislature may proceed is a matter on which I would make a suggestion, *viz.*, that the House may very informally discuss the matter amongst themselves, go into committee, so to say, for a day or two ; at the end, if there is some kind of unanimity the result may be reported by the two Houses. By such a course, one undoubtedly valuable result would be achieved, *viz.*, the two Houses of the Legislature will come to a common understanding with regard to this matter ; and we can have a legislative enactment pushed through later on. Otherwise, having regard to the temperament and the composition of the two Houses of the Legislature, there may be the possibility of conflict of opinion ; Government are anxious to avoid that. There should be the greatest common measure of agreement ; that is why the suggestion has been made that the two Houses of the Legislature should meet together and deliberate on this matter, have a full discussion, and then, if it is possible, bring those conclusions into a form. We shall then know how the opinion lies ; and Government will formulate their opinion having regard to the general feeling in the country. I may again assure the honourable members of the House that, even on the point of the rich and the poor debtors, although, speaking personally, I have strong views on the subject, I do not think I am entitled to act upon those views *per se* if it is found that the general opinion is that the rich debtor should be helped as well as the poor debtor, Government will pay due weight to that view ; only, I do not want to hide from the honourable members of this House my personal opinion that a legislation of this kind should help only the necessitous, the poor man, and not the rich man, who taking advantage of the credit which he had by virtue of his large assets entered into certain transactions but was not able to make the profit which he bargained for. That is my personal opinion. But Government are not wedded to that opinion and they will be guided very largely by the opinion of the country as voiced by its representatives in the two Houses of the Legislature.

With these words, I would invite the honourable members to go into an informal conference for the purpose of discussing the matter, if they do not find any objection to that procedure.

Mr R. Sambasiva Aiyar (*Member, Sri Mulam Assembly—(Nominated for the purpose of the Travancore Agriculturists' Relief Act (Amendment) Bill*) : Sir, I would submit for the consideration of the Chair,

President : I would like to know first whether what I have said commends itself to the main organised parties of the House. What is your opinion, Mr. Padmanabha Pillai ?

Mr. Kainikkara M. Padmanabha Pillai (*Member, Sri Mulam Assembly—Changanacherry cum Peermade Constituency*): I think we might discuss the matter as suggested by you. In view of the great importance of the subject, I would request the Dewan-President to preside at those meetings.

President: It is not with the view that I should retire and allow honourable members to discuss amongst themselves that I made the suggestion. It is because an informal discussion is likely to clear doubts, and be more elucidatory that I made the suggestion. I propose to be here from the first to last. But does the procedure commend itself to the honourable members?

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai (*Member, Sri Chitra State Council—Quilon cum Kunnattur Constituency*): I agree to the procedure suggested by the Chair.

Mr. K. G. Kunjukrishna Pillai (*Member, Sri Mulam Assembly—Neyyattinkara cum Trivandrum Constituency*): I also agree to that procedure.

President: Does any member wish to raise any objection to that procedure?

Mr. N. Ramakrishna Pillai (*Member, Sri Mulam Assembly—Vaikam cum Kottayam Constituency*): I also agree to the suggestion made by the Chair.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampl (*Member, Sri Chitra State Council—Karunagapalli, Kartikapalli and Ambalapuzha cum Shertallai Constituency*): I too agree, but this should not become a precedent. In view of the importance and emergency of the problem, I agree to the procedure suggested by the Chair; but I do not wish that the individual deciding power of either of the two Houses should suffer to any extent.

President: I quite realise that. I am one with the honourable member who spoke last. But, there are ever so many difficulties in the matter. Suppose, for instance, the same problem is put to the Assembly, and the Assembly comes to certain conclusion; and then the Council may not arrive at the same conclusion. Everybody says that the whole problem must be dealt with soon. That is why this procedure has been adopted. If there is some unanimity, the idea of Government is to summon the Assembly very shortly—and then the Council—and push through some suitable legislative enactment. That is the present idea of Government.

In view of the informal discussion, the question is whether it should be open to the press? I am entirely at the hands of the House.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: They may also be informally present.

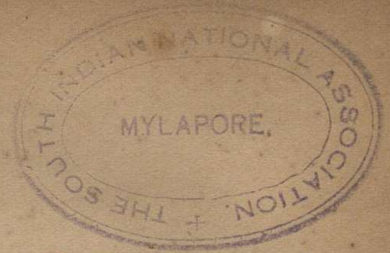
President: I have no objection to that. The House will now adjourn.

The Joint Sitting terminated at 12.40 P. M.

A. GUNAMONY,

Secretary to the Sri Chitra State Council.

[The proceedings of the informal conference which took place subsequently to discuss the Report of the Debt Relief Enquiry Committee are issued as a separate appendix to this Volume.]



PROCEEDINGS
OF
THE TRAVANCORE SRI CHITRA STATE COUNCIL
SECOND COUNCIL.
SIXTH SESSION.

Monday, the 24th June 1940/11th Mithunam 1115.

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

Vol. XV—No. 5.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
1. Oath of office	197
2. Questions and Answers	198
3. Statement laid on the table	215
4. Demands for Supplementary Grants :—	
(i) Land Revenue and Taxes on Income	217
(ii) Medical	217
(iii) Public Health and Sanitation	218
(iv) Public Works Department	219
(v) Police	219
(vi) Industries including Clay Refining and Porcelain Factory	222
(vii) Ayurveda	222
5. Legislative Business:—	
(i) The Travancore Registration Act (Amendment) Bill	223
(ii) The Government Trading Taxation Bill	225



PROCEEDINGS
of
THE TRAVANCORE SRI CHITRA STATE COUNCIL.

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SECOND COUNCIL.

VOLUME XV—NUMBER 5.
SIXTH SESSION 1115/1940.

Monday, the 11th Mithunam 1115/24th June 1940.

The Travancore Sri Chitra State Council met in the Legislative Chamber, Public Offices, at eleven of the clock, with Sachivottama Sir. C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, K. C. I. E., LL. D., Dewan-President, in the Chair.

MEMBERS SWORN.

The following members took the oath and signed the Rolls :—

1. Khan Bahadur G. S. Abdul Karim Sahib Suhrawardy
(*Inspector-General of Police*).
2. Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar (*Chief Engineer*).
3. Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai (*Director of Public Health*).
4. Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai (*Legal Remembrancer to Government*).
5. Mr. C. Kumara Das (*Director of Industries*).
6. Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi (*Secretary to Government*).
7. Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar (*Chief Secretary to Government*).
8. Vaidyasastrakusala Dr. (Mrs.) M. Poonen Lukose (*Surgeon-General*).
9. Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*).
10. Mr. S. Sundararajan (*Financial Secretary to Government*).

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

The P. W. D. Advisory Board.

52. ***Mr. K. M. Kesavan** (*Karunagapalli, Kartikapalli and Ambalapuzha cum Shertallai*): Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) the number of meetings held by the P. W. D. Advisory Board ;

(b) the places where such meetings were held ; and

(c) the work done by those meetings ?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar (*Chief Engineer*) : (a) Three.

(b) In the Office of the Chief Engineer.

(c) The rules for the working of the committee etc., were considered and approved. The question of preparing a five-year plan of works in the different taluks was considered and a taluk-war list of works to be taken up next year was prepared.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan : In respect of answer to part (c), may I know whether these rules and the provisions of the five-year plan will be made available to the members of this House ?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : The five-year plan has not been completely laid out. When the full plan is made available, it will be placed before this House.

Ryots' Roads.

53. ***Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla** (*Mavelikara and Tiruvalla cum Pattanamittita*): Will the Government be pleased to state how many miles of ryots' roads there are in the State and how many miles of them are in a finished state with the necessary culverts, bridges and other improvements ?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : There are in all 525 miles of ryots' roads of which 334 miles and $7\frac{1}{2}$ furlongs are in a finished state.

Incomplete Roads.

54. ***Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla** : Will the Government be pleased to state whether any plan could be devised by which roads that remain incomplete may be made at least cartable within five years ?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : The question is under consideration.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : Sir, it is stated in the answer that "the question is under consideration". Will the honourable member say whether these incomplete roads will not become completely useless if we prolong this 'consideration' ?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : The question of improvement of the balance number of miles of the ryots' roads has been placed duly before the P. W. D. Advisory Committee and the more urgent of them are being taken up and included in the programme for the next year. The others will be included in the programmes for the future years.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : Sir, that is not my question. May I know whether these roads will not become absolutely useless if the department does not take immediate action?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : Well, we are doing some maintenance work. Therefore, they will not become absolutely useless.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : Yes, but will they not become partly useless?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : Yes. Improvements are not done at present, but the ordinary maintenance work, which is necessary to keep them under the present conditions, are being made.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : Will the suggestions be placed before us in regard to the entire five-year plan?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : Yes, it will be done.

Tiruvalla-Edathua section of the Alleppey-Mundakayam road.

55. ***Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla :** Will the Government be pleased to state how many years have passed since work began in the Thiruvalla-Edathua Section of the Alleppey-Mundakayam road and why the work is not yet complete though money has been budgeted for it every year?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : It is 12 years since the work was started. The road work has been nearly completed between Tiruvalla and Edathua. Steps have already been taken to push on with the construction of bridges and culverts which had to be delayed owing to change of design.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : Sir may I know how many times, since the work was started, have the design been changed in connection with this road? It is stated that the work was started twelve years ago. May I know how many times have the designs been changed by the department?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : With regard to the road between Podiyadi and Neeratupuram, there are two bridges. The designs of both of them had to be changed about once each. But the matter was under investigation and correspondence and therefore

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : Well, change of design need not take twelve years for the execution of the work.

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : Sir, we had to observe the action due to floods. The question was whether the waterway was sufficient for the flow of the water. We had to observe it for subsequent years and it took naturally some time.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi : (*Karunagapalli, Kartikapalli, and Ambalapuzha cum Shertalla*) : Sir, may I know whether the department is waiting for the arrival of some iron materials for these two bridges ?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : Yes.

Poramboke cases in Muvattupuzha, Kunnatnad, Devicolam and Parur.

56. ***Mr. E. K. Kuripe** (*Parur, Kunnatnad and Muvattupuzha cum Devicolam*) : Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the number of Poramboke cases taken up in 1113 and 1114 in each of the taluks of Muvattupuzha, Kunnatnad, Devicolam and Parur, the number of cases in which punishments were inflicted and the amounts realised in each taluk by way of fine ?

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : *A statement furnishing the required information is laid on the table.

Silts in the Periyar river.

57. ***Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar** (*Parur, Kunnatnad and Muvattupuzha cum Devicolam*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Periyar river is being silted up year after year ;

(b) if the answer to part (a) is in the affirmative, whether the Government will be pleased to state the reasons for the same and what action was taken by the Government to prevent the silting up and when ;

(c) how long is it since the silting up is going on in the Periyar river ;

(d) has any part of the river become unfit for navigation even for ordinary valloms during the summer season ; if so, what is the period during which such navigation is not possible ;

(e) what is the distance of that portion of the river which is not fit for navigation during the summer season ; and

(f) the average number of valloms that daily pass and repass through that river between Alwaye and Perumbavur ?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : (a) Yes.

(b) Natural causes such as rains falling on the catchment area account for the silting up of the river. In order to prevent this silting up, Government have made it a policy to register the wooded areas in the High Range in Peermade for cardamom cultivation only so that the forest trees are not cut down and that there may be undergrowth of cardamom which will prevent silt being brought down. It is also expected that the construction of dams across streams undertaken for purposes of irrigation and other schemes may prevent the silting up of the river bed to some extent.

(c) From time immemorial.

(d) Yes. Above Mudikkal from beginning of February to beginning of June.

(e) Between Mudikkal and Malayattur, six miles.

(f) No statistics have been collected.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : Sir, with reference to part (e) of the answer, may I know whether there are any floods in the river, year after year?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : Yes, there are.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : May I know whether the policy of disafforestation is not the sole cause of the floods obtaining here?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : It is one of the chief causes.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : In view of that fact, may I know whether the Government have in contemplation any idea to stop disafforestation?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : It is already under contemplation and therefore it has been stated in the reply that it is the definite policy of Government that lands are to be given only for cultivation of cardamom and that disafforestation should not be allowed.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : As regards answer to part (e) may I know whether the public are not being put to too much trouble on account of this part of the Periyar river being unfit for navigation for more than six months?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : There are some difficulties, no doubt.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : May I know whether Government cannot take up the question of deepening this part of the river?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : We are deepening portions as difficulties arise now and then, as the deepening get silted up as quickly as we do the deepening.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : What is the width of the river which they are widening year after year for the passage of Valloms?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : We are widening a small portion for the passage of valloms but the work is just for the time being. This gets silted up again and is not very effective.

Commutation rate for Kandukrishi rent.

58. ***Mr. K. M. Kesavan :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether they have fixed varying commutation rates with regard to the payment of rent on "Kandukrishi" lands ; and

(b) if so, will they be pleased to state the principle involved in fixing these various rates ?

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao : (ā) Yes.

(b) The rates were fixed on the basis of the average *nirak* rates of paddy in the various taluks ?

Village Unions.

59. ***Mr. K. M. Kesavan :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) the number of village unions and their respective places with reference to taluks ;

(b) whether a village union has been sanctioned anywhere in the taluk of Karthikapalli ; and

(c) if not, why not ?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : (a) There are twenty-six village unions in the State.

