

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I need not take down the names. 'Noes' are 28.

Now the 'Ayes' may please rise in their seats. They are so many. The motion is carried.

Shri V. P. Nayar: You said, Sir, that the 'Noes' are twenty-eight. How many people support it? What is the number of 'Ayes'? Let us know.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: More than twenty-eight support it.

An Hon. Member: What is the number?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It does not matter. So the motion is carried.

The motion was adopted.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is no other business before the House. But I have been informed...

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): The next item in the agenda is the Coir Industry Bill, Sir.

Shri K. K. Basu (Diamond Harbour): Coir is still colling.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee (Calcutta North-East): Sir, understand that Government has an intention of bringing forward two Bills, the Coir Industry Bill and the Rehabilitation Finance Administration Bill for being passed in this session. But I fear, Sir, that we are at a stage when I do not understand how Government can do so unless you decide, Sir, that the session is to be continued for a considerable period.

Actually, Sir, on the 2nd September we were given a Parliamentary Bulletin which said that the Business Advisory Committee were informed that the Government considered the Estate Duty Bill and the Estate Duty Rates Bill to be so important that they should be passed during the current session. And Government

also told the Business Advisory Committee that the House had to find time for the Supplementary Demands for Grants and the resolution on PEPSU. That is all that we were vouchsafed by the Bulletin of 2nd September.

Now, at this stage I understand the Commerce and Industry Minister is here to pilot his Coir Industry Bill. This Bill is at a very early stage of the proceedings. I think only the consideration stage has started and only one Member on this side, as far as I remember, has spoken and is in possession of the House. I looked at the Bill. It seems quite a considerable measure and the Statement of Objects and Reasons suggests that, naturally, it would have to be discussed with a certain amount of carefulness, because the clause by clause consideration would take, very naturally, a great deal of time.

I see also from the text of the Rehabilitation Finance Administration Bill that its objects are perhaps very laudable but extremely comprehensive, and it is very important for the Members of the House to express themselves on the different aspects of the administration of Rehabilitation Finance.

That being so I do not understand how Government can proceed with these measures—or any other which they might produce out of their hat—in the time at our disposal. As far as I can see, there is not any other time than the evening of the 18th. But I do not think by any stretch of expediency we could discuss these two Bills and dispose of them. I should say in fairness to the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, whom I do not see here at this moment, that he talked to me about the possibility of these two Bills being taken up, and I had an impression, personally not knowing the texts of the Bills, that I told him I would not mind, if they were so important and so very beneficial to our people. But later I

had a discussion with those who had made a study of these two pieces of legislation, and we are absolutely positive that it is quite impossible to discuss these two measures in the time at our disposal, unless you decide, Sir, that the session is to be extended which, again, I think would be a very undesirable proceeding, because we have been given to understand very positively that we are not going to sit beyond the 18th.

That being so I do not understand how Government propose at this stage, and without reference to the Business Advisory Committee, to bring these two measures for consideration before the House.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, I can only state that this Bill is a part-heard Bill. It has been on the agenda almost from the beginning of the session. It has got the topmost place, bar 1. That is the unfortunate position! I think, Sir, hon. Members on the other side are also interested in this measure. The industry wants some help, and the Coir Board that would be set up under this measure would help the industry. But if those hon. Members are against it I do not want to press for it. (*Interruption*), I cannot say that the urgency is such and that I know more about it than the hon. Members opposite. But that is the feeling in the minds of hon. Members that this is a Bill which might be passed so that we may bring a Coir Board into being. I am entirely in the hands of the House. There is no question of my pressing my particular claim in regard to this Bill, because it is only a question of public interest and I consider that public interest demands that it should be passed. But if the House decides otherwise, I am prepared to abide by the decision of the House.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: As far as this Bill is concerned, perhaps the merits of it might demand that we should push it through as quickly as possible. But we certainly object to this cavalier treatment of the House

on the part of Government. There is a Business Advisory Committee which should have been informed. The bulletin was issued on the 2nd September. Fourteen days have passed. The Business Advisory Committee might have been called. At least representatives of the different Groups might have been called to your room, Sir, for a quarter of an hour, and we could have been told how this is so terribly important and ways and means could have been found. But at the *lag end*, two days before we are supposed to rise, we are told that this is very important and that we are standing in the way. As far as I am concerned, the Coir Industry Bill might become law in fifteen minutes' time. I do not mind. And I think many of us on this side also feel that there should be some legislation on these lines. But on principle it is important that Government should not be insensitive to the feelings of this House. At this rate if Government, merely depending on its enormous majority in this House, continues to behave like this it augurs very badly for the development of parliamentary democracy for which fulsome praise is expressed from time to time by the spokesmen of the Government.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: We are also part of the House—it does not mean that only the hon. Member opposite,

