

Their take-home salary was being reduced. I was assured that what was given to the employees of the banking sector would be extended to the insurance sector also. I do not know why the Finance Minister has become so rigid in regard to the employees of the insurance sector. When he has assured that autonomy will be given, the management to LIC and GIC were asked to negotiate with the employees and their associations, and settle the pending issues. I request the Finance Minister that the right to collective bargaining, as he has assured on the floor of the House today, be given to the employees of LIC and GIC. The management should negotiate with the employees to settle the pending issues. We have expressed our reservations.

MR. SPEAKER: I think you have expressed them very eloquently

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: I am reminded of a small couplet of the great Urdu poet Akbar Allahabadi.

Qaum Key Gham Mein Dinner Khaati Hai: C.P.M.
Hukkaam Key Saath

Dard Aapko Bahut Hai Magar Aaraam Key Saath.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I have held discussions with Shri Acharia. An opportunity for a wide-ranging debate on the insurance sector is coming up when the IRA Bill will be introduced in this House. I have already written to him and to his party leader also. Let the debate come. At that time the views that I had expressed in my letter, I will articulate in the House. He has a right to say what he wants to say. The House can debate the insurance sector. I believe, Sir, that notwithstanding their ideological and philosophical reservations on the Finance Bill and the Budget, in the heart of hearts, they support the direction of the reforms that we have taken up. And I thank all sections of the House for the broad and generous support they have given me in piloting this Budget and this Finance Bill.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (PANSKURA): I hope that the IRA Bill will have a different connotation when it comes.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed

The motion was adopted

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I must thank all the hon. Members very sincerely. For clause-by-clause discussion, we had earmarked two hours. For third reading, we had earmarked one hour. Out of the three hours allotted, we spent exactly 58 minutes to transact this business. Congratulations to all of you.

Since there is no more Government business before the Private Members Bills, I adjourn the House for twenty

minutes, as a tea break, to meet again at 3.30 p.m.

15.09 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till thirty minutes past Fifteen of the Clock.

15.41 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at forty-one minutes past Fifteen of the Clock.

(SHRI P.M. SAYEED in the Chair)

[English]

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Eighth Report

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA (PATIALA). Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Eighth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions Presented to the House on the 7th May, 1997."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Eighth report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 7th May, 1997."

The motion was adopted.

15.42 hrs.

PRIVATE MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

Illegal Immigrants-contd.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN. We shall take up further discussion on the Illegal Immigrants Resolution moved by Shri Jagat Vir Singh Drona on the 13th December, 1996. The time allotted for this Resolution is five hours, the House has already taken four hours and twelve minutes, and only forty-eight minutes are left. Shri G.M. Banatwalla was on his feet.

Shri G.M. Banatwalla, you may please continue your speech.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (PONNANI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is most unfortunate that the entire question of the presence of illegal migrants in the country has been politicised and a bogie is sought to be raised about for the so-called large scale infiltration in the country.

The very origin of this controversy lies in the electoral battle that was to be fought in Assam. Accordingly, a question was raised on the occasion of the by-election of