

11.49 hrs

Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Bill*

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESARI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the leave be granted to introduce a Bill to give effect to the Proclamation on the full Participation and Equality of the people with Disabilities in the Asian and Pacific Region.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Motion moved:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to give effect to the proclamation on the Full Participation and Equality of the People with Disabilities in the Asian and Pacific Region."

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal) : Sir, I have an objection to it.

MR. SPEAKER : Objection to what?

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Before the Bill is introduced, if you permit me one or two minutes, I will express my views.

Sir, this Bill is being introduced.

[Translation]

I have no objection to its introduction. It is a good Bill. I do not want to oppose it at the introduction stage. But today a statement has been circulated, indicating therein the reason for not giving us two day's time. In the statement it has been stated that it is a Bill of 1991 and when it was asked to withdraw this Bill, it was assured that a Bill to this effect would be brought forward in this session of Parliament. Therefore, the hon. Minister should, before introducing the Bill, tell us as to how such an assurance had been given and whether it was not possible to give us two day's time. It has almost become a habit with the Government not to give Members two day's time. You are taking us for granted. Secondly, it has been stated in the said statement that it is necessary that the Bill, after introduction, be taken into consideration and passed by the Lok Sabha on the 26 August, 1995. But the list of Business states something else. If this Bill is to be passed, please tell us how all this is happening. Please clarify the position before the introduction of this Bill.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Bill was not placed for consideration even before the Standing Committee for Labour Welfare despite the fact that the procedure prescribes that any Bill, before introduction

in the House, should be presented in the Standing Committee for consideration.

MR. SPEAKER : That is done after the introduction.

[English]

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (MAYILADUTURAI) : Since I am sure, the whole House would ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This is for introduction. You read the agenda paper please.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : Sir, since the whole House, I am sure, would wish to see this extremely important measure taken in favour of the most disadvantaged section of Indian society who have no responsibility themselves for the State in which they are, I would plead with the Minister to request your permission to not merely introduce this Bill but perhaps after we discussed the Motion at 6 O'clock in the evening to also move for its consideration and passing.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to thank you that the hon'ble Minister has stated that the Bill be passed, whereas in the agenda it has been stated that the Bill be introduced.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : How can it be done?

SHRI RAM NAIK : He has said it.

[Translation]

It has not been shown in the agenda. That is why I want to thank you. Despite hon'ble Minister's said statement, you have only granted leave for the introduction. For this, I thank you but please see that in the evening, someone may not say that it has to be passed.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : What your agenda says is final.

[Translation]

What was the hitch in giving two day's notice for a Bill that has been pending for such a long time. It is right that the House accommodates, all accommodate but it should not be a precedent.

[English]

The Minister has all the good intention to support and because of that he is trying to do it. If there is a procedural difficulty, one can understand it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This is just for introduction. In the next session it will be passed.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (Jadavpur) : We would support this Bill. This is a very important Bill. At the same time, it is very unfortunate that it is brought at the tale end of the session. We would like to have a re-consideration ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is not only the Government who can be held responsible. We also are not utilising the time properly, Madam. Let us understand that.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA : Such a Rehabilitation Counselling of India Act itself has to be reconsidered ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Let us share the responsibility. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Mr. Speaker, how has the word 'passed' occurred in it?

MR. SPEAKER : It is alright. They have written. We have not written. You cannot get essential things passed by quarrelling and wasting time on inessential things. It is very difficult. If someone has to share responsibility, then all will have to share it, and it cannot be placed on any one person.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Yesterday, seven Bills have been got passed by sitting upto 10.00 p.m. (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to give effect to the Proclamation on the Full Participation and Equality of the People with Disabilities in the Asian and Pacific Region."

The Motion was adopted.

SHRI SITARAM KEŞARI : I introduce *the Bill.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Certain points were mentioned and you also made an observation. But the Minister has no response. Why should he not respond, at least apologise to the House?

MR. SPEAKER : No, no. I appreciate his wish, desire and enthusiasm to see that a Bill of this nature is passed. If the procedural difficulty is there, let us share that responsibility.

[Translation]

SHRI KALKA DAS (Karol Bagh) : It is a very important matter and it has been brought forward so lightly on this last day of the session (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI (Maharaj Ganj) : It is necessary that there should not be any procedural hitches? (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am not going to ask him at this stage.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The Matter under Rule 377 will not be taken-up now. Later on it will be taken up.

SHRI LAETA UMBREY (Arunachal East): Sir, I have given notice.

MR. SPEAKER : Your notice does not give you the permission to raise the issues. But, I am allowing you.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI LAETA UMBREY : It is so important. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What is it? Yes, come on.

SHRI LAETA UMBREY : Sir, I wanted to say only that actually you know Arunachal Pradesh people have no desire or intention to go and visit China, but unfortunately whenever any person from Arunachal Pradesh or any Member of official Indian Delegation applies for visa to go to China, they have always found that the Chinese Embassy have been denying visa to Arunachal Pradesh people. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Can it be raised in the Zero Hour? You are also supporting it.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI LAETA UMBREY : It is a very big question. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Okay, I will allow you

... (Interruptions)

SHRI LAETA UMBREY : Do not disturb me. (Interruptions) Kindly do you not want me to represent Indian citizens of Arunachal to this hon. House. I do not want interference of the Chair. He should cooperate. (Interruptions)

Sir, I am annoyed. I have given enough notices and I have never been given a chance. Sir, what I wanted to say is that may be because of our relations with China are gradually improving and any protest made by the Foreign Ministry or the Government of India may jeopardise the relations but, we must understand the sentiments of the

*Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

people and that is why I take it as a challenge or as an insult to me and to the people whom I represent. China is claiming Arunachal Pradesh as their part, but on record I have said in this House also earlier that never in the history of Arunachal Pradesh, it was under Chinese occupation. We had our relations and business with Tibet. But, after annexation of Tibet, as far as claim by China goes, without any basis they started claiming Arunachal Pradesh. I do not know why our Government is not protesting. Truly, not a single person of the Women Delegation should have been sent; the entire Indian Women Delegation should have boycotted. Why part of the representatives of the Delegation or any person should be denied visa? Arunachal Pradesh is not a disputed area. I say Arunachal Pradesh was, is and will always be an integral part of India. If in future any person from Arunachal Pradesh is denied visa by the Chinese Government, our entire Delegation should protest and under protest they should stop the visit to China.

[English]

CONSTITUTION (EIGHTY-FIRST AMENDMENT) BILL

(Amendment of the Ninth Schedule)—contd.

As Passed by Rajya Sabha

MR. SPEAKER : Now, let us take up Constitution (Eighty-first Amendment) Bill (Amendment of the Ninth Schedule). Voting on the Motion for consideration.

Let the lobbies be cleared—

12.00 hrs

Now, the Lobbies have been cleared.

The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The Lok Sabha divided:

12.08 hrs

Division No. 1

Ayes

Advani, Shri Lal K.
Agnihotri, Shri Rajendra
Ahamed, Shri E.
Ahmed, Shri Kamaluddin
Akber Pasha, Shri B.
Ansari, Dr. Mumtaz
Antulay, Shri A.R.
Anwar, Shrimati K. Padmashree
Ayub Khan, Shri

Bala, Dr. Asim
Bansal, Shri Pawan Kumar
Barman, Shri Palas
Barman, Shri Uddhab
Basu, Shri Anil
Bhadana, Shri Avtar Singh
Bhandari, Shrimati Dil Kumari
Bhattacharya, Shrimati Malini
Bhonsle, Shri Prataprao B.
Bhuria, Shri Dileep Singh
Chacko, Shri P.C.
Chaliha, Shri Kirip
Chandrasekhar, Shrimati Maragatham
Charles, Shri A.
Chatterjee, Shri Nirmal Kanti
Chatterjee, Shri Somnath
Chaudhary, Sqn. Ldr. Kamal
Chaure, Shri Babu Hari
Chavan, Shri Prithviraj D.
Chavda, Shri Ishwabhai Khodabhai
Chhotey Lal, Shri
Chinta Mohan, Dr.
Choudhury, Shri Ram Tahal
Choudhury, Shri Saifuddin
Chowdary, Dr. K.V.R.
Chowdhary, Shri Pankaj
Chowdhary, Shrimati Santosh
Dalbir Singh, Shri
Damor, Shri Somjibhai
Das, Shri Anadi Charan
Dennis, Shri N.
Deora, Shri Murlu
Deshmukh, Shri Anantrao
Deshmukh, Shri Ashok Anand Rao
Dharmabiksham, Shri
Dighe, Shri Sharad
Dikshit, Shri Shreesh Chandra
Diwan, Shri Pawan
Drona, Shri Jagar Vir Singh
Faleiro, Shri Eduardo
Farook, Shri M.O.H.
Fundkar, Shri Pandurang Pundlik