

Is it the pleasure of the House that permission be granted to Shrimati B. Khongmen for remaining absent from all meetings of the House till the end of the present session?

Hon. Members: Yes.

Leave was granted.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have to inform the House that the Business Advisory Committee met on the 1st September 1953 to consider the question of allocation of time to the various items of Government business which are to be concluded before the current session terminates.

The Committee were informed that Government considered that the Estate Duty Bill and the Estate Duty Rates Bill should be passed during the current session. The House had also to find time for the Supplementary Demands for Grants and the Resolution on P.E.P.S.U.

The Committee agreed to the following time-table for the various items of Business:—

1. Nine days with effect from the 2nd September 1953 (i.e. today) might be allotted for the consideration of clauses and schedule and the passage of the Estate Duty Bill and the Estate Duty Rates Bill.
2. The total time available for consideration of the clauses of the Bills should be apportioned between the various groups of clauses according to their importance and the discussion on the particular group of clauses terminated on the due date.
3. In case it is found that the discussion on the group of clauses was not concluded within the specified days, the House might sit in the afternoons on those particular days for completion of the discussion on specified clauses.

4. One and a half days might be allotted for the Supplementary Demands for Grants and the Resolution on P.E.P.S.U.

The Committee also appointed a Sub-Committee to prepare a detailed time-table for the consideration of the clauses of the Estate Duty Bill in such a way that adequate time was made available for the discussion of important clauses and the total time of nine days apportioned between the various groups of clauses and the third reading of the Bill. The Sub-Committee met at 4-30 P.M. on the 1st September and have made the following recommendations:—

- (i) Clauses 2 to 29.—Three days plus two afternoon sittings (afternoon sitting on the second day being compulsory and on the third day if necessary).
- (ii) Clauses 30 to 34 and the schedule.—Three days plus two afternoon sittings (afternoon sitting on the second day being compulsory and on the third day if necessary).
- (iii) Clauses 35 to 81 and the schedule, Clause 1, enacting formula etc.—Two days plus one afternoon sitting if necessary.
- (iv) Third Reading.—One day plus one afternoon sitting if necessary.

The Sub-Committee also considered that whenever an afternoon sitting was found necessary, it might commence at 4-00 P.M. and conclude at 7-30 P.M., if the business is not otherwise terminated earlier.

Shri K. K. Basu (Diamond Harbour): At the time of the passing of the Preventive Detention Act Government gave an undertaking that within one year the House will be given an opportunity for a discussion. But in the list of business that you have just now announced it does not find a place. I do not know—but the Home Minister then said that within a year there will be a report and a discussion on it.

Shri Frank Anthony (Nominated—Anglo-Indians): May I also bring to your notice that the Independent Parliamentary Group sent a letter to the Leader of the House asking whether, in view of the assurance that had been given by Government, he would allot some time for a discussion on the working of the Preventive Detention Act?

Shri N. C. Chatterjee (Hooghly): May I remind you, Sir, of my motion for an enquiry into the causes of the death of Dr. Syama Prasad Mukerjee? You were good enough to say that you would try your best. May I know from the Leader of the House whether an early date will be fixed for discussing the matter? It is very important.

The Prime Minister and Leader of the House (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): To take up the last matter first, it is for you, Sir, to decide about either the relevance or the importance of the question. I should have thought it had neither, in view of the developments that have taken place. (*Shri N. C. Chatterjee: Question.*) The hon. Member will kindly permit me to proceed. If the House desires, or if the hon. Members on the other side desire, we might consider it. But it will have to be after the regular hours, till midnight if necessary. We will have to go through the normal business. So it will have to be outside the regular hours. If I may say so, it will be easier to decide these and other points after the conclusion of the Estate Duty Bill. Then we shall be in a better position to know where we are.

There is another matter. I gave an assurance to the House about a debate on foreign affairs. For that too, if you will permit, after the Estate Duty Bill is over we should try to find a day and, as I said, two hours or, if possible, more for the other discussion suggested by the hon. Member Mr. Chatterjee.