They are the following :—

<i>Place of union.</i>	<i>Taluk.</i>
1 Thazhakudi	Thovala
2 Suchindram	Agastiswaram
3 Eraniel	Kalkulam
4 Arumana	Vilavankod
5 Balaramapuram	Neyyattinkara
6 Kazhakuttam	Trivandrum
7 Vamanapuram	Nedumangad
8 Warkala	Chirayinkil
9 Pulinkunnu	Ambalapuzha
10 Thrikovilvattom	Quilon
11 Punalur	Pathanapuram
12 Aroor	Shertallai
13 Adoor	Kunnathur
14 Erezha	Mavelikara
15 Oachira	Karunagapalli
16 Mannar	Thiruvella
17 Elanthoor	Pathanamthitta
18 Achanputhooor	Shencotta

19	Kanjirapalli North	Changanacherry
20	Kumarakam	Kottayam
21	Thalayazham	Vaikom
22	Lalom	Meenachil
23	Kothamangalam	Muvattupuzha
24	Thodupuzha	Thodupuzha
25	Kalady	Kunnathunad
26	Kottuvalli	Parur

(b) No.

(c) The sanctioned number being 26. 26 Unions have been established only in selected localities.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan : Sir, from the list of taluks given here, it is found that the Karthikapalli taluk, which is one of the most populous taluks of the State, has been left out. May I know from the honourable member whether the case of Karthikapalli be considered when the establishment of Village Unions is considered next year?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : Yes, it will be considered.

Buses in Muvattupuzha-Munnar line.

60. * **Mr. E. K. Kuripe :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether the three buses starting from Kottayam and Alwaye do not afford sufficient means of transport for the agriculturists and merchants proceeding from places like Muvattupuzha, Kothamangalam and Kavalangad to Mannankandam, Kallar, Pallivasal and Munnar ;

(b) whether any one has applied for permit to run a new service in the Munnar-Muvattupuzha line ; and

(c) what objection there is for giving permit to one or more buses to proceed to Munnar either from Muvattupuzha or from Kothamangalam ?

Khan Bahadur G. S. Abdul Karim Sahib Suhrawardy (*Inspector-General of Police*) : (a) Representations have been received that additional buses are necessary on this route.

(b) Yes.

(c) The matter is under consideration.

Mr. E. K. Kuripe : ഇതിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചുള്ള റിപ്രസന്റേഷൻ ഷൻ കിട്ടിയിട്ടു എത്ര നാളായി എന്നു പറയാമോ?

Khan Bahadur G. S. Abdul Karim Sahib Suhrawardy : The matter has been considered and final orders have been passed since.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai (*Kalkulam and Vilavankod cum Neyyattinkara*) : Sir, may I know whether the Government have considered the question of extending State Transport to this line?

Khan Bahadur G. S. Abdul Karim Sahib Suhrawardy : I have no knowledge.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai: May I know whether the Government will refer the matter to the Director of State Transport before sanctioning additional number of buses?

Khan Bahadur G. S. Abdul Karim Sahib Suhrawardy: So far as the line where the Transport system has not been introduced, the matter is with the Inspector-General of Police and I have been examining these questions.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai: May I know from the Government whether the sanctioning of additional buses in a new road where the State Transport has not begun to operate will not cause considerable hardship to the people who have staked their all in this industry, especially, when those new lines are taken up by the State Transport system.

Khan Bahadur G. S. Abdul Karim Sahib Suhrawardy: This is a matter in which I cannot talk with any authority.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai: May I know whether the Director of State Transport will not also be consulted in this connection?

President: How can the Inspector-General of Police answer that?

Khan Bahadur G. S. Abdul Karim Sahib Suhrawardy: I have told the honourable member that. But in spite of it he still persists.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai: Sir, I want the answer from Government.

President: The honourable member may ask the Head of a Department regarding the working of that department. An appropriate question may be put which will elucidate the proper answer from the member of the Government who is responsible for that department. If the honourable member wants any answer now, the Chief Secretary may answer. If he wants time, he may claim notice.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai: My difficulty is that if the Inspector-General is to sanction an additional number of buses without consulting the Director of Transport, will it not be causing great hardship to the people?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar: The Director of Transport will also be consulted.

Assignment of lands for cardamom and coffee plantation.

61. * **Mr. E. K. Kuripe:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) the number of acres of land in each of the pakuthies of the Devicolam taluk assigned for cardamom cultivation in 1114;

(b) the number of acres out of the above area assigned to persons who are not subjects of His Highness the Maharaja and the pakuthies in which those lands are situate ;

(c) whether the lands from the above taluk have been assigned for coffee cultivation ; if so, the number of acres of the land so assigned and the pakuthies comprising them ;

(d) whether such assignment was made to Travancoreans only ; and

(e) whether they propose to assign more lands in the same taluk ; if so, the names of the pakuthies concerned and the amount of tharavila fixed for the land ?

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao :

		<i>Acre.</i>	<i>Cent.</i>
(a)	Poopara	132	4
	Udumbanchola	41	59
	Pallivasal	1,543	29
(b)	Poopara	92	54
	Udumbanchola	35	59

(c) As the period for which the information is required has not been specified, the information could not be furnished.

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

(e) There is no such proposal now pending before Government.

Necessity for opening a new road.

62. * **Mr. E. K. Kuripe :** Will the Government be pleased to state whether any enquiry has been made regarding the necessity for opening a road from the middle of the Kuzhikandam-Varapetty road to the vicinity of the mosque at Matharapally for the convenience of the agriculturists ?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : Yes.

Accidents in the Alwaye-Munnar road.

63. * **Mr. E. K. Kuripe :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether several accidents have taken place consequent on the two bends near the Kothamangalam hospital in the Alwaye-Munnar road not having been eased and the road widened ; and

(b) how long it is since the estimate and plan for easing the above bends were prepared.

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : (a) There was one accident.

(b) The estimate and plan are under preparation.

Pathway to Kothamangalam River.

64. * **Mr. E. K. Kuripe** : Will the Government be pleased to state the action taken on the petition presented by the people to the P. W. Department offering to surrender land free of compensation for providing a way to reach the Kothamangalam river, at the 6th furlong 11th mile of the Vazhakulam-Kothamangalam road ?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : The matter is under consideration.

Statement of roads pending completion in the Taluks of Muvattupuzha, Kunnatnad and Parur.

65. * **Mr. E. K. Kuripe** : Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the number of roads pending completion in the taluks of Muvattupuzha, Kunnatnad and Parur out of the roads sanctioned by Government till Karkatakam 1114 ; the number of them in respect of which construction work has yet to be started, the names of such roads ; the amounts spent on each of them till now and the reason why they are left in incomplete stages ; and the number of the above roads in respect of which work has been taken up this year ?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : A statement is laid on the table.

Grant of sites for commemorating the Dewan's sixtieth birthday.

66. * **Mr. E. K. Kuripe** : (1) Will the Government be pleased to state the number of applications received by them from the different parts of Travancore praying for the grant of certain areas for the construction at public expenses of several institutions, useful even to the future generation, in commemoration of the sixtieth birthday of the present Dewan of Travancore ?

(2) Will they be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the number of such applications, the names of localities and institutions for which sanction was accorded ?

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao : (1) 14.

(2) The † statement asked for is laid on the table.

Thakazhi-Edathua road.

67. * **Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla** : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether any action has been taken to start work in connection with—

* *Vide* Appendix II—page 211.

† *Vide* Appendix III—page 213.

(i) Thakazhi-Edathua section of the Alleppey-Mundakayam road ;

(ii) Cheriamuzhi and Valliathodu bridges in Ranni ; and

(iii) Kozhencherry bridge, as the Deputy Chief Engineer said at the last session of the Council ; and

(b) if not, will they be pleased to state when the work could be started and whether the two small bridges at Cheriamuzhi and Valliathodu could be completed this year ?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : (a) Yes.

(i) An estimate for the construction of Thakazhi-Edathua road 4th section of the Thiruvalla-Ambalapuzha road was estimated for along with the 5th section *viz.*, Thakazhi-Ambalapuzha road. It has since been proposed to estimate for the 4th section separately to be taken up as a war relief work.

(ii) *Cheriamoozhy bridge.* An estimate for Rs. 5,480 for the work has been prepared and sanctioned and it is awaiting execution for want of funds.

Valliathodu bridge. Estimate for the work is being prepared and the work will be taken up after sanction to the same with funds.

(iii) *Kozhencherry bridge.* The work will be taken up after getting an idea of the durability of the Thottapally bridge.

(b) This does not arise in view of the answer to part (a).

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : How long have we to wait for funds ?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : Funds will be provided as early as possible.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : May we have any idea as to how long we will have to wait for the funds ?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : I think it will be possible to include the funds in the next year's budget.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : May we know whether any doubt is entertained about the durability of the Thottapalli bridge ?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : Government do not have any doubt about the durability of that bridge.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : Then, why is the construction of the Kozhencherry bridge postponed ?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : In constructing the Thottapalli Bridge a deviation was made from the ordinary bridge construction and Government want to make sure before they launch upon similar bridges.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : May I know how much time will be required to make sure about constructing similar bridges ?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : It is not even one year since the Thottapalli bridge was constructed. We should wait at least for one or two years more.

Laws passed under Section 40 of the Legislative Reforms Act.

68. ***Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi :** Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a year-war statement showing the names and number of laws passed under Section 40 of the Legislative Reforms Act II of 1108?

Mr. Puthupathi S. Krishna Pillai (Legal Remembrancer to Government) : *The statement is laid on the table.

Rice Mills in the State.

69. ***Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar :** Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing :

(a) the number of the rice mills in the State which were working in 1113 or 1114 ;

(b) the total quantity of paddy milled in those mills in 1113 or 1114 ; and

(c) the number of persons in the State who were engaged in hand-pounding rice who were thrown out of employment by the existence of the mills in 1113 ?

Mr. C. Kumara Das (Director of Industries) :

(a) Trivandrum Division—25 in 1113.

Quilon Division—97 in 1113.

Kottayam Division—146 in 1113.

(b) Trivandrum Division—720,000 paras in 1113.

Quilon Division—1,502,289 paras in 1113.

Kottayam Division—764,939 paras in 1113.

(c) information not available.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : In regard to part. (c) may I know from the member whether Government made any attempt to get the information ?

Mr. C. Kumara Das : Attempts have been made for collecting the information regarding the number of people who were thrown out of employment.

President : How is that to be done ?

Mr. C. Kumara Das : The Proverthicans have been asked to furnish the information.

Bridge at Chavara.

70. * **Mr. K. M. Kesavan**: Will the Government be pleased to state how long it is since the bridge at Chavara on the Quilon-Alleppey line was declared unfit for heavy vehicle traffic?

Mr. M. S. Doraswamy Aiyangar: Since 3-7-1936.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan: From the date given it is clear that it is more than three years since the bridge was declared unsafe for heavy traffic. May I know when the Government will be pleased to repair the bridge?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar: The amount for investigation of the bridge will be included in the budget for the next year and the investigation will be done in that year.

Grievances of the ryots of Onattukara.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether they have received certain resolutions passed in a meeting of the ryots of Onattukara held under the auspices of the "Onattukara Karshaka Mahajana Sabha" early in Meenom 1115; and

(b) if they have, will they be pleased to state what steps they have taken in respect of:

(i) remission or reduction of land tax on wet lands, the crop of which was a failure owing to rice-swarming caterpillar pest and unprecedented drought;

(ii) abolishing various commutation rates on the rent of the Kandukrishi lands;

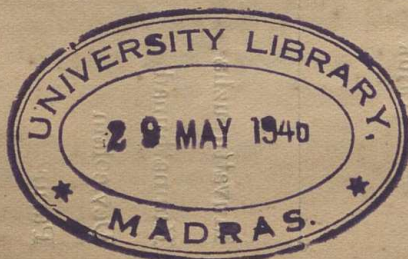
(iii) abolishing the prohibitive tax as a penalty for conversion;

(iv) the deepening of canals and channels; and

(v) reduction of tax on cocoanut gardens on account of the severe and long drought?

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao: (a) Yes.

(b) i to v. The matters are under enquiry.



Appendix I.

Vide Answer to Question No. 56

Statement showing the number of poramboke cases taken up in the years 1113 and 1114 in each of the taluks of Muvattupuzha, Kunnathnad, Devicolam and Parur and other particulars.

Taluk.	No. of poramboke cases taken in the years		No. of cases in which punishments were inflicted		Amount realised by way of fine					
	1113	1114	1113	1114	1113			1114		
					Rs.	ch.	c.	Rs.	ch.	c.
Muvattupuzha ...	464	753	377	478	547	1	0	998	14	0
Kunnathunad ...	292	339	233	256	185	2	0	89	18	0
Devicolam ...	188	269	139	117	474	20	0	1,048	8	0
Parur ...	141	161	105	144	302	4	0	412	0	0

Appendix II.

Vide Answer to Question No. 65.

Statement of roads pending completion in Muvattupuzha, Kunnatnad and Parur taluks out of the estimates for opening roads sanctioned till 12/1114.

Serial No.	Name of roads.	Expenditure to end of 20-5-15.	Taluk.	Remarks.
	<i>Works yet to be taken up.</i>			
1	Opening a central cross road IV section from M. C. Road to Muvattupuzha-Aracozha road. Estimate No. 3.	...	Muvattupuzha	To be taken up after the III section under "works taken up in 1115" is completed. Provision is being made in the draft budget for 1116.
2	Sri Chithira Thirunal Road. Opening a road from 5/1 Alwaye-Parur road to Kunammavu. ...	Rs. 1,992	Parur	Not taken up due to non-settlement of the final alignment of the road.
	<i>Works taken up in 1115.</i>			
1	Opening a central cross road from Muvattupuzha-Piravom road to Vazhakulam-Vazhithala road III Section from Marady-Manathur road to M. C. road. Estimate No. 2. ...	Rs. 3,928-11-10	Muvattupuzha	Lands handed over and the work is in progress.

APPENDIX II—(contd.)

