

Maras Budget Discussion **Strong Plea For Relief To Ryots**

WILL THE GOVERNMENT RELIEF?

The Budget session of the Madras Legislative Council met on the 27th of February. After question time, general discussion on the budget for the year 1933-34 began. Mr. S. Ramalingam Chettiar led the discussion with a plea for immediate relief to the agriculturists. The reference to the remission in land revenue to the ryots came in for severe condemnation by the members of the Council, almost every member who took part in the discussion on the budget showing with the aid of facts and figures that the Government were not justified in refusing to grant their modest demand.

Mr. Ramalingam Chettiar, referring to the Finance Member's plea of "standards of living of the State," asked whether the people's standard of living should not be taken into consideration. Otherwise it would be putting the cart before the horse. Mr. Chettiar urged the Government to consider his budget. He said that the ryots, who had up till now jewels to fall back upon, had lost even that. The future was a blank before them.

RYOTS IN DISTRESS

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetty expressed dissatisfaction with the budget proposals and asked the Finance Member, Mr. Venkatachalam Chetty further said that the servants of the Government were not faithful to the suffering of the agriculturists. They must be alive to the extremely poor condition of the people. There was a large surplus in the disposal of the Government, it was ungenerous and unsympathetic of the Government to refuse help to the agriculturists.

Mr. Mahomed Shannud disagreed with the arguments of the Finance Member, Mr. Venkatachalam Chetty further said that the servants of the Government were not faithful to the suffering of the agriculturists. They must be alive to the extremely poor condition of the people. There was a large surplus in the disposal of the Government, it was ungenerous and unsympathetic of the Government to refuse help to the agriculturists.

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan said that the policy of the Government in running their budgets seemed to be to make up the revenue necessary for their expenditure instead of trying to reduce their expenditure to the taxpayers' capacity to pay. The present method would leave the taxpayers pressed to such an extent in revenue or in contributive activities would be possible under any circumstances.

Mr. T. M. Narayanamm Pillai said that the most urgent need today was the relief of the ryots. That should be the Government's first duty. Right and justice were all on the side of the ryots. He had himself collected statistics to show that the Government had no hesitation in saying that the holder of one of the richest plots of land was not able to pay his share out of the yield from the plot.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Dr. C. Natesam Mudaliar referred to the problem of unemployment among educated young men and requested the Government to take steps to reduce their expenditure to the taxpayers' capacity to pay.

Mr. S. Ellappa Chettiar said that, while the Government had asked the ryots to make a sacrifice, the local bodies had not. Probably it had come to pay permanently in the local bodies, and the education of the ryots was the responsibility of the Government.

Mr. K. P. Raman Monon characterized the budget as a display of the Government's policy of "desirable schemes" of nation-building work, the Government had made up its mind to go up to the limit of the House urging 12 per cent remission was given effect but, he would urge Government to think of the nation's welfare and relieve them. Let the Government first enable them to have a means of making a living. Then they might proceed with their nation building activities. They must not fail to relieve the ryots of their burden. Let the ryots, considering that he was the backbone of the provinces and was the pillar stone of their recovery.

REDUCE TAXATION

Mr. Langley, representative of the Planners Association, expressed the view that the Government should not insist at all of any improvement in the economic situation. "Under present conditions the proper attitude for the Government to take would be to reduce expenditure to the utmost and at the same time lighten the taxation as far as possible." He appealed to the Government, who seemed so determined to honour their pledges to the services in regard to the cut in the military establishment, to honour their implied pledges to the local bodies by the passing of the Motor Vehicles Taxation Bill. The suggestion of the Finance Member that the demand for alleviation of relief had its origin from the Government's policy of "desirable schemes" was not only a personal attack on his own personal experience of Malabar that the distress among agriculturists was not only a personal experience, he had no hesitation, therefore, in saying that the suggestion was "spontaneous, sincere and serious." He concluded by an eloquent appeal for a generous Government to pass the bill. "Member," "not in order to gain popularity," but "in order to close a great chapter in the history of the country with an instance of British justice."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliar said that the Government had not improved in the revenue of the presidency was not an index of its prosperity. He complained that the Government had done anything to relieve the middle class unemployment, and said that that problem required a more serious consideration by the Government.

Devan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliar said that they would not be satisfied if the Government were not relieved by the British, not only in respect to the services, but also in respect to the conditions in the South Kanara district, and when questions of the birth-right of Indians and patriotism were at stake, they should not be afraid to stand up for the agriculturists in the famine districts of Bellary and Anantapur.

CHIEF MINISTER'S POLICY

Mr. C. K. Reddi referred in detail to the agrarian situation as it had developed since the formation of the Government. He proposed for resettlement of land revenue assessment, and said that not only had resettlement been effected, but also the Government had passed resolutions in the House, adjournment motions, deputations and memorials, but the last piece of legislation was the bill. He had a complaint against the Ministry's conduct in regard to local board elections in Kistna and Bellary.

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ALLOTMENT OF LOCAL BOARDS

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RELEASE THE MAHATMA

Mr. V. P. Narayana Nambiar, in an eloquent speech, said that the policy of the Government was not to care for the well-being of the people. The only weapon in the armory of the Government was the sword of taxation. The Government did not care for the well-being of the people. The only weapon in the armory of the Government was the sword of taxation. The Government did not care for the well-being of the people. The only weapon in the armory of the Government was the sword of taxation.

