

[Sh. B.K. Gadhvi]

Anyway, the points made are well taken. We have to keep a vigil; it is not to be done by the Comptroller and Auditor General alone, but by every Ministry. This is being done, but, of course, that needs to be strengthened. As I said, accounting part is done by the various Departments and Ministries concerned, and the auditing part is looked after by the Comptroller and Auditor General, so far as the Centre is concerned. So that the work can be done speedily and in much more quantum. I am thankful to the hon. members that they have whole-heartedly supported this Bill. I place on record that this Bill will remove the anomalies which were contrary to the objects enshrined in the Constitution.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Comptroller and Auditor-General's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Services) Act, 1971, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

Now we will take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That Clauses 2 to 4 stand part of the Bill"

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 2 to 4 were added to the Bill*

The question is:

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

*The motion was adopted.*

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

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The Minister may now move that the Bill be passed.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed".

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

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12.57 hrs.

HIGH COURT JUDGES (CONDITIONS OF SERVICE) AMENDMENT BILL

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, we will take up the next item.

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): As you are aware, during the last year, substantial improvements in the Service Conditions of the Judges of the High Courts and the Supreme Court have been made. The present Bill is also a result of our concern for bringing about further improvements in the Service Conditions of the Judges. In this Bill, it is proposed to increase the House Rent Allowance to the Judges of the High Courts from the present 12 1/2% of the salary per month to a fixed amount of Rs. 2,500 per month. This is being done to compensate such of those Hon'ble Judges of the High Courts who have to stay in their own houses

or have to make their own arrangements, as no Government accommodation can be made available to them.

It may be appreciated that even after the substantial improvements in the salaries of the Judges which has been increased from Rs. 3,500 to Rs. 8,000 per month, an amount of 12 1/2% as House Rent Allowance to the Judges does not enable them to live in a decent and proper house befitting their status and dignity. With the proposed amendment to Section 22 (A) of the High Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Act, 1954, this situation is expected to be remedied.

I request the House to support the Bill.

With these words I bet to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the High Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Act, 1954, be taken into consideration."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the High Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Act, 1954, be taken into consideration".

SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER (Bangalore South): Sir, I am very happy that recently we have enhanced the salaries of the High Court judges and now the Minister has said that certain fixed amount will be given to them. I welcome this. The only suggestion I would like to make in this connection is that the previous Law Minister stated before the House that they are not going to forget the subordinate judges.

13.00 hrs.

Some instances were given, particularly when Shri Ashok Sen was there. He said that with his own eyes he has seen one of the district Judges wearing a torn coat. This he said on the floor of the House. So, their condition is really miserable. Something must be done by the Central Government to see that their condition is being improved. Even many of the Class-IV employees in the Central Government get about Rs. 2000/- which many of the subordinate judges do not get as the starting salary. It is very necessary for the government of India to take steps not only to improve their service conditions but also see that their salaries, pensions, etc. are increased. Of course, this is a State matter, but I find that they do not have any residential accommodation at certain places where they are posted. The Government of India give fund to certain states for the construction of quarters and courts for the district judges. But certain States, like Karnataka, are not getting any fund because you think that these states are surplus states and do not require any financial assistance. Therefore, it is very necessary and the Government of India should take care of the subordinate judges. I am sure the hon. Minister will take action. I am not a lawyer. But he is a lawyer of national repute and he is well-versed in these fields and he knows the conditions very well.

With these words, I support this amending Bill.

13.01 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till  
Fourteen of the Clock.*

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch  
at five minutes past fourteen of the Clock*