

"That the Bill further to amend the Salaries and Allowances of Officers of Parliament Act, 1953, be taken into consideration."

As a sequel to the amendment to the Salaries and Allowances of Ministers Act, 1953, it is proposed to bring an amendment to the Salaries and Allowances of Officers of Parliament Act. Since the Speaker and the Deputy-Speaker of the Lok Sabha and the Deputy-Chairman of the Rajya Sabha have been given the status of the Cabinet Ministers and the Ministers of States, respectively, it is proposed to amend the Salaries and Allowances payable to these functionaries on the same lines.

However, a distinction has been made in the case of the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha who is not a Member of Parliament. It is, therefore, proposed to give him a salary of Rs. 7,500/- p.m. Both the Speaker and the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha will be paid sumptuary allowance of Rs. 1,000/- p.m. whereas the Deputy-Chairman and the Deputy-Speaker would be entitled for sumptuary allowance of Rs. 500/- p.m.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill further to amend the Salaries and Allowances of Officers of Parliament Act, 1953, be taken into consideration "

The motion was adopted

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The house will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is :

"That Clauses 2 to 5 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

*Clauses 2 to 5 were added to the Bill.
Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.*

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

SALARY AND ALLOWANCES OF LEADERS OF OPPOSITION IN PARLIAMENT (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1985

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill further to amend the Salary and Allowances of Leaders of Opposition in Parliament Act, 1977, be taken into consideration."

It is a sequel to the earlier Bills passed in regard to Members of Parliament and Ministers. This is also a consequential one.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill further to amend the Salary and Allowances of Leaders of Opposition in Parliament Act, 1977, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The house will now 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.
Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.*

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

MOTION RE : "SEVENTH FIVE YEAR PLAN, 1985-90."—*Contd.*

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We are now continuing the discussion on 7th Five Year Plan. Smt. Usha Thakkar to speak.

[*Translation*]

*SHRIMATI USHA THAKKAR (Kutch) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir I am obliged to you for giving me an opportunity to participate in the discussion on the Seventh Five Year Plan.

Planning is an internal part of our national development and democratic form of Government.

India is an agricultural country and, therefore, the Seventh Five Year Plan has laid special emphasis on irrigation and power. I congratulate the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Planning Minister for this. I would like to say a few words about agriculture and small farmers. Under the Land Ceiling Act, nobody can possess more than 17 acres of land. This leads to injustice to small farmers in many areas. For example, my area Kutch is rocky. The per acre yield is very low as compared to other areas in the country. Therefore, I would suggest that the land ceiling for such areas and lesser fertile areas should be fixed at 30 acres.

Sir, I would now like to express my views on providing banking facilities in rural areas. Though the Government's

*The speech was originally delivered in Gujarati :

programmes in this regard are commendable, yet they are inadequate. Even today there are villages in my constituency, Kutch which do not have banks within a radius of 24 Kms. I agree that it is not possible to open banks in all the areas but banking facility could be made available within 23 Kms. or the rural poor could benefit from the nearest bank in the vicinity.

Sir, a lignite based power station is proposed to be set up in Kutch-Panghro area and the work is in progress. I thank the Government for this gesture. Besides, I would request the Government that just as some projects are abandoned due to paucity of funds, it may not be done in this case, because power is urgently required for the development of agriculture and industries in this area.

Sir, tubewells are installed in our area to supply water, but they are inadequate. Something more measures should be taken to meet the water supply requirement of the entire Kutch. At present, a substantial quantum of the river water flows into the sea unutilised. Dams should be constructed on rivers and water should be made available to needy areas. I request that more funds should be spent on these projects and all possible efforts should be made to complete them in time. If this work is completed on war footing, we can usher in green revolution in the entire country. If we manage to make adequate water supply in every nook and corner of the country, the name of the Eighth Lok Sabha and the present Council of Ministers would be written in golden letters in the annals of history. This would help in generating employment opportunities for the people affected by natural calamities and we shall also be able to double the agricultural production.

Sir, I request the hon. Planning Minister that water from Machu Dam may be supplied to my constituency, Kutch during the Seventh Plan. If the problem of water is solved, it would help in increasing the population of the border area. It would also help in checking a infiltration of foreigners. Shri Rajhans had said in