Serial No.	Name of roads.	Expenditure to end of 20-5-15.	Taluk.	Remarks.
	<i>Incomplete works.</i>			
1	Opening a central cross road from M. P. road to V. V. road V Section from Muvattupuzha-Aracoosha road to Vazhakulam-Vazhithala road. Estimate No. IV. ...	Rs. 3,825-18-1	Moovattupuzha	Almost completed except a portion in the 9th mile for which lands are to be handed over. The bridge in this mile also remains to be taken up.
2	Opening a road from Kuzhicanom 3/6 H. R. road to meet 8th mile P. K. road II section ...	Rs. 6,050-14-12	Do.	Road work completed. Bridge at 4/8 is in progress.
3	Opening a road from Manjally to Thadicalkadavu ...	Rs. 10980	Parur	F. C. C. for the road work is since paid. The approaches to the crossing at Manjally and Chalakal remains to be taken up.

Appendix III.

Vide Answer to Question No. 66.

Statement showing the number of applications, the names of localities and institutions for which sanction was accorded.

<i>No. of applications sanctioned.</i>	<i>Details of the localities, institutions, etc.</i>
Trivandrum Division (4)	<p>... (1) An extent of 1 acre of land in Survey No. 1382/349 of Nagercoil Pakuthy was granted to the Sachivottama Memorial Park Committee, Nagercoil, for the opening of a Park.</p> <p>(2) 75 cents in Survey Nos. 3150, 3151, 3164 and 3165 of Thuckalay Pakuthy for constructing a Town Hall.</p> <p>(3) 1 acre and 5 cents in Survey Nos. 2531 to 2534 and 2539 to 2543 of Changazhacherry Pakuthy, Trivandrum Taluk, for a Satrom.</p> <p>(4) 56½ sq. links in Survey No. 2201 of Warkala Pakuthy for erecting a lamp post.</p>
Quilon Division (2)	<p>... (1) To put up a Maternity and Labour Ward in the Mavelikara Hospital.</p> <p>(2) To put up a light in Survey No. 574/17 of the Adoor Pakuthy.</p>
Kottayam Division (1)	<p>... (1) The Veterinary Hospital compound at Kottayam measuring 77 cents was transferred to the Kottayam Municipal Council for opening a Public Park.</p>

Appendix IV.

Vide Answer to Question No. 68.

Year-war statement of laws passed by His Highness the Maharaja under Section 40 of the Legislative Reforms Act.

1109.

1. The Travancore Sea Customs (Amendment) Act, I of 1109.
2. The Travancore Tea Cultivation Restriction Act, II of 1109.

1110.

3. The Travancore Hindu Religious Endowments (Amendment) Act, III of 1110.
4. The Travancore Newspapers (Amendment) Act, IV of 1110.
5. The Travancore Judgment Debtors' Temporary Relief Proclamation of 1110.
6. The Travancore Judgment Debtors' Temporary Relief (Second) Proclamation of 1110.
7. The Mathilakom Service Inam Lands Enfranchisement Proclamation.

1111.

8. The Travancore Sea Customs (Amendment) Act, V of 1111.
9. Proclamation dated 27-5-1111 abolishing royalty on trees standing on lands west of the M. C. and M. S. Roads.
10. The Italian Loans and Credits Prohibition Proclamation of 1111.

1112.

11. The Italian Loans and Credits Prohibition Proclamation of 1112 (repealing the previous Proclamation of 1111).
12. The Travancore Temple Entry Proclamation of 1112.
13. Proclamation dated 9th Vrischikam 1112 enacting certain Rules under the Temple Entry Proclamation.
14. Proclamation dated 9th Vrischikam 1112 rectifying the omission of the word 'Bala' before the words 'Ramavarma' in the name of His Highness the Maharaja.

1113.

15. The Travancore University Act, I of 1113.
16. The British Coinage Amendment Act, V of 1113.
17. The Coinage and Mint Amendment Proclamation, 1113.

1114.

18. The Travancore Criminal Law Amendment Act, I of 1114.
19. The Travancore Criminal Law Amendment Act, X of 1114.
20. Proclamation dated 28th Vrischikam 1114 constituting a special tribunal for the trial of certain sedition charges.
21. Proclamation, dated 17th Makaram 1114, amending the Proclamation of 4th Karkatakam 1093 re: Extradition between Travancore and Cochin.

22. Proclamation dated 5th Meenom 1114 to style all Regulations as Acts.
23. The Travancore Extradition Amendment Act, XVI of 1114.
24. The Travancore Registration of Foreigners Act, XVII of 1114.

1115.

25. The Defence of Travancore Proclamation, 1115.
26. The Foreigners Proclamation, 1115.
27. The Travancore Official Secrets Act, I of 1115.
28. The Travancore Dramatic Performances Act, II of 1115.
29. The Requisitioning of Vessels Proclamation of 1115.
30. The Travancore Petroleum Act, III of 1115.
31. The Travancore Arms Amendment Act, IV of 1115.
32. The Travancore Explosive Substances Act, V of 1115.
33. The Transfer of Aircraft and Vessels Restriction Proclamation, 1115.
34. The Travancore Press Emergency Powers Act, VI of 1115.
35. The Travancore Village Unions Act, IX of 1115.
36. The Travancore Insurance (Amendment) Act, XV of 1115.
37. Proclamation dated 12th Dhanu 1115 extending the operation of certain provisions of the Agriculturists' Relief Act by four months.
38. The Travancore Hindu Religious Endowments (Amendment) Act, XVI of 1115.
39. The Travancore Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, XVII of 1115.
40. Proclamation dated 9th Medom 1115 extending the operation of certain provisions of the Agriculturists' Relief Act till 1st Chingom 1116.
41. The Travancore Railways Act, XXII of 1115.
42. The Travancore Wireless Telegraphy Act, XXIII of 1115.

STATEMENT LAID ON THE TABLE.

Mr. S. Sundararajan (*Financial Secretary to Government*): Sir, under rule 76 of the Travancore Legislative Rules, I beg to lay on the table the following statement of expenditure authorised by the Government under Section 32 of Act II of 1108.

Demand.	Amount in Rupees.	Particulars.
III. 16. Administration of Justice —E.Law Officers' Department	3,000	For payment of fees to Vakils in connection with the prosecution of the Travancore National and Quilon Bank case.

Demand.	Amount in Rupees.	Particulars.
III. Administration of Justice Conciliation Offices	16,713	For the continuance of the Conciliation Boards till 1-12-1115.
X. 25. Medical, Public Health and Sanitation—Rural Sanitation	1,100	For providing sanitary arrangements at Peermade in connection with the stay of His Highness the Maharaja at the place.
XI. Capital Expenditure—Providing dustless surfacing to the M. S. Road	2,200	For entertainment of additional staff for the dustless surfacing of M. S. Road.
XIII. 18. Police	20,000	For the continuance of the temporary Armed Reserve for a further period of 3 months from 1st Dhanu 1115.
Do. Do.	52,178	For the continuance of the temporary Armed Reserve (excepting the Trivandrum District Reserve), the special Police Force and 10 Short-hand Reporters up to the end of 1115.
XIV. 21. Agriculture and Fisheries	180	For the appointment of a Motor Driver and Cleaner for 6 months as a temporary measure in the Government Dairy Farm.
XV. 22. Industries—Administration of Labour Laws	1,200	For additional staff and T. A. for the Inspectors of Factories.
XVI. Commercial Transport—Working Expenses	1,34,380	For expenditure in connection with the Trivandrum-Kottayam Transport service during the year.
XVI. Debt Head—Investments on Reproductive works—Transport Department	1,00,000	For the purchase of six Chevrolet chassis and other second hand buses for the Transport Department.
XXVIII. 30. Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments	4,000	For entertainment of additional staff for Census work from 1st Medom 1115.

	Demand.	Amount in Rupees.	Particulars.
XXIX.	41. Miscellaneous	19,500	To meet increased demands under the head "41.—Miscellaneous Miscellaneous."
XXXV.	D.H. Loan to the Port Conservancy Board, Cochin for Harbour works, etc.	1,44,633	For payment of this Government's share (one-third) payable during the current financial year 1939-40 towards the cost of the proposed construction of a warehouse in the wharf area on the Willingdon Island and for other Harbour Works during 1115.
XXXIV.	D. H. Other Loans	1,52,678	For grant of a temporary loan to the State Aided Bank of Travancore, Ltd.

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS

DEMAND I—LAND REVENUE AND TAXES ON INCOME.

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao : Sir, I rise to move for a supplementary grant of Rs. 500 under Demand I—Land Revenue and Taxes on Income. The purpose for which this sum is required is to meet the travelling allowance to the Deputy Income Tax Commissioner and his staff. A sum of Rs. 3,100 was sanctioned in the Budget for the year, out of which about Rs. 520 had to be paid for the claims of last year and that is the reason why the amount for this year fell short by that amount. I can assure the House that in the present year the expenditure will be regulated so that there may not be any claims of this year to be paid in the next year. So, I request the House to sanction the additional grant of Rs. 500.

The motion was put and carried and the grant made.

DEMAND IX—MEDICAL.

Vaidyasastrakusala Dr. (Mrs.) M. Poonen Lukose (Surgeon-General) : Sir, I rise to move for a supplementary grant not exceeding Rs. 1,600 under Demand IX—Medical Department, for special repairs to the Ophthalmic Hospital Buildings at Trivandrum. This amount is required to meet the cost of the repairs that have to be carried out in the main building in the Ophthalmic Hospital. The building being a very old one, there were many cracks and crevices in the floors and walls and the

[Mr. S. Sundararajan.]

plastering was crumbling to pieces. Various kinds of vermin and germs were found in these cracks. The annual repairs that were carried out every year could only improve the condition temporarily. In Vrischigom last the wards had to be closed and in-patients had to be removed for about three weeks because of an outbreak of chicken-pox, and this was taken advantage of to carry out the repairs in a more satisfactory manner. The old plastering was removed and the walls replastered; concrete flooring was provided for the rooms upstairs and the wooden work was cleaned and varnished and re-painted. All these repairs have considerably improved the building and made it more sanitary. These repairs were absolutely necessary. I trust that this House will pass the demand.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai (*Quilon cum Kunnattur*): May I know whether this purpose could not wait till provision was made in the ordinary course in the budget for the next year?

Vaidyasastrakusala Dr. (Mrs.) M. Poonen Lukose: I have already explained that patchwork repairs were being done every year, that did not improve matters appreciably. I have also stated that at the time of the outbreak of the chicken-pox in the Hospital the in-patient wards had to be closed and that occasion was taken advantage of for carrying out the repair works thoroughly. It would not be possible to do the repairs so thoroughly when patients are crowded in the wards which would be the case if we waited for the grant to be passed in the next budget session.

The motion was put and carried and the grant made.

DEMAND X—PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION

Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai (*Director of Public Health*): Sir, I rise to move for a supplementary grant not exceeding Rs. 1,050 for additional T. A. to the District Health Officers. This amount was found necessary on account of the unexpected outbreak of plague in certain parts of the State. Therefore the District Health Officers have had to undertake considerable travelling for efficiently supervising the arrangements. The T. A. already provided was found to be insufficient and therefore I am requesting the House to pass this amount.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai (*Kalkulam and Vilavankod cum Neyyattinkara*): How many District Health Officers are there in the State now?

Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai: There are two; one is at Kottayam and the other is at Neyyattinkara.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai: May I take it that Rs. 525 is required for each of the District Health Officers for the remaining months of the year?

Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai : The expenses have already been incurred. The places where plague broke out were so distant; Munnar was one and Alleppey another and Quilon was the third and the District Health Officers at Kottayam and Neyyattinkara had to go to these places often and stay there.

The motion was put and carried and the grant made.

DEMAND XI—PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : Sir, I rise to move for a supplementary grant not exceeding Rs. 69,700 for urgent works under the town planning scheme in Trivandrum, and other works. In moving this I may state that a sum of Rs. 1,99,000 was provided in the budget for 1115 for town planning works. Out of this an amount of one lakh of Rupees was allotted for the construction of the new office buildings which are being constructed near the Museum, and in consequence funds for other works such as shellcreting of the roads, were not available to the full extent. On the whole the programme of works required Rs. 2,60,000 for town planning and as more than 50 per cent of this allotment was taken away by the construction of the buildings near the Museum, it became difficult to provide funds for carrying the other urgent works. Out of this amount, however, a sum of Rs. 40,000 is available for diversion to the town planning works. So, the minimum additional grant required under this head will be Rs. 33,250. Besides this, a sum of Rs. 1,600 is required for maintenance of roads in proper condition and also small amounts of Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 450 are required for the maintenance of the Council Chamber and the wards in the General Hospital, which was not provided for in the Budget. On the whole the amount required for this purpose is Rs. 17,400. Owing to the shifting of the Armed Police Reserve a sum of Rs. 28,650 is required, but a sum of Rs. 10,000 has been got by diversion. Thus a total sum of Rs. 69,700 is required under these three heads as additional grant. There are some funds under the head "Military Works" but they could not be diverted without special sanction. Therefore I request the House to sanction this extra grant of Rs. 69,700.

The motion was put and carried and the grant made.

DEMAND XIII—POLICE.

Khan Bahadur G. S. Abdul Karim Sahib Suhrawardy : Sir, I rise to move for a supplementary grant under the following heads :—

(i) Installation of Telephones	Rs. 1,700
(ii) Installation of electric lights	Rs. 400
(iii) Additional T. A. for the Police Department	Rs. 17,000

[Khan Bahadur G. S. Abdul Karim Sahib.]

With regard to the first item, the installation of telephones, I have found by experience that the telephones set up since the introduction of the trunk line have been mainly useful to me and to my department in carrying out work speedily and more effectively. So also with regard to item No. (ii) installed for the Reserve Police at Oolampara. As regards item No. (iii), this includes Rs. 14,000 which is last year's claim and which had to be met out of this year's allotment. So, what I am now asking for is an additional amount of Rs. 3,000 for T. A. for this year. This Rs. 3,000 we had to meet in view of the special political situation which the whole country had witnessed last year and a part of this year. In view of that situation, my officers, my men and myself had to be constantly on the move and as a result we had to spend this additional sum. I therefore request the House to pass this supplementary grant for Rs. 19,100.