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the needs of the City by the Ministers and the Government should come forward to help the Corporation financially in the matter of improving water supply in the City.

Mr. G. Ramakrishna Reddi said that the Government had shown undue haste in restoring salaries while on the other hand they turned a deaf ear to the urgent request of the ryots. He pleaded for the rajin request of the ryots. He pleaded for the rajin request of the ryots. He pleaded for the rajin request of the ryots.

A DISAPPOINTING DOCUMENT

Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Aiyar felt that, though the budget appeared to be a property budget, it was really a budget of the Government in as much as it could be seen from it that no progress at all had been made in respect of other problems or of any policy elementary education or in any other important sphere.

Mr. B. Pocker referred to the hardships experienced by the Mohals who had gone to the Andamans under the colonisation scheme in getting relief to their native land. He appealed to the Government to remedy this hardship, and also to release the State prisoners held in their place. Their release would no longer affect the peace of the district.

Dr. P. Subbarayan said that he did not know what useful purpose the general discussion on the budget served. The Finance Member had talked of the living wages of the Government servants. He would like to know, observed Dr. Subbarayan, whether the term living wage and standard of living were synonymous.

The present economic condition could not be compared to any other condition in the history of the country. Previously, the plight of the pattars was much worse than of the lovels. The Government had agreed to reduce the rates of the Rs. 10 pattars were finding it difficult to make both ends meet. The almost unanimous opinion of the House was to 12 per cent remission should the representatives of the people were alive to the situation.

Referring to the Reforms situation, the Leader of the Opposition hoped that the Government would have time enough for them to convey the opinion of this province on the White Paper, if it is submitted to the House. He concluded, "that, to create the necessary atmosphere for the discussion of the White Paper, there must be the release of political prisoners, because I feel that it will really help the Government to discuss the proposals that will be put forward by the White Paper."

POLICE EXPENDITURE

Sir Mahomed Usman was the first to reply to the debate from the Government. He said that the Government could not at present have any further retrenchment in police expenditure. He said that the Government could not at present have any further retrenchment in police expenditure. He said that the Government could not at present have any further retrenchment in police expenditure.

Mr. Krishnan Nair, referring to the demand for reducing the rates of stamp duty to the former level, remarked that the Government could not at present have any further retrenchment in police expenditure. He said that the Government could not at present have any further retrenchment in police expenditure. He said that the Government could not at present have any further retrenchment in police expenditure.

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Mr. J. A. Thorne, the Revenue Secretary, who deputised for Sir Archibald Campbell, said that there was no question of the Government's Government to make capital by suggesting that the agitation on the land revenue matter was merely a class agitation. He said that the Government was inspired by the desire to embarrass the Government. He contended that the Government was inspired by the desire to embarrass the Government. He contended that the Government was inspired by the desire to embarrass the Government.

The Indian Budget **FORTY-TWO LAKHS DEFICIT**

Stamp Duty On Cheques

The Budget of the Government of India for 1933-34 was presented by Sir George Shuster, Finance Member, in the Legislative Assembly on February 27.

The actuals for 1931-32 showed that, while the revenue was Rs. 1,35,64 lakhs, the expenditure was Rs. 1,39,79 lakhs, leaving a deficit of Rs. 1,13,37 lakhs. The revised estimates for 1932-33 showed a deficit of Rs. 1,13,37 lakhs, leaving a deficit of Rs. 1,13,37 lakhs. The revised estimates for 1932-33 showed a deficit of Rs. 1,13,37 lakhs, leaving a deficit of Rs. 1,13,37 lakhs.

But for the partial restoration of the cut in salaries, the next year's budget would have shown a surplus of Rs. 9 lakhs. The Government had a sterling loan of six million pounds will be floating in the market. No remission of taxation is proposed in the budget. The yield of the interest of the future of the industry, sugar will not be touched for this year. The income-tax remains at the same level.

SIR GEORGE SHUSTER

Three proposals of minor importance are included in the Finance Bill for 1933-34. The import duties on boots and shoes and artificial silk goods will be converted into minimum specific duties. The yield of the interest of the future of the industry, sugar will not be touched for this year. The income-tax remains at the same level.

The Finance Bill proposes to apply to stamps for books and shares a minimum specific duty at half the rate applicable to complete boots and shoes. The duties on goods will be four annas per square yard for pure goods and two annas three pies for mixtures.

The stamp duty on cheques will be reduced to one anna. The revenue of the provinces, but the reimposition will last only for a period of three years. It will come into effect on the 1st of July, 1933.

impossible to remove that wedge and restore the system to its entirety. I doubt whether our action could be called a constructive scheme.

Mr. S. Kinnoramm Reddier, Minister for Education, said that the Government had received a letter from the Government of India asking for the release of the political prisoners. He said that the Government had received a letter from the Government of India asking for the release of the political prisoners.

Mr. G. Stokes, the Finance Minister, was the last to reply to the Government. He said that the Government had received a letter from the Government of India asking for the release of the political prisoners. He said that the Government had received a letter from the Government of India asking for the release of the political prisoners.