

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: If there is no money spent how will it come up?

Mr. Speaker: We can pass any amount any time but the work has to be speeded up

Railway Protection Force Act

*1958. { **Shri Sanganna:**
 { **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:**

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railway Protection Force Act, 1957 has neither yet been enforced nor any Rules have so far been framed thereunder, and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Yes

(b) The draft Rules have been framed and are now being carefully scrutinized by an officer who has been placed on special duty for this purpose. It is expected that the final draft will be ready by the end of this year when it will be discussed with the Ministries concerned. An endeavour is being made to place the Rules before the Lok Sabha by the middle of next year.

Shri Sanganna. May I know whether the offences committed on the railway lines have increased or decreased?

Mr. Speaker. We are going away from one thing to another.

Shri Tangamani: When this Act was passed in July 1957, why 2 years have elapsed before the rules are framed under it?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: The framing of the rules is a very intricate business. I might say that the Reserve Police Force Act was passed in 1949 and the rules were placed on the Table of the House in February, 1955 after 5 years.

But, I might submit that we have placed an officer specially on duty for

this purpose of framing the rules as expeditiously as possible, and we hope that by the middle of next year they will be placed on the Table of the House.

Mr. Speaker. I believe there is no purpose in having a Subordinate Legislation Committee, if as the hon. Minister said an Act was passed in 1949 and the rules were framed in 1955 and it is taken as a precedent. He has also said that it is only one year and not three or four years before the rules are framed.

Whenever an Act is passed, they must have in contemplation as to how they are going to work out or implement that Act. They must frame the rules within a reasonable time. There is no use in saying that they would follow the precedent of four years. I would like to give a direction to the Subordinate Legislation Committee to be vigilant.

The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram): Before you ruled, I was going to intervene in this case. That should not be treated as a precedent and if it is a precedent, it is a very bad precedent. I personally feel that it has taken too much time and the matter should have been expedited much earlier (*Interruption*). It came to my notice that the rules have not been finalised, and, then, I advised that a special officer should be put on this duty so that the rules might be finalised within a reasonable time.

There are some difficulties, of course, but they could have been taken care of earlier, because the State Governments will have to be consulted. But I will see that it is expedited.

Shri Viswanatha Reddy: May I explain the position of

Mr. Speaker: It is not necessary. The hon. Minister has said that he will expedite it.

Shri Viswanatha Reddy: May I explain the position of the Subordinate

Legislation Committee? Very repeatedly the Committee on Subordinate Legislation has made its recommendation that these rules should be framed, and also laid on the Table of the House. Now, it is for this House to take up the matter and give directions to the Government.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister has said that he will expedite it. Let us wait till the next session.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: I have a submission to make, Sir. You just now gave a direction that the Subordinate Legislation Committee should be vigilant. What jurisdiction has the Subordinate Legislation Committee got unless and until the rules come before the Committee? It is for the Ministries to frame the rules. As a matter of fact, this matter has been reported to the House three times.

Mr. Speaker: I would like the Subordinate Legislation Committee to be on the watch. As soon as an Act is passed, if there are provisions for the framing of rules in it, let them wait for the rules for a reasonable time. If nothing happens within a reasonable time, let them write to the Ministry. And if nothing happens still, let them bring it to the notice of this House. Whatever is said in this House, I hope the hon. Ministers will be quick to act.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya: The Railway Ministry should have moved in this matter.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister has said that it was not brought to this notice. Now, he says it will be done.

Food Committees in States

*1069. **Shri Kalika Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether All-parties Food Committees have been set up in States;

(b) if not, the causes for delay therein; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to hold a joint conference of Central

as well as State Food Committee members to assess the general food situation in the country as a whole?

The Minister of Co-operation (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). In some of the States such Committees have been set up while in some others the matter is receiving the attention of the State Governments concerned.

(c) No, Sir.

Shri Kalika Singh: What has been the reaction of the Kerala State, in particular, about this proposal for the formation of a committee?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): The Kerala Government have set up committees.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether it is a fact that in some of the States such as U.P. some political parties have either refused co-operation with the food committees or have withdrawn from the food committees after initial co-operation? If so, what are the reasons advanced?

Shri A. P. Jain: So far as I know, one political party, the Socialist Party has refused to co-operate.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: May I know if it has been brought to the notice of the hon. Minister that though these all-party food committees have been set up in the States, the implementation cannot be done at the taluk level because there are no all-party food committees and the Ministers are refusing to have them? Further, I would like to know whether this matter would also be discussed in this joint conference.

Shri A. P. Jain: In the first place, there is not going to be any joint conference. Secondly, we know that some of the State Governments have not set up committees either at the district level or at the taluk level. The whole matter has to be decided by the State Governments and they will set up such committees as they consider proper and feasible.