Mr. Kottoor Kunjukrishna Pillai: I wish to say something with regard to this grant. Sir, regarding item No. (iii) we can understand that coming as a supplementary demand, as an emergent demand which could not have been anticipated. But I am not able to understand how the Inspector-General of Police can ask for a supplementary grant for telephones, the necessity for which I think he might have noticed even before the beginning of this year or at the time the last budget was prepared. Even then he might have known that telephones can be very useful to the police authorities and that they could be used by the Department for doing work expeditiously.

I cannot accept it for a moment that the idea has dawned on the Inspector-General of Police all on a sudden in the middle of the year that the telephone is a very useful contrivance and so Rs. 1,700 has become urgently necessary which could not have been anticipated at the time of the regular Budget and which could not wait till the next session of the Budget when the demand could have been made in the usual course. I think, Sir, that these demands are made because, the Heads of Departments have not understood the rules regarding the provision regarding supplementary grants. Supplementary grants cannot be asked for at the whim and fancy of the Departmental Head or at the time when a new idea strikes him. There are certain conditions, certain circumstances under which alone, supplementary grants can be justified. It is time that that should be understood; it is time that the House insists upon it, because it is a matter in which the House ought to be interested as it has to exercise a financial control over expenditure incurred by Government.

Regarding the expenditure of Rs. 400, I have to say a word. The explanation given by the Inspector-General is not satisfactory.

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai : May I interrupt, Sir. Sir, telephone connections could not be made before the Trunk Telephone work was completed and that work was over only recently. Again, telephone installations are needed for district headquarters only and not in any place in Trivandrum.

Mr. Kottoor Kunjukrishna Pillai : I was not told anything about the nature of the telephone connection when the Inspector-General explained the matter. The only thing that I want to insist is that the necessity for a supplementary demand should be properly explained, when the demand could not have been anticipated at the time of the preparation of the regular Budget, the demand is perfectly legitimate. So also, the expenditure of Rs. 400 has not been properly explained. Though that is only a small sum, the principle has to be established, and satisfactory explanations must be forthcoming.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi : Sir, the Inspector-General has now come forward with a supplementary demand for three items. This is not the time to discuss the general policy of the Police Department. Therefore, Government and the Inspector-General must understand that this is not the time to ask for a large sum of money for expenses. Rather, I cannot vote for a liberal expenditure on the score of political menace which insist the police officers being always on the move over the telephone in respect of insurrections, riots etc., in different corners of the land. I can however give an indication as to which way this House is feeling, namely, that at the next year's Budget, such stories, though good enough in their own way, must not in any way entail large expenditure of the public funds.

President : But that largely depends on the persons just outside the border of this land.

Khan Bahadur G. S. Abdul Karim Sahib Suhrawardy : Sir, as regards item No. (i), a partial explanation was given by the Legal Remembrancer. I may add that the introduction of the Trunk Telephone could not have been anticipated. It came into existence only just recently. That is why a supplementary demand has been asked for now.

As regards the expenditure of Rs. 400, perhaps the honourable member will be satisfied if I tell him that this came up in view of the shifting of the temporary Reserve from its old residence to Oolampara. At that place, there was no electric installation. I had to move Government for an additional sum for electrical installation. Hence the need for such a small grant.

The motion that Government be granted a sum of Rs. 19,100 under Demand XIII—Police was put to vote and carried.

The grant was made.

DEMAND XV—INDUSTRIES INCLUDING CLAY REFINING AND PORCELAIN FACTORY.

Mr. C. Kumara Das : Sir, I beg to move an additional grant of Rs. 43,000 under Demand XV—Industries including Clay Refining and Porcelain Factory, for Capital Expenditure and working expenses of the Ceramic Factory.

This amount of Rs. 43,000 is made up of Rs. 30,000 towards capital expenditure and Rs. 13,000 towards the working expenses. At the beginning of the year we anticipated that a low output of clay would be enough to meet the demands. But during the course of the year, we were peculiarly fortunate in securing a good market. Therefore we had to increase the output of the factory. In the course of operations to increase the output, certain additional works had to be done. On account of additional works, this additional grant is required.

As a result of the outbreak of war, the expenses have increased. The materials have gone up in value. As a consequence of the unexpected increase in cost of material, the working expenses too have gone up. I request the House to grant this expenditure.

The motion that Government be granted a sum of Rs. 43,000 under Demand XV—Industries including Clay Refining and Porcelain Factory was put to vote and carried.

The grant was made.

DEMAND XIX—AYURVEDA.

Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi (*Secretary to Government*): Sir, I beg to move for a supplementary grant of Rs. 2,000 under Demand XIX—Ayurveda. This is for the purchase of medicines for the Government Ayurveda Hospital, Trivandrum. The budget allotment under this item in the current year is Rs. 7,000. As pointed out by the honourable member Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai there are definite rules regulating the demands for supplementary grants. Such demands are made only when a new service comes up all on a sudden in the course of the year, not anticipated when framing the budget or when the sanctioned grant is found insufficient. The present demand comes under the latter category.

The budget grant under this head is only Rs. 7,000 as already stated. This has been found inadequate as the year draws to a close mainly because of the phenomenal increase in the number of patients, both in the in-patient and in the out-patient wards of the

Ayurveda Hospital. The average daily attendance during 1114 was about 22 per cent. whereas during 1115 it has come up to 28·43 per cent. Further, the number of in-patients during the period ending the 31st Idavam 1114 was about 72,000 whereas, for the corresponding period in the current year it is very nearly 76,000. An additional ward too has been opened quite recently, *viz.*, the Panchakarman Ward, where massage and other modes of oil treatment are being carried on. Both for conducting treatment in this ward and for training up pupils in the *pizhichil*, *cozhichil*, *kizhi* and such other methods of oil treatment, a trained Ayurvedic Physician has been appointed. It may be of interest to the honourable members of this House to hear that, in so short a period as about one month, as many as about 38 successful cases have been handled by the Panchakarman specialist, including certain serious cases of chronic paralysis. These are the circumstances which necessitate the additional allotment asked for. I hope the House would have no objection to sanction the grant.

The motion that Government be granted an additional sum of Rs. 2,000 for purchase of medicines for the Government Ayurveda Hospital, Trivandrum was put to vote and carried.

The grant was made.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS.

THE TRAVANCORE REGISTRATION ACT (AMENDMENT) BILL.

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai: Sir, I beg to move that the Travancore Registration Act (Amendment) Bill as passed by the Assembly be taken into consideration.

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar: Sir, I second it.

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai: I may be permitted to say a few words by way of explanation in this connection. The Bill proposes to add a new Section to the Registration Act and to omit another section *viz.*, Section 48. The honourable members may be pleased to note that the new section is proposed for avoiding hardships that may arise in certain cases. Under the Registration Act, as it stands, a document has to be presented for registration by a duly authorised agent. A document which has not been so presented and registered will be invalid. No title, right or interest can be created, extinguished or transferred under an invalid document. It sometimes happens that a person who is supposed to be duly authorised but who in law is not, gets a document registered and its effect is discovered only after the matter is litigated upon. But there is no rule now available under the law

[Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai.]

by which parties concerned will be entitled to get the document properly registered. To cure this defect an amendment to the Registration Act was made in British India. Our Act is based on the British Indian Act and therefore it was considered that a similar provision should be enacted here also. Hence clause 2 proposing the additional Section 28 (A).

Again, deletion of Section 48 under the old Act is also proposed. It is an unnecessary provision. It provides that the Sub-Registrar shall at the end of every month prepare a copy of every entry made by him in indices Nos. 1, 2 and 4 and forward such copies to be filed in the Central Records Office. After inquiry it is found that the records so filed and kept serve no useful purpose whatever to the parties concerned or to the public. Originals of these records are available in the various sub-registry offices and there is ample provision in the Act for parties to get copies of them from those offices. The filing of copies in the records was done with a view to check the work in sub-registry offices. Probably it was intended as a provision against any remissness on the part of Sub-Registrars in the discharge of their duties.

The supervision work of the District Registrar is so regulated now by proper rules that no such provision is any longer needed. The District Registrars inspect their subordinate offices and regularly report to the head office. The corresponding section in the British Indian Act has been repealed. Government have carefully considered the matter and are satisfied that the continuance of this provision *viz.*, Section 48 is unnecessary. Hence the Bill was introduced in the Assembly and accepted without any amendment.

The motion that the Bill be taken into consideration was put to vote and carried.

Clauses 1 to 3.

The question that clauses 1 to 3 do form part of the Bill was put and carried.

The clauses were added to the Bill.

Preamble and Title.

The question that the preamble and title do form part of the Bill was put and carried.

The preamble and title were added to the Bill.

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai: I move that the Bill be passed.

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar: I second it.

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed.

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai : I beg to move that the Government Trading Taxation Bill as passed by the Assembly be taken into consideration.

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : I second it.

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai : I may be permitted to say a few words by way of explanation. Under the existing law, foreign Governments carrying on trade or business in this State and making profits are not liable to taxation because there is no law empowering this Government to Tax such Governments. The reason is that the Crown is not bound by an Act which is not made specifically applicable to the Crown. This objection has prevailed in one or two cases. But the other Governments where such measures have been enacted have found it possible to tax this Government. So it is found necessary to enact a measure similar to the Act prevailing in British India and other States. This Bill was introduced and passed in the Lower House.

The motion that the Bill be taken into consideration was put and carried.

Clauses 1 and 2.

The question that clauses 1 and 2 do form part of the Bill was put and carried.

The clauses were added to the Bill.

Preamble and Title.

The question that the preamble and title do form part of the Bill was put and carried.

The preamble and title were added to the Bill.

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai : I beg to move that the Bill be passed.

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : I second it.

The motion was put and carried. The Bill was passed.

President : The House will now adjourn and meet again to-morrow at 11 A. M.

The House adjourned at 11.50 A. M.

A GUNAMONY,

Secretary to the Sri Chitra State Council.



PROCEEDINGS
OF
THE TRAVANCORE SRI CHITRA STATE COUNCIL
SECOND COUNCIL.
SIXTH SESSION.

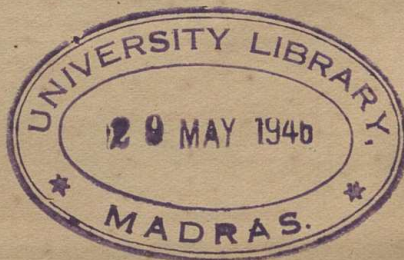
Tuesday, the 25th June 1940/12th Mithunam 1115.

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

Vol. XV—No. 6.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
1. Members Sworn	227
2. Questions and Answers	227
3. Adjournment Motion <i>re</i> War	242
4. Resolutions—	
(i) <i>re</i> Holidays:—(Concluded).	243
(ii) <i>re</i> Demonstration Farms in each taluk	245
(iii) <i>re</i> reduction of fees in English Schools	251



PROCEEDINGS

THE TRAVANCORE AND COCHIN STATE COUNCIL

SECOND COUNCIL

SIXTH SESSION

HELD AT TRAVANCORE, 18th FEBRUARY 1881

OFFICIAL REPORT

VOL. XXV. NO. 1

COCHIN

PRINTED BY

THE TRAVANCORE AND COCHIN STATE COUNCIL

TRAVANCORE, 18th FEBRUARY 1881

THE TRAVANCORE AND COCHIN STATE COUNCIL
HELD AT TRAVANCORE, 18th FEBRUARY 1881
OFFICIAL REPORT
VOL. XXV. NO. 1
COCHIN



PROCEEDINGS
of
THE TRAVANCORE SRI CHITRA STATE COUNCIL

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SECOND COUNCIL.

VOLUME XV — NUMBER 6.
SIXTH SESSION—1115/1940.

Tuesday, the 12th Mithunam, 1115/25th June, 1940.

The Travancore Sri Chitra State Council met in the Legislative Chamber, Public Offices, at eleven of the clock, with Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, K. C. I. E., LL. D., Dewan-President, in the Chair.

MEMBERS SWORN.

The following members took the oath and signed the rolls:—

1. Mr. A. Gopala Menon (*Director of Public Instruction*)
2. Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*).
3. Mr. P. Raman Pillai (*Conservator of Forests*)
4. Mr. K. Sankaran (*Ag. Secretary to Government*.)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Volunteers in the Anchal Department.

72. *Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla (*Mavelikara and Tiruvella cum Pattanamittita*): Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement giving the following information regarding the volunteers in the Anchal Department;

(a) the names of volunteers confirmed after Chingom 1114 and not confirmed till now; and

(b) their communities, their qualifications, and the time when they made their deposits?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (a) and (b) Two *statements furnishing the information are laid on the table.

* Vide Appendix I A & I B pages 235—239.

Cold Storage Plant.

73. ***Mr. T. K. Kittan** (*Vaikorn, Kottayam and Changana-cherry cum Peermade*): Will the Government be pleased to state :
 (a) whether it is possible to preserve fish in the manner intended by the installation of the Cold Storage Plant in the Conne-mara market, Trivandrum ;

(b) if so, to what extent ; and

(c) will they be pleased to lay on the table a brief statement describing the present working of the Cold Storage plant ?

Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi (*Secretary to Government*):

(a) Yes.

(b) About six tons for six to eight months, if required.

(c) The Plant is not being worked at present owing to some trouble in one of the motors.

Abkari arrears.

74. ***Mr. T. K. Kittan** : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) the amount in arrears under abkari till 32-12-1114; and

(b) the amount realised under arrears till the end of Medom 1115 ?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : (a) Rs. 6,12,814-25-3.

(b) Rs. 12,967-25-8.

