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Title: Ruling regarding Constitution (One Hundred and Twenty Second Amendment) Bill, 2014.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Members, a point of order has been raised by Shri N.K. Premachandran that certain provisions of the Constitution (One Hundred and Twenty Second Amendment) Bill, 2014 are *ultra vires* of the Constitution.

In this regard, I have to inform the House that as per established practice, the Speaker does not decide whether a Bill or a Clause thereof is *ultra vires* of the Constitution or not. The House also does not take a decision on specific question of *vires* of a Bill. It is for the Courts to decide the matter.

Regarding Standing Committee, Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab *vide* letter dated 5 May, 2015 has stated that when, on the other day, he had objected to listing of the Bill stating that it is a new Bill and need to be sent to the Standing Committee, from the Government side it was stated that as in the previous Lok Sabha, a similar Bill was deliberated in the Standing Committee, there is no need to send this Bill again to the Standing Committee. But this Bill is a new Bill and contains many new provisions.

I may inform the House that Shri Arun Jaitley, the Minister-in-charge of the Bill *vide* letter dated 18th December, 2014 had requested the hon. Speaker for not referring the Bill to the Standing Committee on the ground that a Bill, namely, the Constitution (One Hundred and Fifteenth Amendment) Bill, 2011 providing for the introduction of the GST was introduced in Lok Sabha on 22nd March, 2011 and referred to the Standing Committee on Finance. Hon. Minister had further stated that there had been detailed deliberations with the Empowered Committee of the State Finance Ministers and the present Bill has since been revised based on the recommendations of the Standing Committee and the Empowered Committee. In view thereof, the hon. Speaker did not refer the Bill to the Standing Committee.

As the hon. Speaker had already taken a decision for not referring this Bill to the Standing Committee, I am now calling Shri Veerappa Moily to speak.

18.23 hrs.

SUBMISSIONS BY MEMBERS...Contd.

(ii) Re: Reported decision of the Central Government for total and uniform ban on fishing for 61 days in the eastern zone of India.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now we are going for Zero Hour, Prof. K.V. Thomas.