Shri T. N. Singh (Banaras Dist.—East): Now that they have no objection to this Bill we may proceed with it, Sir.

Shri Punnoose (Alleppey): We do want a measure of this kind and I spoke to the Hon. Minister and tried to persuade him to find some time for it. But how can you rush it through like this? Look at the large number of amendments which have been tabled by the hon. Minister and his Deputy. We have to discuss this matter thoroughly. There must be some time set apart for this. Here, we were asked to come first for the one-hour discussion and then for

[Shri Punnoose]

hearing the reply of the hon. Minister Dr. Katju. Again, we are asked to take up the Coir Bill. I will be very happy if some time is set apart: not now. It cannot be taken up like this. I strongly oppose this suggestion.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty (Basirhat): May I suggest, Sir, that the Rehabilitation Finance Administration Bill cannot be allowed to be just brushed aside. Various allegations have been made on the floor of the House. The matter has to be thoroughly discussed and gone into. How do you expect that we will be able to put this across in two or three hours? I cannot understand that.

Shri A. M. Thomas (Ernakulam): May I submit a word, Sir? Tomorrow we have the foreign affairs debate. If we can conveniently find time after four o'clock and sit from four to seven, we can finish.

Some Hon. Members: No, no.

Shri A. M. Thomas: We have got one hour on the 18th also.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: That is not possible; this is a very serious matter.

Shri Raghunath Singh (Banaras Distt.—Central): If it is so important; the House can sit on Sunday or Monday or Tuesday.

Shri K. K. Basu: Let us have a whole night Session.

Some Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Should there be a discussion of this matter by every hon. Member? What is this? Is there no end to this kind of discussion?

Shri Thanu Pillai (Tirunelveli): They have given expression to their views. Are we not entitled to express our views on this matter?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister has answered for all.

What about the Rehabilitation Finance Administration Bill?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah): Sir, this is a very important Bill. If it could be passed in this session, it will be better for all the refugees who have applied for loans. We are entirely in the hands of the House.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: So far as these two matters are concerned, it is rather embarrassing to the House and to me. Again and again I have been asked by the Members of the Opposition whether we are going to sit beyond the 18th, and even when the Leader of the House was here, on the Government's side they did not say anything. The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs told me that there would not be any sitting beyond the 18th. That was the assurance. If the Government wants, I am bound to sit; I am willing to sit; I have absolutely no objection. The House has been sitting both in the morning and in the evening. All Factory laws have been thrown to the winds. We sit five hours in the morning and 3½ hours in the evening. So much of work is being done. If the Government wanted to get through this business, they must have told me. I would have certainly made arrangements. If we had made up our mind to sit till seven o'clock, it would have been another matter. These things could have been arranged. We come prepared with a particular time table. What is the proposal of the Government now? They say it may be taken up at four o'clock on the 18th and finished on the 18th. Am I to rush the Coir Bill and Rehabilitation Finance Administration Bill through on the last day? In these circumstances, I am exceedingly sorry. I am willing to sit quite a number of days. The Government must make up their mind from time to time as to which Bills they want to get through in this session. The Coir Bill is, no doubt,

part-heard. If they had told me a few days earlier, I would have persuaded the House to sit for longer hours and finish it. In these circumstances, I am exceedingly sorry. I feel that the general sense of the House is that these Bills need not be taken up now. The hon. Ministers also have left it to the House. There

does not seem to be any urgency. Therefore, this will not be included in the agenda for the last day at four o'clock.

The House then adjourned till a Quarter Past Eight of the Clock on Thursday, the 17th September, 1953.