Mr. T. K. Kittan : അബ്കാരി ഇനത്തിൽ പിരിഞ്ഞുകിട്ടാ നുള്ള ആറു ലക്ഷത്തിൽ ചിലവാനം രൂപയിൽ പന്തിരായിരത്തിൽ ചിലവാനം രൂപമാത്രമേ പിരിഞ്ഞു കിട്ടിയിട്ടുള്ളതായി കാണുന്നുള്ളൂ. ഇത്ര മാത്രം കുറയുന്നതിനുള്ള കാരണം എന്താണ് ?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : കുടിശ്ശിക ഇനത്തിലുള്ള തുക വളരെ കൂടുതലായിട്ടാണിരുന്നതു. ഇപ്പോൾ കുറേയ്ക്കു കുറേയ്ക്കു പരിശുദ്ധീകരണം.

Mr. T. K. Kittan : ഈ കുറവു സാമ്പത്തികാധിപത്യം കൊണ്ടല്ലേ സംഭവിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതു് ?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : അല്ല

Petitions for a grant-in-aid vishavaidyasala.

75. ***Mr. E. K. Kuripe** (*Parur, Kunnatnad and Muvattupuzha cum Devicolam*): Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether the people have petitioned Government for the opening of a grant-in-aid vishavaidyasala anywhere in the Kothamangalam, Enanalloor and Kuttamangalam pakuthies ; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon ?

Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi : (a) Yes.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

Mr. E. K. Kuripe : ഈ സ്ഥലത്ത് ഒരു വൈദ്യശാല ആവശ്യമാണെന്ന് സംഗതി ഗവണ്മെന്റിന്. ബോധ്യപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ടോ ?

Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi : ഈ സംഗതിയിൽ വേണ്ട അനുമതികൾ നൽകിയിട്ടുണ്ടോ.

Grants to Siddha vaidya hospitals.

76. ***Mr. M. Sultan Muhiadheen** (*Trivandrum and Nedumangad cum Chirayinkil*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ayurveda Department has recommended to Government hospital grants to any Siddha marma vaidyasala ; and

(b) if so the date on which and the vaidyasalas with reference to which such recommendation was made ?

Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi : (a) Recommendations made to Government by the heads of departments are confidential.

(b) This does not arise in view of the answer to part (a).

Assigning disafforested lands for Agricultural purposes.

77. ***Mr. E. K. Kuripe :** Will the Government be pleased to state whether they propose to assign by disafforesting from the reserve an area two miles wide on either side of the Neriamangalam-Pallivasal road with a view to protect the roads and to improve agriculture ?

Mr. P. Raman Pillai (*Conservator of Forests*) : No.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai (*Kalkulam and Vilavankod cum Neyyattinkara*) : May I know from Government whether they would consider this question of assigning lands on either side of the Neriamangalam-Pallivasal Road ?

Mr. P. Raman Pillai : That question has been considered.

Tenders in the Forest Department.

78. ***Mr. E. K. Kuripe :** Will the Government be pleased to state whether after returning on the same date the deposits of tenderers other than the lowest tenderer for the removal and transport of timber to depots as per the notification of the Forest Department it is usual to give the contract to the rejected tenderer without publishing a second notification, and if so, the reason for that procedure ?

Mr. P. Raman Pillai : No. It is not usual to give the contract to the rejected tenderer without publishing a fresh notification.

Cutting of Elavu trees in registered holdings.

81. ***Mr. E. K. Kuripe** (1) Will the Government be pleased to state whether the officers of the Forest Department have taken stock of the Elavu trees in registered holdings without the permission of the owners of these holdings informing the latter that they have no right on such trees?

(2) Will they be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the taluks in which such trees were counted, the number of such trees and their cubic contents in terms of candies?

Mr. P. Raman Pillai: (1) Stock of Elavu trees in registered holdings has been taken out not without the permission of the owners of the holdidgs, nor after informing them that they had no right on such trees?

(2) No Taluk-war statement is available.

Forced bribe near Edapally Chowkey.

82. ***Mr. E. K. Kuripe**: Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have received any complaints to the effect that those who pass through the surroundings of the Excise chowkey at Edapally with any goods are compelled to give bribes to the Excise Officers there?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar: No. They have not received any such complaints.

Issue of licenses for fire-arms.

83. ***Mr. E. K. Kuripe**: (i) Will the Government be pleased to state the number of fire arms in the State in respect of which licenses were issued till the end of 1113 and the number out of them for which license was issued for the protection of crops?

(2) will they be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the number of fire arms deposited by the owners in each of the police stations in the state and the number in respect of which a period of one month has elapsed since the date of deposit?

(3) will they be pleased to state:

(a) the number among the deposited arms which have licenses in force, the number in respect of which applications for the renewal of licenses have been made and the amount that Government realised by way of granting licenses;

(b) the number of persons prosecuted during 1113 and 1114 for using guns without license; and

(c) whether up to 1113 all persons, who after applying for renewal of licenses, kept possession of their guns till the date of the renewal, have been duly punished?

Mr. K. Sankaran : (1) 6609. 2547.

(2) The statement* is laid on the table.

(3) (a) 872 ; 942 ; Rs. 4,009.

(b) 76.

(c) Most of them were punished.

Mr. E. K. Kuripe : കാട്ടു മൃഗങ്ങളുടെ ഉപദ്രവത്തിൽ നിന്നു കൃഷിയെ രക്ഷിക്കുന്നതിനു തോക്കുകൾ വളരെ അത്യാവശ്യമാണ്. ലൈസൻസിനു അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്ന തോക്കുകൾക്ക് അതു കൊടുക്കാതെയിരിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള കാരണം എന്താണ് ?

Mr. K. Sankaran : തോക്കിന്റെ ലൈസൻസ് റിന്യൂ ചെയ്യുന്നതിനു അപേക്ഷിച്ചാൽ അതിനെപ്പറ്റി അന്വേഷണം നടത്തി ലൈസൻസ് കൊടുക്കാവുന്നതാണെങ്കിൽ കൊടുക്കുന്നുണ്ട്.

Mr. E. K. Kuripe : അങ്ങിനെ ലൈസൻസ് കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനു ഇത്ര അധികം കാലം തോക്ക് ഗവണ്മെന്റിന്റെ കൈവശത്തിൽ വെച്ചു കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നത് എന്തിനാണ് ?

Mr. K. Sankaran : അന്വേഷണം പൂർത്തിയാക്കാത്ത കാരണത്താൽ മാത്രമേ ലൈസൻസ് കൊടുക്കാതിരിക്കുകയുള്ളൂ.

Mr. E. K. Kuripe : ഇനിമേലെങ്കിലും ചുമതലയുള്ള ഒരാളിനെ ഏർപ്പെടുത്തി വേണ്ട അന്വേഷണം നടത്തി ലൈസൻസുകൾ എടുപ്പം കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനു ശ്രദ്ധിക്കുമോ ?

Mr. K. Sankaran : ചുമതലയുള്ള ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥൻ കഴിയുന്നതും വേഗത്തിൽ അന്വേഷണം നടത്തി തന്നെയാണ് ഇപ്പോഴും ലൈസൻസുകൾ കൊടുത്തുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നത്.

Transport buses on the Trivandrum—Nagercoil line.

84. ***Mr. K. M. Kesavan :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether the transport buses plying on the Trivandrum—Nagercoil line frequently get into disorder, stop on the way and cause considerable inconvenience and delay to the passengers ; and

(b) if so, the steps they have taken to avoid disorders and consequent delays ?

Mr. K. Sankaran : (a) No.

(b) This does not arise.

Rush in Transport buses.

85. ***Mr. K. M. Kesavan :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a rush of passengers on the Trivandrum—Neyyattinkara and Trivandrum—Nagercoil lines every week days between 5 and 7 p. m. ; and

(b) if so, what they have done to meet this demand?

Mr. K. Sankaran : (a) Yes.

(b) The existing service is found to be adequate to meet the demands.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai (*Quilon cum Kunnattur*) : With reference to answer to part (b) may I know from the member whether it is a fact that notification has been published in the buses providing for the standing accommodation of persons in the bus?

Mr. K. Sankaran : Few passengers are allowed to stand in the buses, if the number of passengers are in excess of the seating accommodation provided.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : May I know the number of persons allowed in each of the buses for standing accommodation?

Mr. K. Sankaran : The maximum is five. But that will depend upon the nature of the bus.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : May I know whether the same amount of fare is collected from these persons who were allowed standing accommodation?

Mr. K. Sankaran : Yes, But the option is given to the passenger to enter the bus under such conditions, only if he is willing to stand.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : May I know whether the wishes of passengers who sit on either side are consulted in giving standing accommodation to other passengers?

Mr. K. Sankaran : These persons are allowed to stand in such a way as to cause the least inconvenience to other passengers who are sitting.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : May I know whether it is not a fact that in certain cases where there is no convenience for passengers even to hold on people are allowed to stand causing thereby considerable inconvenience to persons who are seated?

Mr. K. Sankaran : Government are not aware of such a situation.

Extension of State Transport to the Quilon—Alleppey line.

86. ***Mr. K. M. Kesavan :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether they propose to extend the transport buses on the Quilon—Alleppey line ;

(b) if they do, when they will extend ; and

(c) when extended, will the buses be plying on the present line or take a shorter and direct route, i. e., from Kayancolam to Nangiarkulangara via. Keerikkad and Cheppad ?

- Mr. K. Sankaran :** (a) Yes.
 (b) The date has not been fixed.
 (c) This will be considered.

Rate of fees for valuing answer papers.

87. ***Mr. K. M. Kesavan :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

- (a) the rates of remuneration for valuing the English and Malayalam answer books of the Malayalam High School ; E. S. L. C. and V. S. L. C. examinations per hour ;
 (b) if they are different, why they are so ;
 (c) when the existing rates were fixed ; and
 (d) whether they have received any representation to enhance the rate for Malayalam answer books ?

Mr. A. Gopala Menon (*Director of Public Instruction*) :

(a) The rates of remuneration for valuing the answer papers are as follows :—

<i>English.</i>	<i>Rate per hour.</i>
	Ch.
E. S. L. C. Examination	4 2/3
High School Do.	3 3/5
Middle School Do.	3 3/5

Malayalam.

E. S. L. C. Examination	4
High School Do.	3
Middle School Do.	3

(b) The rates are different because of the varying difficulty in the valuation of the answer papers.

(c) In 1932.

(d) No.

Dismissal of an Headmaster in a Private School at Muvattupuzha.

88. ***Mr. E. K. Kuripe :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

- (a) whether orders were passed for the removal of the Headmaster of an English High School under private management in the Muvattupuzha taluk ; and
 (b) if so the name of the school and the reasons for which the Headmaster was removed ?

Mr. A. Gopala Menon : (a) Yes.

(b) St. John's English High School, Vadakara, for official irregularities.

Appendix No. I (A)

Vide Answer to Question No. 72.

Name of volunteers confirmed after Chingom 1114.

No.	Name.	Caste.	Date of deposit of security.	Qualifications.	
				General.	Special.
1	P. K. Ponnen	Ezhava	21-3-101	E.S.L.C.	Anchal Test & Account Test.
2	M. N. Krishna Pillai	Nair	14-7-102	do.	Anchal Test.
3	Velayudhan	Ezhava	3-10-102	do.	do.
4	V. N. Ramakrishna Pillai	Nair	30-10-102	do.	do.
5	K. Parameswaran Pillai	do.	30-10-102	do.	do.
6	P. K. Gopalan	Ezhava	15-3-103	do.	do.
7	T. K. Gopala Panicker	Nair	3-2-104	do.	do.
8	P. Velukutty Pillai	do.	19-2-104	do.	do.
9	P. E. Abraham	Marthoma	1-11-104	do.	do.
10	N. J. Mathew	do.	2-9-106	Exem- pted	Exem- pted
11	R. Aundy Pillai	Other Hindu	8-9-106	E.S.L.C.	Anchal Test.
12	K. Balakrishnan Chettiyar	do.	27-10-106	Inter- mediate	do.
13	R. Devaraja Iyer	Brahmin	17-1-107	E.S.L.C.	do.
14	M. M. Sosamma	Marthoma	18-1-107	do.	do.
15	M. V. Varghese	Jacobite	8-3-107	Inter- mediate	do.
16	M. M. Kos'y	Marthoma	11-3-110	E.S.L.C.	do.
17	N. Krishna Iyer	Brahmin	13-7-110	do.	do.
18	P. S. Krishnan Nair	Nair	26-12-111	B. A.	do.
19	K. RagLavan	Ezhava	9-6-112	Exem- pted	Exem- pted
20	Mani Kora	Jacobite	9-6-112	do.	do.
21	Bhaskaran Moothathu	Other Hindu	3-11-103	E.S.L.C.	do.
22	K. Zacharia	Jacobite	3-12-103	do.	do.
23	K. Balakrishna Pillai	Nair	2-2-106	do.	do.
24	M. O. Oonnittan	Jacobite	7-5-106	do.	do.
25	T. M. Cherian	do.	1-6-106	do.	do.
26	P. K. Vasudeva Panicker	Nair	10-6-106	do.	do.
27	Geevarghese Chacko	Marthoma	13-10-106	do.	do.
28	V. J. Anna	S. I. U. C.	28-10-106	do.	do.
29	C. P. George	Marthoma	19-12-106	do.	do.
30	M. P. Philip	S. I. U. C.	17-1-107	do.	do.

Appendix I. (B)

Vide Answer to Question No. 72

List of Clerk Volunteers not confirmed till now.

