

**16.55 hrs.**

### APPROPRIATION (NO. 4) BILL

**MR. CHAIRMAN :** Item No. 8 Shri Chidambaram to move for leave to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1997-98.

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) :** Sir, anticipating Shri Ram Naik, I want to say that the draft notification was laid in the Lok Sabha on 20th...*(Interruptions)*

**SHRI RAM NAIK :** Let me raise it.

**SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM :** There is no time. There is simply no time. We have to go at five o'clock.

**SHRI RAM NAIK :** This is unfair.

**SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM :** Tell me what is to be done.

**SHRI RAM NAIK :** Let the House know about it.

**SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM :** I am telling you what it is. All right.

Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1997-98.

**MR. CHAIRMAN :** The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1997-98."

*The motion was adopted.*

**SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM :** I introduce the Bill.

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**SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM :** I beg to move :

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1997-98 be taken into consideration."

**MR. CHAIRMAN :** Motion moved :

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1997-98 be taken into consideration."

*[Translation]*

**SHRI RAM NAIK :** Mr. Chairman, Sir, I shall express my views in brief. The Minister of Finance while

presenting budget in this House had said that the limit for plant and machinery of small scale industries would be increased from Rs. 60 lakh to Rs. 3 crore under demand 55 which belongs to small scale industry and agro and rural industry. Now, six months have passed but it has not been increased so far. I want to know as to when that limit will be increased.

*[English]*

**SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM :** The draft notification was placed in the Lok Sabha on the 29th of March, 1997, and in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st of March, 1997. As per Rule 11 B (iii), the notification has to lie in Parliament for 30 sitting days. Thirty sitting days will be over today. Therefore, it will come into force, maybe tomorrow or the day after...*(Interruptions)* I will respond to you in writing. Please allow it to be passed.

*[Translation]*

**PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) :** I shall express my views in one-two sentences. Firstly, I would like to draw the attention of the Government through you to demand No. 55. The Khadi and Village Industry is facing great crisis at present and lakhs of labourers have been rendered unemployed for want of any such concession in this regard. This is 50th anniversary of our independence and we know very well that how much love Mahatma Gandhi had for 'Swadeshi' and Khadi. Due to this decision of withdrawal of rebate being provided to Khadi and Village Industries, about 80 lakh people have become unemployed and the Khadi and Village Industries which come under the small scale Industry sector are facing great crisis.

*[English]*

**SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM :** Sir, he will confine to only one item and I will reply on the rest. The rebate was 10 per cent throughout the year and an additional 10 per cent for a period of 90 days. We have changed that. Up to tomorrow we continue 10 per cent but in the 12 month period beginning tomorrow, 15th of August, 1997 to 14th of August, 1998, it will be 15 per cent throughout the year. As against 10 per cent, it is now going to be 15 per cent throughout the year. I have given money to the Khadi and Village Industries Commission. Shri Surendra Mohan has met me. There is no report of any retrenchment of any worker from the KVIC. If there is a report, let it be brought to my notice, I will take action.

**MR. CHAIRMAN :** The question is :

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India

for the services of the financial year 1997-98 be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

### Clauses 2 and 3

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the schedule stand part of the Bill."

*The Motion was adopted.*

*The Schedule was added to the Bill.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title stand part of the Bill."

*The Motion was adopted.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

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17.00 hrs.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I now request the hon. Minister for Agriculture to give some information regarding Himachal Pradesh, if he so wishes.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Hon'ble Members have raised the matter of floods that occurred in Himachal Pradesh. The Chair has directed the Minister of Agriculture to make a statement in this regard. I am trying to contact Himachal Pradesh since 9.00 A.M. today but could not succeed. I have contacted the Chief Minister just now. He has come back from the tour of affected areas. 133 people are missing. We do not know whether they have died or not. I cannot say anything about it at once. He told me that they should be provided about Rs. 20 crore at once. Roads have been blocked

there. It is not possible to transport fruits etc. as roads have been blocked. We have given Rs. 10 crore from the calamity relief fund. Our team under the leadership of Joint Secretary, Shri Chadha will go there on 18th August. We will do the rest after receiving report from there.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Many persons are missing and have been washed away in the rivers...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV (Purnea) : I have given a notice in connection with Bihar. When George Fernandes was speaking in this regard, I also wanted to speak on it...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Speaker, has told that one-two Members have been left in the Zero Hour. They should be allowed to speak. Shri Ram Kripal Yadav will speak first.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : I should also be allowed to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It contains the name of Shri Ram Kripal Yadav.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : I should be allowed to speak on this issue. Shri George was also speaking on the same issue on which he wants to speak but at 1.00 P.M. the House was adjourned till 2.00 P.M. Later on, when discussion was started, the question was raised again and it was told that he will get the opportunity to speak. If he wants to raise that issue, then the other side should also get the opportunity to speak. This is my submission.

MR. CHAIRMAN : George Saheb is not here.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : It is a separate issue that he is not here but it is such a subject that other side's view should also be heard.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Lok Sabha also wanted to raise this issue in the morning...*(Interruptions)*. The observations made by the Patna High Court regarding Bihar...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is no precedent of starting debate on any point raised during the zero hour.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : He had given an adjournment motion. He was told that he would be permitted to speak on this point later.

[English]

SHRI P. KODANDA RAMAIAH (Chitradurga) : My notice is also there. I have given notice on the zero hour. I have given notice on the same subject.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It may be with the speaker.

[Translation]

It is not with me now.