

DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Ordinances (Hindi and English versions) under article 123(2)(a) of the Constitution:-

- (1) The Manipur Municipalities Ordinance, 1994 (No. 6 of 1994) promulgated by the President on the 24th May, 1994.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5990/94]

- (2) The Punjab Municipal Corporation Law (Extension to Chandigarh) Ordinance, 1994 (No. 7 of 1994) promulgated by the President on the 24th May, 1994.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5991/94]

- (3) The New Delhi Municipal Council Ordinance, 1994 (No. 8 of 1994) promulgated by the President on the 25th May, 1994.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5992/94]

12.34 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE

Seventh Report

[English]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR  
RAWAT (Agra): I beg to lay on the Table

a copy of the Seventh Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce on Spices.

12.34½ hrs.

REPRESENTATION OF THE  
PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) BILL

As reported by the Joint Committee

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): I beg to move for leave to withdraw a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951, as reported by the Joint Committee.

MR. SPEAKER: Do you want to say something, Mr. Minister?

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: Is there any objection for withdrawal?

The House will recall that this Bill was introduced by me and now that the same provisions are being incorporated in another Bill which I am likely to introduce after the withdrawal of this Bill and it is covered by the Rules of this House. Rule 110 provides for it, I am competent and fully justified in withdrawing this Bill and there should be no objection to withdraw this Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That leave be granted to withdraw a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act,

1951, as reported by the Joint Committee."

[English]

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have not yet read out my objection and the hon. Minister has given his explanation. My objection was that under Rule 110 any Bill could be withdrawn under specific circumstances. The hon. Minister did not clarify whether the provision in the Bill was to be scrapped or a new Bill was proposed to be introduced to replace the old one. Since the start of the session we have been demanding for the delimitation of seats for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes but that has not been done. They are withdrawing the motion moved in Rajya Sabha.

MR. SPEAKER: It is a Bill on People's Representation Act.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali): The hon. Minister's proposal to withdraw the Bill is important from the point of view that two Bills regarding electoral reforms are already under the consideration of the House. In the meantime this Bill was referred to the Joint Select Committee. They discussed the pros and cons of the Bill and submitted their report. Thereafter, this Bill was introduced here. The Government mentioned the reasons for withdrawing the Bill and introducing a comprehensive Bill to amend RPA, 1951. However, my submission is that this Bill too contains no concrete provisions for electoral reforms. The members of BJP have been demanding for a Bill regarding electoral reforms for a long time inside and outside the House. The Government somehow managed to introduce the Bill making the provision for all the electoral expenses.

MR. SPEAKER: You have to say as to why the leave should be given and why the leave should not be given.

[Translation]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: My submission is that introducing Bill and withdrawing it time and again is a mockery of electoral reforms. We have no objection to introducing a comprehensive Bill containing the provision for state funding and other important provisions. The Bill introduced earlier provided provisions for diesel and petrol supply, state funding etc. Similarly, a Bill regarding the recommendations of Goswami report has still been lying pending with Rajya Sabha. The new Bill repeats only the provisions made in the previous Bill, thus it is not at all a comprehensive Bill. It has been brought just with an intention to disqualify the need to issue identity cards. It is being introduced to provide special benefits for contesting elections to a particular political party. Therefore, I would urge upon the Government to bring a comprehensive Bill providing for concrete electoral reforms, otherwise the entire exercise of the Joint Select Committee and the decisions taken regarding electoral reforms are likely to prove nothing more than a mockery. Therefore, I would like the Government to bring a comprehensive Bill in the real sense.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to repeat all these points.

MR. SPEAKER: No need to repeat. You may speak only if you have something new.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): There is a need for it because the Government has been repeating the process of introducing and then withdrawing the Bill in the House. Rajya Sabha had passed the Bill unanimously whereas in Lok Sabha the Government is seeking permission to withdraw it, and also wants the other House to do the same. I would like the Government to bring a comprehensive Bill in this session only or constitute a committee and introduce the Bill regarding electoral reforms in the next monsoon session, so that their commitment is realised and an effective electoral procedure is established.

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: I would humbly request that the hon. Members may see that the RPA enlisted at item No. 8 in today's list of Business is the same which I had introduced in the House in 1993. I would like to introduce it just now. Members of neither state have raised objection on the Bill. The whole Bill has been consolidated into one and all the provisions have been squarely covered under clause 10.

[English]

There can be no objection when all the provisions of that Bill are incorporated there.

MR. SPEAKER: *The question is:*

"That leave be granted to withdraw a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951, as reported by the Joint Committee."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: I withdraw the Bill.

12.42 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (SEVENTY-FIRST AMENDMENT) BILL

**As passed By Rajya Sabha**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House recommends to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to leave being granted by this House to withdraw the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, which was passed by Rajya Sabha on the 29th April, 1992 and laid on the Table of this House on the 4th May, 1992."

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That this House recommends to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to leave being granted to this House to withdraw the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, which was passed by Rajya Sabha on the 29th April, 1992 and laid on the Table of the House on the 4th May, 1992."

[Translation]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose the Bill presented in the House by the