No.	Name.	Caste.	Date of deposit of security.	Qualification.	
				General	Special
1	M. Parameswaran Pillai	Nair	19-1-1107	E.S.L.C.	Anchal Test.
2	G. Sivapalan	Ezhava	22-1-1107	"	"
3	V. George Daniel	Jacobite	25-1-1107	"	"
4	M. N. Krishnan Nair	Nair	30-1-1107	"	"
5	K. M. Kurien	Jacobite	1-2-1107	"	"
6	A. K. Kurien	Marthoma	1-2-1107	"	"
7	N. K. Issac	Jacobite	6-2-1107	"	"
8	N. I. Chacko	Roman Catholic Syrian	7-2-1107	"	"
9	M. D. Kuruvila	Jacobite	8-2-1107	"	"
10	V. C. Kuriakose	"	16-2-1107	"	"
11	T. C. Chacko	"	28-2-1107	"	"
12	K. M. Varughese	Marthoma	31-2-1107	"	"
13	P. O. Itty Panicker	"	6-3-1107	"	"
14	P. K. Sankara Pillai	Nair	12-3-1107	"	"
15	P. Gopala Pillai	"	18-3-1107	"	"
16	T. E. Philip	Jacobite	26-3-1107	"	"
17	C. K. Joseph	Syrian Catholic	1-4-1107	"	"
18	G. Devasahayam	Latin Catholic	21-4-1107	"	"
19	Thankamma Geevarghese	Jacobite	22-4-1107	"	"
20	K. V. Idiculla	"	25-4-1107	"	"
21	V. G. Mathew	"	29-4-1107	"	"
22	Chandy P. Koshy	Church of England	29-4-1107	"	"
23	Nainan Thomas	Marthoma	29-4-1107	"	"
24	M. Mathai Panicker	Jacobite	29-4-1107	"	"
25	Arulappa Pillai	Latin Catholic	20-5-1107	"	"
26	R. Bharathy	Ezhava	6-8-1107	"	"
27	P. J. Cherian	Syrian Catholic	8-11-1107	Intermediate.	"
28	K. I. Thomas	Marthoma	5-12-1107	E.S.L.C.	"
29	J. J. Ebeneser Pradeepam	S. I. U. C.	4-1-1108	"	"
30	P. Kesava Nadar	Nadar	22-1-1108	"	"
31	D. Kamalam	S. I. U. C.	24-1-1108	"	"
32	Augustine Joseph	Syrian Catholic	31-1-1108	"	"

APPENDIX I (B)—(contd.)

No.	Name.	Caste.	Date of deposit of security.	Qualification.	
				General.	Special
33	Daniel Thomas	S. I. U. C.	11-6-1108	Exempted.	Ancha Test.
34	S. Thirunarayanan	Nadar	17-6-1108	E.S. L.C.	"
35	N. Lekshmana Kamathi	Other Hindu	4-3-1109	"	"
36	A. Vasu	Ezhava	26-6-1109	"	"
37	M. Gopalan	"	15-7-1109	"	"
38	V. K. Karunakara Kaimal	Nair	26-7-1109	"	"
39	C. K. Sebastian	Syrian Catholic	21-10-1109	"	"
40	C. Shunmugha Nadar	Nadar	25-11-1109	"	"
41	Narayana Marar	"	30-12-1109	"	"
42	M. C. John	Marthoma	1-4-1110	"	"
43	Chachiamma Thomas	Jacobite	4-4-1110	"	"
44	Jayamathi Bai Yesudasan	S. I. U. C.	4-4-1110	"	"
45	N. Kutton Pillai	Nair	4-4-1110	"	"
46	Nalini	Ezhava	5-4-1110	"	"
47	M. M. George	S. I. U. C.	10-6-1110	"	"
48	L. Sundaram Iyer	Brahmin	15-6-1110	"	"
49	T. J. Zacharia	Syrian Catholic	25-6-1110	Intermediate	"
50	K. M. Aleyamma	Marthoma	14-8-1110	E.S.L.C.	"
51	L. Narayani Amma	Nair	28-8-1110	E.S.L.C.	"
52	K. George	Jacobite	28-8-1110	Intermediate.	"
53	Luke Kaniyamparambil	Syrian Catholic	25-11-1110	E.S.L.C.	"
54	C. N. Iype	Marthoma	23-11-1110	"	"
55	K. Narayanan	Ezhava	28-12-1110	"	"
56	M. R. Kochukrishnan	Other Hindu	5-1-1111	"	"
57	Ammukutty Amma	Nair	10-1-1111	"	"
58	K. N. Bhavani	Ezhava	13-1-1111	"	"
59	Ibrahimkutty	Muslim	19-1-1111	"	"
60	V. Damodaran Asari	Kammala	20-1-1111	"	"
61	K. Narayanan	Ezhava	21-1-1111	"	"
62	P. Sarada	"	24-1-1111	"	"
63	M. N. Gopalan Nair	Nair	31-1-1111	"	"
64	V. Kumaran	Ezhava	7-2-1111	Intermediate.	"
65	P. Viswadevan	"	12-2-1111	E.S.L.C.	"
66	P. K. Thankappan	"	15-2-1111	"	"
67	P. K. Chandrasekhara Pillai	Nair	18-2-1111	"	"

APPENDIX I B.—(concl'd.)

No.	Name.	Caste.	Date of deposit of security.	Qualification.	
				General.	Special
68	S. Krishnan Asari	Kammala	22-2-1111	E.S. L.C.	Anchal Test.
69	M. A. Mary	Marthoma	11-3-1111	"	"
70	A. K. Bharghavy	Ezhava	19-3-1111	"	"
71	N. Kuttappan	"	5-4-1111	"	"
72	P. K. Natesan	"	6-4-1111	"	"
73	K. Parukutty Amma	Vellala (Other Hindu)	11-4-1111	"	"
74	K. Kesavan	Ezhava	19-4-1111	"	"
75	M. S. Padmanabhan	"	19-4-1111	"	"
76	Varghese George	Jacobite	1-5-1111	Inter- mediate	"
77	A. O. Philip	"	4-5-1111	E.S.L.C.	"
78	N. V. Raghavan Pillai	Nair	2-7-1111	"	"
79	K. K. Kesavan	Ezhava	24-7-1111	"	"
80	K. Kuttan	"	3-9-1111	"	"
81	K. Ramakrishnan Nadar	Nadar	13-9-1111	"	"
82	K. C. Ponnamma	Jacobite	18-9-1111	"	"
83	P. Kolappa Pillai	Other Hindu	24-11-1111	"	"
84	K. M. Mathai	Marthoma	3-2-1112	"	"
85	P. N. Padmavathi Amma	Nair	28-7-1115	B. A.	"
86	V. S. Aiya Pillai	Other Hindu	28-7-1115	B. A.	"
87	K. Narayana Menon	Nair	29-7-1115	B. A.	"
88	D. George	Jacobite	29-7-1115	E.S.L.C.	"
89	S. Viswanathan Nair	Nair	29-7-1115	"	"
90	K. Pathrose	Jacobite	30-7-1115	"	"
91	P. E. Mammen	Marthomite	30-7-1115	"	"
92	P. Harihara Aiyar	Brahmin	1-8-1115	B. A.	"
93	P. Kuttappan Pillai	Nair	1-8-1115	E.S.L.C.	"
94	M. E. Mathew	Syrian Catholic	1-8-1115	"	"
95	M. Ambujakshy	Nair	3-8-1115	B. A.	"
96	S. Dharmaraja Aiyar	Brahmin	3-8-1115	Inter- mediate	"
97	N. S. Parameswara Aiyar	Do.	3-8-1115	E.S.L.C.	"
98	C. Devasia	Syrian Catholic	4-8-1115	Inter- mediate	"
99	K. Ramadasan Nair	Nair	4-8-1115	E.S.L.C.	"
100	G. Thankamma	Nair	1-10-1115	"	"

Appendix II.

Vide Answer to Question No. 83.

Statement showing the number of fire arms deposited by the owners in each of the police stations in the State and the number in respect of which a period of one month has elapsed since the date of deposits.

Station.	Number deposited.	No. of which one month has elapsed.
TRIVANDRUM DISTRICT.		
Fort	16	15
Puthenchanthai	61	61
Cantonment	87	87
Vattiyurkavoo	62	30
Kattakada	182	182
Nedumangad	43	38
Attingal	64	58
Warkalay	47	47
Kazhakuttom	59	...
Nemom	79	79
Neyyattinkara	231	20
Vilavancode	52	52
Thuckalai	82	82
Eraniel	21	21
Kottar	128	40
Edalakudy	113	111
Bhoothapandy	60	59
Aramboly	15	...
Thiruvattar	21	21
QUILON DISTRICT.		
Quilon Town	16	15
Quilon Taluk	11	10
Karunagapally	28	27
Kayamkulom	9	9
Mavelikara	21	21
Haripad	15	15
Ambalapuzha	20	20
Alleppey	63	62
Thiruvella	77	77
Aranmula	17	17
Chengannoor	29	29
Adoor	16	13
Punaloor	60	59

APPENDIX II—(concl'd.)

<i>Station,</i>	<i>Number deposited.</i>	<i>No. of which one month has elapsed.</i>
QUILON DISTRICT—(contd.)		
Shencottah	28	26
Paravoor	2	2
Kottarakara	67	60
Sherthalla	35	35
Arookutty	14	14
Pulinkunnu	19	19
Pathanamthitta	116	116

KOTTAYAM DISTRICT.

Vaikom	56	53
Ettumanur	63	13
Meenachil	5	5
Kanjirapally	5	5
Moovattupuzha	63	63
Changanacherry	29	29
Pampady	80	80
Karugachal	69	69
Thodupuzha	12	12
Koothattukulam	132	132
Devicollam	5	5
Edapally	28	27
Munambam	15	15
Parur	6	5
Perumbavoor	47	47
Erattupettah	68	68
Kottayam	61	40
Alwaye	84	81
Peermade	6	6
Mundakayam	22	13
Kothamangalam	141	133
Udumbanchola	10	10
Total	3093	2562

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Latin Catholics as Conciliation Officers.

2. **Mr. James Fletcher** (*Kalkulam and Vilavankod cum Neyyattinkara*) : Will the Government be pleased to state how many Latin Catholics are there as Conciliation Officers?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : There is no Latin Catholic among the Conciliation Officers.

Latin Catholics in the General Secretariat.

3. **Mr. James Fletcher** : Will the Government be pleased to state the number of Latin Catholics in the General Secretariat?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar : Six.

Transport Buses on the Trivandrum-Nagercoil road.

4. **Mr. James Fletcher** : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) the number of transport buses now used on the Trivandrum-Nagercoil road ;

(b) the number of buses allowed to ply for hire on the road and

(c) the number of buses kept on the reserve ?

Mr. K. Sankaran (*Ag. Secretary to Government*) : (a) 26.

(b) Nil.

(c) 12½ per cent. of the number allocated for service.

Statement, by caste, of the officers in the Transport Department.

5. **Mr. E. K. Kuripe** (*Kunnathnad and Muvattupuzha cum Devicolam*) : Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement, by caste, of the officers in the Transport Department with information as to the number among them that belong to the taluks of Muvattupuzha, Kunnathnad and Parur, their names and the pay they are receiving ?

Mr. K. Sankaran : The member is referred to the answers at pages 100 to 105 of Vol. XII No. 3 of the Proceedings of the Sri Mulam Assembly.

Latin Catholics in the Financial Secretariat.

6. **Mr. James Fletcher** : Will the Government be pleased to state the number of Latin Catholics employed in the Financial Secretariat ?

Mr. S. Sundararajan : (*Financial Secretary to Government*) : One.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION RE. EXTENSION OF
THE TERM OF THE COUNCIL.

President : I have received a short notice question as follows :

"Will the Government be pleased to state whether the term of the Sri Chitra State Council is extended and if so what is the period,?"

Apparently, this question has been rendered necessary in view of the statements made elsewhere. But there is no difference in the case of the State Council and the Assembly on this matter. The period and the time has not been fixed ; but that will be notified very shortly.

ADJOURNMENT MOTION *RE* WAR.

President : I have also received notice of an adjournment motion of some importance relating to war. I am sure this House will give the honourable member leave to move the motion. The motion runs thus :—

“This Council do place on record the determination of India and this State in particular to render help in the conflict that is now being waged against a regime of stark force and offer their hearty co-operation to His Gracious Highness the Maharaja's Government in all their efforts towards the successful prosecution of the War and the maintenance of internal peace and order”.

As no member has objected to leave being given, the honourable member can move the adjournment motion.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : Sir, I need hardly add anything more than reading the motion that is before the House. The motion is this :—

“This Council do place on record the determination of India and this State in particular to render help in the conflict that is now being waged against a regime of stark force and offer their hearty co-operation to His Gracious Highness the Maharaja's Government in all their efforts towards the successful prosecution of the War and the maintenance of internal peace and order.”

It is not necessary for me to say anything by way of commending this motion for the acceptance of this House. I need only formally move it for the acceptance of the House. When His Gracious Highness the Maharaja, true to the traditions of our Royal Family offered all the resources of the State as a means of helping Great Britain in her fight against the Nazi menace, it can be taken for granted that every loyal citizen of the State has agreed to that and will contribute all that is possible whether as a mark of loyalty or as a mark of offering on behalf of the State. There is no meaning in saying that the War does not affect us. It has become clearer to every one without explanation that the war and the repercussions of the war affect every one of us. Therefore we cannot shirk our responsibility nor do we mean to do so. And so it is my humble prayer to you, Sir, to convey to His Gracious Highness that the people of this State without any distinction of caste,

community, colour or political opinion do express in no unmistakable terms their hearty co-operation with all the endeavours of His Highness' Government for the successful prosecution of the war and for the maintenance of internal peace and order in the State. With these few words I commend the motion for the acceptance of the House.

Mr. N. Krishna Aiyar (*Vaikom, Kottayam and Changancherry cum Peermade*): I support the motion.

Mr. M. Govindan (*Nominated*): I do heartily support the motion.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi (*Karunagapalli, Kartikapalli and Ambalapuzha cum Shertallai*): I also support the motion.

