

12.09 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT): With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business in this House during the week commencing Monday, the 4th May, 1987, will consist of:—

- (1) Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's order paper.
- (2) Consideration and passing of:
 - (a) The Goa, Daman & Diu Mining Concessions (Abolition and Declaration as Mining Leases) Bill, 1987.
 - (b) The Food Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 1987.
 - (c) The prevention of Corruption Bill, 1987.
- (3) Consideration and passing of the following Bills, as passed by Rajya Sabha:—
 - (a) The Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Bill, 1987.
 - (b) The Infant Milk Foods and Feeding Bottles (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Bill, 1986.
 - (c) The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (Amendment) Bill, 1987.
 - (d) The Labour Welfare Funds Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1987.

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur): Sir, could it be possible for the House to transact all the business in one week....

MR. SPEAKER: That is just you see, when it comes, we will cross the bridge. Why are you bothering now?

(Interruptions)

PROF. N.G. RANGA: Whether there is going to be any extension at all?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat): If there is a proposal to extend the Session, we should be informed in good time because Mrs. Dixit does not say anything clearly. She is always very inscrutable.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You are never straight forward in your utterances.

[English]

DR. DATTA SAMANT (Bombay South Central): Sir, in the last day all the Bills are passed within one hour even without going through it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: How can you pass all these Bills...

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHAMINDER SINGH (Faridkot): Even without quorum.....

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: We shall take it up next time.

[English]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Please say yes or no. No chance of extending the Session?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT): We cannot tell you just now. A whole week is ahead.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: When will you tell us?

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT: When the moment comes, Sir....

[Translation]

SHRI V. TULSIRAM (Nagarkurnool): When shall that last moment come? Kindly let us know.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Let that momentous moment come!

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Saifuddin Chowdhary.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY (Katwa): Sir, the issue of the alleged illegal accounts in Swiss Bank by Indians has raged severe controversy in the country. Central Government have taken no action against them on the plea that Swiss Bank keeps these accounts as closely-guarded secret. But, so far, Government of India have not made any formal request to the Government of Switzerland which is a friendly country of ours, to disclose the name of such Indians. It is argued that the Swiss Government does not make such disclosures unless criminal proceedings are initiated against such persons. In this context, I urge upon the Government of India to start criminal proceedings in case of persons where there are reasonable grounds to believe that they are holders of illegal accounts in Swiss Bank. This will enable the Government to get information about such persons.

In case, these people are found not guilty, then controversy would end with this and if allegations against them are found to be true, then stricter action could be taken against them. I hope Government would consider this seriously.

[Translation]

SHRI MANKURAM SODI (Bastar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I request that the following subject may be included in the list of business for the next week:—

The Anganwadi Scheme is a very useful social service for our society particularly for the poor section of the society. A teacher and one assistant work in every Anganwadi Centre. Under this plan in Bastar district about 8 to 10 Child Development Schemes are being run at Block level. These institutions have been started recently, but every now and then we are receiving the complaints of irregularities. There is a large scale bungling in the purchase of articles required to run these institutions. The annual report is prepared in which so many fake lists of articles and their fake receipts are shown. Some high officers of the department are also involved in it.

On the spot inspection reveals that a very sub-standard articles are provided to the children. Gur etc. are also not provided to them in nutritious diet. The mash is served to them with salt. Similarly, the pregnant ladies are also not getting nutritious diet. Last year, in Bastar district, the bungling of Rs. 45 lakh in Child Development Scheme came to light, but that has not yet been audited as a result of which the entire matter has been held in abeyance. Due to such cases the popular programme is being suspected by the public.

12.14 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the chair*]

Therefore, I request the Central Govern-

ment that to carry on such an important and popular scheme properly, a committee in every block under the supervision of five public representatives should be appointed which should review the working of these institutions after every three months. Necessary directions in this regard should be issued to the State Government. Apart from this, the case of misappropriation should be decided immediately and guilty officers should be punished suitably so that this scheme could be run properly.

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL (Kota): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, unhygienic conditions prevail in the towns and cities of the country. The number of unhygienic slums are increasing. In the matter of cleanliness and development and construction work, the officials of the municipalities and metropolitan councils are not fulfilling their duties. The problem has become more acute in this way. A national policy should be formulated for getting rid of such filthy slums.

SHRI M.L. JHIKRAM (Mandla): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are several such voluntary social service bodies, which are doing social work through their various programmes since last so many years. These programmes include establishment of institutions for the spread of education, hospitals for the medical care and various other schemes connected with economic development.

Some of these organisations receive full or partial aid from the Government. The names of some of them are Banwasi Seva Mandal, Gyan-Deep, Adim Jati Seva Sangh, Bhil Seva Sangh etc. Therefore, I want to suggest that provisions for contributory Provident Fund should be made for the officers and staff engaged in these organisations so that they could get some retirement benefits and they could lead a comfortable life in their old age and they do not have to depend on others.