In regard to this Preventive Detention Bill matter I received a communication from Mr. Anthony and others

and I forwarded it to the Home Minister. I am sorry he is not here. The Home Minister said that he would himself like a full discussion on this. But he referred to the very statement he had made in Parliament which, I believe, said that it may be after a certain period, a year. He said he was looking forward or at any rate expecting a discussion in the next session, not in this session, when he would have facts and figures fully ready. It may be possible—if the House so desires and he places certain facts before the House in the course of this session so that it may know about the present position. But from the point of view of time alone, it will be difficult to find time in this session.

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज (शोलापुर—रहित—अनुसूचित जातियाँ) : मैंने प्रधानमंत्री को लिखा था कि शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स और शेड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्ज के लोगों के बारे में बहस करने के लिए हम लोगों को टाइम मिलना चाहिये। इस पर चीफ मिनिस्टर द्वारा मुझ को जवाब दिया गया है कि दूसरे सेशन में टाइम दिया जा सकता है। लेकिन मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह बहुत बड़ा पब्लिक इम्पार्टेंस (सार्वजनिक महत्त्व) का मामला है और इस के लिए इसी सेशन में कुछ समय मिलना चाहिये। मैं लीडर आफ दि हाउस से कहना चाहता हूँ कि उन को आज इस सवाल पर भी कुछ कहना चाहिये था। अभी उन्होंने कई बातों का जिक्र किया लेकिन इस बात पर जरा भी नहीं बोले।

श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू : मैं इस का जवाब हूँ? मुझे ताज़्जुब हुआ, हैरत हुई और आश्चर्य हुआ यह सुन कर कि मैं आनरेबल मेम्बर को जवाब नहीं देता।

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज : आप यहाँ पार्लियामेंट में अभी तक जरा भी कुछ नहीं बोले।

श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू : मेम्बर साहब के इतने खतूत मेरे पास आते हैं कि बावजूद मेरे जवाब देने के दूसरा खत आ जाता है। मेरा सारा पेशा खाली उन के खतों का जवाब देने का ही नहीं रह गया है। फिर उन के खतों में उसी बात को दोहराया जाता है जिस का मैं जवाब दे चुका होता हूँ। इस में कोई सन्देह नहीं कि जिस असले का उन्होंने जिक्र किया वह बहुत खरूरी है और जाहिर है कि यह हाउस उस को जितना ज्यादा बक्त दे कम है। लेकिन सवाल है बक्त का और हाउस के और करने का। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि कोई इन्जाम होना चाहिये कि हाउस सात घंटे बैठा करे, जैसे प्रार हाउसेज बैठा करते हैं। चार पांच घंटे में काम नहीं चलता। सात घंटे बैठा करे तो शायद कुछ हो सके।

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज : मेरा यह कहना है कि हम लोगों को भी टाइम मिलना चाहिये। यहाँ मैं देखता हूँ कि काश्मीर, कोरिया और डा० श्यामाप्रसाद मुखर्जी के बारे में टाइम मिलता है, दूसरे मामलों में टाइम मिलता है, जिक्र होता है। मुझे कुछ न कुछ डेफिनिट जवाब मिलना चाहिये।

Dr. Lanka Sundaram (Visakhapatnam): May I also draw your attention to the statement made by the Prime Minister agreeing to a full dress debate on foreign affairs? I believe that in the Business Advisory Committee time was found available for this.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: After the Estate Duty Bill is over.

Shri K. K. Basu: Actually the Preventive Detention Act is going to be over by December. They undertook to give an opportunity for discussion within a year. Therefore I request you, Sir, and the Leader of the House to allot two or three hours or one day for discussion of that matter.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: He may get in touch with the Home Minister. I can hardly give any details.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House will now proceed with Legislative Business.

COMPANIES BILL

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to companies and certain other associations.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to companies and certain other associations."

The motion was adopted.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

ESTATE DUTY BILL—Contd.

Clause 2.—(Definitions)—Contd.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House will now proceed with the further consideration of the Estate Duty Bill. All the amendments that have already been moved have been read out to the House yesterday. Any hon. Member in possession of the House? Yes; Mr. Barman.

Shri Barman (North Bengal—Reserved—Sch. Castes): Mr. Deputy Speaker at the outset while supporting the amendment of Mr. Bhagat, I should express my gratefulness to the various sections of the House. Mr. Bhagat's amendment introduces some new element in the original amendment.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. We were on a particular amendment relating to charitable endowments. The hon. Finance Minister desires to make a statement to shorten the debate.