President: It is hardly necessary for me to say that such a motion is quite appropriate and I have no doubt that the House will pass it unanimously. I may assure the House that it will be the aim of His Highness' Government to implement His Highness' desire in this matter. It is only fitting that the Council has expressed its unequivocal determination to help the Government in this endeavour. With these words I put the motion to the vote.

The motion was put to vote and carried unanimously by the House.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolution re: holidays—(contd.)

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar (*Parur, Kunnatnad and Muvattupuzha cum Devicolum*): Sir, when the House adjourned in last January, discussion on the following resolution moved by me had not concluded:—

“This Council recommends to Government that the public holidays recently abolished be restored in view of the importance of the holidays.”

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar: Sir, I accept the resolution. Government have already stated that the matter will be re-considered. I may assure the honourable members that orders will be issued very shortly.

President: Does the House now propose to go on with this resolution?

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla: Sir, I wish to make a few observations in connection with this motion.

President: Yes,

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai : Sir, on a point of order. Can an honourable member speak in support of the motion at this stage?

President : The question arises this way. I find from notices given to me that seven honourable members have already spoken on this including the honourable member who is on his legs. In the meantime the Chief Secretary has stated that the whole question is being re-examined and very shortly Government propose to issue orders on the subject of holidays. In that connection I have asked the honourable members whether they propose to go on with the resolution. At that juncture Mr. Kuruvilla wanted to make some observations and I permitted him to do that.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : Sir, I wanted to bring to the notice of this House and the Government that the Christians followed two calendars in regard to the observance of their religious days. There are those who follow the Western Church and others who follow the Eastern Church. Sir, going through this list, I find that the Western Calendar alone is taken into consideration. I only want to make a suggestion.

President : Honourable member knows quite well that according to the Greek Calendar almost every day is different. Christmas day is different, and the Easter days are different. I have some vague idea that on particular years the Christmas day has varied as much as 11 days.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : Yes. So, if you give the option for Government servants to choose between the one day or the other, it may be of advantage to the department as well, because all the Christians will not avail themselves of the leave at the same time if you give them the option to choose their holidays according to the Western or Eastern Calendars. I just want to point out this.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : Sir, in view of the assurance given by the Chief Secretary to Government. I beg to withdraw the resolution.

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

The following resolutions were not moved :

Raising the pay of the Pakuthi Accountants.

2. **MR. K. M. KESAVAN :** This Council recommends to Government that the pay of the Pakuthi Accountants be raised to Rs. 18 per mensem.

Raising the pay of the Proverthikars.

3. **MR. K. M. KESAVAN :** This Council recommends to Government that the salary of the Proverthikars be raised to Rs. 25, Rs. 30 and Rs. 35 according to their grade.

Nationalisation of Salt Industry.

4. **MR. K. M. KESAVAN :** This Council recommends to Government that the salt industry of the country be nationalised.

Opening and improvements of ryots' roads.

5. MR. K. M. KESAVAN: This Council recommends to Government that a sum of ten lakhs of rupees be allotted each year, for the next five years for the improvement of the already existing and the opening of new ryots' roads in the country.

Appointment of a full-time Co-operative Registrar.

6. MR. K. M. KESAVAN: This Council recommends to Government that a full-time Co-operative Registrar be appointed immediately.

Reduction of School Fees.

7. MR. K. M. KESAVAN: The Council recommends to Government that owing to economic depression the fees in schools be reduced by 50 per cent. at least for the children of agriculturists.

RESOLUTION RE: DEMONSTRATION FARMS IN EACH TALUK.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan: Sir, I move only the eighth resolution in the list.

"This Council recommends to Government that farms be opened in each taluk to demonstrate the cultivation of all crops suited to the soil of that taluk".

I have already spoken something in my last budget speech about opening of demonstration farms. These farms were on the increase once. I think it was during the time of the late Dr. Kunjan Pillai, who was the Director of Agriculture and Fisheries that the establishment of demonstration farms was carried on on a large scale and, if my information is correct, an amount of about Rs. 20,000 was allotted at that time every year. Now, I do not understand why Government is following a policy which is not at all encouraging to the ryots or advantageous to the carrying on of these demonstration farms. I understand that certain demonstrations are being carried on in the case of cocoanut and paddy. In one or two places, demonstration in the case of sugarcane plant and peppervine is also being carried on. But I am not aware of any such experiment being conducted in the case of any other crop. My intention in moving this resolution is to bring home to the Government that demonstration must be carried on, on a larger scale not only on these four crops mentioned, but on all other crops that are cultivated in this country. Demonstration to the extent it goes is serving a useful purpose. But, at the same time, I do not say that it is serving all the purposes it should. This, I am informed, is due to want of funds. So, enquiries must be made as to the demonstrations that are to be carried on in places where they are likely to be carried on with success. There are so many other crops which I have not mentioned, in the case of which demonstrations have to be done. Ours is essentially an agricultural country

[Mr. K. M. Kesavan.]

and the aid of the department should always come to the rescue and help of the agriculturists. The ordinary agriculturist, being a layman, is not aware of the particular manures that are to be applied to each plant. He is also ignorant of the amount and the time when the manures are to be applied. He does not know the places where these manures can be got down from. In all these things he requires instruction. So, the department will carry on an active propaganda as to all these things besides opening farms if possible in every pakuthi. Even now, certain demonstration farms are being carried on in certain taluks. I am not aware whether all taluks are getting their due share. Even in those places where demonstrations are being carried on they do not bring the utmost benefit to the agriculturists because the department is not able to pursue the demonstration work effectively owing to lack of funds. I do not think that any further elucidation on these points is necessary. I therefore request the House to consider the extent to which the demonstrations should be carried on and also to consider the possibilities of increasing the amount that is being sanctioned for carrying on these demonstrations.

Mr. Thomas Chandy Mukkadan (*Nominated*) : ഇപ്പോൾ നടപ്പിലാക്കുന്ന ഡെമാൻസ് ട്രേഷൻ ഫാറങ്ങൾ പോലെയുള്ള ഫാറങ്ങൾ രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ നാനാഭാഗങ്ങളിലും വേണമെന്നാണോ മെമ്പർ ആവശ്യപ്പെടുന്നത് ?

Mr. K. M. Kesavan : ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട മെമ്പർ എന്റെ പ്രസംഗം ശ്രദ്ധിച്ചിരുന്നു എങ്കിൽ ഇങ്ങനെ ഒരു ചോദ്യം ചോദിക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യം വരികയില്ലായിരുന്നു. ഫാറങ്ങൾ ഇന്നുള്ള സ്ഥലത്തും ഇല്ലാത്ത സ്ഥലത്തും സ്ഥാപിക്കണമെന്നാണ് ഞാൻ അഭിപ്രായപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുള്ളത്. പ്രയോജനകരങ്ങളായ കൃഷികൾ എന്തെല്ലാമുണ്ടോ അവയെല്ലാം പരീക്ഷണാർത്ഥം കാണിച്ചു കൊടുക്കുന്നതിന് ഡെമാൻസ് ട്രേഷൻ ഫാറങ്ങൾ താലൂക്കുതോറും എന്നല്ല പകുതിതോറും വേണ്ടത് അത്യാവശ്യമാണ്. അതിലേക്കാവശ്യമുള്ള തുക അനുവദിക്കുന്നതിനു ഗവണ്മെന്റ് ശ്രദ്ധിക്കണമെന്നുള്ളതാണ് എന്റെ ഉദ്ദേശം.

Mr. Thomas Chandy Mukkadan : ഇന്ന് നിലവിലിരിക്കുന്ന ഫാറങ്ങൾ മാത്രകാപരവും ഇവിടത്തെ കൃഷിയുടെ അഭിവൃദ്ധിക്ക് പര്യാപ്തമാണെന്ന് മെമ്പർ വിചാരിക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ ?

Mr. K. M. Kesavan : ഇപ്പോഴുള്ള ഫാറങ്ങൾ കൃഷിയുടെ അഭിവൃദ്ധിക്ക് പര്യാപ്തമാണെന്നാണ് എന്റെ അറിവ്.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : May I know what will be the total expense involved for the purpose of having these demonstration farms started in the case of all crops ?

Mr. K. M. Kesavan : ഈ ചോദ്യത്തിന് പെട്ടെന്ന് ഒരു മറുപടി പറയാൻ സാധിക്കുകയില്ല. ഏതെല്ലാം സ്ഥലത്തു് ഏതേതു രീതിയിൽ ഉള്ള ഫാറങ്ങളാണു് ആവശ്യമായിട്ടുള്ളതെന്ന് നിശ്ചയിക്കുന്നതിന്നു മുൻപ് അതിലേക്കു എന്തു പണം ചെലവാകുമെന്നു പറയാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല.

Mr. Kallur Narayara Pillai : (*Mavelikara and Tiruvallacum Pattanamthitta*) : കോന്നിയിൽ നടത്തുന്ന ഫാറം പോലെയുള്ള ഒരു ഡെമോൺസ്ട്രേഷൻ ഫാറം ആവശ്യം നടത്തുന്നതുകൊണ്ട് പ്രയോജനമുണ്ടോ ?

Mr. K. M. Kesavan : ഉണ്ടു്. കോന്നിയിലെ ഫാറം ഞാൻ കണ്ടിട്ടുണ്ടു്. അതു വിജയകരമാണു്.

Mr. Kallur Narayara Pillai : ഇപ്പോൾ അതിന്റെ സ്ഥിതി യെപ്പറ്റി അറിയാമോ ?

Mr. K. M. Kesavan : അറിഞ്ഞുകൂടാ.

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*) : Sir, the honourable member, the mover of the resolution wants that agricultural farms should be established in each and every taluk or pakuthi in the State. I do not think it is very necessary to do so.

Mr. T. K. Kittan : സർ, ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ ആരും അനുകൂലിച്ചില്ല

President : None seconded it ?

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : Sir, I second the resolution.

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar : Sir, my opinion is that there is hardly any necessity for doing this because more often than not the soil of one taluk will be very much alike that of the taluk abutting on it. Experimental farms are really intended to try new crops and new methods in particular tracts which exhibit wide divergences in their soils, climate, and rainfall. Each of these tracts may cover several taluks. There should be experimental farms separately for tracts like Nanjanad and Kuttanad, the littoral tract and the submontane tract which have entirely different soil and climatic conditions; but hardly is it necessary, Sir, to have one farm for Karunagapally and another for Karthikapally-taluk which are almost similar in regard to their physical configuration. We have experimental farms already for most of the important tracts in Travancore. We have

[Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar.]

a paddy farm in Nanjanad, a coccoanut farm at Onattukarai, a sugarcane farm at Alwaye and so on. But what is really wanted for each taluk is a demonstration plot in contradistinction to a demonstration farm. The demonstration plot has the advantage of bringing the demonstration right into the heart of a village. It is the best and quickest method of influencing the practice of the cultivator. The improvement is demonstrated in the cultivator's plot itself under the direction of the departmental officers, with the result that the cultivator is convinced of the advantages of the agricultural improvement.

The demonstration farm on the other hand, is only an extended form of activity of the experimental farm. It is open to the objection that it creates a suspicion in the minds of cultivator that the methods by which it is cultivated are not applicable to his means and conditions. The farm buildings, the superior cattle, the up-to-date implements and the careful lay out are apt to create an impression that the methods adopted are entirely beyond his means. If, however, a demonstration is carried out on the cultivator's own land it is open to none of these objections. It is with this objective in view, Sir, that demonstration plots have been organized by the Department. Plots have been laid out in almost all the taluks for important crops like paddy, coccoanut, tapioca, banana, sugarcane, pepper, ginger, etc. In addition to seed selection and cultural and manurial demonstrations on these crops, new crops like ragi, soya-beans, tomatos, etc., are introduced in the centre. Ancillary occupations such as poultry rearing, bee-keeping etc., are also introduced. 25 such centres have already been organised in 25 taluks of the State and the work is progressing satisfactorily. The rural uplift centres in each taluk where agricultural improvement is effected on a wide front will serve as suitable demonstration units for the villagers to copy not only improved methods in agriculture but also suitable spare time occupations which would go a long way to improve their present economic condition. In view of what is already being done for the benefit of each taluk, more than even what has been contemplated in the resolution, I hope the honourable member the mover of the resolution will not press it.

Mr. T. K. Kittan : ഞാൻ ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ എതിർക്കുന്നു. പതിയെ സ്ഥാപനങ്ങളൊന്നും രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ നിലയ്ക്കു ഇവിടെ ആവശ്യമില്ല. ആവശ്യക്കാർ അവരെപ്പറ്റി നന്നായി അറിയാൻ കഴിഞ്ഞാൽ മതിയാകും. പ്രധാനമായി ഇവിടെ പണമില്ല. മുപ്പതു താലൂക്കുകളിലും നിവൃത്തിയുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ നാനൂററിൽ ചിലപ്പോൾ പകുതിക്കു

ലും മാതൃകാ കൃഷിത്തോട്ടങ്ങൾ സ്ഥാപിക്കണമെന്നാണ് ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട മെമ്പർ പറയുന്നത്. അതിലേക്കു ധാരാളം പണം വേണം. തല്പോലും അതു സാദ്ധ്യമല്ല. ഇവിടത്തെ പ്രധാന കൃഷികളുടെ സാധ്യതകളെല്ലാം അങ്ങേയറ്റത്തെ നിലയിൽ എത്തിയിരിക്കുകയാണെന്നു അധികാരികളും വിദഗ്ദ്ധന്മാരും പറയുന്നു. അതുകൊണ്ട് പുതിയ തരത്തിലുള്ള വല്ല കൃഷികളും നടത്താൻ സാധിക്കുമോ എന്നാണ് നോക്കേണ്ടത്. ഇവിടത്തെ തെങ്ങ്, നെല്ല്, മരച്ചീനി, കുരുമുളകു മുതലായ സാധനങ്ങളുടെ വിളവിന്റെ പരിമാണം എത്രയാണെന്നു കണ്ടുകഴിഞ്ഞു. ഉരുളക്കിഴങ്ങ്, തക്കാളി, സോയാപ്പയർ മുതലായ പുതിയ സാധനങ്ങൾ ശരിയായി വളമിട്ടു കൃഷിചെയ്യുണ്ടാക്കാൻ സാധിക്കുമോ എന്ന് പരീക്ഷിച്ചു നോക്കണം. അല്ലാതെ പണമില്ലാത്ത ഈ സമയത്ത് പുതിയ പദ്ധതികൾ ഒന്നും ആവശ്യമില്ലെന്നു.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan : ഈ രാജ്യത്തുള്ള തെങ്ങ് വൃക്ഷങ്ങളെല്ലാം നശിച്ചു പോകണമെന്നാണോ പറയുന്നത്.