[English]

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK (Cut-

tack): Sir, I request that the following subject may be included in the next week's business:-

M/s Bisra Stone Company Ltd., Birmitrapur in Orissa has been facing serious financial crisis. The annual production capacity of the company is 14 lakh tonnes. The Rourkela Steel Plant which was buying the entire limestone and dolomite produced by this company has now stopped its offtake from this company and has been procuring limestone and dolomite from outside agencies. This has put the company in serious crisis and it is on the verge of closure. The Company's revenue and cess duty arrears to be paid to the Government of Orissa has gone upto Rs. 400 lakhs. As a result of its serious financial crisis, the company has served voluntary retirement notices to as many as 1700 workers. Many of them are 50 years of age and they have been working in that company since its establishment. Those 1700 workers have been given the option of retrenchment in the event of their non-acceptance to the voluntary retirement notices. They are poor and most of them belong to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. If they are thrown out of employment, they will not be able to earn their livelihood from any source. I request the Government of India to direct Rourkela Steel Plant to procure limestone and dolomite from M/s Bisra Limestone Company Ltd. At the same time I request the Government to direct the company to withdraw voluntary retirement notices issued to the workers and save them from any possible retrenchment.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI (Ghosi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Government to the districts of Azamgarh, Balia, Jaunpur, Deoria and Gorakhpur in connection with the Communication facilities provided in these areas. There is lack of Communication facilities, specially in the districts of Azamgarh and Balia where the telephones

[Shri Raj Kumar Rai]

are mostly out of order. If we ring up to the Azamgarh telephone exchange, no one picks it up. I have written to the hon. Minister of Communication in this connection and I have also put questions on the floor of the House, but the officials do not tell the truth and say that adequate facilities are available. In Azamgarh, facilities for direct dialling with the metropolitan cities are not available. If we book a call for Azamgarh from Delhi, we are put on the line after two or even more days. The industrial area of Mawnath Bhanjan is situated in this district and where the traders are finding it difficult to carry on with their business, because of the non-availability of adequate communication facilities.

Hence, I request the Government that it should take action to rectify the declining communication facilities and to link that district with the various metropolitan cities by direct dialling system.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): I request that the following subject may be included in the next week business:-

The Kendriya Vidyalayas run by the Central Government are supposed to be ideal educational institutions in the country. All sorts of facilities required for dissemination of right type of knowledge and also various extra curricular activities, keeping the integrated development of all the facets of personality of the students in view, should be made available in such schools. But it is found that there is no provision of assembly hall or auditorium in the Kendriya Vidyalayas Buildings. Further, minimum necessity like Projector required for scientific education is also not available in all the schools. To give an instance Sambalpur Kendriya Vidyalaya which is about two decades old now does not have this facility. Besides, the lack of boundary walls in Sambalpur School is causing difficulty for school authority to develop much needed gardens and play ground etc. The new building which has

come up now at Sambalpur has enough accommodation for multiplicity of classes and there is mounting pressure from different sections of the people for such additional classes at least in the primary section.

I would, therefore, request the Minister for Education to take remedial measures in this regard as suggested above.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore): I request that the following subject may be included in the next week business:-

Serious situation has arisen out of acute scarcity of drinking water and also undistilled water in the Union Capital. Delhi/ New Delhi, causing much hardship and difficulties to millions of families. It is apprehended that the situation will be more acute in a few days if the present situation is allowed to continue further.

2. There is very heavy traffic on the stretch of road connecting New Delhi with Old Delhi. Due to complete encroachment on the Footpaths on both sides of this road, thousands of pedestrians find it difficult to walk on this road. The footpaths on both sides should be cleared of encroachment immediately. It is surprising as to how this encroachment on the footpaths is allowed to continue on such a busy road. The higher authorities should visit this spot and clear the footpaths of encroachments completely, for the safety of the pedestrians and for smooth movement of traffic without any further delay.

[Translation]

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI (Khalilabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I request that the following subject may be included in the next week's business:—

On one hand when the Government is making efforts to make inexpensive, but effective and safe medicines available, but on the other, there are regular complaints against some drug manufacturers who are

marketing certain tonics in the name of blood tonic which contain the impure blood of animals and by which the dangerous disease like AIDS can spread. According to Dr. V.S. Verma of the Indian Council of Medical Research, as far as possible we should avoid using blood or any medicine which contains blood. Such drug manufacturing companies are selling blood tonics at prices which are many times higher and which are dangerous for human consumption. Thus the companies are extracting exorbitant sums from the poor patients without any justification. In this situation, it is imperative to immediately control the sale of such medicines so that the lives of the patients are saved and their interests are protected.

Hence, I want to demand from the Central Government that such medicines should be banned and detailed investigations should be carried out and only the effective and safe medicines should be permitted to be sold in the market at reasonable prices.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA (Sangrur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I request that the following subject may be included in the next week's business:—

The farmers of Punjab through their hard labour and by using the latest technology are not only filling the grain stores of Punjab but are also contributing a major portion in the Central buffer stock of food-grains and are thus doing great service to the nation and the society. But it is regretful that despite the labour that the farmers have put in the Government is not able to render proportionate assistance, Punjab is not getting sufficient supply of power for agricultural purposes. Punjab is also not getting its quota of power supply from the Singrauli and Wairasuli power projects. In this connection, I want to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that as Punjab is situated far away from the coal belt and as there are doubts regarding the generation of hydel power because the water of its rivers are utilised for irrigation purposes, so efforts are being made to set

up atomic power plants. The Atomic Power Department carried out a survey in July 1982, for locating a site for this purpose. Suggestions were made regarding the setting up of projects at Chaskor Sahib and Patran Sthan and the Government of Punjab also gave assurance in 1984 to make water, land etc. available, but till date the project has not passed beyond the consideration stage. I want to urge the Government to take an immediate decision in this direction and initiate action for the implementation of this project so that the farmers and the industrialists can get their required supply of power. It will not only help in bringing about prosperity in Punjab, but the country will also become prosperous and many other problems may also be solved.

[English]

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT: We have noted the suggestions and we will see how many of them can be incorporated in the next week's business.

12.30 hrs.

LOKPAL BILL

[English]

Extension of time for presentation of Report of Joint Committee

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska): I beg to move:

"That this House do further extend upto the last day of the Monsoon Session, 1987, the time for presentation of the Report of the Joint Committee on the Bill to provide for the appointment of a Lokpal to inquire into allegations of corruption against Union Ministers and for matters connected therewith".

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is: