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| <p>4. Shri V. Ramanathan</p> <p>5. Shri Puttapaga Radhakrishna</p> <p>6. Shrimati Kailashpati</p> <p>7. Shri G. Swamy Naik</p> <p>8. Shri Dhuleshwar Meena</p> <p>9. Prof. N.M. Kamble</p> <p>10. Shri Jerlie E. Thriang</p> | <p>(4) Consideration of a motion for concurring in the recommendation of Rajya Labha for reference of the Shipping Agents (Licensing) Bill, 1987, to a Joint Committee.</p> <p>(5) Discussion on the motion regarding continued growth of population.</p> <p>(6) Discussion on the statement made by the Minister of Defence regarding the allegation of payment of commission to Indian agent in the purchase of submarines from M/s HDW of Federal Republic of Germany at 4.00 PM on Monday, the 9th May, 1988.</p> |
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12.05 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business in this House during the week commencing 9th May, 1988, will consist of:—

- (1) Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.
- (2) Consideration and passing of the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions (Amendment) Bill, 1988.
- (3) Consideration and passing of the following Bills, as passed by Rajya Sabha:—
 - (a) The Cine Workers and Cinema Theatre Workers (Regulation of Employment) Bill, 1987.
 - (b) The Hospitals and Other Institutions (Redressal of Grievances of Employees) Bill, 1988.
 - (c) The Companies (Amendment) Bill, 1988.

MR. SPEAKER : Smt. Jayanti Patnaik.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Tewary, sit down. I am on my legs. Take your seat. Loo. here. The law is for all. Nobody is immune, even the Minister or whatever he is. And the law will take its course. There is nothing to worry.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now sit down. I have given my ruling. That is all. Nothing doing.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I don't like it. I will name you. Sit down. It is enough. I cannot do it. I am not going to allow this House to be a police station.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK (Cuttack) : The following matter may please be included in next week's agenda :

Though beedi making is flourishing as a Cottage Industry in Madhya Pradesh, thousands of people engaged in it continue to be exploited. A major factor for the growth of the industry is the availability of cheap labour. Besides, the forests are rich in tendu leaves, the main raw material for beedi. Rough estimates show that at least 20 crores beedis are rolled in the State daily making the industry a

multi-crore business. But it is regrettable that the factory owners do not keep the workers on their rolls permanently to escape the provisions of labour laws. They appoint sattedar's who are commission agents. The beedi workers get the raw material from the sattedars and supply the rolled beedis to them.

In Most cases, the entire family including women and children are engaged in the industry but none of the members is listed in the rolls of sattedars. After two or three months, the workers' name is changed with the name of another member of the family. The beedi workers do not get the minimum wages as the sattedars often reject a sizeable number of beedis as sub-standard, which are often purchased by the sattedars themselves at reduced rates

As such, It is very necessary to provide job security to lakhs of beedi workers. They should be given free medical aid, educational scholarships for their children, interest free housing loan and subsistence allowance in the event of occupational hazards like tuberculosis and cancer. The implementation of all these measures is necessary.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The law will take its own course. Being a Minister does not absolve any person from any responsibility.

(Interruptions)

MR SPEAKER : I do not like it; enough is enough Please sit down. Nothing goes on record.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : Do not throw the dignity of the House to the winds. It is enough; please sit down.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : Prof. Kurien, you are now defying the chair. It is beyond control; I will name you. Please sit down.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. Rajhans. I have allowed only Dr. Rajhans. Nobody else is allowed. All are now speaking without my permission. Nobody goes on record except Dr. Rajhans.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : It is more than enough. Mr. Jaipal Reddy, you also come in the same category. I will not spare you also.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : It is not threatening; it is a warning. I will treat you equally. Nothing doing. Not allowed.

DR. G. S. RAJHANS (Jhanjarpur) : The following matter may be included in the next week's agenda.

It is irony that despite all the natural resources Bihar continues to be one of the most backward States of the country. The per capita income of Bihar is probably the lowest in the country.

There is acute poverty in the land of plenty. One of the basic reasons for the pathetic condition of the people of Bihar is the lack of power there. There is no appreciable increase in the power position even after the commissioning of Muzaffarpur Power Unit.

The average production of electricity in Bihar is 40 to 50 per cent less than the installed capacity. The working of Bihar Electricity Board is not at all satisfactory. There is an urgent need to appoint an Enquiry Commission to look into technical and administrative aspects and suggest remedial measures.

But despite this, industry and agriculture will continue to suffer for want of power and the State will continue to remain as backward as before.

It is, therefore, earnestly requested that at least two atomic power plants be sanctioned for Bihar by the Central

Government. One of these plants may be located in North Bihar.

Bihar is rich in Uranium which is the principal raw material for generation of atomic energy.

The economy of Bihar will undergo a sea change if these atomic energy power plants are installed there at an early date.

[Translation]

SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV (Morena) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the following matter may please be included in the next week's agenda:—

"Air-service has been started in many divisions of Madhya Pradesh as Gwalior, Guna, Bhopal, Khajuraho, Jabalpur, Bilaspur, Raipur, Bastar, Indore and Ujjain but the Air-service has not been started in Chambal Division so far. Sheopur Kalan of Chambal Division is at a distance of 25 kilometre from Gwalior. It is a place where many businessmen and rich people reside. There is narrow gauge line starting from Sheo Kalan to Gwalior and it takes 22 hours to cover this distance and buses reach Gwalior in 8 hours. I, therefore, request the Government to start a helicopter-service from Sheopur Kalan of Chambal Division so that the people of this area could be benefited.

12.15 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair.*]

SHRI MADAN PANDEY (Gorakhpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the following matters may please be included in the next week's agenda.

Although the situation in the country is favourable for industrialisation yet regional imbalances persist. Because of the availability of infrastructure facilities, the private and Public Sector Industries are being established only in the developed areas which is rather increasing regional imbalances.

Therefore, following urgent steps should be taken to remove the regional imbalances with regard to industrial development in all parts of the country:—

1. The policy regarding selection of sites for the establishment of industries in Public Sectors should be amended and gas-based fertilizers plants, the cotton mills for the overall development of Handloom Industry Printing and Processing Plants and agro-based industries should be set-up in the country's backward areas such as District Gorakhpur situated on the eastern part of Uttar Pradesh.

2. It is necessary for the entrepreneurs to observe strictly the terms and condition to set up their industries only at places allotted by the Government at the time of issuing licenses or the setting up of their industries in Private and Joint sectors.

3. In order to encourage the entrepreneurs the backward areas should be re-demarcated and subsidy and infrastructural facilities should be made available.

I, therefore, request the Central Government to take instant steps for making the overall development of the country.

[English]

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore) : The river Subarnarekha is popularly known as a treacherous river as it changes its course frequently causing huge losses to the villages located on its banks. Besides, the devastating floods of this river which are a regular phenomenon cause large scale devastation to the vast areas of the States like Orissa and West Bengal. This year, due to large scale erosion, three very thickly populated villages in Balasore district of Orissa were submerged and nearly 600 to 700 families became destitute and have taken shelter either in nearby villages or beneath the trees. Erosions caused threats to about 22 villages, located on both sides of the banks of this river. Immediate action should be taken to save the situation.

Paper industry of our country is facing closure due to less consumption. Our country's per capita consumption of paper is only two kilograms which is the lowest in the world.

Out of 300 and odd paper mills, 245 are in small sector, and the total installed capacity is around 27 lakh tonnes. The production of paper has come down to about 60 per cent of the installed capacity and this under-utilisation has resulted in the closure of 22 per cent of these Mills in small scale sector and other 38 per cent are already in the red and half of them are on the verge of closure.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska) : The following matter may please be included in next week's agenda :

The Union Ministry of Labour and officials in-charge of emigrant Indians deserve appreciation for their efficient work. The public hearing thrice a week helps the intending emigrants as well returning emigrants to solve their problems. Workers sent abroad are at times exploited by labour Saradars more so from Orissa. Some cases have been detected and action taken. But again they have raised their ugly head and are very active. The agents are extracting heavy amounts from the workers to send them abroad through construction companies at Delhi; in Private Sector as well as Public Sector. Workers do complain, but the exploitation has not ended. Establishment of man-power corporations in all the States, Union Territories and at the Centre are likely to solve the problem. The Union Ministry of Labour is to take immediate action to safeguard the interest of workers.

SHRI K. N. PRADHAN (Bhopal) : The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India constituted a Central Medico Legal Advisory Committee as early as in 1956 with the object of conducting a survey of Medico-legal practice in the country for an assessment of existing conditions to provide a correct appraisal of the deficiencies at various levels and to formulate schemes for correction thereof

The Committee submitted its report in 1964. It made a very strong plea that the Union Government should initiate a move for establishing a Central Medico-Legal Institute.

The present Medico-Legal institute at Bhopal has a good foundation of nearly ten years with all working laboratories. It is already functioning as a training centre for Medical Officers, Police Officer, Judicial Officers and is functioning as a pioneer institute. The cases from all over India are referred to it for expert opinion. It should be taken as a Central Medico-Legal Institute to start with.

It will be in the best interest of the nation for the Ministries of Home, Health and Law to create a Central Medico-Legal Institute at Bhopal.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj) : The Wakf Act, 1954 was last amended in 1983 but the amended Act has not yet been enforced because of objections raised by the Muslim community to some provisions. Since then, the Government have been engaged in evolving a national consensus on further amendments and in finalising the bill for the purpose. Delay in enforcing the non-controversial provisions of the amended Act is causing much harm to the Wakf properties, and to the Muslim community by depriving them of the benefits from Wakf income. It is suggested that the non-controversial provisions of the Wakf Act, as amended upto date, should be promulgated and enforced without any further delay and the proposed amendments based on the consensus should be formulated in the form of a Bill at the earliest and introduced in Parliament.

I would, therefore, propose that the enforcement of Wakf legislation be taken up during the coming week.

After its victory in Aurangabad Municipal elections the Shiv Sena has announced its intentions of changing the name of the city. Recently in Delhi Hindu Metrological had launched a campaign to change the names of roads. Similar

moves largely motivated by communal considerations have been made in other parts of the country, for example Aligarh and Bombay. Such moves have been resented by some communities. There is no legislation to regulate change of names of cities. I think there is need for a central legislation on the subject but before a legislation is enacted the question must be discussed in all its dimensions and aspects in order to evolve a national consensus, keeping in view, the over-riding demands of national integration and communal harmony. I, therefore, suggest that this question be taken up in the coming week.

[Translation]

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA (Sangrur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would request that the following matters may please be included in the next week's agenda.

In Punjab, there is a production of about 6.5 lakh metric tonne potato every year and it is grown in 35,000 hectare land every year but it is sorry state of affairs that no proper arrangements have been made for its sale. Consequently the prices of potato come down for the last some years at the time of harvest and as a result of which the farmer has to suffer heavy losses instead of profits. Therefore, there is a need to set-up an industry which could maintain the demand of the potato and could also provide the farmers remunerative prices. Punjab Agro-Industries Corporation has decided to set up a project through which it will make efforts to earn foreign exchange by using 30 000 metric tonne potato every year but implementation of this project is not in sight. Therefore, the potato-producer farmer is facing severe financial crisis. Therefore, there is a need to discuss the present miserable conditions of farmer in the House next week.

