12.20 hrs.

MOTION RE: SUSPENSION OF PROVISO TO RULE 66

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH): According to List of Business for to-day, item No. 6 is about my request for suspending the rule under the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha. 1 beg to move:

"That this House do suspend the proviso to rule 66 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in its application to the motions for taking into consideration and passing of the Constitution (Fifty-Third Amendment) Bill, 1986 and the State of Mizoram Bill, 1986 in as much as these are dependent on each other."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do suspend the proviso to rule 66 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in its application to the motions for taking into consideration and passing of the Constitution (Fifty-Third Amendment) Bill, 1986 and the State of Mizoram Bill, 1986 in as much as these are dependent on each other."

The motion was adopted

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Buta Singh, now you can move items 7 and 8.

[Translation]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY (Hanam-konda): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we would like to be told in the first instance as to what is the urgency due to which it is being brought.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Just a minute. The House will now take up Consti-

tution (Fifty-Third Amendment) Bill and the State of Mizoram Bill for consideration and passing. Government have recommended three hours for a joint discussion of both these Bills. I hope the House agrees.

[Translation]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, first of all please tell us about item No. 6.

[Erglish]

S. BUTA SINGH: Do you want to speak on the suspension of the rules, or on Calling Attention?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: On the suspension of rules? It has been adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: Please let us know as to what is its necessity?

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now it has been adopted.

S. BUTA SINGH: Item No 6 has been passed by the House. Now I am on item No. 7.

MR. DEPUTY SPFAKFR: Items 7 and 8.

[Translation]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: Mr. Deputy Speaker, kindly listen to us first.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPFAKER: You did not ask for it earlier. I had said earlier that we have already taken item No. 6. I had asked the Minister to move. We have already passed the motion regarding suspension of rule. Now it is too late.

[Translation]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: Please let us know in the first instance.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, no. It is too late now. We have already adopted the suspension Motion. What can I do now? We have adopted it.

[Translation]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: The Bill on Mizoram has been brought. Does it mean suspension of the rules?

[English]

S. BUTA SINGH: No, no. It was carried.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Bill on Mizoram has already been circulated. What is there for discussion?

[Translation]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: I am bringing it to your notice.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Memorandum of Reasons has also already been circulated. Before the Motion for suspension was put to vote, you should have raised it. The suspension Motion has been adopted. Now the Minister is taking up items 7 and 8 for consideration.

12.23 brs.

CONSTITUTION (FIFTY-THIRD AMENDMENT) BILL, 1986 AND STATE OF MIZORAM BILL, 1986

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH): 1 beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, be taken into consideration."

The Memorandum of Settlement on Mizoram and Sequence of Events signed on the 30th June, 1986 envisages the following steps which are required to be taken by the Mizo National Front:

- (1) The MNF undertakes, within the agreed time-frame, to take all necessary steps to end all underground activities, to bring out all underground personnel of MNF with their arms, ammunition and equipments; and
- (2) The MNF Party will take immediate steps to amend its Articles of Association so as to make them conform to the provisions of law.

Regarding the coming overground of MNF personnel, the total number of MNF personnel who have come overground till the 1st August, as per the time frame worked out, is 534. This excludes their 154 family members. The MNF have surrendered weapons of various types such as Light Machine Guns, Sub-Machine Guns, Self-Loading Rifles, Rocket Launchers etc. They have also surrendered ammunition and equipments.

Regarding amendment of Articles of Association, the MNF have already taken steps to discard the Constitution of Mizoram based on the assumption that Mizoram is an independent State They have also abrogated and set aside 'declaration of independence' announced on the 1st March, 1966. They have also amended their Articles of Association so as to conform to the provisions of law.

As per the Memorandum of Settlement, the Government will initiate necessary legislative and administrative measures including those for the enactment of the Bills for the amendment of Constitution with a view to satisfying the desires and aspirations of all sections of the people of Mizoram, subject to the fulfilment of the conditions by MNF. Accordingly, the Constitution (Fifty-third Amendment) Bill gives effect to the provissions of the Memorandum of Settlement on Mizoram in paragraph 4.3 (II) and 4.3 (III).

The Bill seeks to insert article 371 G. As we do not wish to interfere with the social practices, customary laws, religious beliefs