Mr. T. K. Kittan : ൨ ദിവർഷക്കാലമായി വേണ്ടതരത്തിലുള്ള പരീക്ഷണങ്ങൾ എല്ലാം നടത്തിയിട്ടും തെങ്ങുരോഗത്തിന് ഒരു പരിഹാരം കണ്ടുപിടിക്കുവാൻ ഇതുവരെ സാധിച്ചിട്ടില്ല.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan : പരീക്ഷണങ്ങൾകൊണ്ട് പ്രതിവിധികൾ കണ്ടുപിടിക്കുന്നതിന് ൨ ദിവർഷമല്ലാ ചിലപ്പോൾ ൨ ൦ ൦ ദിവർഷംകൂടെ വേണ്ടിവരുമെന്നുള്ള സംഗതി മെമ്പർക്കറിയാമോ ?

Mr. T. K. Kittan : പരീക്ഷണം നടത്തുന്നത് ലോകാവസാനം വരേയും ആകാം. വരുമല്ലോ.

Mr. Thomas Chandy Mukkadan : ഈ പ്രമേയത്തിന്റെ തത്വം വളരെ ആദരണീയമായി തോന്നുന്നുവെങ്കിലും അതിനെ പ്രയോജനത്തിൽ വരുത്തുന്നത് രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ ഇന്നത്തെ നിലയ്ക്കു ഭോഷകരമായിട്ടാണ് കാണുന്നത്. തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ കൃഷി ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെന്റു ഏർപ്പെടുത്തിയിട്ടുള്ള ഈ രാജ്യത്തെ കൃഷിയുടെ പരിപോഷണത്തിനു പശ്ചാത്തമമായ മാർഗ്ഗങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടാക്കി അതനുസരിച്ചു പ്രവർത്തിക്കണമെന്നുള്ള ഉദ്ദേശത്തോടു കൂടിയാണ്. കഴിഞ്ഞ കാലത്ത് ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെന്റു മേലധ്യക്ഷനായിരുന്ന ഡാക്ടർ കണത്തൻപിള്ള അതിലേക്കുവേണ്ടി നിരന്തരം പരിശ്രമിക്കുകയും മാതൃകാകൃഷിത്തോട്ടങ്ങൾ സ്ഥാപിക്കുകയും ചെയ്തെങ്കിലും പ്രാധാന്യകരമായി അവയുടെ പ്രവർത്തനം വിഫലമായി ഭവിച്ചു.

[Mr. Thomas Chandy Mukkadan.]

എന്നു മാത്രമല്ല ചില സ്ഥാനങ്ങളിൽ ഭാഷകരമായിത്തീർന്നു എന്നു കൂടി പറയാതിരിക്കുവാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല. ഈ ഭാഷകളെ പരിഹരിച്ചു മാതൃകാ തോട്ടങ്ങൾ ആദായകരവും അനുക്കരണയോഗ്യങ്ങളും ആക്കിത്തീർക്കുന്നതിന് ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ കൃഷിഡയറക്ടർ നല്ലവണ്ണം ശ്രമിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. അങ്ങിനെ ചെയ്യുന്ന പരിശ്രമത്തിന്റെ ഫലമായി ഡെമാൻഡ് ഷേപ്പൻ ഫാറങ്ങൾ ഗുണകരമായിത്തീരുന്നുണ്ടോ എന്നറിയുന്നതിനുമുമ്പ് പുതിയ തോട്ടങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്നത് ഒരിക്കലും നീതീകരിക്കത്തക്കതും ആഗ്രഹിക്കത്തക്കതുമാല്ല. കട്ടനാടൻ പ്രദേശങ്ങളിലും ആലപ്പുഴക്കടുത്തുള്ള കൈനകുരി മുതലായ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലും തെങ്ങുരോഗം വളരെ ഭയങ്കരമായിട്ടാണ് പിടിപെട്ടിരിക്കുന്നത്. ഇതിനു മുൻപിരുന്ന ഡയറക്ടറും മറ്റും എന്റെ സ്ഥലത്തു വന്ന് ഈ രോഗത്തിന് വേണ്ട നിർദ്ദേശങ്ങൾ തരികയും അപയുടെ ഉപദേശപ്രകാരമുള്ള രേഷ്യങ്ങൾ പ്രയോഗിക്കുകയും ചെയ്തപ്പോൾ ആ തെങ്ങുവൃക്ഷങ്ങളെല്ലാം പട്ടുപോകുകയാണ് ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളത്. അതുകൊണ്ട് ഇപ്പോഴുള്ള തോട്ടങ്ങളുടെ പ്രവർത്തനഫലം എന്താണെന്നു ശരിയായി അറിയുന്നതിനും മുൻപ് പുതിയ തോട്ടങ്ങൾ തുടങ്ങി ജനങ്ങളെ വിഷമിപ്പിക്കാൻ പാടില്ലാത്തതാണ്. ഗവണ്മെൻറ ഗസറ്റിൽ അടുത്ത കാലത്ത് മക്കൊമ്പിലുള്ള ഒരു മാതൃകാ കൃഷിസ്ഥലത്തിന്റെ ഗുണത്തെപ്പറ്റി പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ടായിരുന്നു. അത് ജനങ്ങൾക്ക് വലിയ പ്രോത്സാഹനകവും മാതൃകാപരവും ആണെന്നാണ് പറയുന്നത്. ഈ ഉദാഹരണം മുൻനിർത്തി പിന്തിക്കുമ്പോൾ കൃഷി വിഷയകമായി ശരിയായ ഉപദേശവും വേണ്ട വിധത്തിലുള്ള മാർഗ്ഗനിർദ്ദേശവും ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നാൽ പല സ്ഥാനങ്ങളിലും അഭിപ്രായപരമായ നിലയിൽ കൃഷിപരിഷ്കരണം സാധിക്കുമെന്നു കാണാവുന്നതാണ്. ഇത്രയും പ്രസ്താവിച്ചതിൽനിന്നു അതിന്റെ ആദർശത്തെ സമ്മതിക്കുമെന്നുള്ളതല്ലാതെ ആ പ്രസ്താവനയിലുള്ള വിവരങ്ങളെല്ലാം ശരിയാണെന്നു ഞാൻ സമ്മതിക്കുന്നതായി അർത്ഥമാക്കരുത്. ഞാൻ ഉദ്ദേശിക്കുന്ന പായിൻറ് ഇതാണ്. കൃഷിയുടെ പോഷണത്തിനുവേണ്ടി ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നും മാർഗ്ഗനിർദ്ദേശങ്ങൾ ചെയ്താൽ അതിനെ പ്രായോഗികതയിൽ വരുത്തുന്നതിനു കഴിവും പ്രാപ്തിയുമുള്ള കർഷകർ ഇവിടെയുണ്ട്. അപകട വേണ്ട നിർദ്ദേശങ്ങളും പ്രോത്സാഹനങ്ങളും ചെയ്തുകൊടുത്താൽ മാത്രം മതിയാകും. അതിനുമുമ്പേണമായിട്ടാണ് മക്കൊമ്പിലെ കാര്യം ഞാൻ ഇവിടെ ചൂണ്ടിക്കാണിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളത്. അതിനാൽ ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറു വേണ്ടവകുപ്പ് ശ്രദ്ധി

ച്ച് പുതിയ രീതിയിൽ കൃഷിചെയ്യുവാൻ പ്രാപ്തിയുള്ള യോഗ്യന്മാരെ ഗ്രാൻറാ മറ്റൊരാ അനുവദിച്ചു കൊടുത്ത് പ്രോത്സാഹിപ്പിക്കുകയല്ലാതെ പ്രത്യേകമായി തോട്ടങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്ന സംഗതിയെ ഞാൻ എതിർക്കുന്നു.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan : ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട മെമ്പർ എന്റെ പ്രസംഗത്തെ തെറ്റിദ്ധരിച്ചു കൊണ്ടാണ് ഇപ്രകാരം കാടുകയറി പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ളത്. ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞത് തെങ്ങ്, നെല്ല് മുതലായവയുടെ രോഗപരിഹാരം വരുത്തേണ്ട എന്നല്ല; ഈ നാട്ടിലുണ്ടാകുന്ന നുസ്യങ്ങളെല്ലാം ആദായകരവും ശാസ്ത്രീയവുമായ രീതിയിൽ കൃഷിചെയ്തു ആദായം വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള മാർഗ്ഗം എങ്ങിനെ എന്നു ജനങ്ങൾ കണ്ടു മനസ്സിലാക്കുന്നതിനു ഓരോ പക്ഷത്തിലും ഡെമാൻസ് ട്രേഷൻ ഫാരങ്ങൾ സ്ഥാപിക്കണമെന്നാണ്. രോഗനിവാരണം എന്നുള്ളത് പ്രത്യേകം ഒരു പ്രശ്നമാണ്.

Mr. Thomas Chandy Mukkadan : ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട മെമ്പർക്ക് എന്റെ പ്രസംഗത്തിൽ അന്തർഭവിച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന തത്വം എന്താണെന്നു മനസ്സിലാക്കാൻ ശക്തിയില്ലാതെ പോയതിൽ ഞാൻ മനസ്സാപിക്കുന്നു. കാര്യം എന്താണെന്നു മനസ്സിലാക്കാതെ അതിനെപ്പറ്റി വിമർശിച്ചിട്ടാവശ്യമില്ല.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan : In view of the assurance given by the Director of Agriculture that more attention will be paid to the opening of demonstration farms, I do not press the resolution.

The resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.

RESOLUTION RE: REDUCTION OF FEES IN ENGLISH SCHOOLS.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan : I beg to move the following resolution :--

"This Council recommends to Government that the fees in English Schools be reduced by 50 per cent".

Sir, I need not lay stress upon the economic depression and the hardships brought about by it upon the people of all countries and particularly those in Travancore.

President : We are now at the question of school fees.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan : Coconut industry is the mainstay of the agriculturists who form the bulk of the population of Travancore. In fact it is the chief money crop of the country. Except a few planters who carry on cultivation of tea, coffee and other crops, the majority of the people of Travancore depend entirely on coconuts products for their livelihood. Of course, paddy is being

cultivated in Travancore. But the amount of paddy that is produced in Travancore is not at all sufficient for consumption in Travancore and hence we depend upon paddy imported from other countries, particularly from Burma.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai : May I know whether by this resolution the member contemplates the concession to the children of Government officers ?

Mr. K. M. Kesavan : No, for the simple reason that they have not suffered a loss. On the other hand, the value of money has increased considerably.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi (*Karunagapally, Kartikapally and Ambalapuzha cum Shertalai*) : Is it the opinion of the member that all officers are landless people ?

Mr. K. M. Kesavan : I do not presume so. On the other hand, because of the rise in the value of money, I may even go to the extent of saying that the officers, particularly the highly paid officers, might pay an educational cess on account of the "unearned increment" in the value of money due to war conditions. But I do not suggest it. I said it only in answer to an honourable member's question. The price of cocoanut was between Rs. 40 and 50 per thousand, half a dozen years ago. Now the fall is most depressing and most discouraging. One thousand cocoanuts fetch not even Rs. 15 and the poor agriculturist has to get on with this limited income. He has to maintain his family. He has to clothe himself and educate his children. So, in view of the economic depression and particularly due to the fall in the price of cocoanut, some reduction should be made in the school fee, which the agriculturist has become unable to pay.

The honourable member for education may marshal an array of facts from other countries with regard to the rates prevailing there and suggest by it that comparatively we are having a lower rate. Those who rely upon those comparative rates may have recourse to that argument. But I have not much belief in those comparative rates. Perhaps, we might be better off. A half-fed man may be much better than a least-fed man. But does it mean that a man must be contented with his stomach half full ? His ambition is to fill his stomach full. Similarly, though we might be comparatively not so hard pressed and enjoying a lower rate of fees, it should be said even these low rates, the agriculturist is unable to pay. So, in view of the suffering of the agriculturist in which class I also have the privilege or misfortune to belong, I cannot but press this argument and request the Government not to console the House, the agriculturists, or the people of the country by.....

President : They are not likely to do so.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan : Then, I would request the Government to have recourse to absolute methods and not the comparative methods and bring in complete relief.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : May I know the amount that is being collected by way of fees?

Mr. K. M. Kesavan : More than Rs. 8 lakhs.

(The resolution was not seconded.)

President : The resolution is not seconded.

The resolution fell through for want of a seconder,

The following resolutions were not moved :—

Village Unions.

10. **K. M. Kesavan :** This Council recommends to Government that one Village Union at least be started in each taluk.

Increase of grant-in-aid to Teachers.

11. **K. M. Kesavan :** This Council recommends to Government that the grant-in-aid awarded to teachers of private schools be raised to Rs. 15 a month.

President : Order, Order. In view to certain considerations which will be familiar to all honourable members, I prorogue this Session of the Council.

The House rose at 11. 45 A. M.

A GUNAMONY,
Secretary to the Sri Chitra State Council.

12.54.24
V222:8231wN26
HO



15.0000

K