The annual production of seeds of oilseeds is about 110 lakh tonne while the oil extracting capacity of crushing plant is 350 lakh tonne oil seeds. The country has to depend on import for meeting its requirements of oil and since 1976 140 lakh tonne oil has been imported

for meeting its requirements. The Government did not work as efficiently as it should have worked for making the country self-reliant in respect of oil and consequently there was not an adequate production of seeds of oil and even today the Government have to depend on foreign countries to meet its requirements. In 1985 86 the support price of mustard was Rs. 400/- per quintal and in 1986-87 it was Rs. 415/- per quintal but their market prices in the aforesaid period were Rs. 580 and Rs. 650 per quintal respectively. The condition of other seeds of oil is also the same. I, therefore, request the Government to discuss this important issue in detail in the House in the ensuing week.

[English]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Bara-mulla) : Even though Haj pilgrimage for the current year is not far away, the programmes in respect of flights and other arrangements do not seem to be in final shape. The Saudi Airlines usually organises outgoing Haj flights from Delhi, Bombay and Calcutta, but this year there is no firm commitment from Saudia so far. There is also an apprehension that the fare will be increased this year also. If there is a proposal like that, it should be dropped forthwith. The fare was continuously increased year after year, since 1983.

The Air India would be well advised not to increase fare in its own interest. It has been incurring losses on all routes except the flights to the Gulf.

There are several other questions connected with the Haj pilgrimage which deserve attention, e.g. :

- (i) West Bengal Government has made it known to various quarters that flights can be organized that will charge Rs. 5400/- only per passenger (to and fro Jeddah). Haj Committee charges a substantially higher rate.
- (ii) While travel agents get a commission of 12% from Air India,

the Haj Committee gets a commission of 5% only.

- (iii) Haj Committee is at present headquartered at Bombay, which is no longer a central place for pilgrims drawn from all corners of the country. While there could be zones and zonal offices, headquarters should be in New Delhi.
- (iv) While Central Haj Committee is not a statutory body, it takes various crucial decisions all by itself.
- (v) The Central Haj Committee lacks representative character, so far as its membership is concerned.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY
AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIK-
SHIT): We will consider all the sub-
missions that have been made by the hon.
Members, to be included in the business
for next week.

12.28 hrs.

COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES

First Reports

[English]

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY
(Puri): I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the First Report of the Committee of Privileges laid on the Table of the House on 5th May, 1988."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the First Report of the Committee of Privileges laid on the Table of the House on 5th May, 1988."

The motion was adopted.

12.29 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE :
APPROVAL OF CONTINUANCE IN
FORCE OF PROCLAMATION IN
RESPECT OF PUNJAB—Contd.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House will now take up further discussion of the following Resolution moved by Shri Buta Singh on the 2nd May, 1988, namely:—

"That this House approves the continuance in force of the Proclamation dated the 11th May, 1987 in respect of Punjab issued under article 356 of the Constitution by the President, for a further period of six months from the 11th May, 1988"

Now Shri Jai Prakash Agarwal,

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL (Chandni Chowk): Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support the Resolution moved by Shri Buta Singh for extending President Rule in Punjab for a further period of six months. What are the reasons for not holding elections in Punjab? If we look into the present situation in Punjab, we will find how violent incidents are taking place there, how bus-passengers are shot dead and how children, young and aged persons are taken out of their houses and killed mercilessly.

The situation in Punjab has deteriorated so much that terrorists are now using Rocket-Launchers in their attacks. They possess the latest arms. The Punjab problem has been discussed several times in this House. It is almost a certainty that Pakistan is behind the incidents in Punjab. Pakistan provides training facilities to the terrorists and gives them shelter. After having been trained, the terrorists come into Punjab to create mayhem. Can elections be held in Punjab or a popular Government function if this situation continues to exist? Could the erstwhile Punjab Government restore normalcy in the State? The action of the Central Government in disbanding the last State Government has given a lot of relief to Hindus and Sikhs in the State. The present situation in Punjab has created a feeling of insecurity