

[Shri Narayan Cnoubey]

grass-root level. They have their own grievances. You know pretty well, that these common people are not in a happy mood. They have to keep their mouth shut. Big officers torture them, if they try to do their duty dutifully. That is not to be counted. The officers do not take into account of what they do properly. The officers count only what they want to be done. If any RPF person daily goes to the house of the officer makes a salute to the Memsahib and take his son to school without doing any duty, then he will not promotion. But if a man wants to do his duty properly and if he does not submit to the whims and caprices of the officers, he is punished. In such a situation, the association which is there with very limited powers cannot speak. They can only appeal, they cannot strike, they can only make representation to you. If you withdraw that thing also and if you speak more of democracy, election in Punjab, election in Assam, I do not think this Bill will suit to the talks you do make here about democracy. Naturally, for all these reasons, I say that this Bill should be withdraw and should not be brought now. I oppose this Bill tooth and nail and I hope you will kindly consider these things. You cannot give more protection by giving more powers to these persons. It is impossible. If you cannot motivate them but give them arms and the right to arrest, then it will only breed more corruption, nepotism and favouritism. Already the common people are suffering a lot. We poor people are now safe, at least from the RPF; there is enough police to attack us; there is enough BSF to attack us. If you again bring in RPF also, then it will be a third force. Hence I request you kindly to withdraw this Bill. It is meaningless for this purpose. I hope you will consider my proposal and withdrawing this Bill.

[Translation]

*SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM (Ara-kkonam): Hon. Mr. Chairman, Sir, on the Railway Protection Force Amendment Bill, which has been introduced by

our hon. Railway Minister, I wish to make a few suggestions. I wholeheartedly welcome this Bill. Through this Bill, the Railway Protection Force which has been in existence for the past 28 years is being converted into the Armed Forces of the Union. It is very necessary to have the Armed Forces to protect Rs. 9500 crores of investment made in the Railways by the Government. From 1979-80 to 1983-84, during this period of five years, the Railway materials and fittings worth Rs. 735 lakhs had been stolen and only Rs. 342 lakhs worth of the materials and fittings have been recovered so far. During the same period, Rs. 2939 lakhs worth of consignments had also been stolen, out of which only Rs. 272 lakhs worth of consignments have been recovered. If the railway materials and fittings and the consignments are continued to be pilfered in this way, naturally there will be compulsion to increase the passenger fare and freight rate. This adversely affects the common people. By referring to to these statistics, I have emphasised the need for having under the direct control of the Government such an armed Force so that the railway properties and the consignments sent through Railways are protected.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. R. Jeevarathinam, you stop here and may continue next time, because now it is 3 p. m. and we have to take up Private Members' Business.

15.00 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

[English]

Fifth Report

SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI (Ratnagiri): I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the fifth Report of the Committee on

*The Speech was originally delivered in Tamil.

Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 22nd August, 1985."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That this House do agree with the fifth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 22nd August, 1985."

The motion was adopted.

15.01 hrs.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION BILL*

[*English*]

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS (Mavoli-kara) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for certain agencies to ensure freedom of having access to and obtaining public information for the citizens and for matters connected therewith.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for certain agencies to ensure freedom of having access to and obtaining public information for the citizens and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : I introduce the Bill.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT)
BILL*

(Amendment of article 19, etc.)

[*English*]

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : I beg to move for leave to

introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, 2."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA
introduce the Bill.

15.03 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *In the Chair*]

PRASAR BHARATI (BROADCASTING
CORPORATION OF INDIA) BILL*

[*English*]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a Broadcasting Corporation for India, to be known as Prasar Bharati, to define its Composition, functions and powers and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a Broadcasting Corporation for India, to be known as Prasar Bharati, to define its composition, functions and powers and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :
I introduce the Bill.

* Published in Gazette of India Extra ordinary, Part II, Section 2, Dated 23.8.1985.